

City of Columbia Map Project 2010-2011

Inventory Form Prepared by Deb Sheals for the Columbia Historic Preservation Commission

Property Name Camplin, Edward, House

Address 1312 W. Broadway

Year Built: ca. 1840s-1892

Year of HPC Notable Designation: 2004

Other designations:

District name, if applicable:

Link(s):

Style: Italianate I-House

Property Type: House

Architect (s):



Description and History

At the core of this late 19th century house is a two room log house believed to have been built in the 1840s.

When the house was new, it was the center of a 150 acre farm on the western outskirts of Columbia. The original log house was probably built by Edward Camplin, a successful Boone County businessman who owned the property from 1828 to around 1848. The land and cabin had several owners in the late 19th century, including James and Mary Conley, who bought it in 1892. The Conleys built the present house around the original log house.

E. B. McAllester and his wife bought the property in 1921. It served as their family home for many years and was later developed into a nightclub and restaurant called "Springdale Gardens," after the springs that were located behind the house. Springdale Gardens was in operation in the 1930s and 1940s, and was described in a 1950s newspaper article as having been "a favorite dinner party spot for Columbians." Historical sources differ on who developed the nightclub. It may have been done by the McAllesters, or by Mary Williams, who leased the property from them around 1938.

By the 1950s, the Camplin House was in poor condition and threatened with demolition. In 1954, local architect Hurst John purchased the house and approximately 40 acres of the original farmland to the south. He made several updates to the house, and replaced an early one-story wrap around porch with the existing two-story front porch and columns. He kept an acre of land to go with the house and divided the rest of the property for the Spring Valley housing development.

Text by: Deb Sheals and Kylee Rooney

Sources: "Fresh Face on a Landmark," Columbia Missourian, May 24, 1954; Columbia Historic Preservation Commission Files.

Date of Form: 1/10/2011