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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Central Roller Mills
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 300 Madden Bridge Road not for publication
city or town Central vicinity
state South Carolina code SC county Pickens code 077 zip code 29630

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national x statewide local

Elizabeth M. Johnson 5/6/2013
Signature of certifying official Title Date

Elizabeth M. Johnson, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

Joe Edson H. Beall 6.25.13
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
 (Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

Category of Property
 (Check only one box.)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
 (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
4	1	buildings
		sites
15		structures
		objects
19	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
 (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Industry/Processing/Extraction: manufacturing
 facility

Current Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Vacant/Not in Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

No Style

Materials
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Brick
 foundation: Concrete

Brick
 walls: Tin

Concrete
 Weatherboard

roof: Tin

other:

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Central Roller Mills property is located at 300 Madden Bridge Road in Central, South Carolina. Officially organized and constructed in 1903, the original Central Roller Mills property was a three-story brick building with a one-story wing on the right (east) side.¹ By 1938 additions included fourteen exterior silos, a second story addition to the original one-story portion of the building, a one-story building addition, a four-story tower addition for the bucket elevators, several connection alleys, a feed mill, two wooden storage buildings, a storage tank, and a three-story addition to the left of the original building to house nine storage silos. Currently, the property is comprised of three connecting buildings, four stand-alone buildings, fourteen exterior silos, and a storage tank, encompassing approximately 11,000 square feet on 1.18 acres of relatively flat, grassy land.

Narrative Description

The property consists of relatively flat grassy land, encompassing approximately 1.18 acres, with the building covering 11,000 square feet of space. Though the immediate surrounding landscape of the mill appears rural in nature, there are immediate and nearby residences and other small businesses surrounding the mill complex. The landscape itself is not significant apart from the mill buildings that are strategically placed on the property. The property consists of three connected buildings and four detached buildings. There are four existing outbuildings on the property, one of which, the Grain, sits directly behind (north of) the one-story portion of the main mill building. The second outbuilding is connected to the silos of the main building and served as the Feed Mill. Another storage building, which served as the Poison Shack, sits to the right of the main building. The fourth outbuilding is a metal-sided storage shed added at a later date. The Roller Mill grew as its functions increased, eventually becoming a corn, flour, and feed mill with multiple connected buildings. Sidewalks and curbing were added along the front of the property in 2011 by the Town of Central.

Inventory of Contributing Resources:

1. Main Mill (1903, additions 1934-1938)

The building is three stories in height on the western end and only one story on the eastern end. The main building forms a linear, rectangular shape, while the addition of the silos creates a U-shape design for the complex with a rear courtyard. The original building has a brick perimeter foundation that flows seamlessly with the exterior walls. The one-story addition has a solid concrete block foundation and the tower features a brick foundation. The exterior walls of the original building are brick, while the two-story addition and the one-story addition are concrete block.

The original building had a lateral gable on the main three-story section but a flat roof on the one-story building. Today, the entire building is covered with a lateral gable roof, broken into separate sections by building height. All of the roofs are covered in raised seam metal, a mixture of the original metal and the new metal, and feature 1' overhanging eaves. Sometime after Pendleton Oil Mill bought the property, a tower was added to the western end of the original building. The tower is wood-framed on a brick foundation and houses two silos. The exterior of the tower is sided in square pieces of sheet metal.

The southern façade (front) has a porch running the full length of the building (save the tower area at the western end). Originally, the building had a loading dock that ran the length of the building with an awning suspended by cables. At the time of purchase, the awning over the dock was gone except over the one-story section. Due to the deterioration of the awning, the porch itself suffered greatly from water damage, and was completely removed and replaced in 2008.² The dock where the awning was missing was almost rotted out. The original awning over the dock was suspended by cables. The owners replaced the entire awning and porch. At the suggestion of an architect, the porch was extended by an additional four feet in front of the three-story and two-story sections. The current awning is the same length as the original

¹ Allen, *Central Yesterday & Today*; Issaqueena Mills, LLC, "Central Roller Mills: Past," Issaqueena Mills, LLC, <http://www.centralrollermills.com/past.htm>.

