

FORT HILL, SPRING HOUSE
(McElhenny-Calhoun-Clemson House, Spring House)
Clemson University Campus
Clemson
Pickens County
South Carolina

HABS No. SC-344-C

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WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
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Location: Clemson University Campus, Clemson, Pickens County, South Carolina. Situated in the center of the campus and included in the Fort Hill site, the Spring House is north of main house. Fort Hill and its outbuildings are located near the intersection of Fort Hill Street and Calhoun Drive.

Significance: Although restored, the Spring House is representative of the building technology available to keep nineteenth-century foodstuffs chilled. Typically in Spring Houses, planters kept dairy products such as milk and butter as well as other eatables.

Description: The Spring House has a Greek Revival portico stoop.

The condition of the fabric is fair. The Spring House, however, is closed to the public because of stabilization problems.

Sources: Historic descriptions recorded a gazebo type structure sitting on top of the Spring House. In a view taken the ca. 1918 TAPS, the Clemson College yearbook, a similar structure is shown. The restored interior was captured in a newspaper account around 1950. A sketch of the exterior and the engineering plan exists.

Historian: William D. Hiott, Summer 1997.