

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Brick House Ruins, Edisto Island

AND/OR COMMON

Brick House Ruins, Edisto Island

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

\_\_ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Edisto Island

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

001

STATE

South Carolina

\_\_ VICINITY OF

CODE  
45

COUNTY

Charleston

CODE

019

**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

\_\_ MUSEUM

\_\_ COMMERCIAL

\_\_ PARK

\_\_ EDUCATIONAL

\_\_ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

\_\_ ENTERTAINMENT

\_\_ RELIGIOUS

\_\_ GOVERNMENT

\_\_ SCIENTIFIC

\_\_ INDUSTRIAL

\_\_ TRANSPORTATION

\_\_ MILITARY

☒ OTHER: None**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mrs. Elizabeth Jenkins Young

STREET &amp; NUMBER

70 Tradd Street

CITY, TOWN

Charleston

\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

South Carolina

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

(RMC) Registrar of Mesnes and Conveyances

STREET &amp; NUMBER

P. O. Box 726

CITY, TOWN

Charleston

STATE

South Carolina

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE

1939, 1936

☒ FEDERAL \_\_ STATE \_\_ COUNTY \_\_ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Division of Prints and Photographs - Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C.

## 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

The Brick House at Edisto Island was built about 1725 for Paul Hamilton, a wealthy South Carolina planter whose estate was acquired in 1798 by the Jenkins family which maintains ownership to this day. The brick for the house was imported from Boston where a harder and denser sort than any obtainable locally could be gotten. Sand and gravel, free from salt, were fetched from the Pon Pon, while lumber for the house was housed and seasoned for seven years before being considered worthy for the undertaking. Clearly then this was an exceptional effort on the part of its builder, and its architectural ambitions came to fruition in a building with a distinctively French air, achieved through the many stucco enrichments and its high-pitched roof. Aside from the reference to the Chateau de la Haye, historian Samuel Stoney characterized the look as one quite similar to the Place de Vosges, a look heightened by two small flankers, long since lost.

Finally, and very importantly, the plan of the Brick House is very similar to that one seen first in Mulberry's Plantation House, but without its towers. The four-room plan, with unequal division of rooms and a central stairwall, while not unique to either Mulberry or the Brick House or other houses of the type of the period----Hanover, Lewisfield, or Crowfield, to name a few----was imported by them, first to the countryside, and then moved to the city where it blossomed as the Charleston <sup>double</sup> house, during the 1750's and 1760's especially.

The ruins of the plantation House at Edisto Island South Carolina are located beside Russel Creek west of the North Edisto River. Once encompassing a large plantation, the ruin is now an isolated element in an environment unused agriculturally. It is however surrounded by a group of buildings, perhaps ten, largely used as summer retreats by Charlestonians. The boundary then of this ruin consists only of the remains itself and the patch of land it stands on. Consisting of 1/4 acre around the building, the boundary includes no other structures which contribute to the national significance of the landmark. The site is clearly visible on the accompanying USGS map which identifies the site with red pencil.

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

### PERIOD

☐ PREHISTORIC  
☐ 1400-1499  
☐ 1500-1599  
☐ 1600-1699  
☒ 1700-1799  
☐ 1800-1899  
☐ 1900-

☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  
☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC  
☐ AGRICULTURE  
☒ ARCHITECTURE  
☐ ART  
☐ COMMERCE  
☐ COMMUNICATIONS

### AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING  
☐ CONSERVATION  
☐ ECONOMICS  
☐ EDUCATION  
☐ ENGINEERING  
☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT  
☐ INDUSTRY  
☐ INVENTION

☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE  
☐ LAW  
☐ LITERATURE  
☐ MILITARY  
☐ MUSIC  
☐ PHILOSOPHY  
☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

☐ RELIGION  
☐ SCIENCE  
☐ SCULPTURE  
☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN  
☐ THEATER  
☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES     c. 1725

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Brick House at Edisto Island was a most unusual example of early colonial architecture, in that it illustrated the important influence of the French Huguenots in South Carolina. Possibly a simplified copy of the Chateau de la Haye d'Esquermes (c.1675) near Loos les Lille, France, as suggested by historian T.T. Waterman, the Brick House was the focal point of a 300 acre plantation. Burned to all but its shell in 1929 (at which point it had yet been little-altered), the brick house today stands as both an artifact of an important early influence in the Carolinas, and a stately and picturesque ruin in its own right. The architecture of the outer walls is unique in this country.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

References: Harriet K. Leiding, "Historic House of South Carolina" (Philadelphia 1921, 229-230. "South Carolina, A Guide to the Palmetto State" (American Guide Series) New York, 1941), 287. Samuel G. Stoney, "Plantations of the Carolina Low Country" (Charleston, 1938), 54-55. Thomas T. Waterman, "The Dwellings of Colonial America" (Chapel Hill, 1950), 38-39, 77, 81. Talbot F. Hamlin, "The American Spirit in Architecture" (New Haven, 1926), 48. Thomas T. Waterman, "The Mansions of Virginia" (Chapel Hill, 1945), 41, 325.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY ca. 1/4

UTM REFERENCES

A 17 563300 3607120  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B           
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C           
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D           
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Continuation Sheet and Sketch map.

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

James Dillon, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

National Historic Landmarks, OAHP

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

1100 L Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C.

## 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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

Designated: April 15, 1970  
date

Boundary Certified: George F. Emery

DATE   

JUNE 24, 1977 date

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE 2/10/84

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

(NATIONAL HISTORIC  
LANDMARKS)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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Verbal Boundary  
CONTINUATION SHEET Description ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 2

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See Sketch Map

Beginning at Point X, which is approximately 500' south of the southern bank of Russel Creek and located on the southern edge of the unpaved access road, proceed west along the southern edge of the road approximately 50' to a point; thence south 46' to a point; thence east approximately 50' to a point; thence 46' north to the point of origin.