

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u> </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u> </u>
			buildings
			sites
			structures
			objects
			Total

Name of related multiple property listing
Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>Single Dwelling</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>Secondary Structure</u>
<u>LANDSCAPE</u>	<u>Garden</u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>LANDSCAPE</u>	Sub: <u>Forest</u>
<u>LANDSCAPE</u>	<u>Unoccupied Land</u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>N/A</u>	foundation <u>Tabby</u>
<u> </u>	roof <u> </u>
<u> </u>	walls <u>Tabby</u>
<u> </u>	other <u> </u>

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D 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 used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHAEOLOGY

Significant Dates

1772

1779

1861

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Barnwell, Robert Woodward

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Period of Significance

1772-1861

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 form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

Name of repository: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property [REDACTED]

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

<u>Zone</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>	<u>Zone</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>
[REDACTED]					

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

name/title Jeffrey Paul Blick, Ph.D., Principal Investigator

organization Panamerican Consultants, Inc. date 23 October 1995

street & number 924 26th Avenue East telephone (205) 556-3096

city or town Tuscaloosa state AL zip code 35404

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SEPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SEPO or FPO.)



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Environmental Setting

Beaufort County is situated within the Lower Coastal plain physiographic province of South Carolina. The landscape surrounding the Laurel Bay Housing Area is generally of low relief with elevations ranging from approximately sea level to 25 ft. (0-8 meters [m]) above mean sea level (amsl). Soil associations in the general area include the Wando-Seabrook-Sewee association which is described as excessively drained to poorly drained sandy soils, and the Coosaw-Williman-Ridgeland association; these associations are on the Pamlico marine terrace (Stuck 1980). Also along the wetland margins of Laurel Bay is the Bohicket-Capers-Handsboro association which consists of soils typical of the flood plain and tidal marsh, described as very poorly drained mineral and organic soils that are flooded daily or occasionally by saltwater and adjacent upstream areas that are occasionally flooded by freshwater (Stuck 1980). More specific soil types in the immediate area of the tabby wall ruins include Wando fine sand, Nemours fine sandy loam, Coosaw loamy fine sand, and Eddings fine sand, all of which are found on slopes of 6 percent or less (Stuck 1980). Laurel Bay Housing Area and the immediate site of Laurel Bay Plantation (a.k.a. the Tabby Ruin Site, 38BU1431) [REDACTED]

The region of the tabby wall ruins can be described as a transitional [REDACTED]. Extensive salt marshes and tidal creeks form complex estuary systems supporting a rich diversity of habitats. Broad stretches of marsh grasses are interspersed among the pine and maritime oak stands on the higher elevations (Mistovich and Clinton 1991:3).

The specific location of the tabby wall ruins reflects the riverine and maritime character of the region. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] this may be the result of recent siltation. Current depths are certainly adequate for small merchant vessels, such as coastal schooners which had a draft of 3-4 ft., which could have transshipped their cargoes to a larger vessel anchored in deeper water or at a larger port facility such as Beaufort or even Savannah. Rice flats (like barges), which would have been used to transport rice from a rice plantation to larger ocean-going vessels, have very shallow drafts (ca. 1 ft.). Therefore it is clear that if the plantation was once involved in transporting agricultural produce, it was not necessary for dock facilities to have immediate access to deep water (12-15 ft. or greater) in

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order to serve as a convenient dock or transshipping point (Stephen R. James, Jr. and James Duff, maritime archaeologists for Panamerican Consultants, Inc., personal communications, 1995). The location of the tabby wall ruins [REDACTED] consistent with a plantation and/or dock/warehouse function, although livestock pen, dairy, cotton ginning, and orchard or ornamental garden functions have also been suggested (Dr. Lawrence Roland, personal communication, 1995).

Physical Characteristics

The site can be classified as a tabby wall and structure ruin site, one of many in the South Carolina Lowcountry. Tabby is a:

lime [mortar] made from oyster shell mixed with water: a large proportion of whole oyster shells is mixed in. This mortar is poured into wooded frames the length and thickness of the wall to be constructed. These forms have no bottoms but their sides are joined at certain intervals at top and bottom by pieces of wood, and, when they are brim full left for two or three days (la Rochefaucauld Liancourt 1799 in Binney 1980:916).

The extant ruins include sections of two tabby walls, one running [REDACTED]

tabby structure and a depression (perhaps a borrow pit). The east-west tabby wall segment is divided into two sections, the first being 295.86 ft. and the second 23.94 ft. (90.18 and 7.29 m, respectively). The north-south tabby wall segment is 678.96 ft. long (206.95 m). The total length of the tabby wall sections equals 998.76 ft. (304.42 m), or somewhat shorter than the approximately 700 by 400 ft. (1100 total ft.) depicted in Cable et al. (1994:5, Figure 2).

Features present at the site include the wall segments, a tabby structure foundation, two depressions (possible borrow pits or at least one possible pond or "aquarium" dating to the 1772-1779 Laurel Bay Plantation), two brick piles (possible outbuilding ruins), and a shell pile (a possible shell midden associated with one of the possible outbuildings). The known and projected depth and extent of archaeological materials is approximately 30-50 cm below surface based on standard shovel test depths; the extent of archaeological materials can be traced along the ground surface for the walls, whereas the historic artifacts appear to be confined to those areas immediately around and/or adjacent to the brick and shell piles and the tabby structure ruins (see Cable et al. 1994:23-35). The exact vertical and horizontal distribution of features, artifacts, and ecofacts is currently unknown, but other feature classes could include privies and other

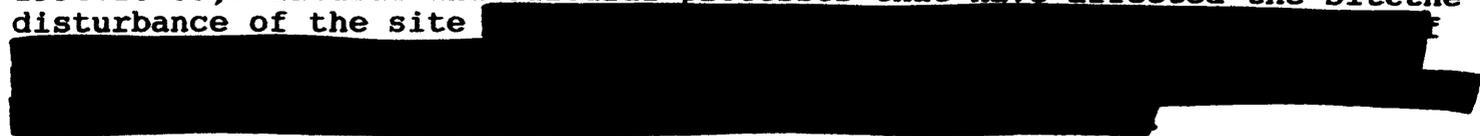
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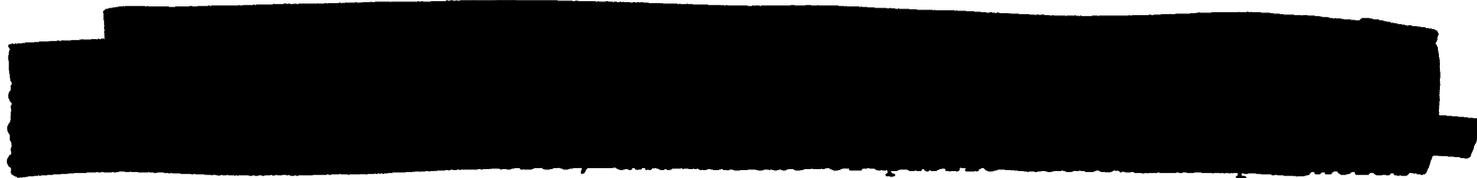
domestic/outbuilding activity areas. Other as yet unrecognized artifacts and artifact patterns are likely to be found upon further investigation of the site. The projected dates of the site occupation and use is ca. 1773 to no later than 1840 based on ceramics and window glass (Cable et al. 1994:28-33). Natural and cultural processes that have affected the site the disturbance of the site



Likely Appearance of the Site During Occupation and Use

The appearance of this portion of the site during occupation and use is not clear. Apparently, this site represents an area which was once part of Laurel Bay and Woodward plantations, although it seems that the main house areas are not included in this area (based on the artifact patterning). What the site appears to represent is an area peripheral to the earlier of the two plantations, Laurel Bay, and may include the kitchen and other outbuildings marked by the shell and brick debris and the tabby structure ruin currently visible on the surface. The long tabby walls may once have been part of an ornamental plantation garden wall (Dr. Lawrence Roland, personal communication, 1995) and/or fish pond ("aquarium") on the grounds of the plantation. The past height of the tabby walls is also unknown at the present time as is the exact function of the tabby walls, although residential architecture is ruled out due to the unusual length of the tabby walls (see Blick 1995:16-17). Laurel Bay Plantation has been described as "a colonial mansion complete with aquarium" (Cable et al. 1994:10) whereas Woodward Plantation has been described as "very plain and could not compete with its colonial predecessor" (Barnwell 1969:38). A photograph of Woodward Plantation is shown in Barnwell (1969) and Cable et al. (1994:17, Figure 7) and suggests that it is a two-story Federal style (ca. 1780-1840) house with a hipped roof of very low pitch, perhaps set on piers.

Current and Past Impacts on the Site



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Previous Investigations

Previous investigations have included a mapping and shovel testing project by New South Associates, Inc. during the period October 18-22, 1993 (Cable et al. 1994) and a EDM (electronic distance measuring) theodolite mapping project of the area using a Geodimeter Model 422 professional surveying instrument by Panamerican Consultants, Inc. (Blick 1995) during late October 1994. Lepionka (1982:6) also calls the tabby wall ruins a "long field wall" in his survey of Tabby Structures on the South Carolina Coast; no further mention of the site is made. Archival and literature reviews have been performed by all three of the aforementioned projects and a bibliography accompanies this form for the reader's information. New South Associates, Inc.'s investigation included the mapping of the site with tape and compass and the excavation of approximately 300 30 cm diameter shovel tests in a grid pattern every 45 ft. across the site. The purpose of the New South Associates, Inc. project was to perform a background investigation into the history of the site and to locate the horizontal site limits and other areas of interest. The mapping project performed by Panamerican Consultants, Inc. was designed to accurately map features present at the site and tie the site map in to known geographic features and to establish permanent datum markers at the site for future reference. In addition, further background investigations yielded some information not included in the previous New South Associates, Inc. report. Lepionka's (1982) survey was a general review of tabby structures present along the South Carolina coast performed for the South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium. Important bibliographic references can be found in Section 9.

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Significant Persons (Additional)

Middleton, Thomas
Barnwell Middleton Bull, Anne
Bull, Stephen
Barnwell, Robert Gibbes
Barnwell, William Hazzard Wigg
Barnwell, Nathaniel

Narrative Statement of Significance

Laurel Bay Plantation/Woodward Plantation (a.k.a. the Tabby Ruin Site, 38BU1431) meets National Register Criterion D as an archaeological site (potential to yield important information about history) and Criterion B (association with an important person or persons). There are no known criteria considerations for the property. The site, as an archaeological resource, has already been proven to contain archaeological artifacts which have convincingly dated the site to the period of its historical significance (ca. 1772-1861) as well as spatial patternings of artifacts which indicate specific activity areas probably associated with domestic outbuilding activities related to either or both Laurel Bay Plantation (ca. 1772-1779) and Woodward Plantation (ca. 1800-1861) (Cable et al. 1994). In addition, the property was also part of Woodward Plantation once owned by Robert Woodward Barnwell, an influential figure in South Carolina history. The site is important to the history of its locality (Beaufort/Port Royal, South Carolina Lowcountry), the state of South Carolina, and nation because Laurel Bay Plantation/Woodward Plantation was owned by the prominent Barnwell/Middleton/Bull family which was active in the Revolutionary War, local mercantile affairs and the plantation economy, State and Confederate governments, and the Civil War. The site was witness to the British invasion of the Beaufort area in 1778/1779 during which the home at Laurel Bay was shelled by British forces; the property was also later confiscated by the Federal government during the Civil War.

