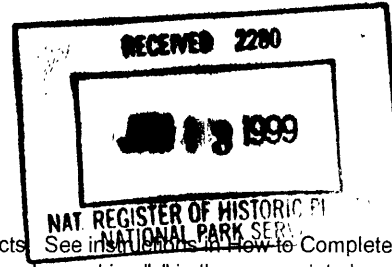


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

*Presub*

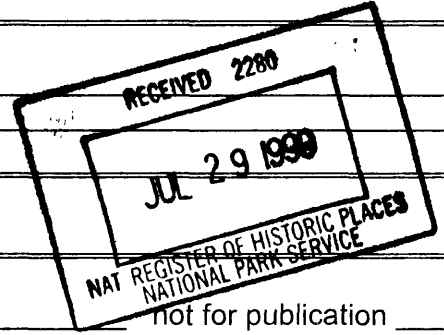


*201*

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions on 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 Shirley, Obediah, House  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_



2. Location

street & number Bagwell Road  
city or town Honea Path vicinity \_\_\_\_\_  
state South Carolina code SC county Anderson code 007 zip code 29654

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_ statewide  locally. ( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Mary W. Edmonds 1/6/99  
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

I, hereby certify that this property is:

*Pr*

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

- 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

*M. J. M. Way*

9/3/99

\_\_\_ other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Shirley, Obediah, House  
Name of Property

Anderson County, South Carolina  
County and State

**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	
<u>1</u>		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register  
0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: Domestic  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Subcategory: Single Dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: Work in Progress  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Subcategory: Museum  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
Other: I-house; Carolina  
upcountry farmhouse  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
foundation Fieldstone  
walls Wood  
\_\_\_\_\_  
roof Asphalt  
other Brick  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

Shirley, Obediah, House  
Name of Property

Lee County, South Carolina  
County and State

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.
[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.

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)

Architecture

Period of Significance

ca. 1826-1889

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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
[X] Other
Name of repository:
Obediah Shirley House Foundation

Shirley, Obediah, House  
Name of Property

Lee County, South Carolina  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property 1

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing
1 <u>17 370120 3812970</u>	3 <u>17 _____</u>
2 <u>17 _____</u>	4 <u>17 _____</u>

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

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 Carol Ann Cook  
 organization \_\_\_\_\_ date 4 June 1998  
 street & number 420 S. 21<sup>st</sup> Street telephone (215) 790-0417  
 city or town Philadelphia state PA zip code 19146

**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 Obediah Shirley House Foundation, Inc.  
 street & number 3618 Highway 252 telephone (864) 369-6646  
 city or town Honea Path state SC zip code 29654

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 5

Shirley, Obediah, House

Name of Property

Anderson County, South Carolina

County and State

---

Summary Paragraph

The Obediah Shirley House property sits on a one-acre site located just outside the western boundary of Honea Path, South Carolina, in Anderson County. It faces Bagwell Road (a county road), and is 0.5 miles north of Route 76. Austin Road, SR4203, lies 232 feet to the southeast. The house is a two-story, 4-bay gable roofed frame structure. There is a one-story front shed porch and kitchen ell in the rear, and two exterior end chimneys. The original core is a one-story log structure that was extended at least twice by the addition of two rooms to the north and a second story. The front porch was added in the latter half of the nineteenth century, with the kitchen ell also dating from that time. The exterior and interior are equally simple. The house is an excellent example of a plain plantation farmhouse that was modified over time but has had no significant modernizing features added. There are no other associated structures remaining.

Additional Descriptive Information

The Obediah Shirley House was built in several phases, to accommodate the changing needs of the households who occupied it until the late 1880s. The original core of the building, on the left (south) side of the house, was a one-story log structure built ca. 1826. The log framing has inverted re-notched corners, visible to the ceiling at the left corner of the house where the clapboards have pulled away. Log construction was also used in the house's first addition, a small room to the north of the core and now the middle room at the front of the house. (On the interior, the cut logs that formed the exterior wall are visible in this middle room.) After 1850 another room was added on the right, extending the house width to three rooms. This northern room has an enclosed stairway to the second floor.

