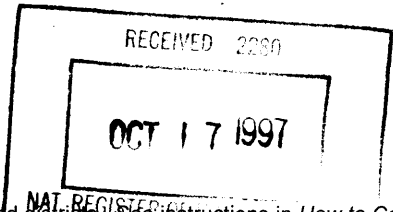


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



14/38

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Dortch Stove Works
other names/site number Allen Manufacturing Company; Magic Chef, Inc.; Jamison Bedding Company

2. Location

street & number 230 North Franklin Road NA not for publication
city or town Franklin NA vicinity
state Tennessee code TN county Williamson code 187 zip code 37064

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 for 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 nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Herbert L. Hays 10/8/97
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that the property is:
 entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register.
 See continuation sheet
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:) _____

Edson H. Beall for Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
11/13/97

Dortch Stove Works
Name of Property

Williamson County, TN
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in count)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
5	2	buildings
1	1	sites
6	3	structures
		objects
		Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY: manufacturing facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: industrial

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls BRICK; CONCRETE

roof METAL

other WOOD; STONE

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- 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 N/A

(Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** moved from its original location.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property
- G** less than 50 year of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce
Industry

Period of Significance

1933-1946

Significant Dates

NA

Significant Person

(complete if Criterion B is marked)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Robert and Company

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- Previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Dortch Stove Works
Name of Property

Williamson County, TN
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 30 acres Franklin 63 NE

UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>16</u>	<u>512500</u>	<u>3976440</u>	3	<u>16</u>	<u>512780</u>	<u>3976930</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>16</u>	<u>512960</u>	<u>3976180</u>	4	<u>16</u>	<u>512380</u>	<u>3976220</u>

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Wanda Johnson and Lynn Hulan/Rod Pewitt, Project Manager
organization Hulan Johnson, Inc./Lehew Company date 5/92 - 7/96 - 6/97
street & number NA/Post Office Box 864 telephone 615/791-1777 (Lehew)
city or town NA/Franklin state TN zip code 37065 "

Additional Documentation

submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 Or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO) or FPO for any additional items

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Calvin Lehew
street & number Post Office Box 864 telephone 615/791-1777
city or town Franklin state TN zip code 37065

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 listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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Dortch Stove Works
Williamson County, Tennessee

DESCRIPTION

The Dortch Stove Works plant in Franklin, Williamson County, Tennessee, was constructed from October of 1929 until the spring of 1930. Designed by the Atlanta architectural firm of Robert and Company, the firm's industrial designs had also been used for the Murfreesboro Woolen Mill's changeover (to become the Frank Silk Mills) in Murfreesboro in 1928. In 1929, the architectural firm's services were engaged by the Allen Manufacturing Company of Nashville, a stove works company that planned to move their entire operation to Franklin after the completion of the plant. Plagued by lawsuits and financial troubles exacerbated by the Depression, the Allen Manufacturing Company only operated its stove works in Franklin sporadically between June of 1930 until May of 1932, when the company was placed in receivership. The plant and its machinery were then bought in December of 1932 by Mr. O.L. Dortch, president of the Dortch Stove Works. Mr. Dortch successfully operated the Dortch Stove Works, Inc. from March of 1933 until it was sold to Magic Chef, Inc. in October of 1955. In 1962, the buildings were sold to the Jamison Bedding Company, which operated there until 1991. The complex is now in private ownership. Within the last year, buildings have been cleaned of debris and asbestos, interior brick has been cleaned, a structurally unsound portion was demolished, living quarters have been added, and the office has been placed in use. The new owner plans to rehabilitate the complex using the preservation tax incentives.

The Dortch Stove Works Plant is approximately one-half mile north of downtown Franklin along US 31, strategically located between the main line of the Louisville and Nashville (L&N) Railroad and the main highway that led to Nashville. It occupies thirty acres adjacent to a mixed residential and commercial area. A large gravel parking lot is located to the south and west of the complex of buildings.

Approximately 310,000 square feet are included in the complex of buildings making up the Dortch Stove Works. There are nine buildings and structures within the complex: (1) the horseshoe shaped or U-plan original factory and foundry area of approximately 202,000 square feet (including three circa 1935-1940 additions, until recently it enclosed a total of approximately 245,000 square feet); (2) the original boiler room, with one circa 1960s addition, enclosing approximately 5,500 square feet; (3) a circa 1935 building enclosing approximately 33,000 square feet; (4) a circa 1935-1940 shed without exterior walls of approximately 12,000 square feet; (5) a

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Dortch Stove Works
Williamson County, Tennessee

circa 1935 masonry building of approximately 650 square feet; (6) a circa 1960 shed without exterior walls of approximately 2,000 square feet (non-contributing); (7) the original water storage tank; (8) modern water storage tank (non-contributing); and (9) a circa 1950 office building, with an addition, enclosing approximately 12,000 square feet (non-contributing). Except where noted, all of the resources are contributing.

As a manufacturer of stove works, the plant had to function in many ways. It was a foundry for the melting of iron ore, the pouring of this molten material into metal castings, and other processes related to the molding and cleaning of the rough stove parts. Enameling, assembling, storing, and shipping the wood, gas, and coal heaters, ranges, cook stoves, parlor furnaces, and other stove works products required large amounts of floor space. There was also an office and a place for the workers to take their showers after work, places for storing tools and molds for the foundry, and storage areas for the piles of coal and other raw materials used by the plant.

The main plant area, the foundry (Building #1), was originally constructed in a U-plan, with space for the boiler room (Building #2) located in a separate building in the center of the U-plan. In the October 3, 1929 issue of the local newspaper, The Review Appeal, it was stated that Robert and Company's design for the plant would be in the shape of a "horseshoe" or U-plan rather than as a rectangle, as originally conceived. This would allow room for expansion. It appears that the three subsequent additions to the foundry area, done by Dortch from approximately 1935 to 1940, were made to be used as extra storage space and as a shower area for workers.

The work performed in Building #1, a brick and gable roofed building with numerous metal windows, required vast unobstructed floor space. This building has solid poured concrete foundations and poured concrete flooring, pits in the concrete floor to house some of the machinery used by the foundry, as well as sand pits for the cooling of newly-molded stove parts, skylights and clerestory windows for venting and lighting purposes, and steel-trussed ceilings. The exposed trusses of riveted steel girders and I-beams have diagonal braces reinforced at the joints with flat steel plates. The massive girders and beams create the necessary structure for the unobstructed floor space and high ceilings in a virtually fireproof building, all necessary attributes of a foundry. The beams also form a support for the rows of clerestory windows found throughout the building. These windows were essential for venting hot air within the building.

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Dortch Stove Works
Williamson County, Tennessee

There are several loading bays on the north-facing facade of Building #1 that were used by trucks for the shipping of stove products. On the east facing elevation of the plant are loading bays for the railroad spur line (non-extant) immediately outside the sliding bay doors. The subsequent addition made to the north of the original U-plan also has loading bays for the use of the railroad spur line. Since many retailers did not want their stoves and parlor furnaces shipped until the fall, it was necessary to have a large storage area for the finished stove works products. This two story, brick, low pitch gable roof addition was apparently built for this main purpose. This section of the building was evaluated by a structural engineer and determined have serious structural problems and parts of it were demolished. Most of the exterior wall material is extant.

In Building #1, the foundry area would have had several general departments: the molding department, the dry-sand coremaking department, the melting department, and the casting cleaning department. The heavy molds used would have required a well-organized storage area with pulleys and carts for moving the molds from place to place. The two subsequent concrete block additions made to the west-facing elevations were undoubtedly used for the storage of tools and molds as well as for the men's shower room, located in the second floor section of the northernmost addition. This area has been converted into living quarters. The showers were removed, partitions were built, and the exterior was painted.

Through the years, few alterations have been made to the exterior and interior of the plant. When purchased by the Jamison Bedding Company in 1962, concrete block was the main material used for constructing a few partition walls in the interior of Building #1. It is easy to distinguish between the later additions of the 1960s concrete block (and a few wood stud walls sheathed in plywood) and the original brick and poured concrete construction. Another easily distinguishable alteration made by the Jamison Bedding Company is the addition of a steel-fabricated metal-clad boiler (Building #2. This boiler room is of steel and masonry construction with sliding industrial doors and is composed of approximately 5,500 square feet.

In the southwest section of Building #1, the foundry operated three cupola furnaces (tall, hollow, vertical cylinders used to melt the coke, pig iron, scrap metal, and flux charged into the furnace through an opening above the center of the furnace) which delivered the molten iron into the ladles and

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Dortch Stove Works
Williamson County, Tennessee

from there to be molded. Although the cupolas are now removed, the metal spiral staircase which the workers would climb to inspect the tops of the cupola furnaces, the round holes in the ceiling through which the cupola protruded (now boarded over with wood planks), and the concrete flooring in between these round holes, as now seen upstairs, all bear witness to the existence of these furnaces.

A spur line of the railroad, once located between Building #1 and Building #3 and immediately outside of this southwest section of Building #1, was undoubtedly used to haul the coal, sand, coke, iron, and scrap used in the cupolas. These materials each required their own storage space nearby the cupolas, which is amply provided for in Building #1. In a March 1933 advertisement mailed to their 2,000 retailers, Mr. Dortch boasted that their new half-million dollar plant in Franklin with its new patterns, new machinery, new methods, and low prices, was a "...NEW DEAL in the stove industry..." and had a "continuous pouring foundry process, continuous electric enamel ovens, and conveyor assembly." All of these features were located in the U-plan of the original plant Building #1.

Although all of the remaining foundry and stove works machinery was removed after being bought by Jamison in 1962, both physical evidence and oral interviews suggest that the main work of the foundry portion of the plant was always done in the original U-plan, interconnected spaces of Building #1. There are still T-shaped pits in the northwest portion of Building #1 (now filled in with concrete) which once housed machinery used in the foundry.

After the castings were molded in patterns, cooled in sand, and cleaned by means of tools and tumbling machinery, they would be conveyed to be enameled and assembled and then stored for shipment. A 1952 drawing of the Dortch Stove Works shows several box cars lined up on the spur line outside the west-facing portion of Building #1. Adequate storage space would have been a necessity because the plant manufactured approximately sixty-five stoves per day.

Building #2, as previously mentioned, was the brick boiler room with a circa 1960 metal-clad addition. All of the machinery used in the plant was run by steam power. Heat was also furnished by the steam in the areas of the plant that required heat.

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Dortch Stove Works
Williamson County, Tennessee

Building #3, according to oral interview sources, was used as an assembly room for the Dortch Stove Works. It was built circa 1935-1940, soon after acquisition by Dortch. It is a wood structure with a wood shed roof and clerestory windows, wood truss system, poured concrete foundation and flooring, and metal industrial casement windows. The wood support beams on poured concrete pilings break up the floor space, suggesting that the use of this building did not require it to be fireproof or to have continuous clear spans of floor space for the quick transferal of molten items. It is, however, a large space composing about 33,000 square feet, and would, therefore, be large enough for much of the assembly work required by the stove works plant. The building has suffered roof deterioration, but it still retains integrity.

The uses of Buildings #4 and #5 are unknown. The physical evidence and oral interviews suggest that they were used in some form by the stove works plant. They appear to be of approximately the same age as the other buildings, circa 1930-1940, and they are depicted in the 1952 drawing of the Dortch Stove Works. Their location near the two spurs of the railroad line suggest that they were used as storage areas. Building #4 is a shed-like building, constructed primarily of wood, with a wood gable roof, dirt floor, and no exterior walls. It covers approximately 12,000 square feet. Building #5, 650 square feet, also with a dirt floor, is brick construction with a flat wood roof, two exterior doors, and one sliding industrial door/window.

Building #6, approximately 2,000 square feet, was built by the Jamison Bedding plant after 1962 and is a flat roofed structure with open end walls. It is non-contributing.

Structure #7 is the original water tower used by the plant. It is a tall metal structure with a metal tank atop four support legs. Structure #8 is a new, shorter water tank. It is non-contributing.

Building #9 is a circa 1950 brick, gable roof office building with a small addition connected to its west-facing elevation. Recently remodeled into office spaces, it is non-contributing.

Since 1992 when the nomination was begun there have been few changes to the complex. The railroad spur line was removed, window glass was lost in some of the buildings, and some of the roofs or ceilings need repair. These changes are shown in a second set of photographs included with the

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Dortch Stove Works
Williamson County, Tennessee

nomination. Changes made in 1996-1997 are shown in the third set of photographs. Overall, the complex retains its architectural and historical integrity.

