

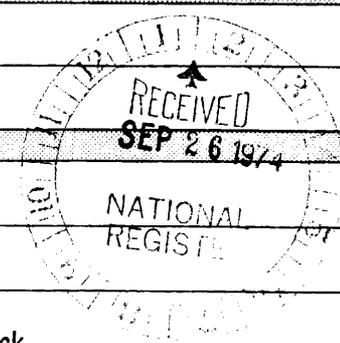
Form 10-300
(July 1969)

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: York	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER NOV 20 1974	DATE



1. NAME

COMMON: **Wilson House**

AND/OR HISTORIC: **Old Jail, (Yorkville Jail)**

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: **3 South Congress Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **York**

STATE: **South Carolina** CODE: **045** COUNTY: **York** CODE: **091**

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 Public Acquisition: <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 checked="" 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) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: **Episcopal Church Home for Children**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Kings Mountain Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **York** STATE: **South Carolina** CODE: **045**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **York County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Congress and Liberty Streets**

CITY OR TOWN: **York** STATE: **South Carolina** CODE: **045**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: **Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1973** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: **South Carolina Department of Archives & History**

STREET AND NUMBER: **1430 Senate Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Columbia** STATE: **South Carolina** CODE: **045**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	interior (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 : Built in 1828, the jail at Yorkville (now York, S.C.) served York District for twenty-five years, until 1853, when it was sold at public auction and converted into a private residence. The three story building of Flemish bond brick has symmetrically arranged windows and doorway. Door has a semi-circular fanlight and brick arch. Surmounted by flat brick arches, the eight 9/9 light windows of the facade have limestone sills. Four corbeled cap interior chimneys protrude from gabled roof.

The concern for symmetry is evident on the side of the building where false window recesses surmounted by flat arches correspond to window openings.

Rear facade has been altered by additions of a brick room on first floor, a screened porch on the second floor, and a small window on the third floor.

Interior has been altered during use as a private residence. There are now vacant offices on each side of the entrance hall and private apartments on the upper floors. Each room has a corner fireplace.

Surroundings: Located across from the York County Courthouse, the old jail faces York's main street, Congress Street. Flanking the jail is a vacant brick building on the left and, on the right, a driveway lies between the former jail and another house.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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) **1828**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Attributed to Robert Mills and characteristic of his style, the Yorkville jail was built in 1828 while Mills was living in South Carolina and may have been one of his designs. The three story building with its fine proportions and detailed brick work is an exceptional example of small town prison architecture. It was used by Federal troops to imprison members of the Ku Klux Klan during the Reconstruction period.

Architecture: The jail at Yorkville was built in 1828 by Thomas B. Hoover who signed a contract to "execute all the stone masons, brick masons, blacksmiths and carpenters work also painting, glazing, plastering, and all other work required to be done at the gaol now to be built in Yorkville..." After twenty-three years of use the Commissioners petitioned to sell the jail and to build a new one farther from the town's center. In 1853 William A. Latta purchased the property for the sum of \$9710 and gave it to his daughter, Annie Latta Wilson. Converted into a residence, the building was known as the Wilson House.

The design of the brick jail built by Hoover cannot be definitely attributed to Robert Mills but several factors support the hypothesis that Mills may have designed the jail at Yorkville. A native South Carolinian, Mills returned to the state in 1819 for a ten year period. From 1820-1823 he served as Commissioner of Public Works and was frequently referred to as State Architect and Engineer. In the Charleston COURIER (February 28, 1822) an advertisement signed Robert Mills, Acting Commissioner of Public Works, appeared inviting proposals for the erection of courthouses at Kingstree, Newberry, Greenville and Yorkville and jails at Union, Spartanburg, Lancaster, and Yorkville. Many of these public buildings can be attributed to Mills although he often failed to sign his plans.

In February, 1824 Mills was removed from his position on the Board of Public Works because the state was on the verge of bankruptcy; he remained in South Carolina until 1830, however, working on various public and private projects.

Although the interior of the Yorkville jail was altered to serve as a residence in 1853, the exterior exhibits several features which are characteristic of Mills' work. An advocate of the use of brick in York district, he wrote that "...there is excellent clay for making brick for building and equal to any in the state, both for durability and beauty. The walls of the new courthouse (designed by Mills and destroyed in 1913) are built of this material, and show the quality of the brick." Also characteristic of Mills' style are details of the building such as brick arches, semi-circular fan-

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

COURIER (Charleston) Feb. 28, 1822.
 EVENING HERALD (Rock Hill) May 29, 1974. "1820's County Jail Goes Into Use".
 Gallagher, Helen M. Pierce. ROBERT MILLS: ARCHITECT OF THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT 1781-1855, New York: Columbia University Press, 1935.
 GRANTEE INDEX, 1853, Book Y. Page 356.
 GRANTEE INDEX, 1873, Book Y. Page 359.
 Johnston, Norman. THE HUMAN CAGE: A BRIEF HISTORY OF PRISON ARCHITECTURE. New York: Published for the American Foundation, Incorporated, Institute of Corrections, Philadelphia: Walker and Company, 1973. p. 26 & 27.

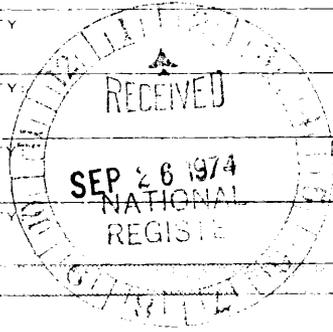
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		34 ° 59 ' 36 "	81 ° 14 ' 32 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1.8**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Nenie Dixon Richard Spradlin

ORGANIZATION: South Carolina Department of Archives & History DATE: Aug. 27, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER: 1430 Senate St., Capitol Station Box 11669

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia STATE: South Carolina CODE: 045

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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
 Title State Historic Preservation Officer
 Date September 5, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

 A. R. W. [Signature]
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 11/20/74

ATTEST: [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 11-20-74

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#8. SIGNIFICANCE Wilson House York County

light, matching false window recesses, and an overall concern for proportion and symmetry.

Built during a period when most prison facades were fortress-like, designed to deter outsiders from crime as well as to retain the prisoners, the well-proportioned brick building is an exceptional example of simplicity and dignity in a mid-19th Century prison.

Political and Military: The brick building was again used as a jail during Reconstruction when Federal troops, stationed in York County for 16 years, imprisoned Ku Klux Klan members. The area was a stronghold of Klan activity and Dr. Rufus Bratton of York County provided the basis for the main character of The Clansman by Thomas Dixon. During these years the old jail at York held many Klan members and was referred to locally as the "United States Hotel."



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Wilson House York County

#9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

MANUSCRIPT IN SOUTH CAROLINA ARCHIVES, Columbia. Public Improvements: Buildings, 1831-1859, York District, Petition of Commissioners to sell old gaol lot and buy another, Nov. 18, 1851.

MANUSCRIPT IN SOUTH CAROLINA ARCHIVES, Columbia. Public Improvements: Buildings, 1800-1830, York District Petition of Commissioners of Public Buildings, Nov. 6, 1826 and Petition of James M. Harris, Sheriff, 1827.

MANUSCRIPT IN SOUTH CAROLINA ARCHIVES, Columbia. Records of the State Treasurer: Bonds for Public Buildings 1801-1844, York District, Agreement Between Commissioners of Public Buildings and Thomas B. Hoover for the gaol to be built in Yorkville May 21, 1827.

Marsh, Blanche and Kenneth Frederick, PLANTATION HERITAGE IN UPCOUNTRY, SOUTH CAROLINA, Asheville, N.C. Biltmore Press, 1962. p. 65.

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Mills, Robert, STATISTICS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, Charleston, S.C.: Published by Hurlbut and Lloyd, 1826. p. 781.

STATUTES AT LARGE, Feb. 19, 1913.

Trelease, Allen W. WHITE TERROR: THE KU KLUX KLAN CONSPIRACY AND SOUTHERN RECONSTRUCTION, New York: Harper & Row, Publishers, 1971, p. 404 & 405.

