

**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 - 623
Access County Site #
USGS Quad: 025 Beaufort
Doc. Level: Intensive Level-Building

Historic name(s): Myrtle Bush Plantation Map Ref.: BFT 12 Tax Number: R100.029.000.0110.0000
Common name(s): Myrtle Bush Farms City Block Ref.: _____ Island: Port Royal Is.
Address/location: 116 Old Jericho Rd. City/Vicinity of (vic.): Beaufort vic.
Date: 1935 ca. Alteration date: 1950s
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: Myrtle Bush Farms Farmstead

Consultant Recommendation: _____ Name: _____

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

Photograph:



Photographs:
 prints
 slides
 negatives

Date: 3/29/97
Recorder: D. Schneider, Historic Beaufort Fdn.

Roll # Neg. View of:
B-03 25 E facade, fac. W
B-03 26 Site, allee, fac. N

_____ Siteplan sketch

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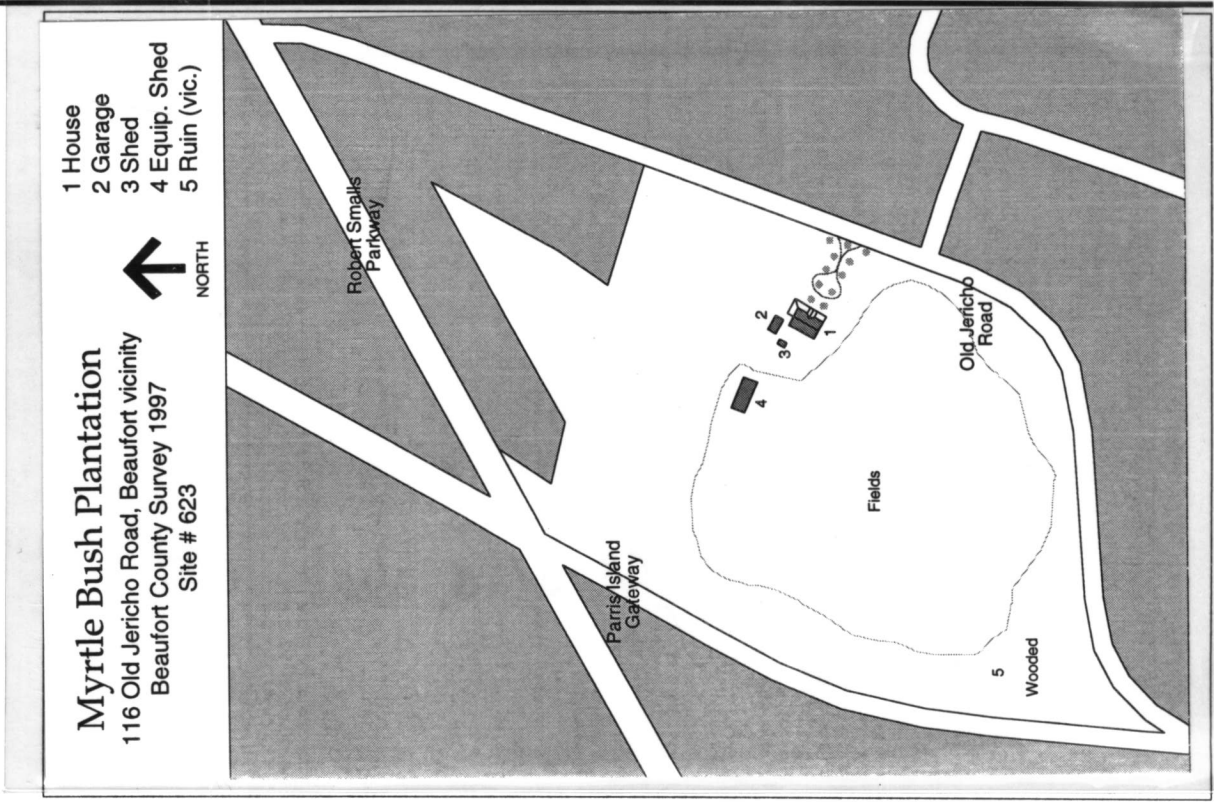
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Roll # Neg. View of:
B-03 25 E facade, fac. W
B-03 26 Site, allee, fac. N
Siteplan sketch

