

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

SENT TO D.C.

10-15-96

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 *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 an 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 McClure, Thomas J. and Caroline, House

other names/site number McClure Homeplace

2. Location

street & number Main Street 1/2 mi. e. of SR 3 not for publication

city or town McClure vicinity

state Illinois code IL county Alexander code 003 zip code 62957

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

William L. Wheeler / SHP 10-10-96
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
State of 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 certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain): _____	_____	_____

McClure, Thomas J. and Caroline, House
Name of Property

Alexander, Illinois
County and State

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 in the count.)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	3	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	3	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling

Domestic/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne

foundation Stone

walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other Wood

Brick

Narrative Description

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

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.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- 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.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or 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)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1882

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(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 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
- Other

Name of repository:

McClure, Thomas J. and Caroline, House
Name of Property

Alexander, Illinois
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property 3 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	6
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2	8	4	8	2	0
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4	1	3	2	9	0	0
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Zone Easting Northing

3

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Zone Easting Northing

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 Brenda M. Webb

organization N/A date July 1, 1996

street & number P.O. Box 160 telephone 618-661-1476

city or town McClure state Illinois zip code 62957

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 SHPO or FPO.)

name ^{by title} Charles V. Webb

street & number P.O. Box 160 telephone 618-661-1476

city or town McClure state Illinois zip code 62957

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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Thomas J. and Caroline McClure House

Description

Summary

The Thomas J. and Caroline McClure House is a large two-and-a-half story red brick house built c. 1882. The house is of the Queen Anne style, with some Italianate influences. The general shape of the house is a large rectangular hipped roof block with gabled extensions towards the north, a polygonal bay extension on the east, and a lower hipped roof extension to the south (rear). The foundation is square-cut, rock-faced, gray sandstone set in irregular courses, topped with a square-cut, rubbed finished, brown sandstone water table. The walls are made of bricks, consisting of five courses of stretchers to a sixth course of alternating stretchers and headers. The hipped and gabled roofs are covered with reddish-pink asphalt shingles over several layers of old asphalt shingles and the original cedar shakes. The roof is topped by a square, many-windowed cupola with a pyramidal roof. Four tall brick chimneys rise from the roof lines, one near the northwest corner, two from the south facade, and one near the center of the east elevation. These chimneys are large and rectangular in shape, having been built with two rows of projecting brick work near their tops. A fifth small square chimney rises from the midst of the roof just south of the cupola. Upper and lower porches have turned wooden posts and balusters, and sawn brackets. Windows on the north, or front, facade are five-over-one, double-hung, with marble window sills and segmental brick arches, while those on the side and rear elevations are one-over-one, double-hung, with sandstone sills and segmental brick arches, except where noted. The interior of the house features decorative plasterwork, tiled fireplaces, and Eastlake styled woodwork. The house is located at the center of the village of McClure, Illinois, in the northwest corner of Alexander County. It fronts north onto Main Street (Grapevine Trail Road), and is surrounded by a three acre lawn containing many trees such as maple, cedar, sweet gum, pecan, catalpa, cypress and magnolia. A low concrete block wall runs parallel to Main Street, and fronts the property. A gravel drive enters through a gate in this wall, and curves around the west side of the house to the rear entrances. Outbuildings are situated to the southeast of

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Thomas J. and Caroline McClure House

the house. To the west, south and east of the lawn is a large cultivated cornfield. The property is in good condition, with very few alterations to the house. All the original outbuildings have been demolished.

Exterior

The front north facing facade features a first story wraparound porch. This porch is 47 feet wide across the front, 12 feet deep in front of double entry doors, and four feet deep to the left of the entry where a shallow rectangular wing protrudes forward from the main body of the house. The porch was originally built of wood on brick piers, with turned posts, sawn brackets, handrails and turned baulsters. In 1953 deteriorated parts of the porch were removed, a solid cement foundation was poured, the porch depth was increased from six feet to the present 12 feet at the right hand side of the entry, and the porch was partly screened in. In 1994 a renovation project began which removed the screens, replaced several turned posts, and installed new sawn brackets, based on historic views of the front porch. New balusters and railings are to be installed later. The concrete floor and foundation has been painted and disguised somewhat with green lattice work and new plantings of azalea and hosta. Prototypes for the new porch parts come from the east side of the wraparound porch, which has retained its original features. A color scheme for the porch as well as the remainder of the trim on the house is being developed at the present time, and will follow as closely as possible original colors used on the house as evidenced by paint scrapings, old photographs, and color charts from that era. Old photos show a main hipped roof of cedar shingles, with alternating rows of fishscale shingles and plain shakes on the porch roof. This cedar roof now serves as decking for the newer asphalt shingles. The house has built-in box gutters, with aluminum downspouts at the corners. Over the front steps is a small gable with a raised sunburst pattern. A single concrete step leads from the front porch onto a short concrete walk that runs west to the driveway.

Directly above the double wood front doors is a rectangular transom window of stained glass with daisy-like flowers in green, pink, and blue surrounded by a bright yellow border. These doors, the stained glass window, and most all the other windows and doors of the house are covered with silver aluminum storm

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Thomas J. and Caroline McClure House

windows and storm doors. These coverings were applied in the late 1950's or early 1960's, when original green wooden shutters were removed from the house. One remaining set of shutters can be seen on the first floor window to the right of the front entry.

Balanced around the first floor entry are four large (53" x 86") double-hung windows, two windows on the first story of the house, and two on the second. Each of these windows have five small panes of glass in the upper sash over two panes in the lower sash. The sills of these front windows are of marble, and above them is a wood lintel decorated with a center wooden bullseye flanked on each side by two sets of vertical grooves. All windows are topped by a segmental brick arch. A fifth large window sits directly above the front doors, and is longer than the other four (53" x 98"). It serves as an entryway to the small second story porch when the lower sash is raised. A large attic type fan hangs in this window, and serves to cool the house. This upper porch sits directly above the main entry, and though smaller in scale, it echoes the lower porch in design with turned posts, brackets, balusters and railings. Slightly offset to the right above the upper porch and center entry below is a hipped roof dormer. It projects from the steep front slope of the main hipped roof. The dormer has two, four-paned casement windows which admit light to the attic. The cupola rises from a square flat deck at the top of the main hipped roof and has a pyramid roof topped by a pointed metal lightning rod. Each wall of the square cupola is made up of three double-hung windows, with nine panes of glass in the upper sash and one pane in the lower sash.

The left side of the front elevation is dominated by a front facing gable, somewhat lower than the main hipped roof, and above the projecting rectangular wing below. Wood, rather than brick, decorates this gable. A belt course stretches across the bottom of the gable, and is adorned with an alternating series of large wooden bullseyes and wooden stylized flower petals. Above this course is a single rectangular casement window with nine panes of glass. Flanking the window on both sides is a sunburst pattern. Above the window the gable wall is covered with wood fishscale shingles.

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Thomas J. and Caroline McClure House

The east elevation of the McClure House has the rest of the first floor wraparound porch. It is six feet deep, and extends 21 feet in length. Here the porch retains its original wood floor and piers. Porch parts are currently undergoing scraping and painting, and railings and balusters have been removed for work. At the left end of this porch is a single entry door under a moveable transom. There is an original wooden screen door at this entry, although it is missing some of its spindlework. A one-over-one window on the second story is above the doorway. The window sill is of sandstone. The sills and water table are being cleaned of old paint, and the stone foundation was cleaned and repointed last year. The sandstone is soft and has suffered some water damage through the years.

The center of the east facade is dominated by a projecting two story, three-sided window bay, with three windows on each level. The middle windows are the large five-over-two windows such as those found on the front facade; the side windows in this bay are the narrow one-over-one type. The polygonal roof line rises in a very steep pitch at three angles over this bay, and joins the main hip roof. To the left of the window bay begins the rear, or service area, of the house. Here is a lower hipped roof that projects southward from the main roof. Two small one-over-one windows are on the upper story. At the lower story is an enclosed porch with a modern one-over-one window. This porch was originally open, and used as a laundry area, with an adjoining cistern. It was enclosed c.1948, and is still used as a laundry and utility room. It is sided with red asphalt shingles in a brick pattern, and has a shed roof. The cistern has been filled in.

The south, or rear facing facade of the McClure House is quite plain in comparison to the other three sides. The red brick wall here is flat, with no projections, with bricks laid directly on the foundation with no sandstone water table. The south wall is only 27 feet in width. A short pair of modern one-over-one windows looks out from under a segmental brick arch which formerly capped a doorway. This doorway once provided an entry from the main kitchen to a small frame summer kitchen which projected from the south facade. This summer kitchen was removed c.1948, and the doorway was made into this wide window which is over the present kitchen sink. Below this window a small wooden door in the foundation once served as a coal chute. A narrow four-over-

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four window is the only upper story window on the south facade. An enclosed porch flanks either side of this flat elevation, one being the previously mentioned laundry porch on the right, and on the left is a porch enclosed with many windows and white vinyl siding. This left porch was originally open, with the same decorative woodwork as the front porch of the house. At some time this porch was screened in, and in 1990 the windows and siding were added, making it into a three season room. Its current use is for occasional dining. This porch also has a shed roof. The entry doors of both porches face south. Completing the rear elevation is the cellar entrance, near the left of the back wall. It is a sloping cement bulkhead with old wooden doors. Old photos and marks on the wall show evidence there was once a small shed type roof over this entrance as well. Another large cistern once stood near this basement entry. Until just recently, a large, flat-roofed carport built in 1960 dominated a good deal of this south side. The carport has been removed, and a large expanse of concrete remains. A garage with a steeply pitched gable roof is to be built behind the house in the fall of 1996. It will be 16 feet from the rear, and will not be attached to the house. The remainder of the concrete will be used as a patio area.

The west facade has the rear service area of the house, as well as the side view of the house's main portion. At the right is the enclosed porch, with three aluminum windows on the main level. There are two second story windows above this porch. One is a four-over-four window, while the second is a semicircular arched window with three panes of glass in the fixed upper sash, and six panes in the lower casement sash. This window spans the wall where the rear, or servant's stairs reach a landing between both the first and second, and second and third stories of the house. In this way, the window admits light to all flights of these rear stairs. The west facade then projects forward, allowing room for one window on each story to face southward. The main portion of the west elevation is a flat wall, with one upper story and two lower story windows. Above this flat wall is a dormer which projects from the main hipped roof. This dormer is identical to that on the north elevation, with a small hipped roof and two four-paned casement windows. At the northwest corner of the house is a large rectangular two story gabled brick projection that sits at an angle to the house's corner. The gable is decorated with a large wooden sunburst. This bay

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Thomas J. and Caroline McClure House

has a large five-over-two double-hung window on each story, and marble window sills.

