

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received JUL 10 1986
date entered 8-14-86

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Great Falls/S.U.M. Historic District Extension (Argus Mill)

and or common

2. Location

street & number 6 Mill Street NA not for publication

city, town Paterson vicinity of

state New Jersey code 34 county Passaic code 031

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	NA	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Paterson Renaissance Organization

street & number 35 Church Street

city, town Paterson vicinity of state New Jersey

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Passaic County Courthouse

street & number 77 Hamilton Street

city, town Paterson 07505 state New Jersey

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title New Jersey Historic Sites
Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1985 federal state county local

depository for survey records Office of New Jersey Heritage, CN 404,

city, town Trenton, state New Jersey 08625

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

This is a proposal to extend the existing Great Falls/Society for Establishing Useful Manufacturers Historic District to include the Argus Mill. Directly across the street from several major factories, Argus Mill is a late 19th century mill building.

Historically, the Argus Mill provided a delineation between the S.U.M. industrial facilities to the north and west and the predominantly residential neighborhoods to the east and south. The boundary change brings the Argus Mill into the industrial historic district and establishes a logical border.

The Argus Mill, is a brick warehouse with utilitarian detail and open loft space typical of the individual buildings that comprise the district. This particular 3 1/2-story mill was built of common bond brick in the mid-1870s. The building is essentially rectangular in plan, with a loading entrance at Mill Street, segmental windows at each floor, and a shallow pitched gable roof with gabled front and rear parapets.

The Mill Street entrance (west) relates to the Essex Mill across the street, for which the Argus Mill served as a warehouse. The northerly bay has a door at street level, altered as evidenced by the brick. To the right, the first floor loading bay remains with iron surround and lintel that extends across the entire facade. The second and third floor feature three segmental window openings with lintels formed by two rows of header bricks and limestone sills. Sawtooth brick lines the gable whose parapet is capped by limestone coping. The southwest corner of the building at the second and third floors had collapsed and been rebuilt with masonry blocks by a previous owner.

Both the south and north side elevations have arcades of twelve regularly-spaced segmental windows with the same lintel and sill detail as the front. Windows, originally blind, are open or boarded over. Half windows at the basement also have segmental openings. A brick addition at the center of the rear elevation rises the entire height of the building, housing a stairwell. To the right (north), door openings have been cut into windows; the south bay has its original window openings. Although the brick cornice is severely damaged or missing in some areas, the front and rear gabled parapets add a hint of style to an otherwise utilitarian building.

Inside, the characteristic open clear-span spaces recall the mill's original industrial use as a warehouse for mosquito netting.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates N/A 1874 Builder/Architect Not known

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Great Falls/S.U.M. Historic District contains one of the most significant engineering and industrial complexes in the United States. Alexander Hamilton and other supporters organized the Society for Establishing Useful Manufacturers to achieve America's independence from British manufactures and demonstrate her own profitability. With the major water power to be harnessed from the Great Falls of the Passaic River, and the original engineering plan of Pierre Charles L'Enfant, Paterson developed into an important eighteenth and nineteenth century industrial center for cotton, silk, iron and locomotive production. Among the prominent companies in the early days of "Industrial Paterson" was R & H Adams, silk manufacturers who built a brick warehouse, typical of the existing S.U.M. district, at 6 Mill Street for their silk mosquito business.

In 1829 William Adams, father of Robert and Henry, began to weave mosquito netting in New York City. William Adams and Company, which included Robert and Henry, was organized in 1857 and the company bought the old Harmony Mill in Paterson, formerly a cotton factory. By 1864 their entire mosquito net manufacturing process had been transferred to Paterson, William Adams & Co. dissolved, and R & H Adams formed. The Harmony Mill burned in 1869, but Robert and Henry Adams purchased and improved the Essex Mill, belonging to the Colt Estate, in 1871. The Adams brothers expanded their mosquito net operation further in 1874 when they erected a large storehouse -- now known as the Argus Mill -- on Mill Street opposite the Essex Mill (1). According to deed records, the Adams Brothers purchased the property for the mill in 1876, which is more likely the construction date. At that time, the east side of Mill Street was predominantly residential. In 1879, Robert Adams retired; Henry continued the company, retaining ownership of the Argus Mill until 1899 when he sold it to Tisha Gordon.

