

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED MAY 31 1979  
DATE ENTERED JUL 13 1979

**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 Major Henry A. Meetze House

AND/OR COMMON Meetze House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER 723 South Lake Drive

CITY, TOWN Lexington  VICINITY OF \_\_\_\_\_  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT #2

STATE South Carolina CODE 045 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"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Charles W. Harmon

STREET & NUMBER 723 South Lake Drive

CITY, TOWN Lexington \_\_\_\_\_ VICINITY OF \_\_\_\_\_ STATE South Carolina

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Lexington County Administration Building

STREET & NUMBER South Lake Drive

CITY, TOWN Lexington STATE South Carolina

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina

DATE 1973 (update) \_\_\_\_\_ FEDERAL  STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_ LOCAL \_\_\_\_\_

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS South Carolina Department of Archives and History

CITY, TOWN Columbia STATE South Carolina

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Meetze House is believed to have been constructed as a private residence by Henry Adam Meetze circa 1855. Located just outside the town limits of Lexington, South Carolina, the Meetze House is an early local interpretation of the Italianate style and also reflects the influence of the earlier South Carolina farmhouse type.

Exterior: Basically symmetrical in form, the house consists of a two story rectangular main block with both single story end wings attached to the side facades and a right rear ell. The clapboard structure with medium hipped roof is set on low brick piers which have been enclosed to create a solid foundation and then stuccoed. Brickwork on chimneys is stretcher bond. The original shingle roof has been replaced with modern composition shingles.

The main features of the front facade are the two story portico centered on the main rectangular block and flanked by two bays at right and left; one story porticoes also project forward from the right and left end wings. On each story, the central portico is distinguished by cast iron balusters in a circle and curved x design, four chamfered columns and by flat-topped arches. The first story of the portico also features dentil detail on the wide boxed cornice, as do the flanking single story porticoes, which repeat the configuration of the main portico. The notable feature of each side facade is a five-sided bay. Each bay is characterized by molded panelling; tall, narrow 1/1 lights; and by a boxed cornice with dentil detail corresponding to that of the porticoes. The rear facade features a kitchen ell, recently created by the enclosure of a covered breezeway which formerly connected the original detached kitchen with the house. At this time, the right facade of the ell was altered and a bay window was constructed. Aside from the use of 8/8 sash, this bay repeats the design of the end bays on the side facades.

The structure features numerous elements which are exemplary of the Italianate style. These include the flared chimneys with molded caps; the hipped roof with bracketed eaves; the end bays with 1/1 sash; the porticoes with cast iron decoration, chamfered columns and flat-topped arches; and the strong horizontal banding of the wide boxed cornice. The earlier South Carolina farmhouse type is evidenced by the rectangular two story central block; the two story colonnaded central projecting portico; the main first floor entrances at front and rear with wide single door and multi-paned sidelights and transom; and by the regular, symmetrical and small-paned 9/9 fenestration, arranged in bays throughout.

Interior: The original portion of the house consists of a symmetrical plan with a central hall flanked by two large front rooms on each floor and by two small rear rooms on the first floor; these adjoin single story side wings, each containing one large room with a bay end. Modern alterations to this section of the house have been minimal, consisting of the addition of closets and of the partitioning of the right rear first story room with modern panelling to create a bathroom. Projecting from the rear of the structure is an ell containing a laundry room and kitchen. The interior of the ell shows evidence of early construction, although it has been partially modernized.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	Local History	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Located near the town of Lexington, South Carolina, the Meetze House is believed to have been built by Henry Adam Meetze circa 1855. The house combines the Italianate influence with elements of the earlier South Carolina farmhouse type and is also significant as the home of an individual who played a prominent role in the governmental affairs of Lexington County.

Tradition indicates that Henry Adam Meetze constructed the house as a private residence circa 1855. Henry Meetze (1820-1904) was a prominent attorney, businessman and civic leader in the Lexington area. He served as treasurer of the mission board of the United Lutheran Synod of the South and as president of the Laurel Manufacturing Company, a textile firm. Henry Meetze was an early volunteer for Confederate Service during the Civil War, serving in Gregg's Regiment during 1861 and as the quartermaster for Company K, Thirteenth South Carolina Regiment during 1862 and 1863. Ill health made it necessary for him to resign from active duty and from 1863 to 1865 Meetze held the position of tax collector for the Lexington Judicial District under the Confederate government.

Upon conclusion of the Civil War, Henry Meetze resumed his legal practice in Lexington, where he remained until his death in 1904. His widow Rosamond Benjamin Meetze occupied the Meetze House until her death in 1911. Shortly thereafter the house was purchased by Frank C. and Ella J. Corley. Subsequently, the Meetze House was sold to Mrs. Bedie G. Harmon, whose descendants continue to own the property.

