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NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

1. Name of Property

Historic Name: Paris Commercial Historic District (Boundary Increase for Blake & Hinkle Lumber Company)
Other name/site number: NA
Name of related multiple property listing: Historic Resources of Paris, Texas

2. Location

Street & number: 100 3rd Street NW
City or town: Paris State: Texas County: Lamar
Not for publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐

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 forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☑ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria.

I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following levels of significance:
☐ national ☐ statewide ☑ local

Applicable National Register Criteria: ☑ A ☐ B ☑ C ☐ D

State Historic Preservation Officer
Signature of certifying official / Title **Date**

Texas Historical Commission
State or Federal agency / bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting or other official **Date**

State or Federal agency / bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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**

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property

x	Private
	Public - Local
	Public - State
	Public - Federal

Category of Property

x	building(s)
	district
	site
	structure
	object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 110

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions: COMMERCE/TRADE/business/office building

Current Functions: Vacant

7. Description

Architectural Classification: LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/Commercial Style

Principal Exterior Materials: Brick, Wood, Concrete

Narrative Description (see continuation sheets 6-8)

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C

Criteria Considerations: NA

Areas of Significance: Community Planning and Development, Commerce, Architecture

Period of Significance: 1895-1936

Significant Dates: circa 1917

Significant Person (only if criterion b is marked): NA

Cultural Affiliation (only if criterion d is marked): NA

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (see continuation sheets 9-10)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography (see continuation sheet 11)

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:
- x State historic preservation office (*Texas Historical Commission*, Austin)
- _ Other state agency
- _ Federal agency
- _ Local government
- _ University
- _ Other -- Specify Repository:

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): NA

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: Less than 1 acre

Coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates WGS84 Datum

1. Latitude: 33.3944 Longitude: -95.3331

Verbal Boundary Description: The property is currently located at 100 3rd Street NW in the corner (Houston Street and 3rd Street NW) of Block 20, Lot A (Property ID # 13718), in Paris, Lamar County, Texas. The boundary increase will extend from the centerline of Houston Street to the parcel line and stretch 23 feet North into the property along the East elevation. The boundary increase will also extend North from the current boundary along the centerline of 3rd Street NW, turn East to the parcel line, and run 46 feet along the North elevation of the building.

Boundary Justification: The boundary increase includes the office building, which is the only remaining building associated with the lumber company. Located in a parking lot, the building is the sole historic property related to the district in close proximity.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title: Barbara Stocklin-Steely (with National Register Historian Alyssa Gerszewski, THC)
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Date: September 28, 2016

Additional Documentation

Maps (see continuation sheets 12-14)

Additional items (see continuation sheets 15-18)

Photographs (see continuation sheets 5, 19-28)

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.

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Photograph Log

Blake & Hinkle Lumber Company
Paris, Lamar County, Texas
Photographed May 2016.

Photo 1
View of front façade (3rd Street, NW)
Camera facing East

Photo 2
View of secondary facade (Houston Street)
Camera facing Northeast

Photo 3
View of rear and North elevations
Camera facing Southwest

Photo 4
View of roof
Camera facing East

Photo 5
View of interior looking down hallway towards front door
Camera facing West

Photo 6
View of original toilet room
Camera facing East

Photo 7
View of interior, original plaster side wall enclosing original office safe

Photo 8
View looking at original 4/1 wood double hung window on front façade
Camera facing Southwest

Photo 9
View of interior, original plaster walls and molding, with 1960s ceiling tiles likely attached to original plaster ceiling

Photo 10
View of secondary façade
Camera facing Northwest

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Property Description and the Goal of this Amendment

The purpose of this nomination amendment is to increase the boundary of the Paris Commercial Historic District (NR 1988) to include the c.1917 Blake and Hinkle Lumber Company Building, which is located just north of the current district boundary. The building was most likely excluded because it was the only building on the block, and the nomination boundary included only whole city blocks.

The Blake and Hinkle Lumber Company Building is a one-story brick commercial building at 100 3rd Street Northwest in Paris, Texas. The building is positioned at the corner of Houston and 3rd Street near downtown Paris just outside the Paris Commercial Historic District boundary. Constructed c.1917, the 23-foot wide and 46-foot-long rectangular plan building was designed with a cast concrete base and red finish bricks. The original fenestration, including the wood windows and doors, remain intact with the exception of one replacement aluminum sash window. The flat roof is in place preserving the original form of the building. Comparable to much of downtown Paris, the building is an excellent example of an ornately designed early 20th century one-part commercial block. Designed as a lumber office, it embodies some Beaux Art architectural features mostly concentrated on the building's primary and secondary façade (west and south). The north and east elevations are not visible from the right of way, and lack ornamentation. Few modifications occurred over the years, and building retains a high level of historic integrity. The office is currently vacant and is a Federal Tax Credit project.

Location & Setting

The Blake and Hinkle Lumber Company office is located at 100 3rd Street Northwest (Block 20, Lot A, Property ID # 13718) at the intersection of Houston and 3rd Streets in Paris, Texas. Positioned just outside the current Paris Commercial Historic District boundary, the building rests on the periphery of downtown. Since the building sits at the corner of a large vacant paved lot, scant vegetation including two trees, a few bushes, and vines exists. The office is the only remaining building associated with the Blake and Hinkle Lumber Company that once covered all of Block 20. A modern bank building is located at the corner of 3rd Street Northwest and Price Street.[1]

The surrounding physical environment to the South and East of the property contains mostly commercial development. Some of the commercial buildings house viable businesses while other are vacant. Several open lots surround the lumber company building and the nearby neighborhood (North and West) is composed of some multi-family and single-family residential development. One government building, the four story Classic Revival style Lamar County Courthouse, is located two blocks East and inside the current Paris Commercial Historic District boundary.

