

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 for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.



1. Name of Property

Historic name: Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill

Other names/site number: NA

Name of related multiple property listing: Industrial and Commercial Buildings Related to the Textile Industry in the Kensington Neighborhood of Philadelphia

2. Location

Street & number: 178-180 W. Huntingdon Street

City or town: Philadelphia State: PA County: Philadelphia

Not for Publication: NA Vicinity: NA

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

	<u>10/10/2019</u>
Signature of certifying official:	Date
<u>Andrea L. MacDonald/Deputy SHPO/Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission</u>	
Title/State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property <input type="checkbox"/> meets <input type="checkbox"/> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title/State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain) _____

	<u>11/26/19</u>
Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action

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5. 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

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions: Industry/Manufacturing

Current Functions: Vacant/Not in Use

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7. Description

Architectural Classification: NA

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick

Narrative Description

The Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill stands at 178-180 W. Huntingdon Street in northeast Philadelphia. It is in a primarily residential neighborhood, surrounded by occasional industrial buildings, low-rise brick rowhomes, and vacant lots. The massive 2½- and 6-story brick building was constructed in five phases: 1881-1883, 1892, 1898, c.1925 and 1940. Despite the phased construction, the consistency of building materials and detailing (with the exception of the small 1940 portion) give the building a unified appearance. The Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill retains its integrity, as both the overall form and defining industrial characteristics remain intact since the last period of major construction in 1940. The property's location is within the geographic area covered by the *Industrial and Commercial Buildings Related to the Textile Industry in the Kensington Neighborhood of Philadelphia* Multiple Property Documentation Form.



Aerial photo, 2018, view facing southeast, mill property indicated by arrow in center of image.

The Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill fills the north end of a block bounded by W. Huntingdon Street to the north, N. Hancock Street to the west, W. Cumberland Street to the south and Mutter Street to the east. The remainder of the block is primarily overgrown lots with grass and mature trees, with

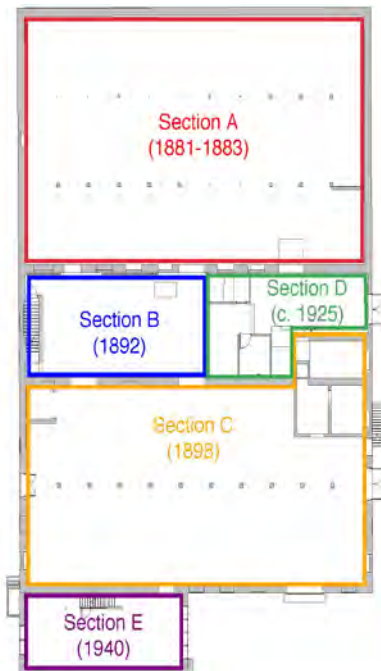
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the exception of four, 3-story row houses facing N. Hancock Street. The building stands one block south of E. Lehigh Avenue and approximately 1.5 miles northwest of the Delaware River. It is situated on a flat parcel of land that is devoid of any landscape features other than concrete sidewalks to the north, east and west. Abutting the west side of the south elevation is 2541 W. Hancock Street. The surrounding neighborhood consists of a mix of late nineteenth century two- and three-story brick row houses, scattered low-rise industrial buildings and empty lots. The now-vacant lots formerly held rowhomes or industrial resources similar to those remaining in the neighborhood today.



Building Chronology

The subject property was constructed in five contiguous sections (Sections A, B, C, D and E). **Section A** was constructed in 1881-1883 (Photographs #1, 2, 9, and 10). The 2½-story building has a rectangular footprint and spans the width of the block. It has a gable roof with a 4' high brick monitor running the length of the building from east to west and decorative brick corbeling along the perimeter roof lines. **Section B** is located to the south of Section A (Photograph #2). The 2½-story, rectangular addition was constructed in 1892 and faces N. Hancock Street to the west, integrated seamlessly into the Section A façade, and connects to Section D at the complex's interior. It has a flat roof. **Section C** is located directly to the south of Sections B and D and spans the width of the block (Photographs #1 and 3-10). The 5½-story addition, which towers over the rest of the complex, was constructed in 1898. It has a shallow gable roof with a low brick parapet around the perimeter. The N. Hancock Street (west) side includes freight doors in the center bay of the 1st through 5th floors, with a hoist above the top floor. Projecting from the northeast corner of Section C is a distinctive 6½-story, square fire and water tower. **Section D** is located to the south of Section A, to the east of Section B and to the north of Section C (Photograph #9), filling in the

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interior of the complex.¹ The 2½-story, L-shaped section was constructed c.1925 and faces Mutter Street to the east. It has a flat roof. **Section E** is located directly to the south of Section C (Photographs #4-6). The 2½-story, rectangular addition was constructed in 1940 and faces N. Hancock Street to the west. At a glance it resembles the adjacent rowhomes but features International styling instead of the vernacular 19th century local rowhome appearance. It was constructed to serve as the administrative space for the company. Section E has a flat roof with a shallow brick parapet along the east and west elevations. The window openings are partially glass block, and the front steps and porch have a distinctive handrail and bannister.

On all elevations, the brick on the lower portion of the building is painted. Section A, B and C have brick corbelling and a simple wood cornice along the roofline.

The north elevation, facing W. Huntingdon Street, is 2½-stories in height and eleven bays wide (Photograph #1). The entire elevation is part of Section A. In the raised basement, the window openings either contain 10-light metal windows or have been infilled with brick.² On the 1st and 2nd floors, the five outermost bays contain 10-light metal windows in various states of disrepair. The center bays contain larger openings, presumably used for loading, with painted plywood infill and stone lintels.

The west elevation, facing N. Hancock Street, is comprised of Section A, B C, and E, from north to south. Section A is seven bays wide and resembles that of the north elevation in configuration and detailing with multi-light metal windows within shortened openings in the outermost bays and a larger opening in the center bays with contemporary infill (Photograph #2). The window openings were likely shortened in 1948 when the replacement windows were installed. Above the center bay on the 2nd floor is a bas-relief date stone reading "1881." The flat end of the gable-roof monitor is visible above. The west elevation of Section B is 2½-stories and three bays wide (Photograph #2). It is similar to Section A, except that it has an elevated single-leaf wood door with 1-light wood transom to the south, which is accessed by a projecting set of metal steps with decorative metal bannister. Section C is 5½-stories in height and five bays wide (Photograph #3). On all floors, the two outermost bays have regular window openings with contemporary infill, stone sills and jack arched brick heads. The center bay of each floor has a larger opening with recessed, painted plywood infill, which were presumably used for moving materials and finished products. There is a hoist bar above the 5th floor opening. Section E is 2½-stories and two bays wide (Photograph #4). The section was designed in a more Modern style and was exclusively used as office space. Stone stringcourses separate the floors and there is a stone cap along the roofline. The raised basement contains painted metal louvers. On the 1st floor, the northernmost most bay contains an elevated single-leaf wood door that is accessed by brick and concrete steps with a decorative metal railing. The southernmost bay, along with both bays on the 2nd floor, contains one 1/1 metal window with flanking glass block panels.

¹ Prior to the construction of Section D, there was a 1-story building in the same location that dated to c.1900 and was used as a boiler house.

² Throughout Section A, the metal windows date to 1948. Application No. 8950B, 10 July 1948.

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The south elevation, facing the interior of the block, is comprised of Section C, with Section E obscured by adjacent rowhomes (Photographs #5-7). Section E's south elevation is eleven bays wide. Throughout the elevation, all window openings contain either various contemporary infill or are entirely open. There is also a large metal pipe projecting from the fourth bay from the east between the 2nd and 5th floors, possibly used for removing debris. The fire tower is visible above this elevation.

The east elevation, facing Mutter Street, is comprised of Sections A, D, C and E, from north to south. Section A is six bays wide and resembles its other elevations (Photograph #9). In the raised basement, the window openings either contain 10-light metal windows or have been infilled with brick. On the 1st and 2nd floors, all bays contain 10-light metal windows in various states of disrepair. Section D is 2½-stories in height and two bays wide (Photograph #9). In the raised basement, there is a single-double leaf wood door. On the 1st and 2nd floors, the northernmost bay contains a multi-light steel window and the southern bay contains a single-leaf wood door, which accesses a metal fire escape in conjunction with Section C. Section C is comprised of both the section itself and the fire and water tower to the north.³ The tower is two bays wide (Photograph #8). It has no openings in the raised basement. On the 1st through 5th floors, each opening contains a single-leaf, paneled, painted wood door with a 3-light arched wood transom. The doors access a metal fire escape with metal platforms and pipe metal railings. The fire escape extends to grade via straight-run metal steps. The 6th floor of the tower contains a single window opening with plywood infill. Around the opening is brick detailing. The remainder of Section C matches that of its west elevation (Photographs #7 and 8). Section E is substantially recessed from Mutter Street, behind an empty fenced yard (Photograph #6). The basement contains quadripartite 1/1 metal windows. The 1st and 2nd floors contain a small, 2-light metal window to the north and a tripartite 2/2 metal window to the south. Section E obscures the lower floors of Section C's southern elevation on the west end, but the eastern half of the bays are visible from the yard. The yard is partially covered in concrete and provides access to a large overhead equipment door on Section C's ground floor.

Interior

On the interior of the building, painted brick walls and metal fire doors define each of the various building campaigns (Photographs #11-25). The floor areas within each section, however, are primarily open, and the finishes are consistent throughout and are original to the building. In some sections, the floor plates are bisected by a row of painted wood or metal columns. The existing finishes include painted brick walls, painted wood columns, concrete floors in the basement, wood floors on the upper floors, exposed lighting and mechanicals and painted and unpainted wood floor joists and trusses (Photograph #12). There are also a few locations where painted metal columns were installed at a later date, presumably to provide additional support (Photograph #11).

In Section E, because of its later construction date, the 1st and 2nd floor finishes include wood floors, painted drywall walls and ceilings and painted wood trim (Photographs #27 and 29). In the basement, there is an exposed concrete floor, painted brick walls and exposed wood floor joists

³ The top of the fire tower supported a 4,000 gallon sprinkler tank below a 15,000 gallon sprinkler tank, which are both present on a 1914 Associated Mutual Fire Insurance map. The date of removal of the tank is not known but possibly dates to 1985, when the Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill ceased operations at the building, or later.

