

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	South Carolina
COUNTY:	Richland
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
71.5.45.0024	5/6/71

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
City of Columbia Historic District I

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Arsenal Hill

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: Bounded on south by 2½ blocks of Laurel Street; west by a line half way between Gadsden Street and Wayne Street for 1½ blocks, then (cont'd)

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia

STATE: South Carolina      CODE: 29201      COUNTY: Richland      CODE: 079

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME: Public and Private

STREET AND NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia      STATE: South Carolina      CODE: 45

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Richland County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER: 1508 Washington Street

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia      STATE: South Carolina      CODE: 45

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY: South Carolina Surevy of Historic Places (Preliminary)

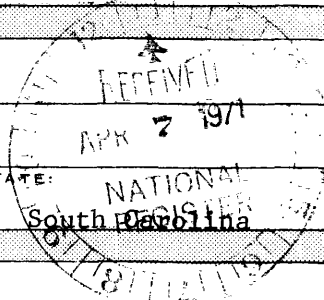
DATE OF SURVEY: 1969       Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: South Carolina Survey of Historic Places

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

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia      STATE: South Carolina      CODE: 45

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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**7. DESCRIPTION**

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

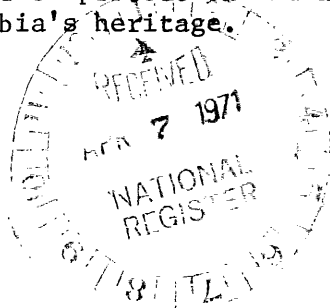
The orderly method in which Columbia was planned resulted in an organized and physically proportioned city. The two square mile area was divided each way into twenty streets making ten blocks to the mile with a total of forty blocks, all laid out slightly northwest and southeast.

Through the 1880s there was active farming within the city limits in areas not fully developed for residential use. The commercial area was primarily centered from the State House for several adjacent blocks northward. The historic district was a residential area, except where small business concerns were connected to the owners' homes.

As in all diversified cities, the houses built in Columbia suited the tastes and needs of the occupants. Architectural styles varied from the stately Greek Revival mansions, Georgian, Early Republic, "Bankers Houses," and town houses to the "Columbia Cottage". The latter is of particular interest for it is an adaptation of the standard Neo-Classic cottages for local conditions. Here it has also been mixed with the Bahaman cottage whose first floor was raised above ground level. The wood body of the "Columbia Cottage", according to Dr. Harold N. Cooledge, professor of Architectural History at Clemson University, may indicate the use of "pattern books" which was very wide spread throughout the nineteenth century.

These surviving architectural and historical monuments of Columbia are repeatedly threatened. The Historic Preservation Department of Columbia City Planning has drawn up a color diagram according to the official list of the Historical and Cultural Buildings Commission of Columbia which illustrates the urgency of the city's preservation problem. (See attached sheet). Note the destruction of not less than eight houses since 1967 in only the historic district. This visually clarifies the speed with which physical deterioration and aggressive businesses are shortsightedly divesting Columbia of irreplaceable evidences of her past.

In late 1970 the remaining tangible old Columbia was being divided and destroyed by encroaching concerns who gave little thought to restoration or suitable replacement. With the help of the National Register of Historic Places an added measure of protection and national recognition could assist in saving Columbia's heritage.



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) 1800 to present

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation       |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                             |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |  |   |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Columbia was created for its role as capital of South Carolina by an act of the state legislature ratified March 22, 1786. The site was chosen because of its approximate central geographical location and use as a connecting point for upper and lower South Carolina. Provisions of the bill provided a two square mile area to be purchased from Thomas and James Taylor.

Wide streets were planned by John Gabriel Guignard, State Surveyor, and blocks specified for public buildings with other lots sold for private use with the stipulation that a suitable frame or brick structure be erected within two years on each lot.

Public offices and records were moved from Charleston to the new State House in 1789 and Columbia became the official seat of government with the convening of General Assembly January 4, 1790.

Columbia Historic District I was established as a result of Columbia's development into a center of government and trade between upper and lower parts of the state. Also known as Arsenal Hill, it was a complex of fine mansions and attractive homes built before the Civil War. It was a center of ante-bellum aristocracy, the era of Radical Reconstruction, restoration of the "Redeemers" and re-evolved as a center of state participation in national affairs.

Recognized as one of the two remaining historic residential areas of Columbia, it was zoned as such by the City of Columbia.

