

NORTH CAROLINA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
Office of Archives and History
Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company Buildings 2-1 and 2-2

Winston-Salem, Forsyth County, FY5093, Listed 10/26/2017

Nomination by Heather Fearnbach

Photographs by Heather Fearnbach, December 2016



View looking Northeast, Building 2-2 to the left and 2-1 to the right



Building 2-2, third floor, looking east

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company Buildings 2-1 and 2-2

other names/site number Leaf House No. 2-1 and Leaf House No. 2-2

2. Location

street & number 951 Reynolds Boulevard

N/A not for publication

city or town Winston-Salem

N/A vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Forsyth code 067 zip code 27105

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination
☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of
Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property
☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally
☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined eligible for the
National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register.

☐ removed from the National
Register.

☐ other, (explain:) _____

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3	0	buildings
0	0	sites
2	0	structures
0	0	objects
5	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY: Manufacturing Facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT: Not in use

7. Description**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Reinforced-concrete, steel, and brick
construction**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls BRICK

CONCRETE

METAL

roof RUBBER

other

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- ☐ **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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Industry

Period of Significance

1937-1967

Significant Dates

1937

ca. 1955

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Forsyth County Public Library, Winston-Salem

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company Buildings 2-1 and 2-2
Name of Property

Forsyth County, NC
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 8 acres

See Latitude/Longitude coordinates continuation sheet

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1
Zone Easting Northing
2

3
Zone Easting Northing
4
See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Heather Fearnbach
organization Fearnbach History Services, Inc. date 8/28/2017
street & number 3334 Nottingham Road telephone 336-765-2661
city or town Winston-Salem state NC zip code 27104

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

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

Photographs

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

Additional items

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

Property Owner

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

name WPDA, Inc., Robert E. Leak, Jr., President
street & number 1080 West Fourth Street telephone 336-723-8955
city or town Winston-Salem state NC zip code 27101

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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Section 7. Narrative Description

Setting

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company's Whitaker Park plant comprises multiple tracts flanking Reynolds Boulevard, an east-west thoroughfare that connects North Cherry Street and Indiana Avenue. Due to its proximity to Hanes Rubber Company's 1917 tire manufacturing factory, office, and employee village, the area around the plant was called "Tiretown" through the mid-twentieth century. R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company referred to its plant's location in that manner until the 1961 opening of a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility west of Buildings 2-1 and 2-2. The site was then named Whitaker Park.

Company holdings encompass approximately 231 acres on Reynolds Boulevard's north side. Buildings 2-1 (1937) and 2-2 (ca. 1955), erected to facilitate tobacco leaf processing, front Reynolds Boulevard in the southeast section of a 103-acre parcel that extends to the Indiana Avenue and Reynolds Boulevard intersection. A north-south Norfolk Southern Railway line and right-of-way parallel the tract's east edge adjacent to Indiana Avenue. The east boundary and railroad corridor are angled approximately thirty degrees west of cardinal alignment. A tall chain-link fence and chain-link gates secure the parcel's perimeter. The city-owned Woodland Avenue cemetery is opposite Building 2-1 on Reynolds Boulevard's south side.

The area west, north, and east of the leaf houses, once filled with sizable one-story, gable-roofed, metal-clad, 1920s tobacco storage warehouses, is now an open lawn with the exception of a small, hip-roofed, brick, 1922 office; a brick 1922-1928 boiler and pump house, a concrete 1922 railroad trestle, and a 1920s granite block retaining wall. These resources are east of Buildings 2-1 (1937) and 2-2.

Asphalt-paved drives lead from the Reynolds Boulevard entrance gates and the plant's interior to irregularly shaped parking lots east and west of the buildings. The west drive and parking lot are at a lower grade than the east drive, parking lot, and 1920s resources. A grass embankment ameliorates the difference in elevation. R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company vacated Buildings 2-1 and 2-2 in 2016, but still utilizes plants and warehouses to the north and west, most of which were erected in the mid- to late-twentieth century.

Inventory

In the following inventory list, principal resource headings are in bold and underlined. Subheadings for interconnected buildings are in bold. Building dates reflect the year of construction completion. Buildings 2-1 and 2-2 are counted as one resource because a full-height brick hyphen and an elevated one-story corrugated-metal-clad passage erected ca. 1955 in conjunction with Building 2-2 link the two

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edifices. Four freestanding buildings and structures constructed in the 1920s are also contributing.

Building 2-1, 1937 and Building 2-2, ca. 1955, Contributing Building

Building 2-1, 1937

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company's engineering department rendered the plans for this expansive three-story-on-basement, 379-foot-long and 98-foot-wide, reinforced-concrete and steel edifice. Five-to-one common bond red brick walls rise above the formed-concrete foundation. The site's topography slopes down to the west, exposing formed-concrete basement walls in the building's west section. Projecting steel I-beam ends support the low-pitched gable roof's deep eaves. The aluminum coping and fascia capping the parapets replaced the original copper flashing.

The north and south elevations comprise thirty-four bays and the east and west elevations seven bays. None of the steel-frame multipane sash that initially illuminated the interior remain. Most first- and second-story windows were replaced with translucent glass block in the mid-twentieth century to reduce heat and glare. Aluminum-frame multipane sash were installed on the third story in the late-twentieth century. Brick and louvered metal vents fill or partially enclose a few window and door openings. Projecting-header window sills are intact except in the openings that have been infilled with brick.

On the south elevation, stucco panels cover the windows in the nine east first-story bays. The flat canopy that originally spanned the eleventh through the seventeenth bays from the wall's east end has been removed. The canopy sheltered two wide service doors; both have been filled with brick flush with the wall plane.¹ Scuppers channel water from the roof into a round metal pipe mounted beneath the cornice that empties into round metal downspouts at the wall's outer edges.

Stair towers occupy the building's southeast and southwest corners. The tall, narrow tower windows—three on each elevation—are smaller than those elsewhere. At the southeast tower's base, formed concrete steps with metal-pipe railings lead to a double-leaf, aluminum-frame replacement door covered by a flat metal canopy. North of the entrance, a tall steel-frame shed with a very low-pitched gable roof shields four loading-dock bays. Corrugated-metal panels enclose the upper section of the shed's north and south elevations. Above the loading dock, six windows originally pierced each of the second- and third-story walls. The second-story sash were replaced with translucent glass block. Two third-story window openings have been infilled with brick and the remainder with aluminum-frame multipane sash. HVAC equipment is located at the building's northwest corner.

¹ The canopy is shown in the December 1938 photograph taken by Frank Jones for the *Winston-Salem Journal*. Image FJ.00331, Forsyth County Public Library Photograph Collection, Winston-Salem.

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On the north elevation, irregularly spaced metal downspouts drain roof-water runoff. The eight-foot-wide formed-concrete loading platform that spans the wall's entire length is elevated approximately four feet above grade on square concrete posts. A flat concrete canopy supported by metal cables shelters the platform, which was parallel to the no-longer-extant Southern Railway spur line that ran east-west between Buildings 2-1 and 2-2. Formed-concrete steps with metal-pipe railings provide access at the platform's east end. A full-height, one-bay-wide, brick hyphen at the platform's west end facilitates connectivity between the leaf houses. A corrugated-metal-clad passage also bridges the distance between the buildings' upper levels.

The west elevation's basement wall is above grade, allowing for a three-bay loading dock sheltered by a flat metal canopy. A small, square, flat-roofed, 1960s office with formed-concrete walls projects from the building's southwest corner.² Formed-concrete steps and a metal-pipe railing lead to the single-leaf entrance on its north elevation. The west elevation's first, second, and third stories each initially contained six bays of windows. However, a square, corrugated-metal-clad, late-twentieth-century freight elevator tower now spans the west two bays. The tower rises above the tar-and-gravel roof, where a double-leaf steel door secures its entrance. Steel stairs with metal-pipe railings lead to the mechanical room at the top of the tower. To the east on the roof, two sizable steel-frame sheds sheathed with corrugated-metal panels house mechanical equipment. The tall structures are clearly visible from ground level, particularly from the north as the shed walls align with the building's north elevation.

Interior

The open-plan interior retains its historic appearance. The structural system—brick and formed-concrete exterior walls, steel I-beams and posts, and reinforced-concrete slabs, posts and beams—is exposed throughout the building. Hardwood floors, in some cases protected by steel plates or plywood panels, are intact on the second and third stories. Poured-concrete basement and first-story floors accommodated heavy equipment and forklift traffic. At stair tower, passage, and other primary entrances, galvanized-sheet-metal-clad, solid-core-wood doors, known as kalamein doors, slide on steel tracks and are held open by weighted pulleys. Some frame partition walls have been added to create offices, workshops, restrooms, and conference, storage, and mechanical rooms. Wide wood ceiling and roof decking boards span riveted steel I-beams. Linear fluorescent and pendant lights, sprinkler system pipes, and HVAC ductwork hang from the ceilings. Metal conduit carries electrical wiring.

The southeast and southwest stair towers retain original vertical-board railings with square wood newel posts and molded handrails. Narrow hardwood boards cover the landing floors. Three-header-course

² The office is not illustrated on the 1958 Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map. "Winston-Salem, North Carolina," Volume 2, Sheet 222, 1917, updated 1958.

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segmental-arch lintels surmount the wide entrances at each level.

Four loading-dock bays pierce the first floor's east wall. A short corridor leads from the southeast stair tower's first-floor entrance vestibule to the offices that line the south elevation at the building's southeast corner. Full-height plywood-panel walls enclose the offices, which are finished with dropped-acoustical-tile ceilings, painted gypsum-board walls, and commercial-grade carpeting.

Most of the remainder of the first story has an open plan and concrete floors. However, partial-height plywood-panel walls enclose an office and restrooms adjacent to the south elevation in the building's west section. Brick freight elevator shafts rise near the middle of the south elevation and at the west section's center. A vertically sliding door secures the exterior freight elevator shaft near the west elevation's north end. Fire-safety features include kalamein doors at the stair tower entrances and at either end of the east and west passages between Buildings 2-1 and 2-2.

The second floor's plan is open with the exception of partial-height plywood-panel walls that enclose the offices and work, storage, and restrooms that line the east elevation. These rooms are characterized by hardwood floors, dropped-acoustical-tile ceilings, and painted gypsum-board walls. Large metal Bahnson Company dehumidifiers and ductwork have been installed near the southeast corner and in the building's northeast corner. Plywood panels cover most of the hardwood floor in the manufacturing area.

Full-height plywood-panel walls and kalamein doors enclose the large, three-bay-wide room that encompasses most of the third-story's east half. The one-bay-wide area south of this room, which features oversized, yellow-glazed, rectangular, ceramic-tile sheathing on its south wall, is open with the exception of the brick freight elevator shaft near the middle of the south elevation. Wide-board roof decking is exposed above steel I-beams. Metal panels cover most of the hardwood floors, providing a resilient surface.

Near the center of the third story's west half, steel stairs with steel-pipe railings wrap around the brick elevator shaft. West of the elevators, full-height vertical-board walls enclose the canteen and restrooms near the south wall's west end. A one-story, plywood-panel-sheathed office with a vinyl-composition-tile floor extends from the canteen's east wall. The canteen has a dropped-acoustical-tile ceiling, painted gypsum-board walls, and a hardwood floor. The restrooms have been updated with dropped acoustical-tile ceilings, fiber-reinforced-plastic wall panels, and vinyl-composition-tile floors. Full-height vertical-board walls create an office on the north side of the southwest stair tower.

The basement, which extends under the building's west half, is accessible from the southwest stair tower, the freight elevators, and the exterior. The main room's central section is open. Partial-height plywood-panel walls create offices and restrooms adjacent to the east elevation and the south

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elevation's west section. The workshops and offices that line the north elevation have concrete-block walls. Single-leaf steel doors secure some rooms. Kalamein doors slide on steel tracks in areas that housed combustible operations. Corrugated-metal roll-up fire doors are mounted in the west loading dock bays. The basement has a poured-concrete floor.

