

PH 0505 331

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED SEP 29 1977 DATA SHEET
DATE ENTERED FEB 23 1978

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Jonathan Lucas House

AND/OR COMMON

Jonathan Lucas House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

286 Calhoun Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Charleston

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

#1

STATE

South Carolina

VICINITY OF

CODE

045

COUNTY

Charleston

CODE

019

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED (basement)
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER: (medical)

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Medical Society of South Carolina (Roper Hospital)

STREET & NUMBER

316 Calhoun Street

CITY, TOWN

Charleston

VICINITY OF

STATE

South Carolina

29403

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register of Mesne Conveyance, Charleston County

STREET & NUMBER

2 Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Charleston

STATE

South Carolina

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic American Building Survey, South Carolina Catalog

DATE

1972

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

U.S. Department of the Interior

CITY, TOWN

Washington, D.C.

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

EXTERIOR: House is five bays wide & four bays deep; three stories on a high basement, with a low hip roof concealed by a parapet. Rear wing (added after 1888) is two bays wide and two bays deep, of three stories on a high basement, with a hip roof. All construction is of brick, stuccoed. Main portion of house has, continuing on all sides at the parapet, a heavy cornice with foliated modillions and a frieze with dentils. Front or south facade is dominated by three tiers of piazzas, with fluted Doric columns on the basement and first levels and fluted Ionic columns on the second level; balustrades with urn-shaped balusters on the first and second levels, and cornices with dentils on the first and second levels. A double flight of marble steps, with iron railings and a rusticated masonry base, ascends to the first piazza level. The entrance in the central bay on this level has elaborate door surround with elliptical fanlight, sidelights and rich Adamesque ornamentation--slender fluted pilasters with acanthus capitals, frieze of garlands, dentil course, bracketed cornice, refined tracery in the sidelights, delicately carved bead and chain molding in the fanlight, enriched molding over the fanlight. A doorway, with fanlight and sidelights, in the central bay of the second level, is a subdued version of the doorway below it. The central bay on the third level has a tripartite window. Windows have nine lights to a sash on the first level and six lights to a sash on other levels.

INTERIOR: The traditional double house plan, with a wide central hall/stairhall, flanked originally on all floors by two rooms on each side is followed. Curving stairway at rear or north end of hall ascends from first to third floor. Wainscoting and walls follow curve of stairway; large, semi-circular arched windows, flanked by arched wall niches, light the stairway on each flight. Stairwell is separated from hallway on first floor by elliptical arch supported by consoles. Adamesque detailing continues throughout interior. The east and west drawing rooms, on the first level, are the most elaborate, with plaster cornices, friezes and ceiling bands and medallions, wall panels outlined in applied stucco ornamentation, delicately paneled wainscoting and window and door reveals, mantels and door and window surrounds in the Adamesque style with dentil courses and applied plaster ornamentation. (Rooms in the addition do not have the detail work of the original structure. Due to changes over the years, the second and third levels of the original portion of the interior also lack these details.)

For years the Lucas House served as nurses' quarters for Roper Hospital. In 1961 this service ended, and the main portion of the house was vacated. (A portion of the first floor, however, was kept as living quarters, but this is now vacant.) In 1964 the basement area, which had been used as an x-ray area, was remodeled and converted into its present use as the vascular research lab and as a storage area.

Ca. 1964-'65 Roper Hospital began restoration of the third floor area. Partitions were torn out to restore room space, and the stairs leading to the third floor were stabilized. Restoration work, however, was not completed.

SURROUNDINGS: The Lucas House is surrounded by the South Carolina Medical College complex. Roper Hospital is interested in finding a use for the house; however, at present no plans are available.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Jonathan Lucas House, built between 1803 and 1809, is an excellent example of the Adamesque style of architecture. The builder was a member of a prominent Lowcountry family of mill builders and rice planters, and initiated technical advancements in rice milling which helped establish it as a major industry in America and Europe.

AGRICULTURE: Development and improvement of rice milling techniques by the Lucas family greatly stimulated the planting of rice which in the 19th Century became the mainstay of the South Carolina Lowcountry economy. The family also engaged in rice planting, maintaining several valuable plantations.

ARCHITECTURE: Jonathan Lucas, Jr. built the mansion sometime between his purchase of the site in December, 1803 and the publication of the 1809 city directory, which lists him as residing on Boundary Street (now Calhoun). The house is an excellent example of the Adamesque Style popular in Charleston during the late 1790s and early decades of the 19th Century. Particularly notable are the fine entrance doorway and the winding staircase, woodwork and plaster work of the interior. The "Historic Architecture Inventory of the Peninsular City, Charleston, S.C." lists the structure in "Group 2; Excellent. High style regional architecture--Fine 'Charleston Style' -- well-designed and proportioned, with good detail. These are spirited, dignified, frequently innovative, rare, and always attractive and interesting. Of irreplaceable importance, to be preserved in situ at all costs."

INDUSTRY/ INVENTION: As well as being the main family residence, the house served as headquarters for a complex of rice and lumber mills which Jonathan Lucas, Jr. and his family operated on the present grounds of Roper Hospital. The Lucas family initiated a series of advancements in rice milling which established it as an important industry in Charleston, in England, and in other countries.

Jonathan Lucas, Jr., (1775-1832), built the first toll mill in 1801 at Middleburg, his mother's plantation on Cooper River, and installed the first brushing screen in that mill in 1803. He received a patent from the Federal Government in 1808 for his conical cylinder rice husking machine, and in 1819 another patent for husking and cleaning rice. In 1817 he and John L. Norton applied steam power to rice milling for the first time. His first steam-powered rice mill was located on Lucas (now Barre) Street, just north of the Lucas House. About 1822 Jonathan Lucas, Jr. went to England at the invitation of the British government to develop his rice milling process there; in 1827 he and his son-in-law, Henry Ewbank, received a British patent for his conical cylinder rice cleaning invention. Jonathan Lucas III, his son, was left

(see continuation sheet)

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

8

PAGE

one

behind in Charleston to run the family milling and planting interests in South Carolina. About 1840 the younger Lucas built a steam-powered rice mill on Ashley River. After his parents' deaths, Jonathan Lucas III inherited the Lucas House and mill establishment.

SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN: The Lucas House and grounds were purchased by the City of Charleston in 1887 as the site of the new City Hospital. In 1893 the structure was equipped as the "River-Side Infirmary " for the treatment of private patients. About 1921 the house became the Kinloch Home for Nurses. Ownership was transferred to the Medical Society of South Carolina (Roper Hospital) in 1932.

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9

PAGE two

- Gregorie, Anne King, articles in Dictionary of American Biography, Dumas Malone, ed. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1933.
- Simons, Albert, & Lapham, Samuel, Jr., The Early Architecture of Charleston. Columbia, S.C.: University of South Carolina Press (Second Edition), 1970.
- Waring, Dr. Joseph Ioor, Roper Hospital - A Brief History. Charleston: Board of Commissioners of Roper Hospital, 1964.
- Historic American Building Survey, S.C. Catalog, compiled by Harley J. McKee, 1972. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.
- Historic Architecture Inventory of the Peninsular City, Charleston, S.C., compiled by Russell Wright, Carl Feiss & Robert Anderson Associates. Chapel Hill, 1974.
- Sanborn Insurance Map of Charleston, June, 1888. New York: Sanborn Map & Publishing Co., 1888.
- Charleston County Mesne Conveyance Records, S.C. Department of Archives & History.
- Charleston County Equity Court Records, S.C. Department of Archives & History.
- City Directories of Charleston, 1807 & 1809.
- Charleston County Wills, South Carolina Department of Archives & History.
- Interview with William Runyon, maintenance engineer for Roper Hospital. 6/22/77.
- Yearbooks, City of Charleston, 1883, 1887, & 1893. Charleston: City Council.