

Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: South Carolina	
COUNTY: Calhoun	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUL 25 1974

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Puritan Farm

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Keitt-Whaley-Pearlstine House

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: US 176 at its intersection with county road, 2.2 miles west of St. Matthews W of St. Matthews

CITY OR TOWN:  
St. Matthews Vic.

STATE South Carolina	CODE 045	COUNTY: Calhoun	CODE 017
-------------------------	-------------	--------------------	-------------

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> 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
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Mr. & Mrs. J. T. Pearlstine

STREET AND NUMBER:  
US 176

CITY OR TOWN:  
St. Matthews

STATE:  
South Carolina

CODE:  
045

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Calhoun Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Railroad Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:  
St. Matthews

STATE:  
South Carolina

CODE:  
045

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina

DATE OF SURVEY: 1973  Federal  State  County  Local

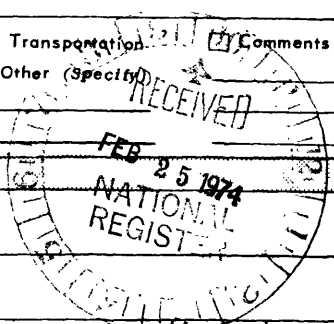
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
South Carolina Department of Archives & History

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1430 Senate Street (P. O. Box 11669, Capitol Station)

CITY OR TOWN:  
Columbia

STATE:  
South Carolina

CODE:  
045



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:  
COUNTY:  
ENTRY NUMBER: JUL 25 1974  
DATE:  
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" 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

The Keitt-Whaley-Pearlstine House is a large white two-story clapboard frame structure with two connecting rear wings and is set upon a raised basement. Built between 1820 and 1825 by the Reverend Jacob Wannamaker for Dr. and Mrs. George Keitt, the house is basically an Upcountry farmhouse with a pedimented second-floor porch addition. Lawrence M. Keitt, a leader in South Carolina's secession movement, was born in this house in 1824 and maintained it as his residence until his death in 1864. After his death, the house was occupied by his sister; in 1912, Shep Pearlstine purchased the house from Keitt's sister's granddaughter and remodeled it, making few basic changes. Pearlstine named the house Puritan Farm.

Exterior The two-story facade presents two deeply-separated vertical planes; a porch extends across the entire first-story front and rests upon the raised basement; its sloping roof is supported by six square columns. The two center columns of the main porch have two counterparts which frame and support a pedimented second-story porch directly above, in the central bay of the house. The small intercolumnar balustrades on both porches contrast with the heavier supporting columns, presenting an interesting counterplay of structural members. The gabled roof of the main two-story front section of the house is offset by two parallel gabled roofs over the rear wings and the gabled roof of the pedimented second-story porch. A vaulted chimney rises from the inside slope of each of the rear gables and a small porch has been added to the left rear wing.

Each of the two masonry-covered gable-end chimneys of the front portion of the structure is flanked to either side by a window at each floor. The high brick foundation walls are also covered with masonry and the arcade to the front (under the porch) has been bricked.

All exterior walls above the basement are white clapboard. Eaves are boxed and there are no cornices. All the narrow double-sashed 4/4 windows have louvered shutters.

Interior The main block of the house is one-room deep and each floor contains a central hall with stairway. Downstairs, the central hall extends to the rear additions; each rear wing is partitioned into two rooms. Each of the house's rooms has a fireplace and those in the front rooms of the first floor have handcarved mantels with multiple cornices. All other fireplaces have similar, but less elaborate, mantels. All are original. Walls are plastered and have wide-board wainscoting; original plank floors and ceilings remain. The basement was originally partitioned into rooms for quarters for house servants. Exterior basement walls have removable bricks for ventilation. The kitchen is at the end of the right rear wing.

Surroundings The house is set on a six-acre lot, which was part of the original plantation, and borders the Old State Road, the main nineteenth-century route from Charleston to Columbia. Several magnolia and crape myrtle trees remain as evidence of a seven-acre garden originally in front of the house before the War Between the States, and one of the original outbuildings (originally the plantation commissary) is still standing.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**3. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1820-1825

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

This house is an excellent example of the Upcountry farmhouse style in the lower part of the state. It combines several features of the Greek revival, particularly in the interior detail. Of four large plantation houses in the general area, Puritan Farm is the only one not destroyed by fire. The house was also the residence of Lawrence M. Keitt, a leader of the South Carolina secessionist movement.

Political Both the house and the life of Lawrence M. Keitt reflect the influence of the antebellum cotton economy in the lower Savannah area of the state. The economic prosperity of this region during the early decades of the nineteenth century brought forth a rush of plantation house building, and the dependency of this prosperity upon the cotton market encouraged an aggressive political philosophy based upon states' rights and nullification. Many of the state's most dedicated secessionists (J. H. Hammond, Barnwell Rhett, and Lawrence M. Keitt) were from this lower Savannah area.

An enthusiastic public speaker, Keitt actively promoted secession and, following his philosophy by participation in military ventures, fought in the War Between the States. In 1852 he was elected to the United States Congress; he resigned his seat in 1856 in a heated controversy over his refusal to cooperate in a House investigation of Preston Brooks' caning of Charles Sumner in the Senate chambers. That same year he was elected to fill his own vacant seat, but again resigned in 1860 to sign the Ordinance of Secession in South Carolina. While a member of the Confederate Provisional Congress, Keitt co-authored the Confederate Constitution. From 1861 to 1864, he served as a colonel in the South Carolina Volunteers in the defense of Charleston harbor and in the Virginia campaigns. He died as a result of wounds received at the Battle of Cold Harbor (Virginia) in 1864, after having received a field promotion to brigadier general.

Architecture Similar to many houses constructed by the enterprising cotton planters during the first decades of the nineteenth century, the Keitt-Whaley-Pearlstine House was built to incorporate many contemporary architectural features with small regard for standardized design. The porches, gables, and gable-end chimneys are practical features used in Upcountry farmhouses, but here they are arranged with elegance and symmetry not so often found.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

The Calhoun Times, St. Matthews, South Carolina, December 18, 1952.

Guide to Lawrence M. Keitt Papers. Manuscript Collection, South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina.

Jones, Lewis P. South Carolina: A Synoptic History for Laymen. Columbia: Sandlapper Press, 1971.

Davidson, Chalmers G. The Last Foray: The South Carolina Planters of 1860. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1971.

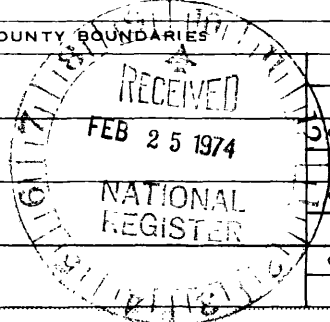
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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 TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		33° 39' 48"	80° 48' 56"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **6 acres**

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: **Jeanne W. Ulmer- Director, Calhoun Museum**

ORGANIZATION: **South Carolina Department of Archives and History** DATE: **January 9, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER: **1430 Senate Street (P. O. Box 11669, Capitol Station)**

CITY OR TOWN: **Columbia** STATE: **South Carolina** CODE: **045**

**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. Lee  
 Title: Historic Preservation Officer, South Carolina Department of Archives and History  
 Date: Jan. 28, 1974

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

Al R. Winters  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 7/25/74

ATTEST:  
Ronald M. Greenberg  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 7/22/74

SEE INSTRUCTIONS