Style: _____ Commercial Form: _____

Core Shape: rectangular _____ Stories: 2 stories _____ Construction: masonry (tile) _____
 Roof: Shape: gable (lateral) _____ Material: composition shingle _____

Chimney: Type: not visible _____ Material: _____

Exterior Walls: stucco _____

Windows: single _____ Type: double hung _____ Pane 4/1 _____
 Config.: _____

Doors: single _____ Foundation: not visible _____
 transom _____
 sidelights _____

Porch Height: Roofed balcony over 1 story _____ Porch Width: full facade _____ Porch Roof Shape: _____
 Porch Details: piers _____ Decorative Elements: _____
 apron wall _____
 insect screening _____

Outbuildings: garage w/living area _____ Interior Features: _____
 sheds (2) _____

Number of Related Resources: _____

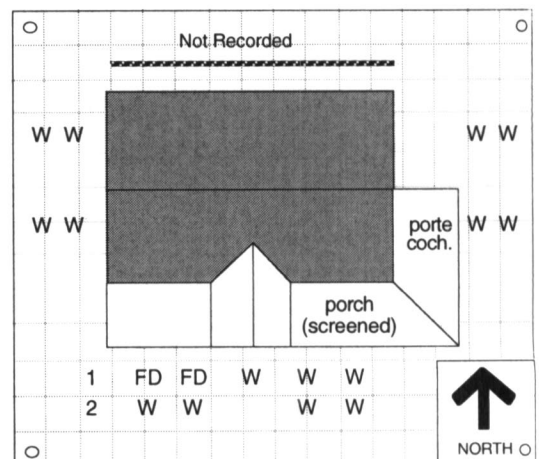
Surroundings: rural _____ Acreage: 5 acres _____ Quadrangle: Beaufort _____

Alterations: Alteration date: 1950s _____ Integrity: good _____ Condition: good _____
 2nd floor balcony enclosed, 2 windows at 1st level of facade converted to french doors

Description: 5 x 2 bay rectangular stuccoed masonry (hollow block tile) dwelling w/lateral gable composition shingle roof; 1 story shed porch extends full-width across facade with gable balcony above (now glassed in); central entrance at facade has transom & sidelights flanked by french doors and 4/1 windows; 4/1 windows at 2nd level & side elevs.; rear garage w/apartment above constructed in 1950s. The house is sited at E side of 5 acre lot; lot bounded to W by Parris Island Gateway, buffered by tree line; much of the property is leased to a farmer who continues to cultivate it; pole shed to NW of house; shed to rear of house; tabby ruin at SW portion of lot

Historical Data: One of Beaufort County's significant early-20th century truck farms, Myrtle Bush Farms encompasses a 5 acre tract of the former Myrtle Bush Plantation. The site is shown on Mills Atlas as the "E. Barnwell Place." The Direct Tax Commission records of 1863 indicate that Thomas Osborne Barnwell (6/18/10815-2/4/1874) owned the 450 acre property, by then referred to as Myrtle Bush, in fee simple on the eve of the Civil War and that it had been platted in 1801. Barnwell graduated from West Point and was a classmate of Edgar Allen Poe. Although Barnwell was able to reclaim the property after the war, he is thought to have lived in Beaufort until his death in the 1870s. The property remained in the Barnwell family until the turn of this century. The plantation house, referred to as "Myrtle Bank" was destroyed by a forest fire in the 1880s. The property was purchased by John Gray Sr. in 1908 or 1909 and was operated as a truck farm. The present house was constructed by the Gray family in 1921 in the center of an oak allee that led from the road to the former house. Truck farming on the site ended in the mid-1950s. Local tradition holds that a tabby ruin on the site may have been a chapel. Significant relationship to Old Jericho Road, a historic and scenic stretch of roadway.

Sketch:



Site Number: U - 13 - 623

Informant/ Bibliography: Molly Gray, property owner; Direct tax information from research collected by Colin Brooker, Beaufort SC; The Story of An American Family, Stephen Barnwell, 1969.