

(N/A) NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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SOUTH CAROLINA INVENTORY FORM FOR HISTORIC DISTRICTS AND  
INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES IN A MULTIPLE PROPERTY SUBMISSION  
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NAME OF MULTIPLE PROPERTY SUBMISSION: City of Laurens Multiple Resource  
Area: Supplement I

PREFERRED NAME OF PROPERTY: Wilson-Clary House

HISTORIC NAME(S) OF PROPERTY: Wilson-Clary House

COMMON NAME(S) OF PROPERTY: Crisp House

LOCATION: 120 Irby Avenue

CLASSIFICATION: Building

OWNERS: Roy Edward Long, Jr., and Karren Deanna Long  
120 Irby Avenue  
Laurens, S.C. 29360

DESCRIPTION

The Wilson-Clary House, built ca. 1892, is a two-story frame residence sheathed in weatherboarding. Two brick corbelled chimneys pierce the cross-gable roof, which has a boxed cornice with returns and sawn brackets. Attic vents in the gable ends have scalloped louvers and pedimented surrounds with shoulders at lintels and sills. The three-bay facade (east elevation) features a projecting ell with a paired window and balcony on the first story and a single window on the second story. A single-story wraparound porch extends across the remainder of the facade and a portion of the north elevation; a tent roof gazebo is attached at its vertex. The main entrance is centered and has double doors and a transom. An entrance on the second story provides access to a balcony located on the central bay. The porch, gazebo, and balconies have turned posts, sawn brackets, and geometric-motif balustrades. Windows have two-over-two lights and are set in pedimented surrounds with shoulders at lintels and sills; those beneath the porch and first story balcony are floor-length. The north and south elevations have features similar to those on the facade, although the porch on the south elevation has been removed since 1930. A breezeway and porch between the main house and original kitchen have been enclosed to form a pantry and den. Bathroom additions have also been made to the rear (west) elevation. The interior features an entrance hall with a large open staircase. The parlor has a plaster grape-motif cornice,

a plaster ceiling medallion, and an elaborate marble mantel. To the rear of this room is the dining room. The northeast room has a sawn wood ceiling medallion. The second story has a central hall, four bedrooms, and two baths. Some interior trim and other features are Eastlake-influenced in style. Doors and windows have surrounds with bull's-eye corner blocks. The house is located on a large lot in a residential neighborhood.

#### SIGNIFICANCE

AREA(S) OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:   L   (for office use only)

#### SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Wilson-Clary House, built ca. 1892, is significant architecturally as a vernacular residence which utilizes some elements of the Eastlake style. Exterior ornamentation on this house is more restrained than on the Dr. W.C. Irby House at 132 Irby Avenue and the Lyde Irby Darlington House at 100 Irby Avenue, also included in the City of Laurens Multiple Resource Area. Notable exterior features include a tent roof gazebo, pedimented window surrounds, and sawn brackets. The interior is distinguished by the ceiling medallions and cornice, a marble mantel, and the elaborate staircase. The house was built for J.J. Wilson, Jr. and Toccoa Irby Wilson on a lot acquired from Mrs. Wilson's brother, Dr. W.C. Irby.(1) After Mrs. Wilson's death in 1908 the ownership passed to the Wilson's daughter, Azile Clary, and then to her children.(2) The property was sold to E. Smyth Kelly in 1940 and to Ella Boyd Crisp in 1943. The present owners acquired the house from the Crisp family in 1983.(3)

ACREAGE: Approximately one acre.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The boundary of the Wilson-Clary House nomination is shown as the red line on the accompanying City of Laurens zoning map, which is drawn at a scale of 800 feet to the inch. The nominated property includes the historic house and the lot on which it is situated.

QUAD NAME: Laurens South

QUAD SCALE: 1:24000

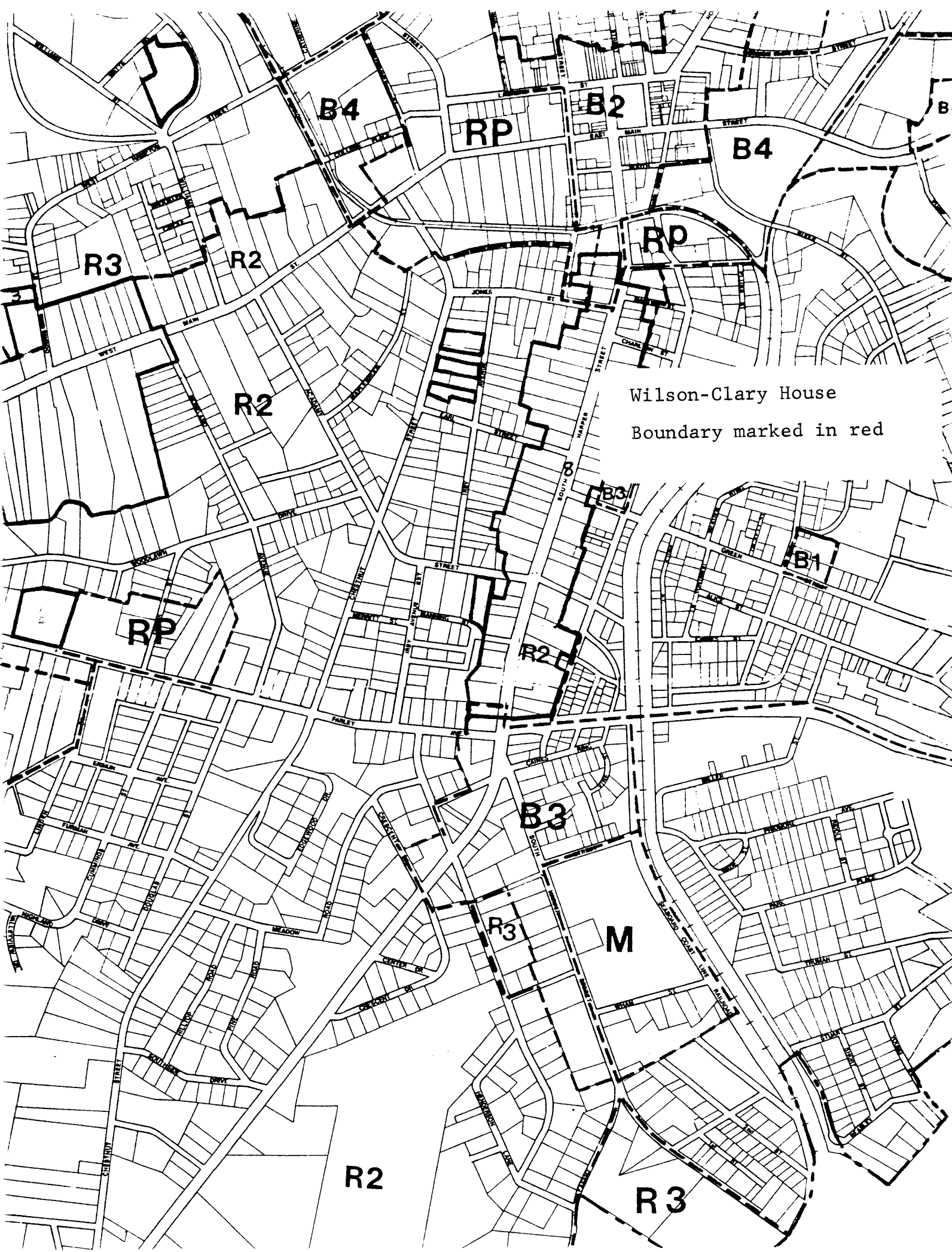
UTM REFERENCE POINTS: 17/406510/3817255

NOTES

1) Laurens County Deeds, Book 6, p. 319, Laurens County Courthouse, Laurens, S.C.

2) Laurens County Probate Records, Apt. 316, pkg. 4, Laurens County Courthouse, Laurens, S.C.; Laurens Advertiser, 22 November 1899, 29 January 1908.

3) Laurens County Deeds, Book 75, p. 315; Book 83, p. 141, and Book 231, p. 623, Laurens County Courthouse, Laurens, S.C.



Wilson-Clary House  
Boundary marked in red