

Statewide Survey of Historic Properties

State Historic Preservation Office
South Carolina Department of Archives and History
8301 Parklane Road
Columbia, SC 29223-4905 (803) 896-6100

Site No. 7993 Status R Revisit
Quadrangle Name: Sewee Bay
Tax Map No. 625-00-00-010

SURVEY FORM

Identification

Historic Name: Fairlawn Plantation

Common Name:

Address/Location: US Hwy N17 near Guerin's Bridge Road, vic.

City: Awendaw ✓ Vicinity of County: Charleston

Ownership: Private Category: Site

Other:

Historical Use: Agriculture/ Subsistence

Portion of inland rice plantation

Current Use: Recreation/ Culture

Private hunt club

SHPO National Register
Determination of Eligibility: Eligible

Property Description

Construction Date: c. 1794

Construction: Other

Other:

Rice plantation

Historic Core Shape: Irregular

Exterior Walls:

Other:

Foundation:

Commercial Form:

Roof Shape:

Other:

Roof Material:

Stories:

Porch Shape:

Other:

Porch Width:

Description/Significant Features:

This is a 998 ac. portion of the Federal & Antebellum Period Hugh Rose/Fairlawn Plantation (originally 2,129 ac). It displays good to excellent setting, design, workmanship and context. Major components include rice dikes, canals, replaced trunks in original locations, extant (wooded) rice fields and fresh water reserves. One recorded graveyard (Site 7993.01) identified within this tract. This plantation is an excellent example of an industry that dominated the Lowcountry from the 1700s to the Civil War.

Alterations (include date(s), if known):

Damage to the property from Hurricane Hugo (1989) was very severe with 90%+ of the trees felled. Cleanup work included clearing downed trees from the fields and canals. The primary canals were re-excavated to their original depth and damaged trunks and gates were replaced. Spoil from these excavations was added to the tops of the already existing embankments for use as roadways to access the boundaries and interior sections of the property.

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

N/A

Historical Information

Historical Information:

Hugh Rose bought the overall Fairlawn tract in 1794, but it had been partly developed by a previous owner (Thomas Screven). Rose owned the property (plus other nearby plantations for a total of 7,500 ac) until his death (1841), followed by his son, James (1793-1869). Hugh focused on improvement of the plantation, including improvement of water flow and the introduction of scientific methods in rice production. It is unclear how many enslaved workers were owned by the Roses. The SC rice industry collapsed after the Civil War, and Fairlawn became a source of timber for various companies.

Source(s) of Information:

Purcell, Joseph - Plat of Fairlawn Plantation (c. 1794). McCrady Plat 4339, on file at Charleston Co. RMC; Smith, Hayden Ros - 2012 Rice Swamps and Rice Grounds, unpub. PhD Dissertation, Univ. of GA.; various deeds held by Charleston County;

Digital Photo ID(s)

File Name:	View:	Other:
07993001.tif		2017 aerial
07993002.tif		c. 1794 plat
07993003.tif	Facing Northwest	concrete trunk/dam
07993004.tif	Facing Northeast	interior drain in sw
07993005.tif	Facing Northeast	main embankment

Program Management

Recorded by:

William B. Barr

Organization:

Barr & Associates

Date Recorded:

02/04/2019