

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Apalache Mill
Other names/site number: Cedar Hill Factory, South Tyger Manufactory Co., Arlington Mills
Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 2200 Racing Road
City or town: Greer State: South Carolina County: Spartanburg
Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 ___ meets x does not meet the National Register Criteria.
I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide x local
Applicable National Register Criteria:
x A ___ B ___ C ___ D

W. Eric Emerson
W. Eric Emerson, State Historic Preservation Officer: 12-4-15 Date:

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official:

Date

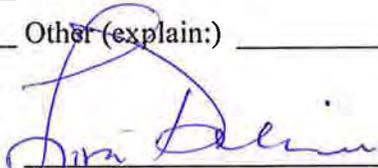
Title:

State or Federal agency/bureau
or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- Entered in the National Register
- Determined eligible for the National Register
- Determined not eligible for the National Register
- Removed from the National Register
- Other (explain:)


Signature of the Keeper

12/15/15
Date of Action

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

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Structure

Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	structures
<u>2</u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRY/Manufacturing Facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/Not in Use

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER/Textile Mill

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Concrete, Brick, Wood, Synthetic

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, and method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Apalache Mill, dam, and large mill pond, known as Apalache Lake, are located in northwestern Spartanburg County, South Carolina. The property is irregular in shape, bound on the south by Highway 357 and Racing Road, on the east by the Apalache Dam and spillway, and on the north and west by Apalache Lake which spreads north in an irregular fashion following the landscape. The mill sits in the middle of the parcel on an elevated section of land surrounded by several parking lots on all sides as the land slopes away from the mill. A 120' granite retaining wall runs along part of the front of the complex parallel to Racing Street. The dam extends east from the mill building to the end of the site with the lake to the north and the tail race, spillway, and powerhouse foundation to the south. Chain link and barbed wire fencing runs around much of the site in several sections. The predominantly late nineteenth and early twentieth-century Commercial Style brick masonry mill site includes an 1888 mill, and 1903 mill with additions. There are four contributing structures: a water tower, a granite retaining wall, the dam, and the millpond. There are also two contributing objects: the fire pump and the turbine/generator. Also on the site is the foundation of a former cotton warehouse, and the elements of historic landscaping that all contribute to the historic character and significance of the nominated property. The historic millpond and the self-contained mill village surround the mill complex, though the mill village is not part of the nominated mill site.

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Narrative Description

For the early pioneers it was important to find the correct location for water-powered mills. Best suited for mills are areas of the rivers, which contain a narrow gorge increasing the speed of the water, and which has a bottom of bedrock to prevent erosion. There are several areas along the three branches of the Tyger River that meet those needs, and Apalache Mill is built in one such gorge.

The mill was built on a crest 100 yards north of where the Frohawk Creek joins the South Tyger River. The mill itself is built on bedrock, evidenced in the lower level where it was constructed around an exposed area of bedrock. At the rear of the building the banks of the South Tyger River sloped steeply into the one time gorge. The opposite side of the Tyger River also has a steep slope to its bank of the Tyger River. The land at the front of the mill slopes steeply to Frohawk Creek. It's not known if there was a prior dam. The 1904 dam was constructed in this narrow gorge just before the point where the Frohawk Creek and Tyger River merge, thus creating the location for the power generator to operate the mill complex.

As you approach the Apalache Mill it dominates the area by sitting high on the crest of a hill. The site is highly defined by the 990 feet of lake frontage on the north, the dam and raceway to the east, State Hwy 357 to the south, and Apalache Street on the west. From Hwy 357 the land rises up to the crest of the hill and the principal facade of the building. On the opposite side of the road the land falls steeply to Frohawk Creek. At the back of the mill, the north side, the land slopes down to Apalache Lake. The land falls to the dam and spillway to the east. The road in the front of the mill rises to the west end to provide level access to the west end and rear of the building. The land around the mill was contoured at the center of the mill to allow a sloping drive to the front, with the drive continuing around the building. The parking was terraced, beginning with the lower parking area at the front. Modern needs for additional parking soon required an additional parking lot. The electrical superintendent's house was removed next to the dam and parking was added at a middle level area. The freestanding office building was also removed to add another parking lot at the upper level in the center of the building.

The Apalache Mill was designed to take advantage of the limited area at the crest of the hill. At the east end a massive 1888 brick structure raises three stories high. To the west and higher on the site a two-story building was added in 1903. The site was designed around the crest with its road, drives, and parking positioned into this difficult site area. Not only was the mill complex designed around the crest, the village and homes are built on both sides of the crest with the street running through the center. It retains most of the key exterior and interior materials dating from the time it was built (1888 and 1903), which includes local granite rock used in the retaining wall at the front of the building, and to build the dam.

Architecture of the mill was of industrial design, it followed function and not aesthetics. The exterior is made from red brick of plain design. In later years mill design used brickwork of

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more ornate style. Although simple in design it was built with grand arching windows, an example is the center floor with its eleven-foot tall windows. The interior has original massive heart pine beams and columns, pine ceilings, and floors with finished hard maple. The last major alteration, the addition of cooling towers in 1960, took place more than fifty years ago. Even those additions maintained the design proportions. Finally it retains its basic features, expressive in its design and function as an industrial complex, configuration, and proportions, meeting the needs of the textile production. Other designed features include the arched windows, which repeat in bays, every ten feet and a roof monitor to provide light and ventilation. Prior to 1946 the mill had over hangs with large rafter tails and an integrated scupper downspout system. After the rafter tails were removed, modern rectangular gutters were added with round downspouts.

CONTRIBUTING INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

1a) Original mill (1888) Contributing Building

The 1888 mill building, which sits on the east side of the site, is a three story, linear load bearing brick building over a partial basement. The original plan was rectangular 100 x 202 feet encompassing 57,000 square feet. The 1888 mill's architecture style followed function and not aesthetics. Very little decoration was used other than its arching windows and extended rafter tails. This was a major step forward from the framed wooden structures. It was constructed of red brick foundation and exterior walls, wooden floor and beams and columns of heavy timber framework. The three rows of columns support the interior floors to provide an open floor plan. A low-pitched roof structure covers the building, originally with large exposed rafter tails, removed and now capped. A roof monitor exists on the original 1888 section of the east building and can be seen from the road. It is twenty feet wide, one hundred and forty feet long, standing six feet high with shingle siding now covering the window area. The original monitor framing is exposed in the third level. The original mill has eighteen ten foot bays running east to west, each containing one window, and four twenty-five-foot bays, each containing two windows, running north to south. Among its notable exterior architectural features are its monumental segmental arched windows that measure seven feet wide – most in-filled in the 1960's. The southeast corner contains a wooden stairway with staggered windows on intermediate landings. In the center in the north elevation of the original mill stands a three-story electrical tower, which is two bays wide. The tower also contains arched windows, two on both the second and third floors facing north and one window per floor facing east. At the basement level of the tower there is a concrete set of steps on the east side leading down to an electrical equipment room. The tower basement contains two short arched windows facing north. At the west side of the tower is an exhaust shaft, which extends from the equipment room in the basement area to three feet above the roof. Remaining in the crawl space is a dust collection system, which would have tied back into this exhaust shaft. The shaft is capped with clay tile.

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Additions to the 1888 mill:

West addition to the 1888 mill most likely was built sometime between 1888 and 1909. Evidence of the addition can be seen at the rear of the building where it attaches to the original mill, also, in the crawl space, the original foundation of the 1888 mill still exists. This addition was made to the west end of the original mill consisting of five ten-foot bays, leaving a ten-foot separation between the two mills at the front and a ramp at the rear coming out of the center level dropping down to the rear wooden loading dock. The addition originally consisted of similar red brick foundation and exterior walls, wooden floor and beams and columns of heavy timber framework, arched topped triple hung windows on ten-foot centers. The north elevation still has the arched topped window openings. Fire destroyed the south half of the addition. There also is evidence of damage to the 1903 mill; the east wall of the 1903 mill has been rebuilt in that location. In the crawl space under the northern half of the addition there is evidence of charring of the floorboards under the center level. This addition was re-built but the date is not known. Most likely the reconstruction took place before the 1946 because the column posts in this addition are five-inch round steel. The steel framing terminated within the brickwork, so the rafter tails no longer existed. The addition had square steel windows installed on the south elevation. It appears in the 1946 photo, the south elevation of the original mill also had replacement steel windows installed. The rebuilt West Addition to the original mill included a new concrete stairwell with landings in the southwest corner. This stairway serves the three floors for the original mill and two floors for the 1903 Mill. In the basement in the southwest corner office area was added containing 2,100 square feet. The remaining area is a crawl space with exposed granite bedrock. To create aesthetic continuity between the 1888 mill and the rebuilt addition, the rafter tails of the 1888 section were removed and capped with metal panels.

Additional structures were added to the original 1888 mill. Most likely in the early 1950's an equipment room, which is a one and one-half story maintenance room extending three bays, was added one bay from the 1903 mill. This area was the original location of a wooden loading dock. Centered in the building at the west end, a freight elevator was added around 1974, which has five stops servicing both mill buildings. The rear ramp was removed at the time the elevator was installed. To the north of the elevator, at ground level, a small one-story elevator equipment room that was ten feet wide, was added, by adding a roof between the two mills and the exterior wall. At the east elevation, in 1964, another elevator and equipment room, built from red brick were added. East of the original electrical tower is a three-story cooling tower and the associated equipment room, which held the HVAC system added in the 1960's. In 1989 the evaporative cooling system was replaced by a modern HVAC system. At the west end of the north side is the original concrete 1888 truck dock.

1b) 1903 Mill (1903) Contributing Building

The original two and one-half story framed 1837 wooden mill was torn down to make room for the 1903 Mill which sits on the west side of the site. It was a two-story linear load bearing brick building with a base and its original rectangular plan was 130 feet by 200 feet,

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encompassing a total of 57,000 square feet. The 1903 Mill was constructed from minimally decorative red brick, a massive heart pine heavy timber framework of columns, beams and thick pinewood plank flooring with hard maple finished floors. This building originally had twenty-three bays running east to west, and five twenty-five foot bays containing two windows running north to south. Among its notable exterior architectural features are its monumental segmental arched windowed bays that measure seven feet wide – most in-filled in the 1940's. The original basement area covered an area of 20,242 square feet. The remaining 9,100 square feet is crawl space. The crawl space contains brick support column and walkways to service the old pulley and leather belt system, which powered the machinery on the second level. The original gearboxes in some cases remain as well as the small square holes in the floor where the leather belt ran through. The lower level nine rows of columns support the interior floors to provide an open floor plan for the basement and crawl space area. Five rows of columns support the interior of the second level. A low-pitched roof structure covers both sections of the 1903 mill. The original roof monitor was removed from this area. The 1903 mill still has the original two story t-shaped tower in the center of the north elevation, which held the restrooms. Later two small additions have filled in those areas of the tower.

Additions to 1903 Mill:

Some time before 1946 a seventy-five foot addition was added at the west end of 1903 mill. Adding 9,750 square feet to the upper level, with crawl space below. The addition consists of three twenty-five foot bays containing two square window openings with metal-framed windows. The addition required the relocation of the water tower west of the 1903 mill to its current location. The original water tower foundation remains in the crawl space of the 1946 addition. The addition was framed with steel beams and columns, with wooden floors. Later concrete replaced some areas of the wooden floor. To create aesthetic continuity between the 1903 mill and the addition the rafter tails of the 1903 mill were removed and capped with steel panels.

Two HVAC towers were added in the mid 1960's on the south elevation. At the same time the cooling tower on 1888 mill was added (see above). Campbell and Leppard Engineering in Greenville, South Carolina engineered the system, and equipment patented and manufactured by American Moistening Co. was installed. Benjamin A. Leppard received his early education at schools in Woodruff and Greenville, S.C., and was graduated B.M.E. Later R. Neal Campbell joined him and the firm of Campbell & Leppard, Engineers, was formed in 1965.¹ In 1989 the evaporative cooling system was replaced by a modern HVAC system. On the south elevation one tower is located about one-third of the way from the east wall and the second is about two-thirds from the east wall. To the west of the west tower was a small equipment room. Buttress supports are present at the east end of the 1903 building with four on the north elevation and four on the south elevation. A loading dock was added at the north-east section by excavating a truck well and adding a concrete dock with rubber bumpers, dock roof, and three rollup shipping doors that were added after 1978.

¹ hite, J. T., The National Cyclopedia of American Biography, 19

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2) **Water Tower** (1903) Contributing Structure

The water tower was originally located on the west end 1903 mill before the addition was added. It was moved fully standing to its current location just south of the addition. The water tower is approximately eighty feet tall and stands on metal truss legs, which are supported by concrete pillars. The southeast leg supports a metal ladder, which provides access all the way to the peak. Centrally located is a round steel pipe connecting to the water source. The cylindrical tank has 40,000-gallon capacity and is topped with a conical cap and ball finial. The J.P. Steven's company logo is painted on the southeast side of the tank. The original footing remains in the crawl space underneath the 1946 addition.

3) **Stone retaining wall** (1903) Contributing Structure

The stone retaining wall is centered along Racing Road on the south side of the building. The wall is local quarried granite rock masonry. Its maximum height is twelve feet with a length of 120 feet. This feature was incorporated at the site to provide a level building site for the company offices. This structure appears in the 1909 photo. It is built from the same granite as the dam most likely it was built during the major construction, which took place around 1903.

4) **Stone dam** (1902-03) Contributing Structure

The Startex-Jackson-Wellford-Duncan Water District (SJWD) owns the granite dam. The dam is a significant structure and retains its integrity because all of the components needed to make it function as designed are still intact and clearly evident including; the dam, tail race, spillway, penstocks, power house foundation, and 1927 GE turbine, and 400 kilowatt power generator. Pelzer Hydro Company, Inc. currently owns the generator. The dam structure is an essential part of the mill and village community forming the 117-acre Mill Pond. In 1902 the Apalache Mill acquired water rights and land to build the dam and to create Lake Apalache.² Down stream from the dam the South Tyger River cuts through the land with steep banks on both sides and little development exists for miles until the Berry Shoals Dam. The dam created at Apalache was not only a source of waterpower for the mill, but also allowed the development of the lakeside mill village community as well as the town of Greer, although neither community is part of this nomination. The original foundation of the powerhouse remains. The powerhouse brick building was lost sometime in the 1950's. Built within that foundation is a modern structure covering half the area as the original, leaving the east gate exposed. Apalache Mill Pond Dam is a gravity dam. The foundation is on granite rock, which was quarried locally. Along with a homogeneous core of granite mortared rock masonry. It is topped with a concrete cap. The race tail also is made of granite rock with mortared joints. Its maximum height is forty-two feet with a maximum length of 574 feet. The spillway has a length of 200 feet, and height of four feet. Maximum discharge is 14,600 cubic feet per second. Its capacity is 2,748 acre-feet. Normal storage is 600 acre-feet. It drains an area of

² Register of deed Spartanburg County Book ZZZ, p. 241-243 4-E, p. 339 and 4-E, p 85

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70.5 square miles. Startex-Jackson-Wellford-Duncan Water District owns the dam and all its structures as a reservoir for drinking water. When the larger General Electric Alternating Current turbine was installed in 1927 the dam was able to create additional power for both Apalache and Victor Mills. Currently the dam controls the level of the lake. The generator and penstock are not currently in operation but engineers have determined the system could be placed back into service with major repairs to the gate and by changing the voltage of the generator.

5) **Mill Pond (1904) Contributing Site**

The Mill Pond, also known as Apalache Lake, was developed for a water reservoir and provided electric power for the mill. The mill building is situated on one of the two ridges through which the South Tyger River flows. By damming this river at the east side of the 1888 building the Mill Pond was created. Normal storage is 600 acre-feet. An area of 70.5 square miles drains into this area. This Mill Pond and dam not only provided power for the Apalache mill, it also sold power to expand the development of the Victor Mills and the Victor Manufacturing Company in downtown Greer. Currently the Mill Pond serves as a water reserve for Startex-Jackson-Wellford-Duncan Water District who now own and control Apalache Lake.

6) **Fire Pump (n.d.) Contributing object**

The fire pump currently located at the lake previously supplied water from the millpond to the water tower and to the sprinkler system. Remaining are the electrical control panel, concrete base, and guardrail. While the date of installation is unknown, it is contemporaneous with the mill and dam, and within the period of significance.

7) **Turbine and Generator (1927) Contributing object**

Housed within the modern powerhouse at the dam, are the historic turbine and generator. The turbine water wheel built by The James Leffel & Co. in Springfield, Ohio. Type F, Order # W1295 built in 1927. The generator, built by General Electric, is alternating current, Type ATB 24 500M 300, Form V, 2300 volts, with 300 RPM, 126-amp armature, 60 cycle, and power factor of 8400-kilowatt units.³ This system replaced the original system installed by General Electric Company in about 1903, which was ATB 2-600-360-2300 volt water wheel driven generator.⁴ Pelzer Hydro Company, Inc. currently owns the current generator.

³ Ballentine, George, Land Resources Conservation Commission South Carolina, "letter to Sarah McIntyre" 199

⁴ General Electric Company Review Vol. V, Schenectary, New York, May 1905 p. 71-74

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NON-CONTRIBUTING INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

a) **Concrete steps** Non-contributing structure

Concrete steps at the front of the site were necessary for the steep grade from the parking at the base of the hill along Hwy 357, to the crest of the ridge where the mill building was built. The series of additional sets of steps show the progression of the development of the expanding need for parking with the rise of the use of automobiles and expanding work force.

An additional parking lot was added some time after 1946 and before 1978. It is located as a middle level parking lot between the dam and the east end of the 1888 building. Again, because of the steep grade, additional steps from the east parking lot were added. The three sets of steps are concrete with curbs on both sides with handrails that were made from round steel tubes and a center guardrail.

b) **Guard House** Non-contributing building

The Guard House was added with the expansion of the east parking lot. The timing of these improvements is not known. The added work force and additional automobiles required more parking. The Guard House is a small structure at the mid level east parking lot. The structure is six feet square seven foot tall built on four 4" steel posts, with 8/12 pyramidal hipped roof, with plywood walls.

c) **Powerhouse** Non-contributing structure

The current powerhouse sits adjacent to the 1902-3 dam. It was originally a brick structure, now it is sheathed in corrugated metal with a low-pitched gable roof. It post-dates the period of significance.

Although some of the architectural features of the building have been lost over the years, the massive main building with all of its significance changes remain and much of the site remains as it was one-hundred years ago. The building and site clearly show the developments of the textile industry and makes this project eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

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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 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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRY

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Period of Significance

1888-1946

Significant Dates

1888

1903

1934

1946

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Joseph Sirrinc

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Apalache Mill is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criterion A for Industry, for its association with the history of the textile industry in the late part of the nineteenth century and first half of the twentieth century in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Apalache Mill conveys the history of the textile industry, which was central to the economic and physical development of Spartanburg and the upstate of South Carolina during this period. Among the first five mills built in the upstate, the Apalache Mill site is the last surviving, and remained active from 1837 to 2007. The 1888 mill was the second brick building on the site and was constructed at the beginning of the modern textile boom in Spartanburg County. The Apalache Mill is also an example of early twentieth century hydroelectric powered textile mill and is important in the industrial development of the rise of electric powered textile mills. It was the first to use a General Electric Company system to provide long distance power to the Victor Mill in Greer, two miles away. Throughout the mill's existence it produced fancy cotton, sheeting, and linen goods. Production continued until 2007, when operation was

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consolidated in the Greer Mill. The period of significance includes the construction dates of the modern mill and major alteration dates of all contributing buildings and structures, as well as the mill pond, between 1888 and 1946, covering its peak period of development and expansion.

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

Criterion A: Industry

Historians, most notably Ernest Lander, have recognized four distinct periods of significance in South Carolina's textile industry.⁵ The first begins in the antebellum years. During this period Apalache Mill operated from 1837-1860. Between 1860-1879 was the Civil War and Reconstruction period. The Cotton Mill Boom was between 1888-1920 and finally the Modern period from 1920 to present. Apalache Mill was in continuous operation during all four of these periods. The site remains much like it was at the turn of the twentieth century. The site still has its massive granite dam, Apalache Lake, the two original mill buildings, and water tower sitting at the top of the hillcrest. This late nineteenth and early twentieth century hydro powered textile mill is an excellent example of the industrial development of the textile industry from 1888 to present in the northwestern area of Spartanburg County.

The Mill & Apalache Village

Apalache Village, located on the South Tyger River, followed the growth and decline of the Apalache Mill as part of the textile industry. These two interrelated entities spurred the growth in late nineteenth century railroads and textile manufacturing. The first record of the village was in 1856 when a new post office was established across from the Wallace Factory (Apalache Mill).⁶ Later that year the name was changed to Cedar Hill Factory. The post office was called "Cedar Hill Post Office" and served the Apalache Mill area and extended toward the Holly Springs community.

In 1888 Cedar Hill, was a small village in Spartanburg County, two miles from the Air-Line Railroad depot in Greer, South Carolina. It had a church, a cotton-factory, and a flourmill.⁷

By 1904 Apalache Village was expanding with the completion of the 1903 mill, and the modernization of its equipment. The company had started building its mill village for employees. The village had population of 800 of which 275 were children in 1907. By 1946 the village had reached its peak of 143 mill houses.

⁵ Ernest McPherson Lander, The Textile Industry in Antebellum South Carolina, Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, 1969 p.

⁶ Colton, J.H., Post Office Directory, Or, Business Man's Guide to the Post Offices in the United States, Postal Service, 1856 p. 16

⁷ Lippincott's Gazetteer of the World, J.B. Lippincott, 1880 p. 417

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At its peak in 1946 the numerous owners of Apalache Mill had built a 117 acre lake, dam, mill village, sewer system, a school, two churches, company store, YMCA, ball park, race track, post office and at one time operated its own police force. Most of the homes in the village were built between 1900 and 1920. With the consolidation under J. P. Stevens the village was platted and the houses sold off to private owners. In August 1950 Dalton & Neves recorded a plat for Apalache Mills Village with the Register of Deeds for Spartanburg County, South Carolina. The sewer system was taken over by Greer Public Works.

The expansion of the industrial complex and surrounding mill village over time also illustrates the development of the textile industry in Spartanburg County during the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Over the years the Apalache Mill site was expanded and altered from a small wooden cotton and gristmill to a massive brick structure, 117-acre lake, and power production dam. Many of the site changes are reflective of the expansion of the labor force and the use of automobiles, as well as adapting the building to make best use of technological innovations in the production of textiles. Once called the Wallace, Cedar Hill Village and Arlington Village, the now renamed Apalache Village was developed around this site to house the expanding labor force needed to operate the mill.

Industrial Growth and the Development of Greer, South Carolina

The City of Greer and the Village of Apalache always have been tied together being two miles apart. The Atlanta and Charlotte Air Line was completed in early 1873 and the City of Greer began as a stop on the line, called alternatively Greer's Station or Greer Depot (the ca. 1913 depot was listed in the National Register in 1987). The rail line was also known as Richmond Danville Air Line Railway. The railway served local farms, which grew cotton, grain and produce. Cedar Hill Factory (Apalache) shipped and received freight beginning in 1880 and the rail line also provided access to textile markets.

