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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Bailey, Dr. York, House

other names/site number Rhodan, Sara, House

2. Location

street & number U.S. Highway 21, approx. 0.2 miles east of junction  not for publication

city, town St. Helena Island w/ Lands End Road  vicinity

state South Carolina code 045 county Beaufort code 013 zip code 29920

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>      </u> buildings
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> sites
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> structures
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

Historic Resources of St. Helena Island, c1740-c1935

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  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  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Mary W. Edmonds  
Signature of certifying official

8/11/88  
Date

Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy SHPO, S. C. Department of Archives and History  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.  See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Helena Byers  
Signature of the Keeper

Entered in the  
National Register

10/6/88  
Date of Action

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Other/American Foursquare

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Weatherboard

Shingle

roof Asbestos

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

This house conforms to the general description under property type "Residential Buildings and Complexes" and property subtype "American Foursquare."

**8. Statement of Significance**

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

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
Ethnic Heritage: Black  
Medicine

Period of Significance

c. 1915-c. 1935

Significant Dates

c. 1915

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Bailey, Dr. York W.

Architect/Builder

unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Dr. York W. Bailey House is significant as an intact and good example of the vernacular American Foursquare house form, popular in the early twentieth century. It is also significant for its association with Dr. York W. Bailey, a prominent native of the island who was St. Helena's first black doctor and only resident physician for over fifty years. The house was built c. 1915 for Bailey. He ordered it from a mail-order catalog and it was shipped to Beaufort, then brought across to the island by boat and assembled. He lived in this house until his death in 1971. Rossa Cooley, principal of Penn School, described the house in 1926 as "an achievement and an inspiration to any Penn School boy. It stands back from the road, with a neat wire fence around it, a lawn planted, an orchard in the rear, a concrete walk to the steps. It is a two-story house and the windmill nearby tells the story - running water and a bathtub. The furnishings inside are as attractive and in as good taste as could be desired - a real home."(1) Bailey, born on St. Helena in 1881, graduated from Penn School and Hampton Institute and studied medicine at Howard University, returning to the island in 1906. During his tenure as the island's only resident doctor he was often paid in trade with livestock or produce, which he sold in Beaufort. His career was frequently cited as an example of the success of Penn School in educating the blacks of St. Helena, and the York W. Bailey Cultural Center and Museum at Penn Community Center is named for him.(2)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings  
Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering  
Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

S. C. Dept. of Archives and History,  
Columbia, S. C.

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property Less than one acre

UTM References

A 

1	7
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5	4	0	0	4	0
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3	5	8	4	4	2	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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B 

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Zone Easting Northing

D 

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nomination is shown as the black line on the accompanying Beaufort County Tax Map, St. Helena Sheet # 16, Parcel 124, drawn at a scale of 1" = 400'.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the historic house and its immediate setting.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title J. Tracy Power, NR Historian/Sherry Piland, NR Architectural Historian  
organization SC Department of Archives and History date 15 February 1988  
street & number 1430 Senate St, PO Box 11669 telephone (803) 734-8608  
city or town Columbia state SC zip code 29211

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NOTES

(1) The house resembles several models of mail-order houses sold during this period by Sears, Roebuck and Company. It is possible that this was a Sears house, or a house made by such mail-order firms as Montgomery Ward, Alladin, and the Hodgson Company. H. Ward Jandl and Katherine Cole Stevenson, Houses by Mail: A Guide to Houses from Sears, Roebuck and Company (Washington: The Preservation Press for the National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1986); Interview with Jennye Dudley, Penn Center, St. Helena Island, S.C., 20 August 1987; Interview with Agnes Sherman and Helen Ladson, Penn Center, St. Helena Island, S.C., 3 November 1987; Rossa Cooley, Homes of the Freed (New York: New Republic, 1926), pp. 152-3. Jennye Dudley, a resident of St. Helena, is writing a biography of York Bailey.

(2) Ibid.; Edith M. Dabbs, Sea Island Diary: A History of St. Helena Island (Spartanburg: The Reprint Company, Publishers, 1983), pp. 224; Ronald Daise, Reminiscences of Sea Island Heritage: Legacy of Freedmen on St. Helena Island (Orangeburg: Sandlapper Publishing, 1986), p. 89.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

PHOTOGRAPHS

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

Name of property: Dr. York W. Bailey House (Historic Resources  
of St. Helena Island, c. 1740-c. 1935 multiple  
property listing)  
Location of property: Beaufort County, South Carolina  
Photographer: South Carolina Department of Archives and History  
Staff  
Location of negative: South Carolina Department of Archives and  
History

Additional information for each photograph follows:

1. Dr. York W. Bailey House  
August 1987  
Facade, view looking south.