

Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	South Carolina
COUNTY:	Richland
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 23 1973

**1. NAME**

COMMON: *Mann-Simons Cottage 9/2/76*  
The Simons Cottage

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
The Mann-Simons House

**2. LOCATION**

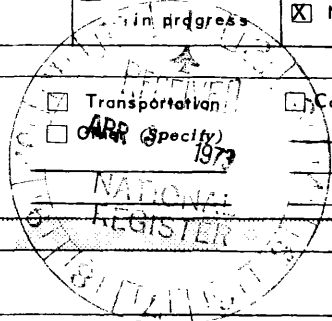
STREET AND NUMBER:  
1403 Richland Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Columbia

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
South Carolina	045	Richland	079

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)



**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Columbia Housing Authority

STREET AND NUMBER:  
P. O. Box 4307

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia

STATE: South Carolina

CODE: 045

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Richland County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Corner of Sumter St. and Washington St.

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia

STATE: South Carolina

CODE: 045

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

23 1973

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins
	(Check One)			(Check One)	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built ca. 1850, this one-and-a-half story cottage-style house with raised basement has a gabled roof with two corbel-capped chimneys. The facade has a porch that is supported by four brick posts and is approached by a flight of six stone steps. Porch roof is supported by four Tuscan columns and porch is enclosed by a balustrade. Large 2/2 double-sash windows extend to the floor on either side of a centrally located front door. To the far side of each window is a standard proportioned 2/2 double-sash window. Three unevenly-spaced and asymmetrical pedimented dormers with 6/6 double-sash windows add to the facade while exemplifying the novice skill of the builder. Three unevenly-spaced windows are located on the sides of the house on the main floor level. Entry into basement from exterior of house is through doors located on side and in back.

Interior: Central hall with two rooms to each side is basic plan (see floor plan attached). Dog-leg stairs with winders are located at right rear of hall. Mantle located in living room was once of marble. Bath addition is located at right rear of house.

House needs National Register protection immediately for a HUD project threatens its survival.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **ca. 1850**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal                | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric               | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                        | <u>Black History</u>                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture               | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                      | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture              | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian            | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                        | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                 | _____   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Music       |   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation              |   |   |   |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

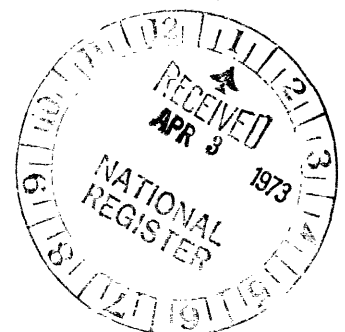
The Simons Cottage is important because it illustrates such a wide range of black history. As the antebellum home of a substantial free Negro Columbia family, it is the prototype survivor of a cluster of houses belonging to a significant group in Columbia's population before the Civil War. The Simons Cottage is a constant reminder that, during the antebellum period, free blacks lived and associated in harmony with the white community a great deal more than has heretofore been realized. This cottage housed the family of Bill Simons, a free black musician who played with the local Joe Randal Band. Also, Celia Mann, the earliest known owner of the house, was instrumental, while living here, in establishing an early black church in the city.

Religious Significance: The First Calvary Baptist Church was organized in the Simons Cottage, with religious services held in the basement of the house. Shortly thereafter, land was acquired across the street and the congregation subsequently held services in a horse barn on the property until a sanctuary could be built. Celia Mann helped greatly in bringing about the organization of the church by enthusiastically supporting the idea and allowing services to be held in her house. Her grandsons, Lucius and Charlie Simons, soon became leaders in this church, which was one of the earliest black churches established in South Carolina after the Civil War.

Music Significance: Bill Simons, a free black and a talented musician, played in the Joe Randal Band for many years. Joe Randal, also a black citizen who lived in the city, was a well-known bandmaster who played not only in Columbia but in other cities as well. According to local tradition, Bill Simons and his son Charles gave music lessons to children of prominent families in the Columbia area.

