

MAY 5 1987

4

(N/A)NOT FOR PUBLICATION

SOUTH CAROLINA INVENTORY FORM FOR HISTORIC DISTRICTS AND
INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES IN A MULTIPLE PROPERTY SUBMISSION

NAME OF MULTIPLE PROPERTY SUBMISSION: Edisto Island Multiple Resource Area

PREFERRED NAME OF PROPERTY: Brooklands Plantation

COMMON NAME OF PROPERTY: Same

LOCATION: Approximately 2/3 mile off Laurel Hill Road, on Scanawah Island, south side of Shingle Creek.

CLASSIFICATION: Building

OWNER: Charles C. & Betty T. Wannamaker
1185 Park Place South
Charleston, S. C. 29406

DESCRIPTION

Brooklands is a two-story, weatherboard-clad, hipped-roof, frame residence on a raised, stuccoed brick basement. The building has a rectangular central core with flanking, one-story, one-bay, hipped-roof wings. The facade is dominated by a full-height, hipped-roof portico with two fluted columns with an early form of Greek Corinthian capital (a decorative motif which is carried out on interior moldings also). At one time there were two additional columns on this portico, which were removed for unknown reasons. This portico has undergone several periods of major alteration and the original appearance is not conclusively known. The facade fenestration of the central core is symmetrical. The first story is composed of four French doors with paneled shutters and shelf architraves (all of these doors originally opened onto the portico but the outer two doors no longer have a floored porch). The second story has four windows (a six-over-six, double-hung-sash window above each of the French doors) with louvered shutters. There is a dentil course at the boxed cornice at the eaves of the portico, main core, and wings. Two interior, brick chimneys with necking, rat-tooth course, and triple hoods pierce the main roof. Each wing has a single, exterior, brick chimney with double hood. The interior features door pilasters with an acanthus-leaf motif that reflects the Greek Corinthian columns of the portico. The dining room has a molded ceiling and there are sliding doors between the central parlors. There are no remaining outbuildings associated with the building's period of significance. There are three headstones in a small family graveyard several hundred yards from the main house site (near what is thought to be the site of the original

homesite). Joseph Jenkins, his wife, Martha Grimball Jenkins, and an infant son from a later marriage are buried there. There is also evidence of other graves, though there are no other headstones visible.

SIGNIFICANCE

AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, Agriculture

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: L (FOR OFFICE USE ONLY)

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

Brooklands Plantation's significance lies primarily in its architecture. Built ca. 1800-07, this mansion is of an early Greek revival style.(1) The builder is not known at present; however, sources indicate as many as three people as possibilities. These are Ephraim Mikell, husband of Providence Jenkins and father of Isaac Jenkins Mikell of Peter's Point Plantation, or Gabriel Seabrook (1764-1824), and Ephraim Seabrook (died 1846).(2)

It is known, however, that prior to the Revolutionary War Brooklands (sometimes called Brookland, or Brooklines) was the prosperous indigo plantation of the Jenkins family.(3) An earlier house on or near this site was replaced by the present building. Joseph Jenkins (ca. 1753-1789), son of William and Sarah Sealy Jenkins, and his wife, Martha Grimball (died Feb. 9, 1785), daughter of Paul Grimball, are buried in a small family graveyard several hundred yards from the house.(4) This Joseph Jenkins probably lived in the earlier house.

The present-day building, like most of the plantations of Edisto, was probably associated with the production of sea island cotton in the antebellum and post-Civil War days. Physical remains indicate that the grounds near the house were once elaborately landscaped, including a sunken garden.

Brooklands was owned and lived in for many years by E.M. Bailey, who later sold it to a boy's school.(5) A number of years ago the house and plantation returned to private ownership.

Considerable potential exists for archaeological studies of various sites near to the house and elsewhere on the plantation.

ACREAGE: Approximately 16.7 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The nominated property is shown as the black line on the accompanying Charleston County Tax Map #29-0-0, a portion of Parcel 2, including also a small adjoining parcel on Charleston County Tax Map #12-0-0, both maps having an approximate scale of 1 inch equalling 400 feet. The property includes the historic building (only the house), the remnants of a landscaped yard, a pond, and a small family cemetery.

QUAD NAME: Edisto Island, S. C.

QUAD SCALE: 1:24000

UTM REFERENCE POINTS: A: 17/560620/3603840
B: 17/560740/3603380
C: 17/560340/3603360
D: 17/560200/3603480
E: 17/560500/3603940

FOOTNOTES

¹Nell S. Graydon, Tales of Edisto (Columbia, S.C.: The R.L. Bryan Co., 1955), pp. 74-75; Clara Childs Puckette, Edisto, A Sea Island Principality (Cleveland, Ohio: Seaforth Publications, 1978). p. 4.

²Priscilla D. Maxwell to South Carolina Department of Archives and History, 22 December 1978, South Carolina Inventory of Historic Places, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.; Harriette Kershaw Leiding, Historic Houses of South Carolina (Philadelphia and London: J.B. Lippincott, 1921), p. 227.

³Puckette, p. 4.

⁴Tombstone inscription, Jenkins Family graveyard, Brooklands Plantation, Edisto Island, S.C.; Mabel Louise Webber, ed., "Descendants of John Jenkins," The South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine 20: (1919), p. 228.

⁵Puckette, p. 13.