NPS Form 10-900

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

20	OMB No. 1024-0018	
	JUN 2 7 2019	
Nat	II. Reg. of Historic Places National Park Service	
	National Park Service	

1. Name of Property

Historic Name: McGaugh Hosiery Mills / Airmaid Hosiery Mills Building

2. Location			
Street & number: 4408 2 nd City or town: Dallas Not for publication: □	Avenue State: Texas Vicinity: □	County: Dallas	
3. State/Federal Agency	Certification		
☑ nomination ☐ request for detended Register of Historic Places and no property ☑ meets ☐ does not no meets ☐ does no	ermination of eligibility meets the procedural and neet the National Registre considered significant ocal	d professional requirements set for	for registering properties in the National h in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the
Signature of certifying official Texas Historical Commission State or Federal agency / bure	/ Title	ate Historic Preservation Officer	6/21/19 Date
In my opinion, the property 🗆 m	neets □ does not meet t	the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting or o	ther official		Date
State or Federal agency / bure	au or Tribal Governme	ent	
4. National Park Service	Certification		

removed from the National Register

other, explain:

Signature of the Keeper

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

X	Private
	Public - Local
	Public - State
	Public - Federal

Category of Property

Х	building(s)
	district
	site
	structure
	object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
2	0	total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions: Industry/Processing/Extraction: Manufacturing Facility

Current Functions: Vacant/Not in Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification: Late 19th and Early 20th Century Revivals: Classical Revival; Modern

Movement: Moderne

Principal Exterior Materials: BRICK

Narrative Description (see continuation sheets 6 through 9)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

X	Α	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of
		our history.
	В	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
	С	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: NA

Areas of Significance: Industry

Period of Significance: 1931-c. 1956

Significant Dates: 1931, 1946, c. 1956

Significant Person (only if criterion b is marked): NA

Cultural Affiliation (only if criterion d is marked): NA

Architect/Builder: Unknown; J. C. Bateson Construction Company, builder (1946 addition)

Narrative Statement of Significance (see continuation sheets 10 through 15)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography (see continuation sheets 16 through 17)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- x preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested. Approved September 25, 2017
- _ 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 (Texas Historical Commission, Austin)
- Other state agency
- _ Federal agency
- _ Local government
- _ University
- x Other -- Specify Repository:

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): NA

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: Approximately 0.85 acres.

Coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (use decimal degree format)

Datum if other than WGS84: N/A

1. Latitude: 32.764451°N Longitude: -96.747971°W

Verbal Boundary Description: Block 2126, Lot 11, Dallas, Dallas County, Texas (Maps 2-4)

Boundary Justification: This is the property historically associated with the nominated resources.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title: Susan Allen Kline, Consultant for Fran McCarthy

Organization:

Street & number: 4740 Trail Bend Cir

City or Town: Fort Worth State: Texas Zip Code: 76109

Email: sskline@sbcglobal.net Telephone: 817-921-0127 Date: October 29, 2018

Additional Documentation

Maps (see continuation sheets 18 through 23)

Additional items (see continuation sheets 24 through 34)

Photographs (see continuation sheets 5, 35 through 42)

Photographs

Name of Property: McGaugh Hosiery Mills / Airmaid Hosiery Mills Building

City or Vicinity: Dallas

County, State: Dallas County, Texas Photographer: Susan Allen Kline Date Photographed: May 1, 2017

Photo 1: Looking northeast at west and south (front) elevations

Photo 2: Looking northwest at south (front) elevation

Photo 3: Looking north at south (front) elevation of 1912 building

Photo 4: Looking northwest at south (front) elevation of 1912 building

Photo 5: Looking east at west elevation of 1912 building

Photo 6: Looking north at east entrance of the south (front) elevation of 1946 addition

Photo 7: Looking southwest at north (rear) elevations of 1946 addition and 1912 building showing original brick color

Photo 8: Looking south at north (rear) elevation of 1912 building

Photo 9: Looking west along north (rear) elevation of 1912 building

Photo 10: Looking east at west elevation of 1946 addition

Photo 11: Looking northwest at contributing building

Photo 12: Looking west along second floor, north wall of 1912 building

Photo 13: Looking west along third floor, south wall of 1912 building

Photo 14: Looking east down second floor corridor leading to 1946 addition

Photo 15: Looking north, first floor of 1946 addition

Photo 16: Looking east at curved wall, second floor of 1946 addition

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.

Narrative Description

The McGaugh Hosiery Mills/Airmaid Hosiery Mills Building is located at 4408 2nd Avenue southeast of downtown Dallas, Texas. The L-shaped brick and clay tile building was constructed in two phases. The west portion was constructed in 1912 as the three-story Lagow School and the east portion was built as a two-story addition constructed in 1946 when the building was occupied by McGaugh Hosiery Mills. The 1912 portion reflects influences of Classical Revival architecture with its symmetrical façade and groupings of multi-light double-hung wood windows (currently boarded over). The 1946 Moderne addition has curved wall surface and multiple-light metal industrial style windows characteristic of an early post-World War II industrial building. These features and its wide-open interior attest to the addition's industrial use. At the rear of the property is a one-story gabled-roof, clay tile and concrete block building likely constructed between 1946 and 1952 that is counted as a contributing resource. Although both buildings are in poor condition, they retain their historic integrity. The property is located at the southeast corner of 2nd and Carpenter avenues in a mixed residential, commercial, and light industrial early 20th century neighborhood.

Setting and Location

The McGaugh Hosiery Mills/Airmaid Hosiery Mills Building is located at 4408 2nd Avenue (sometimes written as 4408 S. 2nd Avenue), approximately 2.5 miles southeast of the heart of downtown Dallas and approximately one mile southeast of Fair Park. The building sits on a rectangular, approximately 0.85-acre lot on the north side of 2nd Avenue, a low-density commercial corridor that connects Fair Park with southeast Dallas, and is bordered on the west by Carpenter Avenue. Behind it is a one-story, gabled-roof, clay tile and concrete block building that was likely constructed between 1946 and 1952 and is counted as a contributing resource. Immediately north of the nominated property is the Lagow Cemetery, a less than one-acre, largely unkempt cemetery dating to at least 1886 and containing few headstones. The surrounding neighborhood is mostly defined by modest early 20th-century residences and commercial and light industrial buildings. A one-story one-part commercial block which likely dates from the mid-20th century nearly abuts the building at its east end. Across 2nd Avenue is the Joseph J. Rhodes Learning Center, formerly Lagow School, constructed in 1926 with later additions, and Mildred L. Dunn Park (Maps 1-7).

Exterior

The L-shaped main building is composed of two parts. The west portion is a three-story brick building with a symmetrical arrangement. It was originally constructed in 1912 as the Lagow School and retains the basic hints of Classical Revival influence seen in academic buildings of that era.² This is evident in its symmetrical façade and groupings of rectangular openings filled with paired multi-light, double-hung wood windows (now boarded over), and the central protruding bay. The east portion is a two-story brick and clay tile addition that was constructed in 1946 in the Moderne style. The facades of both portions and the west elevation of the 1912 building have been painted white with green accents (Photos 1-2).

Primary (South) Elevation

The 1912 portion's symmetrical façade features a tripartite arrangement and is divided into seven bays. The center bay projects slightly from the plane of the building and contains the main entrance which is on the second floor. The entrance is approached by a flight of concrete stairs with brick carriage walls. The door is boarded over and is surrounded by brick quoins. Above the entrance is lettering adhered to the wall spelling out the name, Lee G. Bilal, of a former owner. Above

¹ The streets in this section of south Dallas are not oriented to the cardinal points. Second Avenue has a northwest/southeast orientation. For ease of reference, the façade is referred to as the south elevation and the rear elevation is referred to as the north elevation. The side elevations are referred to as east and west elevations.

² Jay C. Henry, Architecture in Texas 1895-1945, (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1993), 94-96.

the entrance is a window opening on the third floor. A shaped parapet crowns the top of this bay. In the center of the parapet is a round brick frame that formerly held a clock. The clock has been removed and a portion of the frame has broken off. The parapet and clock were likely added in 1946 when the east addition was constructed. The three bays on either side of the central bay feature symmetrical window openings on each floor. The openings are boarded over but for the most part, the paired double-hung wood multi-light windows behind them are intact (Photos 3-4).

West Elevation

The west elevation is divided into three bays. The center bay contains an entrance on the first floor and multi-light wood windows on the second and third floors that illuminated the west stairwells. The windows and door are boarded over. The flanking bays are windowless except for a window on the north end of the first floor, also boarded over (Photo 5).

Rear (North) Elevation

The rear of the 1912 portion provides clues its original appearance as it is unpainted except for the first floor which is painted white. It is sheathed with a polychrome brown brick. This elevation is also divided into seven bays. All windows and entrances are boarded over (two window openings on the first floor have been infilled with clay tile). Like the south elevation, most of the paired multi-light windows are intact behind the boards. A continuous cast stone header runs above the windows, providing a light contrast to the brown brick. By 1952, a one-story shed-roofed addition was added onto this elevation and is likely the reason the first floor of the 1912 portion was painted white. The addition has been removed with the exception of its west wall which is constructed of clay tile (Photos 7-9).

East Elevation

Only a portion of the east elevation is visible. The wall surface south of the 1946 addition's elevator penthouse is painted white. The wall north of the penthouse reveals the original brick color and a cast stone belt course that aligns with the third floor header course on the north elevation (Photo 7).

1946 Addition

The 1946 brick, concrete, and clay tile Moderne addition is inches away from the adjacent building to the east and serves as an example of an early post-World War II industrial building. The front portion of the addition is two-stories and the rear portion is one-story. Its façade has an asymmetrical arrangement. The defining feature is the curved wall near the east entrance. This entrance is on a recessed wall and beneath the first floor overhang. Windows around the entrance are filled with glass block. The glass block in the first floor window openings on the west portion of the addition's façade as well as one entrance may not be original. Multi-light steel industrial-style windows are on the second floor but are painted over. The brick wall of this elevation is painted white with green trim and an elevator penthouse is visible (Photos 2, 3, and 6). The north and east walls of the second story portion and the east wall of the one-story portion are unpainted and reveal a reddish-brown brick (Photo 7). Much of the east elevation is obscured by the neighboring building. However, the multi-light steel industrial-style windows are mostly intact. The west elevation of the one-story portion is painted brick. The windows and doors are missing. There is a shed-roofed metal canopy attached to the north end of the wall (Photo 10).

Interior

The interior of the 1912 building retains several historic features. These include the hardwood floors (generally in poor condition), plaster and lathe partition walls, wood paneled doors, a vault, and original windows as previously mentioned. Still present are transom windows on the second floor that overlook the west stairwell, as well as plaster on the perimeter brick and clay tile walls. The plan of the first and second floors is organized around the corridors. The first floor's corridors form a cross that divides the space into four principal rooms. These rooms have beveled entrances at the junction of the corridors. A ramp connects the building with the 1946 addition. The second floor's corridors have an "L" configuration. The south corridor forms a foyer that accesses the primary entrance. The east corridor accesses the 1946 addition. The southwest corner of the floor contains two office spaces, one of which has paneled walls. The vault is in the northwest corner of a large room on the north side of the building. The third floor is primarily composed of one large room with a small angular room on the north side and another room in the northwest corner. The wood ceiling/roof rafters are exposed. The west stairwell is illuminated by multi-light wood windows that are boarded over (Photos 12-14, Figures 1-3).

The interior of the 1946 addition is characterized by its open plan. The ceilings and floors are concrete. Concrete ceiling beams are supported by regularly-spaced square concrete columns. Narrow gauge metal chains hang from the second floor's ceiling. The perimeter walls are of clay tile or brick and most have been painted. Portions of the walls on the south end of the first floor are plastered. An elevator is located on the west wall. North of it is a stairwell with concrete stairs (Photos 15-16, Figures 4-5).

Contributing Building

At the north end of the property is a one-story gabled-roofed building. It may date from 1950 when the Airmaid Hosiery Company undertook an expansion program. It appears on the 1952 Sanborn Map. The building is constructed of clay tile and concrete block. The metal roof is missing over the east half of the building. The metal roof trusses are exposed. Large openings on the south elevation have no windows or doors. For the most part, the steel-framed industrial style windows remain on the north elevation. This building is connected to the 1946 addition by red brick walls which likely post-date 1952. Although in poor condition, the building is counted as a contributing resource (Photo 11, Map 7).

There is a paved parking lot in front of the 1946 addition and a portion of the 1912 building. A concrete sidewalk accesses the front entrance of the 1912 building and is bordered by hedges with diagonal sidewalks extend from the north end Another concrete sidewalk runs parallel to 2nd Avenue. A grass lawn covers the rest of the yard in front of the 1912 building. There is an unpaved parking lot along the west elevation that is bordered by a low concrete retaining wall topped with heavy pipe railing (Photos 1 and 5).

Alterations

The McGaugh Hosiery Mills/Airmaid Hosiery Mills Building's south (front) and west elevations have been painted white with trim painted green. A historic photograph from 1927 as well as the unpainted elevations of the 1912 portion of the building indicate the original brick color was brown (Figure 6). A scrape test on the south elevation of the 1946 addition suggest that the original brick color of this wall was tan or a light beige. Other alterations include the partial infilling of one window opening on the first floor with brick and the insertion of a door. Other first floor windows in this section may have been infilled with glass block. An addition that was constructed on the north side of the 1912 building was removed at an unknown date. Because it is on a secondary elevation, the impact of its removal is minimal (Map 7).

The building stood vacant for many years and was subject to vandalism and deferred maintenance, resulting in broken windows and holes in the roof. The round frame that held the clock on the parapet of the 1912 building has mostly failed

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NPS Form 10-900

OMB No. 1024-0018

McGaugh Hosiery Mills / Airmaid Hosiery Mills Building, Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

and little of it remains. The interior has suffered from water infiltration, leading to the damage and subsequent removal of most of the ceiling in the third floor of the 1912 portion of the building (Photo 13). The ceiling/roof trusses of the third floor have been rebuilt in many areas. Hardwood floors and plaster walls have also been damaged.

Integrity

Despite its deteriorated condition, the property retains historic integrity. It retains integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. The 1912 portion retains the floor plans, multi-light wood windows, hardwood floors, a vault on the second floor, and the stairwell's transom windows. The 1946 addition retains its open volume, exposed concrete columns and ceilings, and many of its metal multi-light industrial style windows. The Moderne design of the 1946 addition is intact reflecting its function as an early post-World War II industrial building, reinforcing integrity of feeling and association. The contributing building, while in poor condition, retains its original design, materials, and workmanship and conveys its historic milling use. The property also retains integrity of location and setting as it is on its original site and is surrounded by many of the buildings and the historic cemetery that were present during the period of significance (1931-c. 1956).

