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National Register of Historic Places  
Multiple Property Documentation Form

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This form is for use in documenting multiple property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Type all entries.

**A. Name of Multiple Property Listing**

Historic Resources of Hartsville, S.C., c. 1817 - c. 1941

**B. Associated Historic Contexts**

The Growth and Development of Hartsville, S.C., c. 1817 - c. 1941

The Commercial and Industrial Development of Hartsville, S.C., c. 1865 - c. 1941

The Residential Development of Hartsville, S.C., c. 1890 - c. 1941

**C. Geographical Data**

City limits of Hartsville, S.C., and adjacent property of Sonoco Products Company

See continuation sheet

**D. Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Planning and Evaluation.

Mary W. Edmonds  
Signature of certifying official

3/4/91  
Date

Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy SHPO, S.C. Department of Archives & History, Columbia, S.C.  
State or Federal agency and bureau

I, hereby, certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

Amy Federman  
Signature of the Keeper of the National Register

5/3/91  
Date

## E. Statement of Historic Contexts

Discuss each historic context listed in Section B.

The nomination for the Historic Resources of Hartsville includes one historic district (containing approximately 60 properties) and nine individual properties within the city limits of Hartsville, South Carolina, which are of historical and/or architectural significance to the town. Dating from c. 1817 to c. 1941, these resources, along with the seven individual properties previously listed in the National Register, serve as visible reminders of the town's history. Located in northwest Darlington County, in the northeast or Pee Dee region of the state, Hartsville developed in the early nineteenth century as a small settlement of planters and farmers, and in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries as a business and industrial center.

### Additional Information

Several Indian tribes or portions of them, most notably the Catawbas, inhabited the area of present-day Darlington County up to the mid-eighteenth century. By that time such small groups as the Cheraws, Pedees, Waterees, and Waxhaws had joined with the Catawbas, who were themselves a declining tribe. They had all left the area of present-day Hartsville before its first white settlement in the 1760s and well before its first significant white settlement c. 1817.(1)

Though the earliest white inhabitants of the area settled in the 1760s along Black Creek, a tributary of the Pee Dee River, there was no established community until well after the turn of the nineteenth century. Long Bluff, or present-day Society Hill, some fifteen miles northeast, was the nearest town; that area had been settled in the 1730s and a town was established there in the 1750s. In 1817 Thomas E. Hart, a Darlington County planter and a native of Society Hill, moved to the Black Creek area and acquired some nine hundred acres, which included a significant part of present-day Hartsville. Hart's house, built at that time, is an individual property in this multiple property submission.(2)

By the time Hart settled there this area was included in Cheraws District, one of seven judicial districts created in 1769, and in Darlington County, created in 1785. When the judicial districts were abolished in 1800 the county became Darlington District. In 1868 districts were replaced by counties as the major political subdivision in South Carolina, and the district became Darlington County once more.(3)

The small community around Hart's plantation developed slowly for the first twenty years, and only slightly more rapidly from c. 1840 to the Civil War. A public road to Society Hill (known as "Hart's Road to Society Hill," part of which is present-day Home Avenue) was constructed, largely through Hart's efforts, in 1825. It was not until 1838, however, that a post office was established there, with Hart as its first postmaster; the area had been referred to as "Hartville" or "Hartsville" as early as 1837.(4) The new town was described as being "purely a farming country, with no store or manufacturies of any kind" in 1843, the year after Hart's death. "The planters of the neighborhood, all slave holders, had their residences strung along the ridge just south of the creek, and their farms lay on the level lands in front of them, while they used the poor, sand hill lands north of the creek for open pasturage and fire wood."(5) John L. Hart, Hart's son, attempted to encourage the growth of the community after he cleared the site of present-day Hartsville and settled there in 1850 (his house was individually listed

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in the National Register in 1983). He helped establish the Hartsville Baptist Church, donating the land for the sanctuary and helping to build it. Hart also opened a successful carriage repair shop and factory, then a store and a post office, and still later a grist mill and saw mill. By 1858, however, his debts forced him to sell the property and he moved to Springville, a rural community near present-day Darlington. (6)

