

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: Union	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 20 1974

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Cedar Bluff

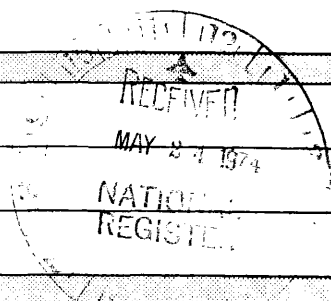
AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Byrd Murphy House

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Highway 49

CITY OR TOWN:  
8 miles from Union

STATE: South Carolina      CODE: 045      COUNTY: Union      CODE: 087



**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
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 type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Vacant</u>

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Joseph Russell Smith

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1415 Lexington Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Charlotte      STATE: North Carolina      CODE:

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

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

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Main Street

CITY OR TOWN: Union      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 and History

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1430 Senate Street

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:  
COUNTY:  
ENTRY NUMBER  
DATE

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**7. DESCRIPTION**

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

This plain upcountry farmhouse was constructed ca. 1790 by Byrd Murphy.

Exterior: The small, two-storied clapboard structure has a one-story shed porch supported by square plank columns with intercolumnar balustrade. There are two front doors with one 9/6 window to either side. Shouldered brick gable-end chimneys are supported on fieldstone foundations and service fireplaces in three of the original four rooms.

The house is constructed of hewn mortise-and-tenon timbers. It originally sat on fieldstone pillars and rough course foundation, which has since been replaced by cement block.

A wing containing a kitchen with fireplace, bedroom, and bathroom was added to the rear of the house after 1900 and is partially contained within the earlier shed roof addition.

Interior: The original house had two rooms downstairs and two above. There was no central hall and the stairway opened directly into the larger room on each floor. The stairs, formerly enclosed, were reoriented for easier passage ca. 1870. The walls are vertically paneled in beaded wide boards; the ceiling joists were exposed originally but have since been covered with narrow grooved paneling. The larger upstairs bedroom has been partitioned to create a central hallway. The mantels in the living room and bedroom are original.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" 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) **ca. 1790**

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 checked="" 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

Cedar Bluff was constructed by Byrd Murphy, justice of the peace, planter, and millowner.

Architecture: The clapboard house, ca. 1790, is an early example of an Upcountry farmhouse, probably of Pennsylvania derivation. Its formerly-enclosed staircase and the lack of a central hall indicate a Germanic influence that came to the South Carolina Piedmont from Pennsylvania via Virginia and North Carolina.

Commerce: Mills Atlas lists Murphy's Grist Mill and Saw Mill on the Tyger River. Located just below Cedar Bluff, these mills were operated until destroyed by a flood in 1850.

Military: Young S. Bobo, Murphy's nephew, purchased the property in 1867, after having served as a lieutenant in the Confederate Army. His descendents now own the house.

Political: Byrd Murphy, builder of Cedar Bluff, constructed the house on land granted to his father in 1773. Murphy was a justice of the peace and justice of the quorum. Young S. Bobo was a Commissioner for Union County.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Mills, Robert. Mills Atlas. Union District. 1938 Edition.

Index to Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers. National Archives, Microcopy No. 253.

**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
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	34°	39'	47"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	81°	44'	34"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: ca. 4 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: William H. Brabham Historic Resources Coordinator I

ORGANIZATION: Historic Preservation Division DATE: April 29, 1974

S. C. Department of Archives and History

STREET AND NUMBER: 1430 Senate Street

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

**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. Lee  
Charles E. Lee

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date May 20, 1974

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

Arrest A. Community  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
Associate

Date JUN 20 1974

ATTEST:  
Charles Deffenbaugh  
Acting Keeper of The National Register

Date 6/17/74

SEE INSTRUCTIONS