A four-level, brick, one-bay-wide, ca. 1955 hyphen connects Building 2-1's northwest corner to Building 2-2 southwest section. Painted plywood panels sheath the walls. Wide wood ceiling and roof decking boards span riveted steel I-beams. The basement and first-story floors are poured concrete; the second- and third-story floors are hardwood floors. Near Building 2-2's southeast corner, a corrugated-metal-clad passage spans the distance between the upper two floors. The finishes are the same as those in the brick hyphen.

Steel I-beam-and-post structural systems and corrugated-metal siding panels are exposed in the mechanical equipment sheds on the roof. There is no interior wall sheathing. Most equipment is slightly elevated on steel and concrete platforms or piers.

Building 2-2, ca. 1955

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company expanded its leaf drying capability with the construction of this three-story-on-basement, almost flat-roofed, 223-foot-long by 98-foot-wide edifice just north of Building 2-1.³ Building 2-2 also has a reinforced-concrete and steel frame, five-to-one common bond red brick walls, and a formed-concrete foundation. However, its appearance differs from Building 2-1 in that window openings are smaller, fewer in number, have a horizontal orientation and projecting concrete sills, and retain original translucent-glass-block fill. A few windows have been removed and the openings enclosed with brick.

The site's sloping grade reveals formed-concrete basement walls. Projecting steel I-beam ends support the low-pitched gable roof's deep eaves. Aluminum coping and fascia cap the parapets in lieu of the original copper flashing. Metal downspouts drain roof scuppers.

The twenty-bay-long south elevation features an eight-foot-wide formed-concrete loading platform and a flat concrete canopy identical to those on Building 2-1's north elevation. Steel steps with steel-pipe railings provide access from ground-level at the east end. A steel-pipe railing secures the platform edge.

A stair tower rises in Building 2-2's southeast corner. On its east elevation, a flat metal canopy covers

³ Undated R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company's engineering department drawings illustrate a proposed design for a 190-foot-long by 98-foot-wide building that was almost identical in structure and appearance to Building 2-1, but these plans were not executed.

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a double-leaf, aluminum-frame replacement door. North of the entrance, a deep, flat, concrete canopy spans two loading-dock bays. Two rectangular windows flank the loading docks. Two identical windows and three almost-square windows pierce the second-story wall. The third floor has three small windows and one large window south of the large service door in the north bay.

Most of the north and west elevations' upper-story bays contain horizontal rectangular windows. The second-story window in the fourth bay from the north elevation's east end has been infilled with brick. A flat metal canopy surmounts the double-leaf steel door with glazed upper sections in the north elevation's easternmost bay. A water tower that serves the air conditioning system is elevated on a steel platform adjacent to the north elevation's east section. Further west, a corrugated-metal-clad equipment shed with a low gable roof and a wide door opening on its north elevation projects from the building. At the basement level, a slightly projecting brick surround frames the roll-up corrugated-metal service door in the second bay from the north elevation's west end. The second bay from the south elevation's west end contains an identical loading dock. On the four-bay west elevation, a flat metal canopy shelters the loading dock in the second bay from its south end. At several locations on the west elevation, sections of the brick wall have been removed and replaced, likely in conjunction with equipment installation.

On the roof, a steel-frame, corrugated-metal-panel-sheathed mechanical shed abuts the building's west elevation. Additional equipment is mounted on two steel platforms elevated above the tar-and-gravel roof.

Interior

Most of the interior remains open as it was historically. The structural system—concrete and brick exterior walls, steel I-beams and posts, and reinforced-concrete slabs, posts and beams—is exposed throughout the building. Concrete and hardwood floors provided durable work surfaces. Frame partition walls have been added to create offices, workshops, restrooms, and conference, storage, and mechanical rooms. Wide wood ceiling and roof decking boards span riveted steel I-beams. Linear fluorescent and pendant lights, sprinkler system pipes, and HVAC ductwork hangs from the ceilings. Metal conduit carries electrical wiring.

The stair tower's brick walls have been painted white. Painted steel-pipe railings safeguard the wide concrete and steel staircase. Sliding corrugated-metal-clad doors enclose wide door openings spanned by three-header-course lintels at each level. The entrances to the east passage between Buildings 2-1 and 2-2 are just west of the stair tower.

The large, open, three-bay-wide room that encompasses most of the first floor's central section has full-height plywood-panel walls. The open bay south of the central room functioned as a corridor.

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The central room's east wall separates the two bays adjacent to the east elevation, which serve as a loading dock, from the rest of that level. Restrooms are located at the loading area's north end, west of the northeast entrance. A corridor at the central room's west end provides access to five leaf-drying chambers with concrete-block walls and double-leaf steel doors. Plywood-panel walls and a second set of double-leaf steel doors enclose a narrow chamber at each drying room entrance. Near the building's southwest corner, a brick freight elevator shaft rises on the south elevation east of a loading dock with a corrugated-metal roll-up fire door. On the loading dock's west side, a kalamein door secures the west passage between Buildings 2-1 and 2-2.

Full-height plywood-panel walls enclose the offices and meeting, storage, and restrooms that line the second story's east elevation. Most of these rooms are characterized by plaster walls, tall wood baseboards, simple wood door surround and window sills, single-leaf wood-panel doors, vinyl-composition-tile floors, and Celotex ceiling tiles. The second floor's central section has an open plan with the exception of a long, narrow, plywood-panel-walled storage room adjacent to the north elevation. Wood-frame wire-screen storage cages subdivide the surrounding area. In the second floor's west section, full-height plywood-panel walls enclose an open south room as well as the conference room, office, and storage rooms to the north. The conference room has gypsum-board walls, a dropped-acoustical-tile ceiling, and a faux-hardwood laminate floor.

The third level has a completely open plan. Steel plates protect several high-traffic areas of the hardwood floors. Wide wood roof decking boards span riveted steel I-beams.

The basement structural system comprises square concrete posts and beams, formed-concrete exterior walls, concrete-slab ceilings, and poured-concrete floors. The central section is open. Full- and partial-height plywood-panel and concrete block walls enclose a few rooms in the northeast and southwest corners. Single- and double-leaf leaf steel doors secure some of these areas. Boilers and other mechanical equipment fill most of the south bay. Corrugated-metal roll-up fire doors are mounted in each west loading dock and at the entrance to the west passage that connects Buildings 2-1 and 2-2.

Office, 1922, Contributing Building

A small, one-story, hip-roofed, Flemish-bond brick office stands on the north side of a paved drive east of Building 2-2. The rectangular structure is rotated approximately thirty degrees from cardinal alignment. The northeast elevation originally comprised a central window and two entrances. The south door opened into the office, while the other provided access to a restroom that was twice the office's size. Tall multipane steel sash, one on each elevation, illuminated the interior. Abestos

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shingles sheathed the roof.⁴

The south door opening has been enclosed with brick, as have the window openings on the northeast and southwest elevations. The sash and slightly projecting brick window sill at the northwest wall's center are intact. Eight panes of the sash on the southeast wall are exposed above brick infill. Painted wood rafter ends support the asphalt-shingle roof's deep eaves.

Boiler and Pump House, 1922-1928, Contributing Building

The one-story, flat-roofed, three-bay-long and two-bay-wide boiler and pump house is situated at a lower grade than the leaf houses, office, and access drives. Masons executed the brick walls in five-to-one common bond. The fire-resistant structure comprises a poured-concrete floor, concrete-slab roof, and reinforced-concrete posts and beams. Multipane steel sash pierce the north, south, and west elevations.

The 1922 building's rectangular 18-foot-wide by 41-foot-long main block housed the boiler. The 13-foot-wide by 20-foot-long shed room that projects from the east elevation's north section contained the pump, which drew water from a round, 12-foot-deep, 500,000-gallon reservoir located to the northeast.⁵ A multi-pane steel north window and a double-hung, eight-over-eight, wood-sash east window with a three-header-course lintel illuminate the pump room.

Within a few years, in order to accommodate additional mechanical equipment, the company constructed one-bay-wide and three-bay-long addition on the boiler room's west elevation, doubling the building's size.⁶ This allowed for a second service door with a concrete lintel on the south elevation. The east entrance is intact and retains a corrugated-steel roll-up service door. The west opening has been enclosed with brick and a multipane steel-sash window.

A one-room shed-roofed pump house addition rendered by R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company's architect in 1928 extends from the shed room's south wall.⁷ A double-leaf plywood door fills most of the addition's east elevation. A square brick well house projects from the addition's south wall. East of the pump house, concrete steps with metal pipe railings extend from the gravel drive to a concrete walk that provides access to the entrances.

⁴ R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, Office of Chief Engineer, "Office: Tiretown Warehouses," Sheet 1, July 24, 1922.

⁵ R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, Office of Chief Engineer, "Boiler and Pump House: Tiretown Sheds," Sheets 1 and 2, January 23, 1922; R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, Office of Chief Engineer, "Fire Protection and Drainage: Tiretown Storage," Sheet 1, created November 1, 1921, and revised multiple times through June 8, 1922, R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company Drawing Archive, Tobacconville, N. C.

⁶ R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, Office of Chief Engineer, "Addition to Boiler and Pump House: Tiretown Sheds," Sheet 1, undated.

⁷ R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, Office of Architect, "Addition to Pump House: Tiretown," Sheet 1, June 7, 1928.

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R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company erected a flat-roofed brick boiler house and a tall, round, freestanding, brick smokestack south of the 1922 building and the railroad spur line in 1937. The 1922 building then functioned solely as a pump house. The 1937 boiler house and smokestack were demolished after 1958.

Southern Railway Spur Line Trestle, 1922, Contributing Structure

A formed concrete trestle is all that remains of the railroad spur line that served the leaf houses. The trestle elevated the track above the boiler and pump house grade. The spur line terminated at the west end of Building 2-1 and 2-2's loading docks.

Retaining Wall, 1920s, Contributing Structure

Granite blocks similar to those used to pave streets near R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company's downtown plant reinforce the embankment north of the railroad trestle.

Integrity Statement

Buildings 2-1 (1937) and 2-2 (ca. 1955) maintain good integrity of location, feeling, association, design, materials, and workmanship from their period of construction. Although the setting has evolved over time and R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company vacated Buildings 2-1 and 2-2 in 2016, the concern still operates the Whitaker Park plant. The area west, north, and east of the leaf houses, once filled with sizable one-story, gable-roofed, metal-clad, 1920s tobacco storage warehouses, is now an open lawn with the exception of a small, hip-roofed, brick, 1922 office; a brick 1922-1928 boiler and pump house, a concrete 1922 railroad trestle, and a 1920s granite block retaining wall. The warehouse demolition did not impact Buildings 2-1 and 2-2's function, as storage proximity during the leaf stemming and redrying process is not essential. R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company utilized myriad warehouses elsewhere at this facility and at other locations throughout the twentieth century. Portions of the Whitaker Park plant, including the tract containing the resources encompassed in this nomination, were conveyed to private concerns in 2017. The surrounding area is industrial in character with the exception of the city-owned Woodland Avenue cemetery opposite Building 2-1 on Reynolds Boulevard's south side.

Buildings 2-1 and 2-2 retain intact reinforced-concrete and steel structural systems, five-to-one common-bond brick and formed-concrete walls, hardwood and concrete floors, and low gable roofs with wide board decking. Although a few partition walls have been added to create offices, restrooms, and storage areas, floor plans remain predominantly open. In Building 2-2, translucent glass block fills horizontal window openings above projecting concrete sills. The eight-foot-wide formed-concrete

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loading platforms and concrete canopies that flanked the railroad spur line are in good condition.

Building 2-1 modifications include the mid-twentieth-century replacement of large multipane steel-frame windows with translucent glass block. A few window and door openings have been filled or partially enclosed with brick and louvered metal vents. In the late-twentieth century, aluminum-frame multipane sash were installed on the third story, a metal-clad elevator tower erected on the west elevation, and a tall steel-frame loading dock shed constructed on the east elevation.

