1. NAME
COMMON: (William) Rea Store
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER: East Williams Street
CITY OR TOWN: Murfreesboro
STATE: North Carolina
CODE: 32
COUNTY: Hertford
CODE: 46

3. CLASSIFICATION
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY (Check One)</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District:</td>
<td>Public</td>
<td>Occupied</td>
<td>Yes:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site:</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Unoccupied</td>
<td>Restricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure:</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Being Considered</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object:</td>
<td></td>
<td>Preservation work in progress</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)
| Agriculture:       | Government: | Park: | Transportation: | Comments: |
| Commercial:        | Industrial: | Private Residence: | Other (Specify): |
| Educational:       | Military:   | Religious: | |
| Entertainment:     | Museum:     | Scientific: |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
OWNER'S NAME: Murfreesboro Historical Association, Inc.
STREET AND NUMBER: c/o Mr. Frank Stephenson, Jr., Chowan College
CITY OR TOWN: Murfreesboro
STATE: North Carolina
CODE: 32

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Hertford County Courthouse
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: Winton 27986
STATE: North Carolina
CODE: 32

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE OF SURVEY:
DATE OF SURVEY:
FEDERALLY FUNDING: Federal
STATE FUNDING: State
COUNTY FUNDING: County
LOCAL FUNDING: Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
STATE FEDERALLY FUNDING NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN:
The main block of the Rea Store is a two-story structure approximately 40 feet by 28 feet built of brick laid in Flemish bond. The main facade, facing Williams Street, features a center entrance with double flush panel doors and a jack arch. On either side are single large windows with jack arches. The center bay of the second floor has a similar double door above which is a projecting hoist bar. There are pairs of small windows with jack arches flanking the upper doorway. There is a three-bay one-story wing on the west side. This was a later addition to the main section and was also built of brick laid in Flemish bond. It has an exterior chimney on the western end.

On the interior, the larger block contains one room on each floor connected by a stair on the east wall. The walls are plastered, and the beaded beams of the second floor exposed. The utilitarian design of the Rea Store is evident in such features as those just mentioned and in the window arrangement. The larger fenestration of the lower floor may have facilitated the display of merchandise, the smaller windows on the second would merely have provided the necessary illumination for that storage area. The second floor door and hoist bar were used to facilitate the movement of bulky items to the storage area. The one-story wing is thought to have served as an office.
The William Rea Store in Murfreesboro is one of the oldest commercial buildings in North Carolina. The store was built on the corner of Fourth and Williams about 1790 by William Rea, a wealthy Boston merchant who traded extensively between Murfreesboro and New England. Rea and four brothers outfitted trading ships at Murfreesboro during the first half of the nineteenth century which made the town an important export center for the Roanoke Valley. An office wing was added to the store about 1803 and served as the law office of Thomas Maney who later became a prominent Tennessee judge. On March 31, 1831, William Rea sold the store to Benjamin B. Camp of Southampton County, Virginia. Subsequent owners included David A. Barnes, F. F. Ferguson, and H. U. White. In the early 1900s the old store was used as a machine shop where newly-invented mechanical peanut harvesters were serviced. Julia White Miles and her husband W. L. Miles sold the store lot to Edwin P. Brown on May 1, 1967, and Brown, in turn, donated the property to the Murfreesboro Historical Association on the same day.
As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National [ ] State [x] Local [ ]

Name  
Dr. H. G. Jones  
Title  Director, State Department of Archives and History  
Date June 16, 1970

(William) Rea Store
East Williams Street
Murfreesboro, North Carolina

City Map of Murfreesboro
City of Murfreesboro
Scale: 2"/1200'
No date

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Latitude</th>
<th>Longitude</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>77°</td>
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<tr>
<td>26'</td>
<td>05'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38&quot;</td>
<td>54&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>