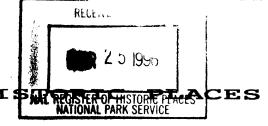
493

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF REGISTRATION FORM



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete 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 The William Enst	on Home
other names/site number	
2. Location	
street & number 900 King Street city or town Charleston state South Carolina code SC	not for publication vicinity county Charleston code 019 zip code 29403
3. State/Federal Agency Certificat	
this X nomination request for determination properties in the National Register of Historic F	Date/ 19/96 Archives & History, Columbia, S.C. not meet the National Register criteria.
Signature of commenting or other official	Date
State or Federal agency and bureau 4. National Park Service Certifica	ation
I, hereby certify that this property is:	Mag_m.404_4125196
other (explain):	Signature of Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Proper (Check only one box)	ty	Number of Res	ources within Pr	operty
private	X building(s	\	Contributing	Noncontributin	~
	duriding(s	')			
X public-local			<u>27</u>		uildings
public-State	site				ites
public-Federal	structure		2		tructures
	object				bjects
			30	T	otal
					
Name of related multiple	e property listing	N	umber of contri	buting resources	previously
Enter "N/A" if property is not pa				tional Register	
Enter W/A II property is not pa	to of a marciple property ilst	,ing., _		icronar negrocer	
N/A					
N/A					
6. Function or Use					
				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Historic Functions (Enter	categories from instructions)				
Cat: DOMESTIC	Su	b: Inst	itutional Housi	ng	
RELIGION			gious Facility		
DOMESTIC			ndary Structure		
HEALTH CA	OF	Clin		<u> </u>	
					
INDUSTRY/	PROCESSING	wate	r Works		
Current Functions (Enter o		_			
Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Su		<u>itutional Housi</u>		
DOMESTIC		Seco	ndary Structure		
7. Description					
Architectural Classifica	ation Ma	terials			
(Enter categories from instruction			es from instructions)		
•	•	undation			
Romanesque Revival				3.1	
Queen Anne Revival		of	Metal; Aspha		
Bungalow	wa	lls	Brick; Concre		
	ot	her	Sandstone; B	luestone; Belgia	n
			Block/Brick		
Narrative Description					
(Describe the historic and current	condition of the property on	one or more	continuation sheets.	.1	
(20000000000000000000000000000000000000				<u>, </u>	
8. Statement of Sign	ni fi cance				
o. Statement of Sign	iiiicance				
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Applicable National Reg.					
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for	the criteria qualifying the	property for	: National Register li	.sting)	
X A Property	is associated with ev	ents tha	t have made a s	ignificant	
contribut	ion to the broad patt	erns of	our history		
				ificant in and a	
	is associated with th				ast.
	embodies the distinct				
or method	of construction or r	epresent	s the work of a	master, or	
possesses	high artistic values	, or rep	resents a signi	ficant and	
distingui	shable entity whose c	omponent	s lack individu	al distinction.	
	nas yielded, or is li				
	or history.				
Promiser.					

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)				
A owned by a religious institution or use removed from its original location. C a birthplace or a grave. D a cemetery. E a reconstructed building, object, or structed by a commemorative property. C less than 50 years of age or achieved	ed for religious purposes. ructure. significance within the past 50 years.			
Areas of Significance	Significant Dates			
(Enter categories from instructions)	1884			
Architecture	1893			
Community Planning & Development	1927			
Health/Medicine Social History	Significant Person			
Landscape Architecture	(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)			
	(*************************************			
	Cultural Affiliation			
Period of Significance	N/A			
1884-1933				
	Architect/Builder			
	Howe, W.B.W. (Buildings)			
	Hering, Rudolph (Sewage/Plumbing			
Narrative Statement of Significance	Systems Engineer			
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets	•)			
9. Major Bibliographical References				
Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on the sources are the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on the sources are the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on the sources are the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on the sources are the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on the sources are the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on the sources are the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on the sources are the books, articles, and other sources are the books, articles, and the books, articles, are the books,	one or more continuation sheets.)			
<pre>previous documentation on file (NPS)</pre>	36 CFR 67) has been			
previously determined eligible by the National Reddesignated a National Historic Landmark X 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: South Carolina Historical Society	y, Charleston, S.C.			
10. Geographical Data				
Acreage of Property 12.1 acres				
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)				
	Northing 3629425 3629520			
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/titleJonathan H. Poston/Director of Preservation	1
organization Historic Charleston Foundation	date 1 May 1995
street & number 11 Fulton Street	telephone <u>(803) 724-8486</u>
city or townCharleston	state SC zip code 29401
Additional Documentation	
Submit the following items with the completed form:	
Continuation Sheets	
Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the A Sketch map for historic districts and properties resources.	
Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the p	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 Don Cameron, Charleston Housing Authority	
street & number 20 Franklin Street	telephone <u>(803) 720-3970</u>
city or townCharleston	state <u>SC</u> zip code <u>29401</u>

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section __7 Page _5

The William Enston Home
name of property
Charleston County, South Carolina
county and State

The William Enston Home complex is located on the northern part of the peninsula of Charleston and is on the eastern side of King Street, bordered by Huger Street to the south and the South Carolina Railway tracks to the east. The William Enston Home, developed after the purchase of the site in 1882, consists of 27 buildings, 2 structures, and 12.1 landscaped acres.

The buildings include the 24 residential cottages (HABS Nos. SC-686-A and SC-686-B), 19 of which were completed between 1887 and 1889. These "cottages" are L-shaped, two-story brick buildings on brick basements with a covered one-story entrance at the inside corner of the L. The walls are stretcher-bond red brick with red mortar, 16'-18' thick in the basement (which is covered with cement mortar), with corbelled brick beltcourses circling the buildings, and decorative mousetooth and herringbone pattern brickwork providing textural variation on the west gable end of the front porch. Molded concrete lintels and arches with oversized keystones appear above most openings. The hipped roofs with cross gables and a tent-like peak at the center were originally covered in painted metal (probably tin) shingles, replaced after Hurricane Hugo in 1989 with composition shingles. The buildings feature three tall rectangular red brick chimneys with corbelled caps, double-hung sash 2/2 windows with concrete sills and lintels, and a semi-circular lunette with compound brick relieving arch on their front side beneath the gable end at attic level. These buildings were renovated slightly in 1927. That same year, five additional cottages were built with designs similar to the 1887-89 cottages with stretcher-bond red brick and white mortar. Two internal brick chimneys, without the corbelled caps of the earlier chimneys, punctuate the north and south centers of the roofs. The original buildings still contain the original stair balusters, moldings, and wainscoting, as well as fireplaces with dark-stained wood mantels and surrounds. The first cottages were described by the architect as double cottages divided by a central hall and arranged with a view of being occupied, if desired, by two families. After the 1927 renovations buildings were converted to make four separate apartments with the conversion of first floor living rooms into bedrooms, and of two of the upstairs bedrooms into kitchens. In each cottage a concrete-floored basement is divided by brick walls into three rooms and a hallway. stairways in the 1887-89 cottages are of dark stained and varnished wood with heavy turned newels, dropped pendants, turned post-and-block lattice balusters, and carved ornamental brackets. The stairways of the 1927 cottages are, like other features of these cottages, simpler than those in the 1888-89 cottages. Flooring in the earlier cottages are of 3.5" to 4" wide pine boards, while the later houses have 2" wide pine boards. cottages, the walls are lathed and plastered. Both sets of cottages have wood mantels and surrounds and all cottages have unusual built-in storage cupboards with screen doors in the ground floor kitchens. These buildings are in fair condition overall with basic exterior maintenance and structural soundness. Some buildings are suffering from wood rot, some from termite damage, and there is some peeling paint as well as fallen

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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The William Enston Home
name of property
Charleston County, South Carolina
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plaster in certain buildings. With the damage of Hurricane Hugo to the buildings and landscape, the roofs of all the cottages were resheathed to prevent further water damage. Some maintenance was deferred in the transfer of the William Enston Home from the William Enston Home Trust to the Charleston Housing Authority.

Memorial Hall, in the center of the site, was planned as early as 1882 as a memorial to Home founder William Enston. Constructed of red brick with concrete trim and stained glass windows, Memorial Hall was completed by 1889 and built to resemble an English parish church in the Romanesque Revival style. The building features a tall, thin, peaked-roof bell tower and is in fairly good condition.

Memorial Hall was described as a "suitable place when so desired, for religious services, lectures, and as daily reading room and library." This building is built of common bond red brick with red mortar, ornamented by rows of beltcoursing and a band of pressed concrete floral ornament near the west end gabled peak, which is itself surmounted by a Celtic cross finial. The peaked roof is framed in a "medieval" manner with exposed, carved wooden hammer beams, collars, braces, pendants, and rafters, and while the roof of the main building is covered with composition shingles, the tower is covered with original painted metal shingles. Four slate steps with rounded ends lead up to a porch beneath a keyhole-shaped concrete arch. On the center of the porch's east wall is appended a granite pedestal and an 1888 bronze bust of William Enston by Edward V. Valentine (the bust was originally on the east wall of the second floor).

The chapel's interior has had several alterations including the rewalling of the ground floor of the main room in sheetrock. The second floor chapel housed a workshop and storage area in recent years.

In 1987, two stained-glass windows were stolen from the north and south sides of the building. The bell tower was damaged by Hurricane Hugo in September 1989 and has also had extensive problems with pigeons, rotting woodwork, and crumbling metalwork.

The Dawson Infirmary, built in 1933, is a one-and-one-half story building with Craftsman/Bungalow influences. It is constructed of red brick with white mortar, with a corbelled brick beltcourse at the floor level. The west end front has a brick entry porch while an enclosed sun porch ornaments the building's southern end and a brick pavilion on the east side gives access to the basement stairs and kitchen. The original floor plan of this building has been altered along with most other interior features after Hurricane Hugo. Its floors are carpeted and walls are now sheetrocked.

The Engine House was constructed in 1888 and is a simple rectangular mass with hipped roof and a thin line of beltcoursing constructed of red brick.

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The William Enston Home
name of property
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The building has two exterior doorways and a lunette-type window set beneath a round concrete arch on the building's south side. The rectangular pyramid roof is capped by a hipped lantern and covered with painted sheet metal. The structure originally housed the boiler and now has only electrical machinery of indeterminate function on the interior, which is divided into three rooms. The Engine House is in generally poor condition with doors and window glass missing.

The Water Tower is a red brick structure built in 1889 according to a model sewage and plumbing system developed by engineer Rudolph Hering of Philadelphia. This two-story tower, with a circular first story and octagonal second story, features a projecting pedimented portico on its south elevation with the inscription "William Enston Home" in raised letters with a sunburst motif. The interior is a dirt-floored open space with a wrought-iron ladder leading to a wrought-iron water tank above. The Water Tower is in poor condition. During the late 1980s the original conical roof was entirely removed; the building has since been open and is infested with pigeons.

The Entrance Gate, built in 1893 by local master builder Robert McArrel, is constructed of uncoursed granite rubble masonry in the Richardsonian Romanesque style. The central arched gate is flanked by two one-story octangonal towers. The original 1895 wrought-iron gates, featuring a curvilinear wheel pattern, are still in place.

The above information is taken from HABS information sheets compiled by Keith Eggener, HABS No. SC-686-A through SC-686-F.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 8

The William Enston Home
name of property
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county and State

The William Enston Home, a complex constructed between the initial acquisition of the property in 1882 and 1933, is significant as an early example of benevolent and philanthropic efforts to provide housing for the elderly. Funded by an 1859 bequest from William Enston, an Englishman who immigrated to Charleston in the early nineteenth century, the home was intended to house the aged and infirm in a manner similar to the home in Enston's native Canterbury. As such, the William Enston Home may be one of the oldest such complexes in the South. The home was established on the north end of the Charleston peninsula on the former Storen farm, in an area which the City of Charleston hoped to redevelop as a model suburb. initial portions of the Enstom Home complex were built between 1884 and 1888, with additional buildings and structures built in 1893, 1927, and 1933. With its neat rows of detached double cottages set amid spacious landscaped grounds, the Home provides an unusual and well-preserved example of nineteenth-century picturesque suburban-planning concepts adapted to a charitable and institutional function. In architectural terms, the William Enston Home complex is also significant on the local level as a preeminent example of the Romanesque Revival style, a style rare in Charleston, a cityscape dominated by its antebellum past.

When William Enston left the bulk of his large estate to the City of Charleston in his 1859 will, he intended to help establish a benevolent home for the city's aged and infirm residents, and "to make old age comfortable." His wishes were for a home made up of neat and convenient two-story brick cottages on at least eight acres. In nineteenth-century America, most of the poor were dependent on city or county almshouses of varying qualities or treated as social deviants and outcasts and placed in workhouses or asylums. In England, older almshouses of a more benevolent sort were common and British social activists began to invest in low-income housing projects in the 1830s and 1840s. Enston's concept was to build a home in Charleston modelled on long-standing British institutions and influenced by current British social reform.

Enston's estate was not settled until well after his death, and problems associated with the reduction of its value as a result of the Civil War and with negotiations with Enston's widow Hannah hampered the city's ability to honor Enston's bequest until about 1880. Mayor William A. Courtenay, corresponding with the mayor of Enston's native Canterbury, developed the concept of a "model village" for the William Enston Home which would reflect plans for modern suburban villages. The home complex, with twelve acres of shaded and stone-paved roadways and its Romanesque architecture, is reminscent of picturesque late-nineteenth century suburbs such as Riverside, Illinois. The overall design was by prominent Charleston architect W.B.W. Howe, with construction supervised by prominent Charleston contractor Colin P. Grant and prominent mason and contractor Robert McArrel, and a model sewage and plumbing system by prominent Philadelphia engineer Rudolph Hering. The site was originally intended to contain 40

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OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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name of property
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cottages along streets paved in Belgian block and bearing names relating to relating to Enston's native country such as Queen Bertha's Court and Colsterworth Avenue.

The William Enston Home property is significant on several levels, most notably as an example of a nineteenth-century model approach to the treatment of the elderly and as an excellent example of the Romanesque Revival style, a type of public building rare in Charleston and indeed in the Southeast.

The above information is taken from HABS information sheets compiled by Keith Eggener, HABS No. SC-686.

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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The William Enston Home
name of property
Charleston County, South Carolina
county and State

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The William Enston Home
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name of property
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NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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Section 10 Page 16

The William Enston Home
name of property
Charleston County, South Carolina
county and State

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is shown as the pencil line labeled "William Enston Home" on the accompanying Charleston County Tax Map, c463-16-1, Parcel 1, drawn at a scale of 1" = 50'.

Verbal Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the historic boundary of the William Enston Home.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section PHOTOGRAPHS Page 17 The William Enston Home

name of property

Charleston County, South Carolina

county and State

The following information is the same for each of the photographs:

Name of Property:

William Enston Home

Location of Property:

900 King Street, Charleston

Name of Photographer:

Charleston County, South Carolina

Date of Photographs:

D. Ames

Location of Original

1993

Negatives:

Historic American Buildings Survey (SC-686)

Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

- 1. Memorial Hall Cornerstone and Cottages on Colsterworth Ave. Looking North
- Cottages on N.W. end of St. Martin's Ct. Looking N.W.
- Cottages on N.E. end of St. Martin's Ct. Looking West
- 4. Cottages on N.W. end of St. Martin's Ct. Looking S.E.
- Cottages on N.W. end of St. Martin's Ct. Looking S.E., Closer
- 6. Cottage No. 3, S.W. Front
- 7. Cottage No. 3, S.W. Front, Detail of Window and Entrance
- 8. Cottage No. 14, S.E. Front
- 9. Cottage No. 2, S.W. Front
- 10. Cottage No. 6, N.W. Side and S.W. Front
- 11. Memorial Hall, S.W. Front
- 12. Memorial Hall, S.W. Front
- 13. Memorial Hall, S.W. Front and S.E. Side
- 14. Memorial Hall, S.E. and N.E. Sides
- 15. Water Tower, S. Side
- 16. Engine House, S.W. Side and S.E. Front

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Page							
		SUPP	LEMENTARY	LISTING	RECORD		
NRIS	Reference	Number:	96000493	Date	Listed:	4/25/96	

Enston, William, Home Charleston SOUTH CAROLINA Property Name County State

N/A Multiple Name

This companies is lighted in the Wational Magister of Wightenia Dlago

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

<u>Section No. 2</u>: This nomination is amended to reclassfy the resource from buildings to district, since it is essentially a planned community.

<u>Section No. 8</u>: Health/medicine and landscape architecture are removed as areas of significance. The property is significant in the areas of architecture, social history, and community planning and development.

The author confirms that the 1993 HABS photographs still reflect the appearance of the property.

These changes have been confirmed by the South Carolina SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)