

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Registration FormRECEIVED  
JAN 24 1991NATIONAL  
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

## 1. Name of Property

historic name John E. Mitchell Company Plant  
other names/site number

## 2. Location

street & number 3800 Commerce St N/A not for publication  
city, town Dallas N/A vicinity  
state Texas code TX county Dallas code 113 zip code 75226

## 3. Classification

## Ownership of Property

☒ private  
☐ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

## Category of Property

☒ 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

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

## 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Texas Historical Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

## 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this 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



## 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)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls brick

roof asphalt

other

Other: Industrial Warehouse

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The 3-story brick industrial building at the northeast corner of Commerce and Benson streets in Dallas is a sprawling, buff brick L-plan building that occupies most of a city block near downtown Dallas. Following its construction in 1928, the building underwent extensive modifications in 1929 and 1930 that are associated with the historical significance of the building; minor renovations were made in 1941 and 1957. The John E. Mitchell Company plant stands in an area of manufacturing and warehouse buildings about a mile east of the Dallas Central Business District and adjacent to the tracks of the Missouri Pacific Railway that pass on the north side of the block.

The Mitchell Company factory is utilitarian in style and construction. As originally built in 1928, the plant encompassed the western half of Block 817 and measured 100 feet wide by 217 feet deep. In 1929 a 2-story addition almost doubled the floor area of the factory. This 100-foot-square addition was built onto the rear portion of the eastern side of the original building, extending the plant across the northern half of the block. The addition is compatible in design with the original plant. A third floor was added to the entire complex in 1930. Its detailing closely resembles that of the lower floors and is considered a significant part of the structure's evolution. A 3-story c. 1925 Dallas Power & Light Company building occupies the remaining quarter of the block, at the northeast corner of Commerce and Willow streets; however, it has no historical associations with the Mitchell factory and is not included in the nomination. Only one other contiguous Mitchell Company structure (a 12,000 square-foot metal warehouse located on another block) predates 1940 but it is not being proposed for nomination because of substantial post-World War II additions.

The Mitchell Company Plant, in its current configuration, is a 3-story, L-plan building with the entry facade facing south onto Commerce Street. The wings of the L extend the full north and west frontages of the block along Benson and Pacific avenues. While all facades are of similar design, the south and west facades are the most visible and, therefore, are more carefully detailed. The building design of the first two stories suggests a pier and spandrel construction, with heavy corner piers and intermittent columns that project slightly from the face of the building, dividing these two facades into wide bays. Brick "spandrels" span the distance between columns. The top floor of the building, added in 1930, is built with a flush wall surface but to scale with the lower floors. Set in the walls are large, multi-paned metal sash windows with some operable casements. Decorative detail is limited to simple brick patterning, cast-stone sills, column caps and

☒ See continuation sheet



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

---

subtle shifts in wall planes. The central entry bay on the south facade is set off by a stepped parapet atop pronounced columns. Within the entry bay the windows are smaller, with the width of the bay subdivided into three openings. At the ground level the entry has been altered, with an aluminum and glass entry door and sidelights replacing the original treatment in a 1957 remodeling. The rear (north) elevation lacks even the subtle detailing of the primary facades. It faces the railroad tracks and incorporates loading docks in the first level. Near the west end of the facade a blank elevator shaft interrupts the series of windows and rises one story above the rest of the building. A 1-story addition, constructed in 1941, projects along part of the west elevation.

The plant has a 5-inch concrete-slab floor on the ground level and oak floors with open-joist framing on the upper levels. The ceilings have timber piers of pine on a 20-feet-by-19-feet grid. Offices, sales, loading and receiving, and woodworking shops were located on the first floor, while the assembly line was upstairs. Much of the interior retains its open grid interrupted only by a few partition walls. Enclosed spaces include the president's office and a meeting room in the southeast portion of the front wing. Both rooms are minimally finished, in contrast to the raw spaces within the vast interior work areas. Two sets of stairs, one near the front and the other at the back, provide access to the upper floors. The structure also has one freight and one passenger elevator, the latter of which was added in 1957.

The building remains largely in its 1930 condition, as it appeared after the early major additions. Detrimental alterations consist of the remodeling of the original entry doors and lobby in 1957. The Mitchell Company Plant retains its essential physical character from the period of its historically significant manufacturing activity.







## 8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☒ statewide ☐ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☒ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Industry

1930-1945

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

J.A. Pitzinger, Architect

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The 1928-30 John E. Mitchell Company plant stands in Dallas' Gin Manufacturing District and is significant for its association with the industrial development of the city. The Mitchell Company's cotton processing machinery was widely used throughout the country's cotton-producing regions, particularly in Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana, and it contributed to the increased efficiency of cotton production in the early 20th century. The Mitchell Company Plant is also associated with domestic mobilization efforts for World War II; it was retooled in 1942 for the production of anti-aircraft missiles. The property is nominated for National Register listing at the local level of significance under Criterion A for its association with the industrial history of Dallas. Contextually it relates to the cotton industry in Texas, specifically Dallas' role as a machinery manufacturing and distribution center; and to the American mobilization for World War II.

The John E. Mitchell Company and other gin or related manufacturers built factories in the early 20th century between downtown and the State Fair Grounds in Dallas, contributing to the city's growing industrial base. Dallas, founded in 1841, was emerging by the turn of the century as an important regional distribution center, serving markets in Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas. While Dallas was not a port and had no navigable waterways, it established its role in regional trade through railroad transportation. In 1872 the Houston and Texas Central Railroad was built from Houston north to Dallas, and by the end of the century the city was served by six railroads. With rail service, both raw and finished goods could be shipped virtually anywhere. As a network of railroads criss-crossed the state and nation during the late 19th century, manufacturers selected strategically located cities in which to establish new branches, factories and stores, thereby expanding their markets. Dallas, sitting at a major railroad hub, became one such center, and since Texas' economy was predominantly agricultural, the city became an important outlet for a complete range of agricultural implements.

The John E. Mitchell Company property stands in an area known locally as the "Gin Manufacturing District" (The Cotton Ginners' Journal December 1929) that included numerous factories, warehouses and offices that dealt with the production

☒ See continuation sheet



## 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Bibliography which begins on Continuation Sheet 9-1.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- ☐ 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

☒ See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository:

Texas Historical Commission, Austin, TX

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property approx. 1 acre

UTM References

A 14 708740 3629420  
Zone Easting Northing

C                              

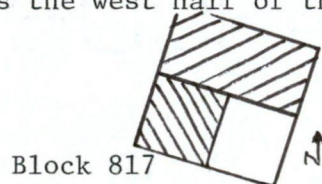
B                                
Zone Easting Northing

D                              

☐ See continuation sheet

## Verbal Boundary Description

The north half plus the west half of the remaining portion of Block 817, City of Dallas.



Block 817

☒ See continuation sheet 7-1

## Boundary Justification

Encompasses the original factory of the John E. Mitchell Company. Other buildings associated with the company post-date 1940 and have little historical or architectural significance at this time.

☐ See continuation sheet

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title David Moore, Historian (with Tory Laughlin Taylor, THC)

organization Hardy-Heck-Moore date Nov., 1988; Nov., 1990

street & number 2112 Rio Grande telephone 512/478-8014

city or town Austin state Texas zip code 78705



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

and sales of cotton gin equipment and machinery. Cotton has historically been the most cultivated and most profitable crop grown in Texas. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, it was produced in greatest abundance along the Blackland Prairie belt which includes Dallas and surrounding regions. The advent and expansion of the cotton gin manufacturing industry in Dallas was a logical outgrowth of both the state's ever-increasing cotton yields and the city's development as an agricultural implement supply center. By the 1920s, Dallas became the largest producer in the country of cotton gin equipment and at its peak manufactured more than half of the gin machinery in the world (White 1957:80).