Statement of Significance

The McGaugh Hosiery Mills/Airmaid Hosiery Mills Building at 4408 2nd Avenue in Dallas, Texas is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion A in the area of Industry. It is significant for its association with Dallas' vibrant apparel industry and in particular with a hosiery company whose products were widely distributed throughout the United States. The company was originally the second largest hosiery manufacturer in Dallas. The larger facility, Vanette Hosiery Mills, no longer retains integrity. Thus, the McGaugh Hosiery Mills/Airmaid Hosiery Mills Building is now the largest extant example of an early 20th century hosiery manufacturer with historic integrity in Dallas. The period of significance spans from 1931 when the McGaugh Hosiery Mills occupied the former Lagow School to c. 1956, the last year the expanded facility was solely occupied by Airmaid Hosiery Mills, the successor to McGaugh Hosiery Mills.

Historic Context

By the time Richard Lagow (1841-1885) moved to Dallas County in 1879, the city of Dallas had a population of approximately 10,000 people. It was well on its way to becoming a regional transportation, agricultural (particularly related to cotton), and commercial center thanks to the arrival of the railroads. Lagow settled on 1,000 acres in the Lagow League, part of the 4,444 acres given to his father, Thomas, by the Republic of Texas for his service defending the republic during its War for Independence from Mexico. Richard's land was south and east of Dallas proper in the area of present day Second and Fitzhugh avenues. The 1880 census listed his occupation as a farmer. Living with him was his wife, Nancy, and eight children. He donated land at the far south end of his property for a school. This tract was located at what is now the southeast corner of 2nd and Carpenter Avenues. Both the school and the cemetery established just north of it bore the Lagow name. The first school on the site was a frame structure. It was replaced by a three-story brick building in 1912 before the school became part of the Dallas public school system. Fourteen years later, this building was replaced by a larger school across the street. For a time, the old building served as the location of the Day and Night Furniture Store before being repurposed as a hosiery mill in 1931. By then, Dallas had more than 269,000 residents.³

North Texas, and Dallas in particular, had a thriving apparel industry that began to take form in the early years of the 20th century. By the 1930s, clothing manufacturers in Dallas included the Lorch Manufacturing Company, Haggar, and the Morton-Davis Company whose products included women's ready-to-wear dresses and men's work clothes. Firms such as Nardis, Donovan Manufacturing Company, Marcy Lee, and Justin McCarty "capitalized on the marketability of the low-cost cotton house dress and produced new distinctive lines of sportswear, especially ladies' slacks, for national consumption." Prior to World War II, apparel manufacturing was among Dallas' three leading industries. Such an environment encouraged other apparel entrepreneurs to set up factories in the city. During this same period, local business interests sponsored a program called Industrial Dallas, Inc. "to advertise Dallas and the Southwest" to encourage more businesses to come to the city. It was during this period that C. C. McGaugh, an innovator in the manufacture of women's hosiery, came to Dallas.

³ "Pioneer School Philanthropist, Descendants: Richard Lagow's Gift Grows to Great School," *Dallas Morning News*, June 5, 1938. The Lagow School had its own board of trustees and was considered a county school. In 1919, the Lagow community was annexed into the city of Dallas but the new boundaries failed to include the school. A contract between the trustees and the Dallas Board of Education placed the school under the supervision of the Dallas board. *Dallas Morning News*, August 30, 1919, September 14, 1919 and October 30, 1927.

⁴ Handbook of Texas Online, Dorothy DeMoss, "Clothing Manufacture," accessed May 22, 2017, http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/dlc02; Handbook of Texas Online, Jackie McElhaney and Michael V. Hazel, "Dallas, TX." accessed June 14, 2017, http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hdd01.

⁵ Dorothy DeMoss, *The History of Apparel Manufacturing in Texas*, 1897-1981, Garland Studies in Entrepreneurship (New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1989), p. 15.

McGaugh Hosiery Mills: 1931-c. 1950

The founder of McGaugh Hosiery Mills was Calvin Curlee (C. C.) McGaugh. He was born in Hill County, Texas in 1893. He attended public schools in Oklahoma and then attended Oklahoma State Teachers College in Edmond (known now as the University of Central Oklahoma) and Brantley-Draughton Business College in Fort Worth, Texas. He then worked as an assistant bookkeeper in the Circle C department store in Elk City, Oklahoma. By the outbreak of World War I, he was head bookkeeper and window dresser. He served in the army's anti-aircraft artillery during the war and spent six months in France. He returned to the department store in Elk City in 1919 and shortly after he became part-owner of a Circle C store established by his employer in Cordell, Oklahoma. In 1924, he sold his interest in the store and returned to Elk City where he bought out a small department store and operated it until 1929. It was in that year he ventured into the business of selling women's hosiery in drug stores.⁶

To facilitate his business, McGaugh designed a hosiery merchandising unit which he set up in thirteen drug stores in and around Elk City. In 1930, he received a patent for the unit (see Figure 9 for examples). That same year he moved to Dallas, Texas and established a hosiery company. Various manufacturers produced the hosiery to his specifications after which it was delivered to his factory where it was dyed, finished, and packaged.⁷

McGaugh specialized in "full-fashioned silk hosiery" marketed under the trade name "Airmaid." The company was incorporated as McGaugh Hosiery Mills in 1931 with McGaugh as president. Other officers at that time included Fred Schoellkopf, chairman of the board, J. R. Brown, vice president, and E. E. Partain, secretary-treasurer. At the time of its incorporation, the company had capital of \$25,000, an indebtedness of \$60,000, and five employees. The former Lagow school at 4408 2nd Avenue served as the company's base of operation.⁸

McGaugh's hosiery found a ready market through its distribution to drug stores throughout the South and in Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona, and California. Shortly after the company was launched, drug stores commonly featured the product in their advertisements. Early in the company's history, Hancock Drug Store in Grand Prairie, Texas ran a front page advertisement in a local newspaper that touted the hosiery's features. They included a "French" heel and "tiny French seams," cradle foot, reinforced gore, run-stop design, a dull finish, silk from top to toe, and the newest colors. McGaugh also developed a line of men's socks and ties under the brand name Airmate.

The company continued to acquire unfinished product from suppliers until 1938 when it purchased a hosiery mill and began manufacturing its own products from start to finish. In 1941, it purchased the "full-fashioned" hosiery mill of the Trayler Corporation in New Braunfels, Texas. The stockings were knit at that plant and then sent to Dallas where the dyeing, finishing, packaging, and selling operations took place. McGaugh also opened another full-fashioned hosiery mill in 1945 in Mineral Wells, Texas. It's unclear which of the three locations was the headquarters. The business operated under the corporate name of McGaugh Hosiery & Manufacturing Company and manufactured nylon stockings for distribution to department and specialty stores under the brand name Atomaid Hosiery. ¹⁰

McGaugh was credited with being the first to sell women's hosiery by the pair in separate cellophane packaging (1929) and the first to put out a "'pair and a spare" package (1940) that included a third stocking "so that a woman could carry it

⁶ "McGaugh, Calvin Curlee," *The National Cyclopedia of American Biography: Being the History of the United States as Illustrated in the Lives of the Founders, Builders, and Defenders of the Republic, and of the Men and Women Who Are Doing the Work and Molding the Thought of the Present Time*, Current Volume G, 1943-46 (New York: James T. White & Company, 1946), p. 261; "New Firm Buys the Wright Place," *The Cordell* (Oklahoma) *Beacon*, June 19, 1919.

⁷ "McGaugh, Calvin Curlee," pp. 261-62.

⁸ "McGaugh, Calvin Curlee," p. 262. It was J. R. Brown who purchased the building in 1931.

