

678

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.

RECEIVED 2280

AUG 12 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Warren Mill
Other names/site number: Warrenville Mill; Warren Division
Name of related multiple property listing:
Textile Mills in South Carolina Designed by W.B. Smith Whaley, 1893-1903
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: Unnamed Road P-1201 and SC Hwy 421
City or town: Warrenville State: SC County: Aiken
Not For Publication: Vicinity:

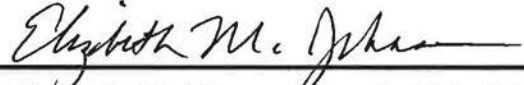
3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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 X C D

	<u>8/2/2016</u>
Elizabeth M. Johnson, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer:	Date
_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

Warren Mill
Name of Property

Aiken County, SC
County and State

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

9/27/14
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

Warren Mill
Name of Property

Aiken County, SC
County and State

Structure

Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRY/Manufacturing Facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT

Warren Mill
Name of Property

Aiken County, SC
County and State

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER/Textile Mill

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, Concrete, Wood

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

Located near the intersection of Highways 421 and 191 in Warrenton, South Carolina, the Warren Mill complex is a four-story brick textile mill built between 1896 and 1898. The site also included structures that were developed throughout the twentieth century. A five-story tower is situated at the center of the west façade and extends a full story above the low-pitch gable roof. The main building is 264 feet long by 127 feet wide and now includes a number of mid- and late-twentieth century one to two story additions to its west and north sides. Supporting structures, including the original engine room, boiler house with smokestack, and water tower occupy the eastern portion of the property.

Narrative Description

The building sits on a roughly rectangular lot that gently slopes from Hwy 421 and the former Southern railroad line at the south to the Sand River at the north. The position of the Warren Mill, at the junction of two Southern Railway lines, was advantageous for connecting the manufacturing facility to Augusta to the south, Columbia to the north, and Charleston to the east. Two years after it was put into operation, the Warren Mill was one of the largest textile facilities in the Horse Creek Valley, the portion of the state stretching from Aiken (six miles east) to Augusta (twelve miles west).

Warren Mill
Name of Property

Aiken County, SC
County and State

Contributing Properties

1. *Main Mill – 1898* (contributing building)

Exterior

The primary (west) façade of Warren Mill is divided into twenty-four bays with the square tower extending from the central two bays. Despite the brick infill in most window openings the historic segmental arch window openings are still evident and are regularly placed across the building. A simple stepped brick cornice runs the entire length of the west façade, while a more ornate stepped brick cornice with crenellated brick tops the tower. Roman Arched windows in the top level of the tower further the subtle Renaissance Revival features of the building. Two segmental arch windows mark each level on every elevation of the stair tower. A large windowless two-story tall brick addition now covers the first two floors of the tower and the north half of the west façade. An exposed metal staircase at the east end of this addition provides access to HVAC units on the roof of the structure. Additional mechanical equipment is placed on the ground level of the west side of the addition with most covered by a large white lattice fence.

The south elevation of the building is eleven bays wide and now holds a loading dock addition at the west side of the second floor. The three bay dock extends one bay from the south elevation and has a shed roof. When the dock was created, dirt was used to build up the ground level on the west half of the south elevation, which now covers the first level in those areas. Like the west elevation, the original segmental arch window openings are apparent in most openings despite the brick in-fill. However, the fifth bay from the west end of the façade was converted to an elevator and the original brick spandrels that once defined the windows in this bay were removed. A simple coursed brick cornice continues on this side of the building and follows the gentle gable of the roofline.

The east elevation of the main building, like the west, is twenty-four bays wide with a rectangular tower extending from the center two bays. Unlike the tower at the front of the building the rear tower stops at the roofline and has simple brick coursing at the cornice level and smaller segmental arch windows at the transom level of each floor. It served as a restroom stack according to a 1945 floor plan. Brick buttresses are placed every three to four bays along the east façade and appear to have been added after initial construction in 1896-1898. The northern half of the east façade is covered by historic supporting structures and several non-historic mechanical additions. A two-story rectangular brick Engine House (1896-1898) with a shallow gable roof projects from the east elevation near the northeast corner of the building. The Engine House in turn connects to a two-story brick Boiler House (1896-1898) with a shallow gable roof that is placed perpendicular to the Engine Room. Both buildings are stylistically the same; both built of brick and approximately thirty feet tall, the buildings feature large segmental arched windows with forty-eight panes and separate arched windows with twelve panes. Some of these windows have been fully or partially bricked in. Adjacent to these two buildings, a round brick smokestack approximately 150 feet tall, extends well above the mill roofline. The smokestack is attached to the south side of the Boiler House and sits on a two-story high octagonal base.

Warren Mill
Name of Property

Aiken County, SC
County and State

In addition to these original support structures the east façade includes several additions. A three-story rectangular modern brick tower with large louvered is situated at the northeast corner of the building, and was built in the 1940s as an elevator shaft. A similar two-story structure attaches to the east façade just south of the tower covering three bays of the first and second level. A one-story metal addition covers three additional bays of the ground level on the south side of the façade and a brick elevator shaft that extends slightly above the roofline of the mill covers the northernmost bay of the east elevation.

The north elevation of the Mill is covered on the first floor by a series of additions made during the mid- to late-twentieth century. A large round metal structure at the west end of the north façade extends the entire height of the building and partially covers two bays of windows. The north elevation retains about half of the original paired nine-over-nine wood sash windows with pivoting six-light transoms.

