

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>South Carolina</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Berkeley</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER <b>70-7-41-0022</b>	DATE <b>7/16/70</b>

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Medway**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Jan Van Arrsen's House**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**3 miles east of U.S. 52, between Goose Creek and Moncks Corner, S.C.**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Mt. Holly**

STATE: **South Carolina** CODE: **41** COUNTY: **Berkeley** CODE: **08 C15**

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No <b>Special Tour</b>

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Mrs. Sidney J. Legendre**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Medway**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Mt. Holly**

STATE:  
**South Carolina** CODE: **41**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Office of the Clerk of Court, Berkeley County**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**County Office Building, Main Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Moncks Corner**

STATE:  
**South Carolina** CODE: **41**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Plantations of the South Carolina Low Country by Samuel Gaillard Stoney**  
(edited by Albert Simons and Samuel Lapham)

DATE OF SURVEY: **1938** Revised **1964**  
 Federal  State  County  Local

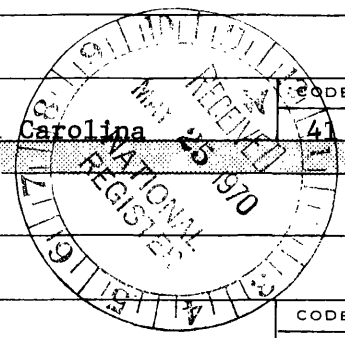
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**S.C. Department of Archives and History (partial)**

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Medway, built in 1686, only 16 years after the founding of the colony, and now the oldest house in South Carolina of record, is in plan and situation pretty typical of the plantation houses to be built in the Low Country for the next hundred years. Originating at Medway was the sort of Janus-like, facing-both-ways scheme of a house with both a river prospect and a landside entrance, a situation common to the region.

The direct entrance into a large hall, the principal room in the house that takes a lion's share of the house front, is another characteristic that remained in vogue up to the time of the Revolution.

Located on the Medway, or Back River, the house was built by Jan Van Arrsens, Seigneur de Weirnhoudt, who led a small company of Hollanders to Carolina. Dutch architecture is most obvious in the stepped gables of the original house, and the influence of Van Arrsens' architecture, although thoroughly encisted in additions, has kept the house looking as though it had as good a right to be standing over a canal in the Low Countries of Holland as besides rice fields in the Low Country of Carolina. The second story added to the original building obviously copied its stepped gables, and though these were thrown down in the earthquake of 1886, the late Samuel Gaillard Stoney was able to follow old pictures and replace them 20 years afterwards. The low, spreading wings on the riverfront are also later additions, but they reflect the feeling of the old work so much as to seem a part of it. Even Peter Gaillard Stoney's unsymmetrical wing, built out towards the avenue in 1855, ties in with the style of the original Van Arrsens building. A very thorough recent changing of the simple interior has been effected also without any great difference to the outer look of the old house.

In a colony only 16 years old, Medway was a fairly capacious dwelling with some pretense to esthetics in style and more than a pretense to esthetics in its pleasant situation. The home-made brick is characteristically bad, so bad that the walls were reputed to stand by the strength of the oyster shell mortar only. The stuccoing was an obvious attempt to remedy, or at least mitigate, this failing. It also is typical of early work. In the additions, the brick is much improved. (According to Macaulay, all brick that was made in England in those times was bad, including the brick Sir Christopher Wren had to use in his work. In Carolina, there is plenty of evidence that Van Arrsens was not alone in burning home-made brick for house-building and also that experiments were being made with other materials.)

Medway's older plantings come from three women of the Marion-DuBose-Stoney connection that owned the place nearly a century and a quarter. Mrs. DuBose, after 1825, planted the larger oaks about the house. Her sister, Mrs. Peter Gaillard Stoney, planted the avenues in 1855. And Louisa Cheves Stoney, after 1905, restored old gardens and planted new ones, notably the terraced lawn between the avenues with its framing of azaleas. After 1930, Mr. and Mrs. Legendre added extensively to the gardens and the out buildings.