² Interview with Bobby Ballentine, Owner, September 22, 2009.

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and, though not suspended by cables, is constructed as close to the original as possible based on historic photographs. The new porch is wood-framed with painted metal railings, and a shed-style raised seam metal roof, and extends ten feet from the front of the building. An overhead auger between the feed mill and main building was removed for safety. There are no other porches, etc. on the site.

There is one chimney on the eastern end of the building that is 12"x16", constructed of brick with a concrete block base. There are several doorways on the exterior of the building. Each doorway is wood-framed, painted brown to match the original color, with an arch at the top. The doorways follow the arch pattern, surrounded in brick. The main exterior door is a double-door, painted brown and paneled, with a transom window at the top under the arch shape. The other doors are painted brown with four lights at the top and four horizontal panels at the base. The brown paint used was chosen through a scrape test to match the original color.

A significant portion of the original windows were missing or had the glass knocked out when Issaqueena Mills, LLC acquired the property. The remaining windows are six-over-six-light double-hung sash on the rear of the building and two-over-two-light double-hung sash on the front of the building, all wood-framed. The pieces of the original windows that were salvageable were used to construct the existing windows to match the originals. The window openings on the original brick building all have a small arch at the top, lined in brick. Two original window openings on the front of the main building and one on the rear have been enclosed with brick. There are no shutters anywhere on the structure.

The property retains its unique metal signage from its early years of operation. Though this is not the original sign, as is evidenced by leftover paint markings on the brick, the sign has been in place for several decades. One sign is a flat, painted tin strip with the words Central Roller Mills and a rolled edge. The other two signs are flat, painted, square tin that represent the Purina Chows trademark symbol because the mill distributed feed for that company at one time.

The original building is masonry with brick on both the exterior and interior. The floor and ceiling systems are heavy timber wood-framed, the beams pieced together with 2" x 6" boards. The posts and beams on the first level of the original building are 12" x 12" chamfered timbers. The posts and beams on the one-story addition are 2" x 6" boards pieced together and chamfered on the four corners. The joists are individual 2" x 6" boards and spaced an average of twenty four inches on center. The roof framing of the two-story portion has 12" x 12" beams and 2" x 6" joists with a layer of wood sheathing of six inch boards. The roof framing of the three-story portion is framed entirely out of 2" x 6" and 2" x 4" boards in direct contact with the metal roof.

Entering on the western end of the façade, the original building stands three stories tall, rectangular in shape, with each level measuring 27' x 37'. The three levels are connected by a primitive wooden staircase. The one-story portion of the original building is rectangular in shape and measures 23' x 28' as does the second story addition. The levels are connected by a primitive wooden staircase constructed of 2" x 6" boards with a 1" x 4" railing with a narrow rise, resulting in steep, structurally weak stairs. A one-story addition measures 29' x 60'. Though the first level of each building section connects through doorways, the upper levels can only be accessed by the respective staircases. A basement runs the length of the original building. On the western end of the building is the tower addition that holds six silos and measures 25' x 30'.

The flooring consists of two-inch wide heart pine planks and plywood. The heart pine floors, despite the normal wear from use, are in good condition. The flooring in the one-story addition was yellow pine with particle board overlay, but was replaced with plywood in 2011 due to significant rotting and deterioration.

The wall finish is brick covered with a layer of cement-based plaster with peeling white paint. Select walls are covered in bead board or exterior weatherboard siding. The main building addition is concrete block, painted white. The ceiling on each level is the floor framing for the level above, with exposed beams. The ceiling of the top level is exposed roof framing. The brick and mortar of the walls has not deteriorated due to being covered with a concrete-based plaster, although the paint on the interior of the walls is peeling on the first floor only.

Each doorway is wood-framed, painted white, with an arch at the top. The doors are white four-paneled wood doors. The door hardware consists of brass plates with white ceramic doorknobs and a brass keyhole.

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The window openings follow the arched pattern of the doorways and the windows are framed in wood. On the upper levels, the windows are set back three inches in the wall, allowing for a concrete-based plaster windowsill.