In 1891 there were only 300 residents by 1900 population had doubled. Apalache Mill had an early influence on the City of Greer. The mill was the main industry in the area and it is largely the case that "Cotton Built Greer." During the first decade of twentieth century Apalache Mill had expanded and the Victor Mill was in full production. By 1910 four mills surrounded the city. The demand for services from residents of Greer along with that of the mill village's, new stores opened up in its town center. In 1934 the population of Greer was 2,500, but the surrounding area was over 7,500.⁸ Apalache and the other three textile mills were just outside the city, making up most of those numbers.⁹ By 1940 the city's population had reached 10,800. Although Apalache Mill was the first mill which moved cotton and finished goods through the rail station, the three other mills soon were shipping products through Greer as well.

Not only did the mills draw in local cotton and sell finished goods, but they also provided alternative employment opportunities for individuals mired in the cycle of debt and dependency that often accompanied tenant farming and sharecropping. Apalache Mill provided the

⁸ "Our Heritage", Spartanburg Herald, 1983

⁹ "Excellent Mill Plants are Busy", Spartanburg Herald, 1934, p.6

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opportunity for wage labor as well as mill housing. The growth of the mill industry, and the attendant rise in population, also facilitated the development of surrounding infrastructure. Saturdays were big, farmers, and families from textile mill villages walked to town. Soon wooden stores were replaced with brick storefronts. Most of downtown Greer stores were built in the first three decades of the twentieth century. The city grew from small rail stop to thriving town. The Greer Downtown Historic District, which represents a concentration of the early twentieth century commercial architecture that developed largely in support of the booming textile industry, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1997, with a boundary increase in 2004.¹⁰

Development of the Spartanburg's Textile Industry

Spartanburg County is located on the fall line, where water from the mountains of North and South Carolina drains into larger streams that pass over a series of falls and shoals before they broaden out into mature rivers. This area contains two major river basins, the Tyger River and the Pacolet River, which were ideally suited for the development of water-driven cotton mills.

Early textile pioneers, investors, and major textile corporations of the upstate of South Carolina associated with Apalache Mill included the mill founder Reverend Thomas Hutchings, investors Benjamin Wofford, Simpson Bobo, James McMakin, John Wheeler, J.L. Green, Francis Weaver, E.C. Leitner, and Hosia Dean. During the Cotton Boom Period Thomas and Lewis Parker, W. B. Smith Whaley, W.E. Beattie, and J. E. Serrine were also connected to the mill. Major textile companies associated with Apalache Mill were the J. E. Serrine and Company, Parker Cotton Mills, Whaley Group of Columbia, Victor Manufacturing Company of Greenville, South Carolina, Victor Monaghan Group of Greenville, South Carolina, J. P. Stevens and Delta Woodside, also of Greenville.

Founder Rev. Hutchings immigrated to South Carolina from Rhode Island as one of a small group of men who sought to establish a cotton factory in the Spartanburg District.¹¹ Hutchings first arrived in South Carolina, settling in the Spartanburg District in 1816. His group settled here because of the ample waterpower available. The three Tyger Rivers in the Western Spartanburg District, were the North, South, and Middle branches. All three rivers parallel one another, often traveling just a few miles apart. Hutchings arrived with three brothers, Philip, Lindsey, and John Weaver, Thomas Slack, and Leonard Hill.¹² These six pioneers opened the way for the development for the textile industry in the South Carolina upstate.

They built their first mill six miles north of the Cross Keys Post Office in the southern part of the district. They began business in December of 1816. The company was called South Carolina Cotton Manufactory. A second partnership of four men including Leonard Hill, set up the second mill around 1819, on the Tyger River about four miles north of Weaver's first mill. The

¹⁰ Belcher, Ray Then & Now Greer, Arcadia Publishing, 2007, p. ix

¹¹ Drucker, Lesley M., Susan H. Jackson, and Debra K. Martin 1987 Historical Documentation and Archaeological Inventory of the Pelham Mills Site (38GR165), Greenville County, South Carolina

¹² Betsy Wakefield Teter editor, Textile Town Spartanburg County South Carolina, Hub Writers Project, 2002, p. 15

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second mill was called the Hill's Factory.¹³ The Hill Factory opened in 1819 and Robert Mills noted that, "Two cotton factories are established on Tyger River, which do a very good business," in his *Statistics of South Carolina* (1826).¹⁴ Both mill projects faced financial problems from the beginning. In 1821 Philip Weaver had other issues and left South Carolina stating, "myself & family will not be looked down upon with contempt because I am opposed to the abominable practice of slavery." By 180 Lindsay Weaver also returned to New England.¹⁵ By that time Leonard Hill had full control of both mills. In 1835 Hill tried to enlarge the operations but failed to raise the capital. After the death of Leonard Hill in 1840, Hill's four sons took control until 1866 when they sold the equipment to Nesbitt & Wright.¹⁶ About the same time both operations in Spartanburg District were destroyed by fire, which ended the first two mills in Spartanburg County.

Like other members of this group Hutchings left the Weaver's Factory in 1820 to establish his own mill in the Greenville District.¹⁷ Hutchings parted company with the Weaver's and purchased 307 acres of property on the Enoree River from Charles Dean.¹⁸ This site was just over the Spartanburg District line. Within two months Hutchings was operating a small factory, first known as Buena Vista factory and later renamed Hutchings Factory. Buena Vista was the first factory in the Greenville District. It was a small operation with 144 spindles. Lacking capital, Hutchings was forced to mortgage the land and machinery. In the spring of 1821 he took on a new partner, John M. Courcier, and they purchased more equipment for \$8,251 from the failed Mayrant's Sumter factory.¹⁹ Mayrant's mill was horse-powered and failed soon after it started. Hutchings and Courcier used the equipment to open the second factory in the same location. In 1825 the larger of the two Enoree factories burned and Hutchings rebuilt. For unknown reasons Philip Lester took control a few years later and it became known as the Lester Factory. It is likely that Lester financed the rebuilding and thereby gained control. After 1888 the factory changed names once again, this time becoming known as Pelham Mills. The Pelham Mills Site was vacated between 1936-1940, and in early 1940's an accidental fire in one of the factory buildings destroyed the entire mill complex, thus ending the third mill in the area. The archaeological team of Carolina Archaeological Services began exploring the ruins of the historic Buena Vista site in April of 1987. Also in 1987 the remains of the Pelham Mill Site were listed in the National Register as the "Pelham Mills Site."

¹³ Lander, Ernest McPherson, Jr., The Textile Industry in Antebellum South Carolina, Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, 1969, p. 18.

¹⁴ South Carolina Historical Association, The Proceedings of 1952, p. 22, 23; Mills, Robert. Statistics of South Carolina, Hurlbut and Lloyd, 1826, p. 730

¹⁵ Betsy Wakefield Teter editor, Textile Town Spartanburg County South Carolina, Hub Writers Project, 2002, p. 17

¹⁶ Landrum Dr. J.B.O., History of Spartanburg County, Southern History Association, 1900, p. 162

¹⁷ Drucker, Lesley M., Susan H. Jackson, and Debra K. Martin Historical Documentation and Archaeological Inventory of the Pelham Mills Site (38GR165), National Register of Historic Places Greenville County, South Carolina, 1987

¹⁸ Register of deeds Greenville County, Deed Bk. L. pp. 119-120.

¹⁹ William Mayrant and Ernest M. Lander, Jr., Two Letters by William Mayrant on His Cotton Factory, 1815, The South Carolina Historical Magazine Vol. 54, No. 1, Jan., 1953, pp. 1-5.

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Early maps of the area show the region dotted with small gristmills. One being in the immediate area of the current Apalache Mill was the Adkin's Mill in the map dated 1825.²⁰ Again on the map dated 1869 showing the Cedar Hill Factory, the predecessor of Apalache Mill.²¹

Planning of the mill started in 1833 by Rev. Thomas Hutchings, and originally was named South Tyger Cotton Manufactory. Hutchings was being forced out of his business the Enoree [Buena Vista] Factories, in 1837 returned to Spartanburg District, this time settling in the northwest part of the district. Rev Hutchings built the new mill on the South Tyger River to produce cotton yarn.²² With new investors, Benjamin Wofford, Simpson Bobo, Elias C. Leitner, and H.J. Dean they established the South Tyger Cotton Manufactory at Cedar Hill. At that time it became the third cotton factory in the Spartanburg District.²³ The Legislature, however, refused to grant the partners a charter of incorporation. It later was referred to simply as the Cedar Hill Factory.

In the same year the Bivingsville Mill in Glendale, South Carolina was completed. By the end of 18 five mills were operating in the Spartanburg "District" of South Carolina. Of those first five mills the now named Apalache Mill is the only one that survived.

In 1840 Hutchings relinquished the remaining interest in the mill to James McMakin and Francis A. Weaver, who was the son of the veteran manufacturer, John Weaver. The two men joined the remaining partners.

James McMakin sold his interest in Dec 1845 to David W. Moore for \$2,000.²⁴ "James McMakin [Spartanburg District] to David W. Moore [same], for \$2000 sold all my interest which is one half in a certain tract of land on both sides of South Tyger River whereon South Tyger Factory [Apalache Mill] now stands, containing 180 acres more or less."

In 1850 South Tyger Manufacturing Co. at Cedar Hill employed twenty-two people. Peter Wallace, the editor of the *Carolina Spartan*, purchased the factory for \$150,000. For a short period of time the name changed to the Wallace Factory. Mr. Wallace was "utterly opposed now and forever to all political compromises" on the issue of slavery. Local leaders hoped to promote their economic agenda and preserving cohesion in the white community. They sought reform the state's school system so every white child would have some preparation for an increasingly competitive world.²⁵ Wallace was also the Post Master of Wallace's Factory. In 1856 he received \$12.36 as a 60% commission on postage collections. The Post Office had \$2.45 net profit at his location.²⁶ Wallace filed bankruptcy in 1859. Samuel N. Morgan local merchant purchased the

²⁰ Survey by J. Whitten 1820, 1820 Mills Atlas, 1825

²¹ Sloan and Eplon's Survey of 1869, Map of Spartanburg

²² Iris Clarke, Short Sketch of the town of Greer 1896, Iris Clarke, 1937 p.

²³ Ernest McPherson Lander. The Textile Industry in Antebellum South Carolina, Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, 1969, p. 18

²⁴ Register of deeds Spartanburg County Vol. III, Pg. 4 / 4 : "Book Z", p. 152

²⁵ Eelman, Bruce W., Entrepreneurs in the Southern Upcountry: Commercial Culture in Spartanburg, South Carolina, 1845-1880, University of Georgia Press, 2010 p. 0

²⁶ Colton, J.H., Post Office Directory, Or, Business Man's Guide to the Post Offices in the United States, Postal Service, 1856 p. 16

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factory at Sheriff sale in Spartanburg County for \$7,530,²⁷ and took control and stabilized the company.²⁸ The Post Office ordered the name be changed to Cedar Hill Post Office. The factory's name changed again to the Cedar Hill Factory.

