

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NOV 20 1989

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 Allison, Robert Barnwell, House  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 404 Chesterfield Avenue  not for publication  
city, town Lancaster  vicinity  
state South Carolina code SC county Lancaster code 057 zip code 29720

3. Classification

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

Name of related multiple property listing:  
Historic Resources of Lancaster County

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 \_\_\_\_\_ 11/8/89  
Signature of certifying official Date  
Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy SHPO, SC Department of Archives & History, Columbia, SC  
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. Mark J. Baker Entered in the National Register: 1/4/90  
 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

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling**7. Description**Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)Late Victorian/Queen Anne

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brickwalls Wood; Weatherboard; Wood  
Shinglesroof Asphaltother WoodBrick

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Robert Barnwell Allison House (1897) is located at 404 Chesterfield Avenue in Lancaster. This two-story clapboard-covered building on infilled brick piers is an excellent example of the Queen Anne style and is one of the few intact nineteenth century residences in Lancaster.

Additional Information

The house is a rectangular, two-story, frame residence with one-story ell to the rear. It has a tall hipped composition roof with intersecting gables over two-story canted bays, wood clapboard siding, and brick pier foundation with brick infill. Gable ends are clad with diamond novelty shingles and have paired one-over-one double hung sash windows. There are two interior brick chimneys with corbeled caps. A one-story, hipped-roof, Eastlake veranda with turned wood posts, sawn brackets, and turned wood balustrade wraps partially around the north and west facades. A projecting gable over the entrance bay has a stylized shell relief over which there is a shed porch in the central bay of the second level. The main entry on the first floor has double doors; there is a second, street-facing single entrance on the side of the canted bay on the west facade. Windows in the canted bays are two-over-two-light double-hung sash. There are two stationary Queen Anne windows with multi-colored lights on the north facade and one similar upper sash in a double-hung window on the west facade.

The only exterior changes to the house since its completion have been the removal of an attic dormer, the change of roof material, and the enclosure of a rear porch.

 See continuation sheet

**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)  
Architecture

Period of Significance  
1897

Significant Dates  
1897

Cultural Affiliation  
N/A

Significant Person  
N/A

Architect/Builder  
Langley & Knight (Builder)

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

The Robert Barnwell Allison House is significant both as a particularly intact example of late nineteenth century Queen Anne architecture and for its association with Robert Barnwell Allison (1860-1936), a prominent attorney of the period in Lancaster County.

It was built in 1897 by Allison, who was an 1882 graduate of the University of Michigan Law School. Allison practiced law in Lancaster with his father, Colonel Robert Erasmus Allison, until the elder Allison's death in 1906; he continued his practice and lived in this house until his own death in 1936. The Lancaster Ledger for 25 August 1897, under the headline "A Handsome Residence," noted, "Contractors Langley & Knight have about completed the residence of R.B. Allison, Esq., in East End. Painter Owens is putting on the last coat of paint and it will be ready for occupancy in a few days. It is a very pretty residence, neat, commodious, and convenient. It is quite an addition to East End." George W. Malone's 1900 guide to Lancaster County described this house as among Lancaster's "finest residences, built on the latest and most improved style of modern architecture," and also included an advertisement for "R.E. ALLISON & R.B. ALLISON, Attorneys and Counsellors at Law, Lancaster, S.C." Robert Barnwell Allison's son, J. Barnwell Allison, lives in the house today. (1)

NOTES

(1) J.B. Allison, "The Family of Dr. Robert Turner Allison and Martha Burnett Clinton, Their Immediate Ancestors and All of their Descendants," unpublished typescript, York, S.C., 7 July 1941, South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C.; Lancaster Ledger, 25 August 1897; George W. Malone, An Attractive New Book Describing the Principal Towns of Lancaster County, S.C., Including Lancaster, Kershaw, Heath Springs and others. Noting the Leading Men and Their Pursuits, and Dwelling upon the Main Business Enterprises. With Historical Sketches (Lancaster: Enterprise Publishing Company, 1900), pp. 14, 16, 93; Telephone interview with Mr. J. Barnwell Allison, Lancaster, S.C., 22 June 1989.

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

**Specify repository:**

SC Department of Archives & History,  
Columbia, SC

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property .5 acres

**UTM References**

A 

1	7
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5	2	1	8	0	0
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3	8	4	1	5	2	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

B 

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 Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundary of the nomination is shown as the black line on the accompanying Lancaster County Tax Map, 68-0, drawn at a scale of 1" = 100'.

See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

The nominated property includes the house and its immediate surroundings.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title J. Tracy Power, NR Historian/Frank Brown III, NR Architectural Historian  
 organization SC Department of Archives & History date 5 July 1989  
 street & number PO Box 11669 telephone (803) 734-8610  
 city or town Columbia state SC zip code 29211

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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Name of property: Robert Barnwell Allison House  
(Historic Resources of Lancaster County  
multiple property submission)

Location of property: Lancaster County, South Carolina

Photographer: South Carolina Department of Archives and History Staff

Location of negative: South Carolina Department of Archives and History

1. Robert Barnwell Allison House  
June 1989  
Facade