

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

OCT 7 1986
For NPS use only
received APR - 9 1986
date entered
S. C. DEPARTMENT OF
ARCHIVES & HISTORY

1. Name

historic City of Laurens Multiple Resource Area (Partial Inventory: Historical and Architectural Resources)

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number City limits of Laurens, South Carolina N/A not for publication

city, town Laurens N/A vicinity of

state South Carolina code 045 county Laurens code 059

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 type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multiple Resource	N/A being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership (See Inventory Forms)

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state _____

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Laurens County Courthouse

street & number Public Square

city, town Laurens state South Carolina 29360

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

South Carolina Inventory of Historic Places title
has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date]1978-85 federal state county local

depository for survey records South Carolina Department of Archives and History

city, town Columbia state South Carolina 29211-10

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The city of Laurens is the county seat of Laurens County, which is located in the Upper Savannah region of the South Carolina Piedmont. The multiple resource area corresponds to the corporate limits of the city. The area under consideration is currently represented by seven listings on the National Register--six buildings and one historic district. The City of Laurens Multiple Resource Area nomination includes six additional individual properties (8 buildings, 1 object), an additional historic district (43 buildings), and an extension of the existing historic district (21 buildings). Each of the individual properties originally served as a residence, and the historic district and historic district extension are residential in character. Construction dates of the nominated resources range from the early nineteenth century to ca. 1940, with a large portion having been built during the period ca. 1885-1910.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The city of Laurens is located on several hills near the geographic center of Laurens County. The public square, city cemetery, and Laurens mill village are located on three of the more prominent hills. Little River flows southeastward through the city, with Reedy Fork Creek flowing eastward into Little River in the northern part of the city. The Seaboard Coastline and Columbia, Newberry and Laurens Railroads enter the city in the northeast, and arc southwestward to the railroad yard, which is southeast of the public square. The Seaboard Coastline Railroad continues in a northwestward direction toward Greenville. Major highways passing through Laurens are U. S. 221 (Harper Street) and U. S. 76 (Main Street), which intersect at the square; U. S. 76 Alternate (Hillcrest Drive); and S. C. 14 (Church Street). These roads provide access to the cities of Spartanburg, Greenville, Anderson, Greenwood, Clinton, Newberry, and Union.

The corporate limits of Laurens originally formed a circle with a one-mile radius. The boundaries have since been expanded in an irregular manner through annexation, primarily in the southwest sector of the city. The heart of the city continues to be the public square, which was at the center of the original circle. The county courthouse (listed in the National Register in 1972) is located in the middle, with commercial buildings and the city hall forming rows on each of the four sides of the square. The central business district extends one to two blocks from the square in each direction.

Newer commercial development is concentrated along North Harper Street, Hillcrest Drive/Fleming Street, and East Main Street near the city limits. Older residential areas include the West Main Street and Hampton Avenue areas, the Laurens mill village, the Jersey neighborhood southeast of the central business district, and an area south of the central business district roughly bounded by the SCL railroad tracks, Sullivan Street, Farley Avenue, and Chestnut Street. Newer residential neighborhoods have been developed in the southern, western,

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet 2

Item number 7

Page 1

and northwestern areas of the city. The most prominent historic resources remaining in the city are commercial and governmental buildings (concentrated in the central business district), residences, and churches.

Development of the city of Laurens began in the late eighteenth century along five roads which intersected near the courthouse. Through the years new streets have been laid out and large tracts subdivided, but the five roads shown on an 1845 plat are today the primary roads of the city. Undoubtedly the most important single event in the city's industrial and residential development was the establishment of the Laurens Cotton Mills in 1895, which resulted in the creation of the Laurens mill village. Other events caused concentrated development at specific times (most notably the subdivision of the large Irby estate beginning in the late 1800s and culminating in a real estate auction in 1904), but for the most part development occurred in a natural manner as the population grew. This development can be traced by examining plats and maps of the city from the year 1800 to the present day. Among these documents are Robert Creswell's plat of the village (1800), Williams and Wright's village plat (1845), Fike's Map of the Town (1882-83), maps prepared by the Sanborn Map Company (miscellaneous years 1884-1930, inclusive), and current maps of the city by the South Carolina Department of Highways and Public Transportation. The Fike and Sanborn maps are especially significant, for they were prepared during the period of Laurens' most accelerated growth around the turn of the century.