Blake and Hinkle Lumber Company Building – Exterior

This flat-roofed brick one-part commercial block building was constructed circa 1917 to serve as an office for a lumber yard operation. The rectangular-plan building is situated with the length of the rectangle extending approximately 46' east-west along Houston Street, with the width of the rectangle approximately 23' in length fronting onto 3rd Street NW. The building's 3rd Street NW and Houston St. elevations are relatively ornate for a small lumber yard office building. Like other buildings constructed in the aftermath of the town's March 21, 1916, devastating fire, the building was most likely designed by an architect (unknown in this case). The building retains

[1] Sanborn Map Company, *Insurance Maps of Paris, Texas: June 1920*, (New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1920), 14, accessed September 19th, 2016, http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/sanborn/p-r/txu-sanborn-paris-1920-14.jpg.

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its original architectural design offering a restrained and Beaux Arts vocabulary similar to the Paris City Hall/Fire Station and Paris Public Library.[2]

The building's two street fronts feature a cast concrete base and are faced with red finish bricks, although all building elevations have been painted (most likely since the mid-1960s). The front (3rd St. NW) facade features brick pilasters with raised brick bands, dividing the facade into three bays (Photo 1). The central bay features a lunette wood fixed-light transom, flanked by rectangular transoms. The offset wood single light door appears original, and the original two 4/1 wood sash windows are present and protected by plywood on the exterior (Photo 8). Stylized icicles with the frieze extends across the front facade, with a cast concrete cornice, and raised brick parapet with tile coping above (Photos 1 & 4). Original awning hooks survive above the icicle frieze, once holding a flat awning that hung in the rectangular niche above the front door and windows (Photo 1). The Houston St. secondary elevation is similarly divided into three bays, featuring a central double-hung window pair, a continuous lintel across the elevation, and rectangular transoms above the surviving (but boarded) original wood sash windows. This cornice is less obvious, composed of stylized geometric panels above a double string course. The double string course serves a functional use, framing the building's decorative iron attic vents (Photo 2).

The tertiary north and east (rear) elevations were designed to be less visible from the street since they were adjacent to lumber yard sheds. Both elevations feature an exterior wythe of common red bricks with no decoration (Photo 3). The only opening on the rear (east) elevation of the office is a historic single-light door (boarded) with arched lintel, most likely intended to service buyers providing payment as they exited the yard. The north elevation that opened up directly into the lumber yard features a central door opening (with non-historic door) flanked by two original window openings. The easternmost window is aluminum sash, and is the only non-original window on the building. The windows and door on this side elevation have arched lintels similar to the rear. The building's exteriors are very intact, with few alterations other than painted brick, removal of front awning, and replacement of one window and door.

The building is in fair condition, and has been vacant for several years. The solid roof and boarding have gone a long way to protecting the building's interiors, windows, and doors. However, the building's brick walls display significant cracks on the east end of the north and south elevations (Photo 2 & 3), and significant efforts will be needed to stabilize these walls and address structural issues.

Interior

The interior appears to have originally been a single room other than the vault and toilet (Photos 6 & 7). The original plaster walls are evident in these two rooms. The plaster walls also extend up to the roof framing, and feature a picture rail and crown molding (Photo 9). The original ceiling type is unknown, covered by acoustic ceiling tiles and later by a dropped ceiling. The interior space was later divided into smaller rooms, consisting of framed walls covered with paneling and drywall, to accommodate the hearing aid company that occupied the building from 1967 through 1995 (Photos 5-9). The later room partitions are in poor condition. The floor is concrete, and may have been covered by linoleum or other period flooring originally. The floors are currently exposed concrete and/or covered with carpeting.

[2] ArchiTexas, Kathrine Livingston, and Texas Historical Commission staff, “Historic Resources of Paris, Texas,” National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Submission (1987), 41-50.

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Integrity

The Blake and Hinkle Lumber Company building retains historic integrity and qualifies for listing as a contributor to the Paris Commercial Historic District. Situated in its original location, the building is relatively unaltered and contains its original materials and character defining architectural features. Minimal modifications include one replacement sash window and door on the north elevation, some alteration to the interior spatial organization, new flooring, and painting of the exterior. These alterations were purposeful, encouraged continued use of the building as a Hearing Aid Center from 1967 to 1995, and do not detract from the building's historic integrity.

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Statement of Significance

The Blake and Hinkle Lumber Company building, located just outside the Paris Commercial Historic District, is a one story brick commercial building that served as the company's office from 1917 to 1965. The building is nominated as a contributing property (through a boundary increase) to the existing Paris Commercial Historic District under Criterion A in the areas of Commerce and Community Planning and Development. Since Paris served as the commercial hub for Lamar County, the business supplied lumber to area residents allowing the office to gain significance as an integral part of the town's commercial growth. The lumber business played a fundamental role in rebuilding the commercial center of Paris after the damaging March 1916 fire. The office, positioned on Block 20 of the original 1854 town site, is significant for its association with Paris' early adoption of grid pattern development. It is nominated for its architectural significance under Criterion C as an intact local example of commercial architecture influenced by the larger Beaux Arts Movement. Designed with Beaux Arts architectural features, the one-part commercial block building reflects the massing, form, and detail found in many of the other contributing buildings within the Paris Commercial Historic District. The period of significance for the Paris Commercial Historic District spans from 1895 to 1936 and will remain the same for the inclusion of this property.

The Blake and Hinkle Lumber Company office served Blake and Hinkle, as a substantial lumber company that operated at this location on Block 20 from 1898 through 1965. Noah Blake and A. B. Hinkle ran the joint enterprise until 1919, when the business became solely known as Hinkle Lumber Company.

This company was important to local commerce, most notably the reconstruction of Paris, Texas, after the devastating fire of March 21, 1916, which destroyed approximately half of the town. The fire wiped out more than 1,400 structures throughout the city, mostly in the commercial downtown. A special 1917 edition of the Paris News heralded Blake and Hinkle as playing a key role in the town's rebuilding after the fire, remarking that the company is the "oldest established lumber dealer in the city..." For 67 years, the company contributed to the town's growth, supplying lumber to the growing region and providing home plans and a financing department by at least 1940. The ca. 1917 brick office building survives today to tell the story of the lumber operations on this site.[3]

The Blake and Hinkle building also contributes to the community planning and development of Paris, Texas. Most notably, this building is located within the original 50 acres donated by the city founder George Wright from which the original 25 blocks of the city were formed. The ca. 1917 office is a surviving historic building in Block 20 of the original 1854 surveyed town site. Most of the buildings within the 1988 Paris Commercial Historic District (National Register) are commercial buildings within the original town plat, and reflect the town's original plan. The Blake and Hinkle Office is the only prominent and obvious historic commercial building on the original town site that is not currently included in the Paris Commercial National Register Historic District. ArchiTexas, the firm that performed a historic property survey of Paris in 1983, recommended that the Blake and Hinkle office building, and all of Blocks 20 and 9 of the original town site, be included in the Paris Commercial National Register Historic District. The original survey call site is also located on Block 20. Blocks 9 and 20 were omitted from the district when it was listed on the National Register of Historic Places (these blocks are within the boundaries of the city's local historic district however), most likely due to the prevalence of modern parking lots on these two blocks.[4]

The Blake and Hinkle office is also noteworthy for its architecture. The c.1917 (possibly mid-to-late 1916) building contributes to the high concentration of early 20th century commercial buildings built downtown in the years

[3] Michael M. Ludeman, "Lamar County," *Handbook of Texas Online*, accessed September 28, 2016, http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hcl01.
[4] ArchiTexas, Katherine Livingston, and Texas Historical Commission staff, "Historic Resources," 41-50.

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immediately following the 1916 fire that destroyed most of the downtown area. This concentration includes a significant collection of structures influenced by the Beaux Arts movement. Similar to buildings within the Paris Commercial National Register Historic District, the small brick lumber office building reflects a relatively sophisticated Beaux Arts design vocabulary. This includes Classical proportions and symmetry, Classical pilasters, a stylized icicle frieze and geometric raised brick panels, concrete cornice, and a front lunette window. While the architect is unknown, the building's design closely relates to other Beaux Arts influenced buildings within the Paris Commercial Historic District, such as the Paris Public Library, City Hall and Fire Station, the U.S. Post Office and Courthouse, Liberty National Bank, and Old Farmers Bank Building.[5]

For the reasons listed here, the preparer recommends that the Paris Commercial Historic District in Paris, Texas, be extended north across Houston Street to include the Blake and Hinkle Office building (23' X 46'), and a small buffer area around the building. Because of the building's commercial purpose and location within the original town plat, the building's history and development relates strongly to the collection of buildings within the Paris Commercial Historic District (and does not relate historically to residential patterns found to the west and north). The building's Beaux Arts influenced architecture also contributes to and reinforces the collection of high style and well executed early 20th century commercial buildings constructed between 1916 to 1920 in downtown Paris, currently within the Paris Commercial National Register Historic District.

Summary

The Blake and Hinkle Lumber Company office is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places as a contributor to the Paris Commercial Historic District under Criterion A in the areas of Commerce and Community Planning and Development for its connection to local commercial growth and early community planning. The building is also nominated under Criterion C for Architecture as a well intact example of an early 20th century Beaux Arts influenced commercial office. Built to serve the needs of a bustling lumber business, the building reinforces consistency of scale, materials, and architectural design with many of the other contributing properties in the historic district, thus justifying its inclusion.

[5] ArchiTexas, Katherine Livingston, and Texas Historical Commission staff, “Historic Resources,” 48.

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Bibliography

ArchiTexas, Katherine Livingston, and Texas Historical Commission staff. "Historic Resources of Paris, Texas." National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Submission, 1987.

Longstreth, Richard. *The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture*. Walnut Creek, CA: AltaMira Press, 2000.

Ludeman, Michael M. "Lamar County." *Handbook of Texas Online*. Accessed September 28, 2016. http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hcl01.

Sanborn Map Company. *Insurance Maps of Paris, Texas: June 1920*. New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1920. Accessed September 19th, 2016, http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/sanborn/p-r/txu-sanborn-paris-1920-14.jpg.

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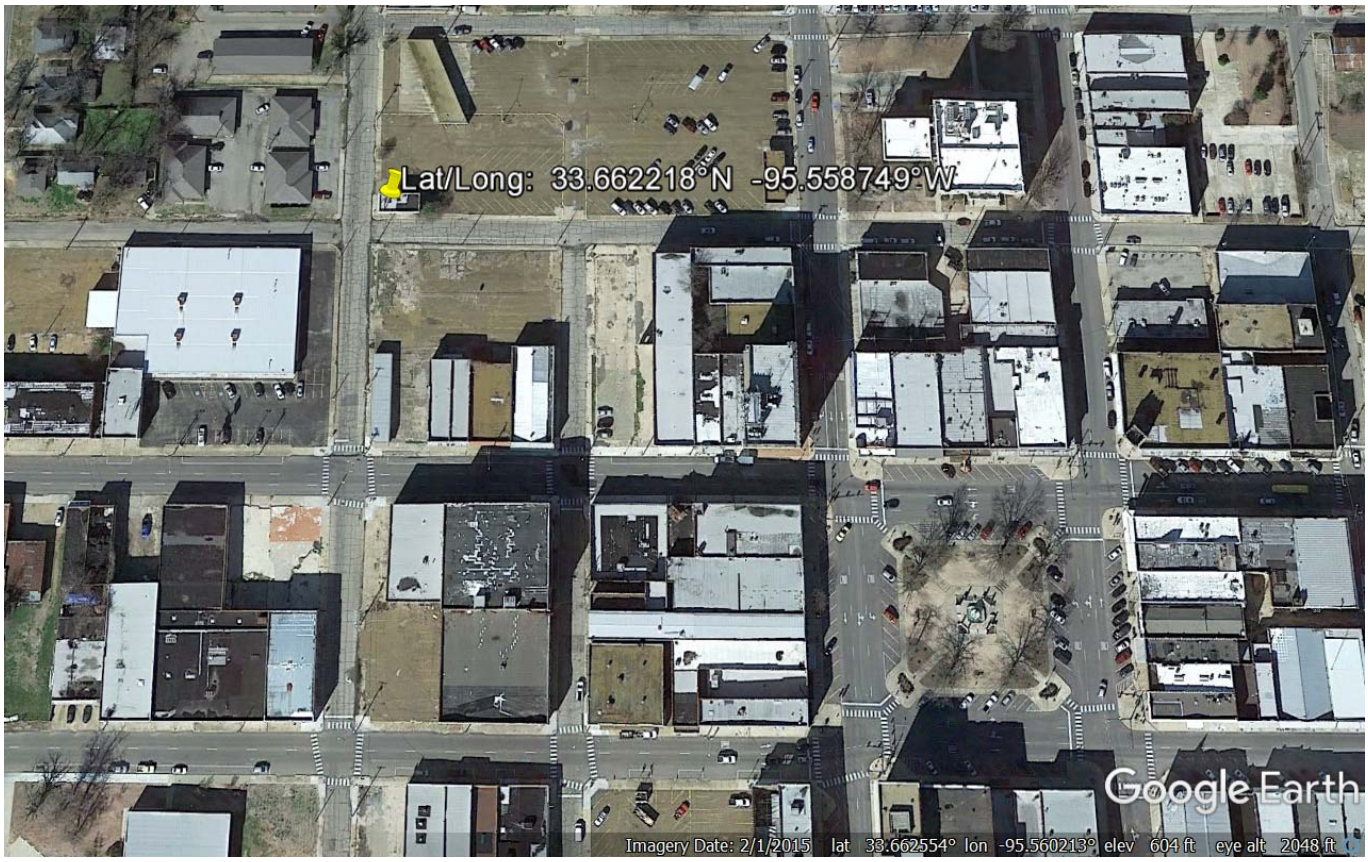
Lamar County, Texas

Google Earth Map, accessed September 21, 2016
Latitude: 33.662218 Longitude: -95.558749



