

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received DEC 14 1982

date entered

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

1. Name

historic Cureton-Huff House

and/or common Same

2. Location S.W. of Simpsonville off SC 276

street & number Approximately 5 miles southwest of the intersection of
S.C. Highway 276 and S.C. Highway 272. ~~N/A~~ not for publication

city, town Simpsonville *vicinity* vicinity of ~~Congressional district~~

state South Carolina code 045 county Greenville code 045

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use | |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district | <input type="checkbox"/> public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> museum |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> religious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process | <input checked="" 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 |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property

name James Roscoe Huff

street & number Rt. 4, Box 296

city, town Piedmont vicinity of state South Carolina 29673

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Greenville County Courthouse

street & number East North Street

city, town Greenville state South Carolina 29601

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1972 federal state county local

depository for survey records S.C. 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 type="checkbox"/> ruins | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | | |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Cureton-Huff House is a two-story frame farmhouse in rural Greenville County, believed to have been built ca. 1820 as a residence for John M. Cureton. The house, built on a hall-and-parlor plan, was converted shortly after its construction to a central-hall configuration.

The Cureton-Huff House is a braced-frame farmhouse with hewn timbers, pegged mortise-and-tenon joints, and weatherboard sheathing. The facade (south elevation) has a one-story shed-roofed porch with beaded weatherboard sheathing on the sheltered aspect of the facade. The original wooden porch posts are being restored by the current owner. The central doorway has a single six-panel door with a four-light transom. The four first-story windows are nine-over-nine double-hung sash with louvered shutters. The second story of the facade has four nine-over-six windows. The eaves of the gable roof have plain boxed cornice. Roofing is pressed metal shingles. The foundations are brick piers which have been under-pinned.

The east and west elevations feature single exterior brick chimneys. The single-shouldered west chimney has Flemish-bond brickwork with occasional glazed headers. The east chimney is of common-bond brickwork with the sixth courses bonding. The upper portions of both chimneys were rebuilt in 1979.

The north (rear) elevation originally had two shed-roofed one-story rooms projecting from the main rectangular mass of the house. One of these rooms was removed ca. 1900 when a large one-story frame addition, containing a kitchen and bathrooms, was built on that elevation. Another one-story frame addition was built adjacent to the rear part of the east elevation ca. 1955, for use as an office.

The Cureton-Huff House was built as a hall-and-parlor farmhouse, a vernacular configuration common to the eastern United States. Shortly after its construction the plan was altered by the construction of a partition wall in the hall creating the existing central-hall plan. An enclosed stairway leads up from the rear of the central hall to the second story. Large fireplaces with wooden mantels are centered in the east and west rooms. The mantels have reeded architraves, paneled friezes with central sunburst motifs, and corbeled mantel shelves. Coal-burning grates have been installed in each fireplace.

The floors of the house are random-width boards. The walls of the first story have grained wainscoting with plaster walls above. The eleven-foot ceilings are of planed planks. The first floor features wooden cornices carved with reeding and chevron motifs. The doors are six-panel open-mortise doors. Original box locks include one Carpenter & Co. Patentees lock and two #60 Improved locks. The second floor has two bedrooms which open off the central hall. The second story has plaster walls and eight-foot ceilings. The interior of the original part of the house has seen few alterations.

The additions, on the back of the first story, include modern bathrooms and a kitchen as well as a dining room and an office. The house is still in use as a private residence.

Outbuildings on the property include a carriage house, a blacksmith shop, several barns and animal pens, two corn cribs, and a garage. Most of the outbuildings date from the early twentieth century. A family cemetery with a low stone wall is also on the property. The house is located in a region of dense forests and cultivated fields.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900– | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | |

Specific dates ca. 1820 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Cureton-Huff House is a two-story frame farmhouse in rural Greenville County which was reportedly built ca. 1820 for John Moon Cureton. Cureton was a prosperous farmer and his house and farm are representative of the rural farmhouses and complexes of the time and region. The house in particular is representative of the vernacular building modes, construction technology, and limited stylistic awareness common to an upper-middle income farmer in a rural community. The house has had very few alterations to its historic fabric since its early years and is a noteworthy period document.

Additional Information:

John Moon Cureton was a prosperous Greenville County farmer. On 24 December 1819 he purchased the land on which the Cureton-Huff house is located.¹ Structural, technological, and stylistic analysis of the building supports the family tradition that Cureton had the house built about that time; for example, the Federal-period details of the mantels and cornices, the nine-over-six and nine-over-nine window sash, the box locks, the hall-and-parlor plan, the braced timber frame with mortise² and-tenon joints, and the cut nails are all consistent with a construction date ca. 1820.

By the time of his death in 1845 Cureton had accumulated a considerable estate. An inventory of his estate made in 1849 indicated that his property was valued at \$28,441. The inventory reveals considerable information about Cureton's farming operations. He owned seventy-five slaves and his livestock included seven horses, five mules, forty-eight hogs, eighteen sheep, one pair of oxen, and fifty-six head of cattle. The farm produced corn, cotton, wheat, peas, rye, and oats.³ After the death of Cureton's wife a caretaker lived in the house until 1865 when John Cureton's⁴ granddaughter, Jane Sullivan Huff, and her husband Pascal Dacus Huff moved into the house. Huff, also a farmer, served for many years as postmaster of the St. Albans Post Office, which was located in a building near the house. In addition he was active in⁵ community affairs, served as a magistrate and helped to found the St. Albans's School.

