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
The Grove Plantation

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER
end of Highway 346, 3 miles west of intersection of S.C. Highway 164 and 174

CITY, TOWN
Adams Run

STATE
South Carolina

3 CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY
BUILDING(S)

OWNERSHIP
PUBLIC
PRIVATE

STATUS
OCCUPIED
UNOCCUPIED
WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE

PRESENT USE
AGRICULTURE
MUSEUM
COMMERCIAL
PRIVATE RESIDENCE
EDUCATIONAL
ENTERTAINMENT
GOVERNMENT
INDUSTRIAL
MILITARY

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY
NAME
Ralph Hendricks

STREET & NUMBER
60 Montague Street

CITY, TOWN
Charleston

STATE
South Carolina

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Register of Mesne Conveyance

STREET & NUMBER
2 Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN
Charleston

STATE
South Carolina

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE
Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina

DATE
1973 (update)

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
S. C. Department of Archives and History

CITY, TOWN
Columbia

STATE
South Carolina
The Grove Plantation was built ca. 1828 by Dr. George Washington Morris. It was acquired by John Berkeley Grimball in 1858 and remained in the Grimball family until ca. 1920.

This two and one-half story clapboard and brick structure features a two-story hexastyle piazza across the front (south) facade. The lower portion of the piazza is supported by square brick pillars; the upper portion features slender Doric polygonal columns with entasis. Entrance doors on both floors are flanked by two windows with paneled shutters. The lower entrance door features eight panels and sidelights; the upper door with six panels is surmounted by a fanlight and is flanked by sidelights.

The rear (north) facade also features a two-story hexastyle piazza of which the lower level has five brick arches. The upper level was originally like that of the front, but the end bays have been enclosed with 9/9 shuttered windows. Other alterations to the rear include the addition of folding louvered shutters to the other three bays of the piazza, and the replacement of the far left window on the lower level by a door. The upper level door features a transom while the lower door has a transom and sidelights. Three gabled dormers illuminate the third level on both the front and rear facades.

Both the east and west facades feature an octagonal, two-story bay which is flanked to the north by two windows. Each end of the north portico has been enclosed with flush-board siding and a 9/9 window. Brick voussoirs cap all the first level windows, with the brickwork executed in Flemish bond. On the west facade, one of the lower windows has been replaced by a door.

All windows on the first floor are 6/6 with three-paneled shutters, while those on the second story are 9/9, also with three-paneled shutters. Each gable displays a dentated cornice and a 6/6 window with sidelights. Two interior chimneys straddle the ridge of the tin gable roof.

Interior: The Grove contains twelve rooms and features four rooms divided by a central hall on the first two floors. Notable are the two polygonal rooms on both the first and second floors. On the lower level, the polygonal rooms are paneled to the chair rail. On the second floor, simply paneled wainscoting and dentated cornices are found in all the rooms except for that on the northeast corner. The mantels in the upper polygonal rooms are also notable being carved in an acanthus leaf design, surrounded by marble, and flanked by fluted pilasters. Other mantels are more simply carved, with gouge work and fluted pilasters. Hallway doors feature corner block medallions and moulded faces. The stairway has simply carved brackets and extends from the first floor to the attic (the stairway is not original, however). The rooms on the third floor are without ornament.

Surroundings: Located in rural Charleston County, the Grove is approached by an unpaved dirt road which culminates in an alley of oaks. The house is surrounded by a large lawn which includes numerous other live oaks. Immediately to the east are several outbuildings of an undetermined age.
The Grove Plantation, a late Federal-style structure featuring polygonal rooms, was built ca. 1828 by George Washington Morris. After Morris's death ca. 1857, the plantation became the property of John Berkeley Grimball (1800-1893), a planter and member of the South Carolina Senate. Grimball is also noted as the author of a diary (1832-1880) which offers insight into the transformation of a lowcountry plantation from its apogee to its ruin during the War Between the States. Portions of Grimball's diary have been published in the South Carolina Historical Magazine.

George Washington Morris probably built the Grove ca. 1828. (Architectural analysis supports this date of construction.) Morris died ca. 1857, and the inventory of his estate records a working plantation of approximately 1112 acres (400 acres being rice land) and 136 slaves. The furnishings of each room in the house were also recorded in detail. The total value of the plantation amounted to $139,460.

John Berkeley Grimball acquired the Grove in 1858. Grimball was a graduate of Princeton and a rice planter. Between 1832 and 1844 he served as a senator from St. Paul's Parish. He also served as president of the Charleston Library Society between 1871 and 1875. Between 1832 and 1880 Grimball maintained a diary which reflects the life of an antebellum planter, the problems incurred during the War Between the States, and the changes which followed the war. Items of particular interest include descriptions of the planting and harvesting of rice, and the problems of day-to-day living during the War Between the States. Grimball also records that during the war the basement of the Grove was shelled and two rooms were damaged.

Architecture: The Grove is an excellent example of the late Federal period plantation house in the lowcountry. Basically a raised cottage configuration, the house incorporates the unusual feature of polygonal rooms with projecting symmetrical polygonal bays into its plan. Equally refined proportions are found in the slender Doric polygonal columns of the piazza, the acanthus leaf embellishments of the mantels, and the dentated moldings of the cornices. Various alterations such as the curved staircase and the enclosed ends of the north piazza have been sympathetic to the original design of the house.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


(continued)

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY  ca. 198 acres

UTM REFERENCES

ZONE  EASTING  NORTHING  ZONE  EASTING  NORTHING
A [1,7]  55  6  38  0  3  4  1  3  2  0  8 [1,7]  55  7  4  0  0  0  3  6  1  3  0  0  0
C [1,7]  55  6  6  0  0  3  6  1  3  0  0  D [1,7]  55  6  5  8  0  3  6  1  4  3  2  0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Borders south on Edisto River; west on abandoned rice fields; north on high ground; east on high ground & abandoned rice fields. (north, east, & west borders are also included within total acreage of Grove Plantation.)

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

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

Jean Melton Ferry, Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments

Kappy McNulty, Historic Preservation Division

ORGANIZATION
S.C. Department of Archives and History

STREET & NUMBER
P. O. Box 11,669 Capitol Station

CITY OR TOWN
Columbia

STATE
South Carolina

DATE
February 23, 1977

(803) 758-5816

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL  STATE  LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Title
Charles E. Lee
State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 4/14/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

DATE 6/18/77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

GPO 892-453


College of Charleston, South Carolina. John Berkeley Grimball Diary (typewritten copy).

The Grove Plantation consists of approximately 2,200 acres of which approximately 230 acres are being nominated. The property is bounded on the south by the Edisto River, north by other Grove Plantation property, west by abandoned rice fields, and on the east by high ground and abandoned rice fields (the property to the east and west being additional Grove Plantation property). The boundaries of the nominated acreage are clearly delineated on the accompanying topographic map. The nominated property is in the shape of a rectangle and the four corners have been assigned the following UTM coordinates: A 17/557380/3614340; B 17/557360/3613000; C 17/556600/3613080; D 17/556600/3614320.

The nominated property includes several outbuildings (of undetermined ages) which have been converted into residences and guest cottages. The acreage also includes old rice fields (which extend to the river) and a working trunk which was used for irrigation. As the historical significance of the Grove Plantation rests largely on its role as a working rice plantation during the zenith of South Carolina's rice culture, it is entirely appropriate that these evidences of the rice culture be included within the nominated acreage.