

MAR 27 1986

(X) NOT FOR PUBLICATION

SOUTH CAROLINA INVENTORY FORM FOR HISTORIC DISTRICTS AND
INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES IN A MULTIPLE PROPERTY SUBMISSION

NAME OF MULTIPLE PROPERTY SUBMISSION: Lower Richland County Multiple
Resource Area

PREFERRED NAME OF PROPERTY: Laurelwood

HISTORIC NAME OF PROPERTY: Laurelwood

COMMON NAME OF PROPERTY: Laurelwood

LOCATION: 

CLASSIFICATION: Building

OWNER: 

DESCRIPTION

Laurelwood is a two-story, frame residence believed to have been built ca. 1830. The building has integrity from the antebellum period.

The building is of frame construction with weatherboard siding. The facade (southwest elevation) has five bays, with a two-tier, pedimented porch spanning the three central bays. The porch has paneled piers and a simple balustrade. The first story of the facade has a central entrance with rectangular transom and sidelights, with nine-over-nine sash windows to either side. The second story windows have nine-over-six sash; all windows have louvered shutters.

The side elevations (southeast and northwest) have four bays; the pedimented gable ends have tripartite attic windows. A modern door and stoop are located on the southeast elevation. The rear (northeast) elevation originally had a two-story porch similar to the facade porch. This was removed in the twentieth century, and a one-story, frame addition built in its place.

The building has a typical central-hall, double-pile plan, with interior chimneys. Most of the original woodwork is intact in the house.

Two historic outbuildings are located on the property. A frame smokehouse is to the southeast of the house, while a frame barn is to the northeast. A modern masonry pump house is also on the property.

SIGNIFICANCE

AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: S (for office use only)

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

Laurelwood is significant architecturally as one of the few remaining antebellum plantation houses in lower Richland County. Built in the Greek revival mode with a two-story, pedimented portico featuring panelled piers, this house is said to have been constructed ca. 1830 by James H. Seay, cotton, corn, and rice planter.(1)

James H. Seay, in 1850, owned 2,500 acres with 600 improved acres; however, by 1860, he had apparently divested himself of all but about 425 improved acres.(2) A small portion of Seay's acreage went to the Congaree Baptist Church, which constructed a church known as Good Hope, on the property, near Laurelwood.

At Seay's death, Laurelwood passed to his daughter, Cecelia Nina, who married Rev. Charles Augustus Stiles, minister of Good Hope Baptist Church until ca. 1905.(3) When Rev. Stiles died in 1908, the house became the residence of the Jasper Campbell family, in which it remains.(4)

ACREAGE: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] s

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

OTHER INFORMATION:

NOTES

(1) Interview with Miss Margaret M. Campbell, Eastover, S.C., 17 June 1980 and 22 May 1985; "Agriculture, Industry, Social Statistics, and Mortality Schedules for South Carolina, 1850-1880," Richland County, Agricultural Census of 1850, Columbia, S.C.: Department of Archives and History Microfilms, 1971, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

(2) Ibid.

(3) Minutes of the Charleston Baptist Association, 1857 and 1858, South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C.

(4) Interview with Miss Margaret M. Campbell, Eastover, S.C., 17 June 1980.