

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Greenville, NC Tobacco Warehouse Historic District (Boundary Increase)

Section number 15

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Pitt County, NC

1. Name of Property:

Greenville, NC Tobacco Warehouse Historic District (Boundary Increase)

2. Location:

North side of Eleventh Street flanking Clark Street, Greenville, Pitt County (147) 27835, North Carolina (NC).

3. State/Federal Agency Certification:

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jeffrey Crow SHPO 10/21/99
 Signature of certifying official Date

 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 commenting or other official Date

 State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification:

I hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other (explain):	_____	_____

5. Classification:

Private Ownership
District
1 contributing and 1 noncontributing building, neither previously listed in the National Register

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6. Function or Use:

Historic Functions:

Commerce / Trade: Warehouse
Industry: Processing
Industry: Industrial Storage

Current Functions:

Commerce / Trade: Warehouse
Industry: Industrial Storage

7. Description:

Architectural Classification:

Industrial Italianate

Materials:

foundation: brick
walls: brick
roof: asphalt
other: metal

Narrative Description:

The Greenville, NC Tobacco Warehouse Historic District, listed in the National Register in 1997, encompasses a small group of buildings and structures located west of the city's central business district at the intersections of Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh, and Ficklen Streets with the CSX Railroad (formerly Norfolk and Southern). The district comprises the core of a once-larger sector of sales warehouses, processing factories, and storage warehouses constructed from 1905 through 1930 when the town of Greenville became a major marketing and processing center for flue-cured tobacco.

This amendment expands the district's boundaries to include two additional brick storage warehouses, one as a contributing and the other as a non-contributing building. The warehouses, located opposite one another on Clark Street in an area contiguous to the National Register district's western border, were not included in the 1997 nomination because contemporary features (since removed from the contributing warehouse) overwhelmed the original construction. Built ca. 1905 and 1915, the two storage warehouses this amendment addresses are stylistically and developmentally similar to contributing buildings in the adjacent National Register district. With minimal setbacks from adjacent city streets, both buildings are one story in height, rectangular in form, and have low gable roofs. The contributing building is constructed of brick and the non-contributing building is of frame construction that was brick veneered during the 1970s. Interiors display plank or concrete floors and heavy timber supports characteristic of slow-burn construction.

Inventory List. (CB = Contributing Building, NCB = Noncontributing Building)

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The following inventory list is keyed to Exhibit A, an accompanying 1" to 200' GIS map titled "Greenville, NC Tobacco Warehouse Historic District (Boundary Increase)."

10. **CB#7 American Tobacco Company Storage Warehouse #2.** ca. 1905, Northeast central sector of an elongated city block bounded by Tenth, Thirteenth, and Clark Streets with the Seaboard Railroad.

Pitt County deeds reveal that in 1900 the American Tobacco Company of Durham, NC, and New York City expanded its Greenville operations which had begun with the purchase of a large brick prizery constructed that year by the Strause Brothers firm.¹ By 1905, Sanborn Maps show that Storage Warehouse #2 and a similar building had been constructed parallel to one another facing Eleventh Street adjacent to the factory. The American Tobacco Company then filled an entire block bounded by Tenth, Eleventh, and Clark Streets and the Seaboard Railroad.

Subsequent Sanborn Maps reveal that Storage Warehouse #2 served the American Tobacco Company (the trust and the smaller, post-dissolution firm), without notable changes in size or configuration for 22 years. When the Greenville plant was closed in 1927, its factory and warehouses were sold to the Greenville Tobacco Company, an independent leaf dealership established by C. W. Howard.² Storage Warehouse #2 continued as a leaf storage facility until, in 1973, C. W. Howard, Jr., who had assumed ownership of the Greenville Tobacco Company, and Walter Perkins, an employee, joined forces to enlarge a small hammock business that Perkins began in his garage. Hatteras Hammocks, Inc., grew dramatically, and in 1978, Walter and Patricia Perkins resumed full ownership of the company, purchasing the Greenville Tobacco Company's campus as its headquarters in 1985.³ Shortly afterward, the tobacco buildings, except for Storage Warehouse #2, were demolished.⁴

A rectangular warehouse of 12,315 square feet, Storage Warehouse #2 is unusual for multicolored exterior walls made of brick laid in a 7:1 common bond and arranged randomly in hues that range from dark red to yellow through a series of browns, beiges, and oranges. A low gable roof of asphalt, pierced by a row of skylights on either side and ventilators on the roof ridge, is concealed by raked parapets on the north and south. Simple pilasters at each corner and variation in fenestration on each facade further relieve the mass of the building. On the south facade, faded block letters identify Storage No. 2 and star-shaped beam anchors surmount two rectangular loading doors; one, a recent vehicular entry, is at ground level, and the other, set over a raised concrete platform and beneath a shed porch, has a modern sliding door.

The long east facade abutting Clark Street is divided into five bays by segmental-arched windows fitted with metal-clad shutters. The north facade is broken by segmental-arched windows and rectangular doors, now filled with brick, that alternate across the facade in six bays except that a contemporary loading door has been installed opposite the one of the doors on the south facade. Three large segmental-arched loading doors, also bricked up, dominate the long west facade. The southernmost of these bricked-in openings now contains a solid metal entrance door. A small rectangular brick wing built during the 1950s at the southwest corner of the warehouse contains the maintenance facility of the Hatteras Hammock Company. The wing projects slightly to the south and runs along approximately 1/5th of the original building's west

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Narrative Statement of Significance:

The Greenville, NC Tobacco Warehouse District (Boundary Increase) expands the 1997 National Register district by adding a polygonal parcel approximately .4 acre in size that is located north of Eleventh Street on the east and west sides of Clark Street along the western border of the existing district. Augmenting the 1997 district's group of six contributing early-twentieth century tobacco buildings, the area within the boundary increase contains two additional brick storage warehouses: the American Tobacco Company's Storage Warehouse #2 (CB#7) and the Prichard-Hughes-Thomas Warehouse (NCB#2). Constructed ca. 1905 and 1915 respectively, both buildings are stylistically and developmentally similar to the contributing structures within the 1997 district, but were not included in the original nomination because contemporary features overwhelmed original construction. Modern components have since been removed from Storage Warehouse #2 (CB#7) and the building now adds a new and prominent southwest corner to the 1997 district.

Storage Warehouse #2 (CB#7) is of local significance to Greenville, meeting the requirements of Criterion A for its contributions to the commerce and industry of the city, and Criterion C for its important eclectic tobacco architecture. The building reinforces the significance of the 1997 district in the areas of commerce, industry, and architecture. Recalling Greenville's role as an important Eastern Belt market center, Storage Warehouse #2 initially served James B. Duke's American Tobacco Company, a powerful conglomerate that once dominated almost every branch of the tobacco business in the United States. Replacing the Dail-Ficklen Warehouse (CB#2) of 1909 as the oldest brick building in the expanded district, the building is one of the finest examples of early-twentieth-century tobacco architecture to be found in Greenville, combining practical slow-burn construction and simple, functional design with unusual multicolored brickwork. The application of brick veneer and changes in fenestration, both done during the 1970s, render the Prichard-Hughes-Thomas Warehouse (NCB#2) noncontributing, but do not diminish the overall character of the expanded district.

Endnotes:

¹ Pitt County Deed Book U-6, pp. 518-519, typescript copy on file with the Department of Archives and History, NC State Historic Preservation Office, Survey and Planning Branch, Raleigh, NC.

² Pitt County Deed Book W-16, p. 170, typescript copy on file with the Department of Archives and History, NC State Historic Preservation Office, Survey and Planning Branch, Raleigh, NC. Also author's interview with John Farley of Hatteras Hammocks, Inc., 3/1/99.

³ Pitt County Deed Book E-54, p. 614, typescript copy on file with the Department of Archives and History, NC State Historic Preservation Office, Survey and Planning Branch, Raleigh, NC. Also Farley interview.

⁴ Farley interview.

⁵ Author's interview with Duiguit Mills of Bostic-Suggs Furniture Company, 3/1/99.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Pitt County Deed Books:

U-6, W-16, E-54

Maps:

Sanborn Maps of Greenville, North Carolina, Series for 1896, 1900, 1905, 1911, 1916, 1923, 1929, and 1929 with paste-over updates to 1958.

Interviews:

John Farley of Hatteras Hammocks, Inc.

Duiguit Mills of Bostic-Suggs Furniture Company.

10. Geographical Data:

Acreage of Property: .4 (four-tenths) of one acre

UTM References

Zone : 18 Easting: 284640 Northing: 3942400

Verbal Boundary Description :

The boundaries of the district addition are shown by a broken black line on the accompanying map labeled Exhibit A which is drawn at a scale of 1" = 200.'

Boundary Justification:

The boundaries of this amendment are drawn to include portions of two city blocks that are physically and developmentally contiguous with the Greenville, NC Tobacco Warehouse National Register Historic District.

11. Form Prepared By:

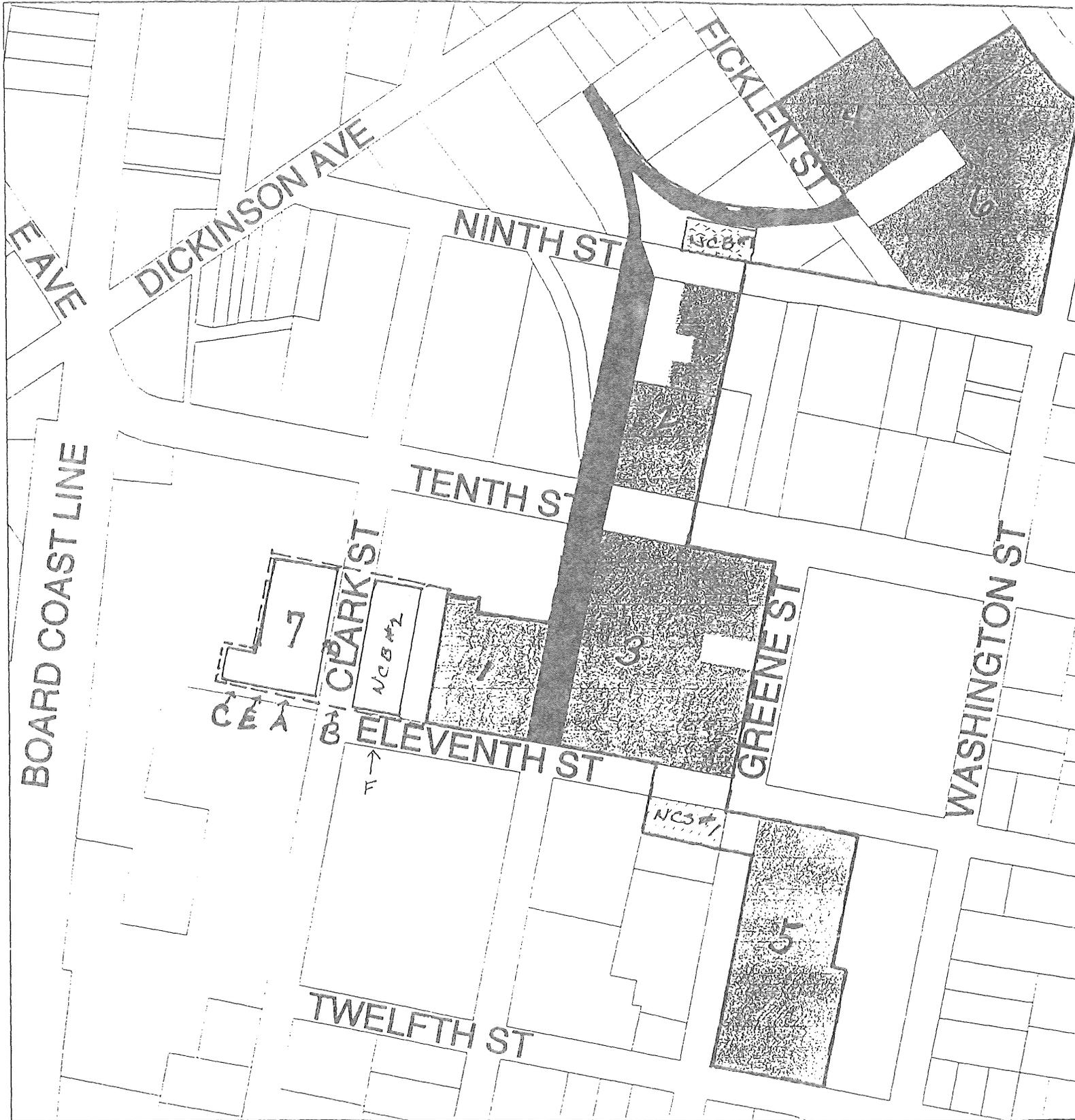
Betsy Gohdes-Baten, Architectural Historian
2737 Circle Drive
Durham, NC 27705
919-489-6368
March 15, 1999

Exhibit A: Greenville, NC Tobacco Warehouse Historic District (Boundary Increase)
 (Area of boundary increase shown by dashed line)

Key to Exhibit A (Photographs keyed to letters A - F and descriptions given on page 7)

7. - American Tobacco Company Storage Warehouse #2

NCB 2. - Prichard-Hughes-Thomas Warehouse



Prepared by:
 The City of Greenville
 Planning Department
 May 10, 1997

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------|---|---------------------------|
|  | Contributing Structure |  | Non-Contributing Building |
|  | Contributing Building |  | Non-Contributing Site |

