

APR - 1

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# 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** A.D. Strickland Store  
**other names/site number** Bryant's Store; J.R. Anderson Store

## 2. Location

**street & number** 1385 Dawnville Road (State Route 286)  
**city, town** Dalton (X) vicinity of  
**county** Whitfield **code** GA 313  
**state** Georgia **code** GA **zip code** 30720

( ) not for publication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:

#### Contributing

#### Noncontributing

<b>buildings</b>	1	0
<b>sites</b>	0	0
<b>structures</b>	0	0
<b>objects</b>	0	0
<b>total</b>	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.

W. Ray Luce  
Signature of certifying official

3-24-05  
Date

*for* W. Ray Luce  
Historic Preservation Division Director  
Deputy 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 5/10/05

determined eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_\_\_

determined not eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_\_\_

removed from the National Register

\_\_\_\_\_

other, explain:

\_\_\_\_\_

see continuation sheet

[Signature]  
Keeper of the National Register      Date

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## 6. Function or Use

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### Historic Functions:

COMMERCE/TRADE/DEPARTMENT STORE/GENERAL STORE

### Current Functions:

OTHER

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## 7. Description

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### Architectural Classification:

NO STYLE

### Materials:

<b>foundation</b>	Stone/Granite; Concrete
<b>walls</b>	Wood/Weatherboard
<b>roof</b>	Metal/Tin
<b>other</b>	N/A

### Description of present and historic physical appearance:

A.D. Strickland Store is located approximately 8 miles northeast of Dalton, Whitfield County, in northwest Georgia. The store (photograph 1), constructed c.1878, is a one-story, wood-framed, gable-front building covered with weatherboard. The roof is tin and there are gable returns on the front and rear façades (photographs 1 and 2). There is an interior brick chimney. The building rests on granite piers with some concrete block infill (photograph 2). The front (east) façade (photographs 1 and 11) features a full-width shed porch supported by square posts and a double-door entrance (photograph 4). The floor of the porch is concrete. One window flanks each side of the entrance. The windows are six-over-six double-hung-sash (photograph 8). They are covered on the exterior with side-hinged shutters (photograph 4). This façade also features a shuttered opening in the gable (photograph 1). The north façade is plain with no openings. The rear (west) façade (photograph 2) features a second entrance that was boarded up until recently. This façade also contains two windows that are evident on the exterior due to the presence of side-hinged shutters, but have been boarded up on the interior. The south façade (photographs 2 and 3) features one shuttered opening, although it is boarded up on the interior (photograph 9). This façade once featured a painted Coca-Cola sign. Evidence of the paint is still visible in some places.

The one-room interior of the building (photograph 5) is simple with no ornamentation. The walls and ceiling are painted flush board, and roof joists are exposed (photographs 6, 7, and 8). The floor is constructed of unpainted planks (photographs 6 and 8). Shelving is located along the walls. The wood- and coal-burning stove is located in the middle of the store, although it is not connected to the chimney. Some earlier shelving and counters have been removed. The current counter (photographs 5 and 6) is not original to the store. Stairs in the northwest corner of the store (photograph 7) lead to the unfinished attic space. In the attic, the ceiling is unimproved, consisting of

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 7--Description

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wood planking stretching horizontally, supported by trussing. The stove chimney rests on the floor of the attic.

The A.D. Strickland Store is surrounded by nonhistoric resources. Modern churches are located to the north and south of the building (photographs 3 and 11), a modern elementary school is located to the east, across State Route 286, and a modern commercial building (photographs 1 and 11), owned by the owners of the A.D. Strickland Store, is located on the same parcel to the west of the building. The Dawnville area is part of the City of Dalton, and is semi-rural in character. Several other nonhistoric commercial buildings are located on State Route 286 in the area of the store.

