

**BEAUFORT COUNTY
HISTORIC SITES SURVEY - 1997**

INTENSIVE LEVEL BUILDING INVENTORY FORM

Statewide Survey Site Form
State Historic Preservation Office
South Carolina Department of Archives and History
Columbia, SC

Site Number: U- 13 - 621
Access County Site #
USGS Quad: 025 Beaufort
Doc. Level: Intensive Level-Building

Historic name(s): Retreat Plantation Map Ref.: BFT 19 Tax Number: R100.032.000.0002.0000
Common name(s): _____ City Block Ref.: _____ Island: Port Royal Is.
Address/location: 130 Pinckney Retreat Rd. City/Vicinity of (vic.): Beaufort vic.
Date: 1740 ca. Alteration date: 1940; 1950
Ownership: 1. private 2. city 3. county 4. state 5. federal 6. unknown
Category: 1. building 2. site 3. structure 4. object
Historic use(s): single dwelling Current uses: single dwelling

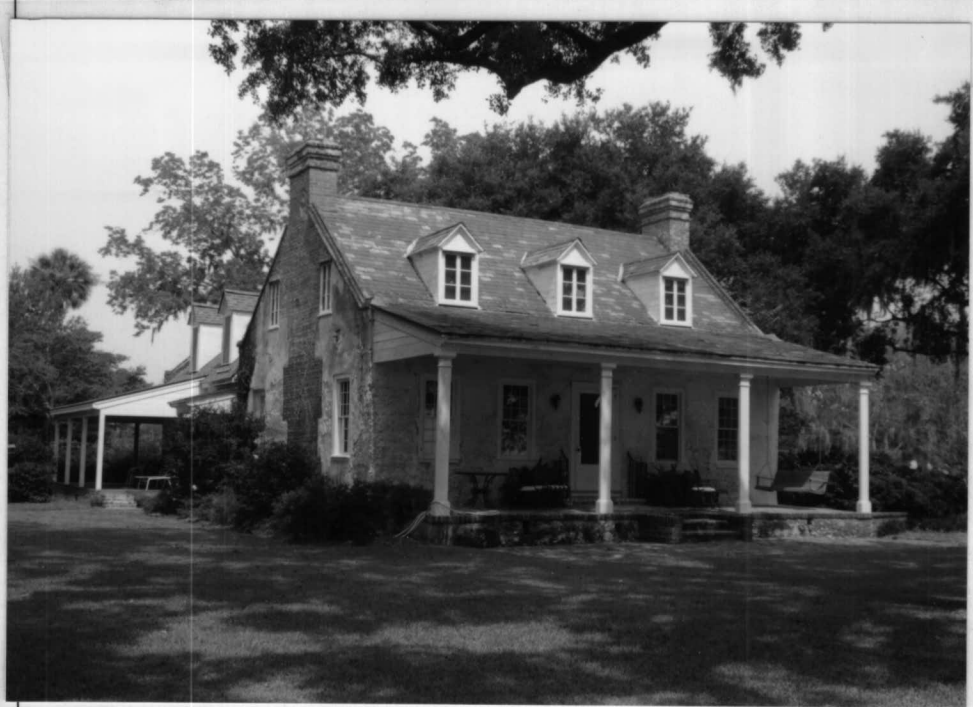
National Register Status: _____ Date: _____ Listing Name: _____ NRIS # _____

SHPO National Register Evaluation: National Register eligible Name: Retreat Plantation House

Consultant Recommendation: _____ Name: _____

Previous Survey: _____ Reference: _____ Notes: _____
 H.A.B.S. Other _____
 Feiss-Wright (1969) _____
 Historic Resources of the Lowcountry (1979) 38 BU 1104
 Milner Historic District Inventory (1979) _____
 A Guide to Historic Beaufort (1995 ed.) _____

Photograph:



Photographs:
 prints
 slides
 negatives

Date: 9/9/97

Recorder: D. Schneider, Historic Beaufort Fdn.

Roll # Neg. View of:
S-15 3 S facade & W elev., fac. NE
S-15 4 Outbld., fac. NE

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S-15 3 S facade & W elev., fac. NE
S-15 4 Outbld., fac. NE

Style: _____ Commercial Form: _____

Core Shape: rectangular _____ Stories: 1.5 stories _____ Construction: tabby _____
 Roof: Shape: gable (lateral) _____ Material: slate _____

Chimney: Type: exterior _____ Material: brick _____

Exterior Walls: stucco _____

Windows: single _____ Type: double hung _____ Pane 9/9 _____
 casement _____ Config.: _____

Doors: single _____ Foundation: tabby _____

Porch Height: 1 story _____ Porch Width: full facade _____ Porch Roof Shape: shed _____
 Porch Details: posts _____ Decorative Elements: _____

Outbuildings: other house _____ Interior Irregular plan at historic core includes large parlor at SW,
 formal garden _____ Features: stair & anteroom NW, smaller parlors w/corner fireplaces E;
 interior retains historic fireplaces, trim & detailing
 restored/reconstructed in 1940s

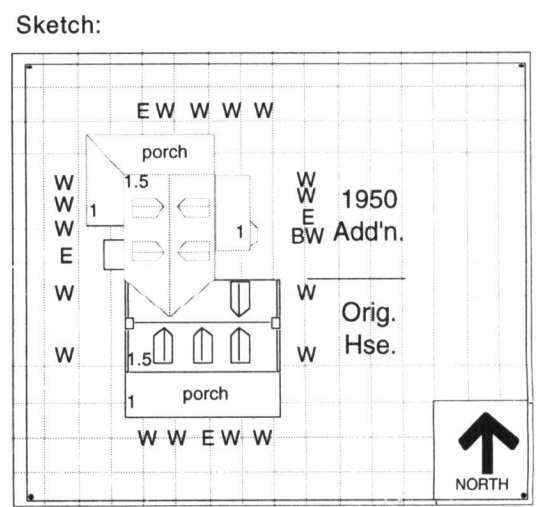
Number of Related Resources: 2 _____

Surroundings: residential _____ Acreage: +/1 140 ac. _____ Quadrangle: Beaufort _____

Alterations: Alteration date: 1940; 1950 _____ Integrity: good _____ Condition: good _____
 House had severely deteriorated by 1938 and was restored in 1940: interior woodwork was replaced (reproduced?),
 slate roof installed, casement windows installed @ dormers. In 1950 the rear kitchen wing was added as a 1 story

Description: Rectangular 1.5 story 5 x 2 bay stuccoed tabby house w/lateral gable roof terminated by low parapets, full facade porch w/posts, exposed brick interior end chimneys w/diamond pattern in glazed headers; 1950 rear 1.5 story 3 x 2 bay ell @ W side, w/wraparound porch @ W & N, enclosed porch @ E w/bay window. Slate roof (installed 1940 to replace wood shingles) w/3 regularly-spaced gable dormers @ front slope w/3-light casement windows. Central entrance @ facade flanked by 2 9/9 double hung windows; similar windows @ 2 bays of side elevs. & exposed bay of N elev. of original house; mix of windows @ addition. Formal garden extend along the entire E side of house (begun 1956) surrounded by high brick privacy (rear) & low decorative brick (front) walls. Deteriorated tenant house at rear of the house was constructed in the 1930s and is the only other contributing building on the site.

Historical Data: While the early history of Retreat is not well documented with primary research, it remains as one of Beaufort's landmark resources. Local tradition holds that the present house was built ca. 1740 for Jean de la Gaye, a prominent Huguenot planter. After de la Gaye's death, the property was sold at auction to Gen. Stephen Bull, who in turn gave it to his daughter and her husband, John Gibbes Barnwell, as a wedding present. It remained in the Barnwell family, eventually passing to the Walkers through marriage. In 1914, the house was abandoned. It remained vacant until Mr. & Mrs. John Sturdevant acquired it in 1938 and restored the house in 1940. The property was sold to Bronson Lamb in 1949 and, in 1955, Antonio Ponvert, a retired Cuban sugar planter, purchased it as a vacation home. The present owners, Mr. & Mrs. Pinckney, acquired Retreat in 1965.



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Informant/ Bibliography: Mr. B. G. Pinckney; Retreat Plantation scrapbook, photocopy, Historic Beaufort Foundation Collection