

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received JUN 27 1983

date entered JUL 28 1983

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Smith-Cannon House

and/or common B.O.V.B. (Big Old Victorian Barn)

2. Location

street & number 106 W. Market Street² N/A not for publication

city, town Timmons ville N/A vicinity of ~~congressional district~~

state South Carolina code 045 county Florence code 041

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	N/A being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Can-Tim-Lee Farms, Inc.

street & number 110 W. Market Street

city, town Timmons ville N/A vicinity of state South Carolina 29161

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Florence City-County Complex

street & number N. Irby Street

city, town Florence state South Carolina 29501

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date 1981 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records South Carolina Department of Archives and History

city, town Columbia state South Carolina 29211

7. Description

Condition

☒ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Smith-Cannon House is located at the end of a tree-lined brick walk on a large, heavily wooded lot in a residential section of Timmons ville in Florence County, South Carolina. The house was constructed ca. 1897-1900 for Charles Aurelius Smith. Reflecting the Queen Anne style of Victorian era architecture, the Smith-Cannon House has been altered very little.

Exterior: Built on an asymmetrical plan, the Smith-Cannon House is two stories tall with a full attic and is sheathed in weatherboard. The roof plan is predominantly hip with lateral cross-gables. An outstanding feature of the house is the two-and-one-half-story round turret at the north corner of the facade (northwest elevation). It features a conical roof with copper epi, one-over-one, double-hung sash windows and small, square windows (with block muntins) in the half-story. A one-story, shed-roofed porch stretches across the entire facade, wraps the turret, and extends to form a porte-cochere, which has been incorporated into the porch, on the northeast elevation. The porch has turned posts with turned balustrade and decorative sawn brackets and frieze. A small gable-roofed portico projects from the porch on the central portion of the facade and features a sunburst design in the gable end. In addition to the turret at the north corner, the facade also features a central, double-door entrance with transom. At the west corner of the facade is a two-story, projecting octagonal bay. The second story of the facade features the turret, three single, double-hung sash windows with one-over-one lights and the octagonal bay. A gable-roofed dormer with a double, four-over-four window projects from the front roof slope.

There is a gable-roofed projecting bay, which has a round-arched window with a peaked surround in the gable end, on the southwest elevation. The northeast elevation has a single door entrance and a two-story, projecting polygonal bay. The rear (southeast elevation) features a one-story, gable-roofed extension and a shed-roofed porch.

The entire roof line has a boxed cornice with returns and carved modillions. Composition shingles replace the original slate roof and the foundation is now solid brick. The chimneys have been cut down beneath the roof line due to leakage.

Interior: The interior of the Smith-Cannon House remains basically unaltered. The front double-door entrance leads into an enclosed vestibule, which in turn leads into a large central hall. The hall features an ornate staircase with turned balustrade, carved newel posts, and pendants. The hall also has narrow beaded-board wainscoting with an ornate recessed-panel chair rail. All doors have bull's-eye corner block surrounds. Entrance into the turret room is gained through double doors with recessed panels and transom. The floors throughout the house are made of oak, and some feature parquetry. There are ten fireplaces with highly decorative carved mantel pieces featuring beveled mirrors, colonettes, finials and appliques. Many of the rooms, with their eleven-foot ceilings, retain their original lighting fixtures. The main parlor on the north corner of the house features an intricately carved open frieze across the recessed bay area. This room also has diagonal beaded-board window aprons.

Surroundings: The nominated property includes a nonhistoric outbuilding.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Local History

Specific dates ca. 1897–1900

Builder/Architect Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Smith-Cannon House is located on a large, heavily wooded lot in a residential section of Timmons ville in Florence County, South Carolina. It was constructed ca. 1897–1900 for Charles Aurelius Smith, a prominent South Carolina politician. The house is significant for its association with Smith, mayor of Timmons ville, member of the state house of representatives from Florence County, twice lieutenant governor, and governor of South Carolina for five days. The Smith-Cannon House is also architecturally significant in the area as a fine example of the Queen Anne style.

Additional Information

Charles A. Smith was born in Hertford County, North Carolina, on 22 January 1861. He graduated from Wake Forest College in 1882 and came to Timmons ville to teach in 1883. Smith later became involved in various successful business ventures, serving as president of the Citizens' Bank and the Charles A. Smith Company. He constructed this house ca. 1897–1900. ¹

Smith was elected mayor of Timmons ville in 1903 and served until his election to the state house of representatives from Florence County in 1909. During his term in the legislature, Smith was best known as a champion of Prohibition. In 1911 he was elected lieutenant governor, serving with Governor Cole Blease, and was reelected in 1913. In 1914 Smith ran unsuccessfully for governor in the Democratic primary. On 14 January 1915 Governor Blease resigned as governor for unknown reasons and Smith became governor. He served five days until Richard I. Manning was inaugurated on 19 January 1915. As a result the Smith-Cannon House was known locally for a time as the governor's mansion. ²

Smith was also active in education and in religious affairs. He was president of the board of trustees of Furman University and a member of the board of trustees of Greenville Women's College. He also served as president of the State Baptist Convention, vice-president of the Southern Baptist Convention, and moderator of the Welsh Neck Baptist Association. Smith died 31 March 1916. ³

Architecture

The Smith-Cannon House is a virtually unaltered example of Victorian residential architecture. The Queen Anne style house features fine detailing including the elaborate mantels, intricately carved frieze in the main parlor, and parquet floors. The house also features unusual round rooms in the turret.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Approximately 1.75

Quadrangle name Florence West

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UMT References

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Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary of the Smith-Cannon House is shown as the dark line on the accompanying Florence County Tax map #70-103 drawn to a scale of 100' to the inch. The boundary includes the house and yard.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state NA code county NA code

state NA code county NA code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Suzanne Pickens Wylie, Martha Walker Fullington Pete Rogers
South Carolina Department of Pee Dee Regional Council of
Archives and History Governments
date May 13, 1983

street & number Box 11,669

telephone (803) 758-5816

city or town Columbia

state South Carolina 29211

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☒ state ☐ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Charles E. Lee
State Historic Preservation Officer

date 6 June 1983

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

for Melores Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 7/28/83

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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received

date entered

Continuation sheet 1

Item number 9

Page 1

BIBLIOGRAPHY

"Death Claims Charles A. Smith." Florence (S.C.) Morning News,
1 April 1916.

Edgar, Walter B., ed. Biographical Directory of the South Carolina House
of Representatives. Vol. 1: Session Lists, 1692-1973. Columbia,
S.C., 1974.

Obituary of C. Ray Smith. Florence (S.C.) Morning News, 3 July 1973.

Smith, C. Ray. Interview conducted by Emil Cannon, n.d.

FOOTNOTES

1. "Death Claims Charles A. Smith." The State (Columbia, S.C.), 1 April 1916, p. 1; Before his death in 1973, C. Ray Smith, son of Charles A. Smith, told the present owner that the house was built between 1897 and 1900.
2. Ibid.; Obituary of C. Ray Smith, Florence (S.C.) Morning News, 3 July 1973, p. 4A; Walter B. Edgar, ed., Biographical Directory of the South Carolina House of Representatives, vol. 1: Session Lists, 1692-1973 (Columbia, S.C.: University of South Carolina Press, 1974) p. 492.
3. "Death Claims Charles A. Smith."