NPS Form 10-900
(7-81)

OMB NO. 1024-0018
EXP. 12/31/84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only
received SEP 30 1982
date entered

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic: Rasor and Clardy Company Building

and/or common: same

2. Location

street & number: 202 S~~outh~~ Main St~~reet~~ — NA not for publication

city, town: Mullins — NA vicinity of — ~~congressional district~~

state: South Carolina — code: 045 — county: Marion — code: 067

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	X occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
X building(s)	X private	___ unoccupied	X commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	NA in process	X yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	NA being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
		___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name: N. Bryant Cooper and Franklin B. Cooper

street & number: 202 South Main Street

city, town: Mullins — NA vicinity of — state: South Carolina 29574

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.: Marion County Records Building

street & number: Main Street

city, town: Marion — state: South Carolina 29571

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title: Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina — has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes X no

date: 1981 — ___ federal X state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records: South Carolina Department of Archives and History

city, town: Columbia — state: South Carolina 29211

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	X unaltered	X original site
X good	___ ruins	___ altered	___ moved date _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Rasor and Clardy Company Building is a brick commercial building constructed ca. 1914 in the central business district of Mullins, South Carolina, for the Rasor and Clardy Company. The building has had very few alterations since its construction and effectively conveys the essence of an early twentieth century commercial enterprise.

Exterior: The Rasor and Clardy Company Building is a one-story, brick commercial building with a metal storefront and a stepped brick parapet. The facade (northeast elevation) has metal pilasters and a metal entablature framing two recessed entrances and their flanking glass display windows. There are two surviving metal pilasters; there was apparently a third, at the left end of the facade, that was removed at an unknown time. The pilasters have Tuscan capitals and support a full entablature with heavy modillions in the cornice. Each entrance on the facade has double glass doors with wooden stiles and rails and the original brass hardware. The glass display windows have bronze frames and marble panels beneath the windows. The ceilings of the display areas have wooden coffering. The floors of the entranceways are tiled, with colored tiles spelling out "Rasor & Clardy Co." Canvas awnings on metal frames shelter the entrances. In the area above the display windows and awnings and beneath the entablature, glass tiles are set between six bracing metal piers; red stained glass spells out the name "Rasor & Clardy Co." twice on the facade and once on the right (northwest) elevation. The parapet above the entablature is brick with a soldier course lowest and Flemish-bond brickwork above. There is a rectangular panel in the center of the parapet outlined by rowlock courses. The parapet has cement coping outlining stepped panels on the ends of the facade and a peaked panel in the center.

The storefront, with its metal entablature and glass display area, is carried around the right side for one bay. The bricks of the facade have textured surfaces; this brick is carried around the right side for one bay, after which a different brick without the surface texturing is used. The Flemish bond with raked joints is continuous from the facade. There are seven casement windows with single panels of wired glass along the upper reaches of this elevation. Each window is protected by metal bars. This elevation also has regular basement vents.

The left (southeast) elevation is a party wall. The rear of the building (northwest elevation) is of common brick laid in common bond. A central entrance with double doors and a metal awning is flanked by three bays on either side, each with a two-over-two, double-hung sash window on the main level and a small gallery window above. The southernmost bay of this elevation lacks the two-over-two window and instead has an off-center, smaller window. All windows of the south elevation have cement sills, wired glass, and metal security bars. A brick flue and three metal downspouts are also on this elevation.

The Rasor and Clardy Building has a flat built-up roof behind its parapet, with a small frame structure towards the rear enclosing an air-conditioning unit.

Interior: The interior of the Rasor and Clardy Company Building is open with ceilings approximately twenty feet high. A mezzanine level extends over the rear portion of the store; a gallery runs along the north wall at the same level. A row of wooden paneled pillars carrying the load of the roof beams runs down the center of the store. The floor of the building is heart pine over a concrete base. The walls are plastered. A pressed-metal cornice and ceiling is carried through the building. The cornice has an

CONTINUED

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	X architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	
___ 1800–1899	X commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ theater
X 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ transportation
		___ invention		___ other (specify)

Specific dates ca. 1914 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Rasor and Clardy Company Building, located in the central business district of Mullins, South Carolina, is a well-preserved and largely unaltered early twentieth century vernacular commercial building. The brick building, constructed ca. 1914 for the Rasor and Clardy Company, is representative of the prevalent mode of commercial building design. In addition, the store is significant as the most intact early twentieth-century commercial building remaining in Mullins and one of the most intact such buildings in the state.

Additional Information: On 1 May 1914 Rasor and Clardy Company purchased a lot measuring 55 feet by 126 feet in downtown Mullins from George Yarboro.[1] Plans for the construction of a new commercial building on the lot were made immediately. A covenant between George Yarboro and the Rasor and Clardy Company for a party wall, dated 1 May 1914, signaled the construction.[2] The new building was one of the largest commercial buildings that had been constructed in the small town of Mullins.[3] The Rasor and Clardy Company, which occupied the building, sold men's and ladies' clothing and accessories. The company remained in business under the same name with the same families owning the property until 1975.[4] In 1978 the store was purchased by its present owners, N. Bryant Cooper and Franklin B. Cooper.[5] The store is currently being utilized as a real estate office and a retail store.

Architecture: The Rasor and Clardy Company Building is representative of a vernacular commercial building mode that developed in the United States by the late nineteenth century. The mode was defined by an elaborate facade containing a sheltered entrance and plate-glass display areas, and a longitudinal hall on the interior for the display of merchandise. This basic form could be elaborated with diverse stylistic elements, which were often worked in cast iron or other metals. The Rasor and Clardy Building exemplifies this form, with two sheltered entrances recessed in the facade and flanking plate-glass display areas on both sides. The facade of the building is articulated with classical pilasters and an entablature, which help give visual order to the composition. The Rasor and Clardy Building is noteworthy for the quality of the workmanship and the materials, including the metalwork, the stained glass and glass tile, the mosaic tiles of the entranceways, the wooden coffered ceilings of the display windows, and the pressed-metal interior cornices and ceilings. The brickwork of the building is also noteworthy, with three different grades of brick utilized: fine textured brick laid in Flemish bond with raked joints on the facade, untextured brick in Flemish bond on the one exposed side wall, and common brick in common bond with flush joints on the rear and on the party wall. The exceptional state of preservation of the Rasor and Clardy Building is noteworthy as well.

Commerce: Many commercial buildings were constructed in small towns across South Carolina during the prosperous early years of the twentieth century; however, most of these stores have been substantially altered or destroyed. The Rasor and Clardy Company Building remains essentially intact, retaining many of its early interior furnishings. This high degree of integrity, particularly of its interior, makes Rasor and Clardy a significant illustration of commercial enterprise in the early twentieth century.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approximately .16

Quadrangle name Mullins, S.C. **Quadrangle scale** 1:24000

UMT References

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A	17	660840	3785920	B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification The boundary of the Rasor and Clardy Company Building nomination is shown as the red line on the accompanying Marion County Tax Map, #6, which is drawn at a scale of 100 feet to the inch. The nominated property includes the significant building.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	NA	code	county	NA	code
state	NA	code	county	NA	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Mr. Edwin P. Rogers, Jr. Historic Preservation Planner		John Wells, Mary Watson S.C. Dept. of Archives & History
organization	Pee Dee Regional Council of Governments	date	July 7, 1982
street & number	Post Office Box 5719	telephone	(803) 669-3138
city or town	Florence	state	South Carolina 29502

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state X local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89–665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Charles E. Lee Sept 7, 1982

title Charles E. Lee
State Historic Preservation Officer **date**

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Delores Byers Entered in the National Register **date** 10/29/82

for **Keeper of the National Register**

Attest: **date**

Chief of Registration

anthemion motif, while the squares of the ceiling have patterns of bead-and-reel and egg-and-dart molding.

The building has built-in display shelves and cabinets along its northwest and southeast walls and along the center of the building between the supporting pillars. On the southeast wall is a Stetson hat display case with a three-faceted mirror. Two enclosed dressing rooms are at the rear of the building on the southeast side; a built-in counter, or service desk, is on the north side. A steel safe marked "Rasor & Clardy," manufactured by the Cary Safe Co. of Buffalo, New York, is behind the counter. A large staircase rises from the rear of the store to the mezzanine level, which was originally used for merchandise display. The balcony of the mezzanine is intact, although the mezzanine itself has been closed in for the accommodation of storage and mechanical services.

Bibliography

Cooper, N. Bryant. Mullins, S.C. Interview, 18 March 1982.

Marion, S.C. Marion County Records Building. Deed Book A-5; Covenant Between George Yarboro and Rasor and Clardy Company, 1 May 1914.

Sanborn Map Company. Mullins, Marion County, South Carolina. New York: Sanborn Map Co., 1924.

Rasor and Clardy Company Building
Footnotes

[1]Marion County Deed Book A-5, p. 225, Marion County Records Building, Marion, S.C.

[2]Covenant Between George Yarboro and Rasor and Clardy Company, 1 May 1914, Marion County Records Building.

[3]Sanborn Map Company, Mullins, Marion County, South Carolina (New York: Sanborn Map Co., 1924).

[4]Interview with N. Bryant Cooper, Mullins, S.C., 18 March 1982.

[5]Ibid.