# Early Houses of Williamsburg County

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## **ABSTRACT**

Williamsburg County, South Carolina has numerous examples of early vernacular architecture. However, many of these structures are being lost to any number of circumstances. Among these are demolitions by neglect, fire, being dismantled for their parts, or even being relocated to places outside of the county. The lack of documentation makes these losses even worse. This thesis has attempted to collect information on as many of the County's pre-Civil War houses as possible. Basic information was collected using the survey form used by the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office. This information was then used to create a study of a vernacular form known as the I-house, which is the most widespread type in the county. The purpose of survey and study is to provide evidence of these houses for future generations to admire and study.

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#### **CHAPTER ONE**

#### INTRODUCTION

Williamsburg County's historic houses are indicative of the county's long and rich history in the state of South Carolina. The Williamsburgh Township was created in the early eighteenth century as a frontier town to help provide a protective buffer around the state capitol and major port, Charleston. The area was settled mainly by the Scots-Irish, whose hard work turned Williamsburg into one of the richest townships in the colony. These early settlers crafted beautiful houses even during modest times using materials from their surroundings. As the colony and wealth grew their descendents carried on and expanded on the building traditions of their forefathers. After over a century of constructing houses in an established tradition, Williamsburg County contains numerous examples of local vernacular architecture.

The surviving houses can relate a great deal about the builders, their families, and the development of the county. However, in recent times these historically rich structures have been disappearing at an alarming rate. For several reasons, the economic downturn of the area being a major factor, houses that had stood for long over a hundred years are now no longer part of the landscape. Several houses have been moved out of the county, some have been dismantled for their parts, others have been neglected and left to deteriorate, and still others were burned to remove them from the more valuable land or to avoid the financial burden of them. Many of these historic houses that stood fifty

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Lewis P. Jones, <u>South Carolina</u>: <u>A Synoptic History for Laymen</u>, (Orangeburg, SC: Sandlapper Publishing Co., Inc., 1971), 53.

years ago now only exist in pictures and memories which are disappearing with the passing of time and generations.

In Williamsburg County there is also a lack of documentation of these historic houses, which increases the tragedy of their loss. A few books exist that contain some of the better known houses, and only a small number of them are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. There are local historians and some of the home owners that have an invaluable amount of information on the standing and destroyed houses.<sup>2</sup> Many of the descendents of the builders and other citizens are proud of their lineage and history, and therefore have a strong tradition of oral history. However, only a small portion of this information has been recorded and documented.

This thesis has been undertaken as part of an effort to document many of these historic houses so as to save them from obscurity by providing evidence of them for future generations to study and admire. To accomplish this, a survey of the historic houses has been made using the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office's survey form. A photographic survey was taken at the same time to enhance the survey forms. Many of these photographs are not referenced in the text, but they are a valuable and necessary part of a more complete house documentation. In addition to the survey, a study of the county's most predominant type, the I-house, was completed to better understand the architectural type of the houses. Prior to the Civil War the vast majority of Williamsburg houses were built on the I-house plan. Together the survey and study

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Some of the local historians include Sammy Macintosh, Mac Jenkinson, Bubber Jenkinson, Ernie Atkinson, and Andy Chandler. These individuals are very knowledgeable about the local history of Williamsburg County and are good resources.

provide a valuable resource for early Williamsburg County houses that can be used for future in-depth study.

The first chapter contains pertinent background information so as to better understand Williamsburg County and the circumstances which led to the construction of its houses. In order to completely understand the focus of this thesis, the I-house study, one must first have a grasp on the history that surrounds these houses. The first section of Chapter Two provides a general history of the county and its development. After that, a section on the development and evolution of the houses in the county is included. This section fills in the gaps between development of the county and the evolution of the houses. It helps to explain why the houses were built, their origins, what has happened to them since their construction, and why many of them have disappeared. Together these sections put the Williamsburg I-house into the context of the County to help better understand them.

Chapter Three is a study of the predominant housing type in Williamsburg: the I-house. This chapter defines the type, its origins, where else it is found, why it was a popular type. The chapter also shows how the type evolved once established in the area. This is accomplished by studying the houses from the survey. The survey forms of Williamsburg houses are found in the Appendix.

Several house descriptions can be found in Chapter Four. These descriptions include a explanation of the exterior as well as the interior layout of the house. The houses in this section are ones that were visited in person by the author to gain information on their interiors and exteriors. The houses that are listed on the National

Register of Historical Places have descriptions located in their nomination forms, found in Appendix A.

The study of historic Williamsburg County houses provides a glimpse into the rich history of the area. The fact that so many of these houses are disappearing and that there is little to no record of them makes this study even more important. These houses are excellent examples of a vernacular form and how it was adopted to suit a certain area and its climate. They are a quotation of their time, and with their disappearance Williamsburg County is losing an important part of its historic fabric.

#### CHAPTER TWO

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

# History of Williamsburg County, South Carolina

Williamsburg County is located in the north east region of South Carolina which is also known as the Pee Dee area (Plate 1).<sup>3</sup> Throughout its history the county has been rurally settled and heavily reliant on the landscape for its economy. The countryside varies from open fields and pine groves on the high ground to vast swamps containing hardwoods and cypresses around the rivers and creeks. The landscape and development of the county is very important in that it provides a context for the historic houses, because these elements go "hand in hand with the integrity and significance of a historic house." The county had a very humble beginning, being settled by European immigrants. The economy, which was dominated by agriculture, grew and grew until the township became very prosperous. However in recent decades with the downturn in agriculture the county has suffered. This rise and fall in wealth can been seen in the houses built in Williamsburg County. This county history serves as a backdrop to help better understand the houses and the reasons for which they were built.

The colony of Carolina was granted to the eight Lords Proprietors by Charles II of England in 1665 with the capital of Charles Town established in 1670 with the arrival of Europeans in the colony. Early in its existence the colony and capitol were under

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The name "Pee Dee" comes from the two major rivers in the area, the Pee Dee and the Little Pee Dee rivers. This area encompasses parts of ten counties in the north west part of the state just off the coast. See - Charles Kovacik and John J. Winberry, <u>South Carolina</u>: <u>The Making of a Landscape</u> (Columbia, SC: The University of South Carolina Press, 1989), 212.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Peter Paravalos, Moving A House With Preservation In Mind (Lanham, MD: AltaMira Press, 2006), 52.

constant threat of attack from both the Spanish and the Indians. Therefore, due to a proposal from Governor Robert Johnson, the Board of Trade "authorized the surveying of eleven townships that would ring the settled areas of South Carolina, serving as a defensive perimeter against both Indians and Spaniards." This idea was also seen as a way to "attract a variety of European immigrants to South Carolina." The townships were located on the major rivers and were set up in the following manner: "Each township was to contain twenty thousand acres and stretch nearly six miles on a side. Settlers would get fifty acres for every family member, and the Commons House of Assembly agreed to provide funds for tools, transportation and food."<sup>7</sup>

Williamsburg was the second township and "was laid out twenty miles square."8 The first settlers arrived in 1732; however the town was not laid out until 1737. The town was laid out around a large white pine at the head of navigation of the Black River. This tree was significant because local tradition holds that sometime before 1730 an explorer in the area located and marked a white pine tree with an arrow similar to how New England trees that belong to the King of England were marked.<sup>9</sup> The township was primarily settled by Irish and Scotch-Irish immigrants. 10 Each of whom had, "a one-half acre lot in the proposed town and grant of land within the township." Williamsburgh

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Walter Edgar, South Carolina: A History, (Columbia, SC: The University of South Carolina Press, 1998), 52.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Edgar, 52.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Edgar, 53.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Lewis P. Jones, <u>South Carolina: A Synoptic History for Laymen</u>, (Orangeburg, SC: Sandlapper Publishing Co., Inc., 1971), 54.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> William Willis Boddie, History of Williamsburg, (Spartanburg, SC: The Reprint Company, 1923, 1999), 8. <sup>10</sup> Billy Kennedy, <u>The Scots-Irish in the Carolinas</u>, (Greenville, SC: Causeway Press, 1997) 73.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Boddie, 138.

Township soon became, "the most successful township." However, the town itself was not developed, "except a cleared space whereon the Court House now stands, which was used as a parade and muster ground for the Colonial Militia." This is because the settlers, "built their homes on their respective plantations in the township and paid practically no attention to their half-acre lots granted them within the town." <sup>14</sup> The town lots remained untouched until 1789 when the local commissioners threatened to sell off the unclaimed lots. It was after this point that the town slowly started to grow. This growth was aided by the addition of public highways leading to the township. By the first quarter of the nineteenth century the town of Williamsburg contained several prominent households, stores, a post office (1810), and a court house designed by Robert Mills. 15 Williamsburg continued to grow through the middle of the nineteenth century due in part to the Northeastern Railroad being built through the city. This helped to bring workers and transport goods for the turpentine industry that was beginning to boom right after the Civil War. The population of Williamsburg County, like most of the rest of the state, grew slowly and erratically. Even with growth the county today remains rurally settled much like its earlier days. 16

When created, the Williamsburg Township was in Craven County, one of the four political divisions in South Carolina.<sup>17</sup> When the lowcountry was divided into parishes Williamsburg was reassigned to Prince George Winyaw Parish. By 1743 the area

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Jones, 54.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Boddie, 137.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Boddie, 137.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> John M. Bryan, <u>America's First Architect: Robert Mills</u>, (New York, NY: Princeton Architectural Press, 2001) 158-159. Williamsburg became a circuit court district in 1804.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Kovacik, 134-142.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Edgar, 89.

became Prince Frederick's Parish, which, "was taken off from Prince George Winyaw, by Act of Assembly, April 9, 1743." Then on March 12, 1785 Williamsburg District was officially created by the General Assembly. The township would later be named Kingstree for the white pine on which the town was centered. In 1868 the South Carolina constitutional convention changed Districts to Counties, and Florence County was created, which took some northern territory from Williamsburg. 20

The early economy in Williamsburg was based on agriculture, both farming and livestock. The major crops cultivated were corn, flax, and indigo, after its introduction in the 1740s. From early on, "the men produced an abundance of corn." Indigo was the crop with the biggest impact of all crops on the township. With the introduction of indigo, a labor intensive crop, slavery gained importance. As a result, large plantations with indigo vats and relatively simple houses were built. It was not long until "the most successful of townships was exporting corn and soon was exporting indigo out via Georgetown, a "port of embarkation" laid out also in the 1730s."

In addition to these crops, livestock comprised a large part of the economy, not only for Williamsburg but for the whole colony. Barreled beef "constituted the third major export commodity for the young colony."<sup>23</sup> In Williamsburg, cattle have been "the thing which has given hope to the people of this section, when everything else seemed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Frederick Dalcho, <u>An Historical Account Of The Protestant Episcopal Church In South Carolina: From The First Settlement Of The Province To The War Of The Revolution</u>, (Charleston, SC: E. Thayer, 1820) 319

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> George C. Rodgers, ed., "Archives News." South Carolina Historical Magazine LXIX (1968): 154-57. Edgar, 387.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Boddie, 40.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Jones, 54.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Kovacik, 71.

wanting."<sup>24</sup> The combination of every two families among the earlier settlers being given a cow and calf and the abundant grazing land made growing livestock very popular among settlers.<sup>25</sup>

Livestock is still a major source of income in the county at the present. The major cash crop, however, has changed. Soon after the Civil War the turpentine industry became a staple of the economy, creating larger fortunes. This, however, died out and most farmers fell back on cultivating crops once again. Cotton was the primary cash crop until the arrival of the boll weevil around 1920, which caused heavy devastation to the crop. <sup>26</sup> It was around this time that tobacco cultivation became the dominant crop cultivated, and still is today. The county's natural resources were also utilized to boost the economy. It was during the 1920s and 1930s the county became noted for its hunting and fishing areas. During this time Bernard Baruch establish a retreat named Little Hobcaw outside of Kingstree, which was named after his other plantation, Hobcaw, near Georgetown, SC. The area of Little Hobcaw was known to have some of the best quail hunting in the country. After 1957 when Mr. Baruch sold Hobcaw Plantation in Georgetown to his daughter Belle, Little Hobcaw became the base of his operations. <sup>27</sup> Today the county has little industry and the economy still relies on agriculture.

Even though Williamsburg started as a prosperous township, it is "today one of the state's lowest-income counties" and has one of the state's lowest per capita

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Boddie, 40.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Boddie, 40.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Kovacik, 162.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Margaret L. Coit, Mr. Baruch, (Cambridge, MA: The Riverside Press, 1957) 647-648.

incomes.<sup>28</sup> This decline cannot be blamed on any one factor, but two major contributors were the failure to industrialize and the deterioration of crop production. All these conditions have had a drastic effect on the plight of the historic houses. Even though the county is still rurally settled, and the economy based on agriculture, many of these historic houses are not used as farm houses and are in such disrepair that few can afford to restore and save them.

# **Evolution of Williamsburg County Housing**

The progress and evolution of early Williamsburg houses have closely reflected the development and history of the county. By looking back at the history one can explain the changes that took place in the construction and evolution of the housing type. One can also see why many of the houses have been destroyed in recent years while others have been restored and saved.

The first residents of Williamsburg County, the Scots-Irish, built small, simple houses that reflected their status as frontier settlers. These people were not wealthy and built the first houses simply for shelter to last them until they acquired more wealth so that more substantial, prominent houses could be built. It is difficult to delineate a housing type pattern or types that these first houses would have followed because so few survive today. A couple of the earliest houses, the Epps House and the Rearden House (Figure 4-2), seem to suggest that many of these houses were built following the hall-and-parlor type, which was a linear plan used by early English colonists.<sup>29</sup> It was a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Jones, 54.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> The Epps House burned down in 2006.

"traditional British Folk form" that was typically "a 1 ½ story, 1-room-deep structure on a raised foundation with large stepped chimneys centered on each gabled end." The simple plan consists of two rooms, the hall and the parlor that were divided by a partition. The hall was "the larger of the two rooms," and "served as dining room, work room and kitchen if there was no separate kitchen structure." This vernacular type would have been very familiar to the Scots-Irish settlers, and was spread by the diffusion of British culture.

Another early residence that suggests how the first dwellings would have appeared is the Gamble House (Figure 5-2). The original portion of this structure is not wood framed, but rather was constructed like a log cabin. It was a very simple one room house whose walls were made of large planks stacked on top of each other, pegged together (Figure 5-9), and dovetailed on the ends (Figure 5-7). In subsequent years, as more room was needed, the house was enlarged by constructing framed rooms around the central log cabin, which has given the house a unique and interesting form.

Within a short period the township gained wealth and was attracting more and more new settlers. Research has shown that these settlers did not develop the actual town itself. Rather, groups of families formed small communities around the township along the major highways and rivers. These were communities such as Mouzon, Black Mingo, Indiantown, Cades, Cedar Swamp, Millwood, Willtown, and White Oak, among others.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Virginia McAlester and Lee McAlester, <u>A Field Guide to American Houses</u> (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 2004), 94. and Gerald Foster, <u>American Houses: A Field Guide to the Architecture of the Home</u> (Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2004), 90.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup>Morrison, 140 and Foster, 92.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Henry Glassie, <u>Folk Housing in Middle Virginia</u> (Knoxville, TN: The University of Tennessee Press, 1975), 75.

Most of these communities were within a day's travel, ten to fifteen miles, of the township where the settlers conducted their business. The majority of the historic houses in Williamsburg County can be found in pockets around these communities since that is where the families built their residences (Plate 3).

With the accumulation of wealth before and after the American Revolution, the prominent families began building bigger houses. It was during this time that the most common housing type was adopted, the I-house. Once introduced, this form became the most popular and standard way to construct a house until the time of the Civil War. However, this did not mean that the hall-and-parlor variety died out. The hall-and-parlor house became the dwelling choice of the less wealthy and prominent. It was a popular form for tenant housing and for share croppers after the war.

Even though the I-house was the principal type, around 1830 other varieties began to appear. These less popular housing types were not built in large numbers, and most of them are the only examples of their housing form built in the area. Among these unique houses were the Dr. William Brockinton House (Figure 11-2), the Daniel Epps House (Figure 22-1), and the Evans House (Figure 23-1). The most interesting of these is the Dr. William Brockinton House. The central four-room linear form in the house, consisting of a larger and smaller room on either side of a central hall, could possibly be interpreted as two hall-and-parlor houses placed on either side of a hall, or as a central hall house with the addition of a flanking room on either side(Figure 11-1). 33 This expanded type had still other additions that were of local tradition. One of these was the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup>This central hall type was essentially the same as the hall-and-parlor that was created simply by adding a second partition to the Hall-and-Parlor plan, thus walling off a corridor.

front porch. Due to the warm climate, an innovation in the southern folk house was "the full-width, shed-roof front porch, which provided a cool shelter in the summer from scorching sun and frequent sudden thunderstorms." The other regional variant was the addition of shed rooms on the rear of the house with a porch running between them. The Brockinton House appears to be an expansion of hall-and-parlor form with the addition of the local tradition of full-width porches and shed room expansions.

After the Civil War many things changed in Williamsburg County, but one remained the same, which was the reliance on agriculture. This was the reason that many houses survived, only to be later destroyed for the same reason. These residences survived until recently due to the fact that a predominantly agrarian society had a continuing use for them. The ones that continue to exist in the best condition are still being used as single family residences. However, it requires a great deal of expense to maintain an historic house. For this and other reasons these older dwellings were abandoned for newer more cost effective residences. These historic houses were still useful to farmers for other reasons. Around the same time that these dwellings were vacated, tobacco became a staple crop of the area. Many of the houses found a new uses as tobacco barns. This meant they were still maintained and cared for, albeit not as well as if they were lived in.

With the decline in agriculture and changing farming practices the historic houses are in a unfortunate situation. They are no longer useful to farmers that cannot afford to restore them and who value the land the houses sit on much more than the houses

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> McAlester, 82.

themselves. For this reason many of the houses are subject to demolition by neglect or to arson. Historically significant houses, such as the Mouzon-Frierson House, are left to fall apart (Figure 12-1). In many cases an added element of the situation is that owners who are not farmers do not want to give up their land to sell the house. One solution to solve this problem has been to move the house from its original site to restore and save them.<sup>35</sup> The problem with this is when a house is moved it loses a large contributing factor of its significance and in many circumstances is no longer eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. It also means that much needed tax credits are not available to help alleviate the cost of moving and restoring the houses since to be eligible for the tax credits a house needs to be at least eligible for the National Register.<sup>36</sup> If this were not the case more houses may have survived, instead many have fallen victim to demolition by neglect.

For all these reasons the number of historic houses in Williamsburg County has greatly declined. The numbers of houses that survive today are just a small sampling of houses that once stood in the county. The "Mills Atlas" of the county, created in 1825, makes note of around 150 named farms and plantations (Plate 4).<sup>37</sup> Even in more recent times old farmers remember "old houses being about one every mile." They contribute the loss of houses to the fact that farming is dying out. As children they remember everyone was farming, but nowadays the small farms have consolidated into large farm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> The Fleming-Jenkinson House, Thorntree, Witherspoon-Shuler House, Cooper-Jenkinson House, Dr. Brockinton House (currently being prepared to move), Rearden House, Gambrel House.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Jayne F. Boyle, Stuart Ginsberg, and Sally G. Oldham, A Guide to Tax-Advantaged Rehabilitation (Washington, D.C.: National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1994) 2-3.

37 Mills Atlas of South Carolina. Lexington, SC: The Sandlapper Store, Inc., 1979.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Anecdote from interview with several house owners.

operated by one family. The old farmers see the loss of houses correlate with the decline in farming.

Currently some of Williamsburg County's historic houses are well cared for and are in good shape, while others are neglected and falling apart. The ones that survive today are only a fraction of the number that stood fifty years ago. With each one that disappears, a portion of the history of the township and the family that built it ebbs away.

#### CHAPTER THREE

#### THE I-HOUSES OF WILLIAMSBURG

# Typology

Early Williamsburg housing exemplifies a strong building tradition within the area and its settlers. This building tradition is made evident by the I-house, which shows a pattern and evolution. Within Williamsburg County, "with the exception of a few houses, all homes built before the War Between the States were of the I-plan or modifications of the I-plan." The I-plan, more commonly known as the I-house, was a popular vernacular building type for frontier settlers. Its proliferation and dominance in the area is a strong statement about the inhabitants and merits further study.

There are two ways in which the physical form of a building can be studied; style and type. Style can be defined as "a visual organizer, a conventional background, or matrix for more explicit architectural expression," while type can be defined as, "a group of objects having certain traits or features in common." These two forms are used to study and gather information on the built environment. The style changed from period to period, whereas the type never did. The Williamsburg I-house progressed from Georgian to Federal, to Greek Revival in style, albeit, style never played a major role in the construction or stylistic detailing of the houses. They were much more vernacular in appearance with the style being apparent in only a few elements of the structure. The houses were more easily identified by their form than by the style they exhibited. In

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Jenkinson, 54. This statement refers to the larger, more substantial farm and plantation houses built. <sup>40</sup> Dell Upton, Architecture in the United States (New York: Oxford University Press, 1998), 258.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Thomas Carter, and Elizabeth Collins Cromley, <u>Invitation To Vernacular Architecture</u>: A Guide to the <u>Study of Ordinary Buildings and Landscapes</u> (Knoxville, TN: The University of Tennessee Press, 2005), 57.

other areas houses could be classified by their style: a Georgian house, a Federal house, a Greek-Revival house, or even a Victorian house. However, in Williamsburg the house type is more commonly used to classify the house. This is due to the I-house's popularity, and the lack of stylistic detailing normally used to identify and classify a house.

The "I" house was a British form that was wide spread in vernacular architecture. The form was, "always a full 2-story, 1-room-deep rectangular block of 3 or 5 bays." <sup>42</sup>

The length and height are at least twice the depth. It was covered by a gable roof with a chimney at either end. The basic plan consisted of two rooms on each floor separated by a partition, however later floor plans included a center passage separating the two rooms. The original plan was asymmetrical, "but came to be built with a central hall after the Georgian fashion." <sup>43</sup> The I-house is very similar to the other housing type found in Williamsburg County, the hall-and-parlor, which was also English in origin. The early I-houses without a central hall could be seen as a two-story hall-and-parlor house. The essence of the I-house is its façade, which almost always faces a roadway regardless of solar orientation. The four rooms are arranged so as to maximize its profile. This arrangement is very striking and formidable when compared to a shotgun house, for instance.

It is not certain how the name I-house, which has only recently emerged, was coined. It is possible that the name, "may refer to its relatively tall, thin profiles as seen

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Foster, 72.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Henry Glassie, <u>Pattern in the Material Folk Culture of the Eastern United States</u> (Philadelphia, PA: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1968), 67.

from the end or to the long narrow floor plan – or, it is also suggested, to the three states where the I-houses proliferated: Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa."44 The I-house form was very popular throughout the eastern United States to the Midwest as suggested by one possibility of the name's origin mentioned above. The I-house is "perhaps the most common folk type in the eastern United States."45 It first appeared in some regions as early as the late seventeenth century and could be found up into the twentieth century.<sup>46</sup> In the South the I-house became the standard dwelling of successful farmers. The arrangement and layout of the house was very suitable for the climate. The house's one room depth "allowed for ample ventilation and well suited the form to this region's summers."47 Due to the milder Southern winters there was less emphasis on enlarging the early linear forms to create more interior space. In the North the linear plans were added onto to create true massed plans (more than one room deep) due to their harsh winters. In addition to providing good ventilation, the short spans also made the house simple to build. It is not hard to see how the prominent looking, simple to construct, well ventilated I-house became very popular among successful farmers.

Unfortunately, it is impossible to follow the exact progression of the Williamsburg County I-house due to considerable gaps in the dates of construction for the surviving houses. For example, there is only a handful surviving houses from the period of 1800-1830. However, the periods before and after that span contain excellent examples of I-houses. The surviving structures show consistent construction practices,

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Foster, 73-74.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Doug Swaim, "North Carolina Folk Housing" In <u>Carolina Dwelling</u> (Raleigh, NC: North Carolina State University Press, 1978), 38.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Foster, 74.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Swaim, 39.

but the large gap makes it difficult to delineate the evolution. There is no way of knowing the exact progression of the I-house between 1800 and 1830. There is, however, enough evidence remaining to show a general progression in form.

As stated previously, the I-house was not the first type built in the county. The first structures were simple built primarily for shelter. After a decade or so the successful farmers began building grander, more permanent structures to better shelter their family and to exhibit their wealth. Among these early I-houses are Thorntree (Figure 1-3), the Fleming-Jenkinson House (Figure 3-2), and the William Cooper House (Figure 2-2). These houses were all built between 1750 and 1775 and exhibit very similar construction patterns. Overall these early I-houses were laid out like other early I-houses found in different areas. They were two stories, three to five bays, with the length and height being twice the depth. A chimney was located on both ends of the gabled roof. The exteriors also contained full length porches on both the front and back. These porches, especially the back one, were often filled in after construction to add extra rooms. The floor plans consisted of a larger hall room and a smaller parlor. The stairs were built into the partition between the two rooms with a storage closet located beneath them. The staircases were dog-legged, with the first flight rising the majority of the way to the second floor. The stairs had small runs with high rises due to the space constraints, which made negotiating them difficult and almost treacherous. The second floor varied from house to house. It appeared that the family that built the house divided the second floor to best suit their needs. In most cases the stairs led to a center passage between two rooms with one of the rooms having a smaller second room cut out of it that would have

been a nursery of some sort.<sup>48</sup> In Thorntree, the second floor consisted of a fireplace heated master bedroom and a nursery on one side on the center passage and two equal size rooms on the other side with only one of them having a fireplace (Figures 1-2 and 1-2).

These early I-house are similar in overall form to other I-house in middle Virginia built by the Scots-Irish.<sup>49</sup> However, the Williamsburg I-houses are different in several ways. The room arrangement was the same, but the stair placements are different. In all of Williamsburg's early I-houses the stairs were built into the partition wall between the hall and parlor. Virgina's I-houses are more erratic have sometimes have staircases that start on the back wall, make a turn, and travel up the partition wall. Over all Williamsburg I-houses show a much more continuous pattern and not as much variety of the I-house of middle Virginia.

Even though these early I-house were modest in their size and simple in their layout some of them contained exquisite wood work. For example, in the Cooper House the hall contains a very decorative mantle, over mantle, and cornice (Figure 2-5) along with two built in corner cabinets (Figure 2-7). Thorntree, as well, contains wonderful wood work (Figures 1-14 to 1-21), even in the master bedroom upstairs (Figures 1-20 and 1-21). Since on the outside all the I-houses appear roughly the same, details such as these were a possible means of differentiating one's house as well as a display of wealth.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> A nursery room off of the master bedroom shows up in several of the houses, including Thorntree, The Witherspoon-Shuler House, and the Dr. William Brockinton House.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Henry Glassie, <u>Folk Housing in Middle Virginia</u> (Knoxville, TN: The University of Tennessee Press, 1975), 75.

It is difficult to tell how this early I-house form progressed in Williamsburg County. There is evidence in other areas to show that this early asymmetrical layout was altered during the Georgian Period by adding a center passage to make it symmetrical.<sup>50</sup> This was not the case for the early I-houses in Williamsburg that were built during the Georgian time period and could be explained by the frontier nature of the township.<sup>51</sup> Changing building practices and styles took longer to reach the backcountry and even longer to take hold. Houses such as the Witherspoon-Shuler House give evidence that the asymmetrical plan was still being used in the first decade of the nineteenth century (Figure 6-1). Although the exact construction date of this house is not known, it is thought to have been built some time just before 1810.<sup>52</sup> These houses were built in the same manner as the early Pre-Revolutionary I-houses. The overall size, room dimensions, and layouts were all very similar. The Witherspoon-Shuler House does show some progression from the early type in the incorporation of a shed-roofed extra room, which was heated, on the south-east corner of the house (Figure 6-5). This auxiliary room was incorporated with the back porch (Figure 6-1). This type of rearward room addition to the two-room first floor becomes very common in later I-houses.

Despite the gaps in evidence, it is evident that between the late eighteenth century and early to mid nineteenth century there was some overlap between traditional asymmetrical I-houses and center passage I-houses. Some of the houses built during this

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Henry Glassie, <u>Pattern in the Material Folk Culture of the Eastern United States</u> (Philadelphia, PA:

University of Pennsylvania Press, 1968), 67.

Straightful Straight comes to style and fashion. Just like America was behind England and France in style during the same period. This lapse was due to slow communication and travel. It took much longer for the latest fashions to travel from one place to another.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> Jenkinson, 31.

time had the traditional asymmetrical layout, while some were built with a center passage to make them symmetrical. Another early-nineteenth-century house, Burrows Hall, ca. 1800 (Figure 7-1), illustrates evidence of the change over to the central hall. The house was similar in overall size and proportion to other houses built around the same time, however the layout was different. The main floor plan consisted of two larger rooms separated by a narrow central passage along with two flanker, shed-roofed rooms on the rear.<sup>53</sup> This house contained both a central hall and additional rooms that were to become common in later houses. After these early-nineteenth-century houses there is a considerable gap in time before the next house, the Watson-Jenkinson House (Figure 10-1), which was built in 1827. This house provides a very interesting comparison between the early-nineteenth-century houses and the houses built after the Watson-Jenkinson House. The house compares more closely to houses built two decades before than to houses built in the decade immediately after. The Watson-Jenkinson house is similar in size and proportion, and has the traditional two rooms over two rooms layout of early Williamsburg I-houses. It is perhaps the last I-house to be built in the asymmetrical fashion in Williamsburg County. All surviving houses built after this are larger in size and proportion and incorporate center passages.

For the time period after 1830 there is relatively a large number of surviving houses that provides a good sampling which gives evidence of progression and evolution. In the decades prior to the Civil War, the I-houses in Williamsburg grew in overall size, the rooms were enlarged, and additional rooms were added, however, the basic I-house

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> Jenkinson, 39.

form remained the same. The houses were two stories, contained a basic plan of two over two rooms, and were three to five bays wide.

This growth in the size of houses coincided with, and was probably due to, the most prosperous time in Williamsburg County. The time period from 1830 to 1860 was described as a time when "Williamsburg cupboards were full and its woodsheds overflowing."<sup>54</sup> Naturally the citizens built larger houses to display this wealth. For the most part, the I-house form was still the standard house type to use. The houses got longer and wider due to the increase in room size. Typical houses of this period, like the Scott House (Figure 16-2) and the Bishop House (Figure 21-2), were symmetrical in outward appearance and the room layout inside. The front centered doorway opened into a ten to fifteen foot center passage that divided the house in two. On either side of the center passage were two rooms of equal size. These rooms were even larger than the hall room in the asymmetrical plan. The stairs leading to the second floor were located in the center passage. In most cases the stair began on the right hand wall of the passage. They then rose to a landing on the back wall where they turned and continued up to the second floor. Normally the second floor was the same as the first; two rooms of equal size flanking a center passage. Instead of dividing the upstairs rooms as in early I-houses, these later houses incorporated additions onto the rear of the house. 55 In the south, "onestory shed extensions were typically added to the rear of both one- and two-story, linear

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> Boddie, 304.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> The early I-houses probably divided the upstairs rooms because that was an easier and cheaper means of adding rooms than to build additional rooms to the rear of the house.

plan houses as more space was needed."<sup>56</sup> The additions were one story and their shape varied from house to house. In many cases, such as the Mouzon-Frierson House (Figure 12-4), the back porch area became the space for shed-roofed rooms that sometimes had a porch running between two rooms. A different example comes from the Scott House. Here two additional rooms were placed in a line out of the north-east corner creating an L-shaped foot print (Figure 16-1). Many of these rear additions have been obscured or replaced by later additions to many of the houses.

During the period from 1830 until the years before the Civil War not only were the rooms and overall size of the I-house getting proportionally bigger, but the invention of the "rain porch" during this period changed the overall proportions drastically. The rain porch, as discussed later in this chapter, was an innovation that occurred between ca. 1820 to ca 1860, which consisted of a porch roof with freestanding supports extended beyond a pier-supported, balustraded deck (Figure 18-7).<sup>57</sup> This porch system greatly increased the size of the front porch and significantly changed the proportions between the porch and the house. The elongated roof supports created an optical illusion of additional height. Some of the houses, such as Burrows Hall, the Mouzon-Fierson House, and the Salters Plantation House, had stuccoed brick column roof supports that made the porch appear disproportionally large compared to the house (Figures 7.1, 12.5, 14.6 respectively). This rain porch innovation help add an appearance of grandeur to I-houses of the period.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> Virginia McAlester and Lee McAlester, <u>A Field Guide to American Houses</u> (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 2004), 82.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> Walter Edgar, ed., <u>The South Carolina Encyclopedia</u> (Columbia, SC: The University of South Carolina Press, 2006) 771.

