NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NATIONAL REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Frogmore Plantation Complex

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number Off Sec. Road 77 near its junction with Sec. Road 35. [ ] not for publication

city, town St. Helena Island [ ] vicinity

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

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property		
		Contributing	Noncontributing	
[X] private	[ ] building(s)	2	3	buildings
[ ] public-local	[x] district			sites
[ ] public-State	[ ] site	1	1	structures
[ ] public-Federal	[ ] structure			objects
	[ ] object	3	4	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 [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. [ ] See continuation sheet.

Mary W. Edmonds — 8/11/88

Signature of certifying official — Date

for George L. Vogt, State Historic Preservation Officer, S. C. Dept. of Archives & 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:)

John J. Krouse — 5/26/89

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Domestic/Single Dwelling	Domestic/Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (enter categories from instructions)
Other/Central Passage Four-Over-Four	foundation Brick walls Wood/Asbestos roof Asbestos other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Frogmore Plantation Complex consists of the main house, another residence built c. 1940, a cottage, a pump house, a carport/shed, a barn, and a windmill/water tower. Because of their recent dates of construction the c. 1940 residence, the carport/shed, and the cottage are non-contributing properties.

The main house conforms to the general description under property type "Residential Structures and Complexes" and property subtype "Central Passage Four-Over-Four House." The house was built in the early nineteenth century as a one and one-half story structure. It was enlarged to two and one-half stories in the late nineteenth century. In the early twentieth century the porch was enlarged from one to two stories.

The barn, built in the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century, is a significant example of tabby construction. It is rectangular in shape, with a shed roof extension on one side. The gable roof is of standing seam metal. The entrance door is located at the gable end. An opening to the loft area is located in the gable wall surface. A dormer provides additional light to the loft area.

The windmill/water tower (c. 1920) is evidence of improving agricultural technology. The circular reservoir for water is constructed of constructed of metal and rests on a wood base. It is elevated on a metal frame. Surmounting the water reservoir is a wind mill. The windmill blades are in disrepair. This powered a pump used to draw water from the deep well for storage in the reservoir.

☐ See continuation sheet

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8. Statement of Significance

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

[x] nationally [ ] statewide [ ] locally

Applicable National Register Criteria [x] A [ ] B [x] C [ ] D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
Architecture	c. 1810 - c. 1920	c.1810
Education		1868
Ethnic Heritage/Black		
Commerce		

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person

Architect/Builder
Unknown

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

The Frogmore Plantation Complex is significant as an example of architectural development on St. Helena Island from c. 1790 to c. 1920 and for its association with Laura Towne and Ellen Murray, the founders of Penn School, and with prominent St. Helena businessman James Ross Macdonald. The plantation was originally owned by Lieutenant Governor William Bull, who willed it to his son in 1750. The property passed into the hands of John and Elizabeth Stapleton in 1790; the house and barn were built c. 1810, probably during their ownership. In the antebellum era the boat which carried mail to St. Helena Island from Beaufort landed here and mail addressed to "Frogmore" was sure to reach the island. The present-day name of Frogmore for the crossroads at the Corner derives from this usage; when the United States Post Office established a formal post office there it followed local usage and named it "Frogmore, South Carolina." Thomas Coffin, owner of Coffin's Point, owned Frogmore at his death in 1865. Three years later the house was purchased by Laura Towne and Ellen Murray. Miss Towne and Miss Murray were two of the first Northern missionaries and teachers who arrived on St. Helena in March 1862 and founded Penn School. They enlarged the house and remained here until their deaths, Miss Towne in 1900 and Miss Murray in 1908. The house and plantation were subsequently purchased by James Ross Macdonald, a prominent businessman on St. Helena (the James Ross Macdonald House and the Corner Store are included in this multiple property submission).(1)

Although no archaeological survey has been conducted in the Frogmore Plantation Complex, the early and extensive occupation, limited amount of landscape disturbing activities, and historically and architecturally significant activities in the area suggest that the site has the potential to yield valuable archaeological data.

[ ] See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

[x] 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:

- [x] State historic preservation office
- [ ] Other State agency
- [ ] Federal agency
- [ ] Local government
- [ ] University
- [ ] Other

Specify repository: SC Department of Archives & History

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 18.4 acres

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	17	541320	3580200
B	17	541380	3580120
C	17	541260	3580000
D	17	541180	3580080

[ ] 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 # 23, Parcel 123, drawn at a scale of 1" = 400'.

[ ] See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the historic house, tabby barn, and windmill/water tower and their immediate settings, as well as the historic landscape in the vicinity.

