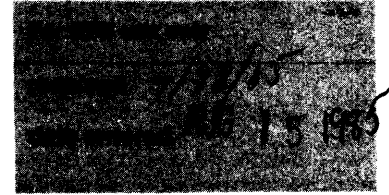


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet Greenville, KY
Multiple Resources

Item number 7

Page 3

Name: Rice Tobacco Factory (MUG-23)

Location: 112 North Cherry St.
Greenville, KY

Owner: C.J. Rice Jr.
214 Hopkinsville Street
Greenville, KY 42345

Classification: Building

Description: The Rice tobacco factory is a two-story brick building constructed in 1922. The building rests on a stone and concrete foundation and the upper two floors are composed of seven course common bond brick. The building has a gable roof and on the main elevation is a large overhanging frame canopy. Windows on the first floor are multi-light casement design while those on the second floor are six-over-six sash. On the main elevation is a central frame double doorway for loading and unloading frieght. A wooden stairway leads to a frame doorway which is the main entrance to the building. The interior is composed of large open floor space with a frame ceiling truss system. There are also several office areas with tongue and groove wainscoting. On the north elevation is a non-contributive ca. 1940 one-story concrete block addition and at the rear of the structure on the east elevation is a one-story frame storage building in poor condition.

Significance: The Rice tobacco factory is the only remaining commercial structure associated with Greenville's once prominent tobacco trade. Tobacco was Muhlenberg County's main cash crop throughout much of the 19th century. In Greenville tobacco processing factories were constructed by the Short brothers, Martin family and Ezekial Rice. These factories produced "Greenville Tobacco" which was a popular dark burley variety used for plug and chewing tobacco. By the late 1890s four factories were in operation which distributed this tobacco throughout America.

The Rice tobacco factory was constructed in 1922 by S. E. Rice. The S.E. Rice Company was organized in 1904 and produced "Rice's Best", Rice's Natural Leaf" and "Elk's Choice" brands. This factory was the last building constructed associated with the Greenville tobacco industry. The tobacco factory operated at this location until recent years as other markets have dominated the tobacco industry. The building has not been altered and is a good example of an early 20th century factory.

Acreage: Approximately 1.35 acre.

Verbal Boundary Description: The property is designated on accompanying Greenville tax maps as lot 27 of Block One.

UTM References: (Greenville Quadrangle) 16/483985/41171200



The boundary of the Rice Tobacco Warehouse is shown as the dotted line. It conforms to the verbal boundary description.

7/10/85