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Physical Description

This imposing two-story house, set on a high brick foundation and faced with weatherboards, is situated on a large elevated lot overlooking the small city of Clarksville. This traditional American Foursquare type house has the characteristic high hipped roof and overhanging flared eaves. A decorative gable roof dormer pierces the roof on the front and side elevations. The wide front porch here wraps part way around both sides of the house and is distinguished by a projecting shallow gable roof pediment over the porch entrance. This pediment is supported by clusters of three Tuscan columns. Single Tuscan columns line the porch, supporting a full entablature enriched by dentil molding at the base of the cornice. Urn-shaped balusters form the porch balustrade. Unusual features are the oval window centered in the second story, appearing just above the apex of the pedimented portico, and the Palladian window decorating the front dormer. The door features beveled plate glass and sidelights. The sash windows have one-over-one lights.

Statement of Significance

The house was built for Dr. A. M. McKennon in Clarksville, Arkansas and designed by Charles L. Thompson in 1907. A more decorative version than many of the American Foursquare type houses designed by Thompson, the McKennon House is distinguished by the unusual second-story oval window on the front, the pedimented portico projecting from the wrap around porch and the Palladian window in the dormer. Both the McKennon House and the Davis House (JO-061) in Clarksville feature variations in decorative detailing which set them apart from other Thompson Foursquare designs. Both houses were designed near the turn-of-the-century and are distinctive buildings in the city of Clarksville.



