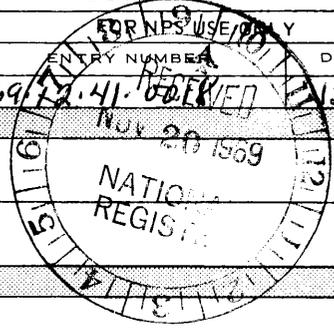


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	South Carolina
COUNTY:	Richland
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
69-12-41-050KED	12/17/69



1. NAME

COMMON: The Lace House

AND/OR HISTORIC: Robertson House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 803 Richland Street (Historic Preservation Zone H-1, across street from the Governor's Mansion)

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
South Carolina	41	Richland	40

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ As an auxiliary to the _____ Governor's Mansion

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: S. C. Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism

STREET AND NUMBER: P. O. Box 1358

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia

STATE: South Carolina

CODE: 41

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER: Clerk of Court

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia

STATE: South Carolina

CODE: 41

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: City of Columbia Historical and Cultural Buildings and Sites

DATE OF SURVEY: 1966-67

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Columbia City Hall

STREET AND NUMBER: City Planning Department

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia

STATE: South Carolina

CODE: 41

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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)		
	slightly	<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

Double-porched Palladian classic mansion with bracket cornices, arched doors and ornate cast iron porch supports, railings and trim -- unusual for this area, almost unique. This house is two stories on an English basement. The basic form is typical of dwellings in this area of the first half of the nineteenth century.

Handsome cast iron fencing runs in front of the property and of the property adjoining (originally total family holdings) and around two sides of the Governor's Mansion across the street. The lace-like appearance of all the lavish ironwork -- porch supports, railings, trim, bordering fence, grills of half basement -- gives the house its popular name.

Said to have been designed by a French architect who at the time was designing homes in New Orleans, the Lace House is praised for its ornamental cornices and friezes, parquet floors and figured glass doors and windows. Its brass chandeliers were originally gas lighted.

The house was built on the S.W. corner of the square in 1854 by a respected Columbia banker, John C. Caldwell, as a wedding present for his youngest daughter, Mary and her husband, Thomas J. Robertson. Caldwell owned the entire block on which this house stands and himself lived on the S. E. corner, in the neo-classic mansion presently known as Boylston House. Owned by Christopher Atkinson from 1921 to 1945, the Lace House was restored to much of its original beauty and was noted as a showplace. From 1945 to 1954 it deteriorated as a rooming house. As headquarters for the S. C. WCTU from 1954-1968, the house and gardens were renovated to a degree.

At present, the exterior is being restored to its original condition. The interior, also being restored and redecorated, will be modified somewhat to serve as an auxiliary to the Governor's Mansion directly across the street. Drawing rooms are being developed on the first floor, a banquet-dining room on the second floor. Decorative ironwork gates are proposed at either end of the 800-block of Richland Street to close it to traffic, providing landscaped area and tying the Lace House to the historic house next door (Boylston House) and to the Governor's Mansion.

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 checked="" 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) 1854

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The Lace House has its historic significance as part of Columbia's Arsenal Hill, a complex of fine mansions which were built shortly before the Civil War, and which furnished residences for the succeeding political and social elites of South Carolina's capital city down through the early 1900s. Foremost among these have been the governors of the state, who have lived across the street in the present executive mansion since 1868, except for one (Daniel H. Chamberlain) who lived in the Boylston house next door to the Lace House. The Lace House itself was at one time the home of a U.S. senator and at another of a mayor of Columbia.

The Lace House and its two neighbors (Boylston House and Governor's Mansion) document the past century of South Carolina history: the fall of the antebellum aristocracy, the attempted Reconstruction of the state by the Radicals, the restoration of the "Redeemers," and the slow, gradual return to full participation in national life. The historic value of the Lace House has been certified by the South Carolina Commission of Archives and History, which includes among its membership the chairmen of the history departments of the state supported colleges and universities. Top priority has been assigned the Lace House preservation, primarily because its close association with the Governor's Mansion strongly supports its historical integrity.

Architectural value of the Lace House is attested by leading South Carolina architects, among them, Dr. Harold N. Cooledge of the Clemson University School of Architecture, Phelps Bultman of Columbia and Henry Boykin of Camden. Dr. Cooledge labels the architectural quality "very high," "of value to the State," "well worth fighting for."

As part of the Governors Mansion Complex, the Lace House restoration is an excellent example of adaptive use. It has strong support from city, county, and state governments, and such specific agencies as the Richland-Lexington Counties Joint Planning Commission, which finds the development "compatible with comprehensive planning being done by our agency and with other forms of functional planning being carried out in the area."

The building enjoys special protection under historic preservation provisions of city zoning ordinances. Maintenance of the integrity of the house is assured by the Parks, Recreation and Tourism department, which has a continuing interest in historic preservation. Future operation and maintenance cost will be from annual appropriations of the state legislature.

Nat'l Register status for Lace House is important to the whole area.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hennig, Columbia Capital City of South Carolina, 1786-1936, published by Columbia Sesqui-Centennial Commission (Columbia, R. L. Bryan Co., 1936 and 1966) pp. 13-57.

WPA, South Carolina, A Guide to the Palmetto State. New York, Oxford University Press, 1941.

Simons and Meriwether. A Guide to Columbia, South Carolina's Capital City. Sesqui-Centennial Commission, 1939; Chamber of Commerce, 1943. Columbia, R.L. Bryan Co.

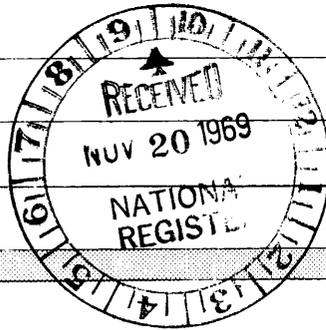
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"	34	0'	32"	81	2'	39"
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"						
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: .75

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Mrs. James W. Fant

ORGANIZATION: S.C. Department of Archives and History DATE: 11/8/69

STREET AND NUMBER: Box 11188 Capitol Station 1430 Senate Street

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia STATE: South Carolina CODE: 41

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 E. Lee
 Director S.C. Dept. of Archives & History
 & State Liaison Officer

Date: Nov. 12, 1969

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest Allen Gurnea
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: DEC 17 1969

ATTEST:

William J. Burdette
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: NOV 2 1969

SEE INSTRUCTIONS