

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

RECEIVED  
OMB Approved  
No. 1024-0009

PPS DEC 15 2005

HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION APPLICATION  
PART 1 - EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

SC Department of  
Archives & History

NPS Office Use Only

NRIS No:

JAN 17 2006

NPS Office Use Only

Project No:

17734

Instructions: Read the instructions carefully before completing application. No certifications 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.

AEH-2006-005

1. Name of Property: Roulain-O'Neill House

Address of Property: Street 9 George Street

City Charleston

County Charleston

State SC

Zip 29401

Name of historic district: Charleston Historic District

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

Street Post Office Box 525

City Charleston

State SC

Zip 29402

Daytime Telephone Number 843-723-4675

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 Paul Boehm

Signature Paul Boehm

Date 12-12-2005

Organization X

Social Security or Taxpayer Identification Number X

Street 3209 Middle Street

City Sullivan's Island

State SC

Zip 29482

Daytime Telephone Number 843-810-0571

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

1/23/06  
Date

Antonio Aguilar  
National Park Service Authorized Signature

HPS/TPS

National Park Service Office/Telephone No.

202-354-2038

☐ See Attachments

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
CERTIFICATION APPLICATION -**

**Roulain-O'Neill House**

Property Name

**PART 1**

**NPS Office Use Only**

Project Number:

9 George Street, Charleston SC 29401

Property Address

**5. Description of physical appearance:**

#9 George Street is a stuccoed masonry Charleston single house, two-and-a-half stories in height, with a two-tier piazza along the west elevation. The building was first constructed by 1820, but the exterior north and south walls were rebuilt with late-19th century details after the 1886 earthquake. A frame addition, ca. 1969, abuts the one-bay deep rear extension of the house.

The façade (north elevation) is two bays wide, with a raking central parapet above the upper tripartite window. The post-earthquake remodeling is apparent in the double-hung, 1/1 sash windows with heavy pediments. The west elevation retains an earlier appearance, with small hipped dormers, 9/9 windows, Adamesque transom at the main entry, and slender columns and a dentilled cornice at the piazza.

The one-bay wide rear wing has a sloping monopitch roof, and the piazza's rear return is obscured by the 20th century addition. Unstuccoed brick chimneys rise from the east elevation.

The interior reflects the plan of a single house with extension: two rooms of equal size at each level, with a central entry/stair hall, and a narrow rear wing. The interior stairway was removed ca. 1969 for the conversion to two separate apartments. The principal front rooms retain historic fabric in good condition: heart-pine flooring, wood wainscot or dado at the first floor, and an Adam-style mantel at the second floor. Although the black marble mantel at the first floor front room is apparently later, its style does not reflect the taste of the 1880s.

Despite the loss of the stair and damage to fabric at the rear rooms, the overall interior retains integrity to the early-19th century period of construction.

Date of Construction: ca. 1820

Source of Date: Deeds and wills

Date(s) of Alteration(s): 1886

Has building been moved? ☐ yes ☒ no If so, when? \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Statement of significance:**

#9 George Street is a good example of a masonry Charleston single house. It retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and contributes to the significance of the Charleston Historic District. The property was rated as Category 3: Significant in the 1973 Feiss-Wright Inventory of Charleston. Category 3 is described as "Good architectural quality. Vernacular. Of less sophistication and refinement than "Excellent." Modest, appealing, curious, interesting. To be retained and protected."

**Historical Information**

As is common in Charleston, the address of this property has changed several times. First known as #1 George Street, it was later recorded as 3 George and 5' George. Since 1974, the legal address has been 9 George Street.

The property was evidently vacant in 1813 when James W. Brandt sold it as a double lot to masonry contractor Robert Roulain for \$950. At Roulain's death in 1816, he left his dwelling house to his wife and three young children, and bequeathed his "Lot of Land on the South Side of George Street, to my sons Abraham and Robert." Although Roulain's will does not specify that he had built a house on this lot, architectural evidence suggests a construction date before 1820. It may be that the house was built during the minority of Abraham and Robert Roulain, but seems unlikely that they occupied it.

In 1834 the Roulains sold the property, "together with the Brick Dwelling House thereon" to the Rev. Daniel S. Cobia for \$2000. Cobia was living here with his wife Louisa Hooper (married in late 1835) at his death in early 1837. Except for a brief occupation by owner William Laval in the 1840s, until the mid-1860s the property was used as a rental residence.

In 1864 Dennis O'Neill, a boot & shoe maker with businesses on Hayne and King streets, paid \$20,000 (Confederate currency) for the double lot with buildings on George Street. The O'Neill family lived here for decades. Dennis O'Neill died in 1881, but his sons Daniel and Michael, who succeeded him in the business, also remained in his house, and managed the post-earthquake repairs in 1886.

By 1903, Michael O'Neill was again living on King Street, over his shoe store. The George Street house was then held for rental income for a century. The O'Neill family kept it until 1946, then Andrew Leventis owned it until 1965 when it was acquired by Historic Charleston Foundation. R. E. Meyers, who purchased the building in 1969, remodeled it as two apartments.

**7. Photographs and maps.**

Attach photographs and maps to application

Continuation sheets attached: ☐ yes ☐ no