Before 1860 the Hartsville-area economy, as in the rest of Darlington District, and in so much of the South Carolina upcountry, was tied to agriculture -- more specifically, to cotton. Hartsville's farms and plantations generally ranged "from five hundred to three thousand acres, mostly in wood land and cultivating farms of two hundred to five hundred acres of cleared land." Most of these farmers and planters were slaveowners, owning from ten to one hundred slaves, and managing their own property rather than using overseers. (7) There was considerable interest among Darlington District planters in innovative methods of farming and plantation management, and the Agricultural Society of Darlington District was formed in the 1840s. Several Hartsville farmers and planters formed the Hartsville Farmers' Club in 1859 to promote the scientific study of their crops and livestock, to share practical information on their successes and failures, and to allow the exchange of new ideas in a spirit of cooperation and friendly competition. (8)

Though Darlington District was far removed from the battlefields of the Civil War the final days of the campaign in the Carolinas brought Federal troops into the district and through Hartsville itself. In March 1865 elements of the forces under Major General William T. Sherman traveled through the district and made their headquarters at Kelleytown, a few miles west of present-day Hartsville. Several farms and plantations in the area, including some at Hartsville, were visited by Union soldiers, looking for food or valuables, and some were looted. No houses were burned, however, and the brief Federal passage through the area was relatively lenient when compared to the destruction in such towns as Columbia and Winnsboro. (9)

Emancipation and its resulting disruption was the most significant result of the war in the defeated South, and Darlington District was no exception. The process of rebuilding would be made more difficult by two major developments: the end of the cotton-based plantation system and the influx of thousands of newly-freed blacks into an economy and a society which had little room for competition. Though the cotton plantation system was gone, cotton was still the preferred crop, particularly in the South Carolina upcountry. In many instances farmers began to specialize and excluded those subsistence crops which had been common before 1860; they based their success or failure solely in cotton. Small farmers in the postwar era increased cotton production; South Carolina produced 45 percent more in 1880 than it had in 1860. Hartsville-area farmers, like

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many others in the upcountry, grew more cotton, of better quality, and commanding better prices than the lowcountry produced after the Civil War, just as they had done before the war. The increased cotton production and higher prices, however, did not translate into profit, and both the economy and society suffered.

The effects of a virtually exclusive emphasis on cotton are noted in the South Carolina State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1880-81, which described Hartsville as having "a population of 50 and several churches and schools in the neighborhood. Cotton is king." (10) Such an assessment, though accurate enough in 1880, did not appear in the State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1890. A few years later, in 1896, one newspaper article noted that "seven years ago what is now the main business part of the town was a cotton field . . . it has had a steady and regular growth and is now a substantial town in a healthy business condition." (11) Hartsville's increasing prosperity after 1880, and well into the twentieth century, followed a different pattern than most South Carolina towns. In many areas, the dramatic expansion of the state's textile industry after Reconstruction, particularly in the period 1880-1920, corresponded almost exactly with the decline of agriculture as the mainstay of the economy. It helped to rehabilitate many towns, cities, and counties which had been dependent on cotton, and allowed them to combine a relatively new industry with an old crop, with promising results. (12)

Hartsville's remarkable growth and development in the same period, however, was due less to such widespread trends than to two factors. The first was the relative absence of an established town at Hartsville before the war, and for nearly twenty-five years afterwards, which meant that its success was an initial one and not a process of rebuilding what had been lost. The second was a uniquely local influence: the efforts of the Coker family, most notably -- from 1865 to well into the twentieth century -- the imagination and perseverance of James Lide Coker.

James Lide Coker was the first member of the family to settle in Hartsville, and it is difficult to overstate his personal impact on the town's history. Coker, a native of Society Hill, came to Hartsville in 1858 after graduating from Harvard University, and became a charter member of the Hartsville Farmers' Club. (13) At the outbreak of the Civil War he organized the "Hartsville Light Infantry," a local Confederate company in the 9th (later 6th) South Carolina Infantry. Coker was elected captain of the company, and subsequently served as major of the regiment. He was severely wounded and captured in 1863, requiring his discharge from Confederate service. After Coker (who was referred to as "the Major" for the rest of his life) returned to Hartsville in 1864, he served in the South Carolina House of Representatives 1864-65. (14)

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In the summer or fall of 1865, soon after the end of the war, Coker opened a general store in John L. Hart's former store building. He described this store, which became J.L. Coker and Company, about this time: "A country store is at best a poor looking place. My little affair is not so inviting as many you see." (15) His store, offering "Family and Plantation Supplies," eventually prospered, and it was the one store in Hartsville which operated continuously from 1865 into the 1890s. A major obstacle to both the store's success and the town's growth, however, was the lack of adequate transportation, most notably a railroad. The nearest railroad was the Cheraw and Darlington Railroad, and the nearest depot on it was some fifteen miles away, at Dove's Station, or present-day Dovesville. Hartsville's goods were hauled to and from the railroad by wagons. (16)

Coker's method of overcoming various business, agricultural, and industrial obstacles, which he learned from his father and passed to his sons, was "to take the plainly indicated next step, to respond always to life by not standing still. Whatever might reasonably be accomplished ought to be accomplished." (17) His response, characteristically, to Hartsville's need for a railroad was an attempt to establish one. As early as 1884 Coker organized the Hartsville Railroad Company and tried to interest the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad in a branch line from the Cheraw and Darlington Railroad, which it operated, to Hartsville. When that proposal failed, he worked out a plan by which several towns in the Pee Dee region would cooperate, building a railroad northwestward from the Pee Dee River. This railroad would run through Hartsville and other area towns and cities, and the region could then take advantage not only of rail transportation, but of the Pee Dee River where navigable. That ambitious attempt failed as well, and a third plan, for the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad to build a branch from Florence to Hartsville, was also unsuccessful. (18) These setbacks, however, did not deter Coker; in 1889 he simply rechartered the Hartville Railroad Company and literally built a branch line himself. The railroad, which ran eight miles from Floyd's Turn-Out, or present-day Floyd, was constructed using surplus rails from the Atlantic Coast Line. Coker's son, James L., Jr., surveyed the route, and his son-in-law, J.J. Lawton, supervised the work, which was completed in December of that year. The Hartsville Railroad Company operated independently until 1891, when it was sold -- at a significant profit -- to the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad. (19) "After the building of the Hartsville Railroad," noted the Hartsville Messenger in 1896, "there rapidly grew up a hustling village in the place of the quiet country neighborhood that had so long been called Hartsville." (20)

Some of the most significant and lasting improvements in Hartsville occurred in 1890 and 1891, demonstrating the immediate impact of the railroad on the town's expansion. "Soon after this," James Lide Coker

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wrote later, "the town was laid off in streets, lots were sold, new buildings were erected, a charter of incorporation was obtained and the little town began to attract the attention of outsiders."(21) Commercial developments were perhaps the most crucial to Hartsville's success. One of the first ventures in 1890 was the construction of a large new store for J.L. Coker and Company, adjacent to the tracks (it burned in 1909, and was replaced in 1910 by a store which was individually listed in the National Register in 1983). Another, destined to have far-reaching effects, was the establishment of the Carolina Fiber Company that same year. James Lide Coker, Jr., an engineer and an 1884 graduate of the Stevens Institute of Technology, in Hoboken, New Jersey, had long been interested in the production of pulpwood. He believed, and convinced his father, that South Carolina's abundant pine forests could provide the raw material for a useful, as well as profitable, venture.(22) Improvements to the town itself included the survey, construction, and naming of Hartsville's streets, which Coker and his father completed in 1890; and its official incorporation, which took place in 1891.(23)

The period 1890-1910 was the most significant period of growth and development in Hartsville's history. One of the most apparent indicators of growth, the town's population, increased dramatically. It doubled, from 342 to 704, in the period 1890-1900, then tripled, from 704 to 2,365, in the period 1900-1910.(24) Notable developments throughout this twenty-year period included the establishment of such institutions as the Hartsville Messenger, the town's first newspaper; Welsh Neck High School; Hartsville Cotton Mill; Hartsville Oil Mill; Bank of Hartsville; Pee Dee Furniture Company; Hartsville Telephone Company; McKinnon and McNair Company; Eastern Carolina Silver Company; Hartsville Marble Works; and the People's Bank. The Arcade Hotel, built and opened in 1913, was individually listed in the National Register in 1986.(25) "Hartsville, called by the Hartsville Messenger 'the industrial bee hive of the Pee Dee section,' is forging ahead, steadily," noted The State, South Carolina's leading newspaper, in 1909. "There is no town in South Carolina of like size that can show as many and varied enterprises. . . . A notable fact about the Hartsville industries is that a large proportion of the capital invested is home money. . . . It is growing and expanding almost beyond the most sanguine hopes and expectations of her citizens of a few years ago."(26)

Two other institutions in this period -- one industrial, established in the first decade, and one educational, established in the second decade -- aptly illustrate the reasons for Hartsville's remarkable rise to local, state, regional, and even national, prominence. They are still pivotal institutions in the community, and help define Hartsville's unique character. Both of them, as might be expected, were ventures of the Coker family, under the direction of James Lide Coker. The first, the Southern

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Novelty Company, was founded in 1899 and was a direct result of previous disappointments by the Carolina Fiber Company. That company, unable to find a market for its pulpwood, had opened a paper mill in 1893, and begun converting pulpwood into paper. The paper, however, could not make a profit, and the Southern Novelty Company was established as a consumer of Carolina Fiber Company paper and a manufacturer of paper cones for the textile industry. The company's products, primarily cones and paper tubes, sold well, particularly to Southeastern cotton mills, and the company grew along with the textile industry in the period 1900-1920.(27) A complex which includes the company's historic resources from 1904 to 1937 (Southern Novelty Company was renamed Sonoco Products Company in 1924) is an individual property in this multiple property submission. The second institution, Coker College, was founded in 1908 as the Coker College for Women and was a result of James Lide Coker's concern for education. In that year the Welsh Neck High School, a private high school established by the Baptist church in 1893 and which Coker had generously supported, closed to make way for a new public high school. The trustees of the Welsh Neck High School voted to convert the institution's assets, including its buildings, into a college for women. It was named, despite his protests, after Coker, who maintained a close financial and personal interest in the college until his death in 1918. Two buildings at Coker College (Davidson Hall, built 1909-1910, and the Memorial Hall/General Service Building, built 1913-1916) were individually listed in the National Register in 1983 and 1989, respectively.(28)

"It is conceded by all that our little new town has already gained a good position among the other towns of the State for its progress commercially and industrially," Coker wrote in 1911, in Hartsville: Its Early Settlers. The Growth of the Town with Sketches of its Institutions and Enterprises. "We must, of course, try to maintain that position."(29) The continued growth and development of Hartsville from 1910 to 1940, and beyond, illustrates the town's ability not only to maintain, but improve on, "that position."

Although Hartsville's industries, most notably the Carolina Fiber Company and the Southern Novelty Company, set it apart from many other South Carolina towns of the early twentieth century, Darlington County was still primarily rural, and its economy was still primarily based on cotton. After railroad service to Hartsville was established, the town became a major cotton market in the Pee Dee, rivaling and eventually surpassing the county seat at Darlington in the volume of cotton sold.

One of the most visible businesses buying cotton from area farmers was J.L. Coker and Company, and Coker's second son David R., who had graduated from South Carolina College (now the University of South Carolina) in 1891, graded and bought cotton for the company. Unwilling, just as his father was, to accept conditions as they were and to make the

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best of them, the younger Coker was avidly interested in developing a new variety of upland cotton, a long-staple and high-yield strain which would be both productive and profitable. After several years of painstaking experimentation, with little financial or philosophical encouragement other than what his father provided, Coker succeeded in producing such a strain. This pure-bred, or "pedigreed", cotton seed was marketed under the name "Coker's Pedigreed Seed," and its distinctive trademark was a red heart with the words "Blood Will Tell." The Pedigreed Seed Company, as a department of J.L. Coker and Company, was created in 1914. By 1917 Coker had convinced enough area farmers to try this cotton that the vast majority of Hartsville's cotton acreage, and a substantial portion of other Pee Dee acreage, was planted in it. More importantly, it sold well, realizing consistently higher prices than short-staple cotton.(30) "Hartsville enjoys a well earned reputation as a cotton market," observed The State. "It is the largest long staple cotton buying point east of the Mississippi. . . . The longer the staple and the better the grade, the higher the price it brings in Hartsville."(31)

By 1918, the year of James Lide Coker's death, J.L. Coker and Company officially incorporated its cotton interests as the Coker Cotton Company and its seed interests as the Pedigreed Seed Company. The Coker Cotton Company operated until 1923, when its operations were taken over by the Pedigreed Seed Company, which was then renamed Coker's Pedigreed Seed Company.(32) Coker Experimental Farms, which included some two hundred acres of the farm where David R. Coker developed his pedigreed cotton seed, was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1964. Coker's profound interest in agriculture was not restricted to cotton, or even to pedigreed seed breeding, but was wide-ranging, from crop diversification and extension services to larger issues such as credit, Federal aid, and legislative action. "Coker's enthusiasm for this work was due in part to his interest in agriculture as a science and in still greater part to his desire to help the southern farmer," one biographical sketch of him observed. The decades of the 1920s and 1930s were particularly difficult for Coker's Pedigreed Seed Company, in large part due to the recession after World War I, the boll weevil's devastation of Southern cotton, and the Depression. In spite of these setbacks, until his death in 1938 Coker worked diligently for improvements in agriculture and the larger community as well.(33)

There were several significant factors which combined to ensure Hartsville's continued growth in the period 1920-1940, when most South Carolina towns were struggling through recessions and the Depression. One was its citizens' belief that their town was special, that it had, as a radio address titled "The Spirit of Hartsville" claimed in 1936, "a wealth of spiritual values which translate men and women, brick and mortar, money, machinery and ideals into a rich and fruitful and



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satisfying community life."(34) This belief, which was shared -- and encouraged -- by Hartsville's business and political leaders, resulted in several significant Federal projects in the 1930s and 1940s. These included the construction of the Hartsville Post Office; the Hartsville Community Center and Hartsville Community Market; and the Lawton Park and Pavilion; all of which are individual properties in this multiple property submission; as well as the Hartsville Armory, an addition to Hartsville High School, and the Butler High School Auditorium.(35)

Another, and perhaps the most crucial, development was the ability of Sonoco Products Company to adapt to rapidly changing economic conditions and product needs. "Despite the fact that the Depression was in full development," George Lee Simpson, Jr., has noted, "Sonoco was able to operate with a minimum of curtailment. As a matter of fact, the young men and their associates were beginning a period of enormous growth and expansion of Sonoco."(36) Charles W. Coker, James Lide Coker's youngest son, served as president from his father's death in 1918 to his own death in 1931. Under his direction the company became one of South Carolina's leading manufacturers. The textile industry's relative decline after World War I and into the 1920s led Coker to improve quality through extensive testing, design, and marketing of innovations and technological advances. His son James Lide Coker, III, succeeded to the presidency in 1931 and served until his death in 1961. He guided Sonoco's dramatic maturation from a small, primarily Southeast-oriented paper manufacturer to a national and international corporation. Though the company retained its position as a leading manufacturer of textile-related products, its merger with Carolina Fiber Company in 1941 helped it diversify and led to the production of plastics, packaging, and many other products.(37)

Sonoco's expansion in the period 1920-1940 and beyond was not only an industrial and commercial one, but was also an evolution and a redefinition of its relationship to Hartsville and its citizens. The company had long ago discouraged the construction of a company "town," and had encouraged its supervisors and employees to live in and become active members of the general community. Charles W. Coker's concern for social issues, not only in Hartsville but throughout the state, was demonstrated by his observation that "every individual is responsible for the health, happiness and general welfare of every other individual in a given community."(38) Such a perspective was adopted by his son James Lide, III, who led Sonoco from the 1930s through the 1950s, and it continues to be the policy of the company to this day.

This foundation of industrial and commercial success, combined with involvement in Hartsville's public welfare, allowed the town to enjoy modest but relatively significant prosperity through the 1930s and 1940s.

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The population increase from 1920 to 1940 was slight, but there were other indications of growth. One indication, in addition to the Federal projects already noted, was the establishment of such industries as the U.S. Finishing Company; the Cornish Company (later Carolina Refractories Company); and the Joy Silk Mill.(39) Another indication was the construction of several impressive residences -- many of which were architect-designed -- for the town's business and political leaders. Among the most notable were the James L. Coker, III, House, C.K. Dunlap House, and J.B. Gilbert House, all individual properties in this multiple property submission.

In 1940 Hartsville was still a small rural town, with a population of some 5000, but had an influence and a reputation which rivaled, even surpassed, that of larger Southern towns and cities. South Carolina: The W.P.A. Guide to the Palmetto State called it "one of the most prosperous towns in the State" the next year. "Named for Thomas Edward Hart, on whose plantation the community developed, it is chiefly associated with the Coker family, distinguished in South Carolina and united through marriage with the Harts."(40) Hartsville's institutions -- most notably J.L. Coker and Company, Sonoco Products Company, Coker's Pedigreed Seed Company, and Coker College -- combined to define the town's character. Two of them -- Sonoco Products Company and Coker College -- continue to serve the community and help give Hartsville that sense of uniqueness which has long been its hallmark.

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NOTES

(1) Eliza Cowen Ervin and Horace Fraser Rudisill, Editors, Darlingtoniana: A History of People, Places and Events in Darlington County, South Carolina (Columbia: R.L. Bryan Company, 1964), p. 55; J.L. Coker, Hartsville: Its Early Settlers. The Growth of the Town with Sketches of its Institutions and Enterprises. (Darlington: Pee Dee Historical Society, 1911; Reprint Edition, Hartsville: Hartsville Messenger and Press, 1976), p. 3; Chapman J. Milling, Red Carolinians (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1940), pp. 203-230.

(2) Ervin and Rudisill, pp. 24-38, 57; Coker, Hartsville, pp. 3-4.

(3) Ervin and Rudisill, pp. 6-9; Horace Fraser Rudisill, Darlington County: A Pictorial History: From the Photographic Archives of the Darlington County Historical Commission (Norfolk: The Donning Company, 1986), pp. 11-13; David Duncan Wallace, South Carolina: A Short History 1540-1948 (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1951), pp. 713-14.

(4) Rudisill, p. 113; Coker, Hartsville, p. 4; Ervin and Rudisill, p. 57-58; National Archives Microfilm Publications, Record of Appointments of Postmasters 1832-September 30, 1971: South Carolina: Abbeville-Greenwood Counties, Microcopy 841, Roll 114 (Washington: National Archives, 1973).

(5) Coker, Hartsville, p. 17.

(6) Horace Fraser Rudisill, "Captain John Lide Hart and the Capt. John L. Hart House," unpublished typescript, Darlington, S.C., 1979, in National Register of Historic Places Files, South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.; Coker, Hartsville, pp. 5, 7-8, 19, 22-23, 25; Ervin and Rudisill, pp. 62-63.

(7) Coker, Hartsville, p. 27.

(8) Ervin and Rudisill, p. 190; Coker, Hartsville, pp. 27-29.

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(9) The War of the Rebellion: Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies (Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1880-1901), 128 Volumes, 4 Series; Series I, Volume XLVII, Part I, p. 319, Part II, pp. 664-65; Coker, Hartsville, p. 26; Ervin and Rudisill, pp. 130-34; Joseph T. Glaathaar, The March to the Sea and Beyond: Sherman's Troops in the Savannah and Carolinas Campaigns (New York & London: New York University Press, 1985), p. 146.

(10) Ross A. Smith, Editor, The South Carolina State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1880-'81, Containing the Names, Business, and Address of the Merchants, Manufacturers, Professional and Business Men, and the Principal Planters and Farmers of the State, Together with a Brief Sketch of all Cities, Towns, and Villages, and How to Reach Them. (Charleston: R.A. Smith, 1880), p. 376; Coker, Hartsville, p. 33; George Lee Simpson, Jr., The Cokers of Carolina: A Social Biography of a Family (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press for the Institute for Research in Social Science, 1956), pp. 91-95; Julian J. Petty, The Growth and Distribution of Population in South Carolina, South Carolina State Planning Board Bulletin No. 11 (Columbia: Industrial Development Committee of the State Council for Defense, 1943), pp. 87-88 and Appendix G, "South Carolina Cotton Production 1800-1940," p. 231.

(11) Ross A. Smith, Editor, The South Carolina State Gazetteer and Business Directory Published by the Southern Directory and Publishing Company, for 1890-1. Containing the Names, Business and Address of the Merchants, Manufacturers, Professional and Business Men, and the Principal Planters and Farmers of the State, Together With a Brief Sketch of all Cities, Towns and Villages, and How to Reach Them. (Charleston: Lucas & Richardson, 1890), p. 255; Hartsville Messenger, 3 December 1896.

(12) Petty, pp. 90-97; David L. Carlton, Mill and Town in South Carolina 1880-1920 (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1982), p. 7 and passim.

(13) Simpson, pp. 49-50, 52-53; Coker, Hartsville, p. 25-26, 27-28.

(14) Simpson, pp. 57-82 passim.; James Lide Coker, History of Company G, Ninth S.C. Regiment, Infantry, S.C. Army, and of Company E, Sixth S.C. Regiment, Infantry, S.C. Army. Prepared and Published by Request of the Survivors of these Companies (Charleston: Press of Walker, Evans, and Cogswell, 1899; Reprint Edition, Greenwood: The Attic Press, 1979), passim.

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(15) Quoted in Simpson, p. 87.

(16) Rudisill, pp. 113-15; Coker, Hartsville, p. 33.

(17) Simpson, p. 184.

(18) Rudisill, p. 114; Coker, Hartsville, pp. 33-34; Simpson, p. 107; A. Lee M. Wiggins, "Hartsville's Most Creative Years, 1889-1904," unpublished paper, Hartsville, SC, presented to the Hartsville Discussion Group, 7 March 1966, South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C.

(19) Coker, Hartsville, p. 34; Simpson, pp. 107-08, Wiggins, "Hartsville Most Creative Years."

(20) Hartsville Messenger, 3 December 1896.

(21) Coker, Hartsville, p. 62.

