UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY
NOMINATION FORM

Continuation Sheet | Item Number | Page

Name Historic: Rawl-Couch House

Common

Location: 22 Short Street
Batesburg, South Carolina

Classification:
Building

Owner: D.E. Couch
22 Short Street
Batesburg, South Carolina 29006

Representation in Existing Surveys

Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina

Description: This two story, asymmetrical frame dwelling is the area's most distinctive Queen Anne residence. The house was originally constructed in 1893, and enlarged and remodeled in its present style in 1908 by John Jacob Rawl. The house has a one story wraparound porch, supported by turned posts, with an elaborate arched spindle frieze and turned balusters. A three story shingle clad turret, with a conical roof, rises at the left side of the facade; it is balanced by a gabled pavilion on the right, with an intricately sawn bargeboard. A second floor balcony between the turret and the pavilion has a spindle frieze, repeating that of the main porch. The foundation of the house is brick; the roof is original sheet metal shingles. Two corbeled chimneys pierce the central block's steep hip roof. A multi-paned transom and side-lights enframe the front door.

Significance: Originally constructed in 1893 as a Methodist school, this house was enlarged and remodeled in its present style in 1908 by John Jacob Rawl, Batesburg merchant and lumber dealer, for his widowed daughter-in-law, Mrs. Annie Rawl. The house became the Batesburg "teacherage," a boarding house for female teachers. Highly decorative ornamental trim and varied texture make it the community's most distinctive Queen Anne style residence and the best example of this style in Lexington County. The design appears to be adapted from a design by George F. Barber, architect, who worked out of Knoxville, Tennessee, ca. 1888-1915. Barber provided plans and specifications, via the mails, for houses across the nation.

Acreage 2.1

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Rawl-Couch House nomination is shown as a red line on the accompanying Lexington County Tax Map number 07022 drawn to a scale of 100' to the inch.

UTM Reference Point

17/448805/3751905

Other Information