The City of Laurens Multiple Resource Area nomination includes buildings which display various architectural styles and vernacular designs. The resources were built during the period ca. 1800-1940 and are, with few exceptions, residential in character. The most architecturally-diverse area of the city is unquestionably along West Main Street, which has residences reflecting the influences of a variety of architectural types and styles. The South Harper Street Historic District has examples of the neoclassical and bungalow styles, but is noteworthy for its numerous, turn-of-the-century, vernacular residences. The Williams-Ball-Copeland House is an excellent example of the Italian villa style, and the Dr. W. C. Irby House is probably the city's best example of a residence influenced by the Eastlake style. The Albright-Dukes House is a rare local example of the Dutch colonial revival style, and the Sitgreaves House represents the transition from the Queen Anne style to the Colonial revival style. Several buildings in the two historic districts and other individual properties are vernacular residences which incorporate elements of one or more recognized styles.

Nominated buildings in the Laurens Multiple Resource Area range in size from small, single-story cottages in the two historic districts to two- or three-story mansions such as the Williams-Ball-Copeland House, the John Calvin Owings House (#19, Laurens Historic District Extension), and the two houses on Irby Avenue. Most of the buildings are of frame construction, sheathed in weatherboarding. The Williams-Ball-Copeland House is constructed of brick with an exterior coating of stucco. Some buildings in the districts are sheathed in brick veneer or wood shingles.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet 3

Item number 7

Page 2

Aside from the public square, with its centrally-located courthouse and surrounding commercial buildings, Laurens does not exhibit evidence of an urban plan. However, as the town developed, consistency was observed with regard to setback and scale of buildings in the residential neighborhoods. Front yards often were terraced and landscaped. Many of the yards have distinctive retaining walls or fences along the sidewalk. Most of the nominated properties are located in the south and west portions of the city. Most of the older buildings in other parts of Laurens have been demolished or inappropriately altered.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

The City of Laurens Multiple Resource nomination is a result of an architectural and historical survey of the city undertaken during the years 1981-82. Surveyors were Jill Kemmerlin, Elizabeth Mallin, and Martha Walker Fullington of the survey staff of the South Carolina Department of Archives and History and John C. Blythe, Jr., Historic Preservation Planner for the Upper Savannah Council of Governments. A total of 211 buildings were identified. An earlier survey, undertaken in 1978-79 by Ruth K. LaForge of Upper Savannah, local volunteers, and staff members of the Department of Archives and History, resulted in the listing of the Laurens Historic District in 1980. A number of local historians and other citizens assisted with the historical component of the 1981-82 survey. The entire city was examined for architectural and above-ground historical resources; no archaeological testing was undertaken as a part of this project. A limited archaeological survey in April 1985 identified several significant below-ground resources in an area immediately south of the public square. An archaeological survey of the entire multiple resource area by competent professionals may result in an expanded and more comprehensive nomination. Survey criteria established by the Department of Archives and History served as the basis for the 1981-82 survey. These criteria require the identification of all properties which are at least fifty years old and which retain integrity. In the areas proposed for nomination as historic districts, the age requirement was expanded to include all resources constructed prior to 1940.

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 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
				Black History

Specific dates ca. 1800-ca. 1940 Builder/Architect N/A

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The nomination for the Laurens Multiple Resource Area includes six individual properties (8 buildings, 1 object), a historic district (43 buildings), and an extension of the existing historic district (21 buildings) located within the city limits of Laurens. Dating from the early nineteenth century to ca. 1940, these resources, with the six individual properties and one historic district already listed on the National Register, illustrate the historical and architectural development of the city.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The city of Laurens (or Laurensville as it was known during the antebellum period) was established as the county seat of Laurens County in the late eighteenth century. Laurens County was one of six counties created from the old Ninety Six District by an act of the South Carolina General Assembly in 1785.¹ Early records of the town were destroyed by fire, and no description of the area prior to the establishment of the town is known to exist. Several factors are believed to have led to the site's selection: the area had an abundant supply of water; it was at the intersection of five major roads; and it was near the geographic center of the new county. At least one person--John Rodgers--was living in the area in 1785. Rodgers had a distillery at a site approximately three blocks south of the present courthouse, and it was here that the site selection committee is said to have met.²

