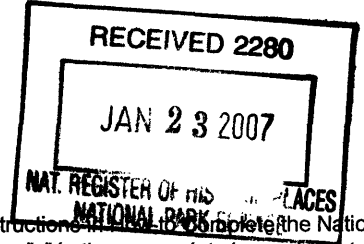


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Denver Downs Farmstead  
other names/site number Garrison Farm

2. Location

street & number 4915 Clemson Boulevard N/A not for publication  
city or town Anderson X vicinity  
state South Carolina code SC county Anderson code 007 Zip code 29621

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination    request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets    does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant    nationally    statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official Mary W. Edmonds Date 1/19/07  
Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, S.C. Dept. of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property    meets    does not meet the National Register criteria. (   See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:  
 entered in the National Register  
   See continuation sheet.  
 determined eligible for the National Register  
   See continuation sheet.  
 determined not eligible for the National Register  
 removed from the National Register  
 other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper Edson H. Beall Date of Action 3.7.07

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**5. Classification**

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing	
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	12	16	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____	sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	2	15	structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____	objects
		14	31	Total

Name of related multiple property listing  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)  
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register  
0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: DOMESTIC  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE

Subcategory: single dwelling  
processing  
agricultural outbuilding

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: DOMESTIC  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE

Subcategory: single dwelling  
processing  
agricultural outbuilding

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY  
REVIVALS: Colonial Revival

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK  
walls WOOD: Weatherboard  
roof METAL: Tin  
other WOOD  
BRICK

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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### NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Denver Downs Farmstead is a rural farming complex of approximately 464 acres in the Anderson vicinity of Anderson County, just north of Interstate 85, along US Highway 76 and near the small community of Denver. Of the 464-acre parcel, only twenty acres of the farmstead, including the main house and several contributing and noncontributing agricultural outbuildings and structures, are included in the property being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. The farmstead consists of a main house built ca. 1890 and thirteen contributing agricultural buildings or structures dating from before 1872 to the early 1950s. The farm complex also includes several modern non-contributing agricultural buildings and/or structures. The main house is a large two-and-one-half story Colonial Revival farmhouse featuring white clapboard siding, an unpainted metal roof, and a wraparound porch with classical details.

The main house is situated atop a small knoll along Clemson Boulevard [US Highway 76], surrounded by mature magnolia, oak and dogwood trees. Several large shrubs frame the home's perimeter and front walkway. Most of the agricultural land is cleared for raising beef cattle and harvesting hay, grain and vegetable crops.

The following resources contribute to the historic character of Denver Downs Farmstead:<sup>1</sup>

**1. Main House (ca. 1890).** The main house is a late nineteenth century Colonial Revival style residence with a rectangular block form, a low-pitched hipped roof and a one-story, full-length front porch. The covered porch spans the full length of the façade and wraps around the eastern side of the house. The classical ornamentation reflects the transition from Victorian architecture to more classically inspired designs during the late nineteenth century. It features paired Roman Doric columns and a square picket balustrade. It has a tongue and groove beaded board ceiling and dentils along the cornice. The porch location and design are original to the house, but some features were replaced ca. 1962. Originally, the columns rested on paneled wood pedestals (see historic photos). The pedestals rotted and were removed, and the columns were replaced with full-height columns of similar detail. The plank floor was also replaced with concrete around this time. About 1972, part of the porch along the eastern side of the house was enclosed and converted to a sunroom. At the rear of the house, a small porch was enclosed and a carport was added in the 1960s.

The two and one-half story house is organized into three symmetrical bays. The facade features a central entryway with wood-paneled double doors and rectangular transom and sidelights. The doorway has above it a small entablature with dentils matching those along the cornice. A single window on either side of the door balances the house. Along the second story are three evenly spaced windows of the same design. Most windows are of the six-over-one double hung wood sash variety, framed by black shutters. A centered dormer in the attic story of the façade features a Palladian window. On the side elevations, the attic dormer is gabled and houses fixed, paired windows with six panes each. On the western façade, the library features a large bay window with three vertical four-over-four sashes. The eastern side of the house features a small, circular cameo window on the second story with crossed muntins and four pie-shaped panes of glass.

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Edmond Garrison, Jr., Denver Downs Farmstead, Anderson County, S.C., Interview by David R. Arning, April 11, 2006.

