NPS Form 10-900
(7-81)

OMB NO. [illegible]
EXP. 12/31/[illegible]

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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

For NPS use only
received MAY 20 1982
date entered

1. Name

historic Mount Carmel Historic District

and/or common

2. Location SC 823 and SC 81

street & number Located along SC 81 (Main Street), SC 823, and Secondary Roads 33-95, 33-303 and 33-91 and including portions of the Seaboard Coastline R.R. Right-of-Way — N/A not for publication

city, town Mount Carmel — N/A vicinity of ~~congressional district~~

state South Carolina **code** 045 **county** McCormick **code** 065

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership (see continuation sheet)

street & number

city, town ___ vicinity of **state**

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. McCormick County Courthouse

street & number Augusta Road

city, town McCormick **state** South Carolina 29835

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1980 ___ 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	_X_ deteriorated	_X_ unaltered	_X_ original site
_X_ good	___ ruins	_X_ altered	___ moved date _____
_X_ fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Mount Carmel is a small town in rural northwestern McCormick County that developed in the 1880s, contemporary with the development of the Savannah Valley Railroad. The community was a flourishing village by the turn of the century. Mount Carmel Historic District is located in the heart of the town and contains a high concentration of buildings constructed during the town's period of prosperity. Included in the district are residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial buildings, located in an irregular pattern adjacent to the railroad tracks. The district maintains integrity as a turn-of-the-century community; of the fifty-one properties contained in the boundaries, forty contribute to the historic character of the district. Several of the remaining buildings were also constructed around the turn-of-the-century and have potential to contribute to the historic character should they be properly restored.

Properties defining the historic character of the district:

9. Baker's Store, ca. 1890. A one-story, weatherboarded commercial building with a gable roof. The facade features a central double door with an arched fanlight flanked by large, round-arched windows covered by paneled shutters. A shed-roofed wing covered with corrugated metal has been attached to the right elevation.

15. John Cade House, ca. 1890. A two-story, frame residence with a hip roof and cross gables. A central pavilion features a gable emblazoned with the Masonic emblem. A one-story, hip-roofed porch has plain columns. A pent roof divides the first and second stories. Single-story,gabled wings on the side elevations have porches with chamfered posts, sawn brackets, and lattice balustrades. The chimneys have corbeled caps. Among the outbuildings are a blacksmith's forge and a doll house.

18. John W. Morrah House, 1896. A two-story, weatherboarded residence with a hip-and-gable roof. A one-story, hip-roofed porch has turned posts, a spool-and-spindle balustrade and frieze, sawn brackets,and a denticulated cornice. The chimneys have corbeled caps. Polygonal bays on the facade and right elevation have gables with small stained glass windows and wooden shingles in the gable ends. A small jerkinhead gable is set above the main, hipped roof. Among the outbuildings are a buggy house, pump house, saddle house, cook house, and doll house, all in excellent condition. The building was designed by architect Lewis F. Goodrich of Augusta, Georgia.

25. Mount Carmel ARP Church, ca. 1886. A frame meeting house with a gable roof. The facade has a central,recessed porch framed by a broad archway with sawn trim along the intrados of the arch. The central double door has a five-light transom and a pedimented architrave with console brackets. The building has corner pilasters and five pedimented windows with louvered shutters on each side. The rear has a polygonal chancel with pedimented windows.

Other properties contributing to the historic character of the district:

1. Caldwell Hill. A vacant, forested property, which local tradition indicates was the site of the Mount Carmel Academy.

2. Conner House, ca. 1910. A one-story, frame building sheathed in weatherboard with a hip roof. Twin gables on the facade have pent roofs. Two interior chimneys have corbeled caps.

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	___ theater	
X 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation	
X 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	X other (specify) local history	
		___ invention			

Specific dates N/A **Builder/Architect** N/A

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Mount Carmel Historic District is located in the village of Mount Carmel in rural northwestern McCormick County, South Carolina. The district contains forty properties, including residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial buildings, and is a good example of a turn-of-the-century trading village. Mount Carmel Historic District includes a collection of buildings which represent a range of late nineteenth and early twentieth century vernacular architectural modes. In addition, the village is significant in the history of the area as a commercial center.

Additional Information:

References to Mount Carmel exist as early as 1836 in the journal of Mary Moragne. Mary's eldest sister was enrolled in an academy there, and she gives a lively account of the academy's May Day festivities at which she was a guest.[1] An advertisement in the Abbeville Banner of 11 November 1846 for Mount Carmel Academy's January term suggests that the school was in operation at least as late as 1847.[2] Local tradition holds that it was located on Caldwell Hill, and it is possible that an archeological investigation of the area might prove fruitful.

Mount Carmel served the surrounding farmers as a trading center but remained a small, sleepy community until the 1880s. In 1885 a post office was established at Mount Carmel, and by 1886 the Savannah Valley Railroad ran through the community. In this same period the Lodimont Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church moved to Mount Carmel and took the name of the town.[3] These three events apparently spurred development and growth in the village. By 1894 there were five general merchandise stores, a furniture and vehicle store, a druggist, a confectionary, a grocery, a carriage maker, two blacksmiths, two gins, a shoe shop, four white churches, and three black churches. There were approximately 300 inhabitants.[4]

In the summer of 1896 a portion of the town was destroyed by fire. The home of J. W. Morrah was burglarized and set afire. In the commotion, a lamp was overturned in Mrs. Burdett's store, triggering a second fire which destroyed approximately four residences and twelve businesses. J. L. Covin and J. W. Morrah rebuilt their homes on the sites of their destroyed residences (#10, #18). Several of the frame commercial buildings were replaced by brick stores (#17) constructed of materials made in D. B. Cades brickyard, once located on the site now occupied by Hester's gin (#47).[5]

The town was officially incorporated on 4 August 1906 with John L. Cade as its first intendant.[6] The years of prosperity Mount Carmel had seen just prior to the turn of the century began to wane not long thereafter. With the development of the automobile, which reduced dependence on the railroad, residents began to move away to industrial centers in search of jobs. The boll weevil infestation of 1921 devastated Mount Carmel and the surrounding cotton producing areas. The final blow to the prosperity of the community was dealt by the depression of the 1930s.[7]

CONTINUED

9. Major Bibliographical References

UTM NOT VERIFIED

See continuation sheet

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approximately 85

Quadrangle name Calhoun Falls, S.C.-Ga. **Quadrangle scale** 1:24000

UMT References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	17	361120	3176451010
B	17	361092122	3176132310
C	17	360345	3176132120
D	17	360640	3176145310
E			
F			
G			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification The boundary of the Mount Carmel Historic District nomination is shown as the red line on the accompanying McCormick County Tax Maps, #ASY 5LL26R and #ASY 5LL27R, which are drawn to the scale of 1 inch = 330 feet. The nominated property includes the largest concentration of contributing properties with the least number of noncontributing in Mount Carmel.

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

state	N/A	**code**	**county**	N/A	**code**
state	N/A	**code**	**county**	N/A	**code**

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Suzanne P. Wylie
John E. Wells

John C. Blythe, Jr.
Upper Savannah Council of Governments
(803) 229-6627

organization S.C. Dept. of Archives and History **date** March 22, 1982

street & number Post Office Box 11,669 **telephone** (803) 758-5816

city or town Columbia **state** South Carolina 29211

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 May 4, 1982

Charles E. Lee

title State Historic Preservation Officer **date**

For NPS use only

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

William H. Bradham **date** 6.22.82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: **date**

Chief of Registration

Ms. Mary S. Curry
7812 Lee Avenue
Alexandria, Virginia 22308

Mr. Tracy Fortson
(J. L. Covin Estate)
Lincolnton, Georgia 30817

Frances Patricia Hester
Laura Elizabeth Hester
Post Office Box 529
Mount Carmel, South Carolina 29840

Mr. J. P. Hester
(Carrie M. Hester Estate)
Post Office Box 529
Mount Carmel, South Carolina 29840

Mr. J. P. Hester
(Georgia Mars Estate)
Mount Carmel, South Carolina 29840

Mr. J. P. Hester
Post Office Box 529
Mount Carmel, South Carolina 29840

Ms. Jean S. Hicks
2608 York Road
Raleigh, North Carolina 27608

Bodie J. Jones
(Lillian M. Bell Estate)
296 Tate Street
Elberton, Georgia 30635

Mrs. Catherine McAllister
Post Office Drawer 531
Mount Carmel, South Carolina 29840

Mr. John A. McAllister
(Seaboard Coastline Railroad)
Post Office Drawer 531
Mount Carmel, South Carolina 29840

