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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Webb-Coleman House

other names/site number: Christian's Post Office

2. Location

street & number: 2 miles S of Chappells and .3 miles E of SC Hwy 39, at the convergence of three dirt roads — [ ] not for publication

city, town: Chappells — [x] vicinity

state: South Carolina code: SC county: Saluda code: 081 zip code: 29037

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property: Contributing	Noncontributing	
[x] private	[x] building(s)	5	1	buildings
[ ] public-local	[ ] district			sites
[ ] public-State	[ ] site			structures
[ ] public-Federal	[ ] structure			objects
	[ ] object	5	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing: _____

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this [x] 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 [x] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet.

Mary W. Edmonds — 3/6/92

Signature of certifying official — Date

Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy SHPO, SC Department of Archives & History, Columbia, SC

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property [ ] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

[✓] entered in the National Register. [ ] See continuation sheet. — Patrick Andrus — 4/24/92

[ ] determined eligible for the National Register. [ ] See continuation sheet.

[ ] determined not eligible for the National Register.

[ ] removed from the National Register.

[ ] other, (explain:) _____

for Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Domestic/Single Dwelling	Domestic/Single Dwelling
Government/Post Office	Domestic/Single Dwelling
Commerce/Trade/General Store	Domestic/Single Dwelling
Domestic/Single Dwelling	Domestic/Single Dwelling
Domestic/Secondary Structure	Domestic/Secondary Structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)

Early Republic/Federal

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
walls Wood
roof Asphalt
other Metal/Tin

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Summary Description:

The Webb-Coleman House property is a thirteen-and-one-third acre site located two miles south of Chappells, South Carolina, in northern Saluda County. It is situated .3 miles east of State Highway 39 at the convergence of three rural dirt roads that were once three colonial roads.

Built in the first quarter of the nineteenth century, the Webb-Coleman House is a two-and-one-half-story, five-bay, gable-roofed, frame and weatherboard Federal farmhouse. In the mid-nineteenth century, a one-story, full-length, shed-roofed, frame and weatherboard wing was added to the east elevation. In 1915, a one-story, gable-roofed, frame and weatherboard ell was added to the northeast corner of the original house. At this time, a full-length, shed-roofed porch was attached to the north elevation of the ell. Further renovations in 1934 included the addition of a bathroom, rebuilding the chimneys, and altering the front door on the west facade. This house is an excellent example of a plain plantation farmhouse that has undergone alterations as the needs of its occupants changed over time. In contrast to the plain exterior are the carved mantels in the first-floor rooms of the original core.

There are four contributing outbuildings associated with this property. A mid-to-late-nineteenth-century cotton house and an early-twentieth-century garage are both located one hundred and thirty feet north of the main house. There is an early-twentieth-century tenant house located across the road and approximately six-hundred-and-fifty feet northwest of the main house. An early 1930s dollhouse is approximately eighty feet southeast of the main house. There is also a noncontributing twentieth-century barn located eighty-five feet northeast of the cotton house.

Additional Descriptive Information:

The Webb-Coleman House is situated on a small knoll with a view of mostly flat and level fields in all directions. The principal dwelling faces west and measures forty-four feet by twenty feet. It is a two-and-one-half-story, five-bay, frame and weatherboard house set on

[X] See continuation sheet

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
Architecture	1800-1825	ca. 1825
	1833-1844	1915
	1915-1934	1934

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Webb-Coleman House is significant as an excellent example of a Federal farmhouse built in the period 1800-1825 and for its association with the Webb and Coleman families of Edgefield County (after 1895 Saluda County), families which occupied the house and farmed the property for over one hundred and twenty years. It is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C and under the Architecture area of significance.

