

Berkeley County & Courthouse History ~

~ Berkeley County was originally established in **1682** (along with three other South Carolina counties, Craven, Colleton, and Carteret/Granville).

~ In **1768** all four South Carolina counties were eliminated and “overarching Districts” formed. So, in **1769** the original Berkeley County became Charleston District.

~ After the American Revolution in **1785**, South Carolina re-established the concept of counties and twenty-three (23) "new" counties were defined and established. Berkeley County (1682-1768), was resurrected and existed from **1785 to 1791**, then abolished again.

~ Then, in **1882**, finally resurrected once again, the Legislature re-established it as Berkeley County and it continues to the present.

~ The county seat was moved from Mt. Pleasant to Moncks Corner in **1895**. The town of Moncks Corner was chartered 26 December 1885. However, it was not incorporated until 15 December 1909.

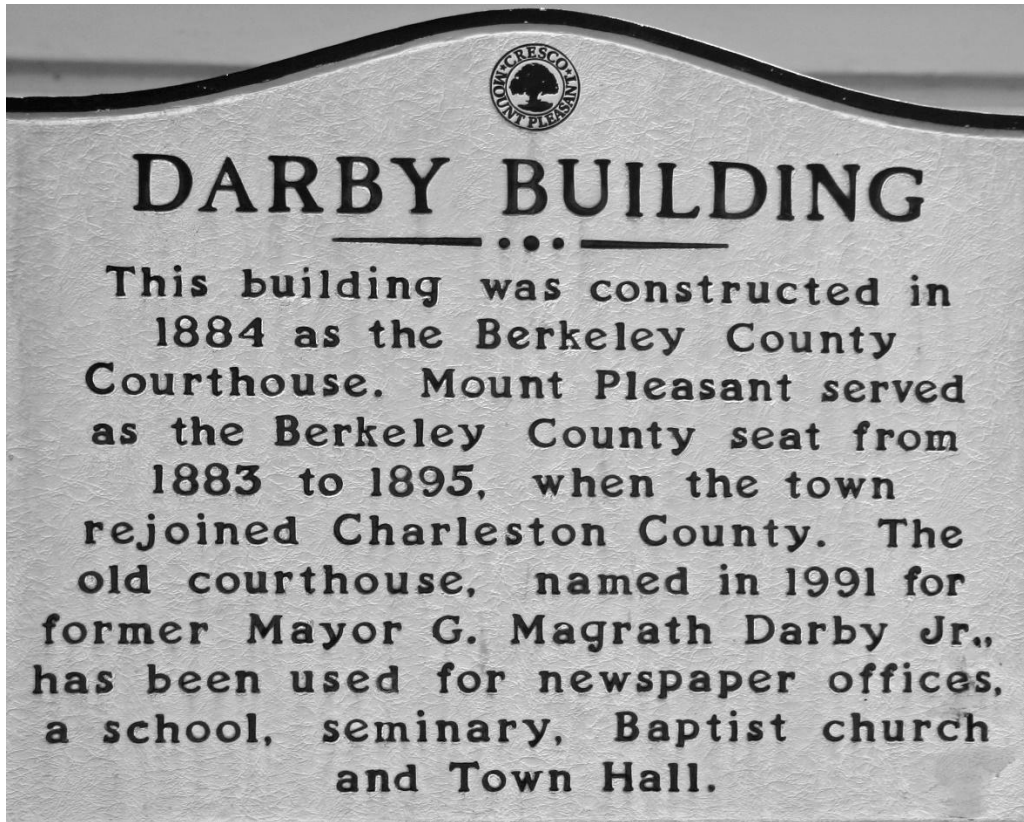
~ The first courthouse was built in Mount Pleasant between 1884 to 1885.

~ The second and present courthouse was constructed in Moncks Corner in 1896 to 1897.

~ The building faces south and is a two-story red colored brick and concrete structure. The central entrance has a small pediment above the doorway. The building has vertical white colored piasters rising to a pediment at the roof line. The roof is hipped.

~ A modern addition constructed of red colored brick and concrete was added on the east side in 1990. The south side of the addition has a two-story white colored concrete porch with stairs to the second story and pitched roof. The corners of the building have vertical windows and the roof line is flat.

~ The architect was LS3P Associates, Ltd. and the contractor was Threatt Michael of Greenville.



Presently the G. Magrath Darby Building (not sure of its use today)





Address: 302 Pitt St., Mt. Pleasant, S.C. Served as the Berkeley County seat from 1883 'til the county seat was moved to Moncks Corner in 1895.





This is the first courthouse built in Moncks Corner, built out of wood.
If I understand correctly, this building is “within” the existing courthouse,
renovated, bricked over, and an addition added on.

Address: 300 California Ave. (DT)

Town: Moncks Corner

County established: 5/10/1682

1st Courthouse built in Moncks Corner: 1896



Exterior material: Brick & Limestone

Known exterior changes: Addition 1990 renovations

Style: Federal Revival

Architect: Andrew J. Bryan (1896)

Architect: LS3P Associates (1990)

Builder: Knoxville Building & Construction Co. (1896)

Original cost: \$4,500 (1896)

Builder: Threatt Michael (1990)

GPS location: N33° 12' 00.21" W80° 01' 00.76"

National Register: No

Interesting Courthouse facts:

1. This is Berkeley's second courthouse and first courthouse in Moncks Corner.
2. Many changes and alterations have been made to the original 1896 building over the years.