

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building
Other names/site number: 12th Street Industrial Building; VDHR ID 118-0103
Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 1701 12th Street
City or town: Lynchburg State: VA County: Independent City
Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets
the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic
Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I
recommend that this property be considered significant at the following
level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local
Applicable National Register Criteria:
 X A B X C D

Julie Langer 12/30/20
Signature of certifying official/Title: Date
Virginia Department of Historic Resources
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official: Date

Title : State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/Manufacturing facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/Manufacturing facility

Vacant/Not In Use

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial
Style: Contemporary Industrial Style

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK; STONE: Granite

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The DeWitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building at 1701 12th Street stands at the southeast corner of the intersection of 12th Street and Buchanan Street in the City of Lynchburg, Virginia. Constructed in 1906, the DeWitt-Wharton Building is a four-story, masonry building composed of brick that rests on a stone basement. A gravel parking lot is visible to the west of the main building and the loading dock is found on the north (rear) elevation. The building was initially constructed to serve as a manufacturing facility for textile products, and it served in this capacity into the 1980s. The history of the DeWitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building reflects the manufacturing and industrial boom in the City of Lynchburg during the twentieth century. None of the original machinery associated with textile production remains; however, the interior of the building remains undivided with the exception of a small office on the first floor, and bathrooms in the basement, first, third, and fourth floors. Further, original radiators are visible on the walls of the third and fourth floors, as well as the original freight elevator. The DeWitt-Wharton Building was designed by premier Lynchburg architect Edward G. Frye and is a significant departure from his typical residential and Victorian-inspired designs. The DeWitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building retains a high level of integrity in location, setting, design, feeling, association, workmanship, and materials. The period of significance for the DeWitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building begins in 1906 with the construction of the building, and ends in 1965, marking the end of work clothing production in the building and the transition to the manufacturing of women's clothing.

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Setting

The Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building stands at 1701 12th Street, the southeast corner of the intersection of 12th Street and Buchanan Street, bounded by Buchanan Street to the east with the façade of the building facing 12th Street. The buildings in the vicinity of the Dewitt-Wharton Building are a mix of commercial businesses and residential dwellings. A small, narrow, gravel parking lot is located to the west of the building. The area to the north of the Dewitt-Wharton Building has a small, concrete driveway off Buchanan Street providing access to the loading dock on the north elevation. A poured, concrete sidewalk runs along the south and east perimeters of the property boundary.

The Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building is adjacent to two previously identified historic districts. The College Hill Historic District (VDHR No. 118-0226) is a district comprised primarily of residential structures with boundaries beginning at Buchanan Street and then trend to the east. The College Hill Historic District was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1994; however, it has not been formally listed. The Diamond Hill Historic District (VDHR No. 118-0225) is a large, residential district officially listed on the NRHP in 1979. The Diamond Hill Historic District begins at 12th Street and then trends to the south.

Integrity Analysis

The Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building maintains its integrity of location; the building has not been moved from its original location at the intersection of 12th Street and Buchanan Street. The setting and feeling of the building have been slightly altered by the construction of commercial buildings in the area that date from the 1920s through to the mid-twentieth century. However, these newer commercial buildings are in scale with the Dewitt-Wharton Building and reflect the industrial growth of the City of Lynchburg. Further, the Dewitt-Wharton Building retains sufficient integrity of setting and feeling as demonstrated by the presence of the Diamond Hill Historic District and the College Hill Historic District, both of which are contiguous to the building property. The design, workmanship, and materials remain intact though the building has been altered by brick infill visible in the basement windows and one entrance on the façade, as well as some missing window sash on the 4th floor of the building. A modern loading dock is visible on the north (rear) elevation of the building which reflects the continuous use of the building for manufacturing. Other decorative elements do remain including the brackets along the cornice, the brick arches over the windows and entrances, and a narrow, metal, fire escape on the east elevation. The interior of the Dewitt-Wharton Building retains a high level of integrity with open spaces supported by large, wood posts, original wood flooring, and radiators. The Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building has integrity of association. Sanborn maps indicate that a one-story, brick boiler room building sat to the west of the main building where the current gravel parking lot sits (Figure 5). However, the removal of the boiler room did not result in any significant alterations to the design of the building.

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Exterior Description

The Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building is a four-story brick building measuring forty feet wide and 100 feet long with decorative brickwork and a granite foundation, resulting in an impressive edifice. The decorative elements on the exterior of the building demonstrates the practice of the Contemporary Industrial style of reserving stylistic details for the exterior of the building. The brick is laid in five-course American Bond, composed of smooth manufactured bricks, held in place by flush, beige, concrete mortar. In some places, the header-course intervals are inconsistent on the building, particularly in areas where entrances and windows have been replaced with modern, brick infill. The bricks are red-brown in color except for the bricks that comprise the parapet, those are browner in color, an interesting stylistic detail that demonstrates how the manipulation of natural materials results in unique design. In addition, the use of brick creates a fireproof building, reflecting a popular trend of the early 20th century. Portions of the brick are discolored because previous occupants painted company names on the building, the most visible being the faded name of Cones' Boss Work Clothing over the east entrance on the façade. The faded painted names of previous occupants speaks to the industrial history of the Dewitt-Wharton Building.

The building rests on a foundation composed of coursed, rusticated granite, providing a bold contrast to the natural brick above. The foundation is not visible on the façade with the exception of the southeast corner where it consists of three courses, and the foundation of the east elevation is three courses high beginning at the southeast corner and then tapers toward the north (rear) elevation of the building. No portion of the foundation is visible along the north (rear) elevation, while the west elevation has four visible courses of stone. The difference in visible foundation is likely due to the hilly nature of the topography of the City of Lynchburg. The façade of the building fronts 12th Street and consists of two entrances; however, the east entrance is infilled with brick and no longer used. The west entrance on the façade consists of double-leaf, metal doors, capped with a fixed light transom. The façade is typified by fenestration composed of wood, double-hung sash windows with 12-over-12 lights. The windows are capped with solid, narrow, wood, arched lintels and distinctive brick arches consisting of three rows of stacked, brick headers. The windows on the west side of the façade are off center from the other windows. These windows are on the same end of the building as the stairs and the windows flood the stairwell with natural light. The windows for the basement are infilled with brick.