Politically and militarily significant as a center of state and nationally related affairs with the Governor's Mansion as the focal point. Architecturally significant for the variety of architectural styles indicative or unique to the area which are rapidly vanishing. Landscape architecture is noteworthy with the Caldwell-Hampton-Boylston House gardens being the most significant example of garden planning from the time the house was built c.1820-1830, through development formally in the 1890s to the present.

Accounts of Sherman's burning of Columbia vary, but it is known that Main Street was almost totally razed by fire as well as many homes in the vicinity. With a great number of the more elaborate homes of the

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Fant, Christie Zimmerman. The State House of South Carolina. Columbia, South Carolina: R.L. Bryan Company, 1970.  
 Graydon, Nell S. Tales of Columbia. Columbia, South Carolina: R.L. Bryan Company, 1964.  
 Green, Edwin L. A History of Richland County. Columbia, South Carolina: R.L. Bryan Company, 1932.  
 Henning, Helen Kohn. Columbia, Capitol City of South Carolina 1786-1936. Columbia, South Carolina: R.L. Bryan Company, 1936.

**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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	34. 00. 43.	81. 02. 45.		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	34. 00. 43.	81. 02. 26.		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	34. 00. 24.	81. 02. 26.		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	34. 00. 24.	81. 02. 45.		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 25 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Dollie McGrath, Historic Resources Coordinator I  
 ORGANIZATION: South Carolina Department of Archives and History DATE: March 26, 1971  
 STREET AND NUMBER:  
1430 Senate Street, P.O. Box 11,188 Capitol Station  
 CITY OR TOWN: Columbia STATE: South Carolina CODE: 45

**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: Director, South Carolina Department Archives & History  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.  
Ernest A. Connolly  
 Chief, Office of ~~Technology~~ and Historic Preservation  
 MAY 6 1971  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ATTEST:  
William Murtagh  
 Keeper of The National Register  
 APR 16 1971  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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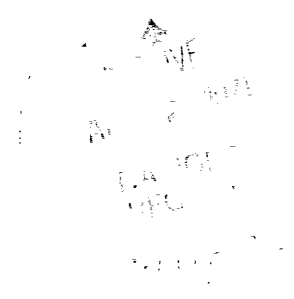
STATE	
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#2 Location

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

midway between Gadsden Street and Lincoln Street; north by a line  
2/3 of way between Elmwood and Calhoun; east midway between Assembly  
and Park for 1½ blocks, then down Park Street to southern boundary.



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8. Statement of Significance *(Continuation Sheet)*

*(Number all entries)*

1830s to 1850s destroyed and Reconstruction surpressing the latent potential for rebuilding, elegant homes were not built again until the 1880s.

Columbia Historic District I, Arsenal Hill, has retained stately tree-lined streets and a number of its original homes. With the scope of business demands widening every year, and neglect and indifference slowly deteriorating Columbia's material heritage, an extra measure of protection is needed.

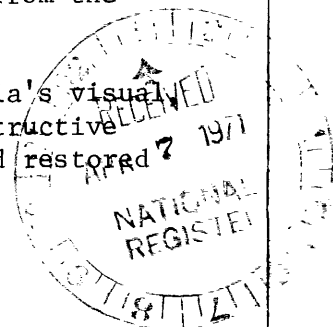
1. GOVERNOR'S MANSION, 800 Richland Street: Built in 1855 as officers' barracks for Arsenal Academy, it was converted into a temporary house for governor in 1868 and first used by Reconstruction Governor Robert K. Scott. It was renovated in 1879 and has been continuously utilized as governor's residence.

2. THE LACE HOUSE (ROBERTSON HOUSE), 803 Richland Street: Used as a residence for political and community leaders through the early 1900s. Excellent example of adaptive use through restoration; to be used as part of the Governor's Mansion Complex. Association with the Governor's Mansion supports its historic integrity while style unique to the area reinforces its architectural value.

3. CALDWELL-HAMPTON-BOYLSTON HOUSE, 829 Richland Street: As one of Columbia's finest examples of Greek Revival Architecture, it served as governor's mansion for Daniel H. Chamberlain 1874-1876. Built by John Caldwell, Columbia banker, it was later the home of the Hampton family, important in South Carolina affairs. Bought in 1894 by the Bolystons who developed noteworthy formal gardens. October 27, 1965, converted to Richland County Historic Preservation Commission and now serves as the beautifully restored Tri-centennial Headquarters.

4. PALMETTO IRON WORKS AND ARMORY, 1802 Lincoln Street: Built by Glaze and Boatwright c.1850 for converting flintlocks of the militia to percussion locks. Important industrially and militarily for the manufacture of arms and munitions 1861-1865 for Confederate troops. In 1942 the City of Columbia constructed a community center from the deteriorated shell of Palmetto Armory.

In order to preserve a meaningful cross-section of Columbia's visual material history and avert the anonymity of sometimes destructive progressive urbanity, these areas should be maintained and restored as examples of past accomplishments and life styles.



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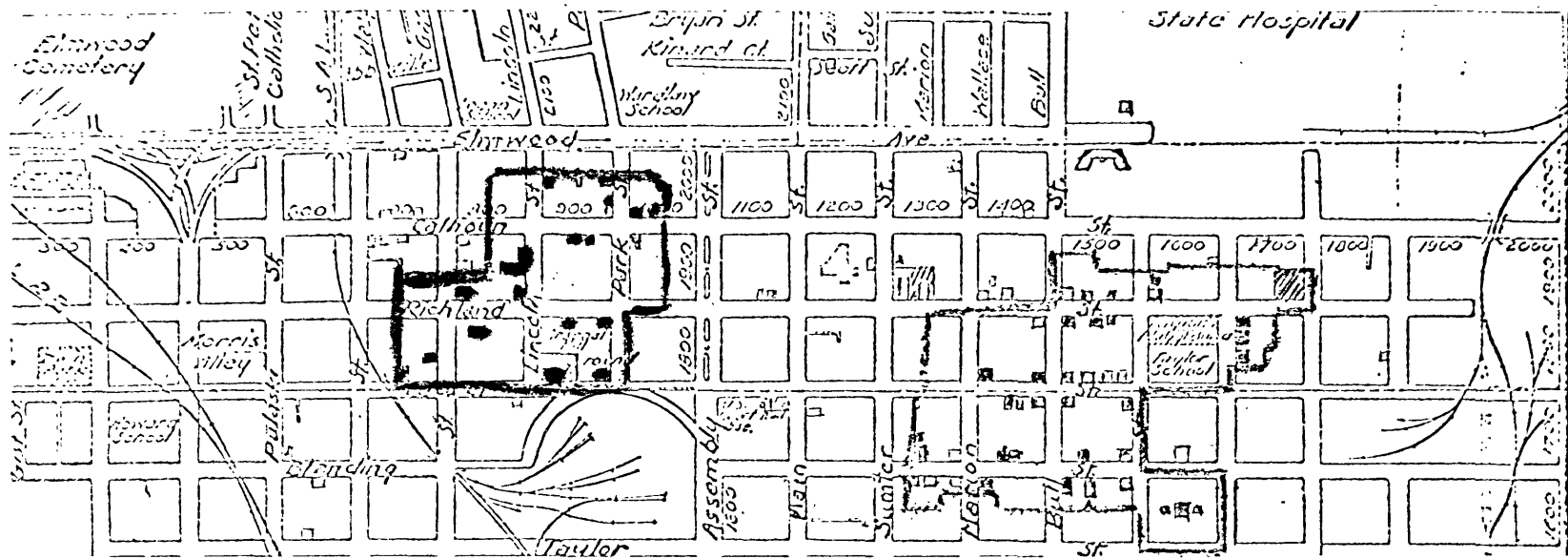
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9. Major Bibliographical <sup>(Continuation Sheet)</sup> References

(Number all entries)

- Julien, Carl, and Milling, Chapman J. Beneath So Kind A Sky. Columbia, South Carolina: R.L. Bryan Company, 1958.
- Leiding, Harriet Kershaw. Historic Houses of South Carolina. Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincot Company, 1921.
- Simmons, Jane Kealhofer. A Guide to Columbia. Columbia, South Carolina: R.L. Bryan Company, 1945.
- Wallace, David Duncan. South Carolina, A Short History. Durham, North Carolina: University of North Carolina Press, 1951.
- Williams, J.F. Old and New Columbia. Columbia, South Carolina: Epworth Orphanage Press, 1929.
- WPA. South Carolina: A Guide To The Palmetto State. New York: Oxford University Press, 1941.





Historical and Cultural Buildings Commission, City of Columbia  
 Buildings shown here are the ones remaining as of February 1, 1971

- Red - Group I (Highest Priority)
- Green - Group II
- Blue - Group III
- Brown - Demolished since 1967