

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JAN 17 1977  
DATE ENTERED AUG 16 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC  
\*  
Lemuel Boozar House  
AND/OR COMMON  
Boozar-Harmon House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER  
320 West Main Street  
CITY, TOWN  
Lexington  
STATE  
South Carolina  
VICINITY OF  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT # 2  
COUNTY  
Lexington  
CODE  
063

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME  
Mrs. Rice Boozar Harmon, Sr.  
STREET & NUMBER  
320 West Main Street  
CITY, TOWN  
Lexington  
STATE  
South Carolina

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Lexington County Courthouse  
STREET & NUMBER  
Main Street  
CITY, TOWN  
Lexington  
STATE  
South Carolina

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE  
Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina  
DATE  
1973  
DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS  
South Carolina Department of Archives and History  
CITY, TOWN  
Columbia  
STATE  
South Carolina

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

---

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built ca. 1828-30, the Lemuel Boözer House is a one-story clapboard structure set upon a raised basement. It remains virtually unchanged since the 1840s, when a left rear ell and right wing were added. Approximately twenty-five years ago, the area between the six-foot high brick piers (supporting the original portion of the structure) was enclosed with concrete blocks, replacing earlier latticework.

A five-bayed porch extends across the front facade. Balustrade and columns are original, although corner brackets are not. The present stairway replaces an earlier one with straight railing. The central double doors are six-paneled with a six-light transom above. Two 9/9 windows flank each side.

The rear now reveals a perpendicular addition (ca. 1840). Prior to this, the rear was probably identical to the front and still features a door identical to the one on that facade. Greek Revival in design, the wing features a simple box cornice, pedimented gable with exterior chimney, and a porch supported by square, chamfered columns.

On the right side a one-room wing was added ca. 1840. The box cornice matches that of the rear addition, and it is covered by a hipped roof.

The main floor windows are 9/9. The windows in the basement area (which was enclosed ca. 1950) are 6/6 and 8/8. The low-gabled roof is covered with asbestos shingles. The original part of the house is flanked by chimneys with simple corbeled caps.

Interior: There are six rooms on the main floor, a basement room under the right wing (said to have been used as a kitchen), and another basement room beneath the rear bedroom wing.

A wide central hall is flanked by a parlor on the left and a dining room on the right. Adjoining the dining room is a bedroom, which is in the 1840s addition. Behind these front rooms are a small modern kitchen on the right and a bathroom on the left (these being located in the shed area of the original structure). The rear 1840s addition contains a bedroom.

The central hall and parlor are wainscoted, while the dining room is ornamented with a chair rail. The mantel in the parlor is simple, with molded shelf; diagonally-reeded panels are flanked by reeded pilasters. The plain dining room mantel has three recessed panels. These rooms, the hall, and the side bedroom retain their wide plank walls and ceilings.

Surroundings: Although located on Main Street, Lexington, South Carolina, the Lemuel Boözer House is surrounded by a large grassy lot. It is also shielded from view by two large magnolia trees. To the rear of the house stood a frame barn and several slave cabins which were torn down in the 1940s.

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

One of the oldest structures in the town of Lexington, South Carolina, the Lemuel Boozer House is also one of the most historic. Its builder, Lemuel Boozer (1809-1870) was a lawyer who served as State Senator, Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina, and State Circuit Judge. Boozer's descendants continue to own the property.

Lemuel Boozer served in the South Carolina House of Representatives (1834-39, 1850-51), and in the South Carolina Senate (1840-58, 52-56, and 1865-66). In 1860 he was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention in Charleston where he was one of three South Carolina delegates who did not walk out of the convention. Boozer was also an opponent of secession. Involved in reconstruction in South Carolina, Boozer was a delegate to the South Carolina Constitutional Conventions of 1865 and 1868. He was elected Lieutenant Governor of the State in 1868, and in the same year he was elected judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit. According to John Reynolds' Reconstruction in South Carolina, Lemuel Boozer was "...a good lawyer and a man to whose integrity, prominent citizens of all shades of political opinion united in bearing hearty testimony."<sup>1</sup> Upon Boozer's death on January 23, 1870, the General Assembly of South Carolina adjourned for the day and resolved that the flag be flown at half-mast for forty-eight hours.

Architecture: The Lemuel Boozer House is the only 19th Century raised cottage in the town of Lexington, South Carolina and is one of the town's oldest remaining structures. Constructed ca. 1828, it is an excellent example of the raised cottage of the Federal Period. Typical features include a low-pitched gable roof which extends over the front porch, a double doorway with transom both front and rear, exterior chimneys on either end, 9/9 windows, and a tall basement of brick piers. Although the house has been altered, the two additions are early (ca. 1840) and have not significantly altered the original fabric of the house.

---

1. John S. Reynolds, Reconstruction in South Carolina (Columbia: The State Company, 1905), p. 113.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JAN 17 1977

DATE ENTERED AUG 16 1977

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE one

Reynolds, Emily B., and Faunt, Joan R. Biographical Directory of the South Carolina Senate. Columbia: South Carolina Archives Department, 1964.

Reynolds, John S. Reconstruction in South Carolina. Columbia: The State Company, 1905.

Wallace, D.D. History of South Carolina, Vol. III. New York: American Historical Society, 1934.

Information provided by Nancy Fox, Central Midlands Regional Historic Preservation Officer. February 1976.

Lexington County Courthouse, Lexington County, South Carolina. Lexington County Deeds and Wills.