There is no formal landscaping on the property however a large mature tree is located directly north of the building (photograph 1). The building sits a few feet from State Route 286 and an asphalt driveway is located directly south of the building.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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**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  
Social History

**Period of Significance:**

c.1878-1955

**Significant Dates:**

c.1878-Construction date of the store building

**Significant Person(s):**

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation:**

N/A

**Architect(s)/Builder(s):**

Unknown

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

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**Statement of significance (areas of significance)**

A.D. Strickland Store is significant as an excellent extant prototype of a once common but now rare country store located in a rural area. It is among the oldest extant examples in the state of Georgia, and due to its rarity and age, it is being nominated at the state level of significance.

A.D. Strickland Store was constructed c.1878 along a well-traveled route between Dalton, 8 miles to the southwest, and areas north and east of Dawnville. The store is significant in the area of commerce for its role in the economy of the Dawnville area. Stores of this type became common after the Civil War with the rise of sharecropping and tenant farming. These farmers needed a place to purchase goods on credit until harvesting season. Very few farmers could afford to borrow money from a bank by traditional means therefore the general store economy of the south produced a system in which a farmer would place liens against his crop to pay off the general store for supplies purchased during the year. Farmers could also buy what they could not produce on the farm such as tools and farm implements.

The store is also significant in the area of social history for its role as a post office and as a gathering place for the community. The store was the post office for the community as early as 1878 and into the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The storekeeper acted as postmaster. In some cases the storekeeper might also act as the Justice of the peace or the local tax collector.

The general store was also important as a place for social gathering. Men could gather around the coal-fired stove in the Dawnville store and discuss any matter that concerned themselves, their neighbors, or even their nation, such as the weather, politics, and crop prices. This social function was especially important in the winter months, when farmers usually had less to do than in the grueling summer months. Children would swarm the store during the hottest time of the day to buy candy, ice-cold sodas, and in later decades, ten-cent ice cream cups, or baseball cards. Wives gathered to buy sewing supplies, fabrics, canning supplies, and school supplies.

Another social affect of the general store was the community leadership role it afforded the storekeeper. It was necessary for the storekeepers to be knowledgeable in many areas of interest to the farmers of the area. A storekeeper had to be able to discuss livestock care with the local farmer, as well as discuss the pros and cons of the most recent advances in sewing equipment with the farmer's spouse. The storekeeper was expected to be up-to-date on all of the latest happenings in the local and national news.

By 1900 the country store was one of the most powerful institutions in the South. Many also served as banks and post offices for outlying communities. The demise of the country store began in the 1930s when paved roads connected Georgia and the south to towns with department stores and grocery stores with cheaper prices and more variety of goods. Of the over 65,000 resources recorded in the Georgia Historic Resources Survey, only 221 buildings originally used as stores were recorded in rural areas such as Dawnville. Of those 221 buildings, only 38 continue to operate as stores today.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

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A.D. Strickland Store is significant in the area of architecture as an excellent and intact example of a late 19<sup>th</sup>-century general store located in a small rural community. Typical of stores constructed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, it has little to no ornamentation aside from the gable returns and shutters on the exterior. The interior is one large open space used for the display of goods. As stated earlier, there are few examples of country stores from the earliest period of development in Georgia.

**National Register Criteria**

A.D. Strickland Store is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the area of commerce its role as a commercial center for the rural Dawnville community and in the area of politics and government for its role as the post office and only presence of the federal government in the Dawnville community. The store is also eligible for listing under Criterion C in the area of architecture for its simple, yet typical, one-room form with little ornamentation.

**Criteria Considerations (if applicable)**

N/A

**Period of significance (justification)**

The period of significance begins c.1878, the construction date of the building, and ends in 1955, the end of the historic period. The store remained in continuous use as a country store throughout this period.

**Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)**

The store building is the only contributing resource on the nominated property. There are no noncontributing resources on the property.

**Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)**

**\*\*NOTE: The following history was compiled by William Blankenship, preservation consultant, March, 2004. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.**

The history of Dawnville and its general store began long before the establishment of the town, county and state. Cherokee and Creek Indians lived on the land that became Whitfield County for several hundred years preceding the arrival of the first recorded white man in the area, explorer Hernando DeSoto (1540).