The layout of Williamsburg I-houses changed over time, but some elements of the houses remained the same. These were small elements that were local preferences that stayed popular through time. One such element was chamfered posts with a decorative chamfer stop called a lamb's tongue.<sup>58</sup> This detail can be found on numerous houses from the earliest, Thorntree (Figure 1-12), to one of the latest, the Bishop House (Figure 21-12). In most cases this decorative element could be found on porch posts, but in the Bishop House it is found on the newel posts. Another element that stayed the same from house to house over time was the use of wood paneling for interior sheathing. All the walls were paneled before plaster began being used in the 1820s – '30s, but even after plaster's introduction the center passages were still wood paneled.<sup>59</sup> Another variation that appears occasionally was flush siding below the shed roof of the front porch. This variation can be seen on the Fleming-Jenkinson House, the Witherspoon-Shuler House, and even the Scott House.

The evolution of I-houses built prior to the Civil War in Williamsburg County can easily be seen by comparing early and late houses. Simply by looking at the exterior of the houses one can see that early I-house were smaller, more slender and compact. The later houses are larger and more elongated in length and width. Of course some of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> A chamfer is, "a bevel of oblique surface formed by cutting off a square edge. If the chamfer does not continue the full length of the edge but is terminated, it is called a *chamfer stop*. In the early South, the sharp edges of exposed framing members such as posts, joists, and girders were often chamfered. Following traditional English custom, early colonial carpenters often carved elaborate stops, a practice that gradually gave way in the 18<sup>th</sup> century to ones of simple shape." from Carl Lounsbury, ed., <u>An Illustrated Glossary of Early Southern Architecture and Landscape</u> (Charlottesville, VA: University Press of Virginia, 1994), pg 71.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> Evidence of this can be seen in the Bishop House and the Dr. William Brockinton House. All of the rooms in these houses were plastered while the center passages were wood paneled.

size and setup of the house was dictated by the wealth and needs of the builder, but a clear progression can be seen by looking at the houses through time.

## The Carolina Rain Porch

Large porches are an integral part of southern architecture, especially rural vernacular architecture. By the late eighteenth century the full width, shed-roofed front porch, "was becoming universal in the southern folk house." The climate in this area almost necessitates large porches. The porch served as a shelter from scorching heat and frequent rain storms. In the time before air-conditioning the full length porch was as important to keeping a house cool in the summer as good ventilation.

Front porches could be found on all of Williamsburg's early houses. The earliest I-houses in Williamsburg incorporated full width, one-story, shed roofed porches on both the front and the rear of the house. In addition to sheltering the inhabitants from the sun and rain, the porches shaded the lower half of the house which kept it cooler.

In the early nineteenth century a unique innovation in porch building was developed. This new porch type became known as a "rain porch," and is found in the South Carolina counties located north of the Santee River and east of the Wateree and Catawba Rivers. 61 Isolated examples can also be found in other parts of South Carolina, as well as in parts of other states along the Gulf Coast. In this design the porch "consists of a roof structure with freestanding supports, in an anterior arrangement to a pier-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> McAlester, pg 82. <sup>61</sup> Edgar, 771.

supported, balustraded deck." The reasons why or where this type of porch was developed is not entirely clear. Some architectural historians believe the porch has West Indian origins, while others speculate indigenous origins. It is likely that the porch emerged in South Carolina from assimilated building traditions, and as a means to preserve a highly used outdoor living space from exposure to the weather. Many porches would have had problems with rot. The humid air and constant showers would have been very conducive for rot to occur. This problem would have been the greatest around the porch area where the most water would have collected. The roof of the rain porch provides better protection from rain and run off since it extends a couple of feet past the porch floor (Figure 18-7). Another benefit, although probably not as important, is that the extended porch roof provides more shade using less material which would have been beneficial for cooling the house.

After conducting the survey of early Williamsburg houses and taking notice of the porches a theory of the origins of "rain porch" was developed. Several of the houses that had a traditional porch contained an extra projection of the porch roof that covered the steps. This projection would have protected the steps from rain and thus from rot. This projection, although no longer extant, was probably part of the original porch for the Rearden House, which is one of the earliest houses in the county (Figure 4-18). A similar projection can be seen in an old photograph of the Watson-Jenkinson House (Figure 10-4). The Evans House also has a roof projection over the porch steps (Figure

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> Edgar, 771.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> Edgar, 771.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> Edgar, 771.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup> Notches can be seen in the porch posts next to the stairs that would have been for the projecting arms that would have supported the projection roof.

23-1), however it is part of a "rain porch." It is not difficult to see how an early carpenter would have developed the idea of projecting the entire porch roof around the porch to help better protect it just like the projection over the porch steps better protects them. This theory is difficult to prove due to lack of surviving evidence. Evidences for porch roof projections can be found, but are rare. This is due to the fact that rot does destroy many porches, especially the traditional type. The fact that many of the porches were rebuilt after the "rain porch" was developed and in later renovations compounds the problem of finding surviving evidence.

It is not known exactly when the "rain porch" first appeared. Several houses built around the 1820s, including New Market (Figure 9-1), make use of it. However, it does not become common practice until the 1830s – '40s. Once the "rain porch" became popular and widespread, earlier houses built with traditional porches updated their porches, such as Burrows Hall (Figure 7-1). The common practice of building "rain porches" died out sometime around the Civil War for unknown reasons. 66

The "rain porch" has become a distinctive feature of houses in the Pee Dee Region. This unique porch is predominantly found in this area. It is no doubt the innovation of local carpenters resulting from ingenuity and necessity. This uncommon porch has distinguished itself from one of the most common features in Southern folk housing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>66</sup> Edgar, 771.

#### CHAPTER FOUR

#### SELECTED HOUSE DESCRIPTIONS

This sections contains brief descriptions of certain houses that formed part of this survey. These descriptions include an overview of their exterior appearance as well as the interior layout. Additional descriptions of the houses that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places can be found in their nomination forms in Appendix A.

#### **Thorntree**

Thorntree, the plantation house of James Witherspoon (1700-1768), was built about six miles south of the Williamsburgh Township in 1749.<sup>67</sup> It was built in the I-house form and is an excellent example of this early housing type in the county. The dwelling survived in good condition and relatively untouched until 1969 when the Williamsburg Historical Society moved it from its original site in an effort to save and preserve it (Plate 5). Today the building is listed on the National Register of Historical Places and is open to the public as an historic house museum.

The structure is a traditional I-house with a full two-stories, five bays wide, and only one room deep (Figures 1-1 and 1-2). It is raised three to four feet on brick piers and contains two chimneys placed at both ends of the cypress shingled, gable roof. The house is sheathed in beaded weatherboards and incorporates a full-length, one story, and shed roofed porch on both the front and back. The porch posts are chamfered with a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> Jenkinson, 13.

simple lamb's tongue chamfer stop. The windows are sash windows with a smaller six pane sash over a larger nine pane sash.

The first floor has the two-room layout of early I-houses. It is a simple hall-and-parlor layout with a larger and a smaller room divided by a partition with a dog-leg staircase built into it. On the second floor the stairs come up to a central stair hall. This floor is divided into three bedrooms with a nursery connected to the master bedroom. There are two bedrooms on the right hand side of the house. On the other side of the stair hall is the master bedroom. The nursery is connected to this room. On the opposite side of the main stair case there is a narrow, steep staircase that leads to the attic space which was left unfinished.

Even though this dwelling built on the frontier had a simple design, it contains very decorative wood work in both the great hall and the master bedroom. Both of these rooms contain detailed cornice work along with elaborated mantels and over mantles. This would have been a very fine house for the area and time.

On December 2, 1969, the house was relocated to the Fluitt-Nelson Memorial Park in Kingstree, SC by the Williamsburg Historical Society who purchased the building earlier. The house has had some renovations but the core remains untouched and unharmed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>68</sup> Jenkinson, 22.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>69</sup> It was necessary to move the house in order to save it. The house was moved to its current site where it was restored to its original appearance. Due to its significance the house is listed on the National Register of Historical Places even though it was moved. Today the house is open on select days and by appointment.

# The William Cooper House

The William Cooper House, circa 1760, is located about two miles west of the Indiantown community (Plate 6). It is an early I-house with the traditional asymmetrical plan. The building itself is located just off the highway on a small hill overlooking the pastures that surround it. The entire residence was built using native materials and the nails were even made in a blacksmiths shop there on the plantation. <sup>70</sup> Currently the dwelling is in good condition and continues to function as a single family farmhouse.

The original structure is a traditional I-house with two-stories, five bays, and is one room deep (Figure 2-1). It is raised about three feet on brick piers and contains two chimneys, one placed at each end of the gable roof. The chimney on the south side of the house is original, but the one on the right had to be rebuilt after the earthquake of 1886.<sup>71</sup> The house is sheathed in weatherboards that look to be replacement siding installed when the rear addition was added.<sup>72</sup> The windows are sash windows with a smaller six pane sash over a larger nine pane sash, which was common for the early houses of Williamsburg. Originally there would have been two full-length porches, one on the front and back. The one on the rear was replaced by the later addition, while the front porch remained but has been modified into a screen porch.

Like other I-houses from the same period, the house has the simple, two room asymmetrical layout on the first floor. It is a simple hall-and-parlor layout with a larger and a smaller room divided by a partition. The original staircase was removed and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> James McBride Dabbs and Carl Julien, <u>Pee Dee Panorama</u> (Columbia, SC: The University of South Carolina Press, 1951) pg 112.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> A high magnitude earthquake hit the Charleston area in 1886, which caused widespread damage throughout the state.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> The current owner provided information on the evolution of the house.

replaced by a new one in the later addition. The great hall is one of the finest early interiors of the area. The mantle, over mantle, and the cornice exhibit very fine wood working. The room also includes two built in corner cabinets. This would have been very rare for the area and time, and would have been a luxury.

The current owner, Braxton Lovett, is a descendent of the builder William Cooper. He and his wife live in the house and continue to farm the surrounding area.

# The Fleming-Jenkinson House

The Fleming-Jenkinson House is another good example of an early I-house in Williamsburg County (Plate 7). The date of construction is estimated between the years of 1750 – 1775. The residence, which now sits on Academy Street in the town of Kingstree, was moved from its original location near Boggy Swamp about five miles east of town in the 1970s. The dwelling has since been restored and lived in.

The house is very similar in size and construction to other eighteenth-century I-houses in the area like the William Cooper House and Thorntree. Like the other I-houses, the structure has two stories, five bays, and one room deep. The two chimneys are located at the ends of the gable roof, which would have originally been covered with cypress shingles. The windows on the first floor are nine over nine sash windows while the second floor windows are six over nine sash windows, which is the same as other I-house of the same period. Originally the house would have had matching one-story, shed-roofed, full-width porches on the front and back. The front porch was changed to a

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> Jenkinson 24

two-story porch sometime in the last half of the nineteenth century. The back porch was filled in sometime after construction to create more interior space, which was a common addition for I-houses in the area. The house is sheathed in weatherboard with the sheathing under the front porch being shiplap.

The first floor layout is the traditional hall-and-parlor plan (Figure 3-1). A partition with a dog-leg staircase built into it separates the larger room, the hall, from the smaller room, the parlor. On the second floor the stair come to a center passage between two bedrooms of equal size.

In 1975 the present owners, Bubber and Peggy Jenkinson, bought the house for \$500 and prepared to move it. In order to move the house the roof and second floor were numbered and dismantled, the chimneys were taken apart, and the porches had to be removed. The first floor of the house was moved as a whole. The owners moved the house to a lot inside the town of Kingstree where they restored it and constructed an addition to the rear of the structure. The chimneys were rebuilt using the original brick and the front porch was rebuilt the way it was originally. Today the residence is well maintained by the Jenkinson's.

#### The Rearden House

The Rearden House is a hall-and-parlor type dwelling. It is simply a one-and-a-half story I-house, and like the I-house, it is a popular early English vernacular type. The exact date of construction is not known but it is clear that the house was built before the American Revolution. This evidence comes from the mark of the crown on the hinges that are on the doors (Figure 4-14). This mark signifies that the taxes on the metal were

paid to the king of England. On many of the hinges this mark is punched out, which was probably done after America gained her independence from England.

The age and type of this house makes it very important. This type would have been popular among early settlers because it was small and easy to build. However, very, very few of them exist today. There are only a handful of them left in the entire county. A building that was of the same age and type was the victim of arson two years ago. This house, built by a member of the Epps family, was located about two miles south of the present day location of the Rearden House. It is fortunate that the Rearden House survives and is well maintained.

The structure is one-and-a-half stories tall and one-and-a-half units deep. The exterior is sheathed in weatherboards and the gable roof is covered with cypress shingles. There are two chimneys located at the gable ends of the roof. A shed-roof porch projects off the front along with a shed-roofed room addition on the rear. Notches on the porch posts next to the stairs indicate that there would have been a roof projection over the stairs originally. The back porch is not original and was added by the current owner. There are a total of six dormers; three on the front and three on the back. However, only four of them are original. The center dormers on both the front and back were added by the current owner when he moved the house.

The main portion of the dwelling is a simple two-room linear plan (Figure 4-1). The asymmetrical layout includes a larger room and smaller room separated by a partition. The dog-leg staircase begins past the doorway in the partition separating the rooms. The second floor consists of two equal sized rooms separated by a central stair

passage. The mantle in the right hand bedroom coming from the stairs was salvaged out of the Nelson House (Figure 4-16). The mantle in the east bedroom was also salvaged from another residence. It came from the Sheriff Brockinton House (Figure 4-15).

The owner believes that the Rearden House has been moved twice in its 200+ year history. It was first moved not long after it was constructed between 1750 and 1770.<sup>74</sup> The move was not very far. Both locations were in the area known as the "Little Savannah." The reasons for this first move are not clear. The house was moved a second time in recent times in an effort to save it from demolition by neglect (Plate 8). If the house had not been moved it would no longer exist today. The roof of the house had been dismantled and the house was exposed to the elements for a long period of time. The current owner moved the house about five miles to its present site, where it was restored.

### The Witherspoon-Shuler House

The Witherspoon-Shuler House was built around 1800 on a tract of land on the Black River about seven miles southeast of Kingstree, SC. 75 Although it was built some time after the American Revolution, the building closely resembles the I-houses built before the war. In recent times the residence has been moved from its original location and placed on a tract of land three miles west of Kingstree (Plate 10). After the move the dwelling was fully restored by its current owners Duane and Glenda Shuler.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup> Information provided by the current owner. <sup>75</sup> Jenkinson, 31

The house is similar in size, layout, and overall appearance to the earlier I-houses of Williamsburg County. The building is two stories high, one room deep, and three bays wide (Figure 6-1). I-houses can be three bays wide, but this is different than the earlier I-houses in the area which were five bays. This probably reflects the wealth or preference of the family that built the house and not an overall change in the way I-houses were built. The windows are six over six sash windows, which is a change from the earlier six over nine sash windows. The building is clad in weatherboards and the gable roof would have originally been covered with cypress shingles. Two chimneys are located at the gable ends of the roof. The dwelling includes the standard full length front porch with chamfered porch posts with lamb's tongue chamfer stops. However, the back porch was not originally full length. The house was built with a heated shed-roofed room addition on the southeast corner of the house. This projection was incorporated with the porch and simply took up about one third of the porch.

The layout was the traditional two room asymmetrical I-house layout. However, the partition was set to make the hall proportionally bigger than those in earlier I-houses. Again this was probably the preference of the builder and does not represent an overall trend. The door was also shifted off center to allow better access into the hall. The second floor contained two bedrooms separated by a central hall with the addition of a third nursery room cut into one of the bedrooms.

The current owners, Duane and Glenda Shuler, bought the house in the early 1980's and moved it to a plantation that had had been in Glenda's family. The residence

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> Information provided by the current house owner.

was then restored and an addition added to the rear with Duane doing much of the work himself. The Shulers still reside there and take good care of the house.

#### **Burrows Hall**

Burrows Hall, circa 1800, was located in the Nesmith area of Williamsburg County (Plate 11). This area is about ten to fifteen miles east of Kingstree near the Georgetown county line. Unfortunately the house burned down on Mother's Day, 1957.<sup>77</sup> What is known of the building comes from pictures and descriptions of residence.

The exterior appearance was like those of earlier I-houses. The dwelling was two stories tall, five bays, clad in weatherboards and had a chimney at either end of the cypress shingled gable roof. The six over six sash windows were like those of the Witherspoon-Shuler House that was built around the same time. The porch was a "rain porch" that wrapped around the sides of the building and the roof was supported by stuccoed brick columns that did not have capitals or bases. This porch is similar to later houses like the Salters and Mouzon Houses, which seems to suggest that the porch was reconfigured in the 1830s.

The interior was described as consisting of "four rooms separated by a narrow hall."<sup>78</sup> An early picture of the house shows a third smaller chimney on the back left side. This suggests that like the Witherspoon-Shuler House, there was a shed-roofed room addition where the back porch would have been. Judging from the description and this picture, the interior was probably arranged with two main rooms separated by the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>77</sup> Jenkinson, 38. <sup>78</sup> Jenkinson, 39.

narrow center passage with two shed roofed addition rooms off the rear. The second floor was described as containing two rooms, which is consistent with the I-house layout.

It is a shame that this house no longer exists because it was probably one of the earliest examples of the transition to the center passage I-House. It would have been helpful to study the form and layout of this house to see how the I-houses in Williamsburg County transformed from the asymmetrical plan to the center passage plan. However, the evidence that does remain helps show the progression of early I-houses in Williamsburg.

#### LeBlue

The LeBlue house was moved to Williamsburg County from an area near Summerville, SC called Stallsville. The structure, circa 1810, is an I-house, but is different from the I-houses found in Williamsburg. Although this residence is not a native I-house, it is worth examining because provides a great comparison to I-houses of the county.

LeBlue is a typical I-house with two stories, five bays, and primarily one unit deep. It is clad in weatherboards, covered by a gable roof, and contains nine over nine sash windows. The front of the building originally had a full-width front porch and the back had a shed-roofed addition.<sup>79</sup> The house is much larger than the I-houses built in Williamsburg during the same time period. The plan of the dwelling is more similar to later I-houses built in Williamsburg. The first floor has five rooms; two primary rooms

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> The current owner reconfigured the porch to make it a "rain porch" which is common in Williamsburg County.

separated by a center passage and three shed-roofed rooms along the back of the house (Figure 8-1). The second floor plan is two bedrooms on either side of the central stair hall. Another difference is that the gable roof has a much steeper pitch and the chimneys are not located one the gable ends of the building. Instead, the house has interior chimneys that service both the four main rooms and the shed-roofed rooms on the rear of the house. Even though LeBlue more closely resembles the I-houses built in the 1840s and 1850s its features, such as the roof pitch and interior chimneys, make it noticeably different.

When LeBlue was moved to Williamsburg County it was located on the exact place and orientated the same way as an I-house that had been destroyed (Plate 12). The site is on a slight rise in the land that is in the best place to catch the summer breezes.

This location goes to show how much thought went into the placement of houses.<sup>80</sup>

### The Watson-Jenkinson House

The Watson-Jenkinson House was built in 1827 about nine miles east of Kingstree, SC on Thorntree Swamp near the village of Lane (Plate 14).<sup>81</sup> This dwelling provides a very interesting comparison between the early-nineteenth-century I-houses and the ones built after it. The building compares more closely to residences built two decades before than to houses built in the decade immediately after. The Watson-Jenkinson house is similar in size and proportion, and has the traditional two-rooms-over-two-rooms layout of early Williamsburg I-houses. It is perhaps the last I-house to be

81 Jenkinson, 59.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>80</sup> Information provided by the current house owner.

built in this fashion in Williamsburg County. All surviving I-houses built after this are larger in size and proportion and incorporate center passages.

The Watson-Jenkinson House takes the typical I-house form of two stories, one unit deep, and three bays wide. It is clad in weatherboards and covered with a cypress shingled gable roof. Two chimneys are located on the gabled ends of the building. The window on the first floor are nine over nine sash windows, while on the second floor they are six over nine sash windows like those of early I-houses. An old photograph of the residence shows that the original porch was the full-width, shed roofed porch and included a projection to shelter the stairs. It is possible that projections like this developed into the "rain porch" that became popular around this time. The layout is the same as the asymmetrical layout of early I-houses. The first floor consists of a hall and parlor separated by a partition with a stair case built into it. The second floor plan has two bedrooms separated by the stair hall.

In the early 1980s the current owners, Salley and Billy Jenkinson, aquired the dwelling and moved it to its present location on Brooks Street in the town of Kingstree.

There they meticulously restored it and added an addition to the rear.

#### The Dr. William Brockinton House

The Brockinton House is an early-nineteenth-century vernacular structure that was built about eight miles west-northwest or Kingstree, SC (Plate 15). The one-and-a-half story building is raised on brick piers and is one-and-a-half units deep and seven bays wide. The structure is covered by a gable-on-hip roof and clad with beaded weatherboard. The entrance opens into a central hall with a staircase to one side and two

large primary rooms on either side that are accessed by doorways at the end of the hall. Flanking these larger, primary rooms are two smaller secondary rooms with attachment rooms to the rear (Figure 11-1). The pairs of rooms on either side of the central hall are both serviced by interior double chimneys, which "is one of the earliest examples of an interior chimney in the District [Williamsburg]." A front porch spans the entire length of the building with the back porch running between the two half units on the rear.

The Brockinton House appears similar to the hall-and-parlor type and the Center Passage House, which was essentially the same as the hall-and-parlor that was "created simply by adding a second partition to the Hall-and-Parlor plan, thus walling off a corridor." The main improvement of this central hall addition was that it "took full advantage of the cross-ventilation gained by locating chimneys at the ends." \*\*

The Brockinton House is much larger than either of these two house types, however it appears that the house developed from these simpler forms. The builder seems to have taken one or both of these forms, expanded them into something grander, and added regional variances to create an almost truly unique type. 85

There are several explanations of how this uncommon, if not unique, house type came about. It is believed that "in a particular place, much of the vernacular building of the past may be marked by a balance between two formal properties." The formal properties are "typological repetition from building to building," and "variation within

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<sup>82</sup> Jenkinson, 54.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>83</sup> Foster, 94.

<sup>84</sup> Morrison, 140.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>85</sup> Research from a county wide survey held at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History shows several hall-and-parlor and central hall types, but none as large are the Brockinton-Jenkinson house. <sup>86</sup> Howard Davis, "Explicit Rules, Implicit Rules, and Formal Variation in Vernacular Building," Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture IV (1991): 53.

the type or subtype itself." <sup>87</sup> The hall-and-parlor and center hall house types can be seen repeated throughout the county with some amount of variation among them. It is possible that the Brockinton House is simply a larger variant of this repeated type. The builder/designer took existing known forms to create the house type. This seems to be the best explanations because "folk designers solve design problems by relying on past precedent." They do not copy old forms but "generate design ideas by disassembling or decomposing existing forms and composing new forms out of the abstracted ideas of bits and pieces of existing forms." This is due to the fact that the designer "could not do what he did not know how to do."

This expansion of simple forms was more than likely motivated by function. The builder, William Screven Brockinton, had a wife and five children at the time of the construction of the Brockinton House. The house he built needed to be large enough to accommodate his family and run his plantation. Perhaps Dr. Brockinton did not care for the common "I" house that was popular in Williamsburg during the time, however he still needed a house of its size. To solve his problem he took another type of house and expanded it to fit the function that he needed.

There exists a strong connection between the Brockinton House and the other houses built before and after it in Williamsburg. This connection can be seen in the porch and shed room additions of the structure. These additions were traditional in the area that

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>87</sup> Davis, 53.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>88</sup> Davis, 53.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>89</sup> Thomas Hubka, "Just Folks Designing: Vernacular Designers and the Generation of From," <u>Common Places: Readings in American Vernacular Architecture</u>, (Athens, GA: The University of Georgia Press, 1986) 430

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>90</sup> Henry Glassie, <u>Folk Housing in Middle Virginia</u> (Knoxville, TN: The University of Tennessee Press, 1975), 114.

came from variants derived to fill needs for the area. Even though William Brockinton used an uncommon type for the construction of his house it still reflects the cultural tradition of the area.

#### The Mouzon-Frierson House

The Mouzon-Frierson House was built between 1830 and 1840 on a tract of land located eight miles west on Kingstree, SC on Pudding Swamp. The residence was built to replace an earlier dwelling that burned in 1780 and was sited on the same place (Plate 16). It was a transitional I-house that was a prelude to later I-houses in Williamsburg County.

The Mouzon-Frierson House is two stories, five bays wide, and primarily one unit deep. The structure is sheathed in weatherboards and the gable roof is covered with cypress shingles. The front of the building had a "rain porch" supported by stuccoed brick columns, while the back had a shed-roofed addition. There are a total of four chimneys; two located at the gables ends of the house that served the four principal rooms, and two smaller chimneys that heated the rooms in the shed-roofed addition. The windows on both stories are six over six sash windows.

The plan of the first floor consists of a center passage with a stair case and two equal sized rooms on either side of it. The center passage I-house plan was modified by adding the shed-roofed addition to the rear, which added three smaller rooms (Figure 12-4). The upstairs floor plan mirrored that of the first with two rooms separated by the center stair passage.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>91</sup> Jenkinson, 70.

The Mouzon-Frierson House is longer than the early I-houses because of the central passage. However, it is not as large as the I-houses that follow it, which not only increase in length but also width. The residence does make use of the "rain porch" and rear shed-roofed additions that start to become popular around this time. This I-house could be seen as a bridge between the old and the new.

Currently the building is not occupied and has not been for twenty years.

However, it is maintained by the current owner, who is a descendent of the builder. The porch that appears today is a replacement of the original porch that collapsed in the "big snow" of February, 1973. The roof on a portion of the back addition has also collapsed in recent years. Other than that, the house remains in relatively fair shape.

### **The Bishop House**

The Bishop House is one of the grandest I-houses in Williamsburg County. The dwelling was built in the 1850s about eight miles east of Kingstree, SC off Highway 261 (Plate 25). The overall size and appearance have changed due to an early-20<sup>th</sup>-century renovation, but the core I-house remains intact.

The original I-house is two stories tall, five bays wide and one unit deep. It is clad in weatherboards and would have most likely had a gabled roof. Like all the other I-houses, the Bishop House has two original chimneys at either end of the structure. The windows are very tall six over six sash windows the run from the floor to the ceiling. The ones on the front of the house were made to allow access to the two story porch. The upper porch is supported on brick columns and the lower porch is recessed so that it forms something of a rain porch. It is likely that the second floor porch would have been

covered by a shed roof that connected to the gable roof; however that configuration was replaced by a new roof that covered the entire house when the addition was added to the rear.

A set of large double doors opens into a relatively large center passage with a dog-leg staircase on the right hand wall. To the right of the center passage is a smaller room with a larger room on the other side of the passage (Figure 21-1). This arrangement reflects the hierarchy of rooms in the early asymmetrical plan. The upstairs plan consists of two similar sized bedrooms on either side of the central stair passage. In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century a large addition was added to the rear of the house. It is possible that this addition replaced original shed-roofed rear rooms, but this is impossible to tell. Even though this dwelling is very different from the early I-houses built a century earlier, it nevertheless has a common decorative feature. The stair posts in the Bishop House have the same chamfered edges and lamb's tongue chamfer stop as Thorntree and other early I-houses.

The Bishop House has been handed down through the generations and is owned and lived in by direct descendents of the builder.

#### CHAPTER FIVE

#### CONCLUSION

The surviving historic houses and knowledgeable citizens of Williamsburg

County are indicative of its long and rich history. When the township was first founded in the 1730s many of the first settlers came with little or nothing in the way of wealth and worldly goods. Through determination and hard work these settlers used agriculture to make the township into one of the wealthiest in South Carolina. Many used iconic architecture, such as the formidable appearing I-house, to display their hard earned wealth. These houses were status symbols for the families who built them. Many of these well built houses have survived to today and continue to make a statement about their era and the families who built them. However, many more of these houses have been lost to the ravages of time and the ruin of neglect. This documentation and study of these early Williamsburg houses will go a long way to preserve the history of a once great township.

The evolution of Williamsburg's early houses is closely tied to the development of the county. The houses were a reflection of how the county grew and prospered. Understandably the first houses were built simply to provide shelter. It is not clear what form these earliest houses took because so few survive today. They were built as temporary shelters and as such many of them have not endured. Some of the earliest surviving houses suggest a simple hall-and-parlor, like the Rearden House, or even a log cabin type, such as the Gamble House.

As the settlers and farmers became prosperous many built new, bigger houses to reflect their success. The I-house was the popular choice and soon became the way to symbolize a successful farmer. This type was very well suited for the climate of the area and the intent to impress of the settlers. The I-house type came from an English vernacular form that would have been very familiar to the Scots-Irish settlers of Williamsburg County. The two-story, one unit deep house made it simple to build, allowed for good ventilation, and created an imposing appearance from the front. Once established early on, the I-house became "the house" of Williamsburg County.

Up until the Civil War the vast majority of houses that were built in the county were I-houses. Through time the I-house form evolved in the county due to the increasing wealth of the families. The earliest houses had a very simple asymmetrical linear plan with two rooms per floor. Sometimes the second floor was divided up depending on the needs of the family. As time progressed and the wealth grew, so did the houses. Sometime in the first quarter of the nineteenth century a center passage began to be incorporated into floor plan to make the house more symmetrical. This made the I-house longer than its predecessors. Then in the second quarter of the nineteenth century the room sizes increased, which made the house wider, giving it a more grand appearance. This progression makes it easy to distinguish the early I-houses from later ones simply looking at their proportions.

In addition to the progression of the I-house form, the I-houses in Williamsburg exhibit regional and local variances. One of these regional variances was shed-roofed additions to the rear of the house. In the early houses when more interior space was

needed, the back porch was filled in. Later houses included these additions when the house was originally built. Another regional element incorporated into the I-house was the full-width porch. Due to the hot, humid climate and frequent rain storms full-width porches became a common feature on all southern housing. The I-houses in the Williamsburg area developed a local variant on the full-width porch known as the "rain porch." This type of porch, which can only be found in the Pee Dee area, was built by extending the porch roof a couple of feet past the porch floor and supporting it on its own set of posts. This arrangement was probably developed to help prevent rot, which would have been a common problem in this climate. The local and regional variance help distinguish the I-houses in Williamsburg County from those found all over the east coast.

The early houses of Williamsburg County represent an important part of its history and much can be learned from them. However, many of them are disappearing without leaving behind any form of documentation. In recent times countless historic houses have been lost due to the fact they no longer serve a purpose. For a period of time the vacant historic houses found use as barns and pack houses for agriculture. With the decline of farming since the Civil War, these houses were once again abandoned and had no use. They had been neglected and poorly maintained for so long that they were no longer suitable for habitation without substantial renovations. These houses are currently being left to fall apart because so few can afford to rehabilitate them.

This study and survey is of great importance because many of the surviving structures are disappearing rapidly. This thesis has sought to provide a basic survey and documentation of as many of these historic houses as possible. The survey and study lay

the ground work for future research. They provide basic information on the houses and type so that further study is possible. Given the number of houses that have disappeared in the last fifty years, it is likely that several of the houses surveyed will not last another fifty. The houses that are lived in are well maintained, and barring some disaster, will continue to survive for years to come. This thesis serves as documentation for these houses so that this important part of Williamsburg's built history is saved for future generation to study and admire.

