

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Rhode Island	
COUNTY: Newport	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JAN 18 1972

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Perry Mill

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
337 Thames Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Newport

STATE Rhode Island	CODE 02840	COUNTY: Newport	CODE 005
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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
General Electric Company

STREET AND NUMBER:  
337 Thames Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Newport

STATE: Rhode Island	CODE 02840	44
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**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
City Clerk's Office, City Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Broadway

CITY OR TOWN:  
Newport

STATE Rhode Island	CODE 02840	44
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**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Statewide Survey of Historic Buildings

DATE OF SURVEY: 1970  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Room 124, State House

CITY OR TOWN:  
Providence

STATE: Rhode Island	CODE 02903	44
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Rhode Island  
COUNTY: Newport  
ENTRY NUMBER: JAN 18 1972  
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built in 1835 by Alexander McGregor, a Scotch stonemason who had moved to Newport, the Perry Mill is a monumental, rectangular, stone structure set with its east end to Thames Street on Newport's waterfront. Now much altered, the building is three stories tall with a flat roof, nineteen bays long and four bays wide across the streetfront. The building is characterized by its beautiful stonework; the walls are built of a native stone, random ashlar, warm sandy-brown in color, and the white granite of the quoins and of the sills and lintels of the six-over-six double hung sash windows provides simple, crisp detail.

The mill was originally four stories in height, capped by a tall basilican roof with a full-length monitor and an imposing wooden tower of Greek Revival detail. The roof and fourth floor have since been removed, and the tower has been replaced with a simple brick stair-tower on the south side. Other alterations include a brick tower and loading dock built into the rear of the north side, and a simple plate-glass storefront which has been built into the Thames Street end. The interior has also been remodeled to fit modern industrial needs and contains simple work areas and office space.

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**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1835

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry    |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  | _____                                    |

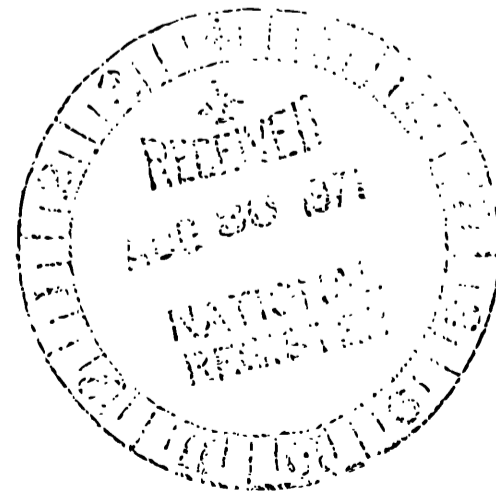
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Perry Mill was one of four mills erected along Thames Street in the 1830's and 1840's in an attempt to revive Newport's failing economy by introducing textile manufacturing. The Perry Mill and the Newport Steam Factory, now the Newport Electric Company, are the only mills remaining from this short-lived venture.

Built by Alexander McGregor, the structure is of the greatest architectural importance for its magnificent stonework. The walls of Fort Adams, built in 1833, and the Newport Artillery Company's Armory on Clarke Street give further witness to McGregor's skill as a mason.

The mill is preserved as a splendid example of the artistry attained by stone craftsmen working in New England in the early nineteenth century.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Downing, Antoinette F. and Vincent J. Scully, Jr. The Architectural Heritage of Newport, Rhode Island. New York: Clarkson N. Potter, Inc., 1967, pp. 110, 117, 120.

Downing, Antoinette F. and Mrs. Peter Bolhouse: Unpublished survey notebooks (Thames Street section) at Newport Historical Society, Newport, Rhode Island.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		41° 29' 4" N	71° 18' 55"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
Alice H.R. Hauck and Clifford M. Renshaw III, Surveyors

ORGANIZATION: Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission      DATE: April 20, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Room 124, State House

CITY OR TOWN: Providence      STATE: Rhode Island      CODE: 02903      44

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name

Title

Date

*Frederick C. Williams*

State Liaison Officer

August 16, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

*Ernest A. Connelly*  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

JAN 13 1972

Date

ATTEST:

*William M. Stoughton*  
Keeper of The National Register

Date

JAN 3 1972

19/306700/4894860  
U/M/K/L  
12-11-71

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