

AUG 20 1989

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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 Cool Springs  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number 726 Kershaw Highway  not for publication  
city, town Camden  vicinity  
state South Carolina code SC county Kershaw code 055 zip code 29020

### 3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>3</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	_____ objects
		<u>8</u>	<u>2</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A  
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 W. Edmonds 8/24/89  
Signature of certifying official Date  
Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
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. Alonzo Byen 9/28/89  
 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:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling  
Domestic/Secondary Structures

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling  
Domestic/Secondary Structures

**7. Description**Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick  
 walls Weatherboard  
 roof Asphalt Shingle  
 other Wood

**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

Cool Springs is a two-story Greek Revival house elevated on a raised brick basement. The original section of Cool Springs is a rectangular block with a center hall, double-pile floor plan. It has a two-tiered portico projecting from the west, or front elevation. A veranda, with a total of 64 wooden Archaic Greek Doric columns, wraps around the north, west, and south elevations. The west facade is stuccoed; the rest of the house is weatherboarded. A straight staircase provides access to the front entrance. The three-ranked facade has a centered six-panel wooden door flanked by paired 9/9 windows. The Palladian entrance on the second story, an alteration (c. 1935), was once identical to the main entrance directly below it. On the east (rear) elevation is a tiered porch and balcony, with eight Doric columns and a second story Palladian door. Cool Springs has an asphalt shingled roof with pedimented gables. The original 1832 house had interior chimneys. According to tradition, it was architect Reuben Hamilton who, in c. 1950, moved the chimneys to the outside and erected the tiered portico and veranda. Half of the veranda columns were removed near the turn of the twentieth century.

The interior first floor has sixteen-foot ceilings, paneled wainscoting, plaster cornice molding, and a curving stair to the rear of the center hall. All of the doors and windows have Egyptian-influenced moldings with battered surrounds and cassettes. Pine pocket doors open into the northeast and northwest rooms; an additional set of pocket doors connect the south rooms. The south parlors have Egyptian-influenced wooden mantels with battered piers and overhanging lintels. Ceiling medallions adorn the center hall and each of the first floor rooms; the medallions in the south parlors are original, and feature lotus and acanthus leaf motifs. The two north parlors have been altered to form one large room. In this room are two fireplaces, each of marble, identical in design to those in the south parlors.

**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

Architecture

c. 1832 - 1935

c. 1850

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Hamilton, Reuben

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

Cool Springs is significant under criterion C, as an excellent example of the Greek Revival style. The original house was constructed c. 1832 by John Boykin, a planter and lawyer. The house, originally a summer residence, was part of a summer pineland village such as those used by antebellum South Carolina planters as retreats from their plantations during the sickly summer season. The original house was remodelled, probably by architect Reuben Hamilton, in the 1850s during the ownership of the Cureton family. His additions to the original house transformed it into a showcase of the Greek Revival style. This updating the older house made it one of the most notable mansions in the area. The c. 1850 changes to the house included the tiered portico and the addition of verandas, supported by 64 Doric columns. The interior was redesigned at that time, as well; alterations included moving the chimneys to the exterior walls, and a set of two-story rectangular additions to the east facade. By 1935, a two-story kitchen addition was attached to the northeast corner of the house. Cool Springs remains one of the finest examples of Greek Revival architecture in the midlands of South Carolina.

Additional Information

Cool Springs was constructed c. 1832 as a summer residence by John Boykin of Camden. It was originally part of a small summer settlement, no longer extant, which was located four miles north of the Camden court house. John Boykin owned the Cool

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

South Caroliniana Library, South Carolina Historical Society

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property 16.0

UTM References

A 17 53160210 379481010  
 Zone Easting Northing

C 17 531571610 379431610

B 17 53160210 379441010  
 Zone Easting Northing

D 17 531571610 379481010

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See Tax Map: Kershaw County Sheet 242, parcels 104 and 105, drawn at a scale of 1" = 400'; the boundary of the nomination is shown as the black line.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the house and historic outbuildings and natural features, and their immediate settings.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Katherine H. Richardson, President; Robert B. Bennett, Jr., Vice-Pres.  
 organization Heritage Preservation Associates, Inc. date 6-16-89  
 street & number P.O. Box 5502 telephone 256-0573  
 city or town Columbia state SC zip code 29250

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**Section number   7   Page   2  

The second story has four bedrooms off the center hall; two on each side. The west end of the hall is partially enclosed to provide space for the c. 1935 bathrooms in the west bedrooms. A glazed entrance with a fanlight opens onto the west veranda. The hall also features a balustrade around the stairwell and an elongated arch which frames the glazed Palladian entrance to the rear balcony.

The two-story rectangular addition on the southeast corner appears to have been erected along with the tiered veranda and portico. On the northeast corner is a c. 1935 two-story, frame kitchen addition with a gabled roof.

Outbuildings and Grounds

There is a vernacular horse barn in the northeast corner of the property. A second vernacular barn, located just to the north of the house, serves as a garage. A plywood pump house is located near the southeast corner of the property. Located near the pump house is an old, brick-lined spring basin. Immediately west of the pump house and brick basin is a small pond which is embanked on one side, with a spillway toward its center. An old stone spring site is located just off the spillway. Located just south of the house are four brick pads which originally served as the foundation to a water tower. The tower supplied water to the second story bathrooms as early as 1920. Immediately southeast of the water tower foundation is a concrete piscatory which was used to store live fish. A set of four granite gateposts comprise the original entrance to the property.

There are several sites at Cool Springs which show archaeological potential. A round depression is located several feet east of the piscatory. Another round depression is located in the hedgerow near the dog pen. A large square depression in the middle of the horse pasture may mark the location of a twentieth century cottage. The old kitchen site is in the present garden where numerous bricks have been unearthed. Another depression is in a thicket on the northern border of the property. The hedges which line many of the drives date from the early twentieth century. There are numerous trees and plantings which indicate a general landscaped plan.

Individual resources are identified as contributing or noncontributing on the sketch map. Due to their conjectural nature, several sites indicated on the sketch map have not been classified.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

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Springs tract from 1832 to 1844.<sup>1</sup> The house is representative of the trend toward living in summer towns and residences prevalent among affluent nineteenth century South Carolinians.

Cool Springs was inhabited seasonally during its early years and later became a permanent home. James B. Cureton and his family resided there from 1850 to 1895, one of the longest ownerships of Cool Springs. Numerous undocumented sources state that the Curetons were responsible for interior renovations and construction of the veranda, portico, and rear wings of the house. They apparently hired architect Reuben Hamilton to transform the house into a showcase of Greek Revival architecture. According to a county history published in 1926, "They [the Curetons] remodeled and extended to the present proportions 'Cool Spring,' one of the most beautiful and noted homes in the county, where they lived in great affluence up to the time of the [Civil] War."<sup>2</sup> The house survived the Civil War without damage. The Cureton's improvements to the house caused one Union soldier to record, "After leaving the Camden road we passed through a level sandy fine country. Saw the finest Southern residence today I have ever seen - 'Cool Springs' residence."<sup>3</sup>

In the early twentieth century, Camden, like many other southern towns, became a winter retreat for northern tourists, as promoted by the Southern Railroad Company and private citizens of Camden. As early as 1908, the Southern Railway promoted Camden as a winter resort, praising its old gardens and houses, and invigorating air filled with the "balsamic odors emanating from these superb Pines." By the first decade of the twentieth century, there were at least three tourist homes in the town. During this period, Cool Springs, located approximately 300 feet from the railroad, became a tourist home. Susan Snell, who purchased the house in 1913, turned Cool Springs into Kirkland Villa. She advertised in her brochure, "an Old Colonial Southern

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<sup>1</sup>Deed Bk. Q, pp. 217-8, Kershaw County Conveyances, S. C. Dept. of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

<sup>2</sup>Thomas J. Kirkland and Robert M. Kennedy, Historic Camden, vol. 2, (Columbia: The State Co., 1926), p. 373; Charlotte Boykin Salmond Brunson, Kershaw County Cousins, (Columbia: The R. L. Bryan Co., 1978), p. 166.

<sup>3</sup>Lt. Platter Civil War Diary, 1864-5, C.C. Platter Collection, South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 3

Home containing every comfort, with steam heat, open fireplaces in every room ... the drinking water is of the purest, being furnished from the famous health-giving 'Cool Springs,' clear as crystal ... The grounds are beautifully laid out with shrubs and hedges ... a delightful place to spend the winter, with the charm of birds and life-giving atmosphere ... our own dairy furnishes milk and butter, with chickens, eggs, and vegetables from our own farm."<sup>4</sup> "Kirkland Villa" was ideally located close to the railroad tracks; there was a stop and train shed in front of the house prior to 1912. Susan Snell kept her "Kirkland Villa" inn for two years, selling it in 1915.<sup>5</sup>

By the 1920s, the town was a thriving center for equestrians, golfers, and those seeking to escape northern winters. Cool Springs then became the property of northerners seeking a winter refuge in Camden. Prior to her purchase of Cool Springs in 1931, Mrs. Helen Van Zandt Knight was an "all-season resident" of the Hobkirk Inn in Camden. She was described as an expert horsewoman who "will take an active part in the winter sporting life." Extensive repairs, rewiring, plumbing, and renovations were during her ownership.<sup>6</sup>

Over the next four decades, the mansion fell into various states of disrepair. From the mid 1970s to the late 1980s, Cool Springs has been rehabilitated to its historic grandeur.

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<sup>4</sup>Kirkland Villa Brochure, c. 1913-5, Private Collection of John W. Bonner, Jr., Camden, S.C.

<sup>5</sup>Deed Bk. AM, p. 313, Kershaw County Conveyances, S.C. Dept. of Archives and History; "Camden, South Carolina, 1908, A Winter Resort on the Southern Railway," Collections of the South Caroliniana Library, Kershaw County Photograph Files, Book Division; Camden Chamber of Commerce, "Beautiful Camden, South Carolina, A Description of its Tourist Hotels, Business Enterprises, Advantage of Location, Climate and Resources," ca. 1920, n.p., Collections of the South Caroliniana Library, Kershaw County Photograph Files, Book Division; "Kirkland Villa (Cool Springs) Camden, S.C.," Private Collection of John W. Bonner, Jr., Camden, S.C.

<sup>6</sup>Deed Bk. DJ, p. 209, Kershaw County Conveyances, Kershaw County Courthouse, Camden, S.C.; Letter of L.P. Tobin, September 22, 1931, Private Collection of John W. Bonner, Jr., Camden, S.C.; Bills of A. A. Shanks, Sanitary Plumbing and Heating, May 29, 1934, April 8, 1935, June 20, 1935, Ibid.; "Mrs. Knight Buys 'Cool Spring' Place," in The Camden Chronicle, March 27, 1931.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

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Bibliography

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Camden, S.C., Kershaw County Courthouse, Office of the Tax Assessor.

Camden, S.C., Kershaw County Courthouse, Probate Records.

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Columbia, S.C. South Carolina Dept. of Archives and History. County Records on Microfilm. Kershaw County Conveyances.

Columbia, S.C. South Carolina Dept. of Archives and History. County Records on Microfilm. Kershaw County Estate Papers.

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 2

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Maps:

Faden-DeBrahm. Map of South Carolina, 1780. South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

PHOTOGRAPHS

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page 1

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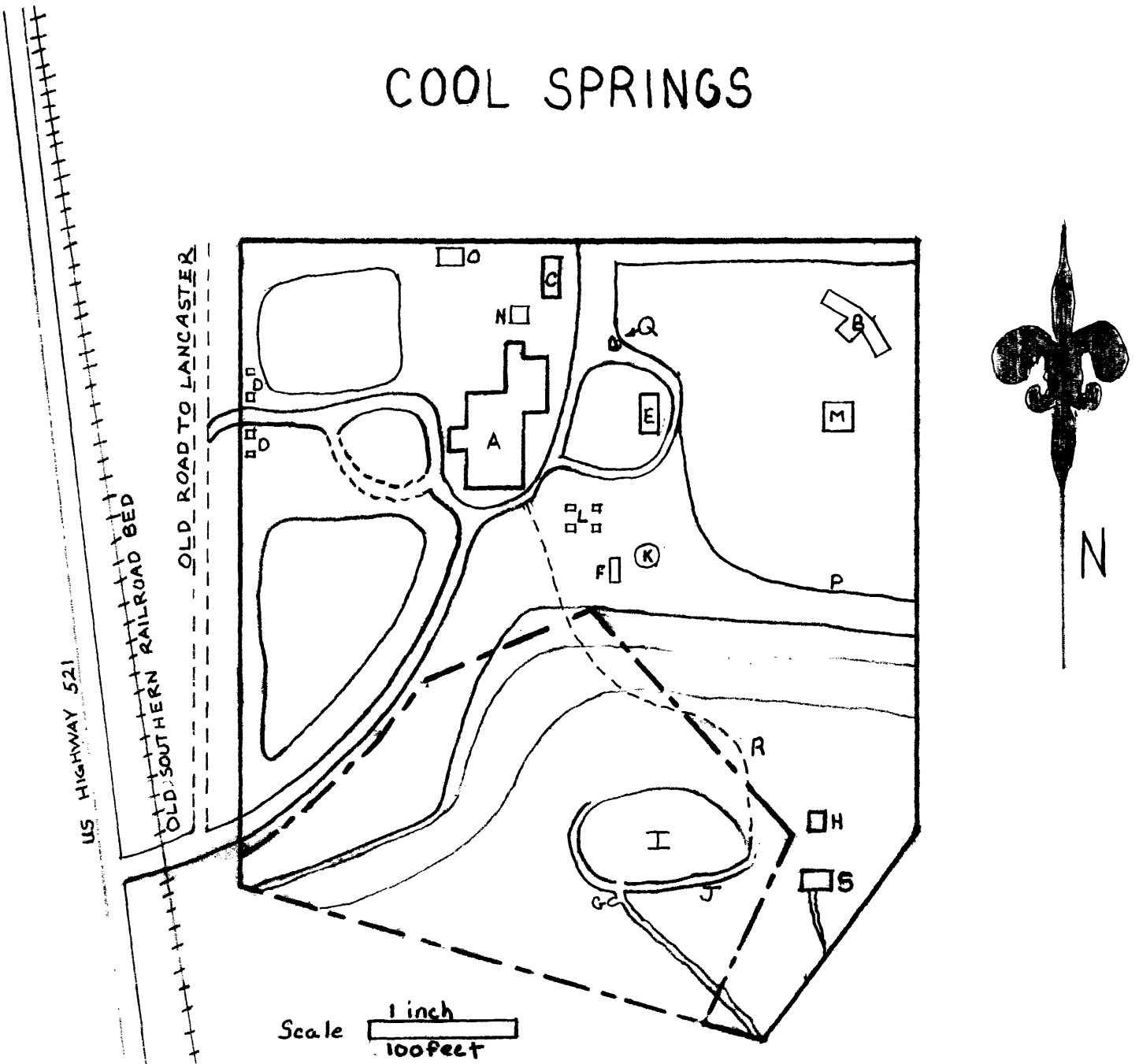
The following information is the same for each of the photographs:

Name of property: Cool Springs  
Location of property: Kershaw County, South Carolina  
Photographer: Katherine H. Richardson, Heritage Preservation  
Associates  
Location of negatives: South Carolina Department of Archives  
and History  
Date of photographs: January 1989

Additional information for each photograph follows:

1. Cool Springs  
Main House  
West facade, looking east
2. Cool Springs  
Main House  
Southwest oblique, looking northeast
3. Cool Springs  
Main House  
Northwest oblique, looking southeast
4. Cool Springs  
Main House  
First floor central hall
5. Cool Springs  
Barn  
West elevation, looking east
6. Cool Springs  
Small horse stable  
Southeast elevation, looking northwest
7. Cool Springs  
Rock-lined spring, looking southwest.
8. Cool Springs  
Old road to Camden, from Cool Springs gates, looking south
9. Cool Springs  
c. 1890 historic photograph, showing original front steps,  
looking northeast

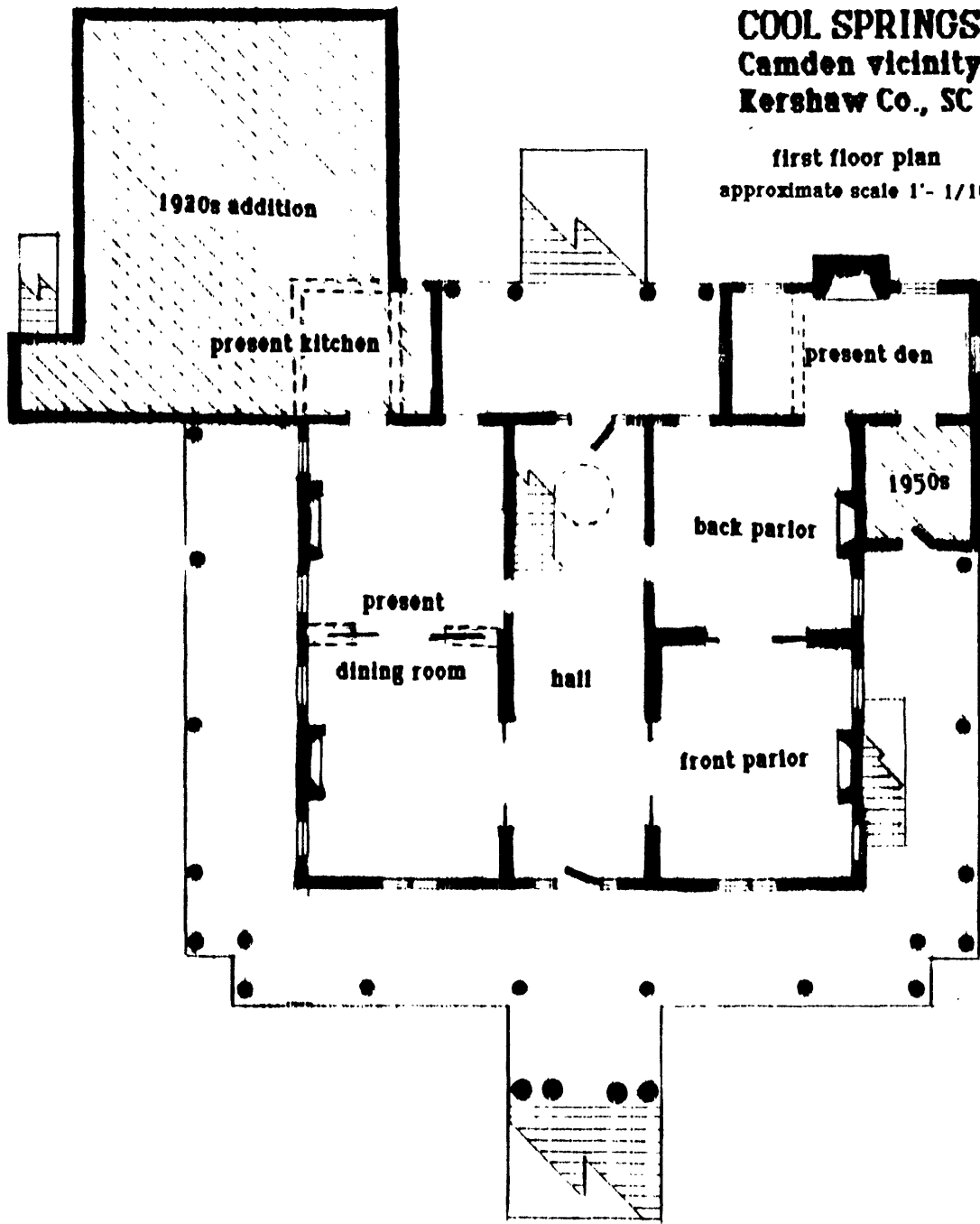
# COOL SPRINGS




- | * Contributing                  | + Non-Contributing         |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| * A Cool Springs Mansion (Bldg) | * J Dam (Struct)           |
| * B Big Horse Stable (Bldg)     | K Archaeological Potential |
| * C Small Horse Stable (Bldg)   | L Water Tower Footings     |
| * D Granite Gate Posts (Object) | M Archaeological Potential |
| + E Dog Pen (Struct)            | N Old Kitchen Site         |
| * F Concrete Piscatory (Struct) | O Archaeological Potential |
| * G Old Stone Spring (Struct)   | P Horse Pasture Fence      |
| + H Pump House (Struct)         | Q Archaeological Potential |
| I Pond                          | R Path to Springs          |
| — Cool Springs Property Line    | * S Brick Basin (Struct)   |
|                                 | Camden City Property       |

**COOL SPRINGS**  
Camden vicinity  
Kershaw Co., SC

first floor plan  
approximate scale 1" = 1/16"



present walls   
removed 1850s walls 