NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Pressley, Colonel John Gotea, House

other names/site number Pressley-Hirsch-Green House; Green, Mrs. Wylma M., House

2. Location

street & number 216 North Academy Street not for publication ___
city or town Kingstree vicinity ___
state South Carolina code SC county Williamsburg code 089
zip code 29556

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this x nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property x meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide x locally.
(___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Mary W. Edmonds 4/30/97
Signature of certifying official Date
Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy SHPO, South Carolina Department of Archives and History

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.
(___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

X entered in the National Register
___ See continuation sheet.
___ determined eligible for the National Register
___ See continuation sheet.
___ determined not eligible for the National Register
___ removed from the National Register
___ other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)
x private
___ public-local
___ public-State
___ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)
x building(s)
___ district
___ site
___ structure
___ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
Kingstree Multiple Resource Area

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)
Greek Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)
foundation Brick
roof Asphalt
walls Weatherboard
other Brick
Wood

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

___ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
x **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
x **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
___ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

____ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
____ **B** removed from its original location.
____ **C** a birthplace or a grave.
____ **D** a cemetery.
____ **E** a reconstructed building, object,or structure.
____ **F** a commemorative property.
____ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)
Architecture

Significant Dates
1855

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
Pressley, John Gotea

Cultural Affiliation

Period of Significance
1855 - 1943

Architect/Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)
___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
___ previously listed in the National Register
___ previously determined eligible by the National Register
___ designated a National Historic Landmark
___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary Location of Additional Data
_x_ State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
___ Federal agency
___ Local government
___ University
_x_ Other
Name of repository: S.C. Department of Archives and History

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approx. 1 acre

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	17	607940	3726140	3			
2				4			

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Andrew W. Chandler, NR Specialist (w/ assistance from Peggy G. Hamby, owner)

organization S.C. Department of Archives and History date March 4, 1996

street & number 1430 Senate Street telephone (803) 734-8610

city or town Columbia state S.C. zip code 29211

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Peggy Green Hamby

street & number 216 North Academy Street telephone 803-354-

city or town Kingstree state S.C. zip code 29556

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

The Colonel John Gotea Pressley House, located at 216 North Academy Street in Kingstree, is a one and a half story weatherboard-clad residence of mortice and tenon construction. Within a partially wooded and landscaped town lot that extends at the rear to Brockinton Street, the house is recessed from the street approximately sixty-five feet and set upon a brick pier with brick infill foundation. Its five-bay wide facade (south elevation) is dominated at the first level by a full-width hip roofed porch supported by six freestanding square tapered wood piers which rise from masonry footings at grade. Each pier features a Gothic or pointed arched panel on all four sides, as well as decorative sawn brackets at the caps. Within and under the porch roof is a three-bay wide recessed deck set upon stuccoed brick piers with criss-crossed lattice infill and featuring a decorative sawn balustrade.

The central entrance consists of a double-leaf door with four panels each, a nine-light transom, and five-light side panels, the upper four of which feature decorative frosted and etched glass. Flanking the entrance are two six-over-six, double-hung sash windows, the outer two of which are outside the porch deck and rail. All other windows consist of six-over-six double-hung sash. All first floor windows on the south, east and west elevations feature louvered wood shutters. Stuccoed brick, corbel-capped exterior end chimneys are located on each side elevation, along the front slope of the building's roof. A plane frieze is just below the cornice and completely encircles the house. Clad with composition/alsphalt shingles, the roof features a boxed cornice with returns. Three pedimented dormers, the center one of which is larger and contains a tripartite or Palladian style window, rise from the roof's front slope. Each of the flanking dormers features compass-headed windows. Dormers of equal size are located along the rear slope of the house's roof; however, the windows are simple six-over-six double-hung sash.

A more modern shed room addition (ca. 1940s) runs across the entire rear (north) elevation. By 1994, a small central shed-roofed sunroom and wraparound porch, as well as a polygonal bay window, had been added to the rear of the house; however, these are not visible from the street and do not detract visually or architecturally from the historic character of the house. A modern, yet compatible, gable-front two-car garage is located near the northeast rear corner of the house.

