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 :

Common: West Boundary Street Historic District

Location: Along sections of Boundary and Jessica Streets

Classification: District

Owner : Multiple Ownership (see continuation sheet)

Representation in Existing Surveys

Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina (1979 update)

Description: The West Boundary Street Historic District, located in Newberry, South Carolina, consists of four residences, each of which represents a different predominant architectural style from the period between 1840 and 1935. The houses are located on large tree shaded lots which contribute to the residential character of this small district.

Significance: The West Boundary Street Historic District is significant as a collection of four homes, each of which exemplifies a particular late nineteenth or early twentieth century popular building style. The Judge Eugene Blease House is also significant for its associations with Judge Eugene Blease, prominent state and local political figure.

Acreage 5.8

Verbal Boundary Description: The boundary of the West Boundary Street Historic District nomination is shown as the heavy black line on the accompanying map entitled "West Boundary Street Historic District" and drawn at a scale of one inch to 200 feet.

UTM Reference Point: A. 17/442650/3791680 B. 17/442590/3791580
C. 17/442338/3791760 D. 17/442390/3791850

Other Information

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Key properties contributing to the character of the historic district:

W-1. 921 Jessica Street. Gildercrest. Built in 1857, this two-story Greek Revival mansion is of brick, with gabled roof and interior chimneys. Brick quoins and a pedimented front portico supported by four massive Doric columns under a full entablature embellish the facade. Other facade features are pilasters, central double doors with a transom of stained glass panels, and six over six sash having stone sills and lintels. A two tiered pedimented rear porch has been enclosed on the first floor, and arcaded Victorian latticework surmounts the second story turned balustrade. To the rear of the house are two brick slave cabins. Gildercrest was built by William F. Nance, co-owner of the Newberry "Conservatist", tri-weekly newspaper published locally in 1856. The house's name derives from Dr. James K. Gilder, who purchased it in 1902. Contractor for the house was James Hartwell Blease.

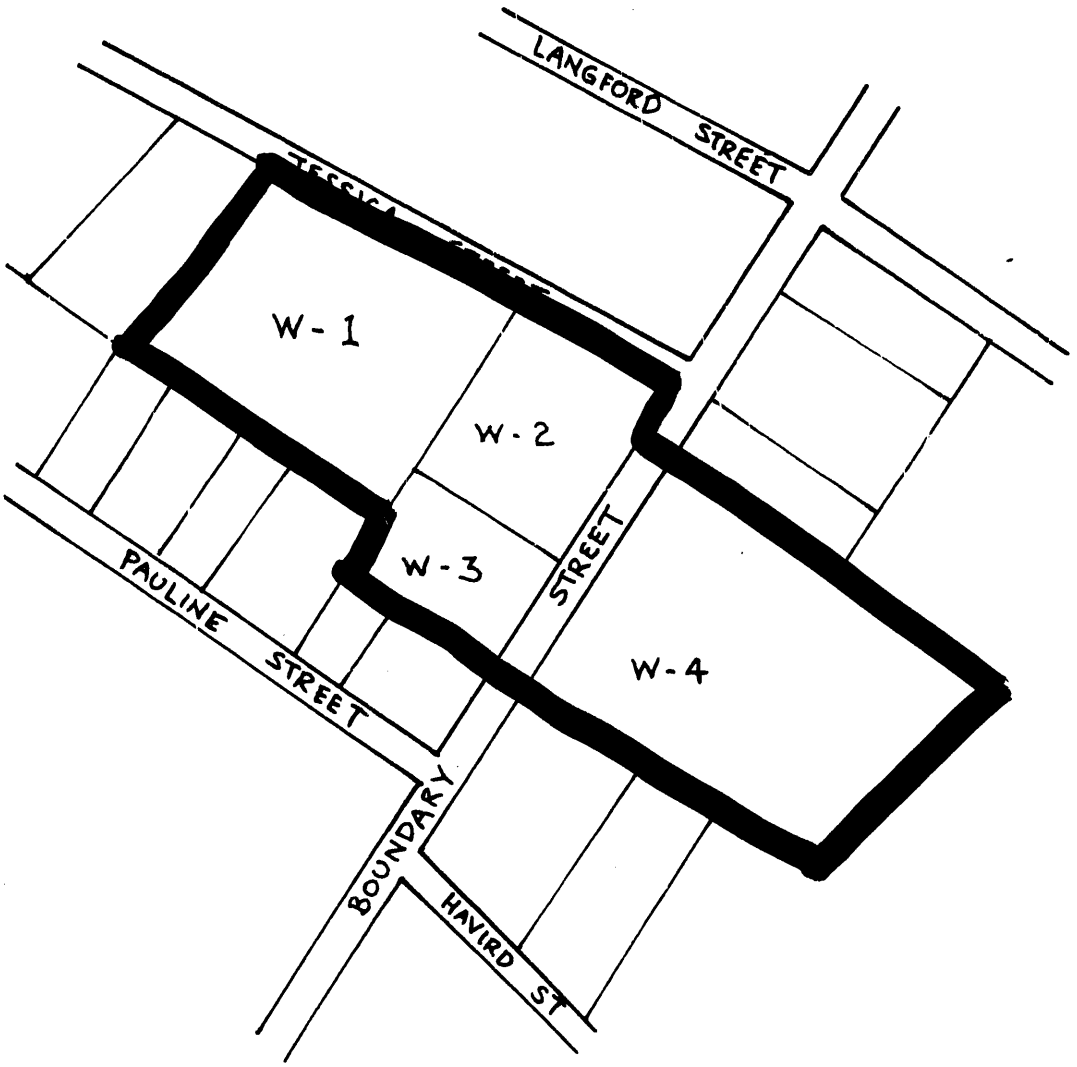
W-2. 519 Boundary Street. Judge Eugene Blease House. This 1935 one-story brick bungalow, under a hipped roof, features a full width front porch and projecting porch entranceway under a front gable and lunette. Coupled colonettes adorn the entranceway and porch and are connected on the porch by a plain railing. The house is significant historically as the residence of Eugene Satterwhite Blease (1877-1963), Chief Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court (1931-34). He also served as Newberry County Representative in the State General Assembly (1901-02, 1922-24), as state senator (1905-06) and as Newberry mayor (1919-1921). The house is also associated with the Judge's half brother, Coleman Livingston Blease (1868-1942), Governor of South Carolina (1911-1915) and later United States Senator (1925-31). No other residence connected with the state's renowned populist governor survives.

W-3. 515 Boundary Street. John R. Leavell House. This ca. 1870 frame one-story dwelling is a decorated classic revival cottage on a raised basement. The facade displays a pedimented projecting porch centering a three bay central block which is flanked by porched wings. A central single doorway is framed by a multi-paned transom and sidelights above panels. Window sash are six over six. Scroll brackets adorn the four slender square wood pillars of the front porch, which has a plain rail balustrade. Wing porches display turned balustrades and brackets. Asbestos siding covers the original weatherboarding, and pipe rails replace the original wooden rails flanking the front steps. Leavell served as county tax collector in 1860 and as a trustee of the Newberry Male and Female Academies before establishment of the public school system in 1891.

W-4. 516 Boundary Street. Nance House. Built ca. 1840, this two-story weatherboarded dwelling is gabled with exterior end chimneys. The rectangular form displays a two tiered pedimented front portico. Four square wood posts connected by plain balustrades support the portico on each story. Each front floor has a central double doorway framed by multi-paned transom and sidelights. Flanking windows are six over six sash. The house was constructed by Erasmus Nance, nephew of Frederick Nance, the village's first settler. A Nance family cemetery is to the rear of the house.

WEST BOUNDARY STREET
HISTORIC DISTRICT

NEWBERRY, SOUTH CAROLINA
SCALE 1" = 200'



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