

In the 1800's general stores were being established all through America. They were stocked with goods that needed by everyone. Two historical general are in South Carolina that are still here to this day. One is Coker and Rogers, Inc. in Society Hill, SC and the Lenoir Store in Horatio, SC.

The Coker and Rogers, Inc. general store was established in 1828 by Caleb Coker Jr. and Eli Gregg. Caleb was the owner of the general store in 1839 until Thomas Coker joined him. After Caleb's death, the store was passed down to his son, and then passed through the generations of his family. The general store was near the Pee Dee river so it could receive supplies. The store's credit and service extended to several counties with flatboats going to Georgetown. It was one of the organizers of the Pee Dee Steamboat Company. The current owner of the store is Mary Mciver Coker, but closed in 1963.

The Lenoir store was established sometime before 1808 in Horatio. Isaac Lenoir's will mentioned mention it in 1808. The general store has been passed down through six generation of the Lenoir family. It was marked on the map in 1878. A post office was located in the store in 1900, and the owner was often qualified and appointed as postmaster.

These general stores were very important to the towns that they served and sold to. Usually, general stores were placed in the middle of town and where everyone met from time to time. The general stores sold items that everyone needed. The stores would be located by a river to receive supplies. If not, then it wouldn't be very successful and would go out of business. The general stores and the mega-stores are similar in a few ways. They both sell a lot of items or products, and the stores are very big. There are

many differences between the general store and mega-stores. One big difference is the technology that the mega-store possesses to help customers. The general stores though were in the center of town unlike the mega-stores, and you could hire people at the general store. *One that is still here to this day. One is Colver and Rogers, Inc. in Seckley Hill, NC*

The Colver and Rogers, Inc. general store was established in 1828 by Caleb Colver (1839) and Thomas Colver to his son, and then passed through the generations of his family. The general store was near the Pee Dee river so it could receive supplies. The store's credit and services extended to several counties with railroads going to Georgetown. It was one of the organizers of the Pee Dee Steamboat Company. The current owner of the store is Henry Melvin Colver, but closed in 1963.

The Lewis store was established sometime before 1808 in Rowan, NC.

These general stores were very important to the towns that they served and still are. Usually, general stores were placed in the middle of town and where everyone met from day to day. The general stores sold items that everyone needed. The stores would