

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property

County and State

Section number _____ Page _____

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 14001106

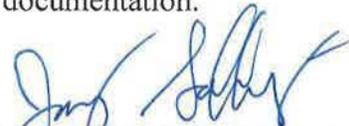
Date Listed: 12/29/2014

Property Name: Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills

County: Hamilton

State: TN

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.



Signature of the Keeper
in

12-29-2014

Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 5: Classification

The classification of this mill complex is hereby changed to "District."

The Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file

Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)



1106

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 48. **Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.** If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" where 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 Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills
Other names/site number Thatcher Plant
Name of related multiple property listing NA

2. Location

Street & Number: 1800 Watkins Street
City or town: Chattanooga State: Tennessee County: Hamilton
Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

Claudia M. 10/19/14
Signature of certifying official/Title: Date
State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
Signature of Commenting Official: Date
Title: State of Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

Standard Coosa Thatcher Mills

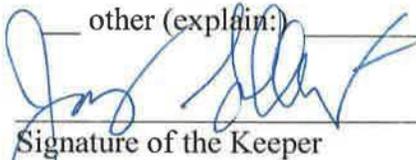
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4. National Park Service Certification

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

12.29.2014

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

- Private
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
14	1	buildings
0	0	sites
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
15	1	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

Industry/Manufacturing facility

Current Functions

Vacant

7. Description

Architectural Classification

Other – Early 20th Century Industrial

Materials:

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK, CONCRETE, METAL/Steel

Narrative Description

Standar-Coosa-Thatcher Mills is located at 1800 S. Watkins Street and spans more than two city blocks between E. 17th and E. 19th Streets in Chattanooga, Hamilton County, Tennessee. The current project includes the intact one-block area between E. 18th and E. 19th Streets, which was originally the Thatcher Spinning Mill (and also later referred to as the Thatcher Plant in the 1955 Sanborn map). The block to the north was originally the Standard Mill and has been almost entirely demolished, and is not within the nominated boundary. The Period of Significance for the Mills begins in 1916 with the construction date of the earliest extant building, and stretches to 1961 when the last building was constructed. The Thatcher Spinning Company, the Standard Processing Plant, and the Coosa Spinning Plant headquartered in Alabama were consolidated in 1922 under the name of Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Corporation for organizational purpose only. The mills continued operating independently. Only the Thatcher Spinning Mill is within the suggested boundaries. The existing 14 buildings and one structure (water tower) represent the bulk of the Thatcher Spinning Mill and represent all the major functionally related buildings and additions for the proposed period of significance, 1916 -1961. These buildings are the three main mill buildings Nos. 10, 11

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and 11A. In addition to the main mill buildings, Buildings No.12 and No.13, located south of Building No.10, were used as warehouses. In 1952 and 1961 two additional warehouses, Buildings No. 18 and No. 19 were added on the east side of the railroad tracks (alley). These two buildings are not part of the current tax credit application. Buildings No. 9 and No. 16, located on the north side of Building No. 10 were originally used for production, but later repurposed as machine shops. In addition to these major buildings several smaller additions and infill building were added to facilitate air-cooling equipment, bathrooms and a tool shed.

The Thatcher Mill was originally built in 1916, and was designed by J. E. Serrine of Greenville, South Carolina, and was constructed by Turner Construction. Serrine's design represented a new generation of lighter, airier mill buildings used for Thatcher Mill, as for an almost identical mill, Musgrove Mill, that he designed in Gaffney, South Carolina. Thatcher Spinning received a major extension in 1920 (also designed by Serrine) and again in 1948. It was closed in 1988, and the buildings have been vacant since that time.

As shown in a 1962 survey (see Figure 22), the mill complex had once included a number of buildings north of 18th Street and east of the railroad tracks. In 1962, the mill buildings had filled the block between E. 17th and E. 18th Streets, and there were additional mill buildings north of 17th Street. All buildings north of 18th Street were part of the Standard Processing plant. Almost all of these buildings have been demolished. Only portions of Building No. 7 (built in 1920) and two Coal Silos remain in this block. One other building, No. 14 (built between 1915-1925), remains north of E. 17th Street. Buildings No. 7 and No. 14 and the two Coal Silos are part of the Standard plant and outside of the suggested boundaries. Also, the early Sanborn maps show the mill buildings surrounded by dwellings that were likely part of a mill village. At this time only a handful of mill dwellings remain, mostly on the southern side of the Thatcher Mill. Most have been demolished and some areas were in-filled with newer housing. The few remnant homes are also outside the suggested boundaries.

For the purpose of this architectural description – and for ease and clarity in describing the existing main mill complex – the building numbers reference the 1962 survey. The front of the mill complex is assumed to be Watkins Street (the west side of the property), so that the rear of the complex (the east side of the property) is the alley way along what was the railroad line (also labeled as Buckley Street on the Sanborn maps). The buildings are described in chronological order.

In general, the mill buildings are typical of other Serrine mill buildings built during the same period. The exteriors of the buildings are composed of either concrete or red brick or a combination of these two finish materials. The designs are simple and linear. All of the buildings are rectangular in form and most have flat roofs or sloped roofs. The number of floors varies among the buildings: one building has five floors, some have three floors, and some have just one floor. The windows also vary but the original windows were mostly typical mill-type metal windows with multiple lights. Some of the metal windows include hoppers or awning-type portions that were operable; some openings are finished with glass block. At many locations, the original windows have been removed and/or in-filled with modern materials like plywood.

The interiors are typical of mill buildings and characterized by large, open spaces with regularly-spaced columns that form a grid pattern. The structural components vary from building to building: the largest buildings have a concrete structural system with concrete “mushroom” columns and reinforced concrete slab floors and brick curtain walls; the other buildings have post-and-beam construction with a combination of

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wood or steel columns and either wood or steel beams and brick curtain walls. It is possible the buildings with structural concrete columns may be early examples of a new generation of mill construction. The perimeter walls of the buildings are unfinished at the interiors and are either brick or concrete. There are a few modern interior office build-outs, but most of the interiors have few alterations or additions. The floors are either wood or concrete or a combination of these two materials. Some of the buildings have a flooring system of wood over concrete slab (such as Buildings 11, 11-A, and 10); these flooring components are typically in poor condition. The typical stairs at the main buildings are concrete with pipe railings. There is also a metal spiral staircase in one building.

Building No. 10 (1916) Mill Building

Building No. 10 is one of the two oldest buildings – and the second largest building - in the current mill complex. It was constructed in 1916 and has three floors. It now sits at the center rear of the complex and is separated from the main building, Building No. 11, by a courtyard. Buildings No. 10 and No. 11 are connected via enclosed walkways at the upper floors. Building No. 10 is rectangular in shape and has a flat roof. The elevations are articulated by vertical concrete pilasters and horizontal concrete bands. The roof line is flat except at the corners where the red brick stair towers and entries are articulated with a more decorative roof line and concrete coping. With the exception of a few windows in the stair towers, which are multi-light steel windows with pivot style opening mechanism, at some point after 1948 and before the 1960s all of the original windows were removed and replaced with concrete in-fill that includes occasional punched openings of glass block for light and louvers for venting. The original windows were mill-type multi-light steel windows with a pivot style opening mechanism. Building elevation materials are a combination of concrete and red brick. Building No. 10 abuts Buildings No. 9 and No. 16 to the left (north). The 1917 Sanborn map labels the building as “The Thatcher Spinning Co.” and describes the uses as “Twisting, Spooling & Warping” at the 1st floor, “Spinning” at the 2nd floor, and “Carding” at the 3rd floor. The building is also described on the Sanborn map as “Fire Proof Construction, Mushroom Type, Reinforced Concrete.” The 1929 Sanborn map labels the building use as “Factory” with “Fire Proof Concrete Floor ... and Brick Curtain-wall.” (C)

Building No. 12 (1916) Warehouse

Building No. 12 is located at the right rear corner of the mill complex and abuts the rear of Building No. 13. It was constructed in 1916 and is one of the two original mill buildings. Building No. 12 is rectangular in shape and has three floors; the first floor is partially below grade. The roof line is flat with a tile coping. The exterior of the building is red brick. The west elevation along E. 19th Street has six window openings with precast concrete sills. One mill-type multi-light metal window remains and the other five have been in-filled with plywood at an unknown date. The brickwork suggests that these windows may be alterations, which could not be dated. The rear elevation includes a loading dock at the second floor with a metal awning. There are large arched openings at the loading dock with sliding wood doors. There are also large arched openings above, at the third floor, that have been in-filled with red brick. A stair tower with arched window openings extends above the roof line to provide access to the roof at the rear (northeast) corner of the building. The north elevation has a series of six regularly-spaced sliding wood doors. The interior includes wood columns and beams and wood floors, which appear original. The 1917 Sanborn map labels the building as “Cotton Storage Warehouse” with a Waste Room, Opening Room and Concrete Platform. The building is still labeled as “Cotton Storage” on the 1955 Sanborn map and the 1962 survey. (C)

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Building No. 9/9-A (1919)

Building No. 9 was constructed in 1919 and is connected to Building No. 16. It is located along E. 18th Street, sandwiched between buildings No. 11-A and No. 16. Building No. 9 is one story, with red brick elevations and a sloped roof. The north and west elevations have large window openings with pre-cast concrete lintels and sills. Some of the original, multi-light metal windows remain and others have been in-filled with plywood at an unknown date. At this time it is not known if parts of the windows are still extant. The north elevation, along E. 18th Street, includes a large metal roll-up door, which is probably not historic. The interior construction is composed of wood beams and round steel pipe columns, and the floors are concrete, and are likely original. The 1929 Sanborn map labels the building use as “Factory” with a small Machine Shop and indicates the structural components as “Iron Posts.” (C)

Building No. 11 (1920) – Mill Building

The primary building of the current mill complex is Building No. 11, which sits at the front of the complex and faces Watkins Street. It is the largest building in the complex and was constructed in 1920. The exterior of the building is characterized by a regular rhythm of bays with large window openings. The building finishes are concrete and red brick. The elevations are articulated by vertical concrete pilasters and horizontal concrete bands. The roof line is flat, except at the corners where the red brick stair towers and entries are articulated with a more decorative roof line and concrete coping. With the exception of a few windows in the stair towers, all of the original windows were removed and replaced (after 1951) with concrete in-fill that includes occasional punched openings of glass block for light and louvers for venting. At the rear, or east, elevation the building connects with Buildings No. 10 and No. 13 via a series of enclosed bridges at the second and third floors. The west elevation includes a non-historic, one-story, entry vestibule and a non-historic, enclosed, one-story loading dock at the street level. Building No. 11 has three floors and a partial basement. It is rectangular in shape, fourteen bays in length and five bays in depth. The interior is characterized by a regular rhythm of columns in a grid pattern. In 1962, according to the survey, the first floor housed twisting and winding, the second floor spinning and the third floor roving, frames, carding, drawing, slubbers, and combing. (C)

75,000 gallon metal water tank (before 1949)

The water tank is located on the roof of building No. 11 and consists of a round water reservoir supported by three metal legs. The bottom of the reservoir sits 85 feet above yard level. (C)

Building No. 13 (1920)

Building No. 13 is located to the rear of Building No. 11 on the south side of the property along E. 19th Street. It sits between Buildings No. 11 and 12 and connects to Building 11 via enclosed walkways at Floors Three and Five. Building No. 13 is rectangular in shape and has five floors. Floors One through Four were constructed in 1920 and the top floor (Floor Five) was added at some point after 1920 and before 1948 (see Figure 21). The exterior (Floors One - Four) is characterized by horizontal bands of concrete and red brick with vertical concrete elements at the column lines. The red brick bands include single window openings with awning-style metal windows, which have eight lights. Some of these metal windows remain, however most of them have been replaced with plywood at an unknown date. At this time it is not known if parts of the windows are still extant. The exterior of the Fifth floor addition is finished with concrete and includes double-height metal windows with multiple lights. The interiors of Floors One - Four have concrete “mushroom” columns and concrete slab floors. A portion of the first floor closest to Building No. 11 has

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brick columns and wood beams. The Fifth (top) floor of the building is structured with steel I-columns and steel trusses. On the 1955 Sanborn map, the building is labeled as "Cotton Storage." (C)

Building No. 16 (1930)

Building No. 16 is a one-story building at the northeast (rear) corner of the complex. It abuts Buildings No. 10 and 28 and was constructed in 1930. It is connected to the adjacent Building No. 9 via an enclosed entryway, which is labeled as "Building No. 35 (1957)" on the 1962 Survey; the connector is accessed from the exterior via a large, arched, brick opening that has been in-filled with modern wood paneling and a single modern door. The façades of Building No. 16 are red brick and the building has a flat roof. The west elevation along E. 18th Street has irregular openings of varying sizes which have been modified and in-filled at an unknown date). The interior construction is composed of wood beams and steel I-columns, and the floors are concrete. The 1929 Sanborn map labels the building use as "Factory" and indicates the structural components as "Iron Posts." Later, the building's use is labeled as "Machine Shop" on the 1955 Sanborn map. (C)

Building No. 33 (1945)

Building No. 33 was constructed in 1945 and is located in the center of the mill complex. This two-story Building spans between the two large mill buildings, Nos. 10 and 11, and connects the two buildings at the second floor. The building is red brick with a flat roof and has large metal louvered openings for ventilation. According to the 1962 survey, this building was used as a chiller and housed fans. (C)

Building No. 11-A (1947) Mill Building

Building No. 11-A sits at the northwest corner of the mill complex, at the corner of Watkins Street and E. 18th Street. Built in 1947, the building has two floors and abuts Building No. 11 to the right. The exterior is similar to the design of Building No. 11, which was constructed earlier. The exterior finishes are concrete and red brick. The window openings at the lower floors have been in-filled with plywood (after 1951); the window openings at the upper floors have been in-filled with glass block (after 1951) with regular hopper windows for ventilation. At the center bay of the west elevation) there is a small, one-story, red brick projection at the street level that has loading doors. This loading dock has a flat metal roof with decorative metal detailing along the roof line. The 1955 Sanborn map labels the building's use as "Factory" (part of the Thatcher Plant). The 1962 survey describes the use as "Finishing and Winding" on the first floor and "Spinning and Air-Conditioning Equipment" on the second floor. (C)

Building No. 29 (circa 1939)

Building No. 29 is a one-story, red brick building that was added at the east elevation of Building No. 10. Building 29 has a flat roof. There are metal louvered openings for ventilation on the rear elevation. There are no windows. (C)

Building No. 28 (circa 1939)

Building No. 28 is a one-story, free-standing building at the northeast corner of Building No. 10. It abuts Building No. 16. The building is rectangular in shape and has a pitched, corrugated metal roof over wood trusses. Two elevations are finished with concrete. The west façade is finished with prefabricated metal panels with a band consisting of six multi-light metal windows (C)

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Building No. 11-B (after 1962)

Building No. 11-B is located at the east elevation of Building No. 11-A. The 1962 survey shows a smaller building, labeled "Air Conditioning Equipment", approximately one third the size of the current building. Exterior walls of the current building are painted concrete block with the E. 18th Street façade clad in red brick. Wall patterns seem to indicate that the original building was demolished and a new chiller building erected after 1962. The simple, one-story, building has a flat roof with large air exchange units covering the entire roof. The Building has three door openings with metal sliding doors on the east elevation and no windows. (NC)

Building No. 32 (first floor before 1949, second floor before 1962)

Building No. 32 is located at the rear of Building No. 11-A. It is a two-story, red brick, building with a flat roof. This mechanical building has three window openings on the first floor, which are currently boarded up. The second floor has no windows, but four large openings with louvers for ventilation. (C)

Building No. 34 (1945)

Building No. 34 is a two-story, red brick building, simple in design with a flat roof. This building holds mechanical equipment and has no window openings. (C)

Buildings No. 18 (1952)

This one-story red brick building has a flat roof and is divided into two sections. It has no windows and two metal roll-up doors on the west elevation. (C)

Building No. 19 (1961)

This one-story red brick building has a flat roof, no windows and a metal roll-up door on the west elevation. (C)

In summary, the project area includes fifteen buildings, of which fourteen are contributing and one (Building No. 11-B) is non-contributing. It also includes one structure, the 75,000 gallon water tower located on the roof of building No. 11, which is contributing.

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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 N/A
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- 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

Commerce

Industry

Period of Significance

1916 - 1961

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Sirrione, J.E.

Turner Construction

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Statement of Significance Summary

The Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills are located at 1800 S. Watkins Street in Chattanooga, Hamilton County, Tennessee. The Standard Processing plant was the first of the two mills to be built here in 1913, although these buildings are not extant. It operated in Chattanooga with yarn supply from the Coosa Manufacturing plant in Alabama. This plant was under the same ownership as the Standard Processing plant, but organized as a separate entity. Eventually Coosa was not able to satisfy the demand for yarn and a new spinning plant, the Thatcher Spinning mill, was built in 1916. This plant was directly adjacent to the Standard Processing plant. Until 1922 all three plants, Coosa, Standard, and Thatcher were operated separately. In this year it was decided to consolidate these three plants for management reasons, and all three plants were operated under the name Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills. Standard Processing Plant and Thatcher operated in this location until 2003. For nearly a century this mill was vital part of the Chattanooga economy.

The Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills, located at 1800 S. Watkins Street in Chattanooga, Hamilton County, Tennessee is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under National Register Criterion A for Commerce for its contribution to the twentieth century economic growth of Chattanooga. The Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Company made a significant contribution to the City of Chattanooga, the State of Tennessee and eventually reached beyond Tennessee borders with plants and offices nationwide. The Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills is an intact representative example of industrial production during its period of local significance (1916-1961). It represents the driving force cotton production in the South had on the industrial infrastructure of Chattanooga. Through its many phases of construction and growth it depicts industrial development during the middle decades of the twentieth century and therefore is eligible under Criterion A in the area of Industry. The Mill started with two buildings constructed in 1916, a second larger mill and additional warehouse were added in 1920. The 1920s mill received an addition in 1947. Alleyways between buildings were infilled with chiller buildings until almost the entire block was covered with buildings. Even then two further warehouses were added to the east of the original block across the alley (former railroad tracks) in 1952 and 1961. These additions are representative of the company's constant quest for modernization and improvement. By the 1970s they had grown from a small plant in Alabama to a three-state operation with four major plants in the South. Their yarns and threads were sold through twenty sales offices throughout the country and were used for many different end products like carpeting, hosiery apparel, Schiffli lace, drapery, and book bindings. The Period of Significance begins with the construction date of the earliest extant building in the district, 1916, and stretches to 1961, which represents the final date for new construction within the boundaries in this location. To accommodate further growth SCT relied on purchasing plants in other locations like Rossville, Georgia.

