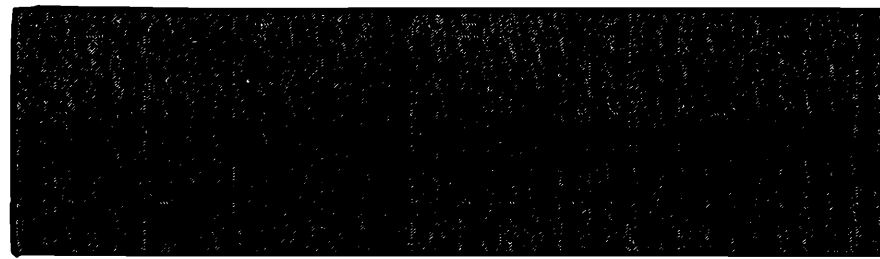


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



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1. Name: Valley Falls Mill (see also: Amendment, continuation sheet 34)
2. Location: 1363 Broad Street
Central Falls, RI
*030, 160, (ELDERLY HOUSING WIP)
see p. 48 of Section 8*
3. Owner: Blackstone Falls Associates
c/o Gelardin/Bruner/Cott, Inc.
534a Green Street
Cambridge, MA 02139
4. Description: This mill site includes three structures dating from the mid-19th century -- a large brick mill, a smaller stone mill, and a small boiler house. In addition, much of the water power system remains, including a hewn-stone dam (1853), which provided 14 feet of head, the gate, and its house; and portions of a once-extensive canal system.

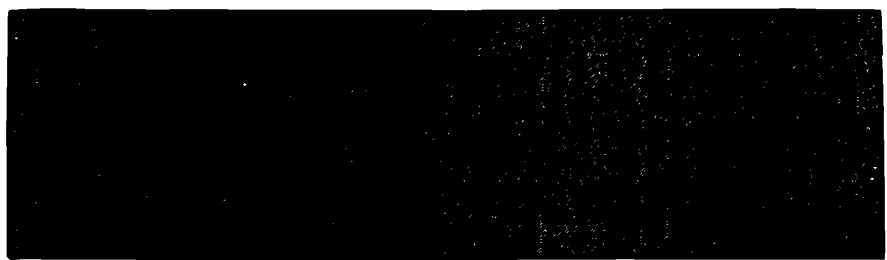
The Valley Falls Mill (1849) is 156 by 44 feet, 20 bays long; built of red brick and trimmed with granite, the mill is 4 stories tall and has a hip roof. The floors are supported by heavy timber columns; the fourth floor of the mill has no posts -- its roof is supported by king post trusses. At the center of the south elevation is a five-level, projecting Italianate tower.

Joined to the mill by a passageway is a smaller, 3-story, gable-roofed rubble mill (1860s). Adjacent to this smaller mill is a shed-roofed boiler house (1860s).
5. Dates: 1849, 1860s.
6. Significance: The Valley Falls Mill is a major industrial building, located on a key site. The water power of the Valley Falls was first used by the Wilkinson family, noted for their mechanical genius, in 1812. The present mill was constructed by Samuel and Harvey B. Chace; it was designed for the manufacture of cotton products and was the site of the first use of American-made, Sharp and Roberts self-actor mules.

The Chaces (incorporated as the Valley Falls Company) operated mills on both sides of Blackstone and in other towns. The Valley Falls Mill encouraged the growth of a substantial village here at the falls, though it is now

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virtually indistinguishable from the rest of Central Falls. Apart from its historic interest, the mill is an architectural landmark, its distinctive tower visible in much of the city.

7. Acreage: 2.8 acres
8. Plat 3, lots 37, 178a, 181, and that portion of lot 178B formed by a line from High Street (68.80' from lot 37) running 108.5' at 45 -37'3"W to lot 81.
9. UTM Reference: 19. 301830 4641080
10. Entered on the National Register, September 27, 1977.
1. Valley Falls Mill Complex Amendment: Office and Bath House
2. Location: 1359 and 1361 Broad Street, Central Falls, RI
3. Owner: Blackstone Falls Associates, 534a Green Street, Cambridge, MA
4. Description: This amendment includes two buildings constructed as part of the mill complex. The company office is a 1-story Italianate structure, of stone rubble with a stucco cover, low overhanging roof and exposed purlin ends. The bath house is a 1-story brick and wood building, with a steep hip roof and cupola.
5. Dates: c. 1855, c. 1870.
6. Significance: The company office, which served as the administrative center of the mill complex, and the bath house, which served both mill workers and the community, have been added to the nomination; together, they enhance the visual quality of the mills and historically they add a new dimension to the complex.
7. Acreage: less than one acre
8. Plat 2, lot 192, formerly part of lot 178B.
9. UTM Reference: 19. 301790 4641030