⁹ Hancock Drug Store advertisement for Airmaid Hosiery, *The Grand Prairie Texan*, October 30, 1931.

¹⁰ "McGaugh, Calvin Curlee," p. 262.

in her handbag and replace either of the stockings she was wearing in case a run developed in it." Other firsts included the first drug store brand to use advertising consistently to build business for its retailers and "use of a delicate Fragrance to perfume each pair of fine hose."

As the names Airmaid and Airmate suggest, McGaugh Hosiery Mills tied its brand names with the growing popularity of air travel. Products for women were also heavily marketed for their sex appeal. As Larry Weirather noted in *The China Clipper, Pan American Airways and Popular Culture*,

The packaging on Airmaid nylons directly connected the sleek, firm appearance of a woman's leg with the tight skin of aircraft. Airmaid's advertising promised "Airmaid hosiery are worn to all corners of the world by the meticulous stewardesses of the airlines. Like the swift liners they ride, Airmaids are streamlined for grace, constructed for service—designed for legs that must be lovely." Airmaid's logo showed what looked like a Radio City Music Hall Rockette showing a lot of leg. Added to her costume were an aviator's leather helmet and gauntlets. In Texas style, reins in hand, she stood atop a large airplane as if she were a trick rider on a horse. The plane circled the globe, while Pan Am's winged globe logo appeared in the slipstream.¹²

The male figure used in the Airmate products stood atop an airplane in a similar stance with one notable difference—he was attired in a more typical aviator's uniform (Figure 8).

Before 1941, hosiery produced by McGaugh Hosiery Mills and other mills were made from silk. Prior to the United States' entrance into World War II, the federal government placed an embargo on silk imported from Japan, the country's largest supplier of silk. Silk was also needed for war-related items such as powder bags for large guns as silk bags left no residue or powder when the gun was fired. As the military's demand for silk increased, McGaugh was one of the organizers of a used silk hosiery drive. He offered the use of his plant for bailing the hose before they were shipped to the government.¹³

With silk in short supply, hosiery mills experimented with manufacturing hose made from lisle, a fine, smooth thread made from long-staple cotton (most Texas cotton was short-staple). McGaugh's organization switched to manufacturing hosiery from silk to rayon, nylon, and cotton. Rayon or cotton could be used for the feet and tops of the hose and nylon was used for the legs. But as the war progressed, McGaugh's New Braunfels mill produced rayon for hose as nylon was unavailable. The company returned to the production of nylon hosiery by September 1945 and McGaugh Mills sought ways to publicize that fact. That month, newspapers in Texas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas carried a photograph of a seated female employee at the New Braunfels mill in a "pin-up" style pose with dozens of partially finished nylon hose draped over her. The caption for the photograph read: "Pretty Elaine Biesel of New Braunfelds, Tex., employed by the McGaugh Hosiery Mills located there, is shown with an armful of partially finished nylon hosiery. The mill is turning out nylon hose by the thousands and American women are eagerly waiting to see them on store shelves again. They should be on sale by Christmas." The unfinished hosiery was shipped to the Dallas facility for dyeing and finishing. On November 30, 1945,

^{11 &}quot;McGaugh, Calvin Curlee," p. 262; Airmaid Hosiery Mills advertisement, New Braunfels (Texas) Herald Zeitung, August 21, 1952.

¹² Larry Weirather, *The China Clipper, Pan American Airways and Popular Culture* (Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland & Company, Inc., Publishers, 2007), p. 283. Nylon hosiery was not readily produced until after World War II.

¹³ "Old Silk Hose to be Sought for Uncle Sam," *Dallas Morning News*, August 9, 1941.

¹⁴ "Lisle Hosiery Will be Forced to Front of Fashion Parade if Jap Silk Embargo Continues," *Dallas Morning News*, July 29, 1941; Maurine Fussell, Women Storm Hosiery Counters in Big Rush to Stock Up Before Last of Silk Exhausted," *Dallas Morning News*, August 3, 1941, "175,000 Face Job Loss," *Dallas Morning News*, August 3, 1941; and "Makers of Nylon to Permit Use in Combination Hose," *Dallas Morning News*, August 14, 1941. ¹⁵ Examples of newspapers where the photograph and identical cut-lines appeared include the *El Reno* (Oklahoma) *Daily Tribune* (September 25, 1945), *Brownsville* (Texas) *Herald* (September 25, 1945), *Taylor* (Texas) *Daily Press* (September 26, 1945), *Camden* (Arkansas) *News* (September 27, 1945), and the *Laredo* (Texas) *Times* (September 30, 1945). The El Reno and Brownsville newspapers published the photograph on their front page.

the *Wichita Daily Times* (Wichita Falls) carried a photograph of a Braniff Airways flight "hostess" modeling her first pair of Airmaid nylons. Although McGaugh Hosiery Mills and businessmen in Mineral Wells tried to revive the fledgling silk industry in that area, by 1947, the nationwide demand for nylon hosiery outpaced the demand for rayon and silk.¹⁶

By 1946, the company had paid off its debt, had capital of \$300,000, and employed approximately 300 people.¹⁷ That same year, McGaugh expanded the Dallas facility as the post-war demand for hosiery continued. A rendering of the proposed building published in the *Dallas Morning News* showed that two-story additions were to be built on the west and east ends of the 2nd Avenue building. The original 1912 building was to be modernized with industrial style windows to complement the streamlined design of the new appendages. The caption below the rendering stated that "The plant now under construction will be marked by glass insulation, [and] air conditioning. Heated or cold running water through pipes in the floor will keep humidity and temperature constant in knitting rooms where slight changes affect the quality of the nylon hose." The newspaper also stated that the expansion program would quadruple the daily output of 6,000 pair of hose a day (Figure 4).¹⁸

A building permit was issued for the project on January 16, 1946 with J. C. Bateson Construction Company listed as the contractor. The estimated cost of the work was placed at \$71,540.¹⁹ As often happens, the proposed plans were not fully executed. The addition on the west end was not constructed and the 1912 building's original wood-framed windows remained in place. The placement of a clock on top of the parapet of the original building was an element not shown in the rendering published in the newspaper. The addition on the east end was Moderne with industrial-style metal windows and a curved wall near the front elevation's east entrance. A 1952 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map indicates that by that date, a one-story addition had been constructed on the north elevation of the school building and a one-story building had been constructed along the north property line (Figure 2). It is not known if they were constructed at the same time as the 1946 addition or may have been constructed during an expansion program in 1950.

Airmaid Hosiery Mills: 1950 to 1963

By 1950, C. C. McGaugh was no longer associated with the hosiery mill in Dallas. In fact, the company was then called Airmaid Hosiery Mills. J. R. Brown, who served as vice president from the company's founding, briefly served as president of the newly-named company. In July 1950, Myer M. Donosky was named president of the firm. The company's board had authorized "a broad expansion program" and believed that Donosky, former treasurer and a director of *The Dallas News*, was the man to carry out the plan.²⁰

The first six months after the reorganization with Donosky at the helm, sales were 35 per cent above the same six months of 1949. By January 1951, new knitting machines had been installed at the mill in New Braunfels. In Dallas, the facility was expanded, and its finishing department was redesigned to speed up production. New fixtures included "water softening equipment, an additional dye tub with improved temperature controls, formica-top tables for inspection and pairing, extra work tables and new tagging machinery." The Formica-topped tables provided a smooth work surface

¹⁶ "Nylons Fly Again," *Wichita Daily Times* (Wichita Falls), November 30, 1945; *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, March 9, 1946; *Dallas Morning News*, November 23, 1947. For information on the silk industry efforts in Mineral Wells, see "Reeling Machine Key to Mineral Wells' Fast-Moving Silk Industry," *Paris* (Texas) *News*, September 23, 1945 and "Mineral Wells Silk Industry Has Big Future," *The Clarksville* (Texas) *Times*, October 12, 1945

¹⁷ "McGaugh, Calvin Curlee," p. 262.