The Cedar Hill Factory experienced a wartime boom as a result of the demands for uniforms for the Confederacy. Cedar Hill supported the Confederacy during the Civil War by providing cloth and woolen goods for the uniforms. When Alfred Davis arrived at Greenville in December 1862, he immediately requested a credit appropriation of \$100,000 from Secretary of the Treasury Christopher G. Memminger. Shortly thereafter, on General P.G.T. Beauregard's orders, he wrote to local business firms inquiring about their ability to help support the war effort. Grady, Hawthorn & Perry, manufacturers of cotton and woolen cloth, paper, and milled wheat, successors to Vardry McBee's Reedy River Factory; William J. Gibson, trustee for Weaver's Factory, manufacturers of cotton cloth; Hodges, William Bates, manufacturer of cotton yarn on Rocky Creek at Batesville; Samuel N. Morgan & Co., manufacturer of cotton and woolen cloth at Cedar Hill Factory on South Tyger River; Lester Brothers, manufacturers of cotton cloth on Enoree River at Pelham; and David Lopez, all supported the Confederacy during the Civil War.²⁹ Although cotton mills of other areas of the south were decimated by the Civil War, Spartanburg County thrived by providing needed wartime materials and cloth. The war in South Carolina never reached as far west as Spartanburg County and those mills were able to function without interruption. Northern Spartanburg County was spared Sherman's march south by being so far west. Following the war Spartanburg's agriculture boomed and the mills slowly began to grow in size.

In 1867 Cedar Hill Factory had 1,000 spindles and twenty looms with James D. Biving the manager.³⁰ Following the war the factory was then purchased by Green and Taylor in 1878 and contained 800 spindles and sixteen looms powered by a thirty-horse power water turbine with thirty employees on 240 acres. The addition with its thirty horsepower turbine water wheel the mill had expanded from a twenty to a seventy-five horsepower steam powered turbine necessitated plans for expansion of the factory to utilize its new capacity.

The name was changed from Cedar Hill to Arlington in 1888 under the presidency of G.T. Walker.³¹ The mill was expanded in 1888 by building the modern three-story brick structure that still exists today. This modern brick mill became the one of the first of the modern mills built during the Cotton Mill Boom in Upstate South Carolina, which was between 1888-1920.

In September 27, 1895 the mill was reorganized again to the Tyger River Manufacturing Co. Its cooperators included G.S. Coffin, W.E. Huger, H.A.M. Smith, H.H. Deleon, and Jos. Whilden.

²⁷ "Sold Low" Keowee Courier, Feb. 19, 1859

²⁸ Betsy Wakefield Teter editor, Textile Town Spartanburg County South Carolina, Hub Writers Project, 2002, p. 16

²⁹ Harold S. Wilson, Confederate Industry, University Press of Mississippi, p. 122

³⁰ Joseph Walker, Mood and Bird, Weekly Record Almanac, 1867

³¹ The Cotton Mills of South Carolina, published for Department of Agriculture, News and Courier Book Presses, 1880

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Proposed capital stock: \$200,000, Share \$100, and the business was listed as a cotton manufactory.³²

In 1896 Walker was operating not only the cotton mill but a host of other enterprises at the site including; a cotton gin, grist mill, saw mill, a mercantile and 200 acres in cultivation creating “a neat little town and a thriving business.”³³

Francis Pelzer and Lewis Parker bought out the interest of the shareholders of Apalache in 1902.³⁴ George T. Walker and Lewis Parker reorganized Apalache into Apalache Mills Inc., with Parker as President.³⁵ Apalache Mill ran under corporation for the first time, which only lasted for a year.

In 1902 it was announced that the old wooden mill would be torn down and a new plant was started on the site. “The Apalache Mills, Greer Depot, SC will erect a two-story 104x200ft. Mill building and a 130x200ft. Loom shed. Waterpower will be used, with an immediate development of 500 H.P. and a subsequent development of the same amount. There will be installed 17,000 spindles, 400 looms and 14-45” cards. Lewis . Parker, Pres. & Treas.”³⁶

In 1903 the mill was under the control of Lewis Parker.³⁷ The new looms installed were to produce fancy cotton fabric. This was a major expansion. The addition of a new two-story mill building adjacent to the three-story building and a granite dam was built to create more power for Apalache Mill and Lake Apalache was created.³⁸ The mill expansion of 1903 increased the size by 43% to 130,931 square feet. Adding 400 looms and 17,000 spindles. Apalache Mill had expanded to 20,000 spindles and 500 looms with 300 employees in 1907.

Apalache & Mill Consolidations

During the first decade of the twentieth century a battle raged in the textile industry, and Lewis Parker was in the thick of it. Major consolidations of the textile mills were taking place at that time. Parker withdraws from the practice of law, with Joseph A. McCullough and Harry J. Haysworth in 1897. Then takes over management of the newly built Victor Mill in Greer, South Carolina. Parker in 1900 also assisted his cousin Thomas in organizing the Monaghan Mill in Greenville, SC.

In 1902 Lewis Parker made his first acquisition in the textile industry starting with the Apalache Mill. Parker and other investors incorporated the plant as Apalache Mill Inc. in that year.

³² Report of State Offices, Board and Committees to the General Assembly, 1896

³³ Iris Clarke, Short Sketch of the town of Greer 1896, 1937

³⁴ Belecher, Ray, Greer From Cotton Town to Industrial Center, Arcadia Publishing, 2003, p. 24

³⁵ Davison's Textile Blue Book, 1910 p. 188

³⁶ The Engineering Record, McGraw Publishing Co., July 26, 1902, p. 95

³⁷ South Carolina Historical Association, The Proceedings of 1952, p. 22, 23

³⁸ Land Resources Conservation Commission, Phase 1 Inspection Report, 1980, p. 89

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During the same time in Columbia, South Carolina W. B. Smith Whaley of the W. B. Smith Whaley & Company had under his control Olympia, Granby, Richland, and Capital City Plants.

Whaley's field of expertise was architecture and engineering of textile mills. Whaley was focused on the improvement and adaptation of the electrical systems of the mills. Whaley had developed the Corliss Engine used in textile mills. His company undercapitalized, short in management skills and faced receivership, Whaley voluntarily stepped down as president from commonly known Whaley Group. The following year Whaley filed personal bankruptcy. Lewis Parker was recruited and elected president to reorganize and manage the Whaley Group. Adding to that company Parker brought in the Apalache Mill and Victor Mill. The company was capitalized at \$5 million, and operated more than 340,000 spindles.

After the consolidation of the Whaley plants, Victor and Apalache in December of 1910 Parker formed the Parker Cotton Mills Company. Parker Mills was a holding company owning the stock of Hampton Cotton Mills Company, Victor Manufacturing Company and the Monaghan Mills. Monaghan Mills, Victor Manufacturing Company and the Hampton Cotton Mills were individually incorporated. Parker now owned Olympia, Grandy, Richland, Capital City, Fairfield, Pine Creek, Wylie, Beaver Dam, Victor, Apalache, Greer, Ottaray, Wallace, Monaghan, Seneca, and Wallalla mills.³⁹ Parker's company had combined capital of \$15 million and than a million spindles, more than any individual in the country.

In November 1914 Parker made a surprise announcement that he was retiring, later it was discovered that he had started treatment for cancer. Melville C. Branch then became president of Parker Cotton Mills. Edwin Greene, president of Lockwood Greene, was asked to manage Parkers' holdings. The Board of Parker Cotton Mills turned down Greene's proposal. Edwin Greene, also the treasurer of Pacific Mills, then moved to purchase the Hampton Mills division. Subsequently, Pacific Mills split off the Hampton division for the agreed upon price of \$3 million. In 1915, Lewis Parker returned to his legal practice.

On Dec. 31, 1917 the Victor-Monaghan Co. was formed and purchased all the stock of Parker Mills and liquidated the company. Victor Manufacturing Company was dissolved and Apalache Mill fell under the control of the Victor-Monaghan Co. The new company gained the control of Seneca, Wallalla, Ottaray, Union, Wallace, Victor, Greer, Monaghan, and the Apalache Mill.⁴⁰

Victor-Monaghan was the largest organization of mills in the south in 1920 with Apalache and eight other mills under the Presidency of W.E. Beattie, a significant figure in the upstate textile industry.⁴¹ By 1934 employment at Apalache was at 257 people. In later years Victor-Monaghan relocated the water tower to its current location from the west end of the mill and made a major addition, adding three twenty-foot bays to the west end of the 1903 building.

J.P. Stevens merged with Victor-Monaghan in 1946. By that time, Apalache Mill had 419 looms, 27,516 spindles, 380 workers, and 143 mill houses. With total capitalization of \$82 million J.P.

³⁹ Commerce and Finance Vol. 5, Issues 1-128, 1916, p 458

⁴⁰ Poor's Government and Municipal Supplement, 1922, p. 599

⁴¹ Mill News, 1920, p. 62

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Stevens became the largest textile employer in the state, producing cotton yarn, brown sheeting, and fancy weaves. By mid-century, competition from abroad required the company to begin cost cutting. J.P. Stevens corrected inefficiencies; sold off the mill villages, and began a massive modernization of the existing plants. The windows of the older plants were bricked up to help to control climate in the plants.⁴² The windows of the 1903 mill were already bricked and the 1888 mill windows followed under Stevens.

Additional Mill Development

Throughout the mills existence it has produced fancy cotton, sheeting, and linen goods. Clarence Whitman & Co. and Fleitman & Co. both from New York were sales agents in 1902.⁴³ During the early twentieth century Woodard, Baldwin & Co. out of New York was the sales agent for the Apalache mill as well as most of the other mills in the area.⁴⁴ In 1971 corduroy styled fabrics were added to the other fabrics. Jim Mitchell Company in 1986 added new industrial sewing machines and fabric was cut and sewn into comforters, dust ruffles, shams, and window treatments bedspreads for Westport Home Fashions. Those products continued until 2007, when operation was consolidated in the Greer Mill. During the Civil War, WWI, WWII operations thrived with the production of cloth for the war efforts.

Photographs of the building dated 1908 show all but one bay between the two buildings had been filled in. This early addition possibly burned at sometime and was rebuilt before 1945. In the crawl space under the addition to 1888 building in the north area the floorboards are charred, the east wall of the 1903 buildings has been re-built; in that space the column posts are of a different size than those in the 1945 section.

Eldridge Blackwell stated that none of the small additions behind the mill had been made at the time when he started in 1946. The equipment room at the rear of the 1888 mill had not been built yet, "it was a loading dock." A photograph of Blackwell and his co-workers depict that dock in that area. Blackwell also stated, a ramp from the spinning room came out between the 1888 and 1903 buildings in the last bay of the 1888 building. The modern elevator replaced the ramp around 1964.⁴⁵

Designed by Campbell & Leppard Engineering in late 1960's three cooling towers were added for an evaporative cooling system, this furthered the expansion of the factory to its current size. In 1989 the HVAC system was upgraded again with modern equipment.

With the added workforce and limited land area, additional parking was required. Shortly after the 1946 expansion, the freestanding office at the front of the building was removed to provide office parking at the front of the building. The power engineer's home on the middle level area between the end of the 1888 building and dam was removed and a new middle level parking lot

⁴² Belcher, Ray, Greenville County, South Carolina: From Cotton Fields to Textile Center of the World, The History Press, 2006

⁴³ Davison's Textile Blue Book, 1910 p. 188

⁴⁴ Journal of the American Asiatic Association, Volume 15, New York, Publication Office, 1915, p. 26

⁴⁵ Dale Goodrich, Interview with Eldridge Blackwell, "employee from 1946-1962", Jan. 2015

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was installed. Also directly across the street from the 1946 addition to the 1903 building another parking lot was built, the former location of the maintenance supervisor's home. Later, sometime after 1978, the warehouse behind the 1903 building was removed to provide semi-truck parking.

In 1971 the plant had 520 looms and 20,176 spindles of modern high-speed capacity and employed 380 people. The plant changed over to make corduroy styled fabric and employment dropped to 280 workers. Stevens operated the mill until February 16, 1981 when they closed and laid off 275 mill workers.⁴⁶

In 1986 Jim Mitchell bought the mill and Westpoint Mill Home fashions began making drapes and bedspreads there. 1999 Joseph Nettles purchased the building and again the mill equipment was updated and continued to manufacture bedspreads until 2007. Operations were combined with the Greer Mill in downtown Greer, SC. In 2007 Upstate Developers LLC organized and purchased the building.