The interior includes several wood-framed closet spaces and an elevator shaft. There are columns in the one-story building, pieced together with layers of 2" x 6" boards, chamfered. All the beams in the floor framing are constructed in the same manner. The interior chimney is brick, rising gradually from four feet wide at the base to two feet wide at the top with a small hole in the center. The chimney does not break through the roof of the building. Each level houses equipment and grain elevator shafts that run from level to level. There are two wood-framed primitive staircases in the original building constructed of 2" x 6" boards and a 1" x 4" railing with a narrow rise and minimal support, resulting in narrow, structurally weak stairs. The tower room features unique wood storage silos constructed with layers of 2" x 6" boards stacked one on the other three stories tall.

There are no climate control systems currently in the building. Electricity was installed for construction purposes with a functional meter in the one-story portion of the main building. Lighting was added to the first floor of the building and porch in 2010. All other lighting is natural, provided by the windows. There is evidence of old wiring in several of the walls, but all these lines have been cut. There is primitive plumbing in the building, with a water line running to the one operable bathroom. The bathroom has a ceramic toilet and sink, dating to the 1960s. The inoperable bathroom had a toilet dating to the 1940s with the back attached to the wall. This bathroom was removed in 2010 due to extensive water damage and the plywood floor was replaced.

There is a man lift in the original building that was used to transport large items. The disconnected wiring for the elevator remains, as does the rope used for the original elevator system.

The only original furnishings in the building are the various pieces of equipment leftover from when the mill was in operation. This equipment includes a roller stand³, Meadows mill stone grinder, Niagara Gyro sifter, Forster Grain Scourer, Plano sifter, entoleters, cyclones, feed mixers and separators, several storage bins and bucket elevator shafts. Meadows stone mills, also referred to as grist mills, were designed to grind all dry, free-flowing grains and corn into flour, meal, or grits. The millstones operated in pairs with a revolving millstone called the "runner" stone and a stationary millstone called the "bedstone."⁴

2. Feed Mill (1934-1938)

The Feed Mill stands two stories tall and is L-shaped, measuring 55' x 37'. The Feed Mill is sided with a combination of wood siding and rusted sheet metal over wood framing with a concrete slab foundation. The building is connected to the Main Mill through the silos. The entrance of the Feed Mill is on the east façade, covered with a shed roof that runs the length of the north facade. The roof is A-frame raised seam metal, a part of which was replaced in 2008 due to significant deterioration, featuring two foot overhanging eaves. For safety purposes, an overhead auger between the Feed Mill and the Main Mill was the interior of the Feed Mill is open to the roof in one section and features a second story in the second section, housing several pieces of equipment on a concrete floor. Bits of the interior wood walls remain, but in most places the exterior siding can be seen from the inside. The windows on the feed mill are missing, but there is evidence of a six-over-six-light double-hung sash in one opening. According to the current owners, the feed mill used the by-products of the flour and corn mills to produce animal feeds (scratch feed, laying mash, sweet feed) using a hammer mill.⁵ A hammer mill works on the concept that the material will pulverize upon impact.⁶

3. Poison Shack (1934-1938)

The poison shack building is one story tall and rectangular in shape with a brick pier foundation. The exterior of the poison shack is unpainted weatherboard siding. The roof is raised seam metal, replaced in 2008 due to significant deterioration, and matches the original two foot overhanging eave. The interior walls of the poison shack are the exterior weatherboard siding. The building is divided into two rooms, separated by a weatherboard wall. There is wooden shelving along the interior walls for storage. Poisons for agricultural or horticultural use were another product sold at the mill and were stored in this building to keep them separate from products intended for human consumption.

³ Phil Robertson, "Diagram of the Milling Process using Roller Stands," courtesy of Bobby Ballentine, Issaqueena Mills, LLC

⁴ Meadows Mill, Inc., "Meadows Stone Burr Mills," accessed January 3, 2013, <http://www.meadowsmills.com/prod03.htm>.

⁵ Allen, *Central Yesterday and Today*, Issaqueena Mills, LLC, "Central Roller Mills: Past," Issaqueena Mills, LLC, <http://www.centralrollermills.com/past.htm>.

⁶ Schutte-Buffalo Hammer Mill, "How Does a Hammermill Work?" accessed January 7, 2013, <http://www.hammermills.com/how-does-a-hammer-mill-work>.

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4. Grain Building (1934-1938)

The grain building is one story tall and rectangular in shape, though the walls angle in as they meet the roof. The building measures approximately 50' x 20' and sits approximately three feet above ground level. The building has two extra wide doors on the west façade and one door opening on the south façade. The interior of the building is open with 2" x 8" beams supporting the roof. As with the other outbuildings on the property, the interior walls are also the weatherboard siding of the exterior. When Issaqueena Mills, LLC purchased the property in 2008, the Grain Building was connected to the Main Mill with a covered walkway measuring 20' x 20'. The walkway did not exist on the 1938 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map and was removed in 2009 due to extensive rotting.

5. Storage Tank (1934-1938)

The metal storage tank sits on four concrete piers to the east of the grain building. The tank is cylindrical in shape and measures approximately 37' x 4' with a valve on the southern end. When the mill was in operation, the tank stored molasses that was mixed with sweet feed products that the mill produced.

6. through 19. Silos (1934-1938)

There are fourteen exterior silos on the property, on a concrete slab foundation. The silo area measures approximately 100' x 40'. Each silo measures approximately fourteen feet in diameter, situated on a round concrete base and covered in metal siding. There are twelve large silos and two small silos, along with an auger that was used to transfer the substance. Access to the twelve large silos is located at the north end of the silo area.

Inventory of Noncontributing Resources:

A. Silver Building (Construction Date Unknown)

The storage building is wood-framed with raised seam metal siding and a raised seam metal roof, both replaced in 2008. The building, construction date unknown, is modern in design.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Industry

Period of Significance

1903 - 1963

Significant Dates

1903, 1934-1938

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance (justification)

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

Central Roller Mills is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A at the statewide level of significance, for its association with the roller mill industry in South Carolina from the earliest years of the twentieth century until almost the last quarter of the century, and as the only extant and intact such mill in South Carolina known to the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office. The mill played a significant role in shaping and supporting the economy of the town of Central from 1903 until it closed its doors in the early 1980s. When the mill opened it brought employment and revitalization to a struggling town. The mill acted as a food supply for Central and the surrounding area of Pickens County, supplying local schools with flour for bread.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Industry

Central Roller Mills Company was incorporated in 1898 by R.G. Gaines, J.N. Morgan, J.R. Falls and J.T. Gassaway with a capital stock of \$7,500.⁷ On March 23, 1899 R.G. Gaines and J.T. Gassaway, prominent Central businessmen, transferred the property at 300 Madden Bridge Road to Central Roller Mills Company for the sum of forty-three dollars. The new grist mill, Central Roller Mills, opened in 1903 on property located just one block north of the railroad tracks, along the original commercial corridor of town.⁸ Given that the town developed around the railroad, this area is one of the most significant in Central's history.

Grist mills were designed to grind all dry, free-flowing grains and corn into flour, meal, or grits.⁹ Roller mills increased the amount of flour and sped up the milling process from the traditional millstone ground operation, thereby producing more marketable flour. As millers transitioned to the new equipment and installed roller mills, their operations became known as roller mills instead of grist mills.¹⁰ Unless milling for a distant market, most neighborhood grist mills operated for local farmers. The customer paid a fee, usually a fraction of the grain he brought to the mill, in exchange for having his corn ground into meal.¹¹

In 1900 there were 556 flouring and grist mill establishments in South Carolina with an average of 281 wage-earners, with a twenty-three percent increase by 1909.¹² According to the South Carolina Department of Agriculture Annual Report, in 1917 there were fourteen principal flour and grist mills in the upstate counties of South Carolina, with Central Roller Mills being one.¹³ By 1929 there were twenty-three flouring and grist mill establishments in South Carolina with an average of seventy-seven wage-earners.¹⁴ In 1939 there were only seventeen recorded flouring and grainmill establishments in South Carolina, showing a large decrease in operations during the Great Depression.¹⁵ The Central Roller Mills would continue to operate for another forty years, until the late 1970s.

