

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY
NOMINATION FORM

Continuation Sheet

Item Number

Page

<u>Name</u>	Historic Furman Institution Faculty Residence Common	<u>Location</u>	Northwest of county road 23, approximately 500 feet northeast of the junction of S.C. Hwy. 214 and county road 70
		<u>Classification</u>	Building
<u>Owner</u>	Mabel. T. Turkett Rt. 1, Box 77 Winnsboro, S.C. 29180		

Representation in Existing Surveys South Carolina Inventory of Historic Places, 1983

Description Constructed ca. 1837, the Furman Institution Faculty Residence is a two-story, brick building with a hipped roof and end chimneys. The facade has a central double-leaf entrance flanked on each side by multi-paned modern windows. The second story facade has five multi-paned modern windows. The single story, hip-roofed front porch with slender wooden posts was constructed ca. 1936. There is a ca. 1925 kitchen extension on the north-west elevation. The interior has a double-pile-with-central-hall floor plan.

Significance According to a synoptic history entitled "Furman's Fairfield Days; 1837-1851," Furman Institution was established by the Baptist Denomination in South Carolina in 1827 in Edgefield, but was moved to the High Hills of the Santee (now Stateburg) in 1828 because of financial difficulties. When the school was threatened with financial collapse again in 1834, the Reverend Jonathan Davis, chairman of the board of trustees, urged the board to move the school to his native Fairfield County. With the aid of his congregation at the Fairfield Church, Davis was able to purchase 557 acres of land for the school. A frame building was constructed ca. 1837 as a dormitory, classroom, and library, but burned in the same year. The two present brick buildings were constructed between May 1837 and January 1838.*

Acreage 1 acre

Verbal Boundary Description The nominated property is shown on the accompanying Fairfield County Tax Map # 166, with a scale of 1 inch equals 400 feet. It includes only the historic building and its immediate surroundings.

UTM Reference Point 17/488690/3800575

Other Information

*Furman Institution suffered financial and ideological difficulties during its years in Fairfield County, but the theological department developed into one of the strongest in the state. Discussion was underway in 1841 to move the school to a place more favorable to the development of the theology department, but it wasn't until 1851 that South Carolina Baptists were able to raise the necessary funds for the removal to Greenville.¹ The Furman Institution Faculty Residence was used as a residence for the faculty of the institution while it existed in Fairfield County.² Although it has seen some minor alterations, this building, together with the Furman Institution Academic Building (#13), serves as a visible reminder of the early history of Furman University and its brief establishment in Fairfield County.

¹Loulie Latimer Owens, "Furman's Fairfield Days; 1837-1851," (Winnsboro, S.C., 1949), pp. 2-10

²Our Heritage, p. 13.