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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name The Corner Store and Office  
other names/site number Macdonald, Wilkins, and Company Store; Batchelder, Mark D., Office

2. Location

street & number US Hwy. 21, W of its junction w/Lands End Road  not for publication  
city, town St. Helena Island  vicinity  
state South Carolina code 045 county Beaufort code 013 zip code 29920

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>      </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> objects
			<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic Resources of St. Helena Island, c1740-c1935  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.  
Mary W. Edmonds 8/11/88  
Signature of certifying official Date  
George L. Vogt, State Historic Preservation Officer, SC Dept. of Archives & History  
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

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:  
 entered in the National Register. Helena Lopez 10/6/88  
 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 the Keeper

Date of Action

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/Trade; Specialty Store

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Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/Trade; Specialty Store

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Other

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Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation

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walls Wood/Weatherboard

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---

roof Asbestos

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other

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**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

The store conforms to the general description under property type "Commercial Buildings" and property subtype "Retail Store." A central entrance provides access to the second floor. This entrance is flanked by two storefronts, each with its own double door entrance. A two-story porch extends across the main (south) facade and continues along the west facade. The second floor sash windows have two-over-two lights. The first and second story walls are weatherboard. The gable wall surface is covered with decorative shingles and is fenestrated with two sash windows with six-over-six lights. Arched panels are located above these two windows. A covered passage at the northeast corner of the building connects it to the office, located just to the east.

The office also conforms to the general description under property type "Commercial Buildings" and property subtype "Retail Store." It is currently in use as a residence. Interior alterations are unknown. The exterior retains its original appearance.

**8. Statement of Significance**

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

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)  
Architecture

Period of Significance  
c. 1877-c. 1925

Significant Dates  
c. 1877  
c. 1905

Cultural Affiliation  
N/A

Significant Person

Architect/Builder  
Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The store is significant as an example of late nineteenth century commercial architecture and for its economic and social importance to residents of St. Helena Island. The Corner Store was built c. 1877 by James Ross Macdonald, a businessman from Rhode Island who moved to St. Helena Island in an effort to improve his health. Macdonald and his business partner George Wilkins established Macdonald, Wilkins, and Company, a firm which operated the store and was the major sources of sea island cotton shipped from St. Helena. Macdonald's store, located near the center of the island at a place historically known as the Corner, sold provisions to the islanders, most of whom were black. The Corner Store, by virtue of its location and Macdonald's prominence, became one of the major centers of commercial and social activity on St. Helena. Many Macdonald, Wilkins, and Company employees lived in rooms on the second floor, above the store. One of the early official post offices for St. Helena Island was also operated in the Corner Store. An informal post office had been at Frogmore Plantation for many years and the first formal post office on the island was located at the Waterhouse Store, also at the Corner. The Corner's present official name of "Frogmore, South Carolina" comes from the name to this post office.(1)

The office, built c. 1905, is significant as an example of early twentieth century commercial architecture and for its association with the firm of Macdonald, Wilkins, and Company. This building served an office for Mark D. Batchelder, a junior partner of Macdonald, Wilkins, and Company. Near the end of the nineteenth century Macdonald, Wilkins, and Company added to its firm Mark D. Batchelder and William Keyserling. This office was built directly beside the Corner Store and was subsequently attached to it by a covered passage. The building may at one time have been used as an informal bank.(2)

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

SC Dept. of Archives & History  
Columbia, SC

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property Less than one acre

UTM References

A 17 539640 3584300  
 Zone Easting Northing

C         

B           
 Zone Easting Northing

D         

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundary of the nomination is shown as the black line on the accompanying Beaufort County Tax Map, St. Helena Sheet # 16, Parcel 55, drawn at a scale of 1" = 400'.

See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

The nominated property includes the store and its immediate setting.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title E. Thomas Sims, Survey Historian/Sherry Piland, NR Architectural Historian  
 organization SC Department of Archives and History date 15 February 1988  
 street & number 1430 Senate St., PO Box 11669 telephone (803) 734-8608  
 city or town Columbia state SC zip code 29211

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
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NOTES

(1) Edith M. Dabbs, Sea Island Diary: A History of St. Helena Island (Spartanburg: The Reprint Company, Publishers, 1983), pp. 192-194; Beaufort County Deed Book 22, p. 280; Deed Book 29, p. 111, Beaufort County Courthouse, Beaufort, S.C.; Interview with Agnes Sherman, Penn Center, St. Helena Island, S.C., 20 August 1987.

(2) Interview with Agnes C. Sherman, Penn Center, St. Helena Island, S.C., 20 August 1987; Beaufort County Deed Book 22, p. 280; Deed Book 29, p. 111; Beaufort County Courthouse, Beaufort, S.C.

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**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

PHOTOGRAPHS

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The following information is the same for each of the photographs:

Name of property: The Corner Store and Office (Historic  
Resources of St. Helena Island, c. 1740-c.1935  
Multiple Property Listing)  
Location of property: Beaufort County, South Carolina  
Photographer: South Carolina Department of Archives and History  
Staff  
Location of negative: South Carolina Department of Archives and  
History

Additional information for each photograph follows:

1. The Corner Store  
April 1987  
Oblique, view facing southwest.
2. Mark D. Batchelder Office  
August 1987  
Facade, view looking south.