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Middleton Place  
Ashley River Road  
Ashley River, South Bank  
Dorchester County  
South Carolina

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Middleton Place  
Charleston, (Charleston) County, South Carolina  
Dorchester Co.

Owner: Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Pringle Smith

Date of Frection: 1755

Architect: Simms

Builder: John Williams

Material: Brick

Foundation: Brick

Present Condition: Good

Number of Stories: Two

Roof: Pitch; curvilinear gable

Exterior Walls

Interior Walls: Modern

Bibliography: 1938 Plantations of the Carolina Low Country by  
Samuel Gaillard Stoney.

#### Historical Data:

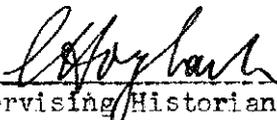
Because of the restricted plan and plain exterior of the house, the Middleton family seem to have held it in no peculiar esteem. According to the "Lives of the Signers", Arthur Middleton would even have sacrificed it at a cost, for when walking in the garden one day, he received a message from his wife that the house was afire. He only took time to determine that the atmosphere was calm and that the wings could not be endangered, then sent word back to "let it burn" and continued his walk. Mrs. Middleton saved the house, however, for a similar fate a lifetime later at the hands of the Federal Troops.

Henry Middleton, brother of William Middleton of Crowfield, married in 1740, Mary, daughter and heiress of John Williams and the Ashley River Plantation thus became one of the twenty owned by Middleton.

In 1755, initials HM were cut into a brick on the surviving flanker, now the residence at Middleton Place; Henry enlarged his establishment to eclipse that of his brother at Crowfield. In 1868, William Middleton restored what was salvageable of the flanker and placed his initials and the date beside those of his great grandfather, Arthur Middleton, the Signer. His son Governor Henry Middleton, and his grandson, William Middleton, planted most of the exotics that now overrun much of the garden.

André Mechaux the botanical explorer for Louis XVI of France, is said to have here introduced the first Camellia Japonica in South Carolina.

Middleton Place has never left the possession of the family who glorified it with terraces and flowers.

  
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Supervising Historian

Approved:

TW 6/28/41