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The interior of the original portion of the house features a center-hall plan surrounded by four symmetrically-arranged rooms. The hallway runs the length of the original house and terminates at a doorway with transom and side lights matching the front door (the doors themselves have been removed). Around 1952, the hallway was bisected by a new wall and six-paneled door. The modification was made to help conserve heat from the fireplaces and heaters in the rear of the house. The original, straight stairway with turned baluster rises from the front of the hallway along the western wall. The four primary rooms on the first floor (library, dining room, living room and bedroom) share two interior fireplaces.

The dining room and library are located at the front of the house, accessible through single doors off the hallway near the base of the stairs. A doorway between the library and bedroom (southwest corner) was closed and covered with bookshelves during the 1972 renovations. At the same time, the original mantel was replaced with a new one of a similar classical style. Across the hallway, the dining room includes its original crown molding and picture rail. Wainscoting was added to the dining room in 1972. The present-day living room, which likely served as the earlier kitchen, is behind the dining room. Double windows along the eastern wall in this room were converted to French doors in 1975, and provide access to the enclosed portion of the porch. The southern wall features an original doorway that provides access to the present-day kitchen addition. Across the hallway from the living room is a bedroom with its own fireplace, closet and bathroom (added ca. 1930).

The second floor plan mirrors the first, including a large central landing/hallway with four inch tongue and groove heart pine floors. Four bedrooms off of the hallway share two bathrooms that were added at the interior of the chimneys, ca. 1972. The bedrooms feature fireplaces with modest mantels (two fireplaces were covered when the bathroom and closets were installed).

Throughout the original portion of the house, interior doors feature two vertical panels. The walls are primarily finished in plaster, except in the center-halls where the walls are tongue and groove shiplap siding. Ceilings are tongue and groove hardwood painted white, except at the rear of the house where sheetrock was applied in the late 1940s. Original hardwood floors are in place throughout the house, except in the living room where they recently were replaced and carpeted due to severe damage. Elsewhere, the original floors on the first floor are covered with three-inch oak hardwood flooring (ca. 1940). Upstairs, the bedroom floors are carpeted as well.

The original kitchen, as suggested above, was located in the original part of the house (present-day living room) until the late 1800s or early 1900s when a portion of the back porch was enclosed to make a new kitchen. The addition included an end chimney and served as the kitchen until about 1972. Around that time, the space was enlarged to include open kitchen, laundry, family dining and sitting areas.

Over the last century, the house has been updated with modern conveniences such as air conditioning and indoor bathrooms. Despite these alterations, the house retains a significant amount of its historic integrity. The predominant qualities of the house – the large, symmetrical massing and center-hall interior plan – have been preserved. Likewise, the exterior appearance has not been altered significantly. Architectural details,

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including classical ornamentation and the variety of window styles, are all still intact. In addition to material integrity, the house retains full integrity with respect to its historic setting and association.

**2. Grain House (pre-1872).** One of the oldest extant buildings, the Grain House was on the property when William Dunkling Garrison acquired the farm in 1872. Family tradition says, though it has not been documented, that the Garrisons lived in the grain house while the main house was being built. A simple, front-gabled building, it features clapboard siding and a metal roof, all painted red. Ed Garrison paved the floors and added sheds on either side. (Photo 11)

**3. Corncrib (pre-1872).** The corncrib is probably the oldest structure on the farm. A small log structure with half-dovetail joints and a metal roof, it was historically used for the storage of corn, pumpkins and other crops. The adjacent cattle chute was constructed by Ed Garrison in the mid-1940s when the farm's dairy operation began. The chute, no longer used, was designed to facilitate loading cows into trucks. (Photo 12)

**4. Mule Barn (ca. 1872).** The mule barn is another of the oldest extant buildings. It was already on site when W. D. Garrison purchased the farm in 1872 or perhaps built by him soon after. It is also one of the larger buildings. The exterior is covered in red-painted clapboards. The front-gabled roof is made of corrugated steel and features a stepped pitch and a small, louvered roof ventilator [monitor] along the roofline. A wood sash window with fifteen lights is centered in the gable above the large, open entrance. The barn includes stables, feeding stalls, and a storage loft for hay. (Photo 13)

**5. Smokehouse (late 19th century).** The smokehouse is located immediately behind the main house and was used historically to cure meats. The smokehouse is a simple frame structure with clapboard siding. The front-gabled roof is covered with newer asphalt shingles. The smokehouse still contains a wood enclosed pit (and salt) in the floor where hogs were cured into fat back. In the early twentieth century, the smokehouse housed a gas-powered Delco battery unit that supplied electricity to the main house. It was likely built by W.D. Garrison toward the end of the nineteenth century. (Photo 14)

**6. Carriage House (late 19<sup>th</sup> century).** The carriage house was built by W. D. Garrison and possibly pre-dates the main house. It traditionally housed horse-drawn wagons and, later, automobiles. It, too, is a front-gabled frame building with weatherboard siding and sheet metal roof. It features large barn doors with a central passageway. (Photo 15)

**7. Cow Barn (early 20<sup>th</sup> century).** The cow barn is similar in design to the carriage house, but slightly larger. The front-gabled frame building is covered with vertical clapboards. Large barn doors centered at the end provided access to hay-filled wagons. It is presently used for the storage of straw. The barn has been in its present location since before 1922. Ed Garrison added sheds on either side of the barn. (Photo 16)

**8. Garage (ca. 1930s).** The garage is located immediately southwest of the main house. It is a frame building with vertical siding painted white. It has a low-pitched, front-gabled, red metal roof with exposed rafter tails. Two sets of barn doors were installed on the front of the garage in 2000. It is currently used for storage. (Photo 17)

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**9. Dairy (ca. 1945).** The dairy was built by Ed Garrison around 1945. It included eight stanchions. The building is constructed of concrete block and corrugated steel. It features paired six-pane, single sash windows. The sheet metal-clad roof features exposed rafter tails. (Photo 18)

**10. Straw and Equipment Barn (ca. 1945-1950).** The straw and equipment barn was built by Ed Garrison after he returned from World War II and began farming. It is a utilitarian building constructed of whole timbers and a rear-sloped shed metal roof that overhangs at the front. It is used to house tractors, equipment and supplies, as it was originally intended. (Photo 19)

**11. Tobacco Barn (ca. 1950).** The tobacco barn is a low-pitched, front-gabled building with large sheds on either side supported by timber posts. The roof is covered in V-crimp sheet metal and the gable and exposed walls are covered in asbestos-cement cladding painted red. The tobacco barn was constructed to satisfy a growing market for Turkish tobacco during a brief time when it was cheaper to grow it locally than to import it. (Photo 20)

**12. Farm Shop (ca. 1950).** The farm shop is a utilitarian timber-frame construction building covered in V-crimp metal siding. The front bay is completely open, and it has a rear-sloped shed roof. The shop houses a variety of tools and equipment used to maintain farm implements. (Photo 21)

**13. Old Office (ca. 1950-1955).** The office building was constructed in the early 1950s by Ed Garrison and served as the farm's administrative office. It is a shotgun type building with a single panel-and-light door and six-over-six double hung sash window on the façade, and a sliding wooden barn door on the east elevation. The exterior is covered in white drop [German] and clapboard siding. A small concrete block chimney rises near the northeast corner. The V-crimp metal roof is painted red – hipped at the front the building, gabled at the rear. The building was expanded by a rear addition enclosed with vertically-applied painted sheet metal. (Photo 22)

**14. Equipment Shed (ca. 1940).** Tall frame building with sheet metal siding and front-gable roof. Large timber-framed shed addition on south side. Originally constructed to house a cotton picker, it is currently used for storage. (Photo 23)

Though altered, the fourteen contributing outbuildings on the Denver Downs Farmstead reflect the life and operation of a continuously-occupied working agricultural farm in upstate South Carolina between the late nineteenth century and the mid twentieth century.

Denver Downs also includes the following non-contributing agricultural buildings that date from the late 1950s to the 1980s:

**15, and 16. Equipment Barns (ca. 1955).** Open-bay, frame buildings with vertical metal siding and low pitched metal roofs. (Photo 24)

**17. New Dairy (ca. 1960s).** Painted concrete block building with hipped asphalt shingle roof pierced by two metal ventilators. (Photo 25)

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- 18. Feed Bin.** Cylindrical metal structure used to store animal feed. (No photo)
- 19. Holding Pen (ca. 1960s).** Large, open-aired building constructed of rough timbers. Used to manage cattle entering and exiting the dairy. (Photo 26)
- 20. Calf Barn (ca. 1985-1990).** Narrow, open-aired building with concrete block foundation, wood frame and metal roof used to house newborn calves. (Photo 27)
- 21. Hay Barn.** Timber frame building with rear-sloping metal roof used to store hay. (Photo 28)
- 22, and 23. Feed Bins.** Cylindrical structures of corrugated steel used to store animal feed. (Photos 29, 30)
- 24, and 25. Storage Sheds (ca. 1970s).** Wood frame utility buildings with metal siding and gabled roofs. One shed features a carport; the other is raised on wooden stilts. (Photo 30)
- 26-30. Grain Storage Bins (1960s-1980s).** Corrugated metal structures used to store corn, soybeans, and other grains. (Photo 30)
- 31-33. Free Stall Barns.** Open-aired buildings with individual stalls, some of which have been removed. Used to shelter cattle during inclement weather. (Photos 31, 32)
- 34. Silage Belt Feeder (ca. 1980s).** Concrete, wood and metal structure covering and containing a conveyor belt system used to feed silage to cattle in the free stall barns. (Photo 31)
- 35. Storage Shed (ca. 1970s).** Timber and metal building used to store farm commodities. (Photo 33)
- 36-39. Silos (1956-1975).** Four concrete and metal grain silos constructed between the years 1956 and 1975. (Photo 34)
- 40. Straw Barn (ca. 1980s).** Open-aired timber and metal storage building constructed by Ed Garrison in the 1980s. (Photo 35)
- 41. Well House.** Small, concrete block structure with gabled metal roof. The well has served the farm for several decades, but the existing well house structure has been modified with modern materials. (Photo 23)
- 42. Mobile Home.** Contemporary rental residence. (No photo)
- 43. Storage Building.** Prefabricated metal storage facility. (Photo 36)
- 44. New Office.** Newer, clapboard-sided building with front-gabled roof and engaged four-columned portico. (Photo 37)
- 45. Gazebo.** Contemporary, octagonal gazebo with lattice and sawn bracket ornamentation and asphalt-shingled bellcast roof. (Photo 38)

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- X A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
X B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- a owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
b removed from its original location.
c a birthplace or a grave.
d a cemetery.
e a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
f a commemorative property.
g less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1872-1956

Significant Dates

1872
ca. 1890

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Garrison, William Dunkling

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Garrison, William Dunkling

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
X Other

Name of repository:

Mr. & Mrs. T. Ed Garrison, Jr.
4915 Clemson Blvd
Anderson, SC 29621



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### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Denver Downs Farmstead is historically and architecturally significant at the local level as an extant working farm in upstate South Carolina dating to 1872. The main house, the centerpiece of a well-known Anderson County farming complex, contributes to the significance of the farmstead as a largely intact and substantial vernacular expression of Colonial Revival style architecture from about 1890. Denver Downs includes several agricultural outbuildings that contribute to the historic character and reflect its continuous use as a working farm since the 1870s. The farmstead is also eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places for its direct association with William Dunkling Garrison and his family, known prominently in upstate South Carolina in the fields of agriculture, business, civic life and politics.

The community of Denver developed as the first flag stop along the Blue Ridge Railroad between the communities of Watson Siding and Sandy Springs. A major road intersecting Denver appears on Robert Mills's improved map for Pendleton District in his 1825 *Atlas of South Carolina*, but the community did not fully develop until the arrival of the rail line.<sup>2</sup> First proposed in 1836 by John C. Calhoun, the Blue Ridge Railroad was designed to connect upcountry South Carolina and areas of northeast Georgia with Knoxville, Tennessee, and the navigable waters of the Tennessee River.<sup>3</sup> The Blue Ridge Railroad was officially chartered in December 1852 by an act of the General Assembly and with funding from both the state and prominent Pickens County investors. The first tracks were laid that same year, but the project was eventually abandoned due to treacherous terrain, lack of funding and, ultimately, the onset of the Civil War.<sup>4</sup>

Despite never being completed, the Blue Ridge Railroad was well traveled in such areas as Anderson County where the tracks were laid, and its operation had a major impact on the surrounding community. The town of Denver thrived during the second half of the nineteenth century and into the early twentieth century. Today, few buildings or structures remain from its heyday, but Denver was once prosperous, with a bank, post office, general store, cotton gin and other commercial buildings. It was the physical center of agriculture and commerce, and it was there, for good reason, that William Dunkling Garrison determined to settle his family and establish his farming operation. In 1872, W. D. Garrison acquired 270 acres adjacent to and to the north of the Denver rail stop.

