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South Carolina Department of Archives and History

It is time for the next #SCNR50 highlight!

The South Carolina Lace House has its historic significance as part of the buildings that make up Columbia's Arsenal Hill, a complex of fine mansions which were built shortly before the Civil War, and which furnished residences for the succeeding political and social elite of South Carolina's capital city through the early 1900s. The Lace House itself was at one time the home of a United States senator and at another of a mayor of Columbia. The house was built on the southwest corner of the square in 1854 by a respected Columbia banker, John C. Caldwell, as a wedding present for his youngest daughter, Mary and her husband, Thomas J. Robertson. Said to have been designed by a French architect who at the time was designing homes in New Orleans, the Lace House features ornamental cornices and friezes, parquet floors and figured glass doors and windows. It is a double-porched Classical Revival mansion with Italianate details that has an English basement, bracketed cornices, arched doors, and ornate cast iron porch supports, railings and trim. The lace-like appearance of all the lavish ironwork gives the house its popular name. It was listed in the National Register on December 17, 1969.

You can learn more and see the National Register nomination from 1969 on the South Carolina Historic Properties Record (SCHPR): <http://schpr.sc.gov/index.php/Detail/properties/12771>

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first SC properties added to the National Register of Historic Places - NPS we will be highlighting listings from the National Register from 1969 through the rest of 2019. Follow along using the hashtag #SCNR50