

LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION REPORT

Charles W. McCrary House, ca. 1929

(Exterior Designation)

240 Worth Street, Asheboro, N.C.

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

This house was built by the oldest son of textile industrialist D.B. McCrary on the corner lot east of the father's home. The house is located on the previous home site of N.C. Governor Jonathan Worth. Architect Harry Barton provided plans for this imposing Classical Revival style house. In features such as the entrance bay and Palladian window framed by Ionic pilasters, the stucco walls and green tile roof, Barton's design drew on the academic style of the Italian Renaissance. Yet the rectangular mass of the dwelling with its end chimneys and central gable articulating the entrance is typical of the vernacular house type dominant throughout the nineteenth-century southern United States. This Classical Revival architectural style was popular among the well-to-do during the 1920's and 1930's, and some elements of the McCrary house – stucco, green tile and sun rooms for examples – relate the house to dwellings such as the Reynolda House in Winston-Salem.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Charles W. McCrary house meets Local Landmark criteria as it is significant in Asheboro for its distinctive Classical Revival construction while drawing on the academic style of the Italian Renaissance. The Charles W. McCrary house maintains an outstanding degree of original integrity with regard to location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Its unique location and distinctive architecture represents an established and familiar visual feature of the City of Asheboro. It is identified with Charles W. McCrary who was an individual that significantly contributed to the architectural, cultural, and economic development of Asheboro and Randolph County.

ARCHITECTURE CONTEXT

The house was designed by Harry Barton (1876-1937). Mr. Barton was one of the first licensed architects in North Carolina. His license certificate, issued in 1915, was #44. During the early 20th Century, Barton designed many classically inspired buildings and residences including the Chancellor's House (1923) at UNCG, First Methodist Church (1924, Asheboro), S.H Tomlinson House (1924, High Point), and the Sigmund Sternberger House (Greensboro, 1925). The distinctive Classical Revival architectural context also draws on the academic style of the Italian Renaissance.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Charles W. McCrary was the oldest son of textile industrialist D.B. McCrary. D.B. McCrary was the founder of the Acme-McCrary Corporation, and also a former mayor of Asheboro. Charles McCrary was a major contributor to the City of Asheboro and the Randolph County community. The McCrary name is considered a leader in the N.C. textile industry, but is also associated with many local endeavors from, but not limited to, Randolph Hospital to baseball. Acme-McCrary Corp. is one of the few remaining Randolph County textile manufacturing facilities still in operation. The Charles W. McCrary house is, and will continue to be, an example of the significance and history of the state and local textile industry. The unique location and distinctive architecture represents an established and familiar visual feature of the City of Asheboro.

MAP AND PLANS

A Geographical Information System (GIS) air photograph map, (produced by the Randolph County Planning Department) of this property reflecting the structure and its relation to nearby streets and other buildings is included as part of this report. The map identifies and labels all accessory buildings and structures on the property, including the exterior of the Charles McCrary House. Detailed floor plans are maintained by the Randolph County Tax Department, records of which are available to the Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission. The Randolph County Planning Department is charged by the Board of County Commissioners with providing staff and technical support necessary for the mission of the Randolph County HLPC.

PHOTOS

Submitted as part of this report are digital photographs, (including a compact disk) prepared by the Randolph County Planning Department. The photographs include significant landscape features to reflect physical setting. Also included are pictures of subsidiary buildings located on the property. Interior photographs are provided that reflect notable trim and significant interior features.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH CERTIFICATION

Historical data used for this report will be reviewed in public hearing by the Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission. A final record of Certification, after public hearing, will be reflected in the official minutes of the Commission.

**Chairman, Randolph County Historical Landmark
Preservation Commission**

Date

