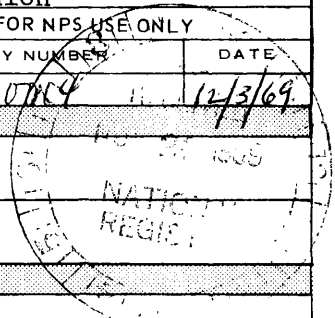


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>South Carolina</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Union</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER: <b>691241-0784</b>	DATE: <b>12/3/69</b>



**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Pinckneyville**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**State Highway Secondary 13, app. 13 miles northeast of Union**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Pinckney Township Union vicinity**

STATE: <b>South Carolina</b>	CODE: <b>41</b>	COUNTY: <b>Union</b>	CODE: <b>44</b>
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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input 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 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) <b>Preparing to develop as historic site and park</b>

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Union County Historical Foundation**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**P.O. Box 87**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Union**

STATE:  
**South Carolina**

CODE:  
**41**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

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

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Union**

STATE:  
**South Carolina**

CODE:  
**41**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**South Carolina: WPA Writers' Project, A Guide To The Palmetto State**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1941**     Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**South Carolina Department of Archives and History (partial)**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1430 Senate Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Columbia**

STATE:  
**South Carolina**

CODE:  
**41**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

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

When Pinckney District was created in 1791, it comprised the counties of Union, Spartanburg, York, Chester. Three commissioners appointed by the Legislature selected a place in the northern part of Union county for the new court house town to be established. The chosen spot, about 16 miles from the present city of Union, had been an important trading post as early as 1752 since it was near the junction of the Pacolet and Broad rivers.

Scarcely had the name been conferred on the infant city and the building of a court and jail begun than a "tremendous freshet poured down upon the two rivers...and overflowed all that had been done, all in promiscuous ruin," according to the National Gazette, Philadelphia, May 12, 1792.

"The Commissioners," reported the same paper, "have since agreed to change the location for Pinckneyville to a pleasant, romantic and more elevated situation further up on the banks of the Broad River, not far distant from the confluence before mentioned, and nearly in the center of the most desirable counties in the world, the back part of South Carolina."

~~The Commissioners did move the town of Pinckneyville to a site further from the banks of the rivers and there rebuilt it on the southwest side of the Broad river.~~

A Charleston surveyor may possibly have laid off the town, which was envisioned as an upcountry metropolis and to which such street names were given as Meeting, Broad, Tradd and Watershed. Tradition says that the town itself was named for Charles Cotesworth Pinckney.

Records indicate that the jail at Pinckneyville was sturdily built. It was a small building and thought to be escape proof. Its 18-inch walls are of hand-pressed brick, the room size approximately 14 by 20 feet. It was plastered inside and had two doors and two windows. The shutters and doors were double planked and thick with well clinched nails. A chimney stood at one end of the room. The space between the fireplace and the walls was planked up and used as dungeons. Criminals were lowered through the top. Most of the jails of this period were small, one-room buildings, some with a hole in the floor through which prisoners were lowered into the floor of the dungeon underneath.

Pinckneyville had a post office as early as 1795.

Stagecoaches ran through the town, crossing Broad River at Pinckney Ferry about a mile away. The driver would blow one long blast on the York side approaching the ferry as a warning signal and a short blast for each passenger so that the Pinckneyville hotel-keeper would know how many to expect.

There was a log school house in Pinckneyville, but no church building in the immediate village.

The Union Historical Foundation property consists of 1.75 acres of the original site of Pinckneyville and contains the ruins of the brick jail and one other brick building, usually referred to as the old store. Structurally in good shape, with interior wainscoting, fireplace, mantel and moldings intact, this building may possibly have been designed as a government building. A marker indicates where the old Pinckneyville courthouse is thought to have stood. An old tomb stands nearby marks the grave of Thomas C. Taylor, born in Ireland in 1776, died in Pinckneyville 1832.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**3. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1791 - 1792

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 checked="" 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

Pinckneyville's importance is both historic and architectural.

