Form 10-300 (July 1969)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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South Ca	rolina
COUNTY:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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FOR NPS USE ONLY

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NAME COMMON:				1//	
Walnut Grove 1	Plantation		E11617		
AND/OR HISTORIC:				$\frac{\lambda}{\lambda}$	
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South Caroli	ina 4	1 Spa	rtanburg'	42	2
CLASSIFICATION			T	T	
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHI	Р	STATUS	TO THE PUB	
☐ District 🔣 BuildingS	Public Ac	quisition:	Occupied	Yes:	
	X Private 🔲 I	n Process	Unoccupied	$ _{\widetilde{\mathbf{X}}}$ Restricted	i
☐ Object	Both [[Being Considered	X Preservation work	Unrestricted	
	`		in progress	□ No	
PRESENT USE (Check One or Mor	re as Appropriate)		 	·	
	ernment Park		Transportation	Comments	
		_	Other (Specify)	Comments	
⊠ Educational ☐ Milit		_	Joiner (Specify)		
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CONDITION				(Check One)				
	x Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed		
		(Check O	ne)		(Check One)			
	☐ Alter	red	😾 Unaltered			🕞 Original Site		

Built about 1765 by Charles Moore, a Scotch-Irish immigrant who had moved from the Middle Atlantic colonies into Piedmont South Carolina, the Walnut Grove plantation house reflects the Scotch-Irish flow of immigration down into the Carolina Up Country, as opposed to the upward flow from the Carolina coast. Its plan and construction are in part indigenous to the Piedmont, in part influenced by rural Pennsylvania Dutch architecture.

Of simple Georgian style, neither a mansion nor a town house, the two-story structure is of unchinked logs covered with clapboards. Late Queen Anne mantels, fielded paneling, double-shouldered chimneys are among its distinctive features. The first floor plan includes the keeping room or parlor, the master bedroom, the dining room, and the warming room. Upstairs are the "dormitory" room and two small bedrooms. Steps lead to the staircase Landing from both the keeping room and the master bedchamber.

Separate outbuildings include the kitchen, built about 1777, and an academy building which doubled as a weaving room. These two log buildings of almost identical size are also sheathed with clapboards. Other separate log buildings reconstructed as part of the plantation complex include a well and spring house, a work shop, a smoke house, a blacksmith shop and forge. The house and all outbuildings have been authentically furnished and equipped. About 500 yards west of the main house is the Moore family cemetery, in a setting of primeval oaks. Also notable are the mountain magnolia (or cucumber) trees, rare in this part of the country. The restored garden area includes boxwood borders, an herb garden, and a dipping well. The plantation name came from the walnut trees planted around the house.

The plantation originally comprised 550 acres (land grant near North Tyger River dated 1763); subsequent grants increased Moore's holdings to about 3,000 acres.

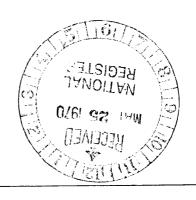
The house remained in the Moore family until 1961 when it was given, with eight acres of land, to the Spartanburg County Historical Association to be restored. Assisting in the restoration have been the Junior League of Spartanburg and the Spartanburg County Foundation. Every effort has been made to insure historic authenticity in the restoration.

Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	🗶 18th Century	20th Century
☐ ▶5th Century	17th Century	19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	e and Known) Circa	1765	
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	ck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
Abor iginal	Education	□ Political	Urban Planning
☐ Prehistoric	☐ Engineering	Religion/Phi.	Other (Specify)
⊠ Historic	Industry	losophy	
Agriculture	Invention	Science	
Architecture	🔀 Landscape	Sculpture	· .
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
Commerce	Literature	 itarian	
Communications	■ Military	Theater	
Conservation	Music	Transportation	

The Walnut Grove House, outbuildings, and furnishings provide a fully documented picture of life, and an example of social history, in upcountry South Carolina prior to 1830. The house itself is considered one of the finest remaining upcountry plantation houses of the period. In addition, the fully furnished kitchen and schoolroom, and the recreation of such buildings as the smokehouse and blacksmith shop bring life to history and give visitors a picture of what education, cooking and living were like on the South Carolina frontier in the second half of the 18th century. The Rocky Spring Academy at Walnut Grove was established by Charles Moore, one of two classical schools in the county. It operated 1770-1850.

Walnut Grove reflects the sturdiness and ingenuity of the Scotch-Irish settlers who gave the Carolina Piedmont its distinctive difference from the Low Country. It is also historically interesting through the Moore-Barry connections with the Revolutionary War, and association with such names as Gen. Daniel Morgan, Tarleton, Bloody Bill Cunningham, Captain Andrew Barry and his wife, "Kate!", and Gen. Thomas Moore.

Added value comes from two "new" additions to the plantation: the handsome carved-granite gates from the ruins of an old Union county estate; and the house in which the caretaker lives -- a "Drover's House" said to be the last remaining in the upcountry and moved to the plantation from Walnut Grove Community.



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Title Director, S.C. Department of Archives and History

Date 5/19/70

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