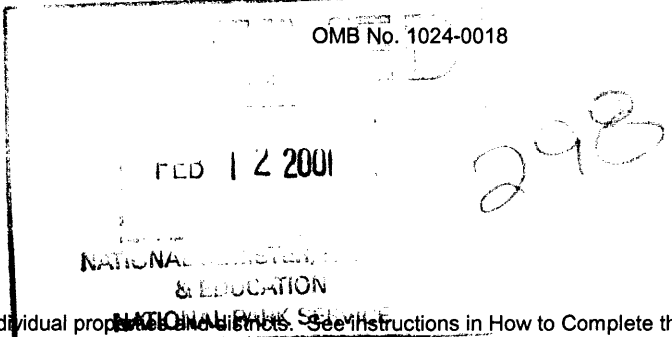


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Cope Depot
other names/site number Manchester and Augusta Railroad Station in Cope

2. Location

street & number Cope Road not for publication
city or town Cope vicinity _____
state South Carolina code SC county Orangeburg code 075 zip code 29038

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Mary W. Edmonds 2/6/01
Signature of certifying official Date

Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, S.C. Dept. of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the
National Register

See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the
National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain):

Edson H. Beall 3/29/01
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Cope Depot
Name of Property

Orangeburg County, South Carolina
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: Transportation

Subcategory: Rail-related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: Commerce

Subcategory: Warehouse

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and Early 20th Century
Movements

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete
walls Wood/Weatherboard
roof Metal
other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Cope Depot
Name of Property

Orangeburg County, South Carolina
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 a grave.
- d a cemetery.
- e a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- f a commemorative property.
- g less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Transportation
Community Planning and
Development

Period of Significance

1893-1950

Significant Dates

1893

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository:
Orangeburg County Court House

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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Cope Depot
Name of Property
Orangeburg County, South Carolina
County and State

The Cope Depot, also known as the Manchester and Augusta Railroad Station, is located on Cope Road in the center of the town of Cope, in southern Orangeburg County. Built in 1893, it is typical of frame railroad depots constructed during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

The Cope Depot is a one-story, gable-end, linear frame building set on a 6'x6' concrete piling foundation and clad in vertical board and batten planks. The metal clad roof shelters the building in a typical fashion with wide overhanging eaves supported by knee braces on the principal gable end and elongated curved wooden brackets along both side elevations. Other design features of the building include a heavy wooden water table, an additional horizontal wood rail at window sill level, and a simple king-post type vergeboard with pendant in the gable. A single-leaf horizontal paneled wood door is accessed by wooden steps on the principal gable end, while to its left is a single six-over-six, double-hung sash window. Other windows and pedestrian doors throughout the building are identical to these. In the gable is a typical simple wood plaque with the name Cope painted on it to identify the railroad stop for visitors and railroad personnel.

The depot features two passenger waiting rooms. The first, entered only from the exterior, features a ticket window and was heated by a coal-burning stove. The second, entered from the ticket and telegraph office or the track side of the depot, houses the coal bin but no stove. Both waiting rooms feature six-over-six windows and single-leaf paneled doors. A square projecting station master's office bay window, featuring paired windows facing the tracks and single windows on either side to provide clear vision down the track in either direction, is still in place.

Two brick, corbel-capped chimneys, one of which likely served the one waiting room and the other the ticket and telegraph office, extend through and rise above the V-crimp sheet-metal roof at the roof ridge and southern slope.

The staging area consists of a rough-hewn wooden floor with 6'x6' rough-hewn columns and a double cargo door entering the larger of two warehouse areas. The larger warehouse area features two additional cargo doors, one on either side of the building. The smaller warehouse area also features two double cargo doors, one on either side of the building, and a single door entering the combined ticket and telegraph office; the office contains its original desk and pot-bellied stove. A raised loading and unloading platform runs along three-fourths of the side of the building facing the tracks, is accessed at the station master's office window, and connects with the large metal-clad roofed open-air cargo platform extending to the east toward First Street.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

Cope Depot
Name of Property
Orangeburg County, South Carolina
County and State

The Cope Depot, built in 1893 as a station on the Manchester and Augusta Railroad, is significant as the building around which the town of Cope developed in the late nineteenth century, and as an excellent example of the typical frame construction of combined passenger and freight depots of its day.

In June 1893 the Manchester and Augusta Railroad, seeking to extend its rail service from its terminus at Remini, in Sumter County, to Denmark, in Bamberg County, purchased a parcel from Orangeburg County farmer Jacob Martin Cope for \$675.00. This parcel, 130' wide, ran diagonally through Cope's farm, cutting it in half, and soon became the location for the new tracks and right-of-way; the depot, first known as Cope's Station, was built later that year.

A year later Cope sold a second parcel of about 25 acres, centered on the new depot, to the Pee Dee Land Company for \$1.00, in order to establish a town around the station. The town of Cope, named for him, was chartered by the General Assembly in 1894 and described as

a rectangular parallelogram in form, whose centre shall be a point in the centre of the main track of the Manchester and Augusta Railroad immediately opposite the extreme Western corner of the depot known as Cope's Station . . .

This depot has been the literal and figurative center of the town since 1894.

Within a few years Cope boasted, in addition to the depot and several residences, a Methodist church, Baptist church, several mercantile stores, a drugstore, a grist mill, a cotton gin, and a planing mill; most area residents were farmers, whose fertilizer and seed arrived by rail at the Cope Depot. Many local farmers, growing cotton as their primary cash crop, brought their bales to the depot to be shipped to markets elsewhere. Sugar yams were perhaps the most common foodstuff shipped from the depot, with several cars departing a day, though crops such as asparagus, cucumbers, peas, potatoes, radishes, and tomatoes were also shipped out in large quantities. Hogs were perhaps the most common livestock shipped from the depot.

The Cope Depot also played a significant role in communication in the early history of the town through its connections to mail service, telegraph service, and telephone service. The mail was delivered by rail here until well into the twentieth century, and as early as 1899 Cope became one of the first three post offices in South Carolina to offer rural free delivery, with John S.C. Tatum as the first R.F.D. carrier. The ticket office here also served as the telegraph office for many years, and the first telephone line in Cope was between the depot office and the home of veteran depot ticket agent R.C. Carter, who moved to the town in 1908 and wanted to be able to keep in touch with his family.

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Section number 8 Page 7

Cope Depot
Name of Property
Orangeburg County, South Carolina
County and State

The depot ceased operation by the mid-1960s, but is still considered the focal point of Cope, whose commercial center now consists of a town hall, post office, volunteer fire department, general store, and cotton gin. The depot is now a warehouse, used occasionally for community activities by churches or civic groups; preliminary plans are now being made to rehabilitate it as a town museum.¹

¹ "An Act to Incorporate the Town of Cope, in Orangeburg County," No. 757, Statutes at Large of South Carolina (1894); Emma C. Waite, "History of the Town of Cope," 29 April 1939, unpublished typescript; Bennie M. Cope, "Cope," in Orangeburg County Tricentennial Souvenir Program, Orangeburg, S.C., 1970; Bennie M. Cope, "Days Gone By," The Times and Democrat (Orangeburg, S.C.), 11 July 1971.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 8

Cope Depot
Name of Property
Orangeburg County, South Carolina
County and State

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"An Act to Incorporate the Town of Cope, in Orangeburg County," Act No. 757, in
Statutes At Large of South Carolina (1894).

Cope, Bennie M. "Cope," in Orangeburg County Tricentennial Souvenir Program.
Orangeburg, S.C., 1970.

_____. "Days Gone By," The Times and Democrat (Orangeburg, S.C.), 11 July 1971.

Orangeburg County Courthouse, Orangeburg, S.C.
Deed Books 31 and 33

South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.
Office of the Secretary of State
Incorporation Charters

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 9

Cope Depot
Name of Property
Orangeburg County, South Carolina
County and State

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is shown as the black line marked "Cope Depot" on the accompanying Orangeburg County Tax Map 110-02, drawn at a scale of 1" = 100'.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property is restricted to the historic depot and its immediate surroundings.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number Photographs Page 10

Cope Depot
Name of Property
Orangeburg County, South Carolina
County and State

The following information is the same for each of the photographs:

Name of Property: Cope Depot
Location of Property: Cope Road, Cope
Orangeburg County, South Carolina

Name of Photographer: J. Tracy Power, South Carolina SHPO
Date of Photographs: October 2000
Location of Original Negatives: South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

1. West and south elevations
2. West and south elevations, detail
3. East and north elevations
4. East and north elevations, detail
5. East and south elevations
6. Office, detail
7. Detail of eaves and siding
8. West entrance detail