United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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Name:

Historic: Thomas Fraser House

Location: Highway 521

Common: Woodham House

Classification: Building

Owner:

Thomas H. Randall, Jr. & Mary Woodham Randall

c/o National Can 609 Cousar Street Bishopville, S. C.

29010

Representation in Existing Surveys: South Carolina Inventory of Historic Places, 1981.

Description: The Fraser House was constructed in 1847 and is a two-story vernacular Greek Revival style residence. The house has a gable roof, weatherboard siding and a brick foundation. The house has two exterior end brick chimneys with diamond patterned brick decoration. At the top of the chimneys the brick has been replaced and originally a brick with the date "1847" was located in the west chimney. This brick has since been inset into the foundation on the main facade. The house is five bays wide and features a large one-story porch on the main facade which is supported by six round brick and stucco columns. These columns have prominent bases and Doric capitals. Behind these free standing columns is a frame porch with a rectangular railing and spindles. In the central bay of the first floor is the original frame door with multi-light sidelights and transom. Windows are both six-over-six and nine-over-nine sash with the central window of the second story displaying sidelights. At the rear of the house is a one-story shed roof addition. The interior of the house has not been greatly altered and retains its original woodwork, staircase and mantles. At the rear of the house is the original kitchen which was remodeled ca. 1900 into a farm office. This one-story building has a porch with milled balusters and round columns. The kitchen has six-over-six sash windows, added metal siding and the original chimney has been removed.

Significance: The Thomas Fraser House is a notable example of the vernacular Greek Revival style and is associated with several notable families of Bishopville of the 19th and early 20th centuries. Thomas Fraser was born in 1798 and moved with his family to Bishopville during the early 1840s. Fraser was a farmer and he constructed this house in 1847 according to family tradition and a date carved in one of the chimney bricks. By 1850 Fraser owned a large amount of land to the west of Bishopville and had an estate valued at nearly \$10,000 (47). Fraser died in the late 1850s and this property was sold by the family in 1867 to Reverend William Gregg (48). Gregg was the minister of the Bishopville Presbyterian Church from the 1860s until his retirement in 1904 (49). He was one of the longest serving ministers at the church and was active in enlarging Bishopville's Presbyterian congregation. Following his death, the property was acquired by Miss Anna Boyd Wilkinson and the house was later sold in 1966 to the present owner (50). Few changes have occurred to the house and it retains its original character. Although altered, the original kitchen still stands at the rear of the house.

OMB No. 1024-0018 Expires 10-31-87

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Acreage: Approximately 1.7 acres.

Verbal Boundary Description: The boundary for the Fraser House is shown as the dark line on accompanying Lee County Tax Map 30-09, lot 148. The boundary is drawn to include the driveway, main house and kitchen. The boundary is drawn to exclude modern farm buildings also located on the lot.

UTM Reference Point: 17/567900/3785460 (Ashwood Quad)

Other Information: