

**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 _____ Spratt Cemetery
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number _____ Brickyard Road _____ not for publication
city or town _____ Fort Mill _____ vicinity X
state South Carolina code SC county York code 091 zip code 29715

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.)

Signature of certifying official _____ Date _____

Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, S.C. Dept. of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.
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

	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
I, hereby certify that this property is:		
___ 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):		

Spratt Cemetery
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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing

Noncontributing

buildings
sites
structures
objects
Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register

Resources of the Nation Ford Road Area

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: FUNERARY

Subcategory: Cemetery

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: FUNERARY

Subcategory: Cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

N/A

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation
walls
roof
other

Narrative Description

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

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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.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- 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 in 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)

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

Period of Significance

1803-1872

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Spratt, Thomas "Kanawha"

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(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:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository:
Catawba Regional Planning Council,
Rock Hill, S.C.

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing
1 17 504313.06 3872788.18 3
2 _____ 4

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 Paul Gettys, Senior Planner
organization Catawba Regional Planning Council date January 4, 1999
street & number P.O. Box 450 telephone (803) 327-9041
city or town Rock Hill state SC zip code 29731

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 John M. Spratt
street & number P.O. Box 626 telephone (803) 684-4554
city or town York state SC zip code 29745

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.

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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Spratt Cemetery is located near Brickyard Road just south of the town limits of Fort Mill, South Carolina. The cemetery consists of fourteen marked graves and approximately nine graves with broken stones or partial markers. It is surrounded by an eighteen inch thick rock and concrete wall with an iron gate. The dimensions of the cemetery are approximately 52 feet in width by 45 feet in depth. It houses the graves of the early members of the Spratt family, one of the first European families to settle in the Catawba Indian Nation territory, along with members of the White and Garrison families. The cemetery was established on the Spratt homestead, located on Nation Ford Road. Although the home no longer exists, the cemetery remains approximately 45 feet west of Brickyard Road, which is on the roadbed of the old Nation Ford Road. It is currently surrounded by vacant land. A historical marker was erected by the York County Historical Commission and the local D. A. R. Chapter in 1961 and is located just south of the cemetery. This marker describes Nation Ford Road, Nation Ford, the Spratt homestead and cemetery, and other local historical sites.

Funerary art includes carved eagles with arrows in their talons on the top of the stones for Thomas Spratt, Sr. and Thomas Spratt, Jr. Other stones are less decorated.

The cemetery includes the grave of Thomas "Kanawha" Spratt, who settled on the land in the 1750s or 1760s as one of the earliest white settlers in York County. He died in 1807. His son, Thomas Spratt, Jr., who is buried beside him, died in 1803 at the age of 35. Spratt's father, also named Thomas Spratt, died in Mecklenburg County, N. C. in 1757 and was buried there. A marker in his memory was placed in the Spratt cemetery by the family in 1905, and it is located near the grave of Thomas "Kanawha" Spratt. Other members of the Spratt and related families are buried in the cemetery. Buried near Kanawha Spratt is Peter Harris, one of at least two Catawba Indians who were adopted by him after their parents had died of small pox. Peter Harris was raised in the Spratt family, fought in the American Revolution, and later was taken by a promoter to the British Isles, where he was part of a traveling show of Native Americans. He returned and lived in the area until his death in 1823. On his deathbed, he asked to be buried in the Spratt Cemetery near his adoptive father. There are graves with headstones still visible in the cemetery which date from 1803 to 1872. Several stones are broken or have been uprooted by trees. The wall surrounding the cemetery has deteriorated in some areas. It is composed of fieldstones with a concrete veneer.

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NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Spratt Cemetery is important as the resting place of one of the first European families to settle in the Fort Mill area of York County. The Cemetery is eligible to be placed in the National Register under Criterion A because it illustrates the boad pattern of settlement of the area and under Criterion B because it is associated with Thomas “Kanawha” Spratt, who was one of the first settlers of the area and had a major influence on the development of eastern York County. It is closely associated with Nation Ford Road because it is located adjacent to the site of Thomas “Kanawha” Spratt’s homestead. Spratt was traveling along Nation Ford Road in the 1750s when he came upon the Catawba Indians and was offered land in the area. The location of the cemetery was thus directly related to Nation Ford Road and falls within the Historic Context of the Multiple Property Submission “Resources of the Nation Ford Road Area.”

The Spratt Cemetery is located on land acquired by Thomas “Kanawha” Spratt from the Catawba Indians when he settled in the area, probably in the mid-1750s. He became one of the first European settlers in York County. Traveling along the Nation Ford Road from Mecklenburg County, he was reportedly bound with his young bride to settle in the Long Cane section of Abbeville District.¹ Camping near a spring along the Nation Ford Road, he was approached by Catawba Indians and received over 4,000 acres from them in the area which would later become Fort Mill. His home was built adjacent to Nation Ford Road. Spratt fought alongside the Catawbas in several struggles with other Native American tribes, earning the name “Kanawha” from them for his bravery in battles along the Kanawha river in West Virginia.² Spratt fought in the American Revolution, serving at the Battles of Hanging Rock, Brattonsville, and possibly others.³ His Catawba friends fought alongside him in these battles. His influence with the Catawbas undoubtedly had a major impact on their benevolent attitude toward the European settlers. Spratt lived in the area for fifty years until his death in 1807.

The cemetery contains graves of three generations of the Spratt family. Other early settlers of the Fort Mill area who are buried in the cemetery are Hugh White (1763-1828) and Isaac Garrison (1765-1816). The White family has owned land near Nation Ford for over two hundred years. Garrison operated a mill which was the source for a portion of Fort Mill’s name. Also in the cemetery is the grave of Peter Harris (1753-1823), a Catawba Indian who was adopted and raised by Thomas Spratt. His epitaph states:

¹William R. Bradford, Jr. Out Of The Past: A History of Fort Mill, South Carolina. (Fort Mill: Bradford Publishing Company, 1980), p. 10.

²Bradford, p. 29.

³Douglas Summers Brown, The Catawba Indians, The People of the River. (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1966), p. 286.

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Here Lies the body of Peter Harris
A Catawba Indian . By his
last request was buried
here in 1823. Aged 70 years.

Left an orphan
He was raised by Thom. Spratt Sen.
Like all his Tribe he was
ever friendly to the
Americans and for his
service in our war of Independence
he received a pension from the State.

Located next to the grave of Thomas "Kanawha" Spratt is a marker to his father, Thomas Spratt. This stone, erected in 1905, states that Spratt was among the first settlers of Mecklenburg County, N. C., settling near the site of Charlotte between 1740 and 1745. The movement of his son southward fits the general pattern of sequential waves of settlers moving down the Nation Ford Road seeking new land.

The property falls under Criteria Consideration D. The Spratt Cemetery qualifies for the National Register because it derives significance from its association with persons of importance in the settlement and development of the Fort Mill area, and because of its close association with the Nation Ford Road and the development patterns which were influenced by the road.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Bradford, William R., Jr. Out of the Past: A History of Fort Mill, South Carolina. Fort Mill: Bradford Publishing Company, 1980.
- Brown, Douglas Summers. The Catawba Indians: The People of the River. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1966.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the nominated property is shown as the black line labeled "Spratt Cemetery" on the accompanying York County Tax Map #708, Parcel 17, drawn at a scale of 1" = 330'.

VERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary includes the historic cemetery and its enclosure.

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

Name of Property:	Spratt Cemetery
Location of Property:	Brickyard Road, Fort Mill, York County, S.C.
Name of Photographer:	Paul Gettys
Date of Photographs:	September 1997
Location of Original Negatives:	Catawba Regional Planning Council, Rock Hill, S.C.

1. Cemetery and wall – view to northwest
2. Cemetery and wall – view to northwest
3. Gate to cemetery on east wall
4. View of east wall, showing rock and concrete construction
5. Deterioration of west wall, showing field stones used in its construction
6. General view of gravestones – view to west
7. General view of gravestones – view to north
8. Gravestone of Thomas "Kanawha" Spratt (ca. 1731-1807)
9. Gravestone of Thomas Spratt, Jr. (ca. 1768-1803)
10. Gravestone of Thomas Spratt, father of "Kanawha," (ca. 1690-1757)
11. Gravestone of Elizabeth White (ca. 1761-1810)
12. Gravestone of Peter Harris, Catawba Indian (1753-1823)
13. Gravestone of Isaac Garrison (1765-1816)