By 1792 a courthouse had been erected at the approximate location of the existing courthouse.³ In 1800 the property surrounding the courthouse was subdivided and sold. A plat of the subdivision shows the public square, Laurens Street, Caroline Street, Republican (now Main) Street, Saxon (now South Harper) Street, and Harper (now Sullivan) Street.⁴ A subsequent plat, drawn in or after 1819, shows a portion of this area, with crude representations of the courthouse, jail, a law office, a house/store, and nine other houses fronting on the public square.⁵

In 1826 Laurensville was described as having thirty-five houses and 250 inhabitants.⁶ Four years later the Laurensville Male and Female Academy was incorporated by the General Assembly. By 1834 four churches--Associate Reformed Presbyterian, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Baptist--had been established in the town, and in 1838-40 the central portion of the present Laurens County Courthouse was constructed.⁷ Reportedly the village had twelve stores, including two for medical practitioners and a fancy confectionary and fruit store, in 1840. In 1845 the Laurensville

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheets

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property See Individual Inventory Forms

Quadrangle name N/A

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References See Individual Inventory Forms

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

Verbal boundary description and justification The boundary of the City of Laurens Multiple Resource Area corresponds to the incorporation limits of the city as shown on the accompanying City of Laurens zoning map, which is drawn at a scale of 800 feet to the inch. Boundaries of properties being nominated are also shown on this map and are referenced on individual inventory forms.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>	county	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>
-------	------------	------	------------	--------	------------	------	------------

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>	county	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>
-------	------------	------	------------	--------	------------	------	------------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title John C. Blythe, Jr., Historic Preservation Planner

organization	<u>Upper Savannah Council of Governments</u>	date	<u>April 7, 1986</u>
--------------	--	------	----------------------

street & number	<u>Post Office Box 1366</u>	telephone	<u>(803) 229-6627</u>
-----------------	-----------------------------	-----------	-----------------------

city or town	<u>Greenwood</u>	state	<u>South Carolina 29648-1366</u>
--------------	------------------	-------	----------------------------------

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 *Charles E. Lee*

title	<u>Charles E. Lee</u>	date	<u>7/24/86</u>
	<u>State Historic Preservation Officer</u>		

For NPS use only

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

<u><i>Amy Schlager</i></u>	date	<u>11/18/86</u>
----------------------------	------	-----------------

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: *See Continuation sheet for Testing* date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet 4

Item number 8

Page 1

Herald, the county's first newspaper, was founded.⁸ That same year a town charter was granted under the name Laurensville. The name was officially changed to Laurens in 1873.⁹

The Laurens Railroad was built during the 1850s, and by 1860 the village had a population of 429.¹⁰ At least three of the nominated buildings had been constructed by this time: Word-Humphreys-Childress House (#10, South Harper Street Historic District), Hix-Blackwell House (#8, South Harper Street Historic District), and Williams-Ball-Copeland House. Zelotes Holmes's Octagon House (National Register, 1973) on East Main Street was also constructed during this period. In 1931 a local historian gave an account of forty-seven houses standing in Laurens in the year 1857. This reminiscence not only provides information about the individual buildings, but also sheds light on the physical development of the city during the ante-bellum period. Not surprisingly, the majority of these houses stood on the oldest streets--Main, Harper, and Laurens.¹¹

During the Civil War a temporary hospital for wounded soldiers was reportedly established in Laurens, and many of the townsmen participated in the fighting.¹² However, no battles were fought in Laurens County. Laurens played an important role in the movement to end Radical Reconstruction, and at least two of its citizens were leaders in the movement. Col. B. W. Ball, owner of the Williams-Ball-Copeland House, frequently hosted meetings of Wade Hampton's "Red Shirts" at his home, and William Dunlap Simpson (see existing Laurens Historic District) was elected lieutenant governor in 1876. Simpson succeeded Hampton as governor in 1879.¹³

It was during the post-Reconstruction era that the city of Laurens enjoyed its most significant development. Business directories listed thirty-seven commercial and professional establishments in 1871 and thirty-five in 1876. By 1880-81 forty-five were cited; a decade later the number had grown to seventy-one. The population nearly tripled during the decade, from 752 to 2,245.¹⁴ A local business guide published in 1888 attributed the rapid growth primarily to the three railroads which passed through the city. The Laurens Railroad had gone bankrupt, but was rebuilt in 1874. The Greenwood, Laurens and Spartanburg Railroad was built in 1882-84, and the Greenville and Laurens Railroad was completed in 1886. The guide states that, "The date of the completion of [the Laurens Railroad] separates the 'Laurens that used to be,' from the Laurens of to-day. Immediately, the town was enthused with new life and as a consequence the log-cabins and wooden structures

