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5. Political & Military Affairs 7. America at Work

DATA SHEE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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1 NAME				
HISTORIC				
Midway Planta	tion			
AND/OR COMMON		······································		
Midway				
2 LOCATION				
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Highway 17. o	ff Highway 601		-NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
CITY, TOWN			CONGRESSIONAL DIST	RICT
Fort Motte	<u>_X</u>	VICINITY OF	# 2	
STATE		CODE	COUNTY	CODE
South Carolin		045	Calhoun	017
3 CLASSIFIC	ATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENTUSE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC		AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
$X_{BUILDING(S)}$			COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	ВОТН		_EDUCATIONAL	1 anned Topice
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	-YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED		INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATIO
		X NO	MILITARY	OTHER:
NAME Mr. and Mrs. STREET & NUMBER	F. P. Gilmore			
CITY, TOWN			STATE	
Eastover		VICINITY OF	South Caroli	na
5 LOCATION	I OF LEGAL DESCR	IPTION		
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS,I	^{ETC.} Calhoun County Cou	urthouse		
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CON	CONDITION CHECK ONE		CHECK C	DNE
EXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	UNALTERED	_XORIGINAL	SITE
GOOD	RUINS	_XALTERED	MOVED	DATE
<u>X</u> fair	UNEXPOSED			

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Midway is thought to have been built ca. 1785; however the present facade was not built until later--tradition says around 1859. At this same time, two rooms are said to have been added to each floor at the front of the original structure. In 1879 the house was again altered; the original part of the structure (ca. 1785) was removed, leaving the 1859 additions.

The present Midway is a two-story, antebellum frame structure with both Greek Revival and Federal influences. The front facade features a pediment and a two-tiered portico with four Tuscan columns on both levels. (The columns on the first level are supported by stone bases.) Each level features a central entranceway with three-paned sidelights, semi-circular fanlights, and flanking pilasters topped by an entablature. Eight 6/6 windows with louvered shutters, four on each floor, are also on the front facade.

The left side is characterized by four 6/6 windows with louvered shutters on the main part of the structure and a one-story wing with various windows and an entranceway. The rear features two gabled dormers (6/6) and a small enclosed porch. This rear wing and porch were added around 1900. A sunporch was added to the right side around 1920.

The shingled roof has three chimneys.

In recent years the structure has fallen into disrepair. The present owner is stabilizing it and preparing it for occupancy.

<u>INTERIOR</u>: The first floor of Midway is comprised of five rooms, an entrance hall, and a sun porch. The second story has two large rooms. The interior is noteworthy for its paneled doors, wainscoting, and hand-hewn sills.

<u>SURROUNDINGS</u>: Midway is surrounded by the vestiges of a landscaped garden featuring camellias, magnolias, and cedars.



PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<u>-</u> 1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
<u>X</u> 1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
<u>X</u> 1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	X_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
		_INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The original Midway was built by William Russell Thomson (1761-1807), probably ca. 1785. It was so named because it was located midway between Belleville, the family home of William Russell Thomson, and Bellbroughton, owned by Mrs. Thomson's father. After Thomson's death the plantation became the property of his son, Charles Robert Thomson.

After the War Between the States, Midway was sold to Robert E. Clark. In 1879 Midway was bought by Philip W. Fairey. After Fairey's death in 1889 his son, Jacob Risher Fairey, inherited the plantation.

Midway Plantation reflects both Greek Revival and Federal influences. The structure is significant as having been the past residence of prominent figures in the political and social history of Orangeburg County for more than 170 years.

<u>AGRICULTURE</u>: In 1875 Midway Plantation consisted of approximately 1400 acres. By the time Jacob Risher Fairey inherited it there were about 350 acres remaining. Fairey added to this land until it included approximately 1400 acres at the time of his death in 1951.

Jacob Risher Fairey introduced new farming methods and scientific practices to Midway. In August 1928 he received one of the state's twelve Master Farmer Awards.

The present owners are now farming the land.

<u>ARCHITECTURE</u>: Midway has changed appearance several times over the years and now shows evidence of both Federal and Greek Revival influences. Semi-circular fanlights above the front entranceways, Tuscan columns, and the wainscoting and paneled doors of the interior are among the noteworthy features of this structure.

<u>POLITICAL</u>: William Russell Thomson served as lieutenant in the third South Carolina Regiment of the Continental Line but resigned in 1778. In 1781 he joined the militia and obtained the rank of Lt. Colonel. He was appointed justice of the peace for Orangeburg District and in 1790 was elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives. In October of 1791 he was appointed Ordinary of Orangeburg District, and in 1794, by a decision of the state legislature, was elected sheriff of the district.

William Sabb Thomson and Charles Robert Thomson, sons of William Russell Thomson, were both elected senators from the parish of St. Matthews. William Sabb served from 1830 to 1834, and Charles Robert from 1842 to 1846.

The sixth owner of Midway, Jacob Risher Fairey, also served in the South Carolina Senate between 1933 and 1937.

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1430 Senate Street) 758-5816
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE one

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