### PLATES AND IMAGES

**Plate 1: Williamsburg County** 

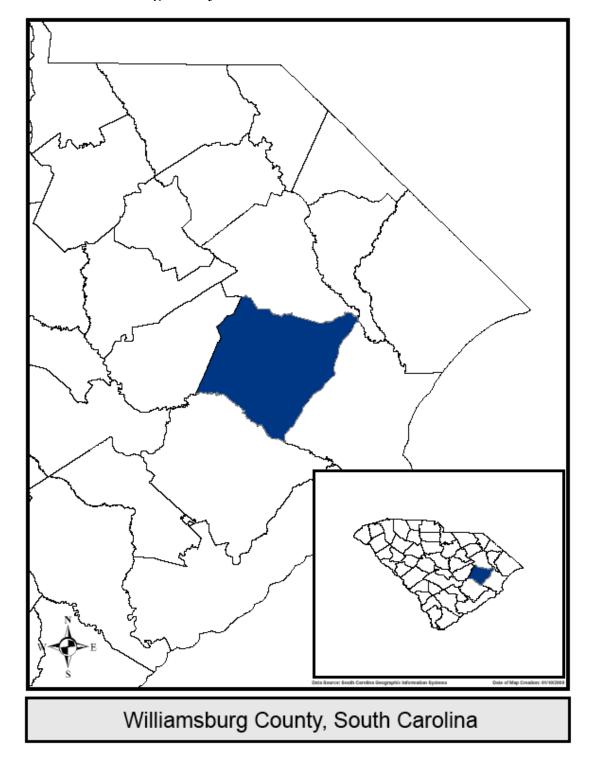
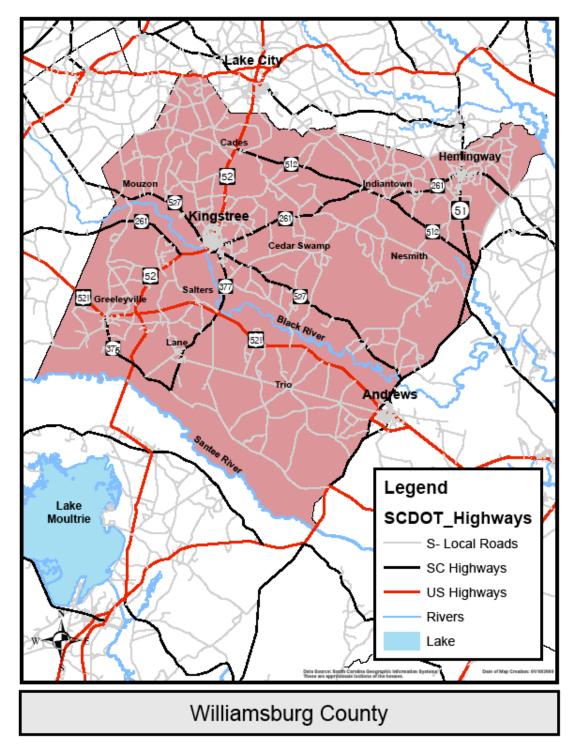


Plate 2: Williamsburg County Highway Map



**Plate 3: Historic House Locations** 

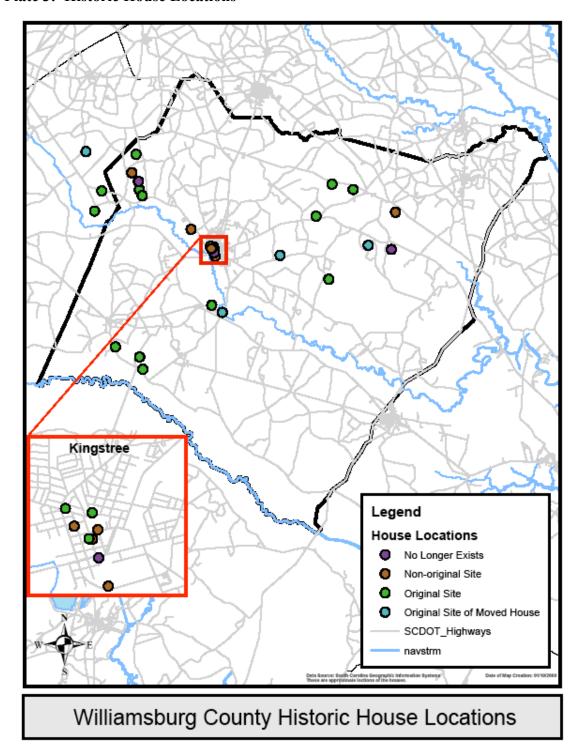
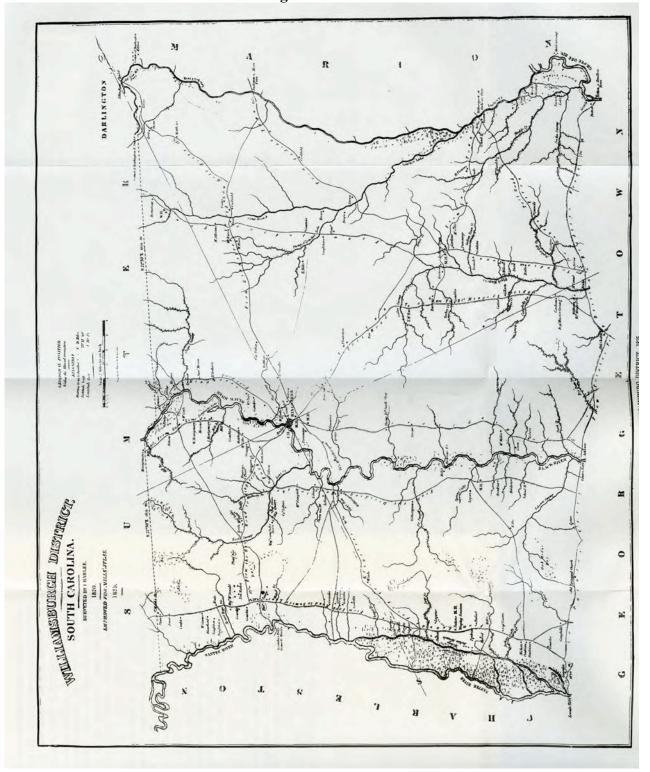
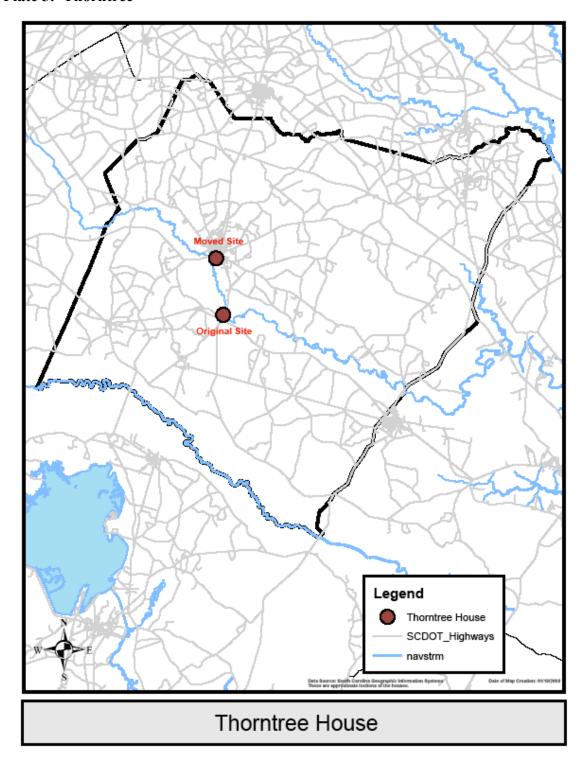


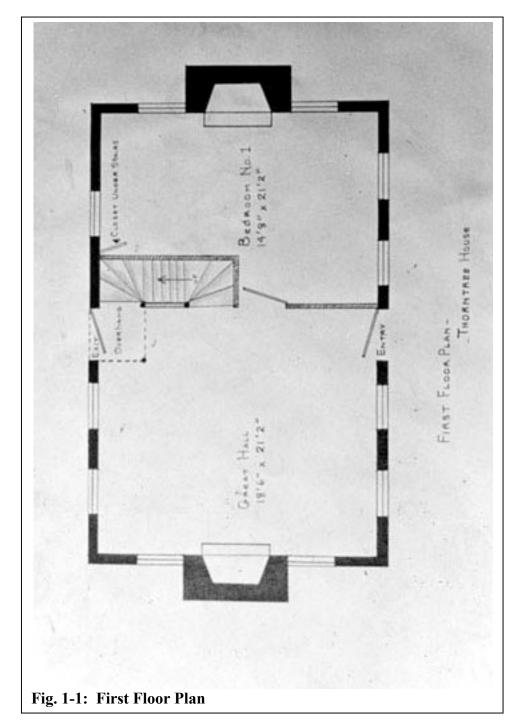
Plate 4: The Mills' Atlas of Williamsburgh District



**Plate 5: Thorntree** 



**Thorntree Images** (Plans courtesy of SC Department of Archives and History)



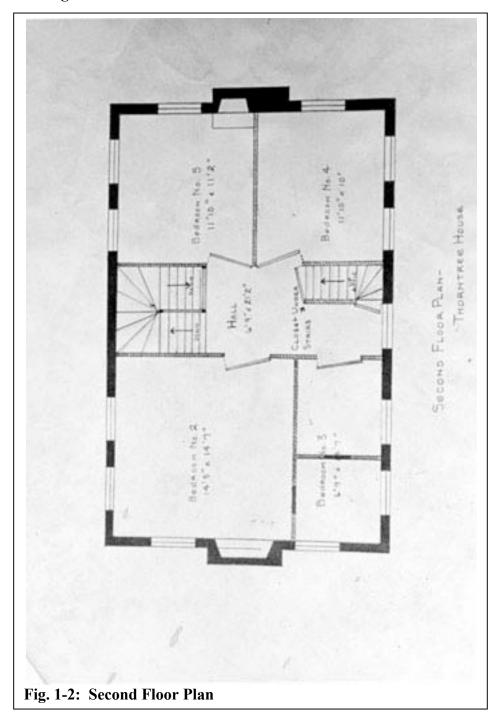




Fig. 1-3: Front Facade



Fig 1-4: Front-Left Oblique



Fig 1-5: Left Facade



Fig 1-6: Back-Left Oblique



Fig 1-7: Back Facade



Fig 1-8: Back-Right Oblique



Fig 1-9: Right Facade



Fig 1-10: Front-Right Oblique



Fig 1-11: Front Porch



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Fig. 1-13: Thorntree before Move and Restoration
- Williamsburg County, SC: A Pictorial History (Dallas,



Fig. 1-14: The Great Hall



Fig. 1-15: The Mantle and Over Mantle in Great Hall



Fig. 1-16: The Staircase



Fig. 1-17: Cornice Molding from Great Hall



Fig. 1-18: The Parlor



Fig. 1-19: Master Bedroom

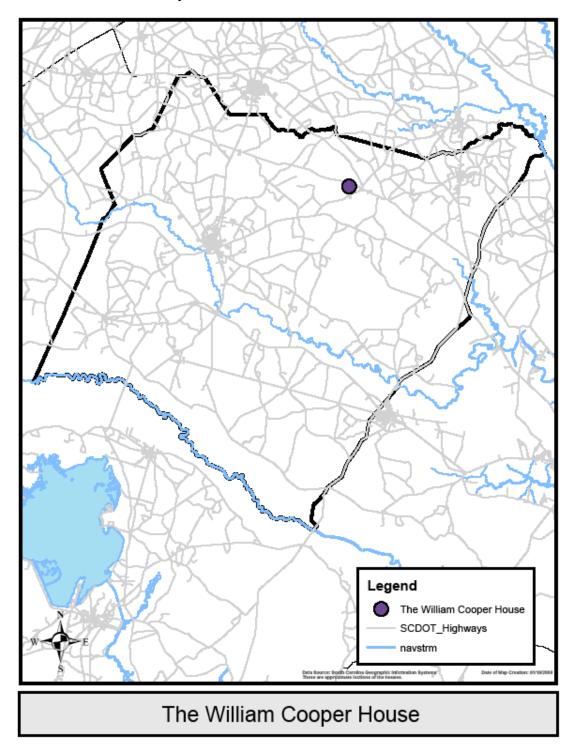


Fig. 1-20: Molding Detail from Master Bedroom



Fig. 1-21: Mantle and Over Mantle Detail from Master Bedroom

**Plate 6: The William Cooper House** 



The William Cooper House Images

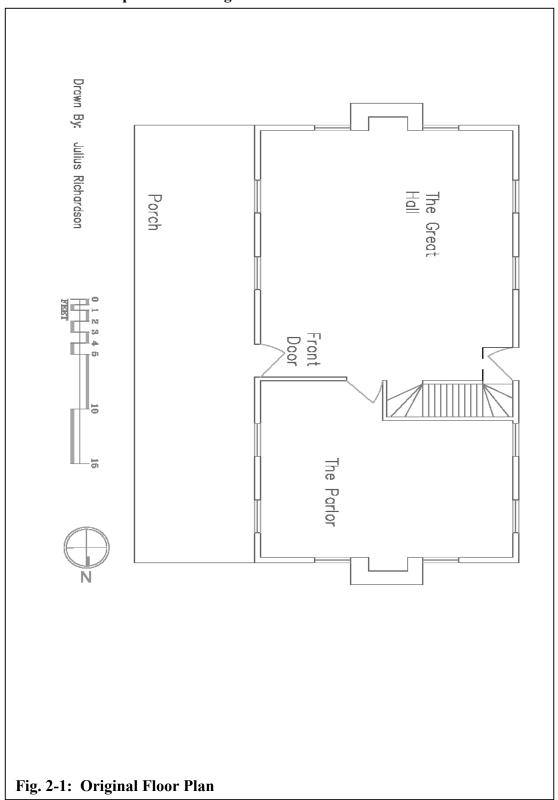




Fig. 2-2: Front Facade



Fig. 2-3: Right-Front Oblique

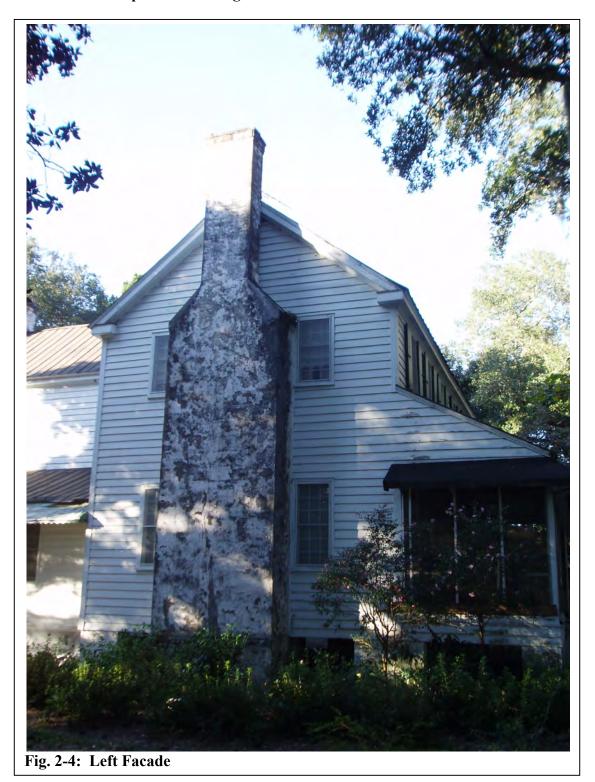




Fig. 2-5: Mantle and Over Mantle in Great Hall

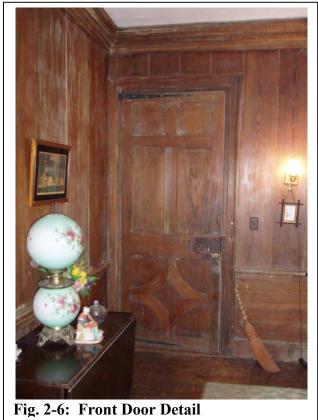
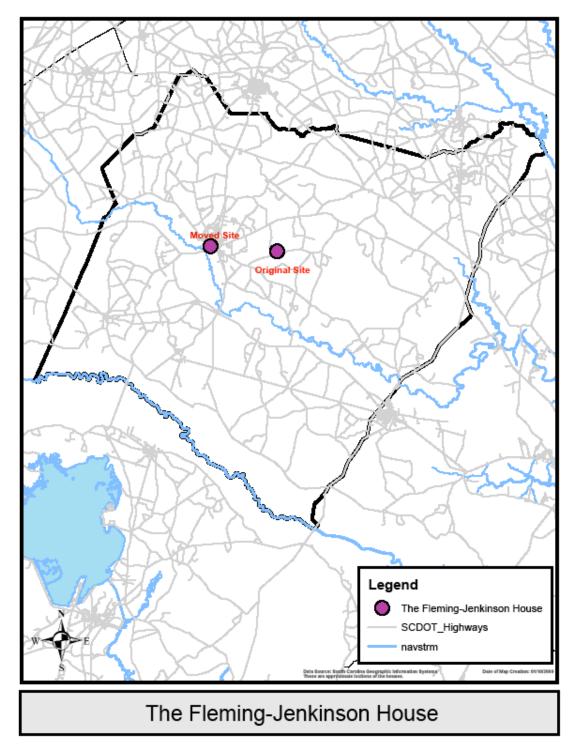




Plate 7: The Fleming Jenkinson House



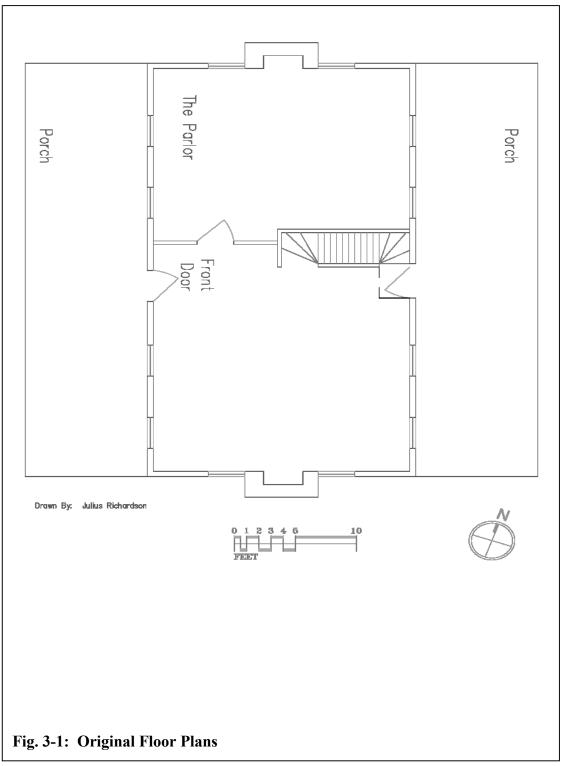




Fig. 3-2: Front Facade





Fig. 3-4: Right Facade





Fig 3-6: Front-Left Oblique



Fig. 3-7: The Great Hall

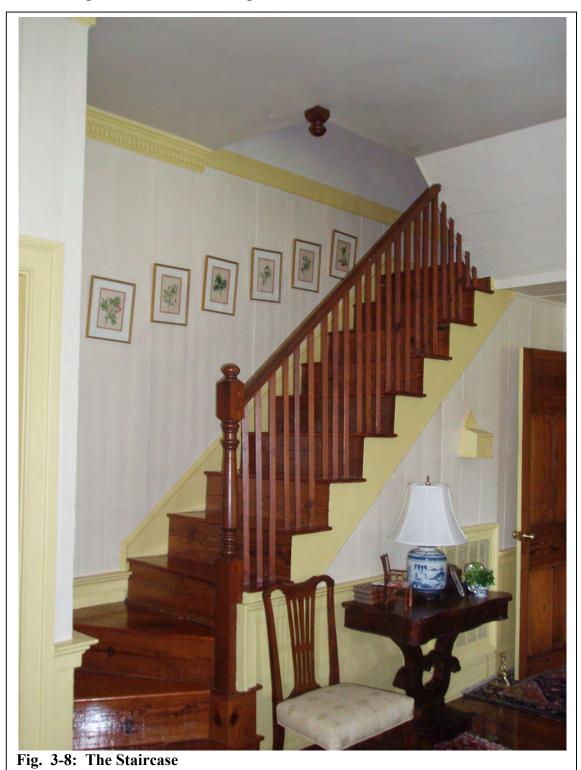




Fig. 3-9: The Parlor



Fig. 3-10: Ceiling Detail from Upstairs Bedroom



Fig. 3-11: The House Prior to Move



Fig. 3-12: Back of House Prior to Move



Fig. 3-13: Right Side of House Prior to Move



Fig. 3-14: Interior Showing Tobacco Leaves



Fig. 3-15: House Being Moved

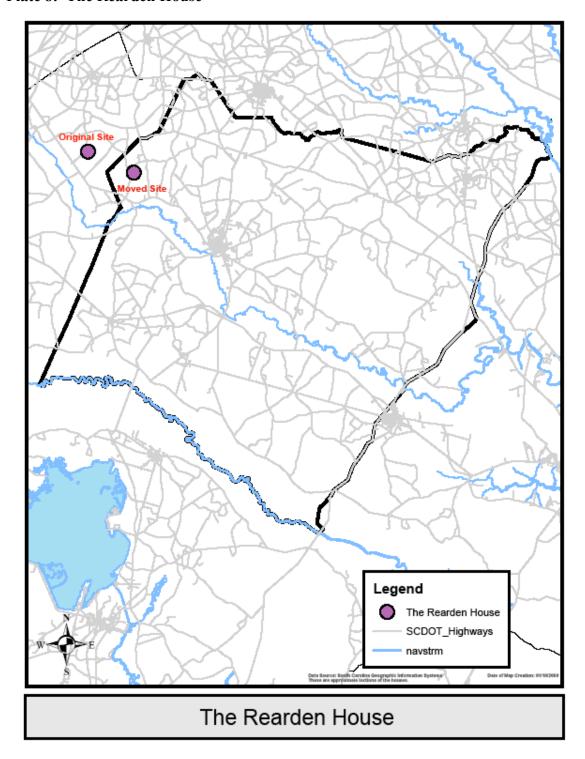


Fig. 3-16: House Being Restored After Mover



Fig. 3-17: Cypress Shingles Being Made

**Plate 8: The Rearden House** 



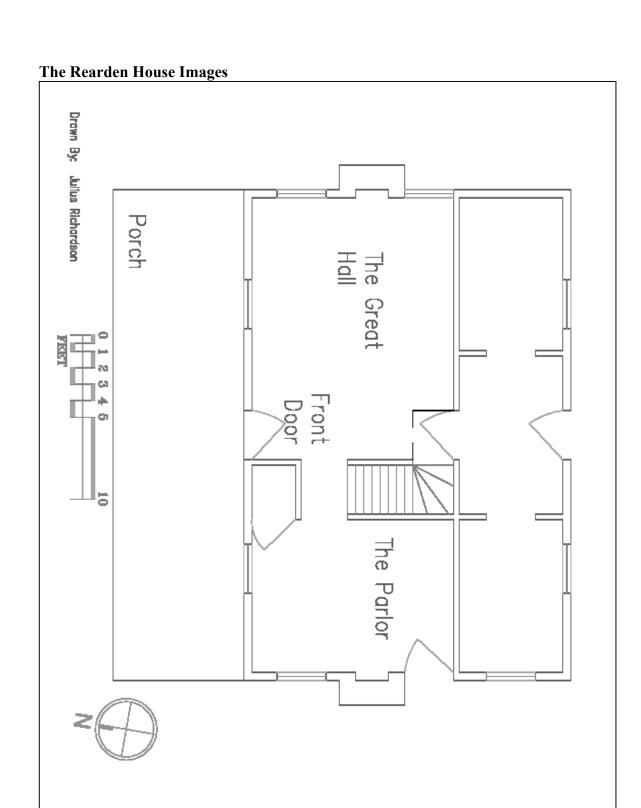


Fig. 4-1: Original Floor Plans



Fig. 4-2: Front Facade



Figure 4-3: Front Right Oblique



Fig. 4-4: Right Facade



Fig. 4-5: Back-Right Oblique



Fig. 4-6: Back Facade



Fig. 4-7: Back-Left Oblique



Fig. 4-8: Left Facade



Fig. 4-9: Front-Left Oblique



Fig. 4-10: The Great Hall



Fig. 4-11: The Staircase





Fig. 4-13: The Parlor



Fig. 4-14: Detail of Hinge with the Mark of the Crown from Parlor Room



Fig. 4-15: Left Side Upstairs Bedroom



Fig. 4-16: Right Side Upstairs Bedroom

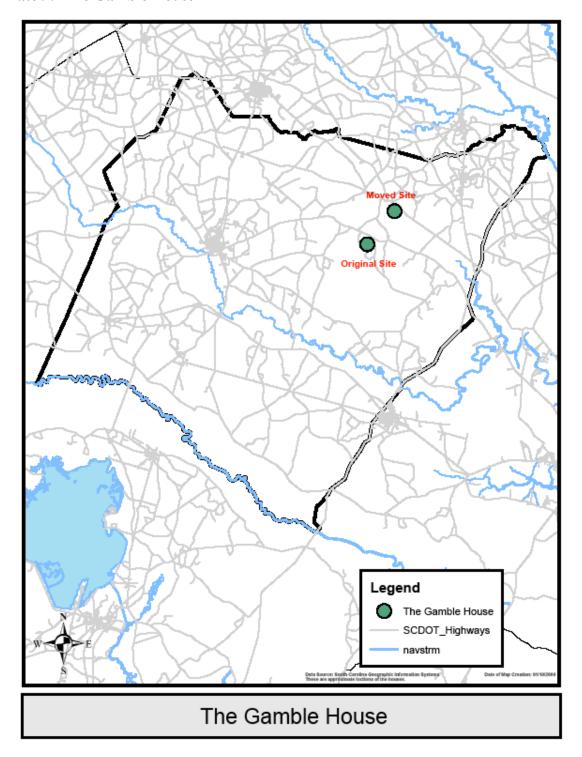


Fig. 4-17: Stair Case



Fig. 4-18: Detail of porch posts with notches for roof extension over steps.

**Plate 9: The Gamble House** 



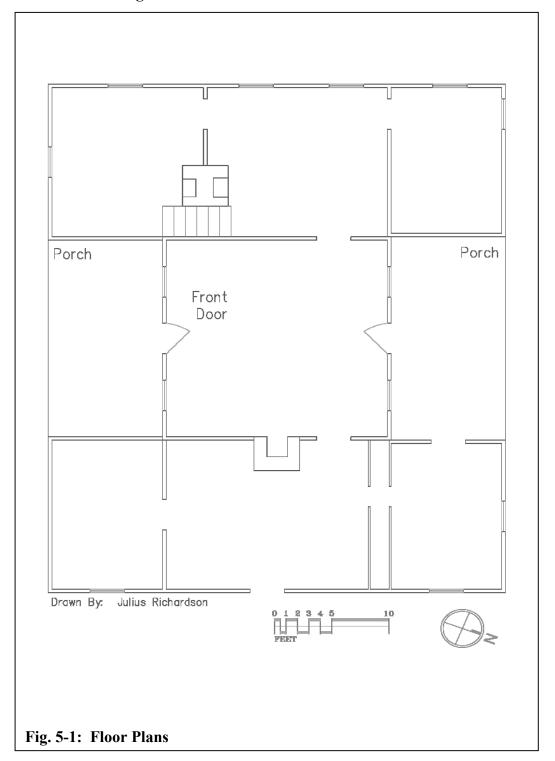




Fig. 5-2: Front-Left Oblique



Fig. 5-3: Front Right Oblique



Fig. 5-4: Back-Right Oblique



Fig. 5-5: Back Facade



Fig. 5-6: Back-Left Oblique



Fig. 5-7: Interior detail showing corner of log cabin construction

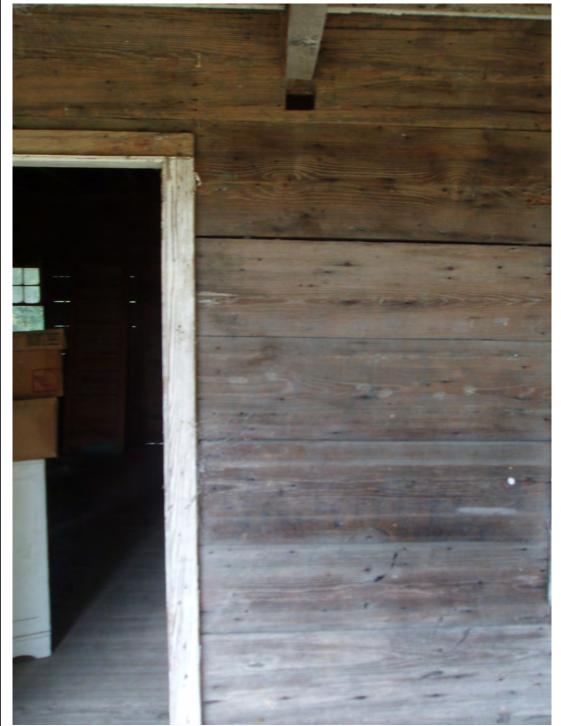
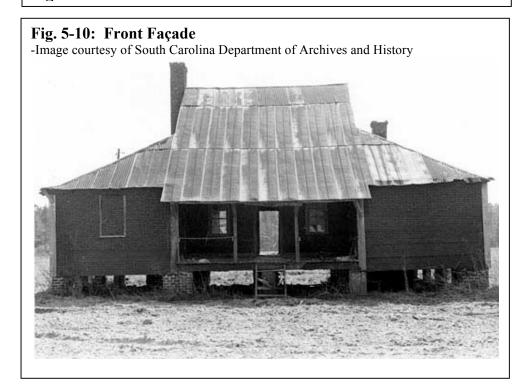


Fig. 5-8: Detail of front door jam and the wood planks for walls



Fig. 5-9: Detail showing the peg holding two planks of the wall together.



**Fig. 5-11: Front-Left Oblique**- Image courtesy of South Carolina Department of Archives and History

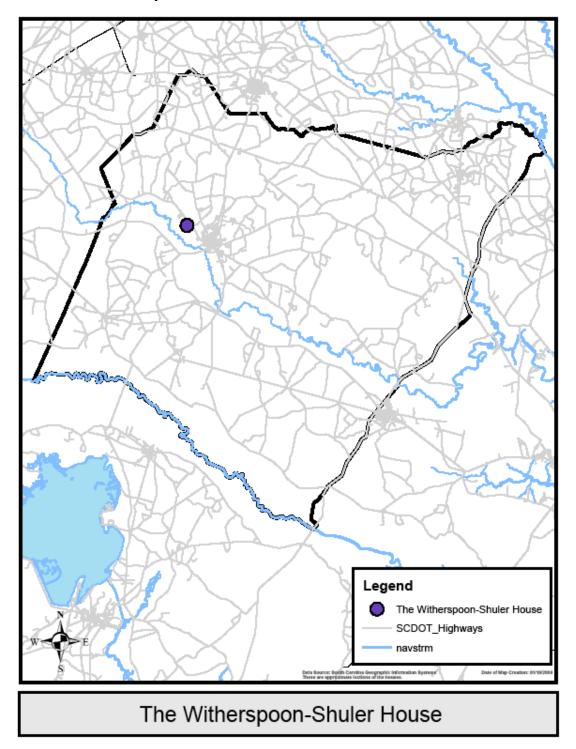




Fig. 5-12: Back Façade
- Image courtesy of South Carolina Department of Archives and History

Fig. 5-13: Back-Right Oblique
- Image courtesy of South Carolina Department of Archives and History

Plate 10: The Witherspoon-Shuler House



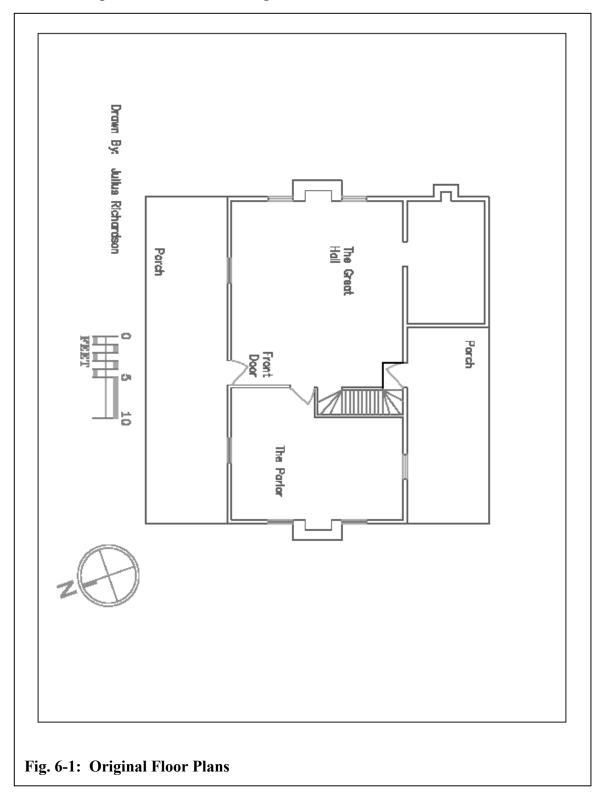




Fig. 6-2: Front Facade





Fig. 6-4: Left Facade



Fig. 6-5: Back-Left Oblique



Fig. 6-6: Back-Right Oblique



Fig. 6-7: Right Facade



Fig. 6-8: Front Porch Detail



Fig. 6-9: Front Porch Post Detail



Fig. 6-10: The Great Hall



Fig. 6-11: Staircase in Great Hall

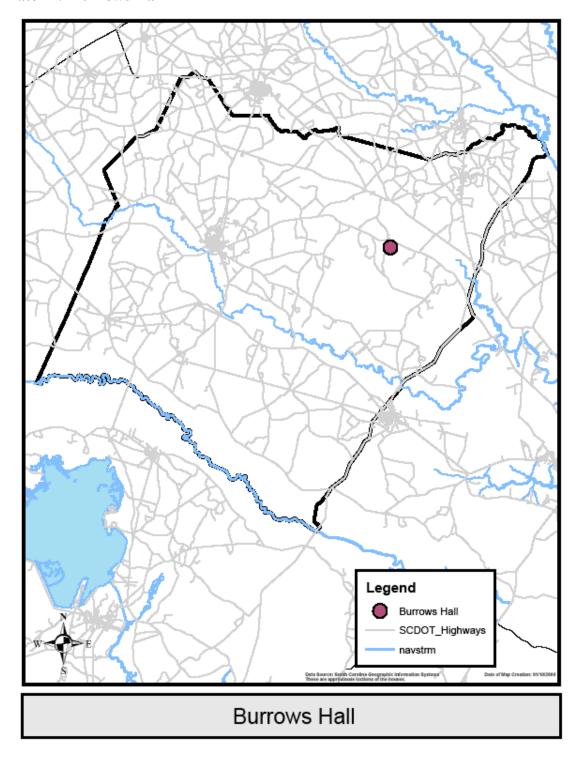


Fig. 6-12: Staircase and closet from Parlor



Fig 6-13: Mantle in Parlor (from the Nelson House)

Plate 11: Burrows Hall

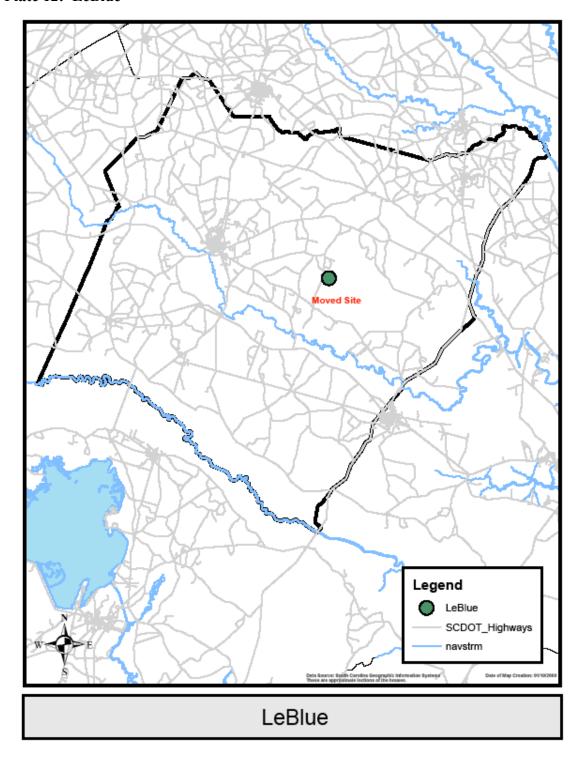


#### **Burrows Hall Image**



Fig. 7-1: Burrows Hall (now destroyed)
Williamsburg County, SC: A Pictorial History (Dallas, TX: Taylor Publishing Company, 1991), 104.

