

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: South Carolina	
COUNTY: Spartanburg	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAR 20 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Nicholls-Crook House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 13.6 miles SW of Spartanburg on US Hwy 221; turn left on county road S42-120; house is .1 mile on right.

CITY OR TOWN: Spartanburg vicinity

STATE: South Carolina CODE: 45 COUNTY: Spartanburg CODE: 083

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>future residence</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Robert S. and Bedie P. Overman

STREET AND NUMBER: The Candlestick Antique Shop 393 East St. John Street

CITY OR TOWN: Spartanburg STATE: South Carolina CODE: 45

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Spartanburg County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER: Magnolia Street

CITY OR TOWN: Spartanburg STATE: South Carolina CODE: 45

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: South Carolina Preliminary Survey of Historic Places

DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: South Carolina Department of Archives and History

STREET AND NUMBER: 1430 Senate Street P.O. Box 11,188 Capitol Station 29211

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia STATE: South Carolina CODE: 45

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

MAR 20 1973

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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5-2-73

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins
	(Check One)			(Check One)	
	<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

Exterior: This two-story house of Flemish bond brickwork was constructed c. 1800 by Jesse Crook, a planter of Spartanburg County. The sensible plainness of its Georgian architecture was modified during the 19th century, but the wooden structure additions have since been removed or deteriorated. Alterations in the brickwork of the bays were also made, and the roof line lowered after late 19th century fire damage. However, the current owners are presently restoring the house to its original appearance.

The front and rear facades consists of three bays with central doorways. Alterations in the brickwork surrounding windows and doors were made with the addition of a wooden piazza and rear room during the first half of the 19th century. The piazza extended across the northern (front), western, and southern (rear) facades. The additional room was adjoined to the western end of the rear facade and thus the lower window of that area was closed and the upper window shortened. Original first-floor window and doorway arches were filled in and thus the size of these openings decreased. Originally the upper bound of the first-floor windows and doorways were on the same horizontal plane--either the openings themselves were larger or transoms were located above them. The only remnants of these wooden additions are the modifications in the brickwork and openings described above and the markings on the facades where the piazza and rear room roofs were attached.

The first floor sits some four to five feet above ground level. Though the piazza was a later addition, some manner of stairways and possibly porches or porticos leading to the entrances were of necessity included in the original construction. Beneath the first floor is a full basement that is half above, half below ground level. In the southern (rear) facade there are two windows at ground level which light the basement area.

Each side facade contains two exterior end chimneys with corbeled caps. The lower sections of the chimneys are of Flemish bond, while the upper sections are of all stretcher. The two chimneys on the western facade are completely separate. All four windows of this facade are located between the chimneys: one first-floor nine-over-nine-light window, two narrow second-floor windows, and one small window in the clapboard gable. The eastern facade chimneys are of unusual construction. Separate above the second-floor level, they surround a small gable window and a second-story nine-over-nine-light window. At the second-floor level the two chimneys are joined together and extend to the ground as one broad chimney. This lower part of the chimneys extends southward at mid-first-floor level to include the basement entrance, which contains four arches in the passageway to the basement area. Roughly chamfered bricks form the shed roof over this entrance.

Interior: The basic plan of this house is two-over-two rooms with a central hall and stairway. The eastern first-floor room has one very large fireplace with original hand-carved mantel. In the western first-floor room there are two fireplaces, side by side along the same wall, and though the original mantels have been removed, they are available for copying. The upper eastern room has been subdivided, but restoration plans include changing it to its original appearance. The full basement, which was used as domestic slave quarters, has an earthen floor and large fireplace. The (See Continuation Sheet, Item 7.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input 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) **c. 1800**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input 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 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 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

Architectural Significance: Elements of 18th-Century architecture are evident in the style of the Nicholls-Crook House, and as such they are significant for their early appearance in Up-Country South Carolina plantation residence design. The Virginia architectural influence can be traced to the fact that James Crook, father of the builder, was born in Mecklenburg County, Virginia, in 1746, and moved to the Spartanburg District some time just prior to The Revolution. Particularly indicative of Virginia styles are the Flemish bond brickwork, the chamfered brickwork of the chimneys, the Georgian plainness of the three-bay facade, the segmental arches over windows and doorways, the wide windows of the front and rear facades, and the joined chimneys of the eastern facade. Though the house is presently in a deteriorated condition, the owners are planning a complete restoration under the direction of Henry Boykin, II, A.I.A., and member of The South Carolina State Board of Review for The National Register of Historic Places. Upon completion of restoration, the Nicholls-Crook House will stand as an authentic and attractive landmark of early Up-Country South Carolina plantation design modeled upon the styles of Colonial Virginia.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Census of 1820, South Carolina, Spartanburg District. Microfilm in S. C. Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.: Roll #120, p. 247.
Landrum, J. B. O. History of Spartanburg County. Atlanta: The Franklin Prtg. and Publ Co., 1900, pp. 328-333.
Will of Jesse Crook, Recorded in Spartanburg County Wills, Book D, Page 75, Nov. 19, 1844.
Salley, A. S., Jr., ed. The South Carolina Historical and Genalogical Magazine. Charleston, S.C.: The South Carolina Historical Society, 1900, vol. 1, p. 346.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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
NW	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		34	46	56.3
SE	° ' "	° ' "		82	01	22.6
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2½

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Wright Caughman Historic Preservation Assistant

ORGANIZATION: South Carolina Department of Archives and History DATE: Aug. 18, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
1430 Senate Street P.O. Box 11,188 Capitol Station 29211

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia STATE: South Carolina CODE: 45

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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
 Charles E. Lee

Title Director, South Carolina Department of Archives and History

Date _____

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

Robert M. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 3/20/73

ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 3-13-73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE	South Carolina	
COUNTY	Spartanburg	
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

NICHOLLS-CROOK HOUSE

7. DESCRIPTION, continued:

basement walls are constructed of large field stones up to the water table, and of brick for the upper portion.

Surroundings: The builder of this house selected this site because it is the highest ridge just above the South Tyger River. The house overlooks a modern golf course which utilizes much of the original plantation acreage. Surrounding the house is a grove of very large pecan trees which continue to bear.

