

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only

received APR 20 1986
date entered MAR 20 1986

1. Name

historic Long Point Plantation

and/or common 38CH321

2. Location

street & number [REDACTED]

not for publication

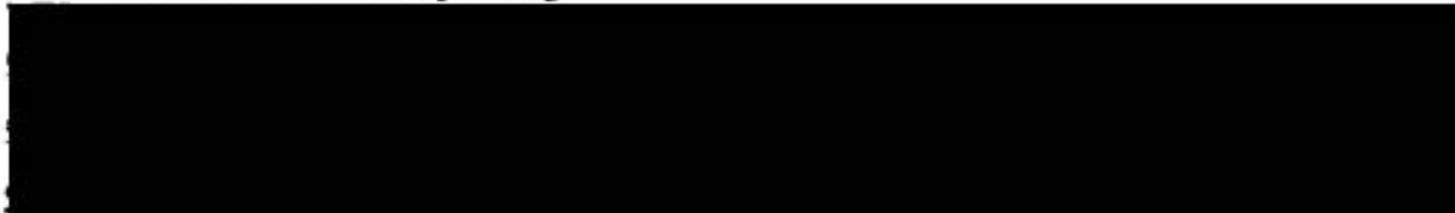
city, town N/A vicinity of _____

state South Carolina code 045 county Charleston code 019

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<u>MA</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property



5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Charleston County RMC

street & number Charleston County Courthouse Annex

city, town Charleston state South Carolina 29401

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title South Carolina Inventory of Historic Places has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records South Carolina Department of Archives and History

city, town Columbia state South Carolina 29211

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Long Point Plantation (38CH321) is a late eighteenth through nineteenth century lowcountry plantation archaeological site [redacted]

[redacted] The plantation was originally obtained by James Allen in 1719 and the plantation house and structures were probably built either by James Allen or his son, James Allen, Jr., prior to 1763 (Secretary of State; Royal Land Grants 39:238; Brockington et al. 1985:83; Charleston County RMC Deed Book B, p. 112). The plantation was purchased by the Vennings, a prominent and wealthy Christ Church Parish clan, in 1800 and was held by that family until 1899 (Charleston County RMC Deed Book A-7, p. 116; Gregorie 1961:68, 92; Charleston County RMC Deed Book F-23, p. 211). The plantation, which is believed to have contained a small cluster of structures located within the parameters of this site, was economically oriented, through time, toward livestock, cotton, and finally subsistence crops. Site integrity appears to be good. Archaeological studies have documented the existence of numerous sub-plowzone features, including post holes, pits, and a possible brick footing. One small, brick structure, shown on the 1902 Coast and Geodetic Survey map, is still standing at the site.

Additional Information

There is little historical information concerning the plantation's appearance prior to the 1902 Coast and Geodetic Survey Map of Charleston Harbor and Vicinity. This map, although a navigation chart, provides topographic detail at a scale of 1:20,000. The main house and five smaller structures are shown enclosed by a yard fence, with the access road coming from the east. The map indicates that four of the smaller structures were outbuildings (such as sheds), while the fifth structure (the one still standing) was used, at this time, as a dwelling.

The main house, in the twentieth century, appears to have been long and narrow with a centered extension. The front of the house probably [redacted]

[redacted] The long, narrow structure immediately suggests either a linear-plan, hall-and-parlor house or I-house (U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey map of Charleston Harbor and Vicinity, dated 1902).

The site was recorded by Michael Trinkley, S.C. Department of Highways and Public Transportation, [redacted] in 1978 and 1979 (Trinkley and Tippett 1980:47-48). Just as during that survey, the site is today indicated by a scatter of archaeological remains (including ceramics, abundant brick, and oyster shell) in a cultivated agricultural field, frequently planted in soybeans or cucumbers. The main house was apparently torn down between 1933 and 1943, based on its presence on the 1933 U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey map of Charleston and its absence on the 1943 U.S. Geological Survey Charleston quadrangle. [redacted]

[redacted] there is a standing brick structure, in poor condition. This structure, which probably dates to the colonial period, measures 12' 9" north-south and 10' 8" east-west. Its height is 10' 3" from the existing exterior ground level and the solid walls are of English bond about 1' 1" thick. A door is centered in the north wall.