(22) Ibid., pp. 35, 62; Simpson, pp. 109-111; Wiggins, "Hartsville's Most Creative Years;" National Register of Historic Places Files, South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

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(33) "David Robert Coker," in The National Cyclopaedia of American Biography . . . Volume XXIX (New York: James T. White and Company, 1941), p. 99; Simpson, pp. 144-170, 190-218 *passim*; Wiggins, Autobiography, p. 55; National Historic Landmark and National Register of Historic Places Files, South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C. See also the extensive collection of Coker's papers, which illustrate the extraordinary breadth and depth of his many interests, at the South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C.

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Historic Resources of Hartsville, S.C.

E.W. Cannon House and Store  
J.L. Coker III House  
C.K. Dunlap House  
J.B. Gilbert House  
Thomas E. Hart House and Kalmia Gardens  
Hartsville Community Center and Hartsville Community Market  
Hartsville Post Office  
East Home Avenue Historic District  
Lawton Park and Pavilion  
Sonoco Products Company

Properties Within the City Limits of Hartsville, S.C., Already Listed  
in the National Register of Historic Places and Contributing in Whole  
or in Part to the Historic Resources of Hartsville, S.C., Multiple  
Property Submission

Coker Experimental Farms (NHL)	15 October 1966
Hartsville Passenger Station	29 June 1976
J.L. Coker Company Building	9 February 1983
Davidson Hall, Coker College	10 November 1983
John L. Hart House	10 November 1983
Arcade Hotel	19 December 1986
Memorial Hall/General Service Building, Coker College	9 February 1989



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**F. Associated Property Types**

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I. Name of Property Type \_\_\_\_\_

II. Description

See continuation sheets

III. Significance

IV. Registration Requirements

See continuation sheet

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See continuation sheet for additional property types

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**G. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods**

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Discuss the methods used in developing the multiple property listing.

See continuation sheet

See continuation sheet

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**H. Major Bibliographical References**

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See continuation sheets

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional documentation:

- State historic preservation office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency

- Local government  
 University  
 Other

Specify repository: S.C. Department of Archives & History, Columbia, S.C.

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**I. Form Prepared By**

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name/title J. Tracy Power, NR Historian/Julie Turner, Survey Architectural Historian  
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Section F. Associated Property Types

I. Name of Property Type: Residences

II. Description

Residences in Hartsville range in date from the early nineteenth century to the twentieth century. Only four residences were identified as dating before 1890 with the majority dating from 1890 to 1941. Hartsville's residences are characterized by diversity of construction, building materials, size, and style. Construction methods include frame, clay tile, and brick with exterior cladding including weatherboard, shingle, brick, and stucco. Many residences are vernacular in character while others express a variety of architectural styles including Colonial Revival, Craftsman, Neoclassical, Italian Renaissance, and Tudor Revival.

Hartsville's historic residences tend to be of two general characteristic groupings: those associated with the middle class and those associated with the community's leaders. Residences associated with the middle class in Hartsville tend to be of frame construction with weatherboard or brick veneer cladding, one or one-and-one-half stories with simple roof shapes (gable, cross gable, hip with lower cross gables), and have minimal applied detailing. Residences associated with Hartsville's industrial, commercial, and civic leaders tend to be large, two or two-and-one-half stories. Building materials include wood, clay tile, brick, and stucco. These residences are frequently architect designed with stylistic variety. These residences are often sited on large landscaped lots.

III. Significance

These properties are significant for their association with the settlement and residential development of Hartsville, particularly from 1890 to 1941. Many of these residences are also significant as examples of architectural styles and types found in Hartsville and South Carolina. These residences may be representative of the work of significant architects. Many are significant for their association with individuals who made contributions of local, state, or national significance. All are representative of the diverse architectural styles and types found in Hartsville. These resources should be listed under Criterion C for the ARCHITECTURE area of significance and/or Criteria A or B for associative areas of significance.

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IV. Registration Requirements

Properties should retain the integrity of their original materials and design and should convey their historic character and function. Depending on the area of significance and character of the residence, alterations may include: some changes to windows and doors, the application of synthetic siding and secondary additions which do not adversely affect the visual integrity.

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I. Name of Property Type: Commercial Buildings

II. Description

Commercial buildings in Hartsville range in date from the late nineteenth century to the twentieth century. These properties tend to be vernacular brick front commercial buildings which are one or two stories in height, of brick construction, and have rectangular plans. Architectural detail is often executed in decorative brickwork. Almost all of Hartsville's historic commercial buildings are located in the central business district.