Central Roller Mills continued to grow despite the economic downturn and in 1934, A.J. Sitton, owner of the Pendleton Oil Mill in nearby Pendleton, SC, purchased Central Roller Mills for \$2,000.¹⁶ Pendleton Oil Mill was built ca. 1895 to gin cotton from the Autun Textile Mill and processed cotton seeds into cotton seed oil. Today, Pendleton Oil Mill is still family-owned and produces fertilizer.¹⁷

⁷ Augustine B. Kellogg and Charles S. Parke, *The Roller Mill*, Volume 17, 1898, Google Books, <http://books.google.com/books?id=gL0aAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA108&dq=Central+Roller+Mills&hl=en&sa=X&ei=LczUI7gLYLo8gSkrIG4Dw&ved=0CDQQ6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=Central%20Roller%20Mills&f=false>.

⁸ Issaqueena Mills, LLC, "Central Roller Mills: Past," Issaqueena Mills, LLC, <http://www.centralrollermills.com/past.htm>.

⁹ Meadows Mill, Inc., "Meadows Stone Burr Mills," accessed January 3, 2013, <http://www.meadowsmills.com/prod03.htm>.

¹⁰ T.R. Hazen, "How Roller Mills Changed the Milling Industry," Mill Restoration, 1996, <http://www.angelfire.com/journal/millrestoration/roller.html>.

¹¹ "Gristmill," Old Sturbridge, Inc., accessed January 3, 2013, http://www.osv.org/explore_learn/waterpower/grist.html.

¹² United States Census, "1900," accessed January 6, 2013, <http://www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/decennial/1900.html>; United States Census, "1930," accessed January 6, 2013, <http://www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/decennial/1930.html>.

¹³ South Carolina Department of Agriculture, "South Carolina Department of Agriculture Annual Report, 1917," Google Books, <http://books.google.com/books?id=y2PFAQAIAAJ>.

¹⁴ United States Census, "1930."

¹⁵ United States Census, "1940," accessed January 6, 2013, <http://www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/decennial/1940.html>.

¹⁶ Ibid; Pickens County Register of Deeds: Deed Book 4-C, p. 73.

¹⁷ Les McCall, "Pendleton District Walking Tour: Pendleton Oil Mill," courtesy of Pendleton District Commission, Pendleton, South Carolina.

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By 1938, alterations to the property included fourteen exterior storage silos, a second story addition on the original one-story portion of the building, a one-story building addition, a four-story tower addition for the bucket elevators, several connection alleys, two small wooden storage buildings, and a three-story tower addition to the left of the original building to house nine storage silos.¹⁸ With the additions, the mill expanded operations to include a flour mill, corn mill, and feed mill, each housed in a separate area of the property. The feed mill used the by-products of the flour and corn mills to produce animal feeds (scratch feed, laying mash, sweet feed) using a hammer mill.¹⁹ A hammer mill works on the concept that the material will pulverize upon impact.²⁰ At its prime, Central Roller Mills produced 100 barrels of flour, 5,000 pounds of Issaqueena corn meal and fifteen tons of mixed feed per day, with a storage capacity of 80,000 bushels of grain during peak operation.²¹

The flour mill continued operation up until the local schools began making their own bread in the late 1970s.²² Issaqueena Mills, LLC purchased Central Roller Mills in 2008 from John Sitton of Pendleton Oil Mill, son of A.J. Sitton. Central Roller Mills is significant under Criterion A for its extended influence on the economy of Central from 1903 until it closed its doors. Today, the overall site is comprised of three connecting buildings, four stand-alone buildings, and fourteen exterior silos, encompassing a total of approximately 11,000 square feet on approximately 1.18 acres.²³ The architecture is vernacular in style and unique in Central, blending with its surroundings due to its age, yet it represents the growth of industry and the economy and is therefore embedded in the built environment of Central.