The west and east elevations of the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building are typified by rows of symmetrical windows identical to those found on the façade, demonstrating that stylistic details were not limited to just the façade. Three windows on the first floor and all basement windows of the west elevation are infilled with brick. The windows on the fourth floor have straight, narrow lintels and no brick arches, giving the windows the appearance of being shorter than the windows of the first three floors. A modern ventilation system consisting of large metal canisters and pipes rests on an elevated concrete pad and a square, green air handler is visible to the northern end of the elevation on the west side, the previous location of the boiler room. The removal of the boiler room left no scars on the west elevation as all windows and

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brickwork appear intact. The east elevation has all basement windows infilled with brick, and a simple, narrow, metal fire escape runs diagonally from the fourth floor to the ground. The elevator shaft sits in the northeast corner of the east elevation and contains three, four-over-four, wood windows with a double-hung sash. Both east and west elevations have Italianate, decorative brackets along the cornice.

The rear elevation has a modern loading dock that was installed in 2005 and consists of a raised concrete pad with a metal, roll-up door. The windows are similar to those found on the other elevations with the exception of those on the first and second floors which are covered with metal blinds. The basement window apertures are infilled with brick. The building is capped with a metal, low-pitch gable roof. The roof line is concealed by a stepped, brick parapet with copper parapet caps.

Interior Description

The interior of the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building reflects a principal precept of the Contemporary Industrial style with its large open space that places function over design. The basement of the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building consists of undivided open space with large, wood, rectangular beams supported by eleven round posts. The ceiling of the basement is lined with various utilities including pipes, metal sheet ductwork, and electric conduit. The floor is composed of poured concrete and the ceiling is covered with narrow-gauge wood. The stone foundation wall varies in height relative to the topography of the property. The foundation wall is approximately five-and-a-half feet tall on the east elevation, three feet on the north and west elevations, and one foot on the south elevation. The visible granite stones provide a contrast to the utilitarian poured concrete floors. The elevator is located in the northeast corner and has a modern metal door. On the west elevation is a double-leaf wood door composed of vertical boards. In the southwest corner of the basement is a small bathroom and a heavy, metal door with metal hinges that leads to the stairs. The door opens through a system of weights and chains which are necessary due to the size and weight of the door. These metal doors, which may be found on all floors and provide access to the stairs, are another element of fireproof design. The stairs for the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building are located in the southwest corner. The wood stairs, railing, and balustrade are modern. Each flight contains ten steps and is separated by concrete landings.

The first floor of the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building houses the workspace for Kerschbamer Woodworking, so a majority of the floor space is occupied by their equipment. However, the layout of the floor is the same: a large, rectangular space with large wood beams supported by eleven round posts that run down the center of the room. The floor is covered in narrow-gauge wood flooring and the walls are of exposed brick. The ceiling is also covered in wood boards with metal conduit housing the electrical wiring and a modern fire suppression system. A small office composed of plywood and a bathroom are located toward the southwest corner of the first floor appear to be modern additions. The freight elevator is in the northeast

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corner and retains its original metal door with metal hinges and latch. Behind the metal door is the metal cage that encases the elevator platform.

The second, third, and fourth floors are similar to the basement and first floors with large beams supported by round columns that run the length of the room, again reflecting the functional nature of the building's interior. Some columns have notches cut out perhaps to hold the long tables of the cutting room. The walls are plain brick and the floors and ceilings are composed of narrow-gauge wood with the same conduit and fire suppression systems found on the first floor and basement. The exposed brick walls are a characteristic of the Contemporary Industrial style, saving design for the exterior and focusing on function and use for the interior. The third and fourth floors have yellow lines painted on the floors, perhaps to dictate movement of people or materials around the equipment that was once present in the building. The freight elevator is in the northeast corner with the original metal door and metal cage that surrounds the elevator platform. The windows on the east and west elevations flood the rooms with natural light, facilitating the use of the floors as functional space. Large, heavy, metal doors with the same chain and weight pulley system found in the basement and first floors, provide access to the room from the stairs. A set of simple, modern, wood steps provide access to the fire escape through one of the windows on the east elevation. The third and fourth floors contain restrooms both with transoms composed of fixed, four lights and sheathed in narrow, vertical, beaded siding. The restroom on the third floor has three stalls, with swinging wood doors of beaded, vertical boards. The restroom on the fourth floor has two stalls with swinging, louvered wood doors. There is a separate restroom to the right of the main restroom that is accessed by a single-leaf, double-paneled wood door, also capped with a four-light transom. The single restroom may have been reserved for managers. The restrooms on the third and fourth floors have elaborately decorated metal radiators, a great contrast to the plain, black radiator pipes that run along the walls beneath the windows in the primary workspace.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

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

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRY
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1906-1965

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Frye, Edward G./Architect
C.W. Hancock and Sons/Builder

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building at 1701 12th Street in Lynchburg, Virginia, is a brick building located at the southeast corner of the intersection of 12th Street and Buchanan Street. The Dewitt-Wharton Building is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Industry. The building reflects the rise of the textile industry in the City of Lynchburg in the early-20th century. The Dewitt-Wharton is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as a good example of a Contemporary Industrial style building. The building is also locally significant under Criterion C for the architect, Edward G. Frye, a prolific architect in Lynchburg, Virginia. The Dewitt-Wharton Building is an interesting departure for Frye both in style as well as building type. The Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building retains integrity due to the minimal amount of alterations to the building and its continuous use as a manufacturing facility. The Dewitt-Wharton Building was home to numerous textile manufacturing companies during the 20th century, including the DeWitt-Wharton Company, Jobbers Overall Company, N&W Overall Company, C.B. Cones and Sons Manufacturing Company, and Virginia Sportswear. Further, the setting of the building has changed little during the 20th century. Though the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building has been altered in its 114-year history, it still possesses integrity of design, workmanship, and materials. The period of significance for the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building begins in 1906 with the construction of the building. The period of significance ends in 1965, when work clothing manufacturing ceased in the building.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Criterion A: Industry

The Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building at 1701 12th Street is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Industry. The City of Lynchburg embraced new manufacturing beginning in the late-19th and early-20th centuries. Prior to textile manufacturing, industry in the City of Lynchburg focused primarily on tobacco and iron.¹ New industries included cotton mills, hosiery mills, shoe companies, and clothing production. Mills and other industries in the City of Lynchburg contributed to the economic vitality of the City after the Civil War. Lynchburg recovered quickly after the end of the Civil War due to a sound transportation network and the textile industry.² Companies like the Lynchburg Cotton Mills Company and the Lynchburg Hosiery Mills, both founded in 1919, are examples of the early textile industry in the City of Lynchburg. The growth of textile manufacturing, specifically in the area of work clothing, grew

¹ John V. Horner and P.B. Winfree, Jr, eds, *The Saga of a City, Lynchburg, Virginia 1786-1936*, (Lynchburg: The Lynchburg Sesqui-Centennial Association, 1936), 129.

² *News Advance*, Lynchburg, Virginia, September 4, 2016.

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considerably in Lynchburg in the 20th century.³ In fact, “by 1950 there were ten garment factories in Lynchburg making overalls, shirts, and ladies’ and children’s clothing.”⁴ The Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building reflects the textile industry of the City of Lynchburg during the 20th century, specifically in the area of work clothing manufacturing. The Dewitt-Wharton Building was home to numerous textile manufacturers from its construction until the 1980s. Prominent textile companies include DeWitt-Wharton Company, Jobbers Overall Company, N&W Overall Company, and C.B. Cones and Sons Manufacturing Company. These companies reflect the growth of textile manufacturing in the City of Lynchburg during the 20th century.⁵

The Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company hired renowned Lynchburg architect Edward G. Frye to design the headquarters for their new shirt manufacturing company. C.W. Hancock and Son Builders completed the construction of the new building in 1907 for a cost of \$13,000.⁶ In 1907, the DeWitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company opened its doors at 1701-1703 12th Street in a new building. Incorporated in 1907, the DeWitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company specialized in shirt manufacturing with Clinton DeWitt serving as president, E.M. Wharton vice-president, and Clinton DeWitt secretary, treasurer, and general manager. The Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building remained the home of DeWitt-Wharton until 1912.⁷

In 1913, the new tenant in the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building was the Jobbers Overall Company, Inc. The Jobbers Overall Company received its charter from the City of Lynchburg on September 21, 1911.⁸ The Jobbers Overall Company was originally called the Jobbers Overall Manufacturing Company; however, in 1911 the company removed the word manufacturing from its name. The company created tremendous anticipation prior to its opening by taking out a full-page advertisement in the Lynchburg City Directory in 1912.⁹ The full-page advertisement featured a photo of the Dewitt-Wharton Building at the top, center of the page.¹⁰

³ Philip Lightfoot Scruggs, *The History of Lynchburg, Virginia*, (Lynchburg: J.P. Bell Company, Inc., 1972), 219-222.

⁴ James M. Elson, *Lynchburg, Virginia: The First Two Hundred Years, 1786-1986*, (Lynchburg: Warwick House Publishers, 2004), 258.

⁵ Scruggs, pp 219-222.

⁶ City of Lynchburg Land Valuation Card

⁷ City of Lynchburg City Directory 1907-1912, (Richmond: Hill Directory Company).

⁸ City of Lynchburg Business Charters

⁹ Kemper Street Industrial Historic District National Register Nomination, (Richmond: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, 2008).

¹⁰ Ibid.

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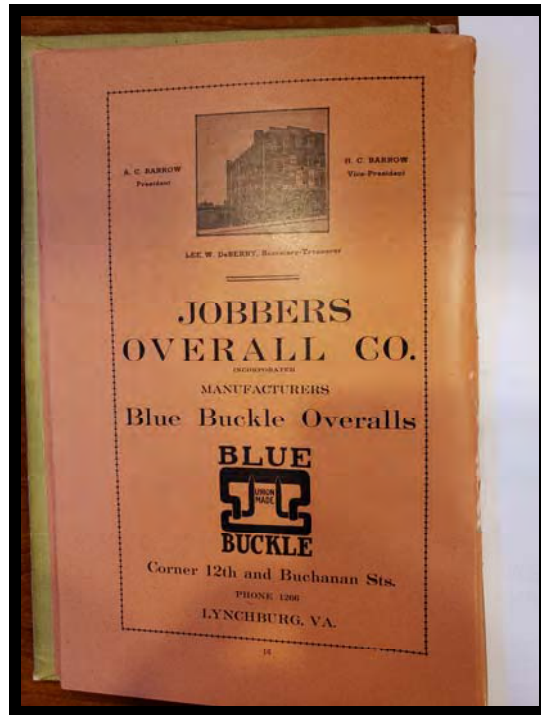


Figure 1. Jobbers Overall Company Advertisement from 1912 City of Lynchburg City Directory

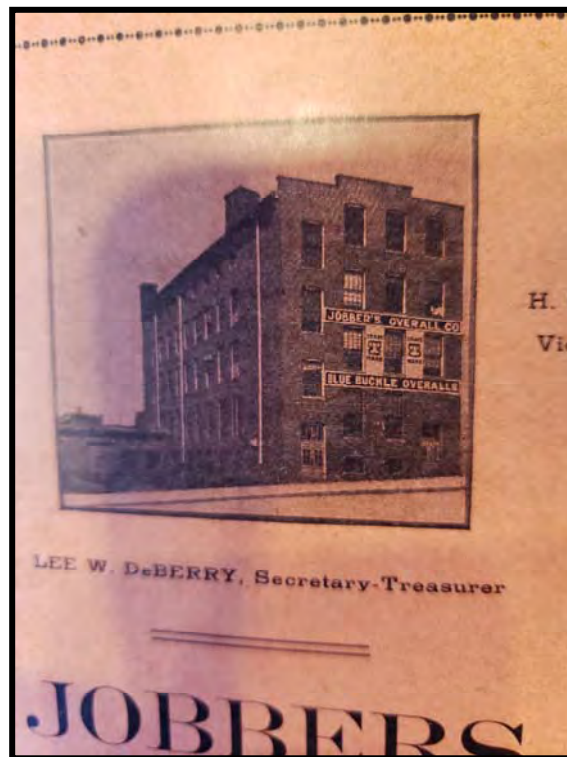


Figure 2. Detail of Jobbers Overall Company from 1912 City of Lynchburg City Directory

