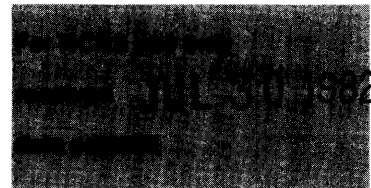


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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



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

1. Name

historic ~~The~~ R. F. Strickland Company

and/or common

2. Location

street & number ~~At the intersection of~~ Railroad and
McLendon Streets, N/A not for publication

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

state Georgia code 013 county Pike code 231

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. John P. Strickland

street & number P.O. Box

city, town Concord N/A vicinity of state Georgia 30206

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Pike County Courthouse

city, town Zebulon state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date N/A federal state county local

depository for survey records None

city, town state

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The R.F. Strickland Company consists of a complex of late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century commercial buildings located near the center of downtown Concord, Pike County, Georgia. The principal building in the complex is the 1907 R.F. Strickland Company store, a two-story wood-framed brick building.

The R.F. Strickland Company Store, known locally as Strickland's, is a virtually intact early twentieth century commercial building. The first floor has two wood and plate glass storefronts with diffusion glass over the storefront windows. At the east corner of the building is a third entrance which led to the Concord Bank. Hexagonal tiles are laid in each entryway, and the angle entrance to the bank is protected by the second floor overhang supported by a concrete block corner post. An original metal canopy shades the storefronts. The second floor, separated from the first by a corbeled string course, has segmentally arched windows with articulated keystones and two-over-two double hung sash. Above the windows on the front facade are a row of porthole windows which serve as attic ventilators. Above these are a simple brick cornice and a parapet sign with "R.F. Strickland Co." spelled out in slate letters.

The store interior is divided into three long sections separated on the first floor by plaster-covered brick load bearing walls and on the second by large wood posts. Ceilings throughout are of beaded tongue and groove boards. The western area serves as the grocery store; the central area, which still retains its original display cabinets, for dry goods and hardware; and the smaller eastern area for the Concord Bank and, behind it, the company's office. Both the bank and the office have vaults with ornate cast iron door surrounds. An open single run stairway leads from the rear of the grocery area to the second floor storage room, and a freight elevator is located along the west wall in this same area. The building is heated with space heaters; plumbing and wiring are original.

To the east of the store, and separated from it by an alley, is a turn-of-the-century cotton warehouse, a long narrow one-story building built of poured concrete with a brick front. Attached to a rear corner of the cotton warehouse is a turn-of-the-century brick mule barn. The cotton warehouse and mule barn are arranged so as to form two sides of a yard where mules and wagons were stored. East of the mule barn is a small detached brick structure which has served as a blacksmith shop, a pumphouse for the local waterworks, and a generating plant for electricity. Behind the main store, to the north, is an early 20th century cotton warehouse built of timber sheathed in corrugated metal. Behind the store to the northwest is an early 20th century cotton gin building, also built of timber sheathed in corrugated metal. Between the warehouse and the gin is a modern pole barn. An overhead trolley used to transport cotton once connected the gin and the warehouse; concrete foundations are all that remain of this facility. Southwest of the store, across Railroad and McLendon Streets, is an earlier company store building. Built in the 1890s, this one-story two-bay brick building has been incorporated into a larger early 20th century poured concrete warehouse. In front of the store, across Railroad Street to the south, stands a small wood-framed railroad freight building, the only one of several to have survived along the tracks. In a small triangle of land at the intersection of Railroad and McLendon Streets, a small modern pole barn stands on the site of historic cotton scales.

(CONTINUED)

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1907 **Builder/Architect** **Builder/contractor:** Gresham Manufacturing Co., Griffin, GA

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The R.F. Strickland Company is historically significant in the areas of commerce, agriculture, community planning and development, local history, architecture, communications and transportation. In terms of commerce and agriculture, the R.F. Strickland Company is historically significant as the headquarters of the Strickland Company's agri-business in Pike County during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. This agri-business involved the management of Strickland family farms and thousands of acres of Strickland owned tenant farms, the wholesaling of agricultural commodities such as cotton and fertilizer, the retailing of a full range of products headed by the tenant farmers and the development of a bank which provided much necessary capital for local economic development. The R.F. Strickland Company epitomizes the commercial aspects of the rent farming system that dominated agriculture in Georgia and the South from Reconstruction to the Great Depression. In terms of community planning and development and local history, the R.F. Strickland Company is historically significant for the way in which it controlled the growth and development of Concord. Concord literally grew up around the Strickland Company. The company controlled land sales in and around Concord and in this way shaped the economic and social character of the community. The Strickland Company and Strickland family members were the community's chief benefactors and public servants. Architecturally, the Strickland Company is important as a virtually intact collection of interrelated commercial buildings that represent prevailing principles and practices of design, construction, materials and workmanship in small-town architecture during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In terms of communication and transportation, the R.F. Strickland Company is historically significant as a center of communication and transportation in Concord. Railroad trains stopped in front of the store, a tickertape machine connected the store to the New York Stock Exchange, and the local telephone exchange was housed on the second floor of the store. The above areas of significance support property eligibility under National Register Criteria A, B and C.

Commerce and Agriculture

The R.F. Strickland Company is historically significant as the late nineteenth and early twentieth century headquarters of the Strickland Company agri-business. Isaac Strickland, the first family member in the Pike County area, settled on a farm outside of present day Concord in the late 1830's, established a store there in 1840 and began buying up land to resell to other settlers. Isaac Strickland had nine sons and three daughters. In 1887 the Strickland family firm was first organized as a partnership between two of the nine brothers and a brother-in-law, with assets including several thousand acres of land, the store and many lots in the town of Concord, which had been incorporated in 1881. Then in 1906, the R.F. Strickland Company (by then composed of seven Strickland brothers) was organized, and the following year the new Strickland store building was completed. The store served as the heart of the growing Strickland empire. From this building Strickland family farms and over three hundred tenant farms on, at one time, over 30,000 acres of land were managed. The company

(CONTINUED)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Yearwood, Jeff. "Historic Property Information Form - R.F. Strickland Building, Concord, Georgia." June, 1981. On file, Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approximately 3 acres

Quadrangle name Concord, Georgia

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

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

B

Zone			Easting					Northing						

C

Zone			Easting					Northing						

D

Zone			Easting					Northing						

E

Zone			Easting					Northing						

F

Zone			Easting					Northing						

G

Zone			Easting					Northing						

H

Zone			Easting					Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification Description and justification are included in Section 7.

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carolyn Brooks, National Register Researcher

organization Historic Preservation Section
Georgia Department of Natural Resources date June 16, 1982

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

city or town Atlanta state Georgia

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Elizabeth A. Lyon
Elizabeth A. Lyon

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 7/26/82

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register
Entered in the
National Register

Alvina Lyons
Keeper of the National Register

date 8/20/82

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 2

BOUNDARY

The nominated property, outlined with a heavy black line on the enclosed surveyor's map, includes all the intact structures historically associated with the R.F. Strickland Company. As indicated on the surveyor's map, this consists of all of Tracts I, II, III and the Gin and Warehouse Tract, and the eastern half of Tract IV. (On the western half of Tract IV is located a brick building only recently purchased by the Stricklands and not historically associated with the R.F. Strickland Company.)

PHOTOGRAPHS

The Historic Preservation Section has determined that the photographs taken in August, 1981 still represent the character and appearance of the property. No significant changes have been made since that date.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

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received
date entered

Continuation sheet Significance Item number 8 Page 2

developed fertilizer, grain , cotton ginning and canning businesses that all flourished. The store became the exclusive area retailer of such necessities as groceries, hardware, dry goods, farm equipment and later gasoline. Services such as banking and undertaking were also provided by the company. The Concord Banking Company, established in 1903, with a Strickland brother as president, and the R.F. Strickland Company provided much of the necessary capital for local economic development. The R.F. Strickland Company epitomizes the commercial aspects of the rent farming system that dominated agriculture in Georgia and the South from Reconstruction to the Great Depression. With the decline of the tenant farming system, the widespread planting of soybeans and the increase in supermarket and department store chains, Strickland's services and enterprises were slowly reduced. The mule barn was closed in the early 1960's, the cotton gin was closed in 1965 and the cannery and fertilizer plant were sold. The store no longer stocks such a wide variety of items; but it still remains the major commercial operation in Concord.

Community Planning and Development

Concord literally grew up around the Strickland Company. Isaac Strickland's store, established in 1840, was located on an old Indian trail in an area with no other commercial enterprises. Farms and a settlement grew up nearby on the land bought and later sold by the Stricklands. This settlement was incorporated as Concord in 1881. As the Strickland family bought up more and more land in and around the Concord area they were able to shape the economic and social character of the community through their land sales. The present Strickland Company buildings are at the center of Concord and Strickland's store is the community's focal point.

Local History

The Strickland Company and the Strickland family were the city's chief benefactors, providing it with parks, a church, a school, a city hall and such "public" utilities and services as water, electricity and fire protection. Members of the Strickland family served as mayors and city councilmen, determining the city's politics, and they served as community leaders in the local churches and civic clubs, thereby shaping its social character.

Architecture

The R.F. Strickland Company buildings are a virtually intact collection of late nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial structures which together provide invaluable information about building, technology, materials and design in a small Georgia town of this period. Especially notable is the contrast between the traditional load-bearing masonry and heavy timber framing used in some buildings, the innovative poured concrete used in others and the utilitarian corrugated sheet metal used in still others. The R.F. Strickland Company store is by far the largest and most impressive

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**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

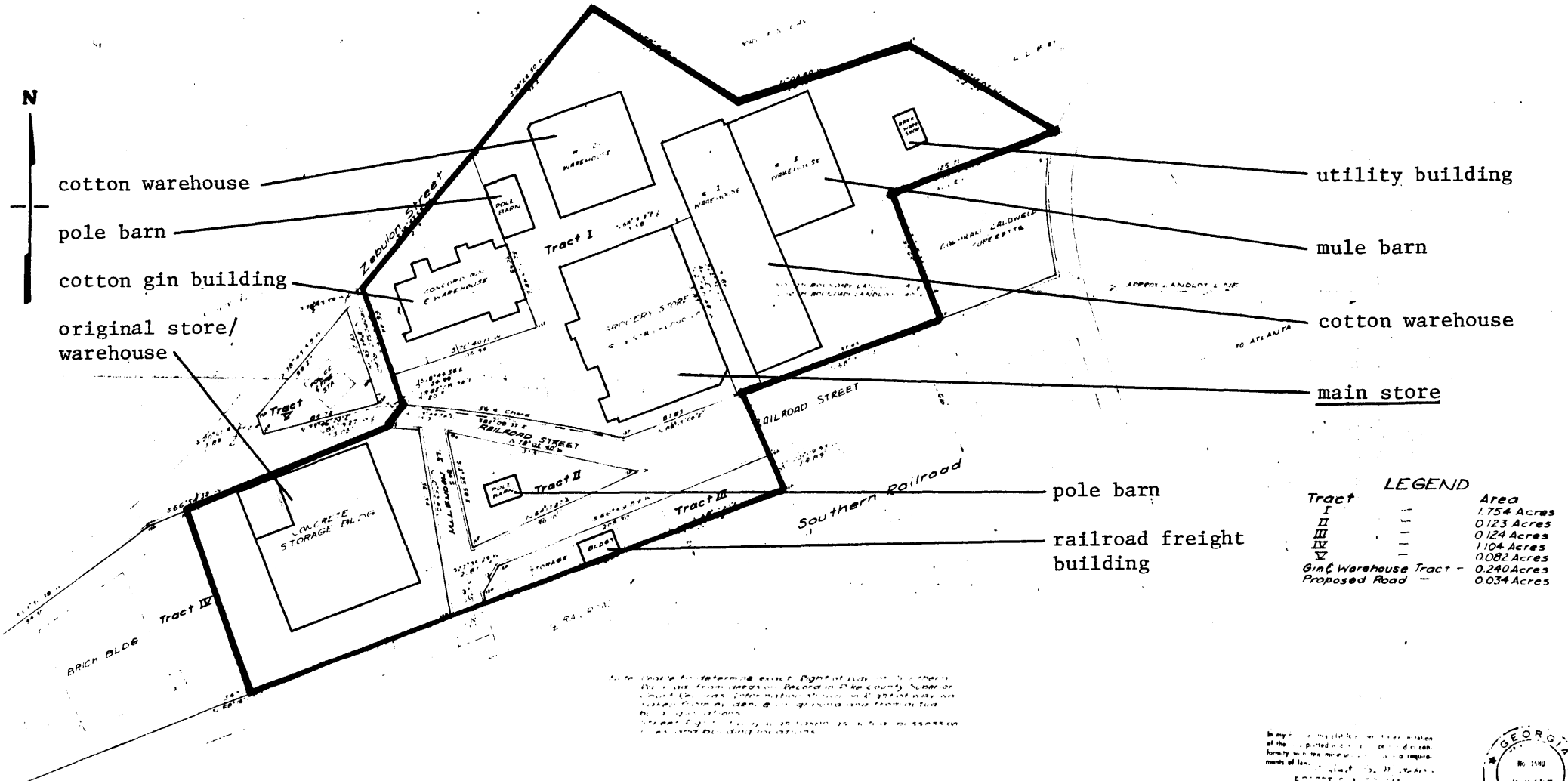
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Continuation sheet Significance Item number 8 Page 3

building in Concord, and many later structures, including the local school and town hall, have similar features. Virtually unchanged since its construction, it has a remarkable degree of integrity that adds greatly to its significance. It was built for the Stricklands by the Gresham Manufacturing Company located in nearby Griffin, Georgia.

Transportation and Communication

The R.F. Strickland Company is historically significant as the center of transportation and communications in Concord. The railroad, which arrived in Concord in the 1880's, passed in front of Strickland's, and passenger and freight trains stopped in front of the store. Strickland's was reliant on the railroad for the shipment of goods in and out of Concord. During the early 1900's Strickland's installed a tickertape machine connected to the New York Stock Exchange, and the local telephone exchange was housed on the second floor of the store. The store itself served as a major gathering place for the residents of Concord and the surrounding countryside, a place where people literally sat back on the front porch or around a pot-bellied stove to discuss the news.



cotton warehouse

pole barn

cotton gin building

original store/warehouse

utility building

mule barn

cotton warehouse

main store

LEGEND

Tract	Area
I	1.754 Acres
II	0.123 Acres
III	0.124 Acres
IV	1.104 Acres
V	0.082 Acres
Gin & Warehouse Tract	0.240 Acres
Proposed Road	0.034 Acres

THE R.F. STRICKLAND COMPANY
Concord, Pike County, Georgia

PROPERTY/SKETCH MAP

Source: Surveyor's Map
North: ↑
Property Boundary: _____

GRiffin Engineering Company
CONSULTING ENGINEERS
LAND SURVEYORS
GRiffin, GEORGIA

PROPERTY OF
R. G. STRICKLAND CO.
B CONCORD GIN & WAREHOUSE
Located in Town of Concord and in Lots 140 & 141 of the 8th District of Pike County, Georgia


Scale 1" = 40'

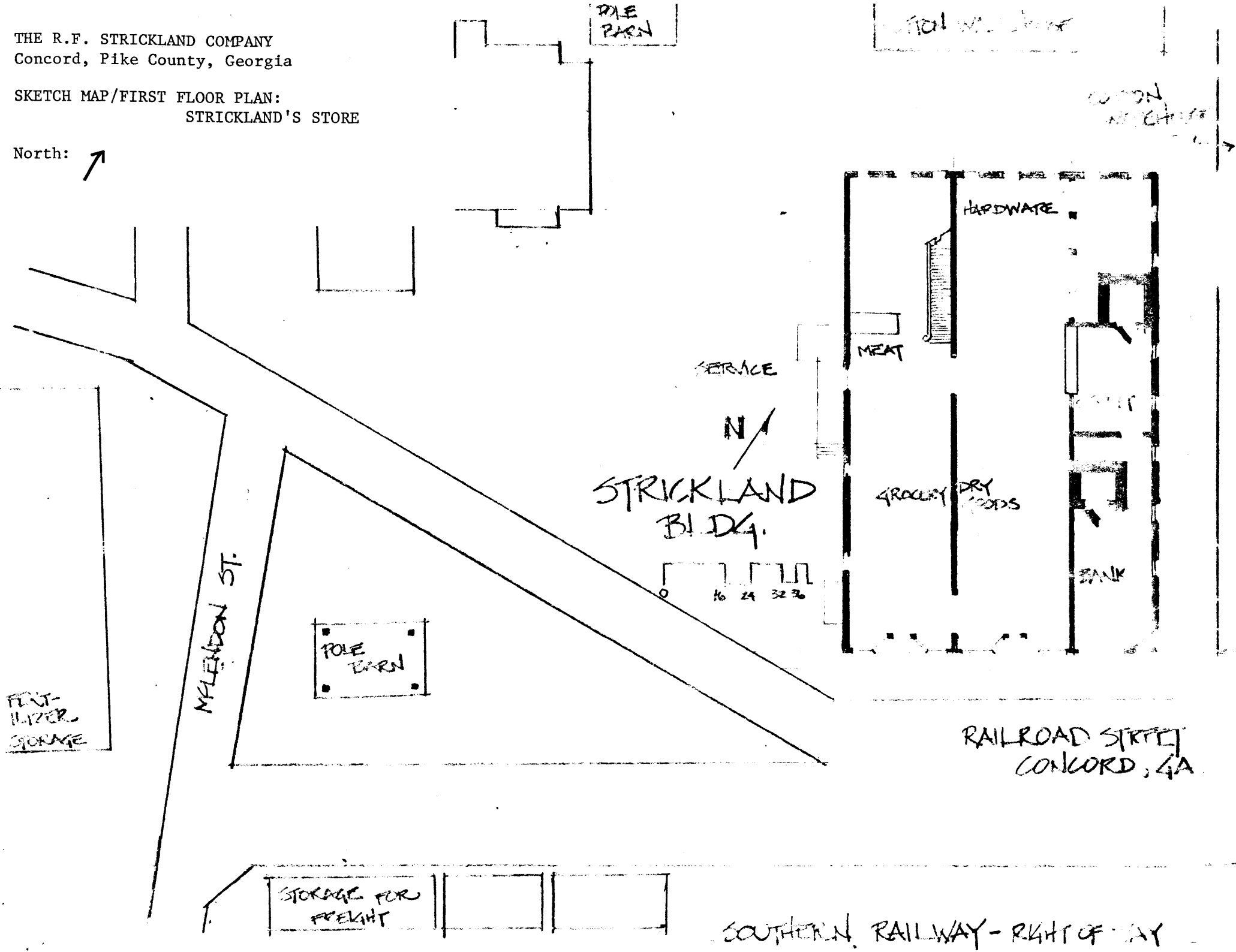
Date: _____

Drawing No. _____

THE R.F. STRICKLAND COMPANY
Concord, Pike County, Georgia

SKETCH MAP/FIRST FLOOR PLAN:
STRICKLAND'S STORE

North: 



POLE BARN

POLE BARN

WOOD SHED

FERTILIZER STORAGE

McLENDON ST.

POLE BARN

SERVICE

N

STRICKLAND BLDG.

0 16 24 32 36

MEAT

HARDWARE

GROCERY DRY GOODS

BANK

RAILROAD STREET
CONCORD, GA.

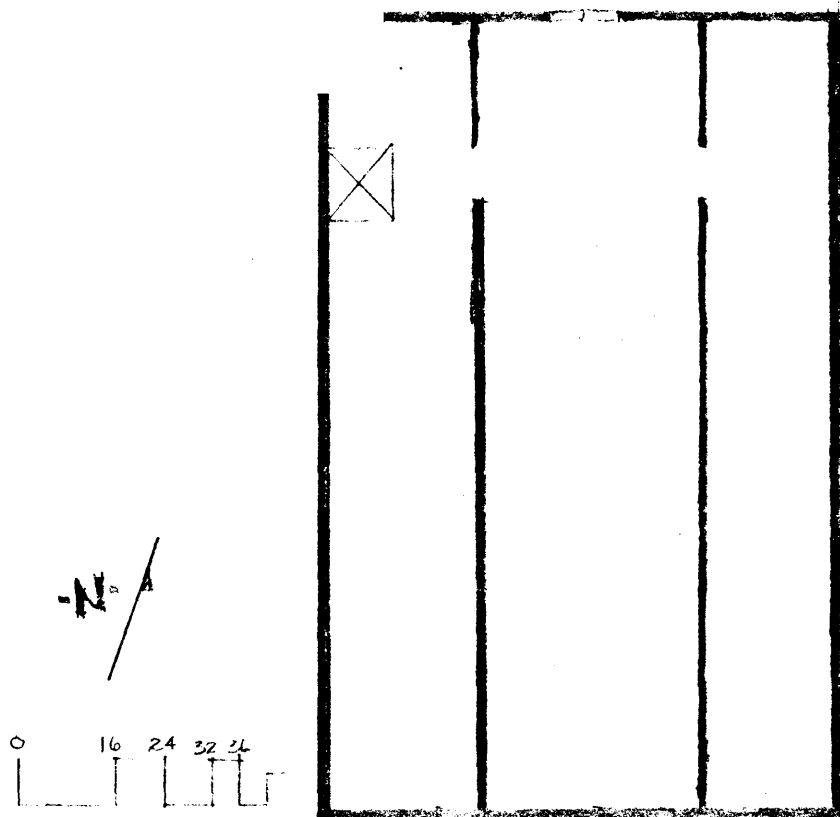
STORAGE FOR FREIGHT

SOUTHERN RAILWAY - RIGHT OF WAY

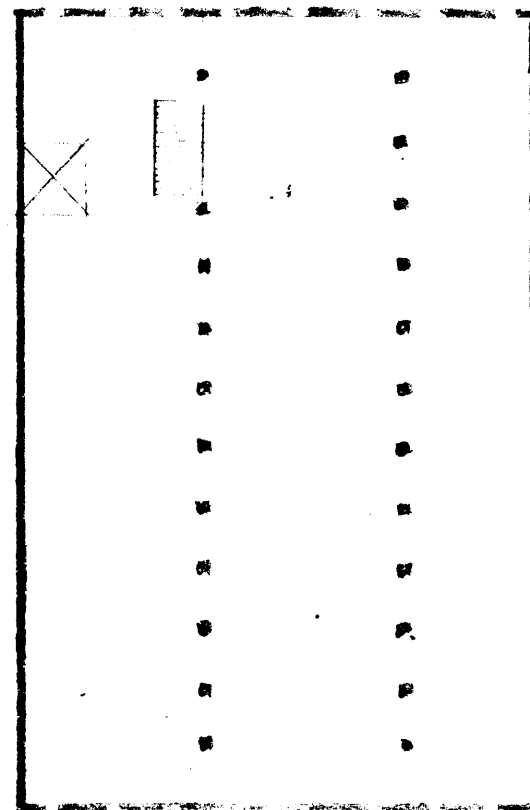
THE R. F. STRICKLAND COMPANY
Concord, Pike County, Georgia

SKETCH MAP/BASEMENT AND SECOND FLOOR PLANS:
STRICKLAND'S STORE

North: ↗



BASEMENT



ATTIC