The building has a series of incompatible additions and alterations including the infill of most of the window openings but retains a high degree of integrity. The largest of the appendages is the ca. 1970 Dye Finishing addition that is attached to the front (west) elevation of the building and cotton warehouse. The planned rehabilitation of the property will reopen the windows throughout the building and remove the non-historic additions.

Interior

The interior of the Warren Mill is largely open floor space on all four levels and still retains the industrial character from its time as a manufacturing facility. The building structure consists of circular wood columns with metal capitals supporting large timber beams at the ceiling level. The ceiling above the beams consists of wide beadboard painted to match the columns and beams. Original wood flooring throughout the building shows scarring and years of wear from the textile machinery that used to occupy the building. Throughout the facility, lighting, piping, and in some areas ductwork sits exposed below the ceiling level.

On the first, second, and third levels of the main mill a heavy partition wall divides the four northern-most bays of the building from the otherwise open floor space. Sliding oversize metal fire doors are placed by the openings in this wall system and regularly throughout the rest of the mill. The only other notable partitions in the main building are two non-historic office spaces on the south side of the second floor. Non-historic partitions have also been inserted on some levels in the stair tower at the west façade to create offices.

The interior of the Dye Finishing addition contains concrete floors, steel columns, and roof joists/girders. The interiors of the areas of infill between the main mill and the Cotton Warehouse exhibit similar features.

Warren Mill
Name of Property

Aiken County, SC
County and State

The property also contains both historic and non-historic outbuildings and structures surrounding the main mill.

2. *Smokestack – 1896-1898* (contributing structure)
The brick smokestack is 100' tall and features a corbeled brick cap. The stack is situated on a two-story octagonal brick base.
3. *Cotton Warehouse – pre-1947* (contributing building)
The brick warehouse, built sometime between 1923 and 1947 according to Sanborn maps, is a rectangular brick building with a low-pitch roof and a concrete foundation. A long loading dock runs along the north elevation of the building. The interior of the building features concrete floors and steel ceiling joists and six boxed skylights/roof monitors. The building was internally connected to the main mill in the 1970s.
4. *Pumphouse – 1903* (contributing building)
Small frame building with a pyramidal roof with wood shingles located in front of the west façade. The building stands on one of four pump/water connections indicated on 1904 Sanborn maps.
5. *South Water Tower – ca. 1925* (contributing structure)
Metal water tower located on the east side of the mill, rising 100 feet with a circular water tank and a conical metal roof. Built between 1923 and 1947 according to Sanborn maps.
6. *Brick Shed ca. 1935-1945* (contributing building)
This one-story brick building with a low-pitched roof sits at the north property line and is inaccessible due to heavy vegetation.
7. *North Shed ca. 1930* (contributing building)
This board and batten shed with gable asphalt shingle roof is located northeast of the Boiler House. It appears clearly in the ca. 1970 aerial photo, but no doubt was built sometime in the 1920s or 1930s. Because it is such a small building it could have been moved to its current location on the parcel.

Non-Contributing

- A. *North Water Tower - ca. 1970* (non-contributing structure)
Metal water tower, 100 feet tall with a circular water tank and a dome shaped roof.
- B. *Pre-Fabricated Metal Shed – c. 1970* (non-contributing building)
Small prefabricated shed with low-pitched roof that stands between the legs of the non-contributing north water tower.
- C. *Small Gas/Oil Tank – ca. 1970* (non-contributing structure)

Warren Mill
Name of Property

Aiken County, SC
County and State

Located just north of the water towers this circular metal tank has a concrete wall around its base.

D. North Oil Tank ca. 1970 (non-contributing structure)

This circular metal oil tank and attached one-story brick pump house is located northeast of the Boiler House and North Shed.

E. Utility Shed ca. 1970 (non-contributing building)

This one-story frame building has been drawn into the east property line and has a gable roof.

Warren Mill
Name of Property

Aiken County, SC
County and State

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRY _____
ARCHITECTURE _____

Warren Mill
Name of Property

Aiken County, SC
County and State

Period of Significance

1898-1947

Significant Dates

1898

1919

1947

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

W.B. Smith Whaley

Warren Mill
Name of Property

Aiken County, SC
County and State

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 Warren Mill is significant under National Register Criterion A for industry as an intact example of South Carolina's once-thriving textile industry. The Warren Manufacturing Company built the mill between 1896 and 1898 and operated its textile operations until it became part of the Graniteville Manufacturing Company in 1918. When it began operation in 1898 the Warren Mill was one of the most state-of-the-art industrial facilities in the Horse Creek Valley and the state of South Carolina. The Warren Mill is also significant at the local level under National Register Criterion C as an intact textile mill designed by W.B. Smith Whaley, a prominent industrial architect responsible for designing many of the most prominent textile facilities throughout South Carolina. The period of significance begins with the mill's completion in 1898 and ends with the construction of the cotton warehouses, which were completed by 1947 and are the last contributing resources built on the site. The Warren Mill contributes to the Textile Mills in South Carolina Designed by W.B. Smith Whaley, 1893-1903 Multiple Property Submission, completed in 1990.

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

INDUSTRY

The Warren Manufacturing Company was incorporated in 1896 and began operations at the Warren Mill in 1898. The mill was constructed in the Horse Creek Valley region of South Carolina, an area rich in manufacturing history. Best known for the Graniteville Mill, which redefined mill operations in the state and positively influenced many key 19th century cotton mill investors including Francis Pelzer and Ellison A. Smyth.¹ Founded by William Gregg in 1846, Graniteville was situated six miles west of Aiken, South Carolina, and fourteen miles east of Augusta. Gregg, watchmaker and jeweler by trade, briefly managed the nearby Vaucluse Mill, which was built in 1832.² It may have been Gregg's time there that influenced him to locate his Granite Mill in the Horse Creek Valley. The valley's plentiful sources of water from Horse Creek, a tributary of the Savannah River, were dammed to create the steam power needed to run the operations at both Vaucluse and Graniteville. By 1907, over 200,000 spindles were located in the Valley including Graniteville and Vaucluse, Clearwater Finishing Plant, Bath Mill and Langley Mill.³

¹ David L. Carlton, *Mill and Town in South Carolina 1880-1920* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1982), p. 44.

² Ralph J. Christian, *Graniteville Historic District*, National Register Nomination, 1977.

³ Carlton, p. 47.

Warren Mill
Name of Property

Aiken County, SC
County and State

The success of both ventures eventually necessitated railroad service to the area. The City of Aiken had originated as a stopover for the South Carolina Canal and Railroad, which ran from Charleston to Hamburg, now present day North Augusta. As the region grew, more railroads began to locate in the area, including the Charlotte, Columbia, and Augusta Railway. By the 1890s, the town that was to become Warrenville, was known as Aiken Junction.

Warren Mill, operated by Warren Manufacturing Company, was named for Charles Warren Davis. Davis was born in Maine in 1848 and according to his 1889 marriage license, was living in Graniteville when he married Susannah de Cottes of Augusta. It stands to reason the spectacular mill operation at Graniteville was the impetus for the founding of Warren Mill in nearby Aiken Junction. The little town had been founded some years earlier as a result of the railroads that transected the area. The town was a stop on the Southern Railway's Charlotte, Columbia, and Augusta Division, located between Graniteville and King.⁴ A telegraph was available in the tiny whistle stop, but not much else. But all that was about to change. By April 1897, Davis had established the Warren Manufacturing Company and acquired 700 acres for the mill and a village. He also hired engineer and fellow investor W.B. Smith Whaley to design and outfit the new mill⁵. Colonel R.L. Coleman was hired as the contractor on the basis of his bid and his completed work at the Granby Mill in Columbia, SC.⁶ He too invested in the enterprise and in 1897 with the mill under construction, the town was renamed Warrenville.⁷

The mill building at Warrenville was designed similar to most textile mills at the time, with large windows that allowed light to penetrate the large open work areas of the interior. Machinery was systematically installed on each level of the building to allow for the most efficient production of cloth from raw cotton. At Warren Mill the processing of cotton began at the north section of the building, working from the ground floor up to the fourth. In the northwest corner of the building the first floor was used for opening the cotton, the second floor for slashing, the third floor for picking, and the fourth floor for spooling the cotton fiber. The spooled fiber then traveled down the main portion of the building from spinning on the fourth floor, to carding on the third, to weaving on the second and storage on the first.⁸

The Engine Room, attached to the northeast side of the mill, held a 1,000 horsepower condensing engine to drive all machinery on the property. The Boiler Room just to the south held boilers to drive the engine and apparently was designed with enough space to hold additional boilers for a second mill on the property that was never built. A 9,300-gallon water tank in the top of the main tower fed an automatic sprinkler system to protect the building from fire.

The construction of the mill was not without scandal. In 1897, Davis resigned his position as president when work was suspended due to non-payment. The corporation was out of money due

⁴ *Twenty Fourth Annual Report of the Railroad Commissioners*, South Carolina Railroad Commission, 1902.

⁵ "Another New Mill," *State* (Columbia, SC), April 24, 1897.

⁶ "Warren Cotton Mill," *State* (Columbia, SC), May 7, 1897.

⁷ "Tariff Bureau," *Journal of the Telegraph* (New York, NY), January 20, 1897.

⁸ Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Augusta, GA 1904, Sheet 66.

Warren Mill
Name of Property

Aiken County, SC
County and State

to slow collection of money from shareholders. Charles Robbe took over the floundering business as president and the mill, the largest in the state at the time, was finally completed in 1898. According to census records from 1900, Davis settled in North Augusta and became involved in insurance sales, and was later listed as a traveling salesman in 1910. He was recorded as president of Davis Cotton Mills of Augusta, Georgia in the “Proceedings of the Annual Convention of the American Cotton Manufacturers Association” for 1905 through 1915, but no other record of the mill has been found. According to his death certificate, Davis died in Augusta in 1921 at the age of 72.

Following Davis’ departure, Warren Mill thrived. By 1910, it was one of the state’s largest textile mills with 35,000 spindles and 1,000 looms running. Their product seemed to evolve over time. In 1902, the Charleston *Evening Post* listed the mill as producing printed percales, and bleached and unbleached shirtings. But by 1910, the Charleston *News and Courier* listed their product as prints only. The Horse Creek Valley had continued to grow in the wake of Graniteville and Warrentown’s founding. The Aiken Manufacturing Company had set up a mill at Bath, Seminole Manufacturing had a mill at Clearwater, Langley Manufacturing was located at Langley, and a mill was also at Montmorenci, being operated by C.E. Hallman. The total number of spindles in the valley, including Graniteville, was 184,174 with over \$2 million in capital.⁹

In order to run the large mill at Warrentown, Warren Manufacturing needed a good supply of mill hands. To provide for the workers the Warren Manufacturing Company constructed housing that sheltered 987 workers and family members in the village. A wood-framed school was erected for a cost of \$3,000, all of which was supplied by the mill. Two churches were also constructed—a Methodist and a Baptist—in order to minister to the religious needs of the community.¹⁰ A portion of the funds for a Methodist church in the village was donated by the Warren Manufacturing Company as was the general practice in the time period.¹¹ The village may not have been as developed as some of the more progressive mill towns in the area, but some modern conveniences such as electricity and a water works were enjoyed by Warrentown’s residents as early as 1906.¹² As for more advanced amenities such as shopping or recreation, there appears to have been a dearth of both in the village. Perhaps with the close proximity of Graniteville and Aiken, workers and their families chose to conduct their business in those nearby towns. Nonetheless, it can be speculated that had the mill not been built, the tiny railroad stop of Aiken Junction would have remained small and obscure.

In 1919 the Graniteville Company purchased the Warren Manufacturing Company and the Warren Mill. The company owned several other mills in Graniteville and in Vaucluse a few miles to the north. Organized in December of 1845 by William Gregg, the Graniteville Company was developed to construct and run as a model factory and town for the manufacturing of textile goods. The company’s first facility, completed in 1849 in Graniteville (1½ miles north of

⁹ David Kohn, “The Cotton Mills of the South,” *News and Courier* (Charleston, SC), January 1, 1910.

¹⁰ August Kohn, “The Cotton Mills of South Carolina,” *News and Courier* (Charleston, SC), November 26, 1907.

¹¹ Carlton, 105.

¹² “Mr. G.W. Etheredge Honored,” *The State* (Columbia, SC), March 3, 1906.

Warren Mill
Name of Property

Aiken County, SC
County and State

Warrenville) is widely acknowledged as the first textile mill and village in South Carolina.

As the textile industry in South Carolina blossomed during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the Graniteville Company expanded their facilities in the Horse Creek Valley and branched out throughout in the southeast. In 1877 the company purchased the Vauclose Mill, three miles north of Graniteville. In 1900, a new 20,000 spindle mill, the Hickman Mill, was constructed on property just east of the Graniteville mill. The Graniteville Company conducted a major modernization of the mill when they purchased it in 1919. The mill was converted to electric power with the boiler system serving as an emergency power source. In 1921 many of the looms were replaced with wider machinery for producing wider cloth.

But the acquisition and expansion of mills often led to increased workloads for the mill operatives. The Horse Creek Valley had a long history of labor strife going back to the Reconstruction period. Strikes in 1886 and 1902 followed. It was the Great Depression and President Roosevelt's New Deal policies that spurred a militant wave of protest in the 1930s. The United Textile Workers, led by a Methodist-Episcopal minister named Paul Fuller, agitated for changes based on the new Textile Code.¹³ In response, mill owners and supervisors fired UTW members and brought in rural labor to replace them at lower rates. In what would prove a dress rehearsal for the General Textile Strike of 1934, about 3,000 mill workers in the Horse Creek Valley went on strike on October 21, 1933. While earlier strikes had remained non-violent, that was not the case in 1933. Workers protested low wages and antiunion policies. They also believed that the recently passed National Recovery Act (NRA) and spirit of New Deal Legislation pursued by the Roosevelt administration lent support to their cause. When they walked out they believed that they had the ear of Washington and that politicians there would back their efforts. Those hopes remained largely unrealized and mill owners quickly turned to the economically depressed countryside to recruit strikebreakers to operate the mill's combing machines and looms. UTW members clashed with company loyalists and rural strikebreakers. When the mill owners brought in strike breakers, the violence reached a peak. Dozens were arrested and the Governor deployed National Guard forces and highway patrolmen, ostensibly to keep the peace, but more than anything to keep the mill running.¹⁴

Soon the fight shifted away from the front lines to the legal side of things as Cotton Textile National Industrial Relations Board met to mediate the dispute. On paper, the resolution appeared favorable to the unions, but the execution of the Board's decision was not. Strikers had been promised rehiring and preference over new workers "as work became available;" this led to very few of them being rehired at all. To add insult to injury, mill supervisors began evicting workers for even the smallest infractions and the names of strikers were blacklisted. By the new year in 1934, the strike was over and strikers were out of luck and work. Mills resumed production with new hires and ex-unionists who had signed conciliatory contracts.¹⁵

¹³ Vincent J Roscigo and William F. Danaher, *The Voice of Southern Labor: Radio, Music, and Textile Strikes: 1929-1934* (Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press, 2004,) 105.

¹⁴ Bryant Simon, *The Fabric of Defeat: The Politics of South Carolina Millhands, 1910-1948* (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 1998), 98-108.

¹⁵ Simon, *The Fabric of Defeat*, 98-108.

Warren Mill
Name of Property

Aiken County, SC
County and State

The Graniteville Company continued to operate the property as their Warren Division and make improvements to the property until closing it in 1982. Around 1970 a series of additions including a large dyeing operation at the north end of the west facade were added to the mill building. In 1985 the property was reopened as a dyeing facility for denim before being sold by the Graniteville Company to Avondale Mills in 1996.¹⁶

ARCHITECTURE

The Warren Mill is one of at least fifteen textile mills built in South Carolina by W.B. Smith Whaley, and will be nominated to the National Register as a contributing property to the *Textile Mills in South Carolina Designed by W. B. Smith Whaley, 1893-1903* multiple property listing. The design and construction of Warren Mill occurred during a prolific decade of work in the career of W.B. Smith Whaley that transformed the economy of South Carolina. When it was completed in 1898 the Warren Mill was the largest textile facility in state but represented just one of numerous projects that vaulted Whaley to national prominence as a textile mill engineer.¹⁷ Advertisements in 1901 and 1902 touted Whaley as a specialist in electrically driven mill plants.¹⁸ In 1903, Whaley included the Warren Mill in his book Modern Cotton Mill Engineering, which highlighted many of his works throughout South Carolina. By this time, he was one of the most prominent mill engineers in the state and a partner in many of the mill operations that had transformed the textile economy of the state.¹⁹