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The Jobbers Overall Company, under the direction of Alfred C. Barrow, was so successful it was running double-page advertisements in the *Saturday Evening Post*. The company dominated the work clothing market manufacturing overalls until the end of World War I.¹¹ The Jobbers Overall Company remained in the Dewitt-Wharton Building until 1919, at which time the company moved from the Dewitt-Wharton Building to a complex of buildings on Kemper Street. The new facility was much larger than the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building and consisted of a main plant, dormitory, and suspender factory. The complex of buildings is currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places as the Kemper Street Industrial Historic District.¹²

In 1919, a new work garment manufacturer moved into the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building. The N&W Overall Company received its business charter on April 14, 1917; however, it took two years for the new company to move into the building. This may be due to the fact that the Jobbers Overall Company was in the process of moving into its new facility on Kemper Street.¹³ N&W Overall Company, Incorporated was led by L.W. Turner, H.C. Barrow, and A.C. Barrow. The company began manufacturing overalls after the end of World War I. The N&W Overall Company was so successful that the company eventually opened a branch plant in Jackson, Mississippi.¹⁴ By 1935, the N&W Overall Company no longer operated out of the Dewitt-Wharton.¹⁵

In 1935, the C.B. Cones and Sons Manufacturing Company moved into the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building and would continue to occupy the building until 1964.¹⁶ Established in 1879 in Indianapolis, Indiana, the C.B. Cones and Sons Company made overalls, coats, and unlaundered work shirts. In the 1930s, the Company made the decision to expand its manufacturing facilities and opened a factory in Lynchburg.¹⁷ The C.B. Cones and Sons Manufacturing Company utilized the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building for almost 30 years.

The manufacturing conducted within the Dewitt-Wharton Building was divided by specific tasks and often located on separate floors. A Jobbers Overall Company publication commemorating the anniversary of the company in the City of Lynchburg contains photographs demonstrating this division of work, with each floor focused on a particular manufacturing task. For example, the raw stock necessary for production is located on one floor, more than likely the bottom floor where the loading dock is found. The raw stock area consisted of large shelves with massive bolts of cloth. The next floor is the cutting room containing tables that run the entire length of the

¹¹ Scruggs, 219-222.

¹² Kemper Street Industrial Historic District National Register Nomination

¹³ City of Lynchburg Business Charters

¹⁴ Horner and Winfree, (eds.), p 130.

¹⁵ City of Lynchburg City Directory, 1919-1934, (Richmond: Hill Directory Company).

¹⁶ City of Lynchburg City Directory, 1935-1964, (Richmond: Hill Directory Company).

¹⁷ www.indianaties.com, accessed 10 April 2020.

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room. The cut cloth would then move to the stitching or sewing room. The photograph from the Jobbers Overall publication shows a massive room tightly packed with women at sewing machines. Once complete, the clothing would then move to a finished stock room. The large freight elevator within the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building obviously facilitated the movement of materials between the floors.¹⁸



Figure 3. Jobbers Overall Sewing Room, undated photo

The United States Federal Census provides a snapshot of the employees of the different companies that occupied the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building through the years. The companies employed only white men and women, with the various tasks divided amongst the two. The 1910 Federal Census sporadically provides information concerning the specific tasks that the employees completed with the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company. Individuals are identified as either working in a factory, but often specific job titles are limited to the term laborer. Some exceptions are Carlile Hawkins, a 17-year old, white male who worked as

¹⁸ lynchburgphotos.org/Businesses/Jobbers-Overall-Company.com, accessed 31 July 2020.

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a driver for the Shirt Factory and Emma Barker, a 22-year old, white woman who was a seamstress.¹⁹

However, the 1920 Federal Census provides more information about the workers within the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building. The tasks of draftsman and cutter were relegated to men, while women were stitchers. Nora Cash and Annie Apperson were both white females who worked as stitchers in the Overall Factory. Mary Walker, also a white female, was a floor manager, probably for the stitchers. Edward Fisher, a white male, worked as a cutter. All of the individuals identified as employees who worked for the N&W Overall Company at the Dewitt-Wharton Building were from Virginia. This trend is evident in the 1930 Federal Census as well.²⁰

The workforce of C.B Cones and Son Manufacturing Company is consistent with its predecessors; however, the 1940 Federal Census provides income information as well. For example, Charles Cumby, an 18-year old male, worked as a floor boy and in 1939 he worked 40 weeks and made \$400.00. Anna White, a 58-year old woman who was a machine operator worked 26 weeks with an income of \$390.00, demonstrating that skilled labor was valued and compensated.²¹ As mentioned previously, the C.B. Cones and Son Manufacturing Company utilized the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building when it expanded its operations in the 1930s. John Niehaus was a cutter for C.B. Cones and moved to Lynchburg from Indianapolis, Indiana, with his family to work in the Dewitt-Wharton Building. Niehaus' stay was not a lengthy one, probably to train workers, and he soon returned to Indianapolis.²²

¹⁹ United States Federal Census, 1910.

²⁰ United States Federal Census, 1920 and 1930.

²¹ United States Federal Census, 1940.