The enclosed sheet shows the Medway floor plans and elevations as measured by Albert Simons, FAIA, and drawn by Frank E. Seel. These include probable arrangement of house as built by Jean Van Arrsens.

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**SIGNIFICANCE**

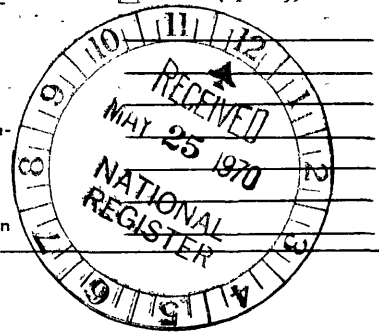
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1686

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginol              | <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science              |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture  | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture            |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input checked="" 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

Medway is significant for a number of reasons.

1. It is the oldest house of record in South Carolina, the authenticity of its building date, 1686, substantiated by D.D. Wallace in The History of South Carolina, and by A.S. Salley, "The House at Medway," in The South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine, among other documentations.
2. It is closely associated with the colony's founding days through the early settlers of importance who lived there:
  - (a) Jan Van Arrsens (John D'Arrens), seigneur of Wernhaut who was granted the land by the Lords Proprietors with provision for erecting a manor having all the privileges of a Barony. Shortly after his arrival Van Arrsens died.
  - (b) Thomas Smith, one of the wealthiest landowners of the early Colonial period -- Cassique, Landgrave, Sheriff for Berkeley County, Governor of South Carolina. Through his first wife, the first Landgrave Smith has become one of the greatest common ancestors of the Low Country. His second wife was Madame Sabina D'Arrens (a marriage license issued March 20, 1686/87 by Governor Colleton to the Rev. William Dunlop to marry Madame D'Arrens to Thomas Smith, Esq.). Subsequent instructions from the Lords Proprietors were that lands due to Jean d'Arrens be granted to "our Good friend Tho: Smith Esqr."
  - (c) At Medway is the "Lost" grave site (1687) of the original grantee, Van Arrsens; also the 1694 grave and tombstone of Landgrave Thomas Smith; and the grave of Sabina de Vignon Van Arrsens Smith, who died December, 1689.
3. Its architecture reflects the early presence of Hollanders in the new colony and exemplifies Dutch influence on 17th century Carolina architecture as it evolved in St. James, Goose Creek Parish. Its basic interior plan may be said to have been the forerunner of the typical plan, used with slight variations, for Low Country plantation houses from the opening years of the 18th century almost to its ending.
4. Back River, which flows by this plantation and was at first also called Medway, is banked with good clay and lined with remains of defunct brick-yards. These once supplied Charleston with the best grade of

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Wallace, D.D., History of South Carolina, American Historical Society, Inc. N.Y., 1934, Vol. I, p. 69, 71.  
South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine, Vol. 6, pp. 179,180; Vol. 13, pp. 3-20; Vol. 33, pp. 245, 246; Vol. 34, pp. 218-220.  
Warrants For Lands in South Carolina 1692-1711, pp. 4,7,8,30,42,43,50,51.  
 Stoney, Samuel Gaillard, Plantations of the Carolina Low Country, Carolina Art Assoc., Inc. Charleston, S.C. 1938,1939,1945,1955, pp. 47,48,90-93.  
Records in British Public Record Office Relating to South Carolina, 1685-1690 pp. 168-169, 280.  
Records of Court of Ordinary 1672-1692, pp.290,456.

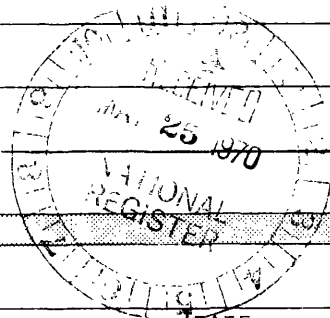
**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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	°	'	"	°	'	"	33	°	1	'	52	"	79	°	58	'	13½	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"												
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"												
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"												

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **9 acres of 1800-acre tract**

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 Division**

ORGANIZATION  
**S.C. Department of Archives and History**

DATE  
**May 16, 1970**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**P.O. Box 11,188, Capitol Station 29211, 1430 Senate Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Columbia**

STATE  
**South Carolina**

CODE  
**41**

**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 Charles E. Lep  
 Director  
 S.C. Department of Archives and History

Date 5/19/70

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

Arrest Allen Connolly  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date MAY 25 1970

ATTEST:  
William J. Montoya  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date JUN 23 1970

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

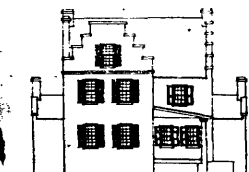
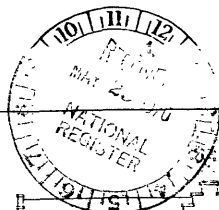
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**  
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(Continuation Sheet)

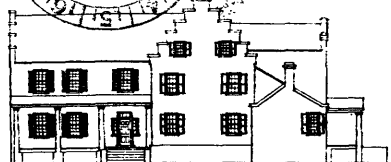
STATE South Carolina	
COUNTY Berkeley	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70-7-41-0022	DATE 11/670

(Number all entries)

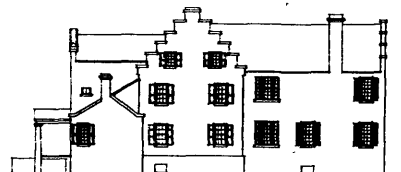
**7. Description (continued)**



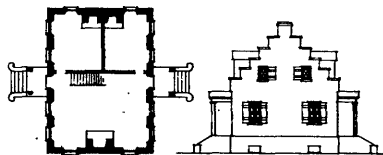
*West Elevation*



*South Elevation*



*North Elevation*

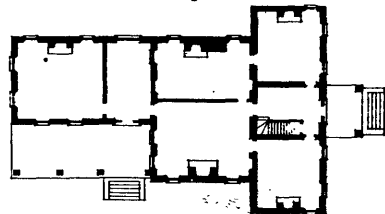


*Probable Arrangement of House as Built  
by Jean d'Arrens  
Seigneur de Wernhaut*

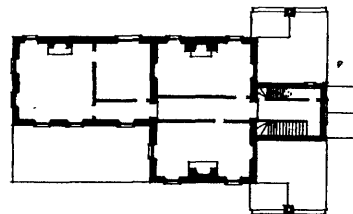
From:  
Samuel Gaillard Stoney,  
Plantations of the Carolina Low  
Country. Edited by Albert Simons,  
FAIA, and Samuel Lapham, Jr., FAIA



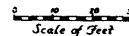
*East Elevation*



*First Floor Plan*



*Second Floor Plan*



**MEDWAY** *Floor Plans And Elevations*

*Measured by Albert Simons  
Drawn by Frank E Seel*

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE South Carolina	
COUNTY Berkeley	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 10-7-41-0022	DATE 7/16/70

(Number all entries)

8. Significance (Medway continued)

"Carolina Gray" brick. At Parnassus Plantation, down stream from Medway, Zachary Villepontoux made excellent brick to build St. Michael's Church in Charleston. In the 19th century, Medway itself enjoyed a sound economic mixture of agriculture and industry by making rice while the weather was hot and brick when it was cold. Peter Gaillard Stoney sent thousands of the latter down to the building of the famous Fort Sumter.

- 5. Medway was the setting for The Treasure of Peyre Gaillard, a novel by John Bennett.
- 6. After World War II, "The Medway Plan" was developed here for American cities to adopt and help rehabilitate French towns.



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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE South Carolina	
COUNTY Berkeley	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70-7415022	DATE 7/16/70

(Number all entries)

9. Major Bibliographical References (Medway)

WPA, South Carolina: A Guide to the Palmetto State, American Guide Series,  
Illustrated. New York, Oxford University Press, 1941. p.298

