

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only
received **AUG 30 1982**
date entered **8/30/82**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Cole Town (DIST)

and/or common same

2. Location

Roughly bounded by Washington, Thompson, and Davis
Sts., and Hooligan Alley
N/A not for publication

street & number See Continuation Sheet

city, town Newnan N/A vicinity of ~~Congressional district~~

state Georgia code 013 county Coweta code 077

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple owners - more than 50

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state _____

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Coweta County Courthouse

city, town Newnan state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Structures Field Survey:
Coweta County, Georgia has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1976-1977 federal state county local

depository for survey records Georgia Department of Natural Resources

city, town Atlanta state Georgia

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Cole Town is a largely residential historic district located to the east of Newnan's central business district. Approximately 80 single-family houses are located in the district, dating from the mid nineteenth century to the early twentieth century, along with a historic industrial complex, an early twentieth century concrete bridge, and appropriate residential landscaping. The district now constitutes one of Newnan's several in-town historic residential neighborhoods.

Cole Town is situated on a low hilltop which slopes down gently toward the west, to the railroad tracks, and more sharply toward the east. The district is laid out along East Broad Street, a principal east-west thoroughfare in Newnan, and Salbide Avenue, a short east-west city street. Parts of several cross streets, alleys, and railroad tracks are included in the district. Major streets in the district are laid out in an irregular gridiron pattern and follow property subdivision lines rather than topography. Lots are generally rectangular in shape and occur in a variety of sizes. Houses in the district are generally located toward the front center of these lots. Outbuildings, some of which are historic, are located to the rear of some of these lots. The houses range in size from mansions to shotguns, with substantial middle class dwellings predominating. They date from the mid nineteenth century to the early twentieth century. Styles represented include Greek Revival, Victorian Gothic, Victorian Eclectic, Eastlake, Queen Anne, Neo-classical, Georgian Revival, Prairie, Craftsman/Bungalow, and Tudor. Most of the houses are built of wood, with balloon frames sheathed in weatherboard. A few of the houses are built of brick, some loadbearing, some veneer, and one house is built with a brick-veneered concrete frame. Many of the houses feature elaborate sawn and turned wood detailing. The larger houses in the district are located on the hilltop at intersection of East Broad Street and Robinson Street; the smaller houses are located down the hill to the east. Yards are informally landscaped with trees, shrubbery, and lawn. The streets are generally lined with historic shade trees, sidewalks, curbs, and an occasional retaining wall. The site of a mid nineteenth century woodworking factory (now demolished) is located on the western edge of the district, at the northeast corner of the intersection of East Broad Street and the Atlanta and West Point railroad tracks. A woodworking and metal fabricating industrial complex dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries is also located along the western edge of the district, west of the railroad tracks between East Broad Street and Salbide Avenue. This complex includes a brick and timber-framed factory dating from the mid 1880's along the railroad tracks, a steel-framed curtain-walled factory dating from the early 1930's along Salbide Avenue, and several smaller historic and non-historic structures. An early twentieth century concrete bridge carries Salbide Avenue over the railroad tracks in the southwest corner of the district.

Non-contributing Properties

There are very few non-contributing properties in the district. They include a small contemporary commercial building and a service station on East Broad Street and several modern houses. Non-contributing properties are marked on the accompanying sketch map of the district.

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National Park Service**

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Bounded approximately by East Washington Street on the north, Hooligan/Smith Street on the east, Salbide Avenue, Davis Street, and Jones Avenue on the south, and Perry Street on the west; centered on the intersection of East Broad Street and Robinson Street.

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National Park Service**

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Description

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Boundaries

Boundaries for the Cole Town historic district circumscribe the intact historic residential and industrial development associated with the R.D. Cole Company and the Cole family. The district is bordered on the north by a cotton mill village, on the east by vacant land, new development, and some historic development that has lost its integrity of setting, on the south by a mixed residential neighborhood of historic and non-historic houses, and on the west by Newman's central business district.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates Mid 19th century-early 20th century **Builder/Architect** R.D. Cole Company

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Cole Town is significant as a historic residential neighborhood which developed around a major local industry in Newnan. In terms of community planning and development, the district is significant for the way it illustrates the growth and development of a residential neighborhood, from the mid nineteenth century through the early twentieth century, under the influence of a prominent local family associated with a major local industry. Although not a mill town in the traditional sense, the district housed workers, managers, officers and founders of the R.D. Cole Company as well as the Cole Company plant itself. Most of the property in the district was controlled by the Cole family, and most of the houses were built by the Cole family for family members or people associated with the Cole Company. In terms of architecture, the district is significant for its historic residential and industrial architecture. The district's residential architecture ranges from the mid nineteenth century through the early twentieth century and reflects local interpretations of nearly every major stylistic movement in American domestic architecture of the period. A variety of house types and sizes is also present. Building materials and techniques used to construct these houses represent prevailing historic building technology. The district's residential architecture is distinguished by the presence of architectural woodwork produced by the R.D. Cole Company of Newnan, and by houses designed by Lelia Ross Wilburn, Atlanta's foremost early 20th century woman architect, and by the noted Atlanta architect Edward E. Dougherty. The district also contains an unusual brick veneered, concrete framed house, which reflects the experimental approach to concrete in the early twentieth century. The district's industrial architecture consists of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century buildings comprising the R.D. Cole Company complex (now Brown Steel). These buildings illustrate traditional nineteenth century loadbearing masonry and timber construction as well as innovative early twentieth century steel frame and curtain wall construction. The district also contains an early twentieth century reinforced concrete bridge over the railroad tracks on Salbide Avenue. This bridge belongs to the first generation of such bridges in the state and is distinguished by its stylized Neoclassical detailing. In terms of landscape architecture, the district is significant for its informally landscaped front yards and street trees. These common but characteristic features reflect prevailing principles and practices of American landscape gardening in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In terms of industry, the district is significant for its association with the R.D. Cole Company (founded 1854). The R.D. Cole Company is an early and long-standing family-owned major industry in Georgia. The company produced a wide variety of architectural woodwork as well as industrial machinery, engines and boilers, trusses, and water towers. The company's woodwork is found throughout the region; its water towers are known worldwide. In terms of historic archaeology, the district is significant for the inferred archaeological potential of the known site of the original R.D. Cole Company plant. Especially in the absence of other documentation, this site could yield valuable data about the layout and activities of the original R.D. Cole Company plant. These areas of significance support National Register eligibility under criteria A, B, C, and D.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 54 acres (estimated)

Quadrangle name Newnan South, Georgia

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	1 6	7 0 5 7 6 0	3 6 9 4 7 3 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	1 6	7 0 4 7 9 5	3 6 9 4 3 5 0
E			
G			

B	1 6	7 0 5 7 1 0	3 6 9 4 5 1 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	1 6	7 0 4 8 0 0	3 6 9 4 8 1 5
F			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification Boundary is described by a heavy black line on the accompanying sketch map and is justified in Section 7.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Richard Cloues, National Register Coordinator

Historic Preservation Section

organization Department of Natural Resources date August 11, 1982

street & number 270 Washington Street, S.W. telephone 404/656-2840

city or town Atlanta state Georgia

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Elizabeth A. Lyon
Elizabeth A. Lyon

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 8/17/82

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	Entered in the
<u>Shelene Byers</u>	National Register
Keeper of the National Register	date <u>9/30/82</u>
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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Golsen Maurie, Historic District Information Form for "Cole Town", June 10, 1981, on file at Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta.

Newnan Times-Herald, "Coweta's Oldest Industry", Centennial Edition.

Newnan Times-Herald, "R.D. Cole Company Celebrates 100th Anniversary." May 7, 1954.

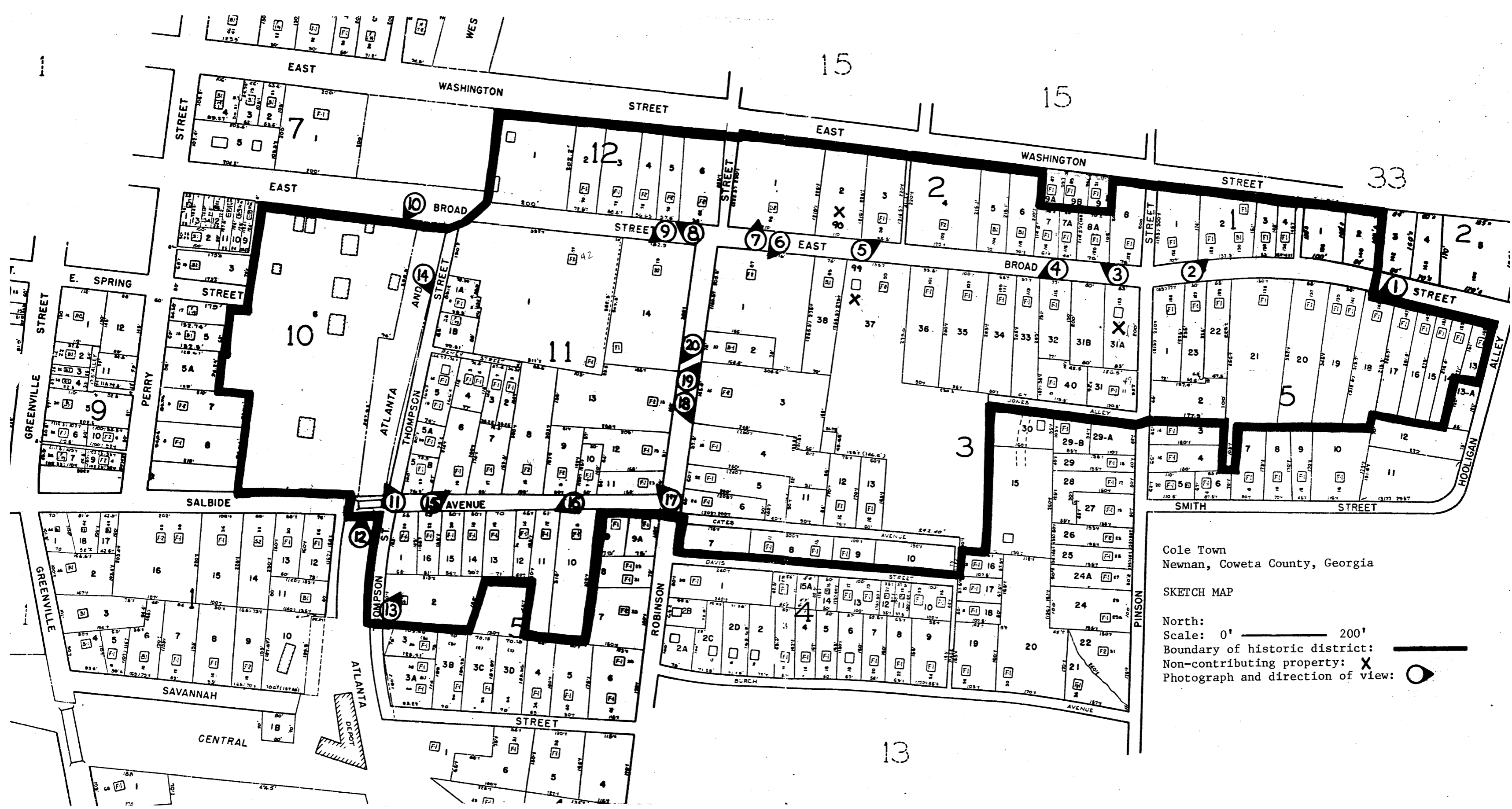
R.D. Cole Company, Souvenir 1854-1904, Newnan.

Rosenzweig, Vinnie, "Decorative Sawwork in Coweta County", lecture notes dated March 27, 1980.

Southern Historical Association, Memoirs of Georgia, 1895, Atlanta.


Interviews conducted by Maurie Golsen with:

- Barrilleaux, Mr. and Mrs. Ray, in Newnan, May 1981;
- Beers, Elizabeth, in Newnan, May 1981;
- Busby, Mr. and Mrs. Herman, in Newnan, May 1981;
- Johnson, Bill (genealogical research), in Newnan, May 1981.
- Nixon, Mr. and Mrs. Karl, in Newnan, May 1981;
- Sawyer, Mr. and Mrs. Don, in Newnan, May 1981.



Cole Town
Newnan, Coweta County, Georgia

SKETCH MAP

North:
Scale: 0' _____ 200'
Boundary of historic district:
Non-contributing property: X
Photograph and direction of view: 

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