Politics/Government: Henry Adam Meetze played a significant role both in local politics in Lexington County and in state government. He served Lexington as Commissioner in Equity from 1842 to 1867 and also held the posts of Magistrate, Commissioner of Public Buildings and Commissioner of Free Schools. Meetze was a leader in the Democratic Party in Lexington County during the Reconstruction Period and was chosen as its president in 1872. He represented Lexington County in the South Carolina House of Representatives from 1872 to 1876 and served as chairman of the House Judiciary Committee from 1872 to 1874. In 1876, Henry Meetze was elected to the South Carolina Senate. He represented Lexington County from 1876 to 1880 and from 1888 to 1892, holding the position of President Pro Tempore from 1890 to 1892. He was also the counsel for the Court of Claims during 1887.

Architecture: The Meetze House is a significant example of an early local interpretation of the Italianate style which also features elements of the earlier South Carolina farmhouse type. In addition, the house is believed to be the oldest private residence with Italianate detailing extant in Lexington County. Notable architectural features include the hipped roof with bracketed eaves, one and two-story porticoes, bay windows, curving cantilevered stair and the ceiling plasterwork in the first floor right and left rooms.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cyclopedia of Eminent and Representative Men of the Carolinas of the Nineteenth Century. Madison, Wisconsin: Brant and Fuller, 1892, pp. 671-673.

Edgar, Walter B., ed. Biographical Directory of the South Carolina House of Representatives, Vol. I: Session Lists 1692-1973. Columbia, S.C.: University of South Carolina, 1973. continued....

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.2 acres  
 UTM REFERENCES

A	1,7	47,8	3,3,0	3,7	5,8	4,8,0	B					
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING						
C							D					
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING						

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Starting at a point just outside the east side of the highway right of way of S.C. Highway 6, 150' north of its intersection with the Southern Railroad Line, and running northerly along said right of way for a distance of 250' to a point; thence turning and running east for 210' to a point; thence turning and running in a southerly direction generally for 250', more or less, to a point; thence turning and running west for 150', more or less, to the point of beginning.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE	Michele Barovsky Historic Preservation Division	Nancy Fox Central Midlands Regional Planning Council
ORGANIZATION	South Carolina Department of Archives and History	DATE April 26, 1979
STREET & NUMBER	Post Office Box 11,669, Capitol Station	TELEPHONE 803/758-5816
CITY OR TOWN	Columbia	STATE South Carolina

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL  STATE  LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Charles E. Lee*

TITLE Charles E. Lee  
State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 5/23/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

<i>William K. Lovick</i>	DATE July 13, 1979
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
ATTEST: <i>W. J. ...</i>	DATE 7/12/79
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

The interior of the house retains original fabric throughout, including wide board floors; wide baseboards; wide, plain door and window moldings; and all mantels and two-panel doors. Of particular note in the main hallway is the curving cantilevered stair with turned balusters and newel post and arched niche set into the curve along the right-hand plaster wall. Other significant interior features include the plaster ceiling medallion in the first floor right front room and the plaster ceiling medallion and deep coved cornice in the first floor left front room.

Surroundings: The Meetze House is located in a mixed residential/industrial/agricultural setting. Flanking the house to the left and front is a highway and also situated nearby are the tracks of the Southern Railroad, while both open and wooded farmland flank the house to the right and rear. A proposal to widen the highway, although tabled for the present time, could affect the house. Located to the rear of the house and within the nominated acreage is the original wellhouse, a clapboard structure with hipped roof and boxed cornice. Also within the nominated acreage are several sheds of undetermined age.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

South Carolina Press, 1974, pp. 418, 422.

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The History of Synod Committee, ed. A History of the Lutheran Church in South Carolina. Columbia, S.C.: R.L. Bryan Company, 1971, p. 304.

Kauffman, Charles Fahs. A Genealogy and History of the Kauffman-Coffman Families of North America 1584 to 1937. York, Pennsylvania: By the author, 1970, pp. 576, 584.

Lander, Ernest McPherson. The Textile Industry in Antebellum South Carolina. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1969, pp. 68, 72.

Obituary, "Major Henry A. Meetze Dead." The State, 13 January 1904, part II, p. 8.

Records of Mesne Conveyance, Deed Book 3-B, pp. 546-547; Deed Book 6-U, pp. 138-139; Judgement Roll 2691. Lexington County Clerk of Court, Lexington County, S.C.

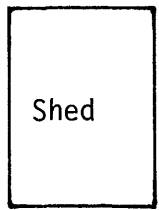
Reynolds, Emily Bellinger and Joan Reynolds Faunt, ed. Biographical Directory of the Senate of the State of South Carolina, 1776-1964. Columbia, S.C.: South Carolina Archives Department, 1964, p. 272.

Scott, Edwin J. Random Recollections of a Long Life, 1806-1876. Columbia, S.C.: Charles A. Calvo, Jr., 1884, pp. 89-90.

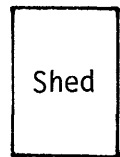
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S.C. Highway 6



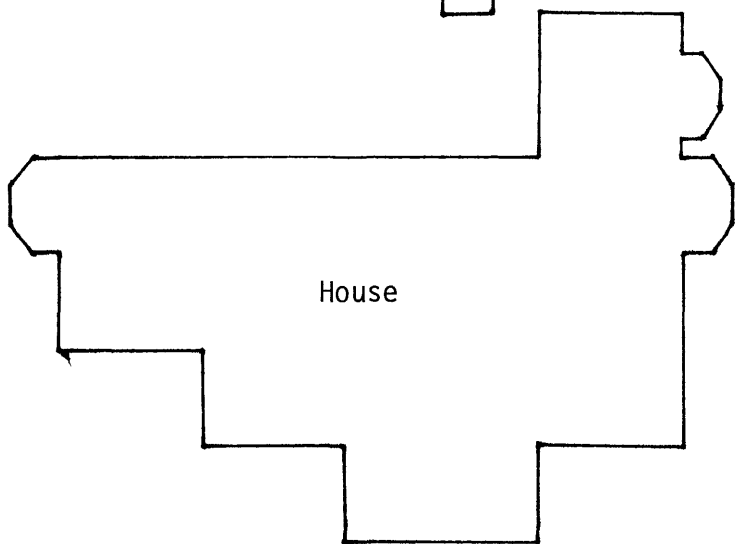
Shed



Shed



Wellhouse

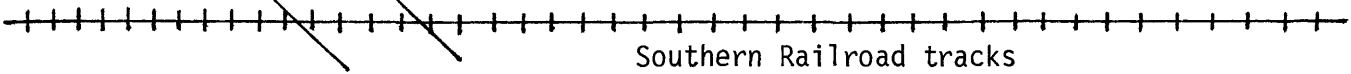


House

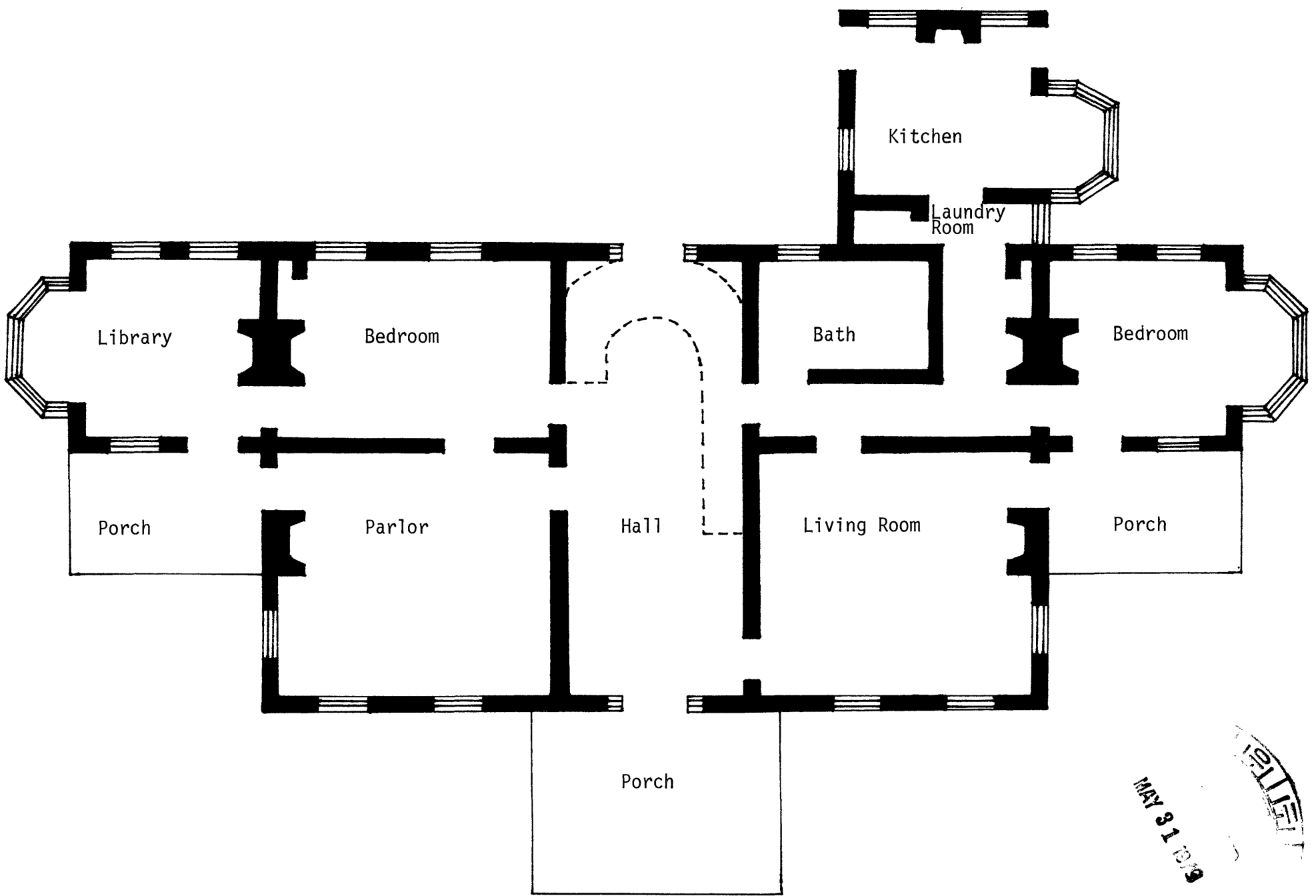
Major Henry A. Meetze House,  
Lexington County

Site Plan

not to scale



Southern Railroad tracks

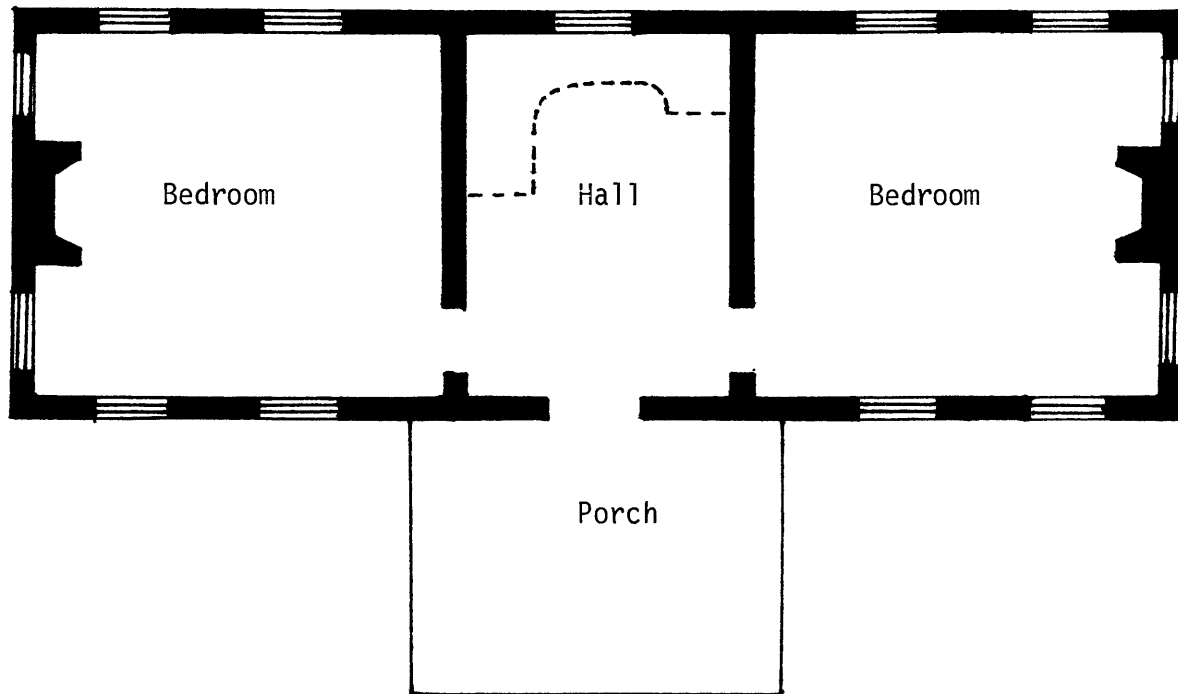


Major Henry A. Meetze House,  
Lexington County, S.C.

Plan, 1st floor

not to scale





Major Henry A. Meetze House,  
Lexington County, S.C.

Plan, 2nd Floor

not to scale