Environment

The site is situated in a cultivated agricultural field of sandy loam soil. The natural vegetation of the study area includes oaks, palmetto, and longleaf pine. This

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates N/A

Builder/Architect N/A

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Long Point Plantation (38CH321) archaeological site [REDACTED] field. The plantation was built sometime between 1719 and 1763 (Brockington et al. 1985: 83; Charleston County RMC Deed Book B, p. 112; Secretary of State, Royal Land Grants 39:238), but "comes of age" under the control of the Venning family during the nineteenth century. The Long Point Plantation is significant primarily because of its historical and archaeological research potential. While there has been a tendency for archaeologists to concentrate their studies on those larger plantations which evidence a cash crop monoculture, Long Point Plantation did not for much of its history participate in this system, but rather provides evidence of an alternative, and little archaeologically studied, economic base. Long Point Plantation offers an opportunity to study a small, nucleated plantation settlement. Activity areas, yard space arrangements, and trash disposal patterns may be studied, with the standing structure serving as a frame of reference. Architectural, as well as archaeological, evidence should be retrievable from this site.

Additional Information

Long Point, which appears to be the last tract developed on the Wando Neck (Brockington et al. 1985:83), was acquired by James Allen from the royal government in 1719 (Secretary of State, Royal Land Grants 39:238). Apparently the property was not prime real estate, at least partially because of poor drainage and low soil fertility (Brockington et al. 1985:83). Both James Allen and his son, James, Jr., resided on the plantation and engaged in livestock production (Auditor General, Memorials, Book 3, pp. 211-212; Auditor General, Memorials, Book 7, pp. 474-475; Charleston County Probate Court, WPA Misc. Record Book 88-A, p. 54). Title to the property was held by six individuals in the last third of the eighteenth century, however livestock continued to be the dominant economic base (Brockington et al. 1985:84).

The Venning family began its economic activity in Christ Church Parish with the purchase of Long Point Plantation by Samuel Venning in 1800 (Charleston County RMC Deed Book A-7, p. 116). Venning apparently lived on Long Point at least until 1810 when he purchased Bermuda Plantation to the south (Brockington et al. 1985:85). Because Long Point was the major Venning plantation until Samuel's death in 1821 (Brockington et al. 1985:85; Bureau of Census 1811:217-223), Samuel Venning may have lived on Long Point Plantation for the first two decades of the nineteenth century. During his ownership of Long Point, Samuel Venning planted cotton on the plantation, participating in and profiting from the statewide cotton boom of the early nineteenth century (Gregorie 1961:81).

The plantation passed to Samuel Venning's five children upon his death in 1821. Their ownership of the plantation saw it decline in importance during the period from 1821 to 1858, becoming the least productive of the Venning family's plantations in Christ Church Parish (Brockington et al. 1985:85-86). Robert Dorrill Venning, a grandson, acquired full interest in 1858 (Charleston County RMC Deed Book S-12, p. 591) and within one year he had sold the property to his sister, Claudia Sanders, whose husband, Septimus,

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property [redacted]

Quadrangle name [redacted]

Quadrangle scale 7.5' 1:24,000

UTM References

A	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	[]	[]	[]
E	[]	[]	[]
G	[]	[]	[]

B	[]	[]	[]
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	[]	[]	[]
F	[]	[]	[]
H	[]	[]	[]

Verbal boundary description and justification

[redacted]

