

PH0698113

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED FEB 26 1979
DATE ENTERED APR 24 1979

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

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Fonti Flora Plantation (preferred)
AND/OR COMMON Pearson Place

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 5.4 miles northeast of Monticello on the east
side of S.C. Highway 99 (formerly Old Columbia Road) NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CITY, TOWN Monticello CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
STATE South Carolina VICINITY OF 5th
CODE 045 COUNTY Fairfield CODE 039

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME George W. & Katherine Pearson Tomlin ✓
STREET & NUMBER Fonti Flora
CITY, TOWN Blair VICINITY OF STATE South Carolina 29015

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Fairfield County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Winnsboro STATE South Carolina

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina
DATE 1973 (update) FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS South Carolina Department of Archives & 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 _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fonti Flora Plantation is located in a rural area of the western portion of Fairfield County, South Carolina. Constructed circa 1836 by Dr. George Butler Pearson and Elisabeth Pearson, it is a notable example of Greek Revival form and Gothic Revival detail.

Exterior: Fonti Flora is a 2½-story clapboard residence set on low foundations. The front facade of the house is dominated by a full width 2-story Greek Revival portico. Each story of the portico is supported by six paneled piers, and the second story features a plain balustrade. The entire portico is surmounted by a flat deck which has a cast iron railing. Both stories of the front facade feature a centrally located single door surrounded by transom and sidelights with traceries and movable sash. The entrance is framed by a massive Greek architrave crowned by acroteria. Located on each side of the doorway are two 9/6 windows, each of which is surrounded by symmetrically molded trim with cornerblocks. Panelled moveable aprons are located under each window and allow movement between the interior rooms and the portico. On the first story, concrete has replaced the original wooden floor.

Although Fonti Flora is largely Greek Revival in style, the structure does offer a variation of form in its use of a decorative detail that is in the Gothic Style. This is evident on the front facade whose projecting cross gable is dominated by a tripartite Gothic window. Identical tripartite Gothic windows are located on the cross gable of each of the side facades. The side facades are clapboard and feature 9/6 and 6/6 windows located in four bays. The house features two interior chimneys located along the main roof ridge. Two exterior chimneys are located on the one story shed roof addition which extends across the rear of the house.

Interior: The interior of Fonti Flora features a typical floor plan with a central hall flanked on each side by symmetrical rooms. The core of the house was originally two rooms deep. A one-story porch, which extended across the rear facade, was subsequently enclosed. The left side of the porch appears to have been enclosed at an early date; its large open double doorway makes it an extension of the dining room. The right portion of the porch has also been enclosed and at present serves as a combination den and kitchen. Access to the den from the main hallway is through a large doorway which is identical to the front entrance. The doorway features transom and sidelights and is surrounded by a massive Greek architrave. Other alterations to the house consist of the addition of two baths, the placement of narrow bead siding in the right rear bedroom on the first floor and the placement of modern paneling in the upstairs hall.

Surroundings: Located in a rural section of Fairfield County, Fonti Flora maintains much of its original setting. The house is set some 500 feet off of Highway 99 at the end of a tree-lined lane. Although none of the original outbuildings remain, the remnants of Dr. George Butler Pearson's garden are found in the form of boxwood located in the front and sides of the house.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Local history
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Located in rural Fairfield County, Fonti Flora Plantation was constructed circa 1836 by Dr. George Butler Pearson and Elisabeth Alston Pearson. Fonti Flora is an example of a blend of Greek Revival Style with elements of Gothic detail in a private residence. Still owned by the Pearson family, Fonti Flora has maintained a notable continuity in ownership, setting and architectural form.

