

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

DEC 23 1987

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 Clarkdale
other names/site number Clarkdale Historic District
Coats and Clark Thread Mill

2. Location

street & number Powder Springs-Austell Road
city, town Clarkdale
state Georgia code GA county Cobb code 067 zip code 30020

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private (checked), public-local (checked), public-State, public-Federal
Category of Property: building(s), district (checked), site, structure, object
Number of Resources within Property: Contributing (99, 4, 3, 0, 106), Noncontributing (5 buildings, 0 sites, 0 structures, 0 objects, 5 Total)
Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

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.
Signature of certifying official: Elizabeth A. Lyon, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Date: 11/7/87
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. (checked)
determined eligible for the National Register.
determined not eligible for the National Register.
removed from the National Register.
other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper: [Handwritten Signature]
Date of Action: 12-23-87

## 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY: mill

DOMESTIC: single family dwelling

DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling

LANDSCAPE: park

SOCIAL: clubhouse

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE: business, professional

DOMESTIC: single family dwelling

DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling

LANDSCAPE: park

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19th-20th CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial  
Tudor

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls wood: weatherboard

brick

roof asbestos, asphalt

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Clarkdale Historic District is a historic planned industrial community. It is located in the western metropolitan Atlanta area, in a fast-growing but still relatively rural part of Cobb County. Dating from the early 1930s, the district consists of a textile factory and a mill village on approximately 90 acres of landscaped Piedmont terrain. The textile factory--a thread mill--consists of a main building plus several auxiliary structures. It is prominently situated on high ground at the western edge of the district. The mill is serviced by a rail spur from the south. The mill village consists of approximately 100 houses arranged along tree-shaded curvilinear village streets to the southeast of the factory complex. Several types, sizes, and styles of houses are represented in the mill village. Also included in the mill village are a historic community building, a ball field, and a small landscaped park which once contained tennis courts and a swimming pool.

### THE INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX

The industrial complex consists of a main mill building, a warehouse, a boiler house, a water tower, and the mill superintendent's office. All these historic buildings are located on a knoll at the western edge of the district. They are surrounded by open grassy areas, parking lots and driveways, and groupings of mature hardwood trees.

The main mill building is a long, rectangular, three-story structure (125 feet by 500 feet in dimensions). It was built in 1931. The building exhibits a simplified, utilitarian design, highlighted by projecting end bays on the main (east) facade. These projecting bays feature tripartite windows, projecting ground-floor entryways, inlaid artificial stone panels, and raised parapets. A new "post-modern" projecting entry has been constructed at the center of the main facade. Exterior walls feature brick piers on a concrete foundation. The red-brick surfaces are highlighted with cast-stone and limestone window sills and a limestone cornice. Original windows consisted of relatively large, rectangular, steel sash; these windows were removed and the window openings bricked up in 1957 when modern

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air-conditioning equipment was installed in the mill. Rows of brick laid in soldier courses define the former window openings. During the recent rehabilitation of the mill, selected windows were restored. The interior of the mill consists of three relatively open floors. Recently, each floor has been subdivided by central corridors with aluminum and glass walls; some interior spaces have been further subdivided with partition walls. A new atrium extending from the ground floor to a new centrally located skylight occupies the central portion of the building. The interior structure consists of steel posts and beams supporting heavy timber flooring. The floors are composite, consisting of thick heart-pine subfloors and thinner maple wearing surfaces.

The warehouse is located to the southwest of the main mill building, along the railroad spur at the extreme west edge of the historic district. The warehouse is a low, rectangular, one-story, brick-and-wood building. The building is subdivided into five sections or bays by brick firewalls. The bays are enclosed with wood-framed walls with large sliding doors. Just beyond the north end of the warehouse stands the small, brick boiler house. Attached to the boiler house is a tall brick chimney, circular in cross section, with a corbeled brick cornice. North of the boiler house, and directly behind the main mill building, stands the water tower. The water tower consists of a metal tank with conical top and hemispherical bottom elevated on a tapered metal truss. The mill office is located to the northeast of the main mill building, at the end of a tree-lined driveway. The mill office is built of brick and resembles a small house.

Nonhistoric auxiliary buildings are limited to a single one-story metal building located immediately southwest of the main mill building. Although nonhistoric, this structure is compatible with the industrial character of the mill complex.

