United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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historic Edgewood The Pickens House and/or common (preferred) Location 101 Gregg Avenue street & number NA_ not for publication Aiken <u>NA</u> vicinity of city, town congrecolonal district South Carolina 045 Aiken 003 state code county code Classification 3. Category Status Present Use **Ownership** pubiic X__ occupied district agriculture museum 🕺 building(s) 👗 private unoccupied commerciai _ park __ structure _ both work in progress educational private residence entertainment site **Public Acquisition** Accessible religious <u>NA</u> in process ... object _ yes: restricted government scientific <u>NA</u> being considered yes: unrestricted industrial transportation X. no military other: **Owner of Property** Eulalie Rutledge and Julian B. Salley, Jr. name 101 Gregg Avenue street & number state South Carolina Aiken NAvicinity of 29801 city, town Location of Legal Description 5. Registrar of Mesne Conveyance, Aiken County Office Complex courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. 828 Richland Avenue West street & number Aiken South Carolina 29801 city, town state **Representation in Existing Surveys** 6. Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina title has this property been determined eligible? ____ yes _X_ no added by 1973 federal _X_ state ____ county ____ local date depository for survey records South Carolina Department of Archives and History

city, town Columbia

state South Carolina 29211

6MA NA 1971-00**18** E.A. . 11/32.04

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7. Description

Condition	Check one unaltered X altered	Check one original site _X moved dateCa1929
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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Pickens House is reputed to have been built in 1829 by Governor Andrew Pickens for his son Francis W. Pickens, who called the home Edgewood. Abandoned and in a state of disrepair, the frame house was moved from the vicinity of Edgefield, South Carolina, to Kalmia Hill in Aiken, South Carolina, in the late 1920s by Eulalie and Julian Salley. The renovation of the Pickens House was planned by Augusta, Georgia, architect Willis Irvin and carried out by contractor Byron E. Hair, preserving original building fabric while modifying the house to suit modern standards for comfort and the lifestyle of the Salleys. Separated from newer residential and commercial development by dense vegetation, the Pickens House property includes two cottages and several outbuildings associated with Eulalie Salley and her family. The property has integrity from ca. 1929.

Additional Information: Photographs and drawings of the Pickens House prior to its being moved show that the front porches and galleries of the house stood on a nine foot brick pier foundation, with wooden lattice between the piers. Open galleries connected the main one-and-one-half-story core of the house to the flanking one-story wings, which featured pedimented porches on their front elevations. Instead of duplicating the original foundation, the Salleys chose to have the house rest on a raised brick basement, which allowed space for a small apartment (servants' quarters), utility rooms, and a garage. The galleries and front porches of the wings were removed, and the design of the wings changed.

Specifications written by Irvin for moving and reassembling the Pickens House indicate that original building materials were to be repaired and reused whenever possible. The core of the house features the original two pedimented dormers on the front (southwest) slope of the roof, porch with central pediment and entablature with dentil course, and central front entrance with double six-panel doors, rectangular multi-paned transom and sidelights, and finely detailed trim.

Irregular-shaped in plan, the Pickens House is sheathed with weatherboard, except under the roof of the front porch, where it has flushboard siding. The complex gable roof, which is covered with composition shingles, features boxed cornices with returns. The house has six brick chimneys: the one-and-one-half-story core of the house has two chimneys, the northwest and southeast each have one interior chimney, and the central rear wing has one exterior and one interior chimney. All but the exterior chimney on the central rear wing have corbeled caps. Windows are double-hung sash with nine-over-nine, six-over-six, or four-over-four lights; on the front (southwest) and the southeast elevations, the windows have louvered shutters.

The symmetrical facade (southwest elevation) is characterized by a central projecting five-bay pavillion and flanking wings. The four single windows between the central pavillion and each of the projecting two-bay gabled ends of the wings have four-over-four lights; the rest of the front windows are nine-over-nine.

The southeast elevation features three nine-over-nine windows and one six-over-six window. The northwest elevation has four nine-over-nine windows on the main floor and four six-over-six basement windows. Fenestration on the rear of the house is varied.

<u>Interior</u>: When possible, original floors, moldings, doors, hardware, etc. were retained in the rebuilding of the Pickens House, and new materials were designed to match the old. The reeded wainscoting of the front hall and HL hinges of the dining room's double doors are

8. Significance

1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture architecture art commerce communications		politics/government	e religion science sculpture _X social/ humanitarian theater transportation X other (specify) Servation_History
Specific dates	ca. 1829, ca. 1929	Builder/Architect Byra	on Hair/Willis Irvin	Women's History

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Pickens House, located at the northwest corner of U.S. I and Gregg Ave. in the Kalmia Hill area of Aiken, South Carolina, was originally located in Edgefield County where it was the home of prominent South Carolinian Francis Wilkerson Pickens. The house was dismantled and reconstructed at its present location in 1929 by Eulalie Chafee Salley, a prominent Aiken businesswoman and leader of the women's rights movement and is significant for its association with her contributions to Aiken and women's rights. The Pickens House is also a fine example of early 19th century backcountry plantation architecture, and although it has been moved it still carries an association with Governor Francis W. Pickens and his family. It is also significant as an early attempt to preserve a South Carolina landmark. The rebuilding and restoration by Byron Hair, contractor and Willis Irvin, architect are significant in their own right.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Eulalie Chafee Salley was born on December 11, 1883, the daughter of Eulalie Gamble and George Kinloch Chafee. When Eulalie was nine the family moved to Aiken, a small, sleepy little town known to only a few as a health retreat. By 1906 when Eulalie married Julian Booth Salley, then mayor of Aiken, the town was beginning to gain prominence as a winter haven for northern millionaires and the wealthy equestrian set.

Eulalie Salley was an astute, intelligent woman and by her own₃admission, "limiting (her) to domestic activities was like hitching a race horse to a plow."³ Soon she began to search for new outlets for her energy. She fixed upon the cause of women's rights, in part because she felt stifled by the role she was expected to play as a young middle class matron, and partly because of the well publicized plight of Lucy Dugas Tillman to regain custody of her, children after they were deeded to their paternal grandparents by her husband Ben Tillman, Eulalie joined the South Carolina Equal Suffrage League shortly after and was founder Jr. and first president of the Aiken chapter. She served as president of the South Carolina Equal Suffrage League, vice-chairman of the South Carolina League of Women Voters, chairman of the Dr. Anna Howard Shaw Memorial in South Carolina, Regional Director of the Third Region of the National League of Women's Voters; and she led the unsuccessful campaign to have South Carolina ratify the nineteenth ammendment in 1920. When South Carolina did finally ratify the amendment in 1969, Mrs. Salley was a special guest of the governor at Mrs. Salley was in great demand as a speaker on women's rights and the signing ceremony. she served as a delegate to several national women's conventions and to the National Democratic Convention in 1924.' In addition to her more staid feminist activities, Mrs. Sa was not above publicity stunts in behalf of ther cause. She took boxing lessons to prepare In addition to her more staid feminist activities, Mrs. Salley for her role as a prize fighter in a suffrage league theatrical. She volunteered to dive from a balcony into a tank of water as a gimmick for a suffrage league show and she scattered suffrage pamphlets from the air seated on the wing of one of the first planes in Aiken.

Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

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Geographical Data 10. Acreage of nominated property approximately 13 Quadrangle name Graniteville Quadrangle scale <u>1:24000</u> **UMT References** в **A** | 1, 7 | 4 2, 9 3, 7, 0 3,71,41,92 42,95,50 | 1 | 7| Northing Easting Easting Zone Zone **c** | ¹, ⁷| 4 2 9 4 1 4

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The boundary of the Pickens House nomination is Verbal boundary description and justification shown as the red line on the accompanying Aiken County Tax Map #30-002 drawn at a scale of 1" to 100'. The boundaries include all contributing aspects of the property.

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city or tow	vn Columbia			state	South Carolina 29211
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said to be among the original features of the house. All of the plaster walls and ceilings had to be restored. Since some of the mantels and other interior woodwork had disappeared before the Salleys bought the house and could not be found, Eulalie combed the area for replacements. Some of the mantels are said to have come from a pre-Revolutionary house near Abbeville; the dining room mantel is reputed to be from the McKie home near Edgefield. The intricately detailed woodwork in the living room came from the Sams family home on Ladies Island.

The interior of the house features a wide central hall which provides access to the living room, den, and the wing that contains the kitchen, pantry, and storeroom. A narrower hall that extends from the east corner of the hall provides access to the dining room and the rooms of the southeast wing (now an apartment). Access to the northwest wing, which contains three bedrooms, is through the living room. Closets and seven bathrooms were added by the Salleys.

<u>Surroundings</u>: Brick gate posts and a wrought iron gate mark the entry drive to the Pickens House, to the south and west of which are gardens. The nominated area also contains several outbuildings to the north and east of the house, including a frame garage, utility building, stable, and a small greenhouse.

Northwest of the Pickens House is a one-story frame weatherboard cottage, irregular in plan, with a gable roof covered with composition shingles, six-over-six windows, and two chimneys. Known as the "Infamous House," the cottage was purchased by Julian Salley and moved to its present location from Whiskey Road. Mr. Salley added a living room and bath to the building.

To the east of the Pickens House is another small, weatherboarded house called the "Hunt Cottage." Since this cottage was purchased by Eulalie and Julian Salley from the Hunt family in 1925, several rooms have been added. The pedimented porch of the front (south-east elevation) came from Edgewood. This building has been used as a residence by members of the Salley family.

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In 1929 Eulalie took on a challenge of a different sort. By chance, she visited the old Pickens family plantation, Edgewood, near Edgefield, then owned by the Tillman estate. The house, constructed for Gov. Francis W. Pickens in 1829, was run down and overgrown by the time Mrs. Salley bought it one hundred years later. In its heyday it was the scene of intellectual gatherings and grand parties. It is said that the house was the scene of many secret meetings for Gov. Pickens before the Civil War and was associated with Red Shirt activity in Edgefield County during Reconstruction.

Mrs. Salley personally supervised the dismantling of Edgewood. The pieces were numbered, taken to Aiken, and reconstructed under the supervision of architect Willis Irvin and contractor Byron Hair. Modern conveniences were added during the reconstruction and some woodwork and mantels from several other old homes were incorporated to replace features removed from the home during its days of neglect. Original fabric was used in every possible case and Irvin's specifications consistently required exact reproductions for new materials.¹¹ The reconstruction of Pickens House is significant as a successful early attempt to preserve and adapt to modern living conditions one of the backcountry's significant historical landmarks.

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FOOTNOTES

¹Emily Bull, Eulalie (Aiken, S.C.: Kalmia Press, 1973), pp. 5, 7, 8-9, 13.

²Bull, pp. 15-18, 28-29; "Mrs. Salley, Leader of Suffrage Dies." Aiken Standard, 12 March 1975.

³Bull, pp. 15, 44.

⁴Bull, pp. 44-45; Mary L. Bryan, <u>Proud Heritage</u> (n.p.: League of Women Voters, n.d.), p.3; Francis B. Simkins, <u>Pitchfork Ben Tillman</u> (Baton Rouge: LSU Press, 1944), pp. 481-484.

⁵Bull, pp. 46, 54, 60: Ida Husted Harper, ed., <u>The History of Woman Suffrage</u>, 1900-1920, vol 6. (New York: J.J. Little & Ives Co., 1922), p. 581; Sarah Caskey, "Aiken Suffragette Had Key Role in Passage of the 19th Amendment," <u>Aiken Standard</u>, 25 August 1980; Bryan, p. 7; Eulalie Chafee Salley Papers, South Caroliniana Library, Columbia, South Carolina.

⁶Bull, pp. 1-3; Bryan, p. IV.
⁷Bull, pp. 47, 54, 57, 59, 60; Eulalie Chafee Salley Papers.
⁸Bull, pp. 47-50.

⁹Bull, pp. 125-127; Pickens House Scrapbook, in possession of Eulalie Salley Rutledge, Aiken, South Carolina.

¹⁰Bull, pp. 128-138; Pickens House Scrapbook; Willis Irvin, architect, Specifications for Residence for Mr. Julian B. Salley, Aiken, S.C.

¹¹Irvin.

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Pickens House

Aiken County, SOUTH CAROLINA

PROPOSED MOVE APPROVAL

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