It is significant as one of the earliest settlements in the South Carolina backcountry. It is also significant in reflecting the spread of justice throughout the state in the early years and the beginnings of representative government beyond the border of Charleston and the low country.

For the first ninety years of provincial Carolina, Charleston was the source of all judicial proceedings. No courts were held beyond its limits, and one Provost Marshal was charged with the service of processes over the whole province. This situation eventually became intolerable for South Carolina's backcountrymen. The distance and expense of attending courts in Charleston were so inconvenient that people in the upcountry occasionally inflicted punishments in their own way, and by their own authority, on criminals and villains. Associations were formed under the name of Regulators, who enforced justice in a summary way.

For the accommodation of the remote settlers, and to remove all apology for these irregular proceedings, an act was passed in 1769 by which district courts were established at Beaufort, Georgetown, Cheraw, Camden, Orangeburg and Ninety Six. In 1789 these circuit courts were invested with complete and final jurisdiction. In two more years, Pinckney and Washington districts were added to the original six.

Although the town never flourished as its planners had dreamed, it does reflect a significant era of South Carolina history. Its present planners envision the recreation of its existing two buildings as valuable examples of visual history. The site lends itself admirably to landscaping.

One of the traditions of the old town holds that, when Congress was looking for a suitable site for the location of the Nation's Military Academy, Pinckneyville was one of the sites visited and lost to West Point, New York, by only one vote.

Judge John F. Grimke presided over the last session of court in 1802 following abolishment of the districts in 1800.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Biographical Dictionary of the American Congress, 1774-1949.  
 Blair, Roy E. (Mrs.), Correspondence, 1967, Huntsville, Alabama.  
 Brown, Richard Maxwell, South Carolina Regulators (1963)  
 Deed Books, Union County Court House (B,C,D,G,P,S and U-14)  
 Howe, George, History of the Presbyterian Church in S.C., Vol.1 (1858)  
 Moore, Maurice, Reminiscences of York (1870)  
 Ramsey, David, History of South Carolina (1858)  
 Oliphant, Mary C. Simms, The History of South Carolina (1958)  
 Simms, William Gilmore Geography of South Carolina (1843)

RECORDED

**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 °	50 ' 43½ "	81 ° 28 ' 9½ "
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1.75**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Mrs. James W. Fant, Historic Resources Assistant**

ORGANIZATION: **South Carolina Department of Archives and History**      DATE: **11/8/69**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**P.O. Box 11188, Capitol Station 1430 Senate Street**

CITY OR TOWN:      STATE:      CODE:

**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: Geoffrey S. Lepp  
 Director of Historic Landmarks & History  
 State Liaison Officer

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: Nov 12, 1969

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

Conrad Allen Connally  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: DEC 3 1969

ATTEST:  
William W. Hueston  
 Keeper of The National Register

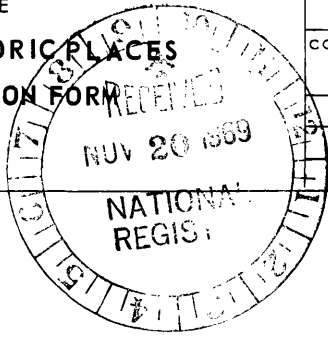
Date: NOV 20 1969

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
South Carolina	
COUNTY	
Union	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
69-1241-0014	12/3/69



(Number all entries)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

White, Alexander, The History of South Carolina (1906).

South Carolina Statutes at Large, Vol. VIII

Journal of the Court of General Sessions, Pinckneyville District, South Carolina, April 2-5, 1792.

Vandiver, Mary, "Incidents Relative To The Early History of Union County," The State Newspaper, October 8, 1936.

Spears, Vera Smith, "History of Pinckneyville," Union (S.C.) Daily Times, April 8, 1967.

Union Daily Times, Union, S.C., "Union Daily Times History Book" and miscellaneous other articles.