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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property
   historic name  McGuire-Setzer House
   other names/site number

2. Location
   street & number  331132. C 2 s south of Mocksville limits
   city, town  Mocksville
   state  North Carolina code  NC county  Davi s code  2853

3. Classification
   Ownership of Property  Category of Property
   [ ] private  [x] building(s)
   [x] public-local  [ ] district
   [ ] public-State  [ ] site
   [ ] public-Federal  [ ] structure
   [ ] object

   Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register  N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification
   As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination [x] 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. [ ] See continuation sheet.

   Signature of certifying official ____________________________________________________________________
   State or Federal agency and bureau ____________________________ Date 7-14-92

   In my opinion, the property [x] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet.

   Signature of commenting or other official ____________________________________________________________________
   State or Federal agency and bureau ____________________________ Date __________

5. 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 ____________________________ Date of Action __________
Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The McGuire-Setzer House and its companion kitchen are located about two-tenths of a mile southwest of the town limits of Mocksville on the east side of the Jericho Church Road, an extension of Salisbury Street and the early road to Statesville in Iredell County. The house faces south and the kitchen, which faces west, is sited some thirty feet from the southeast corner of the main house. The two weatherboarded buildings sit in the middle of the one and eight-tenths acre lot, looking over a grassy, cleared area. Just to the east of the kitchen building is a steep decline to a small branch which forms the east boundary of the property. This area is heavily wooded. On the north and south boundaries and on the Jericho Church Road boundary the lot is edged with deciduous trees, pines and cedars. Just to the north of the lot is the brick ranch house built by Mary and Jane McGuire, the last private owners, who bequeathed the property to the Jane Eccles McGuire Trust.

The larger of the two buildings is the weatherboarded dwelling, a one-story-with-attic double-pen building constructed in two phases. The pen to the east, which is the larger unit measuring twenty feet by twenty-four, was built of log about 1825. A small frame unit, twenty feet by fourteen, was appended to the west end of the log building approximately ten years later. Both units are covered with weatherboard which on the facade appears to have been applied in two phases, and on the rear elevation has received replacement flush vertical planks on the lower portion. The building has a gable roof, now covered with standing seam tin, exposed rafters, and flush eaves in the gable ends. The house has narrow cornerboards. The foundation is rock piers and rock underpinning, used sparingly in the west pen.

There are exterior brick chimneys at each gable end, the one to the east retaining its stepped shoulders but the chimney to the west deteriorated with fallen stack. The east chimney base is tall, with shoulders just below the attic windows. The shoulders of the shorter west chimney begin a short distance above the first story windows. In the common bond pattern, used in each chimney, the header rows are spaced between a declining number of stretcher rows as base and stack rise upward, a pattern found in other brick chimneys of the era in Mocksville and vicinity. Both chimneys appear to have a very short two-course stone foundation, and both chimneys are a bit deeper and thicker just above the foundation.
The pen to the east has on the main facade a central batten entrance door flanked symmetrically by small single six-over-six windows. The door opening is seventy inches high. The smaller and slightly later pen to the west contains on the facade a six-paneled entrance door and one six-over-six window approximately the same size as the others. These windows have narrow molded surrounds, as does the entrance door of the east pen. Weatherboards on the facade are plain and attached with cut nails. Hewn logs are visible occasionally under the weatherboarding of the east pen.

On the west gable end of the house, the brick chimney is flanked by early six-over-six windows on the first story, and modern windows in the attic. According to local sources, these attic windows were cut into the gable end in the early years of the twentieth century. Windows on the east gable end, one six-over-six window on the first story and two two-over-two windows flanking the chimney in the attic story, also were added early in the twentieth century.

The rear elevation of the house contains two batten doors, one to each pen, and no windows. Above the doors molded weatherboarding appears, its joints covered with squares of tin. This may be replacement weatherboarding. Any doorsteps have been removed and entry is gained over concrete block steps.

The interior of the McGuire-Setzer House contains two connecting rooms at each level, a fireplace in each room, flush plank walls and ceiling, chair rail, molded door and window surrounds, random width pine floors, and paneled doors. Each pen has an attic room, with connecting door and pine flooring. Pine horizontal sheathing was added in the twentieth century to walls and ceilings in the attic, but one area on the south wall of the east pen reveals the logs on the interior.