The mill complex sits on a knoll at the western edge of the district. A railroad spur enters the complex from the south. To the north is the Powder Springs-Austell Road (formerly U. S. Route 278). Undeveloped land lies to the west. Historically, an open expanse of gently sloping land bordered the mill complex to the east and southeast, separating it from the mill village beyond. This land featured a large, open, grassy central area known historically as the "mill lawn," clumps of trees, and pathways connecting the main mill and the mill village. Four mill village houses were moved onto the southeastern edge of the mill lawn from their original sites on Bothwell Street in the 1960s. More recently, much of this open space has been utilized for parking lots, driveways, and access roads for the rehabilitated mill building. A drainage retention pond has been created between the mill office and the Powder Springs-Austell Road. Most of the historic trees have been retained, including those along the front of the

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mill building and those lining the former driveway to the mill office. The historic vehicular entrance to the mill complex, at the intersection of the Powder Springs-Austell Road and Newark Avenue, has been reworked to accommodate increased traffic.

### THE MILL VILLAGE

The mill village is located southeast of the mill complex and south of the Powder Springs-Austell Road. It consists of approximately 100 houses of various sizes, styles, and types on relatively small lots along tree-shaded, curvilinear streets. Also included in the mill village are a historic community center, a ball field, and a former park. The mill village is bordered by nonhistoric development along the Powder Springs-Austell Road to the north, undeveloped land to the southeast, south, and southwest, and the mill complex to the northwest.

The mill village is situated on a tract of gently rolling Piedmont terrain. Overall, the land slopes gradually, but irregularly, downward from the Powder Springs-Austell Road. The mill village is laid out in an irregular pattern of curvilinear streets. The streets are bordered by concrete sidewalks and large shade trees. Lots are relatively small and irregularly shaped. Most of the lots in the village back up to a network of service alleys. Yards are informally landscaped with lawn, shrubbery, trees, and occasional specimen plants and flower gardens. Where the topography is extreme, front yards feature earthen terraces.

Houses in the district are sited to the front and center of their lots. They are set back a uniform distance from the streets. All are one-story high, and all are wood-framed. Virtually all the houses retain their original overall design, and many retain their original exterior materials, although many also have been re-sided with aluminum, vinyl, or asbestos siding; other nonhistoric alterations include porch enclosures, replacement of porch posts, window and door replacements, and the addition of shutters. There are several types of historic houses in the village, all built between 1931 and 1932 according to a master plan prepared by the mill company. Two types of houses predominate: single family and duplexes. Most of the duplexes are long, low structures, situated parallel to the street, with gable roofs and projecting end "pavilions" which may be hip- or gable-roofed. Other duplexes face the street with a broad gable and central front porch. Single-family houses are primarily of the forward-facing gable-roofed type, usually with an offset gabled front porch. A few of the larger single-family houses, located nearest to the mill complex, are larger and feature a more elaborate, English Cottage-style design with multiple gables, flanking side porches, and a front chimney. Four historic mill houses, formerly at the end of Bothwell Street immediately south of the mill

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complex, were moved in the 1960s to new lots across Bothwell Street, on a portion of the mill lawn, nearer the intersection of Bothwell Street and Newark Avenue; the historic sites of these houses are now undeveloped, largely wooded lots. A pre-existing house on the mill village site, facing the Powder Springs-Austell Road near its intersection with Newark Avenue, was incorporated into the overall layout of the mill village; this older house is one and one-half stories high and features exterior end chimneys, a one-story front porch, and a shed-type rear ell. Its orientation at an angle from the other mill houses along the main highway also sets it apart from the rest of the mill village housing.

In the back yards of the mill village houses are numerous small nonhistoric outbuildings, mostly storage sheds. At several places in the mill village, near the intersections of the alleys and streets, are historic automobile garages. Erected in 1935, these garages are long, low, gable-roofed, wood-framed utilitarian structures. Each garage has several stalls.

At the dead-end of Clark Street in the southeast portion of the village stands the historic community center. This building, constructed in 1934, is a one-story wood-framed structure with a broad, low, forward-facing gabled roof. Architectural detailing is limited to boxed cornices and cornice returns and a bracketed canopy over the front entrance. Behind the community building, occupying the southeast portion of the historic district, is the historic athletic field. Essentially a flat, open area designed for outdoor recreation, the athletic field was developed when the community building was built, in accordance with the original master plan for the mill village. Across the mill village from the athletic field, and to the south of the mill complex, is the community park site. Occupying undeveloped land between Newark Avenue and the railroad tracks, the community park site features the remains of the village tennis courts, the site of the community swimming pool (filled in and grassed over in the 1960s), and landscape features, all dating from 1936. Among the surviving landscape features are groupings of specimen trees, including magnolias and cypress, and low concrete bollards marking pathways and activity areas.

## CONTRIBUTING/NONCONTRIBUTING PROPERTIES

Contributing buildings and structures in the Clarkdale Historic District include the mill and its historic auxiliary buildings and structures, historic mill housing, the pre-existing house on the Powder Springs-Austell Road which has been incorporated into the mill village, the community center, the athletic field, the community park, the overall plan of the community, and historic landscaping in the mill village and around the mill. The only noncontributing buildings and structures in the historic district are the four moved houses along the north side of Bothwell Street, on the

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mill lawn, and the metal storage building adjacent to the southwest corner of the main mill building. Although the four moved houses are historic, they were moved less than fifty years ago to a location in the district which never had houses on it and which was never intended to serve as the site for housing. The metal storage building next to the main mill is a modern structure.

**BOUNDARIES**

The historic district boundaries have been drawn to include the historic Clarkdale mill and mill village as planned and developed between 1931 and 1936. Nonhistoric development along the north side of the Powder Springs-Austell Road north of the mill village and undeveloped land to the east, south, and west of the mill village define the extent of historic development.

**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 N.A.

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)  
community planning and development  
architecture  
landscape architecture  
industry

Period of Significance  
1931-1936  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Significant Dates  
1931  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation N.A.

Significant Person  
N.A.

Architect/Builder  
J. E. Sirrine Company (engineers)  
Fisk Carter (mill village builder)  
A. K. Adams (mill builder)

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

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Clarkdale Historic District is significant as an intact early 20th-century example of an planned industrial community in Georgia. Such communities were developed in Georgia from the 1880s through the 1930s as a result of the "New South" philosophy of industrialization. Planned in the early 1930s, largely developed between 1931 and 1932, and virtually completed with all its planned amenities by 1936, Clarkdale today represents the historic Southern "company town" with its industrial complex, its housing, and its social and recreational facilities carefully arranged according to a master plan in an isolated, landscaped setting. As such, it reflects important historic community planning principles and practices. It also contains significant examples of industrial and domestic architecture situated in a planned and largely intact landscaped setting. Developed as it was in the 1930s, Clarkdale is believed to be among the last, if not the last, of the planned industrial communities developed throughout Georgia during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Community Planning and Development

Clarkdale is significant in terms of community planning and development because it is an intact early 20th-century example of a planned industrial town and because it today reflects the principles and practices which guided the planning and development of such communities in the late 19th and early 20th centuries in Georgia. Like others of its type, it was conceived to support the establishment of new industry in the state: in 1931, the Clark Thread Company moved its American thread-manufacturing operations from New Jersey to Georgia. Also like others of its type, it was located near but not in an urban area, on an extensive tract of undeveloped land, with convenient railroad connections. As was the general practice in creating mill villages, the Clarkdale village included not only the mill complex

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itself but also houses for the mill workers and supervisors along with social and recreational facilities and community amenities including landscaping. The entire community was owned by the mill company and planned and developed according to a master plan.

In virtually every respect, the planning and development of Clarkdale adheres to the model of the company town in Georgia. Of particular significance is the location of the mill village in a remote area, buffered against future encroachment by vast tracts of undeveloped land, yet provided with convenient railroad service. Also of importance is the separation of the mill complex and the mill village, in this case achieved by an expanse of open, informally landscaped space surrounding the mill complex. Equally important is the irregular, curvilinear layout of the mill village. Earlier mill villages, such as the 1880s Crown Mill village in Dalton, Whitfield County, Georgia (listed in the National Register), usually were developed according to a gridiron street pattern, but starting in the 1920s--and popularized by the critically acclaimed Chocopee Mill and Village near Gainesville in Hall County, Georgia (also listed in the National Register)--less rigid and more informal patterns of development were almost universally adopted, following along the lines of fashionable suburban development. Other significant planning features present at Clarkdale include paved sidewalks paralleling the streets, community facilities including a community center, athletic fields, tennis courts, and a swimming pool site, community utilities including underground water and sewerage systems, electrical service (a novelty at the time in much of rural Georgia), and service alleys in the middle of the residential blocks. Planned landscape amenities include shade trees along the streets and a landscaped community park. Suitable accommodations for mill workers and supervisors, with modern conveniences including indoor plumbing and electric kitchens, was provided through standardized housing in a planned residential development. An unusual community planning feature is the provision of automobile garages in the mill village. These garages, and a projected company service station which never was built, reflect the relatively late date of the Clarkdale development and the growth of automobile ownership in the 20th century. Equally unusual is the absence of another hallmark of the planned company town: the company store. In Clarkdale, a pre-existing country store located across the Powder Springs-Austell Road from the mill village served as the village store. Recently, this historic store building was replaced with a modern convenience store. Also conspicuously absent from the village are churches and schools. Originally part of the mill village plan, these facilities were not developed until after World War II--perhaps because of the debilitating effects of the Depression--on land across the Powder Springs-Austell Road.



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Clarkdale was planned by the J. E. Sirrine Company of Greenville, South Carolina, a firm noted throughout the southeast for its progressive mill village planning. Only four years earlier, the Sirrine Company had worked with Earle Draper, the acclaimed early 20th-century community planner and the South's first professionally trained landscape architect, on the planning and development of Chicopee Mill and Village in near Gainesville in Hall County, Georgia, one of the more than 150 mill villages associated with Draper. This joint enterprise may have provided the Sirrine Company with the expertise for laying out a picturesque mill village like Chicopee in Clarkdale. The Sirrine Company also prepared the plans for the main mill building at Clarkdale.

Clarkdale is believed to be the last of the historic planned mill communities in Georgia, a development tradition which began in the 1880s. Although not completely documented, it appears that widespread ownership of automobiles and a desire for social independence on the part of mill workers rendered the mill village obsolete by the 1940s. Thus, Clarkdale with its many characteristic planning and development features appears to mark the end of the period of the company town in Georgia.

### Architecture

The Clarkdale Historic District is significant in terms of architecture because it contains good intact examples of two important types of buildings associated with early 20th-century industrial and community development in Georgia: mill buildings and mill houses.

The main mill building at Clarkdale is a relatively simple and straightforward work of early 20th-century industrial design. Its simple, bold massing and unadorned form reflect both the tradition of industrial design in Georgia, where architectural elaboration of factories and mills is the exception and not the rule, and the prevailing stylistic tendencies of American industrial design in the 1920s and 1930s which were increasingly infused with the principles of "modern" architecture. Its red-brick exterior makes references to earlier brick factories in Georgia, but these are visual references only: at Clarkdale, unlike earlier mills elsewhere, the brick walls are merely veneers for an interior structural skeleton and do not bear the load of the building. In typical "modern" fashion, the designers of the Clarkdale mill reduced the exterior brick wall to a minimum and introduced relatively large steel-sash windows. The overall effect, in keeping with the tenets of contemporary architectural design, was to "open up" the building and emphasize its structural framework. Although these large, character-defining windows were later bricked up, their presence can be read in the subtle changes in brickwork and in the stone sills and soldier-course brick lintels which still define the former window openings.

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A recent rehabilitation project has resulted in the restoration of selected windows, thereby providing a renewed sense of the historic character of the mill building. Less "modern," at least in terms of factory design, is the three-floor arrangement of the mill building. Four years earlier, at the Chicopee mill near Gainesville, Georgia, Earle Draper and the J. E. Serrine Company had pioneered, in Georgia, the sprawling one-story factory that heralded the future for mill design in the South. Why this later mill at Clarkdale, also designed by the Serrine Company, utilized the older, multi-floor design is not clear. On its interior, the main mill building features characteristically open floors punctuated only by necessary rows of supporting columns. At Clarkdale, these columns are of steel, rather than the heavy wood timbers of earlier mills, and they support steel beams rather than wood timbers. 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 20th century. Floors in the mill are made in the traditional way, using thick pine planks and maple wearing surfaces. Although the historically open floors in the Clarkdale mill have been partially subdivided in recent rehabilitation work, a sense of their former openness has been maintained through the use of partial and transparent partitions. The new atrium cut into the center of the building has introduced a new vertical opening in the building which, although not historic, exposes to view the structural system and emphasizes the open character of the interior space.

The houses at Clarkdale are important examples of an important type of historic building in Georgia: mill housing. Mill housing in the state spans the period from the 1880s through the 1930s. Albeit modest and inexpensive, this mill housing is characterized by standardized plans, provision of modern conveniences, and minimal traditional stylistic references. Such is the case with the early 1930s housing at Clarkdale. Planned by company engineers, the housing consists of several standardized models of both duplexes and single-family residences. Subtle variations in roofline, gable orientation, porch arrangement, and other details are used to further differentiate the housing types. Stylistic detailing, where present, is minimal, making reference to prevailing Colonial Revival and English Tudor styles of suburban residential architecture. Modern kitchens, bathrooms, indoor plumbing, and electricity are provided. Of special interest is the range of housing types and sizes, reflecting the hierarchy of mill workers, from the duplexes with their smaller accommodations to the largest, Tudor-style, single-family supervisors' cottages. Such a range of house types and sizes is typical of mill villages in Georgia and contributes to the traditional historic character of these communities.

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Other important architectural building types at Clarkdale include the community center and the automobile garages. The community centers found in most mill villages are usually simple, straightforward, commodious structures designed for maximum flexibility and utility. The Clarkdale community center is no exception. The automobile garages are a relatively unusual type of building in a mill village, however, by virtue of the fact that most mill villages in Georgia were built before automobiles were in general usage. These buildings thus represent a rare historic building type in the state, and they document the relatively late date of the mill village's development.

Landscape Architecture

An important aspect of many mill communities in Georgia, especially those developed in the 20th century, is designed landscaping. In Clarkdale, as in other mill villages in Georgia, this is most apparent in the large shade trees which line the village streets. These shade trees are a traditional community landscape feature in Georgia, especially in residential neighborhoods, but they are particularly characteristic of early 20th-century planned communities including mill villages. They were called for by the master plans for the mill community developed by the J. E. Surrine Company of South Carolina; just four years earlier, the Surrine Company had worked with the noted landscape architect Earle Draper on plans for the Chicopee mill village in Hall County, Georgia, with its extensive landscaping including tree-shaded streets. Complementing the park-like effect of these shade trees are the curbed and guttered streets, the flanking sidewalks, and the informally landscaped front yards of the mill village houses, all characteristic of early 20th-century mill village landscaping. The front yards originally were laid out and maintained by the mill company according to the community's master plan. Similar informal but designed landscaping surrounded the mill complex and buffered it from the mill village. Of this historic landscaping, the clumps and rows of shade trees and a sense of the open space of the historic mill lawn remain today, even though the formerly grassy greensward has been largely replaced with parking lots and driveways.

Although not "landscaping" in the traditional sense of the word, an important historic designed open space in Clarkdale village is the athletic field. Located in the southeast portion of the district, behind the community center, the athletic field has provided ground for recreation in the village since 1934. It too was a part of the master plan for the mill village. It reflects the convergence of landscape architecture, park design, and recreation that characterizes early 20th-century community improvement efforts nationally.

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Another historic landscape feature in the mill village is the park area south of the mill complex between Newark Avenue and the railroad tracks. Virtually all of Georgia's planned industrial communities featured some kind of community park or public landscaping. Developed in 1936 according to the master plan for Clarkdale, this park area consisted of tennis courts, a swimming pool, and landscaping. Today, only the landscaping and remnants of the tennis courts survive; the swimming pool was filled in and grassed over years ago. Important surviving landscape features include specimen plantings of magnolia and cypress trees and arrangements of low concrete bollards marking historic paths and other activity areas.

Industry

In terms of industry, the Clarkdale Historic District is significant as an important regional industry which bolstered the local economy during the depths of the Great Depression and as an example, late in the period, of how Georgia and the South became industrialized following the widespread acceptance of Henry Grady's "New South" philosophy. After the Civil War, many politicians, government officials, and social leaders believed that the South was little more than an agricultural colony to the heavily industrialized northern and midwestern states. As a way of achieving economic if not political independence, these leaders advocated increased industrial development. Industry was encouraged to locate in or near small communities with railroad connections. To accommodate a new work force, the industrial developers planned and built mill villages. Among the earliest of the "New South" mill villages was Crown Mill in Dalton, Whitfield County, Georgia (listed in the National Register), established in the mid-1880s. Among the most famous is the 1920s Chicopee Mill and Village near Gainesville in Hall County, Georgia (also listed in the National Register). With the pattern thus set, industrial development increased during the late 19th century and into the early 20th century. Although some industries were created by local expertise and money, many more relocated from the North. While a few relocated their entire operations including corporate management, most relocated only their actual manufacturing operations, leaving the corporate headquarters behind. By the 1940s, the automobile and worker independence had rendered the traditional mill village obsolete; new industries located near established communities or attracted workers by locating near good highways, and older industries began divesting themselves of their mill villages.

Clarkdale was created according to this model of late 19th-early 20th century Southern industrialization. In 1931, the Clark Thread Company, a Scottish firm with American roots extending back to the mid-19th century, moved their American thread-manufacturing operations from New Jersey to Georgia. Although the early years of the Great Depression might seem to be

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an inauspicious time for building a new manufacturing facility, the textile industry as a whole was less impacted than other industries by the Depression and the Clark Thread Company made sewing thread which was in great demand during these lean years. The company also was concerned about increasing labor unrest at its Newark, New Jersey plant and moved to take advantage of the abundant nonunionized Southern labor force. Other factors contributing to the decision to move south were inexpensive land, cheap electric power, the development of air-conditioning systems, and a lower cost of living. Clarkdale was the first of nine industrial facilities developed by the Clark Thread Company (later the Coats and Clark Company) in Georgia, and it was the only location where the company built a mill village along with its mill. The other Clark company facilities were established in Toccoa (1937 and 1952), Pelham (during World War II), Albany (at the end of World War II), Acworth (1947), Thomasville (1948), Ashburn (1970s), and Douglas (late 1970s).

For a variety of reasons, not all of which have been completely documented but which include the widespread private ownership of automobiles and increasing worker independence, the era of the Southern mill town came to an end in the 1930s. Indeed, Clarkdale is believed to have been the last mill village established in Georgia. Thus, Clarkdale caps an era of industrial development in the state which began in the 1880s with Crown Mill and its contemporaries, peaked in the 1920s with the nationally significant Chicopee mill and village, and culminated in the establishment of Clarkdale and its contemporaries in the early 1930s.

## NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA

Criterion A: The Clarkdale Historic District meets National Register Criterion A because of its significance in the areas of industry and community planning. The planning and development of Clarkdale is associated with significant events in the history of industry in Georgia. In particular, Clarkdale is associated with the "New South" industrialization of the state. Clarkdale represents the end of a discrete period of Georgia's history, dating from the 1880s through the 1930s, during which new industries were established--many of them relocating from the North--and mill towns built to accommodate them. The development of Clarkdale also represents the way in which many company towns were established in Georgia during this period.

Criterion C: The Clarkdale Historic District meets National Register Criterion C because of its significance in the areas of community planning, architecture, and landscape architecture. Overall, the district constitutes a model planned industrial community with virtually all its characteristic planning and environmental features. More specifically, it contains

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important types of historic buildings associated with planned industrial communities in Georgia. The district also features designed landscaping which is characteristic of early 20th-century planned industrial communities in the state.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

SEE continuation sheet, Item 9

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested historical district
- 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property 91 acres (acreeage estimator)

UTM References

A 16 | 716950 | 3745970  
 Zone Easting Northing

B 16 | 717600 | 3745670  
 Zone Easting Northing

C 16 | 717440 | 3745300

D 16 | 716770 | 3745220

E 16 716700 3745960

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The historic district boundary is described in Section 7 of this form and by a heavy black line drawn to scale on the enclosed "District Map."

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The historic district boundary is justified in Section 7 of this form. The boundary is drawn to include the mill and mill village as planned in 1931 and developed between 1931 and 1936.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Richard Cloues, National Register Coordinator  
 organization Historic Preservation Section, Ga. Dept. Natural Resources date November 3, 1987  
 street & number 205 Butler Street, Suite 1462 telephone 404-656-2840  
 city or town Atlanta state Georgia zip code 30334

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SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Brooks, Carolyn. "Chicopee Mill and Village Historic District." (Hall County, Georgia.) National Register Nomination Form. May 31, 1985 (listed July 25, 1985).

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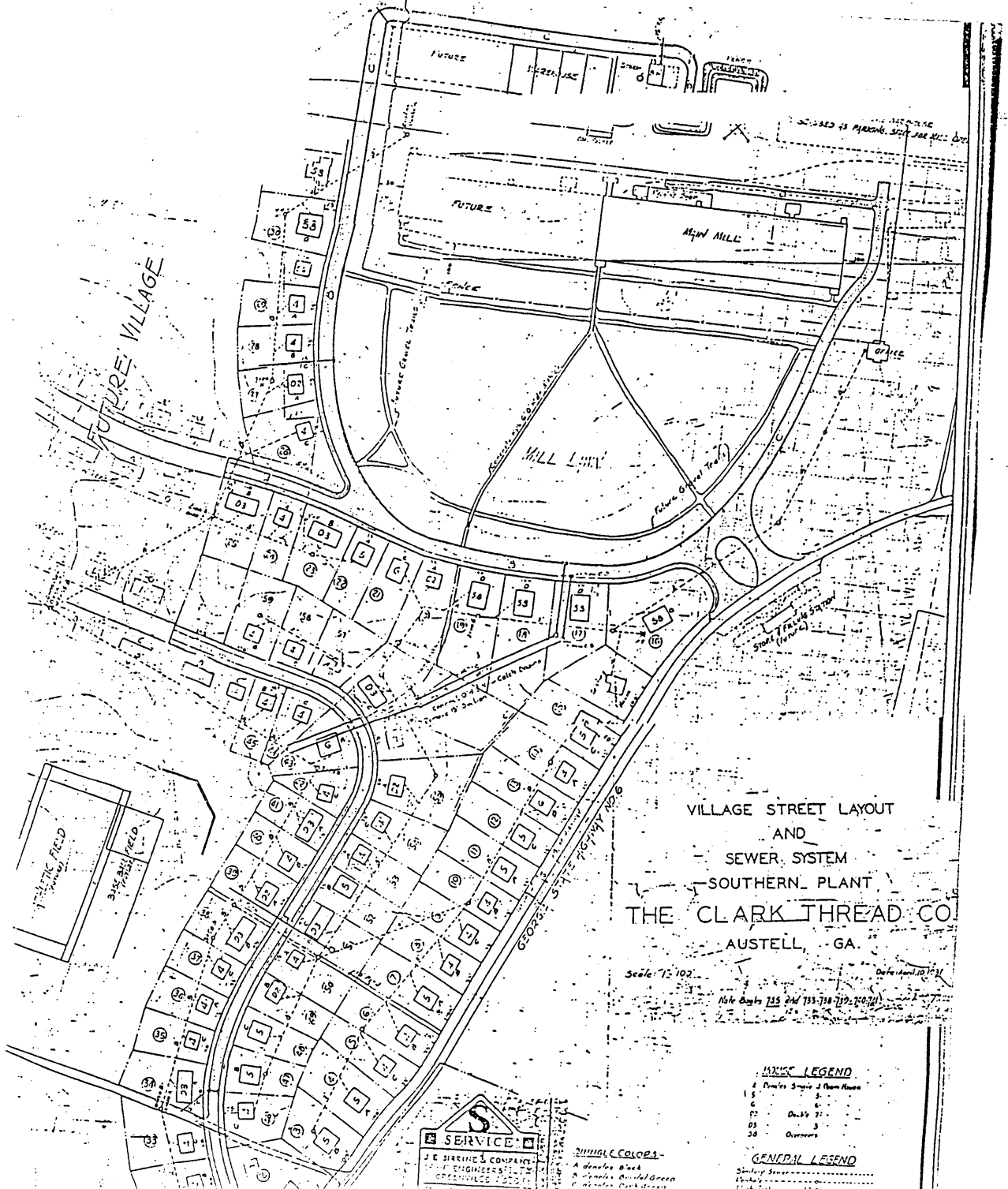


Clarkdale Historic District  
 Clarkdale, Cobb County, Georgia

A Portion of the 1931 Master Plan  
 for Clarkdale

Prepared by the J. E. Surrine Company,  
 Greenville, South Carolina

for the Clark Thread Company



VILLAGE STREET LAYOUT  
 AND  
 SEWER SYSTEM  
 SOUTHERN PLANT  
 THE CLARK THREAD CO.  
 AUSTELL, GA.

Scale: 1/2" = 100'

1931-1932 715 2nd 793-718-719-720-721

**HOUSE LEGEND**

1	Double Single & Open House
2	...
3	...
4	...
5	...
6	...
7	...
8	...
9	...
10	...

**GENERAL LEGEND**

1	...
2	...
3	...
4	...
5	...
6	...
7	...
8	...
9	...
10	...

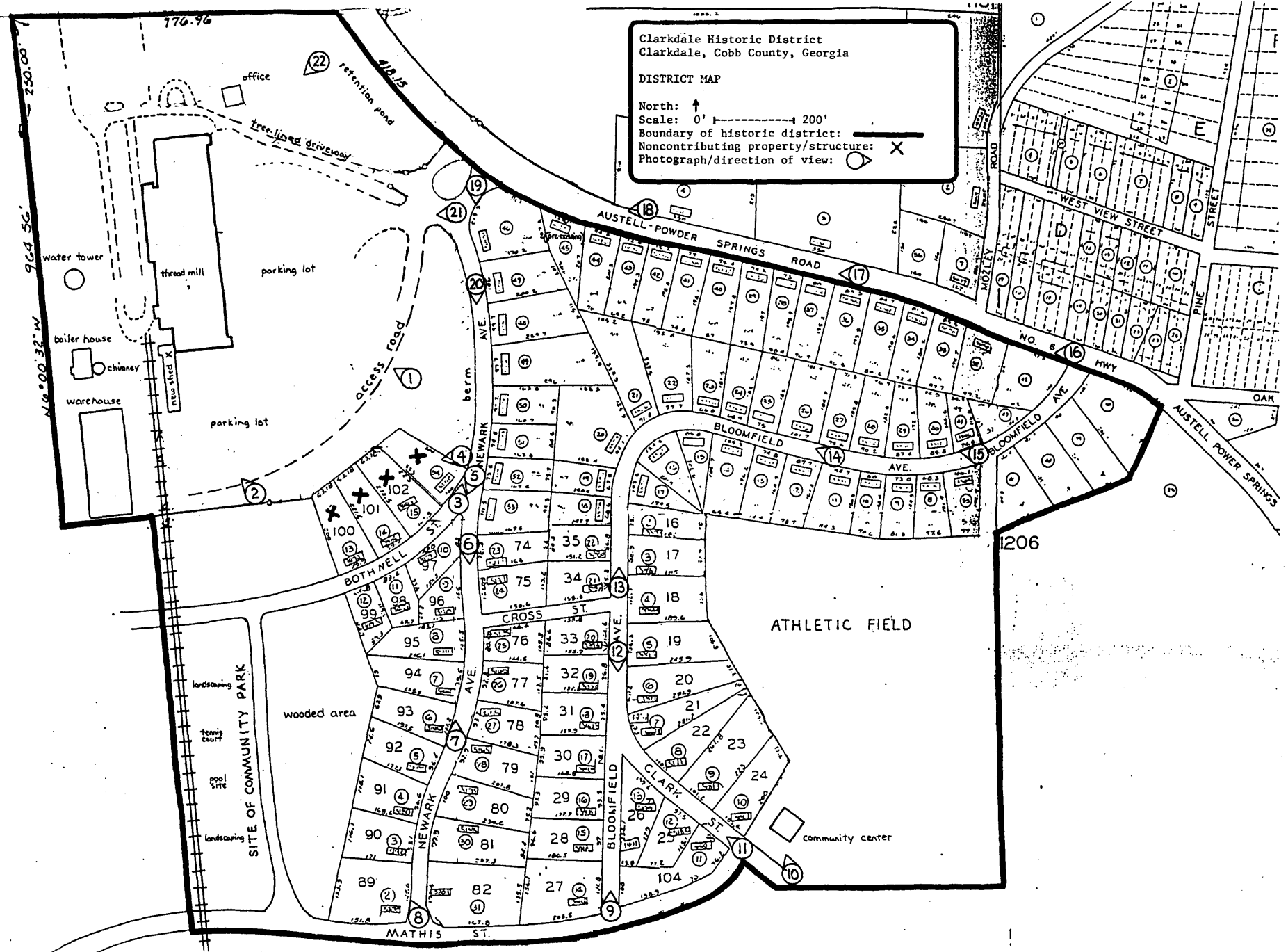
**SERVICE**  
 J. E. SURRINE & COMPANY  
 ENGINEERS  
 GREENVILLE, S. C.

**SHRINK COLORS**  
 A. Double Black  
 B. Double Green  
 C. Double Red

Clarkdale Historic District  
 Clarkdale, Cobb County, Georgia

DISTRICT MAP

North: ↑  
 Scale: 0' ——— 200'  
 Boundary of historic district: ———  
 Noncontributing property/structure: X  
 Photograph/direction of view: ○



776.96  
 250.00  
 904.56  
 910.00  
 710.32  
 W

206

landscaping  
 tennis court  
 pool site  
 landscaping  
 SITE OF COMMUNITY PARK

ATHLETIC FIELD

community center

office

parking lot

water tower

thread mill

boiler house

chimney

warehouse

parking lot

wooded area

MATHIS ST.

AUSTELL-POWDER SPRINGS ROAD

BLOOMFIELD AVE.

BOTHWELL ST.

CROSS ST.

CLARK ST.

WEST VIEW STREET

PINE STREET

OAK STREET

NO. 6 FWY

AUSTELL POWER SPRINGS

access road

berm

NEWARK AVE.

BLOOMFIELD AVE.

NEWARK AVE.

NEWARK AVE.

CLARK ST.

BLOOMFIELD AVE.

NEWARK AVE.

BLOOMFIELD AVE.

MATHIS ST.

NEWARK AVE.

BLOOMFIELD AVE.

MATHIS ST.