The last major addition was at the rear of the house on the south end. This one story ell was used as a kitchen. A porch on the north side of the ell, added after 1900, was removed in the late 1980s because of deterioration. The location of the porch is indicated on the 1988 property survey, which has an outline of the house.

The exterior end chimneys are of ashlar stone. The south chimney has a new brick stack. The north chimney has a stack of older brick, which has been stuccoed. The foundation is fieldstone piers with no infilling. The house has clapboard siding, attached to the framing with wire nails. On the southern end of the house the clapboards have square nail holes, although no nails are visible and wire nails have been used to hold the clapboards to the building. The second level shows a change in framing, to studs, and the nailing pattern for the siding also changes from the first level to the second.

The porch roof framing, of 2 x 4s, dates to the late 1980s when a stabilization effort was launched by the family foundation. The floor deck is of wideboard construction, with about half of the deck material being new. The porch roof is temporarily supported by 4 x 4s. Flushboard siding was used in the center portion of the porch. The porch extends beyond the flush board siding and covers the clapboards. The asphalt roof replaced a deteriorated roof in 1988.

On the front facade, there are two entrance doors, symmetrically placed, leading to the rooms at each end of the house. The window between the two doors provides the only opening in the middle room. The doors

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 6

Shirley, Obediah, House  
Name of Property  
Anderson County, South Carolina  
County and State

---

were apparently used to provide easier access to the functions of the house, as it was never divided for two-family use. The room at the north end was used as a parlor, the middle room as a dining room, and the south room as a living room.<sup>1</sup>

The stairwell to the second floor, which is enclosed, is to the left of the north entrance door. It leads to the northern of the two rooms on the second story. A doorway connects the two rooms. The ceiling joists, some of which are rough hewn logs with adze marks that are clearly visible, can be seen in both rooms. Framing members in the northwest corner of the north room are new.

Few modifications have been made on the interior, and the detailing is simple. The house has electricity and according to James Austin, a descendant of Obediah Shirley who inherited the property in 1956, running water was added in the kitchen ca. 1950 by Bessie Shirley Austin, who owned the property at that time. There is little evidence of as the walls in the ell have been stripped to the exterior material. Bathroom plumbing was never installed. Walls and ceiling are generally sheathed in flush boards throughout, although some of the boards were removed during the period of tenant occupancy. There is some evidence of paint and wallpaper, but much of the sheathing appears to have not been painted. Molding around doors is simple, and there is otherwise no decorative molding. Floors are of narrow-width planks on the first floor.

There are three fireplaces, two on the first floor. Each of the first-floor fireplaces has a wood mantel of simple design. At the time of the initial stabilization effort in 1988 and 1989, stoves were removed from the fireplaces. The fireplace at the southern end is lined with brick; the fireplace on the northern end is not lined and the fieldstone is visible. The third fireplace, which has no mantel, is on the second floor in the north room. Constructed of fieldstone, it is of three parts; one large piece of fieldstone serves as a lintel, which is supported by two equally large stones at the sides.

The fieldstone used for the chimneys and foundation came from the quarry on the other side of Bagwell Road, part of the original property.

---

<sup>1</sup> Interview with James R. Austin, Jr., Honea Path, South Carolina, July 1997.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 7

Shirley, Obediah, House  
Name of Property  
Anderson County, South Carolina  
County and State

---

Statement of Significance

The Obediah Shirley House, in the Honea Path vicinity of Anderson County, S.C., is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as an excellent example of a simple plantation farmhouse. It is associated with the Shirley family of Honea Path who occupied the house for approximately sixty years and farmed the property for more than 150 years.