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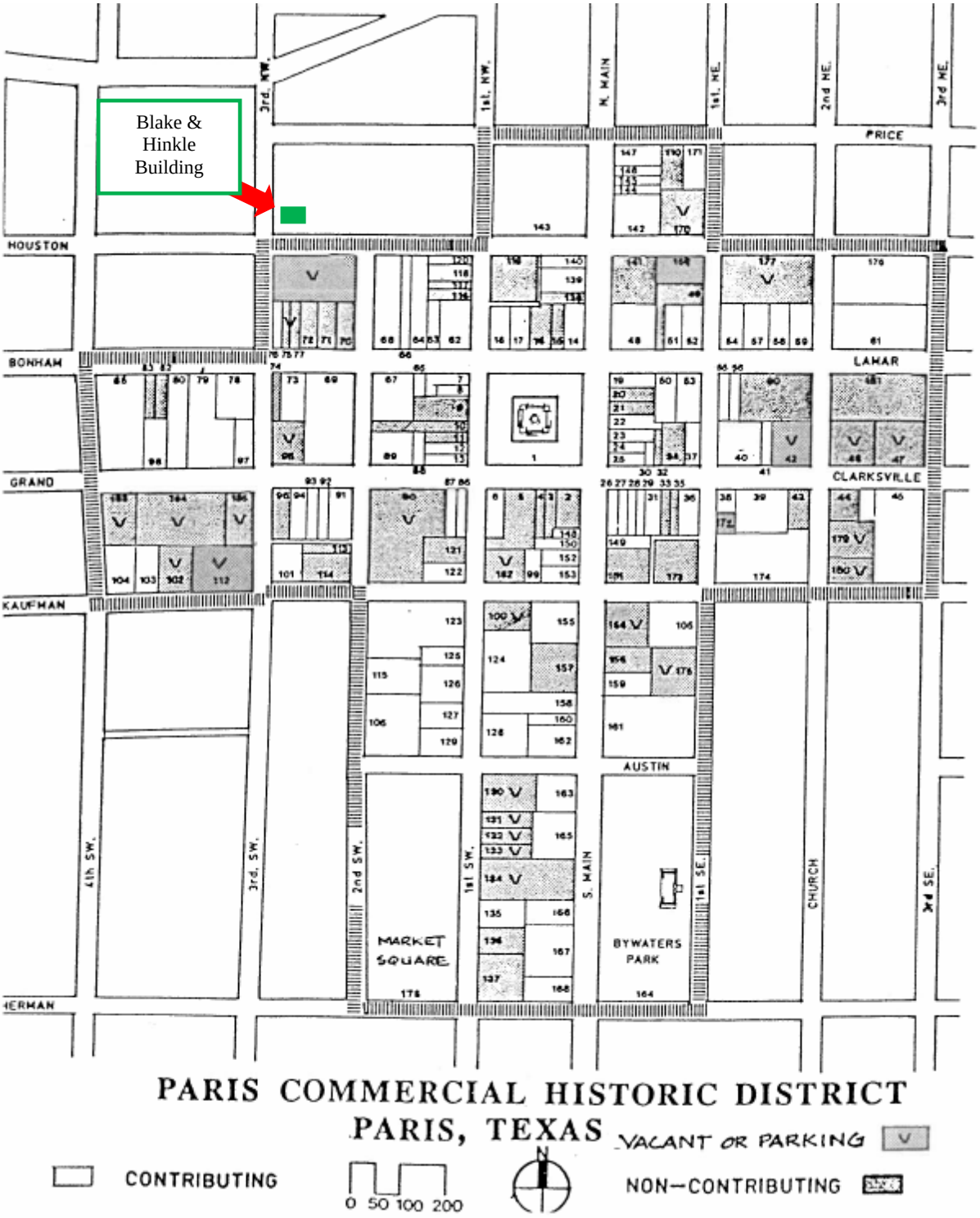
Current Paris Commercial District Boundary



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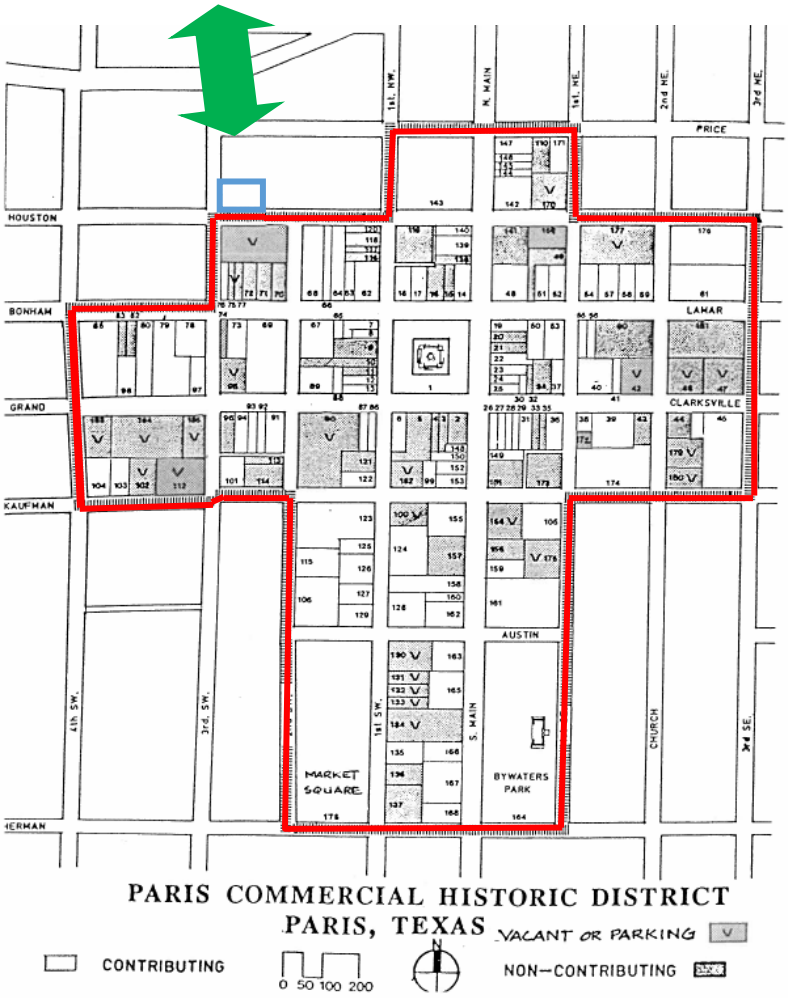
Paris Commercial District Proposed Boundary Increase



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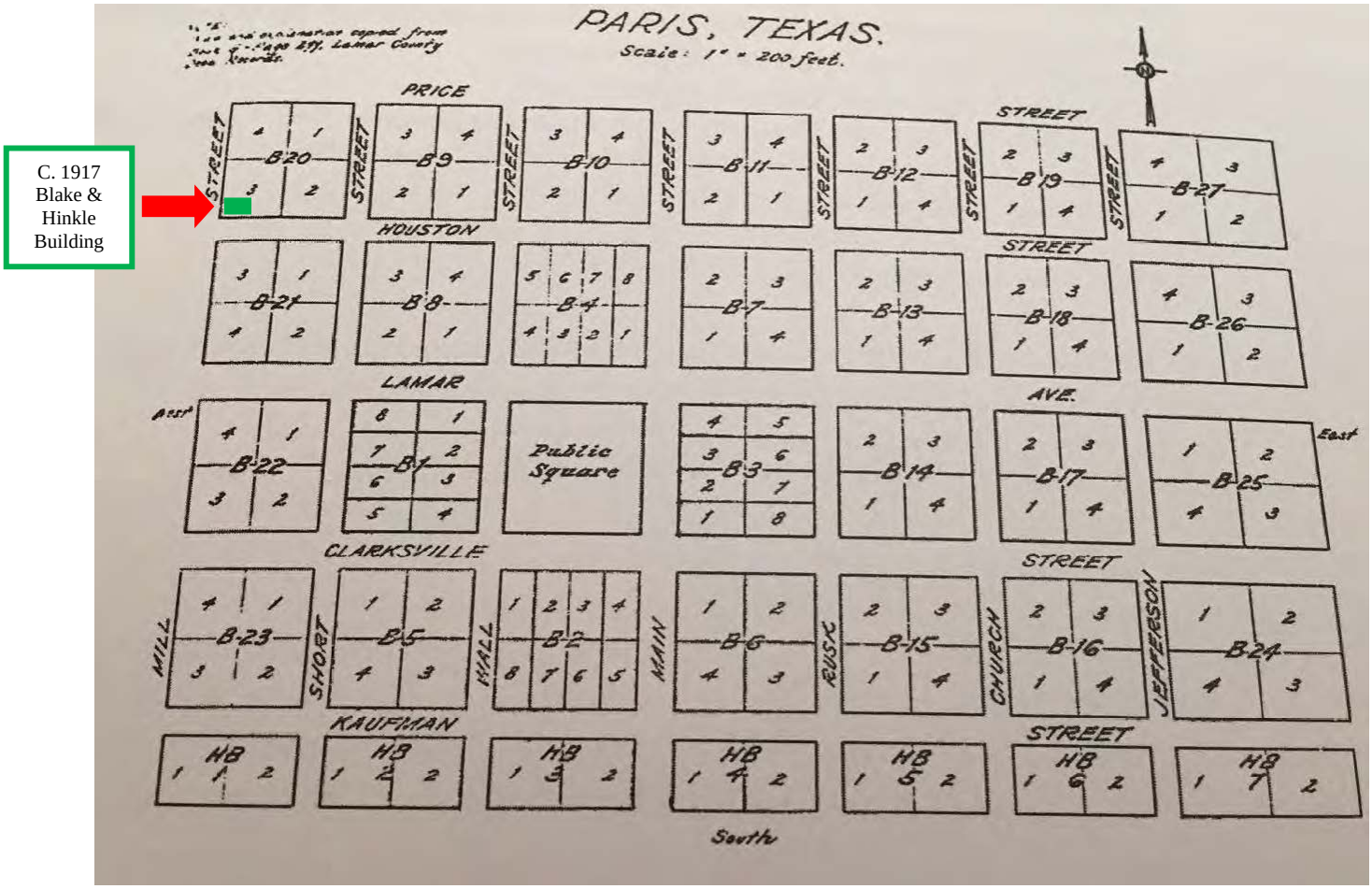
Figures

Block 20, Paris, Texas – Town's Original 50 Acre 1854 Survey Plat



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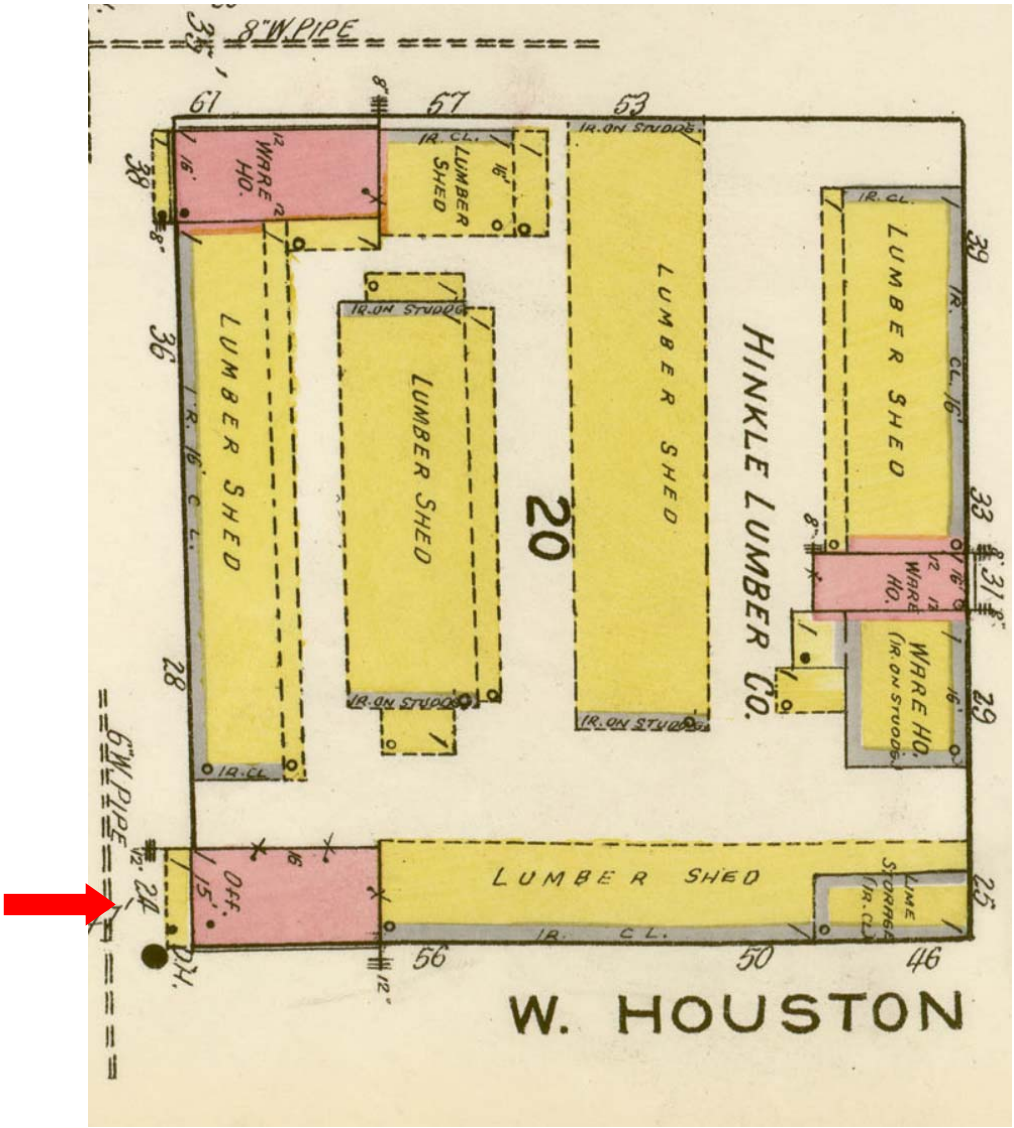
1920 Sanborn Insurance Map
Paris, Texas, Sheet 14



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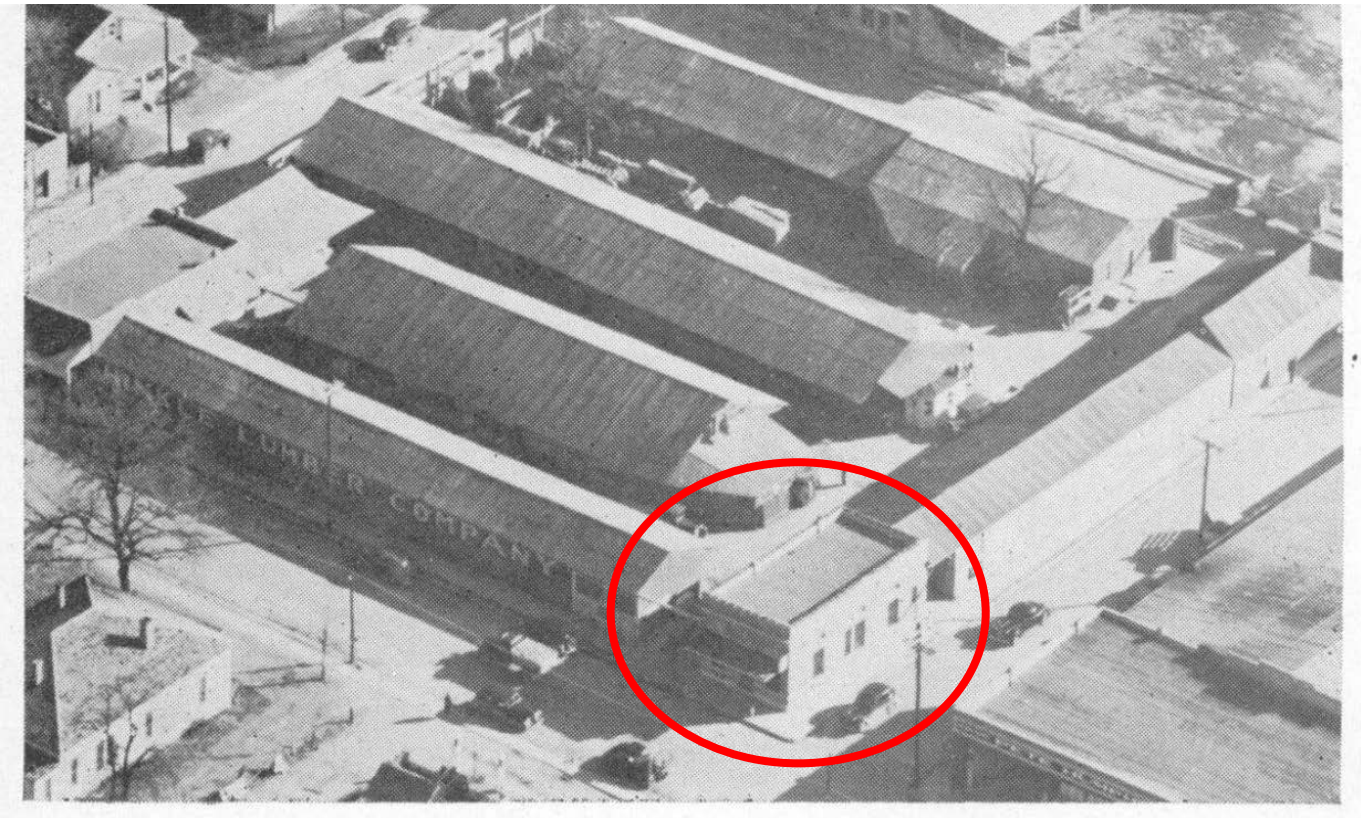
1957 Historic Aerial of Blake & Hinkle Lumber Yard, Looking Northeast

This 1957 aerial photograph of Block 20 shows the office building was completely separate from lumber sheds to the North and East. Only the roof of the adjacent shed on Houston Street abutted the office building's rear elevation, providing a pass-through vehicles and pedestrians. Customers used the back and side doors of the office to pay for goods before exiting onto Houston or 3rd St. Source: Advertisement in 1957 Paris High School Yearbook.



