

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in "Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms" (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Canton Wholesale Company Building
other names/site number n/a

2. Location

street & number 15 Main Street
city, town Canton (n/a) vicinity of
county Cherokee code GA 057
state Georgia code GA zip code 31014

(n/a) not for publication

3. 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:

	<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>
buildings	1	0
sites	0	0
structures	0	0
objects	0	0
total	1	0

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: n/a

Name of previous listing: n/a

Name of related multiple property listing: n/a

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination 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 the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Mark R. Edwards
Signature of certifying official

October 7, 1997
Date

Mark R. Edwards
State Historic Preservation Officer

In my opinion, the property () meets () does not meet the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

Edson H. Beall 11/13/97

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, explain:

see continuation sheet

Keeper of the National Register

Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

COMMERCE/warehouse

Current Functions:

COMMERCE/warehouse

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/Commercial Style

Materials:

foundation	brick
walls	brick
roof	asphalt
other	n/a

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Canton Wholesale Company Building is located in an industrial section of the small county-seat town of Canton, Cherokee County. The building was constructed in 1920 to function as a warehouse. Jones added to his Mercantile Company with the construction of the Main Street Garage, Inc. (1926), the North Canton Store (1928), the Cartersville Warehouse (1928), and the Etowah Maid Dairy (1929). The Canton Wholesale Company Building is the only remaining extant building of the Jones Mercantile Company. The two-story building is square in form, constructed of brick in a common bond pattern, and brick buttresses for support are located along all four sides of the building. The architectural style of the building is representative of the Stripped Classical style (Commercial Style) with its simple masonry rectangular facade, use of windows as string courses, and use of buttresses to create bays.

The front of the building features buttresses dividing the exterior into five bays; pedimented parapets; two wide loading doorways (the door on the west of the center is nonhistoric and the door east of the center is historic) with transoms; front door with transom and six-over-six double-hung windows with transoms on either side; and pivot windows with fourteen lights. Two nonhistoric ramps leading to separate porches with concrete foundations and iron balustrades have been added to the front facade (see photo 2).

The remaining three elevations of the building are very similar. The northern elevation features a pedimented parapet on the southern corner and buttresses dividing the exterior into 10 bays. A wide loading doorway with a transom is located at the southern end and two rows of pivot windows with fourteen lights are located along the first and second story levels (refer to photo 2). Concrete lintels are located above the pivot windows (see photo 5). The rear (western) elevation is broken into six

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Section 7--Description

bays with two rows of windows with concrete lintels located along each story. Three wide loading doors open out to a concrete loading dock that runs the width of the building (see photo 3). The southern elevation is broken into nine bays with two rows of windows with concrete lintels are located along each story (see photo 1). Towards the rear (west) of the elevation, a bay extends upward to accommodate access to the roof from an interior staircase (refer to photo 3).

The interior of the building has changed little over time. The building was originally used as a warehouse for dry goods and is currently functioning as a warehouse for manufactured goods (see photo 6). The interior features the original wooden post-and-beam supports (pine); open space with work stations; exposed brick walls; original pine floor on the second floor; and concrete slab floor on first floor (see photos 7 and 8) .

There is no formal landscaping associated with the building. The CSX Railroad line runs just behind (west) of the building, and a parking lot is located on the south side of the building (see photo 4). The building is located on a corner lot at the intersection of Main Street and Railroad Street (refer to photo 2). It abuts the edge of the pavement of Railroad Street and has a short setback from Main Street.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

ARCHITECTURE
COMMERCE

Period of Significance:

1920 to 1947

Significant Dates:

1920

Significant Person(s):

n/a

Cultural Affiliation:

n/a

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

Unknown

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Section 8--Statement of Significance

Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)

The Canton Wholesale Company Building is the only remaining building of four buildings associated with the Jones Mercantile Company of Canton, Cherokee County.

The building is significant in the area of architecture as an excellent example of a two-story industrial/commercial building constructed in the Stripped Classical style (commercial style) during the early 20th century. The building features masonry construction, square massing, concrete lintels, pivot windows with fourteen lights, symmetrical fenestrations, use of buttresses for support and to create bays, and a flat roof with pedimented parapets. It also contains original materials on the interior including pine floors, post-and-beam construction, exposed brick walls, and pine ceilings. Few warehouses representing the Stripped Classical style have been identified and recognized in Georgia. According to the computerized Georgia Survey, only two warehouses representing the Stripped Classical style have been identified in the state. Two warehouses have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places: W.A. Brannon Store/Moreland Knitting Mills in Moreland, Coweta County (12/12/85) and the Selig Company Building in Atlanta, Fulton County (2/22/96). Unlike the c.1915 Stripped Classical-styled Selig Company Building, which represents the industrial/commercial growth of Atlanta, the Canton Wholesale Company building does not feature decorative elements such as diamond-shaped geometric designs and brick patterning. The Canton Wholesale Company Building is simpler in design since it represents the early 20th-century growth of Canton's industrial/commercial development following the completion of the Marietta & North Georgia Railroad (now CSX Railroad) through Canton.

