

Media Release – March 8, 2018 Sharon Johnson, Community Relations Director sjohnson@co.pickens.sc.us 864-508-0978 (cell) 864-898-5831 (office)

Historic Easley Cotton Mill - Tax Incentive Information

(Pickens County, March 8, 2018) On June 10, 2013, Pickens County Council unanimously adopted Ordinance #467, which provided a tax incentive for up to twenty years for rehabilitated historic properties. In passing this ordinance, the members of county council at that time found that "special property tax assessments will encourage the restoration of historic properties, [and] promote community redevelopment."

On May 4, 2015 County Council unanimously certified the Easley Cotton Mill for such a historic designation. Only one councilmember remains on county council from the group that unanimously passed Ordinance #467 and unanimously certified the Easley Cotton Mill as qualifying for the historic designation.

The proposed renovations did not occur, but now a subsequent owner has restarted the project. It then fell to County Council to consider whether the project remained qualified as a historic property. Since the Easley Cotton Mill is on the National Register of Historic Places, it qualified for certification by the County in 2018 exactly as it did in 2015. Accordingly, on March 5, 2018, the County Council certified the project again as it remains appropriate under the historic designation.

This certification is one step in many that will be necessary for the developers of the site to qualify under state law for a special tax assessment.

https://www.nps.gov/Nr/feature/places/09000818.htm