Plate 12: LeBlue



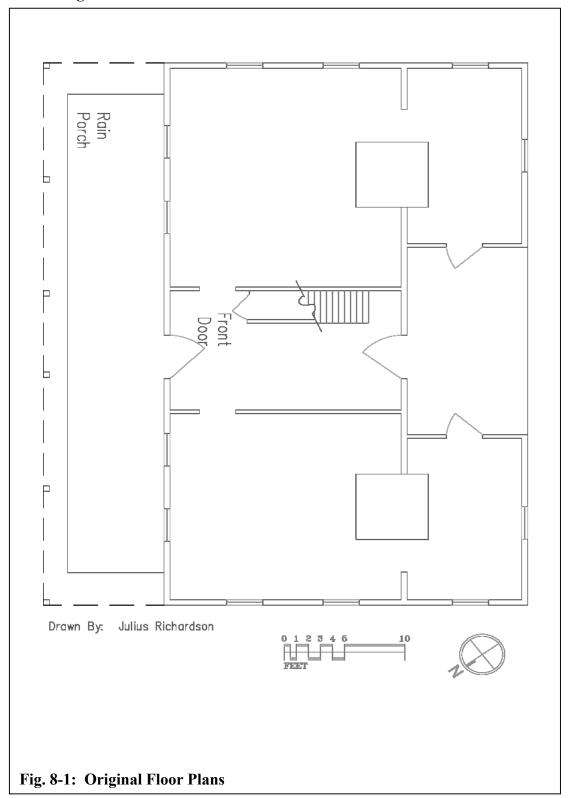




Fig. 8-2: Front Facade



Fig. 8-3: Front-Right Oblique



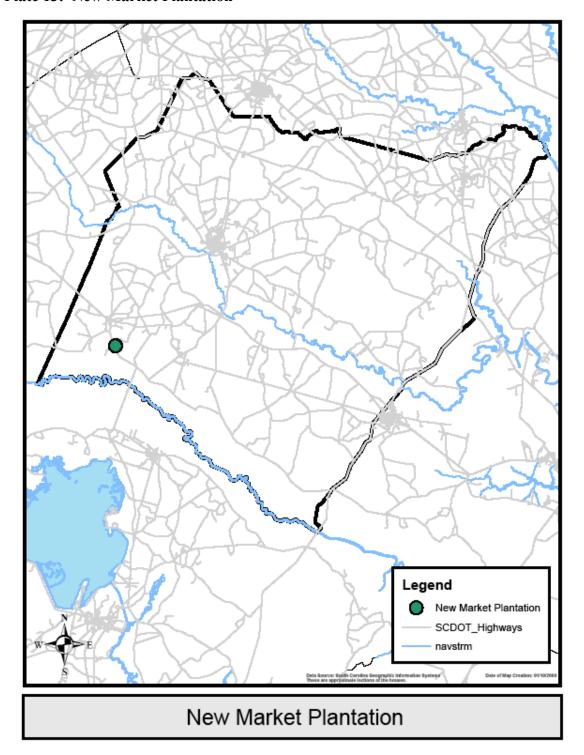


Fig. 8-5: Staircase in Center Passage



Fig. 8-6: Interior Chimney

**Plate 13: New Market Plantation** 



New Market Plantation Images (Photographs courtesy of SC Department of Archives and History)



Fig. 9-1: Front Facade



Fig. 9-2: Right Facade

## **New Market Plantation Images**



Fig. 9-3: Left Facade



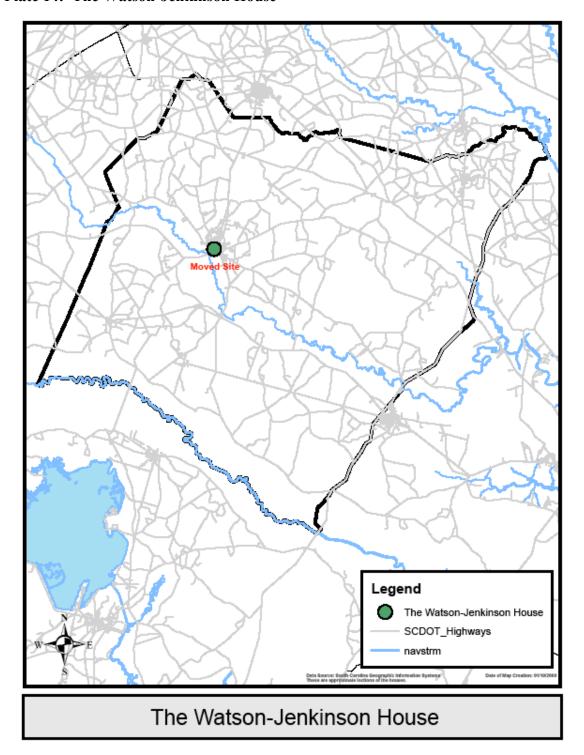
Fig. 9-4: Back Facade

## **New Market Plantation Images**



Fig. 9-5: Front Porch Details

Plate 14: The Watson-Jenkinson House



## The Watson-Jenkinson House Images



Fig. 10-1: Front Facade



Fig. 10-2: Front-Right Oblique

#### The Watson-Jenkinson House Images



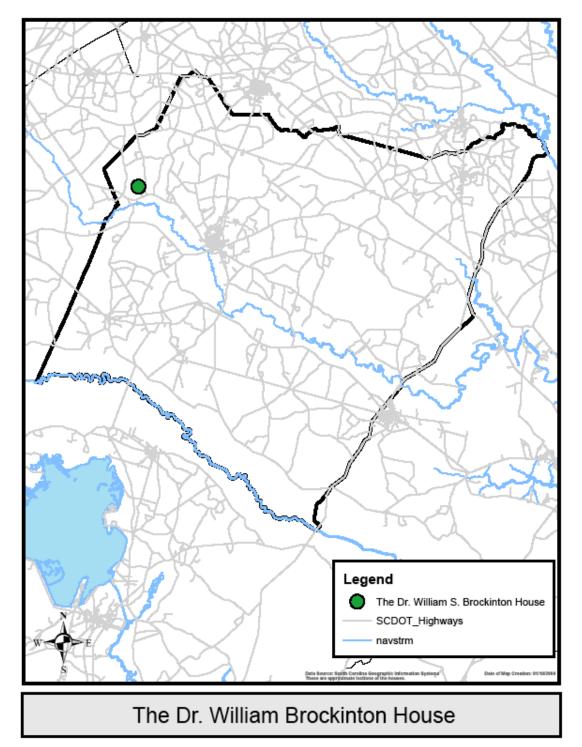
Fig. 10-3: Right Facade



Fig. 10-4: Photograph of house from circa 1890

- Bubber Jenkinson, <u>A History of the Homes and People of Williamsburgh District</u>, (Charleston, SC: The History Press, 2007), 60.

Plate 15: The Dr. William Brockinton House



The Dr. William Brockinton House Images

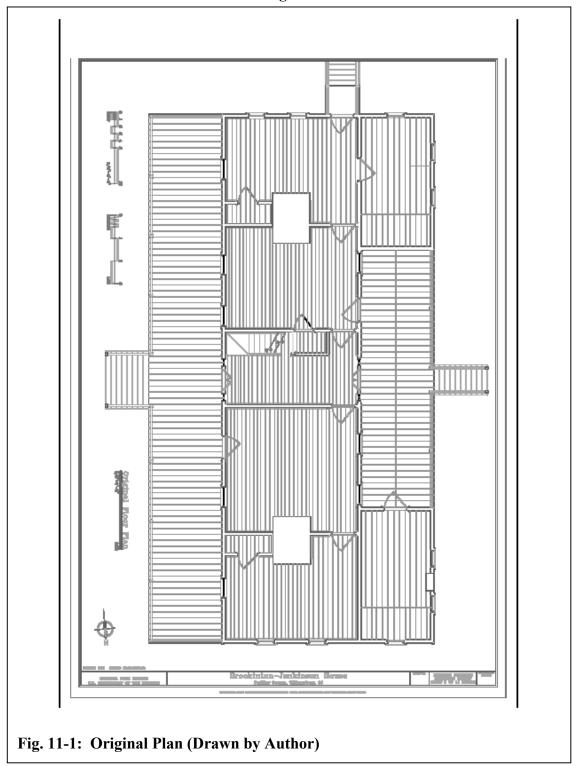




Figure 11-2: Front Facade



Fig. 11-3: Front-Right Oblique



Fig. 11-4: Right Facade



Fig. 11-5: Back-Right Oblique



Fig. 11-6: Back Facade



Fig. 11-7: Front-Left Oblique



Fig 11-8: Inscription on interior wall. Reads, "J F B - 1838." John F Brockinton was a son of the builder.



Fig. 11-9: Center Passage with ghost marks of staircase.



Fig. 11-10: View from Center Passage into Great Hall on the right side of the house.



Fig. 11-11: View into Parlor



Fig. 11-12: View into bedroom and rear addition room



Fig. 11-13: View from one rear room across porch to the other

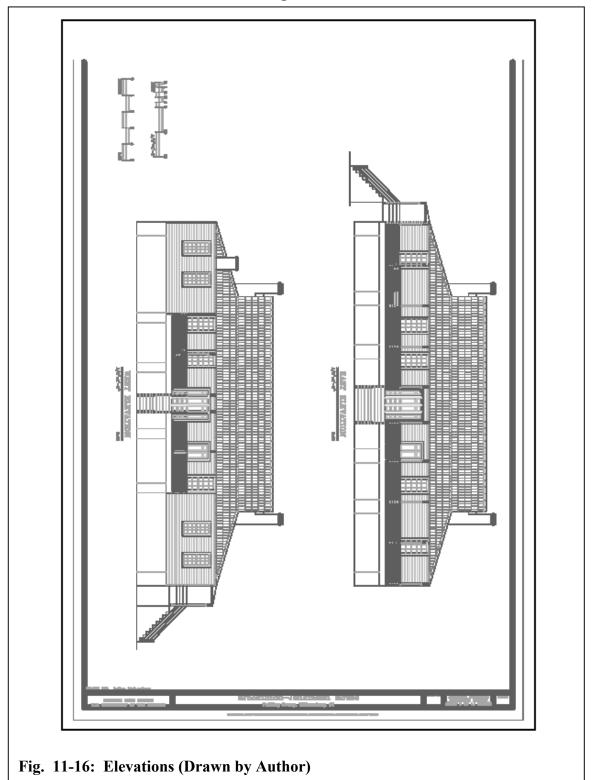


Fig: 11-14: The House under preparation to be moved.

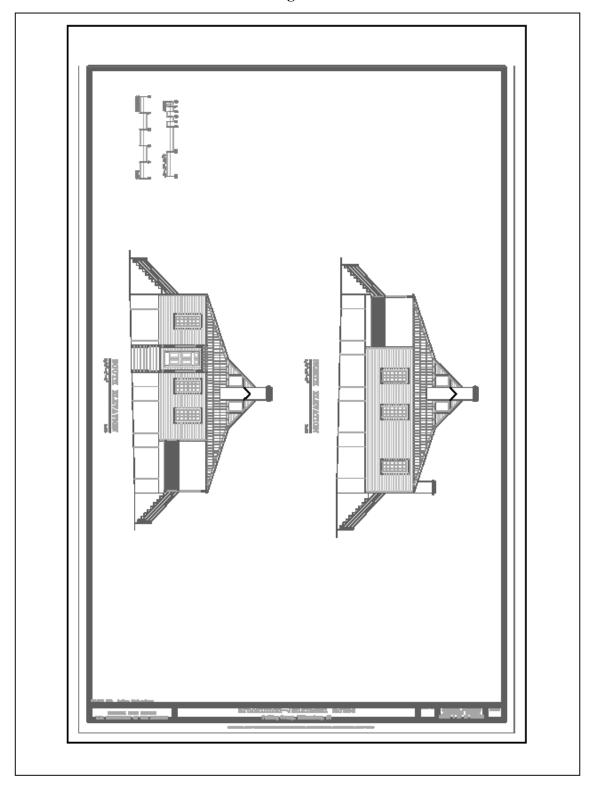


Fig. 11-15: House waiting to be moved

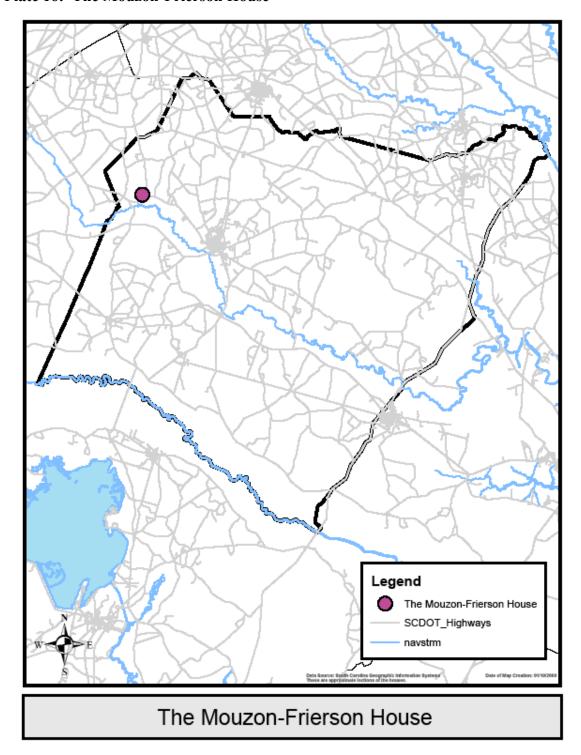
The Dr. William Brockinton House Images



The Dr. William Brockinton House Images



**Plate 16: The Mouzon-Frierson House** 



## The Mouzon-Frierson House Images



Fig. 12-1: Front Facade



Fig 12-2: Front-Left Oblique

## The Mouzon-Frierson House Images



Fig 12-3: Right Facade



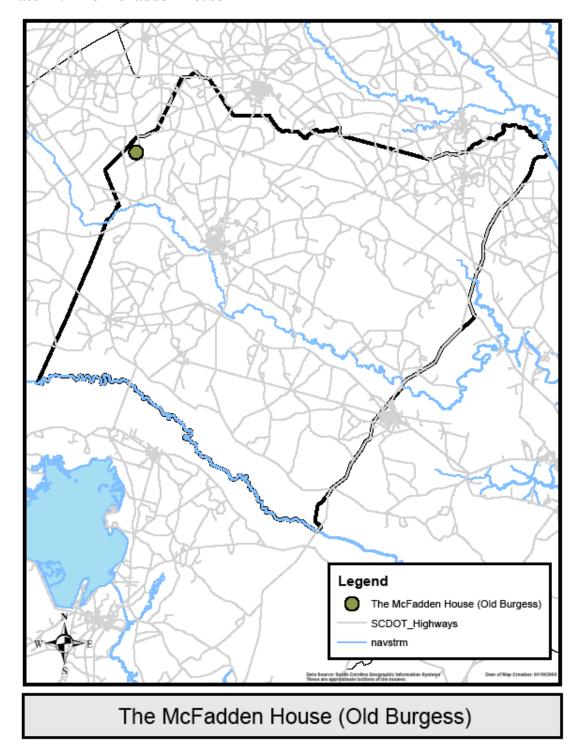
## The Mouzon-Frierson House Images



Fig. 12-5: Photograph of the house circa 1915.

- Bubber Jenkinson, <u>A History of the Homes and People of Williamsburgh District</u>, (Charleston, SC: The History Press, 2007), 71.

Plate 17: The McFadden House



# The McFadden House Images



Fig 13-1: Front Facade



Fig. 13-2: Front-Left Oblique

**Plate 18: The Salters Plantation House** 

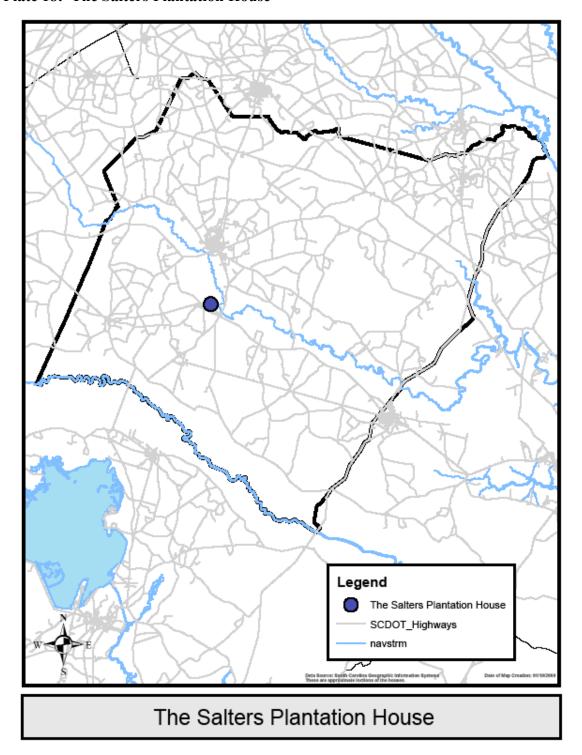




Fig. 14-1: Front Facade

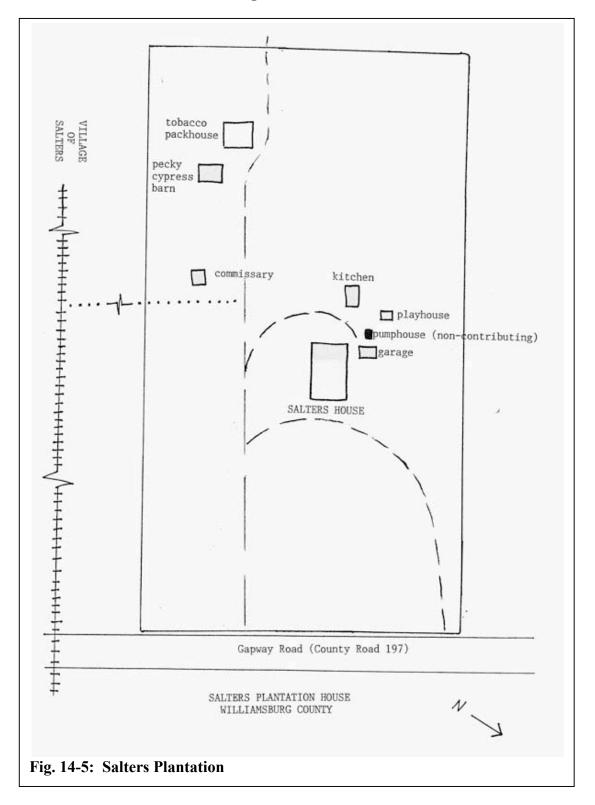


Fig. 14-2: Left Facade



Fig. 14-3: Back Facade





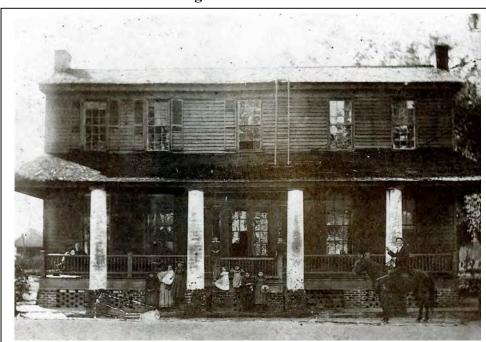


Fig. 14-6: The Salters Plantation House circa 1900

- Bubber Jenkinson, <u>A History of the Homes and People of Williamsburgh District</u>, (Charleston, SC: The History Press, 2007), 65.

Plate 19: Murry's Ferry Plantation

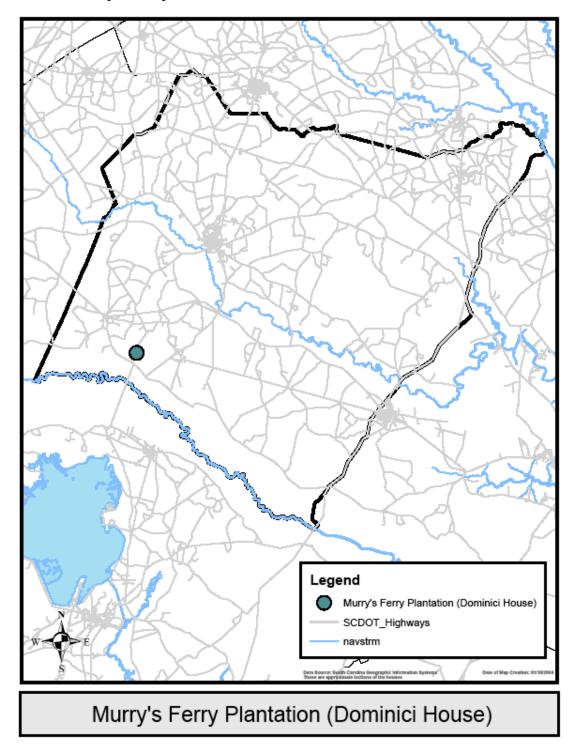




Fig. 15-1: Front Facade





Fig. 15-3: Left Facade





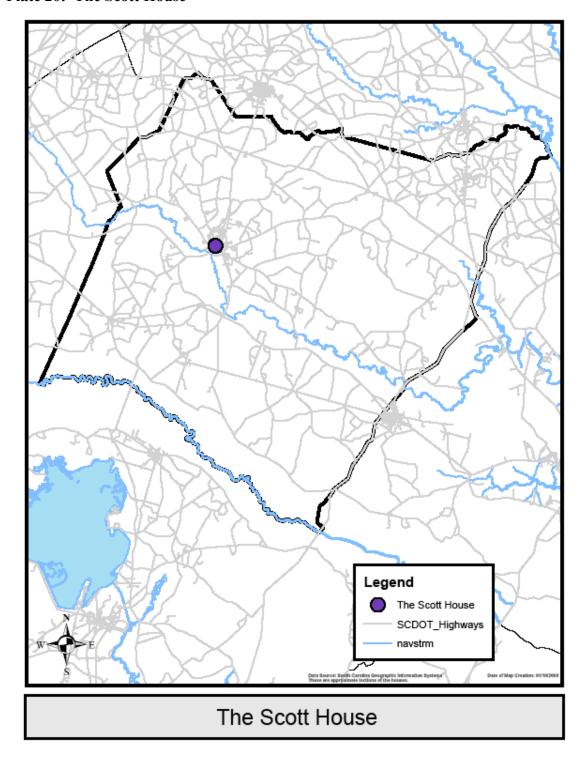
Fig. 15-5: Right Facade



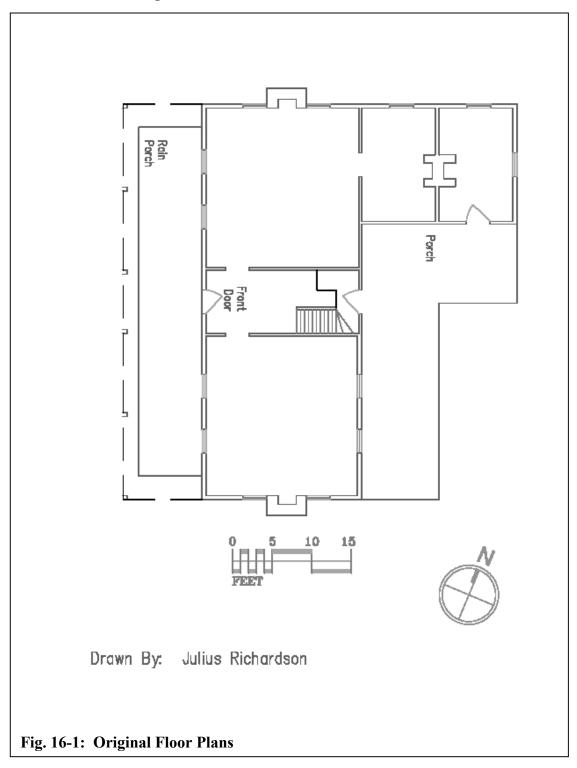
Fig. 15-6: Front-Right Oblique



**Plate 20: The Scott House** 



## **The Scott House Images**



# **The Scott House Images**



Fig. 16-2: Front Facade



The

# **Scott House Images**



Fig. 16-4: Staircase in Center Passage

# **The Scott House Images**



Fig. 16-5: Center Passage and Front Door



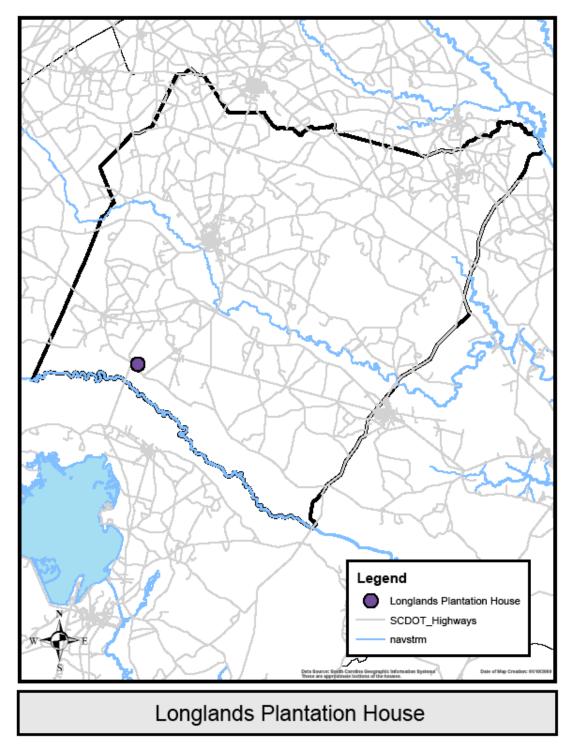
Fig. 16-6: Left side Parlor

# The Scott House Images



Fig. 16-7: Mantle in right side Parlor

Plate 21: Longlands Plantation



# **Longlands Plantation Images**

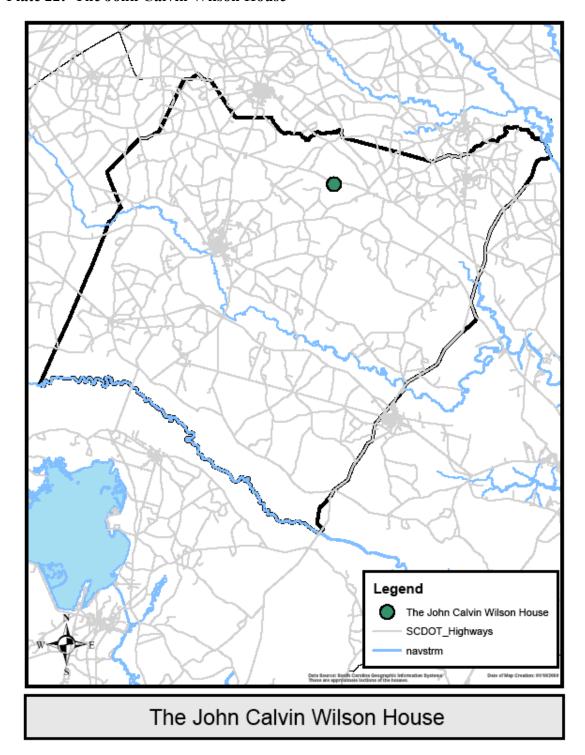


Fig. 17-1: Front Facade



Fig. 17-2: Front-Right Oblique

Plate 22: The John Calvin Wilson House



The John Calvin Wilson House Images (Photographs courtesy of SC Department of Archives and History)



