3689

# 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 National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. 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. 1. Name of Property Historic name: Faber House National Other names/site number: Ward House; Hametic Hotel Name of related multiple property listing: (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing 2. Location Street & number: 635 East Bay Street City or town: Charleston State: Charleston SC County: Not For Publication: Vicinity: 3. State/Federal Agency Certification As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 <u>x</u> meets <u>does not meet the National Register Criteria. I</u> recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance: statewide X local national Applicable National Register Criteria:

Signature of certifying official/Title:

Elizabeth M. Johnson, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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In my opinion, the property _meets _does not me	•
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Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title: State or I or Tribal Government	Federal agency/bureau
4. National Park Service Certification	
I hereby certify that this property is:	
_entered in the National Register	
_determined eligible for the National Register	
_determined not eligible for the National Register	
_removed from the National Register	
_other (explain:)	
	. 1
Dista Colina	4/30/19
Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
5. Classification	
Ownership of Property	
(Check as many boxes as apply.)	
Private:	
Public – Local	
Public – Local	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	
Public – rederal	
Category of Property	
(Check only <b>one</b> box.)	
Building(s)	
District	

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Site			County and State
Structure			
Object			
Number of Resou	reas within Propa	rtsv	
(Do not include pre			
Contributing	J	Noncontributing	
3	_	11	buildings
	_		sites
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3		2	Total
Number of contribution or Use Historic Function	se	viously listed in the Natio	onal Register <u>N/A</u>
(Enter categories fr			
DOMESTIC/si			
DOMESTIC/ho		_	
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-			
<b>Current Function</b>	S		
(Enter categories fr			
COMMERCE			

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

Foundation: BRICK

Walls: WOOD/Weatherboard; BRICK

Roof: METAL

Other: STUCCO, STONE

#### **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

## **Summary Paragraph**

The Faber House (1836- c.1840) is a grand three-story mansion located in the East Side (historically Hampstead Village) neighborhood of Charleston. The Faber House was designed in the Early Classical Revival style with unique elements of Palladian architecture. The house features a massive two-story portico spanning the second and third floors supporting a pediment roof at the main façade fronting East Bay Street. The arcaded foundation for the two-story

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portico encloses the ground-level entrance. A brick foundation encompasses the ground level while the second and third levels are of frame construction clad in weatherboard. A rear threestory porch balances the building, giving it a symmetrical composition. The cross-gabled standing-seam metal roof is topped with a hexagonal cupola. The interior, accessed by the rear entrance, retains the main hall and grand spiral staircase. The property comprises the northern portion of the block bounded by East Bay, Amherst, and Drake Streets. The contributing Faber House sits at the eastern portion of the property and is flanked by two contributing outbuildings located at the north and south property lines just behind it. A non-contributing one-story residence, the Caretaker's House, is located in the northwest corner. A landscaped garden surrounds the main house and contributing outbuildings, while a parking lot covers the western portion of the property. A brick wall surrounds the eastern half of the property on the north, east, and south sides. Along East Bay Street, the wall is topped by a cast stone balustrade and an iron gate at the entrance. A modern wood privacy fence surrounds the western half of the property. The Faber House underwent a partial restoration in 1965, preserving the original design and style. Although the Faber House experienced different interior uses and mechanical upgrades, the house retains a high level of historic integrity and stands today as one of the few remaining antebellum suburban mansions in the East Side neighborhood of Charleston.

## **Narrative Description**

## **Setting**

The well-maintained landscape surrounding the building consists of plantings, landscaped grass, and brick pathways, as well as a paved parking lot at the west end of the property. A brick wall encircles the eastern half of the property while a simple wood fence encloses the western portion. The setting of the Faber House was altered over the years. Currently, there is low-rent housing located south of the property, residences and businesses to the west, the National Register listed Presqu'ile and the Cigar Factory to the north, and the rail yard to the east. The changes to the setting reflect the evolution of this area of Charleston.

## The Faber House (1836-c.1840) – Contributing

#### Exterior

The Faber House, constructed 1836 – c. 1840, sits on the east side of the property and fronts East Bay Street. It is a 7,500 square foot, three-story, five-bay, double-pile building with flanking half-octagon wings and a massive two-story portico on the front (east) elevation. The portico boasts four Ionic columns spanning the second and third floors, supporting a pedimented front-gable roof with a fanlight situated in the tympanum. The arcaded foundation for the two-story portico encloses the ground-level entrance. Both the ground-level entrance and the entrance to the portico feature paneled doors with sidelights, transoms, and Grecian pilasters supporting heavy entablature. The Flemish bond brick foundation is punctuated with compass-headed casement windows topped by brick arches that are rubbed, stuccoed and scoured to imitate stonework.

The second and third floors are built of frame construction and clad in weatherboard. There are decorative wooden quoins at the corners and a wooden belt-course between the second and third

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floors. The windows on the second floor of the front (east) facade are compass-headed double-hung six-over-six, while those on the third floor of the front (east) facade are double-hung six-over-six, except for a compass-headed window located in the center bay. The windows have louvered shutters. The six bay north and south elevations' second and third floor windows are double-hung six-over-six without shutters. The roofline cornice is decorated with a narrow band of dentils.

There is a three-story porch on the rear (west) elevation with Tuscan columns on the first floor, Doric on the second, and Ionic on the third. The escalating elaboration of the Greek orders from first to third floor is typical of the hierarchy of Classical architecture. The rear elevation's porch windows at the second and third floors are thin four-over-four casement windows, while the windows flanking the porch are double hung six-over-six without shutters. The porch encloses a ground level entrance and portion of the south end of the porch was infilled in the 1960s to accommodate an elevator shaft.

The cross-gabled standing seam metal clad roof is topped with a hexagonal cupola, one of the more unusual architectural features of the house. The cupola has a six-over-six window located in each wall. The windows have scalloped ogee arch surrounds. The corners of the cupola feature clustered columns supporting heavy entablature. The domed cupola roof is topped with a rounded finial.

#### Interior

The interior is accessed from the rear (west) elevation at the ground level porch door. The entrance opens into the front hall with the grand mahogany spiral staircase that boasts an elaborately carved newel post and tapering balusters. The main hall retains wood flooring and the grand mahogany spiral staircase remains intact and is a central component of the interior. There are enclosed offices located to the north and south and a separated meeting room to the east that is accessed from the ground level portico entry door. The meeting room contains the same wood flooring as the main hall. The office spaces to the north and south have been significantly altered utilizing materials dating from the 1970s or later, with instances of carpet, linoleum, or paneled wood floors, and painted drywall. Partition walls create separation within the offices. The second story is accessed via either the grand stair or the exterior elevator. An elliptical arch, supported by console brackets, is an element of this second floor landing.<sup>2</sup> The offices at this level are also located to the north, south and east of the main hall. Again, these offices have all been significantly altered for the tenant's office use. Finally, the grand stair or exterior elevator provide access to the third floor. As on the first and second floor, there are enclosed offices at the north, south and east elevations. These office spaces have new wood flooring, painted partition walls, new kitchens, and bathrooms with upgraded fixtures and appliances. Although the interior office spaces have been altered, the main hall and grand stair retain integrity. The original trim in these areas is executed in a simple style, with grooved bands terminating in plain square carved corner pieces.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Robert F. Stockton, "Faber House Cited as Architectural Example," *The News and Courier*, March 10, 1975, 1-B.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Stockton, "Faber House Cited as Architectural Example," 1-B.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ibid.

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## North Outbuilding (1836-c.1840) – Contributing

One of two near-identical outbuildings is located at the northern portion of the property along Amherst Street. The brick building is constructed in Flemish bond brick, with segmental arches above the windows and doors. At the south (front) elevation, the building has three six-paneled doors and two two-over-two sash windows on the first floor. There are five two-over-two sash windows on the second floor. A one-story porch runs the full width of the front elevation of the building. The gable ends feature lunette ventilators, and there are decorative cornices with dentils formed by the brickwork. The west elevation maintains its two-over-two sash windows at the first and second level in the southern bay; the corresponding openings on the north bay are infilled with brick. The north elevation originally featured six windows, three on each floor, but all were bricked in with the exception of the middle second floor window, now a two-over-two sash. The east elevation has a six-paneled door at the southern bay with a two-over-two sash window at the northern bay and two two-over-two sash windows at the second level. The building has a standing seam metal roof and a single interior end chimney. Two large exterior chimneystacks terminate at the plate, suggesting that the building may have been kitchenquarters. The building is rectangular in plan with two rooms on each floor and a central stair. The second level is accessed by a rear hallway from the central stair. The interior has been altered for use as office spaces in regards to materials and mechanical upgrades.

## South Outbuilding (1836-c.1840) - Contributing

The other identical outbuilding is located across from its counterpart at the southwestern portion of the property line. This five bay, single pile, two-story brick outbuilding is constructed in Flemish bond with segmental arches above the windows and doors. The north (front) elevation has three six-paneled doors and two two-over-two sash windows on the first floor. There are five two-over-two sash windows on the second floor. A one-story porch runs the full width of the front elevation. The gable ends feature lunette ventilators, and there are decorative cornices with dentils formed by the brickwork. The west elevation retains the two-over-two sash windows at the first and second level in the north bay, while the southern bay windows are infilled, mirroring its northern counterpart. The east elevation has a six-paneled door at the southern bay with a two-over-two sash window at the northern bay and two two-over-two sash windows at the second level, identical to its northern counterpart. From at least 1902 to 1956, available Sanborn maps show a rear addition on the south elevation, but this addition was removed, likely during a later restoration. Evidence of this addition is still visible, as the south wall of the building appears to be either concrete or parged brick with no fenestration. The building has a standing seam metal roof. The layout and appearance of this building, which does not have the large chimneystacks of its southern counterpart, indicate that it was probably a slave quarters. The simple rectangular plan of this building is also comprised of two rooms at the first and second levels with a central stair, the same as its northern counterpart. Again, the interior has been altered for office use.

#### Brick Wall (c. 1900, 1965) – Non-Contributing

A brick wall surrounds the eastern half of the property, running from the eastern side of the North and South Outbuildings to the eastern property line, and then along the entirety of the eastern property line. The north and south sides of the wall are laid in running bond brick with a

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canted brick wall cap. This section of the wall was built was built c. 1900, outside the period of significance.<sup>4</sup> The east side of the wall is a running bond brick knee wall topped by a cast stone balustrade set between brick piers. It appears that the eastern section of the wall was built in 1965 and is a reconstruction of an earlier wall based on historic photographs.

## Caretaker House (c. 1940) – Non-Contributing

A small c. 1940s three-bay, single pile, one-story, brick veneer dwelling with an exterior end chimney and metal-clad gable roof located at the corner of Drake Street and Amherst Street. The east (front) elevation has a single door and a four-over-four window with a porch. The south elevation is three bays with varying windows and shutters. The rear (west) elevation has a boarded up a window and the north elevation has one small casement window. All windows and door have iron bars. The building was formerly 62 Drake Street and is maintained as a house for the caretaker.

## **Integrity**

The Faber House has experienced little exterior alteration since its construction in 1836. The 1872 Bird's Eve View of the City of Charleston map clearly depicts the significant Palladian architectural elements with the massive two-story portico, the symmetrical half-octagon wings, and cupola. Historic images and Sanborn maps also provide evidence of little alteration to the house's plan and significant features. The southern and northern outbuildings also retain their plan as depicted in the historic maps. In 1902, a one-story addition at the north side of the house was present, but is no longer extant.<sup>5</sup> In the 1965, after years of neglect, a partial restoration was completed and the Historic Charleston Foundation placed an easement on the exterior. Two HABS photos from the 1950s show that the windows were changed on the north and south elevations and at the second level on the main elevation. The photo also shows a second floor balcony inserted in the middle of the portico, possibly a change from the building's use as a hotel. The rehabilitation in 1965 sought to restore the size and shape of the windows at these elevations to their original appearance and also removed the balcony. The main alterations occurred at the rear of the property. In 1951, five outbuildings fronting Drake Street and a garage at the southwestern corner are depicted, but four of these outbuildings and the garage were later demolished. <sup>6</sup>

Interior alterations consist of changes in room layouts, material changes from each time period, and mechanical upgrades: "Originally the house had 12 rooms, four on each of its three stories. Every room had a magnificent marble mantelpiece. The woodwork and plaster were examples of master craftsmanship and the solid mahogany staircase a beautiful piece of work according to the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> S.C. Department of Archives and History, Site No. c-459-9-4:1, Faber House, 635 East Bay Street, surveyed March 18, 1985, S108042, Box #19, accessed via SCHPR, http://schpr.sc.gov/index.php/Detail/properties/42706#.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Mary C. Fesak, *The Faber House: 635 East Bay Street, Charleston, South Carolina*, research paper prepared for HP8090/HSPV 809, University of Mary Washington, November 2016, 11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps: 1951.

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many architects who appraised the building." Of these features, only the staircase and portions of the woodwork remain. By 1928 the house was serving as an African American hotel and boasted approximately twenty bedrooms, a dining room, a kitchen parlor, and reception hall. In the 1960s, the floor plan was utilized for office and meeting spaces that retained the main hall and grand spiral staircase. Even though the Faber House experienced interior alterations, the plan at each level had the same layout of the primary and secondary spaces. The primary main hall with spiral staircase has been retained since construction. The secondary spaces consist of the rooms that fan out from the main hall to the north, east and south. Although these rooms have changed in size, their location around the central hall has remained. The antique mahogany staircase with its hand-carved woodwork has remained a prominent visual feature of the interior of the house. Overall, the property retains a high degree of integrity with regard to location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

<sup>7</sup> Jack Leland, "Mansion Has Had a Varied Career," in *62 Famous Houses of Charleston, South Carolina*, ed. Warren Ripley (Charleston, SC: A Post and Courier Publication, 2007), 53.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Fesak, The Faber House, 14.

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8.	State	ment of Significance
	rk "x"	e National Register Criteria in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register
X	] 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.
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 in prehistory or history.
		Considerations
(Ma	rk "x"	in all the boxes that apply.)
	] A.	. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
	В.	Removed from its original location
	C.	A birthplace or grave
	D.	. A cemetery
	E.	A reconstructed building, object, or structure
	F.	A commemorative property
	G.	Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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ame of Property	
Areas of Significance	
(Enter categories from i	nstructions.)
<u>Architecture</u>	
Ethnic Heritage: Black	<u>.                                    </u>
<u> </u>	
Period of Significance	
1836 - c.1840	
<u>1920 – 1932</u>	-
<del></del>	
Significant Dates	
1836	
1050	
Cignificant Dougon	
Significant Person	i an Diamanta dalama
(Complete only if Criter	rion B is marked above.)
<b>Cultural Affiliation</b>	
Architect/Builder	
N/A	

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Faber House is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C in the Area of Significance for Architecture at the local level as an excellent example of an Early Classical Revival building with pure Palladian influences. Palladianism was not new to Charleston, as it had been seen in the Miles Brewton House (27 King Street ca. 1765), but the Faber House (1836 – c. 1840) showcases the purity of this form, incorporating architectural elements such as strict symmetry, a soaring portico with pediment roof, Classical architectural detailing, and use of the Greek orders. One of the few remaining mansions of the original Hampstead Village, the Faber House stands prominently along East Bay Street as a reminder of the wealth, opulence, and architectural grace of the nineteenth century. The Faber House is also eligible for listing under Criterion A in the Area of Significance for Ethnic Heritage at the local level based upon its role as one of the only African American hotels in the city from 1920 to 1932. Named the Hametic Hotel, the building catered to black travelers and met the community's needs for social spaces during Jim Crow segregation.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

## Criterion C: Architecture (1836 – c. 1840) – The Early Classical Revival in Charleston

Charleston, South Carolina, was a city defined by the wealth and prosperity of the white elite prior to the Civil War. A bustling downtown area along King Street surrounded by residential buildings characterized the city. While the homes of many well-to-do residents were situated in the downtown area, other wealthy families looked to neighboring areas outside the commercial core to build their suburban mansions. The prosperous Faber brothers, Joseph and Henry, were part of the white elite who looked to the outskirts of town to build their residences. They purchased lots in the Village of Hampstead (today the East Side of Charleston), attracted by it's proximity to Charleston, high grounds, water frontage, and deep creeks. The brothers planned to "...build themselves two houses complete with outbuildings. They were going to share the costs as both had lucrative careers, Henry as a planter and Joseph as an attorney." Henry's wealth was generated through agricultural goods produced through slave labor. The 1840 estate inventory of his Richfield Planation lists the names of 142 enslaved people under Henry's ownership. 11 Likewise, the 1830 census shows ten enslaved people as part of Henry Faber's

1840.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Jonathan H. Poston, *The Buildings of Charleston: A Guide to the City's Architecture* (Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina, 1997), 33.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Fesak, *The Faber House*, 7-8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> "Slaves at Richfield Plantation, Estate of Henry Faber, Charleston, SC, 1840," Fold3, last modified October 27,

<sup>2010,</sup> https://www.fold3.com/page/283365448-slaves-at-richfield-plantation-estate-of-henry-faber-charleston-sc-

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household. <sup>12</sup> Joseph, though not a planter, was also a slaveholder, with sixteen enslaved people in his household in 1840. <sup>13</sup> The considerable number of live-in workers in the Faber households, including both enslaved people and a smaller number of free people of color, is indicative of the brothers' enormous wealth and their status as part of the white elite. That status would be on full display with the construction of their town estate on East Bay Street.

Construction of Henry Faber's house began in 1836, but he died in 1839 before the residence was completed. His brother Joseph took up oversight of the building effort, abandoning the original plan of erecting two houses on the property. It is probable that the construction was carried out by enslaved laborers and craftsmen. The house was completed around 1840. <sup>14</sup> The suburban mansion reflected the architectural styles and trends of the times while showcasing the owner's wealth and importance. The wealth of the original owners of the house is reflected in its architecture, quality of material, and workmanship. The house has been described as "reminiscent of ... the grand manner along the Mississippi River where prosperity permitted planters to live in baronial splendor." When it was constructed, the Faber House was considered one of the finest houses in Charleston.

The Faber House is an excellent example of the Early Classical Revival style with unique Palladian influences. This was a departure from the accustomed Charleston styles of the colonial and post-Revolutionary periods. Highly popular toward the end of the 1700s was the Charleston single house, a "typical single-pile Georgian house turned on its end to fit city lots." However, at the turn of the nineteenth century, architects started designing in new, popular styles adapted to local tastes. By the 1820s, this era was considered a transitional period in Charleston, "when architects worked somewhat timidly away from the Adam elegance." This period "also demonstrates the eclecticism to which Charleston architects and builders began turning about 1830, when Adam and Regency styles had passed their periods of dominance." The Faber House, constructed 1836- c.1840, reflects this broad pattern of architectural transition in the city, as the Early Classical Revival style was soon replaced by the more popular Greek Revival style.

The Early Classical Revival was the forbearer of the Greek Revival, but never took off in popularity in the way its successor did and is therefore relatively uncommon. The advent of the Early Classical Revival in the nascent United States was driven by the need for new public buildings and a strong desire to link America with the Roman Republic. The style was strongly

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> "Henry F Faber in the 1830 United States Federal Census," Ancestry, accessed December 6, 2018, www.ancestry.com.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> "Joseph W Faber in the 1840 United States Federal Census," Ancestry, accessed December 6, 2018, www.ancestry.com.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Fasek, *The Faber House*, 8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Leland, "Mansion Has Had a Varied Career," 53.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Larry S. Leake, "Mikell, Isaac Jenkins, House," National Register of Historic Places Inventory/Nomination Form, Richard Marks Restorations, Inc., March 11, 2014, accessed via SCHPR, http://schpr.sc.gov/index.php/Detail/properties/26787.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Poston, The Buildings of Charleston: A Guide to the City's Architecture, 26.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Samuel Gaillard Stoney, *This is Charleston: A Survey of the Architectural Heritage of a Unique American City* (Charleston, SC: Carolina Art Association, 1976), 41.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Stockton, "Faber House Cited as Architectural Example," 1-B.

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influenced by the work of the Italian architect Andrea Palladio, who was active during the Renaissance. Most residential examples of the style are found in the South, especially in Virginia, where Thomas Jefferson championed the style and used it in the design of his homes at Monticello and Poplar Forest. Other architects also took up the style, including Charleston's own Robert Mills and Savannah-based William Jay. The design of the Nicholson House, built c. 1816, is attributed to Jay and is another example of an Early Classical Revival residence in Charleston. By the 1830s the style was already on the way out, as the Greek Revival quickly usurped it as the preferred architecture of the South's white elite. The Faber House is therefore a relatively late instance of the Early Classical Revival.

The Faber House is one of Charleston's finest examples of Palladian architecture. <sup>22</sup> Palladian elements had previously been incorporated in select Georgian houses, such as the Miles Brewton House at 27 King Street, constructed in 1769. The Miles Brewton House has been described as "mimicking a plate out of Palladio's' own book with its two-story temple front." <sup>23</sup> However, other elements of the building take liberties with Palladian design, "...such as the wide-framed sash windows pushed out to the surface of the wall in the Baroque manner fail to achieve the sharply cut flavor of the Palladian style. The brick walls give a more lively texture to the building than the purest Palladian's in England." <sup>24</sup> In contrast, the Faber House exemplifies a purer form of the Palladian style and has been compared to Villa Malcontenta at Brenta Italy designed by Palladio in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. <sup>25</sup>

The design of the Faber House incorporates key elements of the Palladian style, such as the main façade's two-story portico. Author James Reynolds described the portico at the Faber House as "...unique in America." In the Early Classical Revival style, porticos dominate the front façade and typically equal the building in height. This is clearly evident at the Faber House with its remarkable portico set on a fifteen-foot high terrace of arches with four Ionic columns "...soaring to the cornice line..." that support a classic pediment. The portico columns are evenly spaced, in keeping with Palladian ideals of symmetry and proportion. The emphasis on symmetry is carried through the design of the entire landscape, as the North and South Outbuildings are spaced equally from each other and the house, mirroring one another across the lot. The portico at the Faber House is further evidence of its architectural significance, as "Charleston seldom employed, except for public buildings, the tall porticos that were elsewhere in America first used freely at this time." <sup>28</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> The James Nicholson House was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places on August 30, 1974.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Virginia Savage McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2014), 234-242.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> James Reynolds, *Andrea Palladio and the Winged Device* (New York: Creative Age Press, 1948), 297. Accessed: Hathi Trust Digital Library, https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uc1.b2506556;view=1up;seq=347.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Mark Gelernter, A History of American Architecture: Buildings in their Cultural and Technological Context (Hanover and London: University Press of New

England, 1999), 90.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Reynolds, *Andrea Palladio and the Winged Device*, 297.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Stockton, "Faber House Cited as Architectural Example," 1-B.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses, 236.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Stockton, "Faber House Cited as Architectural Example," 1-B.

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Another Early Classical Revival style element seen at the Faber House is the back porch, a "3-tiered rear piazza that balances the front portico giving the house a 'symmetrical' star-like shape."<sup>29</sup> The symmetry associated with the style is also evidenced in the flanking polygonal projections, which is a high style variant to the Early Classical Revival residence.<sup>30</sup> Additional high style variations include arched windows on the ground level and main elevation's second level. Detailing in the Faber House is also pulls from a classical architectural vocabulary, with the use of Ionic, Tuscan, and Doric columns, the mimicry of ashlar masonry on the portico foundation, quoining, and the narrow line of dentils along the cornice.<sup>31</sup> Charleston has other examples of buildings with soaring porticos, such as the Joseph Aiken House (20 Charlotte Street, c. 1848) and the old Kerrison House (138 Wentworth Street, c. 1838); however, these transitional Palladian examples are closer to the Greek Revival style rather than to the Early Classical Revival.

# <u>Criterion A: Ethnic Heritage: Black (1920 – 1932) – The Hametic Hotel: Segregation & Travel in Jim Crow Charleston</u>

The Faber House is also significant for its time as the Hametic Hotel, one of the only African American hotels in segregated Charleston, from 1920 to 1932. The early 20<sup>th</sup> century was a challenging time for blacks in the South, as Jim Crow segregation fully infiltrated the region. The end of federal Reconstruction in 1876 and the ratification of South Carolina's 1895 constitution were major events in the transition to Jim Crow segregation. Without federal troops looking over their shoulder, white South Carolinians began to mobilize to regain their pre-war political power and reestablish a system of white supremacy. African Americans in the South, perhaps especially the black elite, faced the loss of rights and privileges gained by freedman in the aftermath of the Civil War:

The rise the earlier generation had enjoyed in the Reconstruction period was just a memory...Black elites could organize social clubs and throw elaborate parties for their children, they could summer with them at exclusive vacation enclaves, and they could bring them up to be cultured and well schooled. But they could not promise them an easier or more auspicious time of it then they had experienced, given an environment increasingly hostile and humiliating for African Americans.<sup>32</sup>

After the turn of the century, the lives of African Americans were "perilous and uncertain" due to the strictures of Jim Crow segregation. The City of Charleston codified in law the rigid separation of blacks and whites, excluding African Americans from spaces throughout the city. Writing shortly after a 1917 trip to Charleston, W.E.B. Dubois wrote about the frustrations of segregation: "We Negroes ever face it. We cannot escape it. We must continually choose between insult and injury: no schools or separate schools; no travel or "Jim Crow" travel; homes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses, 236.

<sup>31</sup> Ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Taylor, *The Original Black Elite*, 384.

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with disdainful neighbors or homes in slums."<sup>33</sup> In order to survive in the segregated South, African Americans were forced to create "alternative spaces," resulting in parallel white and black business and institutions.<sup>34</sup>

The segregation of facilities in the South included hotels, despite the American common law of innkeepers, which "...upheld a broad public right of access and strict protections for the property of guests." In the era of Jim Crow segregation, southern states upended the traditional duty of hospitality and passed statutes to thwart African Americans seeking accommodation under the common law. When African Americans traveled, they mostly stayed with friends and family, as was the case when the influential black leader, Booker T. Washington, visited Charleston in 1909 during his educational tour. The Barred from most hotels, many black travelers stayed in tourist homes, where they could rent a room from a local family. Tourist homes and hotels catering to black Americans were part of an effort to "minimize the indignities of racism" by affording African Americans their own place to stay and socialize.

Within this landscape of segregation, the Faber House transitioned into the Hametic Hotel, one of the only black hotels in Charleston. In 1920 the Faber House was purchased by the Hametic Corporation to be used as a hotel for African American patrons. The name of the corporation and the hotel is sometimes also given as Hamitic, and is probably a reference to the Hamites. While the concept of the Hamites as a group comes from the Bible, whites in the West attached a new meaning to the word during the Enlightenment, associating it with light-skinned people from northern Africa and giving credit to the Hamites for the accomplishments of all Africans: "There exists a widely held belief in the Western world that everything of value ever found in Africa was brought here by Hamites, a people inherently superior to the native populations. This belief, often referred to as the Hamitic hypothesis, is a convenient explanation for all the signs of civilization found in Black Africa." The idea of the Hamites was used by whites to further dehumanize black people, perpetuate white supremacy, and offer justification for slavery.

The choice of the name Hametic is therefore a very interesting one for a black hotel in the segregated South. It may be that the owners hoped to associate themselves with the Hamites and the positive connotations that term held for whites. It could also be a reference to the long-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> W.E.B. Dubois, "Editorial," *The Crisis*, Vol. 13, No. 6 (April 1917): 270, accessed via The Modernist Journals Project, https://library.brown.edu/pdfs/1292422100773500.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Robert R. Weyeneth, "The Architecture of Racial Segregation: The Challenges of Preserving the Problematical Past," *The Public Historian*, Vol. 27, No. 4 (Fall 2005): 12, 28. Accessed via University of South Carolina Scholar Commons. https://scholarcommons.sc.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1198&context=hist facpub.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> A.K. Sandoval-Strausz, *Hotel: An American History* (New Haven & London: Yale University Press, 2007), 187. <sup>36</sup> Ibid., 305.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> David H. Jackson Jr., "Booker T. Washington in South Carolina, March 1909," *The South Carolina Historical Magazine*. Vol. 113. No. 3 (July 2012): 192-220.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Lindsay Crawford, "Harriet M. Cornwell Tourist Home," National Register of Historic Places Inventory/Nomination Form, University of South Carolina, October 5, 2007, Section 8, Page 9, accessed via SCHPR, http://schpr.sc.gov/index.php/Detail/properties/12910.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Crawford, "Harriet M. Cornwell Tourist Home," Section 8, Page 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Edith R. Sanders, "The Hamitic Hypothesis: Its Origin and Function in Time Perspective," *The Journal of African History*, Vol. 10, No. 4 (1969): 532.

