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( ) NOT FOR PUBLICATION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: Grovewood

HISTORIC NAME OF PROPERTY: Same

COMMON NAME OF PROPERTY: Weston House

LOCATION: South side of S. C. Hwy. 769 at Congaree, across from McEntire Air National Guard Base

CLASSIFICATION: Building

OWNER: William Weston, Jr., M. D.
1604 Dalloz Rd.
Columbia, S. C. 29204

DESCRIPTION

Grovewood is a two-story, frame residence set on a working farm in lower Richland County. The date of the building's construction is not clear; various evidence suggests original construction as early as ca. 1765 or as late as ca. 1835. The building's configuration and details suggest an early nineteenth century construction date, although various elements appear to have been remodeled later.

The building is of frame construction, with two stories over a stuccoed brick foundation, weatherboard siding, and a low hipped roof with a dentil cornice. The north elevation is five bays; the central entrance on the first story has a rectangular transom and sidelights. Windows on the first story are nine-over-nine, with louvered shutters; the second story has nine-over-six sash. The central window on the second story has a full transom and sidelights, suggesting that it may have been a doorway originally. The north elevation has a one-story, hip-roofed porch with Ionic colonettes and turned balusters spanning the full five bays. The details of the porch suggest that it was built in the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

The east and west elevations are three bays each. The south elevation is five bays wide, with a one-story, hip-roofed porch. This elevation has flushboard siding beneath the porch, suggesting that the configuration of the porch is original; however, the turned posts and

scroll-sawn brackets of the porch suggest fabrication in the later nineteenth century. The central window of the second story has a Palladian composition, although the central arched element has been filled with lap siding.

One frame outbuilding, identified as a kitchen, is located to the southeast of the house. Several modern frame buildings are also on the property, which is still part of a working farm.

SIGNIFICANCE

AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: S (for office use only)

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

Grovewood is significant architecturally as one of the few remaining large antebellum plantation houses in lower Richland County. Family tradition holds that a one-story house was built ca. 1765 near the location of St. John's Episcopal Church, moved to this location ca. 1835, and enlarged to its present size and style.(1) However, another source indicates that the house was constructed by William Weston, II, ca. 1800 and that his son made numerous changes in the house. Architectural evidence suggests an early nineteenth century construction date; whether or not the house has an earlier core moved from another location is not known.(2) Nails, other hardware, and building materials were made on the plantation, a blacksmith shop being located there.(3)

According to family tradition the south elevation originally served as the facade of the house until the highway was relocated.(4) Set in a grove of pecan trees, the property includes a frame kitchen and other outbuildings remaining from its active days as a plantation. The Weston family continues to own the house and property.

ACREAGE: Approximately 2.5 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The boundary of the nominated property is shown as the black line on the accompanying Richland County tax map #27600, section 2, parcel 3, and #30400, section 5, parcel 4, with a scale of 1 inch equalling 400 feet. It includes the historic buildings and their immediate surroundings.

QUAD NAME: Congaree, S. C.

QUAD Scale: 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCE POINT: 17/518250/3751638

OTHER INFORMATION:

FOOTNOTES

[1] Interview with Dr. William Weston, Jr., Grovewood, Richland County, S.C., July 8, 1985.

[2] Laura Jervey Hopkins, Lower Richland Planters - Hopkins, Adams, Weston and Related Families of South Carolina (Columbia, S.C.: The R. L. Bryan Co., 1976), p. 392.

[3] Ibid.

[4] Interview with Dr. William Weston, Jr.