Fig. 18-1: Front Facade



Fig. 18-2: Front-Right Oblique

# The John Calvin Wilson House Images



Fig. 18-3: Details of Front-Right Oblique



Fig. 18-4: Left Facade

# The John Calvin Wilson House Images



Fig. 18-5: Back Facade



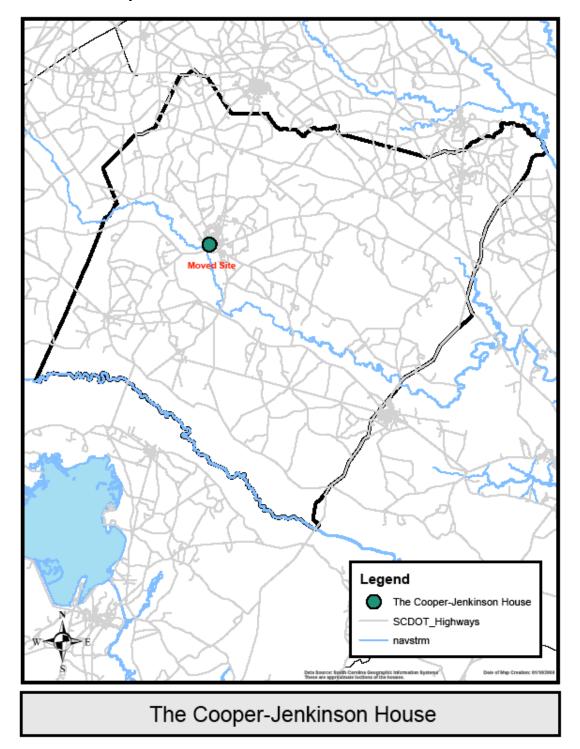
Fig. 18-6: Back-Right Facade

# The John Calvin Wilson House Images



Fig. 18-7: Detail of Rain Porch

Plate 23: The Cooper-Jenkinson House



# The Cooper-Jenkinson House Images



Fig. 19-1: Front Facade



Fig. 19-2: Front-Right Oblique

# The Cooper-Jenkinson House Images

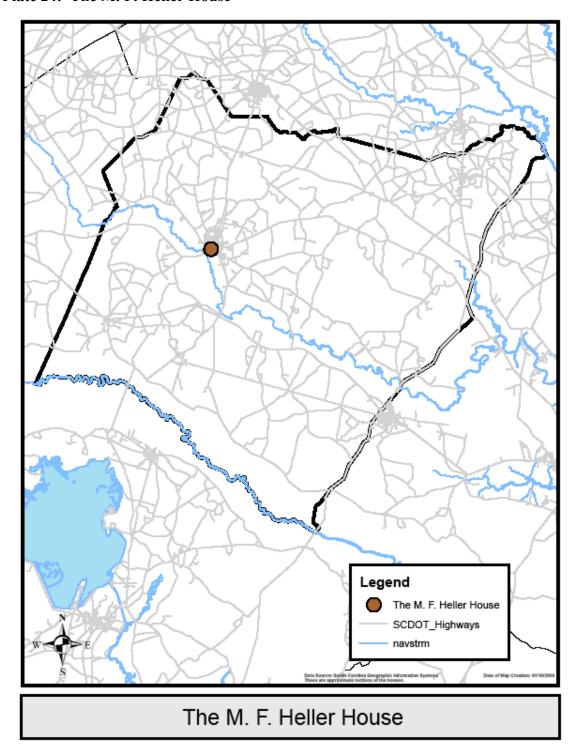


Fig. 19-3: Right Facade



Fig. 19-4: Back-Right Oblique

Plate 24: The M. F. Heller House



**The M. F. Heller House Images** (Photographs courtesy of SC Department of Archives and History)



Fig. 20-1: Front Facade

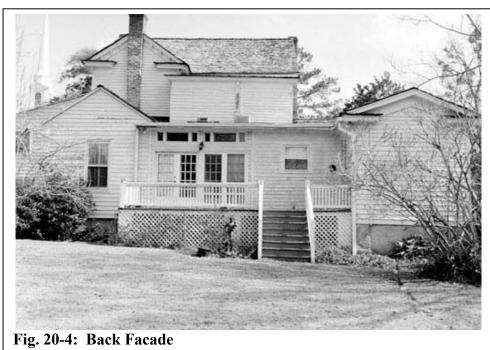


Fig. 20-2: Right Facade

# The M. F. Heller House Images



Fig. 20-3: Left Facade



## The M. F. Heller House Images

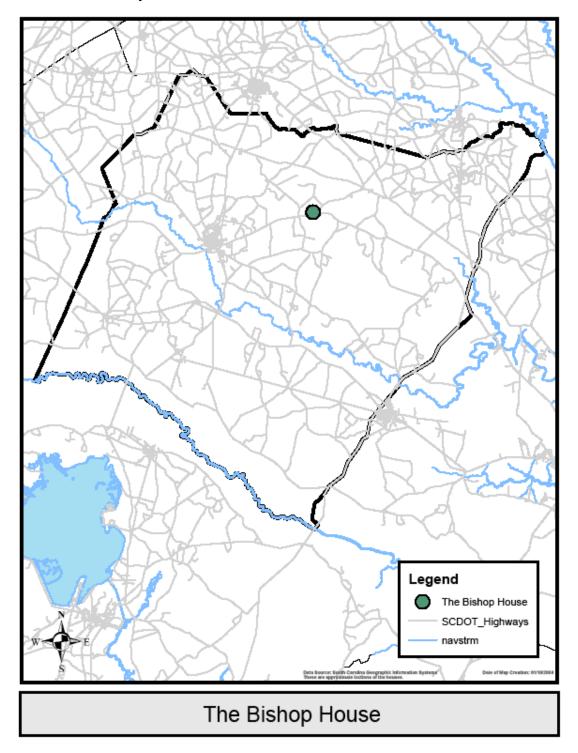


Fig. 20-5: Front Porch Detail

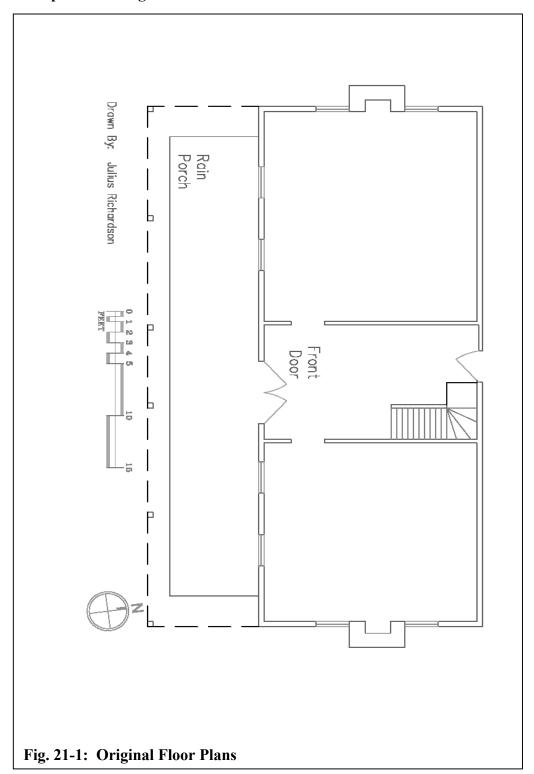


Fig. 20-6: Pressed-Metal Ceiling and Gasolier in Parlor

**Plate 25: The Bishop House** 



## The Bishop House Images



## The Bishop House Images



Fig. 21-2: Front Facade





Fig. 21-4: Right Facade



Fig. 21-5: Back Facade



Fig. 21-6: Back-Left Oblique



Fig. 21-7: Left Facade



Fig. 21-8: Center Passage and Staircase



Fig. 21-9: The Center Passage and Front Door



Fig. 21-10: The Parlor



Fig. 21-11: Original Hardware on Front Door

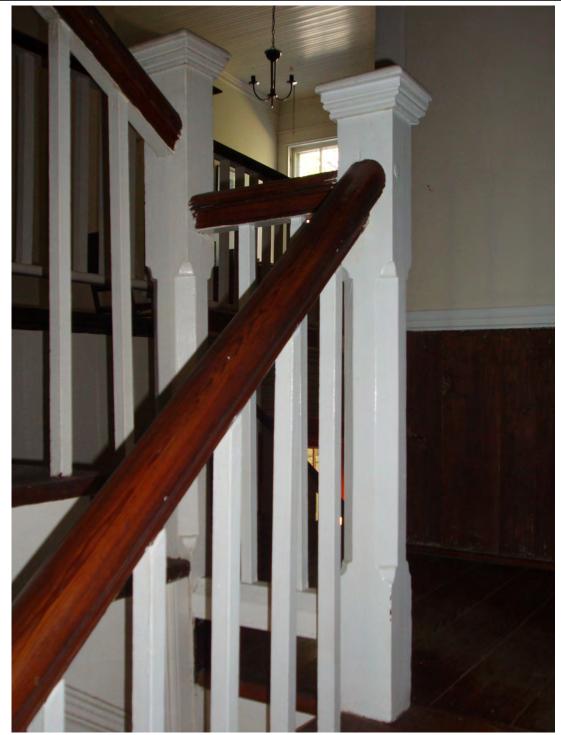


Fig. 21-12: Staircase Post with the chamfered edge and lambs tongue

**Plate 26: The Daniel Epps House** 

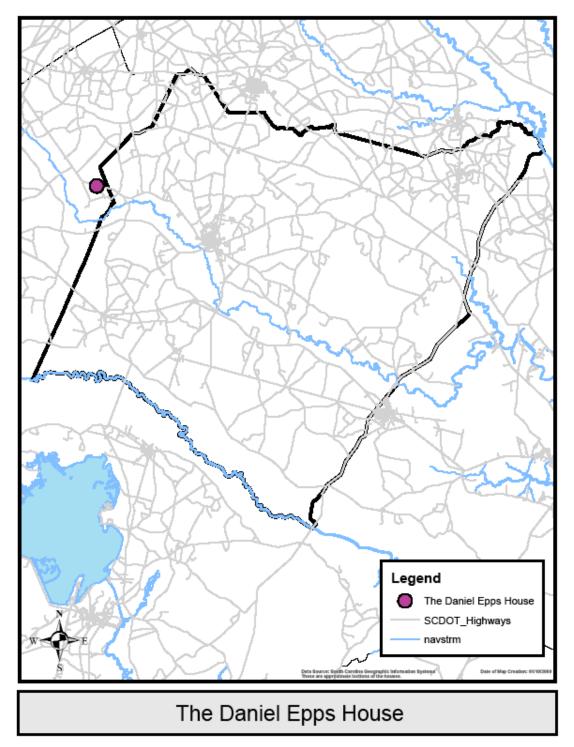




Fig. 22-1: Front Facade





Fig. 22-3: Right Facade



Fig. 22-4: Back-Right Oblique



Fig. 22-5: Back Facade

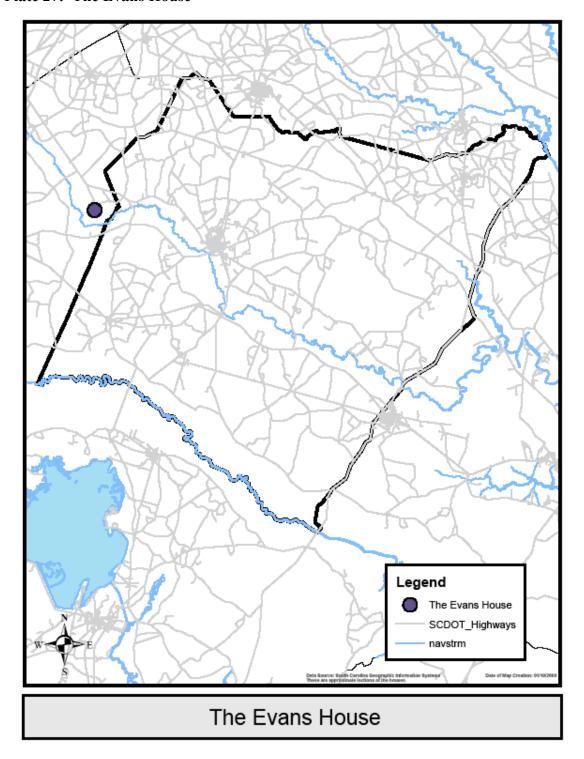


Fig. 22-6: Back-Left Oblique



Fig. 22-7: Left Facade

**Plate 27: The Evans House** 



## The Evans House Images



Fig. 23-1: Front Facade



Fig. 23-2: Front-Left Oblique

### The Evans House Images



Fig. 23-3: Left Facade



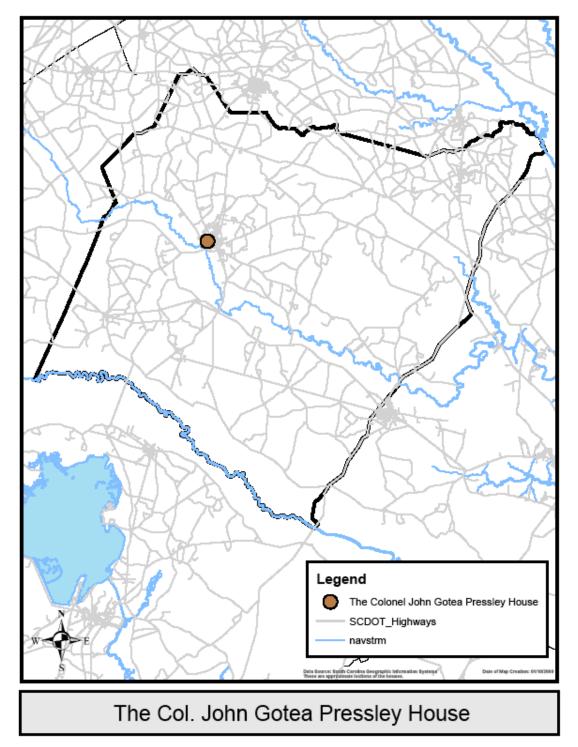
Fig. 23-4: Back Facade

### The Evans House Images



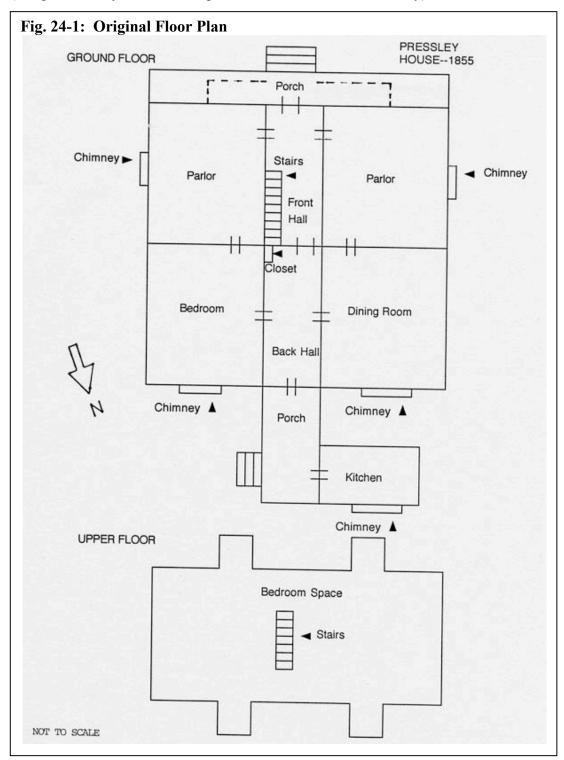
Fig. 23-5: Original Kitchen Building

Plate 28: The Col. John Gotea Pressley House



The Col. John Gotea Pressley House

(Images courtesy of the SC Department of Archives and History)



PRESSLEY **GROUND FLOOR** HOUSE--1994 Porch **Bed Room** Stairs Living Room Chimney Chimney Front Hall Closet Back Hall Bed Room Dining Room Bath Closet Bath Kitchen Den Office Utility Sun Room Porch Covered Walkway Garage UPPER FLOOR Hali Bed Room Bed Room Bath

The Col. John Gotea Pressley House Images

NOT TO SCALE

Fig. 24-2: Floor Plan circa 1994

The Col. John Gotea Pressley House Images



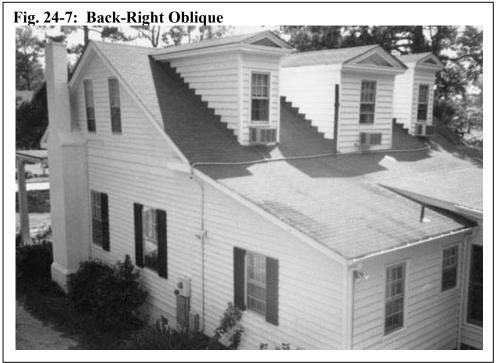


The Col. John Gotea Pressley House Images





The Col. John Gotea Pressley House Images





### The Col. John Gotea Pressley House Images



Fig. 24-9: Dining Room Mantle



#### **Other Houses of Interest**

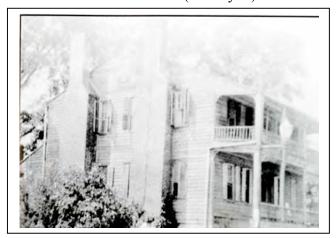
- Sheriff Grahm's House
  - Located 5 miles west of Indiantown off Highway 512
- Spook Lodge (circa 1800)Located on North Santee



- The Chandler-Snow House – circa 1854 (destroyed 1940)



#### - The Nelson House – 1817 (destroyed)



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#### **APPENDIX**

#### SURVEY FORMS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Statewide Survey of Historic R State Historic Preservation Office South Carolina Department of Archives an 8301 Parklane Road Columbia, SC 29223-4905 (803) 896-61	d History		Control Nu Tax Numbe	Status	County No.	
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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. DESCRIPTION							
				(Check One)			
CONDITION	X Excellent	Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed	
CONDITION		(Check Or	e)		(Che	eck One)	
	☐ Alte	red	X Unaltered		Moved	Original Site	
DESCRIPE THE DE	FEEL AND SE	(01) 1 1 (36 1-m)	\ 5				

18th century frame plantation house; two-room type (great hall and parlor), end chimneys, piazzas front and back. Brick piers support hand-hewn heart pine beams, 12x12".

Exterior construction is 5/8-in. beaded clapboards 3/4-in. thick, overlapping at various widths. Piazza balustrade has beaded top rail; posts are square to height of rail, chamfered octagonally in center, square at top.

Of the 24 windows, all shuttered, 5 are on front second floor, 4 on front first floor, six over nine light. Solid pine paneled shutters fastened with strap hinges, hand-forged, and pintles reproduced from original

Two types of roof rafters strengthened with tie beam joined to rafters by half dovetails. Cypress shingles fastened to original laths. Memory work dentil cornice under eaves.

Typical 18th century doors with 6 fielded panels. First floor front and back doors unusually large. Central door opens into 21x18' great hall. Partially recessed staircase.

Entire interior is pine: walls, ceilings, cornices, mantels and all overmantels except 2 that are plastered. Flooring of random-width yellow pine, quarter sawed. Wainscot of horizontally placed boards with vertical beaded boards above. Unique hand-carved memory work cornices and mantels.

Inner walls, except in great hall, of exposed post and beam construction with vertical beaded ship-lapped board partitions. Chimney breasts in parlor and small chamber room finished with panel of plastering.

In 2nd floor master chamber, memory work mantel and saw-tooth cornice. Nursery and small room adjacent. Second-floor walls in original unpainted condition. Hall closets with batten doors under stairs.

Hardware throughout includes hand-forged locks and HL hinges, original Furniture and accessories are of 1759-1826 period when James Witherspoon and his son, Gavin, lived here. Victorian trims, south piazza and shed rooms added c. 1800, have been removed. House now stands as it was in 18th century.

Moved from inaccessible rural site (6 mi. south of Kingstree, S.C. 377) to preserve it. Original site was unavailable for purchase, unattractive, unprotected against fire and vandalism. Present site, within city, on land given as memorial park. Additional house museums, and archives and record. building, planned.

Restoration in progress.

PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	🔀 18th Century	20th Century
☐ Noth Century	☐ 17th Century	☐ 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicab	le and Known) 1749		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	eck One or More as Appropri	iate)	
Abor iginal	■ Education	Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	☐ Industry	losophy	
☐ Agriculture	Invention	Science	
X Architecture	🔀 Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	X Military	Theater	
Conservation	☐ Music	☐ Transportation	

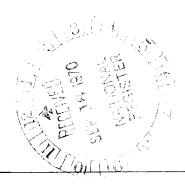
Oldest known residence in Pee Dee area, excellent example of earliest plantation houses constructed entirely of native materials.

Built by Irish immigrant James Witherspoon, 1749. About 6 miles south of the King's Tree, Williamsburgh Township. Progressive rural domestic design. Located in wilderness and adapted to New World, but with refinements recalling good life of Old World.

Nationally-known Museum Curator Meyric R. Rogers called Thorntree a "rarity" in architectural structure and an irreplaceable loss if not preserved. Particularly notable: mantels, cornices, general trim, hand-carved from memory, many in original condition and partial coloring. Placement and position of main stairway also unusual, marking trend toward formation of separate hall which characterized later architecture. Architecturally much as its builder left it, Thorntree preserves interesting combination of details showing European, West Indian and Carolinian influences.

Preservation of Thorntree especially important since most Revolutionary era houses in Kings Tree area were burned by Tarleton and Wemyss. Thorntree spared because Tarleton with his British dragoons and a large number of Tories encamped at plantation in August, 1780.

Thorntree influence reached into various phases of state and national life through Witherspoon family, among earliest settlers of this early-settled inland area. They were prominent in government, education and religion in 18th century. Gordon family were prominent 19th century owners.



MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Form 10-300a (Dec. 1968)

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

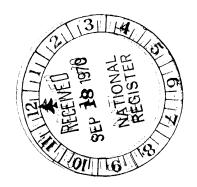
STATE	
South Carolin	na
COUNTY	
Williamsburg	
FOR NPS USE C	NLY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

70,10,45,0041 10/28/70

(Number all entries)

#### 9. Major Bibliographical References:

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- Wallace, James A. <u>History of Williamsburgh Church</u>. Salisbury, N.C.: Bell and James, Printers, 1856.
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Statewide Survey of State Historic Preservation C South Carolina Department of 8301 Parklane Road Columbia, SC 29223-4905 Intensive Survey Form	Office		Control Nu	Status County No. Site No.
Identification Historic Name: The W	Villiam Coor	er House		
Common Name:				
Address/Location: 2 mile	s West of	Indiantown or	Hmy512	
City:		County	Williamsbur	<u>```</u>
Vicinity of: <u>Indiantown</u>		Quadra	ngle Name:	
Ownership: Private 2 Corporate 3 City 4 County	5 State 6 Federal 0 Unknown/Other	Catego	ry: 1 Building 2 Site 3 Structure 4 Object	
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South Carolina Department 6 8301 Parklane Road	Office of Archives and H	listory		a \$1 b	Status County No.	Site No.
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Form No. 10-300 REV. (9/77)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PHO 685470

FOR NPS USE ONLY

OCT 2 1978

RECEIVED

	NSTRUCTIONS IN HOW T	O COMPLETE NATIO	NAL REGISTER FORMS	
NAME	TYPE ALL ENTRIES	COMPLETE APPLICA	BLE SECTIONS	
1 NAME				
HISTORIC G	amble House			
AND/OR COMMON				
2 LOCATION	Approximately .6	) ( 504 mile southwest of	intersection	
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3 CLASSIFIC	ATION			
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OBJECT	X_IN PROCESS	X_YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTEDNO	INDUSTRIAL MILITARY	TRANSPORTATION X_OTHER: None
4 OWNER OF	PROPERTY	<u> </u>		, none
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DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS		epartment of Arch	LOCAL LOCAL	-
CITY, TOWN		cpar different Of AFCII		
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#### CONDITION

D. C. T. C. D. A. T. C. D.

**CHECK ONE** 

\_\_EXCELLENT

\_\_GOOD

XFAIR.

\_\_DETERIORATED

\_\_UNEXPOSED

\_RUINS

TED \_\_UNALTERED XALTERED (minimal)

**CHECK ONE** 

XORIGINAL SITE
\_\_MOVED DATE\_\_\_\_\_

#### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located in rural Williamsburg County, the Gamble House is a small wooden structure set upon brick piers. Although historical research has not revealed its construction date, the Gamble House appears to date from at least the early 19th Century, with a central two-story core of the house being the earliest portion. At a later, but still early date, the house appears to have been enlarged to the right and left by the addition of small one-story wings. A small one-story porch extends across the center (apparently earliest) portion of the front facade. The structure has a steeply pitched gable roof covered by tin.

The central two-story core of the house is constructed of 4" x 12" heart pine timbers, tightly pegged together and dovetailed in the corners. The first floor room features board and batten entrance doors, centered on both the front and rear facades, and exposed ceiling beams. The front entrance opens onto the small one-story porch.

Located to both the right and left of the central core of the house are one-story wings. The wing to the right contains three small rooms, while that to the left has two small rooms. These wings appear to date from a period later than the central core of the house. However, interior details are indicative of an early period of construction. Details throughout the structure include board and batten windows and doors, handwrought strap and "H-L" hinges, and wide-board flooring, ceilings and walls. The structure has four fireplaces which are serviced by two chimneys. The mantels are hand-carved and although all are different, each features raised panels and pilasters. The room located in the left wing, directly east of the main room, also features unusual cornice moldings and exposed ceiling beams. An enclosed stairway is located in the right wing, off the south-westernmost room.

SURROUNDINGS: The Gamble House is located in a field currently being cultivated. A chain link fence has been erected around the structure in order to protect it from vandalism.

#### 8 SIGNIFICANCE

SPECIFIC DAT	ES	BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT	
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRYINVENTION	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
1700-1799 <b>X</b> _1800-1899	ARTCOMMERCE	ENGINEERINGEXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	MUSIC PHILOSOPHY	THEATERTRANSPORTATION
1600-1699	**ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Located in rural Williamsburg County, the Gamble House exemplifies unusual architectural design and construction techniques. Although it is not known when the structure was built, architectural analysis and local tradition suggest that the Gamble House may date from the late 18th to early 19th Centuries. The house is closely associated with the Gamble family which has been historically involved in the agricultural life of the community.

It is believed that the Gamble House is located on property granted to James Paine in 1735 and subsequently (by 1806) acquired by John Gamble, a farmer of some substance. The 1819 inventory of Gamble's estate values his property at \$12,608.59.

James Gamble, who is named as the administrator of John Gamble's estate, was apparently the next owner of the property on which the Gamble House is situated. James Gamble was also apparently a man of some means, as the inventory of his estate values his property at \$27,737.86. Gamble's estate also paid accounts to two doctors and a teacher. James Gamble's Will names Lawrence D. Gamble and Hugh D. Gamble as his sons. A Deed of Partition between these two sons in 1859 provides the first mention of a residence on the property (although it is believed that one existed prior to that date). In this deed, the two sons divided their father's land so that "the said H. Dudley Gamble and his heirs shall have all that piece or allotment of land, the residence or eastern end of said contiguous tracts or grants of land comprehended in the re-survey plat made as aforesaid for James Gamble in ... One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-one." According to Gamble family tradition, Hugh Dudley Gamble resided in the structure now known as the Gamble House, and his son, Robert Disney Gamble, the next owner, was born there. Robert Disney Gamble died in 1930. Today, the property is owned by Richard A. Gamble who continues to farm the property surrounding the house.

Since the early 1800s, the Gamble family has been involved in agricultural pursuits in this section of Williamsburg County. Consequently, the Gamble House reflects a life-style representative of this agricultural area.

Architecture: The Gamble House is unusual in both design and construction. The overall appearance of the structure, with a steeply pitched roof and projecting side wings, is not indicative of farmhouses of the area and therefore presents a rather unique quality. It appears that the structure may have been constructed in two phases, both early, so the building is important in its present form. The central core of the house appears to be the earliest portion and is constructed of 4" x 12" heart pine boards finished on both sides, pegged together and dovetailed on the corners. The wings were probably added at a later date. Throughout the structure wide-board floors, strap and H-L hinges and board and batten doors are notable and add to the integrity of the structure.

1. Williamsburg County, Office of the Clerk of Court, Deed Book H, p. 496.

#### 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Boykin, Henry D. Letter to Mr. Bennett Baxley, May 6, 1977.

"Local House is Termed Architecturally Significant", Hemingway, S. C., Weekly Observer, 18 November 1976.

	continued
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA	Longitudi U 70° 251 261
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY	Longitudé. W 79°- 35'- 26" Latitude N 33°- 40'- 17"
QUADRANGLE NAME Indiantown, 15-minute s	
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to Mr. Richard Gamble.	on all sides by property belonging TIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES
EIST ALE STATES AND COONTIES FOR THOTER	HES OVEREALTING STATE ON SOCIAL BOOKERMIES
STATE CODE	COUNTY CODE
STATE CODE	COUNTY CODE
THE STREET & NUMBER 1430 Senate Street	TELEPHONE
Post Office Box 11,669, Car	pitol Station (803) 758-5816 STATE
Columbia	South Carolina
12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATIO	N OFFICER CERTIFICATION  F THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS;
	TELOCAL
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Received and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.	National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the
TITLE Charles E. Lee	DATE 9/19/78
FOR NPS USE ONLY I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED	
In Charge Jethuri	pt DATE /2.878
ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER  ATTEST: WWW.	DATE 12/8/18
CHIEF OF REGISTRATIONS.	

Form No. 10-300a (Hev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 2 1978

DATE ENTERED DEC 8 1978

CONTINUATION SHEET

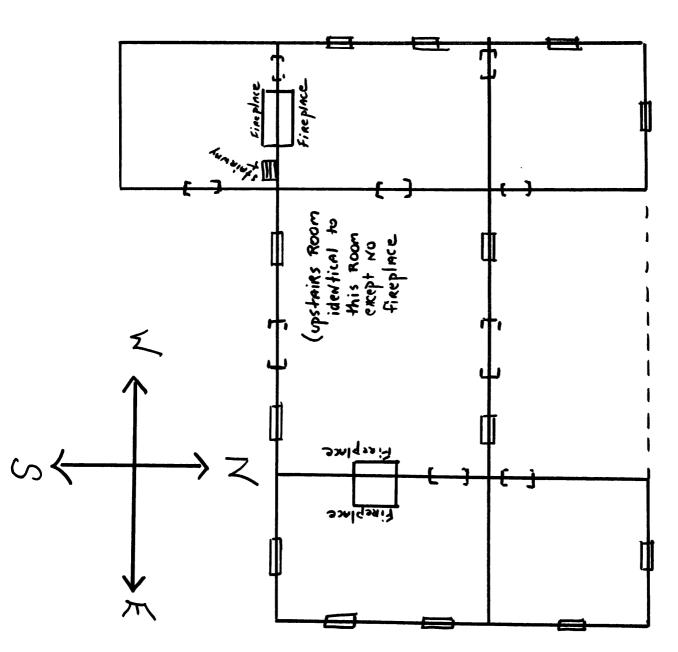
ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 1

Williamsburg County, Office of the Clerk of Court. Deed Book A-115, p. 388; Deed Book H, pp. 496, 464; Plat Book 1, p. 285; Deed Book A, pp. 1, 128.

Williamsburg County, Office of the Probate Judge. Plats, Apartment 102, Roll #6; Will Book G, p. 144; Will, Apartment 102, package 6; Equity Records Package #12; Will, package 23, Apartment 13; Estate papers, package 4, Apartment 13.

The Gamble House Williamsburg County, S.C. Not to scale | supplementary information





State Historic Preservation Office South Carolina Department of Archives at 8301 Parklane Road Columbia, SC 29223-4905 (803) 896-6 Intensive Survey Form	-	Tax Numbe	Status County No. Site No.
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Address/Location: Aff Huy 527			
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	197	V MIL.	
city: Greeleyville	Count	y: William	sburg
Vicinity of:	Quad	rangle Name:_	***************************************
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AT REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

NAT REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

NATIONAL REGISTER OF REGISTRATION FORM

other (explain):

NAI. KELISITY OF REPUBLICATION OF THE PROJECT OF TH 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 any 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 New Market other names/site number McDonald-Rhodus-Lesesne House 2. Location street & number Route 1, Box 197 not for publication vicinity x city or town Greeleyville county Williamsburg code SC code 89 South Carolina zip code 29056 3. State/Federal Agency Certification As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this x 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  $\underline{x}$  meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_ statewide  $\underline{x}$  locally. See continuation sheet for additional comments.) State or 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 commenting or other official Date State or Federal agency and bureau 4. National Park Service Certification ereby 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

ture of Keeper

Date of Action

3 1.				9
5. Classification				
(Check as many boxes as apply) (Check onl x private	y of Property y one box) building(s) district site structure	Number of Reso	Ources within  Noncontribu  9	
pastro reactur	object	4	9	objects Total
Name of related multiple property Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multip N/A		Number of contrib listed in the Na		
6. Function or Use				
Historic Functions (Enter categories from Domestic Agriculture/Subsiste	Sub:	single dwelling agricultural out	tbuilding	
Current Functions (Enter categories from Cat: Domestic Domestic	n instructions) Sub:	single dwelling secondary struct	ture	
7. Description				
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions) Other: Extended Double Pen	Materials (Enter categor foundation	ies from instructions) Brick		
Raised Cottage		halt atherboard		<del>-</del> -
				<del>-</del>
		ick od		_
<b>Narrative Description</b> (Describe the historic and current condition of	the property on one or	more continuation sheets.	)	_
8. Statement of Significance	e			
Applicable National Register Crit (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria		y for National Register li	sting)	
A Property is associated contribution to the Property is associated Property embodies to method of construction possesses high articles.	broad patterns ted with the liv he distinctive c uction or repres	of our history. es of persons sign haracteristics of a ents the work of a	ificant in ou a type period master, or	

distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)		
A owned by a religious institution or u B removed from its original location. C a birthplace or a grave. D a cemetery. E a reconstructed building, object,or sometime a commemorative property. C less than 50 years of age or achieved	sed for religious purposes.  tructure.  significance within the past 50 years.	
Areas of Significance	Significant Dates	
(Enter categories from instructions) Architecture		
	***************************************	
	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)	
	(complete if circuiton b is marked above)	
	Cultural Affiliation	
Period of Significance		
ca. 1820-ca. 1920	Architect/Builder	
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheet	cs.)	
9. Major Bibliographical References		
Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form or Previous documentation on file (NPS)  preliminary determination of individual listing requested.  previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Redisignated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey recorded by Historic American Engineering Record  Primary Location of Additional Data  X State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency Federal agency X Local government University X Other Name of repository: S.C. Dept. of Archives and History  10. Coographical Data	(36 CFR 67) has been egister # #	
10. Geographical Data		
Acreage of Property 88.6 acres		
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)		
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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.)

street & number Route 1, Box 197

Greeleyville

city or town

Page	#	1

williamsburg council, boats carolina	rage #	,
11. Form Prepared By		_
name/title Katherine Hurt Richardson		
organization Heritage Preservation Associates	date July 9, 1996	
street & number 26 Harby Avenue	telephone 803-775-6682	
city or town Sumter sta	ate_SC_zip_code29150	
Additional Documentation		
Submit the following items with the completed form:		
Continuation Sheets		
Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the pr A Sketch map for historic districts and properties hav resources.		
Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the prop	perty.	
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)		
Property Owner		
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)		
nameMrs. Louis L. Lesesne	·····	

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.).

telephone 803-426-2416

state SC zip code

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 5

New Market
name of property
Williamsburg Co., South Carolina
county and State

Narrative Description

New Market Plantation is a complex including a one-story frame house over a raised basement which was built ca. 1820. The house is best described as a early National period folk house with a gable and roof which extends to cover a typical "rain porch" on the front of the house and two bedrooms at the rear of the building. The framing of the house exhibits both hand-hewn and band-sawn timbers and mortise-and-tenon joining. The house has two centrally-placed front doors, each entering a parlor. The rear doors of the parlor enter a central hall flanked by two bedrooms at the back of the house. The house and outbuildings are located two miles south of Greeleyville, Williamsburg County, South Carolina, on S.C. Highway 375. The nominated property also includes a tobacco pack house, the foundation of a greenhouse, and a pecan avenue, all contributing to the character of the plantation complex.

Main House (ca. 1820)

The main house, built ca. 1820, is a one-story frame house over a raised brick basement and is a vernacular house typical of the early National period. It has a gable-end roof with one-story front porch extending the entire length of the facade and an extension containing space for two original bedrooms along the full length of the rear elevation. The house at New Market is a significant example of the type of vernacular country house built in Williamsburg District in the early part of the nineteenth century.

The house is clad in weatherboard and presently has an asphalt shingle roof. The walls of the brick basement are laid in English bond. The house has four exterior brick chimneys. Visible sills and joists of the main floor are massive hand-hewn timbers. In the attic the rafters are bandsewn, lighter timbers joined by mortise-and-tenon joints. The front porch is in a style common in eastern South Carolina known as a "rain porch." The roof of the porch extends approximately a yard beyond the floor of the porch and is supported by tapered and chamfered wooden posts which rest on low brick piers at ground level. This provides an overhang which protects the living area of the porch from inclement weather and direct sunlight. One ascends to the porch via a centrally-placed wooden stairway constructed so that two opposing flights of stairs ascend from the ground to a landing; this section of the stairway is located beyond the edge of the porch roof. The double flight consolidates at the landing to one flight of stairs which rises to the porch. The railing for the stairs consists of simple square capped posts with horizontal wooden members forming the balustrade. porch itself has a simple wooden rail supported by square wooden posts with elliptical caps and plain square wooden balusters. The posts and stair were replaced ca. 1961 to replace the original--but-badly-deteriorated--posts and stair and are faithful copies of the originals.

The front, or southern, facade, is five-ranked with two centrallyplaced front doors flanked by pairs of 6/6 sash windows. The western and eastern facades of the principal portion of the house exhibit an exterior

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section	7	Page	6	New Market
		_		name of property Williamsburg Co., South Carolina
				county and State

brick chimney flanked by a pair of 6/6 sash windows on the main floor and a pair of small wooden shutters in the attic. The western and eastern elevations of the rear bedrooms each have a smaller exterior brick chimney and one 6/6 sash window.

The rear, or northern, elevation, is three-ranked and has been altered over the years as additions were made to accommodate living space on the basement level. As late as 1961, the rear elevation had a centrally-spaced door on the main floor level which was sheltered by a centrally-located shed roof porch which appears from historic photographs to have been supported by wooden posts and surrounded by a balustrade of turned balusters. An one-story brick addition with a centrally-placed ground level entry was added to the rear elevation in 1961 to accommodate an entry hall, den, and access to the first floor interior kitchen.

The basement level of the house began to be used as living space sometime prior to 1900, when two parlors were created underneath the front parlors on the main floor. The eastern parlor was used as a den and the western parlor as a dining room. The first floor was originally accessed by a flight of stairs which rose from the dining room to the western parlor on the main floor; these were removed in 1961. Another interior staircase was added behind the eastern basement parlor prior to 1900. This narrow stairway ascends to a landing and then turns to ascend to the central hall-way at the rear of the main floor.

An interior kitchen was added to the ground floor behind the dining room after 1900 and the old detached kitchen was moved some distance from the main house at that time for use as a service building.

The interior of the main floor was originally arranged with two parlors at the front and two bedrooms at the rear with a central hallway between the bedrooms. All of the main floor rooms have a simple dado of horizontal shiplap boards crowned with a simple wide molding. Doors, windows, mantels, and surrounds in the four rooms are all quite plain.

The main floor arrangement was altered sometime before 1961 to accommodate a bathroom which was remodeled in 1961. When the bath was added, the western parlor was essentially divided in half, with the front part used as a bedroom and the rear part made into a small hallway and the bathroom.

Tobacco Pack House (ca. 1916)

The tobacco pack house was built by Charles Haynesworth Lesesne ca. 1916, during the period when tobacco was a primary crop at New Market. It is a one and one-half story gable end frame building with a shed attached to its western elevation. The main part of the building is clad in weatherboard and has a metal roof. It stands on a concrete block foundation. The larger service entrance to the pack house is on its north elevation. A standard-sized wooden door is centrally-placed on the south

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section	7	Page	_7_	New Market
				name of property
				Williamsburg Co., South Carolina
				county and State

elevation; above this door is a small window with wooden shutters in the gable. The eastern elevation has two windows covered with wooden shutters. The shed portion of the building is clad in metal on its western and southern sides.

Greenhouse Foundation (ca. 1916)

Only the foundation and a small portion of one wall remain of a brick greenhouse built ca. 1916 and originally measuring approximately 8'x20'. Mrs. Katherine Habenicht Lesesne, wife of Charles Haynesworth Lesesne, had the greenhouse built to house and maintain her extensive collection of flowering plants.

Pecan Avenue and Grove (ca. 1920)

A pecan avenue leading up to the historic rear of the main house and an associated pecan grove also contributes to the nominated property.

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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Statement of Significance

New Market is significant as an excellent example of a Federal or Early National period vernacular plantation house, one of the few surviving examples of rural residential architecture in Williamsburg County from the early nineteenth century. The agricultural outbuildings further document the late nineteenth and early twentieth century transition of local agricultural production from an emphasis on cotton to an emphasis on tobacco.

The main house and plantation complex at New Market are located to the east of Mount Hope Swamp, on the northern side of the Santee River, two miles south of present-day Greeleyville. This region was heavily settled by Scots-Irish and French Huguenots from ca. 1733 throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Indigo, rice, hemp, flax, corn, and cattle were the primary products of the Williamsburg District in the early years and cotton and tobacco later became important crops.

The place name "New Market" in this vicinity first appears in the public record in 1810, in a deed between Theodore Gourdin and William McDonald in which Gourdin rented McDonald an acre near "the New Market Course," a horse track on the old river road. New Market Plantation itself dates to ca. 1820; the complex appears on the 1821 Harlee survey of Williamsburg District as the property of "Maj. McDonald," probably William McDonald (d. 1818), son of Col. Archibald McDonald (d. 1785-89).

To the north of New Market and also east of Mount Hope Swamp lay Mount Hope Plantation, established as a 435-acre plantation by William McDonald ca. 1797. By 1818 Mount Hope had grown to encompass 1,013 acres, including the present New Market tract. The original part of Mount Hope was located just south of the present-day town limits of Greeleyville. The 1797 rice field indicated on the plant is still visible in Mount Hope Swamp on a current topographical map.<sup>3</sup>

William McDonald specified in his will of 1818 that his oldest son, William N. McDonald, would inherit Mount Hope and that his executors were to purchase a tract for his other two sons, Thomas E. and Archibald C. McDonald. Mount Hope contained a tract known as the Blue House tract along the Santee River to the east and west of Mount Hope Swamp and extending north on the eastern side of the swamp some distance northeast of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Williamsburg Deed Book A, p. 166, Williamsburg County Courthouse, Kingstree, S.C.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Robert Mills and I. Harlee, Map of Williamsburg District, 1821/1825; N. Louise Bailey and Ivey E. Cooper, Biographical Directory of the South Carolina House of Representatives (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1981), p. 456; Will of William McDonald, in Elaine Y. Eaddy, Williamsburg County Probate Records 1806-ca. 1900 and Notes From Other Miscellaneous Sources (n.p.: n.p., n.d.), p. 114.

<sup>3</sup>McCrady Plats, No. 5504; Will of William McDonald in Eaddy, p. 114.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Will of William McDonald, in Eaddy, p. 114.

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present-day S.C. Highway 375. The buildings at New Market apparently stand on what was the Blue House tract of Mount Hope Plantation; by 1837 the tract was in the possession of Archibald C. Donald, the brother of William N. McDonald of Mount Hope.

It is not known whether the New Market house is "the Blue House and and the avenue" mentioned in an 1819 indenture between William N. McDonald and the Theodore Gourdin, but the possibility certainly exists. In 1837 Archibald C. McDonald sold the Blue House tract, containing 783 acres, to William J. R. Cantey for \$2,000. The boundaries and neighboring property owners mentioned in the deed further indicate that the Blue House tract of Mount Hope Plantation is the property upon which New Market stands.

It is important to outline here the long-standing connection between the McDonald and Lesesne families in the context of New Market and this portion of Williamsburg County. Since the 1830s, at the latest, the property directly east of McDonald's Blue House and Mount Hope Plantations has remained in the possession of the Lesesne family. These two families appear to have owned adjoining tracts of land on the western side of Mount Hope Swamp as well. The Lesesnes and McDonalds were first-generation settlers in Williamsburg District and intermarried very early in the history of the district. The late Judge Louis L. Lesesne owned New Market until his death in 1996. Judge Lesesne's great-great-great grandfather Francis Lesesne (d. 1768) came to Williamsburg Township in ca. 1750 and is the ancestor of the Lesesne family in Williamsburg, Sumter, and Clarendon Counties; Francis's wife Mary McDonald Lesesne (1725-1789), was the daughter of Daniel McDonald. Francis and Mary Lesesne's son Charles Frederick Lesesne (d. 1821) married Binky McDonald (d. 1832), the daughter of Col. Archibald McDonald (d. 1785-89) and the niece of Capt. James McDonald. Thus, the two families were longtime neighbors, relatives, and friends, and the tract upon which New Market Plantation stands was ancestral land to both the Lesesnes and the McDonalds.

In 1871 Gabriel Rhodus ordered a survey of the New Market/Mount Hope property. This tract contained 1,178 acres in 1871 and was bounded on the south by the Santee River, on the north on land owned by the Keels family, on the west by Mount Hope Swamp, and on the east by land owned by Mrs. Amarintha Plowden Lesesne, widow of Francis J. Lesesne (d. 1852), grandson

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Plat of Gabriel D. Rhodus, 1,178 acres, Mount Hope Swamp, 1871, Williamsburg County Deed Book U, p. 51; Theodore Gourdin to Francis J. Lesesne, Deed for 773 acres, 1834, Williamsburg County Deed Book E, pp. 282-83; Theodore L. Gourdin to Charles Lesesne, Deed and Plat to Richmond Plantation, 1,017 acres, 1837, Williamsburg County Deed Book E, pp. 188-89; Agreement between Theordore Gourdin and William McDonald, 1808, Williamsburg County Deed Book B, p. 53.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Williamsburg County Deed Book E, pp. 188-89, 224, 282-83; Deed Book C, pp. 9-11.

Williamsburg County Deed Book E, p. 224; Deed Book C, p. 11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>Transactions of the Huguenot Society of South Carolina, Vol. 84, pp. 140-161.

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 New Market Page 10 name of property

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of Charles Frederick Lesesne. The 1871 Rhodus plat indicates a dwelling and avenue as well as outbuildings north of the old road to Murrays Ferry which parallels the Santee River.9

Between 1900 and 1923, Charles Haynesworth Lesesne, great-great-great grandson of Francis Lesesne (d. 1768) and father of Judge Louis L. Lesesne, bought several contiquous tracts which formed the eastern third of Blue House Plantation, by then known as the "Home Place" of Col. G.D. Rhodus. The resulting 386.7-acre tract remains in the Lesesne family to the present day (1997). In 1954, the tract was divided among the children of Charles H. Lesesne, and Louis L. Lesesne acquired the 88.6-acre tract which includes the New Market main house and outbuildings. 10

New Market and Mount Hope Plantations and the Blue House tract of Mount Hope were settled early in the history of Williamsburg Township. Created in 1732 as one of the colonial backcountry townships under the administration of Governor Robert Johnson, Williamsburg Township was settled primarily by Scots-Irish Presbyterians who arrived between 1734 and 1759.

The center of the township was the town of Kingstree, named for a large white pine which stood on the banks of the Black River and became the reference point for land surveys in the township. Though were was some land speculation and though non-residents were granted some land in the new township, Williamsburg Township was then, and is now--though to a much lesser extent--unusual in its solidarity in both religious denominational preference (Presbyterian) and national-social origin (Scots-Irish).

There was also a strong French Huguenot presence in the Mount Hope section of Williamsburg Township. The Lesesne family was joined by other Huguenot families such as the Gourdins, Jeneretts, Gaillards, Lifrages, Lequexs, Michaus, and Mouzons. 11 The Scots and Huquenots were sympathetic neighbors--both groups having left Europe and Great Britain because of intolerance of their Reformed faith.

These Williamsburg settlers raised corn, cattle, flax, rice, indigo, and hemp, and the principal place of trade was Charleston. To accomodate transportation across the Santee River, Murrays Ferry was established near Mount Hope Plantation in 1741. This ferry was located just a short distance east of Mount Hope Swamp, and the old river road north of the Santee to Murrays Ferry crossed through Mount Hope Plantation and the Blue House tract, placing these plantations in an advantageous location for commerce and social contact with the rest of the colony. The road which led north to Kingstree intersected the Santee River road just east of what became New Market Plantation, and the placement of the road is likely the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>Williamsburg County Deed Book U, p. 51.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>Williamsburg County Deed Book BB, pp. 42-44; Deed Book A-7, p. 199; Deed Book A-54, p. 109.

<sup>111790</sup> Census of Williamsburg District.

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origin of the name "New Market." Whether known as New Market or as the Blue House tract, the plantation was strategically located at the hub of vital trade routes in the backcountry. 12

During the American Revolution the war in the backcountry, which was in many respects a civil war, decimated the district's economy. There was no British bounty for indigo, which had helped make the region wealthy before the Revolution; the successful cattle industry had been completely interrupted by the war and was only slowly rebuilt; rice was produced, but primarily for local consumption rather than for export; and tobacco only became an important product of the area after the war.<sup>13</sup>

By 1800, Williamsburg was successfully producing cotton and tobacco once again raising cattle, and a slave population which had been very small prior to the Revolution increased dramatically during the first half of the nineteenth century; New Market was one of those cotton plantations established during the first quarter of the century. While Charleston was still a significant destination for goods produced in Williamsburg District, Georgetown became a more significant market; goods were generally carried down the Black River on boats. Williamsburg remained a rural district, with Kingstree--its major town--still only a very small settlement, and Willtown, a small village on Black Mingo Creek, the only other significant community center until a post office opened at Indiantown in 1818. Toward the mid-point of the century, as the population grew and the availability of land for sons of the planters dwindled, the district witnessed the exodus of many of its young men to western states.<sup>14</sup>

A contented and harmonious society developed in Williamsburg District from its earliest days to the eve of the Civil War. The antebellum period witnessed prosperity for the planter class and the social life that accompanied it. Horse racing and tournaments were popular pastimes. The tournament at the Murrays Ferry racetrack was a principal event of the year in Williamsburg as were regimental muster days. 15

In 1856, the Northeastern Railroad was built from Charleston to Williamsburg District and Charleston once again became the market of choice for the people of the district. The railroad lessened the importance of Murrays Ferry across the Santee River after over a century as a vital link

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>Meriwether, p. 84; Robert Mills, Map of Williamsburg District, 1825, in Mills, Atlas of South Carolina; Faden-DeBrahm Map of South Carolina, 1780.

 $<sup>^{13}</sup>$ William Willis Boddie, <u>History of Williamsburg</u> (Columbia: The State Company, 1923), pp. 94-113, 133-35.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup>Boddie, pp. 247-57.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup>Ibid., pp. 304-322.

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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in the transportation system of the backcountry and the ferry soon fell into disuse. New Market became a rural outpost on the Santee River road. 16 After the Civil War the primary products of the district were cotton, tobacco, and turpentine. Truck farming also became an important industry in Williamsburg County after 1900. The boll weevil hit the area in 1921, and cotton became a doomed crop. In the wake of the devastation of this pest, knowing that agriculture had long been the cornerstone of its economy, the district embraced the agricultural advances of the twentieth century with enthusiasm. 17 New Market, along with many other farms, switched its primary emphasis from cotton to tobacco during this period.

In 1923 Murrays Ferry entered a new era. One hundred and eighty-two years after becoming a main artery for travel across the Santee River from upcountry South Carolina to Charleston and later being transcended in importance by the advent of the railroad, Murrays Ferry became the site of a new bridge for automobile traffic. Williamsburg County saw other new horizons as it entered the twentieth century. The 1920s was an era of cooperative tobacco farming and marketing and improved diversification of crops and livestock.

New Market reminds us of those things important to our ancestors. In 1997, the house turns its back on our present-day thoroughfare, Highway 375, a road non-existent in past centuries. Instead, New Market looks toward the Santee River swamp and the old river road to Murrays Ferry, then on to the all-important economic center of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, Charleston. The house on the Blue House tract at Mount Hope stands as a reminder of a proud past in Williamsburg County.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup>Ibid., pp. 323-26.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup>Ibid., pp. 534-44.

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 13 New Market
name of property
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county and State

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### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 14 New Market
name of property
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Verbal Boundary Description

That tract of land situate in Williamsburg County, S.C., containing 88.6 acres, numbered A-779 on the tax rolls of Williamsburg County.

Verbal Boundary Justification

This 88.6-acre tract constitutes the tract received by Louis Lesesne in the division of the estate of his father, Charles Haynesworth Lesesne, in 1954. It represents tract number 1 of that division in New Market and this transaction is registered in Williamsburg Plat Book 6, p. 74, Williamsburg County Courthouse, Kingstree, S.C. The boundaries of this parcel have been constant since at least 1916.

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section PHOTOGRAPHS Page 15

New Market
name of property
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The following information is the same for each of the photographs:

Name of Property:

New Market

Location of Property:

Greeleyville vicinity, Williamsburg County, S.C.

Name of Photographer:

Katherine H. Richardson

Date of Photographs:

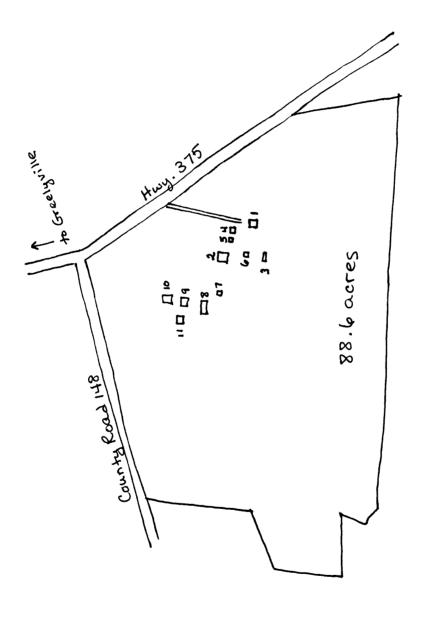
March and June 1996

Location of Negatives:

S.C. Department of Archives and History, Columbia

- 1. Southern (facade) elevation, facing north.
- 2. Eastern elevation, facing west.
- 3. Northern elevation, facing south.
- 4. Western elevation, facing east.
- 5. Detail of rain porch, facing east.
- 6. Detail of eastern bedroom, facing east.
- 7. Detail of western parlor, facing southwest.
- 8. Detail of ground floor parlor, facing east.
- 9. Detail of ground floor dining room, facing west.
- 10. Pack House, facing northwest.
- 11. Pack House, facing south.

Williamsburg County, S.C. New Market



Eligible: 1. New Market House

2. Pack House

3. Greenhouse Foundation

5. Outhouse Non-eligible: 4. Garage

6. Smoke House

7. Pump House

8. Old Kitchen/Stables 9. Borbeque Shed

10. Barn

11. Old Kitchen Building (moved)

Statewide Survey of Historic Re State Historic Preservation Office South Carolina Department of Archives and 8301 Parklane Road Columbia, SC 29223-4905 (803) 896-610	l History	Control Nur Tax Numbe	Status County No. Site No.
Intensive Survey Form			
Identification  Historic Name: The Watson - Jer	nkinson House	***************************************	
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Porch Features			
Shape: Portial wrap ground			

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Identification Historic Name: Salters Planta	ation House		
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NPS Form 10-900 (Oct. 1990)

## United States Department of the Interior National Park Service





B No. 10024-0018

591

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **REGISTRATION FORM** & EDUCATION 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 Salters Plantation House historic name other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Location \_ not for publication Gapway Road (County Road 197) street & number city or town Salters code SC county <u>Williamsburg</u> code <u>089</u> zip code <u>29590</u> state \_\_\_\_\_\_ 3. State/Federal Agency Certification \_\_\_\_\_\_ As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_ nationally \_\_ statewide X\_ locally. (\_\_ See continuation sheet for State or Federal agency and bureau 4. National Park Service Certification I hereby certify that this property is: e of the Keep 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):

Salters Plantation House Name of Property		-	Williamsburg Cour County and State	nty SC
5. Classification			=======================================	
Ownership of Property	Category of Property (Check only one box)		Resources within Foreviously listed resources in	
X private public-local public-State public-Federal	building X district site structure object	Contributing 7 1	11	buildings sites structures objects
Name of related multiple property li (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple			ontributing resources National Register	Total previously
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6. Function or Use	.======================================			=====
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Fu (Enter categories	nctions s from instructions)	
Domestic Agriculture/Subsistence			welling ural outbuilding	
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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		aterials ter categories from ins	tructions)	
Greek Revival Other: I-house	fou wa roc oth	of aspl	cherboard nalt crete block	  

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

See Continuation Sheets

Salters Plantation House	Williamsburg County SC
Name of Property	County and State
8. Statement of Significance	
Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
for National Register listing)	(Enter categories from instructions)
5 6,	
A Property is associated with events that have made a	Architecture
significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	
X B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant	
in our past.	
X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type,	
period, or method of construction or represents the work of	Desired and Other letter
a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components	Period of Significanceca. 1830 - 1950
lack individual distinction.	ca: 1030 - 1930
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information	
important in prehistory or history.	Significant Dates
Criteria Considerations	ca. 1850
(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)	ca. 1830-1898
Property is:	
A owned by a religious institution or used for religious	Significant Person
purposes.	(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)
B removed from its original location.	Salters, John Alexander
C a birthplace or grave. D a cemetery.	C-141 4 CC'11' 4'
D a cemetery. E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	Cultural Affiliation
F a commemorative property.	
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance	Architect/Builder
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Narrative Statement of Significance	
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See Continuation Sheets	
9. Major Bibliographical References	
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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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

	Salters Plantation House
	name of property
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	Williamsburg County, South Carolina
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#### Summary Description

The Salters Plantation House is a fine and essentially intact rural residence with grounds outbuildings associated with Salters Plantation and the community of Salters. William Salters began acquiring land in this section before 1806, and by 1833 had at least 4,395 acres south of Black River on McGirts and Laws swamps. Salters must have built the house not long before his death in 1833. It was enlarged by his son John A. Salters during the nineteenth century, and the present rear wing was added in 1959.

The dwelling is a Greek Revival style two-story I-house with an integral porch extended as a "rain porch" whose stuccoed brick columns rise from the ground. There are two rooms on each floor, with center stairhall. The historic one-story addition provided two more rooms and an extension of the hallway. The rear wing provided modern kitchen, bathroom, den and bedrooms while avoiding significant alteration to interior historic fabric.

The nominated property includes the grounds of the residence and rear yard, and six outbuildings. Three of them, the "old kitchen house," a garage, and playhouse, are associated with domestic use; three are functional outbuildings for the working plantation.

#### General Description

The Salters Plantation House is on the south side of Gapway Road just northwest of the Northeastern (Atlantic Coast Line) Railroad line and the village of Salters. The residence is set back about 300' from the road, buffered by an unfenced front lawn dotted with live oak and pine trees and flowering shrubs. The sandy main drive enters the property at its east side, running past the house and outbuildings into the managed timberland (not being nominated) to the southwest. A lightly-used semi-circular drive curves around the front yard back to the road. The only formal elements in the domestic grounds are a heart-shaped planting bed directly in front of the house, and small shrubs lining the modern brick walk to the back porch in the rear wing.

Behind and to the west of the main house are the domestic outbuildings: a small frame house that was connected to the house as a kitchen until 1959, a playhouse, and a one-car garage. There is also a modern well/pumphouse. Further back, the farm buildings, commissary, storage barn and tobacco pack barn, are east of the drive.

#### Salters House

The Salters Plantation House is a two-story I-house with an integral rain porch across the facade, a historic one-story rear addition, and a second rear addition added in 1959. Both levels of the principal northeast elevation have two windows at the outer bays, and there is a single window above the paneled wood-and-glass double entry door, which has a wide transom and sidelights. Exterior brick chimneys flanked by windows at both levels rise along the pedimented gable ends. The first level of the rear elevation was covered when the house was enlarged during the mid-nineteenth century. Its upper level has only one window, added ca. 1910. All windows are double-hung 6/6 wood sash. The building rests on low brick piers, and is clad in wood weatherboard. Asphalt shingles cover the roofs of the main house and additions; the porch roofing is V-crimped metal.

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	_	Salters Plantation House
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The front porch is a character-defining element of the Salters House. Constructed integrally with the main building, it extends across the facade under a shed roof supported by six stuccoed brick columns on squared bases at ground level. The decking, enclosed by a simple slat balustrade with cap, is recessed from the main building and from the columns, creating the "rain porch." Projecting forward at the center, but still beneath the roof, is a small entry deck with steps at each side.

The house was first enlarged about 1850, with a single room behind the east parlor and an extension of the center hall. An open breezeway behind the west parlor was connected to a rear kitchen. Sometime later, probably ca. 1890, the house was squared again with the breezeway enclosed as living space, and a new kitchen house attachment was constructed to its rear. About 1915 a small bathroom addition was built at the side of the breezeway room. In 1959 the kitchen house wing was detached from the main house and moved 50' to the southwest. A one-story rear wing the width of the house was added. The construction provided twentieth century living space without significantly impacting the historic property.

The interior of the original house and nineteenth century additions retain their historic plan and fabric. Both stories of the ca. 1830 house have two large rooms of equal size on either side of the entry/stairhall, with 13' ceilings at the first floor. The wood cornerblocks at first floor door and window openings, simple wood mantel shelves, two-panel doors, wainscot panels beneath the windows, deep baseboards, and heart-pine flooring are in good condition. Rising in two flights with a landing across the rear wall, the stair has a plain balustrade of square wood pickets, squared newels with caps, and an unadorned stringer. The second floor rooms have slightly lower ceilings than those below, and do not have wainscot panels. There were originally no openings in the second floor rear wall, but a window was cut in the east room ca. 1910 to provide a view over the barns and laborers.

At the rear of the original center hall is a wood-and-glass interior door with sidelights connecting the ca. 1850 extension. About 1915 an opening was cut between the original south room and the principal room of the addition, now used as a dining room. Baseboards in these sections were detailed to match those in the original rooms, but the walls are not paneled. The breezeway room, opening to the hall and to the west front room, was first enclosed ca. 1890. Sometime later the wide beaded board paneling was covered by sheetrock, and a low baseboard with quarter-round molding installed.

The 1959 rear wing provided modern kitchen, bathroom, den and bedrooms while avoiding loss of historic fabric. It opens to the dining room and to the rear hall, and is dominated by a large family room. Alterations to the historic residence have been limited to reworking fireplaces to burn natural gas rather than wood, and replacing failed plaster at walls and ceilings with sheetrock. The historic plaster remains in the stair hall and much of the east parlor. The overall interior appearance of the Salters House is that of a well-maintained substantial dwelling of the early to mid-nineteenth century.

#### Domestic Outbuildings

Three contributing outbuildings stand behind or southwest of the Salters House. The "old kitchen house" is a one-story frame building with a gable roof, a deep shed porch along one long side, and a smaller shed addition at the opposite side. The building was originally attached by a short breezeway to the rear of the main house, but was relocated to its

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present site about 50' away in 1959. It was largely resided with wood novelty or shiplap siding, the chimney was removed, and the porch enclosed. The structure rests on concrete blocks. Despite the alterations, the size, plan and simple detailing still convey its original construction as a utilitarian domestic outbuilding.

The ca. 1915 garage is a gabled building with board-and-batten siding, V-crimped metal roofing, a single door at the gable end nearer the house, and no windows. The opening was originally wide enough for a single automobile to enter, but has been infilled with an operable wood door. The garage is otherwise unaltered.

The playhouse, built ca. 1947, is the latest building associated with the house that contributes to its historic significance. It is a small gabled one-room frame building with a single opening at each elevation and exterior panels of wood salvaged when the Williamsburg Armory was demolished. Between the playhouse and garage is the only non-contributing element, a CMU pump/well house.

#### Plantation Outbuildings

There are three outbuildings on the east side of the drive that runs from the road alongside the house and then past the working buildings into the farm/timberland. The oldest is the ca. 1890 commissary, a one-room gabled building with a single gable-end door opening, rough-sawn wood siding, brick pier foundation, and corrugated metal roofing. The commissary was originally used as secure storage for supplies and goods that were sold to laborers on Salters Plantation. Unaltered except for new foundation piers of concrete block, it is used only for light storage, and maintained as a significant component of the property's history.

The other two farm outbuildings, a storage barn and a tobacco packhouse, date to the first quarter of the twentieth century. The "pecky cypress barn," so-called for its siding, has a narrow gable core with open shed wings at each side. The larger packhouse has a floored workroom with loft above and integral shed wings wide enough for automobiles or tobacco wagons. The packhouse was covered in common green asphalt roll siding ca. 1950.

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OMB No. 1024-0018

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#### Summary Statement of Significance

The Salters Plantation House is an important example of nineteenth century domestic architecture. The residence combines national, regional, and local architectural trends. The Greek Revival influence in its detailing coexists well with the symmetrical I-house pattern typical of the inland and upper South. The front "rain porch" is a regional feature associated with eastern South Carolina and the Pee Dee. Built for a successful planter who was a prominent citizen in early Williamsburg District, the house remains occupied by his descendants.

The early to mid-twentieth century outbuildings reflect this continuing occupancy. The earliest, the commissary, was built as a private store/supply room for plantation employees. Two working barns, originally for tobacco operations and storage, shelter equipment and machinery. The domestic outbuildings, a one-car garage, detached former kitchen wing, and child's playhouse, are now used for gardening materials and storage.

Salters Plantation House is eligible under Criterion C in the area of ARCHITECTURE. It embodies distinctive characteristics of a type and method of construction, as a plantation dwelling house built for an owner who was aware of regional and local architectural influences, who could afford to house his family in a well-designed and welf-built residence, and who avoided the lavish display of prosperity in their dwelling. William Salters' house is impressive without attempting grandeur.

Salters Plantation House is also eligible under Criterion B for its association with Captain John Alexander Salters (1815-1898), the successful planter on whose land Salters Depot was established, leading to the development of the Town of Salters.

#### Historical Background

The first member of the Salters family known to have settled in today's Williamsburg County was William Salters (1780-1833). He was in the area by ca. 1800, and in 1801 married Sarah McKnight from nearby Indiantown. In 1806, when the earliest deeds that have been located were filed, he was still a young man, but already a planter enlarging his property. On the same day in February he bought tracts totaling nearly 1,150 acres from his neighbors Samuel, Elias, William and Margaret Frierson. Adjacent to land he had previously acquired (deeds not found), these parcels lay in the southern section of McGirt(s) Swamp, south of the Black River. Salters planted successfully and increased his holdings of slaves (20 in 1810, 31 in 1820, 40 in 1830¹) and real estate. He acquired land on McGirts Swamp and Laws Swamp in 1818 (1,234 acres), 1821 (913 acres), and 1833 (1,200 acres), each purchase abutting other property belonging to him.² Salters also won the esteem of his peers. At least by 1818 he was known as "Col." Salters, also won the esteem of his position in the South Carolina militia. In 1816 he served a term as Sheriff of Williamsburg District; from 1818-1833 he was an elder in Bethel/Williamsburg Presbyterian Church; and he represented his District in the State Legislature from 1820-1825.4

Population Schedules, Williamsburg District. Third Census of the United States (1810), p. 253; Fourth Census (1820), p. 304; Fifth Census (1830), p. 248.

Williamsburg County Clerk of Court's Office, Deed Books.

Williamsburg County Clerk of Court's Office, Deed Book A, p. 453 (3 March 1818).

William W. Boddie, History of Williamsburg (Columbia: The State Company, 1923), pp. 183-184; 218.

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Indigo was an important crop in the Pee Dee before the Revolution, but by 1825 was insignificant, if planted at all. Cotton had become the principal cash crop. The rich pure soil of reclaimed inland swamps in Williamsburg District gave such land a value of between \$10-30/acre, while the sandy uplands brought only \$2 to \$3. Much of Salters' property was along swamps. His cotton could be shipped by boat down the Black River to Georgetown; cattle and hogs from his woodlands would be sent on the hoof to market in Charleston. He was well-situated for the district's most productive agriculture.

Judging by its architecture, Salters cannot have built his house long before his death in 1833, but perhaps as early as 1825, by which time there were six children. The property eventually passed to William's only son, John Alexander Salters (1815-1898). He was barely eighteen when his father died, and his mother Sarah McKnight Salters (1783-1854) took a strong role in managing the family's planting business and her husband's estate. inventory taken in February 1834 listed goods and chattels in William Salters' Estate: wearing apparel, firearms, side arms; two silver watches; razor and strop; household and kitchen furniture; plantation tools and provisions; horses, cattle, hogs, and sheep; 50 "negroes"; and fourteen bags of cotton, altogether valued at \$12,364.62. The Estate also held three notes payable by neighbors, totaling \$44. Salters had died intestate, and soon after the appraisal, Sarah received an order allowing the sale of some goods - livestock, books, watch, sword and epaulets - from the Estate. She and John bought the animals and family treasures, so the purpose of the sale is not clear. Land, slaves, household and plantation necessities remained in Sarah's hands, and she stayed in the Salters House along with her son and his wife Elizabeth C. McCrea, whom he married in 1836.