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standing racial hierarchy within Charleston's black society, in which elites tended to have fairer skin. This division within Charleston's black community dated back to the days of slavery, when free people of color in the city were often of mixed European and African heritage. Living in a society in which whiteness ruled supreme, mixed-race free people often "...identified with their white ancestors and denied their African ones..." as a way to separate themselves as much as possible from enslaved people. This hierarchy also existed within the enslaved community, where light-skinned enslaved people were more likely to do domestic work than be assigned to labor in the fields. This legacy of stratification continued to be felt after emancipation. If the Hametic Hotel sought to cater to the black elite, the name may have been a nod to the pre-war prominence of Charleston's mulatto community.

The Hametic Hotel held a prominent place in Charleston's black society and was highly favored as a destination for luncheons, meetings, and dances.<sup>43</sup> The hotel featured twenty-five bedrooms, a parlor, reception hall, large dining room, and kitchen. It was heated by steam with a radiator in each room, and illuminated by gas and electric lights. Its location just one block from Union Station made the hotel very convenient for travelers arriving in Charleston by train.<sup>44</sup> It is reported that W.E.B. Dubois stayed at the Hametic Hotel during a trip to Charleston.<sup>45</sup> DuBois, a key founder of the NAACP, was considered one of the "original black elite," a group of wealthy and influential blacks that paved the way for inclusion during the early twentieth century.

Although the Hametic Hotel quickly gained favor among African Americans during its early days, its success was short lived. Local author Mamie Field noted the ironic circumstances of the hotel's troubles, writing that "Charleston constituted an especially complicated landscape during this era. Due to various city requirements, the African American-owned Hametic Hotel became too expensive for Charlestonians of color and segregation practices prevented white guests from staying there. What do you think of that – a hotel for Negroes that Negroes couldn't go to?"<sup>46</sup> The Hametic Hotel failed to profit and the Hametic Corporation sold the property and hotel furnishings to the Peoples Federation Bank for \$1,500 in 1923. However, the Hametic Hotel remained open through the 1920s and the early 1930s, and was "one of the few lodging facilities in the 1930s available to black travelers in the community."<sup>48</sup> The Hametic Hotel continued to operate until the bank forfeited the property to the City Council of Charleston in 1932.<sup>49</sup> It is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Rita Reynolds, "Wealthy Free Women of Color in Charleston, South Carolina during Slavery," University of Massachusetts Amherst (May 2007): 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> L.H. Whelchel, Jr., *The History and Heritage of African-American Churches: A Way out of No Way* (St. Paul: Paragon House, 2011), 151.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> "Colored Teachers to meet Tomorrow," *Charleston News and Courier*, March 28, 1924.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> "To Be Sold at Auction Modern Colored Hotel," *The Charleston Evening Post*, January 7, 1928, 8-A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Fesak, *The Faber House*, 13. This source states that DuBois stayed in the Hametic Hotel during his March 1917 trip to Charleston. However, there is no evidence to indicate the hotel was open at that time. *The Charleston Evening Post* reported that DuBois was scheduled to return to Charleston in February 1921 to speak at Emanuel AME Church, and it possible he stayed at the Hametic Hotel during this later visit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Pedersen et al., eds. *Black Imagination and the Middle Passage*, 32.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> "To Be Sold at Auction Modern Colored Hotel," *The Charleston Evening Post*, January 7, 1928, 8-A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Alphonso Brown, *The Gullah Guide to Charleston: Walking Through Black History* (Charleston, SC: The History Press. 2008). 132.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Charleston County Records of the Register Mesne of Conveyance, Deed Book H36, Page 379. The Charleston City Directories showed the hotel in operation until 1932.

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probable that the hotel was ultimately a victim of the devastating economic effects of the Great Depression and a loss of customers as blacks left the South in droves during the Great Migration. By 1934, the building was vacant and under threat of destruction from looters.<sup>50</sup>

The use of the Faber House as the Hametic Hotel is an important example of segregation in Charleston in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and demonstrates how Jim Crow laws permeated every aspect of life for African Americans. Very few black hotels existed in the segregated landscape of early 20<sup>th</sup> century Charleston. Indeed, the Hametic Hotel is the only hotel for blacks recorded in the city directories during its years of operation. A small number of black hotels opened many years after the Hametic Hotel shut down, such as the Saint James Hotel, built in 1951 as a full service hotel in the city for blacks, and the J&P Motel and Café (also known as the Esau Jenkins Shop and Hotel) owned and operated by Esau Jenkins, an influential black leader in South Carolina during the 1960s.<sup>51</sup> The history of the Hametic Hotel is significant as an example of the efforts of black Charlestonians to carve out a place for themselves within a segregated society.

## Developmental history/additional historic context information

In 1836, wealthy brothers, Henry and Joseph Faber, members of Charleston's class of white elites, purchased three lots in this area of Hampstead located between Bay, Reid, Drake and Amherst Streets. The brothers planned to build themselves twin houses with outbuildings, Henry on the north half of the lot and Joseph on the south half. Henry died in 1839 before the house was complete and had instructed Joseph to complete the construction. The property remained a residence housing many affluent white families for several decades. One such family was that of Joshua Ward, a wealthy planter who had served as South Carolina's lieutenant governor.<sup>52</sup>

The Village of Hampstead not only attracted the wealthy, but also those who "sought to flee the regulations and supervisions of downtown Charleston such as slaves, runaways, and free African Americans. Tan-yards, chandlers, ropewalks, wood-yards, and other industries sprang up in the East Side during the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century." Construction of the South Carolina Railroad in 1843 and the Northeastern Railroad in 1856 on the filled-in marshland fostered further development of industries like iron foundries, as the railroad was not permitted within the city boundaries. The Northeastern Railroad ran directly in front of the Faber House.

With the influx of industry and the arrival of the railroad, the area began to transition into an industrial area and there was need for worker housing. The Southern Express railroad company purchased the Faber House in 1907 to be rented out as housing for the middle-and upperworking classes. However, by 1918, the railroad company shifted resources to the war effort and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> "Hametic Hotel Faces Gradual Destruction," *The News and Courier*, January 17, 1934, 3-B.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> William D. Smyth, "Segregation in Charleston in the 1950s: A Decade of Transition." *The South Carolina Historical Magazine*. Vol. 92 No. 2 (April 1991): 99-123.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> "Faber House on East Bay Likely to Be Torn Down," ca. 1960s, Historic Charleston Foundation Archives.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> Dale Rosengarten, *Between the Tracks: Charleston's East Side During the Nineteenth Century* (Charleston, SC: Charleston Museum and Avery Research Center, 1987), 22.