William Burroughs Smith Whaley was born in Charleston in 1866 and studied mechanical engineering at Stevens Institute of Technology and Cornell University, where he was voted best design engineer. Whaley saw the potential benefits of expanding South Carolina's textile facilities for both the textile industry and the southern population. After working on numerous textile mills in the northeast for the first four years of his career, Whaley relocated to Columbia, South Carolina.²⁰

Between 1893 and 1903, Whaley designed fifteen textile mills throughout South Carolina, an additional four mills in other southern states and a mill in Massachusetts. Whaley's signature seemed to be the Romanesque Revival style; his designs were often similar for several mills before being changed for another batch of commissions. His first two mills—Union Cotton Mills (1893) in Union, South Carolina, and Courtenay Mill (1893) in Oconee County, South Carolina, are similar in design with decorative details being relegated to the all too important towers. Both Union and Courtenay have flat roofed towers, decorative cornice work three small circular or arched windows at the top of the tower and paired arched windows along the main body of the

¹⁶ Ralph J. Christian, *Graniteville Historic District*, National Register Nomination, 1977.

¹⁷ Tracy Power, *Textile Mills in South Carolina Designed by W.B. Smith Whaley, 1893-1903*, National Register Multiple Property Submission, 1990, p. E-1.

¹⁸ Gary N. Mock, "Mill Engineers" *Textile Industry History*, accessed 2/26/16, <http://www.textilehistory.org/MillEngineers.html>.

¹⁹ Power, p. E-1.

²⁰ *Ibid.*

Warren Mill
Name of Property

Aiken County, SC
County and State

tower. Similar in design, Richland Cotton Mill (1895), also known as Whaley's Mill, and Granby Mill (1896-1897), both in Columbia, South Carolina, were Whaley's next two commissions. They also were the first mills where he served as president of the board. It was also his largest mill to date with 33,000 spindles.

Enterprise Mill (1896) in Orangeburg, South Carolina was Whaley's next commission, followed by Warren Mill in 1897. Whaley also served a member of the mill's board of directors and was an investor. Warren is identified as a Whaley mill in that it is an elongated four story building with uniform fenestrations and decorative center towers. It also features buttresses on the east (rear) elevation. Like many other Whaley's mills, the front tower served as a stair tower while the east (rear) center tower served as a restroom stack. Whaley was also working on Avondale Mill (1897) in Birmingham, Alabama, and Union Cotton Mill #2 (1896-1898).

By the turn of the 19th century, Whaley's designs had become quite exuberant. Olympia Mill (1899) in Columbia, South Carolina, and Buffalo Mill (1899) in Union, South Carolina, which are nearly identical, are highly decorative with contrasting brick work and fanciful center clock towers. Lancaster Cotton Mill #2 (1903) in Lancaster, South Carolina, is also very like Olympia and Buffalo in design and size—all of the mills were built to house in excess of 50,000 spindles.

In 1899 and following on the heels of his successful designs at Olympia and Buffalo, Whaley opened an office in Boston, a move that would set the stage for his eventual relocation there in late 1903.²¹ By this time, Whaley's designs become very pared down once again, as evidenced by his first commission, Butler Mills in New Bedford, Massachusetts.²² This mill is quite subdued in comparison to his mills in South Carolina. Gone were the Romanesque Revival details; the building was simply an early 20th century industrial building.

In addition to designing the buildings, Whaley had an ownership interest in at least four of the mills he built, including Warren Mill.²³ As Whaley was a partner in the Olympia Mill development which may have provided greater latitude in the design and equipment that was incorporated into the venture. When completed the gargantuan Olympia Mill held over 100,000 spindles (three times that at Warren) and was a model of architectural and technological excellence. Engineers were amazed by the new power regulation and distribution system and the masses were impressed by the architectural ornament, including mosaic wainscoting porcelain and nickel bathroom fixtures and a power plant with marble and terrazzo finishes.²⁴

Whaley's work was influential to the growth of textile production in the state of South Carolina and garnered regional and national attention within the manufacturing industry. The Chicago Tribune reported in 1902 that Whaley would be the president and general manager of a cotton mill in Kansas City, Missouri. The mill would be the largest in the world with 500,000

²¹ "He Will Make Boston His Home," *State* (Columbia, SC), December 7, 1903.

²² Power, p. E-9.

²³ "At Aiken Junction," *State* (Columbia, SC), June 19, 1896.

²⁴ Power, p. E-3 - E-6.

Warren Mill

Name of Property

Aiken County, SC

County and State

spindles.²⁵ The mill was completed in 1906²⁶ and it appears that Whaley was no longer involved in the enterprise as a September 23, 1905 article in *United States Investor* did not list him as a member of the board. Whaley was later associated with a similar operation in Oklahoma City; the proposed mill would have 600,000 spindles.

Unfortunately, while the mills in which Whaley was a partner were seen as sound architectural and technological feats, they did not function as efficient or profitable businesses. Whaley resigned his ownership positions with most of his mills in South Carolina, including Olympia before relocated to Boston. Despite making an extreme impact to the development of the textile economy of the state, Whaley did little work in the Carolinas after moving to Boston. His interests focused on creating more mechanically efficient machinery instead of the buildings to house such equipment. He patented the Whaley Engine before his death in 1929 but he would be forever known as one of the great mill engineers of the 19th century.²⁷ As an 1897 article in *The State* newspaper in Columbia said, “[i]t is safe to say that a majority of them would not have been built at all if it had not been for his efforts. That is what one young man has done for industrial development in the south within five years.”

²⁵ “World’s Largest Cotton Mill for Kansas City,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), June 30, 1902.

²⁶ D.M. Bone, ed., *Kansas City Annual 1907* (Kansas City, MO: Bishop Press, 1907), p. 115.

²⁷ Power, p. E – 9.

Warren Mill
Name of Property

Aiken County, SC
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

“Another New Mill,” *State* (Columbia, SC), April 24, 1897.

“At Aiken Junction,” *State* (Columbia, SC), June 19, 1896.

Bone, D.M., ed. *Kansas City Annual 1907*. Kansas City, MO, Bishop Press, 1907.

Boyd, Jean Clark. *A Pictorial Timeline of Graniteville, South Carolina, 1845-1996*. Warrentonville, SC: Horse Creek Historical Society, 2004.

Carlton, David L. *Mill and Town in South Carolina 1880-1920*. Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University Press, 1982.

Christian, Ralph J. “Graniteville Historic District.” National Register Nomination, 1977.

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<http://www.textilehistory.org/MillEngineers.html>.

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Roscigo, Vincent J. and William F. Danaher. *The Voice of Southern Labor: Radio, Music, and Textile Strikes: 1929-1934*. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press, 2004.

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Simon, Bryant. *The Fabric of Defeat: The Politics of South Carolina Millhands, 1910-1948*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 1998.

“Warren Cotton Mill,” *State* (Columbia, SC), May 7, 1897.

Whaley, W.B. Smith. *Modern Cotton Mill Engineering*, 1903.

“World’s Largest Cotton Mill for Kansas City,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), June 30, 1902.

Warren Mill
Name of Property

Aiken County, SC
County and State

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 – University of SC-Aiken (Graniteville Gregg Archive)
- Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 7.33

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 33.551510 Longitude: -81.808419
2. Latitude: Longitude:
3. Latitude: Longitude:
4. Latitude: Longitude

Warren Mill
Name of Property

Aiken County, SC
County and State

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

1. Zone: Easting: Northing:

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

The proposed boundaries for the Warren Mill National Register listing follow the surveyed property lines for Aiken County Tax parcel #069-10-04-005. The west property line runs along an Unnamed Road "P-1201" (formerly a portion of the Gregg Highway) from the between one Norfolk Southern Railroad line running northeast and another Norfolk Southern Railroad line running east to west along SC Highway 421 (Augusta Road). The south boundary follows a straight line parallel to Highway 421 (Augusta Road), just north of and parallel to the Norfolk Southern Rail line for a distance of approximately 650 feet to a power pole. The east boundary starts from the power pole at the south in a northwesterly direction for a distance of approximately 420 feet. At a point slightly more than half-way along that distance the boundary projects to the east to capture two small outbuildings that make up a gas regulation station, an area that is approximately 75 feet long and 35 feet wide. The north boundary extends from the north end of the east boundary in a southwesterly direction for a distance of approximately 220 feet to a point just east of the east wall to the warehouse portion of the building. From that point the boundary extends to the northwest a distance of approximately 160 feet to encompass an area of asphalt pavement. Turning southwesterly the north boundary extends along the asphalt paving for a distance of approximately 250 feet where it intersects the north branch of the Norfolk Southern Rail line. The boundary then turns slightly further to the southwest and runs parallel to the north branch of the Norfolk Southern Rail line for approximately 200 feet before intersecting the starting point at the intersection with the Unnamed Road "P-1201" (formerly a portion of the Gregg Highway).

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary follows the current property lines for Aiken County tax parcel #069-10-04-005 and includes all intact resources associated with the Warren Mill.

Warren Mill
Name of Property

Aiken County, SC
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Richard Sidebottom
organization: MacRostie Historic Advisors
street & number: 1535 Hobby Street, Suite 203-F
city or town: Charleston state: SC zip code: 29405
e-mail rsidebottom@mac-ha.com
telephone: (843) 530-8788
date: April 26, 2016

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.)

Warren Mill
Name of Property

Aiken County, SC
County and State

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: Warren Mill

City or Vicinity: Warrentville

County: Aiken

State: South Carolina

Photographer: Richard Sidebottom

Date Photographed: April 2014

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

- 1 of 43: Warren Mill, looking east at Main facade.
- 2 of 43: Looking northeast, note loading docks on second level of south elevation.
- 3 of 43: Looking east at main stair tower. Note window openings covered with plywood.
- 4 of 43: Dye finishing addition ca. 1970, looking northeast.
- 5 of 43: Dye finishing addition, looking southeast.
- 6 of 43: North elevation of Mill, Dye finishing addition and Warehouse loading dock.
- 7 of 43: North elevation of Mill, Warehouse and Engine House, looking south.
- 8 of 43: Engine House, Boiler and Water Towers, looking south.
- 9 of 43: Engine House east elevation, looking west.
- 10 of 43: Boiler House, east elevation, looking northwest.
- 11 of 43: Modern shed, brick water pumping house, and water tank.
- 12 of 43: Modern Tank and concrete base, looking northwest.
- 13 of 43: Modern brick shed and old mechanical unit, looking east.
- 14 of 43: East elevation of Mill complex and water towers, looking west.
- 15 of 43: East elevation of Mill, Boiler House and various modern additions, looking northwest.
- 16 of 43: Southeast corner of Mill building, looking northwest.
- 17 of 43: Boiler House, chimney base, restroom tower and modern additions.
- 18 of 43: Boiler chimney, looking north.
- 19 of 43: Restroom tower and modern additions, looking west.
- 20 of 43: South elevation, looking north. Note loading dock at west side of second level.
- 21 of 43: Main Mill, First Floor, looking south.
- 22 of 43: Main Mill, First Floor, original wood flooring.
- 23 of 43: Main Mill, First Floor, detail of exposed columns and ceilings.

Warren Mill

Aiken County, SC
County and State

Name of Property

- 24 of 43: Main Mill, First Floor, partitioned area along north wall, looking west.
- 25 of 43: Warehouses (ca. 1960), interior, looking southwest.
- 26 of 43: Warehouses (ca. 1960), looking at monitor window and metal ceiling panels.
- 27 of 43: Dye finishing addition, looking southeast at exterior wall of original mill.
- 28 of 43: Dye finishing addition (ca. 1970), interior, looking northwest.
- 29 of 43: Dye finishing addition, interior, looking northeast.
- 30 of 43: Dye finishing addition, looking southeast at exterior wall of tower.
- 31 of 43: Main entrance to the Mill
- 32 of 43: Main Mill, second floor, looking south. Note two large partitions at south end.
- 33 of 43: Main Mill, second floor, looking southwest at loading docks on south elevation.
- 34 of 43: Main Mill, Picker House section, second floor, looking east.
- 35 of 43: Main Mill, third floor, looking north along west wall.
- 36 of 43: Main Mill, third floor, looking south along east wall.
- 37 of 43: Main Mill, Picker House section, third floor, looking northwest.
- 38 of 43: Main Mill. fourth floor, looking south.
- 39 of 43: Main Mill, fourth floor, looking southwest.
- 40 of 43: Boiler House, looking southeast. Note full height space.
- 41 of 43: Engine House, first floor, looking west.
- 42 of 43: Engine House, second floor, looking northeast.
- 43 of 43: Engine House, second floor, looking southwest.

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 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.

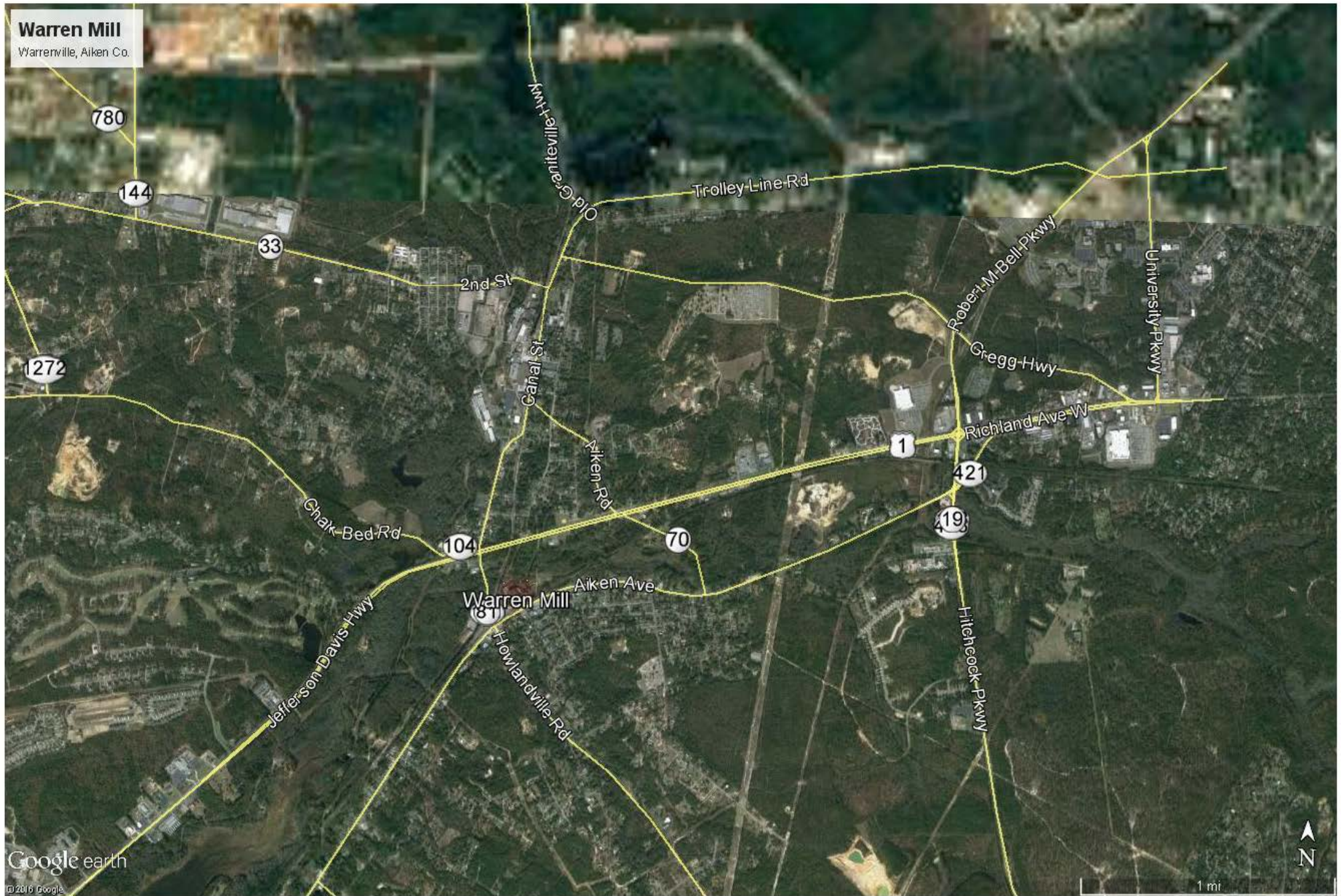
Warren Mill

Warrenville, Aiken Co.