III. Significance

These properties are significant for their association with the commercial and economic development of Hartsville from 1890 to 1941. These are representative of the vernacular brick commercial buildings found in Hartsville. These resources should be listed under Criterion C for the ARCHITECTURE area of significance and/or Criterion A for COMMERCE or other appropriate areas of significance.

IV. Registration Requirements

Properties should retain the integrity of their original materials and design and should convey their historic character and function. Alterations may include changes to the storefront and some changes to the upper facade which do not adversely affect the visual integrity.

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I. Name of Property Type: Resources Associated with Industry

II. Description

Hartsville's industrial complexes vary in size, number, and type of resources according to their productivity and the type or types of products manufactured. Resources may include buildings, reservoirs, and other structures. Construction varies and includes masonry, frame with weatherboard, and frame with metal siding. These properties tend to be utilitarian in character rather than stylistic. Buildings within the complex may date from a variety of periods, and additions or modifications may be common place reflecting significant periods of development or changes in technology.

III. Significance

These properties are significant for their association with the industrial and economic development of Hartsville during the early twentieth century. These may also be significant for their association with industries important in the history of South Carolina such as the Textile Industry. These properties may be representative of industrial architecture in Hartsville or South Carolina. These resources should be listed under Criterion C for the ARCHITECTURE area of significance and/or Criterion A for the INDUSTRY area of significance.

IV. Registration Requirements

Properties should retain the integrity of their historic materials and design and should convey their historic character and function. Historic additions or modifications which reflect significant periods of development or changes in technology should be considered to contribute to the historic character of the property. Depending on the area of significance and the character of the property, alterations may include: some changes to windows and doors, and secondary additions which do not adversely affect the visual integrity.

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I. Name of Property Type: Public Facilities

II. Description

Hartsville's public facilities range in date from c. 1900 to 1941. All of these properties were designed for public use. These tend to have been constructed with public funds and many were associated with the WPA. Public facilities include buildings and landscaped or designed spaces.

Public facilities which are buildings include those associated with education, government, and recreation. These vary in size and design according to the date of construction and original function. Hartsville's public buildings tend to be of brick construction, though they may be frame. Typically these properties are one to three stories in height. Details reflect a variety of architectural styles including Neoclassical, Colonial Revival, and Art Deco.

Public facilities which are landscaped or designed spaces include parks, gardens, and cemeteries. These vary in size, design, and character according to the original function. These properties may include buildings or other structures.

III. Significance

These properties are significant for their association with the economic and social development of Hartsville. These facilities are also representative of public architecture and landscape in Hartsville and South Carolina. These may be significant as examples of architectural styles found in Hartsville and South Carolina. These properties may also be significant for their association with important local, state, or national historic themes such as recreation, education, and the WPA. These resources should be listed under Criterion C for the ARCHITECTURE area of significance and/or Criterion A for POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, EDUCATION, RECREATION, LANDSCAPE, or other appropriate areas of significance.

IV. Registration Requirements

Properties should retain the integrity of their original materials and design and should convey their historic character and function.

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## Section G. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods

A survey of historic places in Hartsville was conducted by the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in 1981, as part of the South Carolina Statewide Survey. This survey identified a potential National Register Historic District on East Home Avenue. A supplemental survey by the SHPO Survey staff, intended to review the initial survey information and National Register recommendations, was conducted in 1989. This supplemental survey, together with preliminary research on the development of Hartsville, resulted in the expansion of the project by the Survey and National Register staff. In the winter and spring of 1989-1990 the SHPO staff identified several individual properties and a second historic district which would be added to the already-proposed historic district to form a multiple property submission for Hartsville. It was determined that this multiple property submission would be conducted in two phases, the first to be completed in June 1990 and the second to be completed at a future date. The staff also conducted additional historical research concerning the growth and development of Hartsville. Staff members involved in the National Register phase of the project included Andrew W. Chandler, National Register Manager; J. Tracy Power, National Register Historian, and Julie Turner, Survey Architectural Historian. Photographs from the initial and supplemental surveys were field-checked for accuracy and additional photographs were taken as needed. The only workable map that was available for the nomination phase was at a scale of one inch equalling 500 feet. This citywide map accurately reflects the current conditions in the city of Hartsville.

The SHPO staff recognizes that some potentially eligible properties in Hartsville may not be nominated in the first two phases of this multiple property submission. Perhaps the development of this historic context will allow local governments, historical societies, or interested individuals to prepare future nominations for individual properties in Hartsville.



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