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sold the property to a realty company which continued to rent to laborers.<sup>54</sup> The building later became the only black hotel, the Hametic Hotel, in Charleston for a period lasting from 1920 to 1932. After the hotel closed, the building fell victim to vandalism. It stood vacant for a couple of years in the early 1930s and failed to be sold. By the 1940s, the house and outbuildings were used as apartments for working-class whites.

The demolition of the house seemed eminent in 1964 after the Housing Authority of the City of Charleston purchased lots bounded by South, East Bay, Drake and Amherst Streets to construct low-income housing for those displaced by the construction of Interstate 26. The Faber House would have been one of the buildings demolished for the housing project, but the Historic Charleston Foundation intervened. The "Faber House [continued to show at this time] its fine, proud lines above the ruined neighborhood in which it was stranded. Indicate the house to be architecturally significant, the Foundation purchased the house and developed a use for offices and meeting rooms that would not impact the integrity of the property. The Foundation completed a partial restoration that included the removal of later porches, restoration of columns and replacement of unsympathetic elements with more historically accurate ones. In 1971 the house was sold to Arthur Ravenel Jr. and has remained in the family ever since as an office and meeting space. The property is currently undergoing a much-needed rehabilitation. This rehabilitation coincides with a resurgence in investment and restoration in recent decades for Charleston's East Side.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> Fesak, *The Faber House*, 12.

<sup>55</sup> Fesak, The Faber House, 16.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> "Faber House on East Bay Likely to Be Torn Down." ca. 1960s, Historic Charleston Foundation Archives.

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"To Be Sold at Auction Modern Colored Hotel." <i>The Charleston Evening Post</i> . Jan 8-A.	uary 7, 1928,
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Previous documentation on file (NPS): x preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been req previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # HABS SC-204 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # HABS SC-204	juested
Primary location of additional data:  State Historic Preservation Office  Other State agency  Federal agency  Local government  University x_ Other  Name of repository: Historic Charleston Foundation	

Faber House			Charleston, SC
Name of Property			County and State
Historic Resources Surve	ey Number (i	f assigned):	-
10. Geographical Data			
Acreage of Property	1 acre		
Use either the UTM system	n or latituda/l	ancituda acordinates	
Use either the UTM syster	ii oi iaiitude/i	longitude coordinates	
Latitude/Longitude Coor Datum if other than WGS8			
(enter coordinates to 6 dec		<u> </u>	
1. Latitude: 32.795119°	1 /	Longitude: -79.933838°	
2. Latitude: 32.794751°		Longitude: -79.933653°	
3. Latitude: 32.795056°		Longitude: -79.932788°	
4 I			
4. Latitude: 32.795440°		Longitude: -79.932990°	
Or			
UTM References Datum (indicated on USG)	S map):		
AD 1927 or	NAD 19	192	
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1. Zone: 17	Easting:	Northing:	
	_	_	
2. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:	
3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:	
4. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:	

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## **Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Beginning at a point at the corner of the property at East Bay and Amherst Streets, proceed southwest along Amherst Street 285' to the corner of the property at Amherst and Drake Streets, proceed southeast along Drake Street midway at 143', then proceed northeast 285' through the block along the property line to East Bay Street. Then proceed 143' northwest along East Bay Street to the point of origin. The boundary corresponds to parcel 4590904001 on the Charleston County GIS tax map.

## **Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary encompasses the entire property historically associated with the Faber House and its outbuildings.

11. Form Prepared By
name/title: Alexis Eiland and Mary Fesak /Historic Preservation Consultant
organization:
street & number:686 Cain Drive
city or town: Mount Pleasant state: SC zip code: 29464
e-mail _alcasale12@gmail.com
telephone: 917.374.1629
date: August 30, 2018

#### **Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- Maps: A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

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## **Photographs**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

## Photo Log

Name of Property: Faber House

City or Vicinity: Charleston

County: Charleston State: South Carolina

Photographer: Alexis Eiland, Joan Perry and Bill Beauchene

Date Photographed: February, May, July 2017 and June 2018

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Location of Original Data Files: 686 Cain Drive, Mount Pleasant, SC 29464

Total Number of Photographs: 26

Photo #1: East façade (Main), camera facing southwest

Photo #2: East façade (left), north façade (right), camera facing south

Photo #3: North façade, camera facing southeast

Photo #4: North façade, camera facing southeast

Photo #5: North façade (left), west façade (right), camera facing east

Photo #6: West façade, camera facing northeast

Photo #7: West façade (portico), camera facing northeast

Photo #8: West façade (left), south façade (right), camera facing north

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- Photo #9: West façade (left), south façade (right), camera facing north
- Photo #10: South façade, camera facing northwest
- Photo #11: West façade (portico), camera facing northwest
- Photo #12: South façade (left), east façade (right), camera facing northwest
- Photo #13: Cupola detail
- Photo #14: Northern Outbuilding south façade, camera facing northwest
- Photo #15: Northern Outbuilding west façade, camera facing northeast
- Photo #16: Northern Outbuilding east façade (left), north façade (right), camera facing south
- Photo #17: Northern Outbuilding east façade, camera looking southwest
- Photo #18: Southern Outbuilding north façade, camera looking southeast
- Photo #19: Southern Outbuilding west façade, camera looking northeast
- Photo #20: Southern Outbuilding east façade, camera looking southwest
- Photo #21:1940s Building east façade, camera looking northwest
- Photo #22:1940s Building south façade (left), east façade (right), camera looking west
- Photo #23: 1940s Building west façade, camera looking northeast
- Photo #24: 1940s Building north façade, camera looking southeast
- Photo #25: Interior railing detail, camera looking southeast
- Photo #26: Interior stair detail (second level), camera looking northeast

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- Figure 1: 1872 Bird's Eye View of the City of Charleston Map. Courtesy of the Library of Congress
- Figure 2: 1958 East (Main) Elevation Photograph Historic American Buildings Survey (Library of Congress) HABS SC 204

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Figure 3: 1958 West (Rear) Elevation Photograph - Historic American Buildings Survey (Library of Congress) HABS SC 204

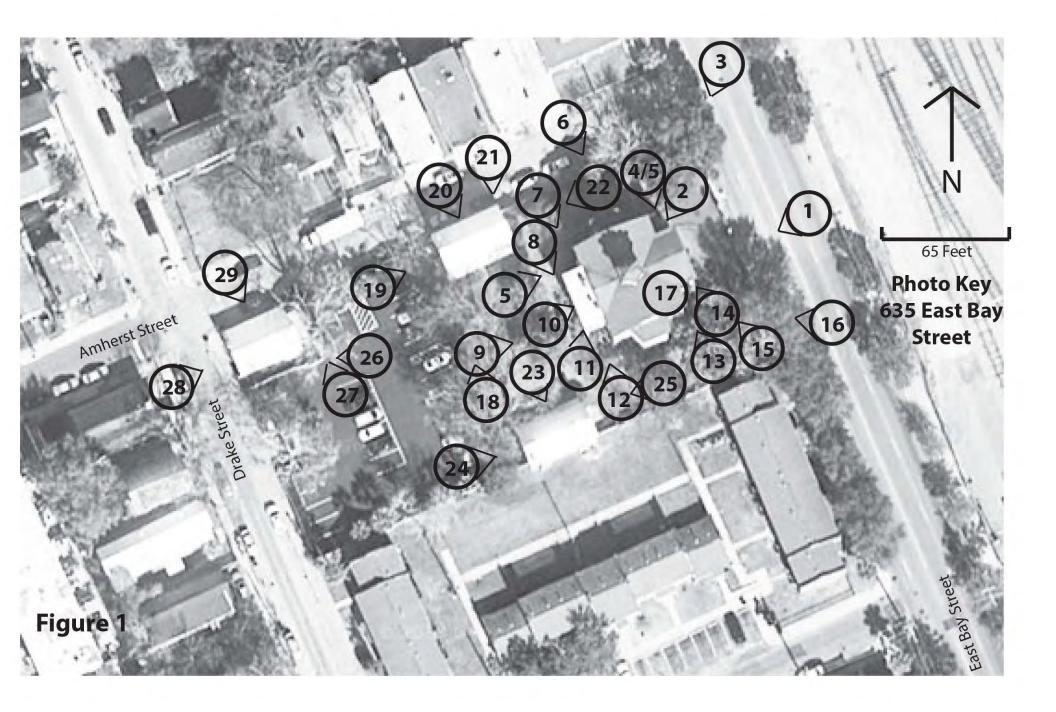
Figure 4: 1978 Stair at First Level Photograph - Historic American Buildings Survey (Library of Congress) HABS SC 204

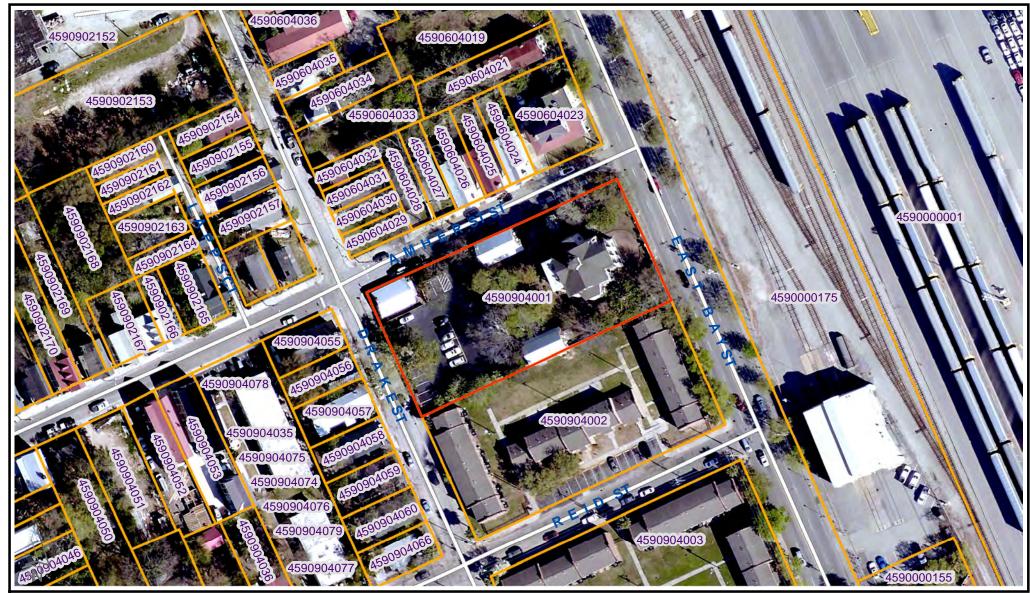
Figure 5: 1978 East (Main) Elevation Photograph - Historic American Buildings Survey (Library of Congress) HABS SC 204

Figure 6: 1978 West (Rear) Elevation Photograph - Historic American Buildings Survey (Library of Congress) HABS SC 204

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**Estimated Burden Statement**: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



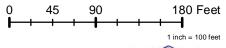


## **Charleston County SC**

Parcel ID: 4590904001 OWNER1: TERAS LLC ACREAGE: 0.93

PLAT\_BOOK\_PAGE: O-107 DEED\_BOOK\_PAGE: Z376-099 Jurisdiction: CITY OF CHARLESTON

**Note:** The Charleston County makes every effort possible to produce the most accurate information. The layers contained in the map service are for information purposes only. The Charleston County makes no warranty, express or implied, nor any guaranty as to the content, sequence, accuracy, timeliness or completeness of any of the information provided. The County explicitly disclaims all representations and warranties. The reader agrees to hold harmless the Charleston County for any cause of action and costs associated with any causes of action which may arise as a consequence of the County providing this information.