The roof line of the McClure House has the four rectangular brick chimneys and a fifth smaller, square, plain chimney near the center of the house. This fifth chimney may have been added at a later date, and serves to vent the gas boiler which heats the house. The two rear original chimneys have lost their courses of projecting decorative brick work near their tops. At one time clay pipes rose from at least two of these chimneys, as evidenced by an old photo. Old photos also show a large decorative wooden cresting running horizontally around the roof deck just below the cupola. This was probably lost during reroofing. At one time, the upper sash of the cupola windows were painted with brightly colored designs, giving them the appearance of stained glass. Unfortunately, this paint has all flaked away over the years.

Interior

The double front entry doors lead into a long wide front hall. This hall has many decorative features, including an arch of turned balusters, sunrays in the spandrels, a plaster ceiling medallion, wide molded plaster cornice, and a carved composition goddess Athena standing on the newel post. Large pocket doors open right and left into the living room and music room respectively. The front stairs rise up the west wall of the front hall, and have a carved handrail and turned balusters. Carved posts are located at the stair landings as the stairs turn into the upper story hall, where the bannister forms a balcony. An ornate light fixture original to the house, and now electrified, hangs from the plaster medallion. To the right is the living room, and behind it to the south, an adjoining sitting room. To the left of the hallway is the music room, and south of this, the large formal dining room. Each of these rooms feature a heavily carved ceiling medallion, plaster cornice showing Italianate influence, and a fireplace with slate mantel, and surrounds of decorative tile and inlaid and grained wood. Woodwork throughout this main part of the house is of fir, and was originally grained, but has at some time been covered by an almost black varnish. The door and window surrounds have vertical grooves, and bullseyes at upper corners. Doors have recessed panels, and below each window is a recessed panel of wood. All

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walls and ceilings are plaster, with most wall surfaces having been papered by the previous owner in 1973. Ceilings are 12 feet in height. All but one of the medallions are painted in bright colors to match the papers. Each room has a iron radiator for heat. Floors are of pine, with some being overlaid with carpet or linoleum, or replaced with new pine flooring after floodwaters invaded the house in 1943.

The living room features an offset rectangular window bay at the northwest corner. At the east end of the dining room is a three sided bay window. A closet in the dining room has a pass through door, where food was once served from the pantry. An exterior door in the south dining room wall once led to the now enclosed laundry porch, but has been walled over. Behind this main, or formal part of the house is the back, or service area. Here the back hall lies perpendicular to the front hall, with the back stairs leading upward from east to west. The bannister here is formed from wainscoting. The back hall was made more narrow by a 1960's closet built into its length. An exterior door at the west end of the back hall is intact, but painted shut. At the east end of the back hall is a halfbath, formed from the old pantry. Woodwork in this service area is plain, and mostly painted white. Ceilings are ten feet in height. The kitchen takes up the width of the house at the south, and is a large rectangular room with modern appliances and new cabinetry. The cabinets reach near the ceiling and have glass panels in their upper doors. These cabinets, along with twin ceiling fans, natural pine floor, original woodwork, and antique furniture give the kitchen a vintage feel, in spite of being modern. It is not known how the kitchen looked originally, as it has undergone numerous updates, the latest in 1993, by the present owners. The small cellar is situated under the kitchen, and stairs to it are under the rear stairs, and reached by a door in the north kitchen wall. The cellar has stone walls, concrete floor, and houses the gas boiler and water softener.

The second story room arrangement is almost identical to that of the first floor. Four large bedrooms opening off the large central hallway make up the main portion of the upstairs. Doorways once connected the two bedrooms on each side of the hall; these have since been enclosed to create closets. Two of the bedrooms had small closets originally, and the largest bedroom has a small adjoining bathroom that is original to the house, although running water was not

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added to the house until the 1930's. At the back section of the house is a small bedroom, originally the maid's room, and a quilt, or storage room now converted into a large bathroom. Woodwork upstairs is identical to that on the lower story, except that here it is painted white. Each interior door upstairs has a transom above it to help with natural ventilation. Ceilings on the second level are ten feet high. Plaster walls and ceilings here are both painted and papered. Floors are pine, except in the upper back hallway, where the floor is of poplar. The attic is reached by stairs that extend upward from the back hallway. The attic is large, and finished with wood flooring and rough sawn lumber on some of the wall surfaces that divide off two storage rooms from the main room. At the center of the main room is a set of steep narrow open steps that lead up into the cupola. The cupola itself has a floor, and a rudimentary railing around the steps leading to it.

Grounds and Outbuildings

The grounds of the McClure house are flat, as the house is situated in the "river bottoms" and is less than one mile from the Mississippi River. Two old wrought iron gates flank the opening in the low concrete block wall fronting the lawn. Just inside the gates, and to either side are a pair of old mill stones lying flat on the ground. These two stones, and a third near the front porch, came from a flour mill that Thomas J. McClure built in 1867, and operated nearby for many years. The mill burned in the early part of this century. In the west lawn is a large iron bell, turned upside down, and used as a flower pot for many years. It once hung in the local Methodist Church, which also burned. A stone "log" hitching post, engraved "McClure" stands beside a mounting step near the rear of the drive. At the southwest corner of the property is a large concrete slab, which served as the foundation of a modular home, used until recently by the late Mrs. Caroline Webb, who owned the property previously. Situated to the southeast of the house are three noncontributing outbuildings. There is a small wood-frame chicken house built c. 1920, now used as a gardening shed, a large metal farm shop built in 1980, and a large wood-frame barn built c. 1920 used for storage.