For over forty years, the Adams warehouse was known as the Gordon Mill. According to Davison's Silk Trade, 1921 and 1927, Henry Gordon was a dealer in spun silk yarns, tram, and organzine (2). In 1941, Gordon sold the property, which has since been called the Argus Mill for the Argus Yarn Company.

9. Major Bibliographical References

1. L. R. Trumbull, History of Industrial Paterson, 1882.
2. Davidson's Silk Trade (New York: Davison Publishing Co., 1921 and 1927).

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than 1
 Quadrangle name Paterson

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A	<u>18</u>	<u>569260</u>	<u>4529600</u>	B	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	D	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
E	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	F	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
G	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	H	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Verbal boundary description and justification The original district boundary followed the west curb of Mill Street from Oliver Street to Van Houten Street. By appending the Argus Mill, the boundary juts briefly into the eastern portion of Mill Street properties. The boundary of the Great Falls/S.U.M. Historic District is herein expanded to include the Argus Mill, which

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries (see continuation sheet)

state	NA code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Len Rothe

organization Paterson Renaissance Organization date May, 1985

street & number 35 Church Street telephone 201-523-2042

city or town Paterson state New Jersey

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

Deputy
 State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Debra J. Searles*
 title Assistant Commissioner for Natural Resources date 6/24/80

For NPS use only

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

Debra J. Searles Entered in the National Register date 8-14-86
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____
 Chief of Registration

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

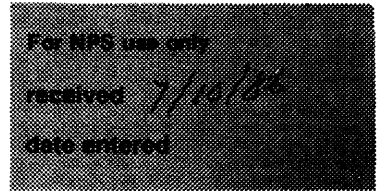
**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Great Falls/S.U.M. Historic District

Continuation sheet Extension (Argus Mill)

