

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received ^{FEB} JAN 5 1982
date entered MAR 5

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Vance-Maxwell House

and/or common Maxwell-Nicholson-Murphy House

2. Location

street & number 158 East Cambridge Street not for publication

city, town Greenwood vicinity of ~~Congressional district~~ 3rd.

state South Carolina code 045 county Greenwood code 047

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name George F. Murphy, III and Diane T. Murphy

street & number 158 East Cambridge Street

city, town Greenwood vicinity of state South Carolina 29646

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Greenwood County Courthouse

street & number Monument Street

city, town Greenwood vicinity of state South Carolina 29646

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Inventory of Historic Places
in South Carolina has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1973 (update) federal state county local

depository for survey records South Carolina Department of Archives and History

city, town Columbia vicinity of state South Carolina 29211

7. Description

Condition excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved

date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Vance-Maxwell House, located in Greenwood, South Carolina, is believed to have been built ca. 1850 for Allen Vance. The house was the home of Dr. John C. Maxwell from 1871 to 1899. The house was enlarged between 1898 and 1904, adding a full second story and a mansard roof to the original story-and-a-half central-hall farmhouse.

The Vance-Maxwell House is of braced-frame construction and is sheathed in weatherboard, except for diagonal flushboard underneath the first story porch. The porch extends across the three-bay facade and wraps around the right side of the house. The facade (north elevation) has a central doorway and arched fanlights over the door and windows. The mansard roof is bracketed and has three steep gables over the second story windows. The mansard roof extends over the two-story south ell. Two brick chimney stacks are located at the rear of the main rectangular block. One-story frame additions, dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, are located on the southeast and southwest corners of the house. A one-story frame kitchen building, dating from the original ca. 1850 construction, has been attached to the two-story south ell.

The Vance-Maxwell House has a central-hall plan, with single rooms on either side of the central stairhall on both floors. The south ell has two rooms on the first floor and one on the second. The stair newel post, the mantelpieces, and the cornices apparently date from the turn-of-the-century remodeling. The southeast and southwest additions provide further bedrooms and bathrooms.

Surroundings: The Vance-Maxwell House is situated in an older residential section of Greenwood. It is surrounded by well-kept houses built in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) local history
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates ca. 1850, ca. 1900 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (In one paragraph)

The Vance-Maxwell House, located in Greenwood, South Carolina, is believed to have been built ca. 1850 for Allen Vance. The one-and-one-half-story upcountry farmhouse was remodeled between 1898 and 1904 in the Second Empire fashion. The Vance-Maxwell House is historically significant for its association with Dr. John C. Maxwell, a locally prominent physician, military surgeon during the Civil War, politician, and philanthropist, who lived in the house from 1871 to 1898. In addition, it is architecturally significant for its adaptation of Second Empire elements.

Additional Information: Available records, oral tradition, and physical and stylistic evidence indicate that the Vance-Maxwell House is a turn-of-the-century remodeling of an older house. According to Greenwood County Sketches, published in 1970 by a local historian, the Vance-Maxwell House was built for Allen Vance.¹ Louise Watson, the daughter of Harry L. Watson, who was the biographer of Dr. John C. Maxwell, maintains that she has always understood that the house was built for Vance.² Vance reputedly located in Greenwood after he married in 1840; he died in 1865.³ Dr. Maxwell purchased the property on which the house sits in 1871. The deed which conveyed the property from Matthew McDonald to Dr. Maxwell supports the belief that Vance built the house. It contains the following description of the property: "All that tract or parcel of land -- Situate in the County and State aforesaid, containing twenty three acres, more or less, residence of the late Allen Vance dec'd"⁴ A stuccoed chimney with a corbeled cap, which can be seen under the present mansard roof of the Vance-Maxwell House, is physical evidence that the house is a remodeling of an older building. An obvious addition has been made to the chimney so that it extends above the present roof.

Dr. John C. Maxwell (1837-1899) was the most prominent resident of the Vance-Maxwell House. When the Civil War appeared imminent, Dr. Maxwell, a physician in lower Abbeville County, enrolled in Captain Perryman's "Secession Guards." The company was eventually attached to the Second Regiment, South Carolina Volunteers. By September 1862 he was commanding the company, then known as Company F. He later became regimental surgeon.⁵ In 1876 Dr. Maxwell was elected to the Senate of the State of South Carolina, in which he served a total of nine years. He was associated with Wade Hampton and the Red Shirts, who broke the Republican Party's control of the South Carolina legislature in 1876.⁶ Dr. Maxwell took an active role in the formation of the county of Greenwood in the 1890s, chairing the committee which determined the site for and built the county courthouse and jail.⁷ In 1891 a promise of a gift of 470 acres from Dr. Maxwell and his wife, Sally Richardson Maxwell (1848-1902), helped establish the state Baptist orphanage in Greenwood. The orphanage was named Connie Maxwell Orphanage in memory of the only child of the Maxwells to survive infancy. Since its founding about 6,000 children have been aided through this agency.⁸

Dr. Maxwell died in 1899; Mrs. Maxwell died in 1902, and the Vance-Maxwell House reverted to Connie Maxwell Orphanage. In 1903 it was sold to George Pressly Neel, Dr. Maxwell's medical partner.⁹ Insurance maps of Greenwood show that between June 1898 and January 1904 the second story was added to the house.¹⁰

Continued

9. Major Bibliographical References

UTM NOT VERIFIED
AGREEMENT

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 0.28

Quadrangle name Greenwood, S.C.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	7	3	9	3	2	0	0	3	7	8	4	1	9	5
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification The boundary of the Vance-Maxwell House nomination is shown as the red line on the accompanying Greenwood County Tax Assessor's Property Map, Sheet No. 224, which is drawn at a scale of 330 feet to the inch. The property nominated includes the significant building.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	<u>NA</u>	code	county	code
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state		code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Mary Watson, National Register Manager	John C. Blythe, Jr.
	John Wells, Architectural Historian	Upper Savannah Council of Governments

organization	S.C. Department of Archives & History	date	December 1, 1981
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street & number	P.O. Box 11,669, Capitol Station	telephone	(803) 758-5816
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city or town	Columbia	state	South Carolina 29211
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12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Charles E. Lee

title Charles E. Lee
State Historic Preservation Officer

date 1/20/82

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 3/5/82

Alvin Byers
Keeper of the National Register

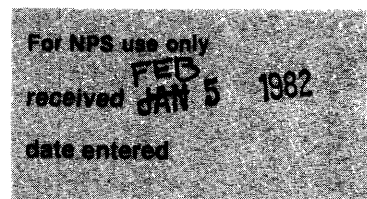
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

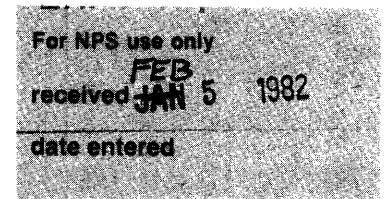


Continuation sheet Vance-Maxwell House Item number 8 Page 1

Architecture: The Vance-Maxwell House is one of only two buildings in Greenwood with Second Empire stylistic traits. The bracketed mansard roof, as well as the tiled fireplaces and the carved stair newel, are noteworthy.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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Continuation sheet Vance-Maxwell House Item number 9 Page 2

A Chance For a Change ... in Direction. Greenwood, S.C.: Connie Maxwell Children's Home, n.d.

Abbeville, South Carolina. Abbeville County Courthouse. Clerk of Court. Deed Book 1.

Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations From South Carolina. Washington, D.C.: National Archives Microfilm Publications, 1958, Microcopy 267, Roll 157.

Greenwood, South Carolina. Greenwood County Courthouse. Clerk of Court, Deed Books 1, 6.

Jamison, A. T. Thirty Years of Connie Maxwell History. Greenwood, S.C.: Board of Trustees of Connie Maxwell Orphanage, 1922.

Reynolds, Emily Bellinger and Faunt, Joan Reynolds. Biographical Directory of the Senate of the State of South Carolina, 1776-1964. Columbia, S.C.: South Carolina Archives Department, 1964.

Sanborn Map Company. Insurance Maps of Greenwood, South Carolina. New York, 1894, 1898, 1904.

Watson, Harry L. "John Chappell Maxwell, M.D.: A Biographical Sketch." Read 22 May 1937 at Connie Maxwell Orphanage.

Watson, Louise. Greenwood, South Carolina. Interview, 24 April 1980.

Watson, Margaret. Greenwood County Sketches: Old Roads and Early Families. Greenwood, S.C.: Attic Press, 1970.

Vance-Maxwell House
Footnotes

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¹ Margaret Watson, Greenwood County Sketches: Old Roads and Early Families (Greenwood, S.C.: Attic Press, 1970), p. 402.

² Telephone Interview with Miss Louise Watson, Greenwood, South Carolina, 24 April 1980.

³ Watson, p. 402.

⁴ Deed Book 1, pp. 60-61, Clerk of Court, Abbeville County Courthouse, Abbeville, S.C.

⁵ Harry L. Watson, "John Chappell Maxwell, M.D.: A Biographical Sketch," Read 22 May 1937 at Connie Maxwell Orphanage, pp. 8-10; Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from South Carolina (Washington, D.C.: National Archives Microfilm Publications, 1958), Microcopy 267, Roll 157.

⁶ Watson, pp. 12-19; Emily Bellinger Reynolds and Joan Reynolds Faunt, Biographical Directory of the Senate of the State of South Carolina, 1776-1964 (Columbia, S.C.: South Carolina Archives Department, 1964, pp. 142, 265).

⁷ Ibid., p. 19.

⁸ Ibid. pp. 19-25; A. T. Jamison, Thirty Years of Connie Maxwell History (Greenwood, S.C.: Board of Trustees of Connie Maxwell Orphanage, 1922), pp. 5-13; A Chance For a Change ... in Direction (Greenwood, S.C.: Connie Maxwell Children's Home, n.d.), n.p.

⁹ Thirty Years, pp. 10, 11, 61; Greenwood County Deed Book 1, p. 267; Deed Book 6, pp. 61-63; Clerk of Court, Greenwood County Courthouse, Greenwood, S.C.

¹⁰ Sanborn Map Company, Insurance Maps of Greenwood, South Carolina, New York, 1894, 1898, 1904.