By 1721, the first treaty ceding Indian lands to white settlement occurred. Cherokees were forced over the course of the next century to cede all their land to white control, despite a 1798 treaty with

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

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the United States that guaranteed that the Federal government would respect territorial claims of the Cherokees.

By 1832, the last of the Cherokee Lotteries occurred. Land had earlier been surveyed into sections, districts, and land lots. The property that the A.D. Strickland Store sits on was surveyed as part of the Ninth District, in the Third Section, and was assigned Land Lot number Seventy-Four. It was commonly referred to in the early and mid-19<sup>th</sup> century as the "Chickamauga District." The Ninth District, bisected by the Conasauga River held a Cherokee population at the time of the land lottery; the 1835-1836 census of the area enumerated approximately two hundred Cherokees living in the district.

The winner of the 1832 lottery for Land Lot Seventy-Four was John Key, a War of 1812 veteran from Jones County, Georgia (southeast of present-day Whitfield County). As was the case for many lottery winners, the land may not have been occupied by its winner. There is no mention of John Key in area histories or in the census of 1835-36, 1840, or any other census taken in Murray or Whitfield counties. What is likely, as was the case in other such lotteries, is that Key immediately sold his property. The first mention of the land ownership in deed records is to R.H. McCall, in the 1840 Murray County census. (Whitfield County did not exist until 1851.)

McCall owned the land lot until 1860, when it was sold to Agrippa Roberts, who held the land until 1866. In that same year, the Burson family took possession of the 130-acre plot. In 1869, the namesake of Dawnville, Edward F. Dawn, paid two thousand dollars for the 130-acre plot. The 1870 census lists no merchants in the Ninth District, but an 1878 map of Whitfield County shows a general merchandise store in Land Lot Seventy-Four in the exact location that present day maps show. The map also shows the approximate position of present day State Route 286, and the store's relative position to it.

By the time D.L. King came into possession of the land on which the store sits in 1880, the land was known locally as the "Dawn Place." E.F. Dawn had many land holdings in the area, including Land Lot Seventy-Four, and was listed in area records as the Justice of the Peace for the Ninth District. As for the store, the 1880 census records G. Caylor as a merchant in the Ninth District, Dawnville area.

The 1890 census was destroyed by fire and the next mention of the store is the 1900 census, in which Melvin T. Davis, of Dawnville, is listed as "Storekeeper." Davis is further listed as renting the store building. The store and the acreage were owned by this time by Joseph Davis, another landholder in Dawnville.

The 1910 census listed A.D. Strickland as the "Dawnville General Merchandise Storekeeper." Again, the store was rented to the storekeeper, and was still owned by Joseph Davis. Strickland, who was also a Justice of the Peace, rented the store building, and painted a large sign on the front gable of the building, labeled, "A.D. Strickland, General MSDE & School Supplies." This sign remained on the building for decades. The only known photograph of the store, taken in the late 1940's portrays this



National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

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sign. It was also during Strickland's tenure that a gasoline pump was installed, as well as a tank and pump for kerosene. Strickland also installed equipment for the repair of inner tubes of automobiles. This equipment is still present and attached to the building. Strickland was the only such merchandiser to sell gasoline in Dawnville until the 1960's.

In 1916, the store and surrounding acreage were purchased by William Cullen Bryant, with A.D. Strickland still listed in directories as the store operator. It is unknown when Strickland gave up operating the store. It must have been prior to 1951, when the Dalton City Directory listed J.R. Anderson as the storekeeper in Dawnville. Bryant must have rented the store to Anderson, as Bryant owned the store and acreage until 1956, when he sold it to G.H. Fraker. Furthermore, Anderson is not listed in deed records as having owned land in Dawnville.

The Fraker family, a fixture in the Ninth District since shortly after the Cherokee Land Lottery, was large-scale farmers in the area. The 1920 census states that the Fraker farm was sufficiently large enough that Fraker leased convicts as farm laborers, who were supported by a state stipend and the Fraker family.