[ ] See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title J. Tracy Power, NR Historian/Sherry Piland, NR Architectural Historian

organization SC Department of Archives & History date 15 February 1988

street & number PO Box 11669 telephone (803) 734-8608

city or town Columbia state SC zip code 29211

NOTES

(1) Edith M. Dabbs, Sea Island Diary: A History of St. Helena Island (Spartanburg: The Reprint Company, Publishers, 1983), pp. 73, 83, 183-84, 203, 215; Ronald Daise, Reminiscences of Sea Island Heritage: Legacy of Freedmen on St. Helena Island (Orangeburg: Sandlapper Publishing, 1986), p. 15; Rupert Sargent Holland, Editor, Letters and Diary of Laura M. Towne, Written from the Sea Islands of South Carolina 1862-1884 (Cambridge: Riverside Press, 1912), pp. 187-310 ff.

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

Name of property: Frogmore Plantation Complex (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. Frogmore Plantation House
   April 1987
   (River) facade, view looking east.

2. Frogmore Plantation Tabby Barn
   April 1987
   View looking north.

3. Frogmore Plantation Windmill/Water Tower
   April 1987
   View looking southwest.

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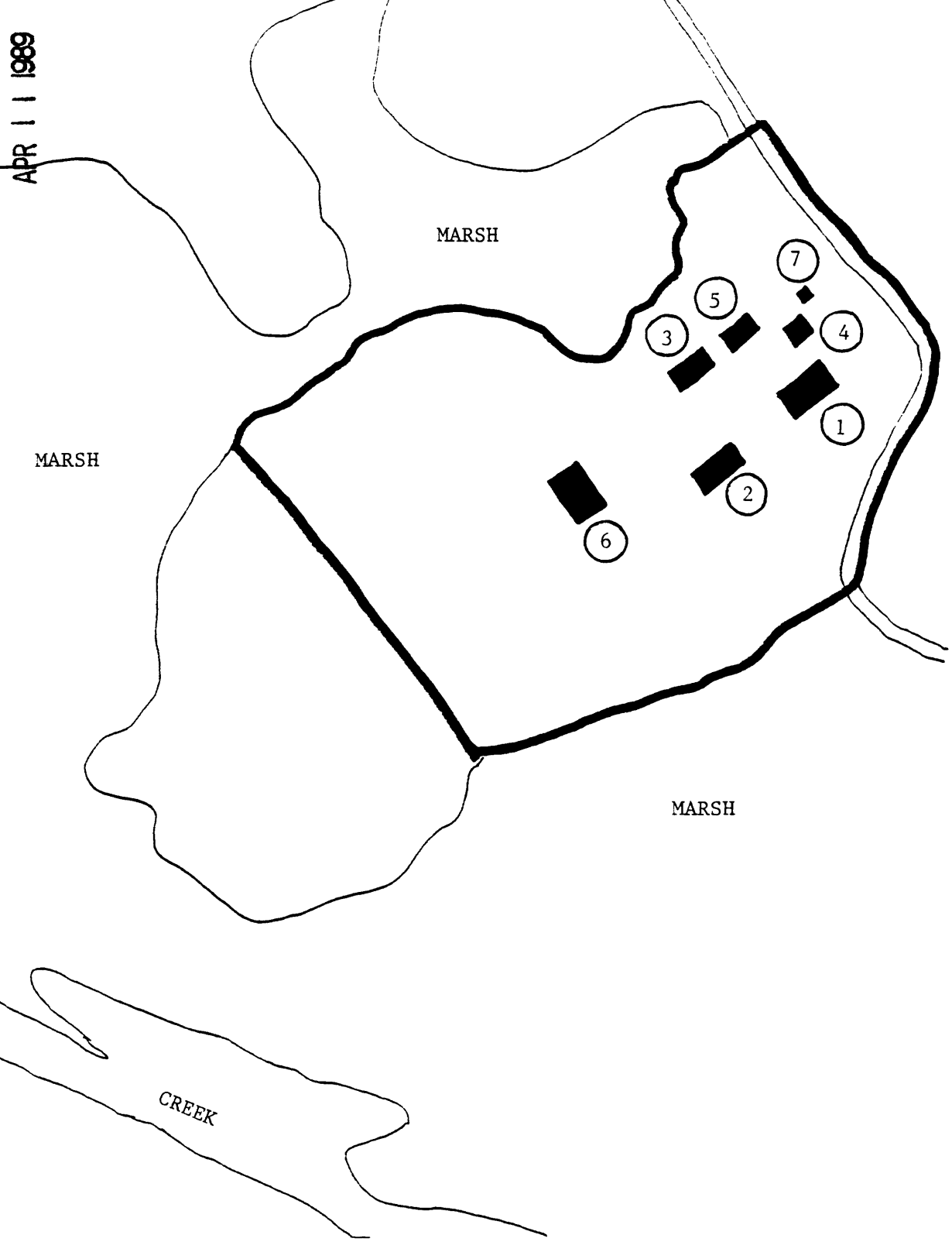

FROGMORE PLANTATION COMPLEX

Historic Resources of St. Helena Island, c. 1740 - c. 1935

NOT TO SCALE

KEY

1) Main House
2) c. 1940 House (Noncontributing)
3) Cottage (Noncontributing)
4) Pump House
5) Carport/Shed (Noncontributing)
6) Tabby Barn
7) Windmill/Water Tower