Central Roller Mills was the producer of Issaqueena flour and corn meal, the logo of which shows Issaqueena riding her horse to warn the people of Ninety-Six. According to local legend, a young Indian maiden by the name of Issaqueena overheard news of an attack on her tribe's land in present-day Ninety-Six and set out on horseback to warn the people of the impending attack. It is said that Issaqueena marked her journey by giving names to the places she passed along her route: Mile Creek, Six Mile Creek, Twelve Mile River, and Eighteen Mile Creek in Pickens County. Issaqueena is honored in multiple ways throughout Pickens and Oconee County, with Issaqueena Falls, Issaqueena Forest and Issaqueena Trail all named after her. Central Roller Mills has since trademarked the logo, carrying on the history of Issaqueena. As evidenced by the exterior signage, the mill also distributed feed for Purina Chows at one time.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

The tri-county area of upstate South Carolina includes Pickens, Oconee and Anderson counties. Formerly Cherokee Indian Territory, this area was called Pendleton District until legislation divided it into separate districts in 1828. By 1860 Pickens District had a population of over 19,000. The district was largely rural and agricultural, with an industry that consisted mainly of sawmills, grist mills, and select businesses producing goods for home consumption. The South Carolina Constitutional Convention of 1878 redrew the district lines and organized present-day Pickens County.²⁴ Within this area there is a great deal of history, as well as a great deal of recent growth, creating a variety of architectural styles throughout and among the once rural communities.

Incorporated in 1875, Central is one of those communities, boasting a rich history—socially, economically, and architecturally. In 1873, the Atlanta and Richmond Air Line Railroad Company laid the last of the tracks connecting the urban centers of Atlanta, Georgia, and Charlotte, North Carolina. Due to its location halfway between these two cities, the railroad company opened its headquarters here that same year, and dubbed the area Central.²⁵ The town and surrounding area grew around the railroad industry, and quite literally, around the railroad tracks. As a result of the railroad company moving its headquarters to Greenville in 1897 and a subsequent fire that destroyed many of the original homes and businesses, the town of Central saw a decline in growth.

¹⁸ Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1938

¹⁹ Allen, *Central Yesterday and Today*; Issaqueena Mills, LLC, "Central Roller Mills: Past," Issaqueena Mills, LLC, <http://www.centralrollermills.com/past.htm>.

²⁰ Schutte-Buffalo Hammer Mill, "How Does a Hammermill Work?" accessed January 7, 2013, <http://www.hammermills.com/how-does-a-hammer-mill-work>.

²¹ Interview with Bobby Ballentine, Owner, September 22, 2009; *Central Roller Mills Fact Sheet*.

²² Allen, *Central Yesterday and Today*; Issaqueena Mills, LLC, <http://www.centralrollermills.com/past.htm>.

²³ Pickens County Tax Assessor, "Owner and Parcel Information, 300 Madden Bridge Road," Pickens County, http://www.qpublic5.qpublic.net/sc_pickens_display.php?account=4065-10-36-6667.

²⁴ Mattie May Morgan Allen, *Central Yesterday and Today* (SC: Faith Printing Company, 1973).

²⁵ *Ibid.*

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In the early twentieth century, Wesleyan Methodist College (renamed Southern Wesleyan University in 1995) opened its doors in Central, and a new cotton mill (Issaqueena Cotton Mill) and grist mill (Central Roller Mills) brought new jobs and growth to the area. As the town continued to grow in the twentieth century, it expanded to the south side of the railroad tracks, the present location of Central's downtown district today. Central Roller Mills acted as a food supply for the town and surrounding area, supplying local schools with flour for their bread. When the mill opened in the beginning of the twentieth century, it brought employment and revitalization to the struggling town.