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Thomas J. and Caroline McClure House

Statement of Significance

The Thomas J. and Caroline McClure House is locally significant for Criterion C for architecture as a well preserved example of a Queen Anne styled house. The house also has some Italianate influence. The period of significance is c.1882, when the house was believed to have been constructed. No other homes of this size and detail were built in McClure, but similar high-style examples may be found regionally in Anna, IL, and Cape Girardeau, MO. The house has many Queen Anne features, including a steeply pitched hipped roof with lower cross gables, a wraparound porch, much spindlework, or Eastlake ornamentation, and window sashes with many small rectangular panes. Italianate influences are seen in the square cupola and the segmental brick arches over doors and windows. The Thomas J. and Caroline McClure House retains a large percentage of its original exterior and interior integrity.

Architecture

Although a few buildings showing Queen Anne influence had gone up in America in 1877 and 1878, it was not until 1879 that the style made a notable contribution to American architecture. In the relevant buildings produced in this year and the early 1880's, as well as in their furniture and fittings, English influence is much in evidence, but the best buildings are far from being copies of English work. Increasing understanding of what was happening in England and enthusiasm for doing something on the same lines in America had brought about a fusion of expertise and excitement that began to be creative.¹

The Late Victorian Queen Anne style of architecture was the dominant style of domestic building during the period from about 1880 until 1900. High-style examples first appeared in the 1870's, and by 1880 the style was being spread throughout the country by pattern books and the first architectural magazine, The American Architect and Building News. The style was named and popularized by a group of 19th century English architects, whose designs were borrowed from late Medieval styles. The spindlework subtype is an indigenous interpretation. It was somewhat less common and more restrained in the heavily populated northeastern states, but increased in dominance and exuberance of

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Thomas J. and Caroline McClure House

decoration in resort areas, the south, and the west. The expanding railroad network also helped popularize the style by making pre-cut architectural details conveniently available throughout much of the nation.²

Queen Anne houses, according to Virginia and Lee McAlester's A Field Guide to American Houses, are of four principal subtypes: hipped roof with lower cross gables, cross-gabled roofs, front-gabled roofs, or town houses. The Thomas J. and Caroline McClure House fits into the first subtype, which is described thus: Most commonly there are two cross gables, one front-facing and one side-facing, both asymmetrically placed on their respective facades. Others have pyramidal roofs with no ridge or merely a small flat deck crowning the hip. The hipped portion of the roof may have a gable-on-hip added; dormers and additional gables are common. The roof form of this subtype is among the most distinctive Queen Anne characteristics and occurs in examples ranging from modest cottages to high-style landmarks.³ The McClure House has a large, main hipped roof, with a lower front facing gable, lower side facing gable, and a polygonal roof over a side-facing polygonal window bay. It also has a flat deck at the crown of the hipped roof, where the cupola sits, as well as two projecting dormers.

A Field Guide to American Houses also tells us that there are four principal subtypes of decorative detailing on Queen Anne houses: spindlework, classical, half-timbered, and patterned masonry. The Thomas J. and Caroline McClure House fits into the subtype of spindlework, described this way: "... Queen Anne houses have delicate turned porch supports and spindlework ornamentation, which most commonly occurs in porch balustrades or as a frieze suspended from the porch ceiling. Spindlework detailing is also used in gables and under the wall overhangs left by cutaway bay windows. Lacy, decorative spandrels and knob-like beads are also common ornamental elements in this subtype. Spindlework detailing is sometimes referred to as gingerbread ornamentation, or as Eastlake detailing (after Charles Eastlake, an English furniture designer who advocated somewhat similar design elements)".⁴ The McClure House has turned porch posts, turned balusters, sawn brackets, and knob-like details above windows and in gable decorations. The interior hall has a large spandrel of turned wood spindles.

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Thomas J. and Caroline McClure House

Variants and details described in A Field Guide to American Houses concern porches and other details that can also be found on the Thomas J. and Caroline McClure House. Extensive one-story porches are common and accentuate the asymmetry of the facade. These always include the front entrance area and cover part or all of the front facade; they also commonly extend along one or both sides of the house. Second-story porches may be present; recessed porches sometimes occur in gables, second stories, or towers. Door and window surrounds tend to be simple in Queen Anne houses. Window sashes usually have only a single pane of glass; a frequent elaboration has a single pane surrounded by additional small or rectangular panes on one or more sides. Gables are commonly decorated with patterned shingles or more elaborate motifs.⁵ The McClure House has an extensive, asymmetrical first-story porch, extending along two sides of the house, as well as a second-story porch. The upper sash of several windows of the McClure House contain many small panes of glass. Patterned shingles decorate one front-facing gable. The interior of the McClure House has decorative fireplace surrounds made of tile, and of wood with graining and inlaid work. Eastlake styled woodwork is found inside the house, where door and window surrounds have vertical grooves and bullseyes at upper corners. A carved composition goddess stands on the lower newel post.

Italianate influences found on the house include the square, pyramidal roofed cupola, the segmental arched windows, and the interior crown mouldings and ornate ceiling medallions made of plaster. The Italianate style was popularized by pattern books of Andrew Jackson Downing in the 1840's and 50's, and was the dominate style during the 1860's. It's decline began with the financial panic of 1873. When prosperity returned in the late 1870's, new housing fashions, particularly the Queen Anne style, rose to dominance.⁶

History

Thomas J. McClure was born September 8, 1823, in Cooper County, Missouri. He traveled the Mississippi River as a young man, working in New Orleans as a wharf clerk. About 1842 he came to Clear Creek Landing (now McClure) near

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Thomas J. and Caroline McClure House

where his uncle, Matthew M. D. McClure, was farming. Clear Creek Landing was settled sometime prior to 1836, when it is first recorded as having a post office. Caroline Overbey, born April 23, 1833, in Mecklenberg County, Virginia, near the North Carolina border, arrived in Alexander County at about age eight. Her parents, Ahab H. and Susan Toone Overbey, were storekeepers in the river towns of Cairo and Thebes. Thomas J. and Caroline McClure were married February 24, 1853.⁷

Husband and wife were both business-minded, and eventually acquired over 3000 acres of farmland, mostly fertile river bottom land. They managed a store near or out of their home in Clear Creek, as well as having a lumber mill, blacksmith, a flour mill, and farming the vast acres, growing mostly wheat. Thomas J. became known as the "most extensive farmer" in Alexander County.⁸ Due to the vast acres of wheat being grown, the village became known as Wheatland in 1887.⁹

The river figured largely in the McClures' enterprises, affording them transportation for goods traded, via steamboat, with merchants in St. Louis.¹⁰ Many jobs were provided for sharecroppers and lumbermen, and housing for their families as well. Many people moved to Clear Creek specifically to work for the McClures. A young freeman, Lewis Danials, came here after the Civil War, looking for "Miss Toone" (Caroline's mother.) He had known, or been a slave of, the Toone family in Virginia. He stayed on at the McClure home for the remainder of his life, becoming a much trusted and beloved servant.¹¹

Thomas J. and Caroline McClure were the parents of seven children, and first lived in a large two-story frame home in the present day village of McClure. In 1879, their promising eldest son Henry Clay, age 22, drowned in a chute of the Mississippi. He was crossing the river on horseback to see about business on a large island his father had deeded him, where farms and a sawmill were located. Clay's death was reported in newspapers of the day at Cairo and Jonesboro, Illinois, as well as Cape Girardeau and St. Louis, Missouri.¹²

Sometime in 1882, Thomas J. and Caroline McClure began construction of a fine, stylish new home. It is not known who the architect or builders were, or

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Thomas J. and Caroline McClure House

where the plans for the house originated, only that the bricks came down river by barge, and that millwork for the house was purchased from Fathman and Miller in St. Louis. Cypress lumber for framing was probably cut on site. Thomas J. McClure died August 23, 1882, never having seen his new home completed. Caroline used his life insurance proceeds to have the construction finished. She lived in the house until her death on August 14, 1918.¹³

In 1895, J. T. McClure, middle son of Thomas J. and Caroline, petitioned the postal service to change the name "Wheatland" to "McClure" due to mail being mixed up with that of Wheaton, Illinois. This change was made April 10, 1895.¹⁴

J. T. McClure was very active in farming and community in his lifetime (1873-1946). He was known as a farmer and a stockman, raising fine cattle, mules, and hogs. He was instrumental in getting local levees built to keep the Mississippi at bay, and operated a bank in McClure before the Depression.¹⁵ J.T. McClure and his wife and daughter lived in the McClure house from about 1903 until 1946. Ownership passed to his daughter, Virginia Smith Juden, in 1946. From 1947 until 1991, the house served as the residence of Mrs. Juden's only child, Caroline Smith Webb, her husband Clarence, and family of five children. In 1995 ownership passed to Caroline's youngest son, Charles V. Webb. Charles, his wife, Brenda, and sons, Holden and Evan have been living in the home since July 1993, and are involved in an ongoing renovation of the house, preferring to do most of the work themselves. McClure, meanwhile, has remained an unincorporated village. Its population has fluctuated over the years, depending on available employment. During the 1930's and 1940's the town had many businesses, and was served by two train stations, with the population reaching approximately 400. Today the village has dwindled, and has about 200 inhabitants and very few places of business.¹⁶

Endnotes

1. Girouard, Mark. Sweetness and Light, The "Queen Anne" Movement 1860-1900. New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1977, p. 215.

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Thomas J. and Caroline McClure House

2. McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1991, p. 266-268.
3. McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1991, p. 263.
4. McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1991, p. 264.
5. McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1991, p. 266.
6. McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1991, p. 211-214.
7. Perrin, William Henry. History of Alexander, Union and Pulaski Counties, Illinois. Chicago: O.L. Baskin and Co., 1883, pgs. 244 & 492.
8. Jonesboro Gazette. September 2, 1882. Obituary of Thomas James McClure.
9. Adams, James N. Illinois Place Names. Springfield, Illinois: Illinois State Historical Society, p. 323.
10. Alexander County Illinois Probate Record. Probate of Thomas J. McClure, 1882.
11. McClure, Claude W. McClure History. Handwritten letter, 1935.
12. The Weekly Cairo Bulletin. September 8, 1879. News item, p.1.
13. Webb, Riley E. McClure Family History. Manuscript by Riley Webb, great-great grandson of Thomas J. and Caroline McClure.
14. Adams, James N. Illinois Place Names. Springfield, Illinois: Illinois State Historical Society, 1989, p. 544.

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Thomas J. and Caroline McClure House

15. Southeast Missourian. July 16, 1946. Obituary of James Thomas McClure.

16. Ogg, Louise P., and Smith, Monica L. Alexander County Illinois History and Families. Paducah, Kentucky: Turner Publishing Co., 1989, p. 15.

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Adams, James N. Illinois Place Names. Springfield, Illinois: Illinois State Historical Society, 1989.

Alexander County Probate Record. Probate of Thomas J. McClure, 1882. Alexander County Courthouse, Cairo, Illinois.

Girouard, Mark. Sweetness and Light, The "Queen Anne" Movement, 1860-1900. New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1977.

Jonesboro Gazette. September 2, 1882. Obituary of Thomas James McClure.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1991.

McClure, Claude W. McClure History. Handwritten letter from 1935.

Ogg, Louise P., and Smith, Monica L. Alexander County Illinois History and Families. Paducah, Kentucky: Turner Publishing Co., 1989.

