

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: Fairfield	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 718.45.0056	DATE 8/19/71

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Century House (Brick House)

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
1.1.15.131

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
No street number; one block west of Main Street;

CITY OR TOWN: ON S.C. 34.  
Ridgeway

STATE: South Carolina 29130

CODE: 45

COUNTY: Fairfield

CODE: 039

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<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 type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Ridgeway Garden Club

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Ridgeway

STATE: South Carolina

CODE: 45

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Fairfield County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Congress Street

CITY OR TOWN: Winnsboro

STATE: South Carolina

CODE: 45

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
South Carolina of Historic Places

DATE OF SURVEY: 1969

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: 45

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER: DATE: FOR NPS USE ONLY

718.45.0056 8/19/71

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Large two-story brick. Located near center of town of Ridgeway. Built 1853. Greek Revival design, fronted with double-tiered, balustraded piazzas and crowning pediment. Double doors on both floors have glass transoms and sidelights. Flat arches over windows.

Original interior was composed of four rooms with unusually large dining room and wide hall on first floor; second floor had four rooms, central hall, and large ballroom. Two stairways include the main staircase and a service stairway to the ballroom. Present interior has been adapted for community activities. Furnished with antiques. Large trees on grounds add distinctive beauty and dignity.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**6. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1853

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 type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Century House is significant historically, culturally, and architecturally. As the residence of a large planter, it reflected gay life of antebellum South, later served as Confederate headquarters and is now a community center and library.

Situated on the Charlotte and South Carolina Railroad, house became center of social and business life of Ridgeway. During the Confederate War, Century House entertained and sheltered many refugees from Low Country South Carolina and from Georgia.

When General P.G.T. Beauregard evacuated Columbia upon the approach of Sherman's Army, Ridgeway was chosen as Confederate headquarters (Feb. 17-19, 1865). Century House served as headquarters for General Beauregard and his staff.

Thomas Hines Coleman, founder of Florida State School for the Deaf and Blind was born here in 1885.

A cherished landmark, the Century House is a good example of constructive preservation and adaptive use. While preserving the appearance and hospitable atmosphere of antebellum Fairfield, it also provides modern facilities for a variety of community meetings and activities.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Bolick, Julian Stevenson. A Fairfield Sketchbook. Clinton, S.C.: Jacob's Brothers, 1963.  
 McMaster, Fitz Hugh. History of Fairfield County South Carolina. Columbia, S.C.: State Commercial Printing Company, 1946.  
 Marsh, Blanche and Kenneth Frederick. Plantation Heritage in Upcountry, South Carolina. Asheville, N.C.: Biltmore Press, 1962.

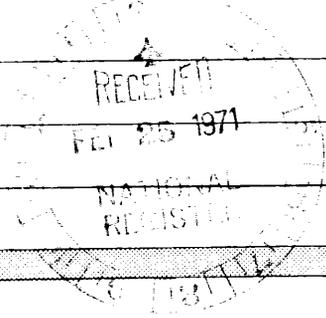
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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	° ' "	° ' "		34 °	18'	13"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		80 °	57'	30"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than 2

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Ben F. Hornsby Jr. Historic Resources Coordinator I

ORGANIZATION: South Carolina Department of Archives and History DATE: January 8, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1430 Senate Street, Capitol Station P. O. Box 11,188

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia STATE: South Carolina CODE: 45

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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 S. Lopez

Title Director, South Carolina Department Archives and History

Date Feb. 14, 1971

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

Ernest A. Conaway  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date AUG 19 1971

ATTEST:  
William S. [Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date ~~Feb 14 1971~~

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

JUL 29 1971

OK  
6/14/71