Development of the Dam

Apalache Mill offers a good example of an early twentieth century hydroelectric powered textile mill. Apalache Dam is a masonry gravity dam and impoundment of the water in Lake Apalache. With its 40-foot drop it had the ability to drive large turbines. The dam was under construction in 1902-3 and completed in 1904 and its completion resulted in a major change in the operations of the mill. The use of off-site electrical power and overhead cabling gave the mill a cheap source of power.

In January of 1918, during the coal shortage, hydroelectric driven mills were allowed to operate on heatless Mondays, but could not ship goods.⁴⁷ Other mill owners complained that the heat generated from the equipment was all they used and responded by sending workers home and reducing or suspending operations.

South Carolina Supreme Court Case

South Carolina Supreme case *Mason v. Apalache* took place in 1908. Lewis Parker represented the mill. The Supreme Court ruled in the favor of the Apalache Mill. The case involved the riparian and water rights of the lake and river.⁴⁸ The power plant was closed down from Saturday noon to Monday morning, which caused the river level to fluctuate. It was held that when a Dam is installed with proper authority the owners couldn't be held responsible for varying water

⁴⁶ "J.P. Stevens Mill" *The Greer Citizen*, Feb. 25, 1981, p 1; reprinted in *New York Times*, August 19, 1982

⁴⁷ "All cotton Mills in this County will Close Today" *The Spartanburg Herald*, Jan. 19, 1918

"Hydro-Electrically Driven Mills Operate on Mondays" *The Spartanburg Herald*, Jan. 31, 1918. The coal shortage was in part a result of the lingering impact of World War I on global production and partly a result of the world-wide influenza pandemic of 1918-1919. Nicholas S. Kelley and Michael T. Osterhom, "Pandemic Influenza, Electricity and the Coal Supply Chain: Addressing Crucial Preparedness Gaps in the United States," (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, 2008), 31-33.

⁴⁸ *The Southern Reporter*, Vol. 62, St. Paul West Publishing Co., 1909, p. 399-401 p. 871; C.M. Efrid, Reports of Cases Heard and Determined by the Supreme Court of South Carolina Vol. 81, Columbia SC The R.L. Bryan Company Publisher, 1909, p. 556

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levels. The Plaintiff also claimed the dam had caused flooding to his property. In the second half of the case it was found the landowner was responsible for clearing the river at their property. In this case it was determined that a build up of sand in front of the plaintiff's property had caused the flooding. This case was later cited in a case originating in Columbia, South Carolina involving water rights and dam construction.

Power Plant & Electrical Advancements

Most mills up to this time were built adjacent to rivers in order to harness the power generated by the flowing water. The proximity to water, however, left mills vulnerable to flooding and many mills had been destroyed from flooding. With the introduction of modern advances in power production Apalache Mill could simply run overhead power cables from the dam, which was located 600 feet away. In planning the 1903 mill Lewis Parker recognized a problem with the operation of the design of hydroelectric plant. For about eight months out of each year the Apalache hydro plant would produce more power than the mill needed, while during the other months it produced less than needed. Parker, however, was not deterred. He was then in the process of expanding the nearby Victor Mill. As the architect, prominent mill engineer Joseph E. Serrine was tasked with solving this dilemma. The Apalache Mill site did not contain the necessary land to build a new steam power plant, while the Victor Mill site had an abundance of land. The solution that Serrine devised was to lay power lines between the two mills and General Electric Company (GE) installed a new Curtis steam turbine and generator at Victor Mills. GE then installed an ATB 2-600-360-2300 volt water wheel driven generator at the Apalache Mill. Both mills had switchboards installed to coordinate the two generators. Now excess power could be delivered to the Victor Mill from the Apalache Mill hydro plant, and additional power could be generated at Victor Mill and delivered to Apalache during times of insufficient water flow. In 1905 GE published a four-page review of the system that provided rare photos of the original generators and three rare interior views of Apalache Mill. Those photos featured the modern seventy-five horsepower G.E. Form L Induction Motor. The motors were suspended from the ceiling and drove large belts and pulleys that powered the mill equipment. G.E. concluded this system could serve as an example that could be deployed at a considerable number of similar plants.⁴⁹ The current generator (Type ATB 24 500M 300, Form V, 2300 volts, with 300 RPM, 126-amp armature, 60 cycle, and power factor of 8400-kilowatt units) was built in 1927 and was a replacement for the original generator.

Architect / Engineer

Joseph E. Serrine, who was a young architect and engineer, started his career in 1894 with Lockwood, Greene & Company and managed their South Carolina office. While working as managing partner at Lockwood, Greene & Company in 1896 Serrine engineered the Victor Mill in Greer. In 1902 Serrine started his own company: "J. E. Serrine, Mill Architect and Engineer, Greenville, SC." In 1902 Parker had Serrine, as architect-engineer; draw up plans for the 1903

⁴⁹ General Electric Company Review Vol. V, Schenectary, New York, May 1905 p. 71-74

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mill, dam, and warehouse.⁵⁰ Parker was also expanding the Victor Mill in 1902. Sirriner was the engineer that oversaw the electrical system for Apalache and the addition to Victor Mill.

Sirriner was also involved with other hydroelectric projects. In 1905 Sirriner prepared the plans for the electric power plant on the Hatton Shoals in Anderson, SC. Sirriner was one of the directors of the Savannah River Power Company in 1906. Sirriner was the principal engineer for the Gregg Shoals project in 1907 in which he incorporated the latest technology in low-head hydroelectric generation.⁵¹ The Albany Power & Mfg. Co. hired Sirriner to design the Porter Shoals plant on the Flint River. In 1921 Sirriner added partners and the company name was changed to J. E. Sirriner & Company.⁵²

Lewis W. Parker (1865-1916)

Lewis Parker was a major leader in the textile industry. Lewis W. Parker was born in Abbeville, SC, July 11, 1865, and after attending the public schools in Abbeville, graduated from the University of South Carolina in 1887.

In 1891 Lewis W. Parker organized the Piedmont Savings & Investment Co. Parker was also the driving force in the creation of the Bank of Greer in 1889, where he served as president on the original board of directors. The Bank of Greer was the first bank in Greenville County outside the City of Greenville.⁵³ That bank was organized to meet the demands of the growing cotton market.

Parker was partner at one time with the law firms of both Joseph A. McCullough and Harry J. Haysworth in Greenville SC. Parker practiced law until 1897.

Lewis Parker started his textile career by becoming manager of the Victor Manufacturing Company in Greer, SC in 1897. The company had financial difficulties at the time, Parker was successful in establishing credit and putting it on sound financial basis, becoming President of the company. He joined his cousin Thomas F. Parker and established the Monaghan Mill in 1900 near Greenville, and acted as treasurer. Along with other investors Parker made his first acquisition, and incorporated the Apalache mill in 1902. Parker reorganized the W. B. Smith Whaley & Company in 1903. Then, in 1910, Parker formed the Parker Cotton Mills Company. During his management and development in the textile industry he controlled more mills, spindles, and looms than any one else in the South.⁵⁴

⁵⁰ Industrial Development and Manufactures' Record Vol. 45, Conway Publications January 1, 1904

⁵¹ Johnson, John J. Historic American Engineering Record, 1980

⁵² The NCSU Libraries, North Carolina Architects and Builders, <http://ncarchitects.lib.ncsu.edu/people/P000303>

⁵³ Price, T.H., Commerce and Finance - olume 10 - 1921, p. 1

⁵⁴ Hearings before the Committee on Agriculture during the Vol. 2 By United States. Washington Pressing Office 1910 p. 24-64

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Parker played a role in the establishment of the Piedmont & Northern Line, which was an electric railway system connecting cities and towns of upper Carolina. He served as director and was a member of the executive committee.⁵⁵

Parker died on April 11, 1916. At the time of his death Parker was still a director of the Parker Cotton Mills Company, the Vice President of the Piedmont Savings, member of the American Fire Insurance Company and Southern Life Insurance Company, and former President of the Cotton Manufactures Association.

Parker was insured for \$500,000 by a dozen or more life insurance companies, in favor of the Parker Cotton Mills Company.⁵⁶ In 1905 Parker was reported to be the highest paid person in South Carolina.

Parker was instrumental in founding the Columbia Civic Improvement League in Columbia, SC. In 1903 he organized the Carolina Power Company, with Alester Furman. Governor Heyward in 1904 appointed Parker as one of the men to attend the meeting in Tampa, FL to discuss building of the Panama Canal. Parker also appeared before the Committee on Agriculture of the Sixty-first Congress to testify about cotton futures.⁵⁷ His testimony before the Ways and Means Committee in the Underwood-Simmons Tariff bill attracted considerable attention in trade circles. He served as President of the American Cotton Manufactures Association, 1909-1910 and The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science referred to him as "one of the most successful and considerate manufacturers in the South."⁵⁸

Child Labor

Although child labor was used throughout many of Parkers' mills he supported reform of the practice. As early as May, 1901 Parker was one of three mill president recognized by The Consumer League for his leadership in establishing "free kindergartens and fine schools, and in many ways showing their children's friend."⁵⁹ On June 15, 1902 Parker was scheduled to speak before the State Teachers' Association; his topic was "Cotton Mills and Schools."⁶⁰ In August of 1902 Parker stated, out of his 380 operators there were twenty-seven under the age of twelve, and he claimed that number was unusually high due to the fact that the school had closed on July 1. He went on to say that his mill operated a school nine months of the year and the operating expenses were paid out of his own funds.⁶¹

⁵⁵ "Lewis Parker Died Yesterday", The intelligencer, April 12, 1916, P. 4

⁵⁶ The New York Times, April 12, 1916

⁵⁷ "Mills ere Insured for 1-2 Million", The intelligencer, April 12, 1916, P. 4

⁵⁷ Hearings before the Committee on Agriculture during the Vol. 2 By United States. Washington Pressing Office 1910 p. 24-64

⁵⁸ Mitchell, Samuel, The South in the Building of the Nation: History of the Social Life of the Southern State, Pelican Publishing Company, 1909, p. 589

⁵⁹ Calvert, Mary, The Laurens Advertiser, May 1, 1901

⁶⁰ Yorkville Enquirer, June 14, 1902

⁶¹ The Laurens Advertiser, Aug. 20, 1901

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In March of 1909 Parker published the essay, "Conditions of Labor in Southern Cotton Mills." In the essay he argued that the life of textile workers was far superior to their former lives. Parker quoted several 1908 articles by Doctor Goldsmith from the *Boston Evening Transcript*, saying, "I invariably saw the best-looking people, the most intelligent workmen, the brightest and happiest children [in the southern textile mills]." Parker agreed that the proportion of children in the mills was unduly large and unfortunate. The problem was that older adults were unfit for the skilled parts of the work due to acquired habits and gnarled and roughened hands by agriculture, thereby making it impossible to be active and quick enough to be a spinner or weaver. Parker went on to say, "as younger children have grown over the past years, the number of children under the age of 14 has dropped and will continue to drop irrespective of legislation." Parker contented that child labor was more expensive than trained adult labor. Parker argued that as workers were trained and wages increased, the objectionable use of children in mills would cease altogether. He concluded by restating the Cotton Manufactures Association of South Carolina resolution that legislation be passed providing for compulsory schooling of all children under fourteen. The current law in South Carolina prohibited children under twelve from employment. Parker stated that the manufactures were willing to support raising the age to fourteen and that the manufactures recommended a bill prohibiting employment of children under the age of twelve between 7 p.m. and 6 a.m., which was passed later. Further, Parker said he had no objection to the pending legislation that would increase that age to sixteen. These actions helped to phase out child labor in the mills.⁶² Parker appeared before Child Labor and Social Progress Proceedings of the Fourth Annual Meeting of the National Child Labor Committee in 1908 and spoke in favor of compulsory education and solutions of child labor.⁶³