The older pen, to the east, has a fireplace with six-foot-wide mantel, mitered and molded surround, and a molded element across the frieze area. Windows in this pen have narrow molded surrounds and a six-inch board running from the sill to the floor on each side of the window. A narrow chair rail runs around the east and south sides of the room over the pine planking, and there are scars to show its original placement on the other two walls. There is a molded cornice about three inches wide and a six-inch baseboard is beveled. In the northeast corner of the east pen is a boxed stair with batten door. The bottom three steps are outside the enclosure and the first steps inside the enclosure are winders. A short batten door provides access to a closet beneath the stair. The door to the stair retains an old box lock.

The room in the west pen is entered by a central door between the two rooms. The door has six flat panels with molding on the panels which face into the room. This room has a chair rail and the window on the south elevation, an early window, has narrow molding. The mantel in this room is five feet wide and although similar in design to the mantelpiece in the east pen, has less molding and a smaller element across the frieze. The cornice in this room is simple and concave.
The attic of the east pen contains a fireplace with Greek Revival style mantel with plain molded shelf across paneled pilasters. This room is reached by the boxed stair, which has a molded stair rail in the attic and slender and square balusters. The roof structure of this attic room, revealed through a small opening in the ceiling, has pegged rafters and beams.

The kitchen building, seventeen feet by twenty feet, is weatherboarded over a frame structure and has a tin roof. Its central early twentieth century five-flat-paneled entrance door is flanked by single two-over-two windows. The north gable end contains a brick single-shouldered chimney with only a single row of headers in its bond pattern midway between base and shoulder. The chimney rests on a rock foundation. There is a single window opening to the west of the chimney, covered with a wood shutter. The rear elevation contains an early twentieth century flat paneled door, which may at one time have opened to an exterior porch or stair, now missing. The building sits over a dry laid stone basement which extends under the entire building and is patched with cement mortar in some places. The basement, where the original peeled log joists may be seen, is entered through a break in the stone on the rear elevation. On the interior of the building, the kitchen has vertical flush board sheathing and a large cooking fireplace, seventy-eight inches wide. Its mantel is missing. The room has a plank ceiling and no access to the attic. The building is used for storage and is in poor condition.

Although some changes have been made to the McGuire-Setzer house and kitchen over its 150 years, the buildings are today substantially similar to their original appearance. A great majority of the original fabric is intact, including weatherboarding, chimney and foundations, windows, and most of the interior detailing. In the early years of the twentieth century, three windows were added to the east gable end and two to the west gable end. The attic rooms have been sheathed, new doors added to the kitchen building and to the rear elevation of the main house, and tin roofs now cover early wood shingles on dwelling and kitchen.
8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally  ☐ statewide  ☒ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  ☐ A  ☐ B  ☒ C  ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  ☐ A  ☐ B  ☐ C  ☐ D  ☐ E  ☐ F  ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Significance of Property in Relation to Other Properties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statewide</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Period of Significance  ca. 1825; ca. 1835

Significant Dates  ca. 1825

Cultural Affiliation  N/A

Significant Person  N/A

Architect/Builder  Unknown

The McGuire-Setzer House, eligible for the National Register under Criterion C for its architecture, is a relatively intact typical dwelling of the North Carolina Piedmont during the early decades of the nineteenth century. The house is composed of two one-room-and-attic pens, the first built about 1825 of log and the second, of frame construction, built against the west wall of the original house about 1835. Each section features a brick chimney, although the stack of the west chimney has fallen. On the exterior, the house has weatherboard siding and flush gable-end eaves of the period. The interior contains a molded chair rail, Federal-style mantels, plank walls, ceilings, and floors, narrow molded surrounds on doors and windows, paneled and beaded doors, and boxed stair. A contemporary detached frame kitchen with large chimney and fireplace stands on the property, one of very few left in the county. The house has never had modern plumbing or wiring, and except for some deterioration (mainly to the kitchen building and to the west chimney of the dwelling) and minor alterations, presents its original appearance. It is, therefore, one of the few examples of early dwellings which have not been altered or enlarged and one of the best preserved of that type in Davie County. The property is held in trust and will be used by the Davie County Public Library as a living history museum.

[See continuation sheet]
Architecture context: Building in North Carolina before 1830 was generally unpretentious, practical and conservative. The state was almost entirely agrarian, and the small farmers as well as the planters were independent, self-sufficient and wary of innovation. One-story houses of log were the norm, with gable roofs covered with wood shingles and exterior walls protected by weatherboards. They usually contained one or two rooms and a loft or attic. Around the turn of the nineteenth century, the motifs of the Adamesque style began to appear in North Carolina towns and delicate forms and moldings characterized much of the state's architecture by the 1820s. (1) However, a majority of the largest and most distinctive private and public buildings continued to convey a strong sense of permanence and good workmanship in lieu of opulence.

The McGuire-Setzer House, built in two stages between 1825 and 1835, is typical of the houses of its region and era. Examples of the double-pen house of log and frame construction are still in use in Davie County, but with later additions and renovations which were never applied to the McGuire-Setzer House. The log house at 337 Salisbury Street in Mocksville, considered one of the oldest surviving houses on Salisbury Street, was constructed as a two-bay log pen to which a two-bay frame room was added to the south. The chimney, which rises through the center of the house, was built on the south gable end of the log pen. This dwelling, quite similar to the McGuire-Setzer House, has over the years received German siding on the exterior, a full facade front porch, and a shed-roofed addition to the rear. On the interior, the first story walls of the log block have been covered with flush sheathing. The Pearson-Martin-Sprinkle House of ca. 1820, 428 Salisbury Street, is a two-story example of a log block with appended frame section. When first constructed prior to 1823, the dwelling consisted of the log block with central entrance flanked by windows and a pair of windows on the second story. Sometime later two rooms of frame construction were added to the north end of the original log block and the whole covered in weatherboarding. Shed-roofed additions were later extended to the rear.

Other heavy timber buildings remain in Mocksville but were not constructed in the distinctive arrangement of log block with added frame section. However, a number of houses in Mocksville and vicinity retain the early Federal-style interior and exterior detailing which are evident in the McGuire-Setzer House, such as flush eaves, gable-end chimneys of stone or brick, narrow molded windows, symmetrical facade, paneled mantelpieces, chair rail, six-panel raised-panel doors, and boxed stair. The Pearson-Martin-Sprinkle House retains six-panel doors but a Federal-style mantel has been removed. The Tennison Cheshire House, ca. 1830, north of Mocksville, is a more elaborate Federal style house with flush eaves, gable end chimneys with free-standing stacks, transitional Georgian/Federal style mantels, and wide cornices. Mocksville's most elegant house of the period, which may
have served as a model for other houses in the vicinity, is the Jesse Clement House (NR 1979). Built about 1828, the three-bay Federal style house was constructed of brick in Flemish bond and has a symmetrically composed facade, narrow windows, flush eaves, end chimneys, and a single remaining Federal-style mantel. The David Hendricks house, built near Mocksville in the early years of the nineteenth century, contains, like the McGuire-Setzer House, one of the county's few remaining boxed stairs. (2)

The McGuire-Setzer House shows plainly how these early houses and their now-destroyed neighbors might have looked at their construction, as the McGuire-Setzer House has never received modern electrical wiring, plumbing or interior insulation or remodeling. Most of its Federal interior finish is intact.

Although the kitchen building next to the McGuire-Setzer House is deteriorating, it remains one of the county's few examples of an early detached kitchen. Its wide fireplace and large stone basement illustrate customary activities of storing, drying and cooking food on the average farm of the North Carolina Piedmont. The building has the boxed cornice of its period, which may have at one time appeared on the dwelling. The location of the kitchen, approximately thirty feet from the dwelling, also illustrates the custom in the South of locating the kitchen away from the main house to diminish the danger from fire and to separate the activities of the slave kitchen attendants from those of the farm family. (3)
Background: German, English, and Scotch-Irish settlers migrated in large numbers into the Piedmont of North Carolina between 1750 and 1800, seeking cheap, fertile farmland. Most of these pioneers traveled the Great Wagon Road from Pennsylvania. Among them were James McGuire's parents, who purchased 440 acres of land in the forks of the Yadkin River in what is now Davie County in 1762, and famous explorer Daniel Boone's parents, who acquired land near Mocksville in 1753. (4)

These early settlers practiced subsistence agriculture, raising mostly wheat, rye, barley, and corn, and had little or no knowledge of proper agricultural practices such as contour plowing, crop rotation, or the use of barnyard manure to restore soil fertility. For the first decades of the nineteenth century, the Piedmont and mountain sections of North Carolina were in a deep depression. According to Davie County historian James Wall, "Little trade, few slaves, a small-farm subsistence economy based on free white labor and the production of corn, wheat, fruits, cattle, hogs, and whiskey" were general. (5) Mocksville at that time was a small village known as Mocks Old Fields established before the Revolutionary War and located around what is today Salisbury Street and the Jericho Church Road, then the main road to Iredell County and its seat of Statesville. Five church congregations were established in the area prior to 1773, and a post office was opened in 1810. (6) The area was part of Rowan County until 1836 when Davie County was created and the town of Mocksville was laid out as the county seat.

In 1805 James McGuire (1762-1826) purchased 594 acres of land on both sides of Bear Creek in the area of Mocks Old Fields and proceeded to build a house for his wife and six children. (7) In 1823 he gave 98 acres of land near Bear Creek on the southern edge of Mocks Old Fields to his son Samuel "... in consideration of the natural love and affection which he hath and beareth unto the said Samuel his Son and also for the better maintenance and preferment of the said Samuel". (8) At James's death in 1826, his remaining property was divided among his other children.

Little is known about Samuel McGuire, his wife Minty, and their children. The McGuire-Setzer House is situated on Samuel McGuire's 98-acre tract and it is assumed that he constructed the one-room house of logs with a brick chimney that is the east pen of the house sometime between 1823 and 1829. Apparently Samuel died around 1829. In 1830, the Rowan County Sheriff sold the 98-acre tract with "... the premises with the appurtenances free and clear" to Andrew Setzer in partial satisfaction of debts incurred by McGuire. (9)

Born in 1802, Andrew Setzer was listed in the 1830 Census as a bachelor owning two male slaves. By 1840 he had a wife Temperance, a young son John, and five slaves, including three males under age twenty-five, perhaps to help him with his business as wagon-maker. (10) He also had constructed a
room with attic at the west end of the original one-room log house and had built a frame kitchen with stone basement and large brick fireplace. During this construction period, he might have covered the original cabin and its adjoining room with weatherboard. The bond pattern used in building the three brick chimneys in house and kitchen is identical to a chimney built locally during the same decade by local mason Daniel Brown, suggesting that the original house, its adjoining room, and the kitchen were built within the same decade.

When Davie County was formed in 1836, ninety percent of its residents farmed for a living and had very little cash. Andrew Setzer's wagon-making establishment can be considered one of the county's early businesses. By 1850 he had two more sons and real estate valued at $1,000. Setzer lived on the property he had purchased in 1830 until his death about 1867, when his heirs sold 271 acres of land on Bear Creek, including the homestead property, to Rufus L. Hodgson. (11)

In 1880 the McGuire-Setzer property came once again into the McGuire family when Dr. James McGuire, nephew of Samuel McGuire, the original owner of the house, purchased 271 acres of land from Rufus L. Hodgson. (12) Dr. McGuire farmed the acreage on Bear Creek, but had no need to reside in the old house; he had just completed a large, Victorian house with wrap-around porch on North Main Street in Mocksville, across from the First Baptist Church. (13) (This house was destroyed in 1965.)

Dr. James McGuire was born in 1829, the son of Sally McGuire, who was a daughter of James and Eleanor Luckey McGuire and sister to Samuel. (14) He attended school at the Clegg Academy in Mocksville and taught for a short time in the Mocksville Male Academy and at a school in the Liberty District of Davie County. In 1854 he began the study of medicine in Mocksville under Dr. James Franklin Martin (1798-1871) and from 1857 to 1860 he practiced medicine with Dr. Martin. In 1861 McGuire was commissioned as a surgeon with the North Carolina militia. He served one term in the North Carolina state legislature, in 1865. In July 1859 McGuire was married to Jane E. Eccles (1833-1883) of Forsyth County. Of their five children, only one, James, Jr., survived to adulthood.