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Section 8. Statement of Significance

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company Buildings 2-1 and 2-2, also known as Leaf Houses 2-1 and 2-2, are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A due to their local industrial significance. R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company fueled Winston-Salem's economic prosperity as the concern grew to become the nation's largest tobacco manufacturer in 1922. The expansive three-story-on-basement Buildings 2-1 (1937) and 2-2 (ca. 1955) were erected during periods of company investment in plant improvements following the Great Depression and the Korean War. Due to spatial constraints at its downtown Winston-Salem location, the firm had in 1922 begun operating a satellite facility in an area known as "Tiretown," three miles north of the city's center. Building 2-1 housed two essential elements of the tobacco manufacturing process: stemming and redrying. Both were necessary to reduce leaves to strips that could be incorporated into tobacco products. Stems must be stripped from leaves prior to storage, aging, and blending. Redrying adds moisture to soften leaves prior to stemming and removes moisture after stemming to avoid mold problems during storage. Building 2-1 supplied ample space for improved stemming machines and vacuum chambers introduced during the late 1930s. Building 2-2's completion provided more square footage for the redrying process and allowed for the installation of more advanced equipment, thus increasing efficiency. Buildings 2-1 and 2-2 appear to be the city's only extant R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company structures constructed primarily for these purposes. The period of significance begins in 1937 with the commencement of leaf processing at the Tiretown plant, and continues to 1967. The plant's industrial function and physical expansion after 1967 are not of exceptional significance.

Historical Background

Entrepreneurs constructed numerous tobacco warehouses and processing plants in conjunction with Winston's emergence as a major tobacco market. Thomas Jethro Brown opened the town's first tobacco warehouse, drawing regional buyers who purchased approximately 250,000 pounds of the crop in 1872. Shortly thereafter, general contractor Fogle Brothers built the frame Planters' Warehouse, which was briefly operated by Cabell Hairston, Hamilton Scales, and S. M. Hobson. The tobacco industry burgeoned after the 1873 completion of a twenty-eight-mile-long North Western North Carolina Railroad spur line that connected Winston to Greensboro. Planters' Warehouse, which stood at Fourth and Trade Streets' northwest corner, became Piedmont Warehouse after Marmaduke W. Norfleet leased it in 1876.⁸

⁸ Fogle Brothers, a general contracting and building material supply firm created in 1870, and Miller Brothers, established by former Fogle Brothers employees in 1872, constructed many of the town's early industrial buildings. *People's Press* (hereafter abbreviated *PP*), February 22, 1872; Fogle Brothers Collection, folder IX-B, "Employee work assignment book, 1871-1874," Moravian Archives Southern Province (hereafter abbreviated *MASP*); Nannie M. Tilley, *The R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1985), 30-33.

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Many other investors erected warehouses, predominantly of fireproof brick construction, as tobacco leaf sales skyrocketed to eight million pounds by 1878. In response to the demand for additional storage and auction space, A. B. Gorrell, George W. Hinshaw, and other partners commissioned general contractor Miller Brothers to erect Star Warehouse, subsequently called Farmers' Warehouse, on Liberty Street in 1881. Gilmer, Wilson, and Company followed with the Orinoco, a brick building at Main and Second Streets that opened in November 1884.⁹

Tobacco processing endeavors also proliferated during the late nineteenth century. Hamilton Scales owned Winston's sole tobacco factory, a small enterprise, in 1872, but by 1878 sixteen operations, some with as many as 150 employees, manufactured chewing and smoking tobacco. Thomas L. Vaughn constructed the town's first brick tobacco factory about a block from the courthouse in 1873, the same year that brothers Pleasant Henderson and John Wesley Hanes's plant began producing plug tobacco in the thriving town. These and other businessmen formed the Winston Tobacco Association, successfully promoting the industry by drawing investors such as Virginia native Richard Joshua Reynolds, who erected a two-story frame factory near Winston's center in 1875.¹⁰ P. H. Hanes and Company built a new complex after a July 1877 fire destroyed its 1873 tobacco-processing plant. The business suffered another decimating conflagration in November 1892.¹¹

After almost two decades of expansion into other buildings, R. J. Reynolds replaced his company's original plant with a six-story fireproof brick edifice featuring steam power, electric lights, and exterior stair and elevator towers. Billed as "THE tobacco factory of the South," the \$60,000 structure erected by the Miller Brothers stood as the city's largest when completed in early 1892.¹² Brothers-in-law George T. Brown and Robert Lynn Williamson acquired a Winston tobacco factory and equipment from H. H. Reynolds in 1894 and gradually expanded the enterprise, constructing a series of plug

⁹ The 1881 Star Warehouse remained in use until its destruction in a February 1911 fire, after which investors and business owners erected commercial buildings on the site. L. V. and E. T. Blum, *Guidebook of Northwestern North Carolina* (Salem: L. V. and E. T. Blum, 1878), 31–33; D. P. Robbins, *Descriptive Sketch of Winston-Salem, Its Advantages and Surroundings, Kernersville, Etc., compiled under auspices of the Chamber of Commerce* (Winston, NC: Sentinel Job Print, 1888), 32–33.

¹⁰ *PP*, September 2, 1875; Charles Emerson and Company, *Winston, Salem, and Greensboro, North Carolina, Directory, 1879–80* (Raleigh: Edwards, Broughton, and Company, 1879), xix–xxi; Reverend Edward Rondthaler, *The Memorabilia of Fifty Years: 1877–1927* (Raleigh: Edwards & Broughton, 1928), 292; Robbins, *Descriptive Sketch of Winston-Salem*, 35; Tilley, *The R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company*, 30–33.

¹¹ The *People's Press* asserted that the July 1877 downtown fire was the most destructive such event since Winston's incorporation. A November 11, 1892, fire began in "Brown's Drug Palace" and quickly spread to the Reynolds, Hanes, Buston, Pepper, Vaughn, Crawford, and First National Bank Buildings; Brown's Warehouse; Sheppard's factory; and gristmills. *PP*, January 8, 1873, July 17, 1877, and November 17, 1892.

¹² *Manufacturers' Record* (hereafter abbreviated *MR*), May 23, 1891, p. 41; Albert Phenix, "Winston-Salem Letter," *MR*, July 18, 1891, pp. 9–10.

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tobacco manufacturing buildings and warehouses downtown.¹³ By 1896, industrial buildings extending north from Cemetery Street to Seventh Street included forty-two tobacco factories and warehouses owned by entrepreneurs Thomas Jethro Brown as well as Pleasant Henderson Hanes and his brother John Wesley Hanes, among others.¹⁴

The circa 1890 W. F. Smith and Sons Leaf House and the 1897 Brown Brothers Tobacco Prizery Company Building, located on Fourth Street east of the railroad, are the oldest of the few surviving structures related to Winston's late-nineteenth-century tobacco industry. Although the town's early industrial buildings were primarily utilitarian, stepped parapets distinguish the W. F. Smith and Sons Leaf House's stuccoed exterior. A slate mansard roof pierced by hipped dormers and arched window surrounds with tall double-hung wood sash windows ornament the six-story brick Brown Brothers Tobacco Prizery, built after a fire destroyed the 1894 plant.¹⁵

Winston's manufacturing scene changed dramatically when R. J. Reynolds entered into a subsidiary agreement with James B. Duke's Durham-based American Tobacco Company and began consolidating the city's numerous plug tobacco businesses in 1899. The industry experienced exponential growth during the early twentieth century. Three tobacco leaf dealers and four tobacco warehouses—Brown's, Farmers', Piedmont, and Star—handled thirty-one million pounds of tobacco in 1905, much of which the city's nine tobacco manufacturers used to create plug, twist, and smoking tobacco products. R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company attempted to challenge American Tobacco Company's market monopoly by introducing five smoking tobacco brands including Prince Albert between 1906 and 1910. This necessitated ongoing construction of warehouse and processing facilities, as each type of tobacco—flue-cured, sun-cured, Burley, and Turkish—had different leaf storage and redrying requirements. Providence, Rhode-Island architect C. R. Makepeace's firm supplied plans for the company's leaf houses during this period.¹⁶

¹³ Fogle Brothers erected a brick addition for Brown and Williamson in April 1904 and added a sizable building to the complex in 1905. FBC, folder VIII-D, "Contract Ledger, 1903–1909," pp. 122, 202, 460, MASP.

¹⁴ Albert Phenix, "Winston's Growing Industries," *MR*, April 8, 1892, pp. 39–40; Manly Wade Wellman and Larry Edward Tise, *Winston-Salem in History*, Vol. 7: *Industry and Commerce, 1766–1896* (Winston-Salem: Historic Winston, 1976), 29; *MR*, December 8, 1893, p. 326; January 12, 1894, p. 404.

¹⁵ Brown Brothers began constructing a new leaf tobacco factory in December 1893. After a fire on the morning of December 9, 1896, destroyed the plant at a \$150,000 loss, the company rented a building and its four hundred employees resumed production pending completion of a new factory. *MR*, December 15, 1893, p. 342; December 18, 1896, p. 352; *Wachovia Moravian*, December 1896.

¹⁶ "New Leaf House," *Winston-Salem Journal* (hereafter abbreviated *WSJ*), November 22, 1902, p. 1; "Two Leaf Houses," *Western Sentinel*, August 27, 1903, p. 1; Colonel G. Webb and L. R. Norryce, *Winston-Salem, North Carolina* (Roanoke, VA: Stone Printing and Manufacturing Company, 1905), 7, 10–13; "New Buildings," *Western Sentinel*, March 1, 1906, p. 5; *WSJ*, April 7, 1910, p. 6; "Large Amount of Building in This City During Year," *TCS*, December 28, 1910, p. 1; Tilley, *The R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company*, 230.

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Winston-Salem was North Carolina's fastest-growing urban area in terms of populace and industrial production by 1916. In July of that year, as R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company leaf and paper imports escalated, the US Congress designated the municipality a port of entry, thus allowing for duty collection at the local level. Tobacco markets sold almost twenty-nine million pounds of loose leaf in 1915. Three years later, a promotional booklet conferred the moniker "City of Industry" on Winston-Salem, claiming that the locale was the world's leading plug tobacco manufacturer and the South's most prolific knit goods producer as factories generated \$75 million of finished goods.¹⁷

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company's physical expansion in the 1910s and 1920s reflected the corporation's exponential growth. By 1913, the firm was the nation's third-largest tobacco manufacturer after Durham-based American and Liggett and Myers tobacco companies. The downtown Winston-Salem plant grew with the completion of ten sizable downtown structures between 1913 and 1916, followed by Factory 60 and Factory 64 from 1916 to 1928. The company also developed satellite locations in eastern North Carolina, Virginia, and Kentucky, where by 1917 twelve redrying plants and thirty-seven warehouses accommodated leaf purchased in those markets. In 1922, holdings included leaf storage and processing complexes in Wilson, North Carolina; Lexington, Louisville, Maysville, and Springfield, Kentucky; and Danville, Martinsville, Richmond, and South Boston, Virginia. That year, R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company's \$20,479,234 net profit exceeded the returns of its competitors for the first time.¹⁸

To ameliorate the dearth of open space upon which to build in central Winston-Salem, R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company acquired property three miles north of downtown in 1921. The once predominantly agricultural landscape had experienced dramatic transformation during the early twentieth century as industrial concerns including Hanes Rubber Company, Inverness Cotton Mills, Mengel Box, and wood veneer producer Oakland Manufacturing acquired sizable tracts and erected factories and warehouses near the Norfolk and Western Railroad and Southern Railway lines and what is now Indiana Avenue (originally Walker Road). The area is in proximity to Hanes Rubber Company's 1917 tire manufacturing factory, office, and employee village was known as "Tiretown." Many Inverness Cotton Mill workers lived in a village adjacent to that plant, while other industrial workers resided in newly platted subdivisions including Montview, Whiteview, Tallywood, Forest Hill, Bon Air, Greenway Place, and Oak Crest.

¹⁷ Clarence E. Weaver, *Winston-Salem, "City of Industry": Illustrated, Historical, Biographical Facts and Figures* (Winston-Salem: Winston Printing Company, 1918), 7; "National Negro Retail Merchants' Association," *WSJ*, January 5 and 18, 1918; Adelaide L. Fries, Stuart Thurman Wright, and J. Edwin Hendricks, *Forsyth: The History of a County on the March* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1976), 231.

¹⁸ Jennifer F. Hembree, "Winston-Salem Tobacco Historic District," National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 2009; Forsyth County Deed Book 2625, p. 1429; Tilley, *The R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company*, 230-232, 307, 321; *MR*, August 26, 1915 and October 14, 1915; Anita Scism and Spencer Gung, "R. J. R. Downtown Buildings, 1875-1950: A Historical Perspective," March 12, 2002, unpublished report on file at the State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, NC.

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R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company purchased fifty-nine acres on Walker Road's west side opposite the Hanes Rubber plant in August 1921. The company's engineering department designed and constructed a brick boiler and pump house, a one-story brick office, and long, steel-frame, galvanized-sheet-metal-clad tobacco storage warehouses. By 1924, thirty-two 110-foot-wide by 198-foot-long warehouses arranged in three clusters stood on the site, which was served by a Southern Railway spur line.¹⁹ This connection to the main railroad corridor was imperative, as leaf was regularly conveyed between Walker Road site and the downtown Winston-Salem plant.

Although the Great Depression's onset checked Winston-Salem's unfettered growth, most of the city's factories and mills remained open through the economic downturn and in some cases increased production as the national market for tobacco products and textiles remained strong. R. J. Reynolds Tobacco, P. H. Hanes Knitting, and Hanes Hosiery Companies continued to be the area's largest employers, followed by seven Winston-Salem furniture manufacturers—B. F. Huntley, Fogle, Unique, Glenn V. Hoover, National, and Question Furniture Companies and W. M. Storey Lumber Company—who assembled a wide variety of solid wood and veneered pieces, often utilizing materials provided by local concerns.²⁰ Labor needs became more specialized as equipment suppliers improved machine function in all industrial applications. In the case of tobacco factories, mechanization increased efficiency in tasks such as stemming tobacco leaves that had previously been completed primarily by hand, but equipment operators as well as other workers were still needed to untie, prepare, transport, and pack the golden leaf.²¹

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company flourished during this period, generating net sales of almost \$303 million in 1937. That year, at its Tiretown complex north of downtown, the company's engineering department erected a three-story concrete, steel, and brick tobacco redrying plant, initially referred to as Leaf House No. 2, at a cost of approximately \$200,000.²² A flat-roofed brick boiler house and a tall, round, freestanding, brick smokestack, also completed in 1937, powered the leaf house.²³ The company's only other Winston-Salem redrying facility at that time was Leaf House No. 1, a three-story

¹⁹ "Will Build Storage Houses for 10,000 Hogsheads," *Twin City Sentinel* (hereafter abbreviated *TCS*), August 23, 1921, p. 3; R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, Office of Chief Engineer, "Fire Protection Layout: Tiretown Sheds," created August 24, 1922, and updated through April 30, 1924; Tilley, *The R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company*, 231, 628.

²⁰ In 1939, 86 industrial establishments utilized 19,190 production laborers, and 1,025 stores employed 4,109 workers. Thomas J. Fitzgerald, supervisor, *Sixteenth Census of the United States: 1940, Manufactures, 1939*, Vol. 3 (Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office, 1942), 745; Mamie L. Hegwood, "Manufacture of Furniture Is the Third Largest Industry in Winston-Salem," *TCS*, February 28, 1938; Mamie L. Hegwood, "Twin City Wood-Working Plants Make Anything in Timber-Moisture Gauged," *TCS*, April 5, 1938.

²¹ Tilley, *The R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company*, 237–242.

²² "200,000 Redrying Plant Here," *WSJ*, March 26, 1937; Gerald H. Carson, "What Winston-Salem's Greatest Industry Means to the City, State, and Nation," *Winston-Salem Journal and Sentinel* (hereafter abbreviated *WSJS*), April 24, 1938, p. 1.

²³ R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, Office of Architect, "New Boiler Room: Tiretown," Sheet 1, April 22, 1937.

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structure that stood at Fifth and Church Streets' northeast corner until 1972.²⁴

Production continued apace through the early 1940s despite labor disputes and manpower and material shortages. Approximately 14,266 Forsyth County residents served in World War II, and those left behind were occupied with the war effort in a variety of ways, from filling vacant positions in local manufacturing plants to participating in bond drives and planting victory gardens. In May 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt established the Office of War Mobilization to coordinate a diverse array of support endeavors including manufacturing, scientific research, and agricultural production. Worker demographics changed as industrial jobs rose by seventy-five percent in the South, with traditionally underemployed groups such as women, African Americans, and the elderly receiving invaluable education, training, and experience. Although some industries suffered from material scarcity, unemployment was not an issue as local companies including P. H. Hanes Knitting Company and R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company increased their garment and cigarette output to meet high demand.²⁵

Nationwide labor shortages prompted the federal government to create compulsory prisoner of war (POW) work programs. In North Carolina, detainees at eighteen military installations included about ten thousand German and three thousand Italian soldiers.²⁶ R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company negotiated the use of German POWs in order to operate its leaf houses during the 1944 and 1945 burley tobacco harvest seasons. On October 18, 1944, Winston-Salem's Board of Aldermen sanctioned the U. S. Government's utilization of the National Guard armory at Ninth and Patterson streets (formerly North Winston Graded School), as barracks. POWs arrived on October 24 and immediately commenced work at six tobacco factories including R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company's Tiretown plant, where POWs supplemented the labor force until March 1945. From August 1945 until February 1946, the company accommodated a group of commissioned officers at Tiretown by installing bunks, restrooms, and kitchen in a tobacco storage warehouse (Shed 112). A barbed-wire fence surrounded the building. Many of the prisoners were pilots captured in the North African campaign. Several skilled artists created sketches and paintings of their co-workers and the plant. One officer, Mr. Heinschwitz, rendered a watercolor of a leaf house interior that remains in the company's possession.²⁷

²⁴ Leaf House No. 1's first two stories were built in 1902, the third floor added in 1914, and a four-story addition erected in 1936. "No. 1 Leaf House," building summary in Scism and Gung, "R. J. R. Downtown Buildings."

²⁵ Tilley, *The R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company*, 454; *WSJ*, August 2, 1941, May 22, 1942, January 1, 1943; Spencer B. King, Jr., *Selective Service in North Carolina in World War II* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1949), 321; Marilyn M. Harper, et. al. *World War II and the American Home Front* (Washington, D. C.: The National Historic Landmarks Program, October 2007), 3, 13-16.

²⁶ Robert D. Billinger Jr. and Jo Ann Williford, "World War II," in William S. Powell, ed., *Encyclopedia of North Carolina* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2006), 1233- 1234.

²⁷ "Nazi Prisoners of War Are Scheduled to Arrive Today," *WSJ*, October 24, 1944; "Prisoners of War Begin Work Today," *WSJ*, October 25, 1944; W. N. Scales, R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company Leaf Department employee, German

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R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company executed a significant expansion program in the 1950s. The corporation reorganized its administration, introduced products, streamlined operations, and improved equipment and facilities. The industrial engineering department, created in 1950, designed efficient and substantial buildings such as the mid-1950s edifice initially referred to as Leaf House No. 2-2 that increased redrying capability at the Tiretown plant. Upon its completion, the adjacent and connected 1937 Leaf House No. 2-1 served as a tobacco stemming facility. Although R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company utilized both hand and mechanical leaf stemmers until 1953, the stemming process was completely automated after that date. This technological shift had resulted in the termination of thousands of leaf department employees since March 1946.²⁸

The Tiretown operation grew dramatically after R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company introduced its first filtered cigarettes, the Winston and Salem brands, in 1954 and 1956 with great success. In order to facilitate increased production, the corporation began constructing a state-of-the-art manufacturing plant west of Buildings 2-1 and 2-2 and the warehouses in October 1958. The predominantly windowless industrial park, completed in 1961 at a cost of approximately \$32 million, has a steel frame and a precast concrete panel exterior. The original building and a sizable 1986 addition encompass approximately 1.3 million square feet of manufacturing space. R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company's engineering department planned and constructed the 1961 building collaboration with Charlotte architects A. G. Odell Jr. and Associates. The plant bears the name of John C. Whitaker Sr., who began operating a Camel cigarette machine for R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company in 1913 and was promoted to positions including the company's presidency in 1948 and board chairmanship in 1952.²⁹

Approximately two thousand employees worked at Whitaker Park at the height of its production, but significant downsizing resulted in only a few hundred factory workers at the time of the plant's 2012 closure. The company then shifted operations to its Tobaccoville facility, erected in 1986 approximately twelve miles northwest of Whitaker Park.³⁰

A. G. Odell Jr. and Associates also rendered plans for one of the most distinctive Modernist buildings erected in Winston-Salem during the 1970s, the 1977 R. J. Reynolds Industries World Headquarters 1100 Reynolds Boulevard. Odell, a strong proponent of Modernism, is widely regarded as one of

prisoner of war summary, April 7, 1978, R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company archives; "German POWs Labored at Reynolds," *Greensboro News and Record*, June 1, 1993, p. B2; City of Winston-Salem, "Minutes of the Winston-Salem Board of Aldermen," Book 31, p. 239, October 18, 1944, and Book 32, p. 301, July 14, 1946.

²⁸ Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Map, "Winston-Salem, North Carolina," Volume 2, Sheet 222, 1917, updated 1958; Tilley, *The R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company*, 239, 487, 495, 513.

²⁹ Harold Ellison, "The New Whitaker Park: A Dream at Work," *WSJS*, October 1, 1961, p. D1; Harold Ellison, "Dedication Ceremony Held For Reynolds' New Plant," *WSJ*, October 3, 1961, p. 1; Fries, et al., *Forsyth*, 344.

³⁰ Richard Craver, "RJR Closing Plant," *WSJ*, May 29, 2010; Deven Swartz and Brent Campbell, "Whitaker Park Completely Closing This Year," February 17, 2012, post on MyFox8.com.

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North Carolina's most influential architects. The five-story, 523,000-square-foot, flat-roofed building, sheathed in mirrored glass, consists of eight intersecting square modules angled so that the corners align with the cardinal directions.

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company Leaf Processing

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company was a leader in the industry's ongoing quest to develop ever more efficient leaf processing methods and equipment. The firm utilized myriad varieties of leaf—flue-cured, sun-cured, Burley, and Turkish—each of which had different storage and handling requirements. Manufacturing complexes at the concern's Winston-Salem and satellite locations in eastern North Carolina, Virginia, and Kentucky thus included specialized buildings intended to address these needs. Processing, storing, aging, and blending tobacco to achieve optimal flavor and texture necessitated prodigious square footage. Plants expanded as leaf purchase volume increased.³¹

The company erected a series of Winston-Salem leaf processing facilities during the early twentieth century and gradually implemented more effective handling practices. The expansive three-story-on-basement Buildings 2-1 and 2-2 housed two essential elements of the tobacco manufacturing process: stemming and redrying. Both were necessary to reduce leaves to strips that could be incorporated into tobacco products. Building 2-1 supplied ample space for improved stemming machines and vacuum chambers introduced during the late 1930s. Previously, at the downtown Winston-Salem plant, redrying had been achieved in sweat houses, so named due to their high heat and humidity. Hogsheads were conveyed from warehouses into sweat houses where several days of 100- to 105-degree temperatures and 90- to 95-percent humidity softened the tobacco. This process, intended to minimize leaf loss during tobacco stem removal, was terribly inefficient, as steam typically penetrated only the outer layers. The dry, brittle, interior layers crumbled during stemming, resulting in significant waste.³²

Although sweat houses remained in use through the mid-1930s, the company's efforts to improve the leaf preparation process included the late 1930s installation of steel vacuum chambers designed both to add moisture to soften leaves prior to stemming and to remove moisture after stemming to avoid mold problems during storage. The chambers dramatically shortened the length of time required to attain optimal moisture content. A system of conveyor belts moved tobacco through heating and cooling chambers. After cooling, leaf-packed hogsheads were transported via forklifts to warehouses for

³¹ Tilley, *The R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company*, 230-233.

³² Ibid., 352-354.

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aging.³³ Upon its mid-1950s completion, Building 2-2 housed the redrying operation and Building 2-1 the stemming process.³⁴

The strip preparation department orchestrated the transition to mechanized stemming. In 1935, 1,565 workers stemmed manually and 2,750 employees operated stemming machines. Around that time, the company adopted a green stemming method, which involved stem removal upon leaf receipt rather than after storage, for tobacco acquired from Georgia farmers. Also in the mid-1930s, the company introduced stemming equipment designed to significantly reduce leaf waste. The process housed at Building 2-1 involved a series of machines beginning with tippers, which snipped leaf tip ends from bundles of farmer-cured tobacco. Next, tie leaf cutters loosened the bundles and butt cutters removed butt ends prior to leaf conveyance to ordering cylinders, where moisture was added to leaves. Finally, thrashing machines stripped stems from softened leaves and separators sorted the stems and leaves. The resulting leaf was screened, dried, packed into hogsheads, stored until sufficiently aged, and then blended into tobacco products. The process was completely automated in 1953.³⁵

Buildings 2-1 and 2-2 manifest the need for tobacco processing facilities that were large, utilitarian, and fire-resistant; characterized by open interior plans with high ceilings that accommodated sizable equipment and tiered storage. Steel, concrete, and brick structural systems supported the enormous weight of machinery and large leaf-packed barrels known as hogsheads. Leaf preparation required frequent hogshead movement between buildings during tobacco processing, storage, and shipment. In order to reduce fire risk, the boiler houses and smokestacks that powered redrying houses were often freestanding. Loading platforms and docks enabled tobacco transport by rail and truck. During World War II, Mr. Heinschwitz, German POW who worked at the Tiretown complex, painted a watercolor of the interior that illustrates this process.³⁶

Building 2-1 features important elements of fire-resistant industrial design. The expansive thirty-four-bay-long and seven-bay-wide edifice has a reinforced-concrete and steel structural system that allowed for a predominantly open plan. Five-to-one common-bond brick and formed-concrete walls and a low gable roof with wide board decking enclose the structure. Hardwood and concrete floors and kalamein doors are intact, as is the eight-foot-wide formed-concrete loading platform that spans the entire length of the north elevation. A flat concrete canopy supported by metal cables shelters the platform that paralleled the no-longer-extant Southern Railway spur line. Most first- and second-story windows

³³ Ibid., 239-241, 485-486.

³⁴ Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Map, "Winston-Salem, North Carolina," Volume 2, Sheet 222, 1917, updated 1958; Tilley, *The R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company*, 487.

³⁵ Ibid., 352-354, 485-486.

³⁶ R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company Leaf Department employee, German prisoner of war summary, April 7, 1978; W. N. Scales, R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company archives.

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Forsyth County, NC

were replaced with translucent glass block in the mid-twentieth century to reduce heat and glare. This modification was also effected at R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company's downtown plants.

Although Building 2-2 has fewer and smaller window openings than Building 2-1, the original translucent-glass-block fill provided ample light. The window openings have a horizontal orientation and projecting concrete sills, as was common in Modernist industrial architecture of the period. Otherwise, Building 2-2's rectangular form, three-story-on-basement massing, reinforced-concrete and steel structure, five-to-one common-bond brick and formed-concrete walls, and low gable roof with wide board decking emulate Building 2-1. The eight-foot-wide formed-concrete loading platform and canopy that span the south elevation are intact, as is the open plan. Fire-resistant features include hardwood and concrete floors and kalamein doors.

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Photos
Forsyth County, NC

Section 10. Geographical Data

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

1. Latitude: 36.133518 Longitude: -80.249639
2. Latitude: 36.133518 Longitude: -80.246678
3. Latitude: 36.134760 Longitude: -80.245482
4. Latitude: 36.134591 Longitude: -80.249639

Verbal Boundary Description

The National Register boundaries of R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company Buildings 2-1 and 2-2 are indicated by the bold line on the enclosed map. Scale approximately 1" = 200'. The boundary corresponds with the Latitude/Longitude coordinates 1 through 4 labeled on the boundary map.

Boundary Justification

The nominated eight-acre tract provides a historically appropriate setting for R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company Buildings 2-1 and 2-2.

Additional Documentation: Current Photographs

Photographs by Heather Fearnbach, 3334 Nottingham Road, Winston-Salem, NC, on December 7, 2016. Digital images located at the North Carolina SHPO.

1. Buildings 2-1 and 2-2, southwest oblique
2. Building 2-1, southeast oblique
3. Buildings 2-1 and 2-2, northeast oblique
4. Building 2-1, north elevation
5. Building 2-2, east elevation
6. Building 2-2, northwest oblique
7. Building 2-1, west elevation
8. Railroad spur line trestle, retaining wall, boiler and pump house, and office, looking west
9. Building 2-1, first floor, looking west
10. Building 2-1, second floor, southeast stair tower
11. Building 2-1, third floor, south bay, looking west
12. Building 2-2, first floor, looking east
13. Building 2-2, third floor, looking east
14. Building 2-2, basement, looking west

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Forsyth County, NC

Additional Documentation: Historic Photographs



**R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company Tiretown Warehouses and Building 2-1, December 1938,
looking north, image number FJ.00331**

Frank Jones, *Winston-Salem Journal* photographer, images are from the Forsyth County Public Library
Photograph Collection and may not be reproduced without permission

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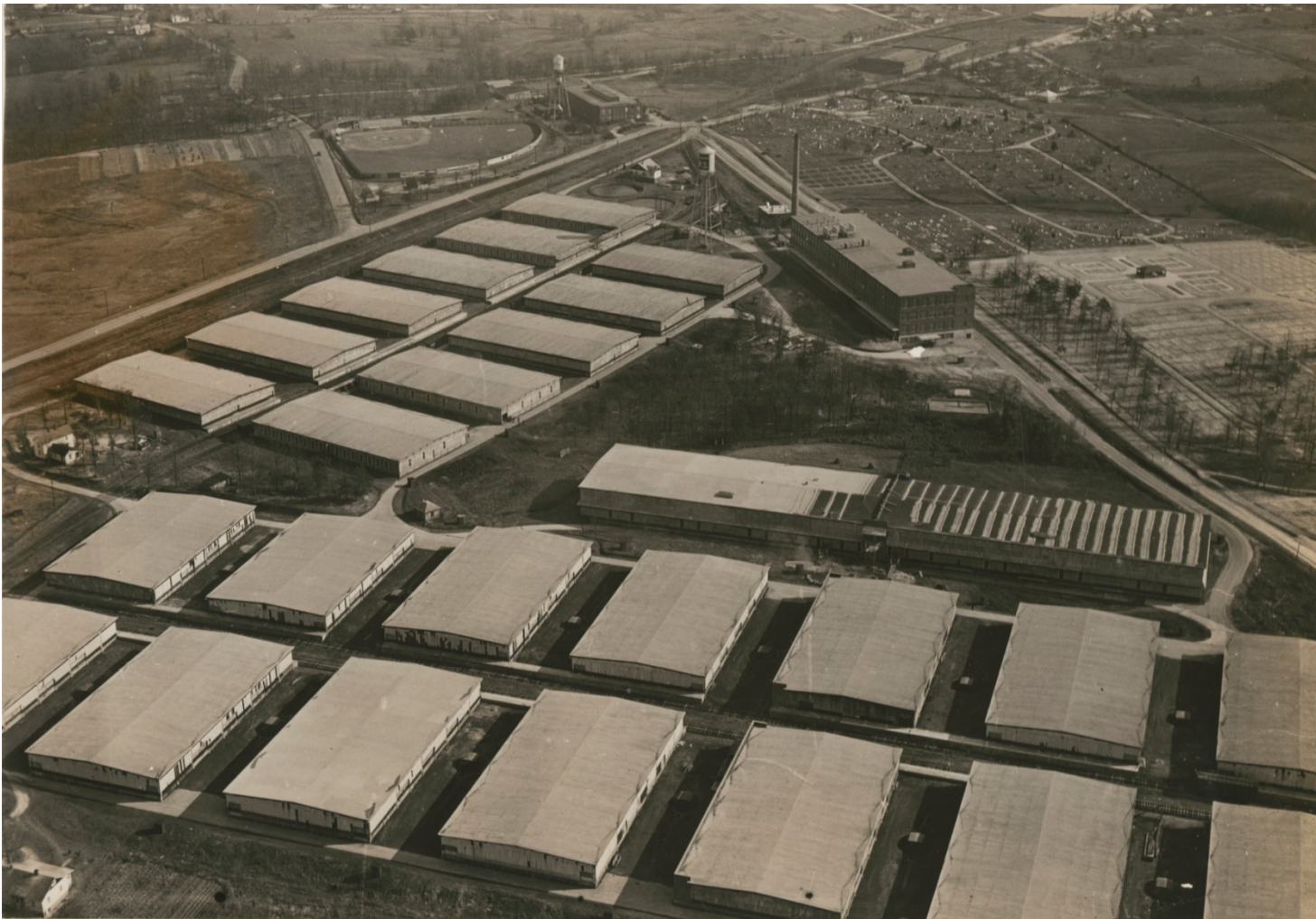
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Section
number

Photos Page 26

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company Buildings 2-1 and 2-2