Obediah Hugh Shirley was born in Abbeville, South Carolina, in 1802. He married Jane (Jennie) Armstrong in 1824. Shirley and his family settled on the property in 1826 and built the house shortly thereafter. Obediah Shirley became the owner of (possibly through his father-in-law James Armstrong) significant portions of the land that later became the developed portion of Honea Path as well as acreage in the surrounding area. He was a successful farmer and as part of his operations, hauled cotton to Hamburg (now North Augusta), South Carolina, the nearest market.<sup>2</sup>

Over a 26-year period, ten children were born to Jane and Obediah Shirley. Of those ten, eight survived to adulthood.<sup>3</sup> Several of the five sons and three daughters built homes in the town of Honea. Obediah Shirley died in 1889, the year that marks the end of the latest period of family occupancy. The house and substantial acreage in the vicinity were left to the youngest son, William Marshall Shirley. At his death in 1926, the house and an undetermined amount of land were passed on to his daughter, Bessie Shirley Austin. Her husband, James R. Austin, continued farming operations. Bessie Austin at her death in 1956 passed the house and 86 acres to her son, James R. Austin, Jr. The land was readied for sale and development in the mid-1980s and in 1988, James Austin, Jr. conveyed the one-acre parcel on which the house was located to the Shirley House Foundation for restoration purposes.

After the end of the Shirley family occupancy in the 1880s, the house continued to be used as a residence under tenant occupancy until the early 1980s. The Shirley House Foundation intends to restore and interpret the property as a house museum.

---

<sup>2</sup> J. Pete Dugan, Louise Graham Ervin and C. A. Ragsdale, Honea Path Milestones: First and Second Editions (Town of Honea Path, South Carolina, 1992), 117.

<sup>3</sup> Sue Anderson Henderson, "The History of the Obediah Shirley Family of Honea Path, South Carolina" (Beaufort, South Carolina, 1984, Privately Published).

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 8

Shirley, Obediah, House

Name of Property

Anderson County, South Carolina

County and State

---

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Carol Cook, Interview with James R. Austin, Jr., Honea Path, S.C., July 1997.

J. Pete Dugan, Louise Graham Ervin and C.A. Ragsdale, Honea Path Milestones: First and Second Editions. Town of Honea Path, S.C., 1992.

Henderson, Sue Anderson. The History of the Obediah Shirley Family of Honea Path, South Carolina. Beaufort, S.C.: Privately published, 1984.



**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 9

Shirley, Obediah, House

Name of Property

Anderson County, South Carolina

County and State

---

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the nominated property is shown on the accompanying property survey for the Obediah Shirley House Foundation, Inc., drawn at a scale of 1" = 50'.

VERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property is restricted to the historic house and its immediate setting.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

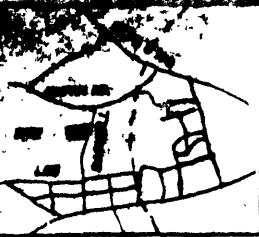
Section number Photographs Page 10 Shirley, Obediah, House  
Name of Property  
Anderson County, South Carolina  
County and State

---

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

Name of Property: Obediah Shirley House  
Location of Property: Honea Path, Anderson County, S.C.  
Location of Original Negatives: S.C. Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

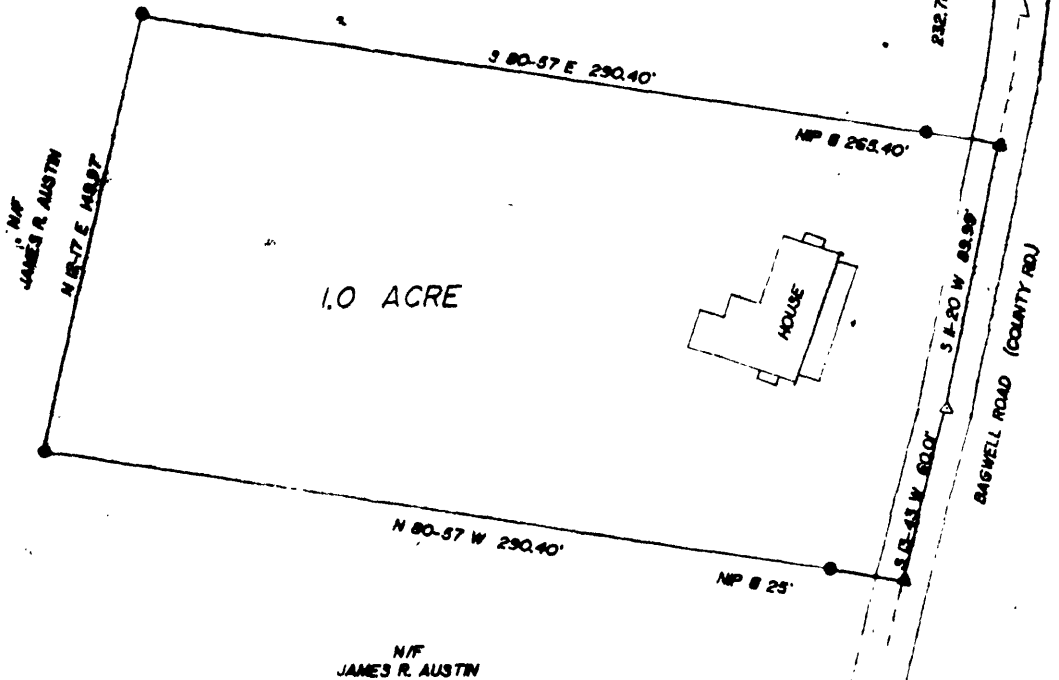
1. Facade (east elevation)  
Photographer: Carol Ann Cook, April 1998
2. Facade right oblique  
Photographer: Carol Ann Cook, April 1998
3. Facade right oblique  
Photographer: Carol Ann Cook, April 1998
4. West elevation  
Photographer: John W. Scott, August 1996
5. South elevation  
Photographer: John W. Scott, August 1996
6. South elevation, chimney detail  
Photographer: John W. Scott, August 1996
7. South elevation, chimney detail  
Photographer: John W. Scott, August 1996
8. Fireplace and mantel  
Photographer: Carol Ann Cook, April 1998
9. Wall sheathing  
Photographer: Carol Ann Cook, April 1998
10. View of first floor rooms from north room  
Photographer: Carol Ann Cook, April 1998
11. Fireplace and mantel, south room  
Photographer: Carol Ann Cook, April 1998
12. Fireplace and mantel, detail, south room  
Photographer: Carol Ann Cook, April 1998
13. First floor stair  
Photographer: Carol Ann Cook, April 1998
14. First floor stair, detail  
Photographer: Carol Ann Cook, April 1998
15. Middle first floor room, log construction and wall sheathing  
Photographer: Carol Ann Cook, April 1998
16. Middle first floor room, log construction and wall sheathing  
Photographer: Carol Ann Cook, April 1998



LOCATION MAP

MAGNETIC

N/F  
JAMES R. AUSTIN



ALL R/W AND EASEMENTS OF RECORD INCLUDED.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE RATIO OF PRECISION OF THE FIELD SURVEY IS 11,5000 AND THAT THE AREA WAS DETERMINED BY DMD METHOD OF AREA CALCULATION.

*Bobby K. Dunn*

S.C. R.L.S. & P.E. NO. 8857

PROPERTY SURVEY FOR		LEGEND		DATE
OBBAIAH SHIRLEY HOUSE		(NEW) ●	(OLD) ○	
FOUNDATION, INC.		●—●	—●	IRON PIN
		▲—▲	—▲	NAIL & CAP
		■—□	—□	AS NOTED
COUNTY	ANDERSON	DUNN & DUNN, INC.		
		Engineers & Land Surveyors		
SCALE	3-8-88	2708 North Main Street		
		Anderson, South Carolina		
		Phone (803) 224-4296		
		GRAPHIC SCALE 50		