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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY
NOMINATION FORM

Continuation Sheet	Item Number	Page
<u>Name</u> Historic Aiken Club Room and Court Tennis Building	<u>Location</u> Corner of Newberry and Park Streets	
Common Court Tennis Building (preferred)	<u>Classification</u> Building	
<u>Owner</u> Whitney Trustees Box 517 Aiken, SC 29801		

Representation in Existing Surveys

South Carolina Inventory of Historic Places

Description

The Aiken Club Room and Court Tennis Building are located at the corner of Newberry and Park Streets. The Court Tennis Building, constructed ca. 1902 and remodeled ca. 1936, is a two-story, rectangular, brick building with a hip-on-hip roof. The Newberry Street elevation (northwest elevation) features seven bays delineated by buttressed wall pilasters. All bays have double eight-over-eight windows in the upper portion. The southeast and southwest elevations feature one-story frame, shingled wings. The wing on the southeast connects the Court Tennis Building to the Aiken Club Room, a small one-story frame, gable-roofed cottage which was moved to its present location ca. 1928.

Significance

The Aiken Club, an exclusive men's club, was incorporated in 1898 and constructed its court tennis court about 1902. Court tennis, played on an indoor court utilizing the walls and ceiling, is an elite sport originated in France over 700 years ago and played by only a handful of men in the States. The Court Tennis Building in Aiken is one of only nine courts in the United States. Early members of the Aiken Club included Thomas Hitchcock and William C. Whitney. The Aiken Club Room, moved to the front of the court about 1928, was originally part of the Aiken Club building which, along with stables, a squash court, servants quarters, and the tennis court made up the Aiken Club complex.

Acreage .4 acres

Verbal Boundary Description The boundary of the Court Tennis Building is shown as the black line on the accompanying Aiken County Tax Map #30-047, drawn at a scale of 1 inch equals 50 feet. It includes only the historic building and its setting.

UTM Reference Point 17/433030/3713350

Other Information