

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA. 02108

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Form numbers in this area | Area letter |
| J-21-2 | 506 |

Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form

Photo number Mills 2-33/35

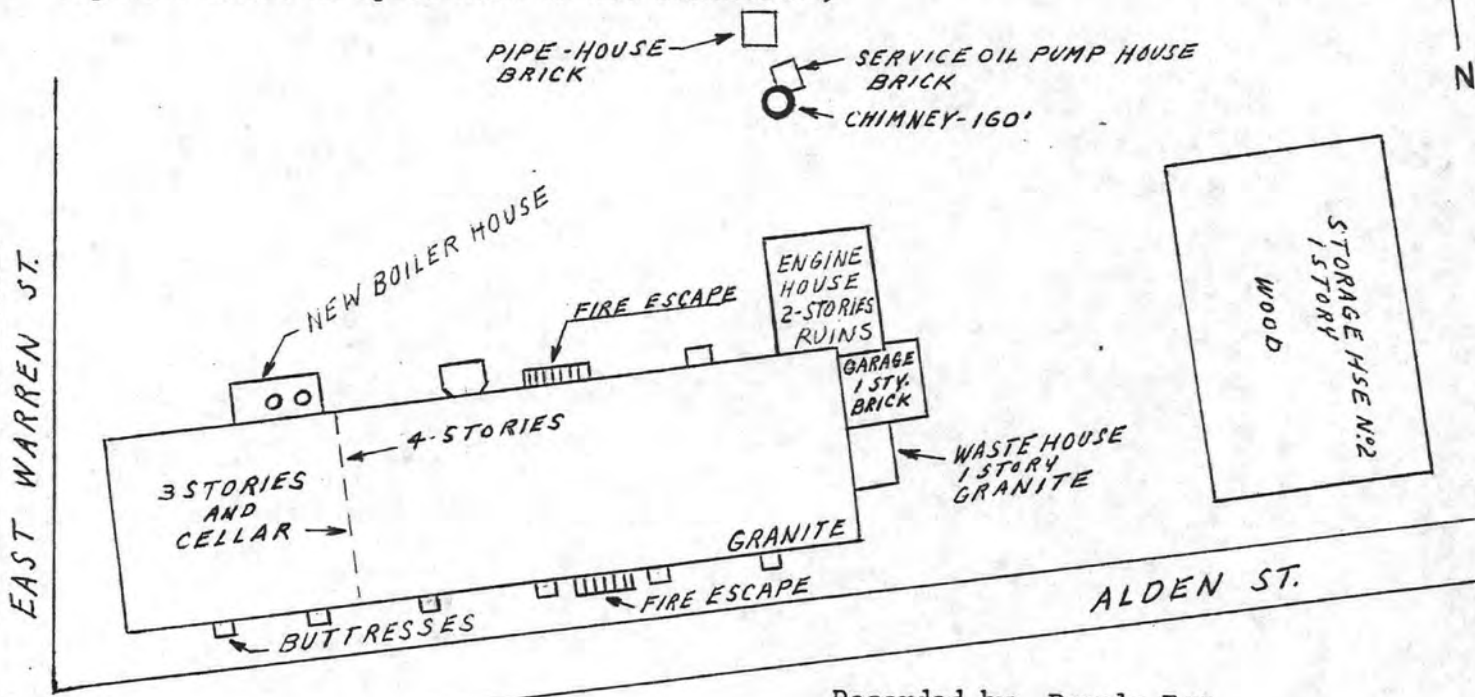
Town Fall River, Mass.

Name of area (if any) Cornell Mills

Alden Street

General date or period 1890

Sketch map. Draw a general map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. (Attach a separate sheet if space here is not sufficient)



Recorded by Pamela Fox

Organization FROHP

Date 3/10/82

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE of area. (Describe physical setting, general character, and architecturally significant structures).

The 1890 Cornell Mill is notable as a substantial, well-preserved example of late 19th century granite mill architecture. It is located on the north side of the Quequechan River, prominently visible from Interstate 195. The main mill rises three stories above the basement and is wide in proportion, measuring 370' X 120'. It is constructed of rough granite blocks with finished blocks used for corner quoins, lintels and buttressing. The building has a regular fenestration pattern which features large windows with 12/36 sash and is a good example of the increased ratio of window to wall surface seen in later granite mills. Six buttresses divide the principal facade into regularly-repeating bays in a 3/6/6/6/6/6/3 rhythm. The building terminates with a wide bracketed cornice and low-pitched roof. Also on the property is the two-story granite engine house, a small brick garage, small granite waste house, detached 1-story wooden storehouse, and 160' brick mill chimney with a corbelled rim.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE of area. (Explain development of area, what caused it, and how it affected community; be specific).

The Cornell Mills was organized in 1889 with John D. Flint as president and John W. Hargraves as treasurer. The company was capitalized at \$400,000, a figure later raised to \$600,000. The one mill building of 1890 had an initial capacity of 38,400 spindles and 960 looms for the production of print cloth and odd goods. At its peak during the second decade of the 20th century, the mill had a capacity of 45,040 spindles and 1,114 looms. It closed in 1930.

The Cornell Mills are significant as a substantial and well preserved example of late 19th century granite mill architecture and for its part in the manufacturing predominance of Fall River during that period. The property meets criteria A and C of the National Register.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

1920 Corporate Millyard Plans
1891 Fall River City Directory
Phillips' History of Fall River, p. 131

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received 1/5/83
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 3 of 10

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Fall River Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

21. Chace Mills

Substantive Review

Keeper

2/16/83 *[Signature]*

Attest

22. Chace, A. B., Rowhouses

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 *[Signature]*

Attest

23. Chace's, Oliver, Thread Mill

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 *[Signature]*

Attest

24. Charlton Mill

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 *[Signature]*

Attest

25. Chase-Hyde Farm

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 *[Signature]*

Attest

26. Children's Home

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 *[Signature]*

Attest

27. Church of the Ascension

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 *[Signature]*

Attest

28. Collins, William, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 *[Signature]*

Attest

29. Connell, William M., School

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 *[Signature]*

Attest

30. Cornell Mills

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 *[Signature]*

Attest

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Cornell Mills (Fall River MRA)
Bristol County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 1/5/83-15
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.7.84
Date Due: 2/3/83 - 2/19/83
Action: ACCEPT 2/14/83
 RETURN
Entered in the National Register REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
 see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

| | | | |
|----------|--------------------|------------|-------------|
| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use |
| | Public Acquisition | Accessible | |

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| Condition | | Check one | Check one |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> original site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> altered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | | |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. Significance

Period _____ Area 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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UMT References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

_____ national _____ state _____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- _____ Maps
- _____ Photographs
- _____ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272 - 3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



NAME: Cornell Mills

LOCATION: Alden Street
Fall River, ^{MA} Mass.

PHOTO CREDIT: Pamela Shields (1981)

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Fall River Office of Historic
Preservation
One Government Center
Fall River, Mass. 02722
(PSNR-15-2)

IDENTIFICATION: Cornell Mills
General view, looking east

Photo # 1 of 2



Fall River MRA, Ma

Mills 2-33

Cornell Mill

n/e view



Fall River MRA, Ma

Mills 2-35.
Cornell Mills
n/w view

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000279