Among the Dallas companies producing cotton processing equipment, as listed in city directories throughout the 1920s and 1930s, were:

- Continental Gin Company - 3301-33 Elm Street
- The Murray Company, Inc. - Williams at Murray streets
- Lummus Cotton Gin Company - 604-12 1st Avenue
- Gullett Gin Company - 3116 Main Street
- Carver Cotton Gin Company - 1313 N. Pacific Avenue
- The Stacy Company, Inc. - 2704-06 Taylor

All of these firms maintained factories or outlets within a relatively small and confined area between Dallas' central business district and the State Fair Grounds. Reasons for the concentration of these industrial concerns are not immediately documented, but a map of the city reveals the strategic importance of this section of Dallas. These factories, in particular the John E. Mitchell Company's, are in close proximity to the crossing of the Missouri-Pacific (formerly Texas and Pacific) and the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroads. The growth of the Dallas economy and this concentration of cotton processing machinery manufacturers were critical in the decision by the John E. Mitchell Company to build a plant here.

The John E. Mitchell Company has its roots in St. Louis, Missouri, where John E. Mitchell and Dennis Parks founded the Alsop Process Company in 1905. These men, who had been friends since their childhood in Tennessee, established a small enterprise five years earlier that manufactured dust collectors for flour mills, but this business venture struggled for lack of capital. Nonetheless, their products and the manner in which they conducted their business aroused the interest of a group of investors from Southeast Missouri who provided desperately needed funds. The firm was reorganized with Mitchell as general manager and Parks as chief engineer. The company initially manufactured solely flour mill equipment but soon diversified its product line, introducing innovative machinery used in the production of shoes, and in the processing of cotton.

One of the firm's best sellers was an extractor, manufactured as early as 1911, that removed hulls and other debris from cotton before the raw product reached the gin stands. The device enabled gins to operate longer and more efficiently and



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

to produce better-quality cotton. One history notes various trade journals in which "ginners claimed that the Mitchell extractor has 'no equal for taking out sticks, stems and fine trash'; and one enthusiast stated that the Mitchell extractors added five dollars to the price of each bale of cotton he ginned" (White 1957:101). The inventor of the extractor quite likely was John Mitchell who worked with the company's cotton-related machinery. Dennis Parks, meanwhile, spent more time with shoe-factory equipment. During their long careers, these men designed and produced numerous machines and reportedly received a combined total of more than 600 patents. (Dallas Morning News November 9, 1938; Welcome to the John E. Mitchell Company).

Mitchell eventually gained control of the firm and changed its name to the John E. Mitchell Company in 1920. Sales continued to rise and by 1927 he and his associates decided to build a branch facility where they could concentrate on the manufacture of their cotton processing equipment, thus freeing their home plant in St. Louis to produce shoe-factory machinery. They chose Dallas as the locale for their branch because of Texas' increasing cotton production totals (the 1920s witnessed the largest yields in the state's history) and rising demands for cotton gins and machinery. Moreover, the company's decision likely reflects a desire to locate in close proximity to Dallas' expanding gin manufacturing district, thus enabling the John E. Mitchell Company to better market their products.

Dallas County Deed Records indicate that Mitchell purchased property immediately south of the Texas and Pacific Railroad and fronting onto the 3800 block of Commerce Street from D. A. Eldridge, et al in 1927. The company then hired Dallas architect and engineer J. A. Pitzinger to design a factory at that site. In the following year, the 2-story plant was completed and began production. Sales were unexpectedly brisk after the factory opened and additions were built to increase production capacity of existing and new lines of equipment. J. A. Pitzinger was retained as architect and he designed a new wing onto the factory's east side in 1929. The next year a third floor was added onto the entire plant.

Although a number of products were made at the plant, ultimately the Mitchell F.E.C. Unit, a device that cleaned and conditioned cotton before it was ginned, was its most important and profitable product. During its peak in the 1930s and 1940s, the John E. Mitchell Company claimed that approximately 50 percent of all gins with extractor-feeders used Mitchell equipment. The success of the Mitchell extractor was based on the patented design of the F.E.C. Unit, the quality of its craftsmanship and production, and the reliability of its operation. The machine was promoted not only by the John E. Mitchell Company, but also by leading gin manufacturers, such as Continental Gin Company and The Murray Company, who boasted that their gin stands were the perfect compliment to Mitchell extractor-cleaners.

