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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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse

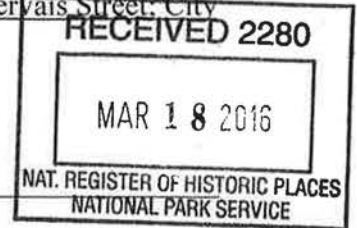
Other names/site number: BB Ford & Co. Cotton Warehouse; The Norris, Cooner Co.

Wholesale Group: C.C. Pearce & Co. Wholesale Fruit & Produce; 701 Gervais Street, City Market

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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



2. Location

Street & number: 705 Gervais Street

City or town: Columbia State: SC County: Richland

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

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 ___ statewide x local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

x A ___ B ___ C ___ D

<u>Elizabeth M. Johnson</u>	<u>3/11/2016</u>
Elizabeth M. Johnson, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer:	Date:
_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

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

Signature of commenting official:

Date

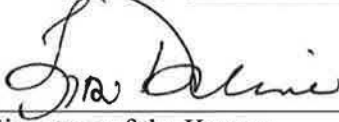
Title :

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:)


Signature of the Keeper

5/3/14
Date of Action

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

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER/commercial style

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK

Foundation BRICK

Walls BRICK

Roof WOOD/ORIENTED STRAND BOARD (OSB)

Other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse at 705 Gervais Street in downtown Columbia, Richland County, South Carolina is a one story, brick rectangular building originally constructed in the late 19th century. The building's low profile, elongated and narrow footprint, and diagonal northwest-south orientation distinguish it from many of the extant buildings in the immediate area (see Figure 1). These elements also indicate the building's historical use as a commercial warehouse along diagonally-running rail tracks. Despite additions to the exterior, the present building at 705 Gervais Street retains these character defining features.

Narrative Description

Exterior

South elevation (primary façade)

The primary façade of the Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse overlooks the cement sidewalk along Gervais Street to the south (see Photo 1). The building's south elevation contains three

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bays with a later addition at the east (see Photo 1). The building's main entry is in the central bay, which contains a glass double door with dark wood framing and arched glass transom above (see Photo 2). Double hung wooden sash windows with panes six-over-six flank the central entrance in the first and third bays. Tripartite, stepped stretcher course mark the cornice and the roofline, accenting the building's gabled roof (see Photo 33).

East elevation

The Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse's east elevation contains nine bays (see Photographs 3 – 6). The southeast corner of the building contains a one-story, mid-twentieth-century addition of masonry construction (see Photo 3). Single pane glass windows with aluminum casings form the east and north elevations of this addition.

The next three bays are within the building's original construction. This face of the masonry building is laid in common bond brick. The first bay contains a single pane glass door in wood casing with a single rectangular glass transom above (see Photo 3). A standing seam metal awning shelters the entrance through the double glass door in the next bay. Two wide arched storefront style doors pierce the next two bays (see Photo 4, 7). These double doors contain single pane plate glass with arched transoms above. Soldier courses mark the arches in these doorways. These doors match the main entryway door in the building's south elevation. A tripartite beveled cornice of brick stretchers runs the length of the east elevation (see Photo 3).

A large common bond brick masonry addition abuts the north edge of the original building's east elevation (see Photos 5 & 6). This c.1898 addition is slightly taller than the original building, and matches its gabled roof form. The c. 1898 addition contains three bays. The southernmost bay contains a double glass door with wood casing and single pane glass windows on either side. A gabled standing seam metal awning shelters the entry through this door. The central bay contains another double door with single pane glass and wood casing with semicircular transom above. As in the other elevations of the original building, soldier courses mark the arches above this door. A cornice of three stepped brick stretcher courses along the roofline of the c. 1898 addition matches that of the original building.

The building's east elevation overlooks cement surface parking to the east, and beyond that the brick west elevation of 707 Gervais Street.

North elevation

The building's north elevation is unpainted common bond brick masonry (see Photo 13). This face of the building is the rear of the c. 1898 addition, and has a much simpler parallel gabled roofline than the south façade of the original building. Brick infill makes visible the north elevation's historic central arched window. The late 19th century addition abuts the eastern edge of the north elevation. Most of the north elevation is obscured by vegetative growth. A narrow space for pipes separates the northern edge of the property from the adjacent parcel to the north.

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West elevation

The Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse's west elevation is common bond brick masonry and contains six bays (see Photos 9 & 10). The southernmost bay contains a double hung wooden sash window with panes six-over-six.

The next two bays are contained within the western exterior wall of the original building. These bays contain large double windows with single panes of glass, wooden casings, and semicircular transoms above. Soldier courses mark the arches above the transoms (see Photos 9, 10, 11). The c. 1898 addition abuts the original building to the north of this final bay (see Photo 12).

The same cornice of three stepped brick stretcher courses marks the roofline along the entire length of the west elevation (see Photo 11).

Interior

First level

Entrance to the interior of the Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse is through the door in the central bay of the building's south elevation along Gervais Street (see Photo 1). Interior space is now largely undivided, the building's otherwise open floor plan (see Photo 14) segmented only by the brick masonry wall dividing the original building from the c. 1898 addition (see Photo 29) and by the cement block and brick masonry walls that enclose the building's early 20th century safe (see Photo 19).

Solider courses mark arches above the openings in the interior walls of both the original building and its c. 1898 addition (see Photos 21, 24, 26). Heavy wooden trusses throughout the building bear the marks of past water and fire damage (see Photos 16 – 18, 23, 25). The building retains its historic wooden ceiling throughout construction periods. Historic wood flooring is present throughout the original building and the c. 1898 addition (see Photos 27, 28).

Basement

The basement of the building is accessible via narrow stairs along the west elevation of the c. 1898 addition's first level. Basement space extends beneath the entirety of the c. 1898 addition's first level, and is mostly open space (see Photos 30 & 31). Only wood and metal support columns divide the otherwise open floor plan. Drop ceilings in the basement have been removed to reveal the building's original wooden ceilings and floorboards in the first level (see Photo 32). Several small openings in the interior walls of the basement have since been filled in with brick or other materials and are evident only by the rough cement seams between the edge of the windows and the surrounding brick.

The Miller Brothers retains the slanted footprint, heavy wooden trusses, open floor plan, and the large arched door and window openings that served it well in its days as a warehouse for wares and goods to be loaded onto and off of the adjacent rail tracks.

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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.

Criteria Considerations

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

- 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

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Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE

Period of Significance

c.1872 – 1899

Significant Dates

c. 1872

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse building at 705 Gervais Street in Columbia, Richland County, South Carolina is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A at the local level of significance in the area of commerce. As part of the 700 block of Gervais Street, in what was historically Columbia's warehouse and wholesale district, 705 Gervais Street was situated at the hub of Columbia's commercial life. Whereas other buildings on the block catered to passengers on the nearby rail line, the Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse performed a crucial function as a warehouse for the large quantities of cotton, produce, and equipment that passed through Columbia during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Its central location in the heart of Columbia's railroad district suggests the Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse is one of the oldest warehouses in this area of the city. It served continuously as an industrial and commercial warehouse throughout its long history. The Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse is a rare example of the city's once numerous wholesale warehouse buildings that supported several of Columbia's most vital industries. The building's period of significance spans its construction, around 1872, to the end of its use as a cotton warehouse in 1899. This change in the building's use coincides with the significant ebb in South Carolina's cotton industry. The Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse is the only building in the area whose footprint is set at a diagonal relative to Gervais Street, and is thus the last vestige of the railroad's visible influence on building design and construction in Columbia's West Gervais Street commercial district.

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

Criterion A: Commerce

Constructed in the late 19th century, the Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse building at 705 Gervais Street was purpose-built to serve the intertwined cotton and rail industries that propelled Columbia's late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century economy.¹ Short staple cotton replaced South Carolina's seventeenth- and eighteenth-century cash crops of indigo and rice with the invention of the cotton gin in 1793, and South Carolina became the United States' leading producer of cotton from the 1790s through 1821. Though other southern states outstripped South Carolina in cotton production in the next decades of the nineteenth century, the state continued to rely on cotton as its major economic staple.²

Cotton's viability as an economic staple was inextricably tied to the expansion of railroads. South Carolina's cotton industry relied in large part on the state's growing rail system, which connected nearly every town in the state to the major cities of Charleston, Greenville, and, most

¹Historic maps suggest the building was constructed c. 1872; City of Columbia, "701 (now 705), 707, 709 and 711 Gervais Street;" Drie, C. "1872 Bird's Eye View of Columbia," 1872. *South Carolina Fall Line Collection* online: http://www.sc.edu/library/digital/collections/fall_line. Accessed 1 March 2015.

²Edgar, Walter. *South Carolina: A History* (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1998), 272 - 485.

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importantly, the capital city of Columbia. Centrally located between South Carolina's other major cities, surrounded by agricultural towns, and relatively central within the southeastern region of the United States, Columbia was well situated to become an important node in the South's commercial network. By the 1840s the city was beginning to develop a thriving railroad district along the 700 block (then the 120 block) of Gervais Street.³

Cotton's success benefitted the state as a whole: the industry supported not just South Carolina's cotton planters, but also those involved in its processing and marketing. Similar warehouses, depots, and offices serving the rail and cotton industries were present in this area of Columbia prior to the Civil War, but most were destroyed in February 1865, though Columbia continued to serve as an important railroad hub throughout the late-nineteenth century and into the early-twentieth century (see Figure 1).⁴

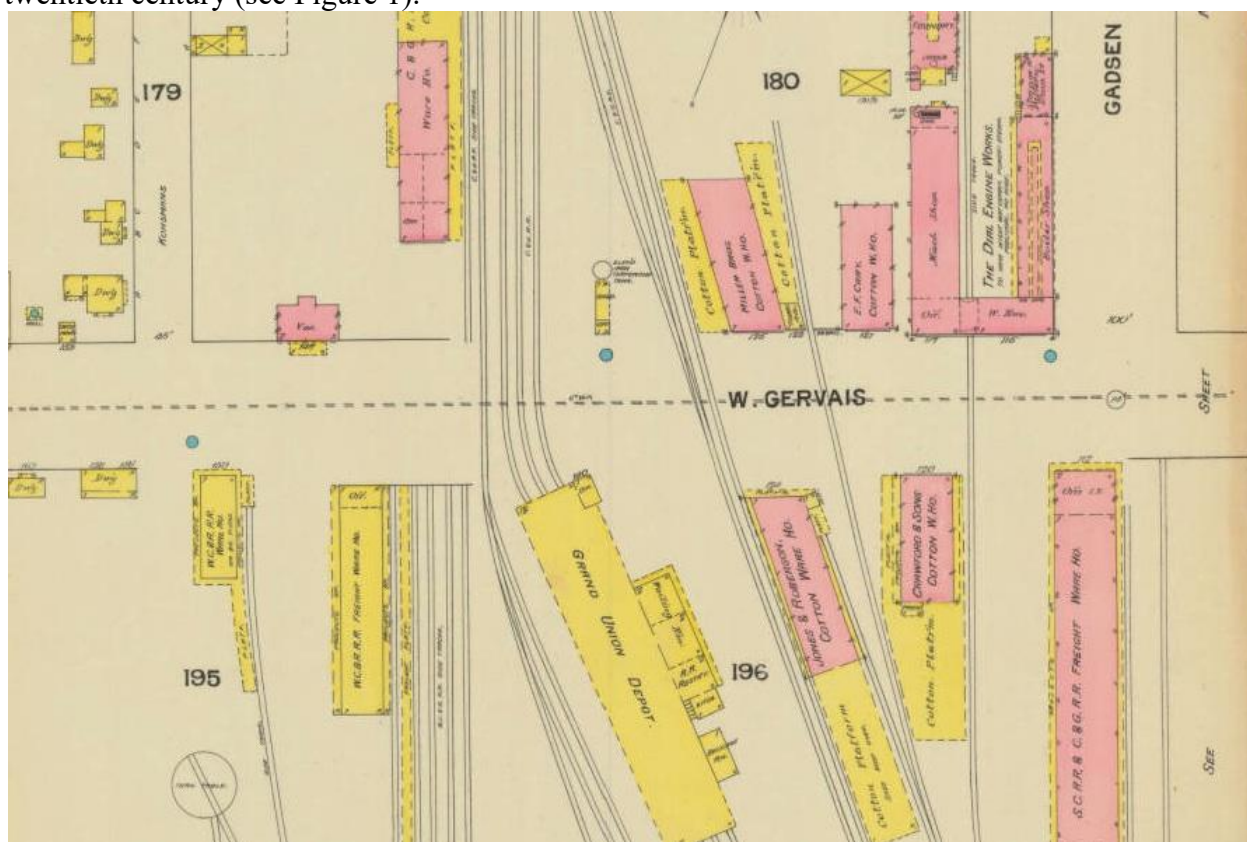


Figure 1: 1888 Sanborn Map showing Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse along with other buildings oriented in relation to the rail lines. Miller Brothers is the only of these warehouses that remains today.

South Carolinians brought massive volumes of cotton, produce, and equipment to Columbia to be loaded onto the city's many rail lines bound for all points throughout the South. The Miller

³City of Columbia, "701 (now 705), 707, 709 and 711 Gervais Street"; Moore, John Hammond. *Columbia and Richland County: A South Carolina Community, 1740 – 1990*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1993.

⁴Simms, William Gilmore, *Sack and destruction of the city of Columbia, SC: to which is added a list of the property destroyed*. Columbia: Power Press of Daily Phoenix, 1865, pg. 10; City of Columbia, "701 (now 705), 707, 709 and 711 Gervais Street"; Moore, John Hammond. *Columbia and Richland County: A South Carolina Community, 1740 – 1990*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1993.

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Brothers Cotton Warehouse was among the first generations of post-war construction related to the state's continued cotton production and rail freight.

A product of the marriage of the cotton and rail industries, and several of the Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse's key architectural elements evince its place at the nexus of cotton and rail. The sources are unclear as to whether the first owners of the building were The Southern Warehouse Company, who seem to have owned the warehouse next door, or if the Miller Brothers owned it from the outset.⁵ Regardless, the Miller Brothers certainly occupied the building, which was constructed c. 1872 based upon its presence on the birds-eye map produced by C.N. Drie that year, no later than 1888 (see Figure 2).⁶

Constructed as a one-story masonry building in the late nineteenth century, the warehouse's foundation, set at a diagonal relative to Gervais Street, was specifically designed to fit between two adjacent rail lines that also ran at a diagonal relative to the street.⁷ The building was three bays wide and three bays deep, and featured a gable roof (see Figure 2).



Figure 2: Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse as depicted on the 1872 Birdseye Map of Columbia produced by C.N. Drie.

⁵ The Southern Warehouse Co. advertised themselves as being “near Greenville and Columbia RR ... so located that drayage is not necessary and no charge for handling will be made.” *The Daily Phoenix*, 2 March 1873, p. 2.

⁶ The Southern Warehouse Company is listed at 121-123 W. Gervais St. in the 1875-76 Columbia City Directory and the 1888 Sanborn shows “E.F. Cary W. Ho.” located at 121 Gervais, which is almost certainly a reference to Southern Warehouse Co. president Edwin F. Gary. These sources all suggest that the Southern Warehouse Company owned the building next door. The first confirmed occupant of 125 W. Gervais is the Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse.

⁷ Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Company. “Columbia,” 1888, 1898, 1904, 1919. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of South Carolina* online: <http://www.sc.edu/library/digital/collections/sanborn.html>. Accessed 28 February 2015.

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Warehouses like this became commonplace in Columbia's railroad district on the northwest side of the city, as suppliers sought to position their wares as close to the rail tracks as possible. Many of the brick railroad depots, warehouses and commercial buildings in the Gervais Street area were constructed between 1890 and the early decades of the 1900s. Several other large depots created large buildings fronting along Gervais Street to host offices and attract passengers. Extant examples stand within the West Gervais Historic District and include the buildings at 800 Gervais Street (South Carolina Railroad Depot, c. 1850), 827 – 831 Gervais Street (A.E. Young and Company Wholesale Fruit and Produce Company, c. 1907), 828 Gervais Street (E.A. Beall Wholesale Groceries, c. 1900), 902 and 903 Gervais Street (Seaboard Railroad and Freight Depot, c. 1903 and 1904, respectively).⁸ Apart from 800 Gervais, these buildings date to the early twentieth century, several decades after Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse was built. Significant also is that Miller Brothers is the only of the remaining warehouses that is set diagonally to Gervais Street. Smaller warehouses like the Miller Brothers frequently had slanted footprints, which were intended to take advantage of the railroad's angled run to the northwest.

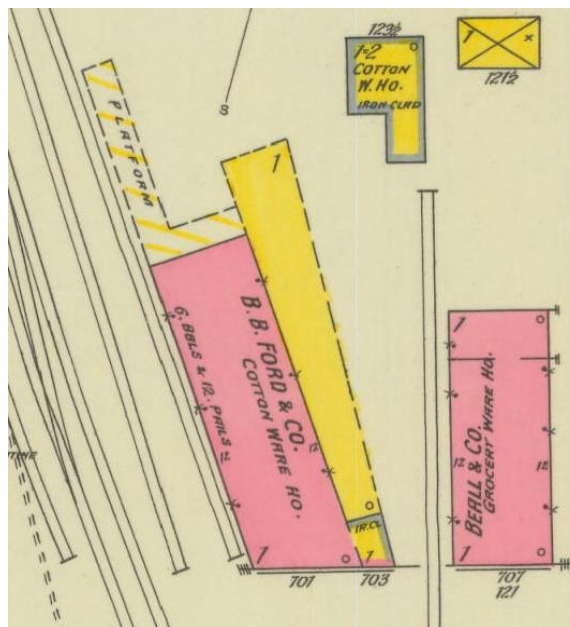


Figure 3: 1898 Sanborn Map, Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse (here B.B. Ford & Co. Cotton Ware Ho.)

The building evolved in continued support of the rail and cotton industries throughout the end of the nineteenth century. By 1888, frame loading docks had been added along both the building's west and east elevations, enabling workers to transfer cotton stored inside the building to the rail cars waiting on the lines that ran parallel on either side of the building (see Figure 1). The Miller Brothers were using the building as a cotton warehouse at the time the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company made its map of Columbia in 1888.⁹

By 1898 the loading platform along the building's west elevation was removed to make room for another railroad track (see Figure 3). At that time a short railroad spur lay along the building's east elevation, separating it from 707 Gervais Street and providing a convenient location for both cotton warehouses to load their stores onto rail cars. The large rectangular addition at the original

⁸“National Register of Historic Places Inventory – Nomination Form: West Gervais Street Historic District.” *National Register of Historic Places*, February 1983.

⁹Drie, C. “1872 Bird’s Eye View of Columbia,” 1872. *South Carolina Fall Line Collection* online: http://www.sc.edu/library/digital/collections/fall_line. Accessed 1 March 2015.

City of Columbia, “701 (now 705), 707, 709 and 711 Gervais Street”; Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Company. “Columbia,” 1888. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of South Carolina* online:

<http://www.sc.edu/library/digital/collections/sanborn.html>. Accessed 28 February 2015; Columbia South Carolina City Directory, 1888, p. 71.

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building's rear (north) elevation was constructed between 1898 and 1904 (see Figures 3 and 4).¹⁰ Warehouse buildings like the Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse served a broad cross-section of South Carolinians, all with a stake in the successful storage, transport, and distribution of cotton.¹¹

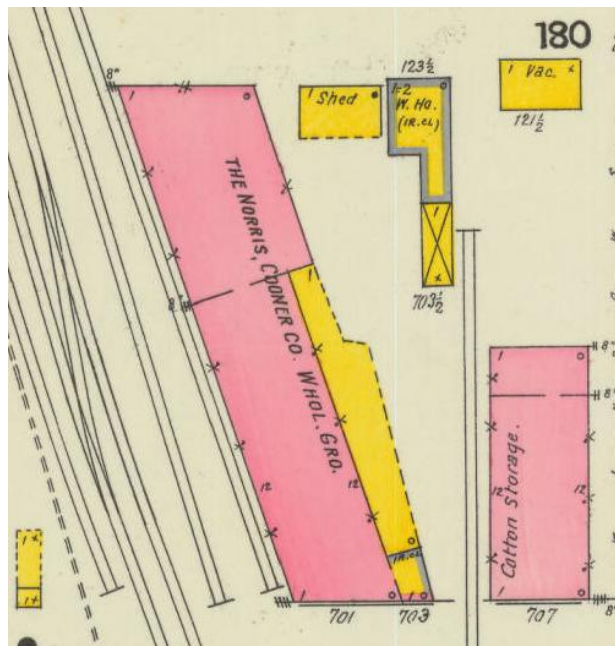


Figure 4: 1904 Sanborn Map, Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse (then Norris, Cooner Co. Whol. Gro.)

While many South Carolinians continued to rely on cotton despite falling prices, droughts, and bouts of pestilence between 1881 and 1886, others began to explore other industries.¹² The Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse (then 701 Gervais Street) once again followed larger trends: between 1898 and 1904, the building shifted from cotton storage to wholesale grocery. The building's new tenant Norris Cooner Company was a wholesaler in groceries. Employing twelve people, Norris Cooner Company sold flour, sugar, rice, coffee, cigars, teas, canned goods and spices. Together with 707 Gervais, City market continued to serve as a storage warehouse for Columbia's railroad commerce, albeit for a different kind of ware.¹³

The shift in the building's storage contents mirrored a wider shift in the economy of the state and, in turn, the city of Columbia. Overproduction, loss of overseas markets, and widespread boll weevil infestation contributed to the collapse of the state's cotton industry in the 1920s.¹⁴ As other goods replaced cotton, and the automobile began to largely dislodge the railroad industry, the purpose-built edifices along the 700 block of Gervais Street lost their original relevance. Mann Electric Supply Company bought the Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse at 701 Gervais in 1923 for the storage and distribution of Westinghouse Electrical products, and touted the facility's 18,000 square feet of floor space and central location "in the heart of the wholesale district, within a few yards of all railroad terminals" in its advertisements to would-be customers in the Columbia area.¹⁵ New tenants made new use of the old building's unique design, and saw fit to keep their old warehouse in good condition with considerable roof repairs three years later.¹⁶

¹⁰City of Columbia, "701 (now 705), 707, 709 and 711 Gervais Street"; Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Company. "Columbia," 1898, 1904. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of South Carolina* online:

<http://www.sc.edu/library/digital/collections/sanborn.html>. Accessed 28 February 2015.

¹¹Edgar, Walter. *South Carolina: A History* (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1998), 272 – 273.

¹²Edgar, Walter. *South Carolina: A History* (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1998), 429.

¹³City of Columbia, "701 (now 705), 707, 709 and 711 Gervais Street."

¹⁴Edgar, Walter. *South Carolina: A History* (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1998), 485.

¹⁵*The State*, 11 November 1923, pg 5.

¹⁶"Building permits take little rise," *The State*, 5 April 1926, pg 8.

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The Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse continued to house local Columbia businesses throughout the twentieth century, and to adapt to suit the needs of each new tenant. Two one-story additions were constructed along the east elevation in the 1950s, one along Gervais Street and the other at the south edge of the building. Though still standing, these two additions were constructed of clay tile and concrete masonry and are not matching in quality or detail to the original buildings of 1872 and 1898. These additions have asphalt shingles in poor condition.¹⁷

The building served as an antique store and warehouse between 1974 and late 2014.¹⁸ The railroads that once bounded the property to the east and west were moved in the 1980s, leaving the building's diagonal footprint as the only visual marker of the railroad's crucial influence on Columbia's urban development in that area of the city.¹⁹ In 2002, the building's address changed with the construction of the Vista Lofts building to the west. The building has since been known as 705 Gervais Street.²⁰

Many of the building's original apertures along the west and east elevations were later closed up with masonry infill, but soldier courses marked the arched lintels of the original openings. The south façade coated with artificial stucco and painted green in the late 20th century. The east elevation was also painted a matching green color, and the west façade was painted beige. Recent rehabilitation



Figure 5: "Cotton Scene on Gervais St.," view of 700 block of Gervais St., c. 1910

(2015) removed most of the infill from the building's original apertures, and the green stucco and beige paint from the south, east, and west elevations. The original heavy trusses and wood floors remain in the building.

With the removal of the railroad to other areas of Columbia, and with the significant alteration of the once similar, surrounding contemporaneous warehouse buildings, the Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse is "the last vestige of the influence of the railroads on building shape in the area." It remains as a rare example of Columbia's centrality in the intertwined cotton and railroad industries that dominated the state's nineteenth-century economy and forever shaped Columbia's urban development.²¹

¹⁷City of Columbia, "701 (now 705), 707, 709 and 711 Gervais Street."

¹⁸*The State*, 9 December 1969, pg. 32; 26 July 1974, pg. 33.

¹⁹City of Columbia, "701 (now 705), 707, 709 and 711 Gervais Street."

²⁰City of Columbia, "701 (now 705), 707, 709 and 711 Gervais Street."

²¹City of Columbia, "701 (now 705), 707, 709 and 711 Gervais Street."

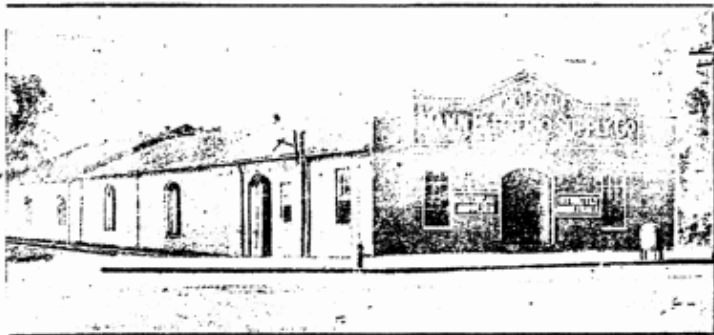
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See attached for complete list of tenants and building uses from 1888 to 2014. See continuation sheets for additional information on building tenants.



**The Home of Mann Electric Supply Co.
Now Includes 18,000 Square Feet of Floor Space**

We found it necessary to more than double our warehouse capacity in order to care for the tremendous stock necessary to the distribution of Westinghouse Electrical products. As it stood the warehouse had a storage space of 7,000 square feet, now, however, the total area is 18,000 square feet. Our warehouse is located in the heart of the wholesale district, within a few yards of all railroad terminals and the private siding for loading and unloading makes for greater efficiency and better service to patrons throughout the State.

Figure 6: Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse building as it appeared in the 11 November 1923 advertisement in The State newspaper

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Books

- Edgar, Walter. *South Carolina: A History*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1998.
- Moore, John Hammond. *Columbia and Richland County: A South Carolina Community, 1740 – 1990*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1993.
- Simms, William Gilmore. *Sack and destruction of the city of Columbia, SC: to which is added a list of the property destroyed*. Columbia: Power Press of Daily Phoenix, 1865.

Newspapers

The State

Maps

- Drie, C. "1872 Bird's Eye View of Columbia," 1872. *South Carolina Fall Line Collection* online: http://www.sc.edu/library/digital/collections/fall_line. Accessed 1 March 2015.
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Company. "Columbia," 1888, 1898, 1904, 1910, 1919. *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of South Carolina* online: <http://www.sc.edu/library/digital/collections/sanborn.html>. Accessed 28 February 2015.

Photographs and images

- Blanchard, Walter. c.1910. "Cotton Scene on Gervais Street." *Russell Maxey Collection* online: <http://digital.tcl.sc.edu/cdm/ref/collection/rmaxey/id/1396>. Accessed 28 February 2015.

Reports

City of Columbia, "701 (now 705), 707, 709 and 711 Gervais Street."

Other

Columbia South Carolina City Directory. 1895, 1897, 1899, 1901, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1914, 1927. Available online at <http://library.sc.edu/digital/collections/sccitydirec.html>.

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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: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property 0.55

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 33.999291 Longitude: -81.041186
2. Latitude: Longitude:
3. Latitude: Longitude:
4. Latitude: Longitude:

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Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

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

The boundaries for the Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse property (705 Gervais Street) corresponds to Richland County tax parcel number R08912-07-10. It is bounded to the south by Gervais St. with property line on the west extending from the SW corner approximately 230' NW, thence approximately 150' NE, thence approximately 200' SE, thence approximately 80' SW along Gervais St.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

These boundaries were selected because they encompass the historic footprint of the Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Meg Southern
organization: Historic Columbia
street & number: 1601 Blanding Street
city or town: Columbia state: SC zip code: 29208
e-mail megsouthern@gmail.com
telephone: 301-788-7197
date: January 26, 2016

Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse
Name of Property

Richland Co., S.C.
County and State

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse/705 Gervais Street

City or Vicinity: Columbia

County: Richland

State: South Carolina

Photographer: Meg Southern

Date Photographed: January 8, 2016

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 33: Exterior, southeast aspect, camera facing northwest.
- 2 of 33: Exterior detail, south façade, main entryway, camera facing north.
- 3 of 33: Exterior, southeast additions, camera facing southwest.
- 4 of 33: Exterior, east elevation, original building, camera facing northwest.
- 5 of 33: Exterior, east elevation, original building and 1898 addition, camera facing northwest.
- 6 of 33: Exterior, east elevation, 1898 addition, camera facing west.
- 7 of 33: Exterior detail, east elevation, exterior doors, camera facing west.
- 8 of 33: Exterior, southwest aspect, camera facing northeast.
- 9 of 33: Exterior, west elevation, camera facing northeast.
- 10 of 33: Exterior, west elevation, camera facing southeast.
- 11 of 33: Exterior detail, west elevation, loading door, camera facing east.

Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse

Richland Co., S.C.

Name of Property

County and State

- 12 of 33: Exterior detail, west elevation, meeting of original building and 1898 addition, camera facing east.
- 13 of 33: Exterior, northwest aspect, camera facing southeast.
- 14 of 33: Interior, original building, camera facing northwest.
- 15 of 33: Interior detail, main entryway, camera facing south.
- 16 of 33: Interior detail, trusses in original building, camera facing south.
- 17 of 33: Interior detail, trusses in original building, camera facing north.
- 18 of 33: Interior detail, truss and ceiling in original building, camera facing south.
- 19 of 33: Interior detail, vault, camera facing north.
- 20 of 33: Interior detail, vault door, camera facing north.
- 21 of 33: Interior detail, doors in east elevation, camera facing east.
- 22 of 33: Interior, 1898 addition, camera facing northwest.
- 23 of 33: Interior detail, trusses in 1898 addition, camera facing northwest.
- 24 of 33: Interior, 1898 addition, camera facing southeast.
- 25 of 33: Interior, trusses in 1898 addition, camera facing north.
- 26 of 33: Interior detail, loading door in 1898 addition, camera facing west.
- 27 of 33: Interior detail, floors in 1898 addition.
- 28 of 33: Interior detail, floors in 1898 addition.
- 29 of 33: Interior detail, door between original building and 1898 addition, camera facing south.
- 30 of 33: Interior, basement of 1898 addition, camera facing southeast.
- 31 of 33: Interior, basement of 1898 addition, camera facing southwest.
- 32 of 33: Interior detail, ceiling of 1898 addition basement, camera facing northwest.
- 33 of 33: Exterior detail, roofline of original building, camera facing northeast.

Index of Figures:

- Figure 1: 1888 Sanborn Map showing Gervais St. in vicinity of Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse, p. 10
- Figure 2: 1872 C.N. Drie birds-eye map of Columbia, South Carolina showing Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse building, p. 11
- Figure 3: 1898 Sanborn Map of Columbia, South Carolina showing Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse (then B.B. Ford & Co. Cotton Ware House), p. 12
- Figure 4: 1904 Sanborn Map of Columbia, South Carolina showing Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse (then Norris, Cooner Co. Wholesale Grocers), p. 13
- Figure 5: Blanchard, Walter. c.1910. "Cotton Scene on Gervais Street." *Russell Maxey Collection* online: <http://digital.tcl.sc.edu/cdm/ref/collection/rmaxey/id/1396>, p. 14
- Figure 6: Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse building as it appeared in the 11 November 1923 advertisement in *The State* newspaper, p. 15

Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse
Name of Property

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APPENDIX I: Building tenants and uses, 1888 – 2014²²

1888: Miller Brothers, cotton warehouse
1895: B.B. Ford & Company, cotton buyers
1897 – 1898: B.B. Ford & Company, cotton buyers
1898: B.B. Ford & Company, cotton warehouse
1899: Beall, Cooner & Co., wholesale grocers
1901: Norris, Cooner & Company, wholesale grocers
1903: Norris Cooner King Company, wholesale grocery
1904: The Norris Cooner Company, wholesale grocery
1905: Norris-Cooner Company
1906: The Norris Cooner Company
1907 – 1908: JE Young & Brothers
1909: C.C. Pearce & Company, wholesale fruit and produce
1910: C. C. Pearce & Company, wholesale fruit and produce; S.S. Ingman, electrical engineer
1911: C.C. Pearce & Company
1913: C.C. Pearce & Company
1915: C.C. Pearce & Company
1916: Vacant
1917: Vacant
1918: Bailey Distributing Company, wholesale grocers
1919: Wholesale feed warehouse
June 25, 1920: Bailey Distributing Company sells 701 to Liberty Fruit & Produce
1921: Mann Electric Supply Company, wholesale
1922: Mann Electric Supply Company; Columbia Wholesale Credit Association
November 1923: Mann Electric Supply Company advertisement features photo of 701 Gervais Street in *The State*
1924-1931: Mann Electric Supply Company
1931: 701 for rent
1933: Gottlieb Bag Company
1934: Gottlieb Bag Company and The Fuller Co. (a Johns Manville distributor)
1936: Carolina Burlap Bag Company
1942-1960: Kelly Paper Company
1964: Epting Distributing Company
1974 – 2014: Antiques storage and sale

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.).

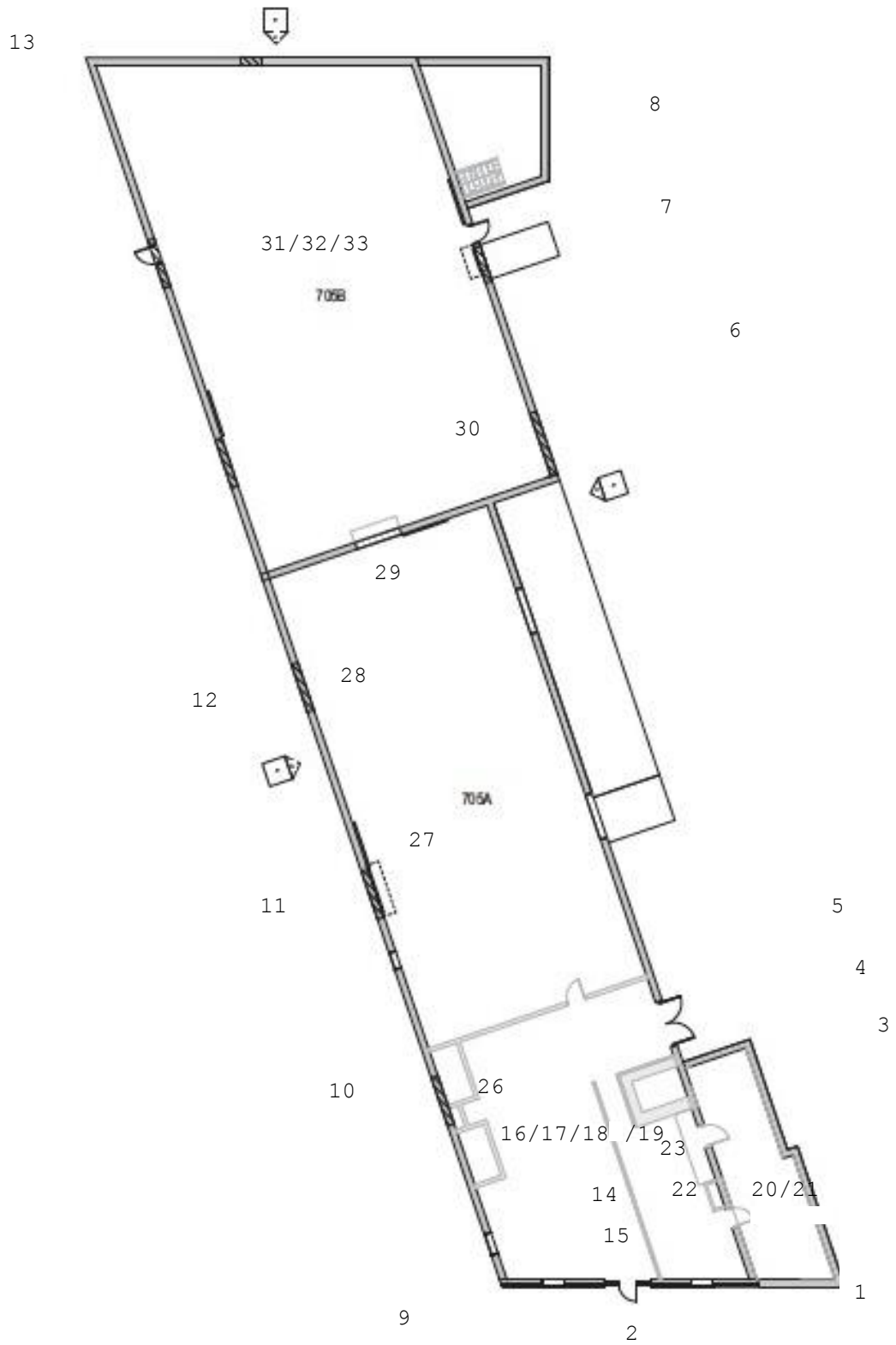
²²Collected by Diana Garnett and Meg Southern from *The State* newspaper, 1911 – 1974; Sanborn maps 1888, 1898, 1904, 1910, 1919; *Walsh's Columbia South Carolina City Directory*, 1907, p. 442; and Columbia City Directories, available online at <http://library.sc.edu/digital/collections/sccitydirec.html>.

Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse
Name of Property

Richland Co., S.C.
County and State

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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.

Sketch map (photographs keyed to this map)



Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse

Columbia, Richland Co., S.C.

33.999291°, -81.041186°

Google earth

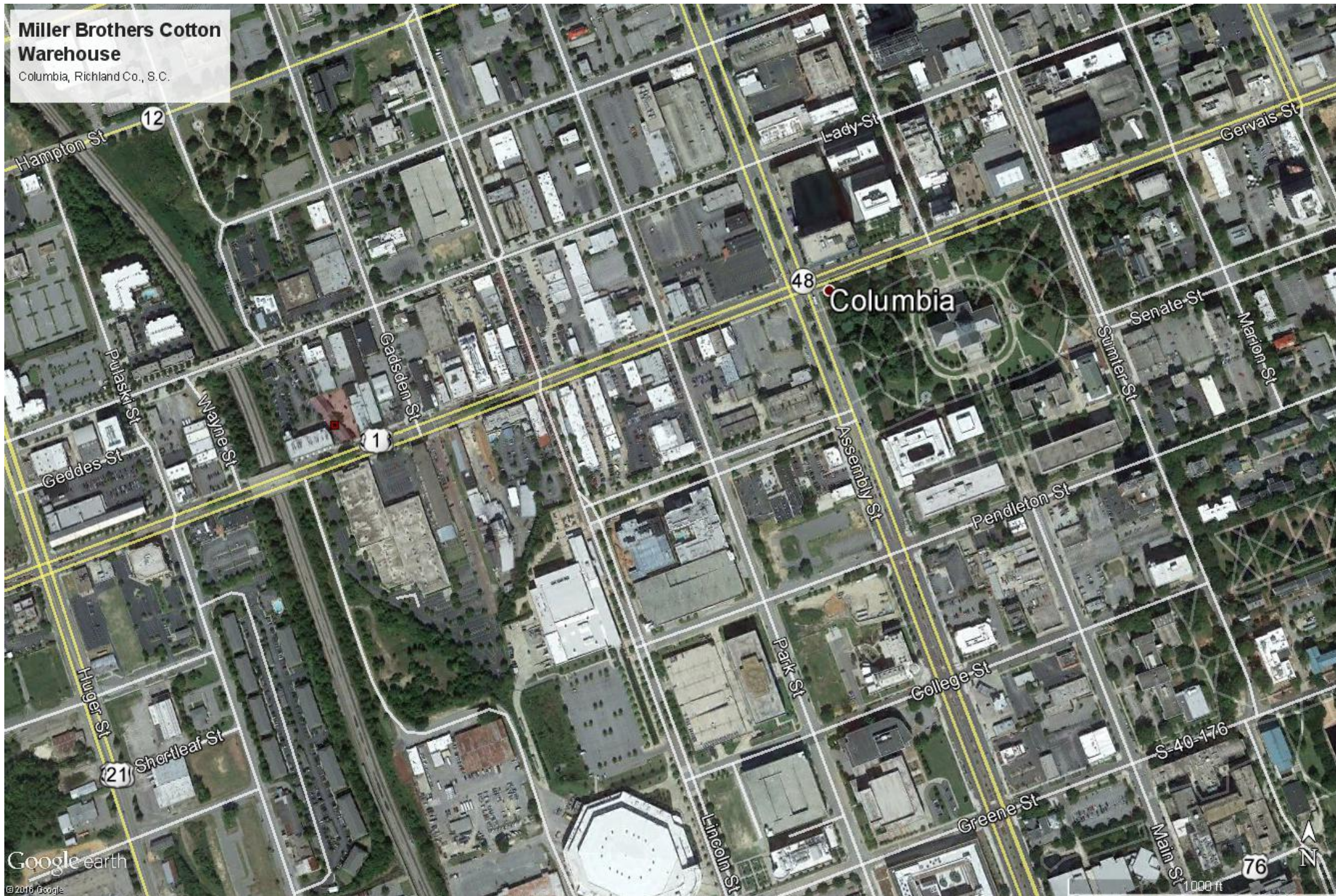
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100 ft



Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse

Columbia, Richland Co., S.C.



S-40-176

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&a20CUNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
&a30CNATIONAL PARK SERVICE

&a22CNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
&a29CEVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: SOUTH CAROLINA, Richland

DATE RECEIVED: 3/18/16 &pw DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/15/16
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 4/30/16 &pw DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/03/16
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000227

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 5/3/16 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

&a4L

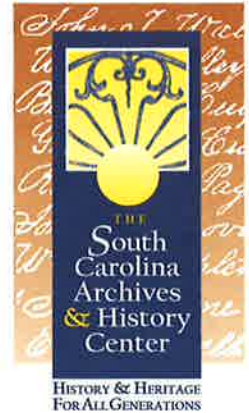
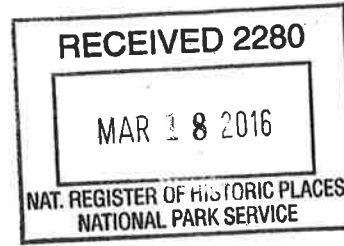
RECOM./CRITERIA A
REVIEWER [Signature] DISCIPLINE [Signature]
TELEPHONE _____ DATE 5/3/16

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.

March 11, 2016

Paul Loether
National Register Chief
U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 Eye (I) Street, NW (2280)
Washington, DC 20005



Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed is the National Register nomination for Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse in Richland County, South Carolina. The nomination was approved by the South Carolina State Board of Review as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A at the local level of significance. We are now submitting this nomination for formal review by the National Register staff. The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for Miller Brothers Cotton Warehouse to the National Register of Historic Places.

If I may be of 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 efoley@scdah.sc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ehren Foley".

Ehren Foley, Ph.D.
Historian and National Register Coordinator
State Historic Preservation Office
8301 Parklane Rd.
Columbia, S.C. 29223