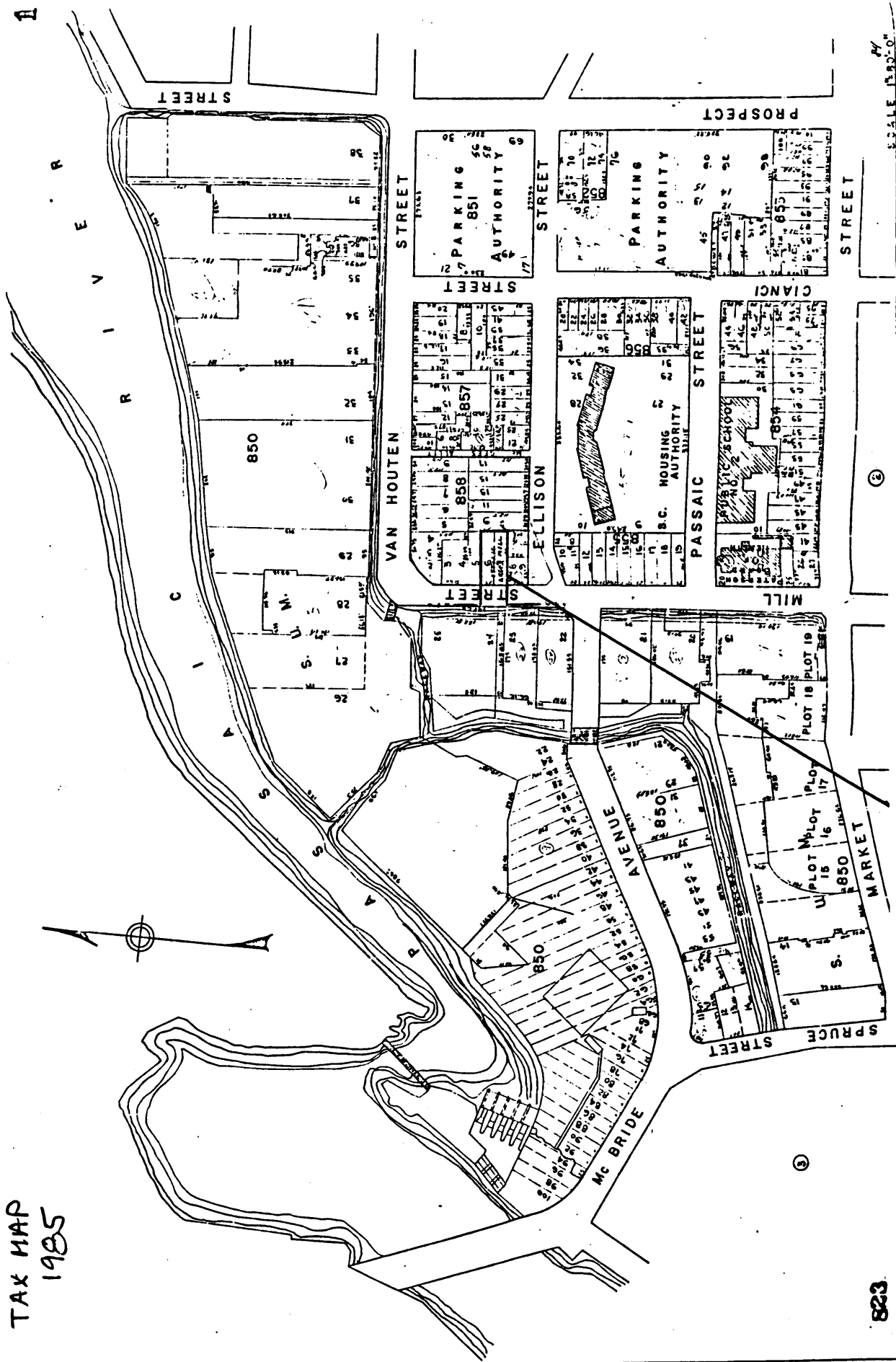
Item number 10

Page 1



is identified as Block 858, Lot 6 on the current Paterson tax maps.

TAX MAP
1985



823

Argus Mill
Paterson
Passaic County, NJ

②

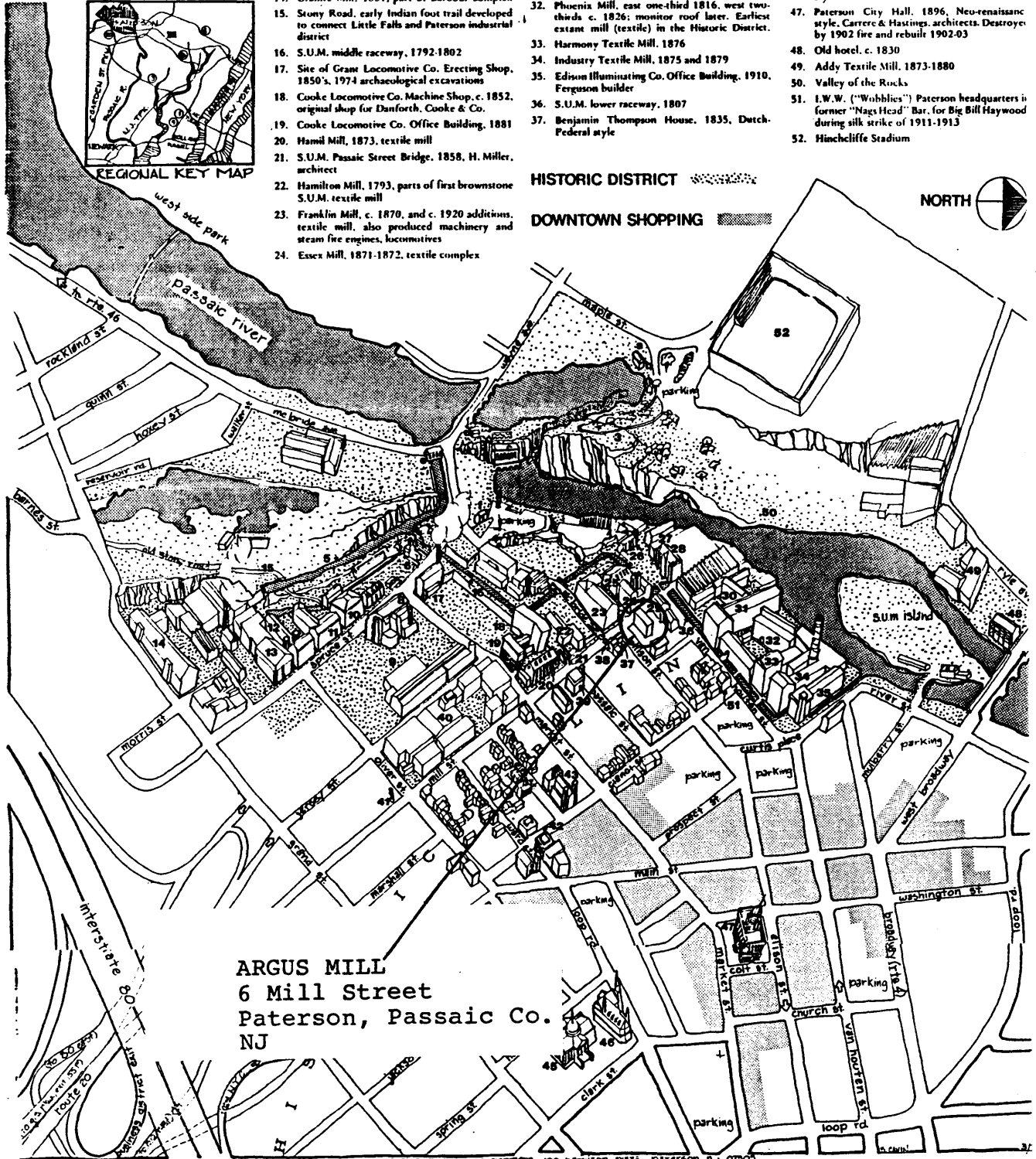
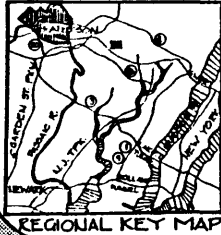
③

SCALE 1:5000

GREAT FALLS/S.U.M. HISTORIC DISTRICT-NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

