District #3 -- Congressman W. J. Bryan Dorn

7. America at Work8. The Contemplative Society

Form 10-300 (July 1969)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE:	
South Carolina	
COUNTY:	
Abbeville	
FOR NPS USE ONI	LY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
OCT 9 1974	1

(Type all entries	s – complete appl	icable sections	s) -	OCT 9 1974	DAT	E	7
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AND/OR HISTORIC:	ice						4
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Site Structure	Private	☐ In Proces		☐ Unoccupied	Restricted		1
☐ Object	☐ Both	Being Co	nsidered	Preservation work	Unrestricte	9 a	ı
				in progress	□ No		
PRESENT USE (Check One or M	lore as Appropriate)						1
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OWNER'S NAME:			1	NATIONA		T	-1-
E. R. Young			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	REGISTE			
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7.	DESCRIPTION							7 (8.5)	
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Young Place is a large clapboard structure with Italianate detail superimposed on an earlier, simple farmhouse with central hall.

The original one-story Georgian-derived dwelling was constructed ca. 1839 by the Reverend J. N. Young and is still owned by his descendents. The structure had a central hallway with flanking rooms to either side. The basement, one of the outstanding features of the house, was constructed of hewn granite blocks by a German stonemason. Containing a large fire-place for cooking, one section of the basement was used for a kitchen while an adjoining area was used for the storage of meats and dairy products. Food was transported to the dining room above on a dumbwaiter.

Massive end chimneys were also constructed of granite with two of the fireplaces having soapstone hearths for greater heat retention. All granite, including that for the fence posts in the yard, was quarried on the property.

After the War Between the States Young greatly enlarged the house to suit an increased family and to provide housing for students at Erskine College. A rear kitchen wing and a second story were added onto the basic structure. A large two-storied wing abutting the left front facade was constructed, giving the house a "T" floorplan.

The forward projection has a cross gable roof with tiered verandas contained within the gable. The square supporting columns have a second-story intercolumnar balustrade with scroll saw design. The second-floor front window is sheltered by a pent roof with center ogee motif supports.

This motif is repeated in the attic louver and between the columns on the first floor veranda.

A square tower with bracketed hip roof adjoins the verandas on the right corner of the original house. Its interior stairway provided exterior access to the enlarged dwelling, which contains thirteen rooms with fifteen exterior doors.

Finials on the front gable and the tower roof complete the modified Italian villa or Tuscan design of the house, a style that flourished in the United States for several decades through the 1860s.

ERIOD (Check One or More as .	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	☐ 18th Century	20th Century
15th Century	☐ 17th Century	19th Century	•
PECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	e and Known) Ca. 183		,
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	ck One or More as Appropri	nte) .	
Abor iginal	∑ Education	☐ Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric , "	Engineering	- 🕅 Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
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Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
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Communications	☐ Military	☐ Theater	
Conservation •	· Music	Transportation	

The Young Place, a large structure in the Italianate mode, was built by the Reverend J. N. Young. One of the founders of Erskine College, Reverend Young was also a religious leader and teacher.

Architecture: This ca. 1839 farmhouse was remodeled after the War Between the States into a large two-storied structure in the Tuscan (Italian villa) style. Serving as a home and boarding house, the dwelling's present appearance can be attributed to the designs of Alexander Jackson Davis, proponent of the Italianate style which flourished in the United States until the 1860s. Almost all of Davis' designs were published and widely exhibited and would have possibly been referred to by Young.

Education-Religion/Philosophy: The Reverend J. N. Young was one of the founders, the first treasurer, and a teacher of Erskine College. Erskine, located in Due West, South Carolina, was established in the 1830s by the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. Its purpose was to provide education and guidance for young men through the study of the Christian religion. Still church-related, Erskine is presently a liberal arts college with an enrollment of approximately 750 men and women.



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**	Erskine Is Catalog Issue 1972-73. Erskine College, Due West, South													
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