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet 5

Item number 8

Page 2

that were then on the square gradually disappeared, and in their places were erected large commodious, and beautiful brick store-rooms which now adorn it." The city had two brick hotels with a total of fifty-eight rooms, a frame hotel, several boarding houses, a male academy, a female college, four white churches, three black churches, several small factories and machine shops, and two newspapers.¹⁵

A writer for the (Charleston, S. C.) News and Courier wrote of Laurens in 1887, "The town has practically been built since 1882. At that time there were not many fine houses on the streets which now enclose the public square, which is now densely surrounded with the handsomest buildings. . . There are about forty stores in the town, and quite a number are credited with doing a \$100,000 business. . . Main Street for the distance of about a mile is lined on either side with pretty dwelling houses, each house almost invariably adorned with a well-kept flower garden." The writer reported that the National Bank of Laurens had been founded in 1886 and the People's Loan and Exchange Bank in 1887. The article went on to state that, "The Building and Loan Association began operation in January 1886 . . . [and] A very considerable proportion of the houses put up since January 1886 is entirely due to the existence of this association. . ." ¹⁶

The next decade brought continued growth to the city. Population reached 4,029 in 1900, an increase of 1,784 persons (79%) since 1890. Major developments included the establishment of the Laurens Cotton Mills in 1895 and the arrival of the Columbia, Newberry and Laurens Railroad in 1896. The town was provided with electricity in 1896 and plumbing in 1897. The Laurens Furniture Factory was established in 1900.¹⁷

During the first decade of the twentieth century, the population increased by only twenty percent, up to 4,818, but physical evidence indicates that much residential construction occurred in the city. Many of the houses included in this nomination were erected or significantly renovated during this period. In addition, the Watts Cotton Mills were organized in 1902 and constructed adjacent to Laurens' northern border. By mid-1904 the city also had four banks, a roller mill, two bonded warehouses, a telephone exchange, an oil and fertilizer manufacturing plant, and numerous retail and wholesale businesses.¹⁸

The three decades from 1880 to 1910 were Laurens' "boom" years, during which time the population increased 541%, three railroads were built, major commercial enterprises were established, and

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet 6

Item number 8

Page 3

residential developments emerged. It was during this period that the majority of houses included in this nomination were constructed. About 1910 the Laurens Glass Works was established; after its reorganization in 1913, the company became a major employer in the city.¹⁹ The rapid period of growth of the city ended about this time, and the population actually declined slightly, standing at 4,629 in 1920.²⁰

The prosperity of the 1920s, combined with the influx of rural residents moving to the city as a result of the boll weevil infestation and the Great Depression, reversed this trend, and Laurens experienced another "boom" period during 1920-50. The population nearly doubled during this period, to 8,658.²¹ Since then the city has continued to grow, but at a considerably smaller rate each decade. The 1980 population was 10,587.²² Most of the post-1940 development has occurred in outlying areas of the city and along North Harper Street.

Architecture: The physical development of Laurens is represented by buildings of numerous architectural styles and vernacular designs. Most of the significant buildings were constructed in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, but several antebellum resources are included as well. The nominated properties include two historic districts which are architecturally significant for different reasons. The Laurens Historic District Extension has buildings constructed between ca. 1880 and ca. 1940, which feature the influence of numerous architectural styles, as well as a number of vernacular residences. The South Harper Street Historic District is notable for its collection of vernacular residences, with few of its resources representing any definite architectural style. Residential development along South Harper Street peaked during the first decade of the twentieth century, although significant buildings in the district date from ca. 1800-1935. Other architecturally significant resources in the multiple resource area are the Williams-Ball-Copeland House, a ca. 1859-61 Italian villa style residence; the Dr. W. C. Irby House, which features the influence of the Eastlake style; the Charles H. Duckett House, ca. 1892, a vernacular cottage; the Lyde Irby Darlington House, a ca. 1899 eclectic residence incorporating elements of the Eastlake, Queen Anne, and classical revival styles; the Albright-Dukes House, a rare, local example of the Dutch colonial revival style, built ca. 1904; and the Sitgreaves House, a ca. 1907 residence which represents the transition from the Queen Anne style to the Colonial revival style.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet 7

Item number 8

Page 4

Black History: The Charles H. Duckett House was the personal residence of one of Laurens' most prominent black citizens. Duckett was a carpenter and contractor who also ran a lumberyard and funeral home. Although no documentation has been located, it is probable that Duckett designed and/or constructed his home.

Commerce: The Laurens MRA includes the homes of persons who were locally significant in the area of commerce. Included is the home of Charles H. Duckett, a leading black citizen who operated a lumberyard and funeral home. H. Douglas Gray, who was co-founder and president of the Southern States Lumber Company, lived in the South Harper Street Historic District. The two districts contain the homes of many other individuals who participated actively in Laurens' role as the commercial center of the county.

Communications: One house in the Laurens MRA is important for the contributions which its former residents made in the area of communications. The Williams-Ball-Copeland House was the home of Beaufort Watts Ball, William Watts Ball, and Sarah Ball (later Copeland), who owned and edited the Laurens Advertiser in the late 1800s. W. W. Ball went on to become one of the most influential newspaper editors in South Carolina, serving in this capacity for The State (Columbia, S. C.) and the Charleston News and Courier for a total of thirty-six years.

Industry: Laurens Glass Company has been a major industry in Laurens since 1913. The physical plant has been expanded and modernized to a degree that precludes its listing in the National Register. However, the homes of the three men who are responsible for the reorganization and success of the company are all standing and in good condition. The homes of Albert Dial (first president) and Ernest D. Easterby (second president) are located in the Laurens Historic District Extension area. The third partner, H. Douglas Gray, lived on South Harper Street.

Politics/Government: Included in the nomination are the homes of numerous individuals who held state-wide or local office. Col. John Drayton Williams (Williams-Ball-Copeland House) was a member of the Southern Rights Convention of 1852 and the Secession Convention. Beaufort Watts Ball (Williams-Ball-Copeland House) was a member of the South Carolina Constitutional Convention of 1865 and was a prominent supporter of the "red shirt" movement. Both men were members of the state legislature, as were O. L. Long, Homer S. Blackwell, W. R. Richey, Jr., Clarence M. Babb, and James H. Sullivan. Long, Blackwell, Richey, Babb, and Sullivan lived on South Harper Street. Robert A. Cooper (#32, South Harper Street Historic District) was a governor of South Carolina.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet 8

Item number 8

Page 5

The most well-known preservation activity in the city of Laurens is the restoration of the Octagon House on East Main Street. More than \$200,000 in federal, state, and private funds have been spent on this project since its inception in 1970. When restoration is complete, the house will contain office space for the Laurens County Arts Council, museum, meeting room, performance/display areas for the arts, and caretaker's apartment. Another area of preservation activity is the Laurens Public Square, which underwent extensive facade restorations in 1983. The Williams-Ball-Copeland House has been stabilized and will be extensively renovated to serve as the administration and reception building for the Martha Franks Baptist Retirement Center when funds are available. The Bethel A.M.E. Church received a federal grant in 1983 to assist with its restoration, and the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany completed an extensive restoration that same year. Both churches are key elements of the Laurens Historic District. Much rehabilitation work on private residences has been accomplished by individual homeowners.

The decision to nominate the eight properties in this nomination was made after examining carefully the results of the city of Laurens historic survey. Several properties were initially considered for listing, but were eliminated after closer examination revealed problems with integrity. Other properties were excluded because of lack of historical information; if reliable documentation is located, these properties may be considered in the future. The properties being nominated are those within the boundaries of the multiple resource area which are believed to possess historical and/or architectural significance and integrity.

The Laurens Multiple Resource Area nomination includes the home of Charles H. Duckett, whose productive life extended into the past fifty years. Significant contributions made by Duckett, however, occurred more than fifty years ago, and enough time has elapsed to judge those early contributions. The Laurens Historic District Extension includes several resources constructed within the past fifty years, but which are integral parts of the district and therefore qualify for inclusion in the National Register.

The results of the survey and inventory process have been integrated into the South Carolina Inventory of Historic Places, which is maintained by the South Carolina Department of Archives and History (State Historic Preservation Office). The city of Laurens has no comprehensive preservation plan or historic resources protection ordinance.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

9

Item number 8

Page 6

FOOTNOTES

¹Thomas Cooper, ed., The Statutes at Large of South Carolina, 10 vols. (Columbia, S. C.: A. S. Johnston, 1838), 4:661.

²Ronald Burnside, "History of Laurens County," in The Scrapbook: A Compilation of Historical Facts About Places and Events of Laurens County, South Carolina, ed. William P. Jacobs ([Clinton, S. C.: Jacobs Press], 1982), p. 10; Edna Riddle Foy, "A Brief Sketch of the Development of Laurens County," in Julian Stevenson Bolick, A Laurens County Sketchbook (n.p.: n.p., 1973), p. 15; S. F. Garlington, comp., Business Directory of the Town of Laurens, Together With An Historical Sketch (Laurens, S. C.: n.p., 1888), pp. 27-29; Marion R. Wilkes, "History of Laurens County, South Carolina--Part I: Earliest Times To 1840," Washington, D. C., 1945 (Typewritten.), pp. 78-80.

³Wilkes, p. 83.

⁴Book G, p. 225, Laurens County Deeds and Plats, Laurens County Courthouse, Laurens, S. C. The plat is reproduced in The Scrapbook, p. 60.

⁵Plat of the Laurens Square, ca. 1819, Personal Files of John Wells Todd, III, Laurens, S. C. The plat is reproduced in The Scrapbook, p. 58.

⁶Robert Mills, Statistics of South Carolina . . . (Charleston, S. C.: Hurlbut and Lloyd, 1826), p. 605.

⁷Wilkes, pp. 130-134, 136.

⁸Burnside, pp. 12, 14.

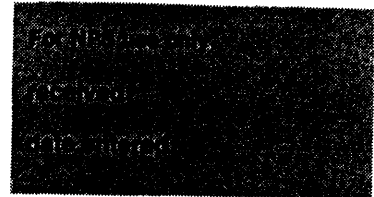
⁹Research, Planning and Development Board, Towns of South Carolina: Incorporated Dates, Population, Utilities, Communications, County Political Representation (Columbia, S. C.: n.p., 1947), n.p.

¹⁰Garlington, p. 33; U. S., Department of the Interior, Census Office, Eighth Census of the United States, 1960: Population (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1864), p. 452.

¹¹Laurens (S. C.) Advertiser, 9 April 1931 ("Reminiscences of Old Laurens," Read by Mrs. Bessie Watts Royall Before the Henry Laurens Chapter, D. A. R.).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

10

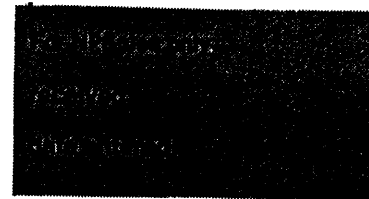
Item number 8

Page 7

- 12 Foy, p. 36.
- 13 Julia Chiles Lovell, The Villa: Monument and Beacon, Saga of Five Families (Clinton, S. C.: Jacobs Press, 1983), p. 27; James P. Sloan, "William Dunlap Simpson," in The Scrapbook, p. 338.
- 14 Bradstreet's Reports of the states of Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, Vol. XXIX (New York: Bradstreet press, 1871), pp. 40-41; Smith's South Carolina Business Directory, Trade Index and Shipper's Guide, 1876-'77 (Charleston, S. C.: Lucas & Richardson, 1876), n.p.; The South Carolina State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1880-81 (Charleston, S. C.: R. A. Smith, 1880), pp. 389-390; South Carolina State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1890-91 (n.p.: n.p., n.d.), pp. 278-281. U. S., Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910: Population, 3:645; U. S., Department of the Interior, Census Office, Tenth Census of the United States, 1880: Population (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1883), p. 329.
- 15 Garlington, pp. 32-35, 38-42, 46-51, 57-68.
- 16 News and Courier (Charleston, S. C.), 27 July 1887.
- 17 Burnside, p. 15; Foy, p. 38; The Laurens County (S. C.) Advertiser, 31 May 1978 (Part II of text of speech by Dr. Lewis Jones before the Laurens County Historical Society); Thirteenth Census, 3:645.
- 18 Burnside, p. 15; Laurensville (S. C.) Herald, 10 June 1904; Thirteenth Census, 3:645.
- 19 "Laurens Glass Company," in The Scrapbook, pp. 680-682.
- 20 U. S., Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930: Population, 1:992.
- 21 Idem. Seventeenth Census of the United States, 1950: Population, 2:40-12.
- 22 South Carolina, Division of Research and Statistical Services, South Carolina Statistical Abstract, 1982, p. 246.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet 11