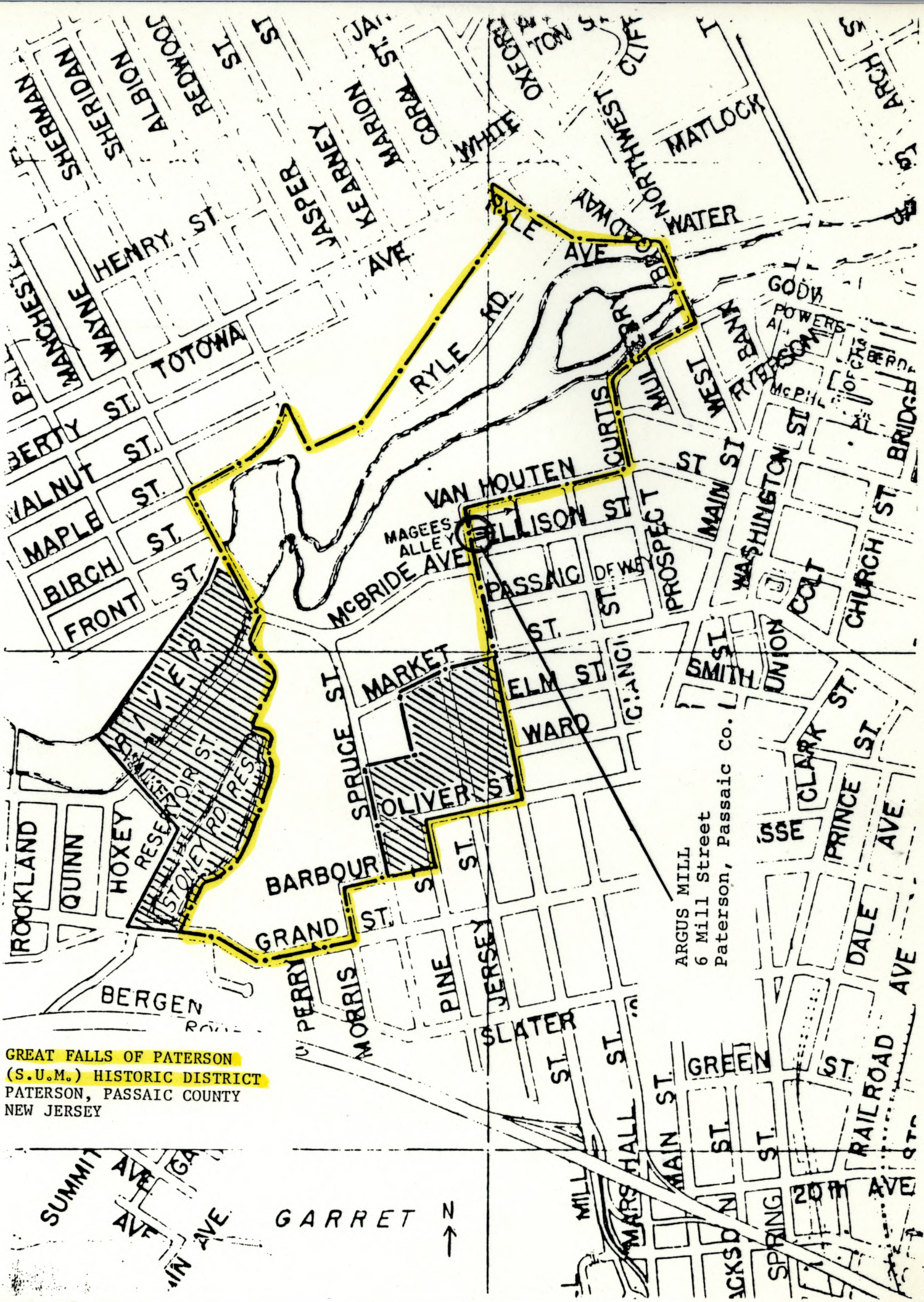
HISTORIC POINTS OF INTEREST

1. Great Falls of the Passaic River, 72 ft. high, 280 ft. wide, second largest waterfall in Eastern United States
2. S.U.M. Buildings
 - a. Remains of 1876 steam and boiler plant
 - b. Conduit Gate House, 1906, G.F.D.C. office
 - c. Hydroelectric plant, 1914
 - d. Field House, 1914, TOUR GUIDE office
 - e. Gate House, 1846
 - f. Administration Building, c. 1920, Special Events Office
3. Great Falls Park
4. Haines (Overlook) Park
5. S.U.M. upper raceway, 1827-1846, and Upper Raceway Park
6. Ivanhoe Wheelhouse, 1863, provided power for Ivanhoe Papermill, later power for S.U.M. electrical grid
7. Rogers Locomotive Co. Administration Building, 1881
8. Rogers Locomotive Co. Erecting Shop, 1871, built on 1831 site of foundry
9. Site of Rogers Locomotive Co. Blacksmith Shop and 1974 archaeological excavations
10. Rogers Locomotive Co. Frame Fitting Shop, 1881, rebuilt on site of old office and storage building
11. Rogers Locomotive Co. Millwright Shop, rebuilt 1879, on site of Passaic Paper Mill (1832)
12. Barbour Flax Mill, c. 1860
13. Dolphin Jute Mill complex, 1844-1880, major building, 1880, fourth floor added later
14. Granite Mill, 1881, part of Barbour complex
15. Stony Road, early Indian foot trail developed to connect Little Falls and Paterson industrial district
16. S.U.M. middle raceway, 1792-1802
17. Site of Grant Locomotive Co. Erecting Shop, 1850's, 1974 archaeological excavations
18. Cooke Locomotive Co. Machine Shop, c. 1852, original shop for Danforth, Cooke & Co.
19. Cooke Locomotive Co. Office Building, 1881
20. Hamil Mill, 1873, textile mill
21. S.U.M. Passaic Street Bridge, 1858, H. Miller, architect
22. Hamilton Mill, 1793, parts of first brownstone S.U.M. textile mill
23. Franklin Mill, c. 1870, and c. 1920 additions, textile mill, also produced machinery and steam fire engines, locomotives
24. Essex Mill, 1871-1872, textile complex
25. Old Yellow Mill, 1803, rebuilt 1856, incorporating parts of brownstone wall. Used for early continuous roll paper manufacturing experimentation by Charles Kinsley and Israel Crane.
