

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

RECEIVED
MAR - 6 1997
NPS
OMB Appro:
No. 1024-01

HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION APPLICATION
PART 1 - EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

NPS Office Use Only

NRIS No:

66600964

MAR 31 1997

S. C. DEPARTMENT
ARCHIVES & HISTORY
NPS Office Use Only

Project No:

0812-97-SC (1275)

Instructions: Read the instructions carefully before completing application. No certification will be made unless a completed application form has been received. Type or print clearly in black ink. If additional space is needed, use continuation sheets or attach blank sheets.

1. Name of property: Captain John Morrison House

Address of property: Street 125 Tradd Street

City Charleston County Charleston State SC Zip 29401

Name of historic district: Old & Historic District of Charleston, SC

☒ National Register district ☐ certified state or local district ☐ potential historic district

2. Check nature of request:

- ☐ certification that the building contributes to the significance of the above-named historic district (or National Register property) for the purpose of rehabilitation
☒ certification that the structure or building and, where appropriate, the land area on which such a structure or building is located contributes to the significance of the above-named historic district for a charitable contribution for conservation purposes.
☐ certification that the building does not contribute to the significance of the above-named district.
☐ preliminary determination for individual listing in the National Register.
☐ preliminary determination that a building located within a potential historic district contributes to the significance of the district.
☐ preliminary determination that a building outside the period or area of significance contributes to the significance of the district.

3. Project contact:

Name Jonathan H. Poston, Director of Preservation, Historic Charleston Foundation

Street 40 East Bay Street City Charleston

State SC Zip 29401 Daytime Telephone Number 803-724-8486

4. Owner:

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is, to the best of my knowledge, correct, and that I own the property described above. I understand that falsification of factual representations in this application is subject to criminal sanctions of up to \$10,000 in fines or imprisonment for up to five years pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 1001.

Name W. Jefferson Leath, Jr.

Signature

W. Jefferson Leath, Jr.

Date 3/5/97

Organization

Social Security or Taxpayer Identification Number

125 Tradd Street

Street Charleston City Charleston

State SC Zip 29401 Daytime Telephone Number 803-724-6662

NPS Office Use Only

The National Park Service has reviewed the "Historic Preservation Certification Application - Part 1" for the above-named property and hereby determines the property:

- ☒ contributes to the significance of the above-named district (or National Register property) and is a "certified historic structure" for the purpose of rehabilitation
☒ contributes to the significance of the above-named district and is a "certified historic structure" for a charitable contribution for conservation purposes in accordance with the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980.
☐ does not contribute to the significance of the above-named district.

Preliminary Determinations:

- ☐ appears to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will likely be listed in the National Register of Historic Places if nominated by the State Historic Preservation Officer according to the procedures set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
☐ does not appear to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will likely not be listed in the National Register.
☐ appears to contribute to the significance of a potential historic district, which will likely be listed in the National Register of Historic Places if nominated by State Historic Preservation Officer.
☐ appears to contribute to the significance of a registered historic district but is outside the period or area of significance as documented in the National Register nomination or district documentation on file with the NPS.
☐ does not appear to qualify as a certified historic structure.

4/1/97
Date

National Park Service Authorized Signature

National Park Service Office/Telephone No:

HISTORIC PRESERVATION
CERTIFICATION APPLICATION—
PART 1

NPS Office Use Only

Capt. John Morrison House

Property Name

125 Tradd Street, Charleston, SC

Property Address

Project Number:

5. Description of physical appearance:

(see attached)

Date of Construction: circa 1805 Source of Date: News and Courier "Do You Know Your Charleston?" article by Robert Stockton, HCF Research Files (article attached)
Date(s) of Alteration(s): 1930s; 1957; Rehabilitated 1996
Has building been moved? ☐ yes ☒ no. If so, when? _____

6. Statement of significance:

(see attached)

7. Photographs and maps.

Attach photographs and maps to application.

Continuation sheets attached: ☐ yes ☐ no

CONTINUATION/AMENDMENT SHEET

Historic Preservation
Certification Application

Capt. John Morrison House

Property Name

125 Tradd Street, Charleston, SC

Property Address

Instructions. Read the instructions carefully before completing. Type, or print clearly in black ink. Use this sheet to continue sections of the Part 1 and Part 2 application, or to amend an application already submitted. Photocopy additional sheets as needed.

This sheet: ☒ continues Part 1 ☐ continues Part 2 ☐ amends Part 1 ☐ amends Part 2 NPS Project Number: _____

5. Description of physical appearance continuation:

The three-and-one-half story, hipped roof, weatherboarded house at 125 Tradd Street is an unusually wide Charleston "single house" with a four-bay street facade. This elevation has nine-over-nine windows and a modillioned cornice which even extends around the three-tiered Tuscan-columned piazza. The unusual width of the building makes the primary rooms rectangular rather than square, and places the staircase at an unusual distance from the front door, deep into the hall. Constructed c.1805 by Capt. John Morrison, the house features the Adamesque or Federal influence that was prevalent during this period. The piazza screen entrance has a delicate fanlight and sidelights with engaged Tuscan columns of the Federal style. On the interior, the first floor drawing room has a dentilated cornice and molded wainscoting. The mantels in both downstairs rooms came from a period house in Salem, Massachusetts, and were installed by Mr. and Mrs. Frederick H. Allen during a 1930s rehabilitation. Across the hall, the dining room features similar original wainscoting. The cornice here is molded but undecorated. The same simplicity is found in the hallway, which has plain wainscoting and a staircase with simple balustrade and unadorned stair brackets.

A modern one-story wooden hyphen connects the house to the kitchen/slave quarters. This latter three bay, hipped roof, two-story building features English bond brickwork and jack arches but has some long-altered fenestration.

Name W. Jefferson Leath, Jr. Signature _____ Date _____
Street 125 Tradd Street City Charleston
State SC Zip 29401 Daytime Telephone Number 803-724-6662

NPS Office Use Only

- ☐ The National Park Service has determined that these project amendments meet the Secretary of the Interior's "Standards for Rehabilitation."
- ☐ The National Park Service has determined that these project amendments will meet the Secretary of the Interior's "Standards for Rehabilitation" if the attached conditions are met.
- ☐ The National Park Service has determined that these project amendments do not meet the Secretary of the Interior's "Standards for Rehabilitation."

Date _____ National Park Service Authorized Signature _____ National Park Service Office/Telephone No. _____

☐ See Attachments

CONTINUATION/AMENDMENT SHEET

Capt. John Morrison House

Historic Preservation

Property Name

Certification Application

125 Tradd Street, Charleston, SC

Property Address

6. Statement of significance:

Around 1805, Capt. John Morrison a mariner who previously resided on George Street, acquired the lot from the estate of Isaac Mazyck. Here he constructed one of Charleston's most distinctive single houses. The unusually wide frame structure with four bays on the street exhibits the Federal style which was popular in Charleston as well as America during this period. The building has a full three-tiered piazza. Morrison also constructed a two-story brick slave quarter dependency of a late Georgian-vernacular style. The adjacent grounds may incorporate part of the site of the commercial nursery of Robert Squibb who occupied this property in the late eighteenth century. Squibb introduced several exotic plants to the lowcountry and provided information through his 1790's pamphlet, Gardener's Calendar. Morrison lived here until his death in about 1821. The Morrison house passed to the Perroneau and Lowndes families in the nineteenth century. In the 1930s Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Allen, a wealthy northern couple, restored the house as their winter residence, replacing the piazza screen with a period fanlight doorway from the North and adding two New England federal mantels as well. Their restoration was otherwise restrained by today's standards and reflects the way a number of Northerners renovated Charleston houses in Colonial Revival period. The house was rated "Category 2", Excellent—High style regional architecture...of irreplaceable importance" in the Feiss-Wright Architectural Inventory of Charleston in 1972.