SECOND FLOOR

SOUTHWEST BEDROOM:
The corner bedroom with a fireplace exhibits an early trundle and a reproduction of an 18th century half-tester bed that’s on display in the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

NORTH BEDROOM:
The large master bedroom contains an early-French dower chest made of walnut.

SOUTH CENTRAL BEDROOM:
The small central bedroom features a wig stand and a powdered wig. The room could have served as a dressing room.

NORTHWEST CORNER BEDROOM:
The northwest corner bedroom contains early rope beds. Also in the room are yarn winders (weasels) and a bed tightener.

UPSTAIRS HALL:
The upstairs hall displays both a large spinning wheel and a flax wheel.
Hanover House was built in 1716 for French Huguenot Paul de St. Julien in Berkeley County, S.C. St. Julien honored his French heritage in the mortar of one chimney where he inscribed “Peu a Peu,” from the French proverb, “Little by little the bird builds its nest.” The house remained in the St. Julien and Ravenel families for nearly 150 years. It was moved to Clemson University in 1941.

FIRST FLOOR

DRAWING ROOM/PARLOR: The house originally opened into a hall and parlor. The magnificent woodwork includes a sophisticated built-in cabinet with a keystone arch. The paint colors are authentic to the period. In the drawing room (parlor) is a copy of a portrait of René Louis Ravenel (father of Henry Ravenel). Interesting items are the male and female dummy boards called “silent companions.” On the walls are two bird prints by Mark Catesby. The large book is a French Huguenot Bible. The crewel draperies are period reproductions in a floral and bird motif.

DINING ROOM: In the dining room is a copy of a portrait of Suzanne L. Noble Chastaigner Ravenel (Mrs. René Louis Ravenel, mother of Henry Ravenel). The large curved settee is a unique item also serving as a cupboard. The furnishings are typical of the colonial era with Jacobean and Queen Ann designs along with vernacular patterns. Other pieces are typical of what the Ravenel family might have had later in the Charleston area.

KEEPING ROOM/PANTRY: The keeping room (pantry) features a large Welch cupboard with a plate rack, a pie safe and a French panetière (livery cupboard).

MASTER’S OFFICE: The master’s office (plantation office) contains numerous tools and an exhibit of the reconstruction of the house. A large, handmade mortar and pestle is on display. It was used to crush the husks of rice — the principal cash crop in the Lowcountry during the 1700s. Other items include a hand-blown flycatcher, sugar nippers and flax hackles.

FOYER: The foyer provides an excellent view of the 18th century staircase and hallway.