On the house's interior is a central stairhall and back hall, divided by a partition and a double-leaf glazed and wood paneled door. The stairhall features a right-hand, single-flight staircase with turned newel and unturned balusters. As the stair approaches the upper floor it turns tightly to the left in a 180 degree formation. The back hall space, finished in horizontal flushboard, is interrupted only by a historic closet and a more modern bathroom. The upper walls in the central hall and most other historic first floor rooms contain picture moulding located approximately one foot below the ceiling, which is flushboard with moulded battens that create a decorative effect. Flanking the central stair and back hall are the living and dining rooms to the left (west) and two bedrooms to the right (east). Although the partition wall between the living and dining rooms was reduced ca. 1945 to create a more open space, the rooms in the historic core retain their plastered walls, paneled wainscoting, two-paneled doors and surrounds, window surrounds, mantels, and heart pine floors. The upstairs was probably unfinished until later in the nineteenth century, when it was partitioned into a central hall and two bedrooms and finished with horizontal beaded board walls, chairrail, beaded board wainscoting, and batten or plank doors. The stair balustrade at the second level has two square newels and one chamfered. At the turn of the stair is an extended newel that is morticed and tenoned. The rear of the upstairs central hall, where the oversized center dormer provides additional space, has been partitioned for use as a bathroom. A kitchen, den, bathroom, office, and utility room occupy the interior space of the rear shed addition.

Summary Statement of Significance

The Colonel John Gotea Pressley House, known to many residents of the Kingstree area as the Wylma M. Green residence, was constructed in 1855.**(1)** It is significant as a largely intact local interpretation of the Greek Revival style with what appear to be Victorian or later embellishments. As an excellent example of a type and form of construction, the house contains a somewhat pronounced version of a "rain porch," an element most often peculiar to houses in eastern South Carolina. In addition, the building and property are significant as the home of Colonel John Gotea Pressley, prominent local attorney, judge, and Confederate regimental field officer. In a town which had its beginnings with the Scots-Irish Williamsburgh settlement of 1732 and once boasted numerous eighteenth and nineteenth century architectural examples, this house remains as one of only three extant antebellum residences in the town that are original to their locations. Several others have been moved into the town limits in recent years from sites in the county.

Additional Information

John Gotea Pressley purchased three and a half acres of land "on the Sumter Road near the village of Kingstree" from Dr. James S. Brockinton and his wife, Virginia Brockinton, on April 4, 1855.**(2)** Pressley began building his house on this parcel that year through the generosity of his foster uncle, William Burrows, a wealthy Williamsburg District planter. Burrows, according to a sketch written by Pressley in 1889 for his family history, "pressed on [him] the services of his two negro carpenters for one year, and his plasterer and brickmason as long as I had use for him in building my house."**(3)**

Pressley (1833-1895) was the son of John B. Pressley, a successful local planter, and Sarah Gotea [a Huguenot name originally spelled Gautier and retaining its French pronunciation] Pressley of Williamsburg District. Graduating from the South Carolina Military Academy (The Citadel) in 1851, he then read law in the office of his kinsman, B.C. Pressley, later a circuit judge. Being admitted to the bar in May 1854, Pressley opened and maintained a successful law practice in Kingstree. He was married in February 1854, to Miss Julia C. Burckmeyer of Charleston.**(4)** He helped to organize in 1856 and served as a founding trustee and member of the Kingstree Baptist Church.**(5)** Prior to the Civil War, he served in the legislature for one term (1858-1860), then was elected to the Secession Convention and signed the Ordinance of Secession on December 20, 1860.**(6)** He organized the Wee Nee Volunteers on January 1, 1861, and served as its captain throughout the war, first as Company E, 1st South Carolina (Hagood's) Regiment, then as part of the 11th South Carolina (Eutaw) Battalion, and finally as the 25th Regiment, South Carolina Volunteers. When his company expanded into the 25th South Carolina on July 22, 1862, Pressley was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel. He lost an arm in battle at Port Walthall, Virginia, on May 6, 1864.**(7)** After the war he resumed his law practice in Kingstree, and served as county judge from December 1866 until early 1869 when he relocated with his family to California. First settling in Suisun City, Solano County, where he served as city attorney for three years, Pressley then moved to Santa Rosa, Sonoma County in January 1873 and served there as both city attorney and county judge. Under the reorganization of the court system in California, the people elected him judge of the superior court in 1880, a position he held until 1891. He died in Santa Rosa on July 5, 1895, and was buried in the Santa Rosa Rural Cemetery.**(8)**

Following his removal to California, Pressley sold his Kingstre home on December 10, 1869, and the surrounding eleven acres to John M. Hirsch, who in turn sold it on July 30, 1870, to Melvin J. Hirsch, former Confederate commissary officer with the 25th South Carolina, local attorney, district solicitor, Republican mayor of Kingstree, and school board trustee.**(9)** The house remained in the Hirsch family until March 26, 1924, when Nita M. Epps purchased it and two acres for $4000.00.**(10)** Epps owned the house for nearly twenty years, then sold it to Wylma McCullough Green on November 21, 1943, for $4250.00.**(11)** It was early in her occupancy that

some interior and exterior changes to the rear elevation were made. The house remains in Mrs. Green's family today, having been rehabilitated in 1993-1994 by her daughter, Mrs. Peggy Green Hamby.

Architecture

The Pressley House, in the overall symmetry of its plan and form, is typical of the Greek Revival style; however, its porch ornamentation contains both Gothic Revival and Italianate elements. Although the decorative sawn brackets on the porch piers may be from the date of construction, it is more likely that they were added during the Hirsch family ownership after the war. The house's most significant design and character defining element, however, is the "rain porch." Probably known as such because of the additional protection the wider, overhanging roof afforded antebellum residents in their "outdoor living rooms" during summer rainstorms, the rain porch appears as a vernacular form almost exclusively in South Carolina's northeastern quadrant. Although the origin of the form remains unknown, the rain porch's recessed, balustraded deck located behind or well within freestanding columns, posts, or piers is evidence of a need for adaptation to climatic conditions in this part of the state. With few if any exceptions the form has only been observed and recorded in the area north of the Santee and east of the Wateree and Catawba rivers. Most examples are less pronounced, however, than in the case of the Pressley House. The only other significant and extant example within the town of Kingstree is the ca. 1843 Scott House, at 506 Live Oak Avenue (listed in the National Register in 1982). Other examples in Williamsburg County include the ca. 1847 John Calvin Wilson House near Indiantown (also listed in 1982), New Market or the Rhodus-Lesesne House (ca. 1825) near Greeleyville, the ca. 1835 Samuel Ruffin Mouzon House near Kingstree, and the J.J.M. Graham House (1830s-40s) near Cades.**(12)** Within the region there are the Judge McBride McFadden House near New Zion, in Clarendon County; the 1823 Red Doe Plantation near Florence (listed in 1982); Bonnie Shade (ca. 1854) in Florence (listed in 1978); the 1857 Rankin-Harwell House or The Columns (listed in 1974); Tanglewood (ca. 1831), Bloomsbury (ca. 1850), Holly Hedge (ca. 1842), and Horsebranch Hall (ca. 1840), all listed within the Camden Historic District in 1971 (Kershaw County); the ca. 1790 Buckton Plantation near Boykin in lower Kershaw County; the ca. 1825 Robert McFadden House in the Concord community of Sumter County; and Mont Clare (ca. 1813) and Wilds Hall (1840s), both in rural Darlington County.**(13)** While the properties enumerated above that are listed in the National Register were described in their respective nominations as having porches of this type, none were nominated specifically as excellent examples of this form. It is a form that has been adapted to both modest and grand houses, but one that enhances the proportions of the more modest residences, such as the Pressley House, as its piers rise uninterrupted from grade to porch roof.

NOTES

(1) John G. Pressley, "Family History" (1889), p. 17; unpublished typescript (January 1939), Historic Preservation Division, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, South Carolina.

(2) Deed Book F, pp. 600-601, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Williamsburg County Courthouse, Kingstree, S.C.

(3) Pressley, "Family History," p. 17.

(4) John Amasa May, South Carolina Secedes (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1960), pp. 194-195; Robert K. Krick, Lee's Colonels: A Biographical Register of the Field Officers of the Army of Northern Virginia, Third Edition, Revised, (Dayton, Ohio: Press of Morningside House, Inc., 1991) p. 309.

(5) William Willis Boddie, History of Williamsburg (Columbia, S.C.: The State Company, 1923), pp. 297-298.

(6) Walter B. Edgar, ed., Biographical Directory of the South Carolina House of Representatives, Vol. I, Session Lists, 1692-1973 (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1974), pp. 378-381; May, pp. 194-195.

