

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Belle Isle Rice Mill Chimney, Cat Island
other names/site number Black Out Plantation

2. Location

street & number Cat Island not for publication
city, town Georgetown vicinity
state South Carolina code 045 county Georgetown code 043 zip code

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		<u>0</u> objects
			<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Georgetown County Rice Culture, c. 1750-c. 1910
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.
Mary Watson Edmonds 8/11/88
Signature of certifying official Date
for George L. Vogt, State Historic Preservation Officer, S.C. Dept. of Archives & History
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
 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.
 other, (explain:)

Wray Schley 10/3/88

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture/Subsistence; Processing

Agriculture/Subsistence; Agricultural
field

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Vacant/Not in use

Vacant/Not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

N/A

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls

roof

other Brick

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

This chimney conforms to the general description under property type "Rice Processing Facilities" and property subtype "Rice Mills and Chimneys."

The agricultural features, including ricefields, canals, dikes, and trunks, conform to the general description under the property type "Agricultural Features Associated With Rice Cultivation." The features at Belle Isle are particularly intact, the ricefields, canals, dikes, and trunks having been maintained in the same locations since the antebellum period.

It is one of two extant rice mill chimneys in Georgetown County (the Laurel Hill rice mill chimney, already listed in the National Register as part of the Brookgreen Gardens nomination, is the other) which retain enough bricks at the top to illustrate their original corbeling. The chimney at Belle Isle is 33'9" high, an average height for this property type. It is 5'11" square at the base, gradually tapering to 3'4" square below the necking and corbeling at the top. Two arched openings for the firebox, 2' high and 2' wide, are located opposite each other at the north and south sides of the base. A flared footing of four brick courses form the visible base at ground level (See Figure 1). A wooden stairway, leading to a wooden deck about seven feet high which overlooks the marsh, is a recent addition. The stairway and deck are constructed around the chimney and do not adversely affect its integrity.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Agriculture

c. 1830 - c. 1860

Industry

Engineering

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

This rice mill chimney is significant as one of seven known extant rice mill chimneys in Georgetown County; the agricultural features are significant as exceptionally intact examples of historic ricefields; both are significant for their association with Belle Isle, which was one of several productive rice plantations on Cat Island. This Belle Isle should not be confused with the much better-known Belle Isle on Winyah Bay, on the mainland. That plantation was owned by General Peter Horry, who had served as an officer with Francis Marion in the American Revolution. The Belle Isle on Cat Island was one of the two plantations owned by Richard Henry Lowndes. Lowndes also planted rice at Cat Island plantation, which adjoined Belle Isle. In 1850 these two plantations produced 360,000 pounds of rice with 147 slaves; by 1860 Belle Isle and Cat Island had increased their output to 800,000 pounds of rice with 105 slaves. After Lowndes' death in 1905, Belle Isle passed to his son Richard I. Lowndes, who was the first president of the Georgetown Rice Milling Company. Belle Isle was renamed Black Out in the mid-twentieth century and is now known by that name. It is one of several Georgetown County rice plantations which are now in use as hunting clubs and wildlife preserves.(1)

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation

See continuation sheet

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
- Other

Specify repository:

S.C. Department of Archives & History
Columbia, SC

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 76 Acres

UTM References

A

1	7	6	6	2	8	0	0	3	6	7	4	8	6	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

C

1	7	6	6	1	8	4	0	3	6	7	4	5	0	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B

1	7	6	6	2	5	0	0	3	6	7	4	1	6	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

D

1	7	6	6	2	2	2	0	3	6	7	5	1	6	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

D 17/662500/3675140

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nomination is shown as the black line on the accompanying Georgetown County Tax Map, District 1, Map 1014, Parcel 3, drawn at a scale of 1"=1000'.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the rice mill chimney and exceptionally intact agricultural features including ricefields, dikes, and trunks; these agricultural features illustrate the rice culture of Georgetown County.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title J. Tracy Power, National Register Historian; Sherry Piland, Architectural Historian
organization S.C. Department of Archives and History date 15 September 1987
street & number PO Box 11669 telephone (803) 734-8608
city or town Columbia state South Carolina zip code 29211

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National Park Service

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NOTES

(1) Alberta Morel Lachicotte, Georgetown Rice Plantations (Columbia: The State Printing Company, 1955; Fifth Edition, 1970), pp. 143-47, 161-63, 164; George C. Rogers, Jr., The History of Georgetown County, South Carolina (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1970), p. 292; Agricultural Schedules, Seventh Census of the United States (1850), Georgetown County; Agricultural Schedules, Eighth Census of the United States (1860), Georgetown County; Georgetown Rice Milling Company, Georgetown, S.C. 1880. (Charleston: Lucas and Richardson, Printers, 1880), pp. 2-3; Interview with Robert Joyner, Tom Yawkey Wildlife Center, South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Department, Cat Island, South Carolina, 24 August 1987.

8/22/88

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

PHOTOGRAPH

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Belle Isle Rice Mill Chimney, Cat Island
(Georgetown County Rice Culture, c. 1750 - c. 1910 Multiple Property Submission)
Georgetown County, South Carolina

Photographer: Staff, South Carolina Department of Archives and History

Date: August 1987

Location of negative: South Carolina Department of Archives and History

North (land) facade on left; west facade on right. View looking south toward marsh.

Figure 1