After Fraker's death in 1961, Mrs. G.H. (Lula Byrd) Fraker sold the property in 1972 to Palmtread Realty; they in turn sold the property to Calvin Dunn in 1973. By 1970, the store building was no longer being operated as a general store. In 2000, the store and acreage were purchased by James and Christopher Davis.

The importance of the A.D. Strickland Store lies in both the commercial and social history of Dawnville, as well as in the history of the Ninth District. Commercially speaking, the store was for decades the only general store in the Ninth District. Although Dawnville is only five miles from the heart of downtown Dalton, during the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, five miles over unimproved roads was not an easy trip to undertake. The general store was an integral part of the history of Dawnville, and eastern outlying areas because it allowed local shoppers the ease to shop nearer home rather than in faraway Dalton. Area maps, both from the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries show the proximity of Dawnville to the rest of the Ninth District. Maps show that most roads improved or not found common junctions in or near Dawnville, showing the importance of the area to the residents of the District. As the general store was one of few commercial establishments in Dawnville (others included blacksmith shops and cotton ginning operations, none of which survive today), its importance to the commerce of the Ninth District cannot be overestimated.

Following is a list of landowners and storekeepers by year:

- 1832: John Key, 160 acres; winner of Cherokee Lottery
- 1840: R.J. McCall, 160 acres
- 1860: Agrippa Roberts, 160 acres
- 1866: David Burson, 160 acres
- 1869: E.F. Dawn, 130 acres
- 1878: Earliest mention of Store on area maps

**National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

**Section 8--Statement of Significance**

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1880: D.L King; G. Caylor storekeeper  
1900: Joseph Davis; Melvin T. Davis storekeeper  
1908: E.L. Pearson; A.D. Strickland storekeeper  
1916: W.C. Bryant; A.D. Strickland storekeeper  
1956: G.H. Fraker; W.C. Bryant, storekeeper  
1972: Palmtread Realty; store closed to present  
1973: Calvin Dunn  
2000: James and Christopher Davis

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## 9. Major Bibliographic References

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Bull, Jacqueline P. "The General Merchant in Economic History of the New South," The Journal of Southern History, Volume 18, Issue 1 (February, 1952), 37-59.

Census of the United States, Whitfield County. T621, Roll 189. Located at Cobb County Library, 1880.

Census of the United States, Whitfield County. T623, Roll 228. Located at Cobb County Library, 1900.

Census of the United States, Whitfield County. T624, Roll 220. Located at Cobb County Library, 1910.

Census of the United States, Whitfield County. T625, Roll 285. Located at Cobb County Library, 1920.

Census of the United States, Whitfield County. T626, Roll 393. Located at Cobb County Library, 1930.

Davis, James. Property owner, Dawnville, Georgia. Interview by William Blankenship, June 2, 2003.

Hayes, Carolyn, et al. Dawnville Homemaker's Club, Dawnville, Georgia. Interview by William Blankenship, June 2, 2003.

Kenner, Erest R. "Map of Whitfield County," unknown publisher, 1908.

Murray County History Committee. Murray County Heritage. Fernandina Beach, FL: Wolfe Publishing, 1987.

Schultz, William P. "Map of Whitfield County," Philadelphia: Smith and Stroup, Publishers, 1878.

Stoffle, Richard W. "Whither the Country Store?," Ethnology, Volume 19, Issue 1 (Winter, 1972), 63-72.

Whitfield County Superior Court, County Clerk. County Deeds, Book D, pg. 244.

Whitfield County Superior Court, County Clerk. County Deeds, Book D, pg. 599-600.

Whitfield County Superior Court, County Clerk. County Deeds, Book E, pg. 393.

Whitfield County Superior Court, County Clerk. County Deeds, Book F, pg. 490.

Whitfield County Superior Court, County Clerk. County Deeds, Book H, pg. 615.

Whitfield County Superior Court, County Clerk. County Deeds, Book H, pg. 715.

Whitfield County Superior Court, County Clerk. County Deeds, Book J, pg. 672.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 9—Major Bibliographic References

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- Whitfield County Superior Court, County Clerk. County Deeds, Book 1, pg. 62-63.
- Whitfield County Superior Court, County Clerk. County Deeds, Book 98, pg. 489.
- Whitfield County Superior Court, County Clerk. County Deeds, Book 310, pg. 192.
- Whitfield County Superior Court, County Clerk. County Deeds, Book 323, pg. 205.
- Whitfield County Superior Court, County Clerk. County Deeds, Book 2062, pg. 98.
- Whitfield County Superior Court, County Clerk. County Deeds, Book 3365, pg. 221-223.
- Whitfield Historical Society. The Heritage of Whitfield County.
- Wilson, David L. General Store Collectibles: An Identification and Value Guide. Paducah, KY: Collector Books, 1994.

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

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been issued  
date issued:
- 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:**

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

**Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** N/A

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## 10. Geographical Data

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**Acreage of Property**      Less than one acre

### **UTM References**

A)    Zone 16      Easting 693943      Northing 3855048

### **Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundary of the nominated property is indicated on the attached map by a heavy black line.

### **Boundary Justification**

The A.D. Strickland Store is located on a parcel of land also occupied by a nonhistoric building. It is surrounded by modern development including two churches and an elementary school. The boundary of the nominated property includes the store building and the land immediately surrounding the building. No other land is historically associated with the store.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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**State Historic Preservation Office**

**name/title** Holly L. Anderson, National Register Historian  
**organization** Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
**mailing address** 47 Trinity Avenue, S.W., Suite 414-H  
**city or town** Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30334  
**telephone** (404) 656-2840 **date** March 14, 2005  
**e-mail** holly\_anderson@dnr.state.ga.us

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

**name/title** William Blankenship  
**organization** Fort Mountain Preservation Services  
**mailing address** 307 Cardinal Drive  
**city or town** Woodstock **state** Georgia **zip code** 30188  
**telephone** (770)591-4621  
**e-mail** bblank488@mindspring.com

- ( ) **property owner**  
(X) **consultant**  
( ) **regional development center preservation planner**  
( ) **other:**

**Property Owner or Contact Information**

**name (property owner or contact person)** James Davis  
**organization (if applicable)** N/A  
**mailing address** 1385 Dawnville Road  
**city or town** Dalton **state** Georgia **zip code** 30720  
**e-mail (optional)**

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

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**Name of Property:** A.D. Strickland Store  
**City or Vicinity:** Dalton, vicinity  
**County:** Whitfield  
**State:** Georgia  
**Photographer:** James R. Lockhart  
**Negative Filed:** Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
**Date Photographed:** November, 2004