Black History: (see continuation sheet #1)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Bryant, Lawrence C. (editor). Negro Senators and Representatives in the South Carolina Legislature 1868-1902. Orangeburg: School of Graduate Studies--- South Carolina State College, 1967.  
Bulletin of the Mortgage Burning Service and Centennial Observance of the First Calvary Baptist Church 1865-1967. Columbia: 1967.  
 Deeds--Agnes Jackson, grantee. Clerk of Court Office, Richland County, 1880.  
 Graydon, Nell S., Tales of Columbia. Columbia: R.L. Bryan Co., 1964.  
 Henning, Mrs. Helen (Kohn) ed., Columbia, Capital City of South Carolina, 1786-1936. Columbia: R. L. Bryan, 1936

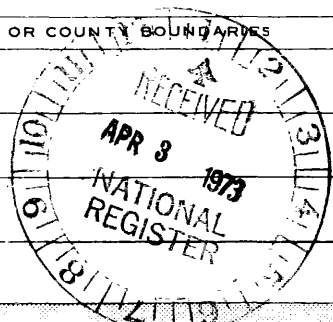
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		34 ° 00 ' 43 "	81 ° 02 ' 04 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/4 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Bernard V. Kearse -- S. C. Archives

ORGANIZATION: S. C. Department of Archives and History DATE: March 16, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: 1430 Senate Street

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia STATE: South Carolina CODE: 045

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: Charles E. Lee  
 Title: Director, S. C. Department of Archives and History  
 Date: March 28, 1973

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utley  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/23/73

ATTEST:  
[Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 4/13/73

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
South Carolina	
COUNTY	
Richland	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 23 1973

(Number all entries)

8. Significance - Continuation sheet #1

Black History: This house contains the history of one family of black citizens who represent an underexposed picture of what free blacks of the antebellum period were like -- how they lived and worked. Black citizens made up a surprisingly large percentage of Columbia's population in 1850 -- six per cent. Thus it is an important, though little realized, fact that substantial free black families such as the Simons family did live harmoniously in the same neighborhood with substantial white families. Primary material is incomplete concerning the black citizens of antebellum Columbia, but coupled with secondary materials and family tradition, it greatly supports an interesting and important story of one free black family in Columbia. The Simons Cottage originally belonged to a free Negro woman named Celia Mann, by profession a midwife who assisted at the birth of many white Columbians. Mrs. Mann was a **very** religious person and was instrumental in establishing one of the earliest post-war churches for blacks within the area. Her daughter, Agnes Jackson, married one Bill Simons, who may have built the present house on the property. Simons was a musician and possibly also a contractor and a politician, for directories and census records list a black contractor named William Simons and a black Representative William Simons (member of the South Carolina General Assembly 1868-72 and 1874-76) living in Ward 4. This is the same Columbia neighborhood in which the Simons Cottage is located. While it cannot yet be determined from records at hand whether William Simons was the name of one man or of three, it is worth noting that black Columbia citizens could and did hold substantial positions within the community. The Mann-Simons House holds a great deal of social significance for black citizens of South Carolina as the only historic house still remaining that was originally owned by blacks in the Columbia area.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
South Carolina	
COUNTY	
Richland	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 23 1973

(Number all entries)

9. Bibliographical References

Will of Agnes Jackson, 1907.

Williams, James Franklin, Old and New Columbia. Columbia: Epworth  
Orphanage Press, 1929.



