

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 Timmerman Law Office Location 207 East Main Street, Lexington,
South Carolina
Common Classification Building

Owner The Honorable George Bell Timmerman, Jr.
P.O. Box 6
Batesburg, SC 29006

Representation in Existing Surveys Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina

Description The Timmerman Law Office, which is believed to have been built ca. 1835, is a one-story, rectangular, frame cottage with a gable roof and shed rooms on the rear. The building has exterior end chimneys and is sheathed in weatherboard; the roof is covered with standing seam metal. A hip-roofed porch supported by square wood posts, which are connected by a plain balustrade, is attached to the facade. The porch shelters a central door flanked by windows. Original sash were replaced many years ago with two-over-two windows. Original wood steps have more recently been replaced with brick steps with cast-iron railings.

Significance The Timmerman Law Office is one of nine surviving antebellum residences in the town of Lexington. It is the best preserved and most original of four surviving cottages of similar form. Originally constructed as a residence, the building was associated with George Bell Timmerman, Sr. (1881-1966), who practiced law here from ca. 1912 until 1942. Timmerman was elected solicitor of the Fifth Judicial Circuit at age twenty-three. He served in the state house of representatives (1923-1924), where he co-authored legislation labeled as the "Pay-as-you-go" Act for financing the present state highway system. From 1931-1939 he served as a member of the State Highway Commission and as commission chairman (1936-1939). In recognition of his service the bridge linking Columbia with Interstate Highway I-20 was named in his honor. From 1941-1947 he was a trustee of the University of South*

Acreage .2

Verbal Boundary Description The nominated property is shown as the appropriate red line on the accompanying Lexington County Tax Map #04320, drawn at a scale of 1 inch = 100 feet. This boundary includes only the historic building and excludes any adjacent insignificant buildings.

UTM Reference Point 17/478220/3759830

Other Information

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

Local
 State
 National

* Carolina, which awarded him an honorary doctor's degree of law in 1952, the Algernon-Sydney Sullivan Award in 1960, and the first Distinguished Alumni Award in 1962 for notable achievement in his field and service to the university. From 1942, when he was appointed by President Franklin Roosevelt until 1963, he served as United States District Judge for the Eastern and Western districts of South Carolina.

His son, George Bell Timmerman, Jr. (South Carolina governor, 1955-1959, and eleventh judicial circuit judge), has occupied the building since 1937.⁴⁴