A chronological history of the property (summarized from Cable et al. 1994) noting significant persons and events has implications for the property's historic development, and is presented below:

- ca. post 1750 Laurel Bay purchased by Colonel Nathaniel Barnwell
- 1766 Laurel Bay owned by Thomas Middleton, first husband of Anne Barnwell, at his death
- 1768 Ad in South Carolina Gazette announces sale of Thomas Middleton's estate at Laurel Bay and Parlez-Vous

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- ca. 1772 Colonial mansion with aquarium built at Laurel Bay by Anne Barnwell Middleton Bull and Stephen Bull, Anne's second husband whom she married in 1772
- 1775 Laurel Bay in possession of Nathaniel Barnwell at his death; Anne Barnwell Middleton Bull inherits Laurel Bay
- 1777 Map shows developed area at Laurel Bay suggesting a plantation with organized rows of trees and/or crops
- 1778 Map shows house of Dick's north of Laurel Bay on Whale Branch; map shows British landing site and proposed battery at Laurel Bay
- 1778/1779 British invade Port Royal Island, debarking their troops at Laurel Bay, also the location of a proposed battery; Laurel Bay destroyed by British shelling and then a fire
- ca. 1800 Robert Gibbes Barnwell, Anne's brother, purchases Laurel Bay and builds a new house on the colonial home site
- 1814 William Hazzard Wigg Barnwell, Robert's second son, inherits Laurel Bay, but resides permanently at Coosawatchie and only winters at Laurel Bay; Laurel Bay is supervised by an overseer from 1814 on and gradually deteriorates
- ca. 1814-1861 Robert Woodward Barnwell owns and resides at Woodward Plantation, his principal country seat
- 1861 Laurel Bay and Woodward Plantations confiscated by the Federal government early in the Civil War
- 1865 Map shows locations of Laurel Bay and Woodward Plantations; three buildings aligned in a row are indicated at Laurel Bay and its owner is shown as W.H. Barnwell, and three buildings are shown at Woodward with the owner marked as R.W. Barnwell
- 1868 A deed describes Woodward as a 400 acre plantation; an 1879 deed notes that a writ of fieri facias was lodged against Robert Woodward Barnwell in 1868 and that the sale of his property was aimed at satisfying his debt
- 1873 Map identifies Laurel Bay and indicates that Woodward was owned or inhabited by a family named Gilbert
- 1876 Map shows both Woodward Plantation and Laurel Bay Plantation but shows only two buildings at each

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-
- 1879 Eliza Barnwell, Robert Woodward Barnwell's wife, is the highest bidder at a public sale and purchases Woodward and Pigeon Swamp for a consideration of \$100; Woodward Plantation is 400 acres and extends from Whale Branch south to Laurel Bay Plantation
- 1902 Deed indicates that Catherine Barnwell owned land bordering Laurel Bay on the north
- 1926 Nathaniel B. Barnwell conveys Woodward (ca. 400 acres) to John C. Calhoun for a consideration of \$10; Calhoun also purchases the 146.8 acre Laurel Bay from the Barnwell heirs for \$8,150, thus joining the two properties again (ca. 546.8 acres total)
- 1927 John C. Calhoun sells Laurel Bay and Woodward to Warren E. Corning
- 1930 Map of Woodward Plantation indicates the property has 523 acres; tabby wall shown as boundary between Woodward Plantation and Laurel Bay Plantation
- 1932 A Charleston News and Courier article of Jan. 24 describes the Corning place as containing old tabby ruins of a building and a wall extending 1500 ft. in two directions
- 1944 Corning sells the property to the Hotel Woodstock Realty Co., Inc. of New York City for \$119,450
- 1947 Property sold to Julius A. and Rita K. White of Mill Neck, New York
- 1956 Map shows location of tabby wall as boundary marker between the property of Julius A. and Rita K. White and Louis A. Montaq
- 1959 U.S. Government purchases property for inclusion into the Marine Corps Air Station, Beaufort

According to Cable et al. (1994:9), Laurel Bay Plantation was purchased by Colonel Nathaniel Barnwell, of the prominent Barnwell family, sometime after 1750; he was in possession of Laurel Bay at his death in 1775. Laurel Bay Plantation was inherited by his daughter, Anne Barnwell, who first married Colonel Thomas Middleton and then Colonel Stephen Bull of Sheldon Hall in 1772 (Cable et al. 1994:9).

