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 NOV 2 5 1986

date entered

FEB 4 1987

1. Nam	1e			
historic Land	sford Plantation Hous	se		
and/or common	Davie House			
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	County Road 595, 1, U.S. Highway 21	/2 mile E of		N/A not for publication
city, town	Landsford Township	vicinity of		
state South (Carolina code	045 county	Chester	code 023
3. Clas	sification			
Category district building(s) structure site object	Ownership publicX private both Public Acquisition N/A in process N/A being considered	Status occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
	Sumter Carter			
street & number	2303 Forest Garden	Drive		
city, town	Kingwood	vicinity of	state	• Texas 77345
5. Loca	ation of Lega	l Descripti	on	
courthouse, regi	stry of deeds, etc. Ches	ster County Courth	ouse	
street & number				
city, town Che	ester		state	• South Carolina 2970
6. Rep	resentation i	n Existing	Surveys	
	arolina Inventory of c Places	has this pro	operty been determined	eligible? yes _X_ no
date 1985			federalX_ s	tate county local
depository for su	urvey records South Ca	rolina Department	of Archives and H	istory
city, town Co	lumbia		state	South Carolina 29211

Condition — excellent — good — ruins — x fair — unexposed Check one — where condition Check one — x original site — moved date — moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Landsford Plantation is located in a rural area of Landsford Township, Chester County, South Carolina. It is likely that Frederick William Davie had the residence built ca. 1828. The original design, simple and largely unadorned, is an upcountry South Carolina vernacular design. With only minor alterations and situated near the center of a nearly three hundred acre tract, Landsford Plantation maintains its integrity as an early nineteenth century cotton planter's house.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

7. Description

Landsford Plantation is a timber-framed, weatherboarded two and one-half story residence set on a raised, fully-enclosed stone foundation. The house has a square plan and is two rooms deep. The main facade faces south. A one-story porch, resting on brick piers, extends across the south facade and continues around the east and north facades. The porch, at least on the south elevation, was added about the turn of the twentieth century. The rectangular double-hung windows have six-over-six panes and are flanked on the first level by louvered shutters. Landsford has three exterior brick chimneys of narrow break-away design, two on the west gable and one on the east gable end. Single gable windows on the east and west elevations with nine-over-six lights appear at the attic story. Centrally placed entrance doors are located on the east facade. A sheet metal gable roof has been placed over the original wooden shakes. The porch also has a metal roof.

Interior

The central entrance hall is flanked to the left (west) by a parlor and to the right (east) by a library. To the rear of the parlor is a dining room or ballroom, approximately 17 by 25 feet. To the right of the dining room and rear of the library is a smaller room from which stairs ascend. Stairway balusters and newel posts are square. The second floor features three square bedrooms. Interior symmetry is evident in the six major first- and second-floor rooms, which all feature two windows on each of two walls, fireplaces with simple carved mantels and, except for the library, chair rails along the walls. The top floor, which is divided into two rooms, has little ornamentation and no fireplaces. All walls and ceilings were of lath and plaster, and all interior doors are six-panel with porcelain knobs. Floors are six-inch pine boards. Alterations to the interior consist of a wooden ceiling in one bedroom, the addition of electricity, and a wooden partition in the dining room.

Surroundings

Evidence of original landscaping on the nominated five acre tract includes red oaks, a large magnolia, and English ivy. Of the original outbuildings, only a barn of log construction (since extended and covered in weatherboards) remains, the original kitchen and other buildings having been destroyed. In front of the house a low stone wall parallels the unpaved driveway, which winds about one-half mile to U.S. Highway 21. The house stands near the center of a much larger tract than the nominated property, within the western portion of Davie's original three thousand acre plantation. The Landsford Canal State Park occupies much of the eastern side of the original plantation.

8. Significance

prehistoric arche	tecture education engineering nerce exploration/so	anning landscape architectu	re religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates ca. 182	28 Builder/Archited	t Unknown	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Located in rural eastern Chester County, Landsford Plantation is significant as an important example of upcountry South Carolina vernacular architecture. It is believed that Frederick William Davie had the two and one-half story, timber-framed weatherboarded residence built ca. 1828.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Landsford Plantation is an unusual example of early nineteenth century upper South Carolina vernacular design. It is characterized by rigid symmetry, axial entrance, and sash windows and has break-away exterior chimneys and a raised foundation. The simple square theme evident in the overall plan is repeated in the three bedrooms and stairway balusters and newel posts. The small second floor room, which opens into one of the bedrooms as well as the hall, may have been designed for toilet facilities. Perhaps unique among South Carolina homes of similar vintage, the staircase is at the side (northeast corner) entrance rather than the common front entry hall location.(1)

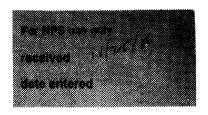
Landsford Plantation achieved local prominence as the social center of a large (three thousand acres) Piedmont cotton plantation in the mid-nineteenth century. The house is believed to have been built by Frederick William Davie on the plantation he inherited from his father, General William Richardson Davie, noted soldier, statesman, and Governor of North Carolina.(2) The date 1828, pressed into a brick in the east elevation chimney, is believed to be the approximate date of construction.(3) Techniques and materials used in constructing the house, such as hand cut lathing and hewn sills, porcelain door knobs, machine cut nails, and sash cut rafters, are common to a Piedmont planter's house constructed at that time. (4) In addition, several stones in the foundation are of material and bear tool marks similar to stones used to construct nearby Landsford Canal, which was completed in 1823.(5) Written documentation also supports a construction date between 1825 and 1850. The house was neither mentioned in General Davie's will of 1819 nor in Robert Mills' Atlas of South Carolina of 1825, although two other Davie family residences were mentioned in the will and the atlas. When the plantation was put up for sale in 1892 the section near the house was referred to as the "house tract".(6) W.S. Garrison, who occupied the house beginning in 1899, stated that the house was considered to be an old one when he moved there. (7) In addition, since the ownership of the plantation was contested from 1850 until 1892, it is unlikely that such a substantial house would have been constructed during that period.(8) All of the known evidence tends to confirm the ca. 1828 date of construction. Landsford was occupied by various descendants of General Davie over the period during which his will was contested.(9) The last Davie to occupy Landsford Plantation was Colonel William R. Davie, great-grandson of the General.(10) The house was sold outside the Davie family in 1898 and was occupied by the Garrisons until the 1950s.(11)

<u>9.</u>	Major Bib	liographica	Refere	ences	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
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10	. Geograp	hical Data				
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C 1 E 1 G 1	7 5 0 7 9 4 0	3,9 4,8 8,6,0	D	7	10 318 419 016 0	
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organi	zation				ember 1986	
street	& number 2303 For	rest Garden Drive		telephone (71	3) 360-5062	
city or	town Kingwood	<u> </u>		state Texas	77345	
12.	. State Hi	storic Prese	rvation	Officer	Certification	
The ev	raluated significance o	f this property within the st	tate is:			
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title		State Historic Pre	eservation O	fficer da	te 11/12/86	
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	eper of the National R	<i></i>		da	1 /	**************************************

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

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NOTES

¹Discussion with John Wells, Architectural Historian, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, July 1985.

²Bedon V. Davie, Supreme Court Reporter, 144 U.S. 142; W. Clark, "General William Richardson Davie," Magazine of American History, December 1892.

 3 Elizabeth Reed, "Ancient House in Rowells Recalled as One-Time House of Davie Family," The Herald, 15 June 1950.

⁴Discussion with Wells.

⁵Marion Edmonds, "Landsford Canal, A Dream That Never Came True," <u>The Lancaster</u> News, 11 March 1985.

⁶Chester County Wills, Volume 2, Book G, pp. 43-49; Robert Mills, <u>Atlas of the State of South Carolina</u> n.p., n.p., 1825; new facsimile ed., Columbia: <u>Lucy Hampton Bostick and Fant H. Thornley</u>, 1938; Chester County Deed Books, Book 75, p. 197.

⁷Reed. "Ancient House in Rowells . . ."

⁸Bedon V<u>. Davie</u>.

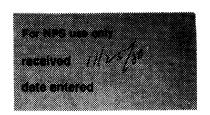
⁹Bedon V. <u>Davie</u>; Reed, "Ancient House in Rowells . . ."

 10 Reed, "Ancient House in Rowells . . ."; Chester County Deed Books, Book 75, p. 199.

 $^{11}\mathrm{Chester}$ County Deed Books, Book 83, p. 666; Interview with Della R. Garrison, July 1983.

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Continuation sheet 2

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