

(X) NOT FOR PUBLICATION

3/27/86

SOUTH CAROLINA INVENTORY FORM FOR HISTORIC DISTRICTS AND INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES IN A MULTIPLE PROPERTY SUBMISSION

NAME OF MULTIPLE PROPERTY SUBMISSION: Lower Richland County Multiple Resource Area

PREFERRED NAME OF PROPERTY: Keziah Goodwyn Hopkins Brevard House

HISTORIC NAME OF PROPERTY: Keziah Goodwyn Hopkins Brevard House

COMMON NAME OF PROPERTY: Alwehav

LOCATION: Off County Road 945, above its intersection with County Road 1162 and below that with County Road 935.

CLASSIFICATION: Building

OWNER: A. Mason Gibbes et al.
c/o Gibbes Machinery Company
P.O. Box 648
Columbia, S. C. 29202

DESCRIPTION

The Keziah Goodwyn Hopkins Brevard House (Alwehav) consists of a one-and-one-half-story, vernacular, frame residence constructed ca. 1820 and a large two-story, Italianate addition built ca. 1850. The building has architectural integrity from the time of the ca. 1850 enlargements.

The ca. 1820 house was a one-and-one-half-story, braced-frame residence, typical of the vernacular dwellings of the period. The house features large porches on its east and west elevations, tall brick pier foundation, sawn weatherboard siding, nine-over-six sash windows, and a gable roof. The building had a central-hall, double-pile plan with interior brick chimneys.

The 1850s enlargement of the house more than doubled its size. Portions of the original building were removed and the house was re-oriented to the north. The addition is of frame, two stories, with weatherboard siding. The north elevation of the addition, now the principal facade, is a symmetrical five-bay Italianate composition with a three-bay, two-story, pedimented porch. The porch has wooden pillars and a simple balustrade. Central doorways on the first and second floor open to the porch; these entrances have rectilinear transoms and sidelights.

Windows have six-over-six sash and louvered shutters. The building has a deep bracketed cornice and low-pitched hip roof. The east and west elevations of the 1850s construction are two bays, with enclosed end chimneys. A two-story ell at the rear (south elevation) encompasses part of the original house.

The nominated property includes a number of outbuildings and associated structures. The remnants of a water tower, believed to have been installed ca. 1908, are adjacent to the building. There are several associated structures to the southeast of the house, including a frame stable, a barn, three frame sheds, a well, and four modern shed buildings. The grounds are well-developed and landscaped.

SIGNIFICANCE

AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: S (for office use only)

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Keziah Goodwyn Hopkins Brevard House, known commonly as Alwehav since ca. 1904, is located in the Sandhills of Lower Richland County. The property has architectural significance as an example of a ca. 1850 residence with Italianate features. The Brevard House also illustrates the transition of a planter's residence from a one-and-one-half-story Sandhills cottage to a large Italianate, year-round residence.

The cottage, built by James Hopkins ca. 1820, now appears as a one-and-one-half-story rear extension with porch.(1) Keziah Goodwyn Hopkins Brevard, daughter of James Hopkins, moved, sometime after 1840, to her father's Sandhills home with her husband, Joseph Brevard. After Joseph's death Keziah apparently chose to make the Sandhills home her permanent residence and significantly enlarged the home, ca. 1850, to its present size and appearance.(2) According to one of the present owners, Mason Gibbes, this cottage originally sat at least 500 feet from its current location, and was moved at the time of the enlargement.(3).

The house was purchased by Caroline Adams LeConte, Mr. Gibbes's grandmother, in 1904, but was not occupied by the LeContes until 1906, when they moved there from Columbia. Mrs. LeConte, who was the wife of Louis LeConte, was a granddaughter of Governor James Hopkins Adams (term, 1854-1856), a half-nephew of Keziah Brevard.(4)

The current name of the property, Alwehav, originated, according to Mr. Gibbes, with Miss Eva LeConte, who, while living in New York City heard of her mother's purchase of the Brevard House. Miss LeConte's response to her mother's having to piece together all of her earthly goods and to mortgage the property in order to obtain it, was "its Alwehav."(5)

Any botanical specimens at the Brevard House are attributed first to Mrs. Brevard, then to Mrs. LeConte and her children, Miss Eva LeConte and Mr. Louis LeConte.(6) It is interesting to note that the elder Louis was a brother of John and Joseph LeConte, renowned nineteenth century scientists,

who held professorships in the sciences at the Universities of South Carolina and California.(7) Located on the property are such species as Feijoa, a small South American shrub/tree of the Myrtaceae family; Tung tree (*Aleurites fordii*), which produces a berry from which tung oil is extracted; Varnish tree (*Koelreuteria paniculata*), an Asiatic soapberry tree of the family Sapindaceae; the *Magnolia Macrophylla*, or Umbrella tree; and the very unusual *Magnolia Pyramidata*.(8)

ACREAGE: Approximately 4.0 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The boundary of the nominated property is shown as a black line on the accompanying Richland County Tax map #30700, section 3, parcel 21, with a scale of 1 inch equalling 400 feet. It includes the historic building, several historically associated out-buildings and structures, some modern outbuildings, and their immediate surroundings.

QUAD NAME: Congaree, S. C.

QUAD Scale; 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCE POINT: 17/519836/3758218

OTHER INFORMATION:

FOOTNOTES

¹Laura Hopkins Jervey, Lower Richland Planters - Hopkins, Adams, Weston and Related Families of South Carolina (Columbia, S. C.: The R. L. Bryan Company, 1976), p. 28.

²Ibid.

³Letter from Mason Gibbes, 23 August 1985.

⁴Ibid; Jervey, pp. 28-30.

⁵Gibbes Letter, 23 August 1985.

⁶Ibid.

⁷Ibid; Daniel Walker Hollis, University of South Carolina Volume II College to University (Columbia, S. C.: University of South Carolina Press, 1956), pp. 41-42.

⁸Gibbes Letter; Albert E. Radford, et al., Manual of Vascular Flora of the Carolinas (Chapel Hill, N. C.: University of North Carolina Press, 1968), pp. 473-475; Ellwood S. Harrar and J. George Harrar, Guide to Southern Trees, 2nd ed. (New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1962), pp. 276-278; William Allan Neilson, ed. in chief, Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language, 2nd ed, unabridged (Springfield, Mass.: G. & C. Merriam Company, 1948), pp. 929, 2734, 2820.