The building is also architecturally significant for its use of traditional heavy timber of "slow-burning" interior framing. This building helps document the persistence and continued utility of this 19th-century method of construction well into the 20th century when it competed successfully against newer forms of concrete and steel construction.

The building is significant in the area of commerce for its function as a warehouse within the Jones Mercantile Company. In 1899, Jones and several partners chartered and built the Canton Cotton Mill. Since the mill did poorly its first year of production, Jones took direct control of the mill and produced denim. Jones expanded his Mercantile Company with the construction of the Canton Wholesale Company Building in 1920. He sold items produced from the cotton mill, as well as other goods. Jones added to his Mercantile Company with the construction of the Main Street Garage, Inc. (1926), the North Canton Store (1928), the Cartersville Warehouse (1928), and the Etowah Maid Dairy (1929). According to The History of Cherokee County, Jones Mercantile Company was a significant factor in the early growth and development of Canton and Cherokee County. The company remained in the Jones family until 1986; the store was purchased by a large tobacco

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Section 8--Statement of Significance

company wanting to combine wholesale grocery and wholesale tobacco operations. The building has been rehabilitated and is retains its original use as a warehouse.

National Register Criteria

The Canton Wholesale Company Building is eligible under Criterion A for its association to the Jones Mercantile Company and the early 20th-century industrial/commercial development of Canton. The building is eligible under Criterion C as an excellent example of a industrial/commercial building constructed in the Stripped Classical style and traditional heavy timber or "slow-burning" interior framing.

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

n/a

Period of significance (justification)

The period of significance for the Canton Wholesale Company Building begins in 1920 with the construction of the building and ends in 1947, the end of the historic period. The Canton Wholesale Company Building, along with the Main Street Garage (1926), the North Canton Store (1928), the Cartersville Warehouse (1928), and the Etowah Maid Dairy (1929), represented the Jones Mercantile Company. The Jones Mercantile Company played an active and vital role in the industrial/commercial development of Canton from its earliest beginnings into the mid-20th century. The Canton Wholesale Company Building is the only remaining building from the Jones Mercantile Company.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

The Canton Wholesale Company Building is the only contributing resource within the National Register boundary.

Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)

The Canton Wholesale Company Building was constructed in 1920 as a part of Jones Mercantile Company. Jones Mercantile was begun in Canton in 1879 by Robert Tyre Jones (Grandfather of golf legend Robert Tyre (Bobby) Jones, Jr.). Jones Mercantile Company was the most significant contributor to the growth of business and commerce in Cherokee County and Canton during the period 1879 to 1986. The company's activities and history are best chronicled in the Diamond Anniversary brochure dated October 27, 1954. According to the brochure, Canton Wholesale

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Section 8--Statement of Significance

Company was established in order to supply bulk groceries and hardware to outlying areas. The Canton Wholesale Company supplied and "stocked the shelves" of most of the small general merchandise stores scattered throughout Cherokee County and the North Georgia area for its first 50 years.

From 1968 to 1986, the Canton Wholesale Company experienced a period of very rapid growth following the proliferation of the convenience food store chains which combined with the "self-service" gasoline stations throughout the United States. In 1973 Canton Wholesale Company had grown to serve many customers, primarily large "convenience store" chains and franchises that operated all over the state of Georgia and in neighboring southeastern states. In 1975 a new 100,000 sq. ft. warehouse was built to accommodate this rapid growth and the old building was vacated. In 1986 the Jones Mercantile Company was bought by a large wholesale tobacco company primarily because it wanted to merge the wholesale grocery and the wholesale tobacco operations. Now the Canton Wholesale Company operation is one of the cornerstones of a one billion dollar wholesale grocery and tobacco business serving the Northeast and Southeast regions of the United States.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Jones, Louis L. III. "Canton Wholesale Company," Historic District Information Form, September 14, 1993. On file at the Historic Preservation Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia, with supplemental information.

