

() NOT FOR PUBLICATION

SOUTH CAROLINA INVENTORY FORM FOR HISTORIC DISTRICTS AND
INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES IN A MULTIPLE PROPERTY SUBMISSION

NAME OF MULTIPLE PROPERTY SUBMISSION: Springville Multiple Resource Area

PREFERRED NAME OF PROPERTY: John L. Hart House

HISTORIC NAME OF PROPERTY: Same

COMMON NAME OF PROPERTY: Goodson House

LOCATION: East of county road 133, approximately 1/4 mile northeast of its
junction with county road 228.

CLASSIFICATION: Building

OWNER: Mr. Howard O. Goodson
RFD #3, Box 15
Darlington, S. C.

DESCRIPTION

The John L. Hart house is a two-story, rectangular house with a central block and telescoping wings. The building is framed, clad in weatherboard, and is gable-roofed with two ridge-line interior chimneys at the gable ends of the central block. The foundation is brick piers with fill.

The facade (west elevation) presents a slightly asymmetrical appearance with all windows and the secondary entrance balanced, but the main entrance is not aligned with the window above, resulting in an unbalanced composition. An unusually decorated, centered, three-fourths width, hip-roofed, one-story porch extends across the facade. The first story windows, one centered in each wing, are six-over-six, double-hung sash windows with peaked, low-pitched lintels. The misaligned main entrance is composed of a single-leaf door with six-light sidelights and four-light transom within a low-peaked and bracketed architrave. The secondary entrance is a smaller single-leaf door with lights, fifteen in three columns of five, and three-light transom under a low-peaked architrave. The porch wall, from window-to-window, is board-and-batten. The porch posts, balustrade, and fretwork are of an unusual design and belong stylistically to the latter decades of the nineteenth century and appear to have been added circa 1870-1880. The posts are paired or tripled, and the interior face is sawn in a bracketed design in an interesting use of negative space. The balusters are criss-crossed forming a diamond-shaped arrangement, and the fretwork between the posts is a low flat arch with peaked intrados.

The second story fenestration is symmetrically arranged with one window in each wing and two evenly-spaced in the central pavilion. All of these are six-over-six, double-hung sash windows with peaked lintels and brackets above. There is a broad frieze interrupted by the peaked lintels of the windows and brackets supporting a boxed cornice.

The side elevations, north and south, have one central, six-over-six window at each story. The rear elevation, east, has had several appendages added, but the second story reflects the same treatment as that of the facade.

Interior features include: a board and batten entrance and stairhall; understair closet with window; original mantels; a barrel-vaulted, plastered ceiling over the second floor rise of the straight stair, (the newel is an ogee shaped sawn timber as in the John M. Lide house across the street); and in the second floor hall, small closets placed catty-cornered on the outside wall.

SIGNIFICANCE

AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture
Social History

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: _____ (for office use only)

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John L. Hart House, believed to have been built circa 1856, is one of the last residences built in Springville before the Civil War. Notable architectural features of the house include the unusual plan, the decorated porch, the board-and-batten stairhall, and the barrel-vaulted ceiling over the stair.

Hart is said to have moved to this house after an unsuccessful venture in carriage manufacturing in nearby Hartsville.¹ At the outbreak of the war, Hart was commissioned an officer in the Confederate Army and was killed in action.²

ACREAGE: Approximately 1.6 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The boundary of the John L. Hart House nomination is shown as the red line on the accompanying Darlington County Tax Map No. 162, which is drawn at a scale of 400 feet to the inch. The nominated property includes the house and its immediate setting.

QUAD NAME: Darlington East

QUAD SCALE: 1:24000

UTM REFERENCE POINT: 17/605590/3800800

FOOTNOTES

- (1) Coker, "Springville," p. 196; News and Press, 27 July 1911.
- (2) Ibid.