Perrin, William Henry. History of Alexander, Union, and Pulaski Counties, Illinois. Chicago: O.L. Baskin and Co., 1883.

The Weekly Cairo Bulletin. September 8, 1879.

Webb, Riley E. McClure Family History. Manuscript written in 1982.

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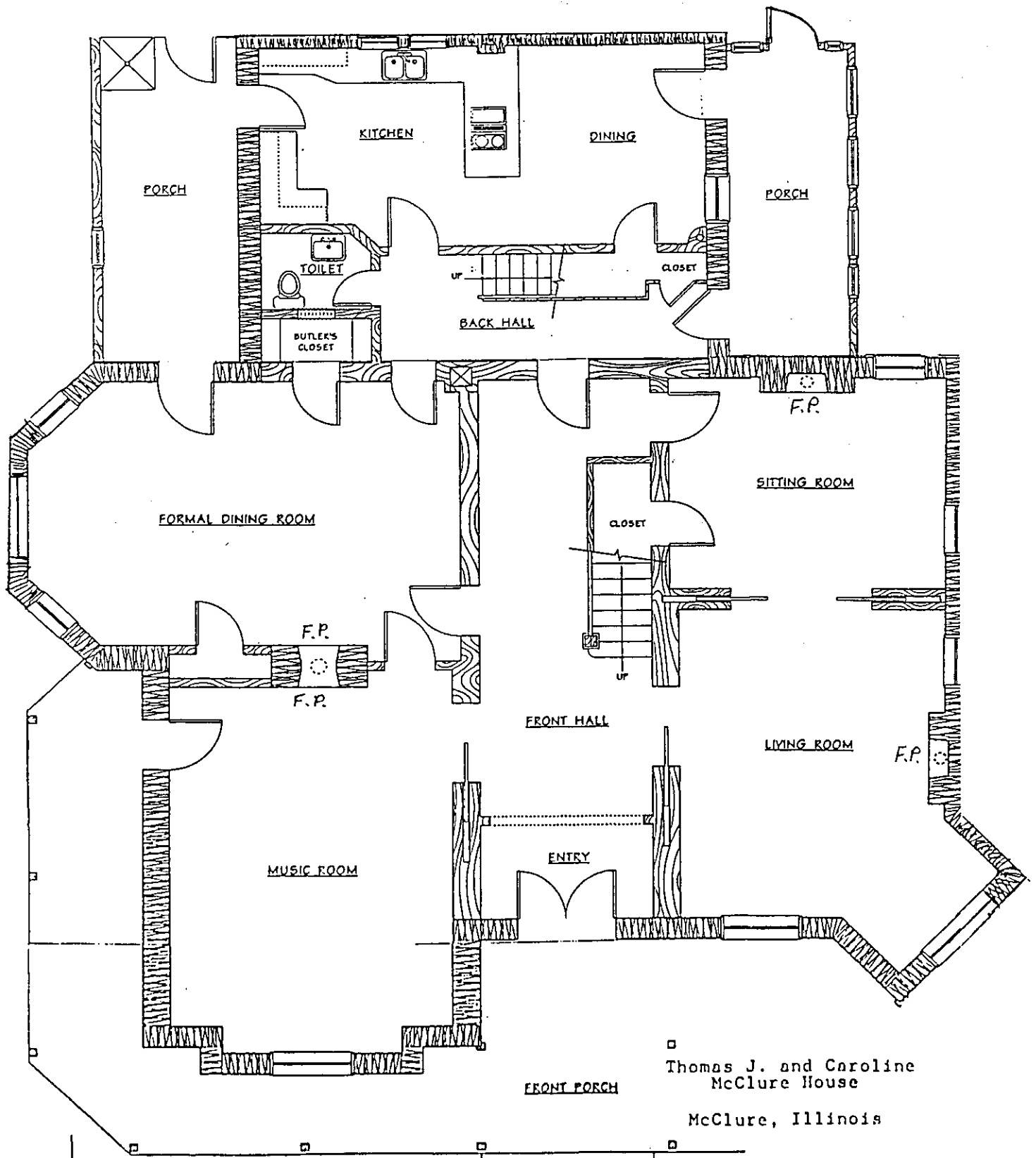
Thomas J. and Caroline McClure House

Verbal Boundary Description

That part of the West half of the Northwest quarter of Section 10, Township 14 South, Range 3 West of the Third Principal Meridian, described as follows: Commence at an iron pin at the Southwest corner of said Section 10; thence North 86 deg. 30 min. East along the Section line, 1309 feet to an iron pin in the fence at Southwest corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest quarter of the Southwest quarter thereof; thence North 4 deg. 04 min. West, 3971.65 feet to an iron pin at the center of the Northwest quarter of Section 10; thence North 76 deg. 42 min. 10 sec. East, 226.56 feet; thence North 3 deg. 15 min. 25 sec. East, 152.57 feet; thence North 41 deg. 52 min. 38 sec. East, 145.88 feet to the South right-of-way line of the Public Road; thence North 75 deg. 11 min. East along said road, 234.41 feet for a place of beginning; thence South 12 deg. 24 min. 46 sec. East 257.11 feet; thence North 84 deg. 35 min. 14 sec. East, 100.00 feet; thence South 12 deg. 24 min. 46 sec. East, 100.00 feet; thence North 84 deg. 35 min. 14 sec. East, 124.25 feet; thence South 12 deg. 24 min. 46 sec. East, 219.35 feet; thence North 84 deg. 35 min. 14 sec East, 125.00 feet; thence North 10 deg. 02 min. 27 sec. West, 635.22 feet to said South right-of-way of the Public Road; thence South 75 deg. 11 min. West, 373.27 feet to the place of beginning, in the Town of McClure, Alexander County, Illinois, containing 3.657 acres.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the property that encompasses the house, outbuildings, and setting historically associated with the Thomas J. and Caroline McClure House.