Although no conveyance or title to John has been found, all the records indicate a family in agreement that the plantation and house belonged to the eldest son. In 1848 his sister Elizabeth and her husband Henry Montgomery gave John a deed of quit-claim to any lands of William Salters. In 1840 Sarah Salters wrote her will, devising to John "any real estate which I may own; all my stock of horses, hogs, cattle, sheep; all my plantation tools, household and kitchen furniture." She named 23 slaves of her own, dividing them and their future children among John and his two sisters.8

In 1850 the Salters household included Sarah; John and Elizabeth; seven children between two and twelve; and three teenaged girls, relatives who were sharing the home. The house was enlarged about this time; perhaps the quit-claim deed of 1848 was connected to John's renovation plans. Elizabeth died in 1850, and John was remarried in 1853 to Laura Mouzon, a widow. They had more children. In 1860 the Salters House was occupied by John and Laura; his six nearly-grown children; three smaller children; and Eunice Dodd, a 25-yearold woman originally from New Jersey who was a teacher in the common school.9

John Salters was as well-respected by his neighbors as his father had been. Representative in the State House (1854-1860), Captain in the South Carolina militia, and Elder in Williamsburg Presbyterian Church, he was in later life referred to as a "most

Robert Mills, Statistics of South Carolina (1826, rep. ed. Spartanburg: The Reprint Co., 1972), pp. 765-771

Williamsburg County Probate Office, Apt. 29, Pack 1. Williamsburg County Clerk of Court's Office, Deed Book G, p. 76 (28 February 1848).

Williamsburg County Probate Office, Apt. 28, Pack 29.

Population Schedules, Williamsburg District. Seventh Census (1850), p. 126; Eighth Census (1860), p. 301.

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godly layman... gentle and kindly in his disposition..." After cavalry service in the Civil War, he held several local offices during the 1860s, and remained an active churchman until his death. It was John Salters who laid out the heart-shaped planting bed directly in front of the house, which family tradition associates with his loving nature.

Census Records bear out Salters' success as a planter, and show a man willing to adapt to agricultural and economic changes. In 1850 he estimated the value of his farm, 400 acres improved, and 5,230 unimproved, at \$8,000. During the preceding year, his 71 slaves had tended a fairly diversified agriculture: high production of Indian corn (620 bushels) and sweet potatoes (300 bushels), mostly for home consumption; smaller amounts of peas and oats (he was one of the few who planted oats); a very successful harvest of 45 bales of cotton; but only 110 bushels of rice, which was low by comparison to his neighbors. On the other hand, he had substantial value in livestock. Besides 30 milk cows, hos 80 cattle, 50 sheep, and 40 swine foraged in the woods and swampland. He had made 200 pounds of butter and 100 pounds of wool in 1849, among the highest producers in his area. 12

Salters acquired more land during the 1850s, and continued experimenting with crops and livestock. By 1860 the worth of his 6,000 acres (565 acres improved) was estimated at \$20,000, among one of the most valuable farms in Williamsburg District. There were 25 milk cows, and another 100 cattle and 100 swine in the woods. Salters had abandoned sheep and oats, but was one of the few planters reporting any wheat (20 bushels) or rye (6 bushels) for 1859. Production of corn had more than doubled, to 1,500 bushels; he had made a good crop (3,000 pounds) of rice, and an excellent cotton yield, 57 bales.<sup>13</sup>

His flexibility in planting shows a lively interest in expanding opportunities. The same attitude was responsible for the creation of the small town of Salters. When the Northeastern Railroad constructed its line along the east side of Salters' property in 1856, he arranged a depot to be established near the Salters House. This not only enhanced his own ability to ship goods, but it also made an opportunity to sell land along the track, where houses and small commercial enterprises were constructed. As seen in Mills' Atlas, there were no important roads, no mills, no ferries or bridges, near Col. Salters' seat. It was the presence of the depot that initiated settlement of the town, only five miles south of Kingstree but separated from it by the Black River and Laws Swamp.

John Salters, like all planters reliant on the labor of slaves, struggled with new farm practices after the Civil War. By 1870 he held 5,000 acres, with 500 acres improved, and very little livestock: 7 milk cows and 30 swine. Yet during the preceding year the value of his agricultural production had been \$2,100. This had been gained from 15 bales of cotton. Less than a quarter of his prewar success, this was nevertheless one of the highest outputs in the area. He also produced 4,000 pounds of rice, a large amount by comparison with nearby farmers, but it was the cotton that produced the most revenue. 16

Chalmers G. Davidson, The Last Foray. The South Carolina Planters of 1860: A Sociological Study (Columbia: USC Press, 1970), p. 94.

Boddie, <u>History of Williamsburg</u>, p. 530.

Slave Schedules and Agricultural Schedules, Williamsburg District, Seventh Census, 1850.

Davidson, Last Foray, p. 94. Agricultural Schedules, Williamsburg District, Eighth Census, 1860.

Boddie, <u>History of Williamsburg</u>, p. 530.

J. Harlee, Surveyor, "Williamsburgh District" (1820), Mills' Atlas of the Sate of South Carolina (1825).
Agricultural Schedules, Williamsburg District, Ninth Census, 1870.

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By 1880 Thomas E. Salters Sr. was taking over his elderly father's plantation. In one of the lapses in census records (the Salters family also escaped the published index to the 1840 Census), agricultural reports for neither John nor Thomas could be found, while sons William and Covert M. do appear in schedules for Williamsburg County. They were both planting successfully on a total of 720 acres. William had 24 acres in cotton and two in rice; Covert had 20 acres in cotton and only one in rice. Both had spent money the previous year on fertilizers and wages for laborers; both grew corn; both kept swine, beef cattle, milk cows, and laying hens. It is certain that a similar mix of agriculture was in place on the home plantation.

The house and land passed from Thomas (1848-1910) to his son Thomas Jr. (1888-1965), and then to Thomas Jr.'s daughter Sarah Salters Odom. The use of the farmland has been consistent with other Pee Dee plantations: an ever-greater reliance on cotton until the early 1920s, the adaptation of land and labor to tobacco, and then a gradual shift to the managed timber that has come to dominate Salters Plantation, which includes 1,359 acres today.

While changing use has affected the appearance of the farm that surrounds it, the Salters Plantation House remains as it was intended by William and John Salters. The unaltered principal aspect of the house faces the road proudly across its shaded lawn, concealing domestic outbuildings and the barns that connect it to the working land.

<sup>17</sup> Agricultural Schedules, Williamsburg District, Tenth Census, 1880.

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National Archives Microfilm Publications. United States Census Records, South Carolina.

Wills and Estate Papers, Probate Office, Williamsburg County, Kingstree, South Carolina.

#### Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is an 8.25-acre part of Williamsburg County Tax Parcel #45-132-003. The boundaries are drawn to form a rectangle 450' X 800' including the residence, outbuildings and domestic lawns. The northeast boundary, along the road, is the same as the boundary of the Tax Parcel; the other boundaries lie within the 110-acre parcel.

#### Boundary Justification

The northeast boundary is the property line. The parallel southwest boundary is drawn 100' beyond the rear of the tobacco packhouse, the furthest contributing building from the house. The northwest line runs between the edge of the woods and the maintained lawn. The southeast line was drawn as a straight line continuing the fence of a separately-used paddock, and takes in the agricultural outbuildings and a narrow buffer.

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#### Photographs

State Historic Preservation Office Location of Original Negatives:

South Carolina Department of Archives and History

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Name of photographer:

Sarah Fick

Historic Preservation Consultants, Inc.

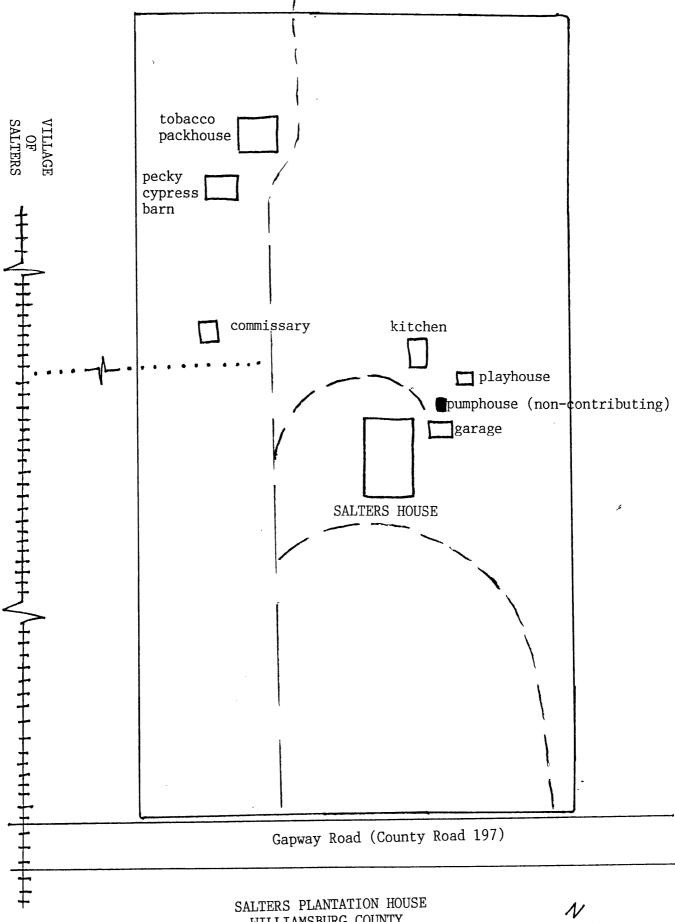
Date of photographs:

November 18, 1999

#### Photo

View

- Salters Plantation House, view facing west.
- 2. Salters Plantation House, facade entry, view facing southwest.
- 3. Salters Plantation House, view facing northwest.
- 4. Salters Plantation House, view facing northeast.
- 5. Salters Plantation House, interior first floor, view facing southeast to facade entry.
- Salters Plantation House, interior second floor, view facing southeast from stair hall.
- 7. Salters Plantation House, interior rear wing, view facing southwest.
- 8. Kitchen House, view facing northwest.
- 9. Garage, view facing west.
- 10. Playhouse and pumphouse, view facing north.
- 11. Commissary, view facing east.



WILLIAMSBURG COUNTY

Statewide Survey of I State Historic Preservation Of South Carolina Department of 8301 Parklane Road Columbia, SC 29223-4905	fice		Control N	Status County No. Site No. ber:
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# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY NOMINATION FORM

Continuation Sheet 8

Item Number

Page

Name Historic Scott House

Location 506 Live Oak Street

Common Scott-Hauenstein House (Preferred)

Classification

Building

0wner

Margaret Hauenstein 506 Live Oak Street

Kingstree, South Carolina

Representation in Existing Surveys Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina, 1980.

Description Built ca. 1843 by Joseph Scott, the Scott-Hauenstein House is a two-story rectangular frame building, sheathed in weatherboard, with a gable roof. The facade is three bays wide with the entranceway on the first floor containing double doors with sidelights and transom. The first story has flush vertical siding under the porch. The porch columns go to piers on the ground. The windows are six-over-six sash and on two sides of the house are full paneled shutters. The house has a brick foundation, two exterior brick chimneys, and an embossed tin roof. The rear of the house has a frame addition.

Significance The Scott-Hauenstein House is one of the oldest houses in Kingstree and a fine example of mid-nineteenth century vernacular architecture. It was built ca. 1843 by Joseph Scott, a wealthy planter and trustee of the Kingstree Academy. Scott was also a politician and was elected to the state legislature in 1836. The house changed hands many times after Scott's death and its owners include many persons prominent in local history. Those who have owned the house include: R. C. Logan, reputedly the youngest signer of the South Carolina ordinance of secession; Samuel McBride, County Court Clerk; Tom Gilland, Mayor of Kingstree; and R. H. Kellahan, Mayor of Kingstree and State representative. Kellahan also gave a portion of his front yard to the city of Kingstree for use as a park. The house has been the property of the current owners for fifty-three years. The home is well maintained and is one of the historical and architectural landmarks of the community. Acreage .82

Verbal Boundary Description The boundary of the Scott-Hauenstein House is shown as the shaded area on the accompanying map entitled "Kingstree, South Carolina" and drawn at a scale of 500 feet to the inch. The nominated property includes all significant buildings

and structures.

UTM Reference Point Longitude 79<sup>0</sup> 44' 54" Latitude 33<sup>0</sup> 40' 17"

Other Information

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# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only received MAY 2 6 1982 date entered JUN 2 8 1982

Type all entrie	s—complete applic	able sections		<u> </u>		
1. Nan	ne					
historic	John Ca	lvin\Wilson\	House			
and/or common		<del></del>	)			
	ation	OF T	300	12.		<del></del>
	On the south	side of S.C	. Hwy. 512,	approximately 3.	7 miles	
street & numbe	northwest of	its junctio	n with S.C.	Hwy, 261	N/Anot for	publication
city, town	Indiantown	Med X	_ vicinity of	congressional distri	ct	
state Sou	ıth Carolina	code 045	county	Williamsburg		code 089
3. Clas	ssification	1				
Category  district _X building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisition N/A in process N/A being consider	on Acces X ye	cupied occupied ork in progress <b>sible</b> s: restricted s: unrestricted	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	pa pri rel sc tra	vate residence igious
4. Owi	ner of Pro	perty				
name	Mrs. V	irginia Snow	den			
street & numbe	c.M.R.	Box 159	·			
city, town	Summer	ville	_ vicinity of	sta	<b>te</b> South Ca	rolina 29483
5. Loc	ation of L	egal De	scripti	on		
courthouse rec	gistry of deeds, etc.	Williamsbu	rg County C	ourthouse		
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#### 

#### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

7. Description

The John Calvin Wilson House, in rural Williamsburg County near Indiantown, is a two-story, frame central-hall farmhouse reputedly built ca. 1847. According to tradition, George Cooper of Williamsburg County built the house for his daughter, Jane McCottry Cooper, who married John Calvin Wilson in 1847.

The John Calvin Wilson House is a rectangular, two-story, five-bay building, sheathed in weatherboard, with a gable roof. The foundation is tall brick piers. A shed roofed, one-story porch spans the facade (northeast elevation). The porch roof is supported by four stuccoed brick columns. A balustraded porch is recessed behind these columns. The first story of the facade, beneath the porch roof, is sheathed in flushboard. The entrance, a six-panel door with sidelights, is centered on the facade. The windows are nine-over-nine with paneled shutters. A boxed cornice with returns marks the eaves. The gable roof is covered with composition shingles.

The side elevations feature massive brick end chimneys laid in common bond with each fourth course bonding. The left-side (southeast) chimney has been rebuilt, probably around 1880. Single windows flank the chimneys on each story. Rectangular attic vents with hinged shutters are in each gable end. The rear (southwest) elevation of the house originally had a shed roofed porch similar to the front porch. The porch was enclosed in the 1870s and two new brick chimneys built for the rooms thus created. In 1939, a one-story, frame wing containing a bedroom, a bath, and a screened porch, was added to the rear of the house.

The John Calvin Wilson House has a heavy timber braced frame. The framing members are both adzed and pit-sawn and are connected with wooden pegs. The original framing members are visible in the attic and in the foundation.

<u>Interior</u>: The house has a central-hall plan with a single room on either side of the hall. The floors, doors, hardware, and door and window surrounds are original. Ceilings in the original portion of the house are wide planks on the first floor and plaster on the second floor. The right (west) room on the first floor has grained wainscoting. The walls of the house are plaster covered with wallpaper. The mantels are of wood with minimal elaboration. Most of the doors feature Carpenter's Patented boxlocks except for the second floor west bedroom, which has an S. Smith Improved Rim Lock.

The L-shaped stairway in the hall has the original handrail, treads, and balusters. At the front of the hall on the second story is a small closet with a fixed wooden ladder leading to the attic. The attic rafters were hewn with an adze and then shaped by pit-saw and were joined with pegged mortise-and-tenon joints.

<u>Surroundings</u>: There are two brick outbuildings on the nominated acreage. To the southeast of the house is the old kitchen, a rectangular brick building with its original chimney missing. The kitchen has a metal-covered roof. It is still used, on occasion, for barbecues. To the southwest is the original smokehouse, a rectangular brick building with a cypress-shingle roof. The smokehouse has iron bars in its windows and large iron strap hinges holding its door. The smokehouse is still used to smoke meats. At the rear of the house is a twentieth century frame outbuilding. A frame garage is to the northwest of the house. The John Calvin Wilson House is surrounded by open farmland and by pine forest.

### 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 X 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C  archeology-prehistoric  archeology-historic  agriculture  X architecture  art  commerce  communications		landscape architectur   law	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify) local history
Specific dates	ca. 1847	Builder/Architect Unk	nown	

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The John Calvin Wilson House is located near the Indiantown community in rural Williamsburg County, South Carolina. It is believed to have been constructed ca. 1847 by George Cooper for his daughter, Jane McCottry Cooper, who married John Calvin Wilson. The house is a good example of a backcountry farmhouse, of which few remain in the county. Included in the nominated property are two original brick outbuildings which, with the house, form an architecturally significant complex. In addition, John Calvin Wilson was a locally prominent planter and politician.

Additional Information: The John Calvin Wilson House was reputedly constructed ca. 1847 by George Cooper for his daughter, Jane McCottry Cooper, about the time of her marriage. In 1847 Jane married John Calvin Wilson, uniting two of the oldest families in Williamsburg County. The John Calvin Wilson House is one of four houses George Cooper built for each of his children. All of the houses are still standing; however, the John Calvin Wilson House is perhaps the most intact. 3

John Calvin Wilson, born in Williamsburg County on 16 November 1824, served in the Forty-Second General Assembly of South Carolina and was a successful planter. The census of 1860 shows that he owned \$9,960 in real estate, personal property worth \$32,665, and forty slaves. Wilson served in the state militia and held the ranks of captain and major. Local tradition holds that Wilson lost re-election for his post as major and subsequently joined the Confederate Army as an enlisted man. He was listed as a sergeant in the Fourth Calvary at the time of his death in 1864. Wilson died in Jackson Hospital in Richmond, Virginia, of complications from a thigh wound sustained in the Battle of Cold Harbor.

Architecture: The John Calvin Wilson House is representative of the vernacular central-hall, frame farmhouse that was common throughout the United States in the early and middle nineteenth century. The form is identified by a central transverse hallway with a staircase (if a second story is present); single square or rectangular rooms, equivalent in size, on either side of the hallway; a central entrance into the hallway; chimneys located either at the ends of the house on the outside walls of the side rooms, or centered on either interior partition; regular fenestration with windows either centered or balanced in their respective rooms'walls; and a roof ridge perpendicular to the axis defined by the central hall. The form was often doubled, with a second set of rooms and an extension of the central hall to the rear. The form was adapted across South Carolina and often elaborated with diverse stylistic features.

The John Calvin Wilson House with its hewn, pegged, heavy timber braced frame is also representative of the building technology of the eighteenth and early nineteenth century in South Carolina. This framework utilized large timbers connected with mortise-and-tenon joints and wooden pegs. The major posts and girders were braced with diagonal timbers. Smaller wooden members, called studs, were located in between the major posts. This type of framing was superseded in the later nineteenth century by balloon framing -- a mode invented by George Snow of Chicago in 1832. Balloon framing consists of smaller (scantling)

THE WALLEY

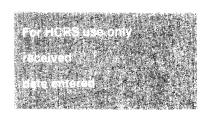
### 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

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panying Williamsburg Cou	nty Tax Map #322 ric outbuildings buildings and t	drawn at and the part of the surround	a scale of 1 ine allee leating acreage.	s shown as the red line of inch = 330 feet. This bounding to the house, while of the house.
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11. Form Prep	ared By	<u> </u>	•	
Suzanne Picken name/title John Wells	s Wylie		Edmund Kirby- Planning and	-Smith, Waccamaw Regional Development Council
South Carolina organization Archives and H	Department of istory		date Decembe	er 29, 1981
1430 Senate street & number Post Office			telephone (80	03) 758-5816
city or town Columbia			state South (	Carolina 29211
12. State Hist	oric Prese	ervation	n Office	Certification
The evaluated significance of this		tate is: X_ local		
As the designated State Historic 665), I hereby nominate this propaccording to the criteria and proc	erty for inclusion in th	e Nati <i>of)</i> al Regi:	ster and certify tha	on Act of 1966 (Public Law 89– nt it has been evaluated
State Historic Preservation Office	er signature	Clark 5.	Lef the	4,1982
Charles E. Lee title State Historic Pres	ervation Officer		/ da	ite
For NPS use only I hereby certify that this pro	perty is included in th	e National Regi		nte 6.28.82 nte 6/28/82
		TOTAL MARKETSKIED IN THE NOT THE	o de la companya de l	
Keeper of the National Regist	ier			

United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

8

Page

wooden members, sawn rather than hewn, and connected, not with elaborate joints and pegs, but with mass produced iron nails. Balloon framing was not widely used in South Carolina until after the Civil War.

The John Calvin Wilson House is in a remarkable state of preservation. Most of the original fabric is intact. The additions to the rear of the house have not compromised its integrity. The setting, with the outbuildings, pine trees, and cultivated fields, is also intact.

# United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

2

Item number

9

Page

- Boddie, William Lewis. <u>History of Williamsburg County</u>. Columbia, S.C.: The State Company, 1923.
- Census of the United States, 1860 (Williamsburg County, South Carolina). National Archives Microfilm Publications, microcopy m-536, roll 1228.
- Census of the United States, 1860, Slave Schedules (Williamsburg County, South Carolina). National Archives Microfilm Publications, microcopy 653, roll 1238.
- Columbia, South Carolina. South Carolina Department of Archives and History. National Register Files. Virginia Wilson Snowden to Edmund Kirby-Smith, 18 September 1980.
- Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations From South Carolina, Fourth Calvary, Sn-Z. National Archives Microfilm Publications, microcopy 267, roll 30.
- Consolidated Index to Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers, Wilmut-Wilson, Joel. National Archives Microfilm Publications, microcopy 253, roll 521.
- Edgar, Walter B., ed. <u>Biographical Directory of the South Carolina House of Representatives</u>. Vol. 1. Columbia, S.C.: University of South Carolina Press, 1974.
- Hemingway, South Carolina Bicentennial Tour of Historic Sites. n.p., 1976.

#### <u>John Calvin Wilson House</u> Footnotes

- <sup>1</sup>Hemingway, South Carolina Bicentennial Tour of Historic Sites (n.p., 1976).
- <sup>2</sup>Ibid.; William Lewis Boddie, <u>History of Williamsburg County</u> (Columbia, S.C.: The State Co., 1923), pp. 21-22.
  - <sup>3</sup>Bi<u>centennial Tour</u>.
- <sup>4</sup>Walter B. Edgar, ed., <u>Biographical Directory of the South Carolina House of Representatives</u>, vol. 1 (Columbia, S.C.: University of South Carolina Press, 1974), p. 377; <u>Census of the United States</u>, 1860 (Williamsburg County, S.C.), National Archives Microfilm Publications, microcopy m-536, roll 228, p. 94; <u>Census of the United States</u>, 1860, Slave Schedules (Williamsburg County, S.C.), National Archives Microfilm Publications, microcopy 653, roll 1238, pp. 101-102; Virginia Wilson Snowden to Edmund Kirby-Smith, 18 September 1980, National Register Files, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, South Carolina.
  - <sup>5</sup>Boddie, p. 354-355.
- <sup>6</sup>Boddie, p. 354-355; Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations From South Carolina, Fourth Calvary, Sn-Z, National Archives Microfilm Publications, microcopy 267, roll 30; Consolidated Index to Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Wilmut-Wilson, Joel, National Archives Microfilm Publications, microcopy 253, roll 521.

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State Historic Preservation Office	Resources	Control No	ımber://
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Intensive Survey Form			
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Address/Location: 405 Academy	Street		
city: Kingstree	County	y: Williamsbu	9
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#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTOR REGISTRATION FORM



OMB NO. 1024-0018

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual proper UNTERAGENCY RESOURCES DINSION How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulleting DNA) Complete box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas or 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.

typewriter, word pro	ocessor, or computer, to complete a	ll items.	
1. Name of	Property		
historic name	M. F. Heller House		
other names/si	ite number <u>Arrowsmith Ho</u>	use, Old Methodist Church Par	sonage
2. Location			
city or town	er 405 Academy Street Kingstree Carolina code S	C county Williamsburg	not for publication vicinity code _089
zip code			
3. State/Fe	deral Agency Certific	cation 	
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Signature	of commenting or other official	Date	
State or F	ederal agency and bureau		
4. National	Park Service Certif	ication	
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#### 5. Classification

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		(Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A  Cultural Affiliation	
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Narrative Statement of (Explain the significance of the Statement of the S	me property on one or more continuation	n sheets.)	
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Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Andrew W. Chandler, NR Specialist, w/ assi	istance from Robert & Dottie Arnette
organization S.C. Department of Archives and History	date February 18, 1994
street & number 1430 Senate Street	telephone (803) 734-8610
city or town Columbia	state_SC_zip_code29211
Additional Documentation	
Submit the following items with the completed form:	
Continuation Sheets	
Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating to A Sketch map for historic districts and properties resources.	the property's location. es having large acreage or numerous
Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the	e property.
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)	)
Property Owner	
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)	
name Robert L. and Dorothy D. Arnette	
street & number 405 Academy Street	telephone (803) 354-6181
city or town Kingstree	state S.C. zip code 29556

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.).

seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

	ONAL : INUAT	REGI ION Page	s' S'	TE C	CEN	/ED	413	Heller House
		-			APR 1	1 1994		property amsburg, South Carolina and State
Summary	Description	of Prop	erty			SOURCES ARK SERV	DIVISION	

The M. F. Heller House property is a less than one acre lot located at 405 Academy Street in the town of Kingstree, the seat of Williamsburg County. Local tradition holds that the Heller House was built ca. 1845 as a one story cottage. Its heavy timber framing with mortised and tenoned joinery suggests a construction date well before the Civil War. By ca. 1895, however, it had been expanded into the residence which is present today.

The residence is recessed approximately 125 feet from the street on a level, L-shaped lot, which measures 100 feet along Academy Street, 291.6 feet on the north, 169 feet on the west, 100 feet along Brooks Street, sixty-nine feet on the east (behind corner house lot), and 187 feet on the south (along corner house lot line). A historic wrought iron fence and entrance gate are still extant along Academy Street. The landscaped front lawn is bordered with historic plantings of live oak, red cedar, pine, azalea, camellia, and other shrubs. A brick walk leads directly from the gate to the house. A five-foot tall brick wall begins at the southeast corner of the front porch and defines the side and rear yards. Within this wall and near the southeast corner of the house is an intact historic goldfish pond, constructed of stone and measuring approximately five feet square, a landscape feature which contributes to the property's overall significance.

#### Additional Descriptive Information

Set upon a stuccoed brick pier foundation which has been infilled with stuccoed brick panel recesses, the M. F. Heller House is a two-story, lateral-gabled residence, sheathed in weatherboard, with a shallow gabled ell at the right rear. At the roofline is a sawn bracketed frieze and boxed cornice with returns. Gables are decorated with sawn brackets as well. Exterior end chimneys, the original portions of which are constructed of local hand-made brick, rise above the cedar shake clad roof's front slope. The one on the southern exposure, the entire upper portion of which had to be reconstructed following Hurricane Hugo in September 1989, intersects the floor and roofline of the wraparound porch. The rear ell features an exterior end chimney as well; however, its lower portion has been obscured by one-story rear additions. On the east or principal elevation, the main block is three bays wide on the first floor and two on the second. The centered entrance bay, accessed from a hip roofed porch which raps onto the south elevation and terminates into the front wall of a one-story wing addition, contains a single leaf, sixpanel door with simple three-light fixed transom and pilastered surround. The porch features tapered wood post supports with chamfered corners and flared caps, a simple balustrade with top and bottom rail and square pickets, and decking of narrow tongue-andgroove boards.

To the left of the front door is a wide window opening which contains a large, single-light movable sash and a single-light fixed transom. Immediately to the right of the front door and extending to the end of the porch is a square bay projection, measuring approximately four feet deep. On its east or front elevation is a set of paired windows with two-over-two double-hung sash, and on its south is a single-leaf, multi-paneled door with a three-light, fixed transom identical to that of the front door. This door, which features a large, frosted glass upper panel and mail slot, historically accessed a study which could be separated from the remainder of the residence. It is surmised that this alteration to the original floor plan was first made to accommodate the Methodist church pastors who occupied the house, and was probably used later by M. F. Heller as his business office. On the second floor of the facade of the main block are two sets of paired windows, each with two-over-two double-hung sash. All other windows on the main block of the house are single with two-over-two double-hung sash. Only the windows on the facade feature folding, paneled shutters.

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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The most visable extension onto the main block of the M. F. Heller House is a one-story gabled wing addition made to the south elevation ca. 1895 for use as a dining room. Local tradition holds that Heller moved this section from across the street where it had served as the Baptist church, or at least a portion of its old sanctuary. The roofline of this wing is similarly detailed with bracketed frieze, boxed cornice and returns. Fenestration on its facade includes a single-leaf, multi-paneled door at the terminus of the wraparound porch, and a set of paired windows with two-over-two, double hung sash and folding, paneled shutters. The 1913 Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map reveals that a polygonal bay was located where this set of paired windows are today; however, the maps for 1920 and 1931 do not show it present by that time. Physical evidence also indicates a change in this wall. This could have been an early alteration that was later reversed. The only other window is a single, two-over-two, double-hung sash opening, located to the right of a shouldered brick chimney on the southern end of this extension.

On the rear elevation are one-story historic additions to the two-story ell which wrap onto the north elevation in a shed-roof configuration, and a shed and gable-roofed kitchen extension to the dining room wing. Between these additions are a two-story, partially historic shed extension onto the rear of the main block of the house and a one-story infill section, accessed from a modern deck. Despite the extensive nature of these additions, large portions are historic and all are minimally visible from the street and do not significantly detract from the overall historic character of the house.

The most significant change to the M. F. Heller House's floor plan occured ca. 1895, when it became a two-story residence. It is speculated that the house originally contained a narrow central hall, flanked by a parlor and study (18' x 11'; 9' ceiling), and two small bedrooms to the rear. The removal of the wall between the central hall and parlor created a larger space (17' x 14'; 9' ceiling) for entertaining. This room features original pine flooring and ca. 1895 decorative pressed metal ceiling, columned mantel and carbide gaselier which has also been electrified. Between this room and the study are pocket wall doors. To the rear of the parlor, where there had originally been a small bedroom, is the stairhall from ca. 1895, also accessed through pocket wall doors. At the north end of the stairhall is a door which accesses a bedroom (12' x 19'; 9' ceiling), which may have been expanded ca. 1895 and provided with a fireplace. To the rear of this is an additional historic period bedroom (13' x 12'; 9' ceiling). At the south end of the stairhall is a door which accesses the dining room wing, a large room (22' x 14'; 11' ceiling) featuring original pine flooring, ca. 1895 triple beaded-board ceiling and wainscoting, as well as mantel and carbide gaselier (also electrified). To the rear of the dining room is a 24' x 11' kitchen. Apart from the large pocket wall doors, many of the historic single-leaf, five and six paneled, pegged doors remain.

The stairhall features a staircase with large turned newel and balusters, wide pine board treads, small square, molded medallions on the ends of each riser, and two landings. On the right (east) of the upstairs hall are two identical sized (14' x 14') bedrooms with like mantels. Another bedroom (14' x 10') exists at the end (north) of the hallway, while a bathroom is located to the left (west). All ceilings on the second level are 10 feet in height.

In the attic the building techniques are exhibited most clearly. All roofing rafters, joists, and bracing are morticed and tenoned, with dovetail joinery clearly evident at the apex of the roof. Since the house did not become a two-story structure until the 1890s and the framing visible in the attic is clearly antebellum, it can be surmised that the entire roof framing on the original one-story cottage was raised to allow for the second story.

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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A rental residence remains on the premises and faces onto Brooks Street. This building was originally a detached kitchen for the main house; however, was moved to its present location on the property by the previous owners (Arrowsmiths). Since it has been altered considerably over the years, it is therefore noncontributing. Other than this, none of the original necessary dependencies to the rear of the house have survived; however, several outbuildings have been introduced to the property by the current owners. They consist of a historic servants quarters, which features weatherboard siding, a shed-roofed porch, a pressed metal roof, and an exterior end chimney on the east elevation; a reproduction mud-chinked log smokehouse; a child's playhouse; and a greenhouse. Although this grouping of buildings provides a historic flavor or a sense of the kinds of buildings that might have once occupied the backyard of this or other houses in the town, none has any historic relationship with this property in particular and all must be viewed as noncontributing.

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The M. F. Heller House, known locally by many as the Arrowsmith House, is significant as an excellent example of the evolution of a house from a one-story antebellum cottage (ca. 1845) to a substantial two-story residence (ca. 1895). As such it is reflective of different uses over time and the changing needs of its occupants. While eligible for the National Register only under Criterion C for its architectural integrity and significance, it is locally important for its association with a number of Kingstree's and Williamsburg County's more prominent citizens, most notably Mitchal Frederick Heller and his family. A portion of this house (ca. 1845) remains as the only antebellum residence built within the original limits of Kingstree, a town which had its beginnings in the Ulster-Scot settlement of Williamsburg in 1732 and which as late as the mid twentieth century was the setting for numerous other antebellum and later nineteenth century buildings. When constructed, two other antebellum residences, the Scott House at 506 Live Oak Avenue (ca. 1843, listed in the National Register in 1982) and the Col. John Gotea Pressley House at 215 North Academy Street (ca. 1840) were located outside the original town limits, but in later years were encompassed as the town grew.

#### Additional Information

Although the lot on which the M. F. Heller House sits was purchased in 1809 by John Hedleson (Hedleston) with a house on it from the estate of William McCree (McCrea), the earliest portion of the current building is believed to have been built ca. 1845. There does not appear to have been a house on the property in 1837 when Robert J. Patterson purchased this (#155 in town plat) and sixteen other lots in the town of Kingstree from Samuel Fluitt for only \$150.00. After Patterson lost the property in 1843 through a judgment (writ of fieri facias), Joseph R. Fullmore, former member of the General Assembly (1838-1839) from Williamsburg County, bought it and fifteen other town lots at sheriff's auction in 1844 for \$125.00. While no proof exists in these transactions that a house sat on lot #155 when Fullmore purchased it, it is the first time that this lot is referenced before all others in a deed of title. Improvements on one or more of these lots is indicated when Fullmore sold them on June 21, 1845, for \$1,100.00, to Dr. John F. Brockinton, later mayor of Kingstree and sheriff of Williamsburg County. This may be the clearest evidence that a house had been built on this or one of the other lots.

The house at 405 Academy Street then passed through several hands before becoming the parsonage for the Kingstree Methodist Church. In 1847 Brockinton sold it to Samuel P.

Deed Book A, p. 190, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Williamsburg County Courthouse, Kingstree, S.C.; Williamsburg County Historical Society, Williamsburg County, South Carolina: A Pictorial History (Dallas, Texas: Taylor Publishing Company, 1991), p. 102.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Book E, p. 187, Williamsburg County Deeds, County Records on Microfilm, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Book G, pp. 53-54, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Williamsburg County Courthouse, Kingstree, S.C.; Walter B. Edgar, ed., <u>Biographical Directory of the South Carolina House of Representatives</u>, Vol. 1, <u>Session Lists</u>, 1692-1973 (Columbia, S.C.: University of South Carolina Press, 1974), pp. 338-341.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Deed Book G, pp. 86-87, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Williamsburg County Courthouse, Kingstree, S.C.; William Willis Boddie, <u>History of Williamsburg</u> (Columbia, S.C.: The State Company, 1923), pp. 317, 464 and 525.

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Matthews, later sheriff of the county, who in turn in October 1849 transferred title to Alexander Isaac McKnight, a local attorney, prominent member of Williamsburg Presbyterian Church, and one of the county's leading citizens. While Matthews's home (later the Gilland Home) was located on the opposite side of Academy Street near the corner of Kelly Street, it appears that McKnight actually lived in the house until he lost it through a judgment in 1851.

Despite his troubles, McKnight was instrumental in founding the Methodist Episcopal Church in Kingstree in 1853 and donated the land on which to build its sanctuary. On October 1, 1855, Samuel Ethan Graham, former county sheriff and trustee of the Kingstree Methodist Church, purchased 405 Academy Street and the entire city block on which it sits at public auction. Some time after this and before Graham transferred title in 1863 to John E. Scott, et al., Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church Parsonage, it began to be used as the Parsonage.

Even though efforts were made in 1874 to sell the Methodist Parsonage, it remained as such until 1881 when Martin Eaddy, John J. Graham (son of Samuel E. Graham), and John A. Kelley, commissioners of the Black River Circuit of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, sold the house and two acres to Edwin Epps for \$555.00. Depps kept it a mere three years when on October 29, 1884, he sold the house and lot to Mrs. Mary L. Salters. If the property had not already passed through an inordinate amount of owners by 1884, its deed of title would tranfer twice more, on September 29, 1890, before the Hellers took possession. Mrs. Salters, a widow who had by then married H. E. Schroder, sold it to Mrs. A. J. Godbold of Marion County, who in turn sold it to Mrs. Caroline Simons Heller, wife of Mitchal Frederick Heller. Each of these transactions was for \$728.00.

Soon after Mike and Carrie Heller occupied the house, they undertook extensive renovations and additions. A second floor was added, the floor plan was altered, new pressed metal ceilings were installed in the parlor and old hall, a small bedroom to the rear of the parlor became a stairhall, pocket doors were added between the parlor and study and the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Deed Book G, pp. 198-199, 245-246, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Williamsburg County Courthouse, Kingstree, S.C.; Boddie, pp. 296, 317 and 440.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Deed Book H, pp. 18-19, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Williamsburg County Courthouse, Kingstree, S.C.; Williamsburg County Historical Society, Williamsburg County, South Carolina: A Pictorial History, p. 105.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Boddie, pp. 296-297.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>Deed Book H, pp. 18-19; Boddie, pp. 296 and 311.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>Book E, p. 154, Williamsburg County Deeds, County Records on Microfilm, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>Kingstree Star (Kingstree, S.C.), 15 April 1874; Book P, pp. 28-29, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Williamsburg County Courthouse, Kingstree, S.C.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>Book Q, pp. 374-375, Williamsburg County Deeds, County Records on Microfilm, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

<sup>12</sup>Book S, p. 640, Williamsburg County Deeds, County Records on Microfilm, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.; Deed Book U, p. 1, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Williamsburg County Courthouse, Kingstree, S.C.

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parlor and stairhall, carbide gaseliers were installed, a dining room wing was added, and bathrooms on the first and second floors were added. Needless to say, their renovations transformed the modest house into a substantial residence. Although there are features still evident from the antebellum period, as well as when the house served as the Methodist parsonage, the M. F. Heller House possesses overall integrity from the 1890s. Mike Heller, whose father Philip Heller, a native of Germany and a Republican, served as Williamsburg County treasurer during Reconstruction, engaged in the livestock business and extensive farming throughout most of his adult life. His other activities were as a ruling elder in the Williamsburg Presbyterian Church for many years and as a founding member of the Indiantown Masonic Lodge in 1872. In addition, he helped organize the Kingstree Real Estate Company in 1905 and served as its first secretary and treasurer. This successful venture fostered the first residential development outside the original limits of the town of Kingstree, and no doubt was a part or result of the town's evolution into a major tobacco market. 14 Carrie Heller was an accomplished musician who before her marriage in 1887 taught music at the Spartanburg Female College (forerunner to Converse College) and at an Episcopal church school in Mobile, Alabama. When she arrived in Kingstree in about 1880 as a school teacher, Caroline Simons was the only Episcopalian in the town. Two years later she almost single-handedly established St. Alban's Episcopal Chapel in Kingstree, where she served as treasurer of the Ladies' Aid Society before becoming the first president of the Women's Auxiliary. In addition, she served as musician at St. Alban's and contributed her musical talents to numerous other churches of the area. 15 Although they remained members of their respective churches, the Hellers worked together in the erection of the sanctuaries of both the Williamsburg Presbyterian Church and St. Alban's Episcopal Chapel in 1890. Together they were also active in Williamsburg County's campaign for the American Red Cross during World War I. 16

The Hellers, who were socially active in the community and entertained party and dinner guests frequently, lived in the house until their deaths, after which in 1939 it passed on to his sister, Louise P. Arrowsmith. Kingstree's first kindergarten was located in the house during the Arrowsmith family's occupancy. The house remained with the Arrowsmith heirs until purchased by the current owners in 1976. 18

<sup>13</sup>Boddie, p. 440; County Record (Kingstree, S.C.), 23 December 1937.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup>Boddie, p. 519; "Historic Resources of Kingstree," National Register Files, State Historic Preservation Office, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

<sup>15</sup>Boddie, p. 484; County Record (Kingstree, S.C.), 23 December 1937.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup>Boddie, pp. 484, 514-515.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup>Deed Book A-30, pp. 238-240, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Williamsburg County Courthouse, Kingstree, S.C..

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup>Deed Books A-35, pp. 503-504; A-41, p. 109; A-119, pp. 526-530; and A-123, pp. 141-143, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Williamsburg County Courthouse, Kingstree, S.C.

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Williamsburg, South Carolina
county and State

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# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section

10\_\_\_

Page 8

M. F. Heller House
name of property
Williamsburg, South Carolina
county and State

### Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for the M. F. Heller House is shown as the heavy black line on the accompanying Williamsburg County, S.C., tax map #24, encompassing parcel 35, dated February 8-9, 1977, and drawn at a scale of 1" = 100'.

### Verbal Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the historic residence, a historic goldfish pond, five noncontributing outbuildings, and the entire lot which is historically related to the M. F. Heller House.

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Photographs Page 9

M. F. Heller House
name of property
Williamsburg, South Carolina
county and State

The following information is the same for each of the photographs:

Name of Property: M. F. Heller House

County and State: Williamsburg, South Carolina

Name of Photographer: Andrew W. Chandler, State Historic Preservation Office, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

Date of photographs: February 19, 1994

Location of original negatives: S.C. Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

- 1. East elevation and setting from Academy Street
- 2. East elevation
- 3. Northeast oblique view
- 4. Southwest oblique view from driveway showing dining and kitchen wings
- 5. Detail of wraparound porch, view of southeast corner
- 6. Detail of wraparound porch, view from northeast
- 7. Detail of porch entrance, showing extension of study into porch area
- 8. Detail of porch where it wraps onto south elevation and terminates into dining room wing
- 9. Detail of dining room wing with exterior end chimney
- 10. West (rear) elevation, showing later historic and non-historic additions
- 11. Main entrance from parlor, showing pressed metal ceiling, change in original hall partition, and pocket wall door opening between parlor and study
- 12. Parlor, with view of gaselier, pressed metal ceiling, and columned mantel
- 13. Detail of pressed metal ceiling in parlor
- 14. Staircase
- 15. Dining Room, showing triple-beaded board ceiling, gaselier, and mantel
- 16. View of outbuildings to rear of house (ie. tenant house, child's playhouse, and greenhouse)
- 17. Servants Quarters (non-contributing)
- 18. Log smokehouse (non-contributing)
- 19. Child's Playhouse (non-contributing)

South Carolina Department of Archives and 8301 Parklane Road Columbia, SC 29223-4905 (803) 896-6100	•	Control Nur Tax Numbe	nber: / / Status County No. Site No.
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# RUCENTO 2016 HISTORIC PLACES

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF 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 any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A"

of significance, enter only categories and tinuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a
Mrs. Wylma M., House
not for publication
vicinity
g code <u>089</u>
, as amended, I hereby certify that umentation standards for registering and professional requirements set forth e National Register Criteria. I wide _x locally.
Date of Action

<ol><li>Classification</li></ol>	5. Cla	SS1	IlC	atıor
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D a cemetery. E a reconstructed building, object,o	or structure.	
<b>F</b> a commemorative property. <b>G</b> less than 50 years of age or achie	eved significance within the past 50 y	years.
Areas of Significance	Significant Dates	
(Enter categories from instructions) Architecture	1855	
	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)	
	Pressley, John Gotea  Cultural Affiliation	
Period of Significance		
1855 - 1943	Architect/Builder	
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 fo	orm on one or more continuation sheets.)	
Previous documentation on file (NPS) preliminary determination of individual listi	ng (36 CEP 67) hag been	
requested previously listed in the National Register	ing (30 CFR 07) has been	
previously determined eligible by the Nationa	l Register	
designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Surve		
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Primary Location of Additional Data x State Historic Preservation Office		
Other State agency Federal agency		
Local government University		
x Other	and Higham	
Name of repository: S.C. Department of Archives	and History	
10. Geographical Data		
Acreage of Property Approx. 1 acre		
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)		
Zone Easting Northing Zone East 1 17 607940 3726140 3	ing Northing	
2 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
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city or town Kingstree

11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Andrew W. Chandler, NR Specialist (w/ as organization S.C. Department of Archives and History	
street & number 1430 Senate Street	
street & number 1430 Senate Street	telephone (803) 734-8610
city or town Columbia	state_S.C. zip code29211
Additional Documentation	
Submit the following items with the completed form:	
Continuation Sheets	
Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating A Sketch map for historic districts and properticesources.	
Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the	e property.
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items	)
Property Owner	
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)	
name Peggy Green Hamby	
street & number 216 North Academy Street	telephone 803-354-

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.).

state S.C. zip code

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section	7	Page	5

Colonel John Gotea Pressley House name of property
Williamsburg County, S.C.
county and State

The Colonel John Gotea Pressley House, located at 216 North Academy Street in Kingstree, is a one and a half story weatherboard-clad residence of mortice and tenon construction. Within a partially wooded and landscaped town lot that extends at the rear to Brockinton Street, the house is recessed from the street approximately sixty-five feet and set upon a brick pier with brick infill foundation. Its five-bay wide facade (south elevation) is dominated at the first level by a full-width hip roofed porch supported by six freestanding square tapered wood piers which rise from masonry footings at grade. Each pier features a Gothic or pointed arched panel on all four sides, as well as decorative sawn brackets at the caps. Within and under the porch roof is a three-bay wide recessed deck set upon stuccoed brick piers with criss-crossed lattice infill and featuring a decorative sawn balustrade.

The central entrance consists of a double-leaf door with four panels each, a nine-light transom, and five-light side panels, the upper four of which feature decorative frosted and etched glass. Flanking the entrance are two six-over-six, double-hung sash windows, the outer two of which are outside the porch deck and rail. All other windows consist of six-over-six double-hung sash. All first floor windows on the south, east and west elevations feature louvered wood shutters. Stuccoed brick, corbel-capped exterior end chimneys are located on each side elevation, along the front slope of the building's roof. A plane frieze is just below the cornice and completely encircles the house. Clad with composition/alsphalt shingles, the roof features a boxed cornice with returns. Three pedimented dormers, the center one of which is larger and contains a tripartite or Palladian style window, rise from the roof's front slope. Each of the flanking dormers features compass-headed windows. Dormers of equal size are located along the rear slope of the house's roof; however, the windows are simple six-over-six double-hung sash.

A more modern shed room addition (ca. 1940s) runs across the entire rear (north) elevation. By 1994, a small central shed-roofed sunroom and wraparound porch, as well as a polygonal bay window, had been added to the rear of the house; however, these are not visible from the street and do not detract visually or architecturally from the historic character of the house. A modern, yet compatible, gable-front two-car garage is located near the northeast rear corner of the house.

On the house's interior is a central stairhall and back hall, divided by a partition and a double-leaf glazed and wood paneled door. The stairhall features a right-hand, single-flight staircase with turned newel and unturned balusters. As the stair approaches the upper floor it turns tightly to the left in a 180 degree formation. The back hall space, finished in horizontal flushboard, is interrupted only by a historic closet and a more modern bathroom. upper walls in the central hall and most other historic first floor rooms contain picture moulding located approximately one foot below the ceiling, which is flushboard with moulded battens that create a decorative effect. Flanking the central stair and back hall are the living and dining rooms to the left (west) and two bedrooms to the right (east). Although the partition wall between the living and dining rooms was reduced ca. 1945 to create a more open space, the rooms in the historic core retain their plastered walls, paneled wainscoting, twopaneled doors and surrounds, window surrounds, mantels, and heart pine floors. The upstairs was probably unfinished until later in the nineteenth century, when it was partitioned into a central hall and two bedrooms and finished with horizontal beaded board walls, chairrail, beaded board wainscoting, and batten or plank doors. The stair balustrade at the second level has two square newels and one chamfered. At the turn of the stair is an extended newel that is morticed and tenoned. The rear of the upstairs central hall, where the oversized center dormer provides additional space, has been partitioned for use as a bathroom. A kitchen, den, bathroom, office, and utility room occupy the interior space of the rear shed addition.

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section	8	Page	_6_	Colonel	John	Gotea	Pressley	House
				name of Williams	burg	County	y, S.C.	

#### Summary Statement of Significance

The Colonel John Gotea Pressley House, known to many residents of the Kingstree area as the Wylma M. Green residence, was constructed in 1855.(1) It is significant as a largely intact local interpretation of the Greek Revival style with what appear to be Victorian or later embellishments. As an excellent example of a type and form of construction, the house contains a somewhat pronounced version of a "rain porch," an element most often peculiar to houses in eastern South Carolina. In addition, the building and property are significant as the home of Colonel John Gotea Pressley, prominent local attorney, judge, and Confederate regimental field officer. In a town which had its beginnings with the Scots-Irish Williamsburgh settlement of 1732 and once boasted numerous eighteenth and nineteenth century architectural examples, this house remains as one of only three extant antebellum residences in the town that are original to their locations. Several others have been moved into the town limits in recent years from sites in the county.

#### Additional Information

John Gotea Pressley purchased three and a half acres of land "on the Sumter Road near the village of Kingstree" from Dr. James S. Brockinton and his wife, Virginia Brockinton, on April 4, 1855.(2) Pressley began building his house on this parcel that year through the generosity of his foster uncle, William Burrows, a wealthy Williamsburg District planter. Burrows, according to a sketch written by Pressley in 1889 for his family history, "pressed on [him] the services of his two negro carpenters for one year, and his plasterer and brickmason as long as I had use for him in building my house."(3)

Pressley (1833-1895) was the son of John B. Pressley, a successful local planter, and Sarah Gotea [a Huguenot name originally spelled Gautier and retaining its French pronunciation] Pressley of Williamsburg District. Graduating from the South Carolina Military Academy (The Citadel) in 1851, he then read law in the office of his kinsman, B.C. Pressley, later a circuit judge. Being admitted to the bar in May 1854, Pressley opened and maintained a successful law practice in Kingstree. He was married in February 1854, to Miss Julia C. Burckmeyer of Charleston. (4) He helped to organize in 1856 and served as a founding trustee and member of the Kingstree Baptist Church. (5) Prior to the Civil War, he served in the legislature for one term (1858-1860), then was elected to the Secession Convention and signed the Ordinance of Secession on December 20, 1860.(6) He organized the Wee Nee Volunteers on January 1, 1861, and served as its captain throughout the war, first as Company E, 1st South Carolina (Hagood's) Regiment, then as part of the 11th South Carolina (Eutaw) Battalion, and finally as the 25th Regiment, South Carolina Volunteers. When his company expanded into the 25th South Carolina on July 22, 1862, Pressley was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel. He lost an arm in battle at Port Walthall, Virginia, on May 6, 1864.(7) After the war he resumed his law practice in Kingstree, and served as county judge from December 1866 until early 1869 when he relocated with his family to California. First settling in Suisun City, Solano County, where he served as city attorney for three years, Pressley then moved to Santa Rosa, Sonoma County in January 1873 and served there as both city attorney and county judge. Under the reorganization of the court system in California, the people elected him judge of the superior court in 1880, a position he held until 1891. He died in Santa Rosa on July 5, 1895, and was buried in the Santa Rosa Rural Cemetery. (8)

Following his removal to California, Pressley sold his Kingstre home on December 10, 1869, and the surrounding eleven acres to John M. Hirsch, who in turn sold it on July 30, 1870, to Melvin J. Hirsch, former Confederate commissary officer with the 25th South Carolina, local attorney, district solicitor, Republican mayor of Kingstree, and school board trustee. (9) The house remained in the Hirsch family until March 26, 1924, when Nita M. Epps purchased it and two acres for \$4000.00.(10) Epps owned the house for nearly twenty years, then sold it to Wylma McCullough Green on November 21, 1943, for \$4250.00.(11) It was early in her occupancy that

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section	8	Page	_7_	Colonel	John	Gotea	Pressley	House
		-		name of Williams	sburg	Count	y, S.C.	
								_

some interior and exterior changes to the rear elevation were made. The house remains in Mrs. Green's family today, having been rehabilitated in 1993-1994 by her daughter, Mrs. Peggy Green Hamby.

#### Architecture

The Pressley House, in the overall symmetry of its plan and form, is typical of the Greek Revival style; however, its porch ornamentation contains both Gothic Revival and Italianate elements. Although the decorative sawn brackets on the porch piers may be from the date of construction, it is more likely that they were added during the Hirsch family ownership after the war. The house's most significant design and character defining element, however, is the "rain porch." Probably known as such because of the additional protection the wider, overhanging roof afforded antebellum residents in their "outdoor living rooms" during summer rainstorms, the rain porch appears as a vernacular form almost exclusively in South Carolina's northeastern quadrant. Although the origin of the form remains unknown, the rain porch's recessed, balustraded deck located behind or well within freestanding columns, posts, or piers is evidence of a need for adaptation to climatic conditions in this part of the state. With few if any exceptions the form has only been observed and recorded in the area north of the Santee and east of the Wateree and Catawba rivers. Most examples are less pronounced, however, than in the case of the Pressley House. The only other significant and extant example within the town of Kingstree is the ca. 1843 Scott House, at 506 Live Oak Avenue (listed in the National Register in 1982). Other examples in Williamsburg County include the ca. 1847 John Calvin Wilson House near Indiantown (also listed in 1982), New Market or the Rhodus-Lesesne House (ca. 1825) near Greeleyville, the ca. 1835 Samuel Ruffin Mouzon House near Kingstree, and the J.J.M. Graham House (1830s-40s) near Cades. (12) Within the region there are the Judge McBride McFadden House near New Zion, in Clarendon County; the 1823 Red Doe Plantation near Florence (listed in 1982); Bonnie Shade (ca. 1854) in Florence (listed in 1978); the 1857 Rankin-Harwell House or The Columns (listed in 1974); Tanglewood (ca. 1831), Bloomsbury (ca. 1850), Holly Hedge (ca. 1842), and Horsebranch Hall (ca. 1840), all listed within the Camden Historic District in 1971 (Kershaw County); the ca. 1790 Buckton Plantation near Boykin in lower Kershaw County; the ca. 1825 Robert McFadden House in the Concord community of Sumter County; and Mont Clare (ca. 1813) and Wilds Hall (1840s), both in rural Darlington County. (13) While the properties enumerated above that are listed in the National Register were described in their respective nominations as having porches of this type, none were nominated specifically as excellent examples of this form. It is a form that has been adapted to both modest and grand houses, but one that enhances the proportions of the more modest residences, such as the Pressley House, as its piers rise uninterrupted from grade to porch roof.

### NOTES

- (1) John G. Pressley, "Family History" (1889), p. 17; unpublished typescript (January 1939), Historic Preservation Division, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, South Carolina.
- (2) Deed Book F, pp. 600-601, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Williamsburg County Courthouse, Kingstree, S.C.
  - (3) Pressley, "Family History," p. 17.
- (4) John Amasa May, <u>South Carolina Secedes</u> (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1960), pp. 194-195; Robert K. Krick, <u>Lee's Colonels: A Biographical Register of the Field Officers of the Army of Northern Virginia</u>, Third Edition, Revised, (Dayton, Ohio: Press of Morningside House, Inc., 1991) p. 309.

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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		<del></del>	name of property Williamsburg County, S.C.
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- (5) William Willis Boddie, <u>History of Williamsburg</u> (Columbia, S.C.: The State Company, 1923), pp. 297-298.
- (6) Walter B. Edgar, ed., <u>Biographical Directory of the South Carolina House of Representatives</u>, Vol. I, Session Lists, 1692-1973 (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1974), pp. 378-381; May, pp. 194-195.
- (7) Boddie, p. 343; John G. Pressley, "The Wee Nee Volunteers of Williamsburg District, S.C." Southern Historical Society Papers XVI (1888), 116-194; Krick, p. 309.
  - (8) Boddie, p. 464; Pressley, "Family History," pp. 43, 45-46; May, 195.
- (9) Deed Book L, pp. 177-178 and Deed Book N, 374-375, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Williamsburg County Courthouse, Kingstree, S.C.; Pressley, "Family History," p. 7; Boddie, pp. 460, 470.
- (10) Deed Books R, p. 30; A-16, pp. 415, 733, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Williamsburg County Courthouse, Kingstree, S.C.
- (11) Deed Book (1943), Register of Mesne Conveyance, Williamsburg County Courthouse, Kingstree, S.C.
- (12) National Register files, State Historic Preservation Office, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.; Williamsburg County Historical Society, Williamsburg County: A Pictorial History (Dallas, Texas: Taylor Publishing Company, 1991), pp. 97-107.
- (13) National Register and Statewide Survey files, Historic Preservation Office, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.; Cassie Nicholes, <u>Historical</u> Sketches of Sumter County, Volume II (Greenville, S.C.: A Press, Inc., 1981), p. 311.

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county and State

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#### Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for the Colonel John Gotea Pressley House nomination is shown as the dark line encircling parcel 64 on the accompanying Williamsburg County Tax Map, Sheet 24, dated February 8-9, 1977, and drawn at a scale of 1" = 100'.

### Verbal Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the historic house, a noncontributing two-car garage, and the entire parcel which contains approximately one acre.

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Photos Page 11

Colonel John Gotea Pressley House name of property Williamsburg County, S.C. county and State

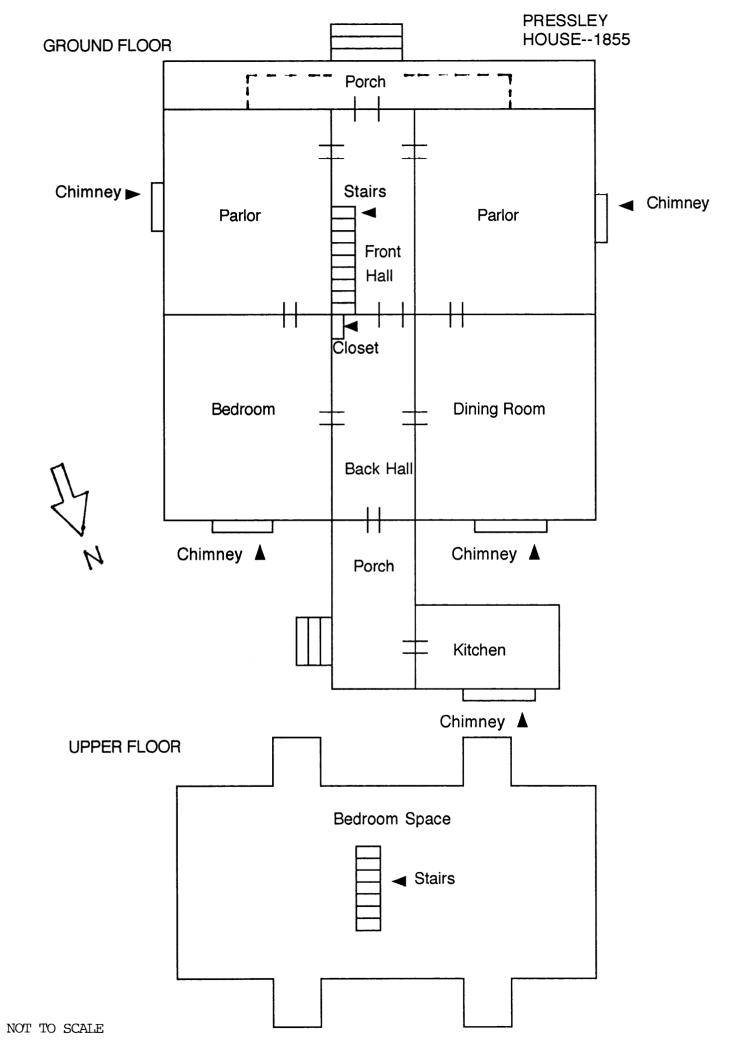
The following information is the same for each of the enumerated photographs:

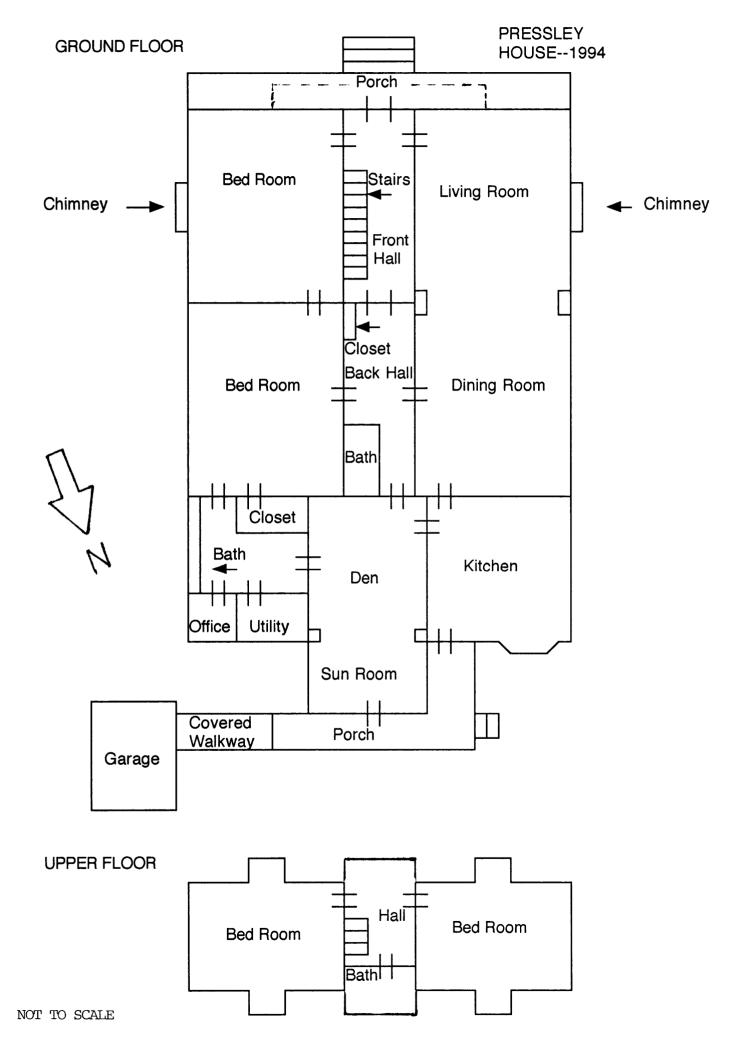
Name of Property: Colonel John Gotea Pressley House County and State: Williamsburg County, South Carolina Photographer: Mrs. Peggy Green Hamby, Kingstree, S.C.

Date of Photographs: April 1994

Location of Original Negatives: South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

- South elevation (facade) from Academy Street 1.
- 2. Southeast oblique view
- Southwest oblique view З.
- 4. Northwest oblique view, showing modern shed roofed rear addition and polygonal bay window
- 5. Northeast oblique view from elevated position
- Central stairhall, facing south toward front door 6.
- 7. Staircase in central stairhall
- 8. View of partition and double-leaf glazed and wood paneled door dividing stair and back hall
- 9. Built-in closet in back hall 10. Paneled wainscoting and heart pine floors in downstairs
- 11. Picture moulding and board and batten ceiling
- 12. Two-paneled door and paneled wainscoting in downstairs
- 13. Dining Room mantel
- 14. Balustrade around stairwell in upstairs central hall
- 15. Inside central front dormer, view of Palladian window
- 16. Inside flanking front dormer, view of compass-headed window
- 17. Mortice and tenoned joinery in attic
- 18. Mortice and tenoned joinery, roof rafters and braces in attic





# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

SUPPLEMENT	ARY LISTING RECORD	
NRIS Reference Number: 97000534	Date Listed:	5/10/97
Pressley, Col. John Gotea, Hous Property Name	e Williamsburg <b>County</b>	SOUTH CAROLINA
Kingstree MPS		
Multiple Name		
This property is listed in the Places in accordance with the a subject to the following except notwithstanding the National Pain the nomination documentation	ttached nomination d ions, exclusions, or rk Service certifica	ocumentation amendments,
Places in accordance with the a subject to the following except notwithstanding the National Pa	ttached nomination d ions, exclusions, or rk Service certifica	ocumentation amendments,
Places in accordance with the a subject to the following except notwithstanding the National Pa	ttached nomination d ions, exclusions, or rk Service certifica	ocumentation amendments, tion included
Places in accordance with the a subject to the following except notwithstanding the National Pa in the nomination documentation  Signature of the Keeper  Amended Items in Nomination:	ttached nomination dions, exclusions, or rk Service certificates.	amendments, tion included
Places in accordance with the a subject to the following except notwithstanding the National Pa in the nomination documentation  Signature of the Keeper  Amended Items in Nomination:  Section 8	ttached nomination dions, exclusions, or rk Service certificate.	amendments, tion included
Places in accordance with the a subject to the following except notwithstanding the National Pa in the nomination documentation  Signature of the Keeper  Amended Items in Nomination:	ttached nomination dions, exclusions, or rk Service certificate.	amendments, tion included