

PH0690708

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 3 1976

DATE ENTERED JUL 12 1976

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

\* Oak Grove

AND/OR COMMON

The Richardson Place

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Brunson

-- NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

# 1

STATE

South Carolina

CODE

045

COUNTY

Hampton

CODE

049

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

 DISTRICT BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

 PUBLIC PRIVATE BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

 IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

 OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

 YES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICTED NO

## PRESENT USE

 AGRICULTURE COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph J. Gallagher, II

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Oak Grove

CITY, TOWN

Brunson

 VICINITY OF

STATE

South Carolina

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Hampton County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Highway 278

CITY, TOWN

Hampton

STATE

South Carolina

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina

DATE

1973

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

South Carolina Department of Archives and History

CITY, TOWN

Columbia

STATE

South Carolina

## 7 DESCRIPTION

### CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

According to tradition Oak Grove was built in 1852. Located on the old Pocotaligo and Augusta Road, it has been considered a landmark in Hampton County for many years.

Of the Greek Revival style, Oak Grove is a two story clapboard structure resting upon a raised basement. Wooden steps lead to a veranda which extends the full two stories of the front facade. (The steps were rebuilt in 1973; the porch which had fallen down was rebuilt ca. 1935 and stabilized in the 1960s.)

The entranceway features a two-light transom, five-light sidelights, and flanking pilasters. Two shuttered windows are located on each side of the door, and the second story has five shuttered windows.

The side facades each have two windows per story and an exterior brick chimney. Attached to the rear is a one-story wing, with exterior chimneys at each end. These chimneys appear to be constructed of the original brick; the two chimneys located toward the front of the structure had deteriorated and were rebuilt in 1935. The windows of the one-story wings were added during the 1930s renovation.

The veranda at the rear was enclosed in 1935. Since the present owners are restoring the house to its original appearance, as nearly as can be determined from existing materials and family records, the veranda will be reopened and the steps replaced.

All the main floor windows, except those on the rear addition, are 9/9; those of the second story basement are 6/6. The gable roof is covered with asbestos shingles.

INTERIOR: The basement has four rooms, a central hall, and stairway. Here the ceiling joists are exposed. A brick arch separates the two rooms on the southwest side. The walls of the basement were originally brick but were covered with plaster in 1935.

This floor plan is repeated on the first floor. The central hall features heart pine flooring, paneling, and ceilings. The rooms have plastered walls, and the flooring has been replaced over the years. Ceilings are twelve feet high, and baseboards are twelve inches wide.

On the second floor all the woodwork, floors, walls and ceilings are of the original pine. There are three rooms, two bedrooms running the width of the structure and a small room (over the front door) which was converted into a bath in 1935. Ceilings are ten feet high on this floor.

SURROUNDINGS: Oak Grove is situated on a knoll facing the old Pocotaligo Road. The outbuildings, including slave cabins, were torn down in 1935; however, the location of these structures is known and is included within the nominated acreage. The original oaks (for which the plantation was named) and magnolias were cut for lumber in 1957.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES \_\_\_\_\_ BUILDER/ARCHITECT *James Cameron Richardson*

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

It is not known exactly when Oak Grove was constructed, but descendants of the original builder, James Cameron Richardson (1802-1871), have long maintained that it was built in 1852. It remained in the Richardson family until 1932 at which time the house (which had been vacant for a number of years) underwent renovation by its new owners. Today, the present owners, who acquired the plantation in 1972, are restoring the structure and attempting to establish its original appearance as closely as possible. One of the few antebellum structures standing in Hampton County, it has been considered a local landmark for many years.

The agricultural census for Prince William's Parish, Beaufort District in 1850 listed James C. Richardson as the owner of 1,375 acres of which 450 acres were improved. The cash value of his farm at this time was \$4,300. Ten years later, the agricultural census (which was taken near the Whippy Swamp at the Duck Branch Post Office) showed several changes in Richardson's plantation. This census showed Richardson's property had increased to 1,850 acres of which 600 were improved. The cash value had increased to \$36,000. It is believed that the construction of the house played a significant role in this increase. The regular census for that same year (1860) further establishes Richardson's financial status, his real estate again listed at \$36,000, and his personal estate at \$41,000. At this time, a Thomas Colden was also residing at Oak Grove, apparently serving as schoolmaster for the six Richardson children.

Several interesting traditions are connected with this plantation. It is believed that Oak Grove at one time served as a stagecoach stop for persons travelling to Augusta or to Orangeburg. According to an account written in 1932 by a Richardson family member, numerous guests were received at Oak Grove, with meals being prepared by "Maum Rose" the cook.

It is also believed that General William Sherman paid a visit to Oak Grove during the War Between the States. Supportive of this tradition are Sherman's Memoirs which record the night of February 2, 1865 being spent at the Duck Branch Post Office. He also records that the distance from Pocotaligo to his stop at Duck Branch was 31 miles. (The distance from Pocotaligo to Oak Grove measures 31 miles.)

Architecture: Oak Grove reflects the Greek Revival style of architecture which was prevalent during the mid-19th Century. The basic design of the structure remains, although the front porch is not original. (The rear porch has also been enclosed, but the present owners are reopening this area.)

The interior has features indicative of a simple, yet well-designed and well-constructed house. The mantels are simple, the paneling is hand-hewn pine, and the window moldings are essentially plain. The open staircase is unadorned, having square balusters.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Anderson, Martha Bee. "Brunson Home used as Sherman's Headquarters." The Hampton County Guardian. May 15, 1974.

Anderson, Martha Bee. "'Red Carolinians' To Today: Hampton County." The Hampton County Guardian. June 25, 1975.

(continued)

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 20.5 acres

UTM REFERENCES

	Lat.	Longitude
NW:	32° 54' 57"	81° 13' 09"
NE:	32° 54' 57"	81° 12' 44"
SE:	32° 54' 37"	81° 12' 44"
SW:	32° 54' 37"	81° 13' 09"

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Three miles southwest of the town of Brunson, in the county of Hampton, State of South Carolina, containing twenty and five-tenths (20.5) acres, more or less, bounded as follows: on the northwest by a surface treated South Carolina highway leading from Brunson to Gifford; on the north by a swamp; and east by lands of Hugh T. Lightsey; and on the southwest by a road known as the Old Pocotaligo Public Road.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

(Cindy Cole, Lowcountry Regional Planning Office,  
Linda Gallagher)

Katharine N. McNulty

ORGANIZATION

South Carolina Department of Archives and History

DATE

April 2, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 11,669 Capitol Station

TELEPHONE

(803) 758-5816

CITY OR TOWN

Columbia

STATE

South Carolina

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

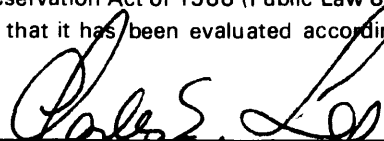
NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE

Charles E. Lee  
State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

4-19-76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Acting

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

7/12/76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

6-24-76

RBR for WJM 7/8/76

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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RECEIVED

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JUL 18 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

9

PAGE one

Hampton County Tricentennial Committee. Both Sides of the Swamp. Columbia, S.C.:  
R. L. Bryan, 1970.

Lawton, Alexandria Easterling and Wilson, Minnie Reeves. Allendale on the  
Savannah. Bamberg, S.C.: Bamberg Herald Printers, 1970.

Sherman, William T. Memoirs. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1875.

South Carolina Department of Archives and History. Seventh Agricultural Census,  
1850.

South Carolina Department of Archives and History. Eighth Agricultural Census,  
1860.

South Carolina Department of Archives and History. 1860 Census, Beaufort County.

Beech Branch Baptist Church records. Provided by Mrs. J. D. Rouse, Brunson,  
South Carolina.

Interview with Jack Weir (former owner) by Linda Gallagher (present owner).  
March 1976.