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Historic Photo, 1972
Only remaining building associated with lumber business.

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Photographs

PHOTO 1
View of front façade (3rd Street, NW)
Camera facing East

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PHOTO 2
View of secondary facade (Houston Street)
Camera facing Northeast

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PHOTO 3
View of rear and North elevations
Camera facing Southwest

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PHOTO 4
View of roof
Camera facing East

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PHOTO 5
View of interior looking down hallway towards front door
Camera facing West

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PHOTO 6
View of original toilet room
Camera facing East

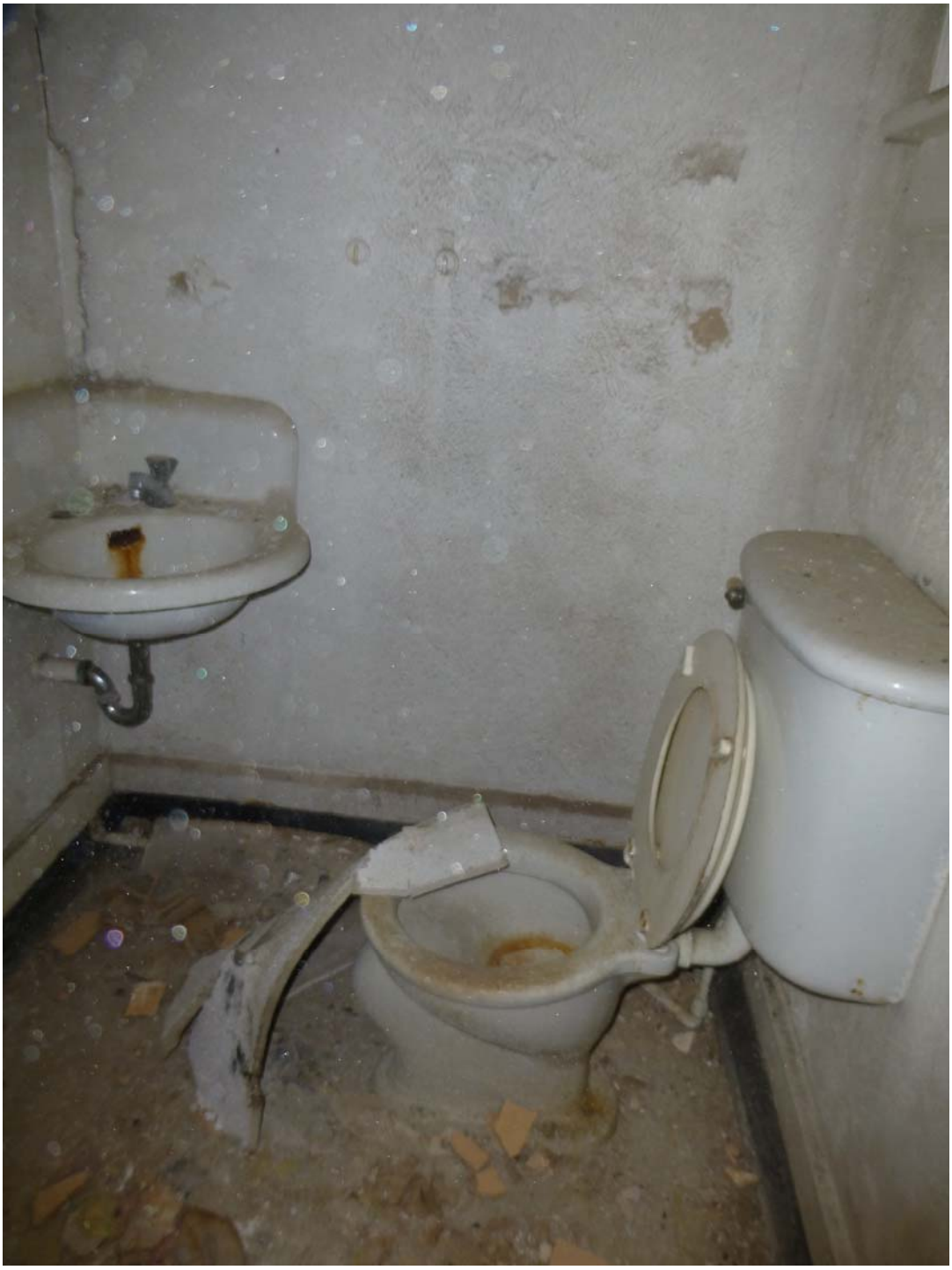

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PHOTO 7
View of interior, original plaster side wall enclosing original office safe

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PHOTO 8
View looking at original 4/1 wood double hung window on front façade
Camera facing Southwest

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PHOTO 9
View of interior, original plaster walls and molding, with 1960s ceiling tiles likely attached to original plaster ceiling

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PHOTO 10
View of secondary façade
Camera facing Northwest