

Copy: Mrs. Sarah Wylie

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION SHEET FOR HISTORIC PROPERTIES IN
SOUTH CAROLINA TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY FOR THE NATIONAL
REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

1. Historic Name of Property: "Wylands"
2. Common Name of Property: Wylie Plantation
3. Highway 200, Winnsboro, S.C. 29180
4. Location: 1.5 miles Northeast of Winnsboro (turn right off highway 200 just before junction of Highway 200 and River Road)
5. Present use: private residence
agricultural (tree farm)
6. Owner of Property: Ms. Mary Jane Wylie Wright
106 Cathcart Circle
Winnsboro, S.C. 29180
635-3739
7. Historical Significance:
 - a. Association with historically significant event and historically significant person: house ransacked by Sherman's troops during Civil War
 - b. House represents a significant and distinguishable entity and has yielded, or will yield, information important to history or prehistory: house featured in state map and article in U.S. Department of Agriculture miscellaneous publication # 407 dated November 1940, reference pages 2 and page 11. Copy of map and page 11 enclosed.
This farm has been in the Wylie family since approximately 1790. A copy of the will of Joseph Wiley will attest. Also, Ms. Sara Arnette of the Fairfield County Historical Society can provide additional information.
8. Description of Property: Condition - good
Date of construction- 1832
Builder -- great grandfather
original use -- private residence
Description of house -- picture enclosed (see above)
Eighty percent original two story and porch,
Kitchen moved flush with two story portion in
1950's.

AGRICULTURE

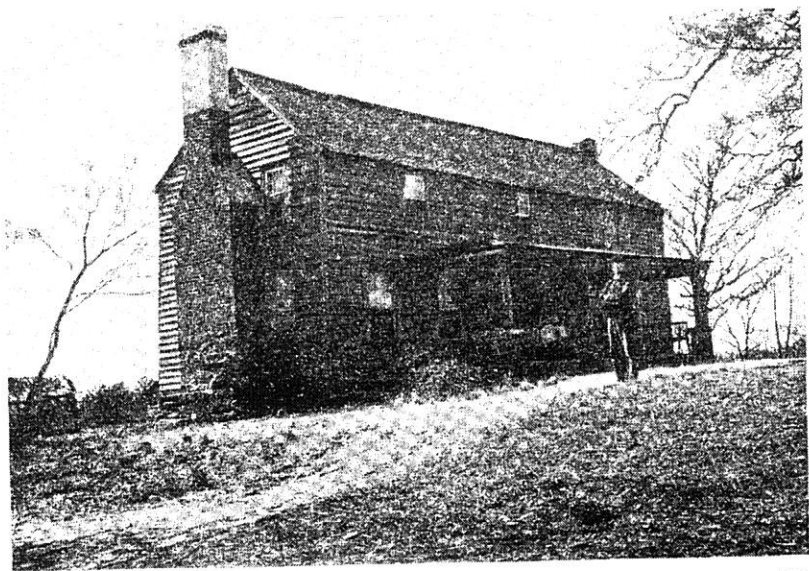
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striata (Thunb.)
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 of it (*40*, p. 274).
 luce hay and forage
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 my of the time and
 unfavorable to grass
 short tenure. The
 use, on the one hand,
 hile he was still the
 ence of grass would
 tive cotton planters,
 percent in the pro-
 t between 1839 and
 latter date was com-
 served from erosion
 at any time, and the
 or a good part of its
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districts nearest the
 red land even at the
 ss, clearing in areas
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 ing had taken place
 long the lower course
 ets of the period did

great damage to the indigo and rice plantations along that stream and were attributed in part to forest clearing in the upper watershed (*69*, v. 2, pp. 571-572). Robert Mills and his collaborators (*57*, pp. 491, 553, 653) in 1825 commented upon "the rapid disappearance of our forest trees" and suggested that the farmers of Chester District follow the Pennsylvania Dutch practice of leaving the tops of the hills in woods in order to protect the valley bottoms from silting.

Upon removal of forest cover, valuable bottom lands were silted over and stream beds were choked. Farmers, in clearing their fields, threw trunks and limbs into the nearby small stream branches, causing these to become choked also. As a result clear swift streams, with fairly



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FIGURE 3.—The Wylie plantation, Fairfield County, S. C., in the hands of the same family since shortly after the Revolution. This house, built about 1832, replaced an earlier one that stood in the creek bottom behind it. According to local tradition, clearing and cultivation of the creek watershed had caused the bottom to become so unhealthy that the move was necessary.

steady flow at all seasons, became muddy torrents in time of heavy rains and stagnant pools in time of dry weather, while bottom lands became swampy and unfit for cultivation.

Influenced by the very old belief that intermittent fever, that is, malaria, was produced by decaying vegetation and the presence of swampy areas, men declared that the silting of the streams and the presence of the rotting trunks and limbs in the stream courses had caused this malady to increase since colonial times (*70*, pp. 95-97). This idea occasionally found practical expression in the removal of an original home site from the valley bottom to an adjacent ridge (fig. 3).

When the belief in miasma was extended to cover the decaying forest litter in the remaining woodlands, the cause of soil and water conservation was not so well served. Burning the litter annually had