A major factor in the growth of Pickens County was the coming of the textile industry. D.K. Norris, later co-founder of the Issaqueena Cotton Mill, established the first cotton mill at Catechee in 1895. At the turn of the century, Pickens County was home to three cotton mills, three roller mills, two railroads, ten shingle mills, three banks and four brickyards.²⁶ The new textile mill, Issaqueena Cotton Mill, opened in 1903 with initial capital stock of \$200,000. In addition to the mill itself, the owners constructed thirty-seven houses for the workers.²⁷

With the stock market crash of 1929, the economy of South Carolina suffered, largely due to its dependence on cotton. Banks closed, cotton prices dropped due to overproduction, and mills laid off workers; the average annual wage of the cotton mill worker decreased by thirty-one percent. The state's industrial economy consisted primarily of cotton textiles, with approximately seventy percent of the value of the state's manufactured products.²⁸ Central's textile industry was no different, and in 1930 Issaqueena Mills passed into receivership. The mill was kept open and operated from 1930-1935 only by petition from the workers, though they suffered a fifteen percent cut in pay.²⁹ The mill remains in operation today as Central Textiles, Inc.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

- Allen, Mattie May Morgan. *Central Yesterday and Today*. Taylors, SC: Faith Printing Company, 1973.
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²⁶ Pickens County History, Pickens County, accessed January 6, 2013, <http://www.co.pickens.sc.us/history/default.aspx>.

²⁷ Allen, *Central Yesterday and Today*.

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²⁹ Allen, *Central Yesterday and Today*.

Central Roller Mills
Name of Property

Pickens County, South Carolina
County and State

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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 # _____
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other
Name of repository: Central Heritage Society, Central, SC

Central Roller Mills
Name of Property

Pickens County, South Carolina
County and State

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.18 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	17	336575	3843966	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary of the nominated property is shown as the black line marked "Central Roller Mill," Parcel 4065-10-36-6667, on the accompanying Pickens County GIS/Tax Map, reproduced at a scale of 1" = 55'.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected)

The boundary of the nominated property is restricted to the Central Roller Mill complex of buildings and structures and the parcel on which they are located.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Allison Fowler
organization Preserve Carolina, LLC date 2 May 2013
street & number 112 Rhonda Road telephone (864) 207-6382
city or town Central state SC zip code 29630
e-mail preservecarolina@gmail.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

Central Roller Mills
Name of Property

Pickens County, South Carolina
County and State

- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Issaqueena Mills, LLC (c/o Bobby Ballentine)
street & number 231 Camelot Road telephone (864) 506-2022
city or town Clemson state SC zip code 29631

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Central Roller Mills

City or Vicinity: Central

County: Pickens

State: South Carolina

Photographer: Allison Fowler

Date Photographed: May 19, 2011, and July 25, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1) Exterior, south elevation, original building, street view
- 2) Exterior, south elevation, one-story addition, street view
- 3) Exterior, west elevation
- 4) Exterior, east elevation
- 5) Exterior, front porch, west end
- 6) Exterior, front porch, east end
- 7) Exterior signage
- 8) Exterior silos, left, and interior silos, right
- 9) Exterior silos
- 10) Exterior, east side of property
- 11) Exterior, north elevation, rear of main building,
- 12) Exterior, north elevation, rear of main building, alternate view
- 13) Feed mill, storage building and silos
- 14) Exterior of feed mill, rear view
- 15) Feed mill, storage building and silos
- 16) Angled storage building, behind main building
- 17) Poison shack and surroundings, street view
- 18) Poison shack, rear view
- 19) One-story addition and poison shack, south elevation, street view
- 20) Interior, level one, three-story section
- 21) Interior, level one, three-story section, alternate view
- 22) Interior, level one, three-story section, alternate view
- 23) Interior, level one, two-story section
- 24) Interior, level one, two-story section, alternate view
- 25) Interior, stairs to level two, two-story section
- 26) Interior, one-story addition, facing building front

Central Roller Mills

Pickens County, South Carolina

Name of Property

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- 27) Interior, one-story addition, facing building rear
- 28) Interior, one-story addition, alternate view

Central Roller Mills

Pickens County, South Carolina

Name of Property

County and State

- 29) Exterior, south elevation, street view
 - 30) Exterior, south elevation, alternate view
 - 31) Historic photo, circa 1935
 - 32) Historic photo, circa 1905
-
-