An advertisement for the Mitchell Company appearing in the October 1929 issue of The Cotton Ginner's Journal discusses both their plant expansion and the newly-developed equipment:



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

---

The large addition we have been making to our new Dallas plant during the past summer has been finished and fully equipped. This enlargement is not only for the purpose of increasing the production of Triple-saw Boll Extractors, but also to provide facilities for manufacturing our new Triple Cleaner. This cleaner is designed and constructed for operation in connection with each Extractor, mounted on gin-stands. The combination makes a complete Feeding, Extracting and Cleaning Unit, which is to be known as the Mitchell F.E.C. Unit.

This machine, which cleaned and conditioned the cotton before it was ginned, represented a significant leap in the ginning process and became the backbone of the company. In subsequent years, it was improved and refined. In 1932, for example, a patented drying system was installed that enabled damp or green cotton to be ginned. Previously, cotton in such a state would be discarded or ginned and baled at less-profitable prices (The Cotton Ginners' Journal April 1932).

This and other improvements made the John E. Mitchell Company a leader in the cotton processing industry and the firm's contributions were recognized by leading gin manufacturers. An advertisement by The Murray Company in a 1941 issue of The Cotton Ginners' Journal states "we are often asked why we use Mitchell Machines as Standard equipment with new Murray Outfits and this is our answer: Because we believe that Mitchell Machines are the most efficient and most practical Extractor-Feeders ever built." Furthermore, the Continental Gin Company, the world's largest gin manufacturer that maintained a branch facility in Dallas, became Mitchell's exclusive agent for cleaning and extracting equipment for its western markets by 1923 (Smith 1952:58-59). The endorsements by these gin manufacturers reflect the importance of the John E. Mitchell Company in the cotton gin industry in Texas and is an indication of its role in the state's cotton culture and economy. [The Continental Gin Company's use and promotion of Mitchell machinery was not simply because of the superiority of the equipment. The firm was sued by the John E. Mitchell Company in late 1922 for patent infringement when Continental manufactured its own cleaning equipment. When a settlement was made, Continental agreed to cease production after 1923 and pay Mitchell \$75 for each extractor-cleaner it had made (Smith 1952:58-59).]

The Continental Gin Company and The Murray Company, were the largest producers of cotton gin and related equipment in the world during the 20th century and contributed to the success of the cotton economy throughout the South. The Continental Gin Company is linked directly with the establishment of the gin manufacturing district in Dallas. Company founder Robert S. Munger, while operating his father's gin in Mexia, Texas, conceived and built a new labor-saving system that not only expedited the unloading of freshly picked cotton at the gin but also provided a more efficient means of distributing cotton into gin stands. As a consequence "the Munger System," as it was called, allowed several gin stands to be installed instead of the one or two stands possible previously (Smith 1952:26,55).



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4

---

One historian claims that "this [Munger's] system fairly revolutionized the ginning process" (White 1957:73). In 1884 Munger established a small factory on Elm Street that produced his innovative "Munger System" gin equipment. Munger's machinery gained popularity but his operations remained small until 1887 when he secured financial backing from W. M. Gaston, a prominent local banker. The two reorganized the firm that was renamed the Munger Improved Cotton Machine Manufacturing Company, and expanded the plant. In 1899 this firm and five others merged to form the Continental Gin Company, the world's largest manufacturer of cotton gin machinery and related equipment in the world (Smith 1952:55). The surviving complex on Elm Street in Dallas is listed in the National Register (1983) at a state level of significance.

The profitable operation of Munger's firm and its successor attracted competing businesses to Dallas, all of which located in close proximity to the Munger factory. The largest and most significant of these was The Murray Company, which was established in 1892 by S. D. Murray and a Mr. Carpenter. Initially called the Murray Ginning System Company, the enterprise built its factory on Race Street. Like Munger, Murray and his associates had limited funds hampering early growth and expansion. In 1900 John N. McDonough obtained financial support from several boiler and engine manufacturers, as well as "Carnegie Interests", and acquired control of the Murray firm. Its name was shortened to The Murray Company, and among the first actions taken by McDonough was the acquisition of property for a new factory on nearby Williams Street. The Murray Company offered a complete line of gin equipment and prospered through the middle of the 20th century. These gin companies were vital in the success and profitable operation of the John E. Mitchell Company and they encouraged the use of Mitchell F.E.C. Units to enable gins to operate more efficiently. Rather than being regarded as competitors, they manufactured products that complemented the Mitchell products. Throughout the 1930s, profits for the John E. Mitchell Company continued to soar, despite the near collapse of the cotton market during the Great Depression, and the firm struggled to meet increased demands for its equipment. Reduced prices of cotton obviously made the crop's cultivation and production less profitable. However, cotton remained an important commodity, and machinery that increased the efficiency of processing the raw cotton was crucial to maintaining profitability in the industry. New ideas regarding cotton ginning that were promoted by agricultural specialists also encouraged sales for extractor-cleaners during the 1930s.

It is a well recognized fact that careless or improper methods of ginning may lower the market value of cotton appreciably. The presence of excessive boll or leaf trash in the sample resulting from the lack of or improper use of modern cleaning equipment, as well as the detection of neps, motes and gin-cut lint, may reduce the value of cotton thus ginned from \$2.50 to \$10 per bale (The Cotton Ginners' Journal December 1937).



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

With such an implicit recommendation from the state's only trade journal devoted solely to cotton ginning, demands for extractor-cleaners continued to increase, and the John E. Mitchell Company was the greatest benefactor.

In 1938 company co-founder and president John E. Mitchell died in his summer home in Eagle Lake, Wisconsin, and was buried in St. Louis, Missouri. His son, John E. Mitchell, Jr., assumed control of the firm and continued its profitable operation. An advertisement in the April 1941 issue of The Cotton Ginners' Journal affirms the company's prosperity and states that during 1940, "127 new Mitchell Drying Systems were put into use as compared with 140 drying machines of **all other makes and types put together**. Thus the ginning industry once more expresses its conviction that the Mitchell System is the best way to dry seed cotton at the gin plant."

As the John E. Mitchell Company experienced continued prosperity the country slowly rebounded from the Great Depression, and the developing war in Europe began to be felt in the United States. A 1939 Mitchell company advertisement in The Cotton Ginners' Journal observes:

Everyone with any foresight at all knows that regardless of what happens in Europe, the ginning industry in America is in for fierce competition during the next few years. Everywhere it will be a fight for business. And when the smoke clears away, the victor will be the man who has prepared. What better way to be prepared than to have a set of Mitchell Super Units.

This statement reflects concern not only for the ginning industry in general, but also the livelihood of the company. And with the United States' entry into world war in 1941, these worries were completely justified. The War Productions Board, a government agency created to re-direct the nation's industrial capacity toward the war effort, issued orders limiting the manufacture of certain goods. One of its 1941 mandates, L-83, prohibited the production of cotton gin machinery, thus threatening to put the John E. Mitchell Company out of business.

In response company officials worked to secure a government defense-related contract and in early 1942 reached an agreement with the Navy to produce a half million 1.10-inch anti-aircraft projectiles. During the war, the Dallas plant of the John E. Mitchell Company became a leader in the manufacture of munitions and four times was awarded the prestigious "E award" for "outstanding production of war materials," acknowledging it as a nationwide leader in the quality of its work and its ability to meet or beat deadlines. The first award was presented on January 29, 1943, with numerous military, governmental and civic officials in attendance. Credit for the plant's efficiency is due to both company executives and factory workers, many of whom were women who helped break social and cultural barriers in the workplace.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

---

The introduction of women into the work force was a significant societal change in which the Mitchell Company participated, as did manufacturers throughout the nation. Prior to the war, no women had worked in the company's production line, but the labor shortages of wartime America made it possible for women to be hired in the plant. Despite initial fears that they could not tolerate the stress of the work, the women proved a resounding success and were acknowledged for their contributions (Welcome to the John E. Mitchell Company 11-34).

