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OMB No. 1024-0018

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JUN 13 1994

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places or in the National Park Service. 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.

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1. Name of Property

historic name Washington Manufacturing Company
other names/site number Tennille Yarn Mill, Tennille Mill

2. Location

street & number East Montgomery Street, Church Street
city, town Tennille (n.a.) **vicinity of**
county Washington **code** GA 303
state Georgia **code** GA **zip code** 31089

(n.a.) not for publication

3. Classification

Ownership of Property:

- private
- public-local
- public-state
- public-federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property:

	<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>
buildings	2	3
sites	0	0
structures	0	0
objects	0	0
total	2	3

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: Buildings Designed by Charles Edward Choate, Constructed in Washington County, Georgia, between 1896 and 1919

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.

Elizabeth A. Lyon
Signature of certifying official

6/9/94
Date

Elizabeth A. Lyon
State Historic Preservation Officer,
Georgia Department of Natural Resources

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

7-28-94

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, explain:

see continuation sheet

Entered in the
National Register

for

Signature, Keeper of the National Register

Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

Industry: manufacturing facility

Current Functions:

Industry: manufacturing facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

none--no style

Materials:

foundation	brick
walls	brick
roof	unknown
other	wood

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Washington Manufacturing Company is a long, narrow, multi-story brick mill building built in several phases between the turn of the century and the 1930s. Also on the property are a small historic brick garage and warehouse, a small nonhistoric "Quonset-hut" type metal building, a modern storage building, and an undocumented office building. The mill is located on an open 10-acre lot along the railroad tracks at the northeast edge of the community of Tennille.

The exterior of the Washington Manufacturing Company is typical of a turn-of-the-century mill building. The building is long and narrow in plan, and several stories high. Construction of the exterior is all brick with a brick foundation. On the roof line there are large rounded wooden brackets which extend around the entire building. The roof is flat and has a stepped parapet. The original 1900-1903 Choate-designed section of the building extends 17 bays and is two stories tall with a partial basement. The eastern end of the building apparently stepped down to follow a drop in topography; a third floor, level with the original second floor of the west section of the mill, was added to this stepped-down portion of the mill in 1937. Tall, narrow, segmental-arched multi-paned windows are found in the Choate-designed section; some of these windows have been blocked up with paneling. Beyond the 17 original bays there is a three-story addition constructed in 1950. The addition was built in a similar fashion as the original building, and according to a similar plan--it is basically an extension of the original mill. Window openings in the 1950 section of the mill are flat-headed. At the front of the mill, located on one of the long sides of the structure, there is a large square tower. A brick detail at the top of the tower consists of the circles and battlements while below are recessed blind arches. At the

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National Park Service

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bottom of the tower is a double doorway with a fanlight. There has been some masonry repair to the exterior.

The interior of the original mill building consists of large open spaces on each floor, spanned by wooden beams and joists supported by wooden columns on the lower floors and by wooden trusses supported by wooden columns on the upper floor. The interior of the 1950 addition is similarly open, spanned by metal trusses and beams. On the interior, there are segmental arches above the windows and doors on the interior of the original section of the mill. All the doors in the older section of the building have segmental transoms above. Some of the doorways have been modified to allow for safety doors to be installed. To do this, the arches have been bricked in and squared off in some parts of the older building. In the hallways, the stairs have wainscoted railings and plain wooden newel posts. The boards making up the ceiling are approximately eight inches wide with beading on one side. The floorboards are of either oak or maple and are about six inches wide. The transoms in the larger rooms are arched and 4/4. The beams in the newer part of the building are metal while those in the older section are wood. Also in the newer section are industrial sash windows. Original elevators still operate in the mill building.

The historic garage and warehouse is located directly west of the main mill building. It is a one-story brick building with open interior space. To the southwest of the main mill building is the small, nonhistoric "Quonset-hut" type metal building; to the northwest is a larger modern storage building. The undocumented office building is located directly north of the main mill building, across a small yard from the tower; in this context, the office is considered noncontributing.

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

Architecture

Period of Significance:

1900-1937

Significant Dates:

1900, 1937

Significant Person(s):

n.a.

Cultural Affiliation:

n.a.

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

Charles E. Choate, architect (1900-1903 original section of mill)

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Significance of property, justification of criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)

The Washington Manufacturing Company is significant in architecture because the surviving 1900-1903 original section of the mill with its nearby warehouse is the only existing example of industrial design by the architect Charles Choate in Washington County. This structure thus represents Choate's range of building types and commissions during the early years of his architectural practice; although most of his work was residential, he also designed institutional, commercial, and industrial structures.

Additionally, the 1900-1903 Choate-designed mill building and warehouse also are significant as good representative examples of turn-of-the-century industrial architecture. Throughout Georgia and the southeast, mill buildings like these were built in many communities. They were generally small in scale, long and narrow in floorplan, and two-to-three stories high. Large, multi-paned, segmental-arched windows were typical. Most mill buildings featured a tower, either centered on the narrow end or along one long side; the tower contained mechanical equipment, power shafts, fire suppression equipment and a water tank, and stairways. Most of these mills, like this one in Tennille, were built of traditional "slow burning" brick and heavy timber construction with thick wood floors. In recent years, many have had all their windows blocked up or bricked in; this mill is unusual in that so many original windows remain open. The additions to the mill are distinct from yet compatible with the original portions of the mill and, because of the way they extend to the rear, do not detract from its original architectural character.

National Register Criteria

This property meets National Register Criterion C for its architectural significance as an unusual and significant work of industrial architecture designed by Charles Choate very early in his local career.

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

n.a.

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Period of significance (justification, if applicable)

1900-1937--In 1900 Charles E. Choate was retained to design a mill for the newly formed "Tennille Mill Company." The building was completed and in operation by 1903. In 1937 a partial third floor was added to the two-story rear portion of the mill; although not designed by Choate, this addition is so integral to the mill that it cannot be separated from the original structure. The 1950 three-story addition to the rear of the mill, although contiguous with the main mill structure, is not yet 50-years old and does not appear to be of exceptional significance, so at this time it must be considered as a nonhistoric addition.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if applicable)

The two contributing resources are the main mill building with its additions and the nearby brick warehouse. The three noncontributing resources are the nonhistoric "Quonset hut" type metal building, the modern metal storage building, and the undocumented office building.

Developmental history/historic context (if applicable)

In March 1900, J. A. McCrary, Izzie Bashinaki, J. W. Smith, H. M. Franklin, W. M. Kelly, W. S. Witham, and J. H. Arnall applied to the Washington County Superior Court to incorporate the Tennille Mill. The application was approved, and in June of that year, the company bought 26.4 acres in east Tennille from Linton C. Stephens to construct their mill. In May 1900, the Sandersville Progress reported that Mr. Choate was to supervise the construction of the Tennille Mill. Cyril B. Smith, an architect from Augusta, who worked with Choate, assisted on the project and helped design the sculptured brick on the roof line of the mill building. By 1903, machinery was purchased and operating in the new mill.

In June of 1921 the Tennille Cotton Mill went bankrupt and appointed W. B. Oliver as trustee that August. Oliver sold the mill at public sale in November 1921 to the Tennille Yarn Mills and the title passed to E. H. Callaway and Carrole Garlick. The Washington Manufacturing Company was chartered in 1923, and the Tennille Yarn Mill was transferred to the Washington Manufacturing Company. After the acquisition, some changes were made to the original building. A new basement was laid and new machinery was installed. In 1937, the top floor was constructed to the end of the building. In 1950, a three-story addition was added to the mill building at the north end of the

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mill building. A small addition was made to the existing warehouse as well.

The present plant remains essentially as it was in 1937, with the 1950 addition. New machinery has been added, but the interior and exterior of the building has not changed much physically. The plant produces a similar gauze-type fabric as it did when the building was first put into use.

9. Major Bibliographic References

See the bibliography in the multiple property documentation form.

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

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

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 11

UTM References

- A) Zone 17 Easting 331340 Northing 3646240
- B) Zone 17 Easting 331370 Northing 3646100
- C) Zone 17 Easting 331260 Northing 3645960
- D) Zone 17 Easting 330990 Northing 3646240

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property coincides with the current legal description of the property as represented by Lot 25 of Tax Map T-8. The boundaries of the nominated property are drawn to scale with a heavy black line on the attached tax map.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property is the property currently and historically associated with the mill.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title (a) Dale Jaeger and Susan Casey (b) Richard Cloues
organization (a) Jaeger/Pyburn (b) Office of Historic Preservation,
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
street & number (a) 210 Washington Street (b) 205 Butler Street,
Suite 1462
city or town (a) Gainesville (b) Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code**
(a) 30503 (b) 30334
telephone (a) 706-534-7024 (b) 404-656-2840 **date** June 3, 1994

(HPS form version 11-02-90)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

Photographs

Name of Property: Washington Manufacturing Company
City or Vicinity: Tennille
County: Washington
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: September 1992

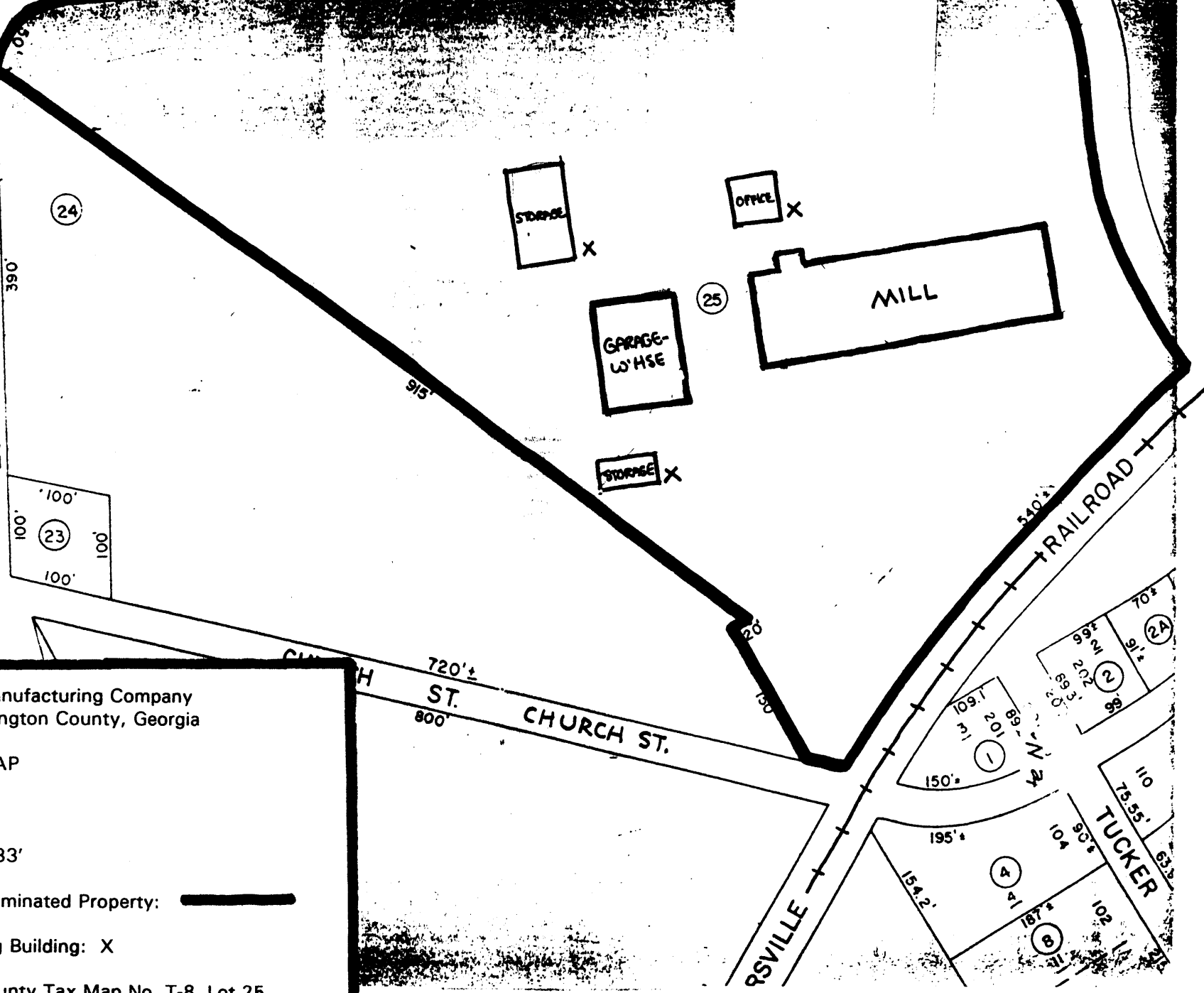
Description of Photograph(s):

- 1 of 3. Mill building, tower; photographer facing southeast.
- 2 of 3. Interior of mill building, west end, near tower; photographer facing northeast.
- 3 of 3. Interior of mill building, center; photographer facing east.

EAST MONTGOMERY STREET

SEE MAP T-5

WHITE LINE ST.



Washington Manufacturing Company
Tennille, Washington County, Georgia

BOUNDARY MAP

North: ↑

Scale: 1" = 133'

Boundary of Nominated Property: **—————**

Noncontributing Building: X

Washington County Tax Map No. T-8, Lot 25

Washington Manufacturing Company
Tennille, Washington County, Georgia

FLOOR PLAN

North: ↖

Scale: not to scale