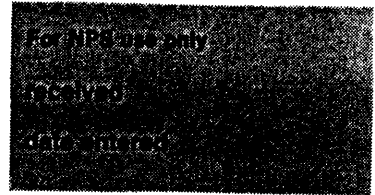
Item number 9

Page 1

- Babb, Thomas "Buck". "Thomas Edgar Babb." (Typewritten.)
- Baldwin's Laurens, South Carolina, City Directory. Charleston, S. C.: Baldwin Directory Company, Inc., 1948.
- Bolick, Julian Stevenson. A Laurens County Sketchbook. n.p.: n.p., 1973.
- Bradstreet's Reports of the states of Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina. Vol. XXIX. New York: Bradstreet press, 1871.
- Charlotte, N. C. Personal Files of James C. Hemphill, Jr.
- Cooper, Thomas, ed. The Statutes at Large of South Carolina. 10 vols. Columbia, S. C.: A. S. Johnston, 1838.
- Crump, Mrs. Morris J. (Mae). Laurens, S. C. Interview, 20 September 1985.
- Directory of The City of Laurens. Clinton, S. C.: A. G. Smith, 1937.
- Dukes, Mrs. Bailey A. Laurens, S. C. Interview, 16 July 1985.
- Fike, C. L. A Map of the Town of Laurens, South Carolina From Surveys In The Years 1882 & 1883. n.p., n.d.
- Garlington, S. F., comp. Business Directory of the Town of Laurens, Together with An Historical Sketch. Laurens, S. C.: n.p., 1888.
- Jacobs, William P., ed. The Scrapbook: A Compilation of Historical Facts About Places and Events of Laurens County, South Carolina. [Clinton, S. C.: Jacobs Press], 1982.
- Laurens and Clinton, S. C., City Directory. Columbia, S. C.: The Southern Directory Agency, 1917.
- The Laurens County (S. C.) Advertiser, 31 May 1978.
- The Laurens County (S. C.) News, 24 May 1900.
- Laurens (S. C.) Advertiser, 22 November 1899, 29 January 1908, 9 December 1914, 1 November 1916, 30 May 1917, 16 March 1921, 26 September 1929, 9 April 1931, 4 August 1932, 8 February 1934, 3 April 1947.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet 12

Item number 9

Page 2

Laurens, S. C. Laurens County Courthouse. Laurens County Deeds and Plats. Miscellaneous books.

_____. _____ . Laurens County Probate Records. Miscellaneous apartments.

_____. Personal Files of Susan D. Elder.

_____. Personal Files of John Calvin Owings, II.

_____. Personal Files of John Wells Todd, III.

Laurensville (S. C.) Herald, 4 March 1904, 10 June 1904.

Lovell, Julia Chiles. The Villa: Monument and Beacon, Saga of Five Families. Clinton, S. C.: Jacobs Press, 1983.

McCuen, W. R. (Bob), Jr. Laurens, S. C. Interviews, 24 February 1984, 18 July 1984.

McDaniel, Mrs. Darling A. (Ethel). Laurens, S. C. Interview, 1 November 1979.

Manufacturers Record, 12 March 1897, p. 126.

Mills, Robert. Statistics of South Carolina Charleston, S. C.: Hurlbut and Lloyd, 1826.

News and Courier (Charleston, S. C.), 27 July 1887.

Research, Planning and Development Board. Towns of South Carolina: Incorporated Dates, Population, Utilities, Communications, County Political Representation. Columbia, S. C.: n.p., 1947.

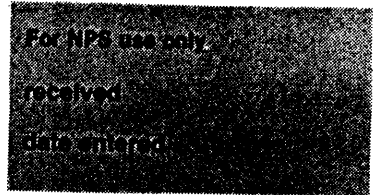
Sanborn Map Company. Insurance Maps of Laurens, South Carolina. New York: Sanborn Map and Publishing Co., Ltd., 1884, 1889, 1894, 1901, 1906, 1912, 1922, 1930.

Scogland, Thesta Kennedy, comp. The Garlington Family. Baltimore: Gateway Press, 1976.

Smith's South Carolina Business Directory, Trade Index and Shipper's Guide, 1876-'77. Charleston, S. C.: Lucas & Richardson, 1876.

South Carolina. Division of Research and Statistical Services. South Carolina Statistical Abstract, 1982.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

Continuation sheet 13

Item number 9

Page 3

The South Carolina State Gazetteer and Business Directory for
1880-81. Charleston, S. C.: R. A. Smith, 1880.

South Carolina State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1890-91.
n.p.: n.p., n.d.

Todd, John Wells (III) and Todd, Agatha Q. Laurens, S. C.
Interview, 12 July 1985.

Tolbert, Marguerite; Elliott, Irene Dillard; and Gray, Wil Lou,
comps. South Carolina's Distinguished Women of Laurens
County. Columbia, S. C.: R. L. Bryan, 1972.

U. S. Department of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. Fifteenth
Census of the United States, 1930: Population. vol. I.

Seventeenth Census of the United States, 1950:
Population. vol. 2.

Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910:
Population, vol. 3.

U. S. Department of the Interior. Census Office. Eighth Census
of the United States, 1860: Population. Washington: Govern-
ment Printing Office, 1864.

Tenth Census of the United States, 1880:
Population. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1883.

Wilkes, Marion R. "History of Laurens County, South Carolina --
Part I: Earliest Times To 1840." Washington, D. C., 1945.
(Typewritten.)

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

For NPS use only
received NOV 14 1986
date entered DEC 11 1985

1. Name

City of Laurens Multiple Resource Area: (Partial Inventory: Historical and
historic Supplement I Architectural Resources)

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number City limits of Laurens, South Carolina N/A not for publication

city, town Laurens N/A vicinity of

state South Carolina code 045 county Laurens code 059

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 type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	NA in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multiple Resource	NA being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership (See Inventory Forms)

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state _____

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Laurens County Courthouse

street & number Public Square

city, town Laurens state South Carolina 29360

6. Representation in Existing Surveys See Continuation Sheet

South Carolina Inventory of
title Historic Places has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes no

date 1978-85 ___ federal state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records South Carolina Department of Archives and History

city, town Columbia state South Carolina 29211-166

9. Major Bibliographical References

(See Continuation Sheets)

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property See Individual Inventory Forms

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References

A

Zone	Easting			Northing					

B

Zone	Easting			Northing					

C

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

D

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

E

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

F

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

G

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

H

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

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries of the City of Laurens, South Carolina (See individual inventory forms)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code _____ county N/A code _____

state N/A code _____ county N/A code _____

11. Form Prepared By

name/title John C. Blythe, Jr., Historic Preservation Planner

organization Upper Savannah Council of Governments date April 7, 1986

street & number Post Office Box 1366 telephone (803) 229-6627

city or town Greenwood state South Carolina 29648-1366

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 *Charles E. Lee* date 10/31/86
State Historic Preservation Officer

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date 12-1-86

[Signature]
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name City of Laurens Multiple Resource Area
State SOUTH CAROLINA

Cover A. Schlager 11/19/86
Date/Signature

Nomination/Type of Review

1. Albright-Dukes House

*Entered in the
National Register*

for Keeper Arlene Byers 11/19/86

Attest

2. Darlington, Lyde Irby, House

*Entered in the
National Register*

for Keeper Arlene Byers 11/19/86

Attest

pat 5

3. Duckett, Charles H., House **Substantive Revised**

*Entered in the
National Register*

Keeper [Signature] 11/20/86

Attest

4. Irby, Dr. William Claudius, House

*Entered in the
National Register*

for Keeper Arlene Byers 11/19/86

Attest

5. Sitgreaves House

*Entered in the
National Register*

Keeper Arlene Byers 11/19/86

Attest

6. Williams-Ball-Copeland House

*Entered in the
National Register*

Keeper Arlene Byers 11/19/86

Attest

7. South Harper Street Historic District

*Entered in the
National Register*

Keeper A. Schlager 11/19/86

Attest

*-50
pat 5*

8. Laurens Historic District (Boundary Increase)

*Entered in the
National Register*

Keeper A. Schlager 11/19/86

Attest

*-50
pat 5*

9. Wilson--Clary House

*Entered in the
National Register*

for Keeper Arlene Byers 11/19/86

Attest

10.

Keeper

Attest