McGuire was a well-known and trusted physician who practiced for more than forty years in Mocksville and Davie County. He served as the first County Superintendent of Health and from 1882 to 1898 was County Treasurer. He was interested in local history, corresponded widely, and collected and preserved letters, papers, and memorabilia about Davie County and its people. (15) In 1879 he attended Bellevue Hospital Medical College in New York City for additional training.
After he gave up the practice of medicine about 1900, Dr. McGuire devoted his "...still vigorous energies" to looking after and improving his farm just south of town. (16) James McGuire, Jr., sold the Victorian house on North Main Street in 1907. Newspaper accounts indicate that Dr. McGuire lived on the farm from 1905 until his death in 1909. (17)

James McGuire, Jr., (1865-1915), a Mocksville businessman, also lived the latter years of his life on the McGuire-Setzer property. The Davie Record relates that after his marriage to Hattie Betts of Maxton, North Carolina, in 1912, "Mr. and Mrs. McGuire will make their home just south of town on Mr. McGuire's farm." (18)

After the death of James McGuire, Jr., in 1915, his widow and children, Jane and Mary, rented the property. A documentary photograph of about 1918 shows a renting family standing in front of a picket fence which ran along the Jericho Church Road within some twenty feet of the dwelling. (The photograph also erroneously identifies another adjacent later dwelling, no longer standing, as the McGuire kitchen.) The house and kitchen were not modernized, and the kitchen building deteriorated. The farm's other outbuildings were removed as residential building lots were sold from the property on the north side of Jericho Church Road and Mary and Jane McGuire constructed a brick ranch house for themselves on the south side of Jericho Church Road just north of the old farmhouse. At their deaths, the property and their estate were left to various Davie County non-profit associations, and the old house and kitchen were bequeathed to the Jane Eccles McGuire Trust for the benefit of the Davie County Public Library. (19) The library plans to develop the property as a living history museum.
FOOTNOTES


6. Mohney, op. cit., p. 3.

7. Rowan County Register of Deeds, Book 19, page 223.


10. United States Census of 1830.


13. McGuire Collection, Davie County Public Library, Mocksville.

14. McGuire Collection, Davie County Public Library, Mocksville. The McGuire family considered Dr. James McGuire's father to have been Dr. Samuel McAffee, a family friend and local physician.

15. McGuire Collection, Davie County Public Library, Mocksville.


17. The Davie Record, February 23, 1905.

18. The Davie Record, March 6, 1912.


9. Major Bibliographical References
The Charlotte Observer, Charlotte, NC, December 1, 1909.
Davie County Enterprise Record, Mocksville, June 21, 1930, October 31, 1936, February 25, 1909, March 6, 1912, May 12, 1915.
Davie County Register of Deeds, Davie County Courthouse, Mocksville.
McGuire Collection, Davie County Public Library, Mocksville.
Rowan County Register of Deeds, Rowan County Courthouse, Salisbury.
United States Census, 1930, 1940, 1950

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 # ________________________________

10. Geographical Data
Acres of property 1.323 acres

UTM References
A Zone 17
Easting 271,45
Northing 3,217,04,5
B Zone
Easting
Northing
C ____________________________
D ____________________________

Verbal Boundary Description
The McGuire-Setzer House property is described in Davie County Register of Deeds Book 157, page 353, as shown on Davie County Tax Map J-4, a portion of Parcel 36 as surveyed for the Davie County Public Library, November 28, 1990.

Boundary Justification
The nominated property comprises all the property historically and currently associated with the McGuire-Setzer House, Mocksville, North Carolina.

11. Form Prepared By
name/title Carolyn A. Humphries
organization Consultant
date April 1, 1992
street & number Route 2, Box 175
telephone 704-586-9352
city or town Highlands
state NC zip code 28741
AREA = 1.823 ACRES
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST