

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
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
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)

- Commerce/department store

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Vacant/Not In Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Commercial Gable-Front

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

Brick

foundation: Stone

walls: Weatherboard

Granite

roof: Metal

other:

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

Hester Store, in the Dacusville community of Pickens County, in upstate South Carolina, was built by Michael Washington Hester in 1893 and is a two-story, gable-front weatherboard commercial building on a combination brick-and-stone-pier foundation. Constructed with a steeply pitched, V-crimp metal clad roof, the store features a roughly square-cut ashlar granite facade and a full-width, single story, porch at grade supported by granite pillars. The granite façade and portico were added in 1933. It is in fair condition and has been abandoned since it closed in 1981. It is currently under rehabilitation for use as a small country store and tourist destination as well as a professional office.

Narrative Description

Hester Store is situated on the north side of Hester Store Road at its intersection with Thomas Mill Road in the Lathem section of the Dacusville community, approximately eight miles northeast of the city of Easley, in Pickens County. The landscape is open country that was used for farming, but now lays fallow. The store was constructed in 1893 by Michael Washington Hester. It is a two-story, two-bay-wide building clad in weatherboard on the side and rear elevations. The front [southeast elevation] is clad in granite and features a single story portico with granite pillars and a V-crimp metal roof (replaced in July 2012). It is believed that the granite facing and the porch were added in 1933 by the original owner's son.

The upper floor of the building's facade features two window openings with wood-framed double-hung sash and steel bars. A granite lintel extends from either outer side of the two windows and spans the wall space between the windows. The side elevations [both the northeast and southwest] feature no fenestration except for a single-leaf, five-paneled door near the rear [northwest] corner of the building. The rear [northwest] elevation features two shuttered windows on the first level and two corresponding six-over-six double-hung windows on the upper level.

The front entrance is centered within the porch and is accessed by a set of double-leaf screened doors and a pair of solid, five-paneled wood doors. Two large windows flank the entrance and feature six-over-six double-hung sashes. Entering the front doors, the main floor of the building consists of one large hall with a single turned balustraded wooden stair with landing and ball finial and turned newel posts near the rear of the room. Original wood shelves and display cases line either side of the room. A large, cast iron, pot belly stove sits in the middle of the room with a chimney flue rising through the ceiling to the second floor.

A single, secondary exit door can be found near the rear of the southwest elevation. At the rear of the store, along the northeast side elevation, is a small one-by-one bay, one-story gable-end wing with a shouldered brick chimney at the center of the gable end. As with the main block of the Hester Store, this wing is also clad in weatherboard siding and has a V-crimp metal clad roof. The wing's only fenestration consists of a framed door opening along its front [southwest] elevation that has been filled with diagonally-arranged planking. A brick fireplace is the main feature of the wing's interior space; however, its walls and flooring are of wood planking. A single door leads from this wing to the main room of the store.

The upstairs hall mirrors the lower floor configuration. It is one large room with wood floors and two six-over-six windows at the rear and front. A wood door between the two windows at the front originally led to a second floor porch. While the interior door remains, it simply opens to the solid granite wall that was placed on the façade in about 1933. The walls and ceiling are clad in bead board paneling.

In a rural and somewhat isolated area of Pickens County, Hester Store is positioned at the center of a Y-intersection of Thomas Mill and Hester Store roads. Other than the store, buildings in the immediate vicinity but not within the nominated boundaries include the Hester family home located across Hester Store Road and facing Thomas Mill Road, as well as two modern residences and an automotive commercial business across Hester Store Road.

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce

Period of Significance

1893-1962

Significant Dates

1893

1933

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

•

Cultural Affiliation

•

Architect/Builder

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- 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.

Period of Significance (justification)

The period 1893-1962 includes construction of the store, addition of the stone façade in 1933, and the period when it was a center of commerce in the Dacusville community.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria)

Hester Store, located in the Dacusville community of Pickens County, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for Commerce as an important example of a country store and mercantile business in the South Carolina Piedmont, one that operated from the last decade of the nineteenth century until the late twentieth century. A typical rural example of a commercial gable-front building, Hester Store was the centerpiece of the Hester family's holdings, which included a large farm, saw mill, cotton gin, and grist mill.¹ The Hester family first settled in the Dacusville community in 1813. Michael Washington Hester (1854-1920), one of the many grandsons of the family patriarch, was involved in both commerce and agriculture, and built the store in 1893. For many years the store served not only as a place of business, but also as a central meeting place within the Dacusville community.

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

Commerce

The Hester Store is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the area of Commerce as an intact example of a rural country store, an important element in the economic and social life of rural areas in South Carolina during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The Hester Store conveys a significant connection between local farmers in the Dacusville community and the larger agricultural economy of the state. Rural country stores like the Hester Store served as important sources of supplies and credit for farmers and were vital links in the agricultural economy in the decades after the Civil War and through the Great Depression.

Following the Civil War, the Southern plantation economy was in shambles. With the emancipation of the slaves, white landowners found themselves having to adopt a whole new way of life in order to survive. No longer were they slaveowners, but masters of a free labor force. They were forced to reach out beyond the four corners of their property and with this development came the increased importance of the country store.²

Before 1860, the country store had little significance. Plantations were self-contained islands that depended wholly on themselves. But the end of the war brought many changes. Without slave labor, landowners and yeomen farmers were dependent on other means of surviving. A complex system was developed consisting of three types of laborers: sharecroppers, share tenants, and cash tenants. In instituting this system, the economy of the New South was born, and it only served to reinforce the power of the merchant class.³

Country stores quickly took off after the war. By the turn of the twentieth century, there were 150,653 stores in the South.⁴ Michael Washington Hester took advantage of this boom and began keeping a shop in 1876 in addition to managing a farm along with his two brothers and mother in the small community of Dacusville, South Carolina. He purchased an additional one hundred acres in an attempt to diversify his holdings. But following his marriage, Michael and his wife moved three miles up the road and bought a farm. It was on this

¹ Herbert Gottfried and Jan Jennings, *American Vernacular Design, 1870-1940*, Second Edition (Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press, 1988), p. 247.

² Lacy K. Ford, "Rednecks and Merchants: Economic Development and Social Tensions in the South Carolina Upcountry, 1865-1900," *Journal of American History* 71:2 (September 1984), 303.

³ Charles S. Aiken, *The Cotton Plantation South since the Civil War* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 2003), p. 35.

⁴ Edward L. Ayers, *The Promise of the New South: Life After the Reconstruction* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1992), p. 83.

property, located at the crossroads of Thomas Mill Road and Hester Store Road, that Michael began building his new store. In March 1893, *The Pickens Sentinel* reported, “M.W. Hester has lumber on the ground and is preparing to build store with a large hall.”⁵

But Hester did not have the monopoly on commerce in and around Dacusville. According to a State Board of Agriculture report issued in 1883, there were two stores in the area.⁶ These two stores were most assuredly the first Hester Store and the Hendricks Store, which was located at the crossroads of Highway 135 and Highway 186, some five miles from Hester Store. Hendricks General Merchandise was owned by B.L. Hendricks, Sr., although the store was originally constructed by his father-in-law, E.L. Jones some years before. The building is extant and is now used for the Dacusville Farmer’s Market.

Another well known area store was the Fendley Store. Built sometime after the report of 1883, it was originally owned by Thomas Julian, who also maintained a cotton gin on the property. In 1928, two brothers—Jim and John Fendley—purchased the store and cotton gin, and eventually had a blacksmith shop, corn mill, grist mill, and saw mill.⁷

It was common to have several stores serving one community. The more stores there were, the more important it was for a store to either specialize in a certain kind of merchandise or to diversify its holdings. Nevertheless, the rate of failure for stores was high; a third of these stores would fail within five years. After all, it was easy to open a mercantile as only \$500 to \$2000 was needed for capital.⁸

Hester Store evaded this trap—the store operated until well into the twentieth century. There are many reasons for this. Michael Hester offered many services pertinent to the Dacusville community. In addition to the store, Hester maintained a cotton gin, a saw mill, a blacksmith’s shop, a grist mill, and a myriad of storage buildings. These other buildings are no longer extant. Operating a community cotton gin was very lucrative source of income simply because farmers could bring their crop to be ginned and either pay their year’s bill or obtain credit for the coming year.⁹ Indeed, credit was the biggest money maker for a merchant and not the selling of merchandise. Country stores acted as de facto banks in rural South Carolina. The only thing a rural merchant needed to obtain a monopoly on all necessities was credit. He simply insisted that a farmer patronize only his store in order to obtain the goods and services he needed—on credit, of course.¹⁰ Few farmers were able to buy with cash; as long as a merchant protected his control of credit, he could control the farmer’s commercial activities. The new labor system only aided this monopoly. Cash tenants and yeomen farmers were indebted to the store; they willingly put liens on their future crops. If they were successful, they would end the year in the black and were pay the store what was owed. But if crops failed, cash tenants and yeomen farmers would have to mortgage their property to the store. If they continued to be delinquent, then a store owner could foreclose on their property either by asking for a sheriff’s sale or going to the farmer personally. Fortunately, most shopkeepers continued to extend the terms out of goodwill or compassion.

⁵ *The Pickens Sentinel* (Pickens, S.C.), 23 March 1893.

⁶ State Board of Agriculture of South Carolina, *South Carolina. Resources and Population. Institutions and Industries*. (Charleston: Walker, Evans, and Cogswell, Printers, 1883), p. 716.

⁷ Claudia Hembree, *Down Home: Dacusville Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow* (Dacusville, S.C.: Dacusville Community History Project, 1995), p. 83.

⁸ Ayers, p. 92.

⁹ Aiken, p. 41.

¹⁰ Robert L. Ransom and Richard Sutch, *One Kind of Freedom: The Economic Consequences of Emancipation* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1977), p. 127.

Share croppers and share tenants were not much better off as they were at the mercy of their landowners and farm managers. Croppers and tenants were indebted to their employers as they held liens on crop production. And by ceding that freedom, they were not able to buy supplies unless sanctioned by the people who employed them. Employers spent many a Saturday writing out orders not only for themselves, but also for their tenants.¹¹ These orders were often be stored along a piece of wire hung from the wall in the store. In the Hester Store, the original orders from local farmers and tenants resembled a hornet's nest hanging from the wall on the second story of the building.

The extension of credit was not limited only to customers. The merchants themselves were subjected to rigorous examination when it came to purchasing goods to supply their stores. The rural shopkeeper obtained his merchandise from the traveling wholesale salesmen who prowled the nation.¹² With the assistance of the Dun and Bradstreet's lists, salesmen were able to determine if a merchant was credit worthy. Often many salesmen would extend credit to any merchant with a rating of G3 or higher. Michael Hester's ratings can be seen in the lists of 1875 and 1920. Hester's creditworthiness would have obtained him what he needed to supply his store. In 1875, his rating was a D; in 1920, the year of his death, his rating was a B.¹³

While competition from other stores, limited capital, and poor credit ratings could cause problems for rural merchants, another threat developed at the end of the nineteenth century. Mail order catalogs offered rural customers access to such purveyors as Sears and Roebuck, Montgomery Ward, and World Manufacturing Company. Many farmers and tenants complained of inflated prices at their local store; indeed shopkeepers had to mark up their merchandise as much as 15%. Mail order catalogs offered a vast array of goods and much better prices. At first, shopkeepers aided their customers in their pursuit of better priced merchandise. Country stores often served as a post office and the shop keeper as postmaster so they would extend money orders on credit for their customers to purchase these faraway goods. Eventually, some store owners became less interested in helping customers get around the high prices at their stores by facilitating cheaper mail orders. Patronizing a far-off merchant instead of a local store was viewed as "disloyal."¹⁴

A country store could supply all things needed from the cradle to the grave. Everything from diapers and toys to wedding rings and dresses to morphine and camphor to coffin handles and shrouds.¹⁵ The country store was not only the center of New South commerce, but also the purveyor of all things social. And Michael Hester's store was no exception. It was a large, two story "hall style" store with a front porch. There is evidence of an upstairs porch in the original design; a paneled door is located on the second floor of the store and it led onto the roof of the main porch. The inside still retains all of its shelving and in some cases, there is still stock from the mid-twentieth century.

Nearly every rural store came equipped with two essential components: a front porch and pot belly stove. Hester Store has both. The front porch was often home to a myriad of advertisements, political posters, and other sundry notices. It was a gathering place during fair weather; a centralized location to discuss the crops and farming, social and political issues, and other items of interest. The phrase "How's crops?" was the beginning to the universal conversation that was on every farmer's mind. During the cold months, local farmers would hash out the coming year's plantings, discuss the condition of the soil, and dream of abundant harvests.

¹¹ Ayers, p. 90.

¹² Ayers, p. 86.

¹³ Bradstreet Company, Dun and Bradstreet Inc, and R.G. Dun & Company, *Commercial Ratings of Bankers, Merchants, and Manufacturers in South Carolina*, 1875 and 1920.

¹⁴ Ayers, p. 87.

¹⁵ Ayers, p. 89.

Merchants benefited from these conversations as they had to decide who would receive credit extensions for the coming year.¹⁶

Discussion concerning law and order and other political issues were common place at the rural store. Political figures often reached out to their country constituents by paying visits. Huey P. Long, the ill-fated Louisiana governor and U.S. Senator, could often be found stumping from the porch of a local country store.¹⁷ Local matters of crime and punishments were often reported to their local stores. The justice of the peace often held court at the country store but unfortunately, the casual bystanders became involved and sometimes a miscarriage of justice resulted.¹⁸

The country store was also the place where the community could dispatch its pertinent news. Whether a simple social announcement or a tragedy disguised as a request for supplies, rural farmers knew how to get the word out. One South Carolinian sent for linseed oil after “one of the colored children” was burnt in an accident. When a rural customer wanted the election returns, he could always send one of his farm hands to fetch the news at the store. And if a farmer was on a trip and was delayed, he would send word to his local merchant to inform his family.¹⁹ The country store was truly a microcosm of the community it served.

A local merchant contributed a great deal to his community. When a farmer’s barn was struck by lightning and burned, the country store would start a subscription list to help out the troubled community member. Similarly, if a local child fell ill and there was no money for a doctor or medicine, the merchant would take up donations to help pay the bills.²⁰

In the case of Hester Store, many varying functions were carried out underneath its roof. The upstairs hall was served as a barber shop, operated by a Mr. Hinton. After Michael Hester’s death in 1920, his eldest son Frank (1891-1981) inherited the farm and shop.²¹ Being of a more mechanical mind, he let his youngest sister Anne (1911-1966) manage the shop. She apparently expanded the shop’s merchandise to include a dress shop on the second floor operated by her elder sister Mae (1887-1984). And after the invention of motorized transportation, Wellborn Bus Lines out of Pickens made Hester Store a regular stop on its Pickens to Greenville route.²²

If ever there was an indication of how important Hester Store was to the society of the Dacusville community, it was shown in how the store continued to operate well into the twentieth century. After Anne Hester’s death in 1966, Frank continued to operate the store on a limited basis. By this time, however, he was more interested in the social scene that was attracted to the store. He would stay open just to sit and talk to the old timers. In fact, when the post carrier was running late, it was automatically assumed that he was at Hester Store.²³ Hester Store finally closed its doors in 1981 after Frank Hester died. But its legacy as a center of the community lives on in the reminiscences of many residents of Dacusville.

¹⁶ Thomas Clark, *Pills, Petticoats, and Plows: The Southern Country Store* (New York: Bobbs-Merrill Company, 1944), p. 71.

¹⁷ Clark, p. 70.

¹⁸ Clark, p. 73.

¹⁹ Clark, p. 103.

²⁰ *Ibid.*

²¹ According to the Dun & Bradstreet Company store listings, by 1942 the store was known as M. W. Hester & Sons.

²² Betty Dounelis, Dacusville, S.C., Interview by the Author, March 20, 2012.

²³ Hembree, p. 138.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

The Dacusville community is located in Pickens County, South Carolina. The area was originally inhabited by Indian tribes and served as a trading post. The first land transactions began appearing in the late 1780s and early 1790s.²⁴ The community was and still is divided into separate areas with each portion being served by its own community store and school. The Lathem area was where the Hesters settled and built their family fortunes.

The first members of the Hester family settled in the area in 1813. Originally from Virginia, William Hester owned a farm like many of inhabitants of Dacusville. He raised eleven children with his wife there, but after a crop failure, moved up along the Oolenoy River.²⁵

The sixth child and first son of William and his wife was also called William, and he returned to Dacusville around 1850. He married his wife, Louisa Whitmire, and they settled on a farm approximately two and half miles southeast of the center of Dacusville. Their oldest child, born in 1854, was Michael Hester. In the 1880 Census, he was listed as living with his widowed mother and two younger brothers.²⁶

Michael soon became a prominent member of the community. He eventually bought one hundred acres of land adjoining his widowed mother's farm and built a house on the property once he married his wife, Nora Ann Boiling. But after several years in this location, they purchased another farm approximately three miles south of the center of Dacusville. There appears to be no documented reason for this move, but it can be reasonably assumed that it occurred sometime around the 1893 construction date of Hester Store. In addition to the store, Hester ran his farm, where cotton continued to be the cash crop of choice.²⁷

The Hesters built a large, two story, Victorian-style farmhouse on their new property to accommodate their growing family. According to the reminiscences of Michael Hester's granddaughter Usona, the home featured a porch upstairs and downstairs along with bay windows. The Hesters even had running water, which was obtained by placing a ram pump at the spring across the road from the house. Seven years after Michael Hester's death in 1920, his eldest son had the house razed as it was too hard to heat.²⁸

Hester was financially successful and used his money to provide his eight children with good educations. In an age where most children only received a grade school education, he saw many of children graduate from college. The eldest son, Michael, Jr. graduated from The Citadel but died young in 1912. The third son, Marcus, graduated from Newberry College, while the fourth son, Otto, completed his degree at Roanoke College. The youngest son, Jackson Hester, attended Clemson University and later graduated from Rutgers University with a Ph.D. in soil chemistry. The youngest child and daughter, Anne, was a 1911 graduate of Anderson College.²⁹

²⁴ Hembree, p. 7.

²⁵ Hester Family Records, in the possession of the descendants, Dacusville, S.C.

²⁶ 1880 United States Census, Population Schedules, South Carolina, at www.ancestry.com, accessed at South Carolina Department of Archives and History, 8301 Parklane Road, Columbia, South Carolina.

²⁷ Mike Landry, Dacusville, S.C., Interview by the Author, March 20, 2012.

²⁸ Hembree, p. 138.

²⁹ Hembree, p. 138.

Michael Hester continued to maintain his farm as well as the store and mills.³⁰ He was well known for keeping sheep and other animals. He even allowed his children to keep peacocks, and dogs featured prominently in the family as well. Unfortunately, it was Michael's love of animals that led to his death. In 1920, Michael was bitten by a dog with rabies. He was treated by the local physician, Dr. W.M. Ponder, but it soon became apparent that his life was in danger. Dr. Ponder accompanied Hester on a trip north to Baltimore (it is assumed that their destination was the Johns Hopkins Hospital), but they had only reached Washington, D.C., when Michael went mad aboard the train and died.³¹

Hester's second—and oldest surviving—son Frank inherited the farm and store. From family accounts, he was quite mechanical as he installed a boiler system to provide electricity for the farm's tools. In addition to maintaining the family's farm, he was also fond of buying and fixing up tractors. Frank preferred farming to being a merchant as he allowed his youngest sister Anne to manage Hester Store for him. She was a savvy person as locals recall that she kept a good business going with a large selection of merchandise. She even turned the second floor of the building into a clothing store that featured a good display of clothing sewn by her sister Mae (Mary).

It was during this period that cars began to catch on and with that, the once isolated Dacusville began to see more travelers. Frank had two gas pumps installed and the store became a way station for drivers going to Greenville from Table Rock and places beyond.³² The store also served as a bus station. Wellborn Bus Lines operated a stop on its route from Pickens to Greenville. Locals recall the first floor addition at the store being used as a waiting room during this period.

Following Anne's death in 1966, the store became a community destination and not a general merchandise business. Frank was seventy five by this time and only opened the store periodically. He was well known for being a sociable person and many community members would flock to the store to exchange pleasantries and conversation with him.³³ Local resident Mike Landry fondly remembers Frank's showmanship and propensity for practical jokes. Frank trained his beloved dog Jiggs to play along with one particular trick. He would hide a dollar on the front porch of the store; Jiggs was trained to fetch the dollar and bring it to Frank inside the store. Frank would ask, "Whatcha want to buy with that dollar, Jiggs?" and the dog would pop up on his hind legs and sniff at the box of hoop cheese that was kept on the counter. Frank was particularly proud of that cheese and wanted to showcase it. So he would make a big deal of slicing up the wheel and handing the slices to the dog.

Even though Frank was advanced in his years, he did not hesitate to defend his holdings. One night while checking the locks at the store, he discovered a burglar inside. He unflinchingly knocked the man down and trained his shotgun on him, holding him hostage until a driver came along the road and the sheriff could be summoned.

Frank Hester died in 1981, and a year later, the store and farm were sold at auction. The home and farm are currently (2012) owned by a person unrelated to the Hester family. In December 2011, the Hester Store was purchased by a new owner who is currently restoring it for use as a professional office and a country store. The local community, rich in history and eager to preserve it, looks forward to another chapter in this important store's future.

³⁰ 1900 United States Census, Population Schedules, South Carolina, at www.ancestry.com, accessed June 2012.

³¹ Mike Landry Interview.

³² Betty Dounelis Interview.

³³ Hembree, p. 138.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Aiken, Charles S. *The Cotton Plantation South since the Civil War*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 2003.

Ayers, Edward L. *The Promise of the New South: Life After the Reconstruction*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1992.

Bradstreet Company, Dun and Bradstreet Inc, and R.G. Dun & Company. *Commercial Ratings of Bankers, Merchants, and Manufacturers in South Carolina, 1875 and 1920*.

Clark, Thomas D. *Pills, Petticoats, and Plows: The Southern Country Store*. New York: Bobbs-Merrill Company, 1944.

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1880 and 1900 United States Census, Population Schedules, South Carolina. Online at www.ancestry.com, accessed June 2012.

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: **S.C. Department of Archives & History**

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive black and white photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Hester Store
City or Vicinity: Easley vicinity
County: Pickens County **State:** South Carolina
Photographer: Caroline Wilson
Date Photographed: June 2012 (unless otherwise noted)

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 22: Southeast (front) elevation (November 2011)
- 2 of 22: Front doors
- 3 of 22: Front porch
- 4 of 22: Southwest (left) elevation
- 5 of 22: Southwest oblique view
- 6 of 22: Northeast (right) elevation and side addition
- 7 of 22: Northwest (rear) elevation
- 8 of 22: Northeast elevation
- 9 of 22: First floor interior, foundation repairs in progress (original flooring temporarily removed)
- 10 of 22: First floor interior, foundation repairs in progress (original flooring temporarily removed)
- 11 of 22: First floor interior, staircase
- 12 of 22: First floor interior, entrance to side addition
- 13 of 22: Side addition, interior
- 14 of 22: First floor interior, stair case
- 15 of 22: First floor interior, original store shelves
- 16 of 22: First floor interior, entrance
- 17 of 22: Second floor interior, looking to front
- 18 of 22: Second floor interior, door to exterior porch (exterior covered by later stone façade)
- 19 of 22: Second floor interior, looking to rear
- 20 of 22: Second floor interior, looking into attic (hole cut for stove flue, temporarily removed)
- 21 of 22: Second floor interior, stair landing
- 22 of 22: Open field behind Hester Store

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 18 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.