Denver Downs Farmstead was recognized in 1974 as a "Century Farm," having been owned and operated by the same family for 100 years. It is indeed a rare example of a working farm that has adapted and sustained its operation for four generations. Today, Denver Downs is a fixture in the Denver and Welcome communities—just as it was at the end of the nineteenth century. The Garrison Farm, owing to its central location, impressive production, and prominent family, played an important role in the establishment and early development of the area. W. D. Garrison was a cotton farmer, and quickly established a profitable enterprise. The Garrison Farm produced crops and raw materials for exchange in the Denver community, and in return the town's general store and other businesses provided necessary supplies to support the farm. It was a direct relationship upon which both entities depended.

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<sup>2</sup> "Notes on Names," *Names in South Carolina* (Department of English, University of South Carolina), XIX (Winter 1972), 10.

<sup>3</sup> Burke Davis, *The Southern Railway* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1985), p. 104.

<sup>4</sup> Blanche Marsh, *Carolina Choo Choo in the Foothills* (Flat Rock, N.C.: Distilly Mountain Typesetters, 1981), pp. 21-22.

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For the past century, operations at the Denver Downs Farmstead have reflected the development of the Denver community, as well as larger agricultural contexts. Specifically, the types of crops grown and the farming methods employed at Denver Downs reflect broad trends in farming and economy experienced by rural South Carolina communities during the early twentieth century. For example, when the cotton industry was crippled by the boll weevil and by labor shortages during World War I, farms were forced to abandon their staple crop. Like many, the Garrisons pursued a number of alternatives, including raising beef cattle, dairy cattle and less labor-intensive crops.<sup>5</sup> Farming changes on the Garrison farm are representative of advances in agricultural practice throughout Anderson County and the rural South. This progressive quality has defined the farmstead since its inception, including a variety of innovative farming uses and techniques: the pursuit of alternative crops such as Turkish tobacco; the implementation of new terracing techniques; the establishment of a corn maze for agricultural tourism and educational purposes; no-till cropping, a major soil conservation practice of modern farming; and, most recently, to installing test sites for soil erosion mitigation.

William Dunkling Garrison and his wife Esther also had a personal impact on the social fabric of the area. Esther Reid Garrison was known as a "friend by the side of the road, for her home was open to all, and her hospitality was unbounded."<sup>6</sup> The Garrisons were instrumental in founding Welcome Baptist Church, located near the farm across U.S. Highway 76. In February 1894, Denver and Welcome community leaders met in the front parlor (the present-day dining room) of the Garrison house and chartered the Welcome Baptist Church. They elected five deacons, including Mr. Garrison. He also served at various times as treasurer and superintendent of the Sunday school. W. D. Garrison contributed \$50 to the construction of the church, and later helped to maintain the structure.<sup>7</sup> The church was constructed on land donated by Marshall C. Smith, one of the original five deacons.<sup>8</sup> It was dedicated on July 23, 1894.<sup>9</sup> The gable-front, clapboard-sided structure was described in 1896 as "a neat and cozy little house of worship."<sup>10</sup> Around 1935 the church was moved 225 feet to the east and about forty-five feet further off the road. The church acquired the former Smith School Building on nearby property in 1950 and soon after attached a new sanctuary to it. The original church building, however, appears much as it did originally.<sup>11</sup>

William Dunkling Garrison was the grandson of Peter Garrison, one of three brothers who emigrated from England in the eighteenth century and settled in Greenville County. W. D. Garrison was born in Greenville County on September 6, 1843. He left his family's farm at the age of eighteen to fight in the Civil War. He served four years in the Confederate Army, rising from corporal to captain. He was wounded in battle and awarded a sword for meritorious service.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>5</sup> William L. Watkins, *Anderson County: The Things that Made it Happen* (Anderson, S.C.: The Porter, 1995), pp. 89-90.

<sup>6</sup> "Mrs. Garrison Dies at Local Hospital," *Anderson Daily Mail or Anderson Independent*, September 20, 1924.

<sup>7</sup> Garrison, Juanita Bartlett, *Welcome Baptist Church History, 1894-1994* (Anderson, S.C.: Sterling Printing, 1995), pp. 10, 21.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 20.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 23.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 19.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 42.

<sup>12</sup> Yates Snowden, *History of South Carolina, Volume IV: Biographical Volume* (New York: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1920), p. 153.