¹⁸ Dallas Morning News, January 27, 1946.

¹⁹ Building Permit #2281, January 16, 1946, City of Dallas Building Inspector Records, Dallas Public Library; *Dallas Morning News*, January 20, 1946.

²⁰ "Donosky New Head of Airmaid Hosiery," *Dallas Morning News*, July 2, 1950.

which helped to prevent snags. The company also added new trucks, a new system of product control that kept track of inventory, a coffee shop, and a first aid room.²¹

Airmaid hosiery continued to be featured in newspaper advertisements for drug stores, keeping the name in front of the public. The company also used other methods to promote their products such as giving them away at conventions in Dallas. One lucky winner was Mrs. M. E. Shelton of Oelwein, Iowa who was attending the Jaycee's national convention. Her prize was a pair of Airmaid's "Lady Texas" nylon hose which featured a small map of Texas on the ankle "with a crystal Lone Star "deep in the heart." Airmaid sent a photograph of a smiling Mrs. Shelton holding up the product to the *Oelwein Daily Register* which in turn ran it on its front page on July 5, 1952.²²

By 1953, Airmaid had sales representatives in New England, giving the company direct representations in every state. ²³ In 1955, 30-year employee R. L. Patrick was elected president of the company. More change was to follow. According to the 1957 Dallas City Directory and for reasons yet undetermined, Airmaid Hosiery Mills no longer occupied the facility at 4408 2nd Avenue, which was listed as vacant in the directory, and the company's name did not appear in the directory under the general category of Hosiery Manufacturers or Hosiery—Wholesale and Jobbers. However, by 1960, both Airmaid Hosiery Mills and Vanette Hosiery Mills occupied the building, according to a city directory. The following year, the *Dallas Morning News* reported that the Vanette-Airmaid Hosiery Mills was primarily owned by the Houston Fire & Casualty Company in Fort Worth. ²⁴

In 1963, Cotton Belt Gin Service was located at the 2nd Avenue address and the Vanette and Airmaid names did not appear in the Dallas City Directory that year. Airmaid Hosiery Mills was briefly based in Fort Worth in the mid-1960s and had expanded into toiletry products. By 1966, the hosiery division had been acquired by the Bear Brand Hosiery Company of Chicago. At that date, it was still solely available in drug stores. Airmaid Hosiery, then available as pantyhose, continued to be manufactured at least into the late 1970s.²⁵

4408 2nd Avenue after 1963

In the early 1960s, Dallas was considered to be the "world center" for the manufacture and distribution of cotton gin machinery and supplies. There were more than ten cotton ginning machinery manufacturers in the Dallas area. Among them was the Cotton Belt Gin Service which was established in Dallas shortly after World War II. As previously mentioned, the company had moved to the former Airmaid mills building by 1963.²⁶

In 1983, the building was purchased by Lee G. Bilal, one of the first African American police officers in Dallas. Tenants included a non-profit beauty college and a teen center. More recently, the building fell into a period of decline and was the source of numerous code violations. In 2014, a buyer purchased it with the intention of rehabilitating it. When those plans fell through, it was purchased by another owner in 2015. The current owner purchased it in 2018. Plans call for

²¹ "Hosiery Mill Sales Show Sharp Gains," *Dallas Morning News*, January 7, 1951; "New Tables Smooth Inspection 'Snag' Airmaid Hosiery Mills, Dallas," *Factory Management and Maintenance*, 112 (Issues 7-9, 1954): 95.

²² Oelwein (Iowa) Daily Register, July 5, 1952.

²³ "Airmaid Hosiery Makes Changes in Executive Staff," *Dallas Morning News*, January 25, 1953.

²⁴ "President," *Dallas Morning News*, July 31, 1953; Dallas City Directories, 1957 and 1960; "Vanette-Airmaid Officers Named, President Resigns," *Dallas Morning News*, July 7, 1961.

²⁵ "Yesteryears," *Laurel* (Mississippi) *Leader-Call*, July 31, 1980; "Vanette-Airmaid Officers Named, President Resigns," and "Miss Airmaid Toiletries to Make Local Debut," *Dallas Morning News*, August 4, 1965; *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, March 13, 1966. Airmaid Hosiery Mills first appeared in the Fort Worth City Directory in 1965 but was not listed in the 1967 directory. Searches on the website www.newspaperarchive.com found advertisements for Airmaid Hosiery as late as 1978.

²⁶ Tom Milligan, "Dallas is World Center for Cotton Gin Industry," *Dallas Morning News*, April 9, 1961.

rehabilitating the building for office, retail, and possible restaurant space with the assistance of state and federal historic tax credits.²⁷

Historic Significance of the McGaugh Hosiery Mills / Airmaid Hosiery Mills Building

Although McGaugh Hosiery Mills/Airmaid Hosiery Mills was historically the second largest hosiery mill in Dallas, it is the better historic resource to represent this industry in the city. The largest, Vanette Hosiery Mills, was established in the early 20th century as the Baker-Moise Company and was said to be the first hosiery mill in the Southwest. In 1941, it employed 360 people at its facility at 6001 Maple (later listed as 5919 Maple). At the same time, McGaugh Hosiery Mills employed approximately 75 people at the Dallas facility (much of the McGaugh production occurred at its off-site mills). In 1948, Baker-Moise Company, then known as Vanette Hosiery Mills, embarked on an expansion and modernization program. By 1956, the company employed approximately 250 piece-rate and hourly-wage workers. Its products were mostly available through department stores throughout the nation. Today, Vanette Hosiery Mills has been heavily modified by the intrusion of a large apartment complex. The complex does not retain integrity and only the front section of the Vanette facility survives (see Figures 10-12). Thus, the McGaugh Hosiery Mills/Airmaid Hosiery Mills Building is now the largest extant example of an early 20th century hosiery manufacturer with historic integrity in Dallas.

Summary

The McGaugh Hosiery Mills/Airmaid Hosiery Mills Building is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion A in the area of Industry. It is significant for its association with Dallas' apparel industry, in particular the manufacture of hosiery, of which women's hosiery was its main staple. It is also significant as the largest early 20th century hosiery manufacturer with intact historic integrity in Dallas. Established in 1930, McGaugh Hosiery Mills' products evolved as a result of economic and social forces. When the country's involvement in World War II significantly curtailed the availability of silk, the company switched to using nylon. Although much of the product was produced elsewhere, it was finished and packaged at this site. Expansion of the building in 1946 coincided with post-war demand for nylon hosiery. The company's name was changed to Airmaid Hosiery Mills around 1950. The period of significance is from 1931 when the building was purchased for McGaugh Hosiery Mills to c. 1956, the last year that Airmaid was the sole occupant.

²⁷ Holly Van, "Jailed building owner finds many supporters," *Dallas Morning News*, June 16, 2004 and Robert Wilonsky, "Dallas thought it found a savior for rotting 103-year-old building near Fair Park. Apparently not?" *Dallas Morning News*, April 24, 2015.

²⁸ "Dallas Mill Unaffected," *Dallas Morning News*, August 2, 1941 and "J. O. Davis, Founder of Mill, Dies," *Dallas Morning News*, June 23, 1961.
²⁹ "Hosiery Mill Addition Set," *Dallas Morning News*, May 30, 1948 and "New Contract Signed with Hosiery Mills," *Dallas Morning News*, April 1, 1956.

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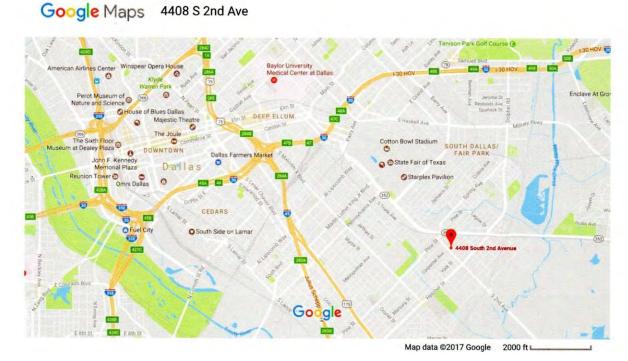
"New Day and Night Furniture Store," Dallas Morning News, October 30, 1927.

"New Firm Buys the Wright Place." The Cordell (Oklahoma) Beacon. June 19, 1919.

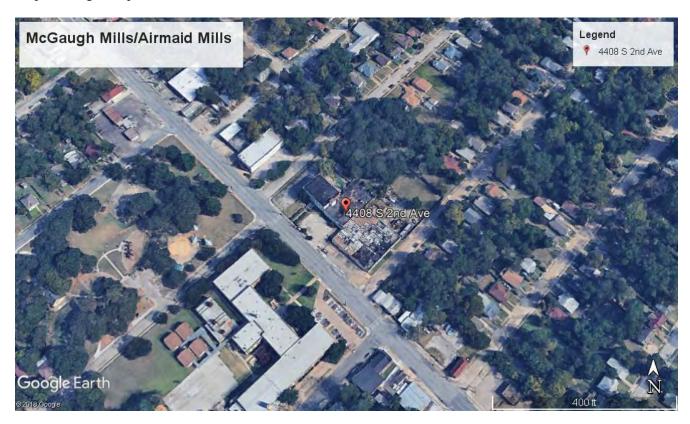
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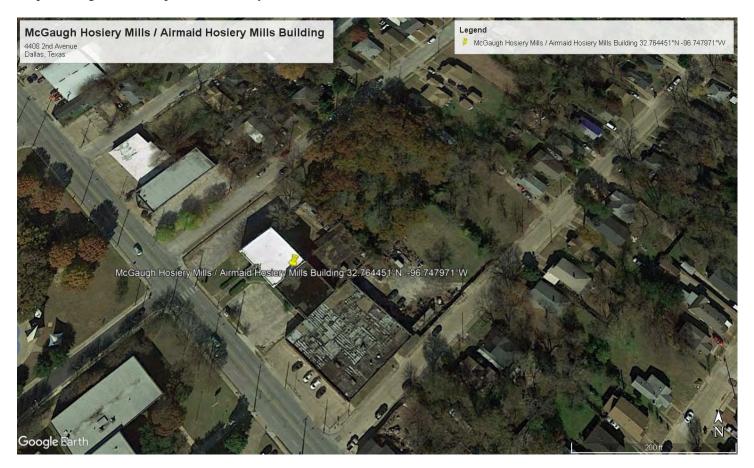
Map 1: Dallas, Texas. Google Maps, retrieved June 15, 2017. N↑



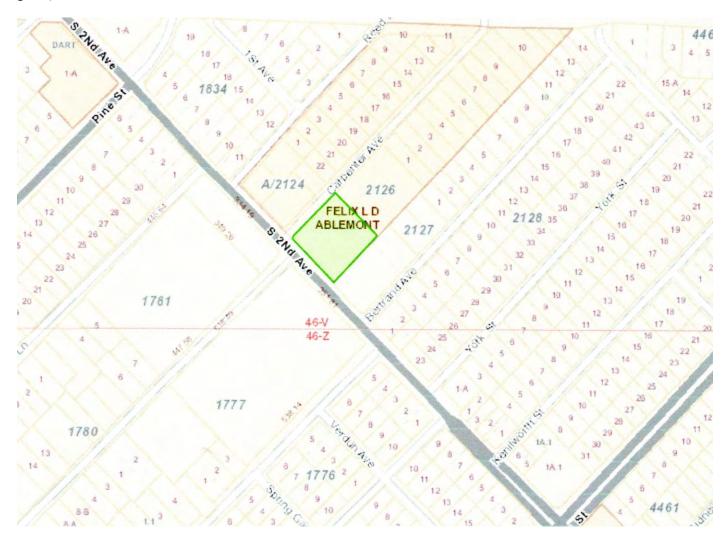
Map 2: Google Map, retrieved October 18, 2018.



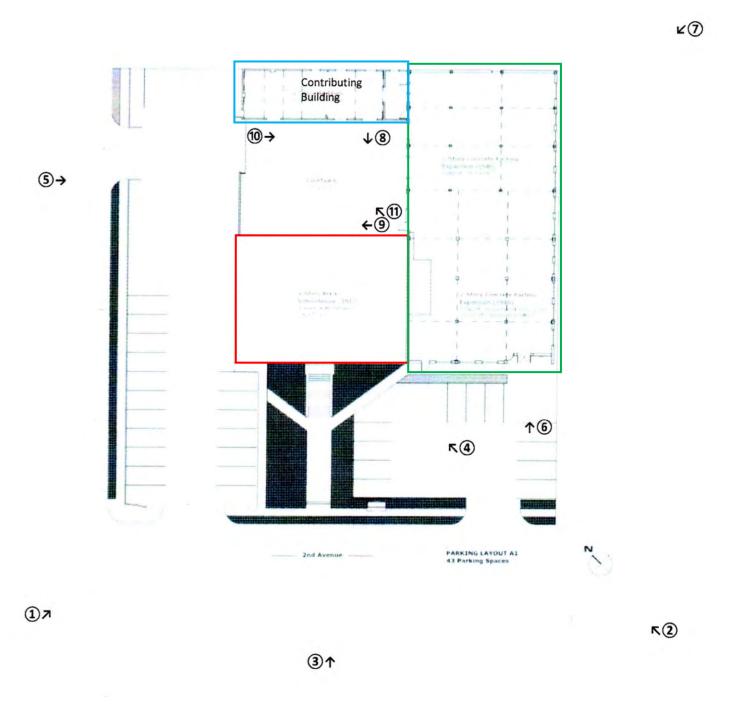
Map 3: Google Earth Map. Accessed May 31, 2019.



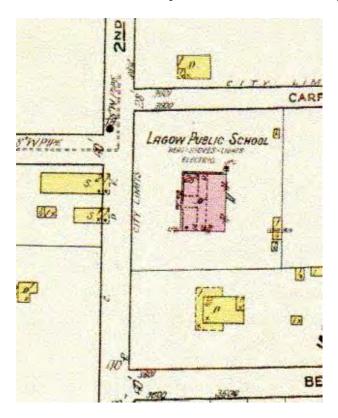
Map 4: 4408 2nd Avenue, Dallas, TX. Dallas Central Appraisal District Map, retrieved October 18, 2018 (parcel shown in green)



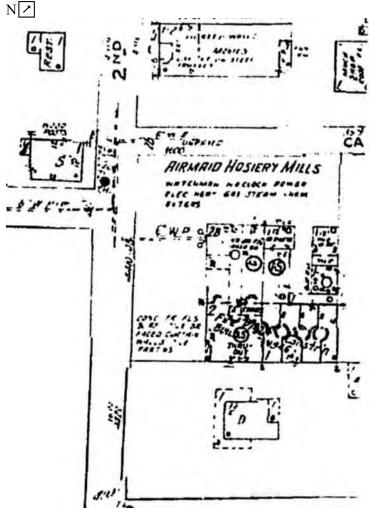
Map 5: Site plan and photo key (photos 1-11). 1912 Lagow School shown in red, 1949 addition in green, and c. 1950 contributing building shown in blue.



