DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS CITY, TOWN

PH0672173

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

JUN 6 1978

STATE

	IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATION NTRIES COMPLETE APPLICAB		
The McDonald-Wait-Newton 1 AND/OR COMMON The Packet House	House		e a lesgris
2 LOCATION STREET & NUMBER 1406 Cantrell Road		NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRI	СТ
Little Rock UR TANK	VICINITY OF	Second	
STATE Arkansas	CODE 05	COUNTY Pulaski	CODE 119
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BEING CONSIDER		INDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATION
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4 OWNER OF PROPERT	Y		J
James B. McDougal and Jac	k D. Files		
STREET & NUMBER			
816 North University Aven	ue	STATE	
Little Rock	VICINITY OF	Arkansas	
5 LOCATION OF LEGAL	DESCRIPTION		
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS,ETC. Circuit	Clerk's Office		
STREET & NUMBER	010111 0 011100		
	County Courthouse		
CITY, TOWN		STATE	
Little R		Arkansas	
6 REPRESENTATION IN	EXISTING SURVEYS		
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DATE			



CONDITION

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X ORIGINAL SITE

ED DATE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Wait-Newton House, a second Empire styled house, is rectangular in plan with a central projection on the south (front) facade, a projection on the west, and two projecting bays on the east. The first east bay is rectangular with twin two over two, rectangular windows; while the second is elliptical with semicircular topped windows, faced with stone beginning at the top of the stone impost.

The shingled roof is a high mansard with 12 segmental dormers.

The south projection contains the main entry, a small interior porch framed in a Roman arch. The porch is decorated in panels and colonnettes.

The double doors have single elliptical topped lights and panels below. The transom is semi-circular.

Above the entrance are twin windows with elliptical hood-moulds. Windows on the building proper are two over two double hung and have straight hood moulds.

Originally, the structure had a bracketed cornice and roof cresting. The roof finish was slate. A porch starting at the entrance bay ran along the front of the building and terminated at the southeast corner. The present owners intend to replace these missing parts.

The entrance hall is wide and has a stair with rosewood baluster leading to the second floor. The original interior shutters are still in place.

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PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	XECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	XARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
_X1800-1899	XCOMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	X POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES Built 1869

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Alexander McDonald

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The historic Packet House, located at 1406 Cantrell Road in Little Rock, overlooks what is now one of the busiest thoroughfares in the city. In 1869, at the time the house was constructed, Cantrell Road, then known as Lincoln Avenue as named by the men who first built dwellings there, was considered quite a distance from Little Rock. The men who constructed dwellings on this road had all either been associated with the north during the Civil War or had come into the area during the Reconstruction period. The slight hill on which the Packet House rests is where several large, expensive structures were built using the cheap labor of the defeated South. Therefore, Lincoln Avenue was somewhat less than affectionately called "Rober's Row" or "Carpetbagger's Row" for many years. The Packet House is the oldest of five brick homes built shortly after the Civil War on the north side of Lincoln Avenue and is the only remaining structure of the original "Carpetbagger's Row" Mansions.

Architecturally, the Packet House is significant in its example of Second Empire Style. Buildings of the Second Empire Style are generally tall, boldly modeled and three-dimensional in effect. The Packet House is a tall two and one-half story brick structure with a mansard roof. Many of the original features of the house remain intact, such as interior window shutters.

The Packet House was built in 1869 by Alexander McDonald. McDonald was living in Kansas when the war broke out. He took a leading role in the raising of troops for the Union Army, and for a time supported three regiments at his own expense.

Mr. McDonald first came to Little Rock as a Union soldier during the War and later returned to make it his home. He was only in his early thirties when he built the Packet House. He was a member of the State Constitutional Convention of 1868 and a United States Senator from Arkansas from 1868-1871. He was commissioned by President Arthur to examine conditions of the Railroads, and was a delegate to the National Republican Convention of 1888 which nominated Benjamin Harrison for President.

Senator McDonald was considered the richest man in the state of Arkansas. He established and was president of a bank at Ft. Smith, Arkansas. He was president of Merchants National Bank in Little Rock, which later became what is now 1st National Bank of Little Rock. Senator McDonald was defeated in his bid for re-election in 1871, sold his home and left the state.

Next to buy the Packet House was Mr. William B. Wait. Mr. Wait moved to Arkansas Post in 1830 from Knoxville, Tennessee, where he entered the merchandising business as a clerk in Colonel Notrebe's store. He later began his own dealings in Real Estate Collections and Exchange. He, like Senator McDonald, was president of Merchant's National Bank and an officer in the bank presently known as 1st National Bank. The Waits were known for their "At Home" Days, musicals and whist parties, and entertained

United States Senate C	Chamber 1870			
Arkansas Gazette: Marc	ch 24, 1946; Febru	uary 18, 1892.		
Arkansas Democrat: De	cember 13, 1970;	February 19, 19	971.	
Encyclopedia of the Ne	ew West, p. 191			
Quapaw Quarter Chronic	ele, p. 5; Novembe	er, 1970.		
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY		CODE
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Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

RECEIVED JUN 6 1978

DATE ENTERED III 1 4 1079

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

often. They built a stage in the Packet House stable loft where theatricals were frequently presented.

