

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

VLR 4/30/08  
NRHP 6/4/08

**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 any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. 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 Lower Basin Historic District (addition of two resources)  
other names/site number 118-0211-0065

**2. Location**

street & number 23-27 Ninth Street not for publication N/A  
city or town Lynchburg vicinity N/A  
state Virginia code VA county Ind. City code 680 zip code 24504

**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  nationally  statewide  locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)



April 30, 2008  
Date

Virginia Department of Historic Resources  
State or Federal Agency or Tribal government

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

**4. 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: commerce/trade Sub: warehouse  
transportation railroad tunnel

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: commerce/trade Sub: warehouse  
vacant

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

other

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete warehouse  
 roof metal warehouse  
 walls metal warehouse; stone tunnel  
 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)

- X 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.
X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or a 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)

- Architecture
Commerce
Industry
Transportation

Period of Significance 1800-1950 (entire district)

Significant Dates 1872

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

(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 # \_\_\_\_\_

Lower Basin Historic District (addition of two resources)

Lynchburg, Virginia

**Primary Location of Additional Data**

State Historic Preservation Office

\_\_\_ Other State agency

\_\_\_ Federal agency

\_\_\_ Local government

\_\_\_ University

\_\_\_ Other

Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources

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**10. Geographical Data**  
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**Acreage of Property** 0.5730 acres

**UTM References** (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing  
1 17 664540 4142480 2

\_\_\_ 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.)

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**11. Form Prepared By**  
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name/title Jean McRae, National and State Register Coordinator

organization Virginia Department of Historic Resources date April 2008

street & number 2801 Kensington Avenue telephone 804-367-2323

city or town Richmond state VA zip code 23221

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

name Amazement Square/The Rightmire Children's Museum

street & number 27 Ninth Street telephone 434-845-1888

city or town Lynchburg state VA zip code 24504

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**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 36 hours per response including the 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

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Lower Basin Historic District (addition of two resources)  
Lynchburg, Virginia**

Section 7, 8 Page 1

**Original Section 7 Summary Description:**

The Lower Basin Historic District defines a commercial and industrial warehouse area in the city of Lynchburg located between the downtown commercial area to the south and the James River waterfront to the north. Encompassing buildings facing the 700-1300 blocks of Jefferson Street, the 600-1300 blocks of Commerce Street, and most of the 1200-1300 blocks of Main Street, the district contains a variety of mostly late 19th- and early 20th-century, multi-story, brick warehouses and factories, two-to-three-story brick commercial buildings, and a number of structures associated with the James River and Kanawha Canal and the Norfolk and Western and Chesapeake and Ohio Railways.

**Original Inventory listing:**

Ninth Street

23-27: J. W. Wood Building. Warehouse. Greek Revival. pre-1855.

Brick; 3 stories; 6 front symmetrical bays; hipped roof (standing seam metal); iron storefront, 6/6 double sash windows with classical window cornices, broad frieze around building; individually placed on National Register of Historic Places 2/17/83.

**Addition to Inventory listing:**

There are two secondary resources located on the J.W. Wood property. A 1964 corrugated metal warehouse, and an 1872 stone railroad tunnel. VDHR File #118-0211-0065

Main brick warehouse

Metal warehouse

Railroad tunnel

Contributing

**Non-contributing**

Contributing

**Original Section 8 Summary Statement:**

The Lower Basin Historic District, located primarily along Lynchburg's James River waterfront, defines the city's major lath 19<sup>th</sup>- and early 20th-century commercial and mercantile center. Beginning as Lynch's Ferry in the 1750s and emerging as an important canal and railroad transportation center during the mid-19th century, Lynchburg maintained its role as a leading manufacturing and marketing center for much of the Piedmont region until well into the 20th century. The Lower Basin area takes its name from an expanded portion of the James River and Kanawha Canal which linked the city to eastern markets after 1840. Canal traffic and the arrival of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad to Lynchburg in 1849 resulted in increased commercial activity in the Lower Basin. This activity reached its zenith during the early 20th century with most of the district's commercial warehouses, factories, and jobbing houses dating from the 1890s and early 1900s. Rows of multi-story, utilitarian brick structures present a compact and cohesive display of period commercial architecture, noteworthy more for building numbers, size, and construction than for stylistic features; nevertheless, traces of Italianate, Romanesque Revival, Neoclassical, and Italian Renaissance styles are seen in the sturdy facades that line Jefferson and Commerce streets.

**Additional Statement:**

When the original Lower Basin Historic District was listed in the Virginia Landmarks Register on September 14, 1986, and in the National Register of Historic Places on April 24, 1987, the 1964 warehouse and 1872 tunnel were not acknowledged in the district inventory. They are clearly both located within the boundaries and in fact are on the same parcel as the J.W. Wood warehouse, which is contributing to the district and individually listed. This additional

documentation is to inventory these two resources: one non-contributing building and one contributing structure.

NPS Form 10-900-a  
(8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Lower Basin Historic District (addition of two resources)  
Lynchburg, Virginia**

Section 10, Photographic Data Page 2

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**10. Geographic Data:**

**Verbal Boundary Description:**

The property addressed as 23-27 Ninth Street is referenced as Lynchburg City tax parcel 04513008 with 0.5730 acres.

**Boundary Justification:**

The boundary is as it applies to the property at 23-27 Ninth Street in Lynchburg, Virginia; which includes the main brick warehouse, the metal warehouse and the tunnel.

**Photographic Data:**

Originals not provided as this amendment is solely for the addition of two resources to the currently registered historic district inventory.

Attachment One: Copy of photographs submitted with 2008 documentation from property owner. Shows tunnel as it is being restored.

Attachment Two: Copy of photographs submitted with 2008 documentation from property owner. Shows exterior and interior of metal warehouse.

Attachment Three: Copy of detailed district map originally submitted with 1986 nomination, showing location of 23-27 Ninth Street property.

Attachment Four: Copy of section of Lynchburg Quadrangle showing location of 23-27 Ninth Street property.

LOWER BASIN

HISTORICAL MAP

(ADJ. OF 2 MI)

LYNN RIVER

118-0211-0005

ATTACHMENT 3



USGS 7.5' quadrangle  
Lynchburg, VA

(scale:1:24000)  
1963 (PR 1984)

LOWER BASIN HISTORIC DISTRICT  
Lynchburg, VA

MAP 2 of 2

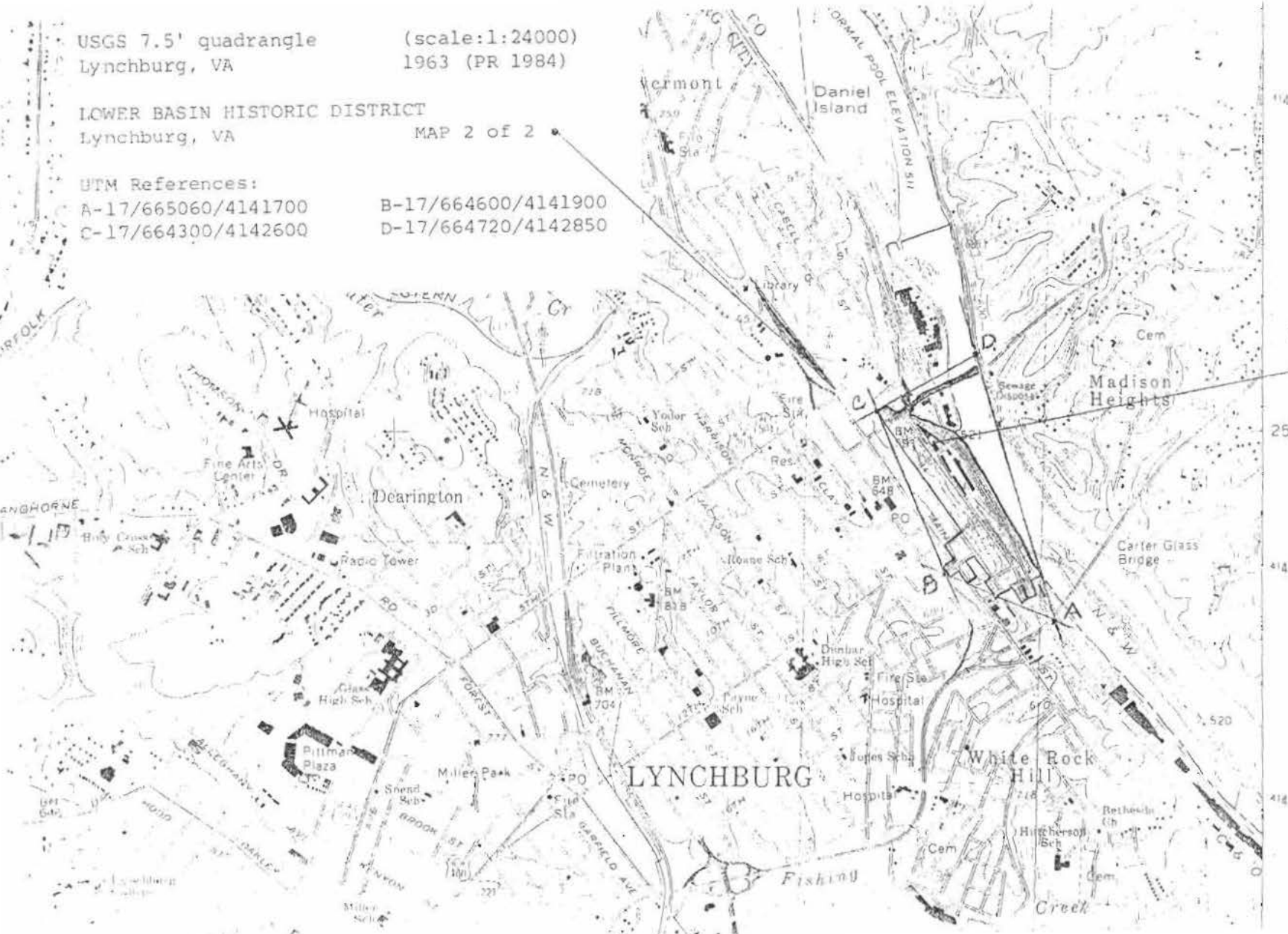
UTM References:

A-17/665060/4141700

B-17/664600/4141900

C-17/664300/4142600

D-17/664720/4142850



23-27 Ninth St  
UTM 17 ZONE  
664540E  
4142480N

LOWER BASIN  
HISTORIC DISTRICT  
(ADD OF 2 PGS)  
LYNCHBURG, VA  
118-0211-0065  
ATTACHMENT 4