The present owner of the Cureton-Huff House is James Roscoe Huff, the great-great-grandson of John Moon Cureton, and the fourth generation of his family to live in the house.

Architecture:

The Cureton-Huff House is a representative vernacular farmhouse of the early nineteenth century with the plan, materials, details, and building technology of the period and with noteworthy Federal stylistic elements in its woodwork. The plan of the house, originally a vernacular hall-and-parlor, was altered prior to the death of John Moon Cureton into a central-hall plan. Both plans were common to the farmhouses of South Carolina in the antebellum era. The heavy timber-braced frame with its mortise-and-tenon joints, the beaded weatherboarding, and the small-paned window sash were representative features of such houses. The machine-cut L-head brads used in the Cureton-Huff House and the original box locks were common to the houses of the state in the period 1820-1860. The stylistic details of the Cureton-Huff House are of special note: the sunburst motifs and the reeding on the mantels of the hall and the parlor and the chevron ornamentation along the cornices suggest an awareness of the fashionable Neoclassic ornamentation of the Federal period.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approximately 13

Quadrangle name Williamston, S.C.

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UMT References

| | | | |
|---|-------------------|---|--|
| A | <u>1</u> <u>7</u> | <u>3</u> <u>7</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u> | <u>3</u> <u>8</u> <u>3</u> <u>9</u> <u>5</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u> |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing |

| | | | |
|---|-------------------|---|--|
| B | <u>1</u> <u>7</u> | <u>3</u> <u>7</u> <u>7</u> <u>6</u> <u>1</u> <u>0</u> | <u>3</u> <u>8</u> <u>3</u> <u>9</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u> |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing |

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| C | <u>1</u> <u>7</u> | <u>3</u> <u>7</u> <u>7</u> <u>7</u> <u>4</u> <u>5</u> | <u>3</u> <u>8</u> <u>3</u> <u>9</u> <u>7</u> <u>9</u> <u>0</u> |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing |

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| D | <u> </u> <u> </u> | <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> | <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> |
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| E | <u> </u> <u> </u> | <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> | <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> |
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| H | <u> </u> <u> </u> | <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> | <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing |

Verbal boundary description and justification The nominated acreage is shown bounded by the red line on the accompanying Greenville County Tax Map #584.2, drawn at a scale of 1 inch = 400 feet. This boundary includes the house, historic outbuildings, and cemetery, while excluding adjacent fields and woodlands.

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

| | | | | | | | |
|-------|------------|------|------------|--------|------------|------|------------|
| state | <u>N/A</u> | code | <u>N/A</u> | county | <u>N/A</u> | code | <u>N/A</u> |
|-------|------------|------|------------|--------|------------|------|------------|

| | | | | | | | |
|-------|------------|------|------------|--------|------------|------|------------|
| state | <u>N/A</u> | code | <u>N/A</u> | county | <u>N/A</u> | code | <u>N/A</u> |
|-------|------------|------|------------|--------|------------|------|------------|

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary Watson, John Wells

organization S.C. Department of Archives and History date October 21, 1982

street & number 1420 Senate Street telephone (803) 758-5816

city or town Columbia, state South Carolina 29211

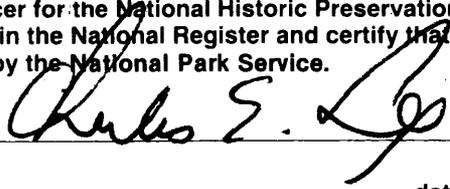
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

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



title SC SAPO

date 11/23/82

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the National Register

date 1/13/83

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

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date entered

Continuation sheet 1

Item number 9

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Bibliography

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Greenville County Estate Packets. Apt. 11, File 116,

Greenville, South Carolina. Greenville County Courthouse. Deed Book M.

Huff, James Roscoe. Cureton-Huff House, Greenville County, South Carolina.
Interview, 27 October 1981.

Richardson, James M. History of Greenville County, South Carolina. Atlanta Ga.:
A.H. Cawston, 1930; reprinted., Spartanburg, S.C.: The Reprint Co., Publishers
1980.

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Continuation sheet

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Footnotes

¹Deed Book M, p. 171, Greenville County Courthouse, Greenville, S.C.

²Interview with James Roscoe Huff, Cureton-Huff House, Greenville County, S.C., 27 October 1981; site analysis.

³Apt. 11, File 116, Greenville County Estate Packets, S.C. Department of Archives and History, Columbia, South Carolina.

⁴Interview with James Roscoe Huff.

⁵James M. Richardson, History of Greenville County, South Carolina (Atlanta, Ga.: A.H. Cawston, 1930; reprinted., Spartanburg: The Reprint Co., Publishers, 1980), pp. 214-217.