Mr. John McAllister
(Mount Carmel A.R.P. Church)
Post Office Drawer 531
Mount Carmel, South Carolina 29840

Mr. John A. McAllister
(Mount Carmel Community Trustees)
Post Office Drawer 531
Mount Carmel, South Carolina 29840

Mr. John A. McAllister
Post Office Drawer 531
Mount Carmel, South Carolina 29840

Mr. John A. McAllister, Jr.
(Edna D. Morrah)
Post Office Drawer 531
Mount Carmel, South Carolina 29840

Mr. John A. McAllister, Jr.
Post Office Drawer 531
Mount Carmel, South Carolina 29840

Ms. Louise Sutherland McGill
11 Carroll Lane
Greenville, South Carolina 29605

Mrs. Helen Smith Sutherland
310 Windsor Road
Savannah, Georgia 31406

Mr. James B. Sutherland
293 Atwood Drive, Northwest
Marietta, Georgia 30068

Mr. John A. McAllister
(J. Robert Scott)
Post Office Drawer 531
Mount Carmel, South Carolina 29840

3. Flowe-Scott House, ca. 1910. A one-and-one-half-story, weatherboarded residence with a pressed metal shingle roof. The front gable has a tripartite window.

4. McAllister-White House, ca. 1893. A one-story, L-shaped, frame house. A shed-roofed porch has turned posts and a plain balustrade. The entrance door has a Queen Anne window.

5. Dr. P. K. Black House, 1891. A one-story, U-shaped, frame residence. The porch has chamfered posts and sawn brackets. The yard is defined by a wrought iron fence.

6A. Ramie Outbuildings, ca. 1900. A well house and a well shed with a pyramidal roof supported by chamfered posts. The Ramie residence burned ca. 1940.

8. Baker-Boyd House, ca. 1890. A two-story, central-hall, frame residence. The facade has a one-story, hip-roofed porch with chamfered posts, turned balusters,and sawn brackets. The second story has a smaller porch with a similar balustrade. The house has three bays and two end chimneys.

10. J. L. Covin House, 1896. A two-story, weatherboarded residence with a central-hall plan, five bays, and a hip roof. The six-over-six windows have louvered shutters. The one-story, hip-roofed porch has colonnettes with Scamozzi capitals.

11. Kay's Millinery Store, ca. 1896. A one-story, frame commercial building. The gable roof projects with chamfered supporting brackets to shelter the facade. The central double door has a four-light transom and is flanked by large windows with paneled shutters.

12A. Todd's Store, ca. 1900. A one-story, brick commercial building with a gable roof. A rat-tooth brick cornice decorates the parapet. A shed-roofed porch across the facade is supported by rough-hewn posts.

12B. U.S. Post Office, ca. 1905. A one-story, brick building constructed as an addition to the Todd's Store Building (#12A). The rat-tooth brick course and shed-roofed porch are repeated.

19. Frazier-Heard-McAllister House, ca. 1885. A two-story, weatherboarded residence with a gable roof. The windows are six-over-six and have architrave surrounds. Three peaked gables on the facade have boxed cornices with returns. An attached latticework well house with gable and pent roofs is to the right rear. The roofing is pressed metal shingles.

22. Barn, unknown date. A weatherboarded barn with a gable roof and shed wings.(no photo)

23. Carrie Johnson House, ca. 1915. A one-story, weatherboarded residence with a gable roof. The shed-roofed porch has simple post supports and a plain balustrade.

24. Frith-McCelvey-Hester House, ca.1870, ca.1920. A one-and-one-half-story residence with weatherboard siding and a pressed metal gable roof. Three shed-roofed dormers with eight-over-eight windows pierce the front slope of the roof. A recessed porch has plain wooden posts set on brick pillars. The central entrance has sidelights and a transom.

26. Vacant grassy lot.

27. Murray-Tarrant-White House, ca. 1910. A one-and-one-half-story, frame residence sheathed in weatherboard. The standing seam metal gable roof has a central shed dormer on the facade with an eighteen-light window. A hip-roofed porch across the facade has tapered wooden pillars on brick piers.

28. Paschal-Patterson House, ca. 1890. A one-story, weatherboarded, U-shaped residence with a gable roof. The hip-roofed porch on the facade and right elevation is supported by paired posts. Twin gables on the facade and side elevations have sawn bargeboards and louvered vents. The double door entrance has sidelights and a transom.

29. Mount Carmel School, ca. 1894, ca. 1930. A one-story, L-shaped, frame building with a gable roof. Originally a three-room school, the building was renovated ca. 1930, and one room was removed. The building has a gabled porch with tapered wooden posts on stone piers. The roof has exposed rafter ends and diagonal purlin brackets. The building is currently used as a community center.

30. Jake Paul House, ca. 1900. A one-story, frame tenant house sheathed in weatherboard. The gable roof has a boxed cornice with returns. The shed porch on the facade has cedar posts. The house has an exterior chimney with a corbeled cap.

31. Vacant forested property.

32. Vacant forested property.

33. Vacant forested property.

34. Vacant forested property.

35. J. F. Sutherland House, ca. 1895. A one-story, weatherboarded residence. The building has twin gables with boxed cornices with returns and peaked louvered vents on the facade. The facade has a hip-roofed porch, which extends around the right elevation and which has plain posts with brackets. A gabled ell at the rear appears to predate the main portion of this house.

36. Miller-Horton-Bell House, ca. 1910. A two-story, central-hall, frame residence. The house has a gable roof and two end chimneys with corbeled caps. The central front gable has a round-headed louvered vent.

39. Bank of Mount Carmel, ca. 1905. A small one-story, brick commercial building. The facade has a metal cornice with modillion blocks. Regular courses of brickwork on the facade are recessed, simulating rusticated stonemasonry. The facade has a large arched window and a single door; this window, as well as the side windows, have been closed with cinderblock.

41. Knox-Curtis House, ca. 1895. A one-story, U-shaped, frame residence. The building has a steep hipped roof and twin gables with boxed cornices and diamond-shaped attic vents on the facade.

42. Lane-Smith House, ca. 1890. A one-story, weatherboarded residence with a gable roof. The core of the house is of log construction. The double-door entrance has multi-paned sidelights and transom.

43. Mount Carmel Presbyterian Church, ca. 1890. A frame meeting house with a gable roof. The facade has a central double door with a stained-glass,pointed-arch transom and flanking lancet windows with louvered shutters. Each side elevation has four round-arched windows with louvered shutters. The rear has a projecting, polygonal chancel.

44. McKellar-Hardeway House, ca. 1890. A one-story, frame residence sheathed in weatherboard with a gable roof. The gable ends have boxed cornices with returns and diamond-shaped louvered vents.

45. G. Smith House, ca. 1890. A one-and-one-half-story, frame residence with a hip-and-gable roof and weatherboard siding. Three steep front gables have peaked attic vents. A hip-roofed porch spanning the facade has four cedar posts.

46. Thrift House, ca. 1885. A one-and-one-half-story, weatherboarded residence with a gable roof and corner pilasters. The six-over-six light windows have architrave surrounds.

47. Hester Gin and Grist Mill, ca. 1890. A two-story, brick building with a stepped parapet. A shed-roofed porch on the facade has wooden posts. Windows and doors have segmental brick arches. A frame barn on the property, associated with the mill building, is collapsing.

48. Warehouse, ca. 1890. A long, rectangular, frame warehouse with a gable roof adjacent to the old railway right-of-way. The building has always been used for storage.

49. Tenant House, ca. 1900. A one-story, frame residence with board and batten siding and a gable roof. There is one central chimney and a shed-roofed porch on the facade.

Properties which do not contribute to the historic character of the district:

6. W. A. Scott House, ca. 1940. A brick veneer residence with a gabled portico.

7. John McAllister House, 1959. A one-story, brick ranch house. Several large outbuildings are on the property.

13. McAllister Furniture, Building #2, ca. 1955. A one-story, commercial building sheathed in composition and metal siding with a low gable roof.

14. Archie Jones House, ca. 1910. A one-story, frame residence that has been altered by the application of composition siding. Two silos stand in front of the house.

16. Mount Carmel Depot. ca. 1886. A frame building constructed when the Savannah Valley Railroad came through. The original weatherboarding has been removed,and the building has been sheathed with metal siding.

17. McAllister Furniture Store. A range of seven brick commercial buildings dating from ca. 1894 and later. The buildings have been altered by a new porch and corrugated metal sheathing which obscure the original facades.