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(Photograph #26). There is also a small area enclosed by metal bars and enclosed wood shelving, which speak to the section's use as administrative space.

The interior has one freight elevator and four stairways.⁴ The freight elevator is located in the northwest corner of Section C (Photograph #24). Section B has a straight-run stairway along the west elevation (Photograph #15). It has wood treads and risers and a wood railing. Section C has a return-stairway in the fire tower and a straight-run stairway along the east elevation (Photograph #23). Both stairways have painted wood treads and risers and a wood railing. Section E has a straight-run stairway along the middle of the north elevation (Photograph #28). It has painted wood treads and risers and a wood railing. All circulation provides access between all floors of the section in which it is located.

Integrity

The Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill retains integrity. Both the overall form and the defining industrial characteristics remain, including its brick masonry sections, brick detailing, regular window openings, hoists and freight openings, wood columns, exposed wood flooring and ceiling systems, exposed masonry walls and fire tower. While some of the window units have been replaced, the infill does not detract from the overall appearance and the original fenestration patterns remain visible. The quality, placement and condition of the construction materials, as well as the vernacular architectural style are both highly characteristic of the period and also all remain wholly intact.

The building remains intact from the last phase of major construction in 1940 with no demolition or new construction. On the interior of the building, all of the workspaces and finishes remain similarly intact. Although the machinery was removed in the late 20th century, the overall arrangements and volumes sufficiently relate the function of the spaces. Although the building is vacant, its original manufacturing function remains apparent.

The location and setting of the building remain intact since the initial construction. The design and materials similarly retain their integrity. The workmanship is expressed in a consistent architectural style, is of good quality and is in keeping with contemporary trends. The feeling and associations of the building also have a high level of integrity, in large part because of the integrity of the previous five aspects. Although the equipment, furnishings and people have long since departed, the intact finishes, the voluminous spaces and the periodic building campaigns effectively relay a specific sense of place and part of Philadelphia's industrial history.

⁴ The larger perimeter openings in Sections A and C presumably supplemented the operations of the single freight elevator, moving materials and completed product in from and out to the adjacent streets or from floor to floor via hoist systems.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance: Industry

Period of Significance: 1891-1969

Significant Dates: NA

Significant Person: NA

Cultural Affiliation: NA

Architect/Builder: NA

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Statement of Significance

The Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill, constructed between 1881 and 1940, is significant under Criterion A, Industry, as a prominent Philadelphia carpet yarn manufacturer. Sykes specialized in the manufacture of wool, worsted, and jute carpet yarns, and of worsted knitting and weaving yarns. Not only was the company one of the largest in the Kensington neighborhood in the 20th century, but it also remained one of its most consistent operators, lasting nearly one hundred years in the same location, while other companies often survived for fewer than ten. Philadelphia's tremendous success in the carpet industry would not have been possible without specialty support industries, of which the Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill is a part. However, because Sykes only produced the yarn rather than the entire carpet, it avoided the pitfalls that plagued the larger industry, such as the shifting aesthetic preferences of consumers and the significant shifts in manufacturing processes. The period of significance begins in 1891, when the Sykes Brothers yarn manufacture first occupied the building, and ends in 1969, in keeping with the fifty-year standard, as the company continued their operations at this location under family ownership and at the same scale and product type through that time. The significance of the Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill is evaluated within the historical context established by the Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) *Industrial and Commercial Buildings Related to the Textile Industry in the Kensington Neighborhood of Philadelphia*. The building is within the boundary established for the MPDF, located near its northern edge. The subject property is listed as resource #41 in the MPDF's sample inventory and can be categorized as a "factory," the MPDF's primary property type. The Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill exemplifies the single-tenant subtype, as it was developed by a single manufacturer for its exclusive use and expanded in phases to accommodate the ongoing growth and needs of the company. This is the most common subtype within the area covered by the MPDF.

Building and Company History

The subject property is in the Kensington neighborhood of Philadelphia, which is perhaps best known for its relationship to the textile industry.⁵ The earliest portion of the building, Section A, was constructed for the company Davis, Rath and Kelley, carpet makers, and pre-dates the Sykes Brothers' ownership of the property by ten years.

An 1874 Jones Atlas shows an empty lot at the subject property. In 1880, the empty lot was purchased by the carpet manufacturers Davis, Rath and Kelley.⁶ An item in *The American Architect and Building News* on August 20, 1881, reported that the company "intended on erecting a factory" on the lot and a date stone on the west gable of Section A reads "1881."⁷ The 1914 Associated Mutual Fire Insurance map dates the section to 1883, which likely means that it was completed at that time. A period journal notes that the subject property was one of twenty new carpet mills erected in Kensington between 1879 and 1882.⁸ In Lorin Blodget's 1883 *Census of Manufacturers of Philadelphia*, he notes that the Nineteenth Ward, which was essentially Kensington, had fifty-two carpet manufacturers, including Davis, Rath and Kelley. The company,

⁵ For a larger discussion of the early history of Kensington, see the *Industrial and Commercial Buildings Related to the Textile Industry in the Kensington Neighborhood of Philadelphia* Multiple Property Documentation Form.

⁶ The company had previously been located farther north, near Olney.

⁷ "Factories." *The American Architect and Building News* 10:295 (20 August 1881): x.

⁸ "Real Estate Notes." *Record of Growth: A Monthly Journal of Material Progress* 1:1 January 1882): 50.

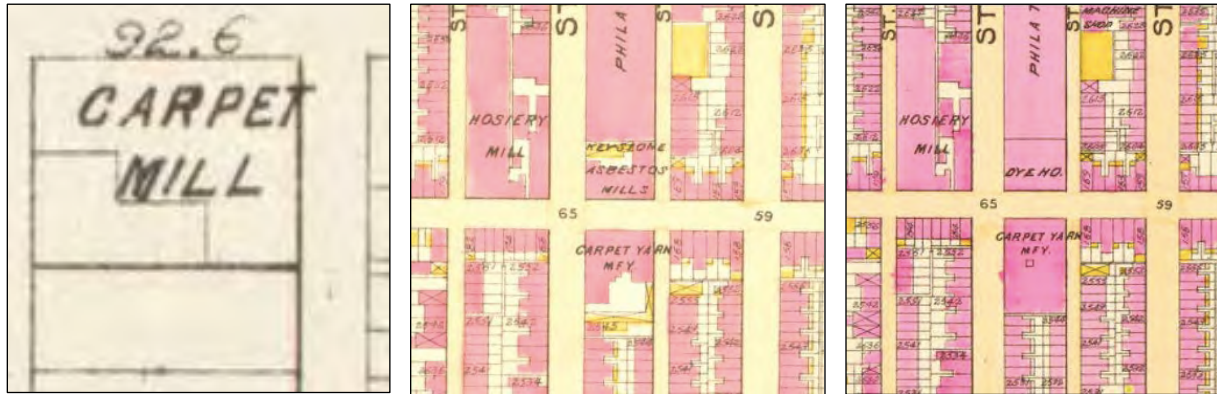
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which specialized in the manufacture of ingrain and damask carpets, had eighty-six looms and seventy-eight employees, which placed them amongst the top half of manufacturers in size.⁹ An 1885 Baist Atlas first shows Section A, which is labeled as “carpet mill”.¹⁰ An 1887 Bromley Atlas lists the building as being owned by “Chas. W. Davis.” On December 7, 1889, *Fibre and Fabric* notes that the company went bankrupt on November 7th of that year, as they “tried to do too much business on a small capital.”¹¹



Left to Right: Baist Atlas, 1885, subject property labeled “Carpet Mill” and still under the ownership of Davis, Rath & Kelley; Bromley Atlas, 1895, and Bromley Atlas, 1901, subject property labeled “Carpet Yarn Mfy” and now owned by the Sykes Brothers.

On September 24, 1891, the building (Section A) was sold to the Sykes Brothers.¹² The Sykes Brothers – Walter T. (1857-1917), William (d.1900), Franklin D. (d.1935) and David L. (d.1947) – were born in Chester County, PA. Their father was an Englishman who worked in spinning mills there and the sons all joined him in business at an early age.¹³ In the mid-1870s, the brothers all relocated to Kensington and worked in the spinning mill of William Thornton & Co., a manufacturer of worsted yarn.¹⁴ When Thornton went bankrupt in 1891, the brothers bought his six sets of carding and spinning machinery and moved to the subject property to specialize in the manufacture of wool, worsted and jute yarns.¹⁵ Fortunately, given the comparable category of manufacturing, the building was well-suited to the operations of the new company. This type of

⁹ Lorin Blodget, *Census of Manufacturers of Philadelphia* (Philadelphia, PA: Dickson and Gilling, 1883): 160. The largest factory was Thomas L. Leedom and Company, which had 241 looms and 350 employees. At their previous location Davis, Rath and Kelley had only twenty-one looms. *Textile Manufacturers' Directory of the United States 1881* (New York: Jenkin and Thomas, 1882): 172.

¹⁰ Baist Atlas, 1895.

¹¹ “Philadelphia Notes.” *Fibre and Fabric* 10:249 (7 December 1889): 1.

¹² “Philadelphia, PA.” *Fibre and Fabric* 13:344 (3 October 1891): 263. “Conveyances.” *Philadelphia Real Estate Record and Builders' Guide* 6 (30 September 1891): 637.

¹³ Sam Hudson, *Philadelphia and Its Public Men* (Philadelphia, PA: Hudson and Joseph, 1909): 240. This ethnic origin was typical in the larger carpet manufacturing industry, which was primarily founded by those from England and Northern Ireland.

¹⁴ “Philadelphia, PA.” *Fibre and Fabric* 13:344 (3 October 1891): 263.

¹⁵ “Philadelphia, PA.” *Fibre and Fabric* 13:344 (3 October 1891): 263.

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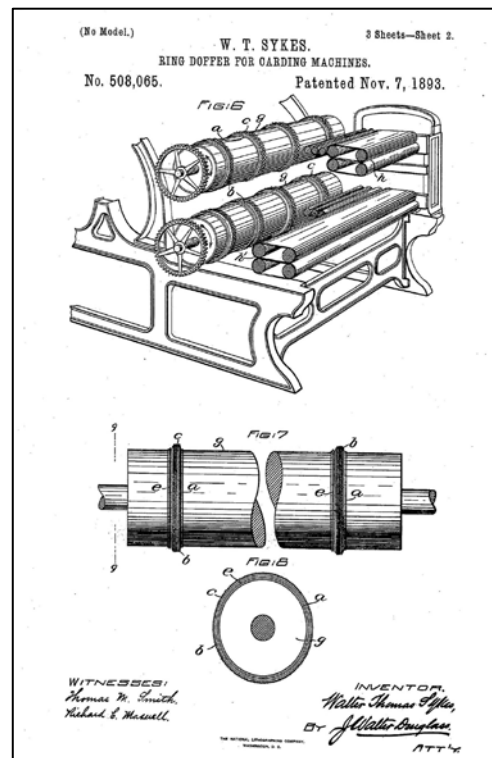
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family-owned business was the “mainstay of Philadelphia’s industrial economy” in the 19th and 20th centuries.¹⁶

In 1892, a report titled *Industrial Statistics* lists the Sykes Brothers yarn mill as having forty-nine employees and manufacturing “carpet yarns.” There were only two other Kensington businesses listed with that same descriptor. The first is James Meadowcroft and Son, which had twenty-five employees and period maps show that the factory had a footprint comparable to that of the Sykes Yarn Mill. The second is H. Whittaker and Son, which had forty-six employees.¹⁷ Nothing is known of its facilities.



Left, Walter T. Sykes photograph from Sam Hudson’s *Philadelphia and Its Public Men*. Philadelphia, PA: Hudson and Joseph, 1909. Right, Walter Sykes’ patent for “Ring doffer for Carding Machine.” Patent #508,064 (Issued May 17, 1893).

From the time of their relocation, Walter T. Sykes was the president of the brothers’ company and Franklin was the vice-president.¹⁸ The brothers were known as “progressive yarn spinners and are among the leaders to adopt new ideas in manufacture and improved machinery, etc.”¹⁹ This came, in large part, from the patents obtained by Walter T. Sykes. In May 1893, Sykes was issued patents

¹⁶ “John Wilde & Brother, Inc.,” *National Register* Nomination (2013): 8:1.

¹⁷ *Industrial Statistics for 1892* (Harrisburg, PA: Edwin K. Meyers, 1893). The company is also listed as H. Whittaker Sons.

¹⁸ “W.T. Sykes, Former Councilman, Is Dead.” *Evening Public Ledger* (26 December 1917): np.

¹⁹ “The Woolen Factory.” *Fibre and Fabric* (1 July 1899): 235.

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for both a “Condenser or Finisher for Carding-Machine” and a “Ring doffer for Carding Machine”.²⁰ The latter is referenced in period journals as being “well and favorably known to manufacturers.”²¹ Although hardly glamorous, both patents establish the company not only as a producer, but also as an innovator.

In 1892, the brothers began the first of several expansions to the mill, which coincided with the period of greatest expansion in the larger Kensington neighborhood.²² Section B, located along the west half of the south elevation of Section A, first appears on an 1895 Bromley Atlas (see image above). The building is now listed as “carpet yarn mfy.”²³ In 1897, the company had 94 employees, expanding not only in employees, but also in machinery, as they are noted as ordering four sets of cards from M.A. Furbush and Son Machine Co. of Camden. Just as the company itself primarily sold its product to local businesses, thereby reinforcing the strength of the larger textile industry, so too did they buy locally, completing the cycle.²⁴ According to the *Annual Report of the Factory Inspector of the Commonwealth* from 1897, the Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill was one of five carpet yarn manufacturers in Kensington. Of the other four, the next largest was William Allen and Sons, which had fifty-seven employees.²⁵ This smaller scale was also reflected in their factory building, which was only 2-stories in height.

A 1901 Bromley Atlas (image above) shows the construction of Section C, to the south of Section A and the east of Section B. The 1914 Associated Mutual Fire Insurance map dates the section to 1898.²⁶ With this addition, the plant accommodated 138 employees and was known as “one of the largest of its kind in the country” and “one of the finest equipped carpet yarn spinning mills in the country.”²⁷ A 1900 article went on to state that “the success of this firm of brothers has been remarkable. Starting in the business unknown and with little capital, they have by pluck, perseverance and hard work, won their way to the front as yarn spinners.... The success of Sykes Bros. has been in their attention to business and taking care of their customers.”²⁸ As this article was published in one of the primary trader journals of the period, this assessment was presumably an accurate assessment, rather than a stab at self-promotion.

²⁰ “Condenser or Finisher for Carding-Machine.” Patent #508,064 (Issued May 17, 1893); “Ring doffer for Carding Machine.” Patent #508,064 (Issued May 17, 1893).

²¹ “Philadelphia.” *Fibre and Fabric* 23:537 (22 February 1896): 1.

²² “Industrial and Commercial Buildings Related to the Textile Industry in the Kensington Neighborhood of Philadelphia,” *Multiple Property Documentation* Form (2012): 6. The date of construction is noted on the 1914 Associated Mutual map. The parcel on which Section B was constructed was sold by J. Schwinn to W.T. Sykes on November 16, 1892. “Conveyances.” *Philadelphia Real Estate Record and Builders’ Guide* 7 (23 November 1892): 1632.

²³ Subsequent atlases variously list the building as “Sykes Bros. Yarn Mill,” “Sykes Bros. Inc. Yarn Mill” and “Carpet Yarn Mfy / Walter T. Sykes et al.”

²⁴ *Eighth Annual Report of the Factory Inspector of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the Year 1897* (Harrisburg, PA: Wm. Stanley Ray, 1898); “Industrial Items.” *Fibre and Fabric* 30:768 (18 November 1899): 157.

²⁵ *Eighth Annual Report of the Factory Inspector of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the Year 1897*.

²⁶ An article from that year in *Fibre and Fabric* also notes that foundations for the addition were being laid. “The Woolen Factory.” *Fibre and Fabric* (24 September 1898): 67.

²⁷ Hudson, 240; “Textile Items.” *Fibre and Fabric* 31:804 (28 July 1900): 277.

²⁸ “Textile Items.” *Fibre and Fabric* 31:804 (28 July 1900): 277.

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To put this further in context, the *Annual Report of the Factory Inspector of the Commonwealth* from 1902 demonstrates that the company continued its rise in the industry and to distinguish itself from its competitors. In that year, the Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill had 150 employees.²⁹ Of the five other carpet yarn manufacturers in Kensington, the next largest was Joseph Beatty's Sons Mill with forty-four employees. In 1911, the company was one of only two exclusive wool carpet yarn spinners in Kensington.³⁰ The other one was William Allen and Son.



Axonometric view of the north and west elevations of the Sykes Brothers mill, from the Manufacturers Mutual Fire Insurance Map, 1914.

In June 1914, the company incorporated with a capital of \$500,000.³¹ It listed its business as the “manufacture and sale of woolen, worsted and jute carpet yarns, and of knitting and weaving yarns in worsted and of yarns for other purposes.”³² Also in that year, the company took out a Mutual Fire Insurance policy, which documented the company and its operations at its peak. In Section A, the basement was used as a preparatory and storage space; and the 1st and 2nd floors were used for

²⁹ *Thirteenth Annual Report of the Factory Inspector of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the Year 1902* (Harrisburg, PA: Wm. Stanley Ray, 1903).

³⁰ John James MacFarland and George W. B. Hicks, *Textile Industries of Philadelphia* (Philadelphia, PA: Commercial Museum of Philadelphia, 1911). Other spinning was either done in-house by larger companies or specialty companies did both spinning and dyeing.

³¹ *Alphabetical List of Charters of Corporations* (Harrisburg, PA: Wm. Stanley Ray, 1915): 148.

³² *Alphabetical List of Charters of Corporations* (Harrisburg, PA: Wm. Stanley Ray, 1915): 148.

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carding and mule spinning. In Section B, the basement was used for wool storage; the 1st floor contained the picker machines; the 2nd floor contained the mixing and willowing machines. In Section C, the basement was used for storage; the 1st floor contained storage for bales of willow stock with office space at the west end; the 2nd floor contained carding, twisting and reeling machines; the 3rd floor contained carding machines; the 4th floor contained mule spinning, spooling twisting; and reeling machines; the 5th floor also contained storage for bales of willow stock.³³ Within those spaces were distributed 16 sets of wool cards, 3,286 wool spindles, 2 combs, 3 worsted cards and 1,528 worsted spindles.³⁴

After Walter died in 1917, David became president and remained in that position until his death in 1945.³⁵ Despite the loss of Walter, and eventually all the founding brothers, the company continued to grow. In 1922, Sykes had 215 employees, 17 cards, 4 pickers, 3,000 woolen spindles, 1,700 worsted spindles and 420 twister spindles.³⁶ Comparatively, the next largest similar company in Kensington is the Cleveland Worsted Mills, which had 117 employees.³⁷ This factory was a branch of the larger Cleveland Worsted Mills Co., which also had factories in Cleveland, OH and Ravenna, OH.

In 1922, the company purchased an adjacent rowhouse at 2543 W. Hancock Street and the company used the building as office space. Shortly thereafter, in 1924, the company was reported as having “100% returns.”³⁸ Circa 1925, the company demolished the 1-story boiler house located to the south of Section A, east of Section B and north of Section C and constructed Section D. Power production was subsequently integrated into the larger complex.

In 1940, the company demolished the rowhouse and constructed a new, 2½-story section for office space.³⁹ While it matches the scale of the pre-existing rowhouse, the Modern façade of the office addition sets it apart from the neighboring rowhomes. Although this was a relatively small addition, the expansion is notable as the vacuum created by both the end of World War I and the Depression had left the Philadelphia textile industry, by 1934, only half the size of what it had been at its peak.⁴⁰

As each of the brothers died, they left their shares to their children, ensuring that the company remained within the control of the family.⁴¹ Over the years, the company continued in the same and

³³ “Sykes Brothers.” *Manufacturers Mutual Fire Insurance Map*, 29 July 1914.

³⁴ Guild and Lord, *Official American Textile Directory* (1915).

³⁵ “David L. Sykes, Executive, Dies.” *The Philadelphia Inquirer* (10 September 1947): 25.

³⁶ *American Wool and Cotton Reporter* 36:7 (16 February 1922): 981.

³⁷ *Industrial Directory of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania* (Harrisburg, PA: Bureau of Statistics, Research and Planning, 1922).

³⁸ “Kensington Reports.” *The Philadelphia Inquirer* (21 November 1924): 4. This refers to the rate of return for the company’s investors.

³⁹ Geoge K. Heebner was the contractor. No architect is listed on the building permit.

⁴⁰ *Industrial and Commercial Buildings Related to the Textile Industry in the Kensington Neighborhood of Philadelphia*, 19. There are innumerable reasons why this was the case, including changing tastes, the search for cheaper labor and shifting production methods.

⁴¹ “Four Children Share in \$120,000 Estate.” *The Philadelphia Inquirer* (14 December 1935): 2; “W.T. Sykes, Former Councilman, Is Dead.” *Evening Public Ledger* (26 December 1917): 7; “J.H. Carstairs Estate is Adjudged

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expanded product lines and at the same capacity. Period advertisements proffer rug and carpet yarn, “spinning wheel pre-cut rug yarn,” needlework kits, sweater kits and yarn and thread for needlepoint, crewel and cross stitch. In the 1970s, they continued to adapt and expand, opening a factory store located at 4200 Mitchell Street in Roxborough (demolished). In 1979, the company went public with shares offered to the general public.⁴² The reason for this move is unclear but it was presumably at least in part because the family no longer wanted sole responsibility for the company. In 1985, the company was dissolved, again for reasons that are unclear.⁴³ The building was subsequently sold, and it has since housed a number of smaller manufacturing tenants. It is currently vacant.

Process and Products of the Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill

The local market for carpet yarn was substantial, and is discussed in the *Industrial and Commercial Buildings Related to the Textile Industry in the Kensington Neighborhood of Philadelphia* MPDF. In the early 19th century, Philadelphia began to establish itself as a center of carpet manufacture, alongside competition from Lowell, Massachusetts, and several Connecticut towns and cities. With the importation of the Murkland Loom in 1868, which facilitated the manufacture of high-quality ingrain carpets without the need for comparatively skilled labor, Philadelphia became the largest carpet manufacturing center in the United States.⁴⁴ Philadelphia had 137 carpet factories in 1860, 250 carpet factories around 1870 and, by the end of the 19th century, represented the largest category of Philadelphia textile manufacture.⁴⁵

Specialization was a key characteristic that distinguished Philadelphia’s textile mills from those found in other regions of the country such as New England. Whereas New England’s mills were typically massive integrated plants that housed all aspects of production, Philadelphia’s textile mills were focused on the mastery of separate steps in the overall production process.⁴⁶ For example, in Philadelphia, a spinning mill might send out its yarn to a small dye shop for coloring before it was forwarded to a larger knitting mill to be made into hosiery.⁴⁷ Although some fully integrated mills operated in the city, most manufacturers performed one specialized function in the total production sequence.⁴⁸

Insolvent.” *The Philadelphia Inquirer* (20 October 1936): 5; “David L. Sykes, Executive, Dies.” *The Philadelphia Inquirer* (10 September 1947): 25.

⁴² “Notice of Filing.” *Philadelphia Daily News* (30 January 1979): 40.

⁴³ “Intention to Dissolve.” *Philadelphia Daily News* (4 March 1985): 69.

⁴⁴ “Franklin Carpet Mill,” *National Register Nomination* (2017). The Murkland Loom was invented by Englishman William Murkland.

⁴⁵ *Industrial Statistics for 1889* (Harrisburg, PA: Edwin K. Meyers, 1890), 20; *The Rug and Carpet Industry of Philadelphia* (Philadelphia, PA: Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce, 1917): 1.

⁴⁶ Philadelphia’s specialized method for textile production is discussed at length in Philip Scranton, *Work Sights: Industrial Philadelphia, 1890-1950* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1986).

⁴⁷ Philip Scranton, *Work Sights: Industrial Philadelphia, 1890-1950* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1986): 7.

⁴⁸ Philip Scranton, *Proprietary Capitalism: The Textile Manufacture at Philadelphia, 1800-1885* (Cambridge, MA: Cambridge University Press, 1989), 415-17. Scranton’s last chapter, “Conclusion: Separate Establishments,” contains a detailed discussion of the disparity between the Lowell and Philadelphia systems. Information on the textile industries of the counties surrounding Philadelphia is contained in his book, *Figured*

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This was also the relationship between the carpet yarn industry and the larger industry of carpet manufacturing. Although some later, larger companies ultimately did their own spinning in house, carpet yarn manufacturing began as a wholly independent component.⁴⁹ In the 1860s and 1870s, “carpet manufacturers found great difficulty in securing carpet yarns in suitable condition and quality.... [as] the mills for doing this work were small in extent and few in number.”⁵⁰ For those companies that were particularly successful, such as the Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill, they were able to maintain their independence and thrive independently.

As the period descriptions of the products manufactured by the Sykes Brothers Yarn Mills are somewhat limited, the best way to understand their product line is to examine the machinery that produced it. The Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill primarily specialized in the production of wool, worsted and jute carpet yarn. As with any specialty, carpet yarn manufacturing is a detailed process that both follows a general pattern and is specific to the ultimate finished product. Bales of wool, typically from a variety of locations, arrive at the factory.⁵¹ The bales were then passed through a willowing machine, which loosened the fibers and separated out any debris, such as wood or sticks. The fibers would then go through a mixing machine, which would combine the various fibers together into bales. The bales of willowed and mixed stock would then be stored within the building and eventually passed through picker machines, which rolled the material into a cylinder-like shape, or lap, and then flattened the lap into a sheet of even thickness. The carding machines then separated and paralleled the fibers, and the twisting machines then twisted them through rollers until they were the desired weight. The amount of twist determined the appearance and strength of the yarn. This end product was called roving. The final step was mule spinning, which twisted the roving into a piece of yarn and the spooling machine would then spin the yarn around a spool.⁵² If the yarn was just to be divided into general, equal measurements, but not necessarily placed on a spool, a reeling machine was used.

When the company finally incorporated in 1914, they stated their purpose as the “manufacture and sale of woolen, worsted and jute carpet yarns, and of knitting and weaving yarns in worsted and of yarns for other purposes.”⁵³ Worsted yarns were a fine, smooth yarn that was primarily used in high-end carpets, as well as for knitting and weaving. Jute yarn, because of its rougher finish, was most often used in both lower-end carpets and as a carpet backing.

Comparable Yarn Manufacturers in Philadelphia

The Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill was unique in terms of property location, scale of operation, type of product and longevity of company. As one of the few carpet yarn manufacturers in Kensington and

Tapestry: Production, Markets, and Power in Philadelphia Textiles, 1885-1941 (Cambridge, MA: Cambridge University Press, 1989).

⁴⁹ *The Rug and Carpet Industry of Philadelphia*, 16.

⁵⁰ *Industrial Statistics for 1889*, 7.

⁵¹ Wool often came a number of places, including China Scotland, Russia or South America. *The Rug and Carpet Industry of Philadelphia*, 4.

⁵² “Fitchburg Yarn Mill,” *National Register Nomination* (2016).

⁵³ *Alphabetical List of Charters of Corporations* (Harrisburg, PA: Wm. Stanley Ray, 1915): 148.

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consistently the largest, the company distinguished itself as a family-owned operation for nearly 100 years. However, there are two companies that do help to place the business into a larger context. H. Whittaker and Son operated in Kensington for over thirty years, specializing in the manufacture of carpet yarn.⁵⁴ Although in the late 19th century they were comparable in size to the Sykes Brothers Yarn Mills, they were far outnumbered in the early 20th century with only twenty-eight employees in 1902 when the subject company had 150 employees. The company relocated to the Olney neighborhood of Philadelphia by 1918.

William Allen and Son also matched the Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill in terms of location, product and longevity. Founded in Kensington in 1880 with 1,000 spindles,⁵⁵ the company was consistently smaller in size than the Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill – they never had more than 50% of their workforce – and remained in operation in Kensington through the 1930s.

Although not located in Kensington, the John Wilde & Brother, Inc. yarn mill is similar in terms of scale, product and family ownership. Established in Manayunk in 1880, the company focused on the manufacture of wool carpet yarns, which they continued to produce under family management until 2012. Constructed in various phases to accommodate expansion, the company was smaller than the subject property. In 1890, they had twenty-two employees in contrast to the forty-nine employees at the Sykes Brothers yarn mill. In 1901, the Wilde mill had thirty-seven employees and, in 1900, Sykes Brothers had leapt to 138 employees. In 1921, the Wilde mill had dropped to twenty-one employees, but Sykes Brothers had continued to grow to 215 employees.

Conclusion

The Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill, constructed between 1881 and 1940, is significant under Criterion A, Industry, as a prominent Philadelphia carpet yarn manufacturer. Sykes specialized in the manufacture of wool, worsted, and jute carpet yarns, and of worsted knitting and weaving yarns. Not only was the company one of the largest in the Kensington neighborhood in the 20th century, but it also remained one of its most consistent operators, lasting nearly one hundred years in the same location, while other companies often made it for less than ten. The significance of the Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill is evaluated within the historical context established by the Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) *Industrial and Commercial Buildings Related to the Textile Industry in the Kensington Neighborhood of Philadelphia*. The building is within the boundary established for the MPDF, located near its northern edge. The subject property is listed as resource #41 in the MPDF's sample inventory and can be categorized as a "factory," the MPDF's primary property type. The Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill exemplifies the single-tenant subtype, as it was constructed by a single manufacturer for its exclusive use and expanded in phases to accommodate the ongoing growth and needs of the company. This is the most common subtype within the area covered by the MPDF.

⁵⁴ It is also often written as H. Whitaker and Son.

⁵⁵ *Figured Tapestry: Production, Markets, and Power in Philadelphia Textiles, 1885-1941*, 101.

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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 #
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other:

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than 1 acre

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: NAD 83

-75.133961 39.989397

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property corresponds to current tax parcels #884244060 and 884344064, and is shown in Figure 1, a current aerial view. The boundary encompasses the entire complex consisting of Sections A through E, and the small paved open space behind Section E.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes all known extant resources associated with the Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill at this location, and does not exclude any known buildings, structures, or acreage. Historic atlases suggest that Sykes' may have been associated with a dye house or spinning house directly across Huntingdon Street from the existing mill, but that resource has been demolished. As any former relationship is not clear, and nothing remains of that building to help convey the significance of the company, the vacant lot is not included within the nominated boundary. The demolished building was apparently much smaller in scale and footprint than the nominated property.

10. Form Prepared By

name/title: Logan I. Ferguson, Senior Associate

Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill

Name of Property

Philadelphia, PA

County and State

organization: Powers & Company, Inc.

street & number: 1315 Walnut Street, Suite 1717

city or town: Philadelphia

state: PA

zip code: 19107

e-mail: logan@powersco.net

telephone: (215) 636-0192

date: May 2019

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photo Log

Name of Property: Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill

City or Vicinity: Philadelphia County: Philadelphia State: PA

Photographer: Robert Powers, Powers and Company, Inc.

Date Photographed: December 2018

<i>Photograph #</i>	<i>Description of Photograph</i>
1.	West and north elevations, view southeast
2.	West elevation, Sections A and B, view east
3.	West elevation, Section C, view east
4.	West elevation, Section E, view southeast
5.	West and south elevations, view northeast
6.	East elevation, Section E; South elevation, Section C, view west
7.	South and east elevations, Section C, view northwest
8.	East elevation, Section C, view west
9.	South and north elevations, view southwest
10.	North elevation, Section A, view southwest
11.	Section A, 1 st floor, view northeast
12.	Section A, 2 nd floor, view northeast
13.	Sections B and D, Ground floor, view east
14.	Sections B and D, 1 st floor, view east
15.	Sections B and D, 2 nd floor, Stairway, view south
16.	Sections B and D, 2 nd floor, view east
17.	Section C, Ground floor, view west
18.	Section C, 1 st floor, view east
19.	Section C, 2 nd floor, view east
20.	Section A, Roof, view north
21.	Section C, 2 nd floor, view southwest
22.	Section C, 4 th floor, view southwest
23.	Section C, 4 th floor, Stairway, view west
24.	Section C, 5 th floor, Elevator, view northwest

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25.	Section C, 5 th floor, view west
26.	Section E, Ground floor, view southwest
27.	Section E, 1 st floor, view east
28.	Section E, 1 st floor, Stairway, view west
29.	Section E, 2 nd floor, view west

Index of Figures:

<i>Figure #</i>	<i>Description of Figure</i>
1.	Current aerial view showing National Register boundary.
2.	USGS Map excerpt.
3. a-g	Existing Plans with Photograph Keys.

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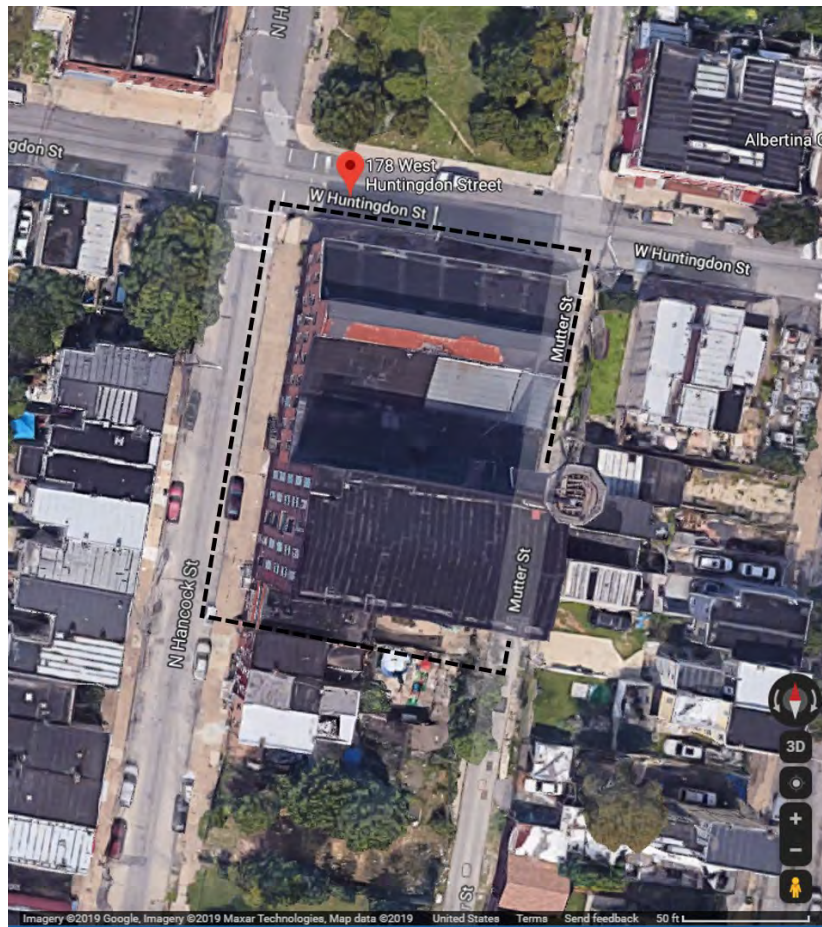


Figure 1 –National Register boundary on current aerial view, within dashed line.



Figure 2 – USGS Map. Location of subject property shown in red.

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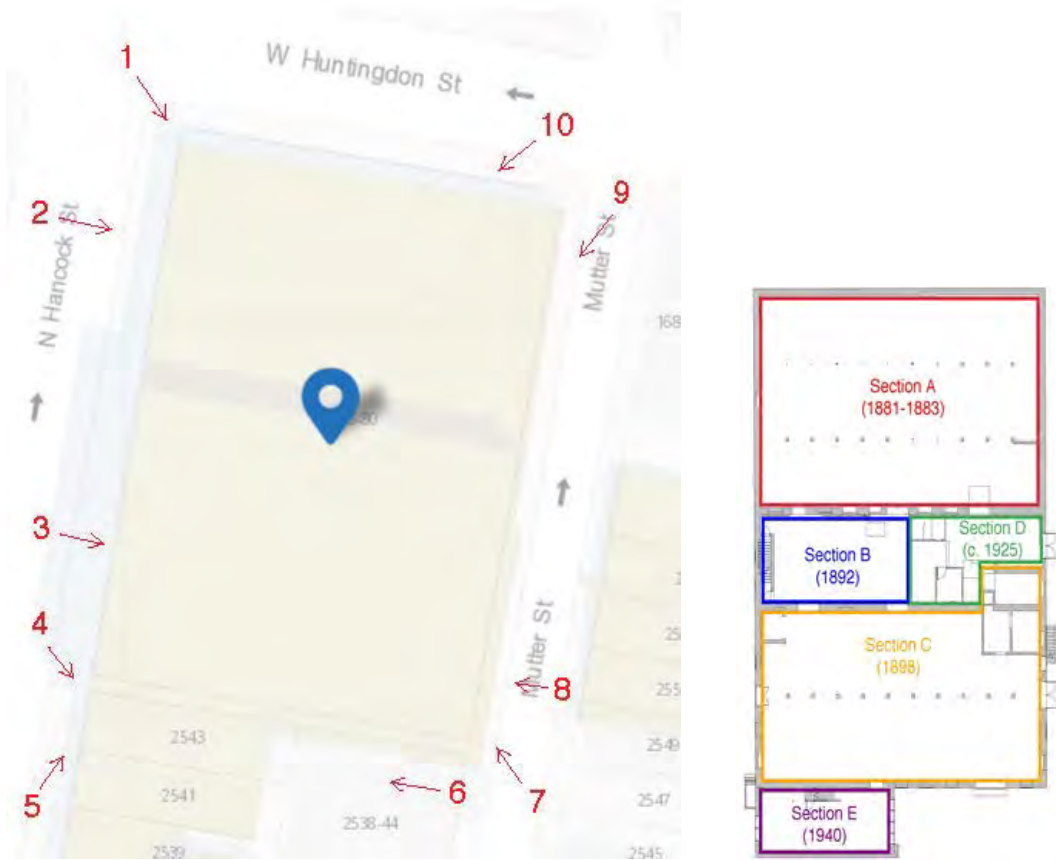
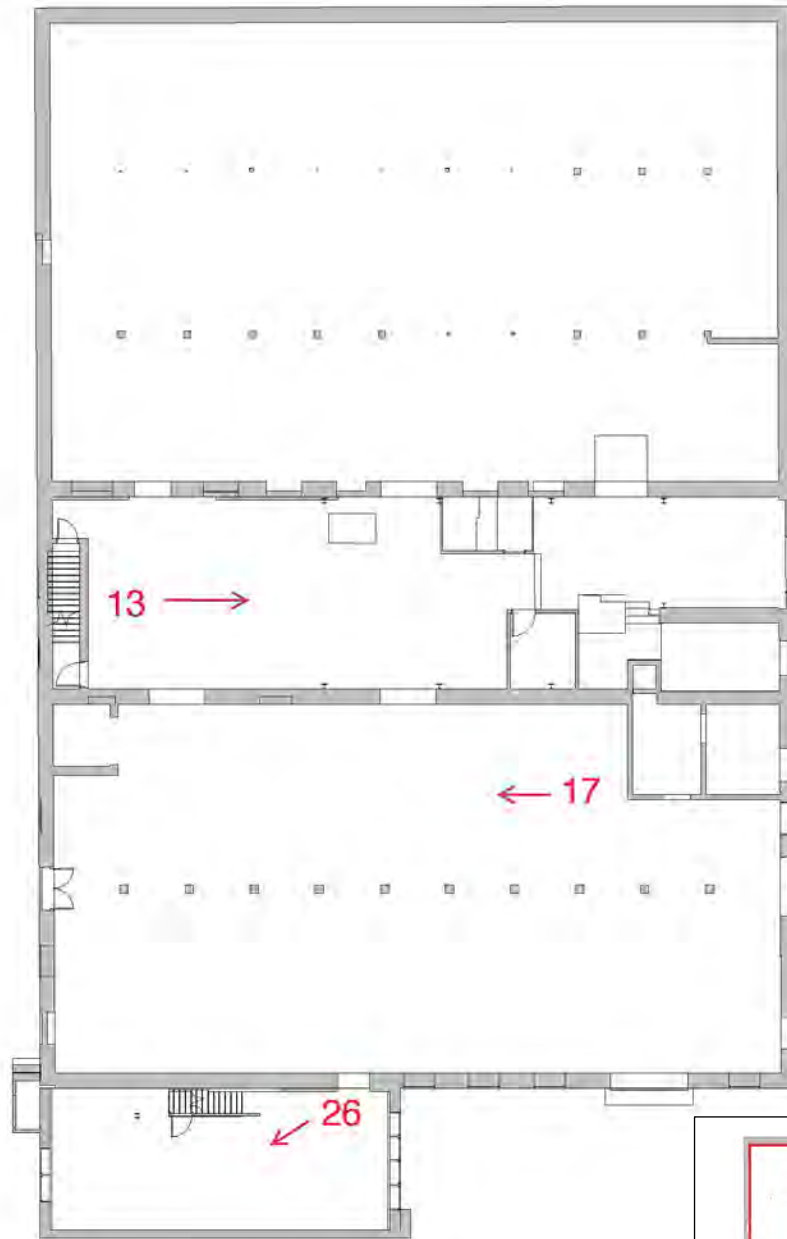


Figure 3a: Exterior Photo Key

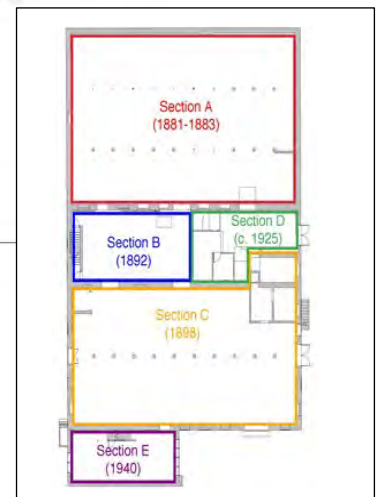
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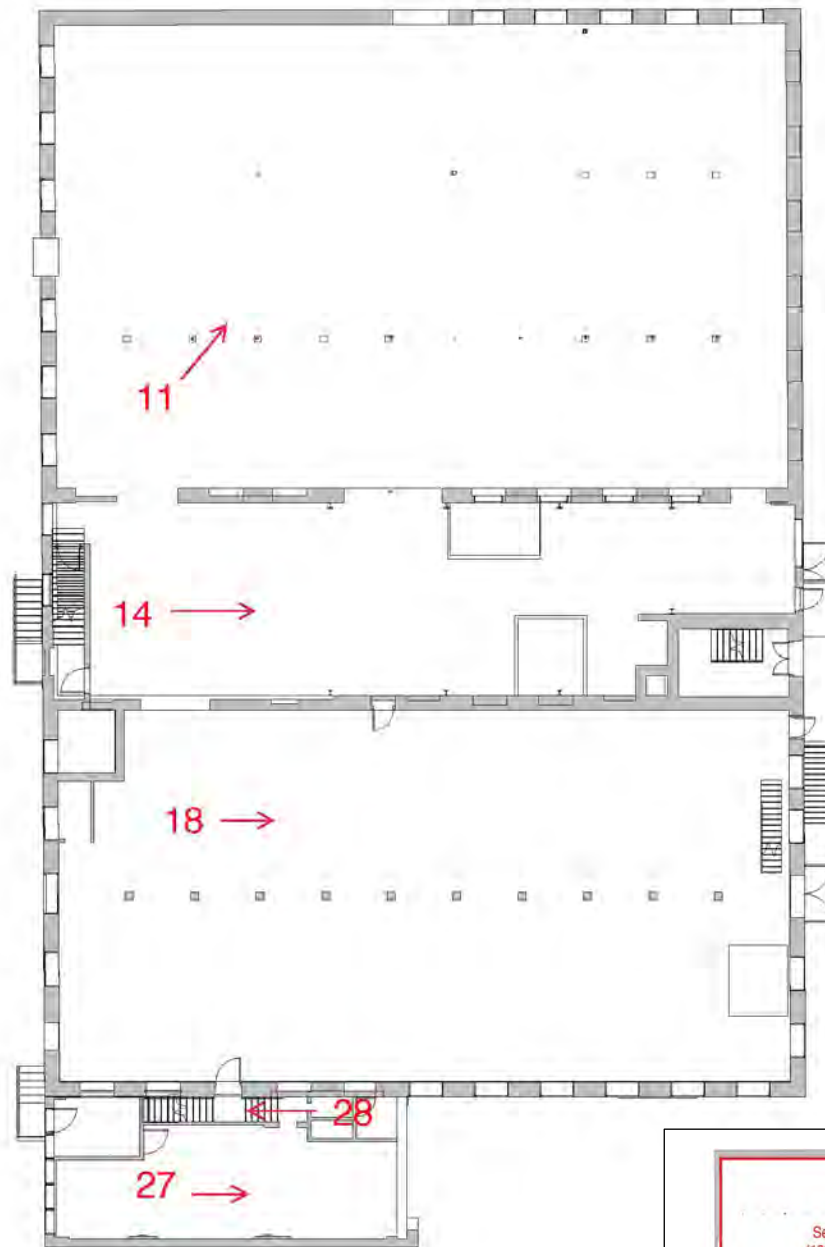
1 GROUND FLOOR PLAN
EXIST-1 1/16" = 1'-0"

Figure 3b: Interior Photo Key, ground floor.



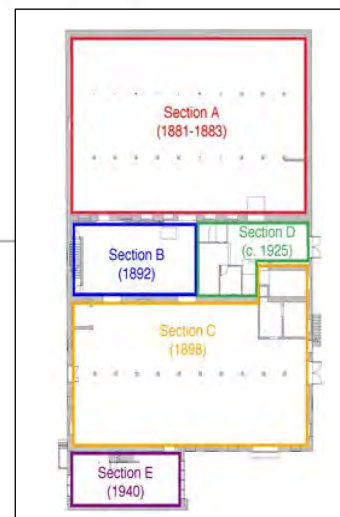
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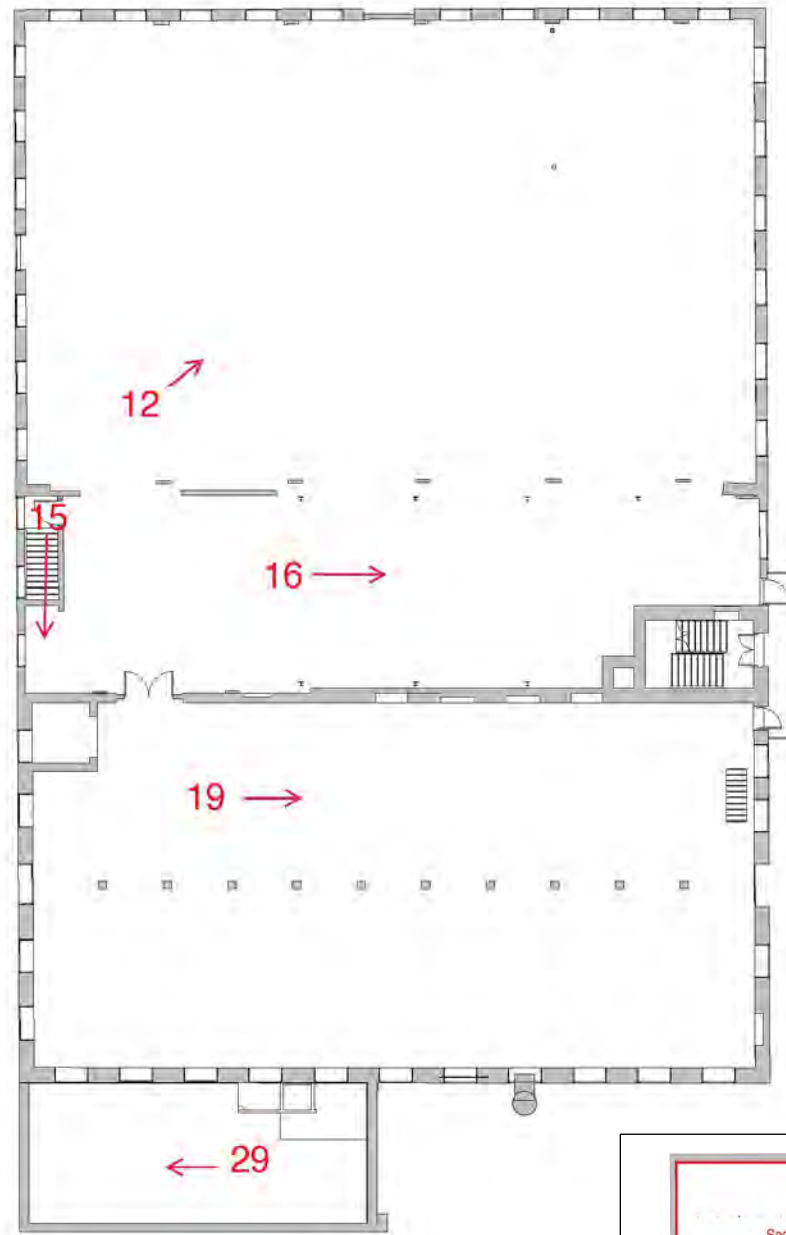
2 1ST FLOOR PLAN
EXIST-1 1/16" = 1'-0"

Figure 3c: Interior Photo Key, 1st floor.



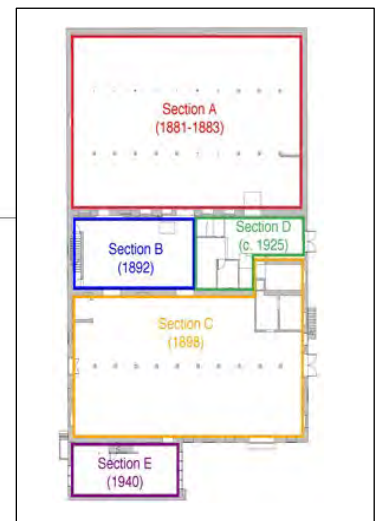
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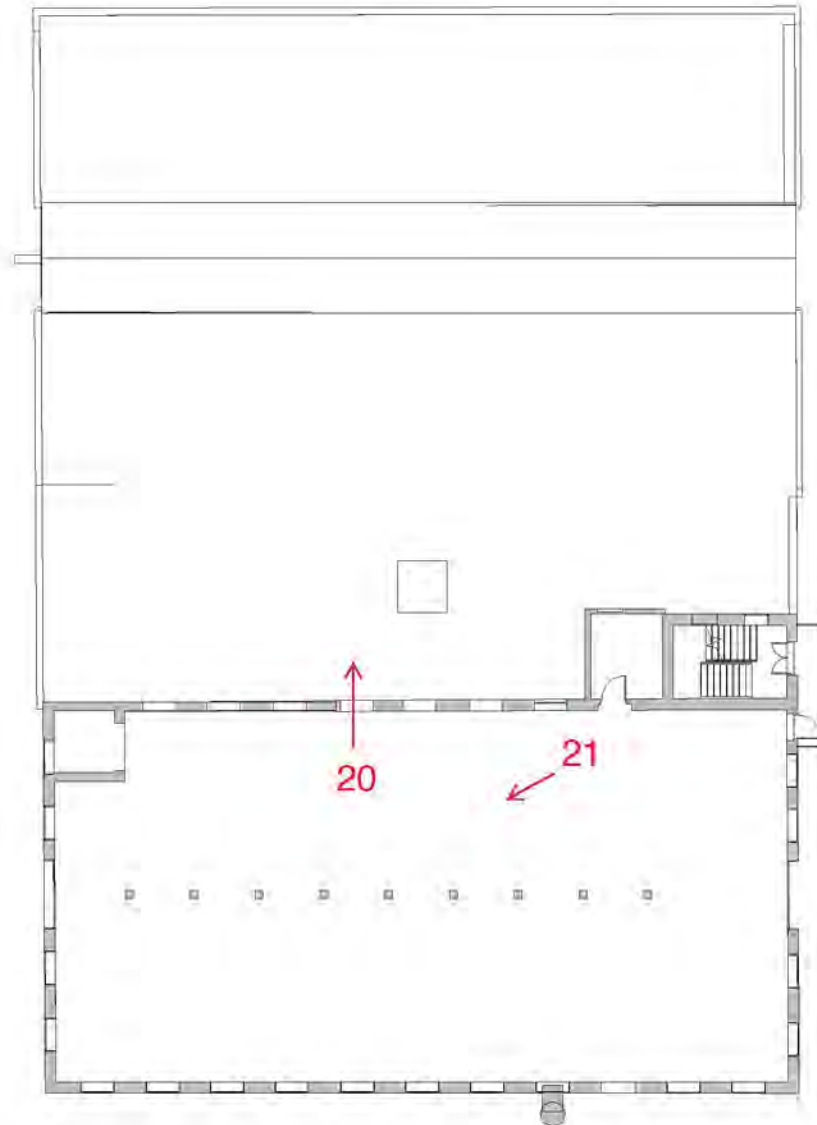
3 2ND FLOOR PLAN
EXIST-1 1/16" = 1'-0"

Figure 3d: Interior Photo Key, 2nd floor.



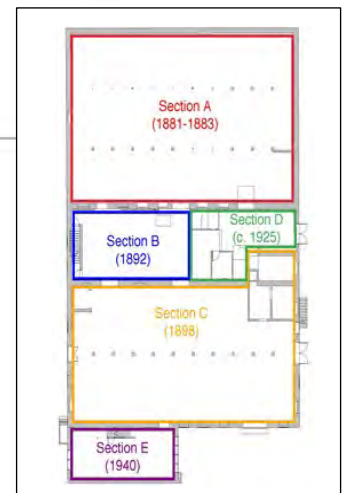
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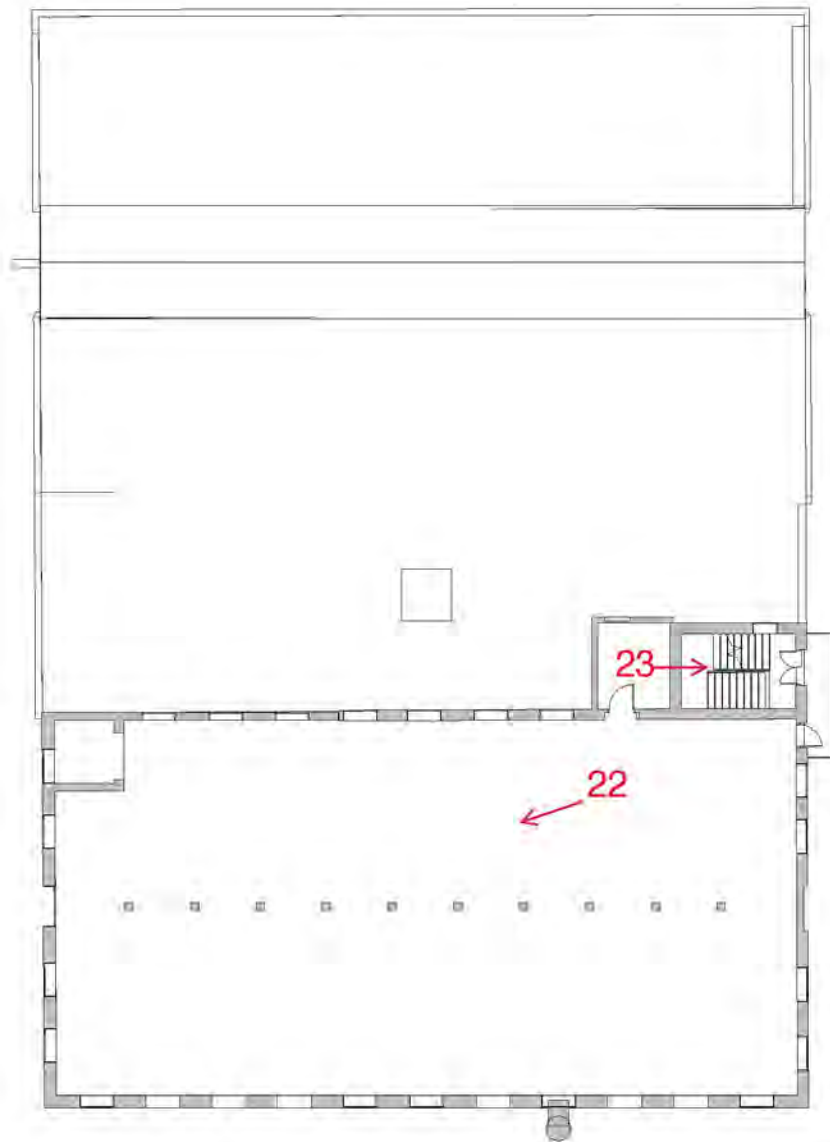
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EXIST-1 3RD FLOOR PLAN
1/16" = 1'-0"

Figure 3e: Interior Photo Key, 3rd floor.



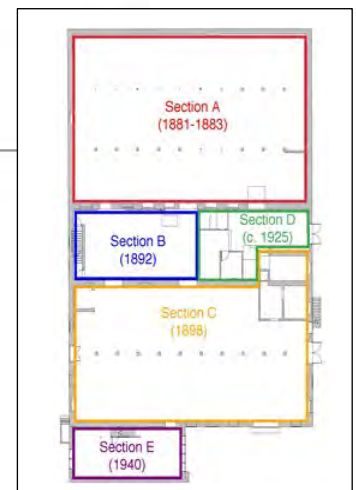
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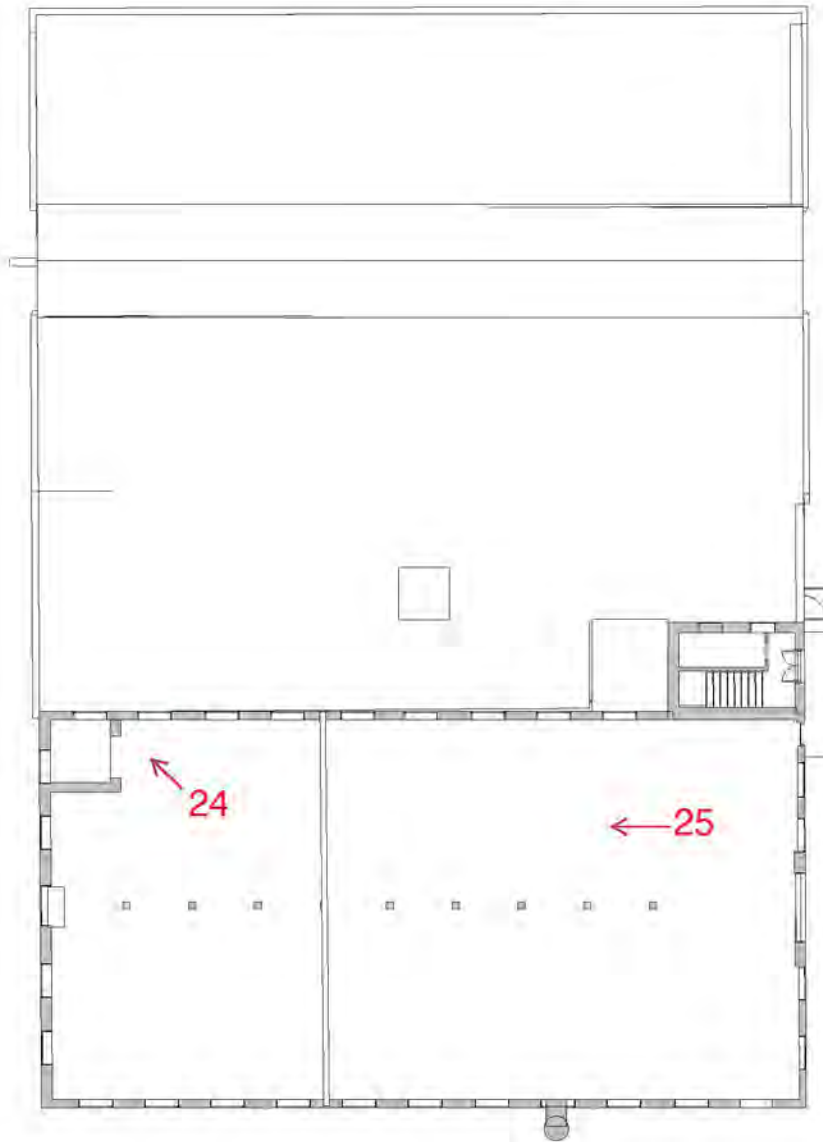
5 4TH FLOOR PLAN
EXIST-1 1/16" = 1'-0"

Figure 3f: Interior Photo Key, 4th floor.



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6
EXIST-1
5TH FLOOR PLAN
1/16" = 1'-0"

Figure 3g – Interior Photo Key, 5th floor.



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Photograph 1 – West and north elevations, view southeast



Photograph 2 – West elevation, Sections A and B, view east

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Photograph 3 – West elevation, Section C, view east



Photograph 4 – West elevation, Section E, view southeast

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Photograph 5 – West and south elevations, view northeast



Photograph 6 – East elevation, Section E; South elevation, Section C, view west

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Photograph 7 – South and east elevations, Section C, view northwest



Photograph 8 – East elevation, Section C, view west

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Photograph 9 – South and north elevations, view southwest



Photograph 10 – North elevation, Section A, view southwest

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Photograph 11 – Section A, 1st floor, view northeast



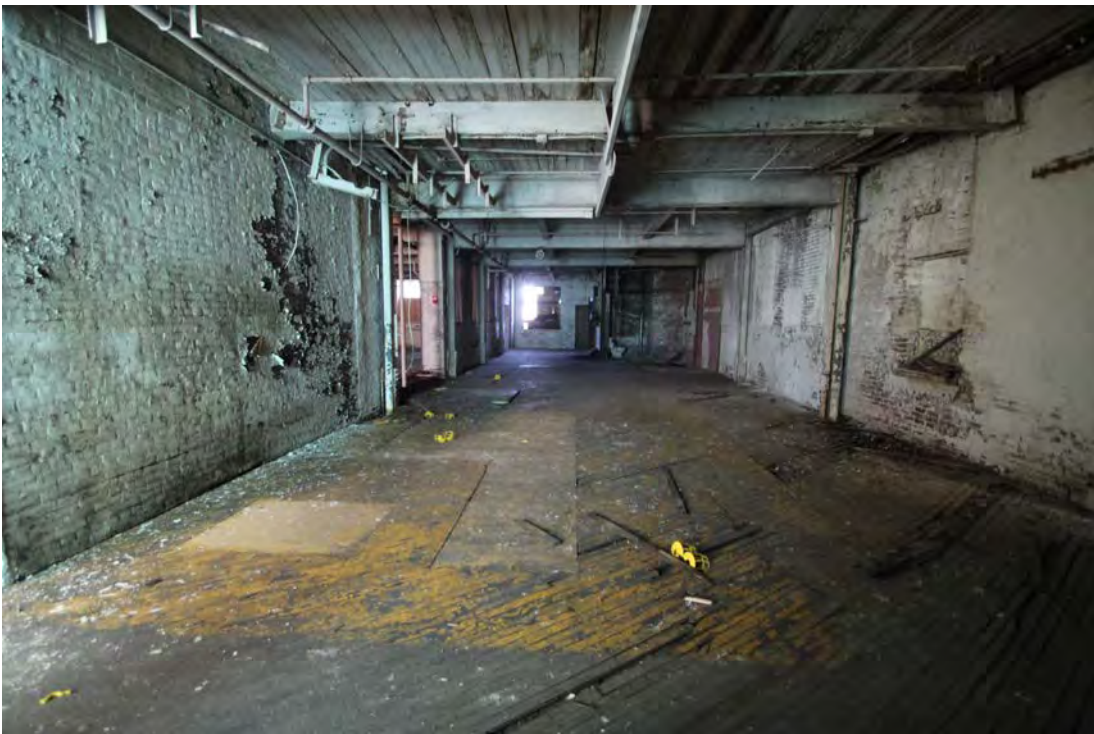
Photograph 12 – Section A, 2nd floor, view northeast

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Photograph 13 – Sections B and D, Ground floor, view east



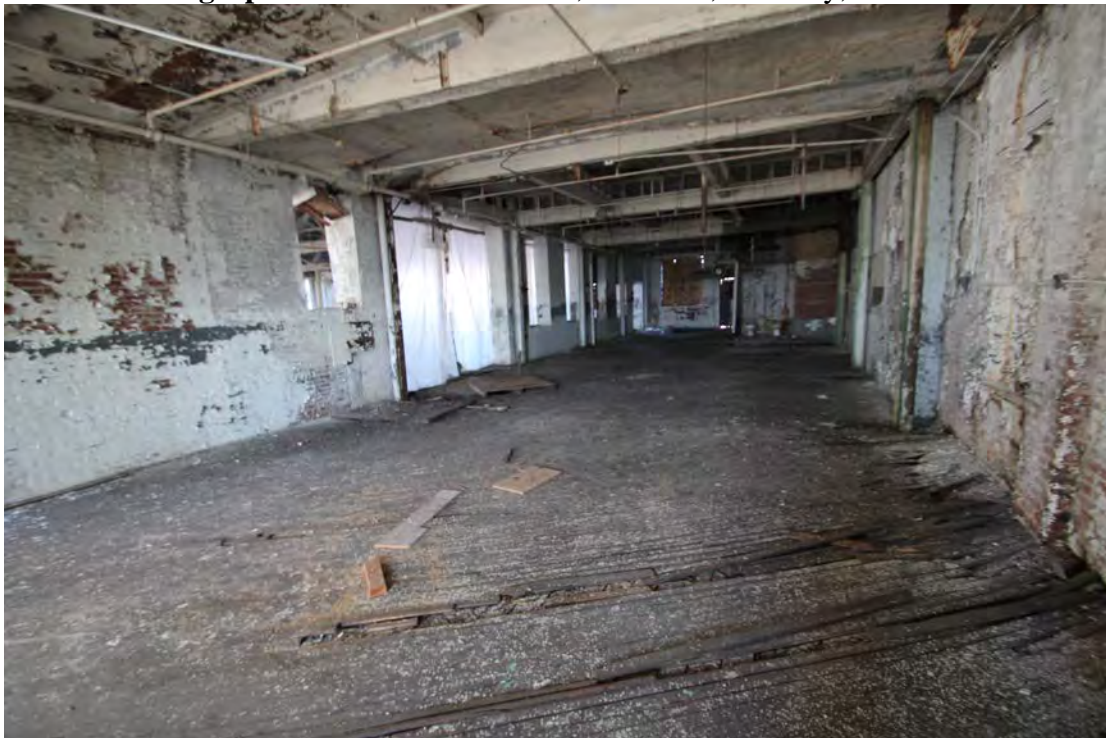
Photograph 14 – Sections B and D, 1st floor, view east

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Photograph 15 – Sections B and D, 2nd floor, Stairway, view south



Photograph 16 – Sections B and D, 2nd floor, view east

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Photograph 17 – Section C, Ground floor, view west



Photograph 18 – Section C, 1st floor, view east

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Photograph 19 – Section C, 2nd floor, view east



Photograph 20 – Section A, Roof, view north

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Photograph 21 – Section C, 2nd floor, view southwest



Photograph 22 – Section C, 4th floor, view southwest

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Photograph 23 – Section C, 4th floor, Stairway, view west



Photograph 24 – Section C, 5th floor, Elevator, view northwest

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Photograph 25 – Section C, 5th floor, view west



Photograph 26 – Section E, Ground floor, view southwest

Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill
Name of Property

Philadelphia, PA
County and State



Photograph 27 – Section E, 1st floor, view east



Photograph 28 – Section E, 1st floor, Stairway, view west

Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill
Name of Property

Philadelphia, PA
County and State



Photograph 29 – Section E, 2nd floor, view west

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.





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19th floor of the
"The New York"
Hotel
New York











UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Nomination

Property Name: Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill

Multiple Name: Textile Industry in the Kensington Neighborhood of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania MPS

State & County: PENNSYLVANIA, Philadelphia

Date Received: 10/16/2019 Date of Pending List: 11/12/2019 Date of 16th Day: 11/27/2019 Date of 45th Day: 12/2/2019 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number: MP100004701

Nominator: SHPO

Reason For Review:

Accept Return Reject 11/26/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary NR Criterion: A
Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria AOS: Industry; POS: 1891-1969; LOS: local

Reviewer Lisa Deline

Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2239

Date 11/26/19

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

PHILADELPHIA HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

1515 Arch Street, 13th Floor
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102
Tel: 215.686.7660

Robert Thomas, AIA
Chair

Jonathan E. Farnham, Ph.D.
Executive Director

22 May 2019

Elizabeth Rairigh
Division Chief, Preservation Services
PA State Historic Preservation Office
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093

Re: 178-180 W Huntington Street, Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill

Dear Ms. Rairigh:

I am writing in response to your request that the Philadelphia Historical Commission provide its official Certified Local Government recommendation on the nomination proposing to add the Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill, 178-180 W Huntington Street, located in the Kensington neighborhood of Philadelphia, to the National Register of Historic Places. At its monthly public meeting on 10 May 2019, the Philadelphia Historical Commission reviewed and discussed the nomination and accepted public testimony.

The Commission agreed that the building satisfies Criterion A in the Area of Industry, as a prominent Philadelphia carpet yarn manufacturer and one of the largest in the Kensington neighborhood during the 20th century. The Commission supported the National Register nomination for 178-180 W Huntington Street.

Thank you for providing the Philadelphia Historical Commission with the opportunity to comment on this amendment.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Farnham", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jonathan E. Farnham, Ph.D.
Executive Director



Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office
PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION



October 15, 2019

Joy Beasley, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service, US Department of Interior
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228
Washington DC 20240

Re: Sykes Brothers Yarn Mill, Philadelphia
Third Presbyterian Church, Delaware County
Wharton Street Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church and Sunday School, Philadelphia

Dear Ms. Beasley:

Enclosed please find the National Register of Historic Places nominations for the above properties. Included is the signed first page of each nomination, CDs containing the true and correct copies of the nominations and letters of support, and CDs with tif images. The proposed action for the properties is listing in the National Register. Our Historic Preservation Board members support the nominations.

If you have any questions regarding the nominations or our request for action, please contact me at 717-783-9922 or afrantz@pa.gov. Thank you for your consideration of this submission.

Sincerely,



April E. Frantz
National Register Reviewer

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