Main level, first floor

□ Thomas J. and Caroline
 McClure House
 McClure, Illinois

F.P. = fireplace





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(202) 343-1572, fax (202) 343-1836 or E-mail: edson_beall@nps.gov

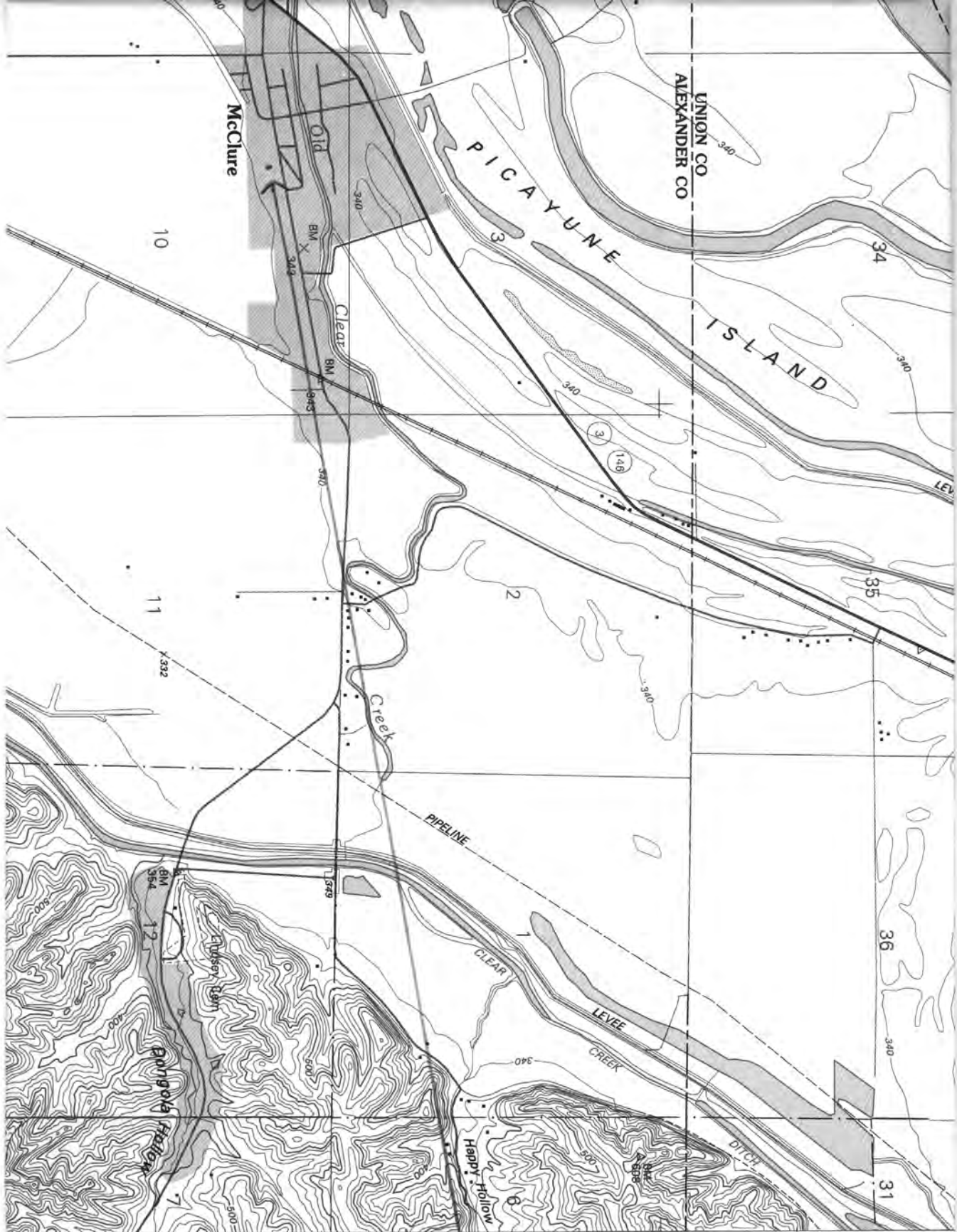
Visit our web site at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/nrhome.html>

NOV 22 1996

WEEKLY LIST OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON PROPERTIES: 11/11/96 THROUGH 11/15/96

KEY: State, County, Property Name, Address/Boundary, City, Vicinity, Reference Number, NHL, Action, Date, Multiple Name

ARIZONA, MARICOPA COUNTY, Pratt, Charles H., House, 4979 E. Camelback Rd., Phoenix, 96001274, LISTED, 11/07/96
ARIZONA, YAVAPAI COUNTY, Perry Mesa Archeological District (Boundary Increase), Address Restricted, Black Canyon vicinity, 96000335, LISTED, 11/12/96
COLORADO, EL PASO COUNTY, Colorado Springs Airport, Jct. of Ent Ave. and Peterson Blvd. (Peterson Air Force Base), Colorado Springs vicinity, 96001296, LISTED, 11/15/96
COLORADO, GARFIELD COUNTY, Cardiff Coke Ovens, Co. Rt. 116, approximately 1.5 mi. S. of Glenwood, Glenwood Springs vicinity, 96001331, LISTED, 11/15/96
FLORIDA, DADE COUNTY, Fuchs Bakery, 102 S. Krome St., Homestead, 96001335, LISTED, 11/15/96 (Homestead MPS)
FLORIDA, DADE COUNTY, Lindeman--Johnson House, 906 N. Krome Ave., Homestead, 96001332, LISTED, 11/15/96 (Homestead MPS)
FLORIDA, LEON COUNTY, Averitt--Winchester House, W side of FL 59, S of jct. with Moccasin Gap--Cromartie Rd., Miccosukee, 96001336, LISTED, 11/15/96
FLORIDA, ORANGE COUNTY, Tilden, Luther F., House, 940 Tildenville School Rd., Winter Garden, 96001337, LISTED, 11/15/96
FLORIDA, PALM BEACH COUNTY, Pahokee High School, 360 Main St., Pahokee, 96001334, LISTED, 11/15/96
GEORGIA, BULLOCH COUNTY, Savannah Avenue Historic District, Along Savannah Ave. and E. Grady St. between S. Crescent Cir., Statesboro, 96001339, LISTED, 11/15/96
GEORGIA, FULTON COUNTY, College Park Historic District, Roughly bounded by Vesta Ave., Yale Ave., Madison St., Harris St., and Washington Rd., College Park, 96001338, LISTED, 11/15/96
GEORGIA, JENKINS COUNTY, Downtown Millen Historic District, Along Cotton Ave. roughly bounded by N. Hendrix St., E. Winthrope Ave., N. Masonic St., and the RR line, Millen, 96001340, LISTED, 11/15/96
~~MISSISSIPPI, TATE COUNTY, Senatobia Christian Church, 407 W. Tate St., Senatobia, 96000203, REMOVED, 11/08/96 (Senatobia MPS)~~
ILLINOIS, LAKE COUNTY, Armour, Philip D., III, House, 900 Armour Dr., Lake Bluff, 96001342, LISTED, 11/15/96
KENTUCKY, BOURBON COUNTY, Sugar Grove, 573 Clay--Kiser Rd., Paris vicinity, 96001346, LISTED, 11/15/96
KENTUCKY, FRANKLIN COUNTY, Archeological Site 15 FR 368 (Boundary Increase), Address Restricted, Frankfort vicinity, 96001348, LISTED, 11/15/96
KENTUCKY, HARDIN COUNTY, West Point Historic District, Roughly bounded by the Salt River, 2nd, South, 13th, Mulberry, and Elm Sts., West Point, 96001344, LISTED, 11/15/96 (Hardin County MRA)
MARYLAND, BALTIMORE INDEPENDENT CITY, Cedar Grove, 301 Kendall Rd., Baltimore, 96001349, LISTED, 11/15/96
MARYLAND, CARROLL COUNTY, Lineboro Historic District, Main St, Church to Mill Sts., Lineboro, 96001350, LISTED, 11/15/96
MINNESOTA, BELTRAMI COUNTY, Buena Vista Archeological Historic District, Address Restricted, Puposky vicinity, 96001311, LISTED, 11/07/96
MINNESOTA, GOODHUE COUNTY, Spring Creek Petroglyphs, Address Restricted, Red Wing vicinity, 96001310, LISTED, 11/14/96 (American Indian Rock Art in Minnesota MPS)
MINNESOTA, HOUSTON COUNTY, Yucatan Fort Site, Address Restricted, Yucatan vicinity, 96001308, LISTED, 11/14/96 (Precontact American Indian Earthworks MPS)
MINNESOTA, TRAVERSE COUNTY, Shady Dell Site, Address Restricted, Beardsley vicinity, 96001309, OWNER OBJECTION DETERMINED ELIGIBLE, 11/14/96 (Precontact American Indian Earthworks)
MISSISSIPPI, LAUDERDALE COUNTY, Gulf, Mobile & Ohio Freight Depot, 20 22nd Ave., Meridian, 79003392, REMOVED, 11/08/96 (Meridian MRA)
MISSISSIPPI, TATE COUNTY, Senatobia Christian Church, 407 W. Tate St., Senatobia, 96000203, REMOVED, 11/08/96 (Senatobia MPS)
NEW YORK, KINGS COUNTY, Stuyvesant Heights Historic District (Boundary Increase), Roughly, Decatur St. from Tompkins to Lewis Aves., Brooklyn, 96001355, LISTED, 11/15/96
NEW YORK, NEW YORK COUNTY, St. Michael's Church, 225 W. 99th St., New York, 96001354, LISTED, 11/15/96
OKLAHOMA, OKLAHOMA COUNTY, Edwards Historic District, Roughly bounded by N. Page Ave., N.E. 16th St., N.E. Grand Blvd., and E. Park Pl., Oklahoma City, 96001028, LISTED, 10/03/96
TENNESSEE, CLAY COUNTY, Free Hills Rosenwald School, Free Hills Rd., E of TN 52, Free Hill, 96001360, LISTED, 11/15/96
TENNESSEE, SUMNER COUNTY, Cairo Rosenwald School, Zieglers Fort Rd., approximately 2.5 mi. S of TN 25, Cairo, 96001359, LISTED, 11/15/96
TENNESSEE, WHITE COUNTY, Sperry--Smith House, 121 Maple St., Sparta, 96001357, LISTED, 11/15/96
TEXAS, DE WITT COUNTY, Municipal Power Plant, 810 Front St., Yoakum, 96001356, LISTED, 11/15/96
UTAH, WAYNE COUNTY, Lee, Charles W. and Leah, House, 277 W. 100 North, Torrey, 96001325, LISTED, 11/15/96



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McCLURE, THOMAS J.
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