20. Storage Building. A large,metal-sheathed storage building with a gable roof.

21. Shed, ca. 1940. A corrugated metal shed with a gable roof.

37. Clark Boyd House, ca. 1900. A one-story, L-shaped residence that has been altered with the application of composition siding. The building is currently used for storage. A U.S. Post Office trailer is also located on the property. The building has potential to contribute to the historic character of the district, should the original siding be restored.

38. Billy Miller House, ca. 1900. A one-and-one-half-story, frame residence with a gable roof. The house has been altered through the application of composition siding. The building has potential to contribute to the historic character of the district, should the original siding be restored.

40. Vacant lot. A vacant lot used for materials dumping and equipment parking.

Today Mount Carmel is little changed from the early 1900s. Only two viable businesses remain and only two modern houses have been constructed within the district since that time. The population is 182; most residents live in new homes on the outskirts of the town limits.

Architecture: The history of Mount Carmel, during its period of greatest prosperity between 1885 and 1920, is effectively conveyed by the surviving buildings of the historic district. Over thirty buildings dating from that time frame define the district. The decline of the community from the 1920s and the relative absence of contemporary development have helped to preserve the integrity of the district from that period and to maintain the rustic sense of time and place. Most of the older buildings in the Mount Carmel Historic District are in relatively original condition.

The district comprises a body of vernacular frame buildings, residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial; the few key cultural buildings invoke some elements of high style. The John W. Morrah House (#18), the home of a wealthy and prominent family, was designed by architect Lewis F. Goodrich of Augusta, Georgia, incorporating the picturesque asymmetry, the multiple material textures, the polygonal bays, and the carpenter's ornamentation of the Queen Anne style. The Bank of Mount Carmel (#39) utilizes a Neoclassical metal cornice and masonry construction with simulated rustication in its brickwork to assert its importance. The old Baker's Store (#9) is distinguished by its temple form and by its elaborate arched doors and windows. The Mount Carmel A.R.P. Church (#25) has a distinctive recessed entrance porch beneath a broad arch with sawn decoration on its intrados.

The majority of the buildings in the district, residences of persons of modest income, follow the vernacular building modes that were common in the state through all its history. The single-pile central-hall farmhouse is well represented in such buildings as the Miller-Horton-Bell House (#36), the J. L. Covin House (#10), and the Baker-Boyd House (#8). Other vernacular dwellings in the district include the Paschal-Patterson House (#28) and the Murray-Tarrant-White House (#27), which has a simple front porch of the bungalow mode. The Tenant House (#49) is a representative vernacular house of the lower-income citizens: a one-story, two-room, frame house with a central chimney, a simple porch on the facade, and a shed-roofed rear addition.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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The Centennial History of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. Charleston, S.C.: Walker, Evans & Cogswell Co., 1905.

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McAllister, Johnny. "French Huguenots Settled Mount Carmel and Bordeaux." The McCormick Messenger (McCormick, S.C.), 1 July 1976.

Petit, Karen. "Town Fights to Live." Anderson Independent Daily Mail (Anderson, S.C.), 9 April 1978.

Press and Banner (Abbeville, S.C.), 24 February 1886; 22 August 1894; 5 August 1896; 9 September 1896.

Mount Carmel Historic District
Footnotes

[1]Delle Mullen Craven, ed., The Neglected Thread: A Journal from the Calhoun Community (Columbia, S.C.: University of South Carolina Press, 1951), pp. 8, 11, 35-36.

[2]Abbeville Banner (Abbeville, S.C.), 11 November 1846.

[3]James A. Paulauskas, National Archives and Records Service, to John C. Blythe, Jr., 16 December 1980; Johnny McAllister, "French Huguenots Settled Mount Carmel and Bordeaux," The McCormick Messenger (McCormick, S.C.), 1 July 1976, p. 4C; Louise Ervin, "They Won't Give Up," Anderson Independent (Anderson, S.C.), 26 May 1974, p. 1D; The Press and Banner (Abbeville, S.C.), 24 February 1886; The Press and Banner (Abbeville, S.C.), 5 August 1896. The Centennial of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (Charleston, S.C.: Walker, Evans, & Cogswell Co., 1905), p. 506-507.

[4]"Mount Carmel," Press and Banner (Abbeville, S.C.), 22 August 1894.