These types of paternalist paeans had become commonplace in South Carolina by this time and were a reflection of a by then decade long reform movement against child labor, as well as other perceived ills unleashed by the expansion of industry in the state. The impulse towards reform of what was often referred to as the "cotton mill problem" was an expression of deep seated anxiety within South Carolina, and southern, society about the impact of industrialization. As was the case elsewhere in the country at the same moment, reformers were often drawn from the middle class and they were largely successful at enlisting the support of business and industry, as evidenced by Parker's editorializing. The great fear was the creation of a massive, uneducated, and unruly proletariat who, by virtue of their race, would nonetheless have access to the ballot and political power. These concerns were themselves the product of the massive, and sudden, expansion of the textile industry that had, in the span of single decade in the 1890s, transformed South Carolina from an agricultural society into one that trailed only Massachusetts among cotton manufacturing states. Despite Parker's optimistic proclamations about the improved living conditions in the mill towns, poverty was a reality for many mill workers and the creation of mill villages, often on the outskirts of existing towns, created some of the same problems, both perceived and real, of urban growth that spurred progressive reform movements elsewhere in the country. In South Carolina the specter of unionization also loomed large at the turn of the

⁶² Parker, Lewis . "Conditions of Labor in Southern Cotton Mills." *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 33, January-June 1909, p. 278-86

⁶³ *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* Vol. 32, Supplement 22. Child Labor and Social Progress. Proceedings of the Fourth Annual Meeting of the National Child Labor Committee, (Jul., 1908), pp. 40-56

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century and pressured industrialists like Parker to offer smaller concessions, like educational opportunities for children and higher wages, in order to palliate mill operatives. These reforms were largely successful at beating back the union threat, but they also provided mill workers and their children with real benefits that they valued. Mill owners often had no choice but to offer such concessions because they faced continual labor shortages and were forced to offer higher wages and increased benefits in order to attract enough workers to man the ever growing number of spindles in the state.⁶⁴ This tension between demands by labor for increased rights and capital's continued desire for control, mixed also with the larger social concerns about the importance of bringing "civilization" to the mill operatives, would continue to inflect life in South Carolina's mill villages over the coming decades.

Social Programs

A story written by Suzy Tuske in the book Buried Behind Blue Eyes tells the story of the Apalache Village. "Home was on a mill village where four rooms were enough. here houses were close and the neighbors knew all your personal stuff. But looking back now, it wasn't bad. Listen as I tell of the fun we had. We rode bikes in the street and drank lemon-aide." --- "The Code of the Mill Hill" bonded neighbors together."⁶⁵

The cotton factory, its; jobs, homes, churches, schools, store, and athletic facilities were the way of life in mill village. A great deal of changes took place under the direction of Lewis Parker. He made the needs of the workers a priority. There were two churches both working out of a small four-room cottage, so a new church was built by the mill and provided \$110 in annual support. The Methodists used the church Sunday mornings and the Baptists used it for afternoon services. At the same time, a school was built for \$2500 and the mill provided \$650 in annual support and teachers salaries. As part of the Whaley Group, under Lewis Parker, he believed happy workers were productive workers and a successful village must provide for the needs of the families. This kept his workers from moving to other mills. Additionally, Parker believed that providing for the welfare of his workers would keep the unions out.

Thomas and Lewis Parker were both involved with the YMCA as part of their interest for the employees welfare. The YMCA and community room were built on property below the mill overlooking Frohawk Creek. Walter Belue became the athletic director in the 1920- 0's until the Depression, at which time he returned to the mill to work. He set up a community playground for the younger children, and organized the Boy Scout Troop. Basketball was one of the many activities popular with men, and in 1922 women's teams were also organized.⁶⁶ The community had the enjoyment of using Lake Apalache so workers at Apalache Mill also organized a Fishing Club. One of the more unusual clubs was the "Fixit Club," where company superintendents worked with overseers to discuss practical ways to improve their work. Garden experts were employed to aid workers in planting their own small vegetable gardens. The company also

⁶⁴ David L. Carlton, *Mill and Town in South Carolina, 1880-1920* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1982), 129-150.

⁶⁵ Tuske, Suzy, Buried Behind Blue Eyes, Xlibris Corporation, 2010

⁶⁶ Mac C. Kirkpatrick, Thomas K. Perry The Southern Textile Basketball Tournament: History, McFarland & Company, 1921-1997, p. 292

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encouraged productivity by offering prizes such as an extra five per cent on the wages for the highest production and prizes for the fewest number of accidents. Arithmetic was taught to the young mill boys, which contained practical calculations to advance their abilities.⁶⁷

In the 1920s the Victor-Monaghan Company purchased Camp Reasonover located near Caesar's Head Mountain, North Carolina. The company built a lake, large lodge, and dozens of rustic cabins for the employees.⁶⁸

By the 1920s baseball had become an obsession throughout the southern textile world. In 1921 the men of the Apalache Mill formed a team called the "Indians" and joined the Dixie Textile League. The mill built a ball field at the west end of Apalache Street. The team won several championships, at one time George Blackwell "slugger extraordinaire" played with the Indians. He was a legend in the area starting at the Simpsonville Mill, then the Brandon Mill, and at one time or another played for most of the teams in the area. He was frequently called for his services at Apalache Mill. In 1960, while playing for the Apalache Indians, he led the Western Carolina League in hitting, even in the final year of his 30-year career.⁶⁹ With the rise of television and dwindling attendance, baseball faded away in the mill villages.

The Greer Dragway, in the Apalache Village, was opened in the 1950's by the Greer Jaycees and was a community project. All labor used in getting the track built and operational was done by the Jaycees, neighbors, and several area groups of concerned citizens. The original purpose was to provide money for needy children in the Greer, SC area. Besides having races to raise money for the children, the Jaycees would, on holiday weekends, have fireworks and other entertainment for those children.

Labor strife at Apalache Mill and other Spartanburg area textile mills

Most workers, when they chose to vote against the company, did so with their feet. The people just moved like nomads, many times returning for the same job. Over time more people stayed put and defined mill communities developed. During the early times worker depended and supported each other. In 1929 two issues were at the heart of labor troubles. The first was "the great stretch-out," which referred to the practice of management to increase the equipment speed, forcing higher production rates on the shop floor. The second was declining wages in the years after the stock market crash of 1929 and ensuing global economic depression. President Franklin Roosevelt endorsed industrial unionism, which served to embolden the textile workers.

In May 1934, the Bruere Board, without consulting the United Textile Workers of America (UTW), made a decision to cut hours in textile plants by twenty-five percent in order to help alleviate a crisis of overproduction. The cut in hours, which was approved by the National Recovery Administration, was accompanied by a cut in wages, which set the stage for a massive labor uprising in South Carolina. The Textile Strike of 1934 affected the entire eastern seaboard

⁶⁷ Mill News The Great Southern Weekly for Textile Workers, Charlotte, NC Mill News Print. Co., 1920 p. 62-64

⁶⁸ Victor-Monaghan Company Flyer; Textile Heritage Society Greenville, "*South Carolina*, <http://scmillhills.com/mills/monaghan/history/>"

⁶⁹ Thomas K Perry, Textile League Baseball, McFarland & Company, Inc. p. 42-43, 96-99

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of the United States. In Spartanburg County there were three categories of mills. The first, in which labor was solidly organized; the second group, where the UTW presence was negligible; and the third, mills in which the unions had achieved a minor foothold before the strike. The mills of Greer area, including the Apalache Mill, were among the last group. That's were the union focused their efforts.

The strike began the day after Labor Day but resulted in several incidents of violence, several deaths, and the mobilization of the National Guard by Governor Ibra Charles Blackwood. The Victor Mill was the first target and the union made headway with the strike. Over the weekend the National Guard had been called in to protect the mills. At Apalache the local union organizers had demanded the keys to the mill from Bob Blackwell the Outside Superintendent and he had refused. Blackwell said he had a job to do and that he would not allow the striking laborers to enter the building. The following day the strike commenced and 1,500 people marched on Victor Mill in Greer forcing its management to shut the mill down to avoid violence. The group of striking mill workers known as "Flying Squadrons" then went to the Greer Mill on the other side of town. Greer Mill was not operational due to being in receivership but was closed by management to avoid violence. The name Flying Squadrons was given to the groups of union organizers, oftentimes armed, that would take their cars and trucks and race from mill to mill. The Flying Squadrons then headed to Apalache where Mr. Blackwell met them at the gate as promised and refused them entry. The crowd was not dissuaded and stormed the building shutting down the operations by force.⁷⁰ The National Guard was called in to assist the mill owners and to protect the property. The movement failed, the union didn't have the time to organize Greer mills, nor the protection of the flying squadrons, and so the nascent union organizations at Victor and Apalache backed down in the face of pressure from community leaders, mill owners, and the National Guard.⁷¹

An interview with mill worker Luther Greene stated "The wildcat strike happened unexpectedly. No one had any idea of what was happening. A bunch of people in old trucks came on Wednesday to shut down all the mills in this area. They went from Greer to Apalache and pulled all the switches in the mills and shut down completely. It was rumored that the strike was for higher wages. However, a lot of people involved in the group didn't even work in the mills, and nobody knew where they came from or why. During the strike the National Guard was called to help. So the National Guard helped out by surrounding the mills. But as mysteriously as it began, on the following Monday, it ended. The same group of people came in and turned the switches and the mills started running again."⁷²

Greene's memory downplayed the deployment of the state's police power and the significant role played by the National Guard and Highway Patrol in breaking the strike. Governor Blackwood declared a "state of insurrection" and imposed "partial martial law" on September 9. Meanwhile, the assistance from the Federal Government and the Roosevelt administration,

⁷⁰ Ray Belcher, Greenville County South Carolina, from Cotton Fields to Textile Center of the World, History Press, 2006, p. 118-119

⁷¹ Irons, Janet Christine, Testing the New Deal: The General Textile Strike of 1934 in the American South, p. 125-130; Waldrep III, G. C., Southern Workers and the Search for Community, University of Illinois Press p. 65-67

⁷² Clingstone, Interview with Luther Greene, 1976

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which strikers and strike leaders had counted on, never materialized. Pressured by public opinion, especially following the murder of six strikers at Honea Path on September 6, and lacking resources, the UTW called an end to the strike on September 22, citing “force and hunger” as reasons for the capitulation. Unfortunately, many strikers found that they did not have jobs when they returned to the mills and the strike ended as a defeat for organized labor in the state.⁷³

Apalache Mill Site Chronology 1837-2007

- 1837-1840 South Tyger Manufactory Co. at Cedar Hill formed by Rev. Thomas Hutchings with investors Benjamin Wofford, Simpson Bobo and James McMakin
- 1840 Thomas Hutchings sold his interest in the South Tyger Manufactory Co. to Benjamin Wofford, Francis A. Weaver, E.C. Leitner, Hosia J. Dean, Simpson Bobo and James McMakin. Register of deeds Spartanburg County, Deed Book X, p. 323
- 1841 South Tyger Manufactory Co. and Francis A. Weaver, E.C. Leitner, Hosia J. Dean, Simpson Bobo sold their interest in the company to D.W. Moore and James McMakin. Register of deeds Spartanburg County, Deed Book X p. 467
- 1843 David W. Moore charges Rev. Thomas Hutchings with fraud for his not listing all the liabilities of the factory. A church committee investigated the charges and found Hutchings guilty. The Methodist Episcopal conference then expelled him from the church. The Textile Industry in Antebellum South Carolina, p. 18
- 1845 James McMakin sells his interest to David Moore.
- 1860 Dr. P Wallace took ownership and named the mill the Wallace Factory.
- 1864 John Wheeler sold his 1/3 interest in the Cedar Hill Factory, known as the Wallace Factory property, to T.E. Montgomery. Register of deeds Spartanburg County, Deed Book HH, p. 161 & 164
- 1869 Samuel N. Morgan, John Wheeler, J.L. Green, gain control by Sheriff’s sale.
- 1869 Benjamin Wofford sold his interest in the Cedar Hill Factory to T.E. Montgomery. Register of deeds Spartanburg County, Deed Book II, p. 105
- 1872 Isaac L. Green and L.A. Green from William Ballenger, Exor. Estate of T.E. Montgomery, 300 acres. Register of deeds Spartanburg County, Deed Book OO, p. 311

⁷³ Bryant Simon, *A Fabric of Defeat: The Politics of South Carolina Millhands, 1910-1948* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1998), 109-122.

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- 1880 Lippincotts Gazetter state village had church, cotton factory and flourmill.
- 1888 The Cedar Hill Factory is renamed Arlington under President G.T. Walker, A.B. Groce and operated 24 looms and 1,300 spindles. Textile Town, p. 307
- 1888 Modern three-story brick mill building is built.
- 1888 The mill was known as Cedar Hill Factory at this time the mill had 24 looms and 800 spindles. Textile Town, p. 307
- 1893 A.B. Groce sold the property to George T. Walker, 250 acres known as the Arlington Cotton Mills with its outbuildings, gristmill, saw mill, flouring mill and cotton gin. The property was conveyed to A.B. Groce by L.R. Hill, Master from the 1893 suite filled by Brown Weddington and Company vs. J. L. Green, L.A. Green et al Deed Book III, p. 616
- 1894 George T. Walker sold the Arlington Mills and 250 acres formerly known as Cedar Hill property. Register of deeds Spartanburg County, Deed Book VVV, p. 114
- 1899 J.J. Miller receives 1/3 interest in Arlington Mills from George T. Walker 16 Nov. 1894. Register of deeds Spartanburg County, Deed Book, VVV, p. 116
- 1902 The Apalache Mill Inc. is incorporated for one year with stockholders; Dr. George Walker, J.J. Miller, Lewis W. Parker Pres., Sexton, Robbins and A.B. Groce. Capital of \$500,000. 30 cards, 500 looms and 20,000 spindles 300 workers⁷⁴
- 1902 Lewis Parker acquiring water rights and land to build the dam and to create Lake Apalache. Register of deeds Spartanburg County, Deed Book ZZZ, p. 241, 243, 4-E, p. 339 and 4-E, P. 85
- Parker had drawing for 2-story 104x200 warehouse, 130x200 loom shed to house 400 looms and 17,000 spindles to be added.
- 1903 Whaley Group take over the mill, with Lewis W. Parker as manager. The wooden structure is torn down and the 1903 mill is built to the west of the 1888 mill.
- 1903 Lewis Parker became President of Whaley Group
- 1904 Dam is completed.

⁷⁴ Davison's Textile Blue Book 1891, Davison Publishing Co., p. 188

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- 1906 The mill builds a church, which is used by both Methodists and Baptist. Mill provides annual support of \$110.
- The mill builds a school building for \$2,500 and annual support of \$650.
- 1908 Supreme Court case Mason vs. Apalache uphold the riparian and water rights of the mill.
- 1910 Parker Cotton Mills takes over.
- 1911 Thomas Parker President⁷⁵
- 1912 Victor Manufacturing Company takes ownership:
Thomas F. Parker, president of the Victor Manufacturing Co signed the deed along with M.M. Trotter, sec. "with 102 tenement houses, 532 looms and 20,000 spindles more or less." Register of deeds Spartanburg County, Deed Book 5 H Page 116-117
- 1917 Victor-Monaghan Mills
- 1934 There are 500 looms, 20,000 spindles and 257 workers.
- Sept the textile strike takes place.
- 1946 Victor-Monaghan Company, consisting of Monagham, and the Apalache, Greer, and Victor plants in nearby Greer were merged into J.P. Stevens Co., Inc. Stevens had been Monaghan's selling agent in New York for many years and had gone public after the war and with the money raised through the stock offering, brought many mills in the South. Apalache mill is modernized with 419 looms, 27,516 spindles and 380 workers making fancy cotton fabrics for shirting and dress goods and operates in until 1981.
- 1950 The Apalache Mill Village is subdivided to facilitate the sale of the mill houses. The churches are deeded over to themselves. Spartanburg County, Plat Book 26, p. 24-43
- 1986 Jim Mitchell Company purchased the mill. Register of deeds Spartanburg County, Deed Book 69V – p. 950
New industrial sewing machines are installed and bedspreads and draperies were made for Westport Home Fashions.
- 1999 Joseph Nettles purchased the mill and operates CDS Ensembles. Register of deeds Spartanburg County, Deed Book 85K - p. 897

⁷⁵ Reports and Resolutions of the General Assembly of South Carolina, January 9, 1912

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2007 Upstate Development acquires the property. Register of deeds Spartanburg
County, Deed Book 88 M - p. 260

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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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

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Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: South Carolina Dept. of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

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10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 126.25 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 34.962320 | Longitude: -82.209811 |
| 2. Latitude: 34.961775 | Longitude: -82.208704 |
| 3. Latitude: 34.961585 | Longitude: -82.205376 |
| 4. Latitude: 34.963308 | Longitude: -82.203825 |
| 5. Latitude: 34.963461 | Longitude: -82.202090 |
| 6. Latitude: 34.963970 | Longitude: -82.202337 |
| 7. Latitude: 34.964273 | Longitude: -82.202301 |
| 8. Latitude: 34.964086 | Longitude: -82.208597 |
| 9. Latitude: 34.966910 | Longitude: -82.207622 |
| 10. Latitude: 34.967279 | Longitude: -82.209391 |
| 11. Latitude: 34.968712 | Longitude: -82.206510 |
| 12. Latitude: 34.972173 | Longitude: -82.209772 |
| 13. Latitude: 34.969523 | Longitude: -82.209843 |
| 14. Latitude: 34.970159 | Longitude: -82.212688 |
| 15. Latitude: 34.972768 | Longitude: -82.214687 |
| 16. Latitude: 34.969035 | Longitude: -82.214364 |
| 17. Latitude: 34.968694 | Longitude: -82.210202 |

Apalache Mill
Name of Property

Spartanburg, S.C.
County and State

18. Latitude: 34.964703 Longitude: -82.213219

19. Latitude: 34.966241 Longitude: -82.208948

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

1. Zone: Easting: Northing:

2. Zone: Easting: Northing:

3. Zone: Easting: Northing:

4. Zone: Easting : Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary corresponds with the thick black line on the accompanying Spartanburg County Tax Map, reproduced at a scale of one-inch equals 1,000 feet. The boundary encompasses portions of three parcels; that portion parcel 9-02-00-76 lying north of Apalache St. and Racing Rd., which includes the mill and water tower; that portion of parcel 9-03-00-018 lying north of Racing Rd., which includes the dam; and that portion of parcel 9-02-00-051, which encompasses the historic mill pond. The boundaries follow the parcel line for parcel 9-02-00-051 but only extend to include the mill pond and thus excluding the northernmost segment of this parcel. The boundary lines for the present nomination extend to the point where the South Tyger River begins opening to form the pond, a point located at or near 34.92768 decimal degrees north latitude and -82.214687 decimal degrees west longitude.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries include the historic properties that comprised the historic mill complex and include all contributing objects and structures discussed in the present nomination.

Apalache Mill
Name of Property

Spartanburg, S.C.
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title: Dale Goodrich
Organization: Upstate Developers LLC
Street & number: 580 Miller Hodge Rd.
City or town: Inman state: S.C. zip code: 29349
E-mail Goodrich.de@gmail.com
Telephone: 864-552-0117
Date: March 24, 2015

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Apalache Mill
Name of Property

Spartanburg, S.C.
County and State

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Apalache Mill

City or Vicinity: Greer vicinity

County: Spartanburg

State: South Carolina

Photographer: Dale Goodrich

Date Photographed: January 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1. West end of 1903 Mill, camera facing east.
2. South facade of 1903 Mill with water tower in foreground, camera facing northwest.
3. 1903 Mill with HVAC tower, camera facing northeast.
4. 1903 Mill with Water Tower, camera facing northwest.
5. 1903 Mill with Water Tower, camera facing northwest.
6. 1903 Mill with Water Tower and Granite Retaining Wall, camera facing northwest.
7. Granite Retaining Wall, camera facing northwest.
8. South elevation of 1888 Mill, camera facing north.
9. East elevation of 1888 Mill, camera facing west.
10. East elevation of 1888 Mill, camera facing west.
11. East elevation of 1888 Mill, camera facing southwest.
12. Oblique of north elevation of 1888 mill, camera facing west.
13. Oblique of north elevation of 1888 mill showing point of connection with 1903 mill addition, equipment room in the foreground, camera facing southwest.
14. Loading docks on north side of the 1888 and 1903 mills, camera facing southwest.
15. North elevation of 1888 and 1903 mill buildings, showing firewall between the two and top of five-stop elevator shaft, camera facing southeast.
16. North elevation 1903 Mill, camera facing southwest.
17. Wall, floor, and steps of former cotton warehouse that once stood south of main mill complex, camera facing southeast.

Apalache Mill

Name of Property

Spartanburg, S.C.

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18. North elevation of 1903 Mill, camera facing southeast.
19. North elevation of 1903 Mill showing stabilization plates and beginning of removal of brick infill of windows, camera facing south.
20. 1904 Dam and modern powerhouse, camera facing northeast.
21. 1904 Dam Raceway and modern powerhouse, camera facing north.
22. 1927 General Electric Generator, camera facing north.
23. Lobby door to 1909 addition, camera facing north.
24. 1909 addition to 1888 Mill, camera facing north.
25. South elevation of 1888 Mill, camera facing northeast.
26. Front drive of 1888 Mill building, camera facing west.
27. 200-level columns, ceiling, and floor, camera facing southeast.
28. Lobby stairs of 1888 Mill building, camera facing north.
29. Roof monitor of 1888 Mill building, camera facing northeast.
30. Interior bracing of roof monitor of 1888 Mill building, camera facing southwest.
31. 100-level columns, beams, floor, camera facing east.
32. Air shaft of 1888 Mill building, camera facing southeast.
33. 100-level of 1903 building showing columns and interior of former window openings, camera facing northwest.
34. Top of elevator shaft of the 1888 mill addition, camera facing north.
35. Fire pump, camera facing north.
36. Concrete stairs to 1888 mill, camera facing west.
37. Guard House, camera facing southeast.

Index of Figures

Figure 1. c. 1908 Post Card showing Apalache Mill

Figure 2. c. 1945 aerial photo

Figure 3. c. 1978 aerial photo

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.).