26. Colt Gun Mill, 1836. Samuel Colt produced the first commercially successful revolver. First silk manufactured in Paterson on third floor, 1840.
27. Malloy Mill, c. 1860, textile mill
28. Waverly Mill, 1857, textile mill, Greek Revival style, altered c. 1860.
29. John Colt House, c. 1850, cousin of Samuel Colt, Second Empire style
30. Todd Mill, c. 1876, with parts of brownstone walls from Holman Mill (1822), used for famous 19th century machinists; builders of Holland submarine steam engines.
31. Congdon of Nightingale Mill, c. 1915
32. Phoenix Mill, east one-third 1816, west two-thirds c. 1826; monitor roof later. Earliest extant mill (textile) in the Historic District.
33. Harmony Textile Mill, 1876
34. Industry Textile Mill, 1875 and 1879
35. Edison Illuminating Co. Office Building, 1910, Ferguson builder
36. S.U.M. lower raceway, 1807
37. Benjamin Thompson House, 1835, Dutch-Federal style
38. John Ryle House, c. 1830, Dutch-Federal style
39. Public School No. 1, 1873, oldest standing building in Paterson
40. Cooke Foundry, 1831-1832
41. "Dublin Springs - No More," statue of young boy erected over original site of spring, by Gaetano Federici, 1931
42. St. Michael's Sisters Home, c. 1880, exquisitely locally quarried brownstone
43. St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church, 1929 Spanish Colonial style. Site of first public school classes, 1837
44. St. John's Cathedral, c. 1860, Gothic Revival style, brownstone, rebuilt 1890
45. Passaic County Courthouse, 1903, Neo-renaissance style, S. Burrage Reed, architect
46. Former Post Office, 1899, Flemish Renaissance style
47. Paterson City Hall, 1896, Neo-renaissance style, Carrere & Hastings, architects. Destroyed by 1902 fire and rebuilt 1902-03
48. Old hotel, c. 1830
49. Addy Textile Mill, 1873-1880
50. Valley of the Rocks
51. I.W.W. ("Wobblies") Paterson headquarters in former "Nags Head" Bar, for Big Bill Hayward during silk strike of 1911-1913
52. Hinchcliffe Stadium

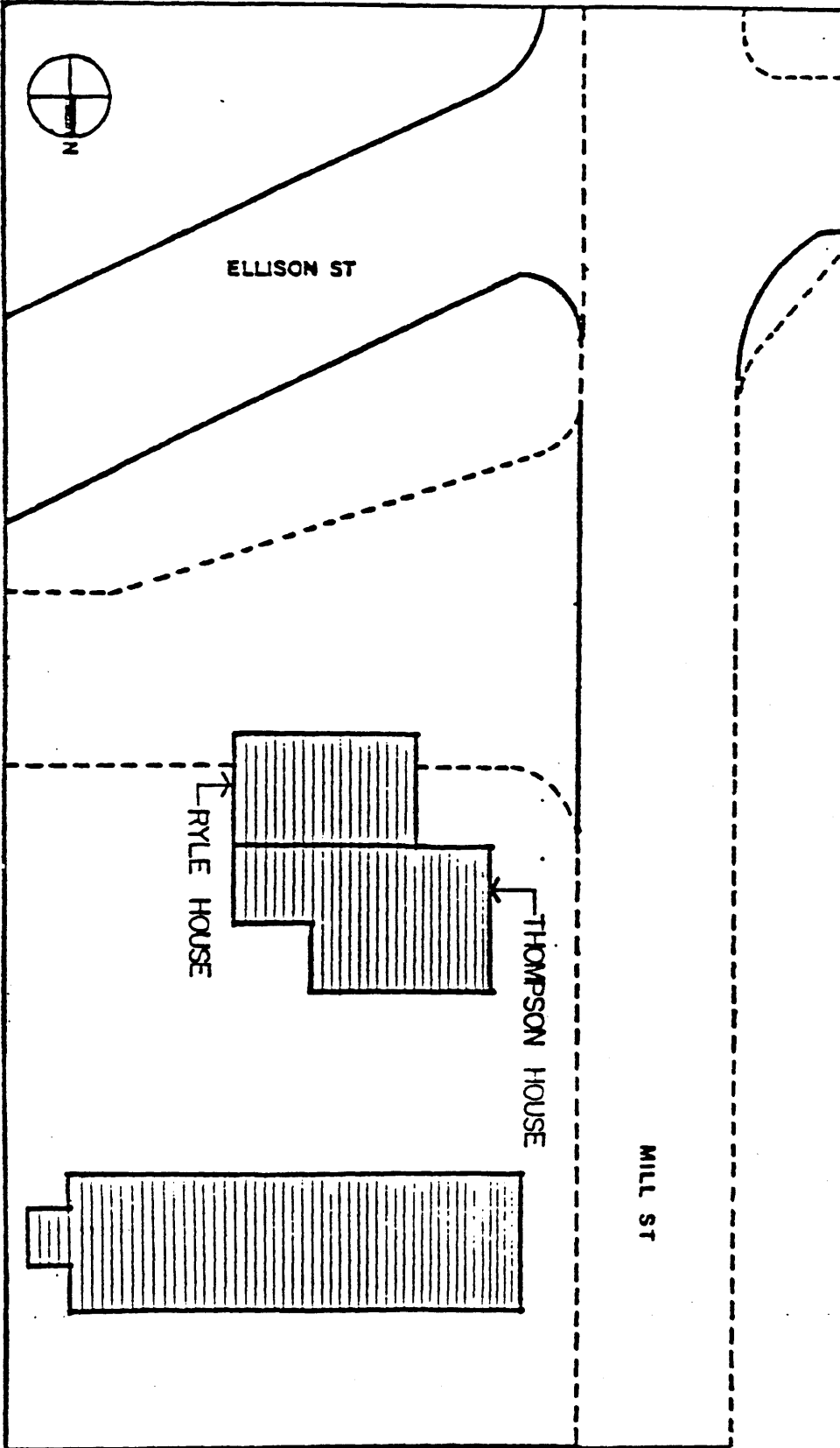


ARGUS MILL
 6 Mill Street
 Paterson, Passaic Co.
 NJ

**GREAT FALLS OF PATERSON
(S.U.M.) HISTORIC DISTRICT**
PATERSON, PASSAIC COUNTY
NEW JERSEY



ARGUS MILL
6 Mill Street
Paterson, Passaic Co. N.J.



ARGUS MILL
 6 Mill Street
 Paterson, Passaic Co.
 NJ

COURTESY OF BOHLIN AND POWELL AND RICHARD A. ALAMO