

1558  
DEC 15

# 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      Lawler Hosiery Mill  
other names/site number      Double Eagle Mill, Maryon Hosiery Mill

## 2. Location

street & number      301 Bradley Street  
city, town      Carrollton      ( ) vicinity of  
county      Carroll      code 045  
state      Georgia      code GA      zip code      30117

( ) not for publication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

buildings	2	1
sites	0	0
structures	0	0
objects	0	0
total	2	1

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.

Richard Clowes 12-9-04  
Signature of certifying official 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

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, explain:

see continuation sheet

Edson H. Beall 1/26/05  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
EM  
Keeper of the National Register Date

---

## 6. Function or Use

---

### Historic Functions:

Industry/Processing/Extraction: manufacturing facility

### Current Functions:

Domestic: multiple dwelling

---

## 7. Description

---

### Architectural Classification:

Early 20<sup>th</sup>-century industrial building

### Materials:

<b>foundation</b>	concrete
<b>walls</b>	brick
<b>roof</b>	asphalt
<b>other</b>	metal

### Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Lawler Hosiery Mill is a small one- and two-story mill located in downtown Carrollton, adjacent to city hall and one block south of the town square. Built in 1934, the main mill is a two-story, steel-framed brick building built with the "slow-burn" construction method that had become standard for mill buildings by the first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The six-bay main façade is crowned with a triangular pediment that mirrors the shallow pitch of the gable roof. The north and south walls are lined with large, steel factory windows. Although the original 1933 plans called for cast-iron columns, the interior is supported by two rows of steel posts bolted to steel beams, which are corbeled into the load-bearing brick walls. The roof is formed of wood planks and the floors are made of durable maple tongue-and-groove boards laid over splined planks of yellow pine. The building is protected from fire by an overhead sprinkler system.

The interior plan includes small offices across the front with remainder as an open interior plan that accommodated long rows of looms and other equipment. The boiler room and dye house were built as one-story brick additions at the rear of the main mill.

The smaller Double Eagle Mill at the rear of the lot is a one-story brick mill building. As the oldest building on the property, in operation by 1931, the mill is framed with heavy timbers. It is covered with a shallow-pitched gable roof and the floors are made wood. Large, steel-framed factory windows line the east and west walls of the building. In the last decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the main mill and the Double Eagle Mill were joined by a small concrete-block hyphen, which has since been removed.

In the 1970s, a one-story metal-framed mill building with a brick-veneer façade was added to the

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 7—Description

---

north side of the main mill. The nonhistoric mill building, though attached to the main mill, is a distinctly separate building. It featured an open floor plan with long rows of looms.

In the late 1990s, the mill was rehabilitated as loft apartments. The rehabilitation was certified by the Technical Preservation Services Branch of the National Park Service on August 15, 2002. The rehabilitation resulted in the division of the open floor plan into individual apartments, some one-level and some multi-level loft apartments. Significant character-defining features, such as the interior framing, exposed brick walls, wood floors, and windows were retained. The rehabilitation also included the removal of the concrete-block hyphen that joined the main mill with the Double Eagle Mill.

Assessment of Historic Integrity

The Lawler Hosiery Mill is an excellent example of an early 20<sup>th</sup>-century textile mill in Georgia. Although rehabilitated to loft apartments in 2002, the mill retains sufficient historic integrity to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The mill is in its original **location** and retains its urban **setting**. The exteriors of the main mill and Double Eagle Mill appear much as they did during the period of significance. **Design** changes have been made mostly on the interior of the main mill and the Double Eagle Mill. Although the interior space was subdivided, historic **materials** and elements of **craftsmanship** are visible in the steel-and-wood framing, wood ceilings and floors, and the large, steel factory windows. The recent rehabilitation resulted in the demolition of the concrete-block hyphen that joined the main mill and the Double Eagle, which restored the historic relationship among the mills as two separate buildings. Because the Lawler Hosiery Mill retains a high level of historic integrity, it possesses the **feeling** and **associations** of an early 20<sup>th</sup>-century textile mill in Georgia.

---

**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):**

Industry  
Architecture

**Period of Significance:**

1931-1954

**Significant Dates:**

1931 – Double Eagle Mill purchased a small parcel on Bradley Street where operated a one-story building at the rear of the lot.

1934 – Lawler Hosiery Mill built on Bradley Street.

Early 1940s – Maryon Hosiery Mill operated in rear mill building that formerly operated by the Double Eagle Mill.