Fonti Flora is believed to be the only historic structure remaining extant which is associated with the Pearson family, who were among the earliest settlers of Fairfield and Richland Counties. The Fonti Flora property came into Pearson hands in 1833 when James Alston of Fairfield gave 2,303 acres to his daughter Elisabeth Alston Pearson. Family tradition indicates that Elisabeth Pearson and her husband George Butler Pearson, constructed Fonti Flora prior to 1836. George Butler Pearson (1785-1867) was a physician and a farmer, who had an avid interest in horticulture. He is said to have developed extensive gardens and orchards adjacent to Fonti Flora. These gardens are believed to have featured rare shrubs and herbs which Dr. Pearson used in his medical work. Indeed, the name "Fonti Flora" came from Dr. Pearson's involvement with horticulture.

In 1849 the Pearsons placed Fonti Flora in trust for the use of Elisabeth Pearson and her heirs. The property consequently was occupied by Elisabeth Pearson's son, George Butler Pearson Jr. (1829-1898). Family tradition indicates that George Pearson Jr. had taken over the family's farming activities even prior to his father's death in 1867. Except for a brief period when he served in the Confederate army, Pearson farmed at Fonti Flora until his death in 1898. His son, William Boyce Pearson, subsequently took up the family tradition of farming at Fonti Flora. Members of each of these generations of the Pearson family were regarded as prominent members of the Fairfield County community. At present, Fonti Flora continues to be occupied by members of the Pearson family.

Architecture: Fonti Flora Plantation is an excellent example of a vernacular interpretation of the Greek Revival style. Constructed as a plantation house, Fonti Flora is characterized by notable architectural features which include its two-story portico supported by paneled piers, the front door with its massive Greek architrave crowned by acroteria, and panelled moveable aprons located underneath the front facade's windows. In addition, the presence of tripartite Gothic windows on the structure's front and side facades offers an interesting combination of the standard Greek Revival form and Gothic Revival detail.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bolick, Julian Stevenson. A Fairfield Sketchbook. Clinton, S.C.: Jacobs Brothers, 1963, pp. 256-260.

Bolick, Julian Stevenson. Our Heritage. nd.

continued

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 4 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	7
---	---

4	6	8	2	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	8	0	6	5	6	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property is bounded on north, south, and east sides by property belonging to George W. and Katherine Pearson Tomlin. It is located 5.4 miles northeast of Monticello on the east side of S.C. Highway 99; bounded by a line, beginning at the southeast corner along S.C. 99 and following a line 495' east; thence north along a line 690' long; then west along a line 258' long; then returning south for 636' to the point of origin.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

(Nancy Fox, Central Midlands Regional Planning Council)

NAME / TITLE

Julie Burr, Historic Preservation Division

Mr. & Mrs. George Tomlin)

ORGANIZATION

South Carolina Department of Archives & History

DATE

January 16, 1979

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:

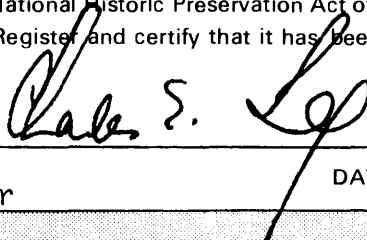
NATIONAL

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

2/9/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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



DATE

4-24-79

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: Bill Lobovich

DATE

April 24, 1979

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED FEB 26 1979
DATE ENTERED APR 24 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

"Confederate Service Record of George Butler Pearson." Complied Service Record of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from South Carolina. South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

"Death of Two Worthy Old Citizens." Fairfield News and Herald, October 30, 1867.

Ederington, William. History of Fairfield County, South Carolina. Tuscaloosa, Alabama: Willo Publishing Co., n.d.

Federal Census of the United States, Fairfield District, South Carolina. Washington, D.C. 1840 (p. 167), 1850 (p. 208).

Green, Edwin L. History of Richland County. Columbia: R. L. Bryan Co., 1932, pp. 51-53.

Groves, Joseph A. The Alstons and Allstons of North and South Carolina. Atlanta: Franklin Printing Co., 1901, p. 100.

Interview with Mrs. Katherine Pearson Tomlin, January 2, 1979.

