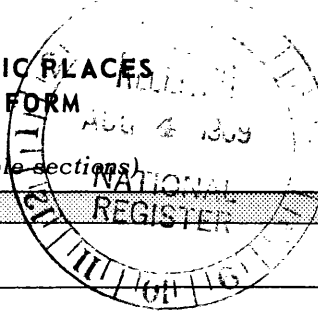


STATE: South Carolina	
COUNTY: Greenville	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 69-08-41-0005	DATE 8/5/69

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Earle Town House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
107 James Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Greenville

STATE South Carolina	CODE 41	COUNTY: Greenville	CODE 23
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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes: Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
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 type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input checked="" 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 <input type="checkbox"/>	_____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNERS NAME:  
Mrs. A.D. Oliphant

STREET AND NUMBER:  
107 James Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Greenville

STATE:  
South Carolina

CODE:  
41

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Greenville County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:  
East North Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Greenville

STATE:  
South Carolina

CODE:  
41

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: one

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY: PUBLISHED IN: THE NEW SOUTH, GREENVILLE, So CAR.  
~~Name~~ MARSH & MARSH, 1965, COLUMBIA, S.C.

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:

STATE: South Carolina  
COUNTY: Greenville  
ENTRY NUMBER: 69-08-41-0005  
DATE: 8/5/69

FOR NPS USE ONLY

**7. DESCRIPTION**

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Earle Town House is a handsome late Palladian or Georgian residence. Its park-like grounds, shaded by old trees and enclosed by an ivy-covered grillwork fence, feature the sanded front walk typical of its earlier years, a handsome garden front entrance of grillwork and brick, an ivy mound approximately 100 years old (built after 1856). One of the trees is a grandiflora magnolia planted in 1856. A rear garden with fountain is patterned after Edgar Allan Poe's Richmond, Virginia, garden.

Set 160 feet back from a tree-shaded street, the residence is a two-story white frame structure with painted brick foundation. Rectangular in design, the house is centered by a gracious front door with distinctive glass and woodwork detailing. Rectangular windows with dark green shutters add to the building's dignified appearance. On the second story level above the front door is an identical smaller window; centered over this is the Palladian window. Double front steps with a grill railing lead from the ground to a small front stoop. The present west side piazza is an enlargement of the original one.

Outstanding interior features include hand-carved mantels, fine woodwork detail around doors and windows, six-paneled doors, raised paneled dado, white china doorknobs. The high-ceilinged front room retains the same furnishings given it 150 years ago.

Although not of manorial extent, the house and its grounds are of distinctive elegance and graciousness.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

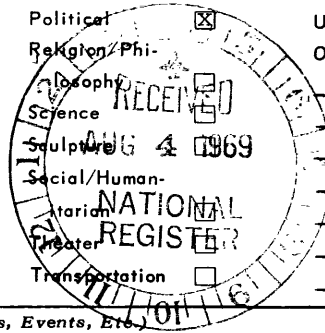
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |                |              |                                     |                |                                     |                     |                          |
|----------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Aboriginal     | Education    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Political      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Urban Planning      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Prehistoric    | Engineering  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Religion/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Other (Specify)     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Historic       | Industry     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | losophy        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <u>Architecture</u> |                          |
| Agriculture    | Invention    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Science        | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                     |                          |
| Art            | Landscape    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Sculpture      | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                     |                          |
| Commerce       | Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Social/Human-  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                     |                          |
| Communications | Literature   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | itarian        | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                     |                          |
| Conservation   | Military     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Theater        | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                     |                          |
|                | Music        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                     |                          |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Unusual in date, condition and in situ location for South Carolina's upper Piedmont region, the Earle Town House, with its unique building and grounds, is an architectural, historical and aesthetic asset which historical and architectural groups feel that the city and state can ill afford to lose. Architecturally distinguished example of a late Georgian dwelling -- one of the few extant in upper South Carolina -- the residence is one of two houses within the city remaining from Greenville's earliest history. Nearly all other landmarks of the city's early history have been destroyed.

The Earle House site was originally part of the plantation of the pioneer Earle family. The family came from Virginia shortly after the Revolution and settled in this wooded, Blue Ridge foothills section, which had been deeded to South Carolina by the Cherokee Indians in 1777. Elias T. Earle, whose father was an early member of the Virginia House of Burgesses, was one of the first members of the family in South Carolina, figuring prominently in the history and development of the Greenville area and of the state. He was a state senator from Greenville District, a United States Congressman, a silk grower, a manufacturer, and first Commissioner of Indian Affairs under the U.S. government. One of the earliest iron-mongers of the South, he manufactured guns for the War of 1812. He was also a builder of the great wagon road across the Blue Ridge mountains.

Elias took up his Carolina lands as early as 1787 and acquired his homesite in 1796. The deed stated that the site was upon lands on which he was then living. That the home now known as the Earle Town House was built at least by 1810 is indicated by the 1910 birthday celebration marking its 100th anniversary. (This was attended by people living in Greenville today). An 1826 will mentions the house. Born in the house was another leading figure in regional and state development -- Judge and United States Senator Joseph Haynsworth Earle, great-grandson of Elias T.

Special significance attaches to the central-city location of the park-like Earle House site and the character of the total Greenville area. A heavily industrialized city, surrounded by textile mills and mill villages, Greenville is a focal point of the most densely populated area of the state. Aesthetic importance of a park-like area within the city limits increases with the area's continuing industrial expansion.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Writers' Program of the W.P.A., South Carolina: A Guide to the Palmetto State. (New York: Oxford University Press, 1941), pp.242-246  
 Reynolds and Faunt, Biographical Directory of the Senate of South Carolina. (Columbia South Carolina Archives Department, 1964), p.211  
 U.S. Government Printing Office, Biographical Directory of the American Congress (1774-1961). p.842  
 Record of Wills (South Carolina Archives), Will Book B, pp.21, 193  
 Julien and Watson, Ninety-Six: Landmarks of South Carolina's Last Frontier Region. (University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, 1950), pp.82, 115

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		N 34 51 48	W 82 24 23	
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
 Mrs. Tony Lister and Mrs. James W. Fant, Historic Resources Assistants

ORGANIZATION: South Carolina Department of Archives and History      DATE: 7/29/69

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 Box 11188, Capitol Station      1430 Senate Street

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia      STATE: South Carolina      CODE: 41

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

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  
 Title: Director, S. C. Dept. of Archives & History  
 Date: July 30, 1969

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: Ernest Allen Connally  
 ATTEST: AUG 5 1969  
William J. Smitlogh  
 Keeper of The National Register  
 Date: AUG 5 1969

SEE INSTRUCTIONS