1941-1945 – Lawler operated two mills at the rear of the property under the trade names Royal Chenille and Bon Air Apparels, both manufacturers of chenille products.

**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**

---

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

The Lawler Hosiery Mill is significant in the area of industry because it represents one of Carrollton's leading industries for most of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. During this period, it was common for a small mill or a manufacturing concern to locate in a small town, near the railroad, and sometimes near the center of downtown. These mills soon developed an important presence in the community by employing large numbers of residents and becoming major components of the town's economy.

The Lawler Hosiery Mill is significant in the area of architecture because its materials and method of construction are representative of industrial buildings in Georgia during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Innovations in fireproofing required by insurance companies shaped mill buildings and resulted in greater standardization in mill design during this period. Mills were built with slow-burn construction that isolated the mill into parts, such as floors, so fire would not spread through the building. Slow-burn construction included a shallow-pitched roof to eliminate air pockets that could fuel a fire, masonry walls, and thick floors supported by "slow-burning" timber posts and beams that could char in a fire and still retain their structural integrity. These heavy beams eliminated floor joists, which reduced by one half the amount of exposed wood and eliminated the recessed spaces between the joists, which acted as firetraps. Firewalls often separated the main mill from the hazardous picker room and boiler room. Heavy wood doors on rollers with fusible links that melted at high temperatures provided effective seals for each room. Insurance companies also required sprinkler systems and two distinct water sources, such as reservoirs, water tanks, or a city water supply.

The Lawler mill is among the last mills built before World War II in Georgia. The mill integrates modern construction methods and building systems in a traditional mill building form that appears like mills built since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. In 1927 at the Chicopee Mill near Gainesville, Georgia, Earle Draper and the J. E. Serrine Company of Greenville, South Carolina, pioneered the sprawling one-story factory, which became the prototype for future mill designs in the South. The Lawler mill, a rectangular, multi-story building, appears like most pre-World War II mills in Georgia. Rather than heavy timber construction, however, the Lawler mill is framed with steel posts and beams that are tied into the load-bearing masonry walls. This extensive use of steel, although not novel from a national perspective, documents a change in industrial building technology in Georgia, where traditional "slow-burning" heavy timber framing persisted well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Clark Thread Company, built in 1931, in Clarkdale near Austell is an early Georgia example of a steel-framed textile mill. After World War II, Lawler, like most mills, installed modern heating and cooling systems and fluorescent lights making the large industrial windows unnecessary.

**National Register Criteria**

A – In the area of industry it represents the textile industry in Georgia during the New South -era of industrial development and because the production of textiles was the leading industry in Carrollton for most of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

C – In the area of architecture the design and construction of the factory buildings are representative

**National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

**Section 8—Statement of Significance**

---

of industrial architecture built throughout Georgia and the South at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> and beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

**Criteria Considerations (if applicable)**

N/A

**Period of significance (justification)**

The period of significance begins with completion of the first factory buildings in 1931, the year the Double Eagle Mill began operations on the site, and ends in 1954 at the fifty-year end date. The mill continued to operate until 1995.

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

The main mill and Double Eagle Mill are the two contributing buildings associated with the Lawler Hosiery Mill nomination. The mill building that was built in the 1970s on the north side of the main mill is the only noncontributing resource included in the nomination.

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

The Lawler Hosiery Mill was founded by Thomas Jackson Lawler. Tom Lawler was born in Fulton County on September 14, 1893 and died November 13, 1970 in Carroll County. After the death of his father he went to work at ten years of age at a hosiery mill in Dallas to support his mother and sisters. He earned \$6 per week for 60 hours of labor. He gained experience in mills in Tennessee, North Carolina, and Mississippi. In 1919, he married to Mary Watson Nalley of Villa Rica. Lawler was a community leader, mayor of Carrollton, active in church and civic organizations, served on the board of directors of local businesses, and maintained a lifelong interest in improving agricultural practices.

In April 1926, the Lawler Hosiery Mill began operations with 35 machines on the lower floor of the W. J. Stewart Building in Carrollton, one block northeast of the lot on Bradley Street where the main mill was later built. T. J. Lawler incorporated the company in December 9, 1926. Land for the current Lawler Hosiery Mill building was purchased on June 1931. The deed makes no mention of an existing building. In October 1931, the Double Eagle Mill purchased a small parcel at the rear of the lot where it operated in a one-story building until 1939. The 1931 deed, which identifies the back (west) building, suggests that it was either complete or under construction between June and October 1931. Lawler co-owned three mills in Carrollton, the Lawler Hosiery Mill, Indian, and the Double Eagle Mill.

In 1934, Lawler built the main two-story hosiery mill that fronts Bradley Street. The back building, which housed the Double Eagle Mill, through 1939, was leased to the Maryon Hosiery Mill. Maryon operated in the rear building through the early 1940s, when it moved to Aycock Street, a mile west of

**National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

**Section 8—Statement of Significance**

---

Bradley. During the 1940s, Lawler established two chenille companies under the trade names, Royal Chenille and Bon Air Apparel. By 1940, Royal Chenille, manufacturers of bathroom sets, bedspreads, and rugs, occupied the rear building formerly the Double Eagle Mill. Bon Air Apparel came later in a second rear building adjacent to the building that housed Royal Chenille. This building is no longer extant. During World War II, one half of all production was given to the war effort. In 1947, 80 percent of the mill's 400 workers were women. Lighting and ventilation were improved with fluorescent lights and modern heating and cooling systems that maintained constant temperatures year around. By 1962, the mill employed just over 200 workers. The next year, the mill purchased the adjoining lot to the north and in the 1970s built a steel-framed warehouse. In 1978, the company nearly folded when Trimfit, a Philadelphia-based company, bought the mill. Socks remained the company's most important product, which it manufactured until the mill closed in 1995.

The close proximity of Lawler Hosiery Mill to downtown Carrollton and residential neighborhoods precluded the need for a traditional mill workers village in which the mill constructed worker houses, schools, churches, and other community buildings. After World War II, 30 percent of the work force lived outside the city limits of Carrollton. Lawler Mill, like most mills of the period, maintained a patriarchal relationship with its workers, providing recreational activities, such as a semi-professional baseball team, the Lawler Bees, which played other regional manufacturing plants. The company maintained a baseball field, which no longer exists, on the vacant north side of its property.



---

## 9. Major Bibliographic References

---

Whiteis, Josh. Historic District Information Form. Double Eagle Mill/Lawler Hosiery Mill. On file at the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Division, Atlanta, Georgia, 1996.

**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:**

- (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**      2.07 acres

### **UTM References**

A)    Zone 16      Easting 678560      Northing 3716820

### **Verbal Boundary Description**

The historic district boundary is indicated by a heavy black line on the attached map, which is drawn to scale.

### **Boundary Justification**

The boundary includes the property and all of the intact resources historically associated with the Lawler Hosiery Mill.

---

**11. Form Prepared By**

---

**State Historic Preservation Office**

**name/title** Steven Moffson, Architectural 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** November 15, 2004  
**e-mail** steven\_moffson@dnr.state.ga.us

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

**name (property owner or contact person)** Josh Whiteis/Douglas C. Mabry  
**organization (if applicable)** Horton Properties/Lawler Loft Apartments  
**mailing address** P.O. Box 1490  
**city or town** Carrollton **state** GA **zip code** 30117  
**e-mail (optional)** N/A

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

**Property Owner or Contact Information**

**name/title** Mike Horton  
**organization** Horton Properties/Lawler loft Apartments  
**mailing address** P.O. Box 1490  
**city or town** Carrollton **state** GA **zip code** 30177  
**telephone** N/A  
**e-mail** N/A

**National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

**Photographs**

---

**Name of Property:** Lawler Hosiery Mill  
**City or Vicinity:** Carrollton  
**County:** Carroll  
**State:** Georgia  
**Photographer:** James R. Lockhart  
**Negative Filed:** Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
**Date Photographed:** January 2004

**Description of Photograph(s):**

Number of photographs: 17

1. Main mill and 1970s mill building (right), photographer facing northwest.
2. Main mill, photographer facing west.
3. 1970s mill building, photographer facing northwest.
4. Main mill and 1970s mill building, photographer facing west.
5. 1970s mill building and main mill (background), photographer facing southwest.
6. Main mill and Double Eagle Mill (right), photographer facing south.
7. Main mill (left) and Double Eagle Mill (right), photographer facing south.
8. Double Eagle Mill, photographer facing southwest.
9. Double Eagle Mill, photographer facing northeast.
10. Main mill, interior, corridor, photographer facing west.
11. Main mill, interior, basement level, loft apartment, photographer facing northwest.
12. Main mill, interior, first floor, loft apartment, photographer facing southeast.
13. Main mill, interior, first floor, stair, photographer facing southwest.
14. Main mill, interior, third floor, corridor, photographer facing south.
15. Main mill, interior, third floor, loft apartment, photographer facing northwest.

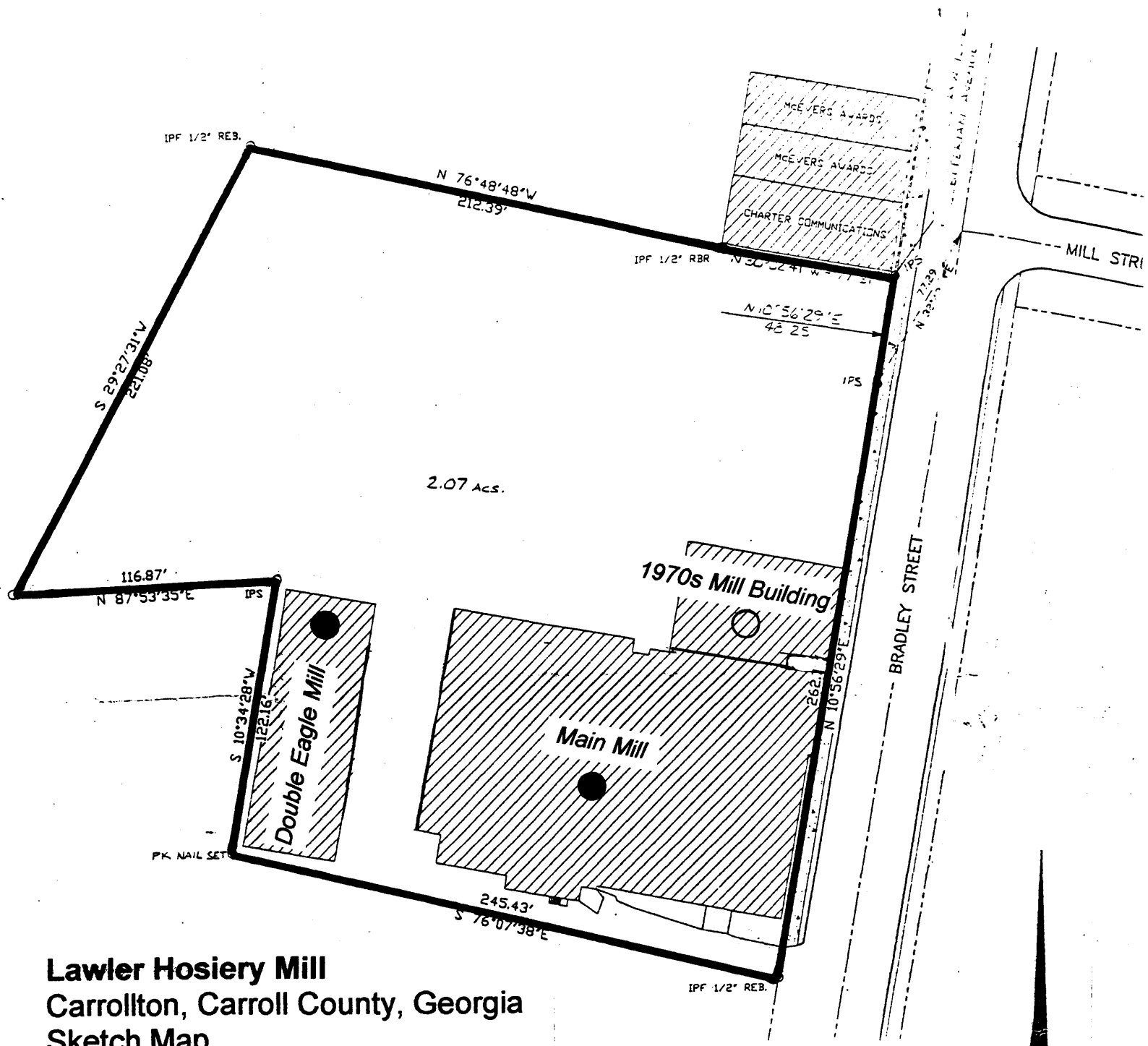
**National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

**Photographs**

---

16. Double Eagle Mill, interior, second floor, loft apartment, photographer facing west.
17. Double Eagle Mill, interior, second floor, loft apartment, photographer facing east.

(HPD WORD form version 11-03-01)



**Lawler Hosiery Mill**  
 Carrollton, Carroll County, Georgia  
 Sketch Map

National Register Boundary **————**

Contributing Building ●

Noncontributing Building ○ (with hatching)

Scale: 1" = 60'

