

Statewide Survey of Historic Properties

State Historic Preservation Office
South Carolina Department of Archives and History
8301 Parklane Road
Columbia, SC 29223-4905 (803) 896-6100

Site No. 7915 Status U Revisit
Quadrangle Name: Columbia North
Tax Map No.

SURVEY FORM

Identification

Historic Name: Little Red School House

Common Name:

Address/Location: Riverfront Park

City: Columbia Vicinity of County: Richland

Ownership: City Category: Structure Other:

Historical Use: Education

Current Use: Other interpretive center

SHPO National Register
Determination of Eligibility: Eligible

Property Description

Other:

Construction Date: ca. 1883

Construction: Frame

Historic Core Shape:

Exterior Walls: Wood shingle

Other:

Foundation: Brick pier

Commercial Form:

Roof Shape: Gable, end-to-front

Other:

Roof Material: Composition shingle

Stories:

Porch Shape: Gable

Other:

Porch Width: Entrance bay only

Description/Significant Features:

6/6 windows; bell cupola on porch roof. The building was most likely originally painted white with a pale peach color on the windows.

Alterations (include date(s), if known):

The school is reported to have originally stood at 1410 Blanding St. in Columbia. It was moved to the SC State Fairgrounds in the 1950s and moved to the east side of the Riverfront Park parking lot in the early 1980s. In 2014, it was moved to its current location at the western side of the Riverfront Park parking lot. Other alterations include painting the building red (ca 1950s), some siding replacement, front and back porch and entry door replacement.

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

Historical Information

Historical Information:

The school was likely constructed in 1883 in the backyard of 1410 Blanding St. It was a private school and the only teacher was Ellen Janney. Miss Janney never married and lived with her sister and her sister's husband at 1410 Blanding St. The school was a private school and students paid about \$2.50 per month to attend. When the school opened around 19 students attended, but eventually attendance rose to as many as 26 students. Miss Janney retired in 1915 at the age of 70 due to poor health after teaching for 38 years. The school was probably originally white with a pale peach color around the windows before being painted red in the 1950s, about the time it was first moved.

Source(s) of Information:

Staci Richey/City of Columbia Planning Department, 2019 personal communication from Staci Richey.
Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps - Columbia, SC, 1898 Sheet 5, 1910 Sheet 5, and 1919 Sheet 6

Digital Photo ID(s)

File Name:	View:	Other:
07915001	Facing Northwest	
07915002	Facing Southwest	
07915003	Facing South	
07915004	Facing South	

Program Management

Recorded by:	Organization:	Date Recorded:
Tracy Martin	SCDOT	02/11/2019