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code
state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michael Trinkley

organization Chicora Foundation, Inc. date August 23, 1985

street & number P.O. Box 8664 telephone (803) 783-4546

city or town Columbia state South Carolina 29202

12. 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 *Charles E. Lee*

Charles E. Lee date 2/5/86

title State Historic Preservation Officer

For NPS use only

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

Jayne M. McPherson date 3/20/86

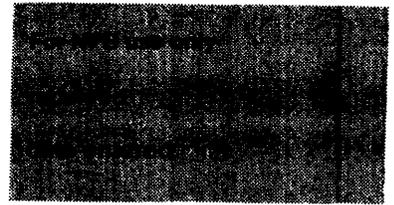
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet 1

Item number 7

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mixed hardwood forest is still found [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Archaeological Investigations

A series of 8 5-foot squares was excavated at Long Point Plantation by Chicora Foundation (Trinkley 1985). Although artifacts were widely scattered over the field, the collections indicated a concentration [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Test units were placed in the area of densest surface indications.

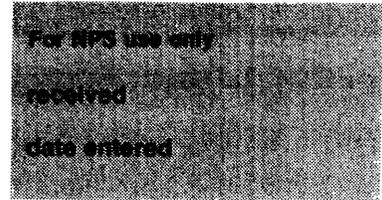
Features and post holes were found in five of the seven field units. Only the northernmost squares failed to reveal features. These features include at least one post hole wall alignment and a probable brick pier footing. Ceramics, including English, Oriental, and local low fired varieties, were the most common artifact. The Mean Ceramic Date (South 1977:217) for the site is A.D. 1819, only 10 years later than the mean historic occupation date of 1809. Despite plowing, the archaeological data indicate that the site may contribute to a study of activity areas and the spatial patterning found in the yard area (see Trinkley 1985:68).

Intrusions and Data Limitations

The site evidences intact features and a plowzone typical of sites in this area. The features indicate faunal and ethnobotanical preservation. The evidence from Long Point Plantation will be complex because of its occupation during the aboriginal, colonial, antebellum, and postbellum periods. At present the site is well protected and suffers little further damage from agriculture.

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had died in 1856 (Charleston County RMC Deed Book L-14, p. 29). Sanders retained title to the plantation until her death in 1899 (Charleston County Probate Court Will Book U, p. 1; Charleston County RMC Deed Book F-23, p. 211). Sanders resided on Long Point Plantation and referred to it as "my plantation" (Brockington et al. 1985:86, 87; Bureau of Census 1870:n.p., 1880:13).

While Robert Dorrill Venning's sale of Long Point to Claudia Sanders may have been an act of brotherly love, he also made a profit of \$1,750 (by doubling the sale price) on the land, which he held for only 10 months. It is possible that Venning provided the land to his sister so she could have a subsistence income, but it is clear that with Samuel Venning's death in the early 1820s the land became the least productive of the family's real estate in Christ Church Parish. Compared with the other properties, Bermuda and Belleview, Long Point had lower values in livestock, market produce, and overall farm assessment in 1850s and 1860s. The decreased value is supported by the few slaves held on the plantation and by its low cash value (Brockington et al. 1985:86).

Long Point was clearly an under-utilized land tract on the eve of the Civil War, in sharp contrast to its profitable development by Samuel Venning in the first two decades of the nineteenth century. Its relatively low rate of productivity cannot be solely explained by its soil and drainage problems, which had been at least partially overcome by Samuel's good management. Other Venning properties received considerable attention and expanded their production, but Long Point apparently received little attention and failed to expand (Brockington et al. 1985:86). After the Civil War the property was apparently not subdivided or leased out to tenant farmers. Claudia Sanders continued to operate the tract, in at least a minimal fashion, with wage labor (Brockington et al. 1985:88-90).

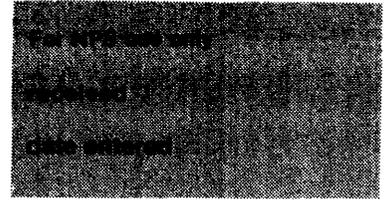
While archaeological evidence of the early and mid-eighteenth century occupation is sparse, there are indications of the nineteenth century Venning ownership. The ceramics exhibit quantities of plain and minimally decorated wares, but few painted or transfer printed wares assumed to be typical of a planter's residence. While the motif analysis suggests a low status or low economic scale, the vessel form analysis revealed abundant serving flatware, which is appropriate for a high status planter's residence (Otto 1984:69, 150-152). These data suggest that while the residents of Long Point Plantation could not afford the high status dinnerware patterns, their diet was typically "high status."

The archaeological record also produced a faint indication that in the early nineteenth century there were economically better times. A large quantity of relatively expensive whiteware is found, the percentage of serving flatware is higher, and there is a suggestion, based on the window glass analysis, that a building expansion may have taken place. This prosperity is probably related both to the sound management of Samuel Venning and to the economic boom of the early 1800s. It was during this period that the Venning fortune was created and this process began at Long Point.

These data suggest that during the eighteenth century Long Point Plantation was, at best, modest. It does not seem to have acquired many manifestations of a planter's residence until the early nineteenth century, during the ownership and management of Samuel Venning. As the historical documents suggest, there appears to have been

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Continuation sheet 3

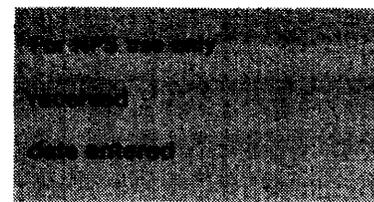
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little postbellum activity on the plantation.

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Auditor General, State of South Carolina

1731- Memorials. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia.
1775

Brockington, Paul, Michael Scardaville, Patrick Garrow, David Singer, Linda France,
and Cheryl Holt

1985 Rural Settlement in the Charleston Bay Area: Eighteenth and Nineteenth
Century Sites in the Mark Clark Expressway Corridor. Garrow and Associates,
Atlanta, Georgia. Submitted to the S.C. Department of Highways and
Public Transportation, Columbia.

Bureau of Census

1811 Aggregate Amount of Each Description of Persons Within the United States
of America. Washington, D.C.

1870 Ninth Census of the United States, 1870. Manuscript Agricultural
Schedules, South Carolina. S.C. Department of Archives and History,
Columbia.

1880 Tenth Census of the United States, 1880. Manuscript Agricultural
Schedules, South Carolina. S.C. Department of Archives and History,
Columbia.

Charleston County Probate Court

1671- Record of Wills and Inventories.
1984

1670- WPA Miscellaneous Records.
1868

Charleston County Register of Mesne Conveyances

1768- Deed Books.
1984

Gregorie, Anne King

1961 Christ Church, 1706-1959: A Plantation Parish of the South Carolina
Establishment. The Dalcho Historical Society, Charleston.

Otto, John S.

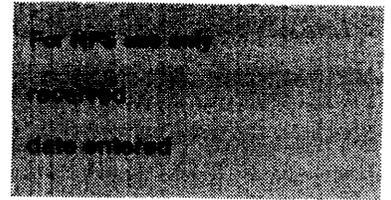
1984 Cannon's Point Plantation, 1794-1860: Living Conditions and Status
Patterns in the Old South. Academic Press, New York.

Secretary of State, State of South Carolina

1694- Land Grants, Colonial Series (Royal Grants). S.C. Department of Archives
1776 and History, Columbia.

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Continuation sheet 5

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Page 2

South, Stanley

1977 Method and Theory in Historical Archaeology. Academic Press, New York.

Trinkley, Michael

1985 A Historical and Archaeological Evaluation of the Elfe and Sanders
Plantations, Berkeley and Charleston Counties. Research Series 5.
Chicora Foundation, Columbia.

Trinkley, Michael and Lee Tippet

1980 Archaeological Survey of the Proposed Mark Clark Expressway - Final
Report - Charleston and Berkeley Counties. S.C. Department of Highways
and Public Transportation, Columbia.