

State of North Carolina
Division of Archives and History

Richmond COUNTY

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR

QUAD

MULTIPLE RESOURCE OR THEMATIC NOMINATION

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Bank of Pee Dee Building

AND/OR COMMON

Economy Auto Supply

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

201 E. Washington St.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Rockingham

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8th

STATE

North Carolina

VICINITY OF
CODE

037

COUNTY

Richmond

CODE

153

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT
 BUILDING(S)
 STRUCTURE
 SITE
 OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC
 PRIVATE
 BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
 IN PROCESS
 BEING CONSIDERED

N/A

STATUS

OCCUPIED
 UNOCCUPIED
 WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
 YES RESTRICTED
 YES UNRESTRICTED
 NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE
 COMMERCIAL
 EDUCATIONAL
 ENTERTAINMENT
 GOVERNMENT
 INDUSTRIAL
 MILITARY
 MUSEUM
 PARK
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE
 RELIGIOUS
 SCIENTIFIC
 TRANSPORTATION
 OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Jimmy L. and Charles R. Maske

STREET & NUMBER

1202 Carolina Dr.

CITY, TOWN

Rockingham

VICINITY OF

STATE

North Carolina 28379

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Richmond County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

114 E. Franklin St.

CITY, TOWN

Rockingham

STATE

North Carolina 28379

6 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Heather M. Hallenberg

ORGANIZATION

Consultant for

DATE

May 31, 1981

STREET & NUMBER

Survey and Planning Branch Archives and History (919) 733-6545

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Raleigh

STATE

North Carolina 27611

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 Bank of Pee Dee Building, located at the northeast corner of Hancock and E. Washington streets in the heart of the commercial center of Rockingham, is an exceptionally fine example of early twentieth century commercial architecture, constructed between 1904 and 1905.

The pedimented front of this two story bank structure, which recalls gable fronts of earlier frame commercial architecture, is unique in the Rockingham commercial district. The first story elevation of this red brick masonry building features rusticated pierwork supporting a Doric entablature. Two shallow niches with stone sills flank plate glass display windows and a central entry. Tuscan columns, which framed an original recessed bay with splayed side walls featuring single one over one sash windows and a central double door entrance, no longer remain. Richly detailed, the second story is described by brick quoins and a quartet of windows strung together by a granite belt course. A tripartite window surmounted by a semi-circular light sits on the pedimented attic gable. The side elevations feature irregularly arranged groups of segmentally arched window and door openings. The impressive exterior cast and wrought iron staircase of the west elevation is not original to the structure. According to a documentary photograph, a recessed entry, similar to that of the front facade, at one time enriched the west elevation. A post-1938 one story brick commercial structure adjoins the rear facade.

The interior first floor of the Bank of Pee Dee Building, which is now utilized as an auto supply store, has a large front room petitioned off from a rear storage area. None of the original bank teller cages or fixtures survive. During an interior remodeling of the 1960s, a fake ceiling was installed below the original pressed tin ceiling. In the last fifty years, doctor, lawyer, and bank offices occupied the small rooms of the second floor. Most of the office partitions have been removed and the area is today used for storage. Plank flooring, beaded tongue-in-groove ceilings and globed light fixtures remain intact.

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1905	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1905

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Bank of Pee Dee Building, constructed between 1904 and 1905, is one of the least altered and best preserved commercial structures surviving in downtown Rockingham. The fine example of early twentieth century commercial architecture is significant as the first established bank in Rockingham and is associated with the life of its founding president, T. C. Leak, Sr.

CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

- B. The Bank of Pee Dee Building is closely connected with the productive life of its founding president, Thomas Crawford Leak, Sr., who played a significant role in the industrial and commercial life of Rockingham in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Leak, besides maintaining vast landholdings in Richmond County, was also one of the principal organizers of Leak, Wall and McRae (Lewarae) Mill in 1881, and sat at different times on the boards of Pee Dee, Roberdel and Steele's mills.
- C. The Bank of Pee Dee Building is representative of early twentieth century commercial construction, while at the same time its varied, richly textured architectural detail make it a unique feature of the E. Washington streetscape. Although there is no documentation of the original appearance of the interior as a banking facility, a first floor pressed tin ceiling is still intact.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The first established bank in Rockingham, the Bank of Pee Dee, was chartered during the 1890-1891 session of the state legislature, the act of incorporation being ratified on March 9, 1891.¹ The incorporators were named as Thomas C. Leak, Henry C. Wall, Walter L. Steele, Robert L. Steele, William I. Everett, Henry C. Dockery, Henry S. Ledbetter and William T. Covington. At the organizational meeting held soon thereafter, T. C. Leak, Sr. was elected president, Walter L. Parsons, Cashier, and a board of seven directors comprised of the aforementioned persons in the order named.²

T. C. Leak (1831-1913) was the only son of James Pickett Leak (1805-1877) and his cousin, Jane Wall Crawford Leak (1811-1864). He graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1853 and in 1865 married Martha Poythress Wall (1839-1898).³ Mr. Leak was survived by seven sons and one daughter. A gentleman farmer, he supervised vast landholdings in Richmond County, putting into practice scientific methods of farming that he partly developed. In the 1870s and 1880s he was largely instrumental in organizing the Rockingham mill empire.⁴

The Bank of Pee Dee opened its doors on May 18, 1891 and was first located across the street in the Richmond Hotel. The hotel burned in 1904, but the bank vaults suffered little damage. Business was transacted in a temporary frame structure erected over the vaults until the construction of the new Bank of Pee Dee was completed in 1905.⁵

T. C. Leak, Sr. served as president of the Bank of Pee Dee until his death in 1913. He was succeeded as president by his son-in-law, Walter L. Parsons (1858-1931), who continued as president until the closing of the bank on December 8, 1930 in the early days of the Depression.⁶

The property was sold by Gurney Hood, Commissioner of Banks to W. B. Cole on June 23, 1936.⁷ His heirs, Elizabeth Cole, Robert Cole and wife sold the building to the Maske family on August 5, 1963, in whose ownership the building has remained since.⁸ Over the years several concerns operated on the premises including a cafe and Greek restaurant. The impressive structure is today utilized as an auto supply store.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Southern Index (Rockingham) January 11, 1896, hereinafter cited as Southern Index, January 11, 1896. The entire issue was devoted to the history of Rockingham.
2. Southern Index, January 11, 1896.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

Lat. 34° 56' 24" Long. 79° 46' 25"

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	D	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

All of tract 18, Block M, Tax Map 2, Rockingham Township consisting of a four sided city lot measuring 38' by 108.8'.

The property being nominated includes the building and the city lot on which it stands.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 1

Criteria Assessment (Continued)

- C. The Bank of Pee Dee Building is associated with a progressive period in Rockingham's growth and development. During the early 1900s, the local textile industry flourished and the newly acquired wealth was manifested in a burst of residential and commercial construction.

Footnotes (Continued)

3. The Isaac S. London Papers, located in looseleaf notebooks at the Richmond County Office of the Superior Court, hereinafter cited as Isaac S. London Papers, Richmond, County Courthouse.
4. The Isaac S. London Papers, Richmond County Courthouse.
5. The Isaac S. London Papers, Richmond County Courthouse.
6. The Isaac S. London Papers, Richmond County Courthouse.
7. Richmond County Deed Book 209, p. 502.
8. Richmond County Deed Book 442, p. 592.

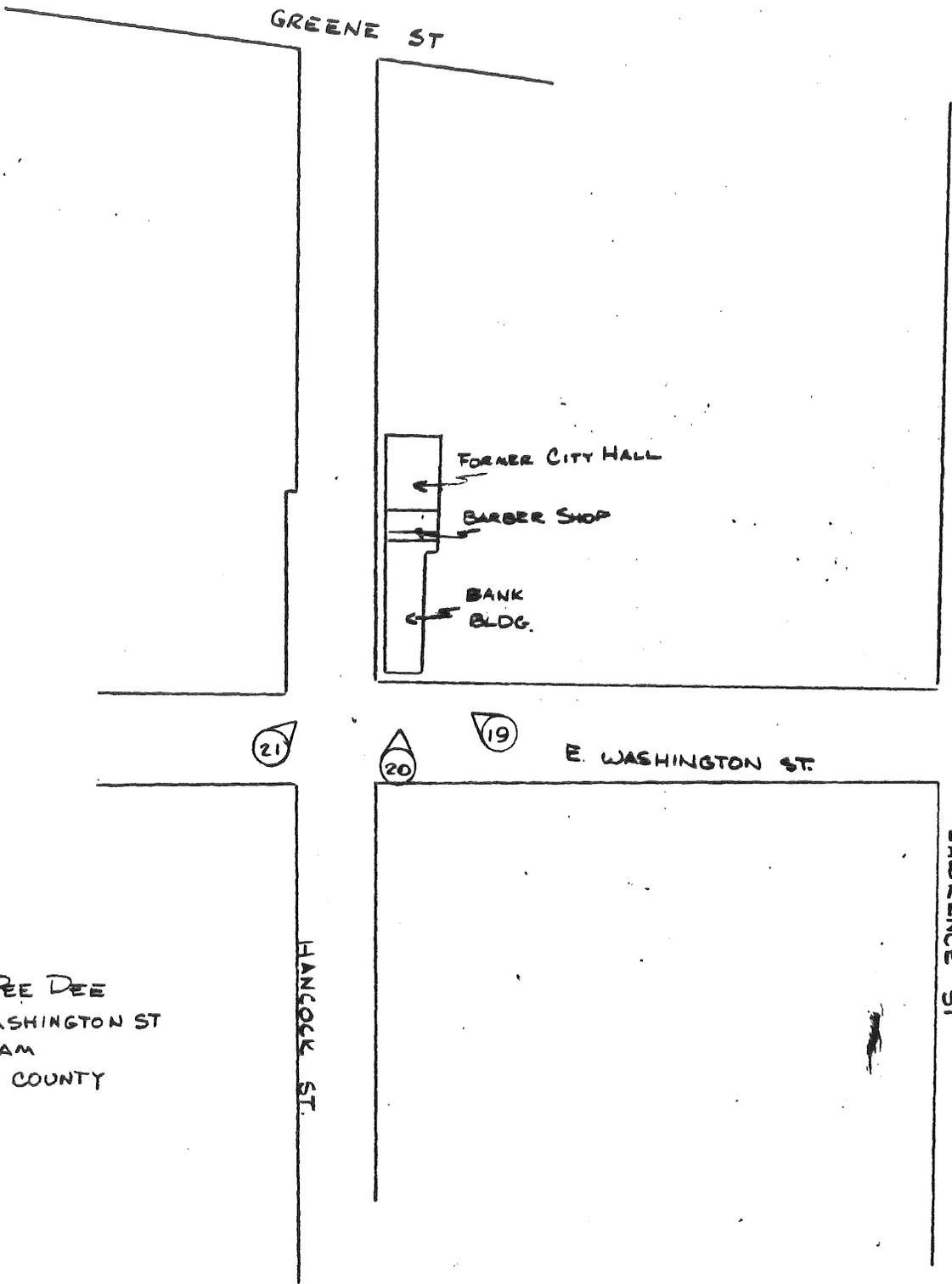
BIBLIOGRAPHY

Huneycutt, James E. and Ida C., A History of Richmond County (Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton Company), 1976.

London, Isaac S., The London Papers are found in three separate collections housed at the North Carolina State Archives, the Richmond County Office of the Superior Court, and the Richmond County Library. Only the notes at the State Archives are loosely indexed according to general subject headings. The other two collections are not indexed.

Richmond County Deed Books, Office of the Register of Deeds, Richmond County Courthouse, Rockingham, N. C.

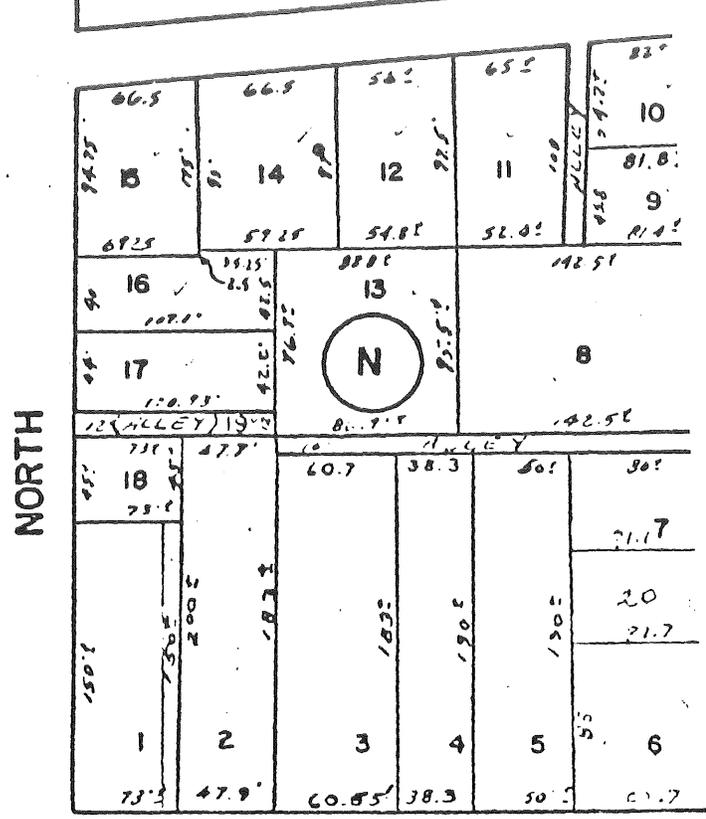
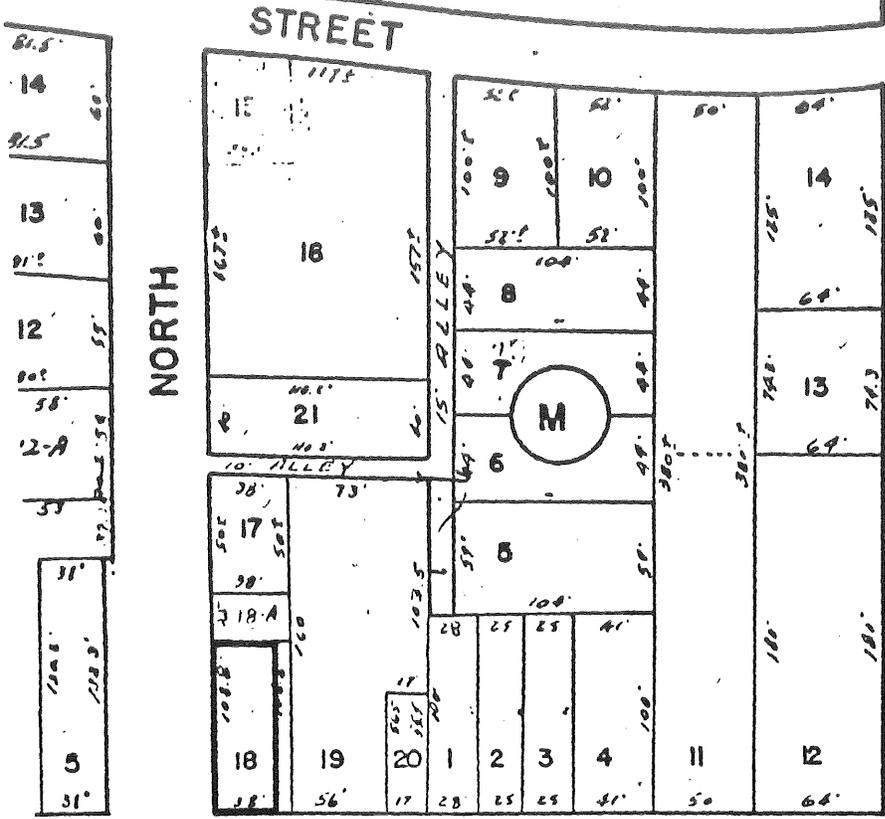
Southern Index (Rockingham), January 11, 1896.



BANK OF TEE DEE
201 E. WASHINGTON ST
ROCKINGHAM
RICHMOND COUNTY

SCALE: 1" = 100'

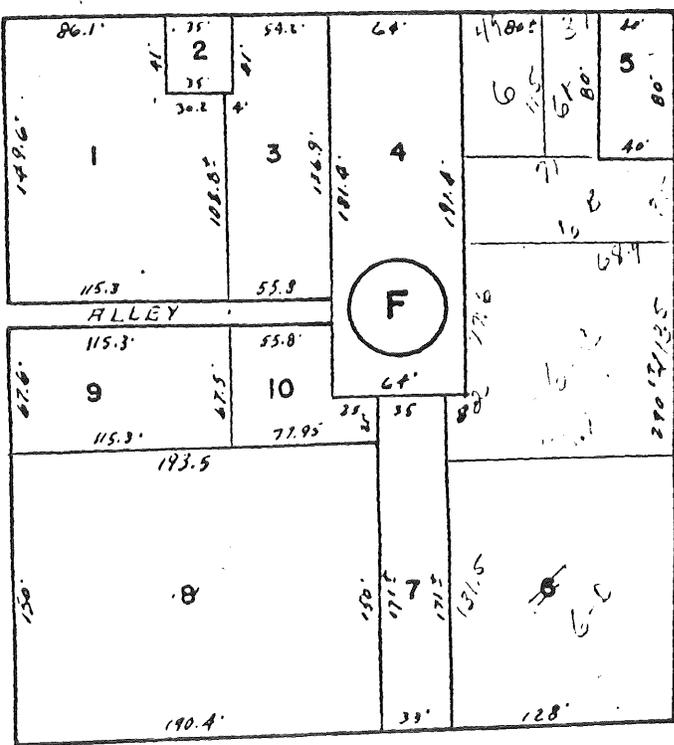




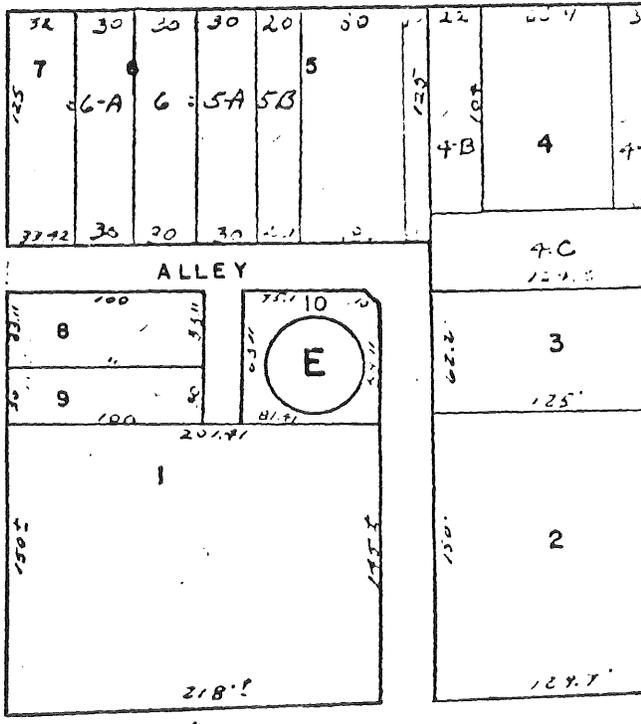
WASHINGTON STREET

WASHINGTON STREET

HANCOCK STREET

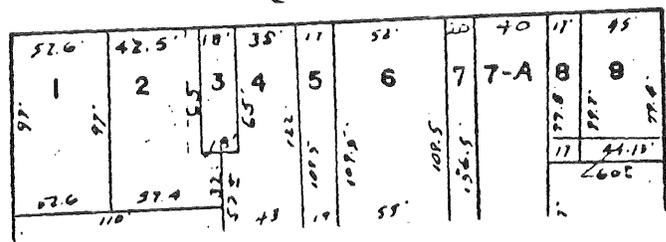


LAWRENCE STREET



FRANKLIN STREET

FRANKLIN STREET



BANK OF PEE DEE BUILDING
 RICHMOND COUNTY, N.C. TAX MAPS
 ROCKINGHAM TOWNSHIP, MAP #2,
 BLOCK M, LOT 18

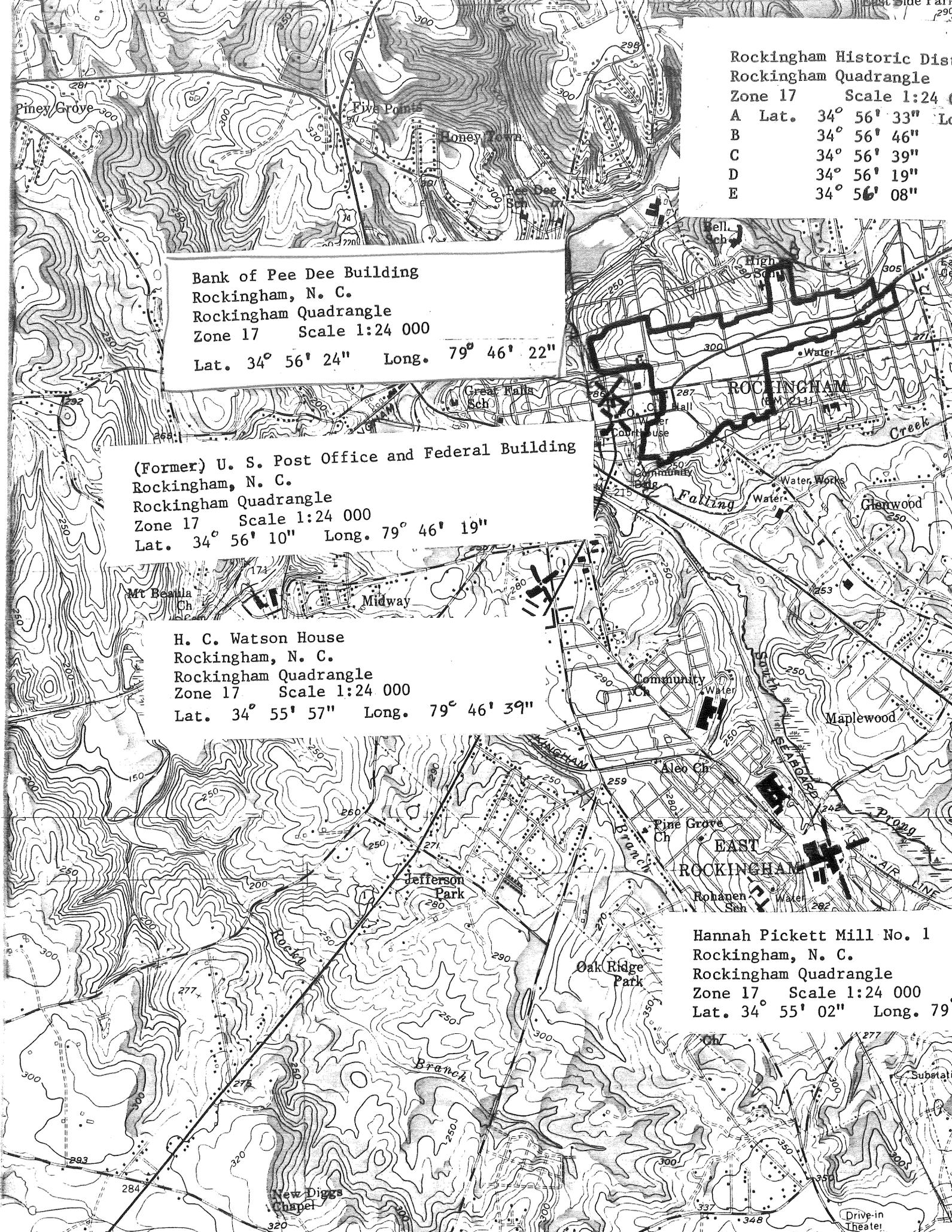
Rockingham Historic Dist
 Rockingham Quadrangle
 Zone 17 Scale 1:24 000
 A Lat. 34° 56' 33" Lo
 B 34° 56' 46"
 C 34° 56' 39"
 D 34° 56' 19"
 E 34° 56' 08"

Bank of Pee Dee Building
 Rockingham, N. C.
 Rockingham Quadrangle
 Zone 17 Scale 1:24 000
 Lat. 34° 56' 24" Long. 79° 46' 22"

(Former) U. S. Post Office and Federal Building
 Rockingham, N. C.
 Rockingham Quadrangle
 Zone 17 Scale 1:24 000
 Lat. 34° 56' 10" Long. 79° 46' 19"

H. C. Watson House
 Rockingham, N. C.
 Rockingham Quadrangle
 Zone 17 Scale 1:24 000
 Lat. 34° 55' 57" Long. 79° 46' 39"

Hannah Pickett Mill No. 1
 Rockingham, N. C.
 Rockingham Quadrangle
 Zone 17 Scale 1:24 000
 Lat. 34° 55' 02" Long. 79°





ECONOMY
AUTO SUPPLY


Westinghouse

ECONOMY

QUALITY
PHOTOGRAPHY

QUALITY
PHOTOGRAPHY