

THEME: WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE

Form 10-300  
(Dec. 1968)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>South Carolina</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Charleston</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

<b>1. NAME</b>	
COMMON: <b>Carter-May Home (Edward Rutledge House)</b>	
AND/OR HISTORIC: <b>Edward Rutledge House</b>	

<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: <b>117 Broad Street, at Orange Street</b>			
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Charleston</b>			
STATE <b>South Carolina</b>	CODE	COUNTY: <b>Charleston</b>	CODE

<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC	
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Old Ladies</b> <b>Home</b>			

<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>			
OWNERS NAME: <b>Bishop Ernest L. Unterkoefer - Roman Catholic Diocese of Charleston</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: <b>119 Broad Street</b>			
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Charleston 29401</b>	STATE: <b>South Carolina</b>	CODE	

<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: <b>Register of Mesne Conveyance</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: <b>Charleston County Courthouse</b>			
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Charleston</b>	STATE: <b>South Carolina</b>	CODE	
APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: <b>1 acre</b>			

<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>			
TITLE OF SURVEY:			
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/>			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

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201

7 DESCRIPTION			
CONDITION	(Check One) Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>		
INTEGRITY	(Check One) Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/>		(Check One) Moved <input type="checkbox"/> Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE			
<p>The <u>State Gazette</u> of South Carolina, September 27, 1787 described Edward Rutledge's House at 117 Broad Street, at the corner of Orange Street (then No:- 55 Broad Street), as "that well built elegant HOUSE," which had been constructed by a Mr. Miller. William Brotherhead's <u>Book of the Signers</u> (1861), has a sketch that shows the Edward Rutledge house to be a large wooden double house.</p> <p>The Edward Rutledge house is a large two-story frame house over high basement with hipped roof. Almost square, the structure is five-bays wide and four-bays deep. A two-story porch supported by columns extends along the west side and around the south (or rear) elevation.</p> <p>A central modillioned pediment with circular window rises from the main roof on the street (north) facade and covers the three center bays. This pediment is tied into the facade by means of consoles. Windows, adorned by exterior louvered shutters, are topped by cornices. The center doorway is now topped by a triangular pediment; the 1861 sketch show the same entranceway then surmounted by cornice. A two-story clapboard wing one-bay wide and one-bay deep and built on the main axis, was added to the east side of the house in the last quarter of the 19th-century. Except for the wing, the exterior of the house appears much as it did in the 1861 print.</p> <p>A center hall extends about halfway through the house. To the right (or west) are two rooms each with its own fireplace. To the left of the house, in the northeast corner, is a stair hall containing a curved stairway. Behind this room is a large room, and the kitchen is located in a wing at the southeast (rear) corner. The interior woodwork appears to date from the 1880's and partition walls have been inserted to subdivide the large original rooms into smaller areas.</p> <p>The structure is now used as a home for elderly women and is not generally open to visitors, although portions of the first floor may be visited upon request. There is a large garden area in the rear of the house.</p>			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

# 9. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☒ 20th Century ☐  
15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☐ 19th Century ☐

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1749-1800

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric	Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Phi-		Other (Specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Historic	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	losophy	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Agriculture	Invention	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Art	Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Commerce	Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Human-			
Communications	Literature	<input type="checkbox"/>	itarian	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Conservation	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Theater	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Music	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>		

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

The residence in 1787 of Edward Rutledge, a signer of the Declaration of Independence for South Carolina, lawyer, politician, soldier, and governor of South Carolina. This is the only existing structure that can be associated with Edward Rutledge. Except for a wing, the exterior of the house is little-altered; the interior, however, has undergone considerable change.

## Brief Sketch of the Life of Edward Rutledge, 1749-1800

Edward Rutledge was born November 23, 1749 either in Charlestown (now Charleston), or in Christ Church Parish, across the bay, South Carolina. The son of physician, he began the study of law at the Middle Temple in 1767 and was admitted to the English bar in 1772. He returned to South Carolina in 1773 and began the practice of law in Charleston. In 1774 he married Henrietta Middleton, the daughter of the wealthy planter Henry Middleton. Rutledge had three children by this marriage.

Rutledge's public career began in July 1774, when he was elected a delegate to the First Continental Congress; he served in this body in 1775 and 1776. He was also a member of the first and second provincial congresses of South Carolina in 1775 and 1776. In 1776, as the leader of the South Carolina delegation, he staved off action on the resolution for independence for nearly a month, but on July 2, under his influence, the South Carolina members voted for the Declaration. Rutledge favored a weak confederation of the colonies because he feared that the "low Cunning and those levelling Principles" of the New England States might prevail if a strong Federal government was established.

In November 1776 Rutledge left the Continental Congress and returned to Charleston to resume the practice of law. He also served as a captain of artillery in the South Carolina militia. In 1778 he was elected to the State House of Representative from Charleston and chosen by that body in 1779 to be a delegate to the Continental Congress. Rutledge, however, did not reach Philadelphia.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Dictionary of American Biography, Vol. XVI, 257-58. Article by Robert L. Merriwether.

Elizabeth Fields and Dr. J.E. Fields, "The Signers Lived Here," Daughters of the American Revolution Magazine, May 1951, 9.

South Carolina, A Guide to the Palmetto State (American Guide Series)  
(New York, 1946), 202-03. 206.

Beatrice St. Julien Ravenel, Architects of Charleston (Charleston, 1945), 36.

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		32° 46' 34"	79° 56' 02"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Charles W. Snell, Survey Historian		
ORGANIZATION: Division of History, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, National Park Service	DATE: 6/14/71	
STREET AND NUMBER: 801 - 19th Street N.W.		
CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: D.C.	CODE

## 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

## NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
South Carolina	
COUNTY	
Charleston	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Carter-May Home  
(Edward Rutledge House)

8. Significance (1)

He was in the battle at Beaufort, South Carolina, on February 3, 1779 and was captured by the British at the fall of Charleston on May 12, 1780. From 1780 to July 1781 he was a prisoner of war and held captive at St. Augustine, Florida. He was exchanged in the latter year and from 1782 to 1796 represented Charleston in the South Carolina House of Representatives as well as in the state conventions of 1788 and 1790. He was successful in his law practice and added greatly to his property. His first wife died in April 1792 and in October of that year he married Mary (Shubrick) Eveleigh.

Rutledge was stiffly conservative and rarely conceded anything to the democratic elements in South Carolina. A Federalist, he was a presidential elector in 1788, 1792, and 1796. In 1796 and 1798 he was elected a state senator. In 1798 he was also elected governor of South Carolina. His health, however, was broken and he performed his duties carefully but in great physical distress. He died in Charleston on January 23, 1800 and was buried in the churchyard of St. Philip's Episcopal Church of that city.