Personal Interviews:

- Ben P. Jones by Louis L. Jones, III on July 14, 1993.
- Ray Smith by Louis L. Jones, III on July 15, 1993.
- Mayor James Cannon by Louis L. Jones, III on July 15, 1993.
- Theron H. Shipp by Louis L. Jones, III on July 16, 1993.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): () N/A

- () preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- (x) preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been issued
date issued:11/19/93
- () previously listed in the National Register
- () previously determined eligible by the National Register
- () designated a National Historic Landmark
- () recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- () recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- (x) State historic preservation office
- () Other State Agency
- () Federal agency
- () Local government
- () University
- () Other, Specify Repository:

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): n/a

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 0.7 acres.

UTM References

A) Zone 16 Easting 731680 Northing 3792020

Verbal Boundary Description

The National Register boundary for the Canton Wholesale Company Building is indicated on the attached tax map by a heavy black line.

Boundary Justification

The National Register boundary for the Canton Wholesale Company Building includes the building located within the historic and current legal boundary.

11. Form Prepared By

State Historic Preservation Office

name/title Amy Pallante/National Register Specialist
organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
street & number 500 The Healey Building, 57 Forsyth Street
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303
telephone (404) 656-2840 **date** October 1997

Consulting Services/Technical Assistance (if applicable) () not applicable

name/title Louis L. Jones, III
organization CWC Industrial Building Joint Venture
street and number P.O. Box 20058
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30325
telephone (404) 237-1577

() **consultant**
() **regional development center preservation planner**
(x) **other: Owner**

(HPD form version 02-24-97)

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Continuation Sheet

Photographs

Name of Property: Canton Wholesale Company
City or Vicinity: Canton
County: Cherokee
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: July 1996

Description of Photograph(s):

- 1 of 8 View of the front of the Canton Wholesale Company Building; photographer looking northwest.
- 2 of 8 View of the front of the building; photographer looking southwest.
- 3 of 8 View of the rear of the building; photographer looking northeast.
- 4 of 8 Detail view of the rear of the building and the CSX Railroad tracks; photographer looking north.
- 5 of 8 Detail view of pivot window; photographer looking north.
- 6 of 7 View of pine supports on first floor; photographer looking northeast.
- 7 of 7 View of first floor; photographer looking west.
- 8 of 8 View of second floor; photographer facing northwest.

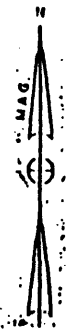
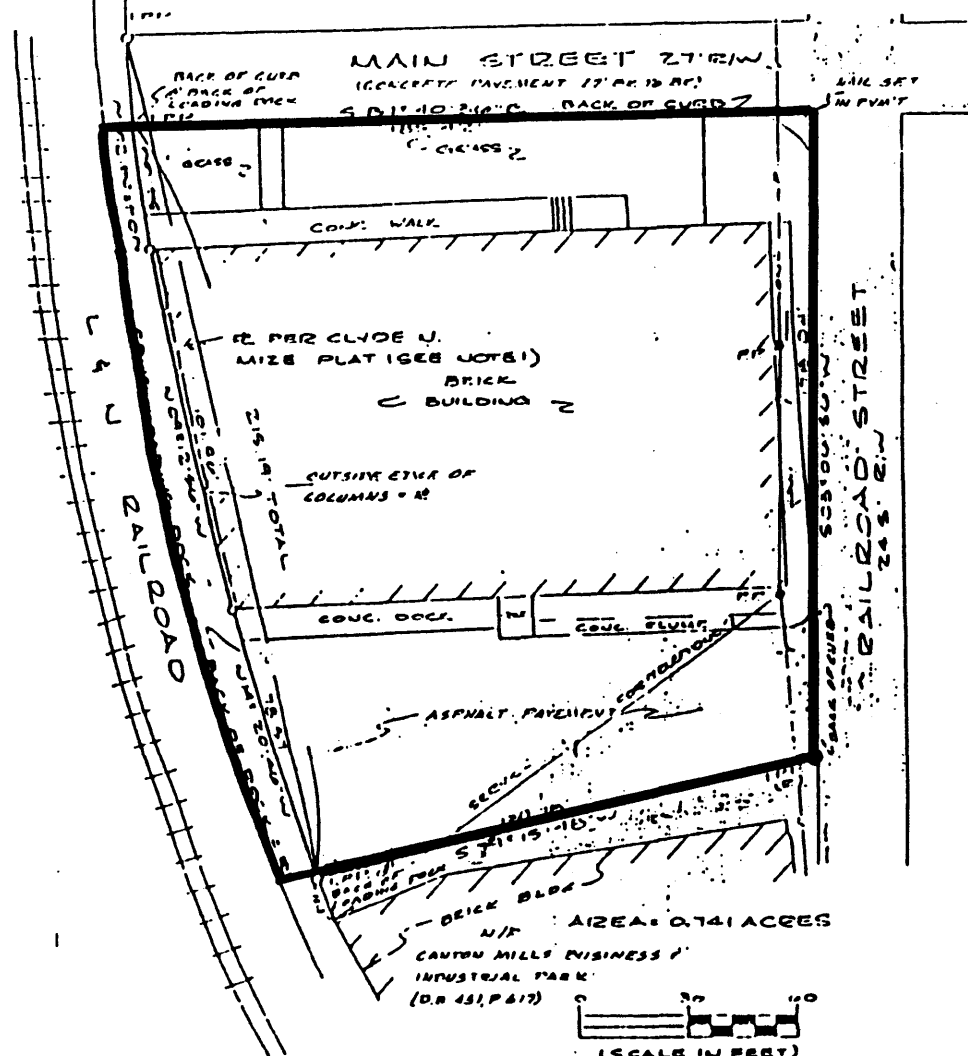
NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARY

Canton Wholesale Company Building

Canton, Cherokee County, Georgia

Scale 1"=60'

National Register boundary is marked with a heavy black line.



OFFICIAL FLOOD MAP
 COUNTY NO. 12000
 DATE (SEE LISTED)
 THIS PROPERTY NOT TO BE
 USED FOR ANY SPECIFIC
 FLOOD PURPOSES

LEGEND	
1. I.P.P.	IRON PIN PLACED
(1/2" REINFORCING BAR)	
2. I.P.F.	IRON PIN FOUND
3. C.T.	CRIMP TOP PIN
4. O.T.	OPEN TOP PIN
5. L.L.L.	LAND LOT LINE
6. R/W	RIGHT OF WAY
7. P.L.	PROPERTY LINE
8. C.	CENTERLINE
9. -X-	FENCE LINE
10. ---	PINS PLACED ON LINE
11. P.P.	POWER POLE
12. T.P.	TELEPHONE POWER LINE
13. ---	POWER LINE
FIELD WORK BY W.C.	
DRAWN BY V.S.	
JOB NO. 001-0040-0000	

TYPE OF SURVEY: LOT	
SUBDIVISION:	
SURVEY FOR:	
JONES MERCANTILE CO.	
MORTGAGEE:	
LAND LOT(S): 107	
DISTRICT 14, SECTION 2	
CITY: CANTON	
CHEROKEE CO., GEORGIA	
SCALE: 1 IN. = 60 FT.	
PREPARED 12-11-56	
REVISION DATES:	