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Company was a textile corporation located at 1800 S. Watkins Street in Chattanooga, Hamilton County, Tennessee. The company received its name when three individual plants, the Coosa Manufacturing Company in Alabama, the Standard Processing Company and the Thatcher Spinning Mill, both in Chattanooga, were consolidated in 1922.¹

¹ Narrative by Albert Garret Thatcher, written for the Standard Coosa Thatcher mill in-house publication *The Spindle*, after Thatcher's retirement.

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Industrial Development of Chattanooga

At the turn of the century the textile industry was expanding southward to provide increased local manufacturing for Southern cotton. With the introduction of electricity, the old water-powered mills of New England were becoming obsolete, and the railroad provided a growing transportation possibility. The post-war need for iron and steel rails was being answered by the turn of the century, and the labor force became diversified by entering into other industries. The diversification of resources in the valley of the Tennessee River assured Chattanooga an abundance of coal, lumber, cotton, and the means to manufacture these resources into finished products and distribute them throughout the nation. Other industries active in Chattanooga at the beginning of the 20th Century included, iron, ore, and coal foundries, lumber and woodworking, mining, medicine, printing, tanneries and Coca Cola Bottling.² As these manufacturers waned, textiles were one of the industries to fill the gap.

At the turn of the century Chattanooga emerged as a textile-manufacturing center, particularly for cotton hosiery.³ Indeed, in 1938 *The Chattanooga Times* wrote a review of the industries of the city and the growth exhibited since the turn of the century, stating:

The year of 1937 was one of the most remarkable years in Chattanooga's history, for in it textile manufacturing, now the city's largest single field of industry, began, and plants were established, which were the forerunners of some of the most important manufactories of the future.

Besides the Thatcher Spinning Mills other mills in Chattanooga were the Signal Knitting Mills, built in 1916, manufacturing various types of clothing this is the only textile mill in Chattanooga currently listed in the National Register.⁴ Following are other examples of textile mills in Chattanooga. The Davis Hosiery Mill, later called the United Hosiery Mills, started operation in Chattanooga in 1904. Similar to the Thatcher Mills it expanded several times and by 1963 employed 3,500 people in nine plants in Tennessee, Georgia and North Carolina. It closed its operation in Chattanooga in 1999.⁵ The Dixie Mercerizing Company was founded in 1913. In 1922 the Dixie Spinning Mills were established to supply yarn to the Dixie Mercerizing company. Dixie Spinning Mills were located north of the Tennessee River in a mill town known as "Lupton city", named after John T. Lupton, the founder of both companies.⁶ Another mill producing hosiery in Chattanooga was the Chattanooga Knitting Mill, later known as the Richmond Hosiery Mill, named after its founder, Edward Gould Richard.⁷ Outside of Chattanooga a search throughout surrounding Eastern Tennessee counties (Bradly, Polk, Marion, Sequatchee, Bledsoe, Meigs, McMinn, Monroe, Franklin, Van

² Turnbull Cone and Machine Company, Chattanooga Tennessee. National Register Nomination. On file at the Tennessee Historical Commission, 1992.

³ Teresa Biddle-Douglas. "Dixie Spinning Mills". *Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture* <http://tennesseencyclopedia.net/entry.php?rec=383> accessed 10-1-2024.

⁴ National Register of Historic Places

⁵ Harmon Jolley. "Chattanooga Manufacturing From Cradle to Grave" *The Chattanooga.com*, November 15, 2009. <http://www.chattanoogan.com/2009/11/15/163201/Chattanooga-Manufacturing-From-Cradle.aspx> accessed October 1, 2014.

⁶ Teresa Biddle-Douglas. "Dixie Spinning Mills". *Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture* <http://tennesseencyclopedia.net/entry.php?rec=383> accessed 10-1-2024.

⁷ Zella Armstrong. "Mr. and Mrs. Edward Gould Richmond", *History of Hamilton County and Chattanooga, Tennessee*.

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Buren, Blount, Servier, Cocke, Greene, Unicoi, Carter , Johnston) could not identify any textiles mills listed in the National Register of Historic places.

The History of the Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Corporation

All three mills, Standard, Coosa and Thatcher were the brainchild of Albert Garret (A.G.) Thatcher and Jacob Barlow, two textile merchants from Philadelphia. For Thatcher they remained his lifelong business.

The first of the three plants was the Coosa Spinning plant, started in 1891 in Piedmont, Alabama by A. G. Thatcher, Jacob Barlow and W. Lane Verlanden. In 1896 Barlow and Thatcher discontinued their northern operation, the Barlow and Thatcher Spinning Company in Henry Clay, Delaware, and consolidated with the Coosa Manufacturing Company in Alabama. In 1902, Coosa No.2 was built to manufacture combed cotton yarns, and in 1909 a roving yarn plant was added. In 1919 Coosa No. 4 was built.

The second mill was the Standard Processing Company. The mill was designed by Lockwood Greene and Company and started production May 1st, 1913. The company started with capital of \$100,000, of which \$87,500 was furnished by the Coosa Manufacturing Company and the rest by private investors from Chattanooga. W. Lane Verlanden, a long time friend of Thatcher, became president and Alfred H. Thatcher (son) became secretary and treasurer of the new company. At the Standard Processing plant, the cotton yarn, which was spun at the Coosa plant, was mercerized, a process resulting in a more lustrous and stronger yarn, that also takes dye a little more readily. This process was first devised in 1844 by John Mercer, an Englishman, and later improved to its modern form by H. A. Lowe.⁸

In 1914 World War I started, eventually stimulating business in the U.S due to large demands for different goods previously obtained from Europe. Acting upon the increased demand for textiles, Thatcher decided to supplement the spinning operation of the Coosa plant with an additional spinning mill in Chattanooga. The company was called the Thatcher Spinning Company and was located adjacent to the Standard Processing plant. J. E. Serrine, a former Lockwood Greene Architect from Greenville, South Carolina, designed the modern building. Starting capital was \$400,000. Construction was started early 1916 and was completed December 1st of that year. It was not until April 1917 that the plant was fully operational. In 1920 a second mill building of the same design, but larger, was added.⁹ Turner Construction was the contractor.¹⁰ The Turner Construction Company was responsible for the construction of the 1920 Thatcher Mill. Henry C. Turner founded the Turner Construction Company in 1902. He had acquired the patent for reinforced concrete and soon became the industry expert after building several reinforced concrete structures, including the Gair Building, a plant in Brooklyn, New York which, after completion, became the largest reinforced concrete building in the U.S. The company grew rapidly and established branch offices in Philadelphia, Buffalo and Boston. Today Turner has forty-six offices in the U.S. and is active in twenty countries around the world.

⁸ Tom Beudet (1999). What is Mercerized cotton?" FiberArts.org, 2007

⁹ 1962 Survey

¹⁰ Client card on file at Turner Construction, Atlanta, Georgia

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This began the era where Coosa and Thatcher produced cotton yarns to supply the Standard Processing plant for further processing. The end product was a high quality thread, processed and dyed, and ready to be sold to textile weavers all over the Nation.

Two of the three mills, Standard and Thatcher, were located directly beside each other in Chattanooga. The Standard Processing plant was built first, the Thatcher Spinning Company just a few years later in 1916. Although owned by the same group of people, the mills were operated separately from each other. Each housed separate operations. Thatcher Spinning Corporation, as the name indicated, processed the incoming raw cotton and eventually spun the cotton to a finished yarn. At this point the yarn would leave Thatcher and be transported to the Standard Processing Plant for further refining (mercerizing) and dyeing. From here the yarn would be shipped to various buyers, weaving the yarns to a variety of finished products. This arrangement was unlike a fully integrated cotton mill, which would handle all three processes in one plant, but it was not uncommon in the textile industry to house each of these processes in separate plants. Even after Standard, Coosa and Thatcher were merged for management reasons, these plants continued to operate separately. Throughout its history, workers at the two neighboring plants stayed loyal to their outfit, as shown in many photos and articles in the *Spindle*, an in-house publication for the workers, and through social and athletic events (each mill had its own sports team), like company picnics, that were held on separate days for each mill. The 1962 Survey (Figure 1) defines the boundaries between the two as everything north of 18th Street belonging to Standard Processing plant and everything remaining to the Thatcher Spinning plant (see above the signature block in the lower right hand corner of the sheet).

After consolidation in 1922, the plants continued to operate as individual units, but it was considered more economical to govern all three plants from one central office.¹¹ In 1929 the Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Company merged with the National Yarn and Processing Company, resulting in a net worth of more than \$10,000,000.¹² Through wise and prudent management, the corporation continued to operate successfully by continuously adapting to new demands and modern technology. As an example, in 1943 two Chattanooga industries, the Dixie Mercerizing Company and the Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Company were among seven concerns nationally to process fine count English yarn for longer wearing women's rayon hosiery.¹³ In 1950, according to an annual report, the corporation's total income was \$23,438,000.

In 1962 Richard C. Thatcher was elected president of the Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Corporation. W. L. Verlanden II was elected vice-president and assistant treasurer, and Brooks Barlow, secretary. After almost seventy years of operation, the Standard-Coosa-Thatcher was still run by descendants of the original founders.¹⁴ In August of 1969 Standard-Coosa-Thatcher was traded for the first time on the New York Stock Exchange. At this time, the corporation ran eight plants in three states with the home office in Chattanooga and twenty-four sales offices throughout the country.¹⁵

¹¹ Narrative by Albert Garret Thatcher, written for the Standard Coosa Thatcher mill in-house publication *The Spindle*, after Thatcher's retirement.

¹² "Standard-Coosa, National Yarn Plants Merged" *Chattanooga Times*, 1-16-1929, page 5

¹³ "2 Plants Here Will Process English Yarns". *Chattanooga Times*, 1-15-43, page 3.

¹⁴ "Standard Coosa Thatcher Directors Elect R. C. Thatcher Jr. President. *Chattanooga Times*, 11-6-62. Clipping file Historical Collection Chattanooga Public Library.

¹⁵ "S-C-T Asks Listing on Stock Market." *New York Financial Times* 6-20-69

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SCT remained successful. By 1981 it operated thirteen plants in California, North Carolina, Alabama, Tennessee, and Georgia. However the decline in the textile industry due to cheaper labor rates overseas started to affect Standard-Coosa-Thatcher as well. In 1982, after a failed takeover bid by Clyde W. Eagles, a Chicago investor, a group of company executives, with additional funding from a New York investment firm, Wolsey and Company, acquired SCT for \$53 a share.¹⁶ In December of 1986, SCT Yarns, a yarn-producing firm separated from Standard-Coosa Thatcher, sold much of its products to American Thread Company. American Thread Company, a Charlotte, North Carolina subsidiary of Total, Ltd. Of Manchester, England, had purchased Standard-Coosa-Thatcher in 1986 and sold all but one unit back to what was now SCT Yarns. Under the term of the sale, SCT Yarns could no longer produce industrial sewing threads; so the Thatcher plant was converted to a yarn-producing facility, which greatly limited their sales potential and profit. As a result, in 1988 SCT Yarns closed down the 72-year-old Thatcher plant and 330 hourly and salaried employees lost their jobs. An additional 150 employees had already been laid off a month earlier. According to a company statement, business opportunities produced in this plant “have declined to a level where continued operations are no longer viable.”¹⁷

In 1995 SCT Yarns, after previously filing for bankruptcy, filed for reorganization. The company owned four plants at that time, including the Standard Plant and Coosa in Alabama.¹⁸ In 2003 after many reorganizations since the early 1980s, the ex-SCT mill finally closed its doors. The mill closing ended a business which once included 14 mills and more than 6000 employees, 1500 of them from the Chattanooga area. As was the case everywhere else, cheaper imports had undermined the textile industry base in America. The Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Yarns made the Chattanooga news again in 2004 when the former president, Kenneth H. Combs, pleaded guilty to 31 accounts of mail fraud, embezzlement and money laundering that cost the company pension fund over 11 million dollars.¹⁹ He committed suicide before his sentencing in the same year.²⁰ In 2012 the building owners were convicted of polluting an East Chattanooga community during the demolition of the Standard Plant of the former Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Corporation. As part of this sentencing, all further demolition was halted. This probably saved the Thatcher Spinning Mill, which now is scheduled for rehabilitation.

Albert G Thatcher (1846 -1928), Founder and Owner of the Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills

Albert G. Thatcher was born October 21, 1846, in Chester County, Pennsylvania. His parents, Richard and Rebecca, were farmers. Albert’s brother, Edward C. Thatcher, later in life became Assistant Surgeon to the U. S. Navy. During the Civil War, Albert joined the 195th Pennsylvania Volunteers. In 1863, he pursued his education at Millersville Normal School near Lancaster Pennsylvania, followed by business college at Bryan and Stalton in Philadelphia. During this time his father abandoned farming for the cotton spinning business.

¹⁶ “Engle Ends S-C-T Takeover. Settles Suit for \$300,000.” *Chattanooga Times*, 7-20-82.

¹⁷ “SCT to shut Thatcher plant, idle 330 workers.” *Chattanooga Times*, 5-17-88

¹⁸ “Local Firm to Continue Operating. SCT Yarns Files For Reorganization” *Times Free Press*, 5-1-95.

¹⁹ “Former SCT chief pleads guilty” *Times Free Press*, 1-21-2004

²⁰ “Former yarn company owner takes own life” *Times Free Press*, 4-10-2004.

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After Albert completed business college, he started to work in his father's small mill. On November 6, 1876, he married Mary Hibbard from West Chester, Pennsylvania. They had six children.²¹

Together with Jacob Barlow, he started a textile business, first renting a small cotton mill in Hulmerville, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and later operating the Barlow and Thatcher Spinning Company in Henry Clay, Delaware. Barlow was more involved in the daily running of the business, while Thatcher used his connections to several cotton and yarn merchants in Philadelphia, as well as his schooling in business, to explore expansion.²²

The 1876 Centennial Exhibition promoted development of textile businesses in the South, where most of the cotton was grown. Thatcher saw this as an opportunity and traveled by rail to southern states, where eventually he decided on Piedmont, Alabama, for a plant location. Barlow and Thatcher were the two major investors. They decided on Coosa for the name of the plant (after the Coosa River), which started production in 1891. In 1913 they built their own processing plant, the Standard Processing, in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and soon thereafter, in 1916, another spinning plant, the Thatcher Spinning Mill, right next to it. These three plants were the beginning of Thatcher's lifelong involvement in textile manufacturing in the South.²³

After the consolidation of the three companies, Coosa, Standard, and Thatcher, in 1922, Thatcher served as president of the new company until his retirement in 1924. At that time, he became Chairman of the Board of Directors, a position he held for the remainder of his life. He resided in Philadelphia, where the main sales office was located, and went to the office daily when he was at home. The Thatchers also owned a winter home in Miami, where they resided during the winter months.²⁴ In 1928, shortly after his return to Swarthmore after wintering in Miami, he passed away.²⁵

Architects, J. E. Sirrine and Company, Contractor Turner Construction Company

Lockwood Greene and Company, a well-known industrial architecture and engineering firm designed the Coosa Manufacturing mill.²⁶ One of the most important firms of its type in the nation, the New England based Lockwood, Greene, and Company was formed in 1882 in Providence, Rhode Island, by Amos Lockwood and Stephen Greene. After Lockwood's death in 1884, the business continued under the same name under the leadership of Stephen Greene (who died in 1901) and his son, Edwin. Between 1884 and 1901, the company expanded dramatically, including the establishment of a Boston office, pioneering work in electric power for textile mills, and development of southern markets.

²¹ Narrative by Albert Garret Thatcher, written for the Standard Coosa Thatcher mill in-house publication *The Spindle*, after Thatcher's retirement.

²² 1963 report, Milestones

²³ Ibid

²⁴ Ibid

²⁵ Ibid

²⁶ Narrative by Albert Garret Thatcher, written for the Standard Coosa Thatcher mill in-house publication *The Spindle*, after Thatcher's retirement.

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Whereas definite proof was found that Serrine designed the 1920 Thatcher mill, we can only presume that he also designed the first mill building, since they are almost identical in design.²⁷ J. E. Serrine, born in Georgia, acted as the southern representative of Lockwood, Greene and Company in their newly established southern office in Greenville, South Carolina, in the heart of the Carolinas textile belt. In 1902 Serrine resumed independent practice as an architect and engineer in Greenville where he maintained his office until his death in 1947. In 1921 his business expanded and he formed a partnership, called J. E. Serrine and Company, with eight associates. They specialized in mills, mill village housing, tobacco factories, and storage facilities. A characteristic feature of the Serrine Company design was the use of “mushroom” type concrete columns and cast concrete floors. During World War II, the firm planned many military installations, including air bases, ammunition depots, shipyards, and military camps. The firm continued for many years after its founder's death, and was acquired in 1983 by CRSS, an engineering company based in Texas.²⁸

The Turner Construction Company was responsible for the construction of the 1920 Thatcher Mill. Henry C. Turner founded the Turner Construction Company in 1902. Turner soon became an expert in reinforced concrete construction after building several reinforced concrete buildings, including the Gair Building, a plant in Brooklyn, New York which, after completion, became the largest reinforced concrete building in the U.S. The company grew rapidly and established branch offices in Philadelphia, Buffalo and Boston. Today Turner has forty-six offices in the U.S. and is active in twenty countries around the world.

Labor relations, labor strikes, and the African American work force.