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During the period ca. 1772-1779, a colonial mansion complete with aquarium was reportedly built at Laurel Bay, probably during Anne Barnwell Middleton Bull's tenure; this edifice, however, was shelled by the British during the Revolutionary War and then destroyed by fire (Cable et al. 1994:10). According to an historic map (Engineering Department Map Showing Route of the British in 1778, U.S. Marine Corps Museum, Parris Island, S.C.; Cable et al. 1994:12, Figure 4), "The British debarked their troops at this spot in 1778." This caption indicates a location at Laurel Bay near the Barnwell residence. The map also indicates the position of a "proposed Battery" just north of "Barnwells" and "Laurel Bay."

According to Cable et al. (1994:13), the Barnwell home at Laurel Bay would have been a prime target for the British since both John Barnwell and Stephen Bull were elected to the First Provincial Congress which met in 1775. Laurel Bay was owned by Anne Barnwell Middleton Bull and her husband Stephen until ca. 1800; it was then purchased by her brother Robert Gibbes Barnwell, a South Carolina state senator from 1803-1806 and author of an anti-slavery bill despite the fact that he himself was a slave owner recorded as owning 89 slaves in 1810 (Cable et al. 1994:13).

Robert Gibbes Barnwell built a new house on the colonial homesite, but apparently it was "very plain and could not compete with its colonial predecessor" (Barnwell 1969:38 in Cable et al. 1994:13). The plantation was then passed to Robert's second son, the Reverend William Hazzard Wigg Barnwell, who chose not to reside permanently at Laurel Bay but rather at Coosawatchie; during this period the family wintered at Laurel Bay while the plantation was supervised by an overseer, and gradually deteriorated from 1814 onward (Cable et al. 1994:13).

The history of Laurel Bay Plantation becomes entwined with that of the nearby Woodward Plantation at this time (Cable et al. 1994:7, 13). No plats or deeds were found showing either Laurel Bay or Woodward, and it appears that the archaeological tabby wall ruins at the site under consideration became used as a boundary line between Laurel Bay and Woodward plantations (1930 Map of Woodward Plantation, Beaufort County Courthouse; Cable et al. 1994:20, Figure 9; 1956 Map Showing Location of Tabby Wall on Julius A. and Rita K. White's Property, U.S. Marine Corps Museum, Parris Island; Cable et al. 1994:22, Figure 11), properties owned by two brothers (Cable et al. 1994:7), Robert Woodward Barnwell and William Hazzard Wigg Barnwell.

Woodward Plantation was owned by Robert Woodward Barnwell and was used as his principal country seat (Cable et al. 1994:13). Robert Woodward Barnwell was a Harvard graduate and a member of the South Carolina bar; he later became a state senator and president, and later member of the board, of South Carolina College (Cable et al. 1994:13). Robert Woodward Barnwell was active within the Confederate government as senator from South Carolina elected to the First Congress of the Confederate States and chairman of the finance committee (Cable et al. 1994:13-14). When Beaufort fell to Union

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forces in November of 1861, Robert Woodward Barnwell and his family were forced away from home; he later moved to Columbia and was chairman of the faculty at the University of South Carolina in 1866 (Cable et al. 1994:14). The Barnwell properties were confiscated during the Civil War and another family, Gilbert, seems to have owned or resided at Woodward/Laurel Bay in or around 1873; the property was later redeemed by Eliza Barnwell in 1879 (Cable et al. 1994:14).

The property remained in the hands of the Barnwell family until the early twentieth century as demonstrated by a 1902 deed for Laurel Bay naming Catherine Barnwell as owner (Beaufort County Deed Book 26:84) and a 1926 conveyance of Woodward Plantation from Nathaniel B. Barnwell to John C. Calhoun; Calhoun also purchased Laurel Bay Plantation in 1926 (Beaufort County Deed Book 43:283), thereby joining the two properties once again (Cable et al. 1994:14-19). Thus, the period of time during which the property was associated with the prominent Barnwell family is ca. 1750-1926; other periods of significance during this time frame include 1772-1779 during which Anne Barnwell Middleton Bull and Stephen Bull built and lived at Laurel Bay prior to its destruction, and ca. 1800-1861 when the property was owned by Robert Gibbes Barnwell and later his sons, Robert Woodward Barnwell and William Hazzard Wigg Barnwell, prior to the confiscation of the property by the Federal government during the Civil War.

The period of significance of this property is based on the archaeological and historical evidence which supports ownership and residence of the property by Anne Barnwell Middleton Bull and Stephen Bull (ca. 1772-1779) and the property's continuation in the Barnwell family up to and including the period during which it was owned and occupied by Robert Woodward Barnwell (ca. 1814-1861).

The events that took place on the significant dates and the ways that they are important to the property include: 1) the construction and destruction of Laurel Bay Plantation during the residence of Anne Barnwell Middleton Bull and Stephen Bull (ca. 1772-1779); 2) the ownership of, and residence at, the property by Robert Woodward Barnwell (ca. 1814-1861) until the property's confiscation by the Federal government in 1861.

The ways the property reflects its period of significance include: 1) there are archaeological remains of possible outbuildings and activity areas associated with the Laurel Bay Plantation (ca. 1772-1779) and possibly with the Woodward Plantation (ca. 1800-1861); 2) artifacts date the occupation from its suggested date of construction (ca. 1773) to pre 1840; thus it appears that archaeological evidence may pertain to both periods of this property's significance; 3) the fact that the wall and structure ruins are built of tabby, a material and technique typical of the region and period (ca. 1730-1830), is also reflective of the property's period of significance.

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The property relates to the significant events and occupations which took place there in that: 1) the property was built and occupied by Anne Barnwell Middleton Bull and Stephen Bull during the period ca. 1772-1779 until its destruction by the British invasion of the area during the Revolutionary War; 2) the property was owned and occupied by Robert Woodward Barnwell during the period ca. 1814-1861 until the site's confiscation by the Federal government early in the Civil War.

Alterations, such as the destruction of the original buildings associated with Laurel Bay and Woodward plantations have not affected the integrity of this property as an archaeological site since domestic outbuildings and other associated activity areas appear to remain intact and contain artifacts dating to the periods of the property's significance. The ability of the property to convey its significant associations is quite high given the intact nature of the archaeological deposits.

The events that occurred at this property reflect broad patterns of American history. First of all, Anne Barnwell Middleton Bull and Stephen Bull were members of wealthy and influential mercantile and political families of the South Carolina region. The British invasion of the Port Royal area during the Revolutionary War resulted in the destruction of their home, Laurel Bay, which was the chosen spot for the disembarkation of British troops; this action may have been due to John Barnwell's and Stephen Bull's participation in the First Provincial Congress of 1775 (Cable et al. 1994:9). Secondly, Robert Woodward Barnwell was a South Carolina state senator, a Confederate political figure, and influential in the formation and perpetuation of the University of South Carolina during the university's darkest days after the Civil War and during Reconstruction. The property's association with families and persons who were prominent in the Revolutionary War and the Civil War, two of this country's most critical periods during its formative years, make this property highly significant to the study of this volatile period in American history. The Revolutionary and Civil Wars altered the lives of thousands of American citizens, rich and poor, free and enslaved, and it may be possible to examine the lifestyles of persons associated with these major events by studying the property under consideration.

The cultural context in which the property is considered significant is that of the Euro-American plantation economy of the southern United States. Since there appears to be the remains of domestic outbuildings and activity areas on the property, it may be possible to examine Euro-American foodways and other domestic activities of the period. Since persons involved in the performance of duties in such domestic outbuildings were likely enslaved African-Americans, it may be possible to examine the types of activities such individuals performed and the conditions in which they worked. The site relates to the region's history in that it is an unusual example of a tabby wall construction, apparently the longest of its kind in

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the region, and it is an area of well-preserved domestic outbuilding and activity areas associated with an important plantation (or plantations) of the ca. 1772-1861 period. Other tabby structures and ruins exist in the South Carolina Lowcountry representing plantations, outbuildings, etc., but this site is unusual in that it combines the ruins of a long wall with the ruins of a tabby structure plus additional evidence for destroyed structures and activity areas likely to be associated with said structures.

