

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 (David Jefferson) Griffith House

Common

Classification

Buildings

Owner Mrs. Lota Kneece
Route 1, Box 670
Gilbert, South Carolina 29054

Representation in Existing Surveys Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina

Description The David Jefferson Griffith House, which was constructed in 1896, is a rectangular, two-story-frame, weatherboarded farmhouse with a hipped roof covered with standing-seam metal. A one-story, gable-roofed ell is attached to the main block of the house. The house has internal chimneys. The main feature of the facade is a two-tiered porch with brackets, turned posts with sawn brackets, decorative sawn trim in the spandrels, and turned posts on the second story. Fenestration on the facade is symmetrical; both stories have two six-over-six windows set on each side of central doors with multi-paned transoms and sidelights. Diagonal double-beaded board sheathes the ceilings and walls of the interior of the house. The lower porch balustrade has been removed and a porch has been enclosed on the side of the rear ell. A hip-roofed well house with bracketed posts and lattice walls above low solid walls sits to the northeast of the house.

Significance The 1896 David Jefferson Griffith House is a locally significant residence illustrating building techniques of the Victorian period. Distinguishing features include the two-tiered porch with sawn trim and the diagonally-laid double-beaded board ceilings and walls of the interior. The house was built by David J. Griffith (1845-1926), farmer, county clerk of court (1868-1872), county treasurer (1889-1896), state senator (1896-1899). From 1899-1918 he served as superintendent of the state penitentiary. He was also a merchant in Lewiedale (Gilbert) and in 1873 was a founder of the town of Summit and of St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church. Griffith was first married in 1865 to Sarah Antoinette Lewie whose father Samuel Lewie owned the tract before 1869, when Griffith bought it at a sale. He sold it for his four children in 1919 to W. M. Epting.

Acreage

Verbal Boundary Description

UTM Reference Point

Other Information

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

- Local
- State
- National