Form No. 10-300 REV. (9/77)

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

PH0683213

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED AUG 28 1978
DATE ENTERED MAR 28 1979

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Evans and Cogswell Company

AND/OR COMMON
The Confederate Printing Plant (preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
501 Gervais Street

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Columbia

__ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
2nd

STATE
South Carolina

CODE
045

COUNTY
Richland

CODE
079

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	__OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	X UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	X OTHER: None

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Leeds, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER
c/o Mr. Charles E. Hedgepeth, Bankers Trust Tower

CITY, TOWN
Columbia

__ VICINITY OF

STATE
South Carolina

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Richland County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
1401 Sumter Street

CITY, TOWN
Columbia

STATE
South Carolina

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina

DATE
1973 (update)

__FEDERAL X STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
South Carolina Department of Archives and History

CITY, TOWN
Columbia

STATE
South Carolina

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	X DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Constructed in 1864, the Confederate Printing Plant is a large two-story, commercial brick structure which spans the length of an entire city block in Columbia, South Carolina. Originally this building was a one-story structure with a gable roof. (The second story is an addition, having been added after the building was burned in 1865.)

The southern side facade (which extends along Gervais Street) is divided into repetitive bay by molded brick pilasters on both levels. A wide molded brick frieze separates the two stories (it was originally the entablature of the one-story structure). Windows are 6/6 and have brick voussoirs. Originally the northern side facade (which extends along the railroad tracks) was similar, but modern additions have been attached to the lower level.

The westernmost section appears to have been added; the west facade lacks notable decorative elements. The eastern end facade has a central door flanked by a window on the left and door on the right. There are three windows in the center of the gable on the second floor.

Interior: Gutted by fire in 1865, the interior is not original and dates primarily from the late 19th Century. The first story consists of four major sections of open warehouse space which are basically identical. These sections are separated by thick fire walls with large arched doorways with metal fire doors. Located at the western end is a fifth section which contains modern office space.

The second story is very similar containing four sections of warehouse space separated by brick walls and arched doorways. Extending through both stories are two parallel rows of wooden columns. Some wide board flooring remains exposed on the first floor.

In 1977 the structure was threatened by demolition when it was believed unsound. Subsequently, the building was the subject of an engineering study to determine its stability. This study made several recommendations including the rebuilding of a deteriorated fire wall and the bracing of trusses. Since that time, the building has been purchased by a group of investors. Although their plans are not yet firm, they hope to renovate the building.

Surroundings: The Confederate Printing Plant extends for a block along Gervais Street (one of the city's major thoroughfares) and is located at the intersection of Huger and Gervais Streets (one of its largest intersections). It is also located in an area of other large warehouses, several of which have recently undergone renovation for adaptive commercial uses. Located adjacent to the Printing Plant, is the South Carolina Dispensary Office Building, a Columbia Landmark. (For updated information see continuation sheet.)

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	X COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	X INDUSTRY	X POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1864 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The history of the Confederate Printing Plant, located at 501 Gervais Street in Columbia, South Carolina, is rich and varied and reflects much of the history of the State of South Carolina. Originally constructed as a printing plant by the firm of Evans and Cogswell for the manufacture of Confederate bonds (and other printing purposes), the structure was later used as a warehouse for the South Carolina State Dispensary System (of liquor). (Located next door is the State Dispensary Office Building which is in a deteriorated condition.) A few decades later, in the 1930s, the building was used in conjunction with the U.S. Seed Loan Program. "Columbia's Commercial Heritage," an inventory of the city's older commercial buildings states, "Architectural design and history make this building one of the most significant in Columbia."[1]

During the War Between the States the printing firm of Evans and Cogswell in Charleston became one of the producers of bonds, certificates of stock and currency for the Confederate government. In 1864 the firm constructed the large building on Gervais Street in Columbia and relocated its business there. In this plant Evans and Cogswell produced Confederate currency along with Confederate publications and non-military publications as well. (After April of 1864, Columbia became the center of the Confederacy's monetary system when the Treasury Note Bureau was moved here from Richmond.)

In February 1865, when Sherman's army occupied Columbia, the building's contents were seized and the plant was burned. Sherman himself wrote in his Memoirs that his soldiers carried off an "immense quantity" of Confederate currency in various stages of printing.[2] A Union officer reported the destruction of "2 buildings filled with stationery belonging to the so-called Confederate States, consisting of note, cap, letter, and envelope paper, envelopes, steel pens, penholders, ink and quartermasters' and other blanks."[3]

(continued)

1. Phelps H. Bultman, Gertrude O. Seibels, and E. Grenville Seibels, eds., "Columbia's Commercial Heritage: An inventory and evaluation of older commercial buildings in the city center" (Prepared for the City of Columbia, S.C. and the S.C. Department of Archives and History, 1977), p. 5. 4.

2. William T. Sherman, Memoirs, Vol. II (N.Y.: D. Appleton and Co., 1875), p. 288.

3. The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, Series I, Vol. XLVII, Part II (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1895), p. 503.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Beers, Henry P. Guide to the Archives of the Government of the Confederate States of America. Washington, D. C.: 1968, pp. 118-119

Bultman, Phelps, Gertrude O. Seibels, and E. Grenville Seibels eds. "Columbia's Commercial Heritage: an inventory and evaluation of older commercial buildings in the City's center." Prepared for the City of Columbia, S.C. and the S.C. Department of Archives and History, 1977, p. 5, 4. (Continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY ca. 1 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Southwest Columbia QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	17	495880	3761760	B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The property is bordered on the south by Gervais Street, west by Huger Street and east by Pulaski Street. On the north the nominated property is bounded by an Atlantic Coastline Railway Line; the northeast corner of the nominated property is bounded by a brick structure (1205 Pulaski Street). The nominated property (Continued)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE George Terry, Graduate Student, University of S.C.
Kappy McNulty Terry Floyd, Columbia Landmarks Commission, Columbia, S.C.