The known data categories (artifact types, counts, etc.) can yield information regarding the period of construction and occupation/use of the site (current artifact sample sizes from the work by New South Associates, Inc. [Cable et al. 1994] are too small to be statistically valid for all functional categories). Additional artifacts, especially ceramics and other items of the Kitchen Group, will help to provide a more well founded mean ceramic date and date range. The known data categories can yield information relevant to kitchen activities (foodways), architecture (construction, date of construction), arms (weapons), personal items (coins, keys, jewelry, watches, etc.), tobacco pipes, and other activities of the persons residing and/or working at the property during the periods under consideration. Additional kinds of information that are expected to be present include food remains (animal bones, preserved seeds, etc.) which may yield information regarding diet and foodways, subsurface pits (storage pits, trash pits, privies, etc.) which may yield information on food and foodways, refuse disposal patterns, diet, etc., wells (refuse disposal), etc. Similarities which permit comparison with other known sites include the fact that the site is a colonial plantation, at least parts of which were constructed of tabby, and that the site was owned and occupied by members of a prominent South Carolina family. Likely sites to examine for comparison include 38BU90 (a tabby structure), the Haig Point House, and other tabby structures on Spring Island, Pinckney Island, Dataw Island, Hilton Head Island, and Darien Bluff, Georgia (Brooker 1988, 1989, 1990; Drucker and Anthony 1980; Lepionka 1979, 1982, 1984; Trinkley 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990; and Watkins 1970), just to name a few.

The property's potential for research is excellent. The intact nature of the archaeological deposits, as demonstrated by Cable et al. (1994), has shown that much information can be derived from the site regarding activities and activity areas associated with the domestic outbuildings probably represented by the archaeological materials at the site. Research questions that can be addressed at the site include: What were the functions of the tabby walls and structure? Exactly to which time period do these structures date? Is there anything left of the main house of Laurel Bay and/or Woodward plantations? What types of activities were carried out on the property? What were the foodways of the residents and/or the servants at the site like? What were the refuse disposal patterns of the residents of the site? These questions relate to the current understanding of the region's archaeology in that very few plantation sites are adequately known to address questions regarding both the primary occupants

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and the domestic servants. This may be one example of a site in which the lifeways of both classes can be examined and verified with archaeological data. The property has great potential to address the issue of cultural history in that this site was affected by two major American wars within a period of less than a century. The property was subjected to the abuses of both the Revolutionary and Civil Wars; while the wealthy white landowners suffered in both cases, the African-Americans who lived and worked at the site at the time of the Civil War likely experienced freedom for the first time in their lives. Who, exactly, was the Gilbert family that apparently lived at the site in ca. 1873? Were they a white family, or were the Gilberts freed blacks who came to own or reside at the property as a result of the land distribution which was part of the Port Royal Experiment?

The evidence that supports the evaluation of significance is the intact, undisturbed nature of the archaeological deposits which retain the ability to provide information on dating and spatial artifact patterning crucial to an understanding of the site's history and function (see Cable et al. 1994; Blick 1995). The good integrity of the site (as an archaeological site) bolsters the property's significance and its ability to yield information important to history in that the site does not appear to be significantly disturbed. The site has not been totally excavated and there are no additional buildings or structures on the site that are architecturally or historically significant.

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 97000095

Date Listed: 2/27/97

Laurel Bay Plantation
Property Name

Beaufort
County

SC
State

N/A
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

for/ Robert J. Little

Signature of the Keeper

5/17/97

Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Significance:
The site is not significant under Criterion B; Criterion D is the correct criterion.
The period of significance should be 1772-1840 due to the period of the site's occupation.
The cultural affiliation is Euro-American.

Attempted to confirm with Navy FPO but received no response.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file**
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**