²² www.indianaties.com, accessed 10 April 2020

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Figure 4. John Niehaus (center) in front of the Dewitt-Wharton Building, undated photo

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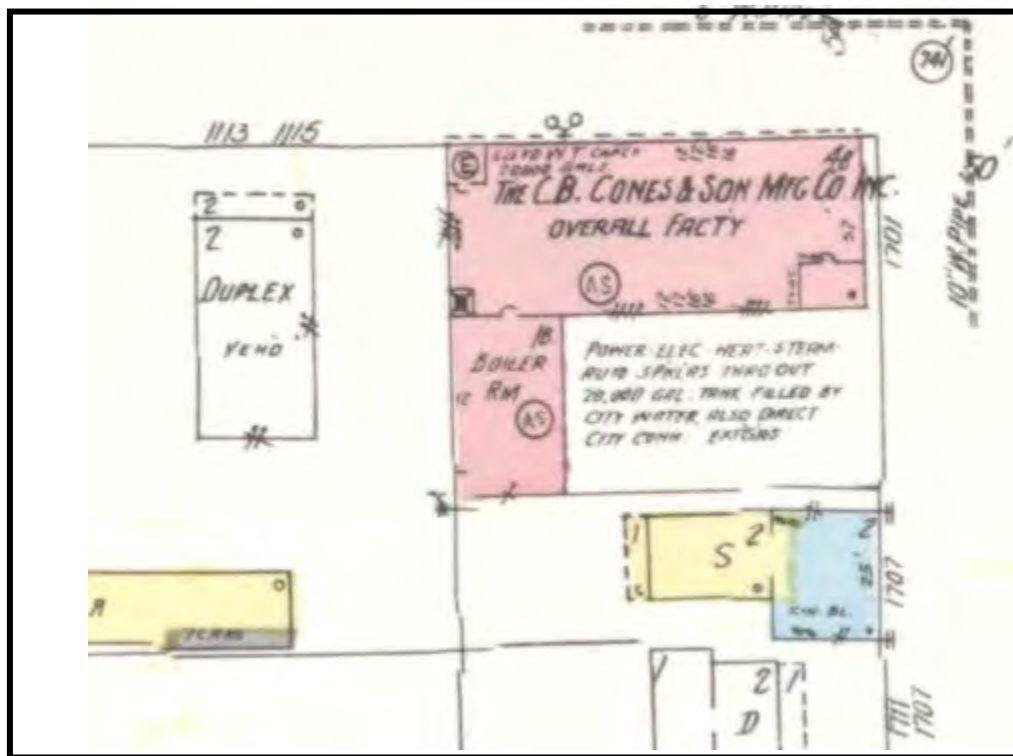


Figure 5. 1955 Sanborn Map, Lynchburg, Virginia

Starting in 1965, the new occupants of the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building manufactured women's clothing. From 1965 to 1975 the City of Lynchburg City Directory identifies the occupant only as "women's clothing." In 1976, the occupant of the Dewitt-Wharton Building was Virginia Sportswear, Inc., also a manufacturer of women's clothing. Virginia Sportswear, Inc. remained in the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building until 1986. After Virginia Sportswear, Inc. left, Haywood-Male, Incorporated moved into the building. The company remained there for only a year and was identified as a clothing manufacturer.²³

Over the following decades, the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building remained vacant or had short-term tenants. The building was vacant in 1987; however, in 1988 the Sun Cab Company occupied the space. It was then vacant again from 1989 through 1990, until the Sand Bar Dress Company moved in during 1991. The Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building is identified as vacant from 1992 through 1998, when the Lynchburg Auto Parts company used the space in 1999. Currently, Kerschbamer Woodworking occupies the basement and first floors of the building. The second through fourth floors are either empty or used for storage by Kerschbamer.²⁴

²³ City of Lynchburg City Directory, 1965-1999, (Richmond: Hill Directory Company).

²⁴ Ibid.

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Criterion C: Architecture

The Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C as a good example of a brick, Contemporary Industrial style building. Elements of the Contemporary Industrial style include the low-pitch gable roof, the ribbons of windows and use of natural materials. Further, it is the emphasis on making the interior functional and reserving decorative details for the exterior of the building that makes it a prime example of this design type.²⁵ The symmetrical fenestration, brick segmental arches over the windows, and decorative brackets still visible on the east and west elevations exemplify some of the more stylized characteristics of the building, typical for a Contemporary Industrial style building. While the interior consists primarily of the large, open spaces needed for the function of an industrial facility; the exterior possesses keener attention to detail with a greater focus on conveying style over simple function. In addition, the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building possesses significant integrity of design, workmanship, and materials. Though the basement windows are in-filled with brick, and many window sash on the remaining floors are damaged, the original layout and design is readily apparent. The east entrance on the façade has also been filled in, but much like the basement windows, this in-fill may be removed.

The high level of design detail results from the work of local, premier Lynchburg architect Edward Graham Frye. Frye is considered one of the most important architects of the 20th century in Lynchburg, as well as other parts of the Commonwealth.²⁶ Born in Bristol, Tennessee, in 1870, Frye majored in mathematics at Vanderbilt University. Upon completion of his degree, Frye began work as an apprentice in an architecture office in the City of Norfolk. Frye came to Lynchburg in 1890 and the town quickly became familiar with his talent and style. Frye's style was considered eclectic, often incorporating elements of Romanesque, Queen Anne, Shingle, Neoclassical, as well as other popular styles at the time.²⁷

Frye's early work in Lynchburg focused primarily on churches and impressive residential dwellings. He designed three new churches and remodeled two others in Lynchburg; all designs adhered primarily to the Romanesque style. These include the remodeling of the 1860 Centenary Methodist Church and the Holy Cross Catholic Church. Three new churches were the 8th Street Baptist Church, 1st Presbyterian Church, and the Court Street Methodist Church.²⁸ A majority of Frye's residential dwellings were of the Queen Anne design with elaborate facades and simple rear elevations. Examples include the Frank P. Christian House and George P. Watkins House, both on Madison Street in Lynchburg, as well as a modest dwelling for himself. The Craddock House completed in the Romanesque style was one of the more elaborate dwellings Frye designed.²⁹

²⁵ Virginia Savage McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2017), 629-632.

²⁶ Allen S. Chambers Jr., *Lynchburg: An Architectural History*, (Charlottesville: UVA Press, 1981), 357.

²⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 315-317.

²⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 330.

²⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 333-337.

DeWitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company
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In 1900, Frye joined with Aubrey Chesterman to form the firm Frye and Chesterman. Chesterman, a native of Richmond, Virginia, preferred the Colonial Revival style for his buildings. The firm of Frye and Chesterman designed a wide variety of residential and municipal buildings, many of these reflect a combination of the styles of the two men, though the Georgian Revival style dominated their designs. Frye and Chesterman designed numerous houses on prestigious Rivermont Avenue in the City of Lynchburg. The firm of Frye and Chesterman has an impressive and exhaustive list of buildings designed in and around the Lynchburg area; however, there are no examples of industrial buildings.³⁰ The City of Lynchburg Land Valuation Card identifies only Edward Frye as the architect for the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building.³¹ By 1906, the two men had worked together for at least six years. The firm of Frye and Chesterman ceased operations in Lynchburg in 1913, when the firm moved to Roanoke, Virginia.³²

The style of the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building is a departure for Frye, and a unique example of his work in the City of Lynchburg. Frye's preference for the detailed Romanesque style, as described above, is absent in the Dewitt-Wharton Building with the exception of the rusticated granite present on the foundation. His willingness to embrace the function-over-design tenet of the Contemporary Industrial style is interesting considering his professional success employing more elaborate designs. The Dewitt-Wharton Building is the only industrial building designed by Frye in Virginia and therefore a unique example of his work in both building type and style.

³⁰ Chambers, pp.357-359.

³¹ City of Lynchburg Land Valuation Card

³² *The American Architect*, (New York: J.R. Osgood & Company, 1913), 5.

DeWitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company
Building
Name of Property

Lynchburg, VA
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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

The American Architect. New York: J.R. Osgood & Company, 1913.

Chambers, Allen S., Jr. *Lynchburg: An Architectural History*. Charlottesville: UVA Press, 1981.

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lynchburgphotos.org/Businesses/Jobbers-Overall-Company. Accessed 31 July 2020.

McAlester, Virginia Savage. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2017.

Scruggs, Philip Lightfoot. *The History of Lynchburg, Virginia*. Lynchburg: J.P. Bell Company, Inc., 1972.

United States Federal Census for years 1910, 1920, 1930, and 1940.

DeWitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company
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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): VDHR No.: 118-0103

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.214 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- 1. Latitude: 37.404858 Longitude: 79.154444
- 2. Latitude: Longitude:
- 3. Latitude: Longitude:
- 4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

DeWitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company
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- | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary for the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building coincides with the lot lines of City of Lynchburg tax parcel 01057008. The Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building is bounded by 12th Street to the south, Buchanan Street to the east, and property boundaries to the west and north. The true and correct historic boundary is shown on the attached Tax Parcel Map and Sketch Map.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries for the Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building encompass the building and gravel parking lot. There are no outbuildings associated with the property. The boundaries coincide with the current tax parcel, thus encompassing the historic setting and all known historic resources.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Sarah M. Clarke/Senior Architectural Historian
organization: Hurt & Proffitt
street & number: 2524 Langhorne Road #1602
city or town: Lynchburg state: VA zip code: 24501
e-mail: clarke1201@gmail.com
telephone: 804-347-5825
date: May 20, 2020

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

DeWitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company
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- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building

City or Vicinity: Lynchburg

County: City of Lynchburg

State: VA

Photographer: Sarah M. Clarke

Date Photographed: January 31, 2020

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 24, façade and west elevation, and parking lot, view to the northeast.

2 of 24, façade, close up Cones' Boss painted sign, view to the north.

3 of 24, façade and east elevation, view to the northwest.

4 of 24, east elevation, view to the west.

5 of 24, rear elevation, loading dock, view to the southwest.

6 of 24, rear elevation, view to the southwest.

7 of 24, interior of front entrance, view to the south.

8 of 24, foundation at the bottom of the stairs to the basement.

9 of 24, door from the stairs to the basement, view to southwest.

10 of 24, basement, view to the north.

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- 11 of 24, basement, east elevation showing brick infill window, view to the east.
- 12 of 24, basement, double-leaf, wood door on the west elevation, view to the west.
- 13 of 24, stairs to first floor from front entrance.
- 14 of 24, first floor, Kerschbamer office.
- 15 of 24, first floor, view to the north.
- 16 of 24, second floor, view to the north.
- 17 of 24, third floor, entrance and bathrooms, view to the southwest.
- 18 of 24, third floor, south elevation, view to the south.
- 19 of 24, third floor, east elevation with steps to fire escape, view to the northeast.
- 20 of 24, third floor, freight elevator, view to the northeast.
- 21 of 24, fourth floor entrance, view to the southwest.
- 22 of 24, fourth floor, north elevation, view to the north.
- 23 of 24, fourth floor, east and north elevations, view to the north.
- 24 of 24, fourth floor, bathrooms, view to the southwest.

Historic Images Log

Figure 1. Jobbers Overall Company Advertisement from 1912 City of Lynchburg City Directory

Figure 2. Detail of Jobbers Overall Company from 1912 City of Lynchburg City Directory

Figure 3. Jobbers Overall Sewing Room, undated photo

Figure 4. John Niehaus (center) in front of the Dewitt-Wharton Building, undated photo

Figure 5. 1955 Sanborn Map, Lynchburg, Virginia

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).


Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building

City of Lynchburg, Virginia
DHR No.: 118-0103

Latitude: 37.404858
Longitude: 79.154444

Legend

 Location Point

 Location Point

Google Earth

© 2020 Google

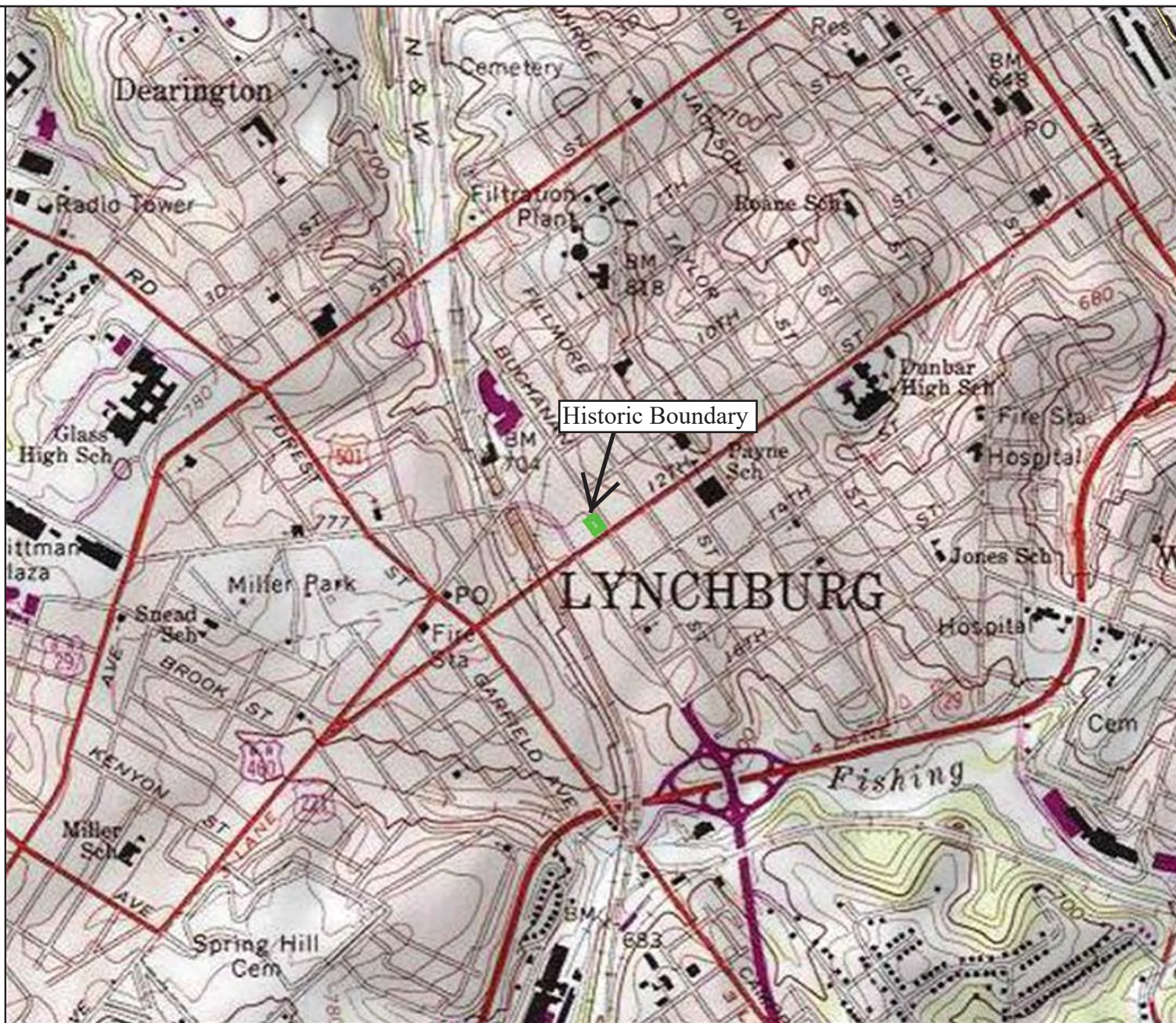
800 ft





TOPOGRAPHIC MAP

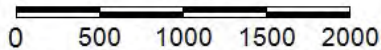
Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building
Lynchburg, VA
DHR No. 118-0103



Historic Boundary



Feet



1:18,056 / 1"=1,505 Feet

Title:

Date: 11/12/2020

DISCLAIMER: Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.

Notice if AE sites: Locations of archaeological sites may be sensitive the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and Code of Virginia §2.2-3705.7 (10). Release of precise locations may threaten archaeological sites and historic resources.

Sketch Map/ Photo Key (Exterior views)
Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building
1701 12th Street
Lynchburg, VA
DHR No. 118-0103

