

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: South Carolina	
COUNTY: Laurens	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER JUL 24 1974	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Governor William Dunlap Simpson House

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Governor William Dunlap Simpson House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
726 West Main

CITY OR TOWN:
Laurens

STATE: South Carolina CODE: 045 COUNTY: Laurens CODE: 059

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mason Theodore Motes

STREET AND NUMBER:
726 West Main

CITY OR TOWN:
Laurens

STATE: South Carolina CODE: 045

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Laurens County Courthouse - Clerk of Court Office

STREET AND NUMBER:
Square

CITY OR TOWN:
Laurens

STATE: South Carolina CODE: 045

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina

DATE OF SURVEY: 1973 Federal State County Local

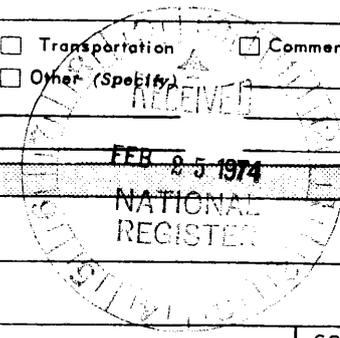
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
South Carolina Department of Archives and History

STREET AND NUMBER:
1430 Senate Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Columbia

STATE: South Carolina CODE: 045

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
FOR NPS USE ONLY

JUL 24 1974

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Christopher Garlington constructed this Greek revival mansion in 1839 on what was then the Greenville Road.

Exterior: The white clapboard structure has three stories with a total of twelve rooms. The brick steps and base support two pairs of fluted Doric columns with pediment. There are fluted corner pilasters with square capitals just under the rather severe entablature. The gable roof is pierced by four end chimneys contained within the structure. A fifth chimney is in the rear projection.

The front facade is three-bayed with Palladian-derived 6/6 windows having sidelights. The double door is panelled and has sidelights surmounted by a triple flush transom. The door and windows have carved decorative surrounds with upper corner medallion blocks.

A long porch is located to the rear of the dwelling that opens into the former dining room. The now destroyed brick kitchen was detached and had a well between it and the dining room porch.

Interior: A wide hall traverses both floors with a large front stairway of wide pine steps of a six inch rise instead of the usual seven. The hand-rail is of solid mahogany and runs from the first floor to the third. There are five rooms on the first and second floors and a large single room on the third that was used for parties, gatherings, and balls. The rooms are 15 x 15 feet with doors that are specially hinged to rise when opened over the rugs. The left front room was constructed as a library and is horizontally panelled in cherry. The rest of the rooms are plastered. The coal fireplaces have Greek revival mantels and were formerly log burning. The floors throughout the house are pine.

Some changes have been made since 1940 and include the remodeling of the former dining room into a den with old, wide pine boards replacing deteriorated plaster. A former bedroom has been converted into a kitchen with the fireplace opened to its former log burning size. A pantry and upstairs storage room have been remodeled into bathrooms.

The once elaborate gardens, orchard, and vineyard have disappeared and the town of Laurens has since grown and surrounded the structure, which stands on one of the main residential streets. The Motes family purchased it from Simpson heirs in 1939.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1839**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

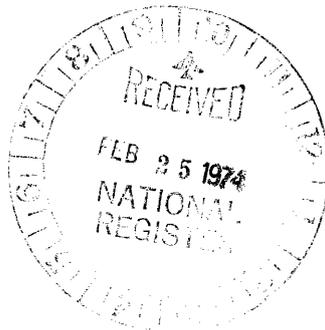
Constructed in 1839, this Greek revival dwelling has been owned by South Carolinians of prominence in both local and state-wide affairs.

Architecture: The Simpson House is an excellent example of Greek revival architecture. Its designer-owner, probably with the aid of a pattern book, created a structure that still retains the aura of an antebellum plantation house owned by a wealthy planter.

Political: At the end of the War Between the States the house was purchased by William Dunlap Simpson from John Adam Eichelberger, a wealthy planter who had used the structure as his townhouse.

Simpson, a graduate of South Carolina College and Harvard Law School, had been a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives for several terms and was a member of the State Senate when South Carolina seceded. During the War Between the States he reached the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. After the war he was elected to the United States House of Representatives; however, due to his Confederate affiliations, he was refused his seat in the House.

Wade Hampton was elected governor in 1876 with the lieutenant governor being William Dunlap Simpson. When Hampton was elected to the United States Senate in 1879, Simpson became Governor of South Carolina. He was appointed Chief Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court in 1880.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Reynolds, Emily B., and Joan Reynolds Faunt. Biographical Directory of the Senate of South Carolina. South Carolina Archives Department, Columbia, 1964.

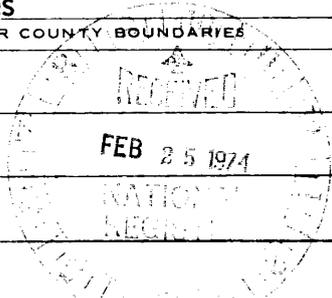
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES								
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE			LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	34	29	44	82	01	30
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **2 acres**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **W. H. Brabham - Historic Preservation Division** **Louise Motes**

ORGANIZATION: **South Carolina Department of Archives and History** DATE: **January 3, 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER: **1430 Senate Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Columbia** STATE: **South Carolina** CODE: **045**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Charles E. Lee
 Title: Director, South Carolina Dept. Archives and History
 Date: Jan. 28, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Arthur M. ...
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 7/24/74

ATTEST: Wm. H. ...
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 7.19.74

SEE INSTRUCTIONS