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Following the war, William Dunkling Garrison was employed for some time by the Pendleton Manufacturing Company at Autun. In December 1872, he purchased from William Rampley some 270 acres immediately northeast of Denver in Anderson County. Surveyed by James Gilmer in 1857, the property was identified as a tract along "General's Road," the familiar name in the nineteenth century for Clemson Boulevard, given in honor of General Andrew Pickens.<sup>13</sup>

Garrison served as a captain in General Wade Hampton's "Red Shirt" gubernatorial campaign of 1876, but otherwise abstained from politics.<sup>14</sup> He was a prominent figure, nonetheless, quickly developing his farm, building a home, and amassing great wealth and influence in Anderson County. He was one of five men, for example, on the building committee responsible for the new Anderson County Courthouse. Dedicated June 27, 1898, it "was of the most pronounced mid-Victorian type of architecture" and much admired.<sup>15</sup>

Garrison married Esther Annie Reid on December 17, 1868. They had eleven children, including James Reid Garrison, William Dunkling Garrison, Jr., and Thomas Edward Garrison, all prominent farmers and businessmen. William Dunkling Garrison died on July 9, 1911 at the age of sixty-eight.<sup>16</sup> He was eulogized in the local paper as "one of the best known and most successful farmers and citizens of the county."<sup>17</sup>

William Dunkling Garrison, Jr., better known as "Farmer Garrison," worked on the family farm for twenty-five years before serving as superintendent of the Coast Land Experiment Station of Charleston and the Clemson Coast Experiment Station. A graduate of Clemson College, William D. Garrison, Jr. taught agricultural courses at Clemson. A recognized farming authority, he was known and admired for his unparalleled expertise in agricultural science, real estate and labor conditions. "Farmer Garrison" was, at the time of his death in 1918, a candidate for the office of Commissioner of Agriculture, Commerce and Industries.<sup>18</sup>

Thomas Edmond Garrison, the youngest son of W. D. and Esther Garrison, assumed management of the family farm in the early twentieth century. He married Nettie C. McPhail and they had several children, including Thomas Edmond "Ed" Garrison, Jr. Ed Garrison was born January 21, 1922, in Anderson. After graduating from Clemson College in 1942, Garrison served as a pilot in the Pacific theater of World War II and was awarded the Air Medal. He was discharged from the Army Air Force as a first lieutenant in 1945 and returned to the family farm in Anderson to practice dairy and general farming.<sup>19</sup>

In the family tradition, Ed Garrison was actively involved in the agricultural affairs of Anderson County. A member of several professional organizations, Garrison served as the director and president of the Anderson County Farm Bureau and various other farming and conservation associations.<sup>20</sup> In 1958, Garrison was

<sup>13</sup> Anderson County Deed Book, 1872, Anderson County Courthouse, Anderson, S.C.

<sup>14</sup> Snowden, p. 153.

<sup>15</sup> Vandiver, Louise Ayer, *Traditions and History of Anderson County* (Atlanta: Ruralist Press, 1928; reprint edition, Anderson, S.C.: McNaughton & Nunn, 1990), p. 278.

<sup>16</sup> Snowden, p. 153.

<sup>17</sup> Obituary of William Dunkling Garrison, July 1911, *Anderson Daily Mail*.

<sup>18</sup> Snowden, p. 154.

<sup>19</sup> Bailey, N. Louise, et. al., *Biographical Directory of the South Carolina Senate, 1776-1985, Volume I* (Columbia, S.C.: University of South Carolina Press, 1986), p. 548.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*

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elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives, where he served continuously from 1959 to 1968. He subsequently represented the greater Anderson area as a state senator until 1988. During his tenure in both houses, Ed Garrison was a recognized leader in the areas of agriculture, forestry and natural resources.<sup>21</sup> He also held a number of important posts within the community including delegate to the state Democratic convention, trustee for the University of South Carolina, Winthrop College and Anderson College, and deacon at Welcome Baptist Church.<sup>22</sup> Garrison is the recipient of numerous farming and conservation awards, and the Livestock Arena at Clemson University bears his name.

In 1955, Ed Garrison married Hazel Juanita Bartlett, with whom he had six children: Carol Gaye, Thomas Edmond, III, James Bartlett, Anita Lee, Elizabeth Reid and Catherine Anne.<sup>23</sup> Mr. and Mrs. Garrison currently reside in the main house on the Denver Downs Farm. The daily farming operations are managed by their son, Tom, the fourth generation of Garrison family farmers.