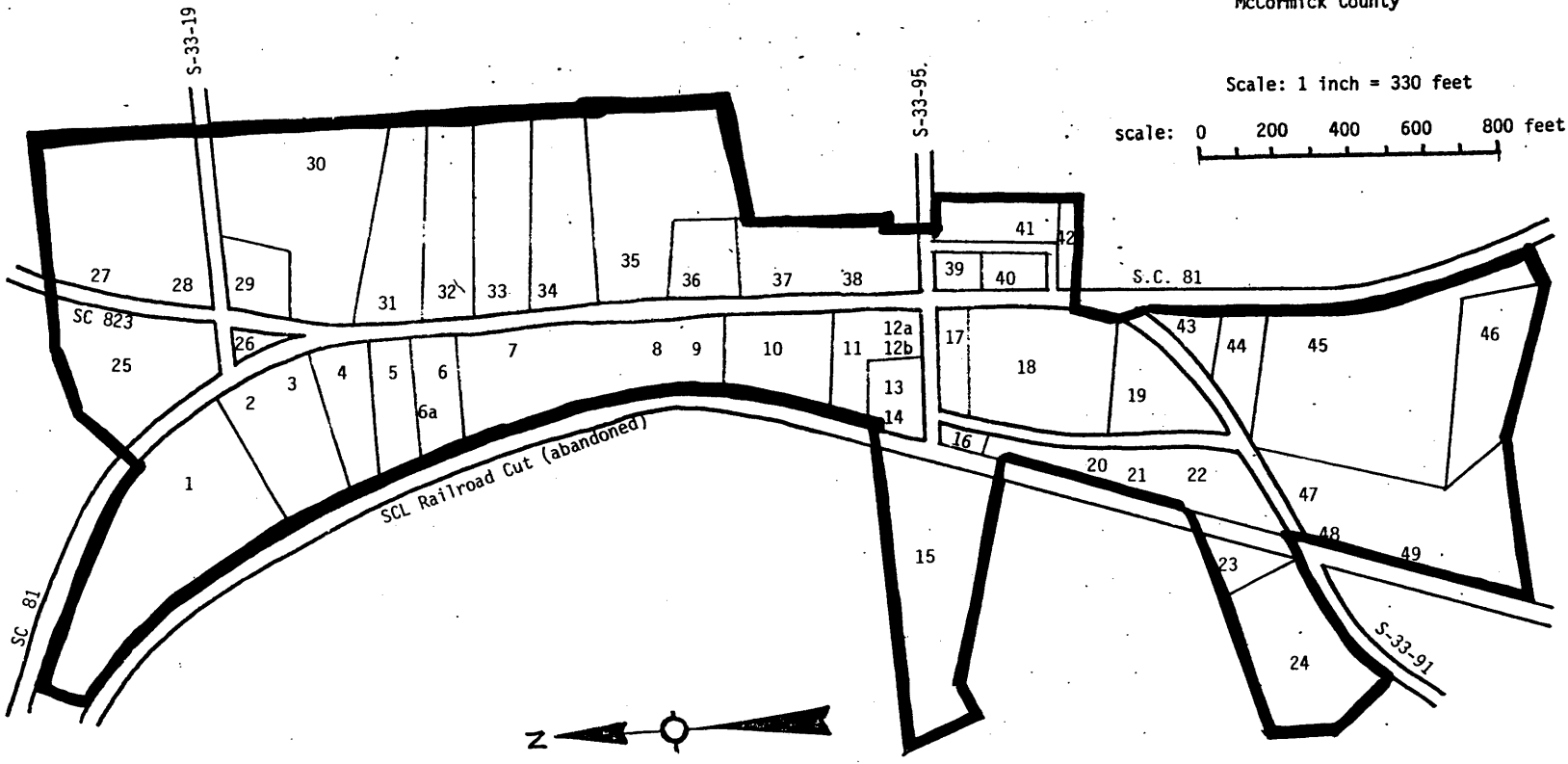
[5]The Press and Banner, 5 August 1896; The Press and Banner, 9 September 1896; McAllister; Dora Bryson, "History of the Town of Mount Carmel," 1970. [Typewritten.]

[6]Acts and Joint Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina Passed at the Regular Session of 1907 (Columbia, S.C.: Gonzales and Bryan, 1907), p. 857.

[7]McAllister; Ervin; Karen Petit, "Town Fights to Live," Anderson Independent Daily Mail (Anderson, S.C.), 9 April 1978.

MOUNT CARMEL HISTORIC DISTRICT

McCormick County

Scale: 1 inch = 330 feet

scale: 0 200 400 600 800 feet