Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries – complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
South Carolina	
COUNTY:	
Lexington	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
70-7-41-0016	7/1/70

1. NAME

COMMON: ~~The~~ Fox House

AND/OR HISTORIC: Classical and Theological Seminary of the ~~Evangelical Lutheran Synod of South Carolina and Adjacent States~~

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 232 Fox Street

CITY OR TOWN: Lexington

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
South Carolina	41	Lexington	32

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☒ Building ☐ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object	☒ Public ☐ Private ☐ Both	Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered	☐ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☒ Preservation work in progress	Yes: ☒ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☐ No

PRESENT USE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

☐ Agricultural	☐ Government	☐ Park	☐ Transportation	☐ Comments
☐ Commercial	☐ Industrial	☐ Private Residence	☐ Other *(Specify)*	
☒ Educational	☐ Military	☐ Religious		
☐ Entertainment	☒ Museum	☐ Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Lexington County (Board of Commissioners)

STREET AND NUMBER: Lexington County Court House

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE
East Main Street	South Carolina	41

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Lexington County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER: East Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE
Lexington	South Carolina	41

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: South Carolina Survey of Historic Places

DATE OF SURVEY: September, 1969 ☐ Federal ☒ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: South Carolina Department of Archives and History

STREET AND NUMBER: 1430 Senate Street

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE
Columbia	South Carolina	41

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: COUNTY: FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY NUMBER DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One) ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Ruins ☐ Unexposed	
	(Check One) ☒ Altered ☐ Unaltered	(Check One) ☐ Moved ☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL *(if known)* PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Fox House, as it now stands, is almost entirely the original structure.

The building is 2-story frame, about 64-feet long and 28-feet wide with an 11-foot wide porch across the front. Shed rooms are across the back. Two 16-by-20-foot dependencies, a kitchen and a housekeepers quarters, are attached to the rear by open breezeways. The house is covered with six-inch clapboards,painted white. Shutters and doors are green. The small windows are 15-paned throughout. The doors are six-paneled. Three doors open on to the front porch and one to each breezeway.

There are four upstairs rooms of varying sizes and a hall. A similar pattern is followed in the downstairs front rooms. One of these extends the full depth of the house. This room, thought to have been the Seminary library, adjoins a long room at the rear which probably served as the dining hall. The house has two chimneys, each with four fireplaces. Each of the two dependencies has its own end chimney, that of the kitchen very large. Seven of the eight mantels are original. All doors and windows are original.

Although the house has suffered several alterations, the following changes are being made to return its original appearance: removal of an end porch and two bathroom additions as well as interior sheetrock partitions to re-establish the original floor plan; repair and re-plastering of fireplaces and hearths; replacement of damaged and un-original segments of wide plank flooring; removal of paint upstairs to expose original plank walls of pine. Also, leveling of the house and reconstruction of the old kitchen building with large end-cooking fireplace; replacement of broken and new window panes with original hand-blown types; acquisition of antique door and window hardware and stone for the kitchen reconstruction; reflooring of front porch; replacement of broken interior mouldings of the half-round type.

Erection of a picket fence and duplication of original porch banisters are planned. Except in cases where materials were unavailable or impractical for modern usage, building materials in the restoration have been taken from Lexington county houses of the same vintage. Modern innovations include natural gas heating and air conditioning, electrical wiring and burglar alarm systems. A roof of wooden shingles will replace the present tin one.

Development of a historical garden of 19th century shrubs, plants and trees, and appropriate landscaping of the surrounding three acres is under direction of a landscape architect.

Long-range plans call for such farm outbuildings as a thresher house, a log barn, smoke house, cotton gin, and an academy/school building.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- [ ] Pre-Columbian
- [ ] 15th Century
- [ ] 16th Century
- [ ] 17th Century
- [ ] 18th Century
- [x] 19th Century
- [ ] 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)* 1832/33 to 1855

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- Aboriginal
  - [ ] Prehistoric
  - [x] Historic
- [x] Agriculture
- [x] Architecture
- [ ] Art
- [ ] Commerce
- [ ] Communications
- [ ] Conservation
- [x] Education
- [ ] Engineering
- [ ] Industry
- [ ] Invention
- [x] Landscape Architecture
- [ ] Literature
- [ ] Military
- [ ] Music
- [ ] Political
- [x] Religion/Philosophy
- [ ] Science
- [ ] Sculpture
- [ ] Social/Humanitarian
- [ ] Theater
- [ ] Transportation
- [ ] Urban Planning
- [ ] Other *(Specify)*

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architecturally, the house has been rated notable and classified of value to city and state, "an honest statement of the quality of an early carpenter design and a typical expression of the thrift and frugality of the early German/Swiss settlers of the area ... a simple rectangular structure of two full floors, weather-board exterior, double-hung windows, 6 over 9, much original hand-blown glass in place. Interior walls and ceilings, ship-lap boards, wide pine floors and notable original mantels still showing polychrome decoration."

Historic value of the Fox House is mainly the fact that it was built for and housed, from 1832/33 to 1855, the newly founded Southern Lutheran Seminary, second oldest organized Lutheran theological school in the United States.

The Lutheran Seminary started in 1830 when five young men journeyed to the home of Colonel John Eigleberger (Eichelberger) near Pomaria, South Carolina, for instruction in theology from the Rev. John G. Schwartz. This being unsatisfactory to the Synod, a search was begun for a new site. The offer from the new town of Lexington -- the sum of $5,287 and property -- was accepted in 1832. This house, then one-half mile from town, was erected as a faculty-dormitory with some classes to be taught therein. To serve as professor of theology, the Rev. Ernest L. Hazelius, D.D., was chosen by Synod President Dr. John Bachman. Dr. Hazelius was then professor of Gettysburg Theological Seminary. His worth and attainments were recognized when he was elevated to the presidency of the General Synod of the United States. Dr. Hazelius died in 1853 at the age of 76 and is buried in St. Stephen's churchyard in Lexington. In 1855, the seminary was moved to Newberry, S.C. In 1858, the house was purchased by John Fox of Lexington (1805-1884), county sheriff, clerk of court, state senator.

The Fox House received the 1970 state award for historical preservation and restoration given by the South Carolina Ladies Auxiliary of the American Institute of Architects. The award recognized the accomplishment of the Lexington County Historical Society and the Lexington County Museum Commission in preserving and restoring the house as a representative farm home of early 19th-century central South Carolina, and particularly representative of Lexington county.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Rev. S.T. Hallman, D.D., Editor, History of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of South Carolina, 1824-1924, published by authority of the Synod. Farrell Printing Co., Columbia, S.C.

Hazelius, History of the American Lutheran Church, 1685-1842. Zanesville, O., 1846. South Caroliniana Library, University of S.C. Pp. 291-293.

Hazelius, Discipline, Articles of Faith and Synodical Constitution, published by order of Synod, 1841, Baltimore.

Columbia, S.C., Lutheran Theological Seminary Memorial Library, MSS Minutes, "Theological Seminary of Synod of South Carolina and Adjacent States," 1829, 1830, 1831, 1832, 1833, 1837.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY						OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES					
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE			LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	33 °	59 '	13.8"	81 °	14 '	23.2"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2.66

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

RECEIVED MAY 25 1970 NATIONAL REGISTER

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Mrs. James W. Fant, Historic Resources Assistant

ORGANIZATION: S.C. Department of Archives and History

DATE: May 16, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER: Box 11188, Capitol Station, 1430 Bull Street

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia

STATE: South Carolina

CODE: 41

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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: Charles E. Lee

Title: Director, S.C. Department of Archives and History

Date: 5/19/70

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest Allen Connally

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: JUL 1 1970

ATTEST:

William J. Murtagh

Keeper of The National Register

Date: JUN 12 1970

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Form 10-300a
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
South Carolina	
COUNTY	
Lexington	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
70·7·41·0216	7/1/70

(Number all entries)

9. Major Biographical References (Continued)

Reynolds and Faunt, Biographical Directory of the Senate of South Carolina. Columbia, S.C. Archives Department, 1964.

Julien and Martin, Sea Island to Sand Hills. Columbia, S.C., University of South Carolina Press, 1954. Pp. 110 and 119.

Booklet: An Appraisal of Potential Outdoor Recreational Developments in Lexington County, South Carolina (Inventory of Historic Areas),1967, by Clemson University Extension Service and U.S. Soil Conservation Service.

Plat Book G., Lexington County, p.99 (property of Katie Belle Fox), by C.D. Caughman.

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MAY 25 1970
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