

LOCAL HISTORIC LANDMARK PROGRAM

Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission

P.H. Hanes Knitting Company – Warehouse & Shipping Building

Local Historic Landmark #119

600 N. Chestnut St., Winston-Salem

Construction Date: 1940

Adaptive Rehabilitation Date: 2007

Landmark Designation Date: 02/05/2007

In 1872, Pleasant Henderson Hanes and his brother, John Wesley Hanes, came to what was then the town of Winston from Davie County, North Carolina. Together, the brothers first established a tobacco manufacturing enterprise. However, they sold the business in 1900 to the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company; the brothers then separately went into the textile business. John Wesley Hanes went into the manufacturing of stockings in 1901 (City of Winston-Salem Historic Marker #20, Shamrock Mills), while his brother opened an underwear manufacturing business in 1902 under the name P.H. Hanes Knitting Company.

Three buildings from the company's downtown Winston-Salem complex remain and are an important piece of the city's industrial heritage. They are among the few industrial buildings left in the downtown area from Winston-Salem's period of intense industrial growth. While there were hundreds of industrial buildings in the eastern blocks of downtown during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, now only a handful remain. The tobacco industry made up the largest part of the city's industrial production, but textiles were an important factor in the economy, as well.

The earliest of the three buildings comprising the complex is the Knitting Building, which was constructed in 1920 (Local Historic Landmark #121). In 1928, the Mill Building (Local Historic Landmark #122) was constructed. The third building remaining in the complex is the Warehouse & Shipping Building, constructed in



Courtesy of Heather Fearnbach

1940. These structures were built during a period of textile expansion in North Carolina that culminated in the explosive postwar growth of the company, when Hanes became a nationally-recognized brand.

The Warehouse & Shipping Building is located directly adjacent to the railroad tracks at the northeast corner of E. Sixth and N. Chestnut Streets. Six stories plus a basement level in height, this brick veneer building has a steel frame, flat roof, and metal windows. The windows have sixteen lights, set in tripartite groups. The windows have cast concrete sills outside with molded (rounded) brick sills inside. The building is trapezoidal in shape with the west elevation following the angle of the rail line.

In 2002, the Goler Community Development Corporation acquired the building and completed a sensitive adaptive reuse rehabilitation project in 2007, branding the building "The Gallery Lofts."

Today the Warehouse & Shipping Building houses residential units and office space.



Aerial view showing the 600 block of Main Street, the P.H. Hanes Knitting Company (at center) and the surrounding area, Date Unknown
(Photograph taken prior to 1940 as Warehouse & Shipping Building has not been constructed, thus is not shown)
Courtesy of Forsyth County Public Library Photograph Collection via Digital Forsyth (<http://www.digitalforsyth.org>)

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

**P.H. Hanes Knitting Company
National Register Nomination
<http://www.hpo.ncdcr.gov/nr/FY3152.pdf>**

<http://www.textilehistory.org/PHHanesCompany.html>

**[http://www.hanesbrands.com/HBI/flash/hbi%
20timeline%208.25.06.swf](http://www.hanesbrands.com/HBI/flash/hbi%20timeline%208.25.06.swf)**

**[http://www.flickr.com/photos/vintagehalloween
collector/2811758093/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/vintagehalloweencollector/2811758093/)**



This information is also available
at the Forsyth County
Historic Resources Commission's web site:
<http://www.ForsythCountyHRC.org>