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Central Roller Mill



Account No:	R0010757
Parcel No:	4065-10-36-6667
Tax Area:	4 Central City
Acres:	0
Deed:	4C/73

Owner Name:	ISSAQUEENA MILLS LLC
Mailing Address:	231 CAMELOT RD CLEMSON, SC 29631

The Pickens County Assessors office makes every effort to produce the most accurate information possible. No warranties, expressed or implied, are provided for the data herein, its use or interpretation. The Assessor parcel maps are for assessment use only and do NOT represent a survey. Any person or entity who relies on any information obtained from this website does so at his or her own risk.

Legal Description:	W/SIDE GREEN ST
Situs Address:	300 MADDEN BRIDGE RD

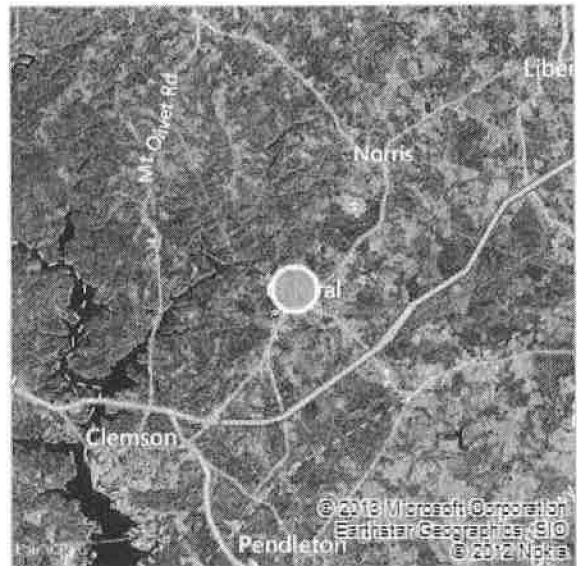


bing Maps

300 Madden Bridge Rd, Central, SC 29630

Central Roller Mill (Central, Pickens County, SC)
34.724556 -82.784406

On the go? Use m.bing.com to find maps, directions, businesses, and more





CENTRAL ROLLER MILLS





AL ROLLER MILLS

POSTED









PURINA
CHOWS

CENTRAL ROLLER MILLS



ROLLERS































EXIT





NO SMOKING!



NOT - 1 Green Machine





ENRICHED CORN MEAL
ISSAQUEENA
25 LBS
CENTRAL ROLLER MILLS
CENTRAL, S.C. 29630

ISSAQUEENA
SELF-RISING
FLOUR
CENTRAL ROLLER MILLS
CENTRAL, S.C. 29630
25 LBS. NET WT. BLEACHED



Avantech





CENTRAL ROLLER MILLS



FEDERAL UNITED MILL





ROLLER MILL.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Central Roller Mills
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: SOUTH CAROLINA, Pickens

DATE RECEIVED: 5/10/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/07/13
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/24/13 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/26/13
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13000454

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 6.25.13 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

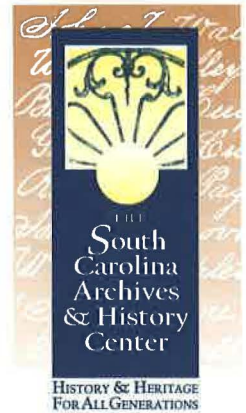
RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



Monday, 6 May 2013

Ms. Carol Shull
Interim Keeper, National Register of Historic Places
U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 Eye (I) Street, NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Here are the National Register nominations for the Central Roller Mill, in Central, Pickens County, and the Catawba Rosenwald School in York, South Carolina, recently approved by the South Carolina State Board of Review.

We are submitting these nominations for listing in the Register.

We have also enclosed a CD with the digital images for the Owen Building in Columbia, Richland County, submitted to you on April 29th, and left out of that submittal.

If I may be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at the address below, call me at (803) 896-6182, fax me at (803) 896-6167, or e-mail me at power@scdah.state.sc.us.

I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

J. Tracy Power, Ph.D.
Historian and National Register Co-Coordinator
State Historic Preservation Office