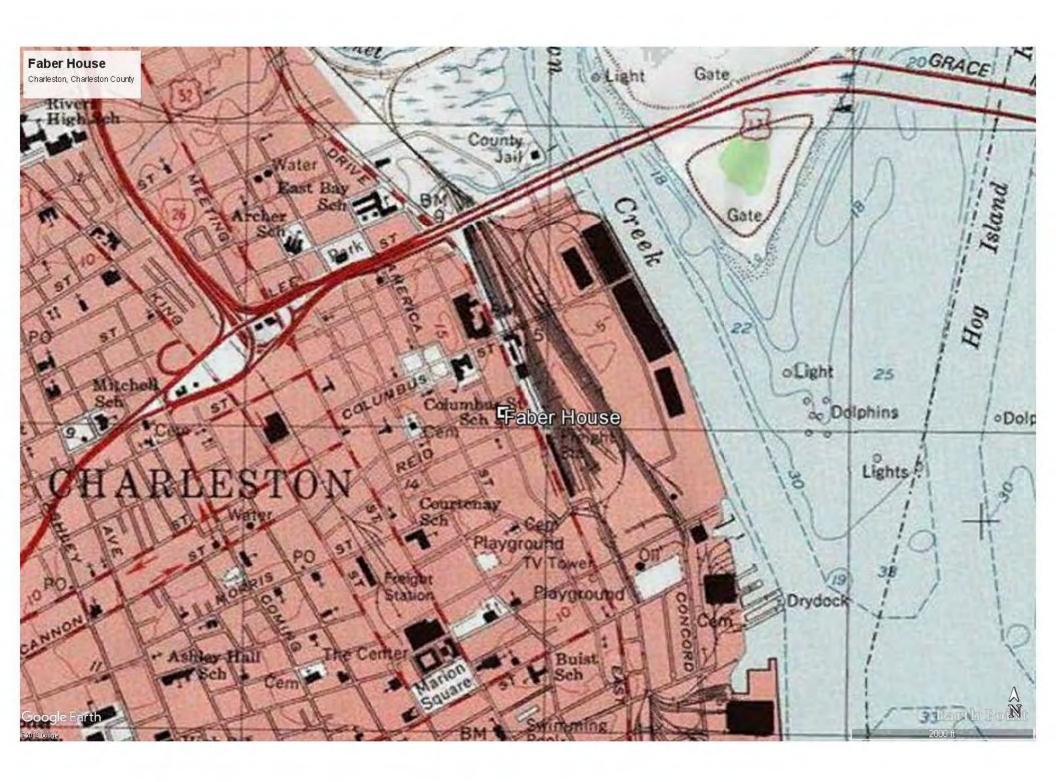


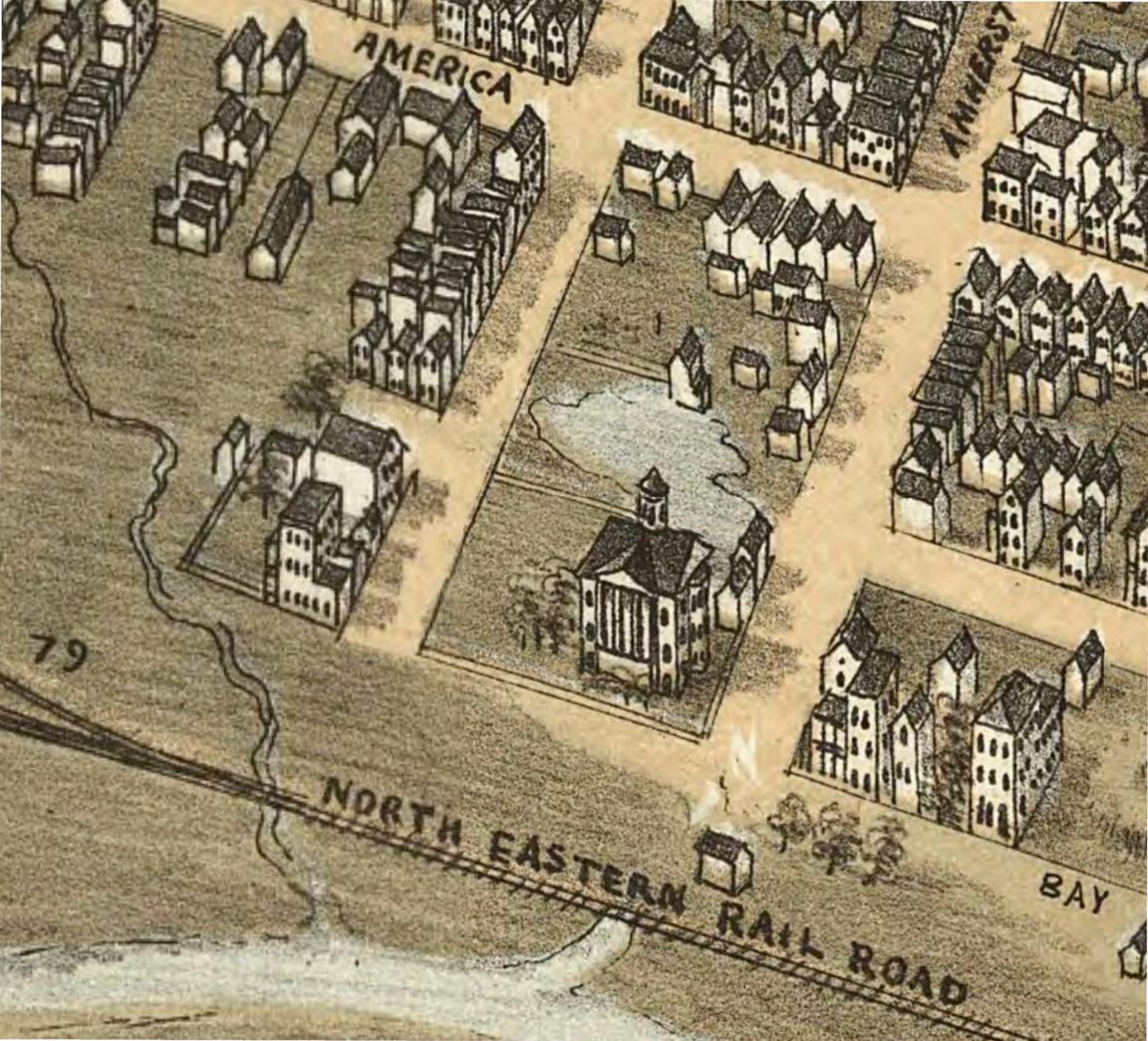


Author: Charleston County SC Date: 2/8/2019







































































## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:	Nomination				
Property Name:	Faber House				
Multiple Name:					
State & County:	SOUTH CAROLINA, Charleston				
Date Received: Date of Pe 3/22/2019 4/5/2			of 16th Day: [2/2019	Date of 45th Day: 5/6/2019	Date of Weekly List:
Reference number:	SG100003689				
Nominator:	SHPO				
Reason For Review					
Appeal		X PDIL		Text/Data Issue	
SHPO Request		Landscape		Photo	
Waiver		National		Map/Boundary	
Resubmission		Mobile Resource		Period	
Other		TCP		Less than 50 years	
		CLG			
X Accept	Return	Reject	4/30/	<b>2019</b> Date	
Abstract/Summary Comments:	AOS: Architecture, Et	hnic Heritage: Bla	ck; POS: 1836	6-c. 1840, 1920-1	932; LOS: local
Recommendation/ Criteria	NR Criteria: A & C				
Reviewer Lisa Deline			Discipline Historian		
Telephone (202)354-2239			Date	4/30/19	
DOCUMENTATION	: see attached com	ments : No se	e attached SL	R : No	

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



June 22, 2018

Paul Loether Program Manager National Park Service National Register of Historic Places 1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228 Washington, DC 20240

RE: Faber House, 635 East Bay Street, Charleston, SC, Letter of Support

Dear Mr. Loether,

Historic Charleston Foundation is in strong support of the nomination of the Faber House, 635 East Bay Street, Charleston, SC, to the National Register of Historic Places. Historic Charleston Foundation holds restrictive covenants on this property and is supportive of all efforts to preserve the Faber House.

This exceptional property, constructed c. 1836, is architecturally and culturally significant to Charleston. Architecturally, the house is considered the best example of Palladian architecture in Charleston. It is rated as a Category 1 Historically Significant Building of Charleston. This is the highest rating category possible in Charleston.

Historically, the house reflects the history of change in Charleston's East Side neighborhood. The house was originally built for the affluent Faber family in what was then a suburban area on the outskirts of Charleston. The property remained a residential property for Charleston's elite until shortly after the Civil War when the industrialization of the East Side neighborhood changed the character of the once suburban area of Charleston and led to the need for increased working class housing. The Faber House was converted into apartments in the early 1900s. As the condition of the property deteriorated, the original white tenants were replaced with African American tenants. From 1920-1932, the house was the Hametic Hotel for African Americans. After the hotel closed, the building was converted back into apartments. Initially for white working class tenants and later for African American tenants. The threat of demolition in the 1960s led to the house's preservation and Historic Charleston Foundation's involvement in the property.

If you have any questions about this property, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your consideration on this property for the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

April Wood

Manager of Easements and Technical Outreach





March 21, 2019

Ms. Joy Beasley Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places National Register of Historic Places 1849 C Street NW, Mail Stop 7228 Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Beasley:

Enclosed is the National Register nomination for the Faber House in Charleston, Charleston County, South Carolina. The nomination was approved by the South Carolina State Board of Review as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and Criterion C at the local level of significance. We are now submitting this nomination for formal review by the National Register staff. The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Faber House to the National Register of Historic Places.

If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at the address below, call me at (803) 896-6179 or e-mail me at vharness@scdah.sc.gov.

Sincerely,

Virginia E. Harness

Architectural Historian and National Register Co-Coordinator

State Historic Preservation Office

injuna E. Harmen

8301 Parklane Rd.

Columbia, S.C. 29223