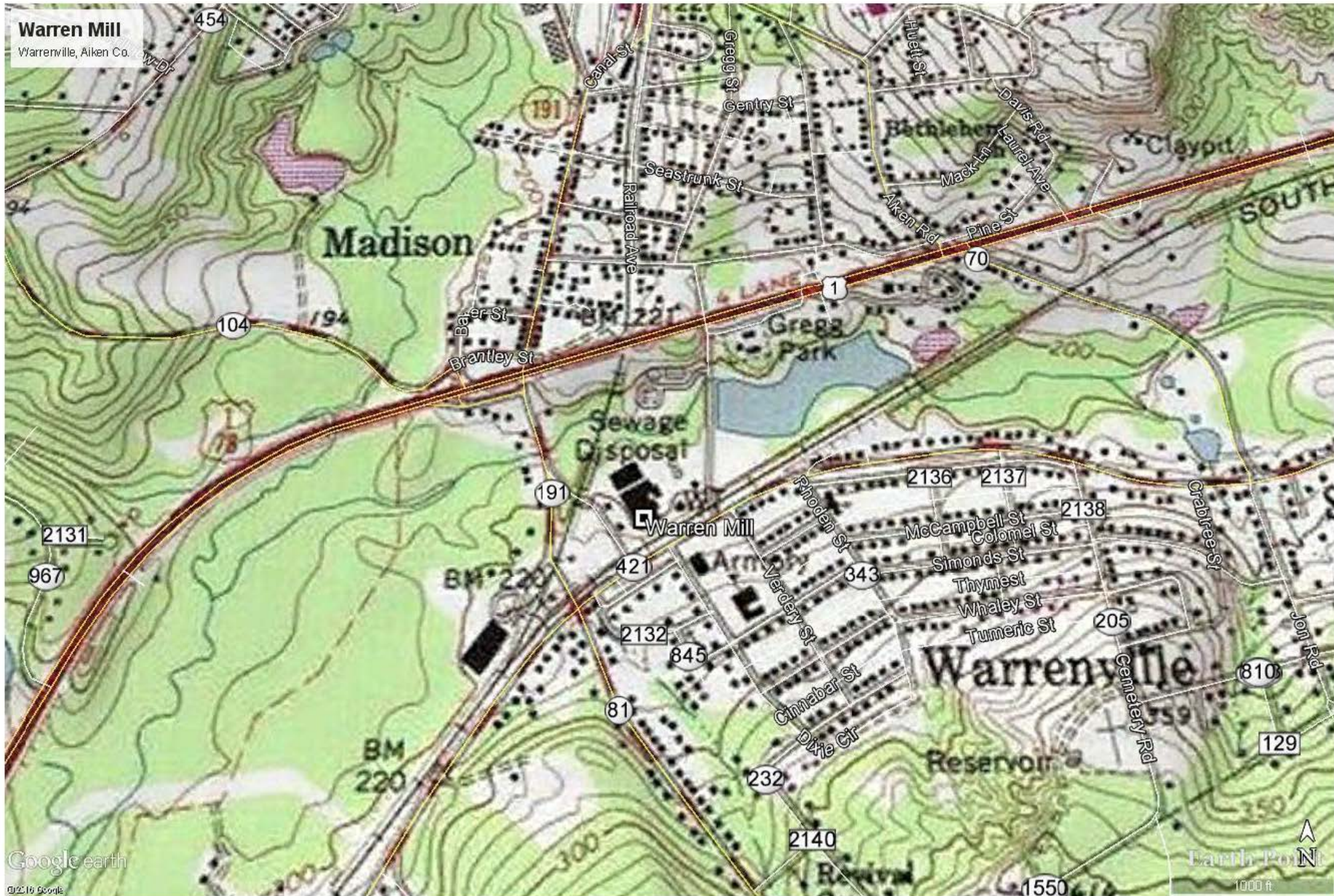
Warren Mill

Warrenville, Aiken Co.



Warren Mill

Warrenville, Aiken Co.



Warren Mill

Warrenville, Aiken Co.































FRANITEVILLE
COMPANY
WARREN
DIVISION
WARRENVILLE
S.C.





























REDUCTOR



EXIT







EXIT

EXIT

2315











TO THE
FIRE ESCAPE





EXIT
SALIDA



SAFETY GLASSES
MUST BE WORN WHEN
USING TORCH

EXIT
FOR

ACETYLENE
FLAMMABLE GAS

22

DANGER





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Warren Mill

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: SOUTH CAROLINA, Aiken

DATE RECEIVED: 8/12/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/02/16
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/19/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/27/16
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000678

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 9/27/16 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*architecture + industry
local level
POS. 1898-1949*

RECOM./CRITERIA Acc

REVIEWER [Signature]

DISCIPLINE Historic

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 9/27/16

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.



RECEIVED 2280

AUG 12 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

August 4, 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 Warren Mill in Warrentonville, Aiken 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 Criteria A and C 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 Warren Mill 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', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

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