Following World War II the John E. Mitchell resumed its peacetime production of extractor-cleaners but its cotton business never reached pre-1941 levels. The company consequently began to branch out and expand its product line. The most famous goods were Mark IV mobile air conditioners, ICEE frozen carbonated beverage dispensers and MagiVac cleaning systems. The firm continued to occupy the buildings on Commerce Street until 1977 (Dallas city directories).

The John E. Mitchell Company of Dallas enjoyed its heyday between 1928 and 1941. The plant on Commerce Street, surviving generally in its 1930 condition, is a product of Dallas' industrial growth in the early 20th century. Its significance is tied to the waning days of the Texas cotton industry and to the crucial role of a few Dallas machinery manufacturers, concentrated in the Gin Manufacturing District east of downtown, in the technological advancements made in the processing of cotton.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

---

Chancellor, Carolynne and John C. Tatum, Jr.

1983 Continental Gin Company, Dallas Plant. National Register of Historic Places Inventory -- Nomination Form. On file at the National Register Department, Texas Historical Commission, Austin.

Cotton Ginners' Journal, The

var. On file at the Barker Texas History Center, The University of Texas at Austin.

Crowell, Evelyn Miller, ed.

1948 Men of Achievement, Texas Edition. John Moranz Associates, Dallas.

Dallas City Directories

var. On file at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, Dallas.

Dallas County, Texas

var. Deed Records.

Dallas Morning News

var. Microfilm copies on file at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, Dallas.

Dallas Times-Herald

var. Microfilm copies on file at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, Dallas.

Mitchell, John E., Company

n.d. Welcome to the John E. Mitchell Company. John E. Mitchell Company, Dallas.

Pitzinger, J.A.

var. Architectural Plans for the John E. Mitchell Company. In possession of John C. Tatum, Jr., Dallas.

Sanborn Map Co.

var. Dallas, Texas. On file at the Barker Texas History Center, The University of Texas at Austin.

Smith, Algernon L.

1952 Continental Gin Company and Its Fifty-Two Years of Service. Birmingham Publishing Company, Birmingham, Alabama.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 2

---

White, Raymond E.

1957 The History of the Texas Cotton Industry, 1822-1957. Unpublished  
Master's thesis, The University of Texas at Austin.

Zlatkovich, Charles P.

1981 Texas Railroads: A Record of Construction and Abandonment. Bureau of  
Business Research, University of Texas and Texas State Historical  
Association, Austin.

1967 "The Texas Cotton Ginning Industry, 1860-1900." Texana 4:344-358.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 91000118

Date Listed: 3/4/91

Mitchell, John E., Company Plant  
Property Name

Dallas  
County

TEXAS  
State

Multiple Name

-----  
This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

*Patrick Andrews*  
for Signature of the Keeper

3/4/91  
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

This nomination was amended to show Period of Significance as 1928-1941.

The amendment was confirmed with the Texas SHPO (3/4/91).

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file  
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Mitchell, John E., Company Plant  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Dallas

DATE RECEIVED: 1/24/91 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/06/91  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/22/91 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/10/91  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 91000118

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: Y  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

XACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT 3/4/91 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

This industrial building is important for its  
association with the development of Dallas  
as a center for the production of cotton  
processing machinery for the cotton-producing  
Areas of Texas, Arkansas & Louisiana  
during the early-mid Twentieth Century.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept/A  
REVIEWER Harper  
DISCIPLINE History  
DATE 3/4/91

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y (N) see attached SLR (Y) N



---

CLASSIFICATION

\_\_\_count      \_\_\_resource type

---

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

---

FUNCTION

\_\_\_historic      \_\_\_current

---

DESCRIPTION

\_\_\_architectural classification  
\_\_\_materials  
\_\_\_descriptive text

---

SIGNIFICANCE

Period      Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates      Builder/Architect  
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

\_\_\_summary paragraph  
\_\_\_completeness  
\_\_\_clarity  
\_\_\_applicable criteria  
\_\_\_justification of areas checked  
\_\_\_relating significance to the resource  
\_\_\_context  
\_\_\_relationship of integrity to significance  
\_\_\_justification of exception  
\_\_\_other

---

BIBLIOGRAPHY

---

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

\_\_\_acreage      \_\_\_verbal boundary description  
\_\_\_UTMs      \_\_\_boundary justification

---

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

\_\_\_sketch maps    \_\_\_USGS maps    \_\_\_photographs    \_\_\_presentation

---

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_





JOHN E. MITCHELL COMPANY PLANT

3800 COMMERCE

DALLAS, DALLAS CO., TEXAS

DANIEL HARDY (HARDY. HECK. MOORE)

OCTOBER 1988, NEGATIVE WITH HARDY. HECK. MOORE

FRONT & SIDE ELEVATIONS

CAMERA FACING NORTHEAST

PHOTO 1 of 5





JOHN E. MITCHELL COMPANY PLANT  
3800 COMMERCE  
DALLAS, DALLAS CO., TEXAS  
DANIEL HARDY (HARDY. HECK. MOORE)  
OCTOBER 1988  
NEGATIVE WITH HARDY. HECK. MOORE  
FRONT & SIDE ELEVATIONS  
CAMERA FACING NORTHWEST

PHOTO 2 of 5





JOHN E. MITCHELL COMPANY PLANT  
3800 COMMERCE  
DALLAS, DALLAS CO. TEXAS  
DANIEL HARDY (HARDY. HECK. MOORE)  
OCTOBER 1988  
NEGATIVE WITH HARDY. HECK. MOORE  
REAR & SIDE ELEVATIONS  
CAMERA FACING SOUTHEAST

PHOTO 3 of 5





JOHN E. MITCHELL COMPANY PLANT  
3800 COMMERCE  
DALLAS, DALLAS CO., TEXAS  
DANIEL HARDY (HARDY. HECK. MOORE)  
OCTOBER 1988  
NEGATIVE WITH HARDY. HECK. MOORE  
INTERIOR - SECOND FLOOR  
CAMERA FACING NORTHEAST

PHOTO 4 of 5





JOHN E. MITCHELL COMPANY PLANT  
3800 COMMERCE

DALLAS, DALLAS CO., TEXAS

DANIEL HARDY (HARDY. HECK. MOORE)

OCTOBER 1988

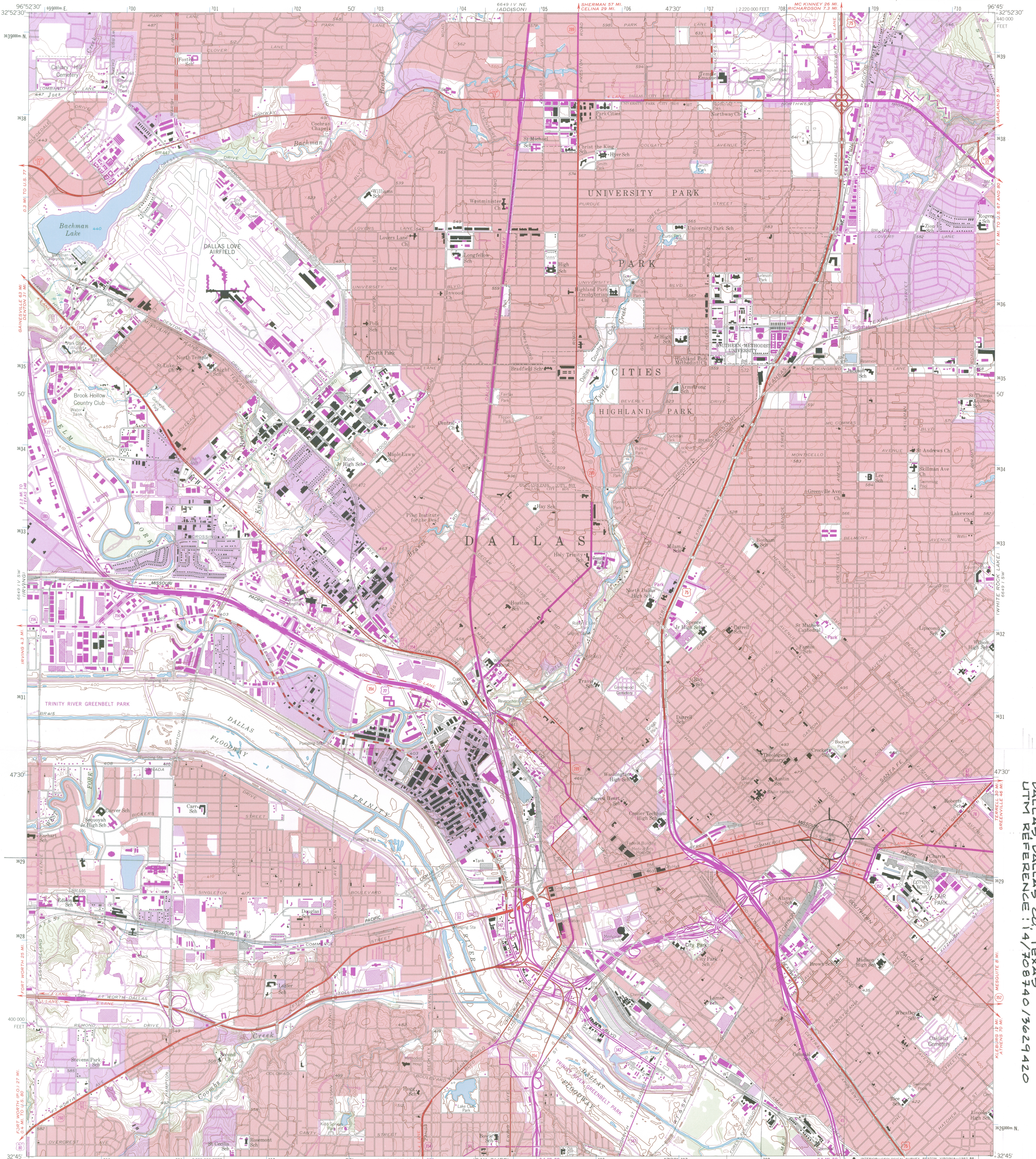
NEGATIVE WITH HARDY. HECK. MOORE

INTERIOR - SECOND FLOOR

CAMERA FACING SOUTHWEST

PHOTO 5 of 5





Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

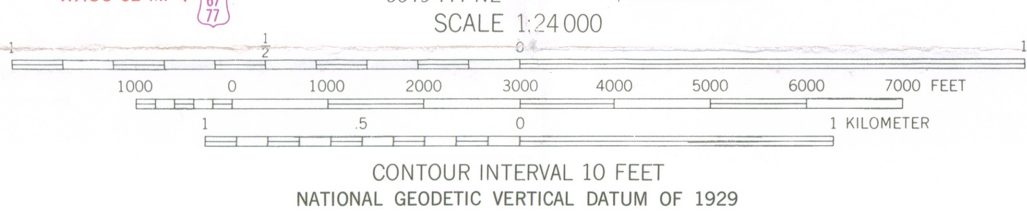
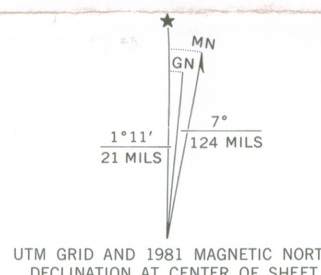
Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs taken 1952 and 1956. Topography from City of Dallas surveys 1954 and by planetable surveys 1958

Polyconic projection. 10,000-meter grid ticks based on Texas coordinate system, north central zone. 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 14, shown in blue. 1927 North American Datum. To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 10 meters south and 26 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled from aerial photographs taken 1978 and other sources. This information not field checked. Map edited 1981

Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route	U.S. Route
	State Route

DALLAS, TEX.  
SE 1/4 CARROLLTON 15' QUADRANGLE  
N3245-W9645/7.5

1958  
PHOTOREVISED 1981  
DMA 6649 IV SE-SERIES V882

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225 OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

3296-331

JOHN E. MITCHELL COMPANY PLANT  
3800 COMMERCE CO. TEXAS  
UTM REFERENCE 14T0874013629420