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() NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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

NAME OF MULTIPLE PROPERTY SUBMISSION: City of Orangeburg Multiple
Resource Area

PREFERRED NAME OF PROPERTY: Dixie Library Building

HISTORIC NAME OF PROPERTY: Same

COMMON NAME OF PROPERTY: Same

LOCATION: Bull Street behind the Salley Archives

CLASSIFICATION: Building

OWNER: Dr. H.L. Salley, President
Orangeburg County Historical Society
220 Mason Street, NW
Orangeburg, SC 29115

DESCRIPTION

The Dixie Library Building is a one-story, frame building believed to have been built ca. 1850. The building has been moved twice from its original location on the public square; the first time around 1912, and again in 1955. Despite these relocations, the building's architectural integrity is evident; the historic form has not been lost.

The building is a one-story, braced-frame, temple-form building. It is defined primarily by a hexastyle pedimented portico with Tuscan pillars. The portico is carried around both sides of the building to a depth of three bays. The building has a rudimentary entablature which is raked into the pediment. The typanum has weatherboard sheathing and a louvered attic vent. The low-pitched gable roof is covered with new composition shingles.

The body of the building has weatherboard sheathing. The facade, beneath the portico, has a central, single-leaf door flanked by nine-over-six sash windows. The windows have recessed bulkhead panels and louvered shutters. Other windows on the building are six-over-six sash.

A small frame addition has been built on the rear of the building. The new foundation is of cinderblock.

The Dixie Library Building is located in the Old Pioneer Graveyard, which contains the unmarked graves of many of the early German settlers of the city.(1) The graveyard also contains a monument in memory of the Confederate soldiers buried there, which was erected in 1928 by a local chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, and a memorial stone to the early pioneers, which was erected in 1963 by the Orangeburg County Historical Society.

SIGNIFICANCE

AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: L (for office use only)

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Dixie Library Building is significant as one of the few antebellum buildings remaining in the city of Orangeburg. The building is primarily defined by its simplified Roman Revival temple form, expressed by its longitudinal orientation, its pedimented and low-pitched roof, and its pseudo-peripteral colonnade of Tuscan piers. The curious proportions and simplified moldings probably reflect limited command of classical motifs on the part of the builder, rather than any sense of creative innovation on the part of the designer.

Little documentation exists on the early history of the Dixie Library Building. According to local tradition, it was built before the Civil War on the public square and used as a law office. During the war the office is believed to have served as a temporary home for refugees from Charleston, and during Sherman's occupation of the city, one of his officers is said to have stayed there.(2)

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries the Dixie Library Building was one of several law offices facing the public square.(3) Around 1912 the building was moved northwest of its location on the square to a lot on Church Street across from St. Paul's Methodist Church.(4) In 1924 the building became the home of the Dixie Library, a public library operated by the Dixie Club, an Orangeburg women's organization.(5) In 1955 the Dixie Club ceased to use the building and it was moved from

Church Street to its present location where it is maintained by the Orangeburg Historical Society.(6)

ACREAGE: Approximately 1.8 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The boundary of the Dixie Library Building nomination is shown as the bold black line on the accompanying map entitled, "Dixie Library Building." This map was copied from Orangeburg County Tax Map #22 and drawn at a scale of 200 feet to the inch. The nominated property includes the historic building and cemetery.

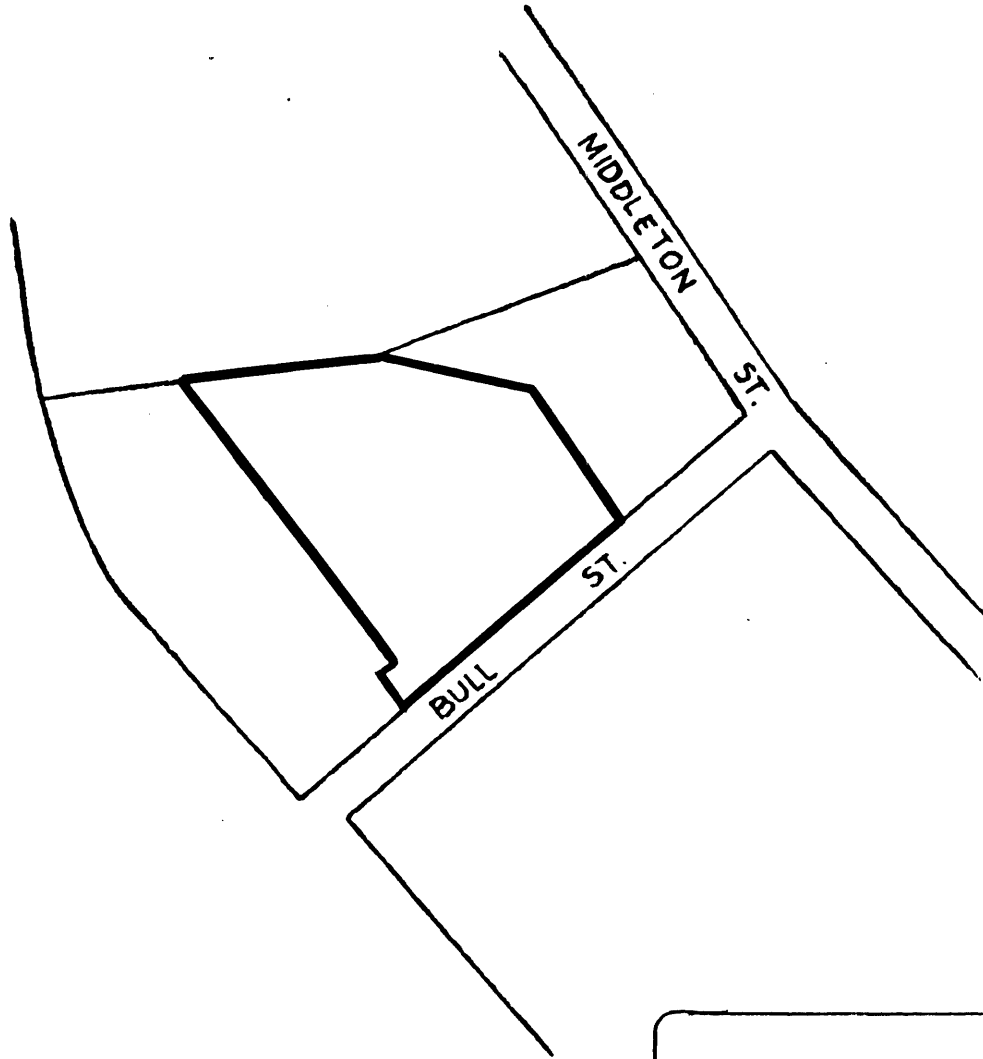
QUAD NAME: Orangeburg South

QUAD SCALE: 1:24000

UTM REFERENCE POINT: 17/512230/3705700

FOOTNOTES

- (1) Times and Democrat, 13 June 1982.
- (2) Interview with Mr. Hugo S. Ackerman, Salley Archives, Orangeburg, S.C., 29 September 1983; Historical Marker Files, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC.
- (3) Sanborn Map Company, Orangeburg, 1884, 1890, 1900, 1904, 1909.
- (4) Interview with Mr. Hugo S. Ackerman; Sanborn Map Company, Orangeburg, 1909, 1915.
- (5) Ibid.; Green and Fairey, p. 95; Sanborn Map Company, Orangeburg, 1931.
- (6) Times and Democrat, 24 April 1955.



DIXIE LIBRARY BUILDING
SCALE 1" = 200'

