

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY
NOMINATION FORM

Continuation Sheet	Item Number	Page
<u>Name</u> Historic Taylor House	<u>Location</u> 1505 Senate Street	
Common	<u>Classification</u> Building	
<u>Owner</u>	Columbia Arts Commission 1120 Bull Street Columbia, South Carolina 29201	

Representation in Existing Surveys

Description: Constructed in 1908, the original portion of the Taylor House is a large two-story brick residence with a full basement and attic. All brick is executed in Flemish bond. Covered by a hipped roof, and erected upon a granite foundation, the structure has three chimneys. L-shaped in plan, it features a projecting portico, supported by large fluted Corinthian columns of limestone. Limestone is also used for the watertable. The entrance door is accentuated by flanking fluted three-quarter columns and a broken pediment (all of stone).

Since 1950 the structure has been altered and enlarged in order to accommodate the demands of the Columbia Museum of Art. Sun porches which were originally located on the east and west (right and left) sides have been bricked in to provide two new galleries. In 1954 a large wing was added to the rear (northwest) of the structure, and in 1960 a wing housing the Science Museum and observatory was added to the east. (Continued on back.)

Significance

The Taylor House is significant architecturally, being Columbia's only remaining turn-of-the century "mansion," and historically for its associations with the Taylor family whose plantation was selected as the site of the new state capitol in the 1790s. There is no other property on the National Register associated with the Taylor family.

Designed by the Boston firm Andrews, Jaques and Rantoul, the Taylor House was completed in 1908 for Thomas Taylor, Jr., a prosperous businessman. Taylor played a prominent role in the development of early 20th Century Columbia serving as president of Taylor Manufacturing Company, vice president and secretary of Carolina Glass Company, and second vice president of Palmetto National Bank and Trust Company.

The architectural firm Andrews, Jaques, and Rantoul was a well-known early 1900s firm who also designed the east and west wing additions to the Massachusetts State House, (Continued on back.)

Acreage 1.38 acres

Verbal Boundary Description The boundary of the Taylor House nomination is shown as the red line on the accompanying tax map of Richland County entitled "No. 26" and drawn at an approximate scale of 100 feet to the inch. The nominated property includes all significant buildings and structures.

UTM Reference Point 17/497405/3762125

Other Information

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Description continued:

In 1962 an additional wing to the rear (northwest) was built. Constructed of brick which matches the original, these additions have been minimized through the careful landscaping of the property. Fig vine growing on the additions also makes them less obtrusive.

Interior: The majority of the original fabric of the house has been maintained. The first floor of the structure contains four main rooms with notable carved woodwork and an imposing stairway. Woodwork in these rooms has been painted. The second floor originally contained bedrooms and a servants quarters wing on the northeast. The only major alteration on this floor has been the conversion of the servants quarters into a large gallery space. Attic space, now used for storage, had a billiard room.

Originally, the site included a grass terrace, stables and stable yard. The stables are now joined to the main house by the Science Museum. The lawn is well-maintained.

Significance continued:

the County Courthouse at Worcester, Massachusetts, and the Connecticut School for the Blind at Hartford, Connecticut.

Since its 1950 conversion into the Columbia Museum of Art, the building has played a major role in the cultural life of the city and state.