STATE South Carolina	
COUNTY Richland	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 23 1973

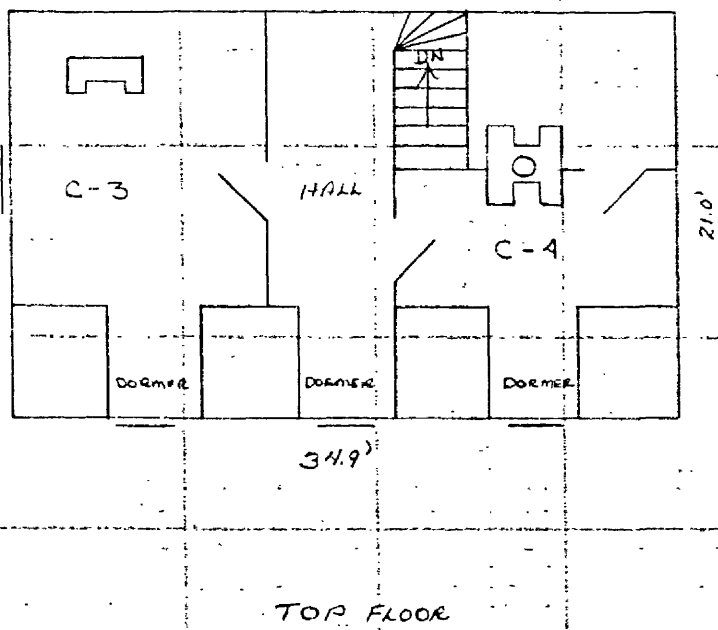
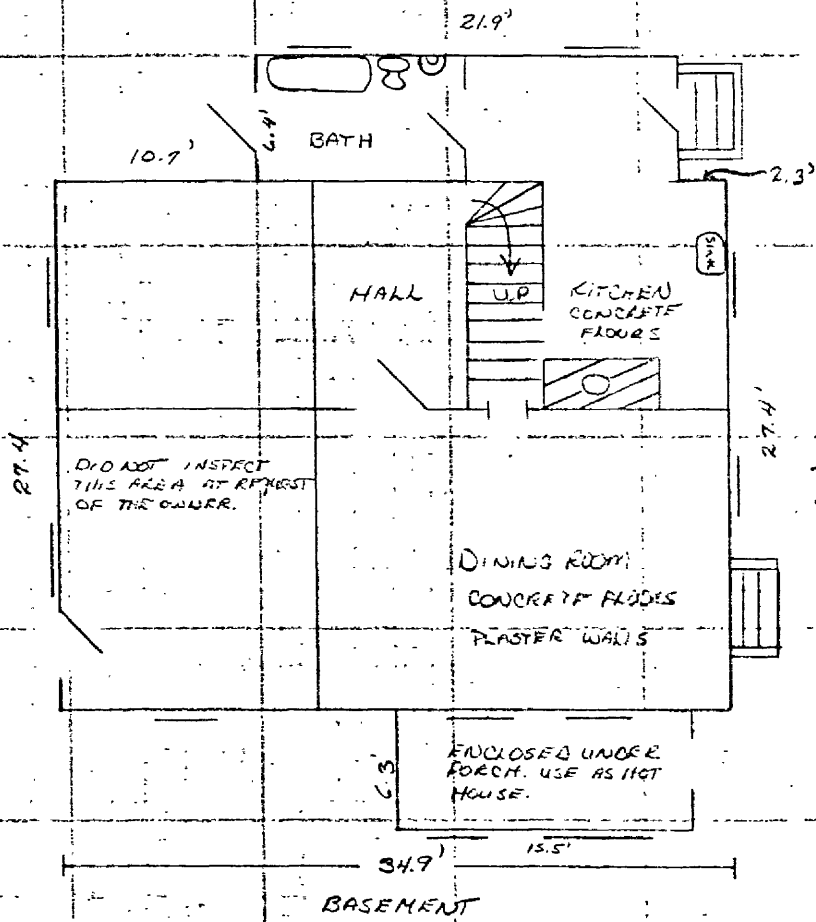
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**  
**PROPERTY MAP FORM**

*(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)*

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

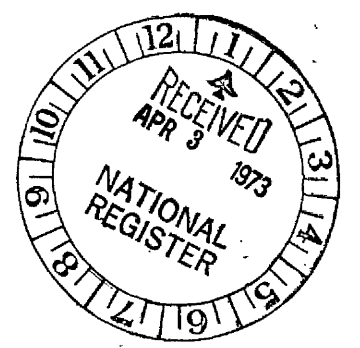
<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON: The Simons House			
AND/OR HISTORIC: The Mann-Simons House			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
1403 Richland Street			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Columbia			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
South Carolina	045	Richland	079
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE:			
Supplementary material			
SCALE:			
DATE:			
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			





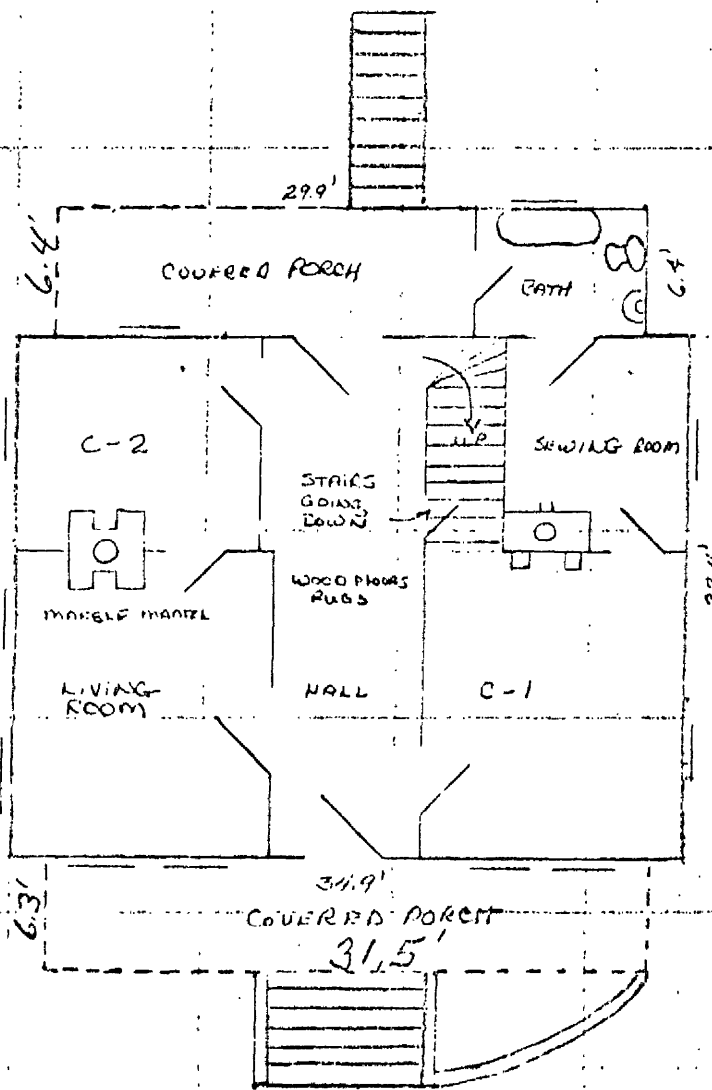
1403 RICHLAND ST.

PARCEL #5



13





MAIN FLOOR  
 1403 RICHLAND ST.  
 PARCEL # 5

HEATED AREA  
 MAIN FLOOR  
 $27.4' \times 34.9' = 956.26$   
 $6.4' \times 8.0' = 51.20$   
 1007.46  
 BASEMENT  
 $34.9' \times 21.4' = 746.86$   
 $21.9' \times 6.1' = 140.16$   
 1096.42  
 TOTAL 2716.78  
 TOP FLOOR  
 $21.0' \times 34.9' = 732.90$   
 LESS BRICKED CORNERS - 120.40  
 612.90  
 COVERED PORCHS  
 $21.5' \times 6.1' = 137.60$   
 $31.5' \times 6.3' = 198.45$   
 ENCLOSED UNDER FRONT COVERED PORCH  
 $6.3' \times 15.6' = 97.65$