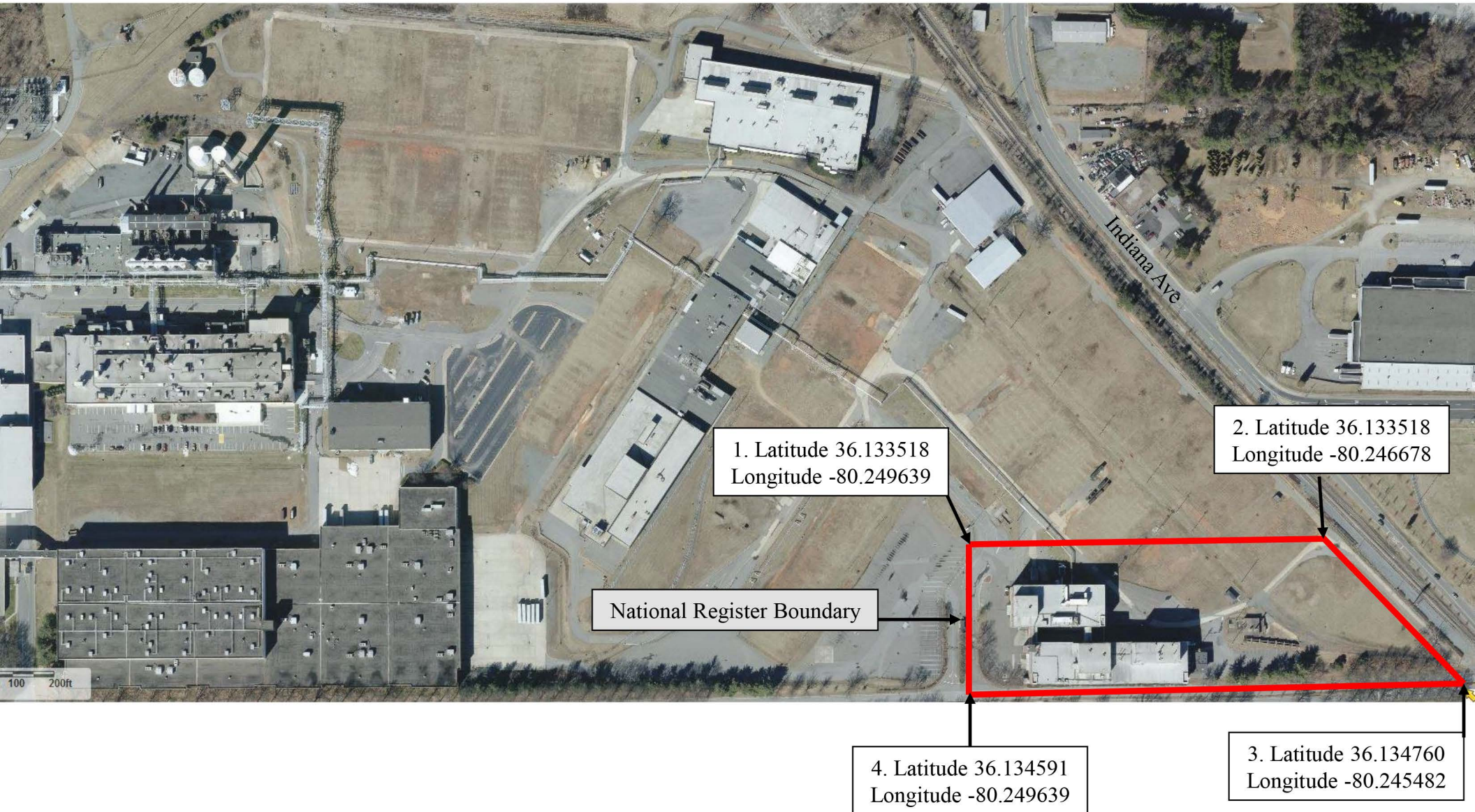
Forsyth County, NC



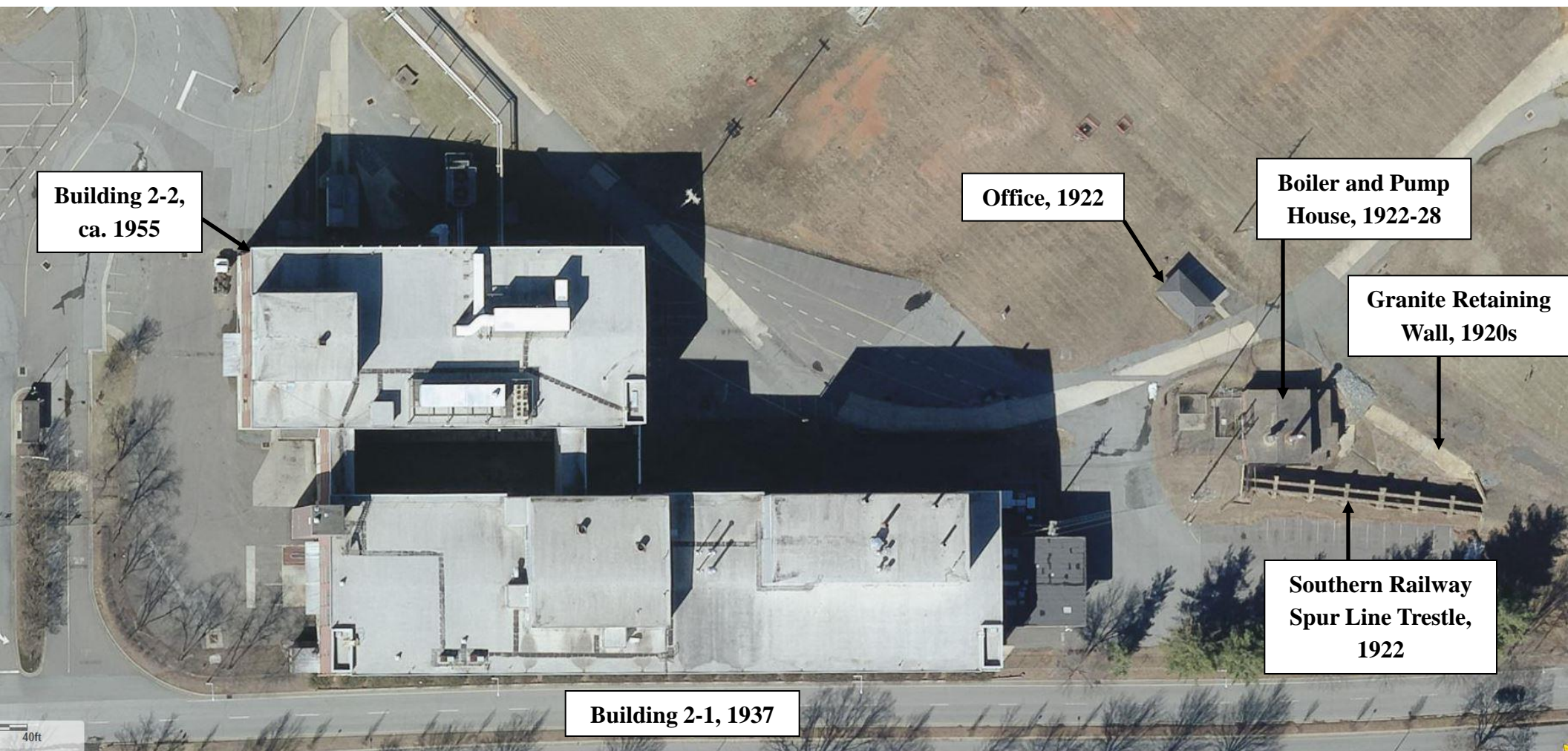
**R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company Tiretown Warehouses and Building 2-1, December 1938,
looking southeast, image number FJ.00333**

Frank Jones, *Winston-Salem Journal* photographer, images are from the Forsyth County Public Library
Photograph Collection and may not be reproduced without permission

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company Buildings 2-1 and 2-2
951 Reynolds Boulevard
Winston-Salem, Forsyth County
National Register Boundary



R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company Buildings 2-1 and 2-2
951 Reynolds Boulevard
Winston-Salem, Forsyth County
Site Plan



***All buildings and structures are contributing**
Buildings 2-1 and 2-2 are counted as a single resource

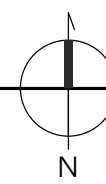
R.J. REYNOLDS
TOBACCO CO.
BUILDINGS 2-1 & 2-2

951 REYNOLDS BOULEVARD
WINSTON-SALEM
FORSYTH COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA

DRAWN BY: KHH
MARCH 24, 2017



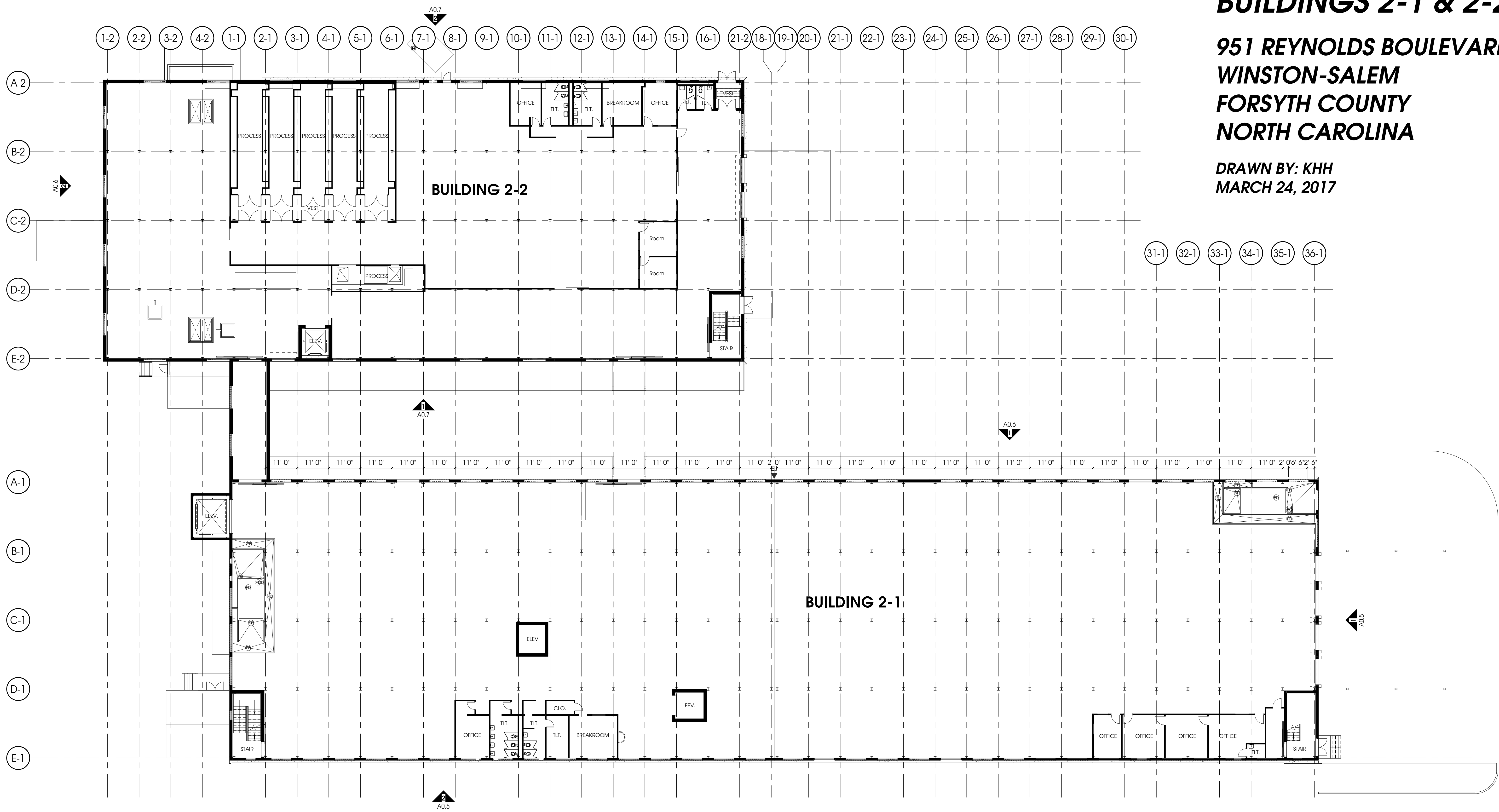
BASEMENT LEVEL 1 - EXISTING PLAN
1/16" = 1'-0"



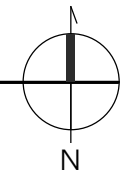
R.J. REYNOLDS
TOBACCO CO.
BUILDINGS 2-1 & 2-2

951 REYNOLDS BOULEVARD
WINSTON-SALEM
FORSYTH COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA

DRAWN BY: KHH
MARCH 24, 2017



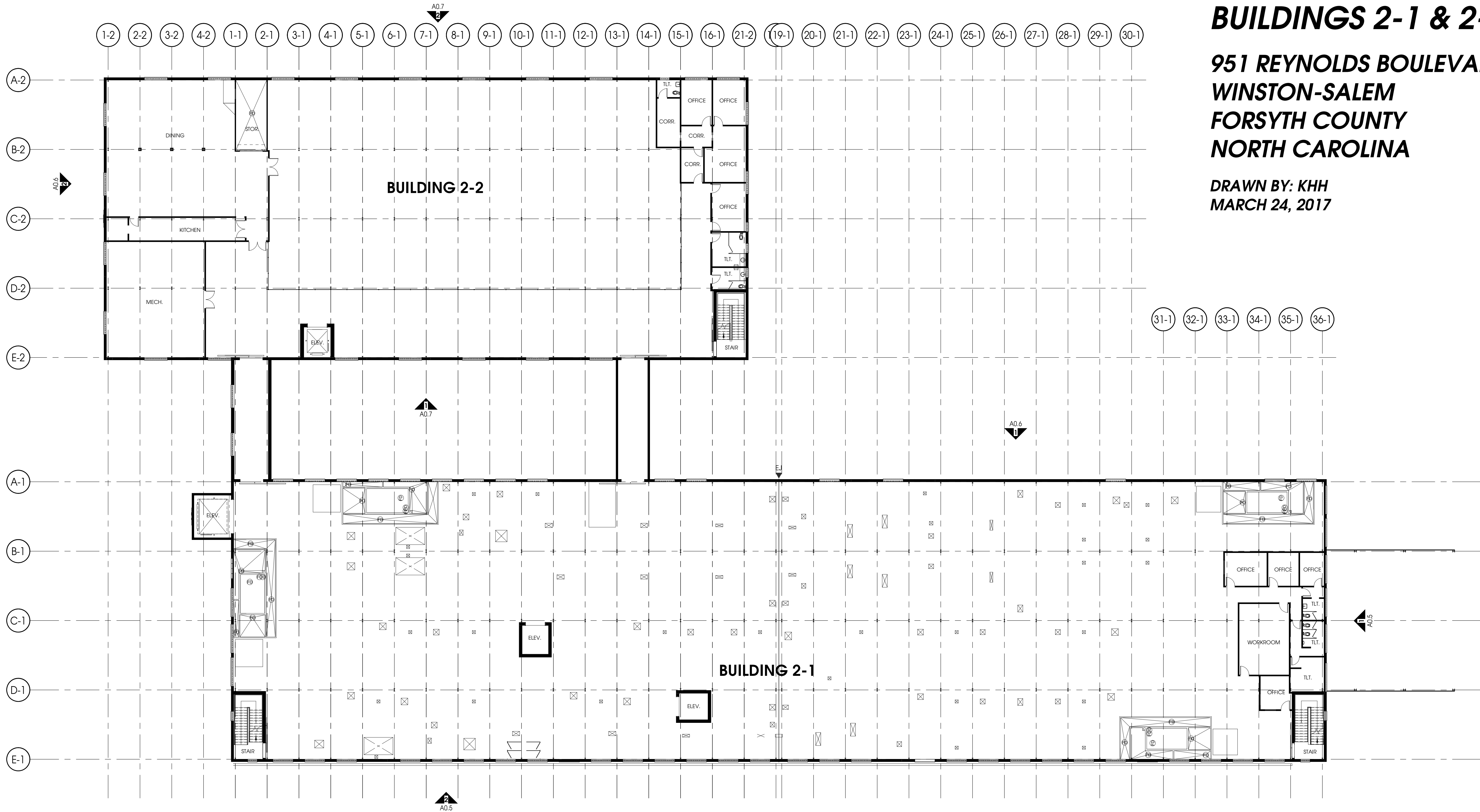
LEVEL 1 - EXISTING PLAN
1/16" = 1'-0"