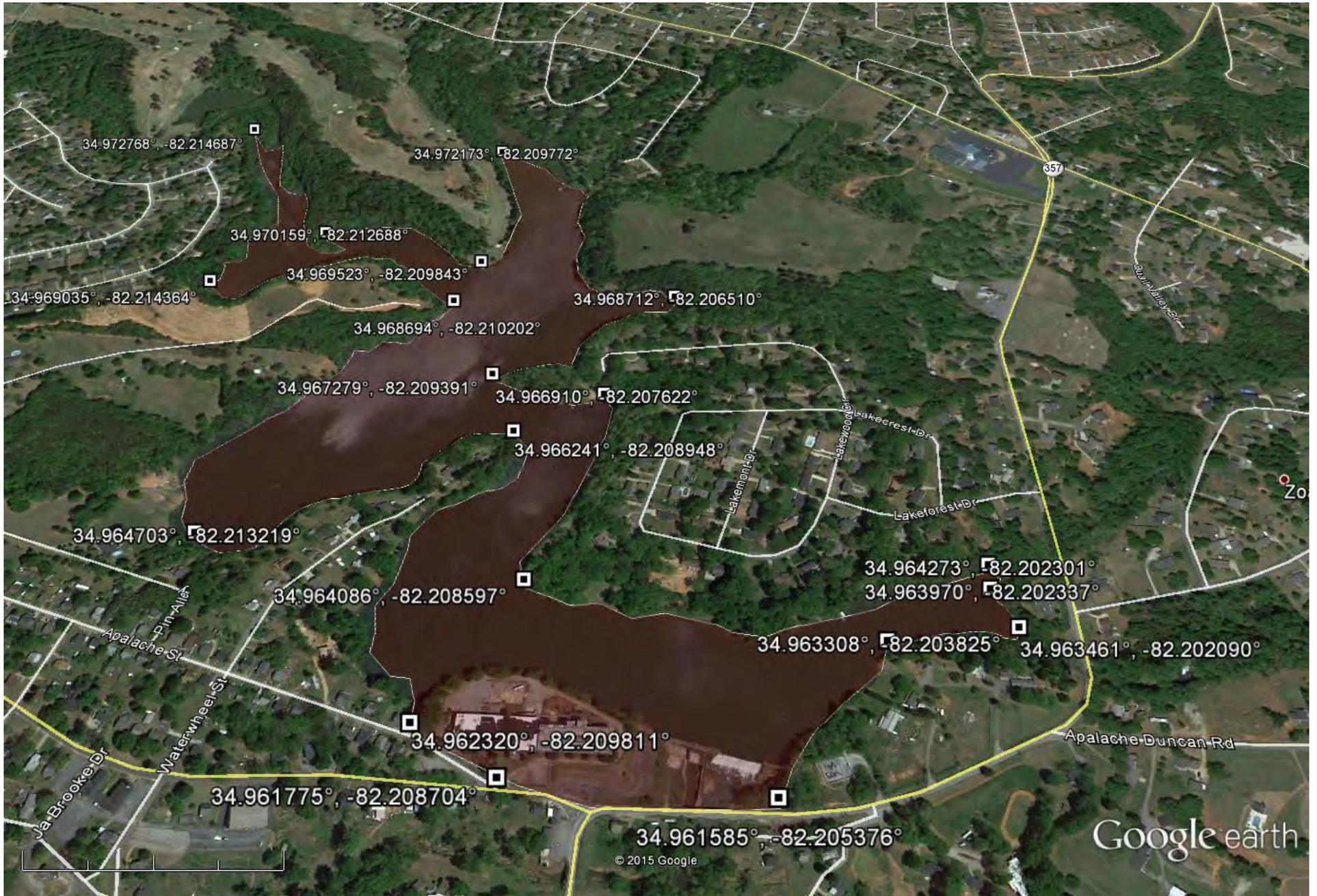
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



Google earth

feet
km

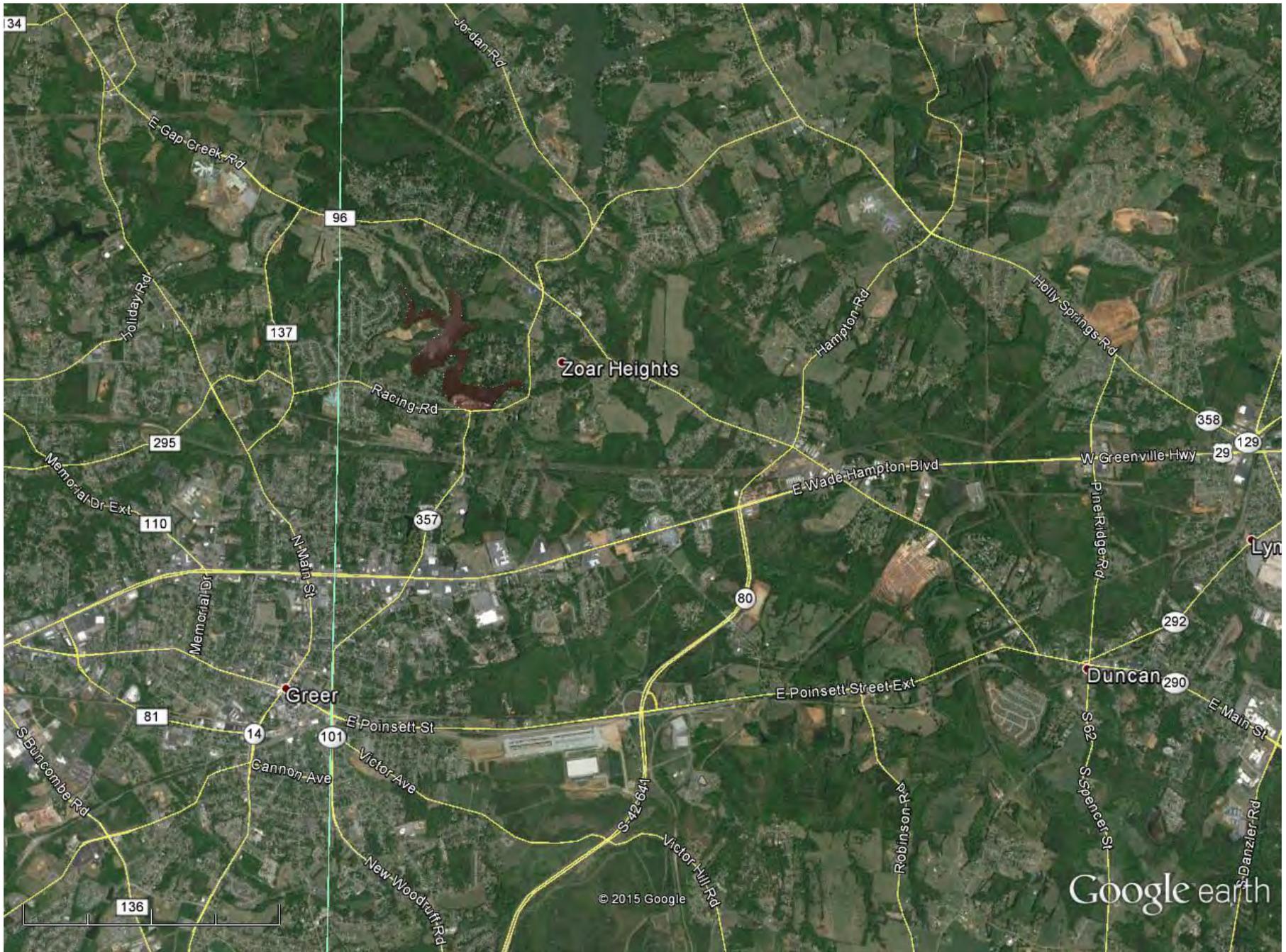




Google earth

feet
meters

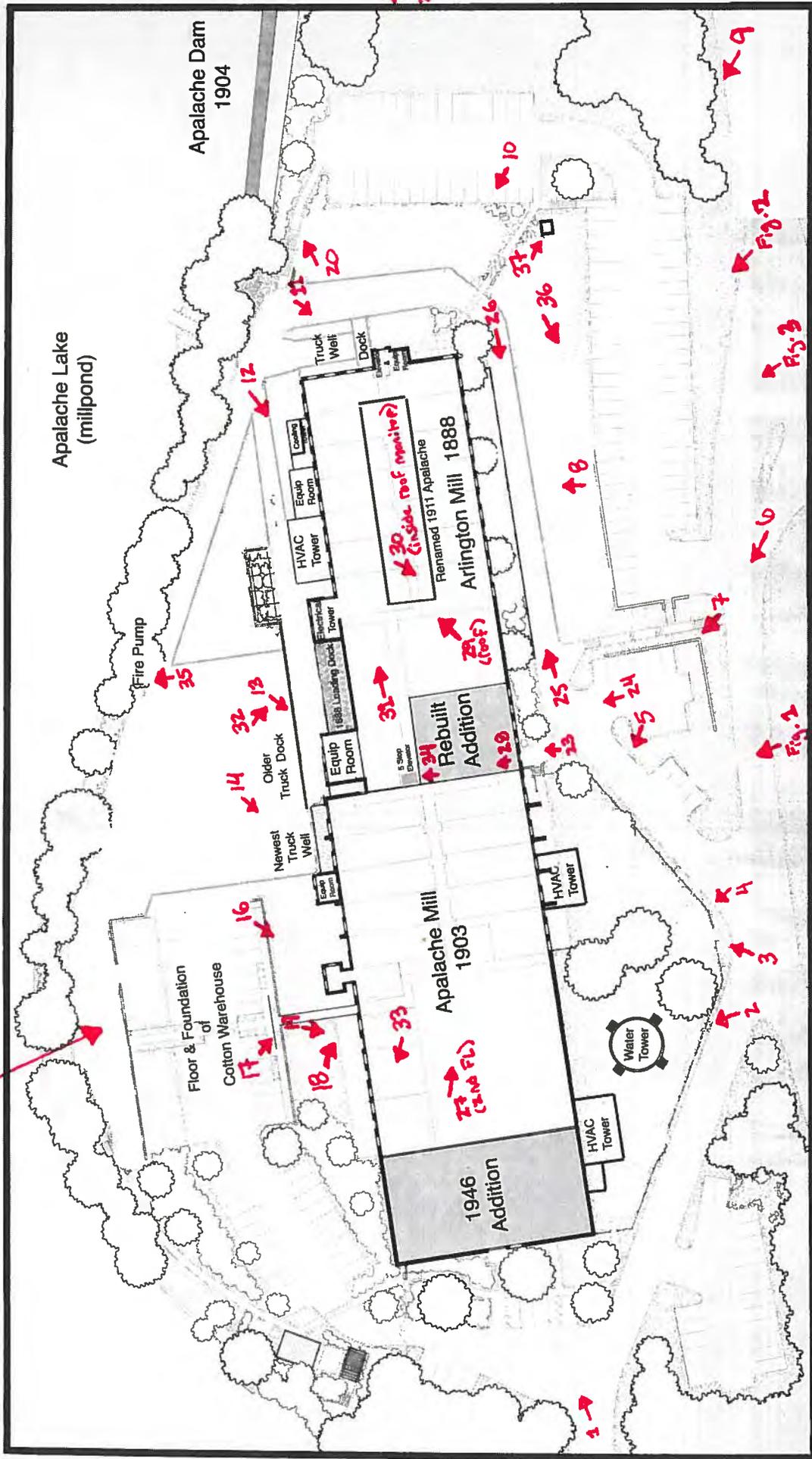




Google earth

miles
km





Apalache Dam
1904

Apalache Lake
(millpond)

Fire Pump

Floor & Foundation
of
Cotton Warehouse

Truck Well

Dock

Equip. Room

H.V.A.C. Tower

Electrical Tower

Equip. Room

Truck Well

Dock

Equip. Room







PCAWISS
PARENT COMMUNITY ADVISORY INQUIRY SERVICE



OFFICE OF
SCHOOLING
←

OFFICE OF
SCHOOLING
→







GDS ENSEMBLES

2200 RACING RD.

COMFORTER, CUT & SEW FACILITY



STEVENS & Co. Inc.
PALACHE PLANT



























APALACHE PLANT

LOCATION
2





APACHE PLANT







OFFICE























APALACHIA COTTON MILL ONE AND ONE HALF MILES FROM GREEK, S. C.

97.30.1A 1909