ORGANIZATION S.C. Department of Archives and History DATE August 5, 1977

STREET & NUMBER P.O. Box 11,669, Capitol Station, Columbia, S.C. TELEPHONE (803) 758-5816

CITY OR TOWN Columbia STATE South Carolina

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL X STATE ____ 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

TITLE Charles E. Lee
State Historic Preservation Officer DATE 8/18/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

for KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER DATE 3-28-79

ATTEST: CHIEF OF REGISTRATION DATE 3/27/79

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAR 20 1979
DATE ENTERED MAR 28 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Surroundings

Located along the railroad tracks in the first area of Columbia which became industrial, the Confederate Printing Plant extends for a block along Gervais Street (one of the city's major thoroughfares) and is located at the intersection of Huger and Gervais Streets (one of its large intersections). It is also located in an area of other large warehouses, several of which have recently undergone renovation for adaptive commercial uses. The Printing Plant's large size, prominent location and rich history combine to make it probably the most significant warehouse structure in this entire area. Indeed, since its construction the structure has been a prominent visual landmark in Columbia in addition to being historically significant. Located adjacent to the Printing Plant is the South Carolina Dispensary Office Building, which was listed on the National Register on March 2, 1979, as part of the Columbia Multiple Resource Area.

The Confederate Printing Plant has been recommended for a Fiscal Year 1979 Historic Preservation Grant for its stabilization/rehabilitation.

3/14/79

An extract from an article in a Richmond newspaper reported that Evans and Cogswell "...was unquestionably the largest and best equipped publishing house in the South."[4]

After the war, the building was eventually repaired. With the establishment of the South Carolina Dispensary System in the 1890s for the distribution of liquor, the structure became the dispensary warehouse. This system was abolished in 1907. During the 1930s the structure was used in conjunction with the U.S. Seed Loan Program.

The structure was used as a warehouse until December 1977. It is presently vacant.

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4. Ibid., p. 500.

An extract from an article in a Richmond newspaper reported that Evans and Cogswell "...was unquestionably the largest and best equipped publishing house in the South."[4]

With the close of the Civil War, Evans and Cogswell sold the Printing Plant building. By 1872 work had begun on repairing and enlarging the building. The structure, due to its size and location, was later used by a great many wholesale businesses. By 1895, the building had become a warehouse for the South Carolina Dispensary System. Created by Governor Ben Tillman in 1893 this dispensary system called for a state controlled distribution of liquor. To accommodate the office facilities for this system, a separate Dispensary Office Building (listed on the National Register on March 2, 1979) was built directly adjacent to the Printing Plant. The Printing Plant itself was used as the dispensary warehouse until 1907 when the Dispensary System was abolished.

During the 1900s the building has been used primarily as a warehouse for wholesale grocers and drug supply houses. In 1910, for example, there were at least three grocery establishments located in the building. In 1921 part of the building was used as Fitzgerald Paper Company which produced newsprint. During the 1920s and 30s, at least a portion of the building was rented out as apartments. The majority of the building's residents, however, were people who ran businesses in the building.

In 1935, part of the building was used as the United States Seed Loan Building and during World War II as a government warehouse. Subsequently, the structure was continuously used as a warehouse until December 1977. It is presently vacant. As a result of these varied uses, the Printing Plant can be considered significant in the areas of commerce and industry.

Architecture

Constructed in 1864, the Confederate Printing Plant is a large two-story commercial structure whose form, size, prominent location and varied history make it a major landmark within the city of Columbia and a nationally significant historic resource. Considered to be an example of Greek Revivial commercial design,[5] the unusually large building features strong modelled masonry pilasters and cornices as well as a simple repetitive use of classic form and detail. Although physical changes have occurred to the building, beginning as a result of the fire of 1865, the Printing Plant is the most prominent warehouse located in an area of Columbia which has historically been a center for warehouse/industrial facilities.

[4] Ibid., p. 500.
[5] Bultman, "Columbia's Commercial Heritage", p. 5.4.

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Hennig, Helen Kohn. Columbia, Capital City of South Carolina. Columbia: R. L. Bryan, 1936, pp. 36-37.

100 Years of Wecco: A History of the Walker, Evans and Cogswell Company, 1821-1921 [Charleston, South Carolina: Walker, Evans and Cogswell, 1922].

Rogers, George C. A South Carolina Chronology, 1497-1970. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1973, pp. 77, 79.

Sherman, William T. Memoirs, Vol. II. New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1875, p. 288.

Simms, William Gilmore. Sack and Destruction of the City of Coumbia, S.C. 2nd edition: Ed A. S. Salley. Freeport, New York: Books for Libraries Press, 1971, p. 76.

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The War of the Rebellion: Offical Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, Series I. Vol. XLVII, Part II. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1895, pp. 499-500, 502-503.

Williams, J. F. Old and New Columbia. Columbia: Epworth Orphanage Press, 1929, p. 105.

"Map of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, 1869," by Alex Y. Lee. [as reprinted in] Columbia Record, May 11, 1964, p. B-1.

"Printing , Binding, Paper, Etc." Charleston News and Courier, February 20, 1864, p. 2, Col. 5.

Pyles, N. O. and T. J. Map of Columbia. Columbia: The State Company, 1905.

Terry, George D. "A Historic Survey of the Confederate Bureau of Printing and Engraving, Later State Dispensary Building (501 Gervais Street)." 1976. (Unpublished paper.)

is delineated on an enclosed sketch map.