Map 6: The Lagow School building was occupied by McGaugh Hosiery Mills in 1931. 1922 Sanborn Map, Dallas, Texas, Volume 4, Sheet 499. Dolph Briscoe Center, University of Texas-Austin. N



Map 7: 4408 2nd Avenue after the building's 1946 expansion. 1952 Sanborn Map, Dallas, Texas, Volume 4, Sheet 499.



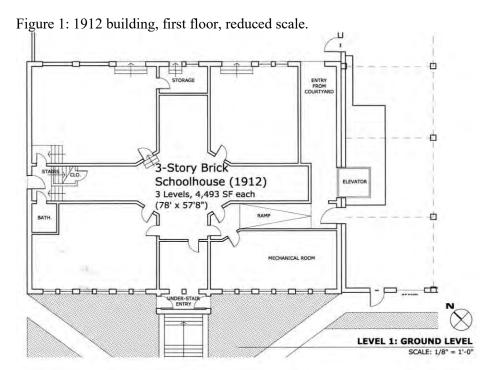


Figure 2: 1912 building, second floor, reduced scale.

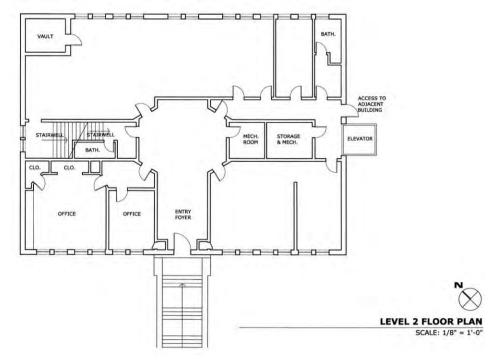
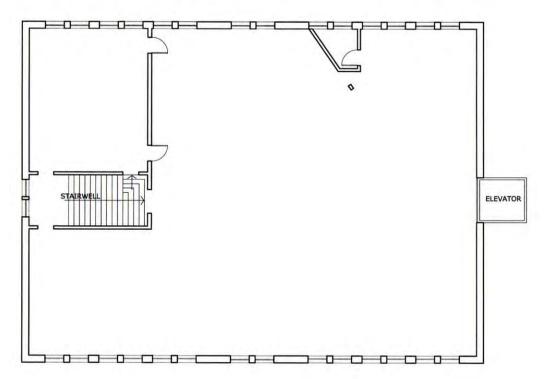
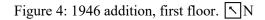
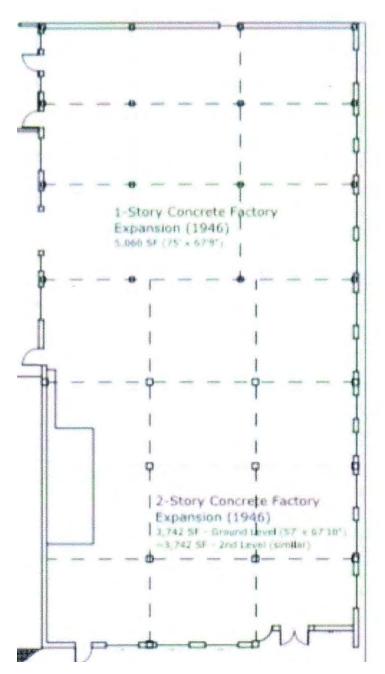


Figure 3: 1912 building, third floor.









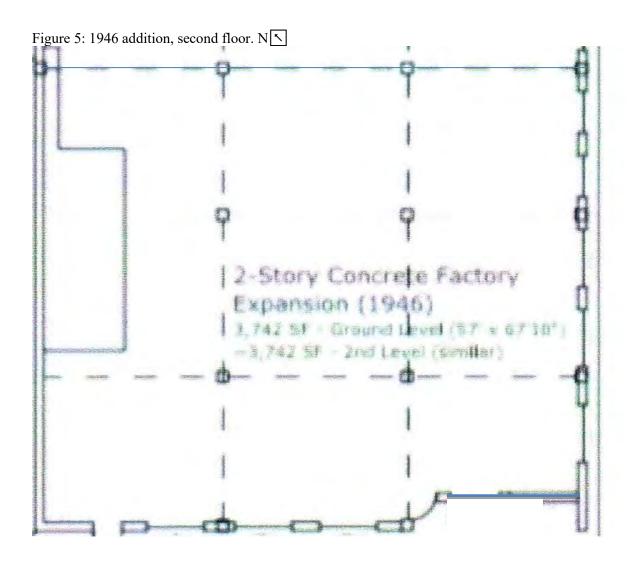


Figure 6: Day and Night Furniture Store (former Lagow School), from *Dallas Morning News*, October 30, 1927. This is before the building was occupied by McGaugh Hosiery Mills.

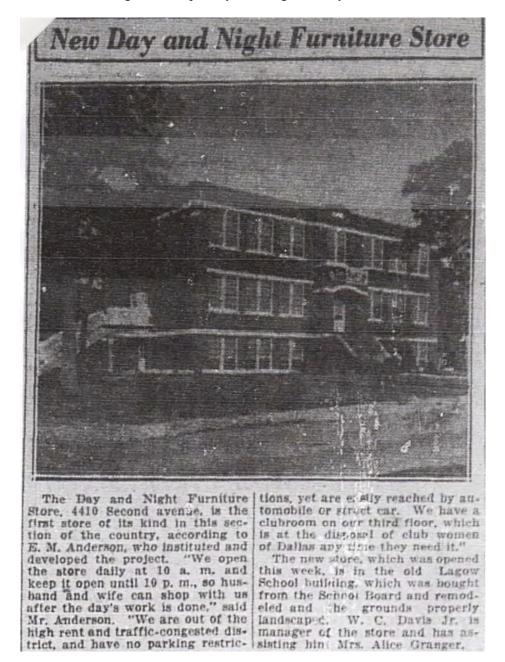
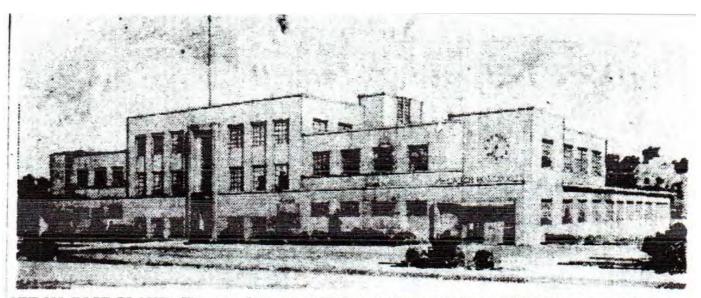


Figure 7: Rendering of proposed expansion of McGaugh Hosiery Mills, 1946. The addition on the far left was not executed. The industrial-style windows were not installed in the original school building nor were the front stairs removed as shown in the drawing. *Dallas Morning News*, January 27, 1946.



NYLON HOSE PLANT—The new factory of McGaugh Hosiery Mills at 4408 Second Avenue is shown in architect's prospectus. The plant now under construction will be marked by glass insulation, air-conditioning. Heated or cold running water through pipes in the floor will keep humidity and temperature constant in knitting rooms where slight changes affect the quality of nylon hose. The building is part of an expansion program which will quadruple present daily output of 6,000 pair of hose a day, according to Calvin C. McGaugh, president. Other plants are located in Mineral Wells and New Braunfels.