As was customary in most textile plants, the Standard Coosa Thatcher Corporation provided mill housing, a mill store, and promoted social interaction between the mill workers²⁹. *The Spindle*, an in house monthly publication, showed photos of summer picnics, Christmas parties, ball games played at A. G. Thatcher Memorial field, plays, and children's activities. The company also introduced individual workers and their families, reported on safety awards, promotions, school graduations and awards for loyalty. These were all tools used to gain a loyal work force that would work at the mill for generations. A large number of women and children worked in the mill. Generally women's salaries were much lower than the men, even if they worked side by side in some areas.³⁰

In spite of this outwardly harmonious picture, workers were dissatisfied, especially during a time known historically as the stretch-out. In the 1920s, mills faced problems of overproduction due to less demand since the war had ended. Plant owners favored a solution that required the workers to work more by speeding up the production line, by increasing the number of looms each worker had to oversee, limiting time breaks and increasing the numbers of supervisors. This stretch-out sparked hundreds of strikes all over the southeast.

²⁷ Client Card, Turner Construction Company Archives

²⁸ John E. Wells. Update by Catherine W. Bishir. “Serrine, Joseph Emory (1872-1947).” *Architects and Builders, A biographical Dictionary*. North Carolina State University, published 2009.

²⁹ 1929, and 1929 updated 1949 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

³⁰ *The Spindle*, published by Standard Coosa Thatcher Company, Chattanooga Tennessee, 1937. Historical Collection, Chattanooga Public Library.

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Most of these were spontaneous walk-outs without union involvement.³¹ However, slowly members of the plant unionized and participated in strikes to demand better and safer working conditions. The “General strike of 1934” was the largest strike in the U. S. labor history at that time. It lasted twenty-two days and about a half a million textile workers from New England, the Mid-Atlantic and the Southern states participated. In the previous year the United Textile Workers (UTW) had grown from 15,000 members to 250,000 members. The issues of the strike involved deplorable working conditions, low wages, and lack of union recognition.³² Governors of the states involved used the National Guard against strikers. Mill owners and local officials used everyone from local police and sheriff’s deputies to hired private guards. Picketers were shot and killed, some shot in the back fleeing for their lives. The series of strikes were broken, and the defeat was particularly hard in the southern states.³³ Many of the strikers were banned from returning to their work in textile mills and some were also forced out of mill housing. Many turned away from organized labor. While the problems would eventually be addressed, positive changes did not occur until America entered into World War II.

In 1960, a headline in the *New Free Press* read: “Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Success Story. One of Content People, Quality Product.” It cites high wages for the 2,200 employees, one week of paid vacation, a retirement plan, and death benefit as reasons for the contentment of the workers. It also mentions 500 workers who have been with the company over twenty years and eighty percent of employees, who have been with the company over five years as an indicator for excellent employment conditions.³⁴

In May of 1972 the *Chattanooga Times* reported a substantial earnings drop at the Standard- Coosa-Thatcher Corporation, a sign of the times impacting the textile industry. Just three month later in July the *Chattanooga Times* reported on a textile strike that virtually stopped production at the Standard and Thatcher plants. At this time the two plants had about 750 full-time employees with about 450 being represented by the textile worker union. However, according to Grady Dalton, local president of the union, all workers, members and non-members, honored the picket lines. Strike issues centered around additional holidays, more vacation and retroactive pay raises.

In 1981 Standard Coosa Thatcher employed roughly 1,100 people in the Chattanooga area. Six years later in 1987 the *New Free Press* reported that 100 workers at the Thatcher plant were laid off and in 1988 the *Chattanooga Times* reported the closing of Thatcher, leaving 330 workers unemployed. Within a few months over 500 workers had lost their jobs. An article published in the *Chattanooga Times* in 1989 gives examples of many former employees, who had not been able to find new employment. This article also shows that many of the local churches, Unions and civic organizations had set up services to provide support for the unemployed workers.³⁵

³¹ “Review of Timothy Minchin, *Hiring the Black Worker: The Racial Integration of the Southern Textile Industry, 1960-1980.*” [EH.Net](#) Economic History Services, Jun 18 1999.

³² “Today in Labor History: 1934 textile workers strike begins. Peoples World.

³³ Ibid

³⁴ “Standard-Coosa_ Thatcher Success Story. One of Contend People, Quality Product.” *NFP*, January 6, 1960. Historical Collection, Chattanooga Public Library

³⁵ “Union, churches to hold seminar on plant closings” *Chattanooga Times* 5-31-89.

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By 1995, when SCT Yarns filed for bankruptcy, 325 people were still employed at the Standard plant.³⁶ In 2003 Standard Mercerizing and Specialty Yarn Corporation, formerly the SCT Yarn Company and before that the Standard Coosa Thatcher Corporation, closed its doors for the final time. At this time the *Times Free Press* reported that the number of apparel jobs in Tennessee had declined by more than 68 percent in the past two decades.³⁷

African American Work Force

A separate look was taken at the African-American workforce. Until the mid sixties only a minimal number of African Americans were employed in the Textile Industry: The following excerpt is from a study “Desegregating Southern labor Markets” by Gavin Wright, Stanford University, and Woodrow Wilson Center, October 2010.

The operative labor force of the Southern textile industry was virtually all-white for more than a Century, a pattern dating back to antebellum times. Slaves were successfully used in textile mills during the depressed 1840s, but were pulled out in favor of agriculture during the booming 1850s, and when the regional industry began its postbellum resurgence, it drew first upon whites for reason of both experience and racial favoritism.

In his book, *Hiring the Black Worker*, Timothy J. Minchin recalls an oral history offered by Johnnie Franklin Archie, who in 1956 was hired to work at the Rock Hill Printing Company. He remembers that at that time most African-American workers were not hired for the production line, but rather in low paying jobs like hauling garbage and trash, hauling the bales of cotton from the trains into the opening rooms. Another job frequently performed by African- Americans in textile plants was working in the napping room, where lint was pulled off the cloth and gathered in bales. He states: “You had to wear a mask to prevent you from inhaling airborne cotton particles.”³⁸

In 1964 the Textile Workers Union of America published a report on black employment in the industry. This report confirmed that:

Negro employment in the southern textile industry has traditionally been restricted to work in yard and labor gangs. There have been a few plants in which Negroes have been engaged in production work, but these are relatively rare.³⁹

This report also stated that before 1964 the textile industry employed African-Americans only in very limited numbers. In 1940, only 2.1 percent of textile workers were Black, a figure, which rose to 3.6 percent by 1950. A study carried out by Donald Dewey in 1950 found that blacks were only hired either as laborers

³⁶ “SCT Yarns Files For Reorganization. Local Firm to continue operating”. *New Free Press*, 5-1-95

³⁷ Textile Industry By Arden Williams, edited by the New Georgia Encyclopedia. New Georgia Encyclopedia

³⁸ Timothy J. Minchin. *Hiring the Black Worker: The Racial Integration of the Southern Textile Industry, 1960 – 1980*. Published by the University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill and London, 1999

³⁹ Timothy J. Minchin. *Hiring the Black Worker: The Racial Integration of the Southern Textile Industry, 1960 – 1980*. Published by the University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill and London, 1999, 8

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working outside the plant or as janitors working inside the plant. African-American workers were not allowed to live in the mill villages. Due to the harsh nature of the jobs almost no African American women were employed within the Textile plants. The Study on “Desegregating Southern Labor Markets” states that in 1964 the employment of African-American woman was virtually zero.⁴⁰ They sometimes were employed by mill families to cook, clean, and watch the younger children in the mill village.

The in-house monthly publication, *The Spindle*, as well as many company reports, showed very few African-Americans workers in their photos. However a report published by the Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Corporation, dated 1950, focused on the importance of a clean plant and the people that maintain it that way. Several of the workers featured in this article were African Americans. It was not until the 1980s that African-Americans were hired for the production line. This change happened very slowly and was not always heralded by white workers. Coincidentally this was also the start of the decline of the textile industry and the victory for the African-American work force was short lived and never fully realized.⁴¹

Brief Railroad History of Chattanooga.

The Standard and Thatcher plants originally relied on the railroad for receiving and shipping, a vital element of their operations. The vast availability of railroad connections probably played an important role in selecting Chattanooga for their new plant location. Raw materials for the textile industries were produced in the South, however a large amount of finished goods were shipped to northern and western states. By the time these plants were constructed Chattanooga offered all these connections. Whereas the Cumberland River was probably the original means of transportation for Chattanooga starting in the mid-1850s, the building of railroad lines was considered essential in creating improved transportation with more major U.S. Cities. To this day the city serves as a major freight hub with Norfolk Southern (NS) and CSX, both running trains on their own (and each other's) lines. These two major rail companies represent a large variety of former small rail lines combined through take overs and mergers.

The 1962 survey (see Figure #22) shows the rail lines, operated by the Southern Railway (SOU), located directly east of the Standard and Thatcher plants. The Southern Railway was the product of nearly 150 predecessor lines that were combined, reorganized, and recombined beginning in the 1830s, formally becoming the Southern Railway in 1894. It was placed under control of the Norfolk Southern Corporation, along with the Norfolk and Western Railway (N&W), in 1982, and was renamed Norfolk Southern Railway in 1990.⁴²

The second remaining Railroad, CSX had its origins in one of the earliest lines in Chattanooga. A railroad under the name Nashville and Chattanooga Railway (N & C Railroad) ran the first rail line to connect the two cities. It took nine years to complete the 150 miles of line. Major elevation changes at the Highland Rim and the Cumberland Plateau contributed to the need for tunnels. A 2,228 feet long tunnel near Cowan,

⁴⁰ Gavin Wright. “Desegregating Southern Labor Markets” Stanford University and Woodrow Wilson Center, October 2010.

⁴¹ Gavin Wright. “Desegregating Southern Labor Markets” Stanford University and Woodrow Wilson Center, October 2010.

⁴²Train Web <http://www.trainweb.org/PiedmontRR/railhst1.html#nwrwy> Accessed 10-1-2014.

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Tennessee was considered an engineering marvel at the time.⁴³ During the Civil War, both the Union and Confederate Armies used the N & C. Railroad. After the war N & C. Railroad purchased the Nashville and Northwestern and the Hickman and Ohio Railroads and in 1873 was incorporated under the name Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railway (NC&StL).⁴⁴ The Louisville and Nashville Railroad, an aggressive competitor of the NC&StL, gained a controlling interest in 1880 through a hostile stock takeover that caused massive rancor between the cities of Nashville and Louisville. The railroads continued to operate separately until finally merging in 1956. The NC&StL continued to grow through the acquisition of branch lines in Kentucky and Alabama, and expanded from Nashville to Memphis. In 1890 the tracks reached Atlanta, Georgia, by leasing the state-owned Western and Atlantic Railroad.⁴⁵ The L&N, itself controlled by the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad after a takeover similar to that of the NC&StL, was merged into the Seaboard System Railroad, and finally into the CSX freight rail conglomerate. It continues to use the original NC&StL tracks between Nashville, Chattanooga, and Atlanta.⁴⁶

⁴³ "Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad" by Bonnie L. Gamble. Tennessee Encyclopedia History and Culture.

⁴⁴ Richard E. Prince, *Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railway: History and Steam Locomotives*. Indiana University Press, 2001.

⁴⁵ Ibid

⁴⁶ Ibid

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):		Primary location of additional data:	
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)			State Historic Preservation Office
previously listed in the National Register			Other State agency
previously determined eligible by the National Register			Federal agency
designated a National Historic Landmark			Local government
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #			University
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #			Other
recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #		Name of repository:	
Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):			

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 3.3 acres **USGS Quadrangle** 105 SE

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| A. Latitude: 35.020490 | Longitude: -85.275702 |
| B. Latitude: 35.020185 | Longitude: -85.274579 |
| C. Latitude: 35.019147 | Longitude: -85.275073 |
| D. Latitude: 35.019416 | Longitude: -85.27625 |

Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills

Hamilton County,
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Name of Property

Verbal Boundary Description

The Boundaries include the intact one-block area bordered by E. 18th Street on the north and E. 19th Street on the south. The western border is formed by E. Watkins Street and the eastern side the boundary runs along the alley, formerly the railroad tracks for the “Southern Railroad Company”, but incorporates Buildings No. 18 and 19 on the southern end of the alley.

Boundary Justification

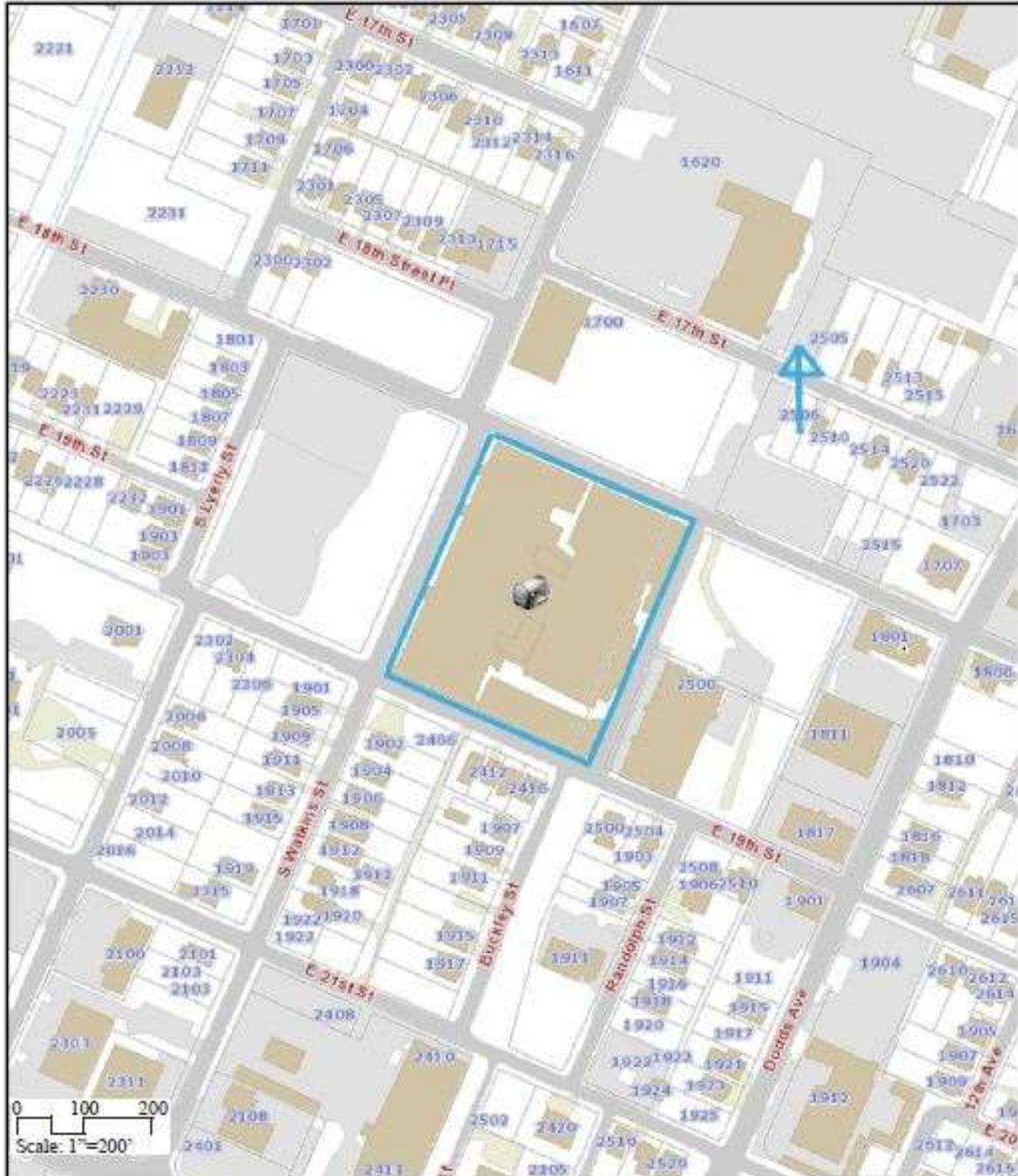
Prior to 2012 most buildings of the Standard Processing Plant were demolished as part of a scrap operation; only ruins of Buildings 14 and 7 remain standing (see 1962 survey for building numbering and photos 87-99). Buildings 15, 23, 24 and 27 also have been demolished (see photos 85 and 86). Most of the Mill Village dwellings shown on the 1962 survey have been demolished. Only the four dwellings on the south side of E. 19th Street are extant (see photo 100). There seem to be mill houses one block west of Watkins Street, however it is unclear whether they were part of either Thatcher or Standard or belonged to one of the other mills in that general area. Considering the almost total demolition of Standard and most of the mill village dwellings near the mills, the boundaries as drawn basically encompassing the Thatcher Spinning plant, including Buildings No. 18 and 19. Considering the demolition of the Standard Processing plant and the complete separation in production between Standard and Thatcher this seems acceptable.

Thatcher Spinning Corporation, as the name indicated, processed the incoming raw cotton and eventually spun the cotton to a finished yarn. At this point the yarn would leave Thatcher and be transported to the Standard Processing Plant for further refining (mercerizing) and dyeing. From here the yarn would be shipped to various buyers, weaving the yarns to a variety of finished products. This arrangement was unlike a fully integrated cotton mill, which would handle all three processes in one plant, but it was not uncommon in the textile industry to house each of these processes in separate plants. Even after Standard, Coosa, and Thatcher were merged for management reasons, these plants continued to operate separately. Throughout its history, workers of the two neighboring plants stayed loyal to their outfit, as shown in many photos and articles in the *Spindle*, an in-house publication for the workers, and through social and athletic events (each mill had its own sports team), like company picnics, that were held on separate days for each mill. The 1962 Survey, defines the boundaries between the Standard and Thatcher as everything north of 18th Street belonging to Standard Processing plant and everything remaining to Thatcher Spinning plant (see above the signature block in the lower right hand corner of Figure 1). All buildings within the boundaries were part of the Thatcher Spinning plant. They represent all the major functionally related building and additions for the proposed period of significance, 1916-1961. The Standard Processing Plant was excluded, since almost all buildings of this plant were demolished. The two exceptions are Building No. 7 and Building No.14, which are mostly ruins at this time.

Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills

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1800 Watkins Street

Printed: May 28, 2014

Tax map

Disclaimer: This map is to be used for reference only, and no other use or reliance on the same is authorized. Parcel lines are shown for reference only and are not intended for conveyances, nor is it intended to substitute for a legal survey or property abstract.

HCGIS

Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills

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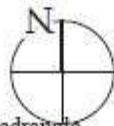
CHATTANOOGA, TN USGS QUADRANGLE EXCERPT

LEGEND:

Property Boundary

ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
	Local Connector
	Local Road
	4WD
	Interstate Route
	US Route
	State Route

Point	Latitude	Longitude
A	35.020490	-85.275702
B	35.020185	-85.274579
C	35.019147	-85.275073
D	35.019416	-85.27625



All Points are on the Chattanooga, TN USGS Quadrangle © 2013.

Scale: 1" = 2,000'

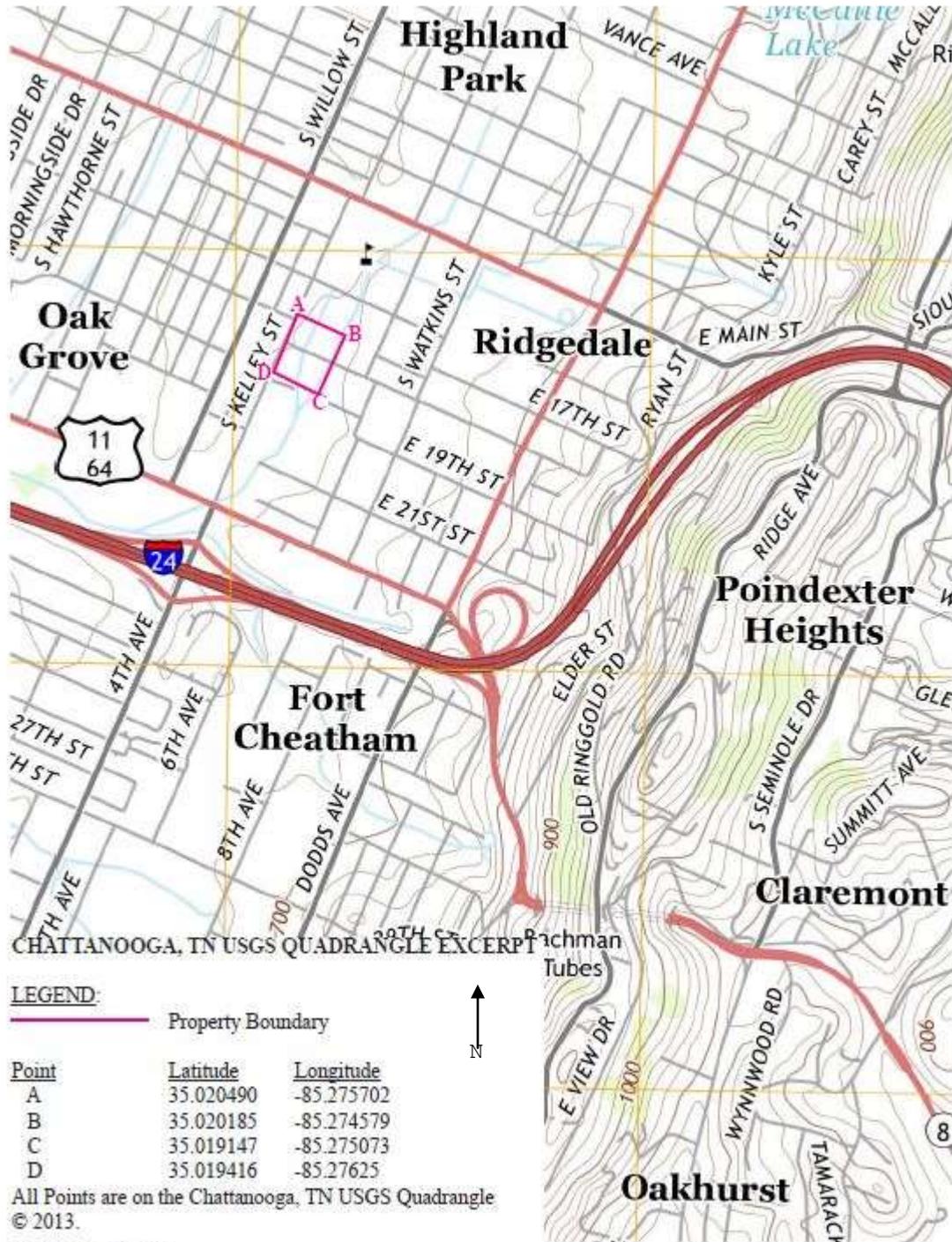
CHATTANOOGA, TN
 2013

Not to Scale

Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills

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Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills

Hamilton County,
Tennessee
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Name of Property

11. Form Prepared By

Name Marion Ellis

Organization Ray & Ellis Consulting

Street & Number 380 W. Spalding Dr. NE Date May 15 2014

City or Town Atlanta Telephone 770.395-0813

E-mail Marion_Ellis@comcast.net State GA Zip Code 30328

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 map.
- **Photographs** (refer to Tennessee Historical Commission National Register *Photo Policy* for submittal of digital images and prints)
- **Additional items:** (additional supporting documentation including historic photographs, historic maps, etc. should be included on a Continuation Sheet following the photographic log and sketch maps)

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.

Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills

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Photo Log

Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mill
Chattanooga, Hamilton County, TN

Photos by: Ray and Ellis Consulting
Date photos taken: March 25, 2014

Front (west) façade of mill, facing east/southeast, showing buildings Nos. 11 and 11-A
#1 of 77

Northwest corner of mill complex, facing east/southeast at the intersection of Watkins Street and E. 18th
Streets, showing exterior elevations (north and west) of building No. 11-A
#2 of 77

Northwest corner of mill complex, facing southeast, showing north façade of building No. 11-A; intersection
of Watkins Street and E. 18th Street
#3 of 77

Portion of the façade (west elevation) of building No. 11-A, facing east, at the corner of Watkins Street and
E. 18th Street
#4 of 77

Portion of the façade (west elevation) of building No. 11-A, facing east, along Watkins Street
#5 of 77

Portions of the front (west) elevations of buildings Nos. 11-A and 11, facing southeast, along Watkins Street,
showing one of the stair towers
#6 of 77

Portion of the front (west) façade of building No. 11, facing east, along Watkins Street, showing a loading
platform
#7 of 77

Southwest corner of the front (west) façade of building No. 11, facing east, at the corner of Watkins Street
and E. 19th Street, showing one of the stair towers
#8 of 77

Southwest corner of mill complex, facing northeast, at intersection of Watkins Street and E. 19th Street,
showing the facade (west elevation) of building No. 11
#9 of 77

Portions of buildings No. 11 and No. 13, along E. 19th Street, facing north, showing the connecting bridges
between the buildings

Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills

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Name of Property

#10 of 77

South elevations along E. 19th Street, facing west, showing buildings Nos. 13 and 11
#11 of 77

South elevations along E. 19th Street, facing west, showing buildings Nos. 12, 13 and 11
#12 of 77

Southeast corner of mill complex, facing west, at intersection of E. 19th Street and the alley (Buckley Street), showing the south elevations of buildings Nos. 12, 13 and 11
#13 of 77

Southeast corner of mill complex, facing northwest, showing building No. 12
#14 of 77

Rear (east side) of mill complex, facing north, looking along the alley (Buckley Street), with the mill on the left
#15 of 77

Adjacent property to the rear (east) of the mill complex on the other side of the alley (Buckley Street), facing northeast, showing Buildings Nos. 18 and 19 (as labeled on the 1962 survey)
#16 of 77

Rear (east) side of mill complex, facing west, showing the east façade of building No. 12
#17 of 77

East elevation of building No. 12 at rear of mill complex, facing southwest
#18 of 77

Rear (east) side of mill complex along the alley (Buckley Street), facing north/northwest
#19 of 77

East elevations of building Nos. 12 and 10, facing west
#20 of 77

East elevation of building No. 10, facing west, also showing building No. 29
#21 of 77

East elevation of building No. 10, facing west
#22 of 77

East side (rear) of mill complex along the alley (Buckley Street), facing north, showing mill buildings to the left
#23 of 77

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East elevation of building No. 10, facing west, also showing building No. 28
#24 of 77

East elevation of building No. 10, facing northwest, showing south and east elevations of building
No. 10
25 # of 77

Northeast corner of mill complex, facing southwest, at corner of E. 18th Street, showing buildings Nos. 16
and 10
#26 of 77

Northeast corner of mill complex, facing southwest, at corner of E. 18th Street, showing buildings Nos. 16
and 10
#27 of 77

North elevations of buildings Nos. 16, 35 and 9, facing south, along E. 18th Street
#28 of 77

North elevations of buildings Nos. 9, 11-B and 11-A, facing southwest, along E. 18th Street
#29 of 77

E. 18th Street, facing east, north side of mill complex, with mill buildings to the right
#30 of 77

Interior courtyard at rear of mill complex, facing west, with Building No. 12 to the left and Building No. 10
to the right
#31 of 77

Interior courtyard, facing east, with Building No. 10 to the left and Building No. 13 to the right
#32 of 77

Interior courtyard, facing north, showing south façade of building No. 33
#38 of 77

North elevation of building No. 13, facing southwest
#34 of 77

North elevation of building No. 13, facing south
#35 of 77

Interior courtyard, facing west, showing east façade of building No. 11
#36 of 77

Interior courtyard, looking up and facing northwest, showing upper façade of building No. 11 and water tank
#37 of 77

Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills

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Enclosed pass-through at ground level of building No. 33, facing south
#38 of 77

Interior courtyard, facing south, at north side of mill complex, showing north façade of building No. 33
#39 of 77

Interior courtyard at north side of mill complex, facing west, showing east façade of building No. 32
#40 of 77

Interior courtyard at north side of mill complex, facing southwest, showing east and north elevations of building No. 32
#41 of 77

Interior courtyard at north side of mill complex, facing north, showing buildings Nos. 32 and 11-B to the left and Building No. 9 to the right
#42 of 77

Under connecting bridge at interior courtyard, facing west
#43 of 77

Interior courtyard, facing southwest, showing east façade of building No. 11 and north façade of building No. 33
#44 of 77

Interior courtyard, facing northeast, showing building No. 11-B to the left and building No. 9 to the right
#45 of 77

Interior courtyard, facing north, showing building No. 11-B to the left and building No. 9 to the right
#46 of 77

West elevation of building No. 28, facing north
#47 of 77

North and east elevations of building No. 10, facing south
#48 of 77

Interior at building No. 12, 1st floor, facing east
#49 of 77

Interior at building No. 13, 1st floor, facing southwest
#50 of 77

Interior at building No. 13, 1st floor, facing southwest
#51 of 77

Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills

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Interior at building No. 11, 1st floor, facing west
#52 of 77

Interior at building No. 11-A, 1st floor, facing southeast
#53 of 77

Interior at building No. 9, 1st floor, facing southeast
#54 of 77

Interior at building No. 35, 1st floor, facing south
#55 of 77

Interior at building No. 16, 1st floor, facing south
#56 of 77

Interior at building No. 10, 1st floor, facing south
#57 of 77

Interior at building No. 12, 2nd floor, showing pitch of roof line, facing east
#58 of 77

Interior at building No. 13, 2nd floor, facing southeast
#59 of 77

Interior at building No. 11, 2nd floor, facing southeast
#60 of 77

Interior at building No. 11-A, 2nd floor, facing northeast
#61 of 77

Interior at building No. 11-A, 2nd floor, detail of wood floor deterioration, facing east
#62 of 77

Interior at building No. 10, 2nd floor, facing south
#63 of 77

Interior at building No. 13, 3rd floor, facing west
#64 of 77

Interior at building No. 11, 3rd floor, facing north
#65 of 77

Interior at building No. 11, showing stair at northwest corner, facing east
#66 of 77

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Interior at building No. 10, 3rd floor, facing southeast
#67 of 77

Interior at building No. 13, 4th/top floor, facing west
#68 of 77

Roof of building No. 33, facing north, showing connector between buildings Nos. 11 and 10, facing north
#69 of 77

Interior at building No. 12, basement/lowest floor, facing south
#70 of 77

Interior at building No. 13, basement/lowest floor, facing southwest
#71 of 77

Interior at building No. 11, basement level, facing northwest
#72 of 77

View from building 11, facing northwest, showing empty lots across Watkins Street to the west of the mill complex
#73 of 77

View from building 11, facing southwest, showing empty lots across Watkins Street to the west of the mill complex
#74 of 77

East and south elevations of building No. 7, facing northeast
#75 of 77

West elevation of building No. 7, facing northeast
#76 of 77

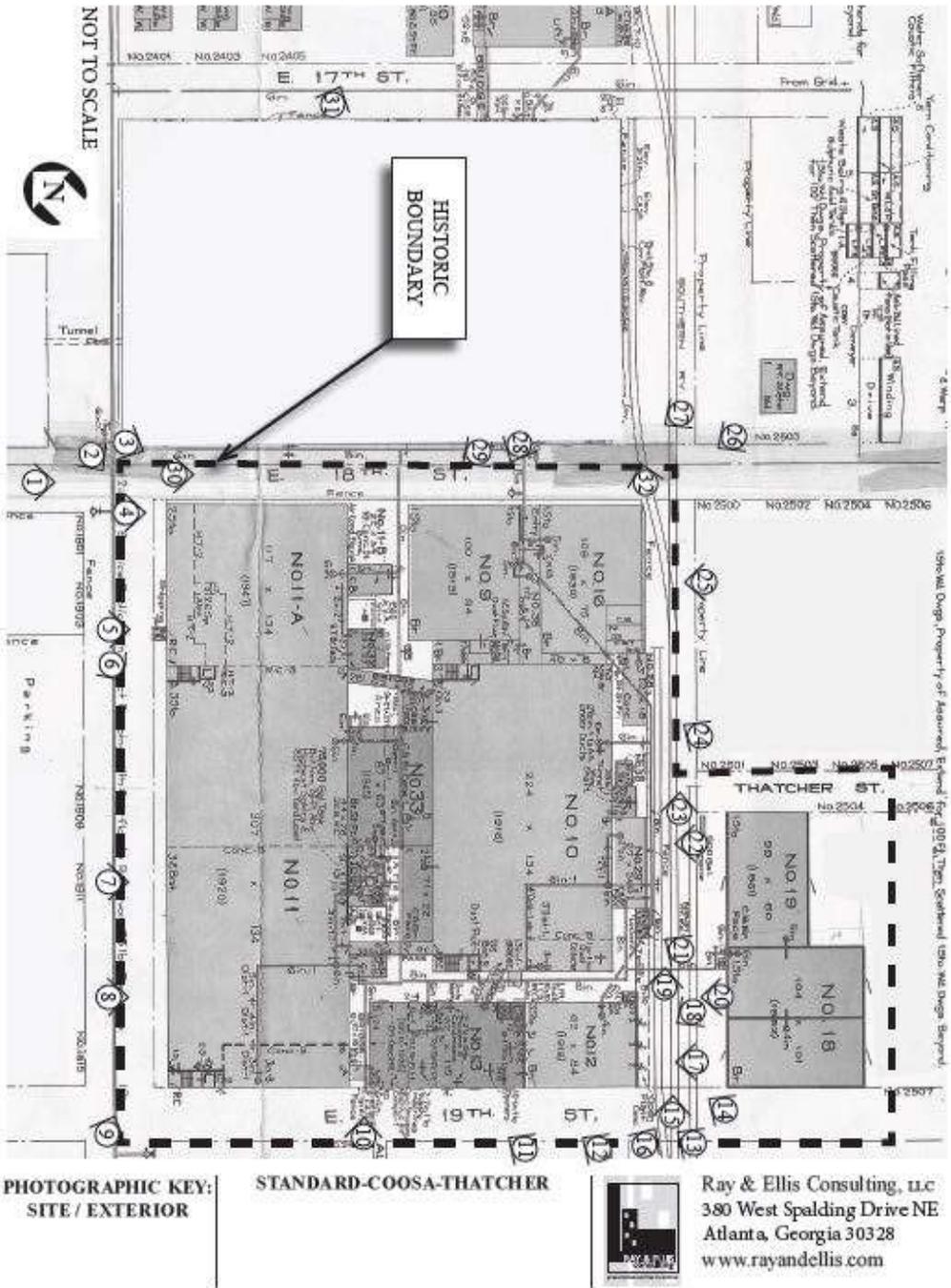
Block between E. 17th and E. 18th Streets, facing northeast, from intersection of E. 18th Street and the alley (Buckley Street)
#77 of 77

Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills

Name of Property

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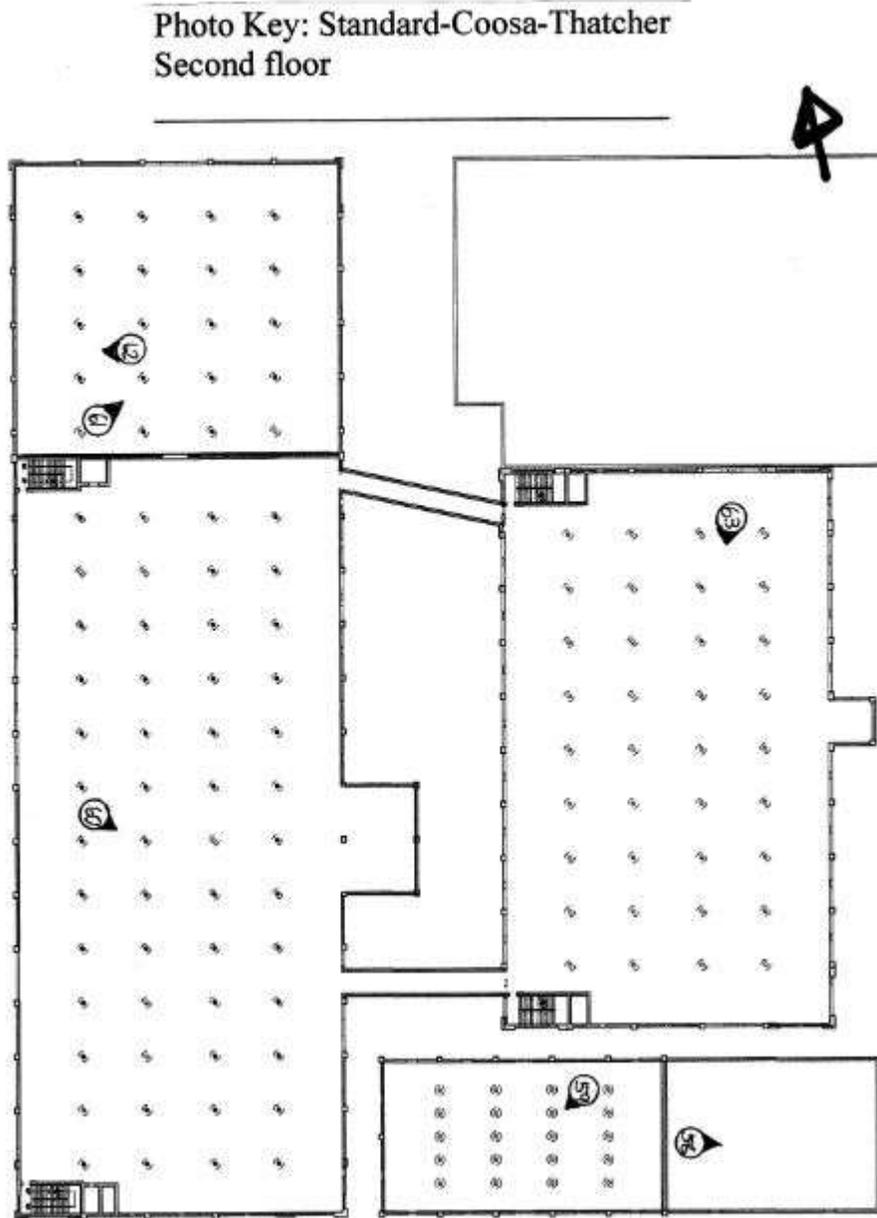
Site Plan and Exterior Photo Key



Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills

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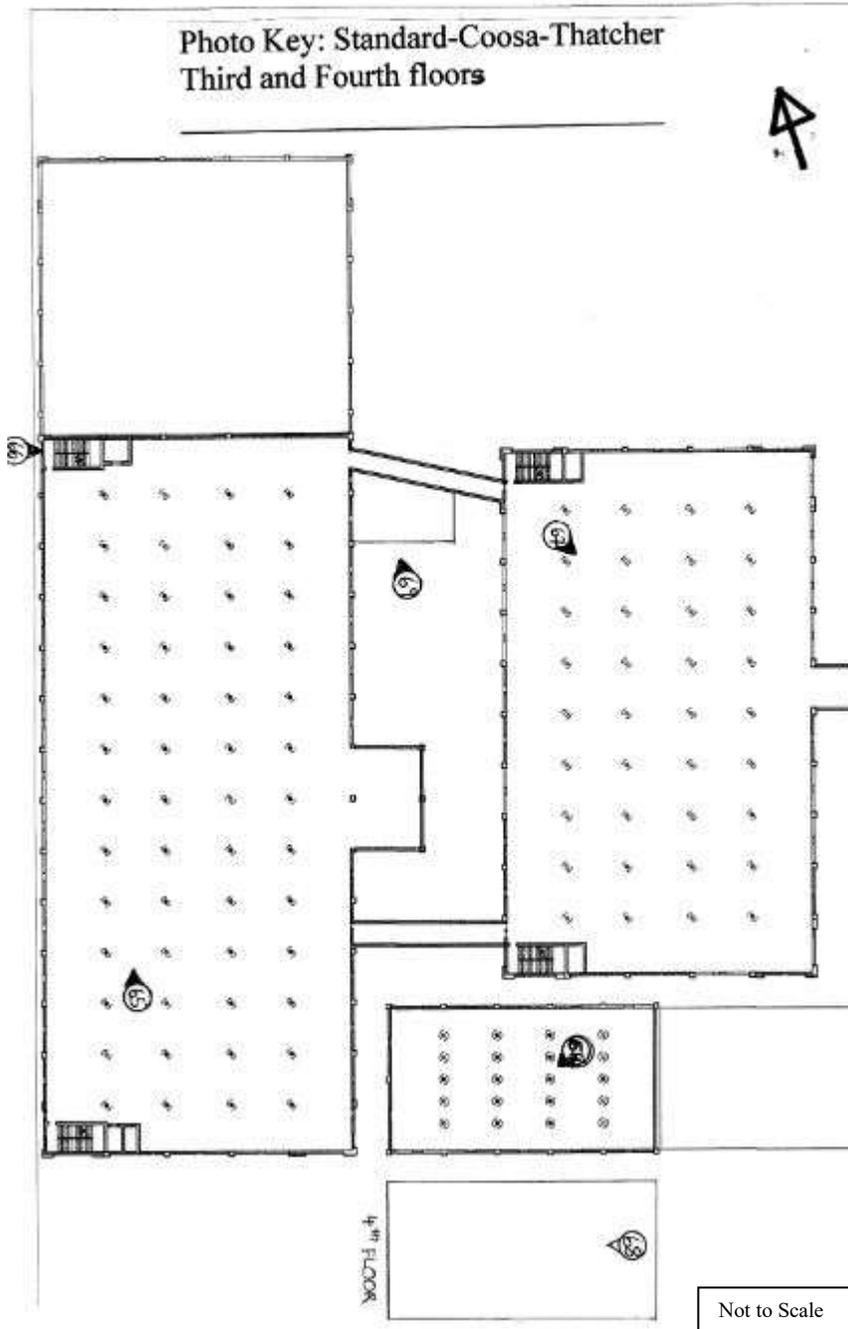


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Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills

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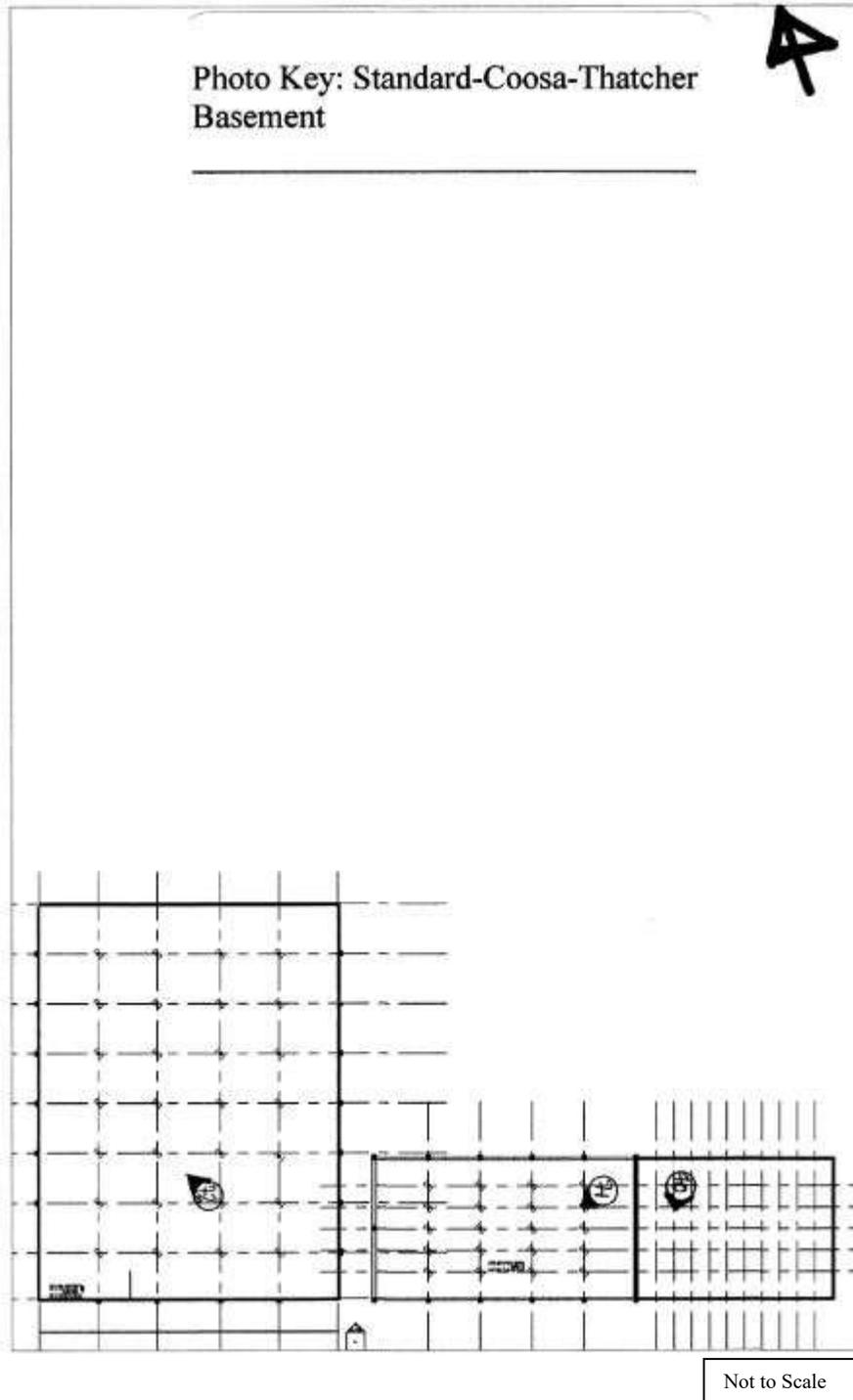
Name of Property



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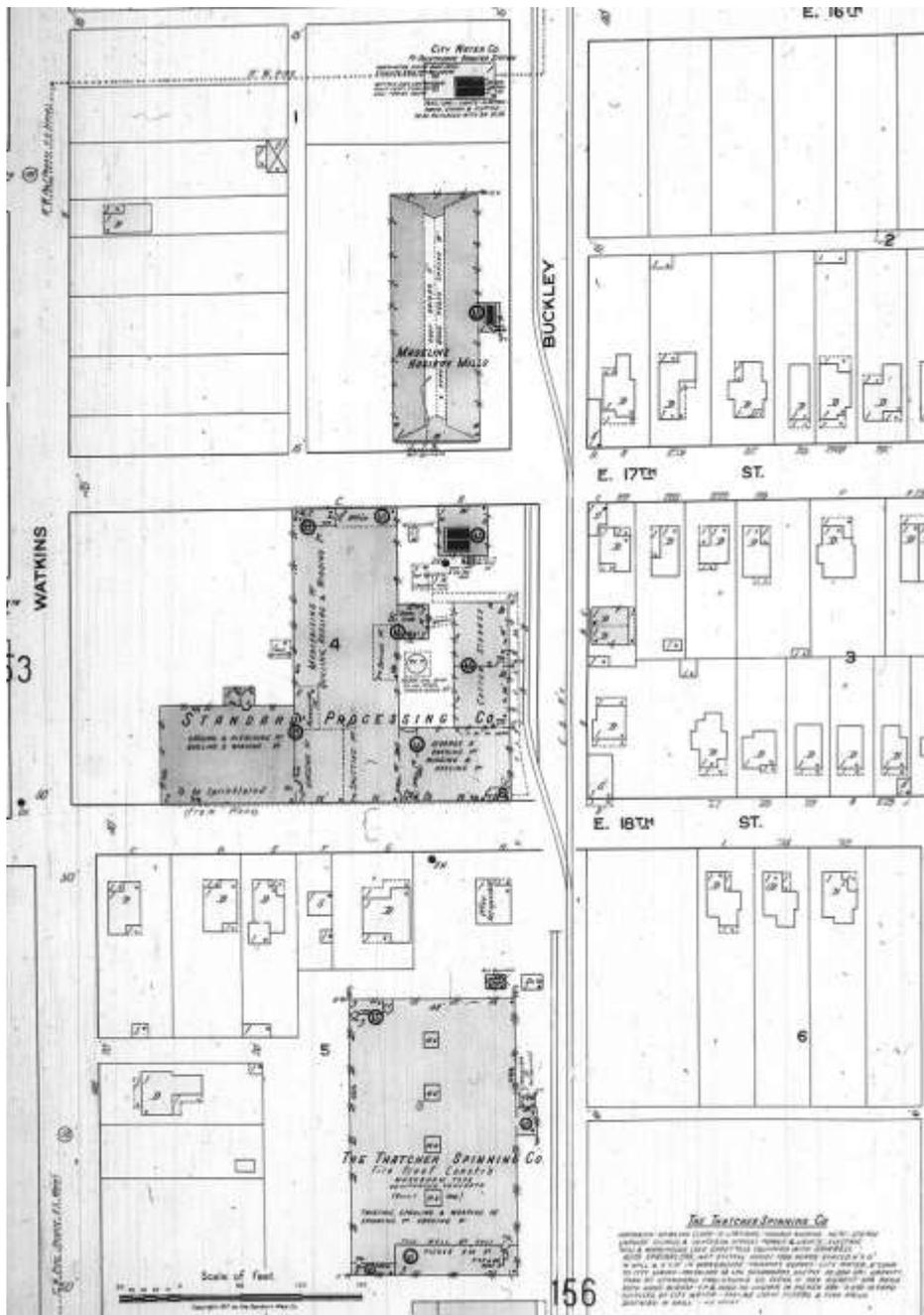


Figure 2: 1917 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Volume 2, page 155

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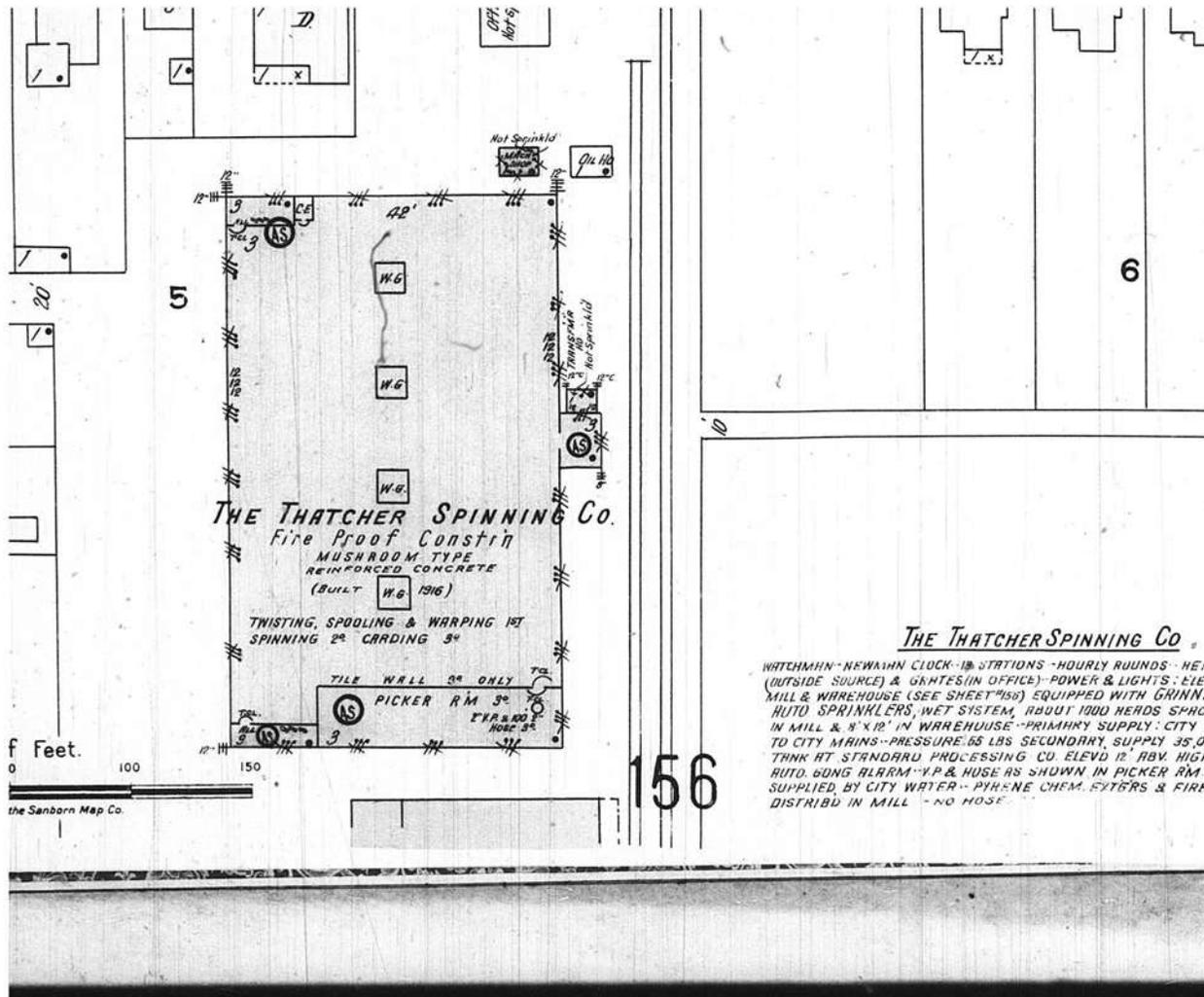


Figure 3: 1917 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Volume 2, Page 155, detail

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Section number Figures Page 44

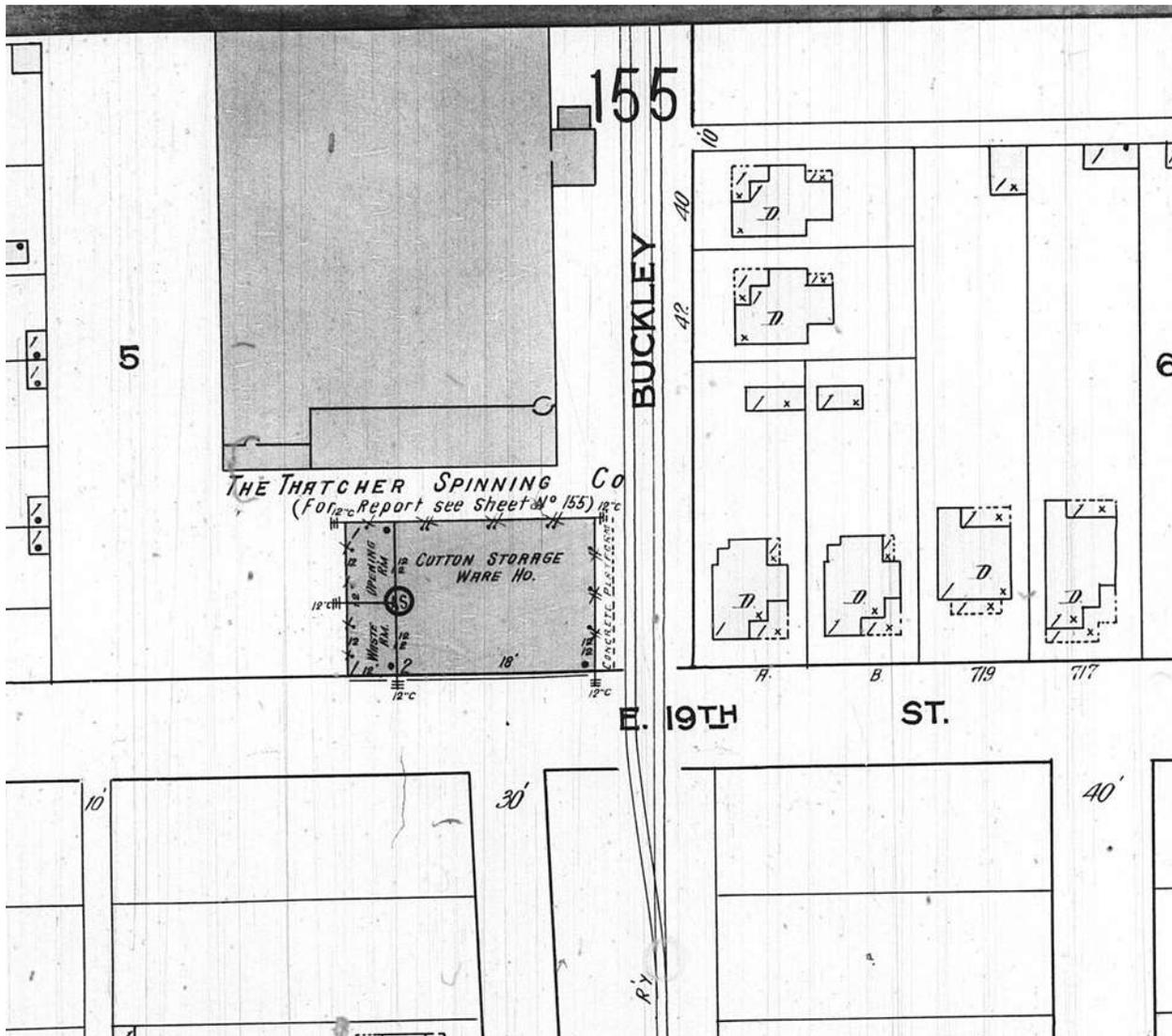


Figure 4: 1917 Sanborn Fire Insurance map, Volume 2, page 156

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Section number Figures Page 45

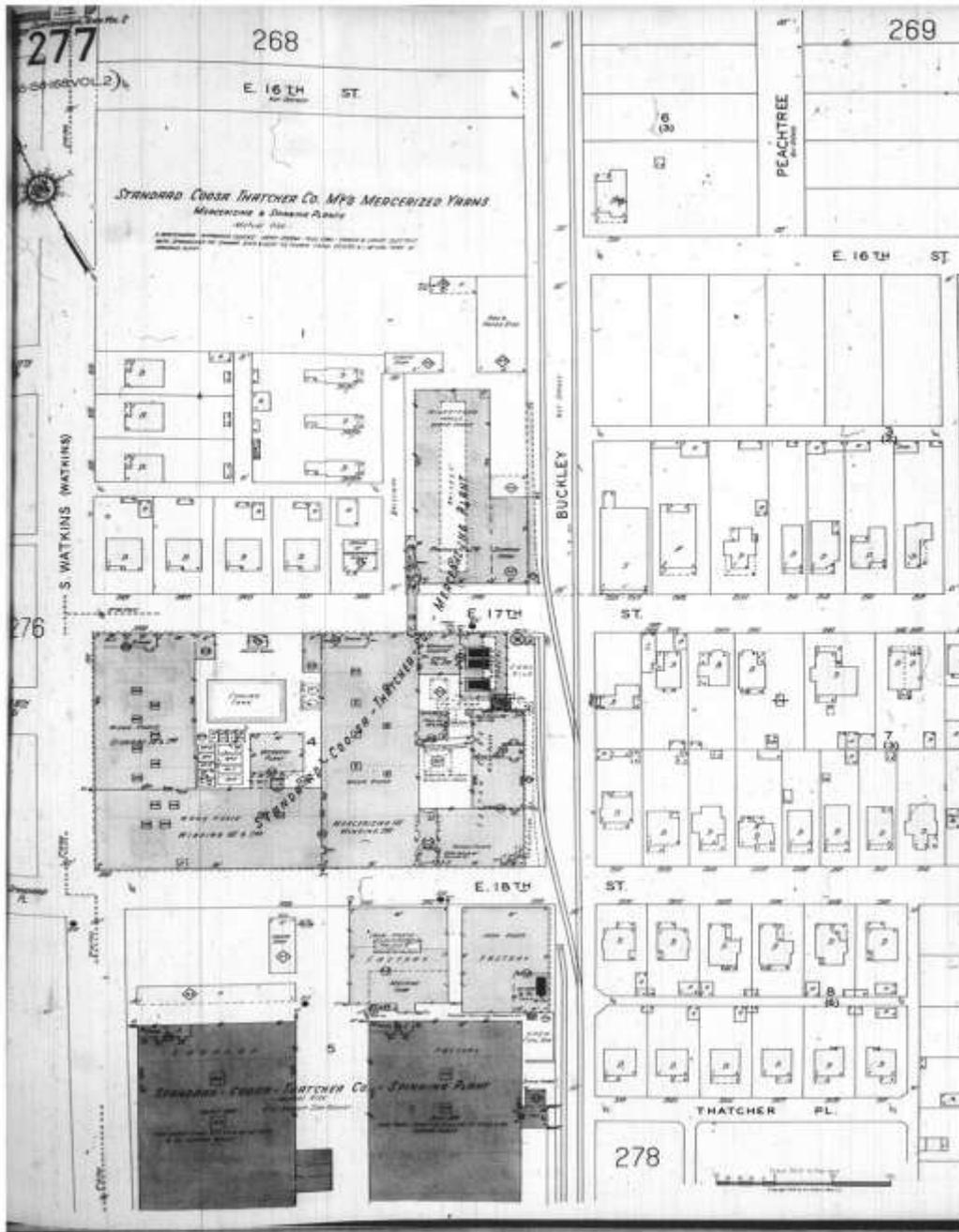


Figure 5: 1929 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Volume 2, Page 277

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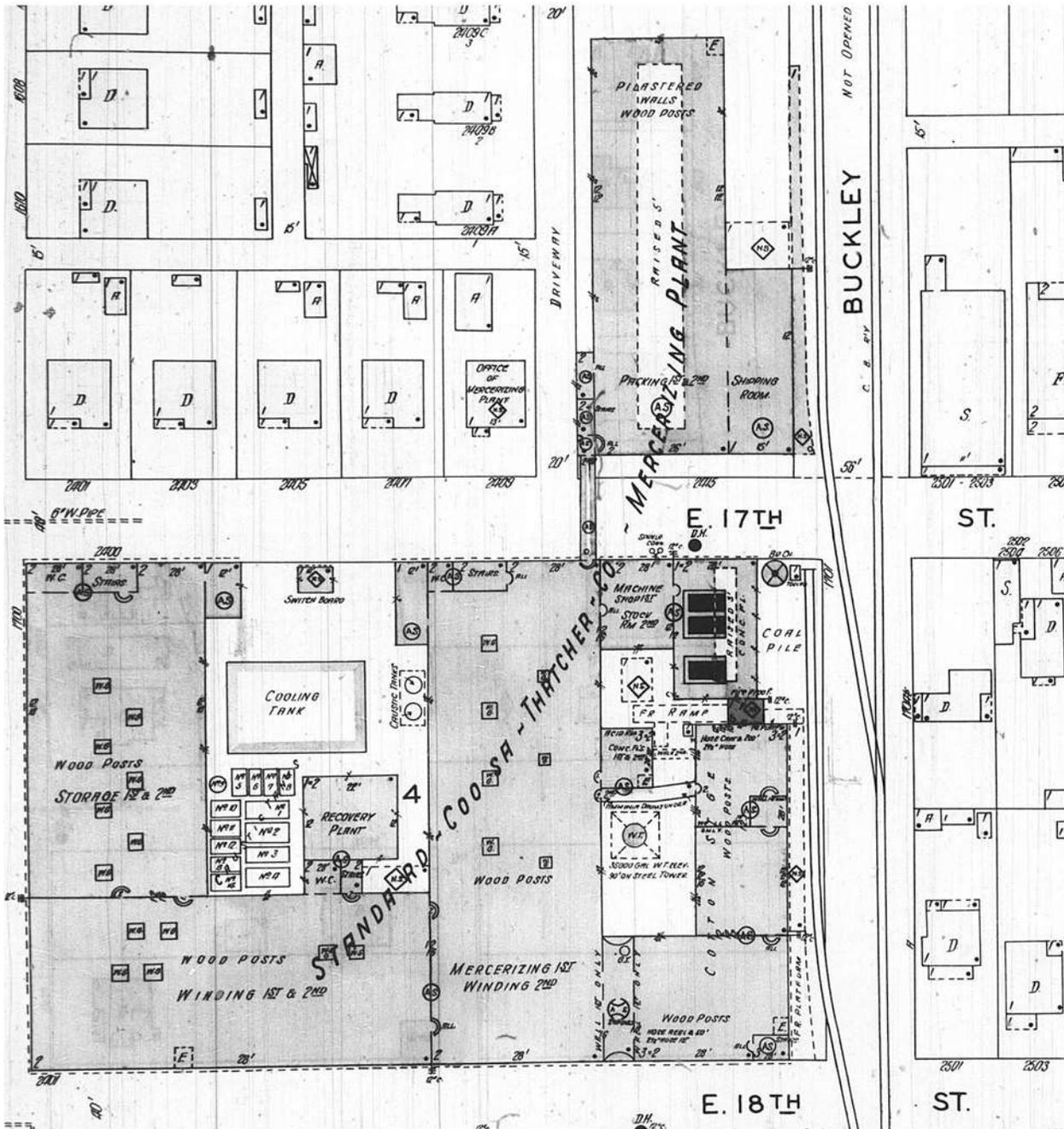


Figure 6: 1929 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Volume 2, page 277, detail Standard Processing plant

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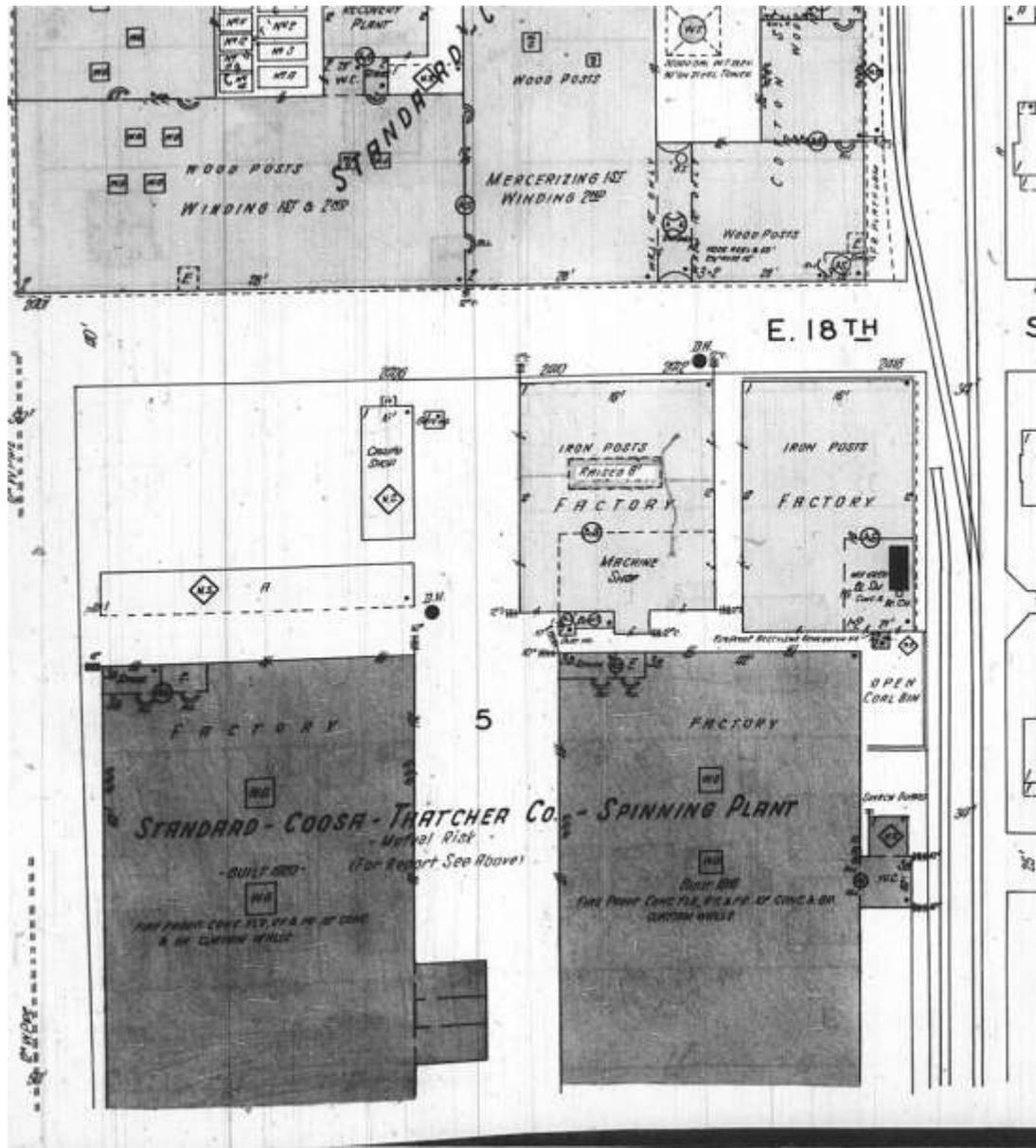


Figure 7: 1929 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Volume 2, page 277, detail

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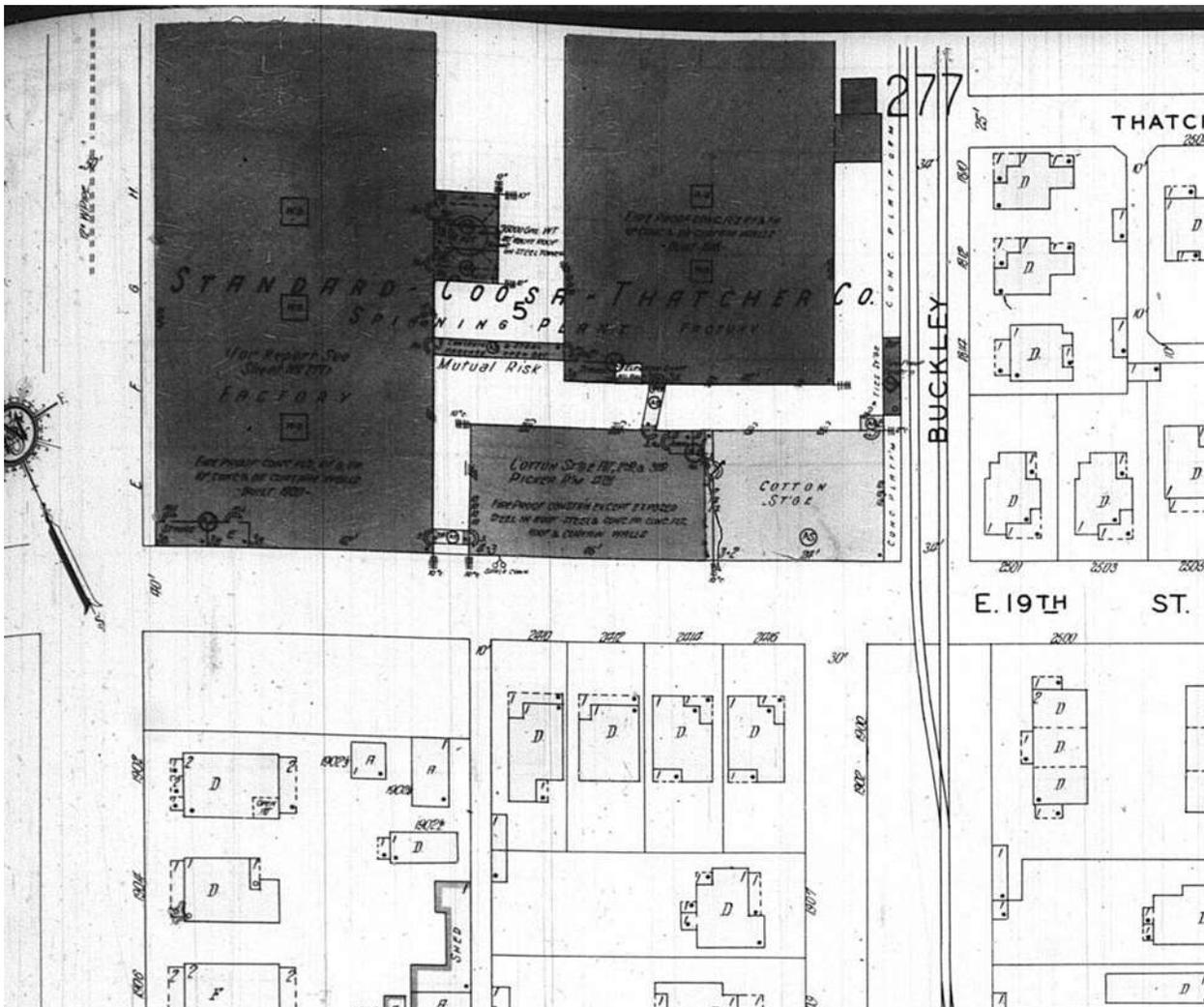


Figure 8: 1929 Sanborn Fire Insurance map, volume 2, page 278
Thatcher Spinning plant

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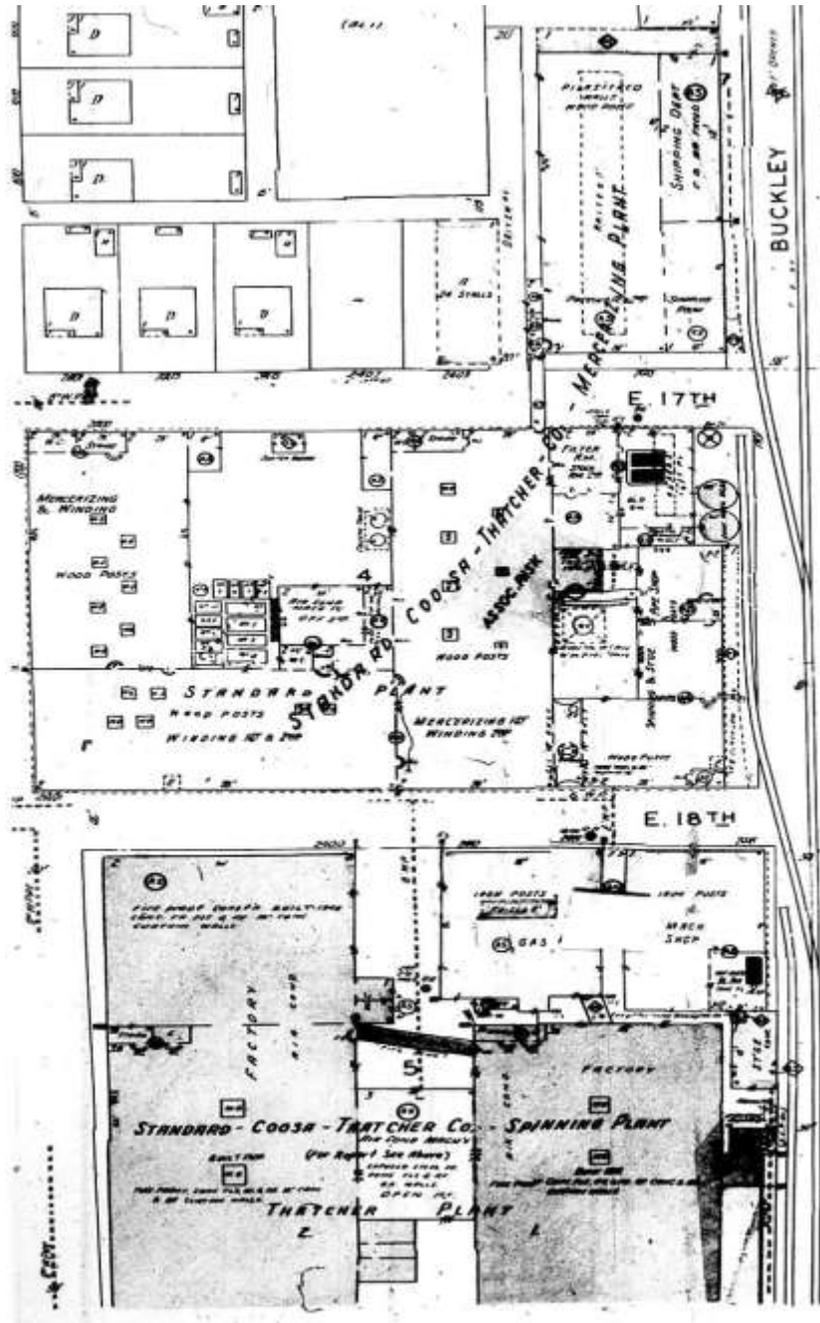


Figure 9: 1929 updated 1949 Sanborn Fire Insurance map, volume 2, page 277

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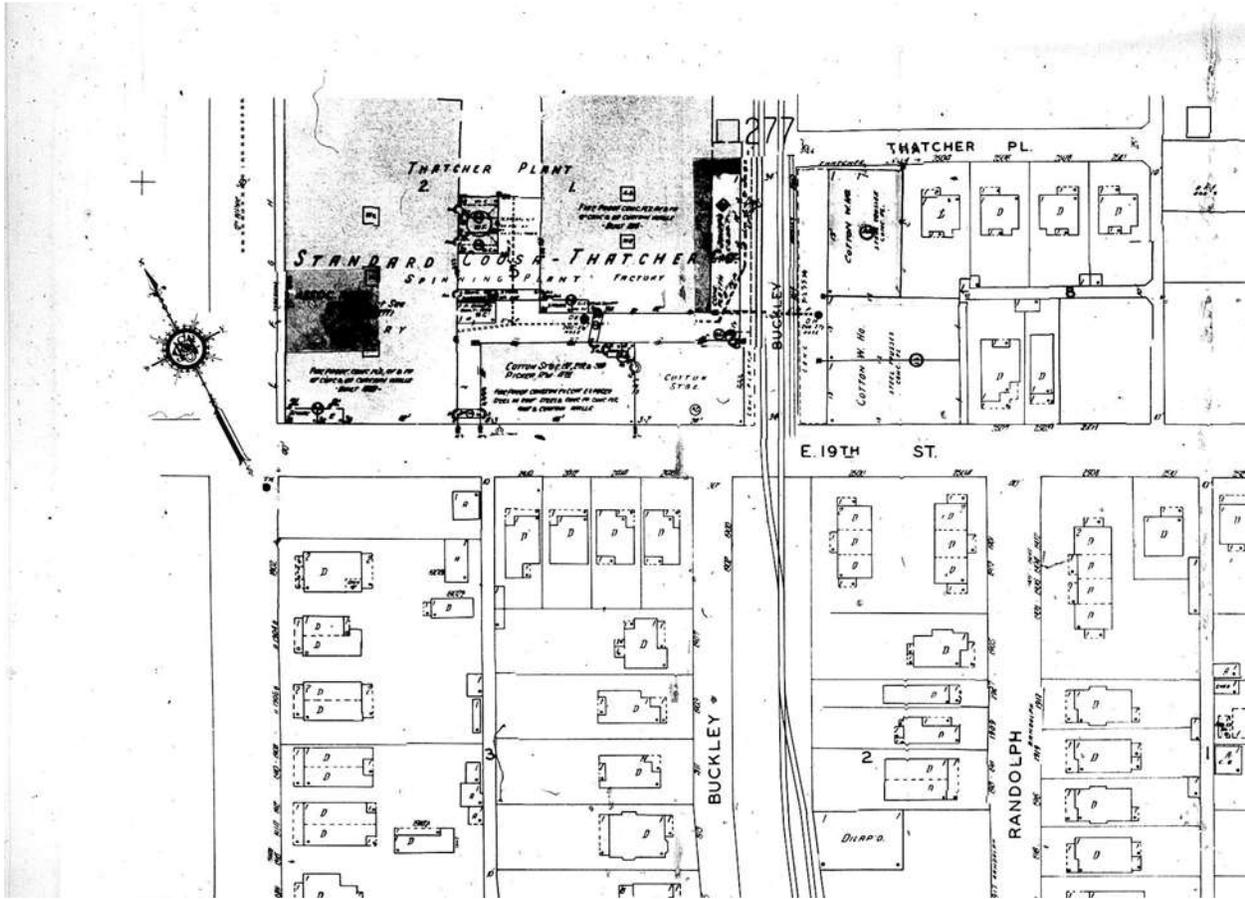


Figure 10: 1929 updated 1949 Sanborn Fire Insurance map, volume 2, page 278

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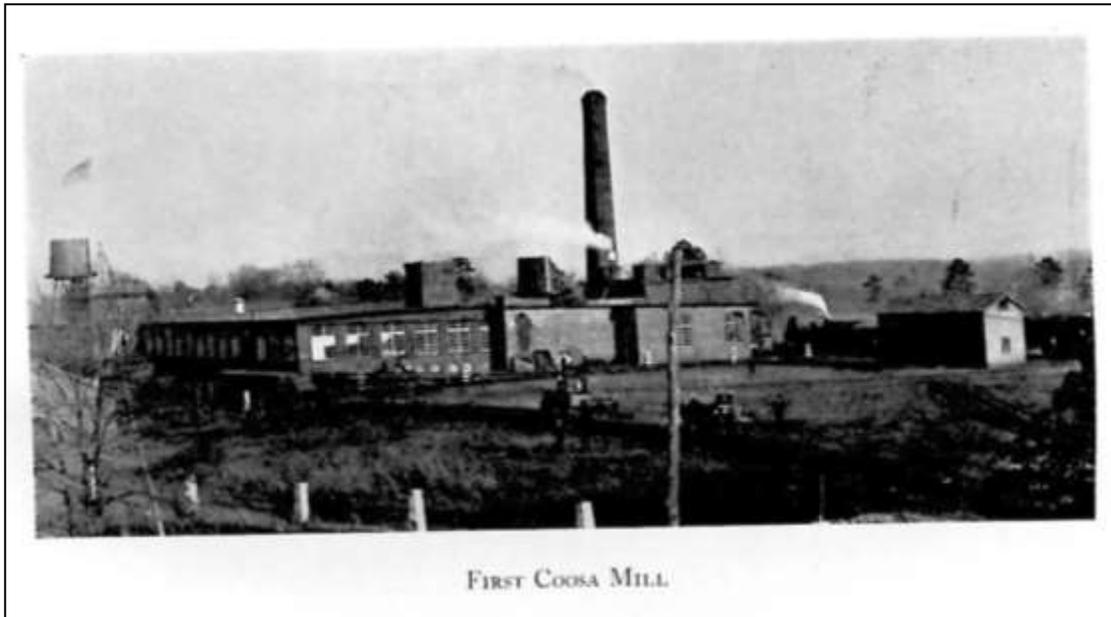


Figure 11: First Coosa Mill in Alabama

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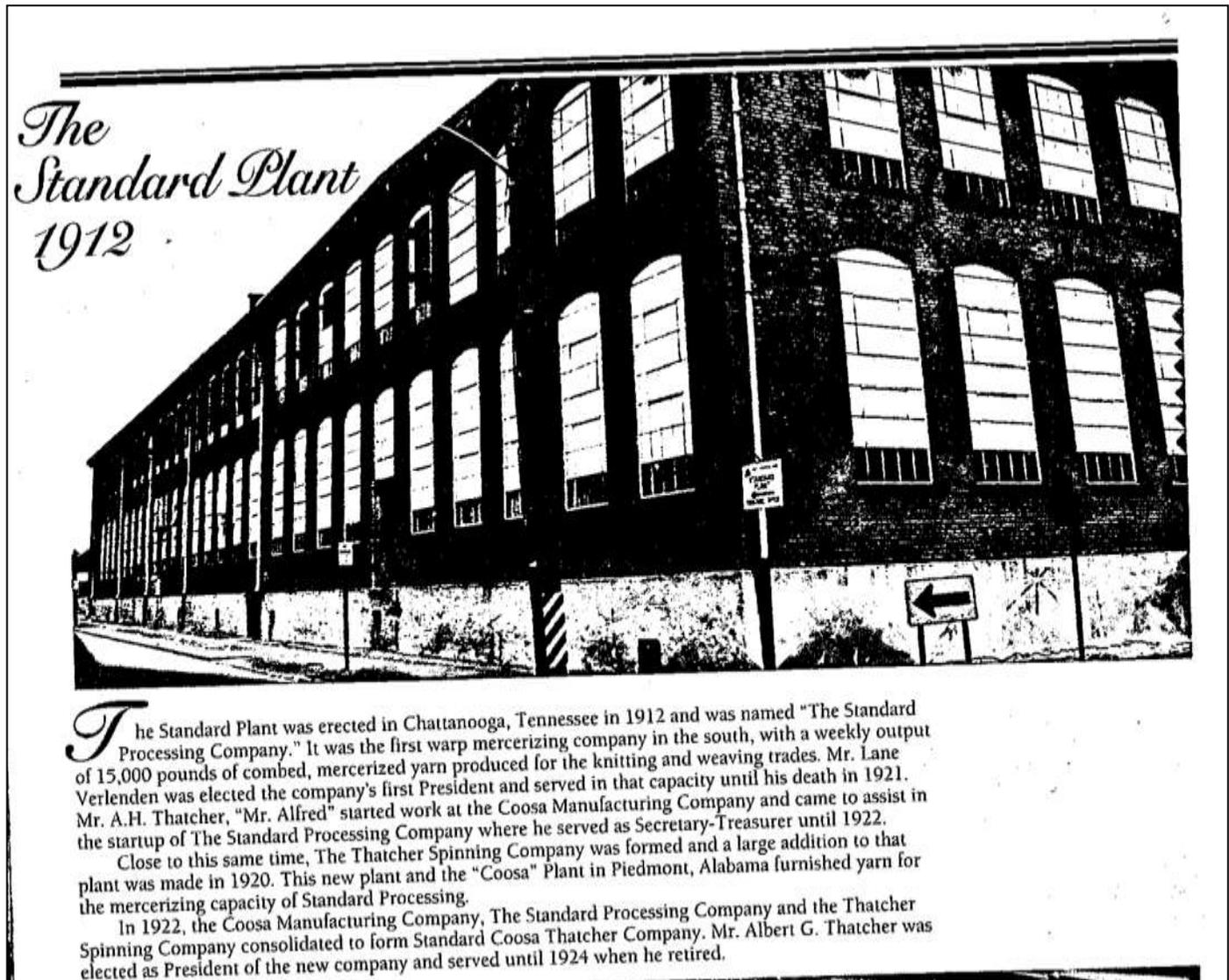


Figure 12: Early Standard Processing plant photo

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First Thatcher Unit, Constructed At Ridgedale, 1915



Figure 13: First Thatcher Spinning Plant

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Plants of Standard Processing Co. and Thatcher Spinning Co.--(Center)

“The Thatcher Spinning Company and The Standard Processing Company of Chattanooga are among the newest and most progressive manufacturing plants of Tennessee, with an intelligent class of operatives under the direction of men who manifest a keen interest in their welfare. Excellent school facilities are afforded by the city graded school, high school and night classes.”

Figure 14: photo of the Standard Processing Plant with the Thatcher Spinning Plant roof also visible.
Second Peace and Prosperity Number, Mill News. The Great Southern Weekly for Textile Workers.
Devoted to the Textile Industries. Page 19. Charlotte, N. C., Mill News Print. Co. 1920

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Figure 15: photo of the first Thatcher Spinning mill. Second Peace and Prosperity Number, Mill News. The Great Southern Weekly for Textile Workers. Devoted to the Textile Industries. page 19. Charlotte, N. C., Mill News Print. Co. 1920

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Figure 16: Representative group of employee housing at Thatcher Spinning mill. Second Peace and Prosperity Number, Mill News. The Great Southern Weekly for Textile Workers. Devoted to the Textile Industries. page 19. Charlotte, N. C., Mill News Print. Co. 1920.

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Figure 17: 1934 rendering of the Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Company. On file in the "Clipping File" Historical Collection, Chattanooga Public Library

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STANDARD & THATCHER

Figure 18: Photo of Standard and Thatcher before 1948

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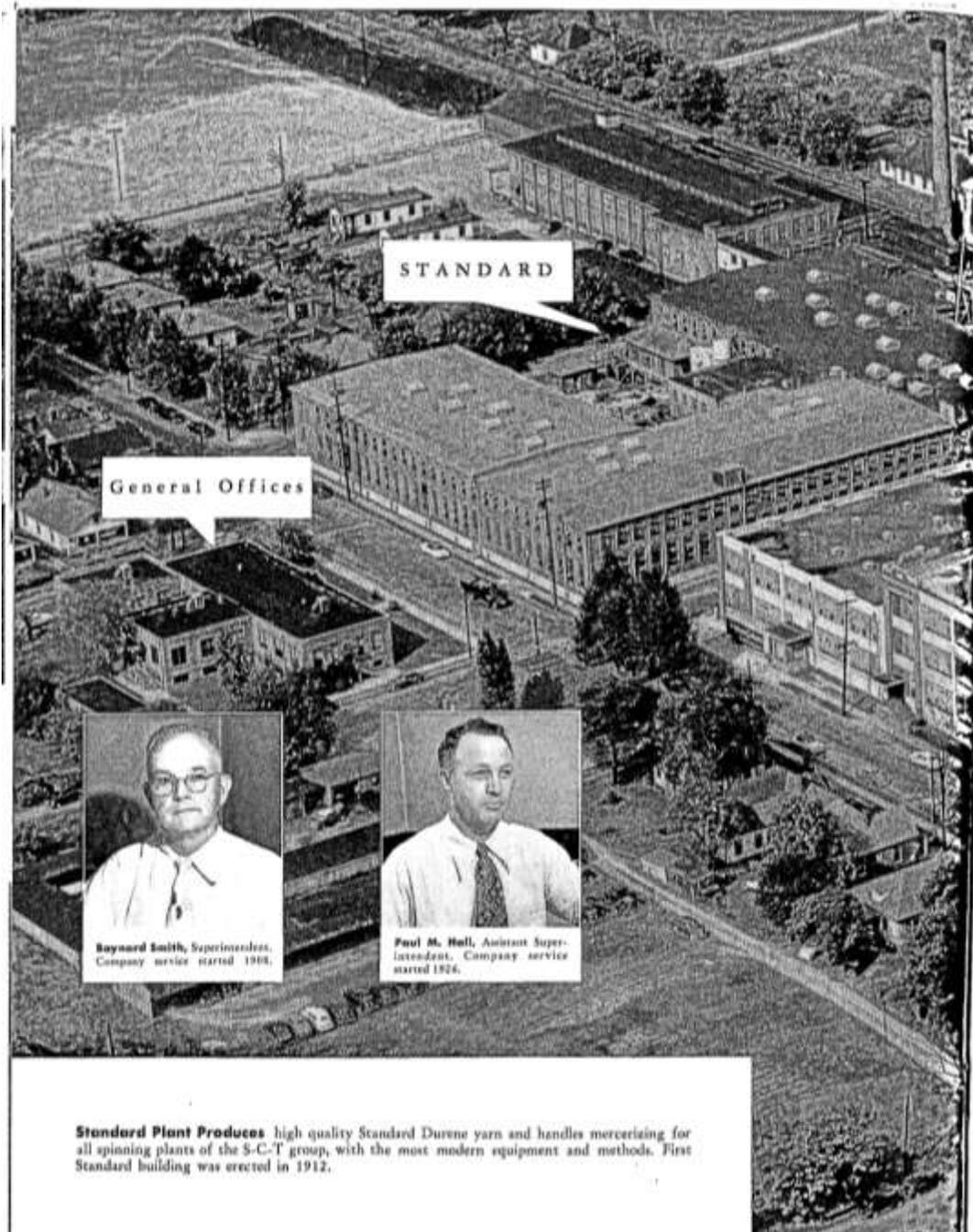


Figure 19: Photo of Standard and Thatcher after 1948

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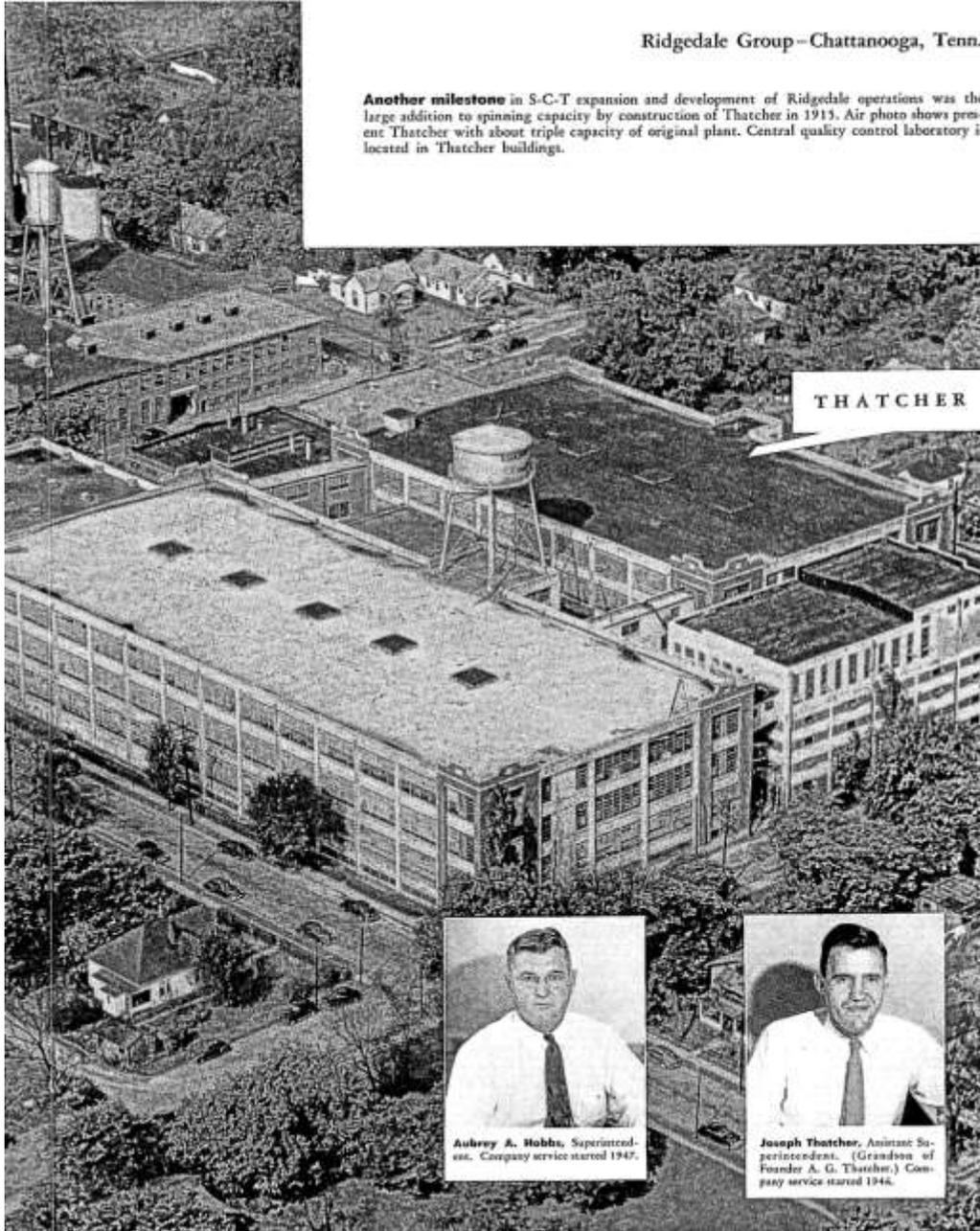


Figure 20: Photo of the Thatcher Spinning Mill after 1948

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Mechanical oil burners are used for the operation of these boilers and the auxiliary equipment in connection with these boilers in the form of superheaters, etc., is of a highly developed nature. Steam condensing turbines of the Bleuler type are to be installed for production of electrical power. The piping and wiring connections in the mills are housed in a concrete raised of simple cross-section to allow of easy installation, inspection and repairs.

The boiler house proper is a T-shaped building consisting of a main

lead house 120 feet 4 inches x 12 feet 4 inches, and a cross 99 feet x 11 feet 4 inches. As with the mill the exterior treatment has received careful consideration of economy and harmony with the surroundings. In proximity to Shawshoos Village prevails a type of architecture that will meet nearly anywhere as that of the principal village buildings that is the case with the mills. As a result brickwork effect by concrete details in the predominant feature of the boiler house as contrasted with concrete effect by brickwork in the mills.

This gradual transition from the fine industrial design to the highly artistic treatment is especially noticeable.

In accomplishing this, however, the purpose of force and economy have not been lost sight of. The exterior structural members of the boiler house are of reinforced concrete connected with a high grade but not expensive brick, and the trimmings are of porous concrete instead of cast steel. This latter work was made up on the ground at a comparatively low expense and in of a color and texture that blends with

the exposed structural concrete of substructure. The windows are ample size to provide an abundance of natural light, and here, as in the case of the mill steel has been used to full advantage.

W. B. Knowlton, Lawrence, Mo. was the engineer and architect of work, and the construction was carried out under his supervision by the office of the Turner Construction Co. The property is owned by the Standard Co., William M. We president.

Thatcher Spinning Company, Mill No. 2

A 32,000 Spindle Fine Combed Hosiery Yarn Mill Built Parallel with No. 1 Mill—Light, Well Ventilated Room Secured by 15-Foot Ceiling Height, White Interior Finish and Large Area of Steel Sash Windows—Details of Equipment—Purchased Power

THE present day tendency in textile mill construction is very well exemplified in the recently completed mill of the Thatcher Spinning Company, of Chattanooga, Tenn. This is the second mill built by them in five years for the manufacture of fine combed hosiery yarns. Modern features of construction and equipment make this plant highly efficient and economical and provide conditions under which production can be carried on to the greatest advantage. It is equipped with machinery necessary for 32,000 producing spindles, and together with the No. 1 mill gives a total of 64,000 spindles.

Following the policy formulated when the first mill was erected, the new building is also a three-story, reinforced concrete structure. It is placed parallel with and about sixty-three feet distant from the first building, with a covered passageway of the same construction connecting the second and third floors of the two buildings. Each mill, however, is a complete unit in itself.

The main mill building is 300 ft. long and 132 feet wide, giving a total usable floor area of 110,700 square feet. The outside walls are formed from a framework of reinforced concrete with openings fitted with steel sash windows. Corner towers are finished with a brick veneer paneling which improves the appearance of the building. Flat slab construction is used for the floors and roof.

Except for the first floor, where foundation piers are used, the floor and roof slabs are supported by masonry columns 30 inches in diameter placed 22 feet by 22 feet apart. Each floor slab is 10 inches thick and covered with 2 inches of barrel gravel, 3-inch intermediate pine floor and finished with 1-inch maple, thus providing a permanent walk surface for the machinery and yet sufficient cushion to absorb vibration and shock. The roof is covered with standard free-ply tar and gravel roofing material. Turner Construction Company erected the building. J. E. Greer & Co., Greenville, S. C. are the engineers.

Light, Well Ventilated Room

One of the most successful impressions a visitor receives when going through this plant is that of the light, well ventilated rooms. This is due to a large amount of the 15-foot ceiling height, white interior finish, and the large amount of well diffused natural light admitted by the steel sash windows. Containing such conditions with well

spaced machinery, driven by individual motors, gives a cheerful aspect to the rooms and makes it possible to get the very best service from the equipment and employees.

Combs Storage House

Adjacent to the mill building is a new four-story reinforced concrete cotton storage house, in which a section has been utilized for an open room. As the latter are opened the cotton is run through two Saco-Lowell No. 4 bale breaking rollers and then blown to the picker room on the third floor of the mill. Each breaker is driven by a 2 H. P. motor mounted on the ceiling.

All of the third floor of the mill is occupied by the picker and card rooms in which the picking, carding, combing and rearing processes are carried on. The two rooms are separated by a fire wall. As the cotton is blown to the picker room it is dropped into bins and allowed to stay for at least twenty-four hours before being used. This gives the cotton a chance to open up and become more fluffy. Two groups of pickers are used, the room being equipped with two 40-inch Saco-Lowell single beater breakers with auto feeder and extended aprons, driven by 7½ H. P. motors, and three 40-inch single beater flanders of the same make driven by 3 H. P. motors. The motors are mounted on

the "A" frames above the machines. Individual Motors, Chain Drives

The remainder of the third floor, comprising the card room, is equipped with fifty-six 40-inch revolving flat top cards, 2 silver lap and 2 ribbon lap machines, 21 combers, 20 blowers each of foot and second drawing, three 80-spindle slubbers, six 100-spindle long-staplers, eight 100-spindle roving and thirty-six 80-spindle jack frames. Three types of motor drives are used to run the machinery in this room. The cards are arranged in two groups of two rows each. Each group is driven from a line shaft connected to a 25 H. P. motor by a Link-Belt Company chain. The motor is suspended from the ceiling with shaft centers 20 inches apart and in the same horizontal plane. Final adjustment of chain tension is obtained through the use of the standard sliding bars furnished as part of the motor equipment. Oil tight casings totally enclose the chains and sprockets to provide means of lubrication and protection.

The silver and ribbon lap machines and combers each have an individual motor and silver chain drive with motors mounted on cast iron brackets attached to the trusses of the machines and driven sprockets keyed to the driven shaft. Table and loose pulleys were furnished with these machines by the manufacturer, but were replaced with

the motor and chain drive equipment minor supporting parts were designed and made locally.

During the process of manufacture it is necessary to stop and start the machine several times during the day, as the machines are equipped with automatic mechanism same means to be provided automatically to stop motors. Oil switches fitted with guanine and quick-break mechanism is mounted on the machines with the starting handle connected to the mechanism. The movement of mechanism is adjusted to act the first of the switch handle. This arrangement permits the operator to start stop the machine at will with the stop of the motor levers as used in 1 drive and also maintains the automatic stop feature.

Both first and second drawing frames are driven in a like manner except the motor is mounted on the floor. Requirements in this case are somewhat different in that each section or be it driven from a shaft near the floor through light and loose pulleys. 1 drivers sprocket of the chain drive equipment is keyed to the shaft in place of the main pulley. After the motor started it is permitted to run normally and each hand controlled as in case of belt drives.

Two and four-frame motors are so



Thatcher Spinning Company, Mill No. 2, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Figure 21: Photo of the Thatcher Spinning Plant. February 1, 1922, Textile World, page 39





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EMPLOYEES
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WELLS
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HOURS
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM











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No Trespass

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W.O.



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NOT AN EXIT





Handwritten graffiti on a vertical metal post, possibly reading "SND".



EXTRA

HELL'S
SERVENT!

SOME TYPE
OF NAU



HELL'S
SERVENT

RBM

HB











SMOKING
IN THIS AREA

























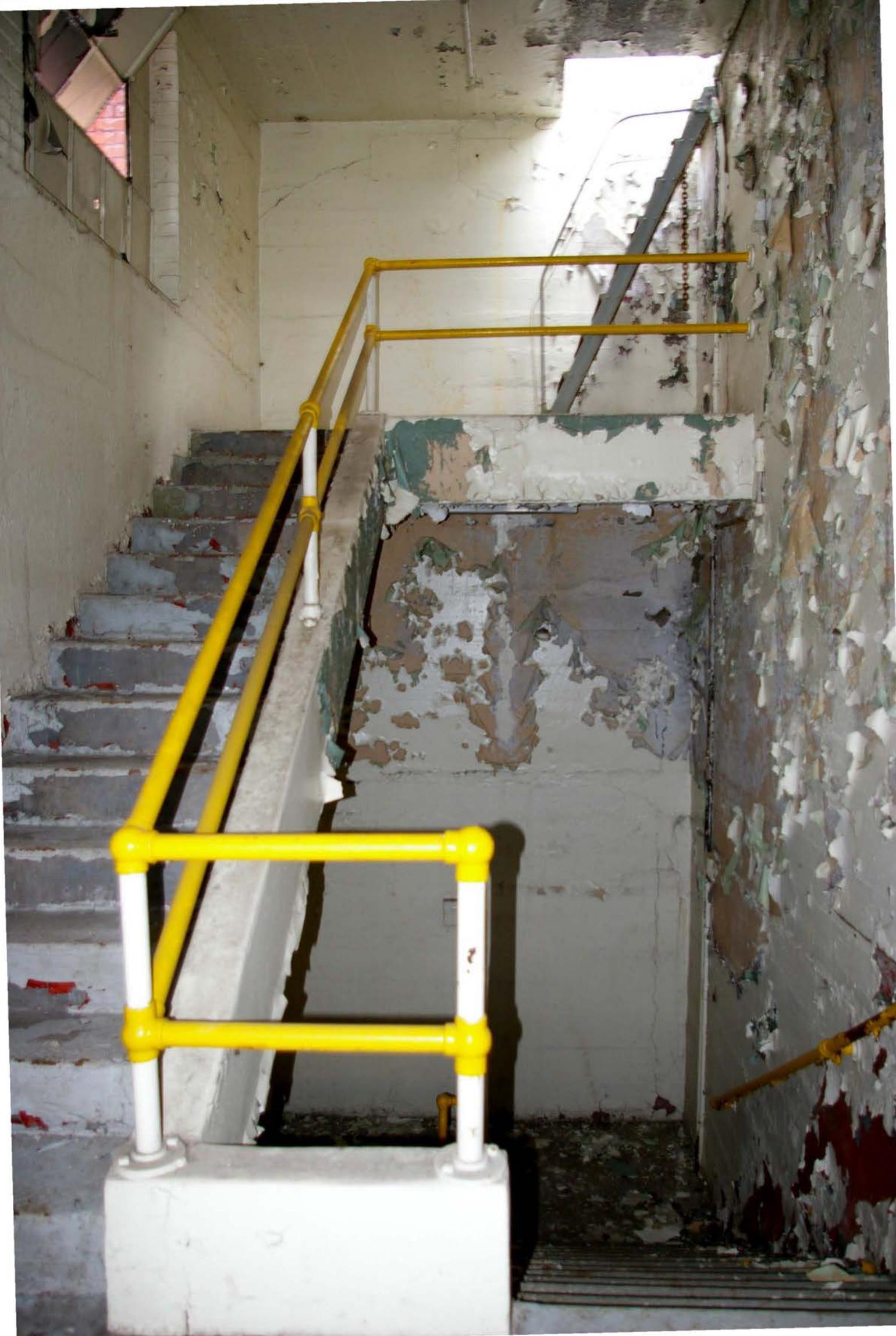


































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Standard--Coosa--Thatcher Mills
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TENNESSEE, Hamilton

DATE RECEIVED: 11/14/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 12/11/14
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/26/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/31/14
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14001106

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: Y PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 12-24-2014 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept N

REVIEWER J. Gibben DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT NATIONAL REGISTER REVIEW

CLG: Chattanooga
PROPERTY: Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills
ADDRESS: 1800 Watkins Street

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION EVALUATION

NAME OF COMMISSION: CHATTANOOGA HISTORIC ZONING COMMISSION (CHZC)
DATE OF MEETING: 8-21-2014

HOW WAS THE PUBLIC NOTIFIED OF THE MEETING?

- ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER
- NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER

REASONS FOR ELIGIBILITY OR NON-ELIGIBILITY: MEETS NR CRITERIA

Michael Wyatt, Chairman CHZC 21 Aug 2014

SIGNATURE: *Michael Wyatt*
TITLE: Michael Wyatt, Certified Local Government Coordinator
DATE: 8-24-2014

THC STAFF EVALUATION

- ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER
- NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER

REASONS FOR ELIGIBILITY OR NON-ELIGIBILITY:

The Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mills, located at 1800 S. Watkins Street in Chattanooga, Hamilton County, Tennessee is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for Commerce for its contribution to the twentieth century economic growth of Chattanooga. The company's long existence and expansion in the South and Nationally, boosted employment for Chattanooga. For a century Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Company made a significant contribution to the City of Chattanooga, the State of Tennessee and eventually reached beyond Tennessee borders with plants and offices nationwide. The Thatcher Spinning mill is an intact representative example of industrial production during its period of local significance (1916-1961). It represents the driving force cotton production in the south had on the industrial infrastructure of Chattanooga. Through its many phases of construction and growth it depicts industrial development during the middle decades of the twentieth century and therefore is also eligible under Criterion A in the area of Industry.

SIGNATURE: *Christine Mathieson*
TITLE: Historic Preservation Specialist-National Register
DATE: July 18, 2014

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN BEFORE: September 15, 2014

RETURN FORM TO:
CHRISTINE MATHIESON
TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION
2941 LEBANON ROAD
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0442



TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
2941 LEBANON ROAD
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37214
OFFICE: (615) 532-1550
www.tnhistoricalcommission.org
E-mail: Claudette.Stager@tn.gov
(615) 532-1550, ext. 105
<http://www.tn.gov/environment/history>

October 29, 2014

Carol Shull
Keeper of the National Register
National Park Service
National Register Branch
1201 Eye Street NW
8th floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the documentation to nominate *Standard Coosa Thatcher Mills* to the National Register of Historic Places. The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the *Standard Coosa Thatcher Mills* to the National Register of Historic Places.

If you have any questions or if more information is needed, please contact Christine Mathieson at (615) 770-1086 or Christine.Mathieson@tn.gov.

Sincerely,

Claudette Stager
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

CS:cm

Enclosures(4)