BYERS ENGINEERING COMPANY

LAND SURVEYING
 CIVIL ENGINEERING

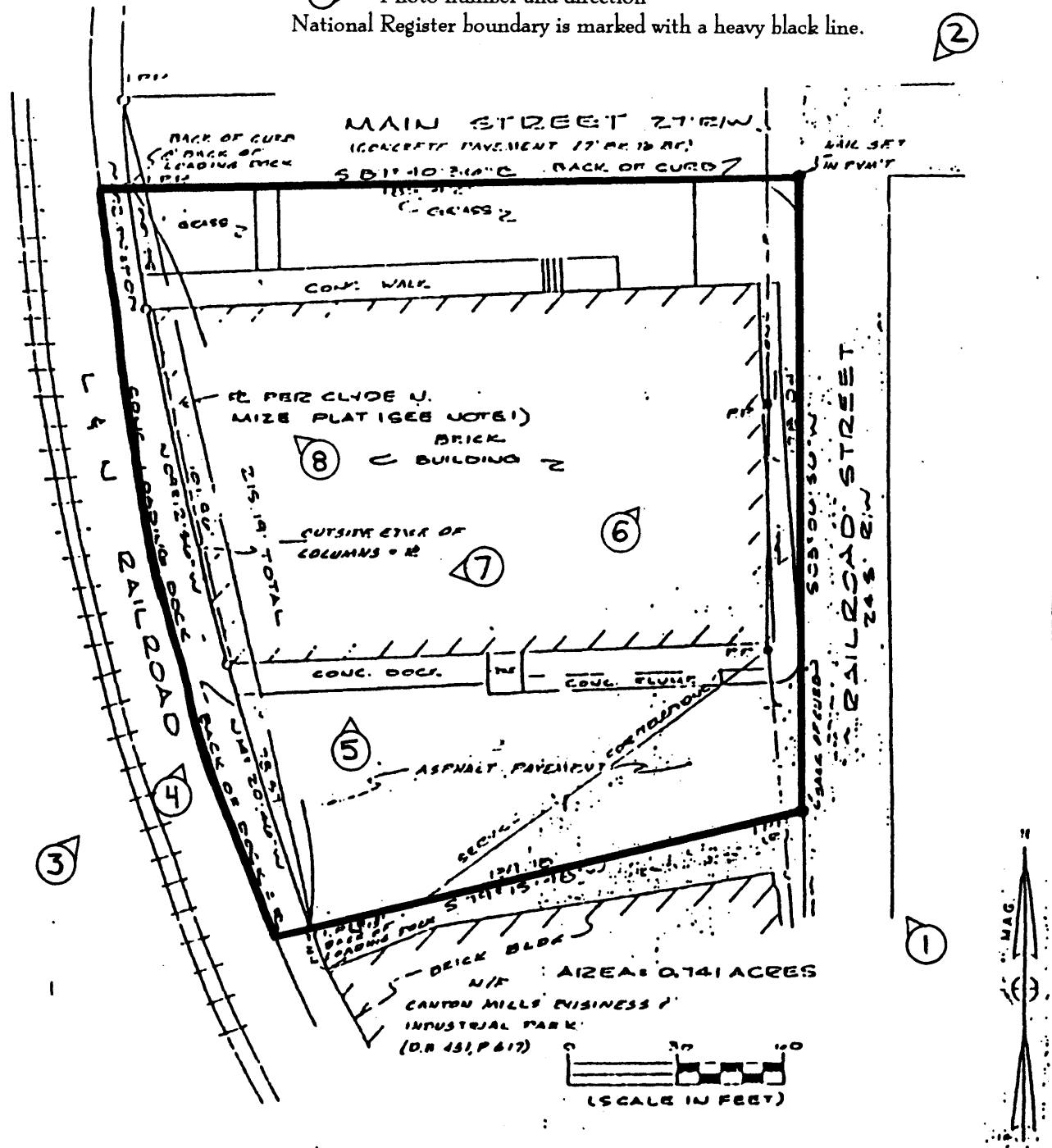
361 E MAIN STREET
 CANTON, GEORGIA 30114

404-479-4911 CANTON
 404-322-7298 (ATLANTA)

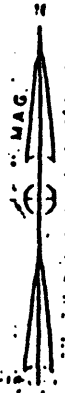
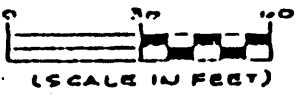
SITE MAP AND PHOTO KEY

- 1. Canton Wholesale Company Building
- 2. Canton, Cherokee County, Georgia
- 3. Not to Scale
- 4. = Photo number and direction
- 5. National Register boundary is marked with a heavy black line.

②



AREA: 0.741 ACRES
 CANTON MILLS BUSINESS INDUSTRIAL PARK
 (D.R. 43, P. 617)



LEGEND	
1. I.P.P.	- IRON PIN PLACED (1/2" REINFORCING BAR)
2. I.P.F.	- IRON PIN FOUND
3. C.T.	- CRIMP TOP PIN
4. O.T.	- OPEN TOP PIN
5. L.L.	- LAND LOT LINE
6. R/W	- RIGHT OF WAY
7. R.	- PROPERTY LINE
8. C.	- CENTERLINE
9. -X-	- FENCE LINE
10. ->	- PINS PLACED ON LINE
11. P.P.	- POWER POLE
12. T.P.	- TELEPHONE POWER LINE
13.	- POWER LINE
FIELD WORK BY W.C.	

TYPE OF SURVEY: LOT
SUBDIVISION:
SURVEY FOR:
JONES MERCANTILE CO.
MORTGAGEE:
LAND LOT(S): 107
DISTRICT 14, SECTION 2
CITY: CANTON
CHEROKEE CO., GEORGIA
SCALE: 1 IN. = 50 FT.
PREPARED 12-11-50
REVISION DATES:

BYERS ENGINEERING COMPANY
 LAND SURVEYING
 CIVIL ENGINEERING
 381 E MAIN STREET
 CANTON, GEORGIA 30114

OFFICIAL FLOOD MAPS
 COMMUNITY NO. 12000-50
 PART 101, TITLE 12, CHAPTER 101