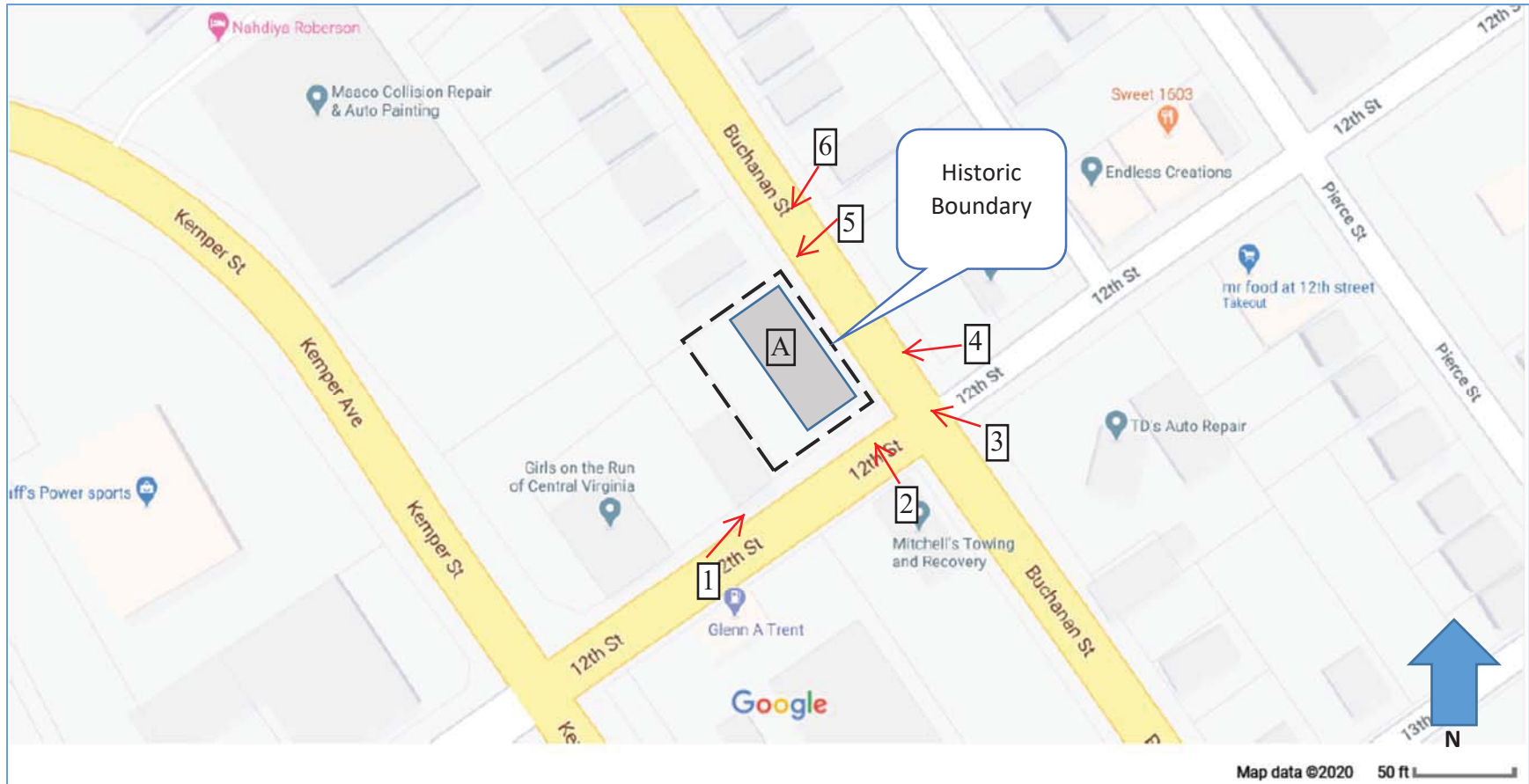




Photo Locations

 Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building
(contributing)

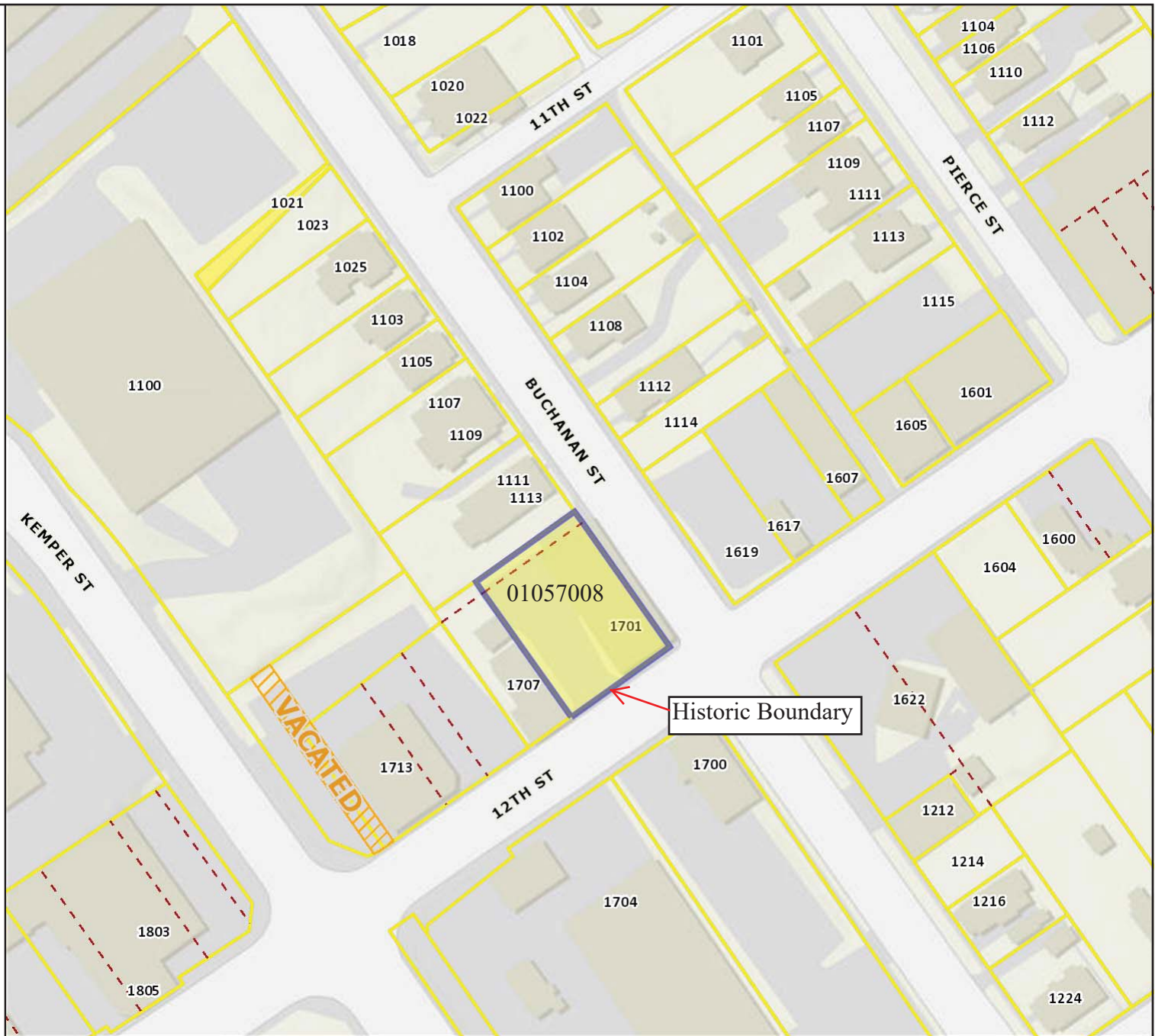
The City of Lynchburg, VA

Legend

- Addresses
- Street Labels
- Legal Lot Lines
- ▨ Vacated Right of Way
- ▭ Parcels
- Owner Undetermined
- Survey Gap
- Assessed By County

TAX PARCEL MAP

Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing
Company Building
Lynchburg, VA
DHR No. 118-0103



Feet

0 20 40 60 80
1:1,200 / 1"=100 Feet

6/9/2020

DISCLAIMER: This drawing is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey and is not intended to be used as such. The information displayed is a compilation of records, information, and data obtained from various sources, and the City of Lynchburg is not responsible for its accuracy or how current it may be.



Dewitt-Wharton Manufacturing Company Building

City of Lynchburg
DHR ID: 118-0103

Historic Boundary



Kemper St

22th St

Sources: VDHR 2020, VGIN 2020, ESRI 2020
Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years and the representation depicted is based on the field observation date and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general illustration purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses.



DHR

Department of Historic Resources