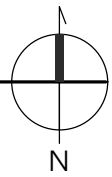
R.J. REYNOLDS
TOBACCO CO.
BUILDINGS 2-1 & 2-2

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FORSYTH COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA

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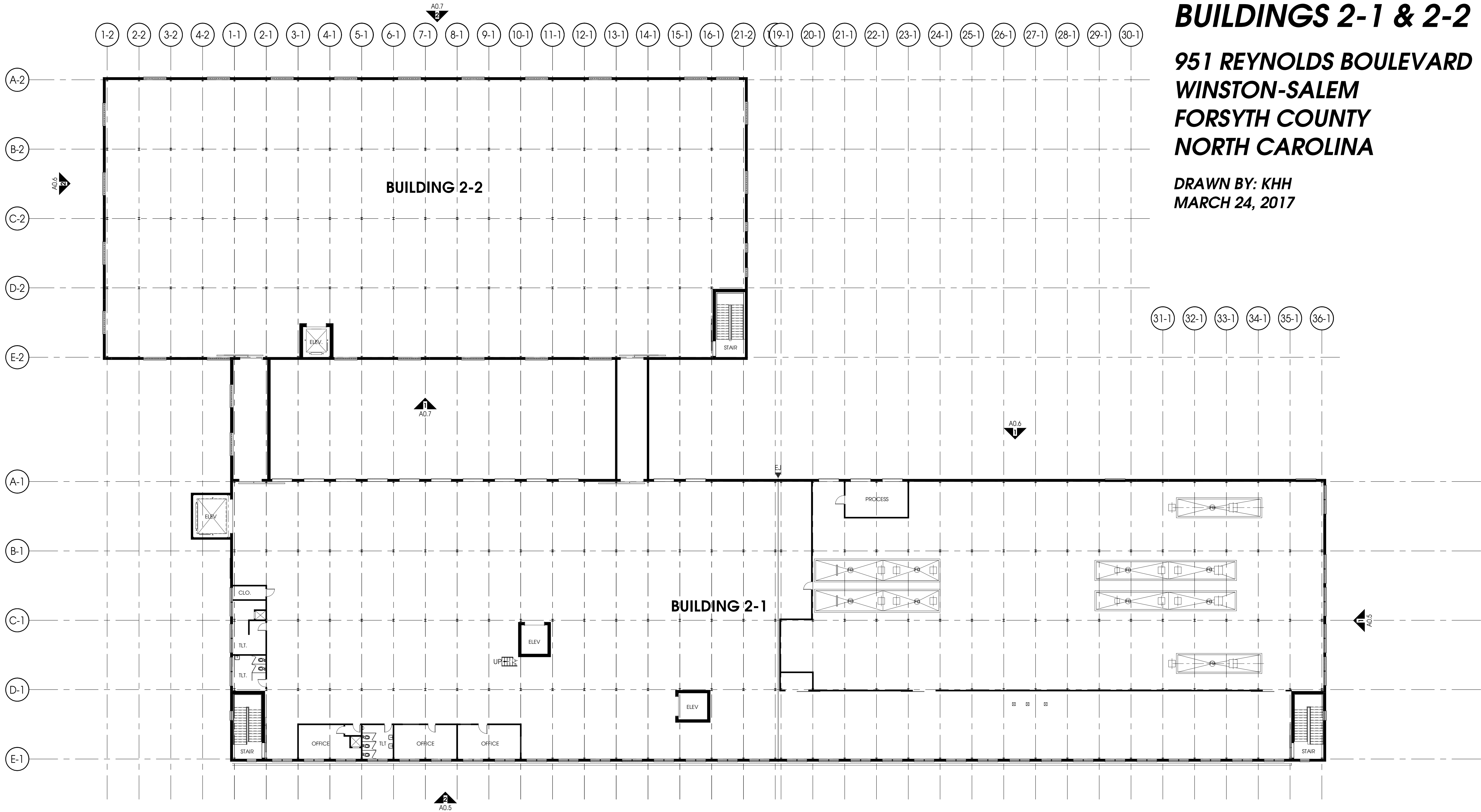
LEVEL 2 FLOOR PLAN - EXISTING
1/16" = 1'-0"



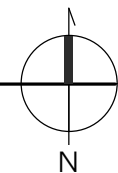
R.J. REYNOLDS
TOBACCO CO.
BUILDINGS 2-1 & 2-2

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WINSTON-SALEM
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NORTH CAROLINA

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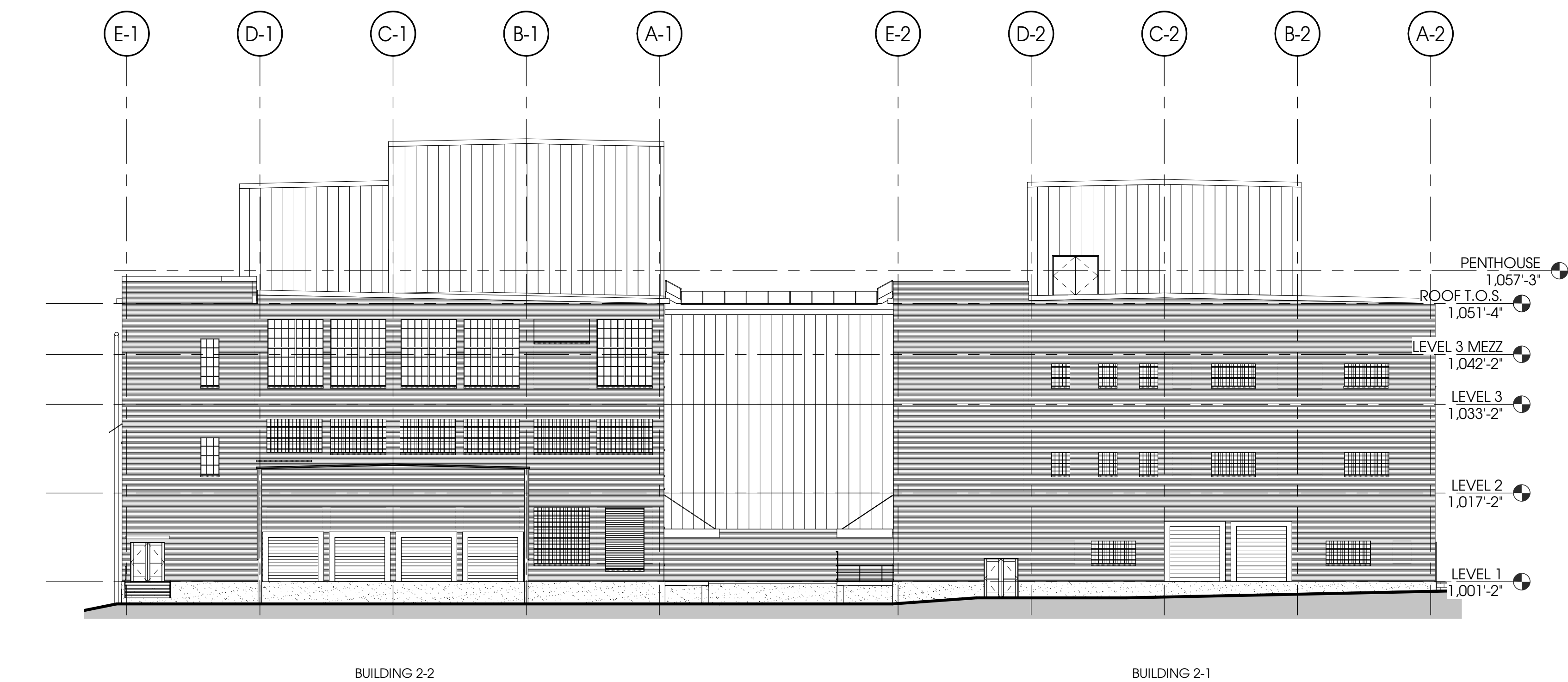
LEVEL 3 - EXISTING PLAN
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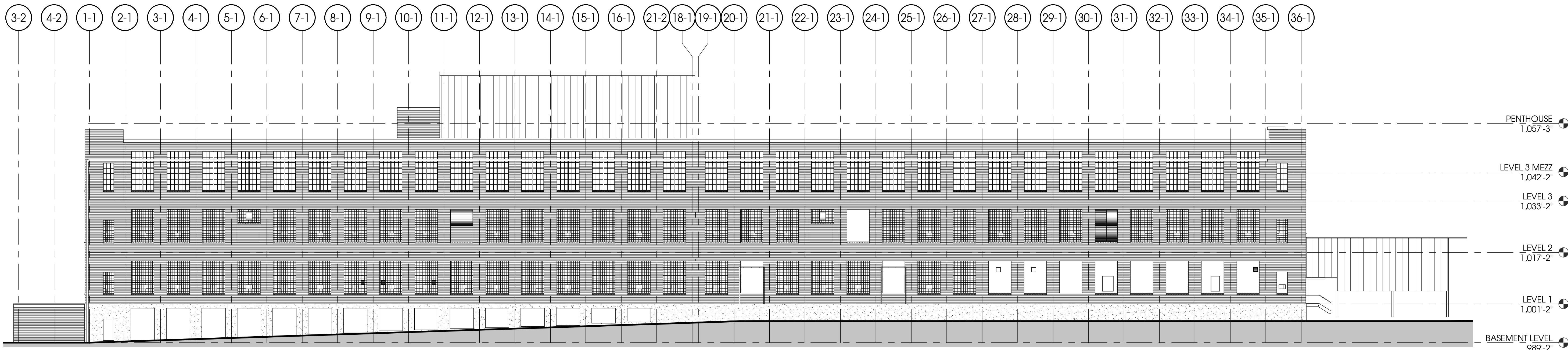
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1 EXISTING EXTERIOR ELEVATION - EAST
1/16" = 1'-0"