Figure 8: McGaugh Hosiery Mills advertisement for its Airmaid and Airmate products. *Texas Almanac*, 1939-1940 (Dallas Texas, 1939), p. 2.

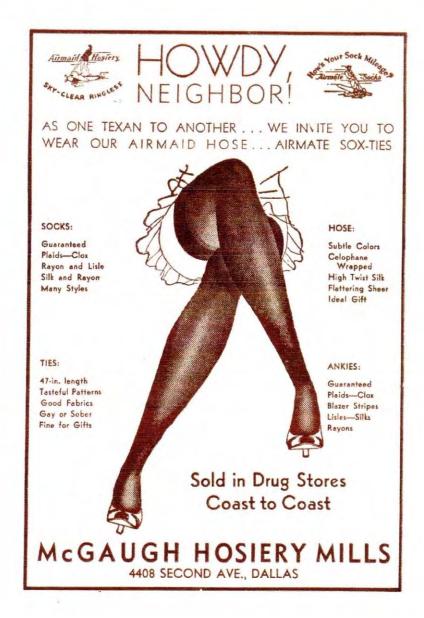


Figure 9: Advertisement for display cases for Airmaid Hosiery and Airmate socks and ties. "Business and Industry: Airmaid Hosiery," vertical file, Dallas Public Library.



Figure 10: Vanette Hosiery Mills, Sanborn Map Insurance Company Map, Dallas, Texas, 1921 updated to 1952, Volume 9, Sheet 938. McGaugh Hosiery Mills/Airmaid Hosiery Mills was the second largest hosiery mill in Dallas after Vanette Hosiery Mills. However, due to loss of integrity, McGaugh Hosiery Mills / Airmaid Hosiery Mills is now the largest extant example with historic integrity. Vanette Hosiery Mills is outlined in red.

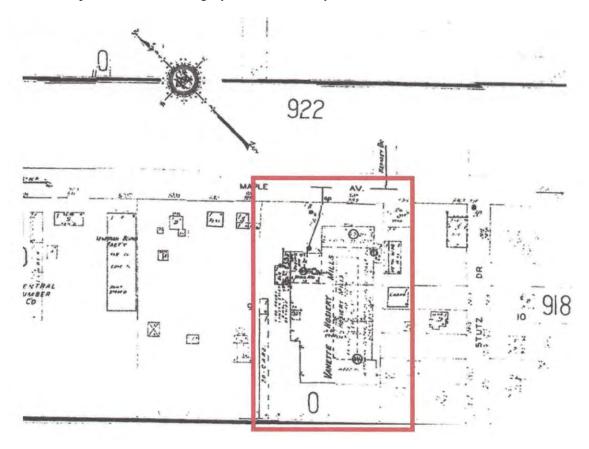


Figure 11: Former Vanette Hosiery Mills Building, 5919 Maple Avenue, Dallas, Texas. From Dallas Central Appraisal District website, www.dallascad.org, retrieved June 14, 2017.



Figure 12: Former site of Vanette Hosiery Mills. Most of the facility was replaced with an apartment complex and only the front section remains (compare with Figure 10). From Google Earth, retrieved October 22, 2018.



Photo 1: Looking northeast at west and south (front) elevations



Photo 2: Looking northwest at south (front) elevation



Photo 3: Looking north at south (front) elevation of 1912 building



Photo 4: Looking northwest at south (front) elevation of 1912 building



Photo 5: Looking east at west elevation of 1912 building



Photo 6: Looking north at east entrance of the south (front) elevation of 1946 addition



Photo 7: Looking southwest at north (rear) elevations of 1946 addition and 1912 building showing original brick color



Photo 8: Looking south at north (rear) elevation of 1912 building

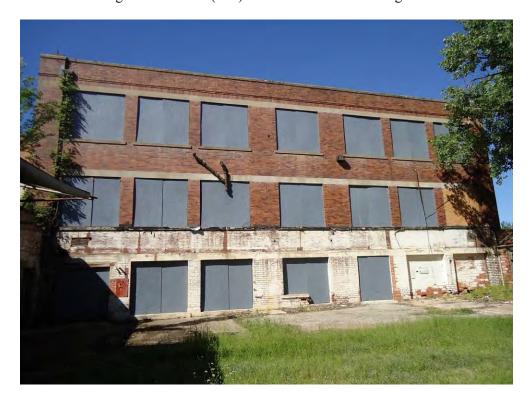


Photo 9: Looking west along north (rear) elevation of 1912 building



Photo 10: Looking east at west elevation of 1946 addition



Photo 11: Looking northwest at contributing building



Photo 12: Looking west along second floor, north wall of 1912 building



Photo 13: Looking west along third floor, south wall of 1912 building



Photo 14: Looking east down second floor corridor leading to 1946 addition



Section PHOTO, Page 41

Photo 15: Looking north, first floor of 1946 addition



Photo 16: Looking east at curved wall, second floor of 1946 addition



































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:	Nomination					
Property Name:	McGaugh Hosiery	Mills - Airmaid	Mills Building			
Multiple Name:						
State & County:	TEXAS, Dallas					
Date Rece 6/27/20		Pending List: 9/2019	Date of 16th Day: 8/5/2019	Date of 45th Day: 8/12/2019	Date of Weekly List:	
Reference number:	SG100004249					
Nominator:	SHPO	Annual State Control of the Control	Models considerationally (Models) 1997, Analytic Continuous, 1997, 1977			
Reason For Review		minimum de la companya di managaman de la casa de la ca			minimized a state of the control of the state of the stat	
Appeal		X PDIL		Text/[Text/Data Issue	
SHPO Request		Landscape		Photo	Photo	
Waiver		National		Map/l	Map/Boundary	
Resubmission		Mobile Resource		Period		
Other		_TCP		Less	than 50 years	
		CL	G			
X Accept	Return	R	eject <u>8/8</u>	3/2019 Date		
Abstract/Summary Comments:	Register Criterion	A in the area of	of industry. The ind	is locally significant ustrial complex was ustry, in particular th	directly associated	
Recommendation/ Criteria	Accept NR Criteri	on A				
Reviewer Paul Lusignan			Discipline	Historian Historian		
Telephone _(202)354-2229			Date	8/8/2019		
DOCUMENTATION	l: see attached	comments : No	see attached S	SLR : No		

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

real places telling real stories

TO:

Paul Lusignan

National Register of Historic Places

Mail Stop 7228 1849 C St, NW

Washington, D.C. 20240

From:

Mark Wolfe, SHPO

Texas Historical Commission

RE:

McGaugh Hosiery Mills / Airmaid Hosiery Mills Building, Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

DATE:

June 24, 2019

The following materials are submitted:

Original National Register of Historic Places form on disk.
The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the National Register of Historic Places nomination of the McGaugh Hosiery Mills / Airmaid Hosiery Mills Building, Dallas, Dallas County, Texas
Resubmitted nomination.
Original NRHP signature page signed by the Texas SHPO.
Multiple Property Documentation form on disk.
Resubmitted form.
Original MPDF signature page signed by the Texas SHPO.
CD with TIFF photograph files, KMZ files, and nomination PDF
Correspondence.

COMMENTS:

SHPO requests substantive review (cover letter from SHPO attached)
The enclosed owner objections (do) (do not) constitute a majority of property owners
_ Other:



RECEIVED 2280

JUN 2 7 2019

NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE