



**North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources  
State Historic Preservation Office**

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Roy Cooper  
Secretary Susi H. Hamilton

Office of Archives and History  
Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

June 2, 2017

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Mary Pope Furr  
Office of Human Environment  
NCDOT Division of Highways

**FROM:** Renee Gledhill-Earley *Renee Gledhill-Earley*  
Environmental Review Coordinator

**SUBJECT:** Historic Structures Survey Report for the Replacement of Bridge 148 and I-95 Exit 19  
Improvements at SR 1528, PA 16-04-0028, Robeson County, ER 17-0881

Thank you for your memorandum of April 28, 2017, transmitting the above-referenced report. We have reviewed the report and offer the following comments.

We concur that the Jennings Cotton Mill houses are not eligible for listing due to issues with historic integrity. However, we believe that the Mill and Mill School/Store are eligible for the reasons outlined below.

**Jennings Cotton Mill:** Although the large additions to the side elevations are over 50 years old, they appear to have been updated with more modern materials or are not architecturally significant. However, the primary elevations of the mill are not covered by additions and window openings are still intact. In comparison to the only other surviving cotton mill in town - the Lumberton Mill, the Jennings Cotton Mill's exterior has more historic integrity. Removal of these later additions and further investigation of the interior spaces make the building eligible for individual listing in the National Register under Criterion A and possibly C.

**Jennings Cotton Mill School/Store:** From an initial search, it does not appear that any other mill school/stores exist in Lumberton, rendering it a rare remaining example. While some modifications have been made, several important architectural features remain, including the building form, fenestration pattern, decorative brackets, and interior finishes making it eligible under Criterion C.

Given the above findings, we will assign separate Survey Site Numbers to the three properties and add them to our Survey Database and GIS. Should you have questions concerning these evaluations, please contact us to discuss them in greater detail.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-807-6579 or [environmental.review@ncdcr.gov](mailto:environmental.review@ncdcr.gov). In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



ROY COOPER  
GOVERNOR

JAMES H. TROGDON, III  
SECRETARY

April 28, 2017

ER 17- 0881

MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Renee Gledhill-Earley  
Environmental Review Coordinator  
North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office

+ eletters  
PSE 5/23/17

**FROM:** Mary Pope Furr *MPF*  
Architectural Historian  
NCDOT Division of Highways

Due 5/31/17

**SUBJECT:** PA No. 16-04-0028, Replace Bridge No. 148 and I-95 Exit 19  
Improvements at SR 1528 (Carthage Road), Robeson County

Enclosed please find the Historic Structure Survey Report, survey site form, and additional materials for the above referenced project. Please feel free to contact me by phone (919-707-6068) or email (mpfurr@ncdot.gov) if you have any additional questions or comments. We look forward to hearing from you.

**HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE  
ELIGIBILITY EVALUATION REPORT**

**Replace Bridge No. 148 and I-95 Improvements to Exit 19  
on SR 1528 (Carthage Road),  
Robeson County, North Carolina**

**TIP No. I-5879  
F.A. No. NHPP-0095(6)24  
WBS No. 53079.1.1**

**Prepared For:**

**Human Environment Unit  
North Carolina Department of Transportation**

**Prepared By:  
AECOM Technical Services of North Carolina, Inc.  
701 Corporate Center Drive  
Raleigh, NC 27607**

**Marvin A. Brown  
Principal Investigator**

**April 2017**



**HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE  
ELIGIBILITY EVALUATION REPORT**

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701 Corporate Center Drive  
Raleigh, NC 27607**

**April 2017**



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**Marvin A. Brown, Principal Investigator  
AECOM Technical Services of North Carolina, Inc.**

**4-13-17  
Date**

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**Mary Pope Furr, Supervisor  
Historic Architectural Resources Group  
North Carolina Department of Transportation**

**Date**

## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

AECOM Technical Services of North Carolina, Inc. (AECOM) prepared this report in March 2017 in support of the North Carolina Department of Transportation’s (NCDOT) proposal to Replace Bridge No. 148 and make I-95 Improvements to Exit 19 on SR 1528 (Carthage Road) in Robeson County (TIP No. I-5879, F.A. No. NHPP-0095(6)24, WBS No. 53079.1.1). NCDOT conducted a preliminary investigation in 2016 within the Area of Potential Effects (APE) that identified the former Jennings Cotton Mill and associated mill village houses and other mill buildings, located on either side of Carthage Road to the east of exit 19 of I-95. It requested that AECOM evaluate these resources and provide a written report that included photographs of the buildings and landscapes, historic and architectural contexts, assessments of eligibility, comparisons to similar type properties in the region, and carefully delineated and justified National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) boundaries, if appropriate. (NCDOT did not request that AECOM assess Bridge No. 148, which is to be replaced.)

As a result of its analyses, AECOM established that it was appropriate to assess the mill and the associated houses and store/school building, all of which historically stood on two large mill-owned parcels, as a single resource. AECOM recommends that this resource—named the Jennings Cotton Mill Village and Mill—is not eligible for NRHP listing under any of the NRHP Criteria due to its lack of integrity. AECOM further recommends that none of these resources is individually eligible for NHRP listing.

<b>Resource Name</b>	<b>NC HPO Survey Site #</b>	<b>NRHP Recommendation</b>	<b>NHRP Criterion</b>
Jennings Cotton Mill Village and Mill	RB-0692	Not eligible for NRHP listing due to lack of integrity	None

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## I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND METHODOLOGY

AECOM prepared this report in March 2017 in support of NCDOT's proposal to Replace Bridge No. 148 and make I-95 Improvements to Exit 19 on SR 1528 (Carthage Road) in Robeson County (TIP No. I-5879, F.A. No. NHPP-0095(6)24, WBS No. 53079.1.1) (Figure 1 and Figure 2). NCDOT conducted a preliminary investigation in 2016 within the Area of Potential Effects (APE) that identified the former Jennings Cotton Mill and associated mill village houses and other mill buildings, located on either side of Carthage Road to the east of exit 19 of I-95, as a resource or resources that required further investigation. It requested that AECOM evaluate these resources and provide a written report that included photographs of the buildings and landscapes, historic and architectural contexts, assessments of eligibility, comparisons to similar type properties in the region, and carefully delineated and justified National Register of Historic Places boundaries, if appropriate. (NCDOT did not request that AECOM assess Bridge No. 148, which is to be replaced.) The APE provided by NCDOT, depicted at Figure 1, is the area within which the project may cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties. It includes the full extent of the boundaries of the Jennings Cotton Mill Village and Mill.

In February 2017 AECOM evaluated the resources as required, in compliance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, other state and federal regulations, and NCDOT's current *Historic Architecture Group Procedures and Work Products* and the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office's (HPO) *Report Standards for Historic Structure Survey Reports/Determinations of Eligibility/Section 106/110 Compliance Reports in North Carolina*. As a result of its evaluation, AECOM recommends that the identified resources comprise a single resource—the Jennings Cotton Mill Village and Mill property—that is not eligible for NRHP listing under any of the NRHP's Criteria due to a lack of integrity. AECOM further recommends that none of these resources is individually eligible for NHRP listing.

AECOM senior architectural historian Marvin A. Brown, who meets the Secretary of the Interior's qualifications for history and architectural history (CFR 36 CFR Part 61), conducted the analyses and drafted this report. As part of this effort, he visited, documented, and photographed the resources identified by NCDOT and conducted supplementary research. This effort included research at the Robeson County Public Library, the Robeson County History Museum, and the Robeson County Register of Deeds Office in Lumberton; the State Historic Preservation Office (HPO) and the State Library and Archives in Raleigh; online historical research; and investigation into the history of Lumberton and its textile mills in late nineteenth and early twentieth-century city directories and newspapers, particularly Lumberton's *Robesonian*.



Figure 1. Area of Potential Effects map; APE outlined in red (source: NCDOT)

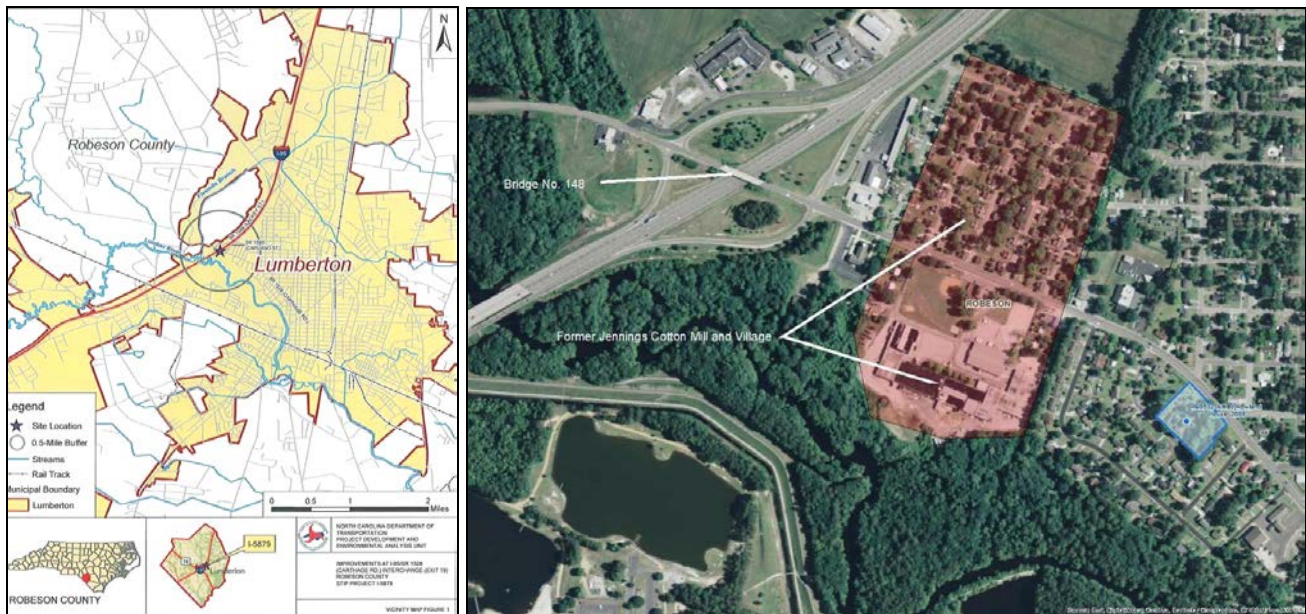


Figure 2. Project location map at left; resources identified for evaluation by NCDOT (shaded in rust) at right (source: NCDOT)



## II. HISTORIC CONTEXT

### Lumberton

The following brief history of Lumberton focuses on its resources and activities important to the development of the Jennings Cotton Mill and the textile industry in the town. General information is drawn from the account of the town written by Diane E. Lea and Claudia P. Roberts in 1980.

North Carolina established Robeson County in 1786. The following year surveyors platted the new county seat of Lumberton. By the end of the century the town, fortuitously located on the Lumber River, was an important trading center for southeastern North Carolina. Agricultural, timber, and naval products traveled from the town on rafts down the river and on to the Cape Fear River and much larger markets in the Carolinas (Lea and Roberts 1980:3-4).

The coming in 1860 of the railroad—a spur of the Wilmington, Charlotte & Rutherford Railroad (WC&R) that ran just under 80 miles to Wilmington—boosted Lumberton’s commercial importance. Following the Civil War and its immediate aftermath, this and other rail lines became a central component of Lumberton’s attraction of trade and industry. By the mid-1870s the town’s rail line had gained access to new markets in western North Carolina. In 1901 the WC&R Railroad became part of the larger Seaboard Air Line Railroad. Also in that year, the Raleigh and Charleston was completed between Lumberton and Lake View, South Carolina, increasing access to the south. In 1903 a third line, the Virginia & Carolina Southern Railroad (V&CS), provided a connection between Lumberton and Hope Mills to the north just outside Fayetteville. According to Lea and Roberts (1980:7), “By 1915 Robeson had more railroad mileage than any county in the state.”

In 1897 the third major building block necessary for Lumberton’s industrial development came to the community with the opening of the Bank of Lumberton (Lea and Roberts 1980:5-6). The community now had in place an abundant source of water for industry, railroad connections, and a bank to provide financing.

### Lumberton’s Textile Industry

Not by coincidence, Lumberton Cotton Mill, the town’s first, was organized in 1897, the same year as the Bank of Lumberton. The primary individuals associated with the mills, the bank, and even the railroads were in many instances the same. For example, local attorney (and later Governor) Angus Wilton McLean was one of the founders of the Bank of Lumberton and Lumberton Cotton Mill and also organized the V&CS Railroad (Lea and Brown 1980:7).

Lumberton Cotton Mill opened outside Lumberton city limits, in the community of East Lumberton. It stood on a railroad siding about one mile southeast of downtown. It was joined in 1906 by the Dresden Cotton Mill, built a few blocks to its east. In January 1907 the National Cotton Mill opened in the community of West Lumberton, about one-and-a-quarter miles west of downtown (*Robesonian*, January 14, 1907) (Figure 3). In March 1911 the Jennings Cotton Mill began spinning yarn in North Lumberton, a community a bit over a mile northwest of downtown (*Robesonian*, March 6, 1911). The Jennings mill provides further evidence of the community’s interlocking of railroads, banks, and textile mills. Henry Berchette (H.B.) Jennings was the first president and treasurer of the Jennings mill. At the

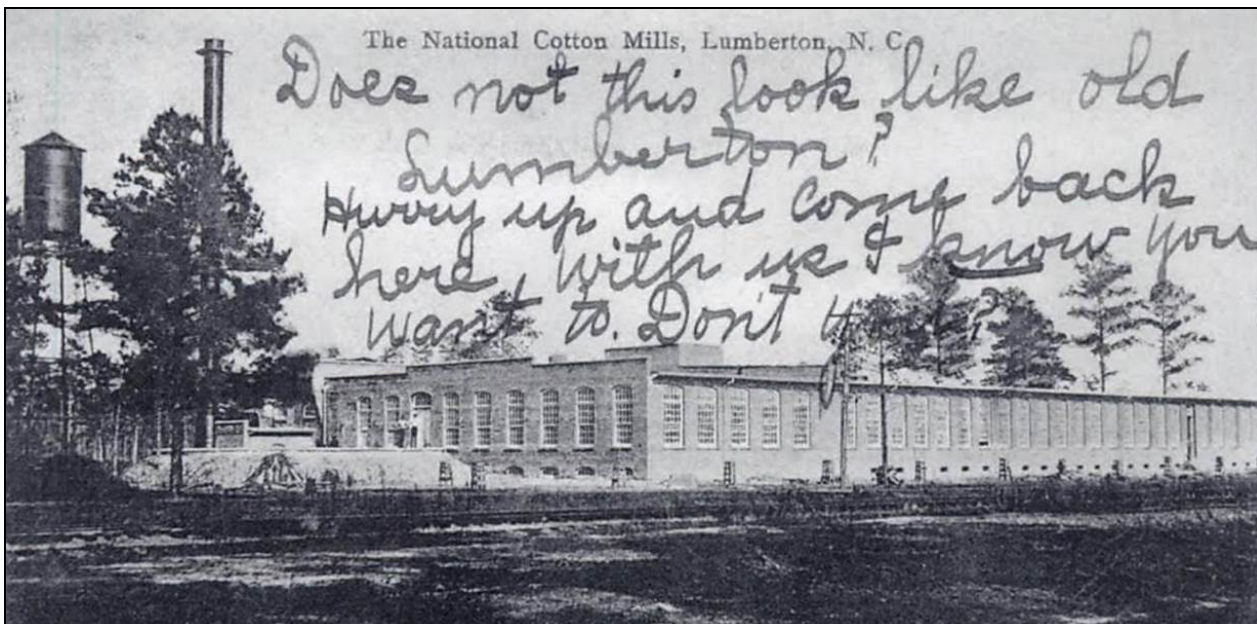




The interlocking directors and the shareholders of the first group of four mills built not just industrial plants, but also mill villages. Further, they controlled their municipalities. North Lumberton, chartered in 1911, was co-terminus with the Jennings mill (Powell and Hill 2010). East Lumberton was the same, or effectively the same, as the Lumberton and Dresden mills (Lea and Roberts 1980:7). West Lumberton was never incorporated, but nonetheless was identified as a separate mill-village-sized community. In a promotional advertisement in the *Robesonian* (January 8, 1912) at the opening of 1912, sponsored by Lumberton's mayor and the president of the Commercial and Industrial Club, the population of Lumberton and surroundings is broken down into four units: Lumberton (2,230 residents according to the 1910 census), East Lumberton (881), West Lumberton (231), and North Lumberton (estimated 275). The raw numbers display the tremendous impact of the mills. The total population of 3,617 dramatically exceeded Lumberton's 1910 population of 864 (*Robesonian*, January 8, 1912) (Figure 4 and Figure 5).



**Figure 4. Dresden Cotton Mills, no date (source: Robeson County History Museum website)**



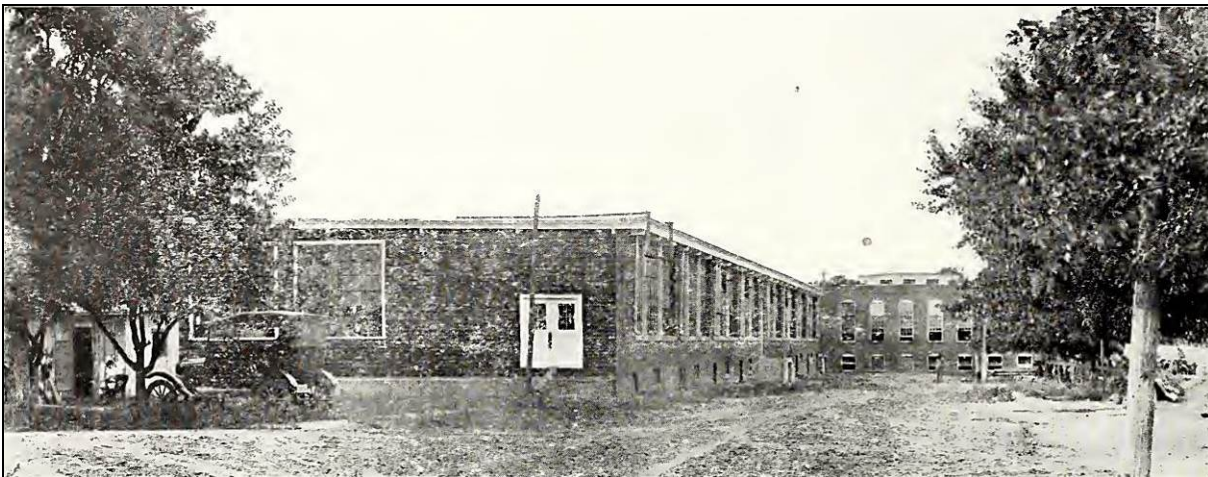
**Figure 5. National Cotton Mills, no date (source: Tyner, *Robeson County in Vintage Postcards*)**

Lumberton was not the only site of textile mills in Robeson County. By 1918 the county had nine textile mills, as captured in state Department of Labor and Printing (1918: 40, 54) statistics:

Name of mill	Location	Type	Class of good manufactured
Dresden Cotton Mills	Lumberton	Spinning	Hosiery and underwear yarns
Jennings Cotton Mills	Lumberton	Spinning	Hosiery and underwear yarns
Lumberton Cotton Mills	Lumberton	Spinning	Hosiery and weaving yarns
National Cotton Mill, Inc.	Lumberton	Spinning	Cotton yarns
Red Springs Cotton Mill Co.	Red Springs	Spinning	Hosiery yarns
Advance Mfg. Co.	St. Paul	Weaving	Army duck for manufacture of leggings
Cape Fear Cotton Mills Co.	St. Paul	Spinning	Army duck
Ernaldson Mfg. Co.	St. Paul	Spinning and knitting	Knit goods "tubing"
St. Pauls Cotton Mills	St. Paul	Spinning	Hosiery yarns

It should be noted, though, that while textiles were a major part of Robeson’s industrial base, the nine mills comprised less three percent of the state’s total of 331 textile mills (Department of Labor and Printing 1918:29). (According to the *Official American Textile Directory* (Textile World Journal 1917:87), the state held even more mills in 1917, a total of 474.)

In 1923 the Mansfield Mills Co. was organized in Lumberton (Figure 6). It erected a new mill on vacant land between the Lumberton and Dresden mills and absorbed both of them into the new company. The term “new” is relative, though, for the directors of the town’s now-five mills remained the same. The degree of local control of the industry is evidenced by the fact that 90 percent of the stockholders of Lumberton and Dresden were present at the shareholders’ meeting and voted unanimously for the merger and construction of the new mill (*Robesonian*, January 18, 1923)



**Figure 6. Image, perhaps, of new building of Mansfield Mills, Inc. (source: *Southern Textile Bulletin* 1923:222)**

Hard times visited Lumberton’s mills in 1930s leading to temporary shutdowns and consolidation along with occasional labor strife. National Cotton Mill ceased operation in the mid-1930s (*Robesonian*, December 9, 1936). In bankruptcy, it was acquired by the Jennings Mill and renamed Ada McLean Cotton Mill in late 1936 (*Robesonian*, March 26, 1937).



Following World War II, the mills declined further. They sold off their villages, either directly or through bankruptcy auctions, and for the first time outside interests acquired and operated them. The 1950 updated Sanborn maps capture the new ownership: Jennings is identified as Dennis Mills, Inc./Swissknit Products Co.; National/Ada McClean is assembling prefabricated houses as part of American Houses, Inc.; Lumberton is Caledonia Mills, Inc.; Dresden is labeled Dresden, but was already part of the Caledonia corporation, along with Lumberton and the former Mansfield mill. Dennis Mills/Swissknit, American Houses, and Caledonia were headquartered not in Lumberton, but New York City (Kelly 1951:50).

None of Lumberton’s cotton mills operate as textile mills or industrial complexes at present (Figure 7). They ceased doing so decades ago. The former Lumberton Cotton Mill still stands in east Lumberton, south of E (formerly Seaboard) Avenue and the tracks, and west of Clewis (formerly S. 6<sup>th</sup>) Street, truncated and much altered (Figure 8 and Figure 9). The eastern half of the mill burned in 1961 (*Robesonian*, October 16, 1961). In 1968 its then-owner, the Cavalier Bag Company, demolished its 110-foot-tall brick smokestack and began planning for construction of a 52,000-square-foot addition to the surviving 60,000-square-foot western portion of the original plant (*Robesonian*, September 30, 1966 and July 5, 1968). (The HPO GIS maps incorrectly identify this complex as the Dresden Mill (RB-0534).) The site of the Dresden Cotton Mill is now vacant. The Mansfield weave shed, located between the Lumberton and Dresden mills, either no longer survives or is unrecognizable; its location could not be determined (*Robesonian*, May 23, 1971). Most of the housing of the Lumberton and Dresden mill villages, however, appears to remain in place. The site of the former National Cotton Mill, which was located near current I-95, north of the junction of VFW Road and W. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, is a vacant lot, although some of its mill village survives as well. Jennings, the focus of this report, is discussed below.

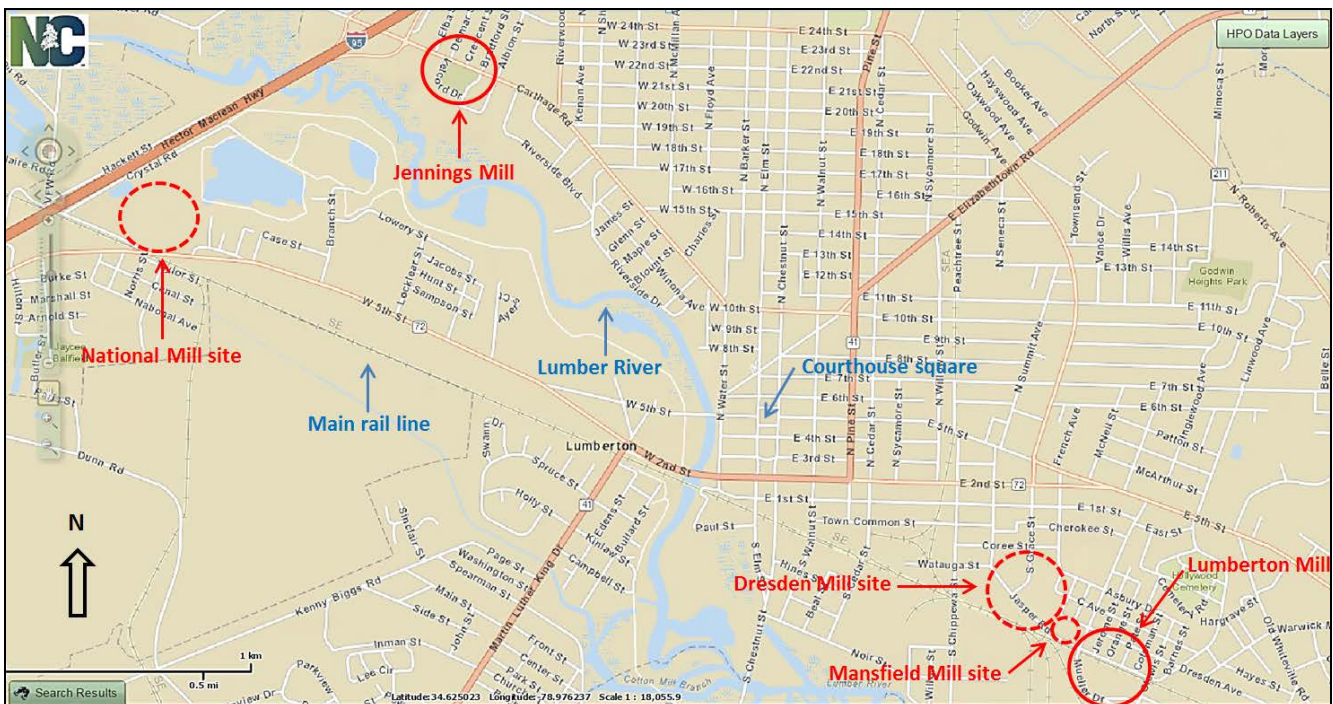


Figure 7. Locations of historic Lumberton textile mills (base map: HPO GIS)



**Figure 8. Lumberton Cotton Mill, no date (source: East Carolina University digital collections)**



**Figure 9. Lumberton Cotton Mill, 2010s (source: Google Maps)**



### III. INVENTORY AND EVALUATION

	<b>Jennings Cotton Mill Village and Mill</b>
	RB-0692
	<i>Mill houses:</i> Albion, Bradford, Crescent, Delmar, Elba, W. 24 <sup>th</sup> , Carthage, and Velcord streets <i>Mill:</i> 1519 Carthage Road <i>Store/school:</i> 1511 Carthage Road Lumberton
	<i>Mill houses:</i> numerous individual PIN numbers <i>Mill and store/school:</i> PIN #939230361200
	Primarily 1910-1927
	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing due to lack of integrity

#### DESCRIPTION

##### Introduction

The resource denominated as the Jennings Cotton Mill Village and Mill consists of three principal components: (1) a residential village of approximately 97 original and early houses built by the mill from 1910 through 1927 and another approximately 14 houses built by private owners after 1950; (2) the mill, erected in 1910-1911 and contracted, expanded, and otherwise altered into the mid-1960s; and (3) a combination store/school building that the company constructed in 1912-1913. Almost all of the mill houses rose on five parallel, one-block-long streets—Albion, Bradford, Crescent, Delmar, and Elba—extending north of Carthage Road. On the other (south) side of Carthage Road are five additional mill houses, the former store/school, and the mill, along with a baseball field, parking lots, and wooded land behind the mill extending toward the Lumber River. The mill village and houses are addressed first. Following are separate descriptions of the mill and the store/school.

##### Mill village and houses

The local newspaper, the *Robesonian* (July 24, 1913), described the appearance and setting of the mill village in 1913, a few years after its establishment:

This village has 51 houses ranging from 3 to 7 rooms. Each house has a garden of about a quarter acre, and the operatives take great pride here, too, in cultivating their gardens, from which they derive both pleasure and profit. Almost every house has its flower garden, too. As an illustration of how pleasant living conditions are here and how contented are the help, Mr. Reynolds [superintendent] says that during this summer only two families have moved away—and both of these moved back! The water is good and health is excellent. Not only are the houses and yards attractive and well kept, but the mill surroundings are prettier than one ordinarily sees about a new mill. In front of the mill is a park of 10 acres which is pretty, even now, and will be far prettier a little later. Recently 150 silver maples have been set out around this park and, alternating with the

trees, 150 canna lillies [sic] have been planted. One side of this park is used for a baseball park and the other side for a playground for girls. Besides this park they are cleaning and shrubbing the woods on the north side of the mill for a park on the banks of the Lumber river—for this mill, you must know, is situated on the banks of the famous Lumbee, just a mile up the river from Lumberton.

The *Robesonian* account cannot be taken at face value. For instance, each mill house lot when sold encompassed just under one-fifth-of-an-acre, insufficient to hold a quarter-acre garden. (The salubrity of the village and satisfaction of its residents is also open to question, as discussed at the history section below.) The regular and modest layout of the streets and lots, however, remains apparent to the present (Figure 10).



**Figure 10. Aerial view of village north of Carthage Road with I-95 at left, store/school at bottom center to right of baseball diamond, and mill off of image to south (source: North Carolina HPO)**

Jennings Cotton Mills built the large majority of its mill houses on one of two templates. The most numerous—labeled as Type A—is a one-story, gable-end, single-pile house with a rear ell. The second most numerous—labeled Type B—is a one-story, gable-front, double-pile house. The many surviving examples of these allow for descriptions of what each type originally looked like, even though no house remains completely unaltered. Ten houses follow a rough third template. Labeled Type C, they are all gable-end, double-pile, frame houses with more individual variety than Types A or B. One hip-roofed house, at 104 Carthage Road, has a distinctive design.

### Type A

The mill village’s most common house is one-story tall, one-room deep, and built of frame. As originally constructed, it was supported by brick piers, sheathed in weatherboards with corner posts and plain friezeboards set beneath eaves, and topped by a gable-end roof. Three symmetrically placed bays crossed the façade of the house’s front block. A shed-roofed porch formed of plain posts and balusters shaded these bays, but did not extend across the full façade. Above the centered entry rose a



façade gable with a slatted ventilator opening and imbricated wood shingles. A corbeled brick chimney stack pierced the roof where the ridges of the gable-end and façade-gable roofs met. Centered in either gable end was a single window. These and all other windows appear to have originally held six-over-six, double-hung sash set in plain surrounds. An off-center gabled ell extended to the rear of the front block. The initial houses built in the village were of this type (Figure 11 through Figure 13).

Alterations to Type A houses are many. Brick foundation piers have been infilled with brick or concrete block or totally displaced, generally by concrete. Windows are now often single-light with snap-in muntins. In some instances, a fourth bay has been added to the front elevation. Picture windows have also been inserted. Aluminum, vinyl, asbestos, and even some brick veneer cover or replace the weatherboards. At the façade gables these later materials may hide the ventilator. Porches often have lost their balusters and posts; some are enclosed. Chimney stacks have been removed from some houses, along with façade gables. Shed-roofed rooms with a recessed porch now fill the space between the legs of the ell and front block. These additions may date from 1923, when plumbing was brought to the houses. In many instances, ells have been further altered or extended. Depending on the number and severity of these changes, houses have been found to have lost their integrity. No formula for integrity was set, but the individual changes at each house are described in the following table.



**Figure 11. Looking north from mill at store/school at far right and Type A houses across Carthage Road; note interior stacks and off-center ells (*Charlotte News*, February 21, 1917)**



**Figure 12. Looking northeast across baseball field at store/school at far right and mill houses north of Carthage Road**



**Figure 13. Largely intact Type A houses at 7 Albion Street, at left, and 9 Albion, at right**

### Type B

The village's second most common house type was one-story tall, frame, and weatherboarded with cornerboards (Figure 14). Originally it had a front gable pierced by three asymmetrically placed bays. A hip-roofed porch of two square posts on tall brick piers protected the bays, but did not extend across the entire elevation. A stick balustrade may have originally supplemented the porch posts. A ventilator opened at the gable peak. An off-center, brick chimney stack rose farther back on the roof. A full brick foundation, rather than brick piers, supported the house. Exposed rafter ends and two windows marked the side elevations. Set in plain surrounds, the house's windows were six-over-six, double-hung sash, although a rearmost window on one side elevations may originally have been shorter with an undetermined sash. This house type originally lacked an ell.

The village retains no entirely intact examples of the type. Changes include filling in between or completely removing the foundation piers with brick or, more commonly, concrete block. Few original or early porch balusters are present. The piers and posts, or occasionally just the posts, have also often been supplanted. Aluminum, vinyl, asbestos, or brick veneer covers or has supplanted the original weatherboards at most houses. Exposed rafter ends also have been hidden and sash has been modernized. A number of houses have been extended by a depth of one bay at the rear or have had side ells added.



**Figure 14. Largely intact Type B houses at 65 Crescent Street, at left, and 69 Crescent, at right**



## Type C

Type C is comprised of ten similar, but not matching, frame houses that are double-pile and topped by gable-end roofs (Figure 15). These dwellings are larger than Types A and B and likely housed either large families or higher-status mill workers. Their locations—either on the south side of Carthage Road close to the mill or at what was the northern edge of the village in 1924 as recorded by the Sanborn map—suggest the latter. In 1924 eight double-pile, gable-end houses stood at the village’s northern edge, five of which are extant. The survivors—22 Albion, 33 Bradford, 67 Crescent, and 76 and 77 Delmar—have or had chimneys located centrally or at their interior gable ends, and three-bay-wide, shed-roofed porches. The porches and interior chimney placement are like those of Type A; the double-pile footprint is not. Five of the ten double-pile, gable-end houses standing on Velcord near the mill in 1924 survive. The three at 4, 107, and 108 Velcord look similar to those in the village proper, but have deeper footprints. The two biggest Type C houses, at 3 and 106 Velcord, have even deeper footprints and usable half stories served by dormers. Type C houses likely had a similar finish to Type A houses, but the few survivors and numerous alterations foreclose determining their original features.



**Figure 15. Type C variants at 77 Delmar Street, at left, and 106 Velcord Drive, at right**  
**Inventory list**

The following inventory and assessment is divided into six columns. The first identifies resources by address and mill lot number. These are often the same, as addresses were generally assigned based on how the mill numbered its residential lots. Streets are listed south to north, then east to west. Mill-built houses are assigned one of two dates. The majority of houses were built to nearly the same plans beginning in 1910 and ending in 1923. Hence those appearing on the 1924 Sanborn map are assigned a c.1910-1923 date. Another group went up in c.1927. Those built between the 1924 Sanborn and its 1950 update are assigned this date. Later houses are dated by appearance and tax records. House type, the third column, and original/early features retained and changes made—columns four and five—are based upon the above house-type descriptions. The final column recommends whether and why a house would contribute or not to a potential historic district. All of the houses built by the mill are believed to retain integrity of location, setting, and association: they are all on their original sites near each other and the mill. Retention of basic form, though, was deemed insufficient to support physical integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. Various combinations of artificial siding, replacement of sash, removal of façade gables and/or chimneys, rebuilding of porches, additions of fourth bays to façades, and extensions of eaves were deemed to constitute loss of physical integrity and thereby feeling. No set formula was defined, but the addition of a fourth façade bay almost always led to a recommendation that the house was noncontributing. Contributing resources are shaded in green and noncontributing in red on the locator map—Figure 16—which also includes current addresses and street names. A photograph of each resource follows the map (Figure 17 through Figure 72).

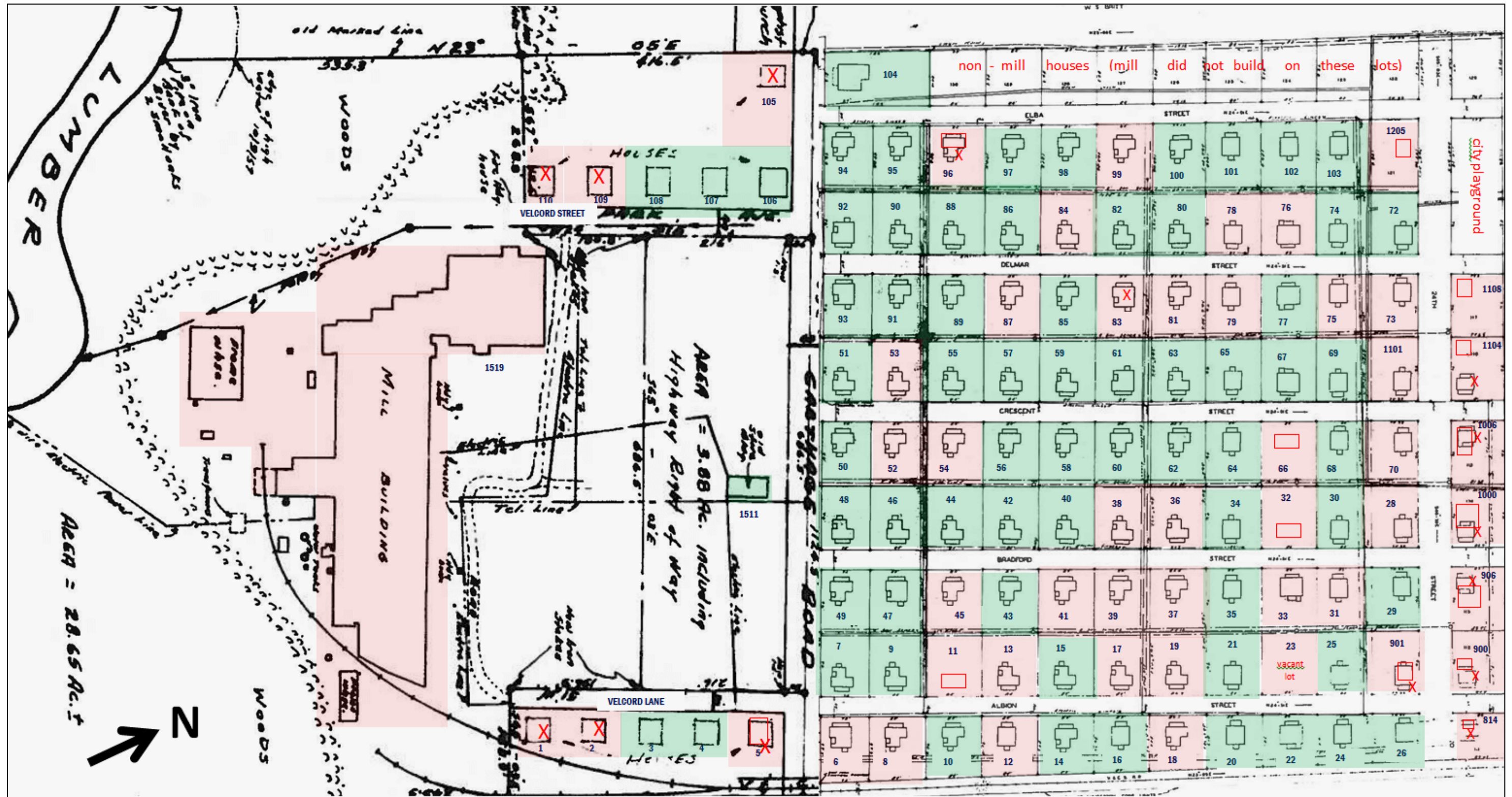


Figure 16. Composite resource locator map with addresses added; green shades the resources that contribute to potential historic district and red those that do not; no-longer-extant houses are marked with an “X” and post-1950 houses identified with red boxes (sources: Robeson County Plat Book 7/Page 48 (1957), left half of image south of Carthage Road; Plat Book 12/Page 24 (1947), right half of image north of Carthage Road)



Address/ Mill Lot No.	Date	Type	Original/early features retained	Alterations	Contributing/C or Noncontributing/NC to potential HD – integrity losses
6 Albion/ Lot 6	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement intact	Artificial siding, windows replaced with snap-in sash, porch rebuilt and extended across entire façade, chimney stack removed, shed ell added at north side and carport at south side	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
8 Albion/ Lot 8	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, stack intact; façade gable retains ventilator, imbricated shingles	Artificial siding, windows replaced with snap-in sash, porch enclosed by siding	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
10 Albion/ Lot 10	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables intact; retains ventilator, imbricated shingles at façade gable	Artificial siding, replacement snap-in sash, bay window added as fourth façade bay, later porch balustrade and seam-metal roof added	C – retains integrity
12 Albion/ Lot 12	c1927	B	Form, bay placement intact	Entirely brick veneered, snap-in-sash, modern porch, ell extended to north side	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
14 Albion/ Lot 14	c1910 -1923	A	Form, weatherboards, gables, bay placement stack intact; façade gable retains ventilator, imbricated shingles	Later-added metal porch posts and balusters	C – retains integrity
16 Albion/ Lot 16	c1927	B	Form, weatherboards, bay placement, porch piers and posts, exposed rafter ends intact	Later-added 2/2sash	C – retains integrity
18 Albion/ Lot 18	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, some sash intact	T1-11-type siding added at façade and asphalt at sides, modern metal porch supports, bay window added as fourth façade bay; walled deck and ell added at south side; exterior-end chimney stack likely not original	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
20 Albion/ Lot 20	c1927	B	Form, weatherboards, porch piers, exposed rafter ends intact	Aluminum siding, metal porch balustrades added, porch posts replaced; later 2/2 sash that was doubled at south side elevation	C – retains integrity
22 Albion/ Lot 22	c1910 -1923	C	Form, bay placement, interior-end chimneys intact	Artificial siding, later 2/2 sash, metal porch posts and concrete porch pad	C – retains integrity
24 Albion/ Lot 24	c1927	B	Form, bay placement, porch roof intact	Artificial siding, later 2/2 sash, concrete porch pad and metal porch posts, brick flue stack added at south side elevation	C – retains integrity
26 Albion/ Lot 24	c1927	B	Form, bay placement, sash, porch piers intact	Artificial siding, later porch posts and altered porch roof	C – retains integrity

Address/ Mill Lot No.	Date	Type	Original/early features retained	Alterations	Contributing/C or Noncontributing/NC to potential HD – integrity losses
7 Albion/ Lot 7	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, corbeled stack, sash, porch intact; façade gable retains imbricated shingles, ventilator	Brick foundation piers supplemented with concrete block, porch balustrade removed; shed added to rear ell	C – retains integrity
9 Albion/ Lot 9	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, stack, sash, porch intact; façade gable retains imbricated shingles	Brick foundation piers supplemented with concrete block, porch balustrade and chimney corbeling removed	C – retains integrity
11 Albion/ Lot 11	c1970 -1979	Not a mill house	Lot vacant on 1924 and updated 1950 Sanborn maps	One-story, gable-end, brick-veneered, minimal traditional house erected 1972 according to tax records	NC – outside area and period of significance
13 Albion/ Lot 13	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables intact	Vinyl siding, modern seam-metal roof, modern porch posts, 1/1 sash and bay window, shed ell added to south gable end, chimney stack removed	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
15 Albion/ Lot 15	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, porch posts, bay placement, façade gable ventilator intact	Aluminum siding, 2/2 sash, chimney stack removed	C – retains integrity
17 Albion/ Lot 17	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, porch posts, façade gable ventilator intact, chimney stack in place	Aluminum siding, 1/1 sash, bay window added as fourth façade bay, modern standing-seam-metal roof	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
19 Albion/ Lot 19	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, porch posts, façade gable imbricated shingles and ventilator intact, chimney stack in place	Artificial siding, snap-in sash and window added as fourth façade bay, porch screened in, large shed ell added at south elevation	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
21 Albion/ Lot 21	c1927	B	Form, bay placement, porch roof intact	Artificial siding, later 2/2 sash, metal porch posts, corrugated metal roof	C – retains integrity
23 Albion/ Lot 23	---	Vacant lot	---	Lot vacant on 1925 and 1950 updated Sanborn maps	NC – vacant lot
25 Albion/ Lot 25	c1927	B	Form, bay placement, porch roof intact	Artificial siding, later 1/1 sash, metal porch posts, corrugated metal roof	C – retains integrity
49 Bradford/ Lot 49	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, sash intact	Vinyl siding, modern standing-seam-metal roof, porch balusters and bric-a-brac added, central chimney removed and metal exterior-end flues added	C – retains integrity
47 Bradford/ Lot 47	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement intact	Vinyl siding, snap-in sash, modern balusters added, central chimney removed and metal exterior-end flues added; faux stone set over foundation	C – retains integrity



Address/ Mill Lot No.	Date	Type	Original/early features retained	Alterations	Contributing/C or Noncontributing/NC to potential HD – integrity losses
45 Bradford/ Lot 45	c1910 -1923	A	Form, bay placement, sash intact	Brick veneer added to front elevation and artificial siding at gables, central stack removed and replaced by exterior-end brick chimney, façade gable removed, porch replaced	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
43 Bradford/ Lot 43	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, façade gable ventilator, some sash intact, chimney stack in place	Aluminum siding, metal porch supports, some 1/1 sash, long shed ell addition	C – retains integrity
41 Bradford/ Lot 41	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement intact	Vinyl siding, porch balusters and turned posts added, façade gable ventilator replaced, snap-in sash, windows added at end-gable peaks, chimney stack removed	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
39 Bradford/ Lot 39	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, façade gable ventilator intact	Artificial siding and brick veneer, triple window added at façade, porch supports replaced, central chimney stack removed, ell extended	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
37 Bradford/ Lot 37	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables intact	Artificial siding, snap-in sash, porch fully enclosed and fixed windows added, entry location shifted, chimney stack removed	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
35 Bradford/ Lot 35	c1927	B	Form, bay placement, brick porch piers, most sash intact	Vinyl siding, porch posts altered	C – retains integrity
33 Bradford/ Lot 33	c1910 -1923	C	Form intact	Vinyl siding and brick veneer, porch posts, piers and double window bay added at façade, sash replaced, chimney stack removed and (base of) exterior end stone chimney added	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
31 Bradford/ Lot 31	c1990 -1999	Not a mill house	Mill house that stood on lot by 1924 no longer extant	Missionary Pentecostal Holiness Church – modern, brick-veneered, front gabled church with T-shaped footprint	NC – outside area and period of significance; Freewill Church of God purchased property in 1956
29 Bradford/ Lot 29	c1927	B	Form, bay placement, some sash, and porch piers and posts intact	Artificial siding, boxed-in rafter tails, most sash replaced	C – retains integrity
48 Bradford/ Lot 48	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement intact and central chimney in place	Vinyl siding, snap-in sash, new turned porch supports and balusters, extended rear ell and attached open two-car garage	C – retains integrity
46 Bradford/ Lot 46	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, façade gable ventilator intact	Aluminum siding, 2/2 sash, metal porch posts, removed central chimney stack	C – retains integrity

Address/ Mill Lot No.	Date	Type	Original/early features retained	Alterations	Contributing/C or Noncontributing/NC to potential HD – integrity losses
44 Bradford/ Lot 44	c1910 -1923	A	Form, end gables, porch posts, chimney stack in place	Artificial siding, snap-in-sash, altered porch steps and balusters, faux-rock foundation, removed façade gable	C – retains integrity
42 Bradford/ Lot 42	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, porch posts, chimney stack, façade gable ventilator intact	Vinyl siding, snap-in sash, later porch balusters	C – retains integrity
40 Bradford/ Lot 40	c1910 -1923	A	Form, end gables, porch posts in place	Artificial siding, 2/2 sash, altered porch balusters, removed façade gable and central chimney stack	C – retains integrity
38 Bradford/ Lot 38	c1910 -1923	A	Form, end gables, chimney stack intact	Aluminum siding, porch piers added, one front window doubled, snap-in sash, removed façade gable	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
36 Bradford/ Lot 36	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, chimney stack, façade gable ventilator intact	Aluminum siding and brick veneer, one front window doubled, snap-in sash, turned porch posts	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
34 Bradford/ Lot 34	c1927	B	Form, bay placement, brick porch piers intact	Aluminum siding, snap-in sash, rafter tails boxed in, porch posts and balusters altered	C – retains integrity
32 Bradford/ Lot 32	c2005	Not a mill house	Mill did not build a house on this lot	Modern, single-pile, gable-end, manufactured house	NC – outside area and period of significance
30 Bradford/ Lot 30	c1927	B	Form, bay placement, brick porch piers intact	Vinyl siding, snap-in sash, replaced porch posts, large rear ell that extends out to north side	C – retains integrity
28 Bradford/ Lot 28	c1927	B	Form, bay placement intact	Vinyl siding, snap-in sash, replaced porch reduced to one-bay width, large rear ell extended to north side	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
50 Crescent/ Lot 50	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, sash, porch posts and perhaps even balustrade, chimney stack intact	Vinyl siding and brick veneer	C – retains integrity
52 Crescent/ Lot 52	c2012	Likely not a mill house	Perhaps unrecognizably altered Type A house (a house appears on lot on 1924 and updated 1950 Sanborn maps)	Vinyl-sided, gable-end house with modern sash, full-façade porch, and seam-metal roof, lacks chimney and façade gable; tax records date of 2012	NC –outside area and period of significance (or has lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling)
54 Crescent/ Lot 54	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables intact	Vinyl siding, snap-in sash, porch fully enclosed and fixed windows added, chimney stack removed, ell extended to rear and side	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
56 Crescent/ Lot 56	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, façade gable ventilator, bay placement, central chimney stack intact	Vinyl siding, snap-in sash, metal porch supports	C – retains integrity

Address/ Mill Lot No.	Date	Type	Original/early features retained	Alterations	Contributing/C or Noncontributing/NC to potential HD – integrity losses
58 Crescent/ Lot 58	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, façade gable ventilator and imbricated shingles, bay placement, central chimney stack intact	T1-11-type siding, replaced porch posts, snap-in sash	C – retains integrity
60 Crescent/ Lot 60	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, façade gable ventilator, bay placement, central chimney stack intact	Vinyl siding, snap-in sash, metal porch supports, ell extended to rear and side	C – retains integrity
62 Crescent/ Lot 62	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, porch posts, central chimney stack intact	Vinyl siding, one façade window doubled, porch balustrade altered, ell extended to rear and side	C – retains integrity
64 Crescent/ Lot 64	c1927	B	Form, bay placement, exposed rafter ends intact	Aluminum siding, 1/1 sash, metal porch posts	C – retains integrity
66 Crescent/ Lot 66	c1970 -1979	Not a mill house	Mill did not build a house on this lot	Single-pile, gable-end, vinyl-sided and brick-veneered house	NC – outside area and period of significance
68 Crescent/ Lot 68	c1927	B	Form, bay placement, 6/6 sash intact	Vinyl siding, porch posts and balustrade, boxed-in rafter tails	C – retains integrity
70 Crescent/ Lot 70	c1927	B	Form, bay placement, 6/6 sash at original block intact	Vinyl siding, replaced porch, doubled in size with extension to rear and entrance added along W. 24 <sup>th</sup> St.	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
51 Crescent/ Lot 51	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, sash, porch posts and perhaps even balustrade, chimney stack intact	Vinyl siding , side shed extension off of ell	C – retains integrity
53 Crescent/ Lot 53	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables intact	Vinyl siding over weatherboards, fully enclosed with façade gable and windows, new different-sized sash at gable ends, chimney stack removed, ell extended to rear and side	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
55 Crescent/ Lot 55	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, façade gable ventilator, corbeled chimney stack, brick foundation piers intact	Vinyl siding added over weatherboards and façade gable imbricated shingles, façade windows replaced by larger sash, porch rebuilt, concrete-block foundation infill	C – retains integrity
57 Crescent/ Lot 57	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, central chimney stack intact	Vinyl siding, turned porch posts and balusters, shed carport off south gable end	C – retains integrity
59 Crescent/ Lot 59	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement intact	Vinyl siding, turned porch posts, removed chimney stack, side porch and rear shed at ell	C – retains integrity
61 Crescent/ Lot 61	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, façade gable ventilator, chimney stack intact	Artificial siding, metal porch posts and balustrade, shed room added to south side of ell	C – retains integrity

Address/ Mill Lot No.	Date	Type	Original/early features retained	Alterations	Contributing/C or Noncontributing/NC to potential HD – integrity losses
63 Crescent/ Lot 63	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, sash, weatherboards, chimney stack, façade gable ventilator, porch posts and perhaps even balustrade intact	Facade gable covered with asphalt shingles, ell extended	C – retains integrity
65 Crescent/ Lot 65	c1927	B	Form, bay placement, brick porch piers, weatherboards, exposed rafter ends intact	Snap-in sash, replaced porch posts	C – retains integrity
67 Crescent/ Lot 67	c1910 -1923	C	Form, gable ends, porch posts and perhaps balusters intact	Aluminum siding, snap-in sash, door added as fourth bay at facade	C – retains integrity
69 Crescent/ Lot 69	c1927	B	Form, bay placement, exposed rafter ends, weatherboards, cornerboards, 6/6 front sash, porch piers and posts intact	Some sash replaced	C – retains integrity
93 Delmar/ Lot 93	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement intact	Vinyl siding, 1/1 sash, replaced porch posts and balustrade, removed chimney stack	C – retains integrity
91 Delmar/ Lot 91	c1910 -1923	A	Form, end gables, brick foundation piers, sash, bay placement, chimney stack intact	Metal porch posts, concrete-block foundation infill, no façade gable	C – retains integrity
89 Delmar/ Lot 89	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, sash, chimney stack, porch posts and perhaps even balustrade intact	Artificial siding, carport affixed to north side of ell	C – retains integrity
87 Delmar/ Lot 87	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement intact	Modern vinyl siding, snap-in sash, brick foundations, porch, cornice returns, rear extension at ell	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
85 Delmar/ Lot 85	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, sash, façade gable ventilator, chimney stack, porch posts intact	Aluminum siding, some altered sash	C – retains integrity
83 Delmar/ Lot 83	No date	Vacant lot	Mill house that stood on lot by 1924 no longer extant	No house on lot	NC – vacant lot
81 Delmar/ Lot 81	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, chimney stack intact	Vinyl siding, 1/1 sash, rebuilt porch, concrete-block foundation, windows inserted into gable-end peaks, extended ell	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling

Address/ Mill Lot No.	Date	Type	Original/early features retained	Alterations	Contributing/C or Noncontributing/NC to potential HD – integrity losses
79 Delmar/ Lot 79	c1927	B	Form, bay placement intact	Vinyl siding, snap-in sash, metal porch supports, long extended rear ell with side shed addition	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
77 Delmar/ Lot 77	c1910 -1923	C	Form, bay placement, one interior-end chimney stack, some sash intact	Artificial siding, some snap-in sash, metal porch posts , one interior-end chimney stack removed	C – retains integrity
75 Delmar/ Lot 75	c1927	B	Form, bay placement intact	Vinyl siding, 1/1 sash, replacement porch posts and balusters, extended rear ell	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
73 Delmar/ Lot 73	c1927	B	Form, bay placement intact	T1-11-type siding, snap-in sash, replacement porch posts and balusters, long extended rear ell	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
92 Delmar/ Lot 92	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, sash, bay placement intact	Vinyl siding, chimney removed, long ell extension, early Craftsman-style porch of tapered posts on brick piers added	C – retains integrity
90 Delmar/ Lot 90	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, sash, chimney stack, porch posts and perhaps even balustrade intact	Artificial siding, altered façade gable ventilator	C – retains integrity
88 Delmar/ Lot 88	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, sash, chimney stack, porch posts and perhaps even balustrade intact	Vinyl siding, altered façade gable ventilator	C – retains integrity
86 Delmar/ Lot 86	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, sash, corbeled chimney stack, façade gable ventilator intact	Vinyl siding, metal porch posts and balusters	C – retains integrity
84 Delmar/ Lot 84	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, porch posts, façade gable ventilator intact	Artificial siding, most sash replaced, one façade window shortened and another inserted as fourth bay, chimney stack removed, ell extended to north	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
82 Delmar/ Lot 82	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, sash, chimney stack, façade gable ventilator intact	Aluminum siding and brick veneer, metal porch posts, ell extended to north by bay and carport	C – retains integrity
80 Delmar/ Lot 80	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, chimney stack, brick foundation piers intact	Vinyl siding, 2/2 sash, metal porch posts, concrete-block foundation infill	C – retains integrity

Address/ Mill Lot No.	Date	Type	Original/early features retained	Alterations	Contributing/C or Noncontributing/NC to potential HD – integrity losses
78 Delmar/ Lot 78	c1927	B	Form, bay placement intact	Vinyl siding, 1/1 sash, modern brick foundation, metal porch supports, ell extended significantly to north side and rear giving house L-shaped footprint, modern seam-metal roof added over ell	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
76 Delmar/ Lot 76	c1910 -1923	C	Form, some 6/6 sash, interior chimney stack intact	Asbestos siding and brick veneer, porch reduced to one bay with metal supports, one front window bay replaced and doubled	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
74 Delmar/ Lot 74	c1927	B	Form, bay placement, porch posts intact	Vinyl siding, 1/1 sash	C – retains integrity
72 Delmar/ Lot 72	c1927	B	Form, bay placement, porch posts intact	Aluminum siding, snap-in sash	C – retains integrity
94 Elba/ Lot 94	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, sash, façade gable ventilator, brick foundation piers, corbeled chimney stack, porch posts intact	Aluminum siding, concrete-block foundation infill	C – retains integrity
95 Elba/ Lot 95	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, façade gable ventilator, brick foundation piers, porch posts intact	Artificial siding, 1/1 sash, brick foundation infill	C – retains integrity
96 Elba/ Lot 96	c1970 -1979	Not a mill house	Mill house that stood on lot by 1924 no longer extant	One-story, gable-end, aluminum- sided and brick-veneered, frame house; built 1973 according to tax records	NC – outside area and period of significance
97 Elba/ Lot 97	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, some sash, façade gable ventilator, brick foundation piers, chimney stack intact	Vinyl siding, concrete-block foundation infill, turned porch posts and balusters, some snap-in sash	C – retains integrity
98 Elba/ Lot 98	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, façade gable ventilator and shingles, brick foundation piers, chimney stack intact	Aluminum siding, brick foundation infill, metal porch supports, 1/1 sash, ell extended to rear	C – retains integrity
99 Elba/ Lot 99	c1910 -1923	A	Bay placement, brick foundation piers, chimney stack intact; form and gables are truncated	Vinyl siding, concrete-block foundation infill, metal porch supports, 1/1 sash, shed addition to north side of ell; truncated height suggests may have partially burned, perhaps c1929, the date of construction assigned by tax records	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling

Address/ Mill Lot No.	Date	Type	Original/early features retained	Alterations	Contributing/C or Noncontributing/NC to potential HD – integrity losses
100 Elba/ Lot 100	c1910 -1923	A	Form, gables, bay placement, porch posts intact	Artificial siding, 1/1 sash, replacement balustrade, T1-11-type siding on part of ell, removed chimney stack	C – retains integrity
101 Elba/ Lot 101	c1927	B	Form, bay placement, brick porch piers intact	Vinyl siding, 1/1 sash, porch posts	C – retains integrity
102 Elba/ Lot 102	c1927	B	Form, bay placement, brick porch piers intact	Vinyl siding, snap-in sash, metal porch posts, ell extension on north clad in T1-11-type siding	C – retains integrity
103 Elba/ Lot 103	c1927	B	Form, bay placement, porch posts intact	Vinyl siding, snap-in sash, replacement balustrade	C – retains integrity
1205 W 24 <sup>th</sup> /Lot 121	c1970 -1979	Not a mill house	Mill house likely never built on this mill village lot	One-story, gable-end, aluminum- sided house; built 1970 according to tax records	NC – outside area and period of significance
1101 W 24 <sup>th</sup> /Lot 71	c1970 -1979	Not a mill house	Mill house that stood on lot by 1950 no longer extant	One-story, vinyl-sided, gable-end house; on corner lot but not oriented toward Crescent	NC – outside area and period of significance
901 W 24 <sup>th</sup> / Lot 27	c1970 -1979	Not a mill house	Mill house that stood on lot by 1950 no longer extant	One-story, gable-end, aluminum- sided, frame house; on corner lot but not oriented toward Albion	NC – outside area and period of significance
1108 W 24 <sup>th</sup> / Lot 117	c1960 -1969	Not a mill house	Mill house likely never built on this mill village lot	One-story, brick-veneer and vinyl- sided, gable-end house; built 1963 according to tax records	NC – outside area and period of significance
1104 W 24 <sup>th</sup> /Lot 116	c1951 -1959	Not a mill house	Mill house that stood on lot by 1950 no longer extant	One-story, vinyl-sided and brick- veneered, gable-end house; built 1958 according to tax records	NC – outside area and period of significance
1006 W 24 <sup>th</sup> /Lot 115	c1970 -1979	Not a mill house	Mill house that stood on lot by 1950 no longer extant (or perhaps unrecognizably altered and extended)	One-story, gabled, brick-veneered house	NC – outside area and period of significance
1000 W 24 <sup>th</sup> /Lot 114	c1951 -1959	Not a mill house	Mill house that stood on lot by 1950 no longer extant (or perhaps unrecognizably altered and extended)	One-story, gable-end, vinyl-sided house with extended rear ell	NC – outside area and period of significance
906 W 24 <sup>th</sup> / Lot 113	c1951 -1959	Not a mill house	Mill house that stood on lot by 1950 no longer extant (or perhaps unrecognizably altered and extended)	One-story, gable-end, vinyl-sided house with long ell and carport	NC – outside area and period of significance
900 W 24 <sup>th</sup> / Lot 112	c1960 -1969	Not a mill house	Mill house that stood on lot by 1950 no longer extant	One-story, gable-front, frame house	NC – outside area and period of significance
814 W 24 <sup>th</sup> / Lot 111	c1960 -1969	Not a mill house	Mill house that stood on lot by 1950 no longer extant	Portion of frame of former house	NC – outside area and period of significance



Address/ Mill Lot No.	Date	Type	Original/early features retained	Alterations	Contributing/C or Noncontributing/NC to potential HD – integrity losses
106 Velcord Dr/Lot 106	c1910 -1923	C	Form, bay placement, one corbeled interior- end chimney stack, dormers intact	Vinyl siding, 1/1 sash and altered dormer windows, flower boxes and small bargeboards added , one interior-end chimney stack removed, porch enclosed and modern gingerbread added at pointed-arch screening	C – retains integrity
107 Velcord Dr/Lot 107	c1910 -1923	C	One-story, double-pile, gable-end form; shed porch roof; 6/6 sash; and central brick chimney stack intact	Metal porch posts, asbestos siding, seam-metal roof	C – retains integrity
108 Velcord Dr/Lot 108	c1910 -1923	C	One-story, double-pile, gable-end form; shed porch roof; 6/6 sash; and central brick chimney stack intact	Aluminum siding, metal porch posts, seam-metal roof, brick foundation infill at original brick piers	C – retains integrity
109 Velcord Dr/Lot 109	No date	Vacant lot	Mill house that stood on lot by 1924 no longer extant	No house on lot	NC – vacant lot
110 Velcord Dr/Lot 110	No date	Vacant lot	Mill house that stood on lot by 1924 no longer extant	No house on lot	NC – vacant lot
5 Velcord St/Lot 5	c2000 -2009	Not a mill house	Mill house that stood on lot by 1950 no longer extant	Two-story, gable-front, brick veneered house	NC – outside area and period of significance
4 Velcord St/Lot 4	c1910 -1923	C	One-story, double-pile, gable-end form; shed porch roof; and central brick chimney stack intact	Metal porch posts, 1/1 sash, aluminum siding, seam-metal roof	C – retains integrity
3 Velcord St/Lot 3	c1910 -1923	C	One-and-a-half-story, double-pile, gable-end form; shed porch roof; interior-end brick chimney stacks; and central dormer intact	Stick porch posts, 1/1 sash, aluminum siding, seam-metal roof; current roof pulled away in part exposing original pressed-metal-shingle roof	C – retains integrity
2 Velcord St/Lot 2	No date	Vacant lot	Mill house that stood on lot by 1924 no longer extant	No house on lot	NC – vacant lot
1 Velcord St/Lot 1	No date	Vacant lot	Mill house that stood on lot by 1924 no longer extant	No house on lot	NC – vacant lot
104 Carthage/ Lot 104	c1910 -1923	Aberrant	One-story, frame, double-pile, hip-roofed form with hip-roofed ell may be original	Vinyl siding, modern porch supports, altered sash, enclosed porch across legs of rear and ell, brick foundation infill at original brick piers	C – retains integrity



Address/ Mill Lot No.	Date	Type	Original/early features retained	Alterations	Contributing/C or Noncontributing/NC to potential HD – integrity losses
105 Carthage/ St/Lot 111	No date	Vacant lot	Mill house that stood on lot by 1924 no longer extant	No house on lot	NC – vacant lot
1511 Carthage/ No lot #	c1913	Jennings Store/ School	Form/tan brick walls, brackets/kneebraces, central chimney, and classroom stairway, stage, surround, ceiling boards intact	Front elevation entry and store windows replaced by modern bands of brick, boards, and sash; all sash replaced; belt course covered; side chimneys removed; rear shed added; first story partitioned and altered	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling
1519 Carthage/ No lot #	1910, 1927 & later	Jennings Cotton Mill	Form of 1910-1911 and 1927 buildings largely intact	Removal, infill, or obscuring of all windows; alteration of all clerestories; destruction of smokestack, water towers, and all other subsidiary resources; construction of sheet- metal-covered, brick-veneered, and concrete-block additions	NC – lost integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling



**Figure 17. 6 Albion St at left and 8 Albion St at right**



**Figure 18. 10 Albion St at left and 12 Albion St at right**



**Figure 19. 14 Albion St at left and 16 Albion St at right**



**Figure 20. 18 Albion St at left and 20 Albion St at right**





**Figure 21. 22 Albion St at left and 24 Albion St at right**



**Figure 22. 7 Albion St at left and 9 Albion St at right**



**Figure 23. 11 Albion St at left and 13 Albion St at right**



**Figure 24. 15 Albion St at left and 17 Albion St at right**





**Figure 25. 19 Albion St at left and 21 Albion St at right**



**Figure 26. 25 Albion St at left and 49 Bradford St at right**



**Figure 27. 47 Bradford St at left and 45 Bradford St at right**



**Figure 28. 43 Bradford St at left and 41 Bradford St at right**





**Figure 29. 39 Bradford St at left and 37 Bradford St at right**



**Figure 30. 35 Bradford St at left and 33 Bradford St at right**



**Figure 31. 31 Bradford St at left and 29 Bradford St at right**



**Figure 32. 48 Bradford St at left and 46 Bradford St at right**





**Figure 33. 44 Bradford St at left and 42 Bradford St at right**



**Figure 34. 40 Bradford St at left and 38 Bradford St at right**



**Figure 35. 36 Bradford St at left and 34 Bradford St at right**



**Figure 36. 32 Bradford St at left and 30 Bradford St at right**





**Figure 37. 28 Bradford St at left and 50 Crescent St at right**



**Figure 38. 52 Crescent St at left and 54 Crescent St at right**



**Figure 39. 56 Crescent St at left and 58 Crescent St at right**



**Figure 40. 60 Crescent St at left and 62 Crescent St at right**





**Figure 41. 64 Crescent St at left and 66 Crescent St at right**



**Figure 42. 68 Crescent St at left and 70 Crescent St (W. 24<sup>th</sup> elevation) at right**



**Figure 43. 51 Crescent St at left and 53 Crescent St at right**



**Figure 44. 55 Crescent St at left and 57 Crescent St at right**





**Figure 45. 59 Crescent St at left and 61 Crescent St at right**



**Figure 46. 63 Crescent St at left and 65 Crescent St at right**



**Figure 47. 67 Crescent St at left and 69 Crescent St at right**



**Figure 48. 93 Delmar St at left and 91 Delmar St at right**





**Figure 49. 89 Delmar St at left and 87 Delmar St at right**



**Figure 50. 85 Delmar St at left and 81 Delmar St at right**



**Figure 51. 79 Delmar St at left and 77 Delmar St at right**



**Figure 52. 75 Delmar St at left and 73 Delmar St (rear and W. 24<sup>th</sup> elevations) at right**





**Figure 53. 92 Delmar St at left and 90 Delmar St at right**



**Figure 54. 88 Delmar St at left and 86 Delmar St at right**



**Figure 55. 84 Delmar St at left and 82 Delmar St at right**



**Figure 56. 80 Delmar St at left and 78 Delmar St at right**





**Figure 57. 76 Delmar St at left and 74 Delmar St at right**



**Figure 58. 72 Delmar St at left and 94 Elba St at right**



**Figure 59. 95 Elba St at left and 96 Elba St at right**



**Figure 60. 97 Elba St at left and 98 Elba St at right**





Figure 61. 99 Elba St at left and 100 Elba St at right



Figure 62. 101 Elba St at left and 102 Elba St at right



Figure 63. 103 Elba St at left and 1205 W 24<sup>th</sup> St [Lot 121] at right



Figure 64. 1101 W 24<sup>th</sup> St [Lot 71] at left and 901 W 24<sup>th</sup> St [Lot 27] at right





**Figure 65. 1108 W 24<sup>th</sup> St [Lot 117] at left and 1104 W 24<sup>th</sup> St [Lot 116] at right**



**Figure 66. 1106 W 24<sup>th</sup> St [Lot 115] at left and 1000 W 24<sup>th</sup> St [Lot 114] at right**



**Figure 67. 906 W 24<sup>th</sup> St [Lot 113] at left and 900 W 24<sup>th</sup> St [Lot 112] at right**



**Figure 68. 814 W 24<sup>th</sup> St [Lot 111] at left and 106 Velcord Dr at right**





**Figure 69. 107 Velcord Dr at left and 108 Velcord Dr at right**



**Figure 70. 5 Velcord St at left and 4 Velcord St at right**



**Figure 71. 3 Velcord St at left and 104 Carthage Rd at right**

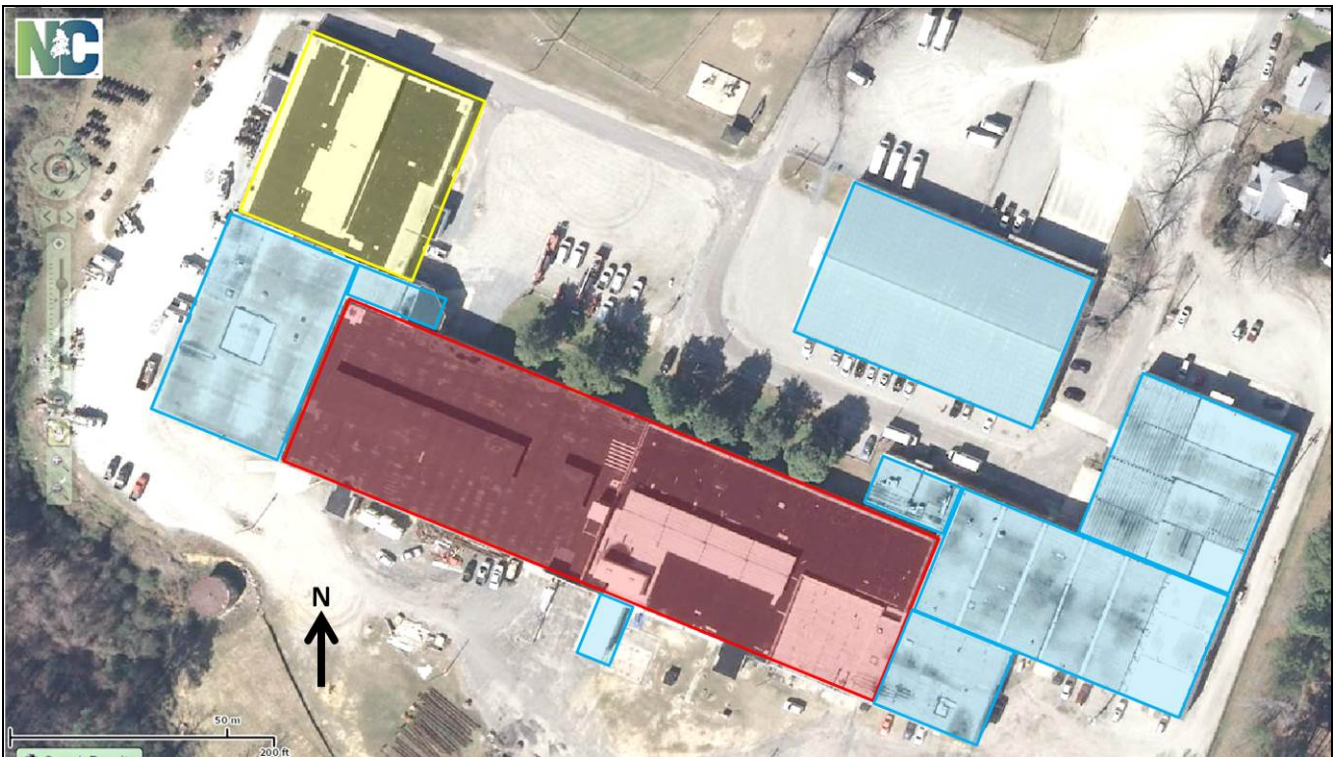


**Figure 72. 1511 Carthage Rd [store/school] at left and 1519 Carthage Rd [mill] at right**



## Jennings Mill

The Jennings Cotton Mill building was erected between 1910 and about 1965 on an almost 30-acre tract of former farmland that extended south from the edge of Carthage Road to the north bank of the Lumber River. It was built in three main phases, as shown in shaded colors on a modern aerial image of the complex (Figure 73): (1) the original brick building (shaded in red) was built in 1910-1911; (2) a nearly square brick building to the northwest, originally connected by a small hyphen, was added in 1927 (yellow); and (3) concrete-block and sheet-metal sided extensions and a freestanding warehouse were erected between about 1957 and 1965 (blue).



**Figure 73. Jennings Cotton Mill, periods of construction (source of base map: North Carolina HPO)**

The original mill was a long, rectangular, one-story building. Of fireproof “mill construction,” it had brick walls and five-foot-high, wood and glass clerestories. Rows of long, paired, double-hung sash crossed its long front (north) and rear (south) elevations. A brick powerhouse extended to its rear, served by a 125-foot-tall, brick smokestack and a 70-foot-high water tower (Figure 74 and Figure 75). Between 1914 and 1917 the mill added a small frame wing at its east end near its attendant spur railroad line (Figure 76) and, by 1923, a second water tower (Figure 77). The 1924 Sanborn map depicts these minimal changes (Figure 78, at left).

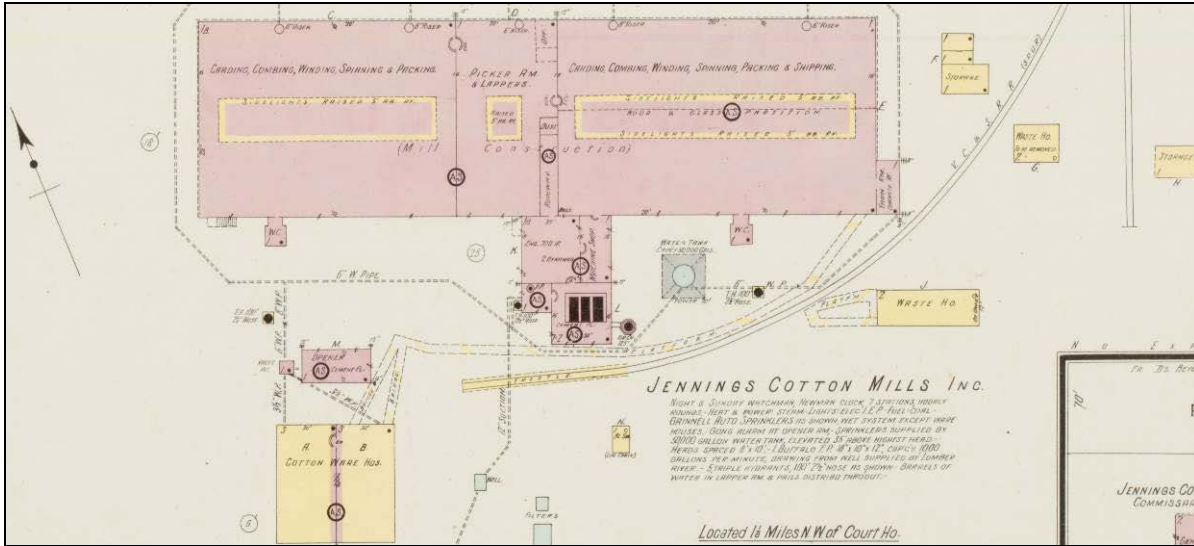


Figure 74. 1914 Sanborn map depicting brick mill and subsidiary frame buildings

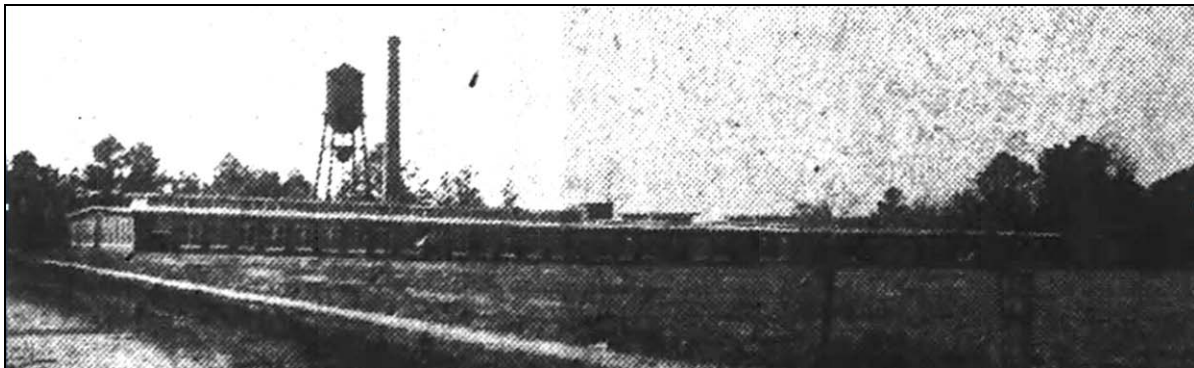


Figure 75. Jennings Cotton Mill, north front and east side elevations, 1913 (*Robesonian*, July 24, 1913)

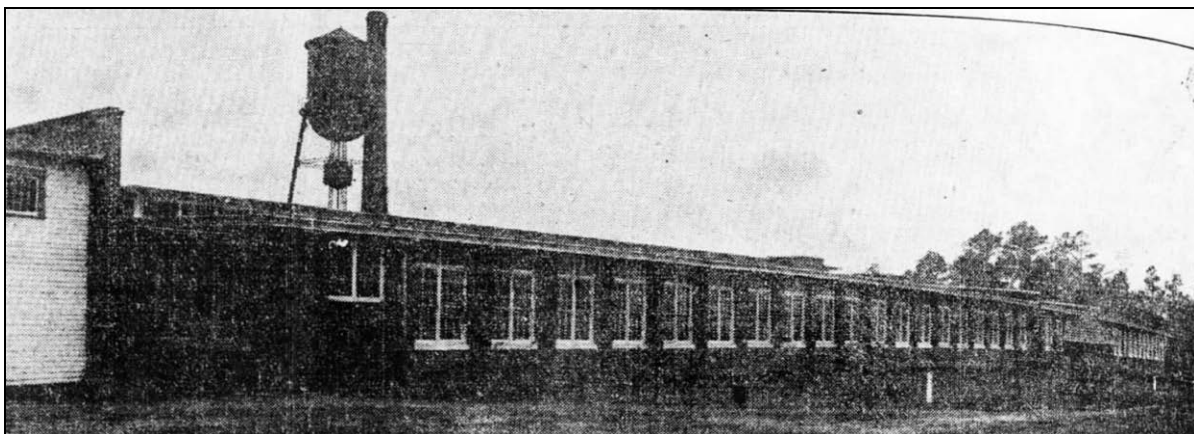


Figure 76. Jennings Cotton Mill, north front and east side elevations with frame addition at left, 1917 (*Charlotte News*, February 21, 1917)





Figure 77. Jennings Cotton Mill, north front elevation with added water tower to rear, 1923 (*Southern Textile Bulletin*, 1923:253)

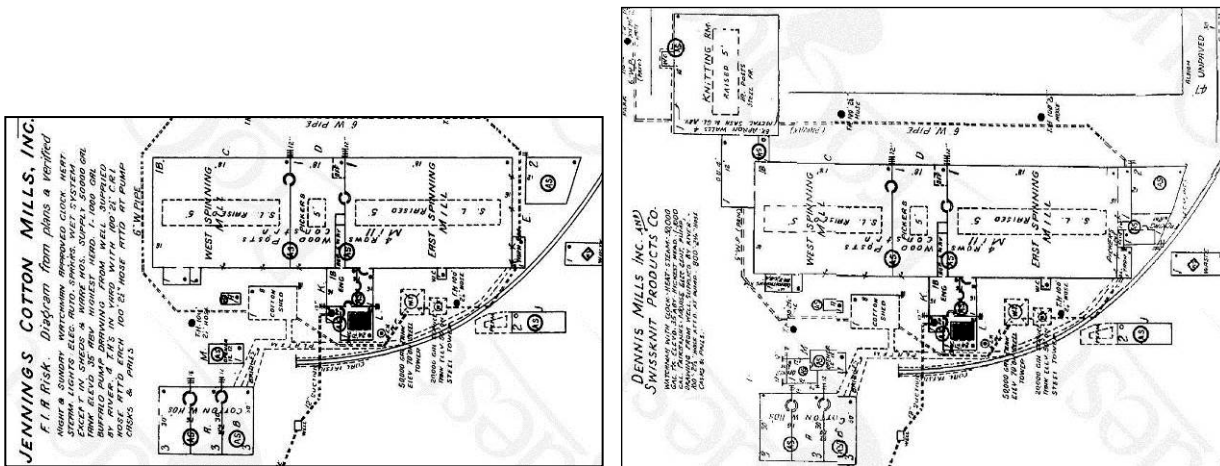


Figure 78. 1924 Sanborn map image of Jennings Cotton Mill at left, and updated 1950 image with knitting room addition at right

In 1927 Jennings completed its build out. Just off the northwest corner of the mill, it added a one-story knitting building that was apparently finished much like the original building, with brick walls, long rows of windows, and a long clerestory (Figure 78, at right, and Figure 79). The footprint of the mill depicted on a 1957 plat map, drawn when the mill changed hands, is essentially that of the 1950 Sanborn update and that pictured in a 1957 photograph (Figure 80).

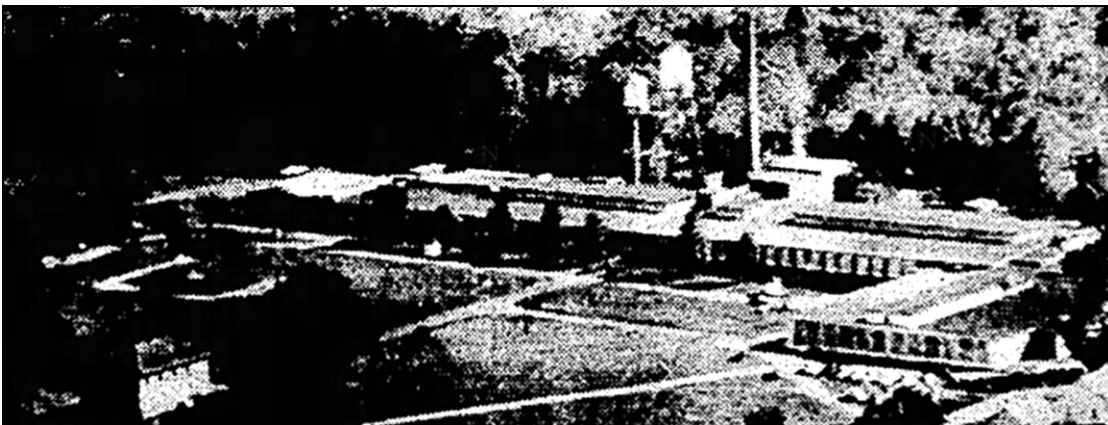
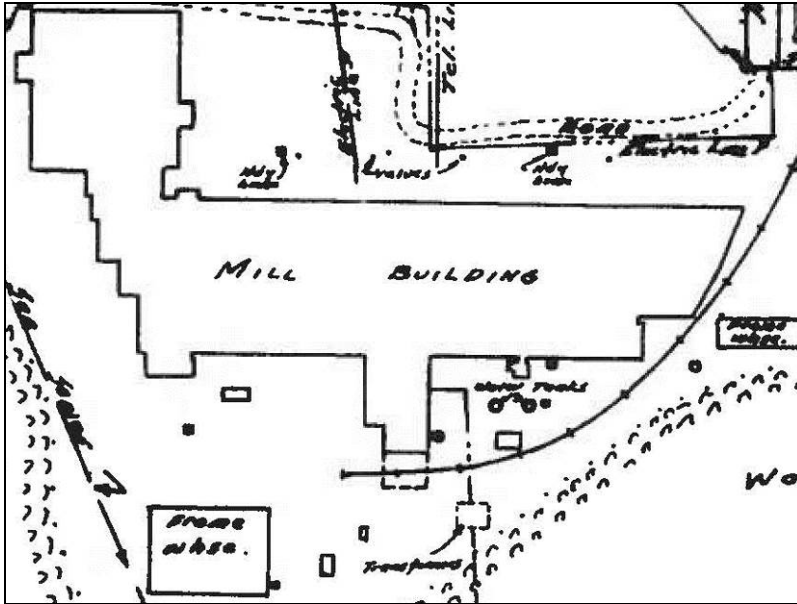


Figure 79. Dennis Mills at 1957 purchase by Vel-Cord Southern; note windows at original building and knitting room wing at right (*Robesonian*, July 19, 1957)



**Figure 80. Robeson County Plat Book 7/Page 48 depicting footprint of mill in 1957**

Modern photographs of the mill, from the air and the ground, show how dramatically it has changed since 1957 (Figure 81 through Figure 95). Between about 1957 and 1965, the mill’s then owners, Vel-Cord Southern, extended it with one-story additions in almost all directions. At the southwest, between the original mill and the 1927 addition, it added a sheet-metal-sided wing. At the east it supplanted the early frame wing with a large, roughly L-shaped, concrete block addition. The front of this addition, extending partially across the front of the original mill, is brick-veneered. Vel-Cord also added a freestanding, gable-roofed, sheet-metal-sided warehouse building to the north. Further, Vel-Cord or subsequent owners bricked-in, filled with concrete block, or covered with corrugated fiberglass sheeting all of the mill’s original windows and removed all of the remaining small subsidiary buildings. The only surviving freestanding resource, aside from the warehouse, is an on-ground, metal water tank.



**Figure 81. Modern Google Earth image of south rear of mill depicting boxy addition at southwest (far left corner), large roughly L-shaped wing with stained gray roofs at southeast (right), and freestanding warehouse to north (center right); note post-1957, on-ground water tank at far lower left**





**Figure 82. Modern Google Earth image of north front of mill**



**Figure 83. Eastern section of north front elevation; note altered window bays and, at right, entry**



**Figure 84. Western section of north front elevation with entry at far left; note altered bays and sheet-metal-clad clerestory**



**Figure 85. East and north-facing elevations of 1927 knitting room; note post-1957 covering of window bays and clerestory with sheet metal and brick veneer**



**Figure 86. West-facing elevation of 1927 knitting room with windows hidden by later brick veneer**



**Figure 87. West side and south rear of c.1957-1965 addition at mill's southwest corner**





**Figure 88. South rear elevation of original mill building; windows enclosed by brick, concrete block, and fiberglass panels**



**Figure 89. Detail of western portion of south elevation with windows covered by fiberglass panels and, at right, red-painted concrete-block infill**



**Figure 90. Detail of eastern portion of south elevation; ghost marks of former powerhouse visible at parapet wall at left**



**Figure 91. South rear and east side elevations of c.1957-1965 concrete-block addition at mill's southeast corner**



**Figure 92. North front elevation of southeast corner addition, at left, and east rear elevation of c.1957-1964 freestanding warehouse at right**



**Figure 93. West front and south side elevations of warehouse**





**Figure 94. Looking at north-facing brick-veneered portion of concrete-block southeast addition from warehouse**

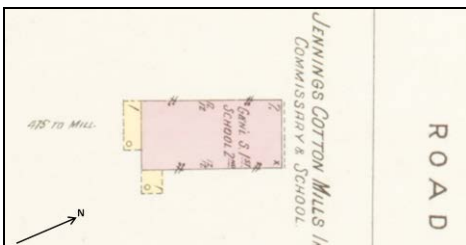


**Figure 95. Looking southeast at post-1957, on-ground water tank with Lumber River down the slope obscured by trees**

## Store/School

Jennings Cotton Mills built a combination store/school building to serve its employees and their children on the south side of Carthage Road, between the mill village proper across the street and the factory to the rear. The mill additionally put up a baseball field to the west that still occupies the site.

The building is a solidly constructed, two-story, rectangular block. Likely due to its prominent position on the road and community function, it was given more architectural attention than the functional houses and mill. Its walls are a variegated tan brick. A solid raised band wraps around its elevations as a belt course, at the level of the upstairs window sills. Centered at the second story of the north front elevation is a triple window grouping underpinned by a projecting box buttressed by four squat brackets. Pairs of large triangular kneebraces edge the building's corners, supporting a widely overhanging hipped roof. Matching braces support shed roofs that cover the original entry to the classroom stairs—near the east side elevation's rear—and a service entry at the building's south rear elevation. Both of these porches are depicted on the 1914 Sanborn map (Figure 96).



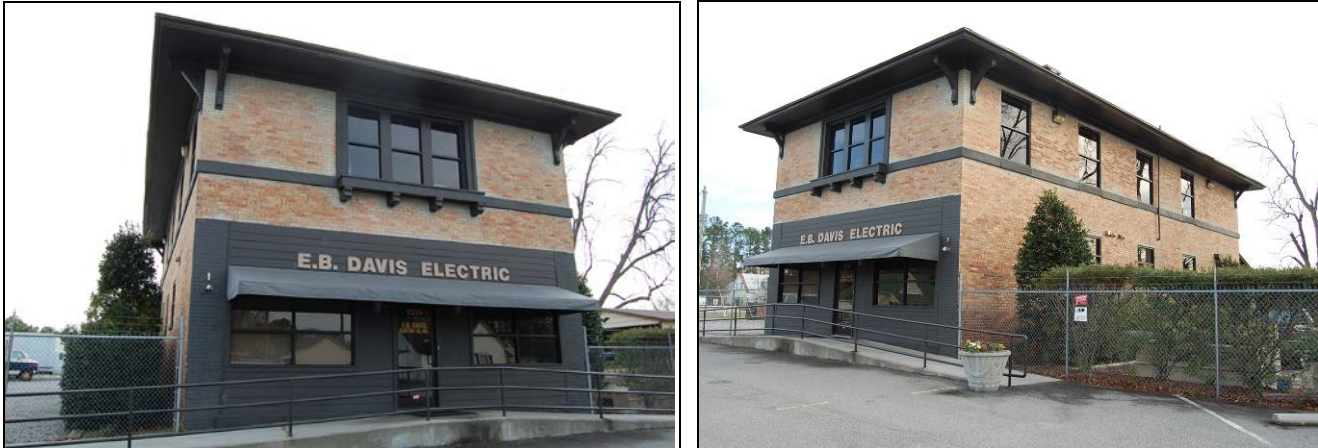
**Figure 96. Jennings Cotton Mill store/school, 1914 Sanborn map**

Brick walls, window bay placement, brackets, and roof form appear little altered when compared to a 1913 photograph. Many other exterior features have been altered, however. All of the building's multi-pane, double-hung sash have been replaced by modern 1/1 windows. The band that wraps the building is not original, but rather was set over the initial brick belt course when the building was renovated within the past few decades. This renovation also removed the tall paired storefront windows and original entry, which were supplanted by bands of brick, horizontal boards, and a modern door and windows. The central chimney stack was altered but left in place. Two corbeled brick stacks at the interior of the east elevation were removed, though. A shed-roofed, brick-veneered room that extends across half of the rear elevation, not standing in 1913, was left in place (Figure 97 through Figure 100).



**Figure 97. Store/school: long east side and street-facing north front elevations (source of image at right: *Robesonian*, July 24, 1913)**





**Figure 98. Store/school: east side and north front elevations, at left; north front and west side elevations, at right**

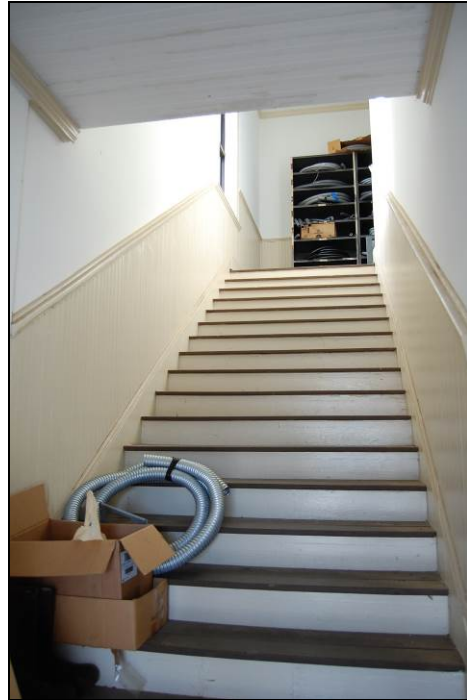


**Figure 99. Store/school: west side and south rear elevations; note rear porch with surviving kneebraces**



**Figure 100. Store/school: south rear elevation; porch but not shed room are in place at early photograph (source of historic image: *Charlotte Observer*, January 3, 1919)**

Inside, the first floor has been heavily altered, although it retains a bit of beaded-board wainscoting and ceiling board and some bull's-eye entry surrounds. It has been broken into multiple rooms by modern partitions and its mantels have been removed. The wainscot-flanked stair to the upstairs school room remains intact. The room is now filled with storage shelves and electrical supplies, but retains a slightly elevated stage, beaded ceiling boards, a wooden floor, and surrounds at the doorway leading out to the stairs marked by bull's-eye cornerblocks (Figure 101 and Figure 102).



**Figure 101. Store/school: east side elevation with shaded entry leading to school stairs at left; stairs leading up to second-story school room at right**



**Figure 102. School/store: second-story schoolroom with stage and two steps visible at bottom**



## HISTORY

In November 1910 the Jennings Cotton Mill plant was nearing completion. Workman were installing a heavy-duty, four-layer floor—sand and tar topped by gravel and tar, pine planks, and a crowning maple floor. Some of the cotton to be spun on the mill’s 8,000 planned spindles was already in storage and 35 to 40 “cottages” awaited the employees and their families who would occupy them (*Robesonian*, November 17, 1910). Construction of the first 36 mill houses had begun the first week of June. The builders were “Messrs. Dodd & White of Vineland” near Whiteville (*Wilson Times*, June 7, 1910). J.E. Sirrime of Greenville, S.C. was the “Arch.-Engr. in charge” (*Engineering News, Supplement* 1910:224).

Joseph Emory “J.E.” Sirrime was a prolific Southern architect and engineer, as noted in *North Carolina Architects and Builders*:

Joseph Emory Sirrime (December 9, 1872-1947) was a Greenville, South Carolina, industrial architect and engineer who in 1921 established J. E. Sirrime and Company, a large firm of national reputation. He and his firm worked extensively in North Carolina, planning and building textile mills and other facilities during the state's dramatic early 20th century industrial development (Wells 2009).

According to the *South Carolina Encyclopedia* (Bainbridge 2016), in 1895 Sirrime was employed by New England textile engineering firm Lockwood, Greene & Company to serve as resident engineer for two Greenville projects. He set up his own company, J. E. Sirrime, Architects and Engineers, in 1903 in Greenville and

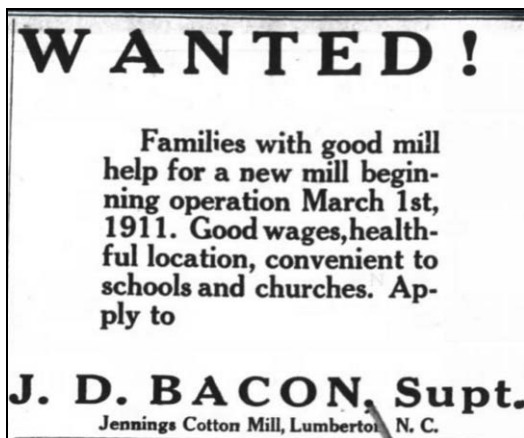
During the next five decades most of the company’s business was in southeastern textile construction. By 1920 they had engineered sixty-four mills, twenty-two mill expansions, and sixteen hundred village houses. But Sirrime and his associates also designed schools, hospitals, churches, tobacco and paper factories, bridges and sewer systems, colleges and military camps. The company designed and supervised the engineering for Greenville’s Masonic Building; Furman, Clemson, and North Carolina State college buildings; Greenville Country Club; Parker and Greenville high schools; the Chamber of Commerce headquarters in Greenville; and the Poinsett Hotel in downtown Greenville. R. J. Reynolds & Co. employed the firm to build tobacco factories in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Sirrime helped construct Camp Sevier in Greenville County and Fort Bragg in North Carolina during World War I. During the Great Depression, when textile mills suffered, Sirrime and his associates became experts in engineering for pulp and paper plants.

Many of J.E. Sirrime’s designs have been listed in the NRHP. In South Carolina they include the Carolina Supply Building, Textile Hall (demolished), and Poinsett Hotel in Greenville; the Southern Bleachery and Print Works in Taylors; and Arcadia Mill No. 1 in Spartanburg, SC. In Georgia they include the Lawler Hosiery Mill in Carrollton and the Clarkdale Historic District (mill, village, and master plan) in Clarkdale. The Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Mill in Chattanooga, TN is NRHP-listed.

Among the North Carolina listings are the Bellevue Manufacturing Company in Hillsborough; the Grinnell Company-General Fire Extinguisher Company Complex in Charlotte; the Durham Hosiery Mills Dye House in Durham; multiple industrial buildings in the Winston-Salem Tobacco Historic District in Winston-Salem; the Erlanger Mill Village Historic District (houses and other buildings) in Lexington (Wells 2009); and the Loray Mill Village (village plan) in Gastonia (Wells 2009).

The new Jennings mill was named for Henry Berchette (or H.B.) Jennings (1873-1968) of Bennettsville, South Carolina and, subsequently, Lumberton. Already secretary and treasurer of two local mills—Lumberton and Dresden Cotton Mills—he was named the treasurer and president of the new enterprise (*Robesonian*, January 23, 1911). Mansfield, a fourth mill, was added in East Lumberton after Jennings was completed. All four mills had interlocking ownership and between 1922 and 1938 H.B. Jennings was president of the group. Jennings also helped organize the Bank of Lumberton in 1897 and was president of the Virginia and Carolina Southern Railroad, which was organized about 1905. That line, absorbed by the Atlantic Seaboard Railroad, provided access to the Jennings Mill (*Robesonian*, January 29, 1968).

In February 1911 superintendent J.D. Bacon began calling for “families with good mill help” to apply to him for jobs (*Robesonian*, February 16, 1911) (Figure 103). The following month the hands began spinning cotton into yarn (*Robesonian*, March 6, 1911 and April 3, 1911). Also in 1911, the state legislature incorporated the town of North Lumberton. Jennings Cotton Mills’ 148-acre property—which extended north from the Lumber River past the new mill and across Carthage Road into the village proper—was the town (North Carolina General Assembly 1911:313-316; see also *Robesonian*, April 27, 1911 and Robeson County Deed Book 5R/Page 443 (January 1910) and Page 531 (March 1910)). The estimated population of the new town/mill village in early 1912 was 275 (*Robesonian*, January 8, 1912). (In 1953 the state legislature revoked North Lumberton’s charter and Lumberton annexed it (*Robesonian*, December 4, 1953; Powell and Hill 2010).)



**Figure 103.** One of multiple advertisements for workers placed in the *Robesonian* in February and March, 1911 (*Robesonian*, February 16, 1911)

The company started construction of a two-story brick building on the south side of Carthage Road between the mill and the village late in the summer of 1912. The building opened in early 1913 with a store on its first floor and a school above (*Wilmington Morning Star*, August 18, 1912; *Robesonian*, February 27, 1913). The company paid for the building and provided heat for it. The county, however, supervised the school (*Charlotte News*, February 21, 1917). The school was still operating in 1948, but



was supplanted by a new building within a few years (*Robesonian*, May 28, 1948). Just west of the store the company erected a baseball field that served school children and mill workers. It also added a playground near the school.

The store carried a variety of items, both packaged and fresh. Workers were not obligated to shop there, for the company did not issue scrip (*Charlotte News*, February 21, 1917). In 1944 the store advertised itself as the “R.C. Haywood Grocery generally called Jennings Mill Store.” Its stock included “fresh meats, fancy groceries, [and] fresh vegetables” (*Robesonian*, May 1, 1944).

While the company provided houses, a store, a school, a ballfield, and a playground, it did not build other community buildings. In 1915 it provided space in the school, however, for the newly formed First Baptist Church to meet. In 1918 the church purchased a tract from a private landowner, located immediately north of the mill property, on the west side of Carthage Road, upon which it erected its own frame home. In 1948 the church changed its name to North Lumberton Baptist. The current brick church building on Carthage dates from 1972 (Robeson County Heritage Book Committee 2003:68-69).

The number of mill houses had grown from 36 to 51 by 1913 (*Robesonian*, July 24, 1913). It had climbed to “60 or more” by 1919 and “80-odd houses” by 1923, when the company installed baths, toilets, and sinks in the dwellings (*Robesonian*, January 3, 1919 and May 31, 1923). The Sanborn map of 1924 depicts 74 houses in the village (Figure 104).

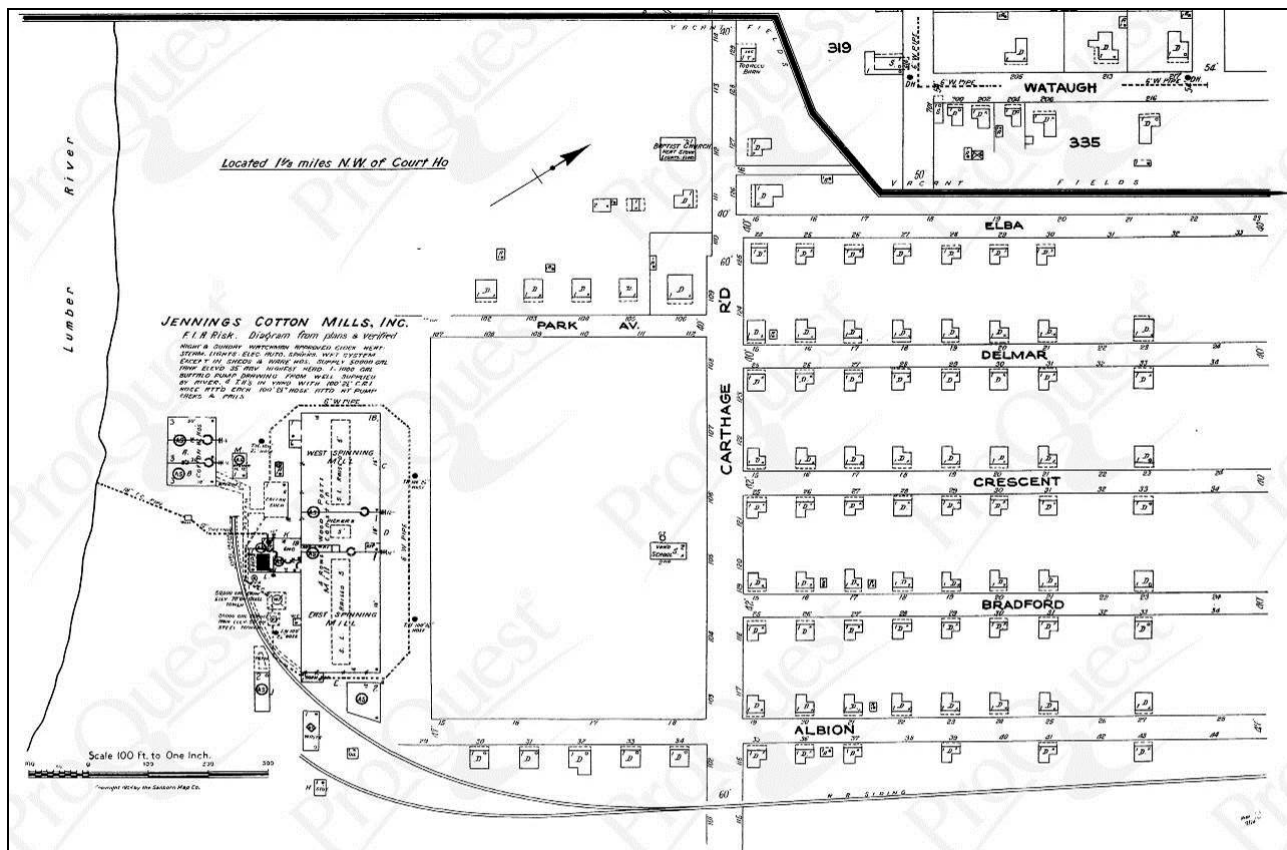


Figure 104. 1924 Sanborn map of Jennings Cotton Mills, Inc., including village

The quality of life of the Jennings millworkers and families in the 1910s and later cannot be generalized with any certainty. Newspaper accounts invariably portrayed them as content with their comfortable houses, many conveniences, and pleasant living conditions (*Robesonian*, July 24, 1913 and May 6, 1915; *Charlotte News*, February 21, 1917; and *Charlotte Observer*, February 3, 1919). On the other hand, sociologist and photographer Lewis Hines in 1914 found child laborers in all of the Lumberton mills, a situation acknowledged by H.B. Jennings when he showed Hines through the factories. Hines' photographs of workers of Dresden and Lumberton Cotton Mills are on file at the Library of Congress. Unfortunately none of Jennings could be located (Figure 105).



**Figure 105. Young millworkers, including eight-year-old Flossie Britt, outside Lumberton Cotton Mills at left; workers at Dresden Cotton Mills, including two boys probably under twelve at right (Lewis Hines photographs, November 1914)**

Labor organizer Myles Horton recalled during an eight-week strike in 1937 that:

The only paved street in North Lumberton stopped at Jennings Mill. So did the single water line. There was no sewer. Bare, unpainted frame houses formed neat rows, all located some distance from Lumberton proper. The mill workers, or linheads as they were called locally, could walk to Lumberton for groceries and supplies or maybe a cowboy movie on Saturday afternoons. Townspeople commonly expressed their belief, however, that millworkers were happier living among their own kind (Adams and Horton 1975:55).

It should be noted that Horton, like the newspapers, was not an unbiased observer. For example, the houses had been provided with running water more than a decade earlier and groceries could be purchased in the village store.

The mill announced the construction of 15 new houses, and the planned building of 10 to 15 more, in 1927 (*Robesonian*, March 17, 1927). This brought the total of village houses to about 100-110 and left only a few lots empty. A 1947 plat map depicts 101 houses in the village proper on the north side of Carthage Road; a 1957 plat adds 11 more on the other side of Carthage, nearer the mill. The 1950 updated Sanborn map depicts the same number of houses—112—with a few vacant lots that may once have held dwellings. The mill therefore erected a maximum of about 116 to 118 houses.



The construction of the new houses was spurred by an expansion of the mill. Jennings reported to the local newspaper in 1927 that it was constructing a 132-by-143-foot brick weave mill that would hold 168 looms and provide employment for additional families (*Robesonian*, March 17, 1927). Southeastern Construction Company of Charlotte built this addition, which was its first major construction effort in Lumberton. In 1947 the company opened an office in the town (*Robesonian*, May 16, 1951 and January 3, 1947).

The year 1927 was the high point of the Jennings construction program. It made no notable additions after that date. The company continued to own the mill village and operate—with occasional stoppages due to financial difficulties and labor unrest—through World War II (see, on 1937 Jennings strike, Adams and Horton 1998:54-71). In 1946, however, it took the step of leasing part of the mill to the Swissknit Manufacturing Company of New York City, which opened a branch knit clothing operation there (*Robesonian*, April 8, 1946). In June 1947 Jennings sold the mill and village property to M.S. Dayan, the owner of Swissknit (Deed Book 10J/Page 250). By July the mill was shuttered and plans were in place to sell the village:

Homes and residential lots in the mill village are expected to be offered for sale within a few weeks, as soon as legal details can be worked out. The Jennings and Swissknit mills in North Lumberton have shut down completely, putting approximately 300 to 350 persons out of work (*Robesonian*, July 30, 1947).

In August and September, individuals began purchasing mill houses from Dayan. Sales were made in clusters. Although not all of the initial lot sales were traced through the deed record, four from August 29, 1947 (Deed Book 10J/Pages 454-456, 458) and seven from September 2, 1947 (Deed Book 10I/Pages 473-479)—coupled with a review of the 1948 (Baldwin Directory Company) and 1952 (Nelson's Baldwin Directory Co.) city directories—indicate that almost all of the purchasers were (former) employees of the Jennings mill. These early transfers included a wide variety of sale amounts: four sold for \$950 to \$1,000, three for \$1,650 to \$1,800, three for \$2,500, and one for \$3,300. Houses on what is now West 24<sup>th</sup> Street, the farthest from a paved road, were the least expensive. Those with frontage on the paved Carthage Road brought the most. An even larger transfer took place on April 10 (or so), 1948, when 43 individuals bought houses (Deed Book 10M/Pages 459-501). The deeds do not record the sales prices, but the city directories show that the large majority held various jobs—textile worker, overseer, slubber, master mechanic, winder, spinner, machinist—at the mill.

The mill—renamed Dennis Cotton Mill for Dayan's son—reopened in early 1948 with a bleachery component added (*Robesonian*, February 6, 1948 and March 10, 1948). Difficulties continued, though. At the end of 1951, the mill put the store/school building on the market (*Robesonian*, December 28, 1951). In 1954 all of the mill's spinning machinery was offered for sale, due to what the company described as “very bad conditions in the textile industry. The *Robesonian* (April 26, 1954) reported:

At its peak of operations, Dennis Mills has employed as many as 450 persons in the spinning mill, bleachery and sewing plant. The sewing machinery already has been sold. Some of the spinning machinery is old, and some comparatively new. The bleachery, installed as an addition to the plant several years ago, has been described as the most modern in the nation.

The mill operation has been curtailed in the past four months, and now only enough work is being done to complete the processing of raw materials on hand.

Buildings, real estate, and machinery might be sold in a package deal to one purchaser...

Finally in 1957 Dennis Mills sold the “long-idle textile plant” to Vel-Cord Southern Corporation, an arm of a Fall River, Massachusetts firm (*Robesonian*, July 1, July 19, and November 22, 1957). By February 1958 the company was reportedly renovating the mill “inside and out”. By July about 125 workers held jobs there (*Robesonian*, February 3 and July 24, 1957).

Vel-Cord operated successfully for about two decades. In January 1964 the company planned the construction of a finished goods warehouse on the eastern end of the plant, extending north toward Carthage Road. Also in January the old store/school building opened as a sales outlet for corduroys and synthetic materials that Vel-Cord finished (*Robesonian*, January 8 and 28, 1964). In 1965 the company donated a piece of land between the mill and store/school sufficient to hold two baseball fields (*Robesonian*, June 2, 1965). It remains a public ballfield.

In 1971 Newport Chemical Industries purchased Vel-Cord Southern (*Robesonian*, September 5, 1971). The plant continued in operation, but in 1984, facing incipient bankruptcy, it was sold to Robeson River Dyeing & Printing (Deed Book 556/Page 381). Robeson River apparently had limited success, for in 1990 it defaulted on its mortgage and REF, Inc. acquired the factory, the store/school, and the accompanying tract of land on the south side of Carthage Road (Deed Book 706/Page 496). The buildings are now home to the Velcord Industrial Park, which houses a variety of small enterprises. These include E.B. Davis Electric, based in the former store/school building, and The Door Man (a garage door sales, installation, and service business) and the offices of the Southeast Area Transit or SEATS, both of which occupy small portions of the mill building.

## **NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION**

Jennings Cotton Mill Village and Mill is not believed to be NRHP-eligible under any of the National Register’s Criteria. The resource is potentially eligible for NRHP listing under Criterion A for its history—within the areas of significance of industry and community planning and development—and Criterion C, for its architecture. This potential eligibility would cover a period of significance from 1910-1911, when construction started and the mill began operation, to 1947-1948, when Jennings sold its enterprise and the new owners sold off the village. The resource is not believed to be NRHP-eligible under Criteria A and C, however, due to the loss of sufficient integrity to support these potential areas of significance.

The resource has three principal components: (1) the mill village and its houses; (2) the mill; and (3) a store/school. As noted above, all of the houses built by the mill are believed to retain integrity of location, setting and, to a lesser extent, association: they are all on their original sites near each other and the mill. The mill and store/school are believed to retain these same relational elements of integrity to the whole. Retention of basic form, though, was deemed insufficient to support physical integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. Various combinations of artificial siding, replacement of sash,



removal of façade gables and/or chimneys, rebuilding of porches, additions of fourth bays to façades, and extensions of eaves were deemed to constitute loss of physical integrity and thereby feeling.

About 55 percent of the houses, in spite of many alterations, are believed to retain sufficient physical integrity to support potential significance under Criteria A and C. About 45 percent, including now vacant lots, are believed to no longer retain the integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling necessary to support this significance. The store/school—due to major alterations to its front elevation, sash, belt course, chimneys, and interior—is also believed to lack the physical integrity necessary to support significance under A and C.

Further, and critically, the mill complex is believed to no longer retain sufficient integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling to support historical or architectural significance. Its many changes include the removal, infill, or obscuring of all windows; the alteration of all clerestories; the destruction of the smokestack, water towers, and all other subsidiary resources; and the construction of sheet-metal-covered, brick-veneered, and concrete-block additions. These additions—erected between about 1957 and 1965 with total square footage comparable to that of the 1910-1911 and 1927 facility—are prominent at all elevations and obscure large portions of the early buildings. The mill was the centerpiece of the resource and its reason for existence. Its size is greater than that of all of the houses and the store/school combined. Its loss of its physical elements of integrity, coupled with the loss of such integrity of close to half of the houses and of the store/school, means that a significant portion of the entire resource no longer retains integrity.

Jennings Cotton Mill Village and Mill is further believed to lack significance under Criterion B for any association with persons important to our history. H.B. Jennings was a wealthy entrepreneur who was locally significant, but never rose to the larger level of significance required under the Criterion. J.E. Serrine—a highly regarded regional mill and mill village architect—would likely meet the significance requirements of Criterion B. However, his association with the resource is tangential to his importance. His formative work did not take place at the mill and village and their design is not a distinctive and notable representative of his work. Finally, the resource is unlikely to yield important information not readily available from other sources and is therefore not recommended as NRHP-eligible under Criterion D.

Due to their loss of integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling, the mill and the store/school are not believed to be individually eligible for NRHP listing. No individual house is believed to have the significance and integrity necessary for individual NRHP listing.

<b>JENNINGS MILL VILLAGE AND MILL</b>		
<b>Element of Integrity</b>	<b>Level of Integrity</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
Location	High	Stands on place where constructed.
Design	Low to Medium	The design of the mill and store/school has largely been reduced to basic form and walls, for their other elements have been heavily altered. A few of the houses retain a high level of design integrity, about half a medium level of such integrity, and about 45 percent low design integrity due to alteration.
Setting	High	The mill village, store/school, and mill continue to stand in a discrete neighborhood in close relationship to each other with relatively little modern infill.
Materials	Low	As with design, the intact materials of the mill and store/school are largely their walls, for their other elements have been heavily altered. A few of the houses retain many of their original materials, but due to alteration of roofs, chimneys, siding, sash, bays, porches, foundations, and ells, most have a low level of material integrity.
Workmanship	Low	As with materials, the workmanship that went into the mill and store/school is largely limited to their walls, for their other elements have been much altered. A few of the houses retain a high level of workmanship integrity but due to alterations to roofs, chimneys, siding, sash, bays, porches, foundations, and ells, most have a low level of integrity of workmanship.
Feeling	Low	Due to its low level of design, materials, and workmanship owing to numerous physical changes to the individual resources as a whole, the overall resource has a low level of integrity of feeling.
Association	Medium	The resource retains a high level of location and setting coupled with an overall low level of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling. Its integrity of location therefore stands at a medium level.



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