(7) Boddie, p. 343; John G. Pressley, "The Wee Nee Volunteers of Williamsburg District, S.C." Southern Historical Society Papers XVI (1888), 116-194; Krick, p. 309.

(8) Boddie, p. 464; Pressley, "Family History," pp. 43, 45-46; May, 195.

(9) Deed Book L, pp. 177-178 and Deed Book N, 374-375, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Williamsburg County Courthouse, Kingstree, S.C.; Pressley, "Family History," p. 7; Boddie, pp. 460, 470.

(10) Deed Books R, p. 30; A-16, pp. 415, 733, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Williamsburg County Courthouse, Kingstree, S.C.

(11) Deed Book (1943), Register of Mesne Conveyance, Williamsburg County Courthouse, Kingstree, S.C.

(12) National Register files, State Historic Preservation Office, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.; Williamsburg County Historical Society, Williamsburg County: A Pictorial History (Dallas, Texas: Taylor Publishing Company, 1991), pp. 97-107.

(13) National Register and Statewide Survey files, Historic Preservation Office, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.; Cassie Nicholes, Historical Sketches of Sumter County, Volume II (Greenville, S.C.: A Press, Inc., 1981), p. 311.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Boddie, William Willis. History of Williamsburg. Columbia, S.C.: The State Company, 1923.

Edgar, Walter B., ed. Biographical Directory of the South Carolina House of Representatives, Vol. I, Session Lists, 1692-1973. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1974.

Krick, Robert K. Lee's Colonels: A Biographical Register of the Field Officers of the Army of Northern Virginia, Third Edition, Revised. Dayton, Ohio: Press of Morningside House, Inc., 1991.

May, John Amasa. South Carolina Secedes. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1960.

National Register and Statewide Survey files, State Historic Preservation Office, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

Nicholes, Cassie. Historical Sketches of Sumter County, Volume II. Greenville, S.C.: A Press, Inc., 1981.

Pressley, John G. "Family History" (1889), p. 17; unpublished typescript (January 1939), Historic Preservation Division, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, South Carolina.

_____. "The Wee Nee Volunteers of Williamsburg District, S.C." Southern Historical Society Papers XVI (1888).

Williamsburg County Deeds, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Kingstree, S.C.

Williamsburg County Historical Society. Williamsburg County: A Pictorial History. Dallas, Texas: Taylor Publishing Company, 1991.

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for the Colonel John Gotea Pressley House nomination is shown as the dark line encircling parcel 64 on the accompanying Williamsburg County Tax Map, Sheet 24, dated February 8-9, 1977, and drawn at a scale of 1" = 100'.

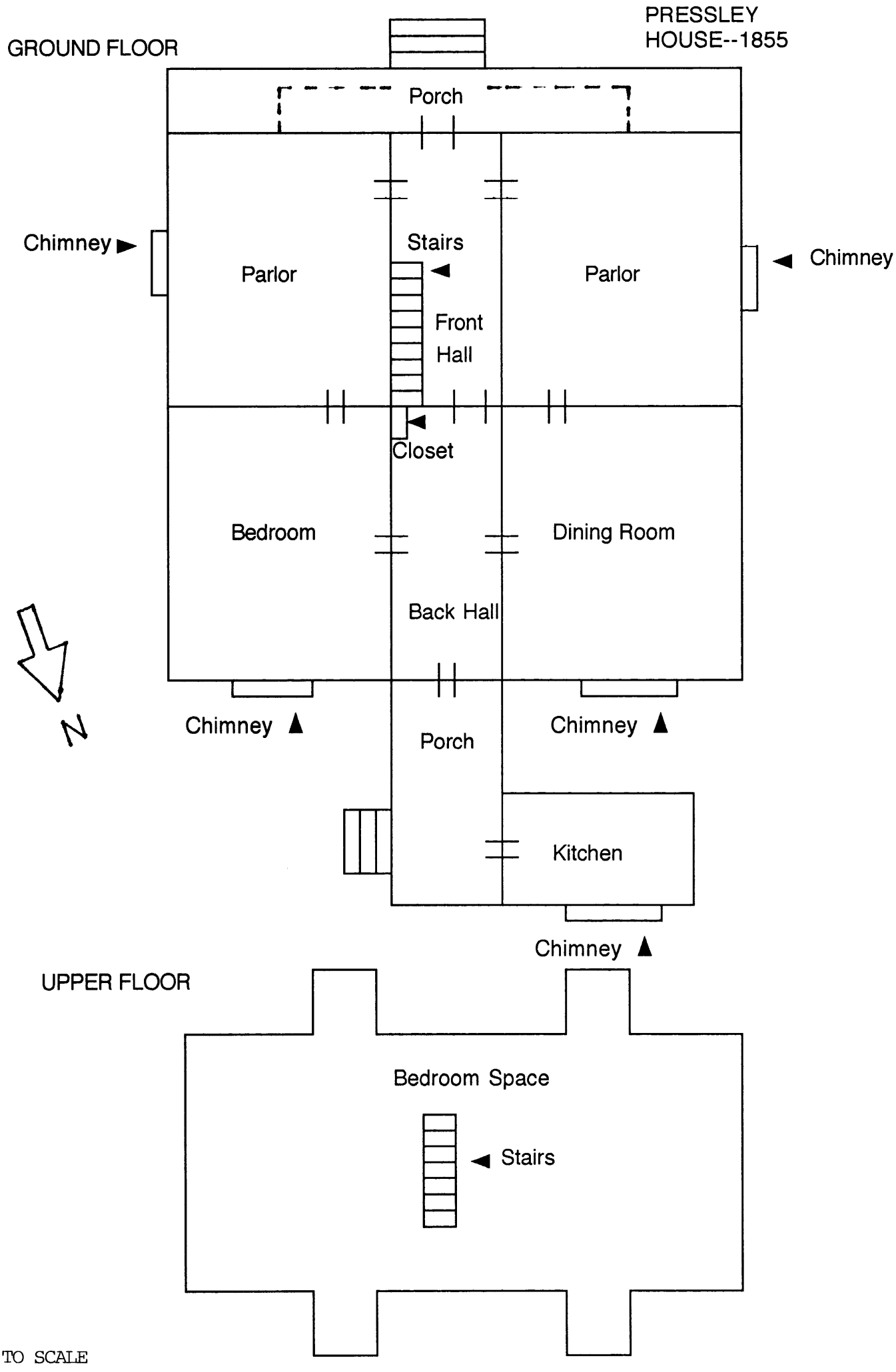
Verbal Boundary Justification

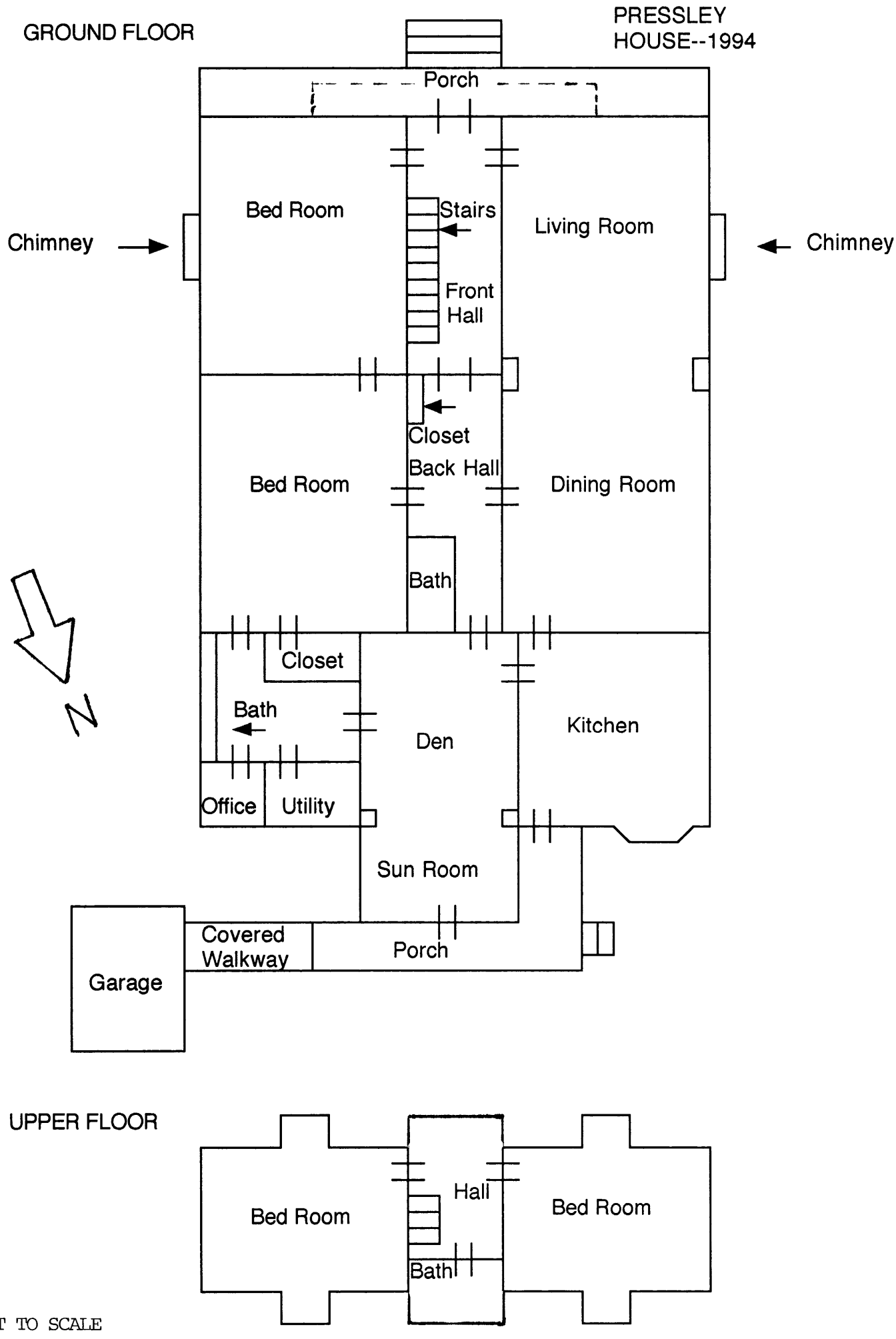
The boundary includes the historic house, a noncontributing two-car garage, and the entire parcel which contains approximately one acre.

The following information is the same for each of the enumerated photographs:

Name of Property: Colonel John Gotea Pressley House
County and State: Williamsburg County, South Carolina
Photographer: Mrs. Peggy Green Hamby, Kingstree, S.C.
Date of Photographs: April 1994
Location of Original Negatives: South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

1. South elevation (facade) from Academy Street
2. Southeast oblique view
3. Southwest oblique view
4. Northwest oblique view, showing modern shed roofed rear addition and polygonal bay window
5. Northeast oblique view from elevated position
6. Central stairhall, facing south toward front door
7. Staircase in central stairhall
8. View of partition and double-leaf glazed and wood paneled door dividing stair and back hall
9. Built-in closet in back hall
10. Paneled wainscoting and heart pine floors in downstairs
11. Picture moulding and board and batten ceiling
12. Two-paneled door and paneled wainscoting in downstairs
13. Dining Room mantel
14. Balustrade around stairwell in upstairs central hall
15. Inside central front dormer, view of Palladian window
16. Inside flanking front dormer, view of compass-headed window
17. Mortice and tenoned joinery in attic
18. Mortice and tenoned joinery, roof rafters and braces in attic


PRESSLEY
HOUSE--1855
GROUND FLOOR
Porch
Chimney
Stairs
Parlor
Parlor
Chimney
Front
Hall
Closet
Bedroom
Dining Room
Back Hall
N
Chimney
Porch
Chimney
Kitchen
Chimney
UPPER FLOOR
Bedroom Space
Stairs
NOT TO SCALE


GROUND FLOOR
PRESSLEY
HOUSE--1994
Porch
Bed Room
Stairs
Living Room
Chimney
Chimney
Front
Hall
Closet
Back Hall
Bed Room
Dining Room
Bath
N
Closet
Bath
Den
Kitchen
Office
Utility
Sun Room
Covered
Walkway
Porch
Garage
UPPER FLOOR
Hall
Bed Room
Bed Room
Bath
NOT TO SCALE

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 97000534 **Date Listed:** 6/10/97

Pressley, Col. John Gotea, House	Williamsburg	SOUTH CAROLINA
Property Name	**County**	**State**

Kingstree MPS
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

for _____ 6/10/97
Signature of the Keeper **Date of Action**

==========

Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 8

This nomination is amended to show that Col. Pressley was significant in the area of Law,

This change has been discussed with the South Carolina SHPO>

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)