The next owner was Mrs. Jacob Reider who was the daughter of Archibald McHenry, builder of the Stage Coach House on the old Hot Springs Highway. That house, which is on the National Register, was built in 1830, making it one of the oldest houses in Arkansas. Ann McHenry Reider and her two daughters and their families moved to 1406 Lincoln Avenue in 1887. The two daughters had married brothers, Tom and Robert Newton. It was the Newton Family Home through four generations until it was sold in 1946.

Upon the sale of the Pakcet House in 1946 to Mr. and Mrs. Latane Temple and Frank Campbell, it was converted into twelve apartments. The Temples named the structure the Packet House because it overlooked the river once plied by packet boats to which government papers and mail were entrusted.

The Packet House has recently been purchased by two businessmen who recognize the aesthetic as well as economic advantage to be derived in preservation of the house. A thorough restoration is being undertaken, complete in detailing to the replacement of the original porch. The owners plan to utilize the house for office space.

The Packet House is the only representative of the elegant dwellings constructed on Lincoln Avenue shortly after the Civil War. With great pride, the citizens of Little Rock, as they drive along the busy thoroughfare, are seeing the Packet House being restored to its original appearance. Resting regally on its original location, the Packet House stands out as an architectural and historical landmark in Little Rock.

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PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUN 6 1978
DATE ENTERED JUL 14 1979

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

The McDonald-Wait-Newton House

AND/OR COMMON Packet House

2 LOCATION

CITY. TOWN Little Rock __VICINITY OF

COUNTY Pulaski STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Bob Dunn

DATE OF PHOTO August, 1977

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET South facade

1 **4**

INT: 2983-75



Form No 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

> UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY JUN 7 RECEIVED JUL 14 1978 DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

NAME

HISTORIC

McDonald-Wait-Newton House

AND/OR COMMON

Packet House

LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Little Rock

VICINITY OF

COUNTY Pulaski

STATE Arkansas

PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Bob Dunn

DATE OF PHOTO

August, 1977

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Arkansas Historic Presevation Program

IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

East Facade

рното NO.

INT: 2983-75



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	7 1978
DATE ENTERED	L 1/1 1978

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

McDonald-Wait-Newton House

AND/OR COMMON

Packet House

2 LOCATION

CITY. TOWN Little Rock

__VICINITY OF

COUNTY Pulaski

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Bob Dunn

DATE OF PHOTO

August 1977

NEGATIVE FILED AT

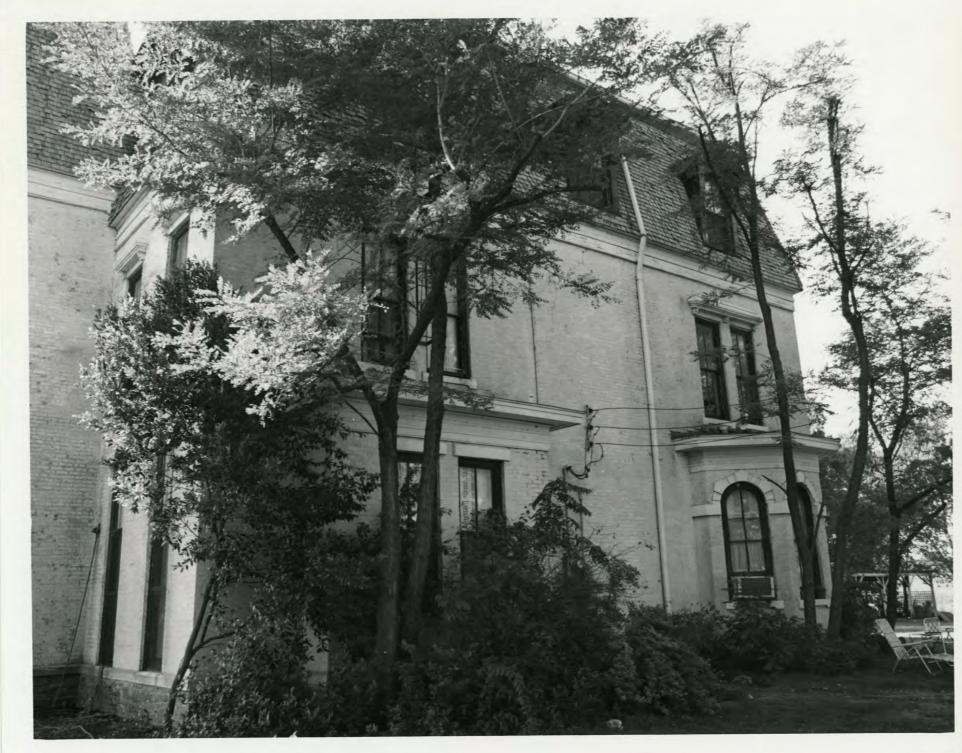
Arkansas Historic Presevation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Detail; front door