Meriwether, Robert L. The Expansion of South Carolina 1729-1765. Kingsport, Tennessee: Southern Publishers, Inc., 1940, pp. 156-157.

Pearson Family History. The Papers of Fitz Hugh McMaster. South Caroliniana Library.

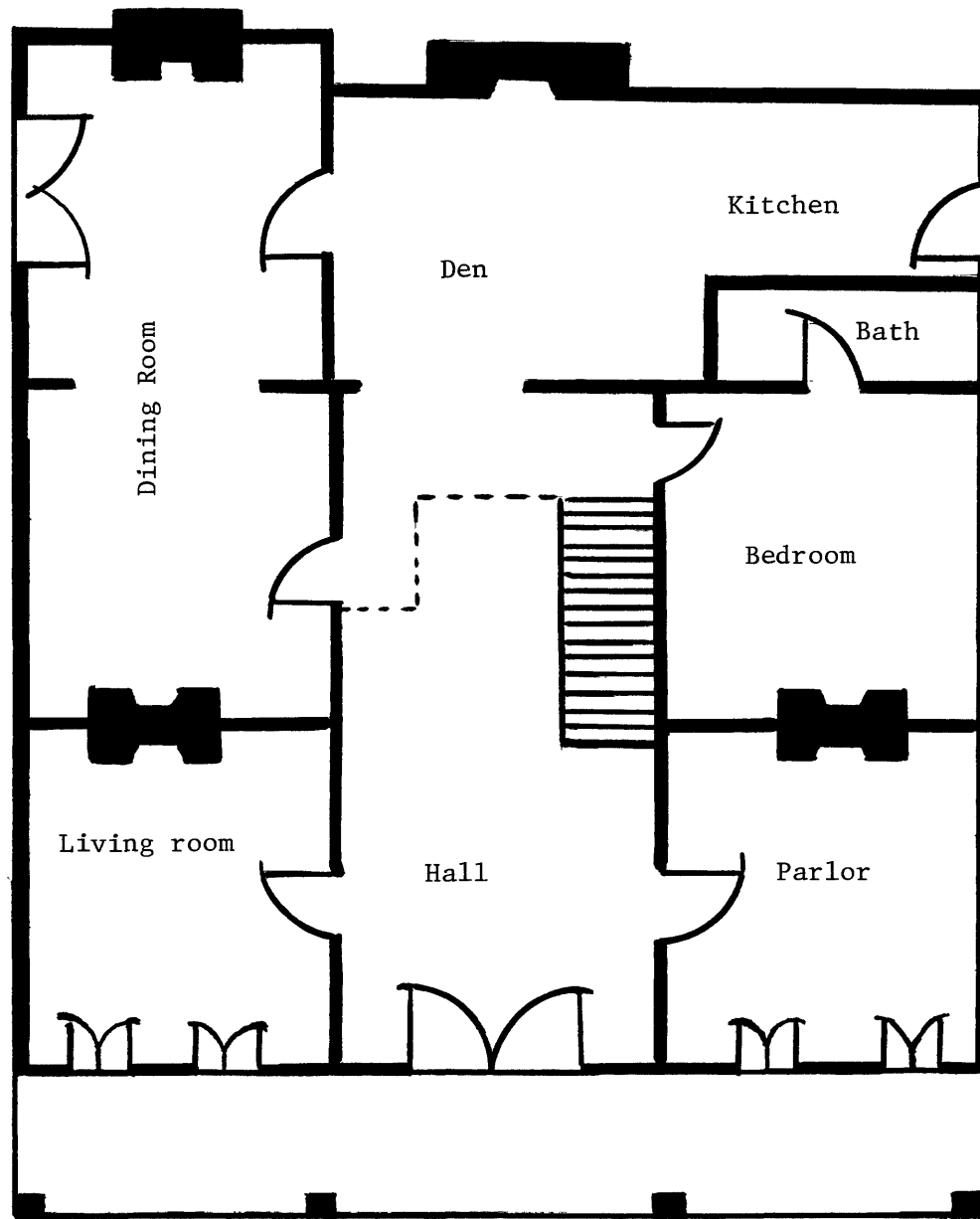
Pearson Family Papers in the possession of Katherine Pearson Tomlin.

Records of Mesne Conveyance for Fairfield County, Deed Book LL p. 76, Deed Book RR pp. 207-209. South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

"W. B. Pearson Dies at Home in County: Prominent Fairfield Citizen Passes Sunday Morning at Fonti Flora Plantation." News and Herald, November 20, 1941.

FONTI FLORA
PLANTATION

1st Floor



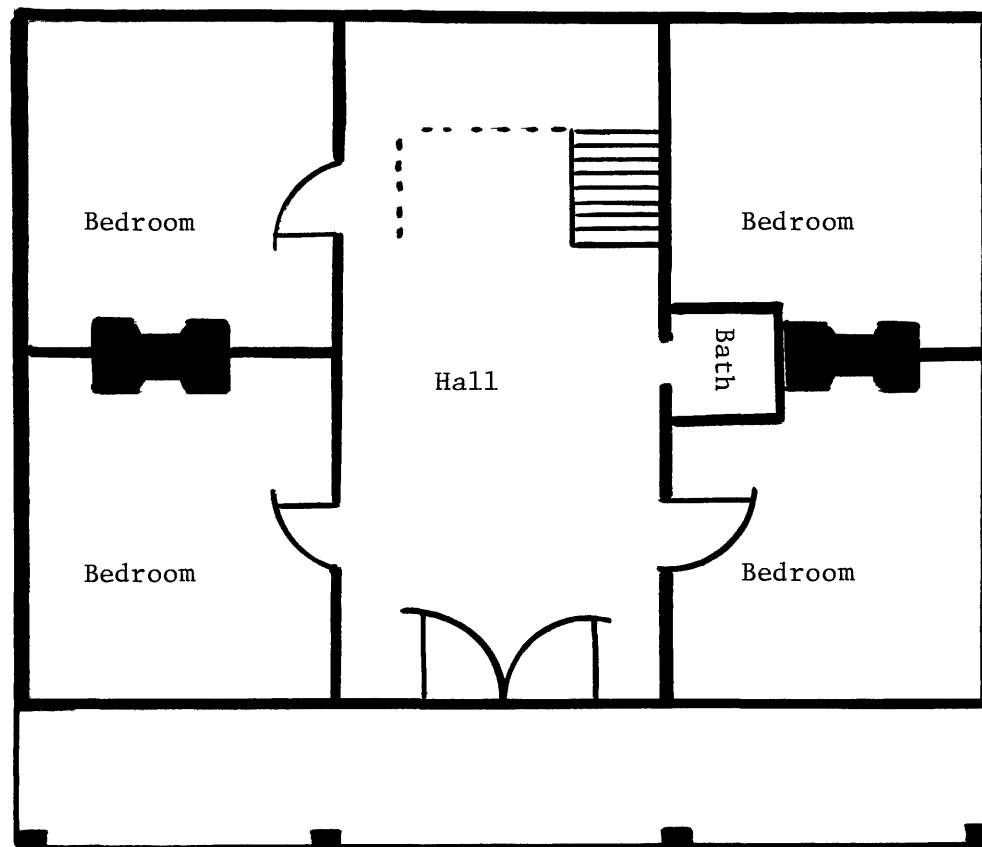
RECEIVED
FEB 26 1979
NATIONAL
REGISTER

Fonti Flora Plantation
Fairfield County
Sketch plan of 1st floor
Julie Burr 1979

RECEIVED
FEB 26 1979
NATIONAL ARCHIVES
COLLECTION

Fonti Flora
Plantation

2nd Floor



Fonti Flora Plantation
Fairfield County, South Carolina
Sketch plan of 2nd floor
Julie Burr 1979