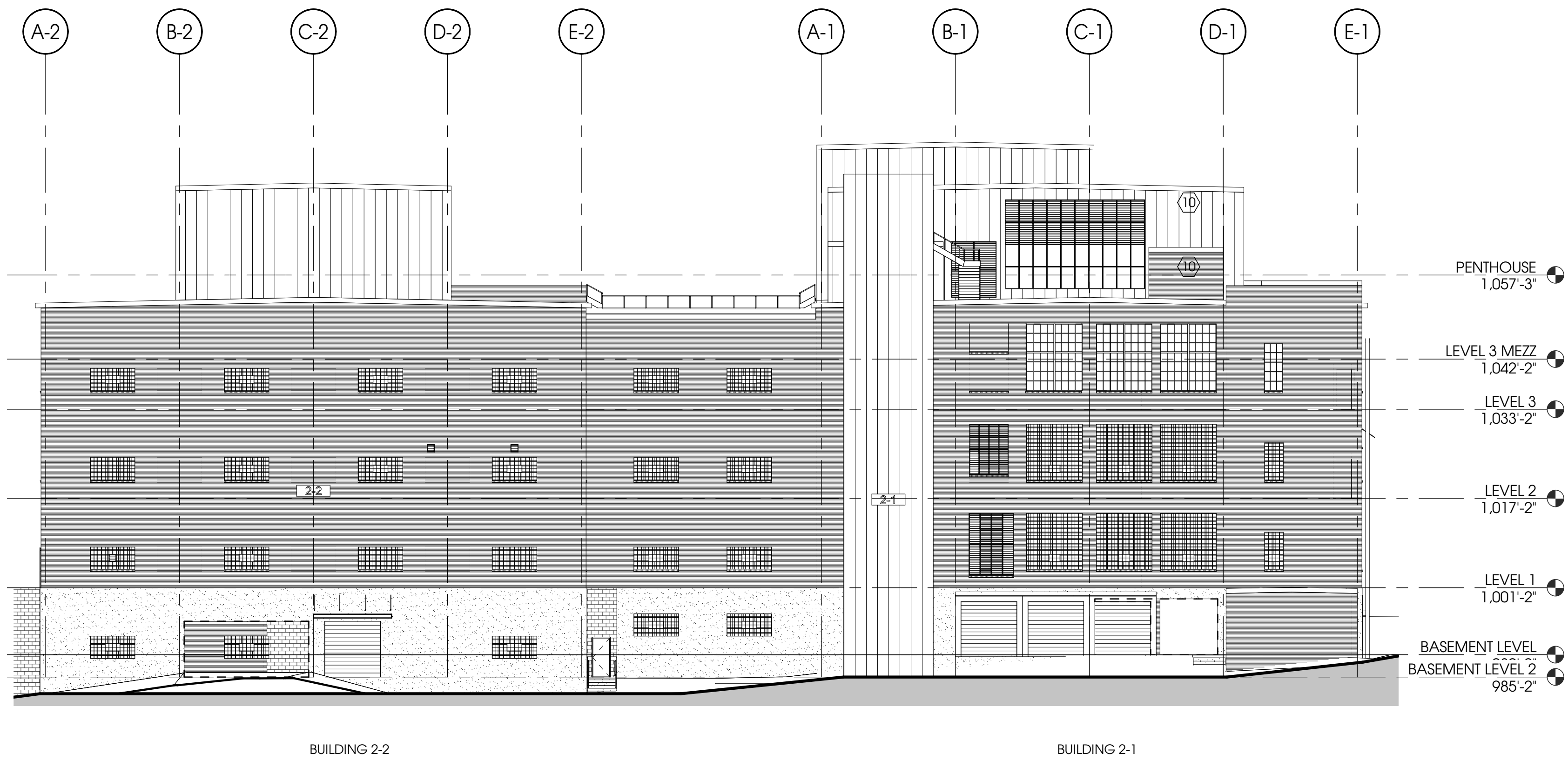


2 EXISTING EXTERIOR ELEVATION - SOUTH PARTIAL - BUILDING 2-1
1/16" = 1'-0"

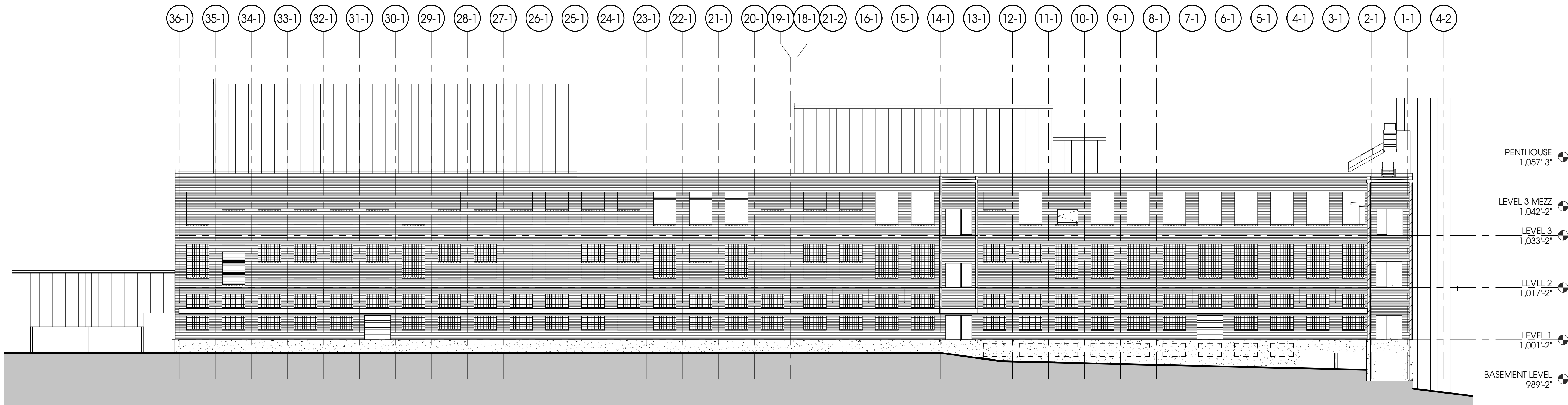
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2 EXISTING EXTERIOR ELEVATION - WEST
1/16" = 1'-0"

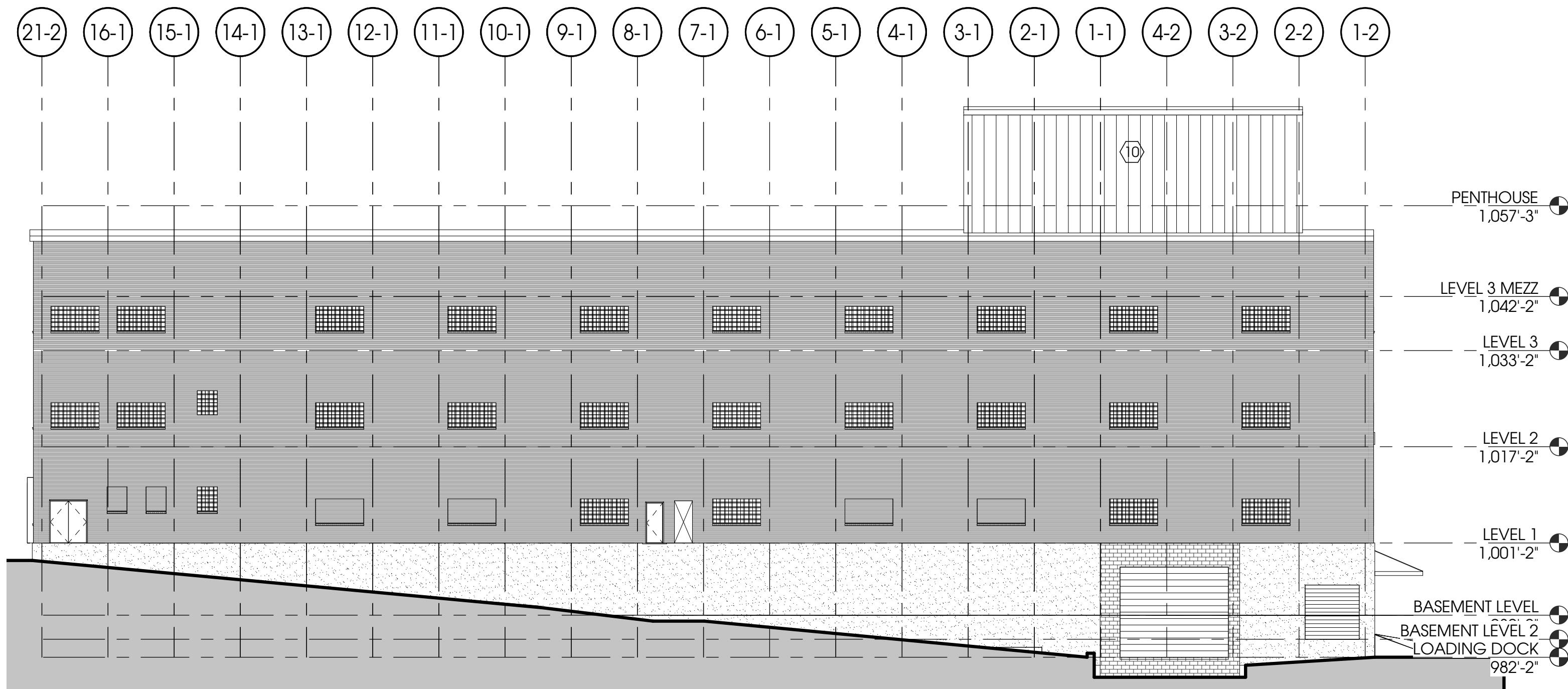


1 EXISTING EXTERIOR ELEVATION - NORTH - BUILDING 2-1
1/16" = 1'-0"

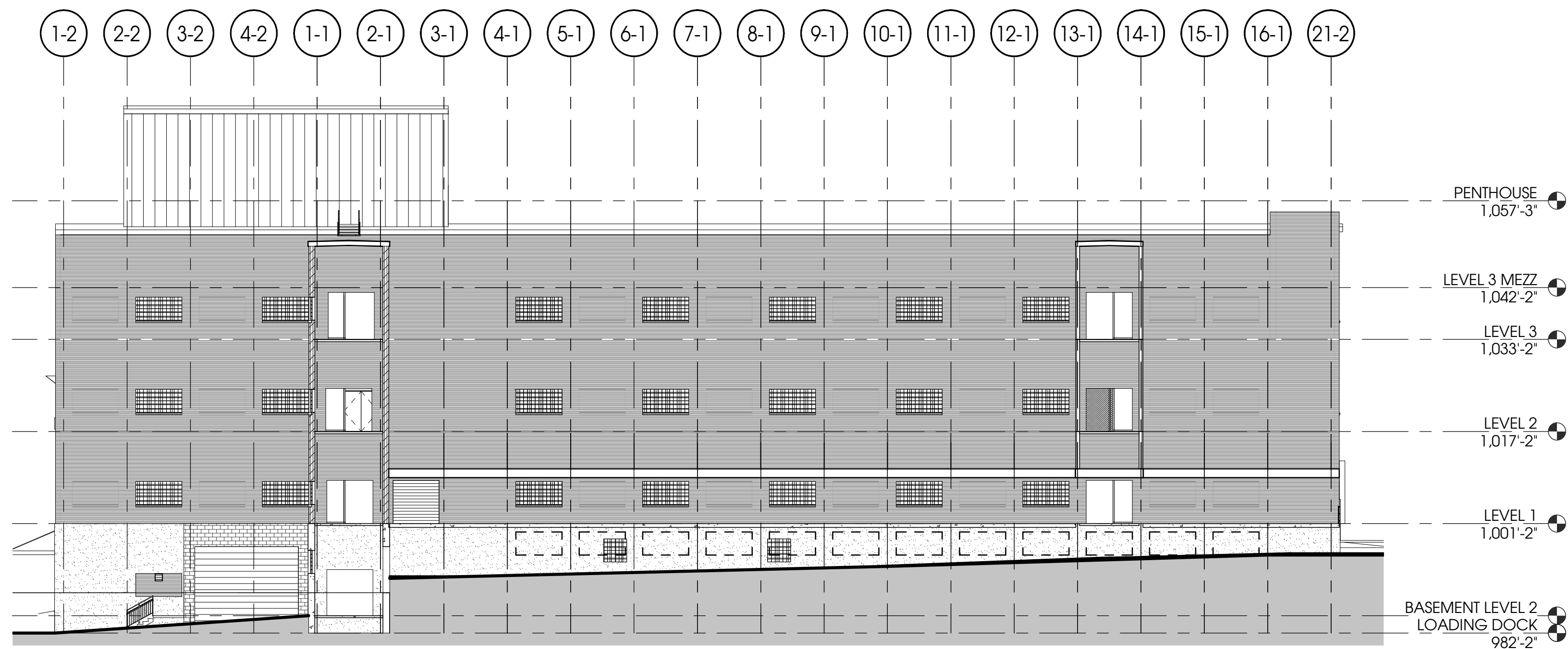
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FORSYTH COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA

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MARCH 24, 2017



2 EXISTING EXTERIOR ELEVATION - NORTH - BUILDING 2-2
1/16" = 1'-0"



1 EXISTING EXTERIOR ELEVATION/SECTION - SOUTH - BUILDING 2-2
1/16" = 1'-0"