3 **3** 4



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Mc Donald - Wait - Newton House Pulaski County, Ar

494



ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Suite 500, Continental Building, Main and Markham Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 Telephone: (501) 371-2763

August 5, 1977

Mr. and Mrs. James McDougal 1800 Shadow Lane Little Rock, AR 72207

RECEIVED JUN 6 NATIONAL REGISTER

Re: Packet House

Little Rock, Pulaski County

Dear Mr. and Mrs. McDougal:

The staff of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program is preparing a National Register nomination for the Packet House which will be presented to the Arkansas State Review Committee at their September meeting. If approved, the nomination will be submitted to the National Register office in Washington for final consideration.

The National Register of Historic Places is a listing of historic sites, buildings, objects and districts from all across the country that are worthy of preservation.

Entry in the National Register is an honor which places no obligation on a private owner. It does, however, provide protection through comment by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation from federally financed, assisted or licensed projects that might affect a National Register property.

On October 4, 1976, the President signed a Tax Reform Act of which Section 2124 refers to tax incentives for historic properties. Enclosed you will find an information sheet on that tax act.

If you have any questions concerning the program or this property's nomination, please contact Sandra Taylor of our staff.

Enclosed are two copies of this letter. Please complete the form below, sign and return the original to our office. The copy is for your files. We would appreciate receiving any comments you might have concerning the nomination of this property. If we do not hear from you within 30 days, your approval will be assumed.

Sincerely,

Bourbara Wood Barbara Woodard, Deputy Director

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

I approve of the nomination of the above property to the National Register of Historic Places.

Comments:

James B. McDargal

Phone: (501) 371-2763

May 23, 1978

Dr. William Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Heritage Conservation
& Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Enclosed you will find the nominations for the properties listed below which have been approved by a majority vote of the Arkansas State Review Committee.

Texarkana Union Station
Flavius Holt House
Womack-Parker House
Conway Theater
Doherty House
Joseph Dudley Bell Cotton Gin House
Harry Pettefer House
Massey Hotel
Joel Smith House
McDonald-Wait-Newton House

Missouri Pacific Depot, Prescott

Ackerman Drug Store

Medical Arts Building

Boone-Murphy Moore House

Boone-Murphy Moore House
Bluthenthal Building

Bozeman House

Terminal Hotel

Holly Grove Historic District

Pottsville Village Historic District
Riverfront Commercial Historic District

I hereby certify that the persons listed in Section 4 of the nominations are the legal owners of the properties.

Sincerely,

State Historic Preservation Officer

AB/lg



The nominations listed in the right-hand column of the attached letter are enclosed. The nominations listed in the left-hand column were mailed separately Thursday, May 25.

In addition to the nominations, also enclosed are:

Bill Rasthis A Sketch Map of the Dortch Plantation

- 1 Correction sheet for the Howell-Garner-Monfee House in North Little Rock, included on the National Register, January 4, 1978
- 1 Correction sheet for the James Peter Faucette House in North Little Rock, included on the National Register, January 4, 1978
- 2 Photo Forms (#2, #3) for the McDonald-Wait-Newton House nomination which was mailed May 25.

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

Date Entered IIII 14 1978

Name

Location

McDonald-Wait-Newton House

Reed, Will, Farmhouse

Little Rock Pulaski County

Alleene Little River County

Also Notified

Honorable Dale Bumpers
Honorable Kaneaster Hodges, Jr.
Honorable James G. Tucker, Jr.
Honorable Ray Thornton

State Historic Preservation Officer
Ms. Anne Bartley
Acting Director, Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program
Suite 500, Continental Building
Markham and Main Streets
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET Oname as it appears on federal register: McDonald-Wait-Newton House Packet House Packet House SLOCATION street & number City / town County of State County County Code: One of the cod

McDonald-walt-Newton House		Packet House			902	1010	119
5 LOCATION street & number ci	ty / town	vicinity of	state	001	anty	6NPS REGION	
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□ ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1 □ COMMUNICATIONS-7 □ EXPLORATION-		SCIENCE- 23	URBAN PL	ANNING OF			
☐ AGRICULTURE -3 ☐ CONSERVATION - 8 ☐ HEALTH - 27	☐ MILITARY - 18	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIA		U.	dest'		
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□ ART-5 □ EDUCATION-10 □ INVENTION-14		TRANSPORTATION - 2		· o:	nly'		
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WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT:		historic events:					
CURRENTLY:							
architectural style(s):	architect	:	master bu	ilder:	en en	gineer:	
nlandscape architect/garden designer: interio	r decorator:	artist:	33 artisan	1:	builder/	contractor:	
NAMES give role & date PERSONAL: EVENTS: INSTITUTIONAL:				,			
MATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP							

date.