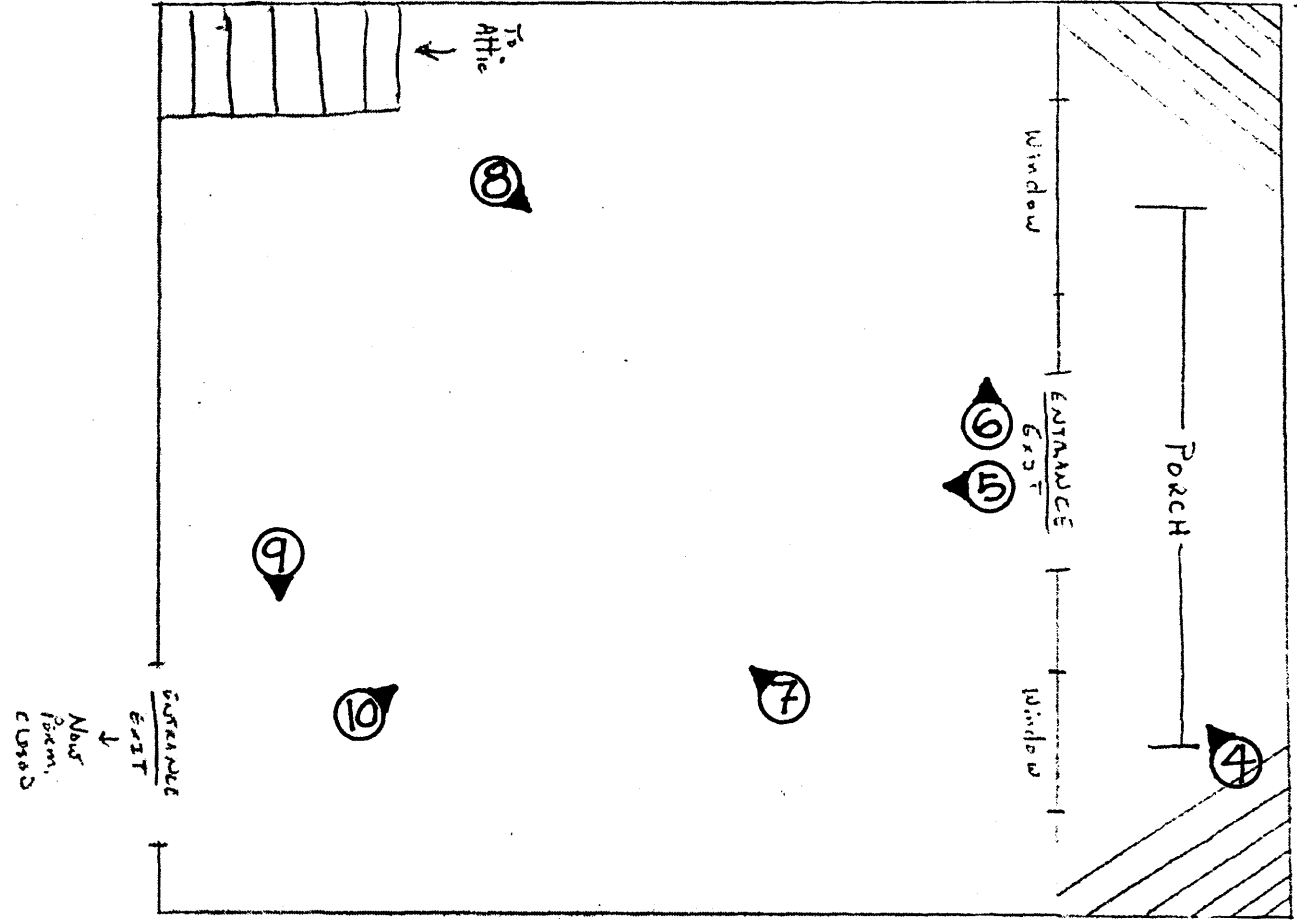
**Description of Photograph(s):**

Number of photographs: 11

1. Front (east) façade and south façade; photographer facing northwest.
2. Rear (west) façade and south façade; photographer facing northeast.
3. South façade and front façade; photographer facing north.
4. Entrance detail; photographer facing north.
5. Interior; photographer facing northwest.
6. Interior; photographer facing northeast.
7. Interior; photographer facing north.
8. Interior; photographer facing south.
9. Interior; photographer facing southwest.
10. Interior; photographer facing east.
11. Front façade and north façade; photographer facing southwest.



(HPD WORD form version 11-03-01)

A.D. Strickland Store  
Dalton, vicinity, Whitfield County, Georgia  
Floor Plan  
Photograph Direction/Number: ①  
Scale: Not to scale  
North: ↖



ENTRY DRIVEWAY → LAKEIR CARPETS, INC. →

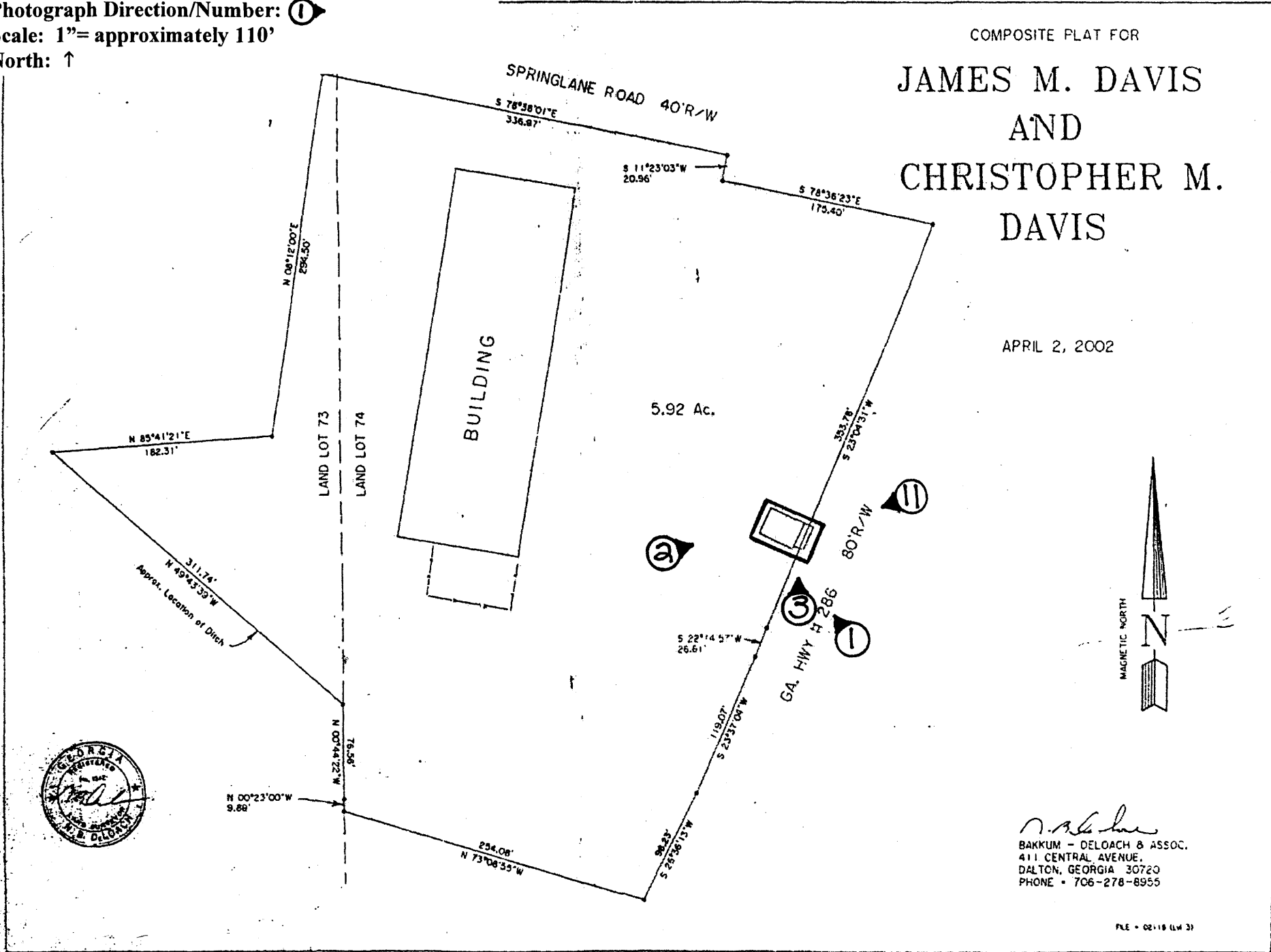


A.D. Strickland Store  
 Dalton, vicinity, Whitfield County, Georgia  
 National Register Boundary:   
 Photograph Direction/Number:   
 Scale: 1" = approximately 110'  
 North: ↑

COMPOSITE PLAT FOR

JAMES M. DAVIS  
 AND  
 CHRISTOPHER M.  
 DAVIS

APRIL 2, 2002



*J. M. DeLoach*  
 BAKKUM - DELOACH & ASSOC.  
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