

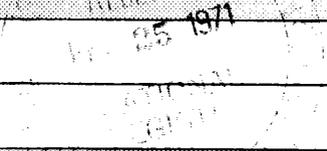
Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <u>South Carolina</u>	
COUNTY: <u>Union</u>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER <u>716,45,0051</u>	DATE <u>6/24/71</u>



**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
The Cross Keys House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
12 mi. S.W. of Union on S.C. 49.

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE: South Carolina CODE: 29379 COUNTY: Union CODE: 087

**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 type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
William Claude Wilburn

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Route 2

CITY OR TOWN:  
Union

STATE:  
South Carolina

CODE:  
45

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

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

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Union

STATE:  
South Carolina

CODE:  
45

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
South Carolina Survey of Historic Places (Preliminary)

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

CITY OR TOWN:  
Columbia

STATE:  
South Carolina

CODE:  
45

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRY NUMBER: 716,45,0051

DATE: 6/24/71

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**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)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built 1812-14 by Barrum Bobo, prosperous member of an influential Union County family, the Cross Keys House is a fine example of Georgian Colonial in Common Bond brickwork. Located on a knoll, the tall house with two full stories plus attic and basement is an area landmark. Gabled roof with identical pairs of end chimneys; five symmetrically spaced, unshuttered windows on either side of double doors which are protected by massive, raised first-story portico. White Tuscan columns at front and engaged columns at rear support portico and triangular pediment. Between each pair of end chimneys, a date stone is placed beneath the gable. On one of these is carved the date of house's completion (1814), original owner's initials (B.B.), and crossed keys thought to be the insignia of the builder. (Barrum Bobo is said to have been a ship's purser).

There is much beautiful carving in wainscoting, molding, and mantel.

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**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) 1812-14

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Located at the intersection of the Old Buncombe Road and Old Ninety-Six Road (also known as Old Piedmont Stage Road), the Cross Keys House, center of a large and prosperous plantation, provided a welcome stop for travelers. An advertisement for the sale of Cross Keys in the Columbia Telescope, September 1, 1838 tells of advantageous location: "Persons wishing to connect merchandizing and tavern-keeping with farming and planting, would not find a situation better suited to the business in the upcountry South Carolina." As early as 1809, a post office was established at Cross Keys under the supervision of George Gordon, the first postmaster. Two old milestones indicating distance to Union "12 M." and Columbia "68-0!" remain in front of house as evidence of early highway system.

Tradition supported by diaries holds that Jefferson Davis, his cabinet and military escort dined here on their flight from Richmond. The group included General Ferguson of Mississippi, Generals Dibrell and Vaughan of Tennessee, Colonel W.C.P. Breckinridge and General Basil Duke of Kentucky, General John C. Breckinridge, cavalry commander, and General Bragg, senior General of the Army (Lee, Johnston and Beauregard having surrendered).

The Cross Keys House will be marked by the South Carolina Department of Archives and history as an historic site on the Jefferson Davis Trail, a stop which immediately precedes Davis' final Council of War at Abbeville.

Architecturally, the cross Keys House is significant as brilliant example of Georgian Colonial with beautiful interior hand carving. Also extensive collection of antique furniture, china, glass, silver and family daguerreotypes of the present owners who have lived in the house for at least three generations. Since completion in 1814, the Cross Keys House has been continuously occupied. The South Carolina Department of Archives also has scheduled an historic marker which will be erected at Cross Keys to tell the history of the house and its owners.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Neuffer, Claude Henry. Names In South Carolina 1954-65. Columbia, South Carolina. 1967. University of South Carolina Press.  
 Marsh, Blanche. Plantation Heritage in Upcountry South Carolina. Asheville, North Carolina. 1962. Biltmore Press.  
 WPA. South Carolina: A Guide to the Palmetto State. New York. 1941. University of Oxford Press.  
Columbia Telescope. Columbia, South Carolina. September 1, 1838.

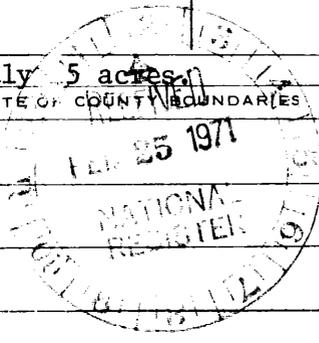
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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	°	'	"	°	'	"	34°	38'	03"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	81°	46'	27"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Approximately 5 acres.

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Nancy R. Ruhf, Historic Resources Coordinator I

ORGANIZATION: South Carolina Department of Archives and History DATE: 12/10/70

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

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

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

<p>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:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name: <u>Charles E. Lipp</u></p> <p>Title: <u>Director of South Carolina Department of Archives &amp; History</u></p> <p>Date: <u>2/14/71</u></p>	<p><b>NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION</b></p> <p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>James A. Connally</u> Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>JUN 24 1971</p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>William F. ...</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date: <u>JUN 2 1971</u></p>
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS