

NOV 01 1989

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 Standard Drug Company
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 601 25th Avenue N/A not for publication
city, town Meridian N/A vicinity
state Mississippi code MS county Lauderdale code 75 zip code 39301

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>1</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	_____ Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Meridian Multiple Resource Area
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 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 request for determination of eligibility 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 does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Kenneth H. P. Pool October 19, 1989
Signature of certifying official Date
MS Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau

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 and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. Amy Federman 12/7/89
 See continuation sheet. _____
 determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet. _____
 determined not eligible for the National Register. _____
 removed from the National Register. _____
 other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/trade:

Warehouse

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Vacant/not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Brick

roof Other, tar/gravel

other

Commercial Style

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Standard Drug Company is located between 25th Avenue on the east, 26th Avenue on the west and 6th Street on the south. The north part of the property is an asphalt parking lot.

The three story brick building is rectangular in shape. The east and south facades are covered with a yellow-brown brick and have a cornice of dentil brick work (Photos 1 & 2). The west and north facades are a reddish brick of lesser grade (Photos 3 & 4). The building is built on a reinforced concrete slab with support piers of post and beam construction on all floors. The piers are capped with cast iron brackets (Photo 5).

The east facade has double doors with single lights. The doors are surrounded by a three-light transom and single-light side panels. The first floor has four large windows with three-light transoms. The second and third floors have double-pivot windows with sixteen lights (Photo 1).

The south facade has a loading dock with four double doors on the first floor. The windows on all floors are pivot windows with sixteen lights (Photo 2).

The western facade is two stories having six single-pivot windows with sixteen lights for the second floor. (Photo 3). The north facade is solid brick walls. Loading docks are located in the northeast section with two overhead doors. These doors were installed in the early 1970's (Photo 4).

The first floor is divided into three rooms. The eastern room was used as an office and product display room. The office area of the room has pressed tin ceilings, support piers are covered with mahogany wood. The concrete flooring was originally covered with linoleum tiles. The flooring is now covered with carpet (Photo 6). A vault was built in this area in the 1920's, the walls being covered with ceramic tile. In 1941 partitions were built in the center of the room for a private office (Photo 7). The center room of the first floor was for shipping and receiving. On the north and south elevations were the loading docks (Photo 8). In the center of the room is an elevator that services all three floors. The elevator was built in 1920 by the Kinneer Manufacturing Company of Columbus, Ohio (Photo 9).

The third room on the first floor is in the western section of the building. This room was used for warehouse storage. There are staircases between the first and second floor and between the second and third floor.

The interior walls of the building are struccoed. On the first and second floors are fire doors located between the center and western rooms. These doors are Durand's Tin Clad Fire Doors made by American Sheet Metal Works Manufacturers, New Orleans, Louisiana (Photo 10). A sprinkler system also provides fire protection for the building.

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) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce

Period of Significance

1920 - 1941*

Significant Dates

1920

*death of Mr. Hopkins

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The significance of the Standard Drug Building comes from being one of Meridian's earliest and largest commercial firms. The Standard Drug Company was a wholesale drug business that served the retail trade throughout Mississippi and a portion of west-central Alabama. The building was built in 1920 and is a prime example of early twentieth century commercial buildings resulting from Meridian's economic growth during that period.

The early pharmaceutical industry in America is different than that of Europe, where pharmaceutical manufacturing was handed down from family to family. At the end of the nineteenth century and early twentieth century in America the educated pharmacists tended to locate in the larger cities. America's pharmaceutical industry, wholesale and retail businesses, were usually run by self-educated men or apprentices to pharmacists or physicians. These men would settle in new developing communities and supply not only pharmaceutical drugs but also sundry items. They also produced their own pharmaceutical preparations. Thus following the national trend, W. E. Hopkins and Oscar Bethea opened a wholesale and retail drug business in Meridian in January of 1900.

The Standard Drug Company grew from a small retail drug business in 1900 to a large wholesale drug company in 1919. The growth is parallel to that of the city of Meridian, which was growing to become Mississippi's largest municipality in the early twentieth century (Meridian Multiple Resource Area, 1979, 1985).

The company was originally known as Hopkins and Bethea and located on 22nd Avenue. In 1906 Hopkins and Bethea moved to a three story building at 2408 5th Street (Urban Historic District, 1979). The business was incorporated in 1911 and the name changed to Standard Drug Company. W. E. Hopkins became president, holding that position until his death in 1941. Oscar Bethea left the firm to attend medical school and become a physician.

Standard Drug, like most wholesale drug companies, produced under their own label milk of magnesia, iodine, merthiolate and merchrochrome. Bulk items such as castor oil, turpentine and sulphur were repackaged into bottles or boxes with the Standard Drug label.

As the company grew in 1919 the need for a larger building arose. In July of 1919 the company purchased the Meridian Medical College property at 6th Street and 25th Avenue. The company demolished the school building and built a new building that incorporated over 67,300 square feet. The building was built in the style of commercial and industrial buildings of the early 1920's, simple and utilitarian.

The Standard Drug Company operated at this location until 1977 when the firm was sold to Durr-Fillauer Medical of Montgomery, AL.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Lauderdale County, MS. Chancery Clerk. Deed Book O, 39, 86, 94, 111, 136.
Morrison, Edgar H. Interviewed by Fonda K. Rush, Meridian, MS, August 8, 1989.
Moody, Merle H. "533 - Manufacturing Plants and Factories", Federal Writer's Project Unit #2, Meridian, MS 1936.
Sanborn Map Company. Sanborn Insurance Map, Meridian, MS. Brooklyn, N.Y., 1916-1961.
Shank, Jack. The Queen With A Past, Volume II. Meridian: Southeastern Printing Company, 1985.
"Standard Drug is One of Senior Businesses", Meridian (Mississippi) Star, May 8, 1960.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- 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: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 1.0618 acres

UTM References

A

1	6	3	3	9	7	4	0	3	5	8	1	7	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the Southwest corner of Lot 80 of the Mobile & Ohio Railroad Survey, NE 260' , NW 177.9', SW 260', SE 176', to the point of beginning, being part of Lot 78 all of Lot 79, 80, 81, 82, 83 and 84 of Mobile & Ohio Railroad Survey.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the acreage historically associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Fonda K. Rush
organization Historic Preservation Consultant date _____
street & number Route 1, Box 569 telephone 482-3356
city or town Meridian state MS zip code 39301

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Standard Drug Company, Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi

Section number 7 Page 2

The second story is two large rooms. The western section was used as storage. In the northwest corner of this room was the acid room. The flooring of this room was covered with sand to prevent damage from the acid. The eastern second-floor room was used for storage (Photo 11) and manufacturing of pharmaceutical drugs, milk of magnesia, iodine, merthiolate and merchromone (Photo 12).

The third floor, which is only about two-thirds the size of the the first and second floors, is one large room that was used for storage (Photo 13). The second and third stories have 4" x 8' pine flooring and tongue and groove ceilings.

The only alterations to the Standard Drug Building are on the first floor. In the 1970's, two loading docks were built on the north facade. A computer room was built in the southeast corner of the center room and partitions were built between the office space and center room.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Standard Drug Company, Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi

Section number Photographs Page 1

The following information is the same for all photographs:

- (1) Standard Drug Company
- (2) Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi
- (3) Cindy Hopkins
- (4) July, 1989
- (5) Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Photo 1--(6) Facade (east elevation), view to the west

Photo 2--(6) Facade (south elevation), view to the north

Photo 3--(6) Facade (west elevation), view to the east

Photo 4--(6) Facade (north elevation), view to the south

Photo 5--(6) Post and beam construction, 2nd floor

Photo 6--(6) First floor office, view to the north

Photo 7--(6) First floor office and safe, view to the northwest

Photo 8--(6) Loading docks, view to the southeast

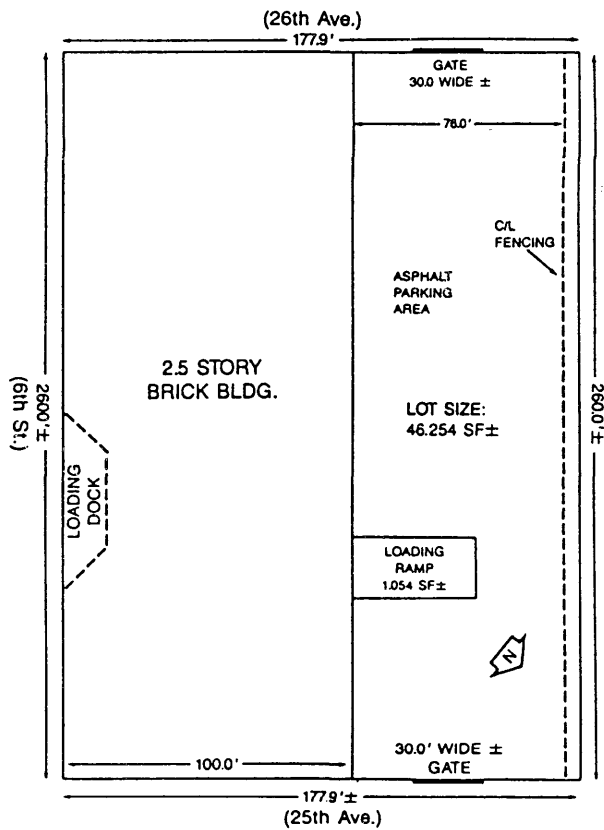
Photo 9--(6) Elevator, 1st floor, view to the north

Photo 10--(6) Fire door and storage room, view to the west

Photo 11--(6) 2nd floor storage, view to the southeast

Photo 12--(6) Pharmaceutical manufacturing, view to the north

Photo 13--(6) 3rd floor, view to the east



Site Dimension is an approximation

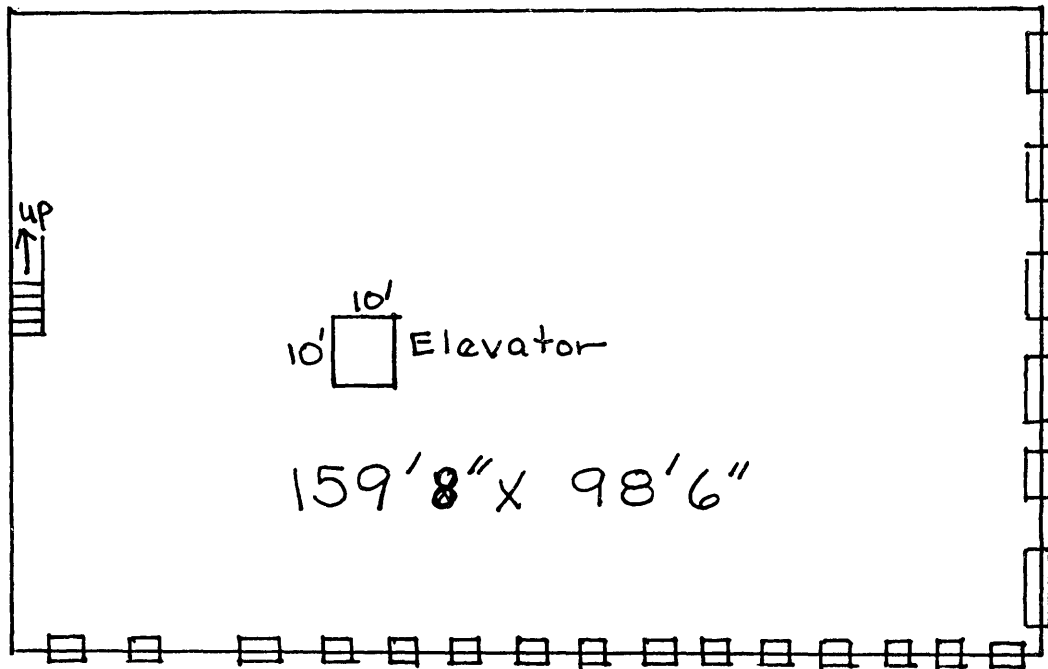
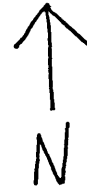
Standard Drug Company
 601 25th Avenue
 Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi

Scale 1" = 30'

3rd floor

Standard Drug Building
601 - 25th Avenue

Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi

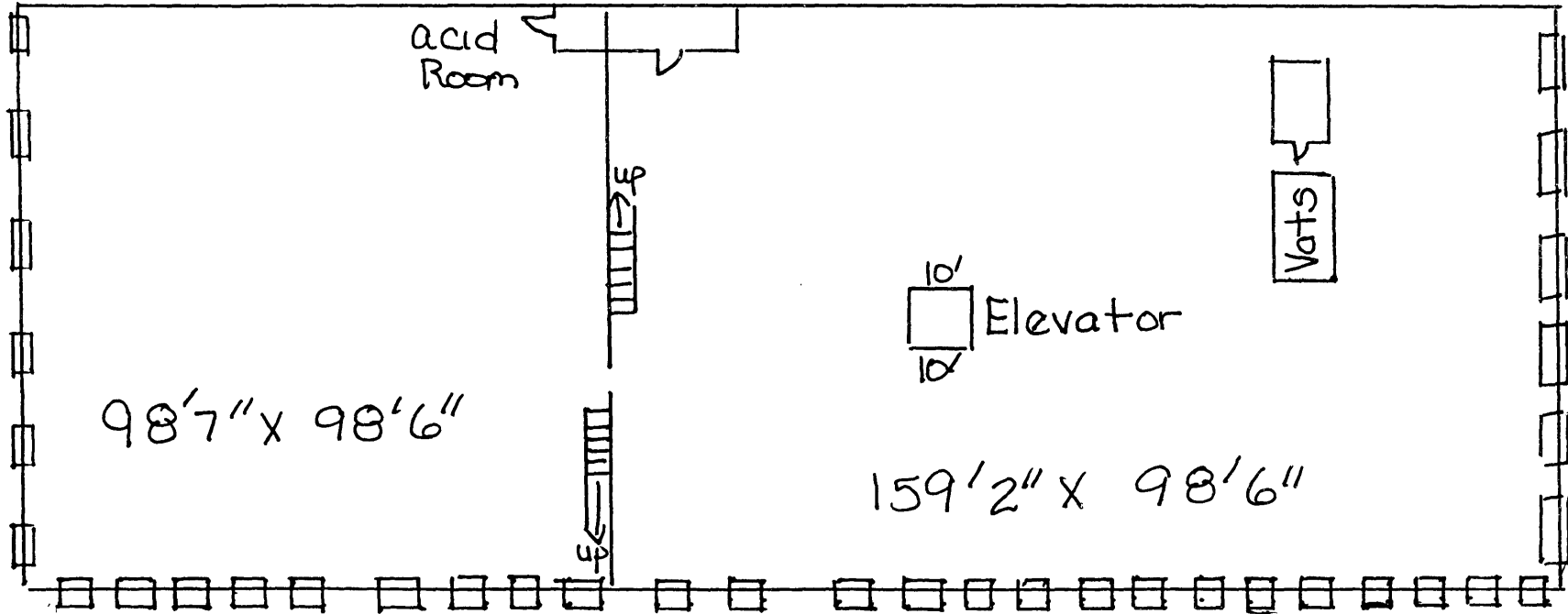


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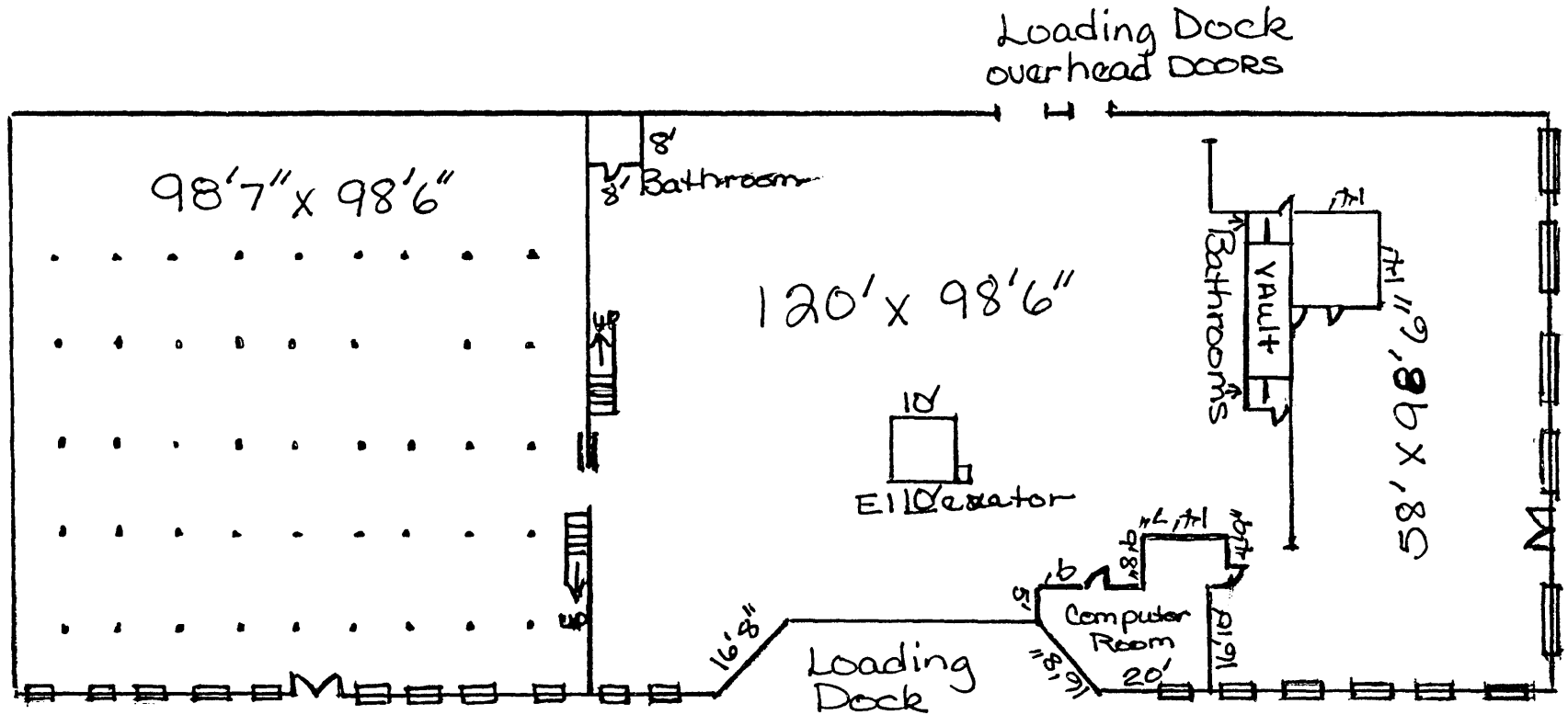
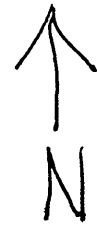
Standrad Drug Building
601 - 25th Avenue
Meridian, Lauderdale, Miss.



3rd Floor



Scale 1" = 30'



- These represent the post and beam construction throughout the entire building on all floors.

1st Floor

Standard Drug Building
601-25th Avenue
Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi