United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking “X” in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter “N/A” for “not applicable.” For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property
   historic name Beneventum Plantation House
   other names/site number

2. Location
   street & number NE of Georgetown off County Road 431
   city, town Georgetown
   state South Carolina code 045 county Georgetown code 043 zip code 29440
   not for publication
   X vicinity

3. Classification
   Ownership of Property
   X private
   □ public-local
   □ public-State
   □ public-Federal

   Category of Property
   X building(s)
   □ district
   □ site
   □ structure
   □ object

   Number of Resources within Property
   Contributing Noncontributing
   1 buildings
   ☐ sites
   ☐ structures
   ☐ objects
   0 Total

   Name of related multiple property listing:
   Georgetown County Rice Culture, c. 1750-c.1910
   Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification
   As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
   In my opinion, the property X meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

   Signature of certifying official
   Mary Watson Edmonds Date 8/11/88

   George L. Vogt, State Historic Preservation Officer, S.C. Dept. of Archives & History
   State or Federal agency and bureau

   In my opinion, the property ☐ meets X does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

   Signature of commenting or other official Date

   State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification
   I, hereby, certify that this property is:
   X entered in the National Register.
   ☐ See continuation sheet.
   ☐ determined eligible for the National Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.
   ☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.
   ☐ removed from the National Register.
   ☐ other, (explain):

   Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
   Amy Schlegel 10/3/88
This building conforms to the general description under property type "Resources Associated with Plantation Community Life" and property subtype "Plantation Houses."

Exterior physical evidence (brick changes in the foundation, corner board ghost marks) and interior details (mantel and door treatments) clearly indicate that the front half of the main body of this house was constructed first and that the rear half was a later addition. The front portion dates from c. 1750; the rear half was added c. 1800. Further rear additions from the main block are probably early twentieth century additions. All of the main block of the house has integrity from the period of significance for the Georgetown County Rice Culture multiple property submission. Because the twentieth century alterations are at the rear of the house, they do not impair its registration.

This house has a more formal entrance than most of the other plantation houses included in the Georgetown County Rice Culture multiple property submission. The main entrance is centrally located and sheltered by a one-story portico which extends across the center two-thirds of the facade. The portico roof, with a central gable, is supported by columns resting on brick bases. Curved steps lead up to the portico from each side.
This plantation house is significant as one of the earliest extant main houses of the Georgetown County rice plantations and for its association with Christopher Gadsden. Beneventum was one of the earliest successful rice plantations in the area, and was owned by Gadsden, who built its main house c. 1750. Gadsden was a prominent statesman and soldier of the American Revolution, the originator of the "Don't Tread On Me" flag, and Federalist leader in the early national period. After his death in 1805, Beneventum was sold to John Julius Pringle, Attorney General of South Carolina from 1792 to 1808 and member of the South Carolina House of Representatives. At one time or another Pringle also owned White House and Greenfield, also on the Black River, and Arundel, on the Pee Dee River. The records of ownership after Pringle are incomplete. It is believed, however, that Beneventum was the plantation on the Black River at which Robert Pringle, a son of John Julius Pringle, produced 420,000 pounds of rice with 142 slaves in 1850. One of the significant later owners of the plantation was William M. Hazzard, who owned it from 1867 to 1883. In 1870 he produced 250,000 pounds of rice at Beneventum, an impressive amount so soon after emancipation. Hazzard's success in planting rice here led to his part in establishing the Georgetown Rice Milling Company in 1879 and his service as a director of the company. (1)

[See continuation sheet]
See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):
☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
☐ previously listed in the National Register
☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
☒ recorded by Historic American Buildings
   Survey #  SC-480
☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering
   Record #

☐ See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:
☒ State historic preservation office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other

Specify repository:
S.C. Department of Archives & History
Columbia, SC

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Less than one acre

UTM References

A  17  6 6  1  6 6  0  3 7  0  1  8 0  0
   Zone Easting Northing

B
   Zone Easting Northing

C

D

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nomination is shown as the black line on the accompanying Georgetown County Tax Map, District 2, Map 1006, Parcel 28, drawn at a scale of 1"=1000'.

☐ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the plantation house and its immediate surroundings.

☐ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title  J. Tracy Power, National Register Historian; Sherry Piland, Architectural Historian
organization  S.C. Department of Archives & History  date  15 September 1987
street & number  P.O. Box 11669  telephone  (803) 734-8608
city or town  Columbia  state  South Carolina  zip code  29211
NOTES

The following information is the same for each of the photographs:

Name of property: Beneventum Plantation House
(Georgetown County Rice Culture, c1750-c1910
multiple property listing)
Location of property: Georgetown County, South Carolina
Photographer: South Carolina Department of Archives and History Staff
Location of negative: South Carolina Department of Archives and History

Additional information for each photograph follows:

1. East (main) facade, view looking northwest.
   June 1978 (field checked August 1987)

2. North facade, view looking south.
   August 1987

3. South facade, view looking north.
   June 1978 (field checked August 1987)

4. West (rear) facade, view looking east.
   June 1978 (field checked August 1987)