The exact date of construction of the main house at the Denver Downs Farmstead is not documented. It is known, however, that the house was not standing when William Dunkling Garrison purchased the farm in 1872. According to Jessie Reid Anderson, Garrison's granddaughter, the house was complete by 1890. Physical evidence as well as some stylistic features of the house suggests that a ca. 1890 construction date is likely. According to family history, William and Esther Garrison lived in a separate structure on the property while he was building the main house. One source suggests that the couple lived in the Grain House, though no evidence supports this claim. Recently, brick remnants were discovered on the farm that may indicate the location of an earlier dwelling. There is no mention, however, of an existing house in the 1872 deed.

The main house is a rather grand structure given its rural setting. It is significant as a vernacular expression of Colonial Revival style architecture. The overall massing of the house and the asymmetrical wrap-around porch appear to be a carryover from Queen Anne style houses. Details such as the paired porch columns [replacements of the shorter paired columns on paneled pedestals], dentil moldings and classically-influenced sash windows, as well as the formal, symmetrical house frame, reflect the increasing popularity of the Colonial Revival.

Not all of the fourteen contributing buildings and structures are individually significant, but as a collection, they offer a physical record of agrarian architecture and farming operations between the late nineteenth century and early 1950s. The complex is significant as an increasingly rare example of an intact, continuously-operated farmstead.

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<sup>21</sup> Bailey, p. 549.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreege of Property** Approximately 20 acres

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing
1 17 341933 3827743	3 17 341575 3827566
2 17 341767 3827562	4 17 341619 3827799

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title David R. Arning, Principal  
 organization Palmetto Preservation Works, LLC date June 29, 2006  
 street & number 14 Manly Street telephone (864) 270-4406  
 city or town Greenville state SC zip code 29601

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white** photographs of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Edmond Garrison, Jr.  
 street & number 4915 Clemson Boulevard telephone (864) 261-8638  
 city or town Anderson state SC zip code 29621

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended(16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). **Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

The National Register boundary for Denver Downs Farmstead is shown as Tract A on Anderson County Tax Map and Parcel # 930001001, containing 20.00 acres, and drawn at an approximate scale of 1" = 100'.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary contains the historic main house and thirteen historic and contributing buildings and/or structures that are significant to the character and historical development of Denver Downs Farmstead. Thirty-one additional buildings and structures [ca. 1955 and later] within the National Register boundaries are considered non-contributing. The boundaries also contain the immediate setting of the historic farmstead.

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### PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Property: Denver Downs Farmstead  
Location of Property: 4915 Clemson Boulevard  
Anderson, SC 29621

Name of Photographer: David R. Arning  
Date of Photographs:

January 25, 2006 (1, 4, 5, 10, 12, 16, 18, 20, 21);  
April 11, 2006 (2, 3, 6-9, 11, 13-15, 17, 19, 22)  
June 14, 2006 (23-38)

Location of digital images: South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

1. Façade of main house, facing S
2. Contextual view of farm and home site along Clemson Boulevard, facing W
3. View of left elevation, facing W
4. Oblique view of left elevation, facing NW
5. Oblique view of right elevation, facing NE
6. Oblique view of right elevation, facing SE
7. Detail of entrance
8. Central hallway and stairs
9. Former rear entrance
10. Second floor hallway
11. Grain House, facing W
12. Corn Crib, facing SW
13. Mule Barn, facing S
14. Smokehouse, facing E
15. Carriage House, facing W
16. Cow Barn, facing W
17. Garage, facing SW
18. Dairy, facing SW
19. Straw and Equipment Barn, facing NE
20. Tobacco Barn, facing SW
21. Farm Shop, facing SW
22. Old Office, facing SW
23. Equipment Shed, facing SW
24. Equipment Barns, facing SW
25. New Dairy, facing SW
26. L-R: Holding Pen, Cow Barn, Calf Barn, Mule Barn (background), facing NE
27. Calf Barn, Mule Barn (background), facing E
28. Hay Barn, facing SW
29. Feed Bin, Grain Storage Bin (background), Storage Shed (background), facing NW



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30. L-R: Storage Shed, Feed Bin, Storage Shed, Grain Storage Bin, Silos (background), facing W
31. Free Stall Barns (far left and far right), Silage Belt Feeder (middle), Silos (background), facing W
32. Free Stall Barn, facing SW
33. Storage Shed, facing NE
34. Silos, facing SE
35. Straw Barn, facing NW
36. Storage Building, facing N
37. New Office, facing SE
38. Gazebo, facing NE