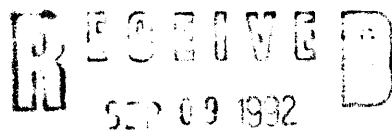


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OMB No. 1024-0018

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL
REGISTER

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Alabama Builders Hardware Manufacturing Co. (Boundary Increase)

other name/site number: W.B. Davis Hosiery Mill

2. Location

street & number: 203 8th Street N.E.

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Fort Payne

vicinity: N/A

state: AL county: DeKalb

code: 049

zip code: 35967

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private

Category of Property: building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 7

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. See continuation sheet.

[Handwritten Signature]

September 1, 1992

Signature of certifying official

Date

Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office)

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:

X entered in the National Register See continuation sheet.

M. J. M. V. 10/13/92

 determined eligible for the National Register

 See continuation sheet.

 determined not eligible for the National Register

 removed from the National Register

 other (explain):

for Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic: INDUSTRY

Sub: manufacturing facility

Current : WORK IN PROGRESS

Sub:

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

OTHER

Other Description: _____

Materials: foundation brick roof N/A
walls brick other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: A

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : _____

Areas of Significance: Industry

Period(s) of Significance: 1927 - c. 1940

Significant Dates : 1927 _____

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: J. Surrine and Co., Greenville, SC

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
X See continuation sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References

___ See continuation sheet.

- 1927 Plat map.
- Architectural blueprints (five), dated April 1927, J. Serrine and Co., Greenville, SC
- Sanborn Insurance Map, 1927.

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: Less than One Acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>16</u>	<u>617930</u>	<u>381260</u>	B	___	___	___
C	___	___	___	D	___	___	___

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

The boundaries for the Alabama Builders` Hardware Manufacturing Company Annex are contained within the legal description:
"Lots 11-16, in City Addition, Block 91 in the City of Fort Payne, Alabama."

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

The boundaries were delineated to include the 1927 mill annex.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Melanie Betz, National Register Coordinator

Organization: Alabama Historical Commission Date: August 31, 1992

Street & Number: 725 Monroe Street Telephone: 205/242-3184

City or Town: Montgomery State: AL ZIP: 36130

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section #7 Alabama Builders` Hardware Manufacturing Co. (Boundary Increase) Page #1

Description of Mill Annex:

The Annex for the Alabama Builders` Hardware Manufacturing Company (more commonly known as the W.B. Davis Mill) is located southwest of the original mill complex (NRHP 5/8/86) across Franklin Street. Designed by J.E. Sirrinc and Company, Engineers, of Greenville, North Carolina, the Annex is a three-story building with a full basement measuring approximately 197` X 62` and containing over 3200 square feet. The building is of heavy timber construction with load-bearing brick masonry exterior walls. The east facade displays 13 bays; the south facade displays 3 bays. These bays are visually separated by brick pilasters. 8`6" multipane projected steel windows fill the bays between the masonry pilasters. End bays display three, 15-light windows mullled together. Many of the lower level windows have been enclosed. The north facade has an original concrete loading dock and 6` wide concrete ramps; the south facade has a loading dock that was added in 1975. A tower containing the elevator and stair shafts is located on the west facade.

The original drawings of Engineers J.E. Sirrinc and Company, Greenville, SC, dated April 4, 1927, indicate a flat roof supported by wood joists, beams and columns. This, however, was changed to the present lamella arch roof design at the time of construction. Prefabricated in Germany and assembled on the building under the supervision of W.Y. Shugart, Sr., the lamella roof is made up of relatively short timbers of uniform length called lamellas. Bevelled and bored at the ends and bolted together at an angle, the lamellas form a network of decorative structural timber. In making this change, the entire building was provided with an automatic sprinkler system and automatically closing fire door, so as to conform with the requirements of the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

The first and second floors are 3" thick (2" thick pine subfloor and 1" X 4" tongue-in-groove random length boards) on 4" X 14" maple wood joists spanning 15 feet. The wood joists span 15` and are placed onto 12" X 14" wood beams supported by 7" diameter cast-iron columns 20` on centers. The basement floor is 5" thick finished concrete. The floor to ceiling heights are: 9` basement; 14` first floor; and 18` second floor at the apex of the roof. Much of the interior space is open and now used for storage.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Alabama Builders` Hardware Manufacturing Co. (Boundary Increase) Page #1

Criterion A (Industry):

The Annex for the Alabama Builders` Hardware Manufacturing Company complex (W. B. Davis Hosiery Mill) is significant for its associations with the growth and revival of industrial development in Fort Payne during the early 20th century. Locally recognized as the primary training facility for many of the local hosiery and sock manufacturers, it also served as a major impetus for the local expansion of this industry which has earned Fort Payne the title of "Sock Capitol of the World." Originally known as the Alabama Builders` Hardware Manufacturing Company, the plant was acquired in the early 1900s by W.B. Davis, a successful hosiery manufacturer from Chattanooga. It became the principal workplace for many living in or around Fort Payne.

With the rapid expansion of the mill, the W.B. Davis company constructed another building in 1927. The "New Mill" or W.B. Davis Hosiery Mill Annex was used for manufacturing and housed the Banner Knitting machines. It was connected to the original building by underground walkways. In 1974, the mill annex was opened as a commercial cabinet shop. Current plans for the building include converting it into loft-style apartments.

Although the Annex is a contributing building to the mill complex, it was inadvertently not included in the Alabama Builders` Hardware Manufacturing Company (W.B. Davis Hosiery Mill) National Register nomination (listed 05/08/86).

Historical Summary: Please refer to the original Alabama Builders` Hardware Manufacturing Company (W.B. Davis Hosiery Mill) National Register nomination.

APR 27 1992

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section---PHOTOGRAPHS

Alabama Builders` Hardware Manufacturing Co.

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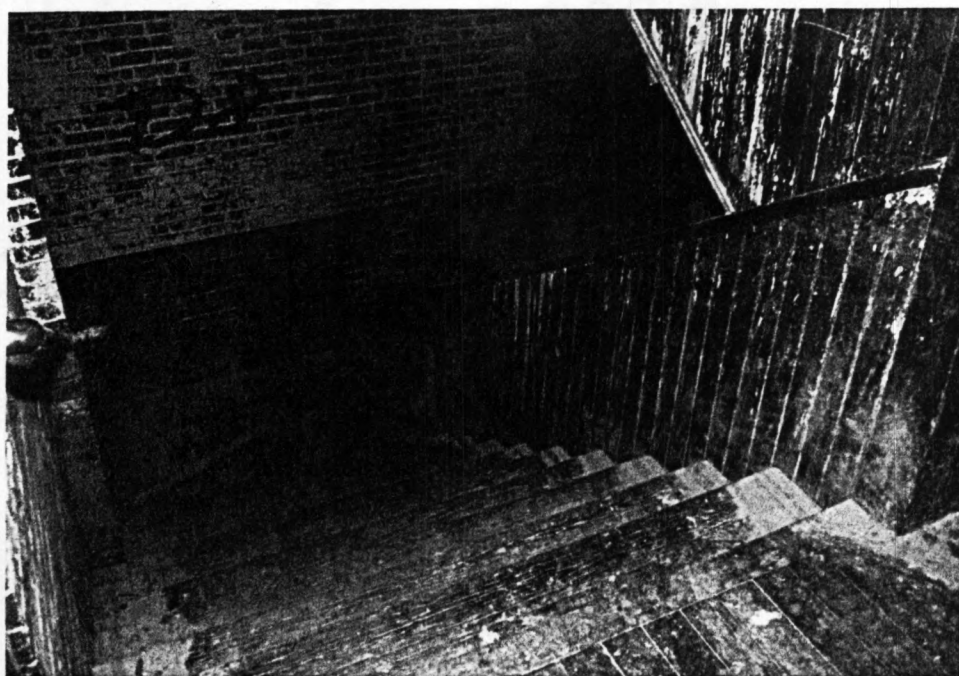
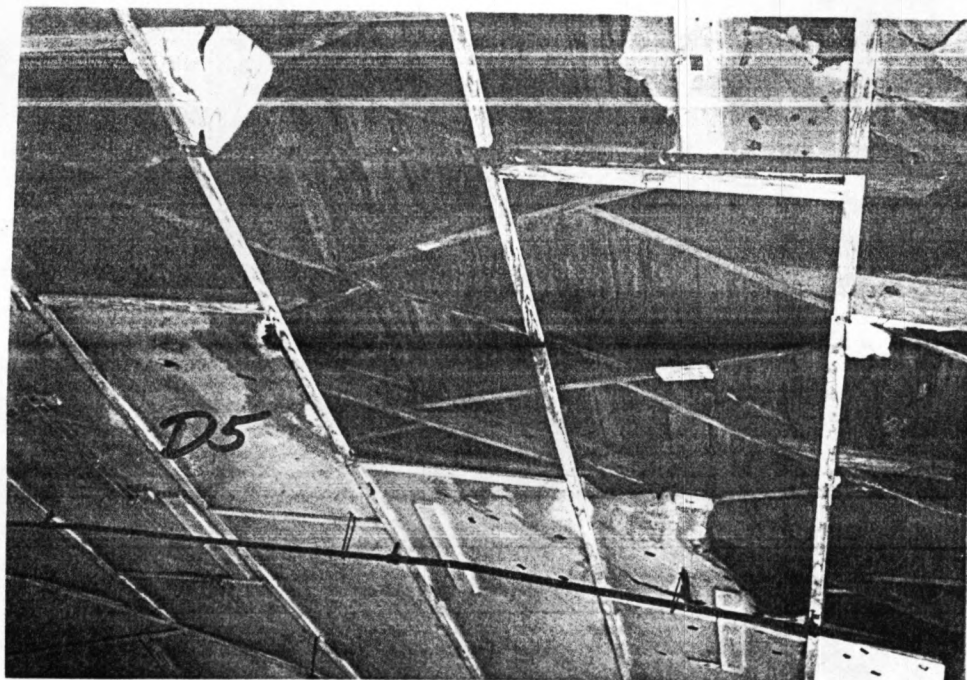
ALABAMA BUILDERS` HARDWARE MANUFACTURING CO. ANNEX
Fort Payne, Alabama (DeKalb County)
Stephen Brewer, Photographer
September 1991
Alabama Historical Commission

- Photo #1: Side facade, southeast view
- Photo #2: Northeast corner of annex, showing original mill complex
- Photo #3: Front and side facade, at 8th St. N.E. and Williams Ave. North
- Photo #4: South facade, looking north
- Photo #5: West facade, photo taken from side of lot
- Photo #6: Side and rear facades, photo taken from southwest corner
- Photo #7: West side, photo taken from railroad tracts
- Photo #8: Front facade, facing 8th Street northeast
- Photo #9: Original mill complex (NRHP 05/08/86)

Alabama Builders` Hardware Manufacturing Co.
Fort Payne, Alabama (DeKalb County)

APR 27 1992

Interior, Lamella Roof



Interior, Stairs