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Dortch Stove Works
Williamson County, Tennessee

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Dortch Stove Works at Franklin, Tennessee, is nominated under criterion A for its role in the industrial history and commercial/economic growth of the Williamson County area. When built, the plant was by far the largest business enterprise in Williamson County and remained so for many years. The plant operated successfully under the management of Mr. O.L. Dortch for twenty-three years in Franklin. It provided employment for over 300 people, nearly all of whom bought or rented homes within Franklin itself, due to the encouragement of Mr. Dortch. In a time of economic upheaval and the Great Depression, the Dortch Stove Works provided the people of Franklin with steady employment and a weekly payroll of \$5,500.00 for 300 employees during its first year of operation in 1933.

Construction of the plant began in October 1929 and continued through the spring of 1930 while it was under the ownership of the Allen Manufacturing Company, another stove works company with headquarters in Nashville. Robert and Company, an architectural firm in Atlanta, designed the structure with the engineering done by the firm's Mr. Trowbridge. The construction of the railroad line was done by the L&N Railroad and the grading and excavating of the site was completed by the Sam N. Hodges Company. The plant was originally planned to be a brick building approximately 1,200 feet by 150 feet, containing 150,000 square feet. However, the plans for the building had changed and by October 3, 1929 it had been decided by Robert and Company that the plant should be enlarged and built in a U-plan.

The coming of the Allen Manufacturing Company was heralded as "the dawn of a new day for Franklin" in the September 19, 1929 issue of The Review Appeal. There were projections of a yearly payroll of over one-half million dollars. Within one week, between September 12 and September 19, approximately \$100,000.00 of preferred stock was sold locally in Franklin and the county. Businessmen and farmers in the area purchased stock at \$100.00 per share. Citizens were overjoyed that they had been able to raise the necessary money to bring the stove works plant to Franklin. The company was viewed as a low-risk investment because it had been successfully operating in Nashville since 1892 and had tangible net assets of over one million dollars. In the September 12 issue of The Review Appeal, the Allen Manufacturing Company was proclaimed by its president, Mr. W.F. Allen, to be "the second largest manufacturer of quality furnaces in the country with over 4,500 dealer agents." They manufactured Allen's

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Dortch Stove Works
Williamson County, Tennessee

Princess Ranges, coal and wood burning cook stoves, and Allen's Parlor Furnace, an attractive coal or wood burning furnace that could be placed in any room and would harmonize with the finest furnishings.

In spite of all the optimistic projections, the Allen Manufacturing Company in its new home in Franklin never succeeded in the way the citizens of Williamson County had hoped. Apparently, the expense of building the new plant was greater than anticipated. By April of 1930, even before the plant was completed, suits had been filed against the Allen Corporation, the Corporation formed in order to sell stock for the new plant in Franklin. In the April 10 issue of The Review Appeal, it was stated that the construction of the new plant in Franklin was an expense that the bankers had not expected and was, in fact, "an injustice to the stockholders in the new company." In spite of the litigation, the company did begin the manufacture of some of its stove products by June 1930, employing about 150 people, half of whom were local citizens. The October 9, 1930 issue of The Review Appeal stated that the plant employed 235 men, turned out sixty-five stoves per day, and shipped them to every state in the Union. By July 1931, the newspaper reported that the plant employed 300 men, seventy-five percent of whom were local. However, the paper also mentioned that the plant was due to open again on July 6 after having been shut down for a month. The other disappointment felt by the people of Franklin was that the men employed by the plant were not one hundred percent local.

The Allen Manufacturing Company continued to operate sporadically between June 1930 and May 1932, but it was plagued with litigation and financial troubles deepened even further by the general fears and anxieties accompanying the Great Depression. By May 1932 the Allen Manufacturing Company was placed in receivership. The stockholders in the Allen Corporation did not receive their promised quarterly dividends, and soon thereafter both the Allen Manufacturing Company and the Allen Corporation were in bankruptcy.

In December 1932, the plant was bought by Mr. O.L. Dortch, president of the Dortch Stove Works Company (established 1919) in Bridgeport, Alabama. Dortch had also purchased the Liberty Stove Works of Nashville. He moved all of the stove works operation to Franklin by 1935, attracted by the ability to buy the bankrupt property, which was characterized by Mr. Dortch as being the most modern plant in the United States. He added \$50,000.00 worth of machinery to the \$163,000.00 worth of machinery formerly used by

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Dortch Stove Works
Williamson County, Tennessee

the Allen Manufacturing Company and featured his "Royal Line", including more than 200 different types and models of stoves for wood and coal consumption, the most complete line manufactured in the country, all to be manufactured in Franklin. Company officials stated that the first reason for moving to Franklin was to secure the "...most modern and best equipped stove manufacturing plant in the United States." In an advertisement circulated to his 2,000 retailers, Mr. Dortch expressed his optimism concerning his purchase of the plant and reminded his customers that "We manufacture a large assorted line of "Modern as Tomorrow" ranges, circulating heaters, gas radiant heaters, gas ranges and cookers, laundry stoves, cook stoves, air tight heaters...."

Mr. O.L. Dortch was one of the area's most prominent business men. In addition to being the president of the Dortch Stove Works, Inc. he was the manager of this section's International Agricultural Corporation's operations and president of C.M.A. University in Columbia, Tennessee. Mr. Dortch continued to make his home in Columbia, Tennessee, but he insisted that virtually all of his 300 employees either be from Franklin or move to the city of Franklin thereby purchasing and renting many homes there as well as adding vitality to Franklin's local economy. In the October 26, 1933 issue of The Review Appeal, the front page story began, "Dortch Stove Works wants all of their 300 men located in Franklin residences...\$5,500 weekly payroll means much to town and county."

Mr. Edward S. Criddle was vice president of the Dortch Stove Works company, Mr. G.O. Stanley was secretary, and Mr. T.F. Lance was treasurer. Within months, the company was regularly employing between 300 and 400 people, representing a payroll expenditure alone of more than \$250,000.00 per year. Between 75,000 to 100,000 stoves were produced annually in Franklin, shipped out and sold throughout the United States. "Depression and shut-downs have had no effect on Dortch," stated the Williamson County News in 1935. Indeed, the plant continued to operate fairly consistently from 1935 until 1942, shipping out a total of seventy-four carload shipments on the L&N Railroad in 1933, seventy carloads in 1935, seventy-four carloads in 1936, 130 carloads in 1937, thirty-eight carloads in 1938, fifty-three carloads in 1939, seventy-seven carloads in 1940, and fifty-seven carloads in 1941. (Note: The carload statistics are from the first January issues of The Review Appeal for each year mentioned; they were compiled by L&N officials. No statistics were available for shipments sent out by trucks.) Dortch Stove Works continued to be one of the chief employers in Williamson County during its entire twenty-three year history there. In 1933, the

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Dortch Stove Works
Williamson County, Tennessee

number of carload shipments in the county was led by flour (due to the presence of the Lillie Mill Company in Franklin since 1869), but the number two spot was occupied by stoves, indicating that Dortch Stove Works produced a significant effect on the 1930s population of 3,365, employing a large percentage of their work force. The manufacturers' census of 1947 lists only one industry in the county employing 100 or more employees and that one was Dortch. In contrast, nearby Nashville listed sixty-five plants employing 100 or more people.

Clearly, the coming of the huge stove works industry impacted the small town of Franklin in terms of employment, payroll, and housing at a time of economic uncertainty and its emergence from a primarily rural economy to an increasingly diversified, industrialized economy. As such, it can be identified with the New South era, a time in the 1920s in which many small southern towns became increasingly attractive to manufacturing concerns and the local economy began to shift towards industry. The Dortch Stove Works plant may be compared to the Borden Powdered Milk Plant in Fayetteville (NR - July 14, 1988) as another example of the importance of a local industry during the New South movement.

In summary, the Dortch Stove Works plant represents an important movement of the economic and industrial growth of the pre-World War II south. It was part of the New South movement bringing in industries from other parts of the country. It provided important cash income to the citizens of Franklin and Williamson County during the economic upheavals of the Great Depression. However, with the coming of rural electrification (as late as the 1950s in some areas) home owners throughout the country began to discard their wood and coal burning stoves and furnaces and modernize with electric models. The need for cast iron, enameled stove works products diminished and the Dortch Stove Works sold its plant and machinery to Magic Chef, Inc., a more diversified company who not only manufactured heaters but also did moldings of large signs and emblems for Coca Cola.

In 1962, the plant was bought by the Jamison Bedding Company, a company begun in Nashville in 1883. They used the plant in Franklin as their main office, for the manufacture of the cotton felt and framing for their upholstered furniture, and to produce the pilot models of sleeper sofas. Jamison provided employment for about 225 people during its years in Franklin from 1962 to 1991. It was used as an office building until 1995. The complex is currently undergoing rehabilitation utilizing the preservation tax incentives.

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Dortch Stove Works
Williamson County, Tennessee

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- Williamson County (TN) News. August 2, 1935.
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Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 12

Dortch Stove Works
Williamson County, Tennessee

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property is bounded by US Highway 31 to the northwest, multiple property owners to the northeast, and the L&N Railroad to the southeast, and Liberty Pike to the southwest. It is the thirty acre parcel outlined on the Williamson County tax map.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries include all land currently associated with the stove works.

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Section number photos Page 13

Dortch Stove Works
Williamson County, Tennessee

Dortch Stove Works
US Highway 31
Franklin, Williamson County, Tennessee
Photos by: Ann Owen
Date: April 1992
Negs: Tennessee Historical Commission

Facing south, north facade Building #9
#1 of 32

Facing east, west elevation Building #1
#2 of 32

Facing southeast, north facade Building #1
#3 of 32

Facing southeast, west elevation Building #1
#4 of 32

Facing southeast, facade structures #7 and 8
#5 of 32

Facing northwest, south elevation Building #1
#6 of 32

Facing north, south elevation Building #1, west elevation Building #3, spur
track structure (removed between 1992-1996)
#7 of 32

Facing north, south elevations Buildings #2 and #1, east elevation Building
#1, west elevation Building #1
#8 of 32

Facing northwest, east elevation of Building #2
#9 of 32

INTERIOR PHOTOGRAPHS

Facing northwest, interior Building #1
#10 of 32

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Dortch Stove Works
Williamson County, Tennessee

Facing south, interior detail sliding door Building #1
#11 of 32

Facing east, interior Building #1
#12 of 32

Facing south, interior Building #1
#13 of 32

Facing north, interior shower area Building #1
#14 of 32

Facing south, interior Building #2
#15 of 32

Facing west, interior detail stairs Building #1
#16 of 32

Facing west, interior detail ceiling (cupola hole) Building #1
#17 of 32

Facing north, interior Building #3
#18 of 32

Facing north, interior detail truss system Building #3
#19 of 32

Facing west, machinery detail Building #3
#20 of 32

Photos by: Rod Pewitt
Date: July 1996

Facing north, interior of Building #2
#21 of 32

Facing north, southwest view of Building #1
#22 of 32

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Section number photos Page 15

Dortch Stove Works
Williamson County, Tennessee

Facing east, interior of Building #1
#23 of 32

Facing north, Building #4
#24 of 32

Facing north, exterior of Buildings #3, 4, 1, looking to site of former
railroad spur
#25 of 32

Facing west, east elevation of Building #1
#26 of 32

Facing north, west elevation of Building #2
#27 of 32

Facing south, interior of Building #3
#28 of 32

Facing south, interior of Building #1 (eastern part)
#29 of 32

Facing east, interior of Building #1, second floor (northern part)
#30 of 32

Facing south, interior of Building #1
#31 of 32

Facing south, courtyard and exteriors of Buildings #1 and 2
#31 of 32

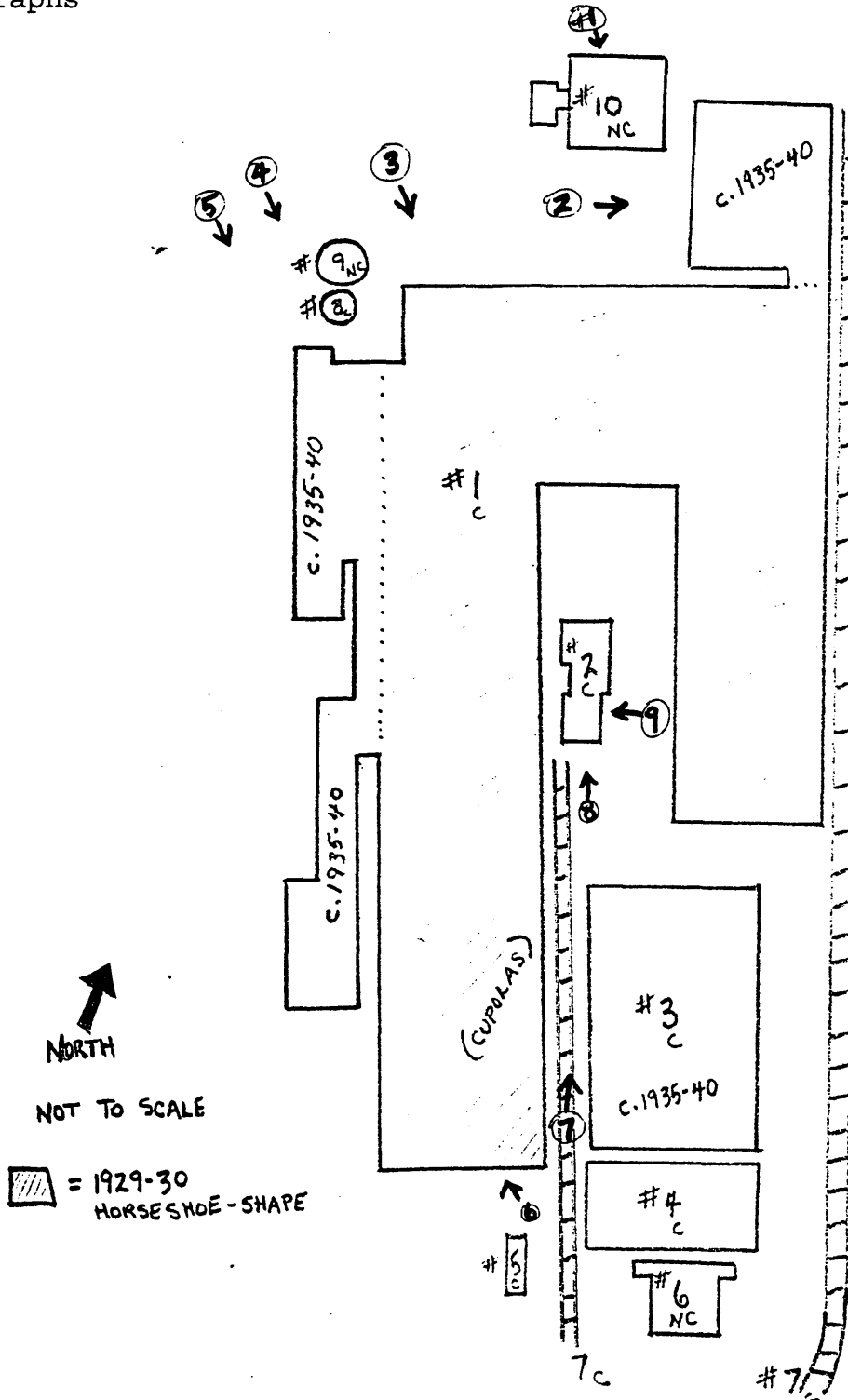
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National Park Service

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Section number photos Page 16

Dortch Stove Works
Williamson County, Tennessee

1992 Photographs



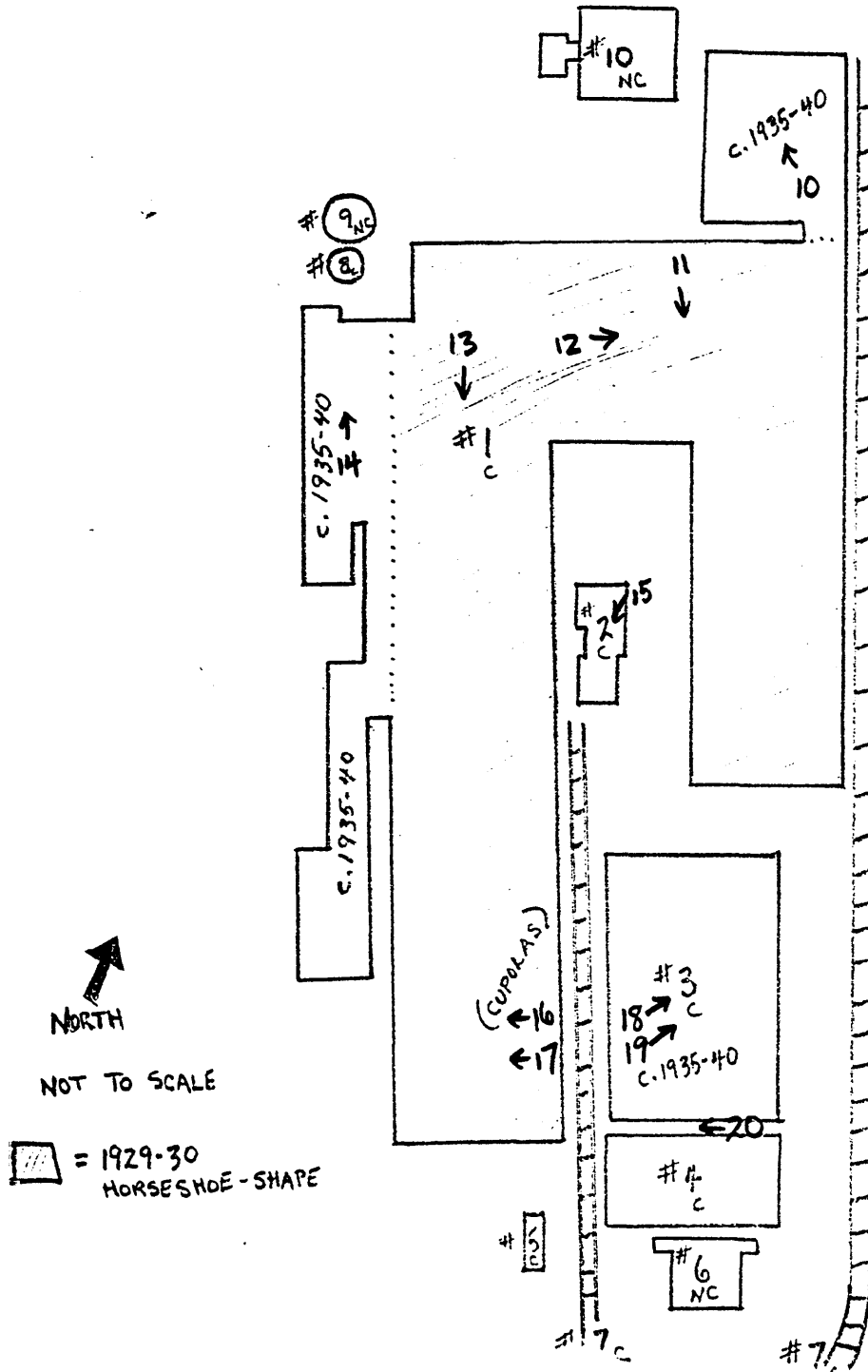
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Dortch Stove Works
Williamson County, Tennessee

1992 Photographs



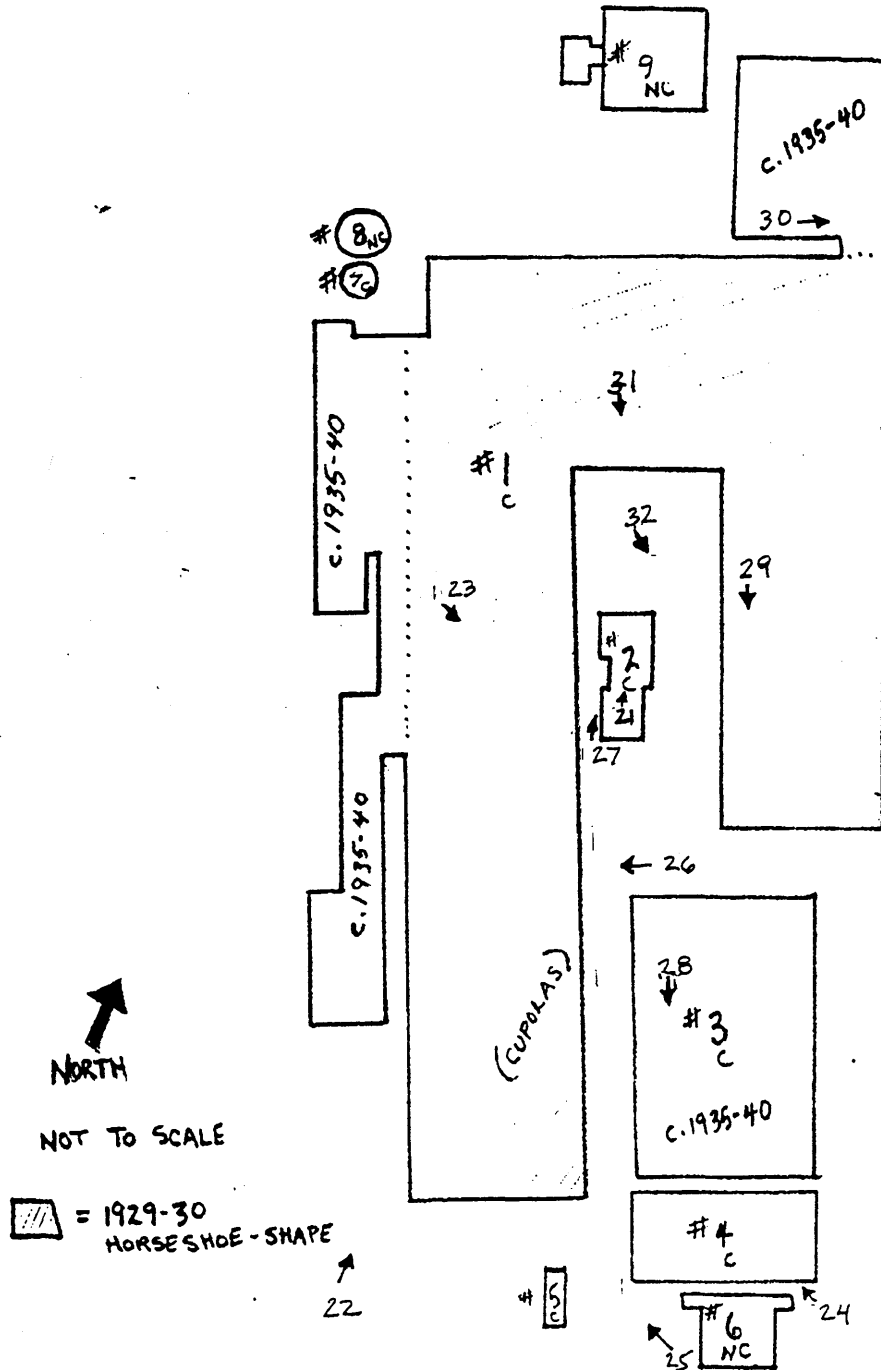
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Section number photos Page 18

Dortch Stove Works
Williamson County, Tennessee

1996 Photographs



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Continuation Sheet

Section number photos Page 19

Dortch Stove Works
Williamson County, Tennessee

1997 Photographs

Photos by: Rod Pewitt
Negs: Tennessee Historical Commission
Date: June 1997

These photographs show areas of the complex that have changed since 1996. Most new photographs duplicate earlier photographs.

Facing south, north facade Building #9. Duplicates photo #1.
#1 of 10

Facing southeast, west elevation Building #1. Duplicates photo #4.
#2 of 10

Facing northwest, interior Building #1. Duplicates photo #10.
#3 of 10

Interior view of portion of Building #1 remodeled into living space.
#4 of 10

Interior view of portion of Building #1 remodeled into living space.
#5 of 10

Interior view of portion of Building #1 remodeled into living space.
#6 of 10

Facing east, interior of Building #1. Duplicates photo #23.
#7 of 10

Facing south, interior of Building #1. Duplicates photo #28.
#8 of 10

Facing south, view of what was interior of Building #1 (eastern part).
Duplicates photo #29.
#9 of 10

Facing east, interior of Building #1, second floor (northern part).
Duplicates photo #30.
#10 of 10

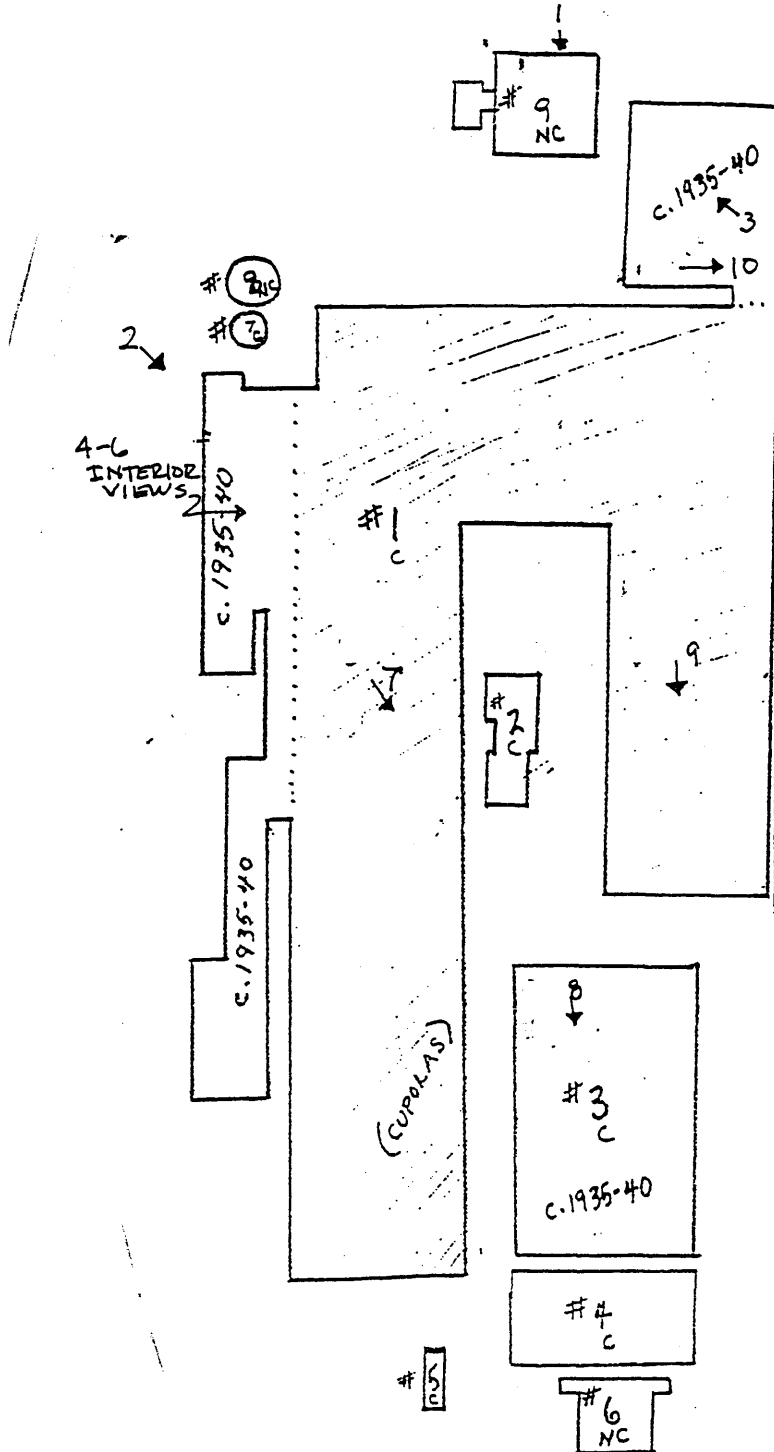
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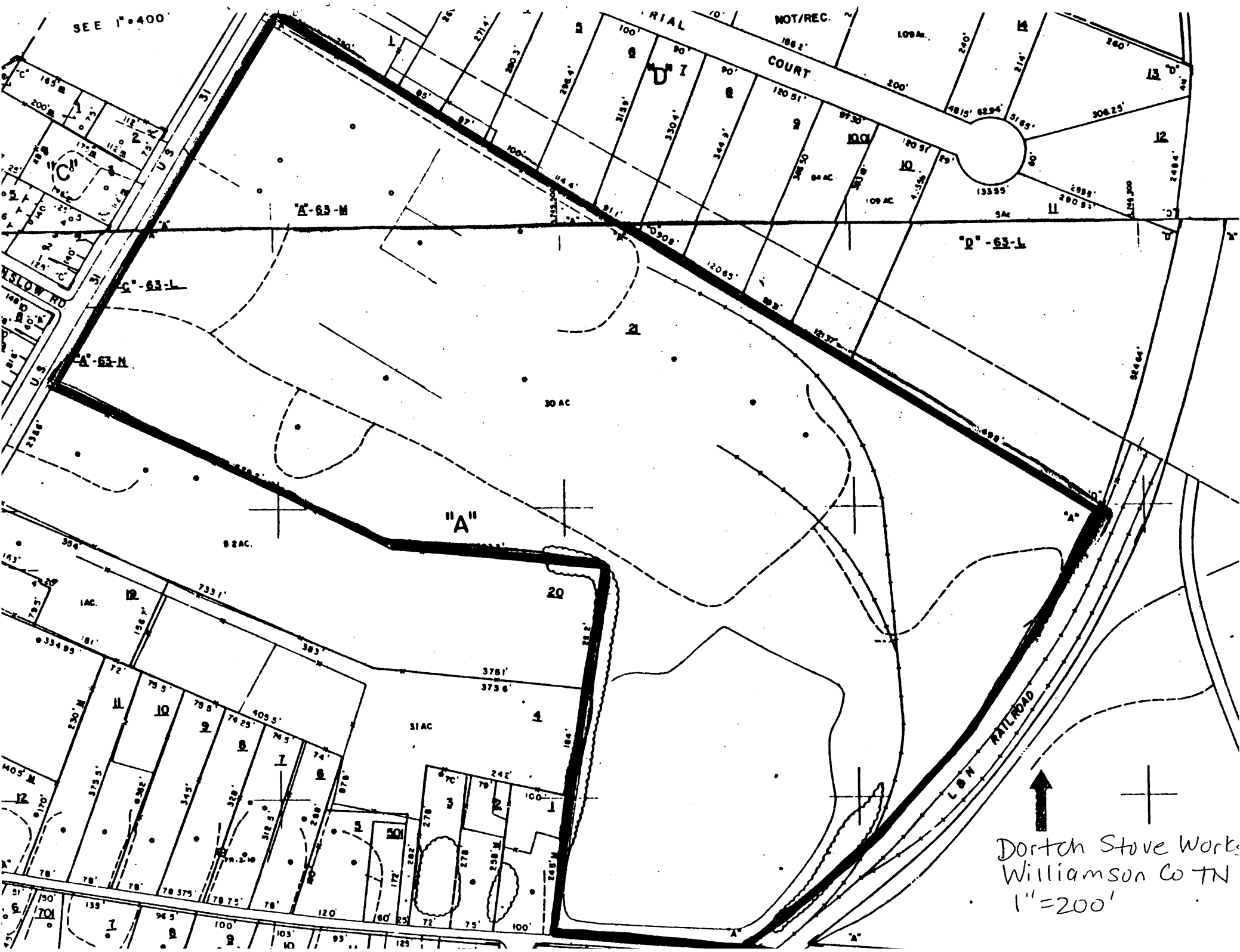
Section number photos Page 20


Dortch Stove Works
Williamson County, Tennessee

1997 Photographs



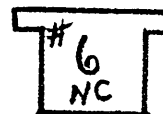
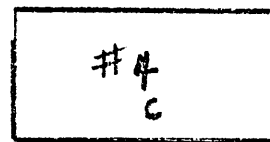
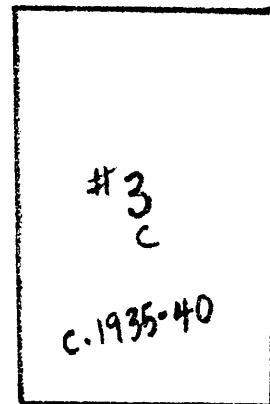
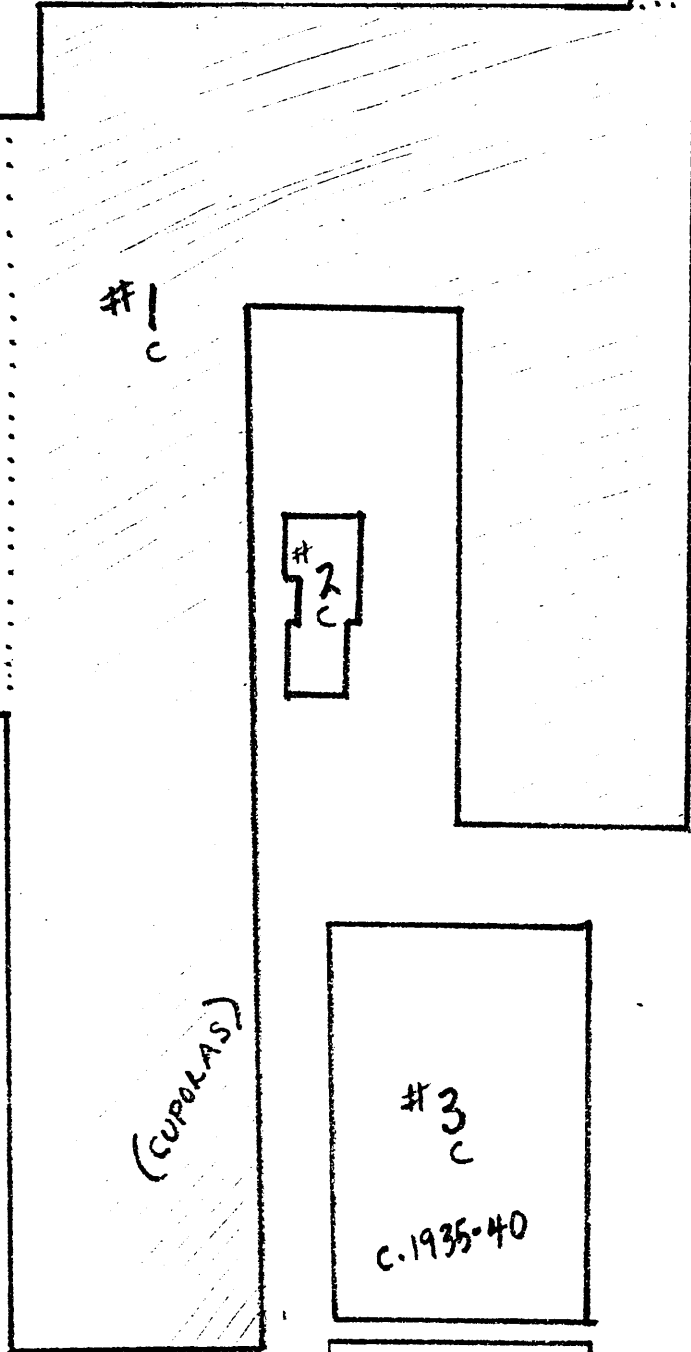
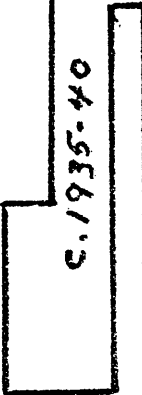
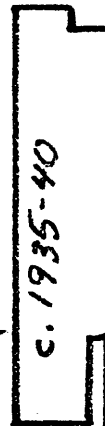
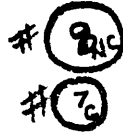
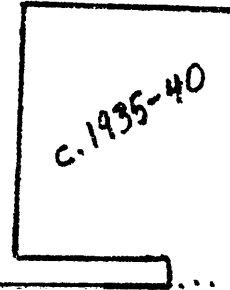
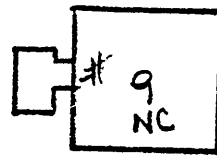
SEE 1"=400'






 Dorch Stove Works
 Williamson Co TN
 1"=200'

DORTCH STOVE WORKS
WILLIAMSON CO., TN
SITE PLAN



NOT TO SCALE

 = 1929-30
HORSESHOE-SHAPE

C = CONTRIBUTING
NC = NON CONTRIBUTING