The house was built in the period 1800-1825, and its first recorded owner was Ralph Scurry (d. 1829). Thomas Christian acquired the house and property after Scurry's death. He established a post office, known as Christian's Post Office, in the house in 1833. By 1836 the property and the postmaster's position passed to Benjamin Richardson, who had married Ralph Scurry's widow Sarah in 1831. The post office operated until it was discontinued in 1844; Benjamin Richardson served not only as postmaster but also operated a general store from 1836 to 1843. One of Richardson's daughters, Sallie, married Dr. John Chappell Maxwell and the two lived here from 1866 to 1870. In 1870 the property was sold to William Melvin Webb (1838?-1893), a farmer; Webb had served in the Confederate States Army as a sergeant in the 1st (later 2nd) South Carolina Artillery. The Webb farm was a typical small farm in nineteenth-century South Carolina, with varying amounts of subsistence crops, cash crops, livestock, and agricultural products. In 1880 Webb farmed one hundred and twenty-five acres valued at $2000. The farm produced such crops as Indian corn, oats, and cotton, with smaller amounts of wheat, potatoes, and sweet potatoes. It had nine cattle, four pigs, and twenty chickens, and also produced small amounts of butter, eggs, and forest products. After Webb's death his widow Mary Elizabeth (d. 1924) lived here with several children. Harry Strother, a distant relative by marriage, added the kitchen ell and the side porch extension to the house in 1915. The property eventually passed to Mary Elizabeth Webb's son, William Avery Webb (1863-1930), farmer, merchant, banker, and one-term member of the South Carolina House of Representatives, though he did not live in the house as an adult. W.A. Webb's daughter Popie and her husband Patrick Gary Coleman (1888-1973) acquired the family farm in 1921 and Coleman continued to farm the property until his retirement.

☒ See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

[x] See continuation sheet

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:

- [x] State historic preservation office
- [ ] Other State agency
- [ ] Federal agency
- [ ] Local government
- [ ] University
- [ ] Other

Specify repository:
SC Department of Archives & History, Columbia, SC

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Approximately 13.3 acres

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	17	422420	3778820
B	17	422480	3778720
C	17	422400	3778680
D	17	422340	3778700

[x] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for the Webb-Coleman House is shown as the black outline on the accompanying Saluda County tax map, portions of parcels 11 and 24, drawn at a scale of 1" = 400'.

[ ] See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the main house, garage, cotton house, dollhouse, and tenant house and their immediate surroundings.

[ ] See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Edward B. Tolson/J. Tracy Power, SHPO Staff, w/assistance from Mrs. Helen Coleman Harps
organization SC Department of Archives & History date 8 June 1991
street & number P.O. Box 11669 telephone (803) 734-8610
city or town Columbia state SC zip code 29211

★U.S.GPO:1988-0-223-918

brick piers with brick infill. It has a gable roof and two exterior end chimneys with corbeled caps. Both floors have single-pile, central-passage plans. There is a one-story, full-length, hip-roofed porch on the west elevation. This porch once had a deck above as evidenced by the marks left on the siding when the newel posts were removed. There is flushboard siding and a chair rail on the exterior walls protected by this porch.

In the original core of this Federal farmhouse, the first-floor windows are nine-over-one double-hung sash windows on the west facade, four-over-four double-hung sash windows on the north and south elevations, and six-over-one double-hung sash windows on the east elevation. All second-story windows are six-over-one double-hung sash windows. The original second-story sashes were changed in 1934 to the present Prairie style windows. At this same time, the original front door was changed to the present Prairie style door with transoms and sidelights. The first floor interior of the original core has a ten-foot ceiling height, and original, six-panel, inset-panel doors opening into each room. Throughout the first floor are eleven inch baseboards and inset-panel dadoes with chair rail. In the south room of the first floor is an elaborately carved Federal mantelpiece with sunbursts, half-round pilasters, and mouse-tooth motif. There is a less elaborate Federal mantelpiece in the first-floor north room. It has no sunbursts, but has inset panels, fluted pilasters, and mouse-tooth motif. These mantels represent a high level of craftsmanship and are the most elaborate woodwork in the house. The door and window trim throughout is very plain Federal style.

The second-story of the original core is identical to the first floor, with two rooms separated by a central hall. The south room has a nine-foot ceiling and a simple Federal mantelpiece with fluted pilasters and mouse-tooth motif. The north room has a nine-foot ceiling and a plain pine mantel. Around the window in the central hall is evidence of a second-story door onto the deck that was once atop the west facade porch.

The early-nineteenth-century construction date of this house is supported by the materials, saw marks, and construction technology found in the attic. The second-floor ceiling joists are hand-hewn and measure three-and-one-half inches by eight-and-one-half inches. These joists extend beyond the plane of the exterior walls and carry the cornice trim. On top of these joists is a false-plate to which the rafters are attached. The rafters are five-inch round logs that are pegged at the ridge and eave and have a collar tie pegged to them. There are random width, sash-sawn sheathing boards attached to the rafters. Visible atop these original roof-sheathing boards are new plywood sheathing and asphalt

shingles which were added in 1988. There are six-light fixed-sash windows on either side of the chimney stacks on the north and south elevations.

Sometime in the mid-nineteenth century, a one-story, full-length, forty-four foot by twelve foot, shed-roofed, frame and weatherboard wing was added to the east elevation. There are four-over-four double-hung sash windows on the south elevation on either side of an exterior end chimney with a corbeled cap. The south room of this wing has eleven inch baseboards and flushboard dado panels with a chair rail. The door is a six-panel, inset-panel type that very closely resembles the other interior doors throughout the first floor. There is a very plain Federal mantelpiece in this room. The north room, separated from the south room by a central hall, was altered in 1915 when the kitchen ell was added to the northeast corner of the original core.

In 1915, a one-story, twenty-eight foot by sixteen foot, gable-roofed, frame and weatherboard kitchen ell was attached to the northeast corner of the original core. At this time, the north bedroom of the one-story wing became the dining room. There is an interior chimney between the dining room and the kitchen. There are three-over-one double-hung sash windows in the east elevation. At this time, a full-length porch was added to the north side of the kitchen ell, and a small, twenty foot by fourteen foot, shed-roofed porch was added to the south elevation.

In 1934, a small bathroom was inserted in the northwest corner of the small porch. Other exterior alterations were made at this time. The front door, on the west facade, was changed to the present Prairie style door with transom and sidelights. The two chimneys in the original core were replaced, and the west porch was modified to the present one-story, hip roof supported by battered posts atop brick piers. And in 1962, brick infill was added between the foundation piers.

The interior floor plan has remained essentially intact throughout the numerous alterations and additions. All of the original interior walls remain, though most have had sheetrock placed over the original boards. It is important to note that all of the changes to the original core have been cosmetic in nature, and the original framing system, window and door fenestration, and floor plan have remained unchanged. It was used as a family dwelling until 1985, but still remains today in the Coleman family. Because of this, the house exists today as an intact example of an upcountry Federal farmhouse.

There are five outbuildings on the property, four contributing and one noncontributing. Located in a row one-hundred-and-thirty-feet from and

parallel to the north elevation of the house is a contributing garage and a contributing cotton house. The early-twentieth-century garage is frame and weatherboard, measures sixteen feet by twenty feet, and has a gable roof covered with sheets of metal roofing. The mid-to-late-nineteenth-century cotton house is frame and weatherboard, measures sixteen feet by thirty feet, and has a gable roof covered with sheets of metal roofing. There is a single door on the west end of the south facade and double doors on the east end of the south facade of the cotton house. There are no windows in the cotton house.

A third contributing outbuilding is located eighty feet southeast of the main house. It is a one-story, gable-roofed dollhouse that measures eight feet by ten feet. It was built in the early 1930s and used as a playhouse. It has unpainted weatherboard siding and an asphalt shingle roof. It has a four-panel door on the north facade and fixed-sash windows in the center of each of the other three walls.

The fourth contributing outbuilding is an early-twentieth-century tenant house located approximately six-hundred-and-fifty feet northwest of the main house. It is separated from the main house by the old colonial road, the Chappells Ferry Road. It is a one-story, two-bay, frame and weatherboard building with a gable roof covered with sheets of metal roofing. It was built with salvaged material from other structures on the property. There are two doors on the south facade, indicating that it was probably home to two families. There is a central chimney with two fireplaces to heat the two separate living quarters. The tenant house exists today in deteriorating condition, but the owner has begun to stabilize and weatherize it.

There is a noncontributing twentieth-century barn located eighty-five feet northeast of the cotton house. It is frame and weatherboard, and has a gable roof with shed-roofed extensions on both the east and west elevations. This barn was built from used materials on the site of an earlier barn. Its deteriorating condition makes it noncontributing, and the present owner has no future plans to rehabilitate the building.

Coleman replaced two chimneys, added a bathroom, and modified the front door and porches in 1934. The property remains in the family today.(1)

The cotton house, tenant house, and garage are intact examples of mid-to-late-nineteenth and early twentieth century secondary domestic properties associated with the Webb-Coleman farmstead.

NOTES

(1) Mrs. Helen Coleman Harps, Chappells, S.C., Interviews with Mrs. Mrs. Popie Cowan Webb Coleman, Chappells, S.C.; Edgefield District Deed Book 47, Page 341, Deed Book 45, Page 358, Deed Book 6, Page 46, Edgefield County Courthouse, Edgefield, S.C.; Saluda County Deed Book 21, Page 532, Deed Book 89, Page 162, Saluda County Court House, Saluda, S.C.; National Archives Microfilm Publications, Record of Appointments of Postmasters 1832-September 30, 1971: South Carolina: Abbeville-Greenwood Counties, Microcopy 841, Roll 114 (Washington: National Archives, 1973); Loye Eugene Nations, "The Webb Family or Descendants of William Melvin Webb, born about 1838 . . ." (Columbia: n.p., 1970), pp. 5-7; Compiled Service Record of William H. M. Webb, (National Archives Microfilm Publication M267, Roll 120; Compiled Service Records of Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the State of South Carolina; Second Artillery; War Department Collection of Confederate Records, Record Group 109, National Archives, Washington, D.C.; United States Census, Edgefield District, Agriculture Schedule, 1880 (Washington: National Archives Microfilm Publications); Joan Schreiner Reynolds Faunt, et al, editors, Biographical Directory of the South Carolina House of Representatives: Volume I: Session Lists 1692-1973 (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1974), p. 485.

UTM References

E. 17 422120 3778620

F. 17 422060 3778760

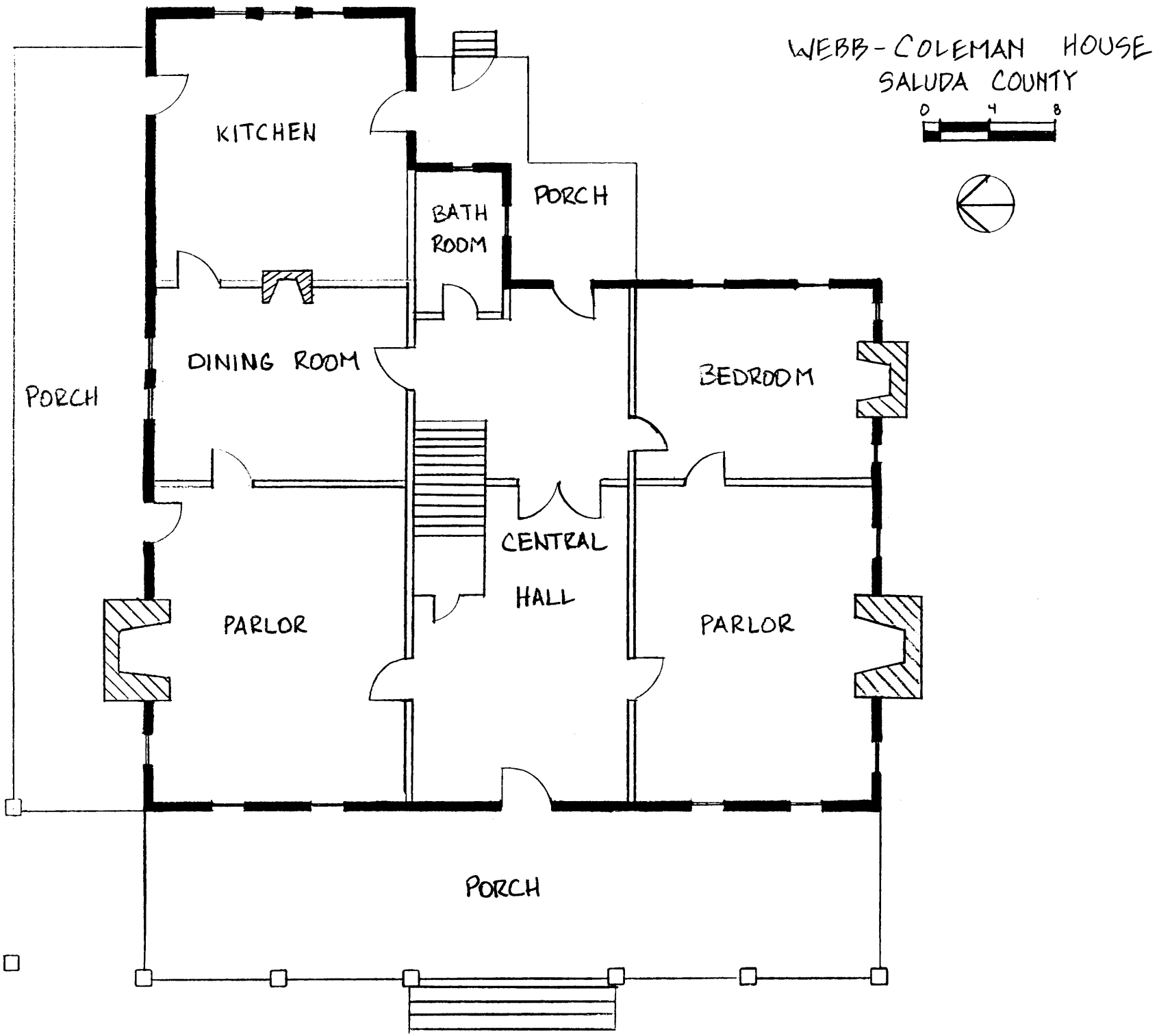
G. 17 422280 3778860

H. 17 422340 3778760

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

Name of Property: Webb-Coleman House
Location: Saluda County (Chappells, S.C., vicinity)
Name of Photographer: John A. Webb
Date of Photographs: April 1991
Location of Original Negative: S. C. Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S. C.

1. Northwest elevation (oblique view of principal facade)
2. West elevation (principal facade)
3. Southeast elevation (right rear oblique)
4. Northeast elevation (left rear oblique)
5. Mantel, southwest first-story room
6. Detail of mantel, southwest first-story room
7. Mantel, northwest first-story room
8. Mantel, southeast first-story room
9. Entrance detail, west elevation (principal facade)
10. Door detail, entrance hall
11. Attic, detail of framing
12. Northeast view of main house, cotton house, garage
13. Cotton house, south elevation
14. Tenant house, south elevation


WEBB-COLEMAN HOUSE
SALUDA COUNTY
0
4
8
KITCHEN
BATH ROOM
PORCH
DINING ROOM
PORCH
BEDROOM
CENTRAL HALL
PARLOR
PARLOR
PORCH