

NR listed 1/28/92

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Dr. Boaz House

other name/site number: N/A CLD 7160

2. Location

street & number: State Route #26

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Clear Spring

vicinity: X

state: AR county: Clark

code: AR 019

zip code: 71923

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building(s)

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing

Noncontributing

5

      

buildings

      

      

sites

      

      

structures

      

      

objects

5

0

Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

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#### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_\_\_ meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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#### 5. National Park Service Certification

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I, hereby certify that this property is:

\_\_\_\_ entered in the National Register \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.  
\_\_\_\_ determined eligible for the \_\_\_\_\_  
National Register  
\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.  
\_\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the \_\_\_\_\_  
National Register  
\_\_\_\_ removed from the National Register \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date  
of Action

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#### 6. Function or Use

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Historic: Domestic

Sub: Single Dwelling

Current : Vacant

Sub: Not in use

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## 7. Description

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### Architectural Classification:

Other: Dog-Trot

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Materials: foundation Stone roof Metal/Steel  
walls Wood other Brick

\_\_\_\_\_

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Locally.

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of Significance: Architecture

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Period(s) of Significance: c.1890 \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates: N/A \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person(s): N/A

\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation: N/A \_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder: Unknown

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.  
X See continuation sheet.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

☒ See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- ☐ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other state agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other -- Specify Repository: \_\_\_\_\_

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: Approximately 3

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing      Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>465670</u>	<u>3770120</u>	B	___	___	___
C	___	___	___	D	___	___	___

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: \_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Beginning at a point on the southern edge of State Route #26 formed by its intersection with a perpendicular line running along the eastern bank of the small, unnamed creek that runs that runs southward into the property (located 6.1 miles southwest of Bench Mark 300), proceed southerly along said line for a distance of approximately 650 feet to its intersection with a line running along the southern elevation of the associated barn; thence proceed westerly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to its intersection with a line running parallel with the western elevation of the house; thence proceed northerly along said line for a distance of approximately 650 feet to its intersection with the southern edge of State Route #26; thence proceed easterly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification:      See continuation sheet.  
This boundary includes all the property historically associated with this resource that retains its integrity.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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Name/Title: Kenneth Story, Architectural Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 12/10/91

Street & Number: 225 E. Markham, Suite 300 Telephone: (501) 324-9346

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR ZIP: 72201

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**Summary**

The Dr. Boaz House is a single story, wood frame residence of the vernacular house type known as the dog-trot. Its gable roof main section also features the classic form of a gable roof ell placed flush with one end of the dog-trot section that features an open, shed roof gallery on the opposite side. It features a standing seam metal roof, exterior walls that are sheathed primarily with board-and-batten (though there is some weatherboard in the gable peaks), and a foundation of stone piers.

**Elaboration**

The Dr. Boaz House is a single story, wood frame residence of the vernacular house type known as the dog-trot. Its gable roof main section also features the classic form of a gable roof ell placed flush with one end of the dog-trot section that features an open, shed roof gallery on the opposite side. A central, exterior end brick chimney is placed against the western gable end of the house. It features a standing seam metal roof, exterior walls that are sheathed primarily with board-and-batten (though there is some weatherboard in the gable peaks and on the eastern elevation), and a foundation of stone piers.

The northern or front elevation is sheltered by a full-length, shed roof front porch supported upon six evenly-spaced, simple wood posts. The facade beneath the porch is composed of the open central hallway and the two flanking walls that are each lighted with a central, six-over-six wood sash window. The southern elevation opposite is divided into three principle parts: the gable end of the western kitchen ell, the open, shed roof gallery on the eastern side of the ell that connects to the central open hallway between the front pens, and the enclosed rear shed roof section attached to the rear of the eastern pen of the dog-trot section. The gable end of the kitchen ell is lighted by two symmetrically-placed two-over-two wood sash windows. The wall within the open gallery to the east is blank with the sole exception of a single leaf entry located in the eastern wall. The wall of the eastern shed is lighted with a single, central, fixed window.

The western elevation is composed of the gable end of the dog-trot and the side gable of the rear kitchen ell. The gable end is divided by the central chimney and is lighted by two flanking four-over-four wood sash windows. The side gable is lighted by a central six-over-six wood sash window and a single, fixed, four-pane wood window placed toward the southern end. The eastern elevation consists of one four-over-four wood sash window placed toward the northern elevation, a central six-over-six wood sash window placed toward the intersection with the rear shed, and a four-over-four wood sash window in the wall of the rear shed.

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The Dr. Boaz House features virtually no detail of any kind, inside or out, the only variation in its surface being provided solely by the rhythm formed by the board-and-batten sheathing. Batten strips are also applied over the spaces between the ceiling boards inside. Otherwise the door and window trim, where it exists at all, is simple and without milled detailing.

There have been virtually no alterations to the building, the only exception being the installation of double-leaf doors within the dog-trot; however, when these are opened, the hallway is identical to its original appearance, as no other surrounding trim has been installed.

Also included in the nomination are a barn, two storage buildings located immediately behind the house, and an outhouse.

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## Summary

Criterion C, local significance

The Dr. Boaz House is significant locally as the best example of a vernacular, wood frame, dog-trot residence in this rural section of western Clark County. It has been well-maintained in spite of its rural location and is in a good state of preservation.

## Elaboration

The community of Clear Spring is located in the western section of Clark County, approximately two miles northeast of Antoine and two miles north of the old Gurdon & Fort Smith Railroad Line (later the Missouri-Pacific Line) on the old road running between Arkadelphia and Murfreesboro (now State Highway 26). By 1890 Clear Spring consisted of a general store, a post office, a steam cotton gin and grist mill, a school, a Baptist church and a total of approximately fifty residents.

Of even greater importance to its settlement and growth, however, was its location on the southern edge of an area that was to provide the raw materials for one of Arkansas' burgeoning late-nineteenth century industries, the commercial exploitation of its virgin yellow pine forests. The expansion of the railroads throughout the state after the Civil War provided both the means to exploit previously-inaccessible forests and the economically profitable connections to a growing national market. Arkansas yellow pine proved to be a choice building material for an entire nation that was growing rapidly, particularly in the north, due to the prosperity brought on by the post-war industrial revolution. Clark County, with network of railroads that connected the forests with lumber mills in Gurdon, Arkadelphia, Whelan and other smaller milling centers, proved to be one of the earliest and most active shipping centers for the lumber industry.

The community of Clear Spring is clustered around the Arkadelphia-Murfreesboro road, as it is not accessed directly by the railroad line that connected the lumbering center of Gurdon to the south with the vast expanses of pine forest to the north. However, its location on this principle regional highway gave it excellent access to both the railroad and the Antoine River to the southwest, and rendered it immediately accessible to those traveling through the area for whatever reason. Furthermore, a network of local roads running around and through Clear Spring provided even more connections between it and the surrounding lumber and mill centers.

Little is known about Dr. Boaz (pronounced *boze*). His status as a doctor is maintained by oral tradition only, as is the claim that one Sam Peebles constructed this residence for him (it is assumed that he was a medical doctor, since it was uncommon to be called this in Arkansas



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through the association with any other profession). However, maps and county records authenticate the existence of a Peeples family cemetery adjacent to this house site and the Clark county marriage records note the marriage of an A. Boaz to a Miss Annie Peeples on August 15, 1891 (he was 40; she was 37). Therefore it seems likely that the house was indeed constructed by Sam Peeples around this time as part of a dowry or as a wedding present. Yet the deed records indicate no purchase of any land by Boaz and the 1900 census does not mention him in this township at all, so we can determine little else.

The Dr. Boaz House features a classical vernacular floor plan, with its main dog-trot section augmented by a perpendicular ell attached to the rear of one of the pens, and with an open gallery running along the side of the ell so as to create one continuous sheltered hall with the open hall between the pens of the dog-trot. As such, the Dr. Boaz House stands as the best surviving example of this vernacular house type in Clear Spring, and is thus significant under Criterion C with local significance.

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**Bibliography**

*Goodspeed's History of Southern Arkansas*, (Chicago, 1890), pp. 114-121.

*Interview with Meeks Etchieson*, conducted by Joe DeRose, AHPP, January 12, 1990.

Smith, Kenneth L., *Sawmill*, (Fayetteville, Arkansas; 1986), pp. 42-46.













