

District #1 -- Congressman Mendel Davis

7. America at Work

Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: South Carolina	
COUNTY: Charleston	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	7/23/74

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Windsor Plantation

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Little Edisto Plantation; Ashwood Plantation

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: SC Hwy 174, 6 1/2 miles N of Edisto Island Post Office; cross Russell Creek; first unimproved road on E side arrives at house

CITY OR TOWN:  
Edisto Island

STATE: South Carolina      CODE: 045      COUNTY: Charleston      CODE: 019

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: John D. Whittemore      Demi Howard

STREET AND NUMBER: 14 Elliott Street      90 Lowcountry Energy Systems P.O. Box 1101

CITY OR TOWN: Charleston      STATE: South Carolina      CODE: 402 045

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Charleston County Courthouse (Register of Mesne Conveyance)

STREET AND NUMBER: 2 Court House Square

CITY OR TOWN: Charleston      STATE: South Carolina      CODE: 045

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina

DATE OF SURVEY: 1973       Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: South Carolina Department of Archives and History

STREET AND NUMBER: 1430 Senate Street

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia      STATE: South Carolina      CODE: 045

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

Excellent

Good

Fair

Deteriorated

Ruins

Unexposed

(Check One)

(Check One)

Altered

Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved

Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This large two-and-one-half story clapboard structure was constructed ca. 1857. The original high brick pillars in Flemish bond are now enclosed (brick laid in American bond) for the creation of ground floor rooms. A wide one-story veranda extends across the front of the house and is supported by eight free-standing columns and two engaged columns with an inter-columnar balustrade. A balustrade also runs along the wide wooden front steps and on the porch roof. The medium-gable main roof with returns has two massive hooded chimneys which allow for fireplaces in every room.

A central entrance has unusual octagonal glass insets that may have replaced the original side and transom lights. There are two 6/6 windows to either side of the doors on both floors; the second-floor double door is sheltered by a small pent roof. The area beneath the veranda is screened as a porch.

The left side elevation has three small windows at basement level, four windows on the first and second floors, and a single window with sidelights in the gable. A slight variation is found on the right side of the structure: the main floor has only three windows.

A much smaller veranda is attached to the rear of the structure and, since there is no second-floor exterior door, the porch roof lacks a balustrade. The rear door has sidelights and is flanked by four windows. Centered above that door is a roof-level window with sidelights and four windows which match those below. This veranda may be a later addition, for the columns are much smaller than those at the front.

INTERIOR

Wide central halls traverse both floors and are connected by a broad staircase with the original bannister; there are two rooms to either side of the hall on each floor; the fireplaces have simple mantels and each room has wainscoting.

Under the wallpaper in the hall are carved the names of Union soldiers who were in the house during the period when the house was abandoned (during and just after the War Between the States).

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian
- 15th Century
- 16th Century
- 17th Century
- 18th Century
- 19th Century
- 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) ca. 1857

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture  | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Windsor, a spacious house amid moss-hung trees on Russell Creek, was constructed ca. 1857 as a wedding gift to one of the sons of Edward Whaley. This plantation was a major producer of sea island cotton.

Agriculture

The southern coastal islands were famous for the production of sea island cotton, known for its long, strong, and silky fiber that brought handsome profits to its owners. Although this variety (which had come from Bermuda) took almost twice as long to pick as inland cotton, its superior quality made it much in demand and brought larger profits.

Architecture

The large clapboard structure is a good example of a sea island interpretation of Georgian architecture. Large verandas, wide halls, spacious rooms with high ceilings, and a large number of windows were the general requirements for an area of generally mild winters and hot, humid summers. The high brick foundations, which elevated the structure to catch the river breezes, also helped safeguard it against high tides. The overly large rooms also indicated wealth; their massive fireplaces required the work of many servants to keep the house heated during the winter.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Graydon, Nell S. Tales of Edisto. R. L. Bryan Company: Columbia, South Carolina, 1955.

Johnson, G.G. A Social History of the Sea Islands. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1930.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	• • •	• • •		80°	20'	41"
NE	• • •	• • •		33°	35'	58"
SE	• • •	• • •				
SW	• • •	• • •				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 7 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Staff -- Historic Preservation Division (and Elias B. Bull)

ORGANIZATION: South Carolina Department of Archives and History DATE: January 15, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: 1430 Senate Street

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia STATE: South Carolina CODE: 045

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: Charles E. Lee

Title: Historic Preservation Officer  
South Carolina Department of Archives & History

Date: January 28, 1974

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Keeper of The National Register

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS