

FEB 8 1982

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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

New Hampshire



1. Name

Historic Stone Brothers and Curtis (White Brothers) Mill

and/or common Jaffrey Mills (preferred)

2. Location

Street & number 41 Main Street not for publication

City, town Jaffrey X vicinity of 1st congressional district

State New Hampshire code 33 county Cheshire code 005

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

Name D. D. Bean Development Corporation

Street & number 41 Main Street

City, town Jaffrey vicinity of state New Hampshire

5. Location of Legal Description

Courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Cheshire County Courthouse (Vol 503, p. 506
Cheshire County Registry of Deeds (Vol 688, p. 72
Street & number 12 Court Street (Vol 796, p. 537
(Vol 841, p. 45

City, town Keene state New Hampshire

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Title (None known) has this property been determined eligible? yes no

State federal state county local

Repository for survey records

City, town state

7. Description

New Hampshire

Condition		Check one	Check one					
excellent	.....	deteriorated	.....	unaltered	.....	X original site		
X good	.....	ruins	.....	X altered	.....	moved	date	n/a
fair	.....	unexposed	.....				

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Stone Brothers and Curtis (White Brothers) Mill (Jaffrey Mills) is a complex of mainly 19th century buildings situated on either bank of the Contoocook River in the center of the business district of Jaffrey. The present complex includes the following structures, some of which are free-standing:

- A. Original Building* (connected to the...)
- B. Mill Office
- C. East Building (connected to the...)
- D. East Building Extension
- E. Bridges
- F. Storage Building (Brick)*
- G. 1897 Addition* (connected to the Original Building)
- H. Storage Building (Frame) * (connected to the 1897 Addition)
- I. Loading Dock (connected to the Original Building)

First to be constructed were the Original Building (A) and connected to it the Mill Office (B)(both 1868). The former is a brick building (106 by 50 feet) with a concave mansard roof broken by gabled dormer windows. Including the roof it stands 4 stories. The dormer windows are 6 over 6; those of the lower floors are 12 over 12. All indications suggest that these windows are original to the buildings. The banded dentiled brick cornices of each building are quite elaborate. The segmentally arched windows of the lower floors of the Original Building are set in arched recesses that rise from the foundation to just below the cornice. At the northwesterly corner of the Original Building a stair and elevator tower rises to above the surrounding roof level. An open cupola set atop a mansarded pediment was an original feature of the design. It was removed early in the present century because of concerns over safety. The decorative brickwork of the square tower (18 by 18 feet) remains impressive, however: recessed brick panels, segmentally arched windows and hoist bays, round windows, and the brick corbel table.

The small Mill Office (31 by 27 feet) is a single story with a mansard roof also broken by gabled dormer windows (2 over 2). The segmentally arched windows of the main floor are 6 over 6. The brick quoins in addition to the dentiled cornices are attractive touches.

In 1872 the East Building (C) was built (128 by 38 feet) across the river to the east. This two-story, slightly pitched-roofed brick building is less formal and ornate than the Original Building but it nonetheless is a substantial structure with some interesting detailing, especially in the placement of the windows and doors on the east facade. The windows are set in segmental arches of varying courses and are 12 over 12 and appear to be original. As with the Original Building and Mill Office, the brick cornice is dentiled. Iron star-shaped wall ties are evident as in the Original Building. The East Building was extended to the northeast (D) in the same style and at the same scale at the time of the 1897 Addition on the opposite bank. The entire building length is now 273 feet.

* A bronze plaque high on the westerly facade of the 1897 Addition terms the Original Building the Jaffrey Mill No. 1 and the Addition, Jaffrey Mill No. 2. A Sanborn Map of the area in the possession of the Town Assessor confirms this terminology. This map also notes the Storage Building (Brick) as Storehouse No. 2

3. Significance

New Hampshire

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1868, 1872, 1897 Builder/Architect Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The present Stone Brothers and Curtis (White Brothers) Mill (Jaffrey Mills) is a complex of buildings whose significance lies primarily in its architecture and siting, although the lengthy contribution of the mills to the economic base and cultural history of Jaffrey is unquestionably important.

The general environs of this complex had seen a number of manufacturing operations previous to the construction of the first mill building in 1868 by Alonzo Bascom. However, Bascom, who was also the first postmaster of what then was termed East Jaffrey (and before that Factory Village) was never able to start up operations due to ill health. Circumstances forced him to sell his new mill in 1871 to Stone Brothers and Curtis of Philadelphia and New York.¹ The next year the new owners constructed on the eastside of the river a second brick structure--the East Building--to be used to house the boiler, machine shop, picker room, etc.² In October of 1872 the Mills commenced operation with 100 hands employed in making blue and brown cotton denim cloth on 110 looms³ Other activities were carried on as well at this time: a grist mill, a saw and planing mill and the manufacture of shingles, cloth, finished lumber and boxes.⁴

The financial panic following the Civil War resulted in the cessation of operations at the Mills and by 1876 Stone Brothers and Curtis was unable to keep current on its mortgage which was held by the Bascom estate.⁵ Within a year, however, a sale of the property was effected. The History of Jaffrey notes that "...this proved to be one of the most fortunate events in the history of Jaffrey."⁶ The new owners were the White Brothers, Joseph and Zadoc, of Winchendon, Massachusetts. New machinery was purchased and installed and operations began once again. The enterprise was a success from the start and continued so for a number of years.

In 1897 additional space was required and the White Brothers undertook to extend the original 1868 building. Once the addition was occupied the mills were able to have in operation a total of 384 looms. Under the ownership and management of the White Brothers the mills enjoyed their longest period of continuous operation, 1872 to 1939, during which over 3,000 miles of denim cloth were produced.⁷ The Depression however, was to end this era of prosperity. A series of periodic shutdowns compounded by heavy damage caused by the great flood of March, 1936, led to the White Brothers liquidating its Jaffrey operations on June 26, 1939.⁸ The machinery was removed to Winchendon, Massachusetts, and the

¹ Annett, Albert and Alice E. E. Lehtinen, History of Jaffrey (Middle Monadnock) New Hampshire, Jaffrey, NH: Town of Jaffrey, 1937. Vol I, p. 387.

² Ibid., p. 387.

⁵ Ibid., p. 388.

³ Ibid., p. 387.

⁶ Ibid., p. 388.

⁴ Ibid., pp. 387-88.

⁷ Ibid., p. 390.

⁸ Lehtinen, Alice E.E. History of Jaffrey, New Hampshire. Jaffrey, NH: Town of Jaffrey, 1971. Vol III, p. 46.

9. Major Bibliographical References

New Hampshire

Annett, Albert and Alice E. E. Lehtinen, History of Jaffrey (Middle Monadnock) New Hampshire, Jaffrey, NH: Town of Jaffrey, 1937. Vol I, pp. 382-390.
Lehtinen, Alice E. E., History of Jaffrey, New Hampshire. Jaffrey, NH: Town of Jaffrey, 1971. Vol III, pp. 46-48. (see continuation sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 1.4 acres

Quadrangle name Monadnock

Quadrangle scale 1:62,500

UMT References

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Northwesterly by the easterly line of North Street about three hundred fifty-five (355) feet; thence northeasterly by land now or formerly of Vincent and land now or formerly of D. D. Bean Co. by two lines measuring respectively (see continuation sheet)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state none code county none code

state none code county none code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robert B. Stephenson, Commissioner

organization Jaffrey Historic District Commission date 29 January 1982

street & number Box 307 telephone 603-532-6066

city or town Jaffrey Center state New Hampshire 03454

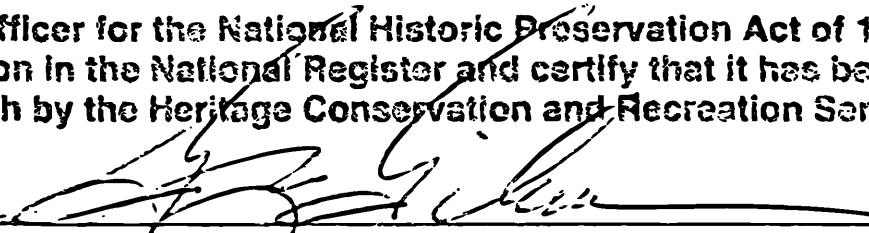
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



Commissioner, Dept. of Resources & Economic Development

title NH State Historic Preservation Officer date June 28, 1982



8.10.82

Attest: Patrick W. Anderson
by chief of registration

DATE 8/9/82

September 28, 1982

NPS Form 10-900-a
(3-82)

OMB No. 1024-0018
Exp. 10-31-84

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

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

For NPS use only

received

SEP 28 1982

date entered

Continuation sheet for Jaffrey Mills/Jaffrey, NH Item number 4

Page 1

(To replace Item #4 on original form submitted June 25, 1982.)

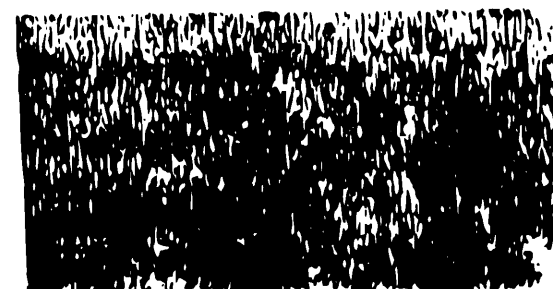
Owner of Property:

D.D. Bean & Sons Company
Jaffrey, New Hampshire 03452
Telephone: 603-532-8311

(Copy of letter notifying us of change is attached.)
(Dated September 7, 1982)

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NEW HULL DISTRICT



Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 2

Connecting the Original Building and the East Building is a two-level enclosed bridge (E) spanning the river. Of timber construction, it is supported mid-stream by a concrete pier. A second bridge lies further downriver.

Near the northeasterly end of the East Building Extension is a small (38 by 26 feet) lean-to roofed brick building (F) without windows which was and is used for storage. The brick dentiled cornices are the only decorative elements. Stylistically, it is very close to the Mill Office and the Original Building-- although simpler--and thus it could date from that time (1868).

In 1897 a large four-story brick addition (G) to the Original Building was constructed immediately to the northeast. This resulted in an overall building length of 235 feet. Although somewhat more utilitarian and restrained in design than the Original Building, the Addition is nonetheless very compatible and integral with the earlier structure. The window treatment (segmentally arched, 12 over 12, recessed bays) is the same. The chief difference is in the roof where a slightly pitched one replaced the mansard design of the Original Building. The dentiled cornice detailing was also not repeated in the Addition.

Two one-story timber structures have been added to the complex in more recent years. The Storage Building (H) is connected to the northwesterly end of the 1897 Addition and the Loading Dock (I) is joined to the west facade of the original stair tower. Neither building contributes to the complex as a whole; rather each is an intrusion to the integrity of the early structures, not only because of siting but also because of scale, materials, design and detailing. Any substantial rehabilitation of the complex will likely involve the removal of these two structures.

Changes to the various facades have largely been limited to the blocking up of some of the windows, specifically the lower ones facing the river. The double-hung windows of the East Building facing Main Street were bricked up early in this century. As previously mentioned the cupola was removed from the tower sometime previous to 1940. The large (125 foot) brick chimney stack that served the powerhouse (in the East Building) was taken down in 1966. It had been hit by lightning in 1915 and was eventually declared unsafe.

The Mills were originally water-powered with the headrace commencing at the present dam on the far side of Main Street opposite the Mill Office and passing alongside the Original Building east of North Street. A dogleg to the right brought the headrace into the northerly end of the 1897 Addition with the raceway exiting at the base of the northerly facade. This raceway is still visible today but no other indications of the original water power system are evident.

Interior changes have not been great. Spaces remain open and unobstructed as they would originally have been for mill operations: Heavy timber post and beam framing and plank flooring, painted brick walls, minimal partitioning. The second floor of the Original Building is the one exception: Offices for a greeting card company were constructed in the 1970s. No irreversible damage to the building's

and the Storage Building (Frame) as Storehouse No. 1. These designations have not been used here as the Mill Office is classified as No. 14 and the East Building and Extension as Nos. 9, 10 and 11, and thus it is not clear whether these numbers had meaning in Jaffrey or whether they are simply Sanborn identification numbers.

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fabric resulted, however.

Sources: Other than personal observation by the writer, the sources for the above description include:

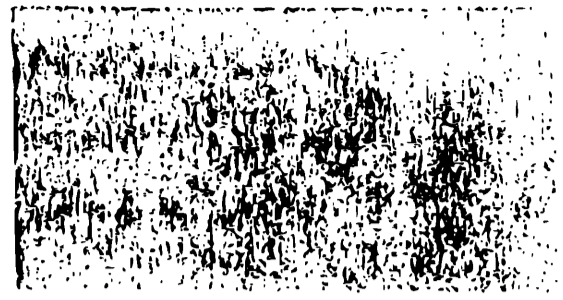
Annett, Albert and Alice E. E. Lehtinen, History of Jaffrey (Middle Monadnock) New Hampshire. Jaffrey, NH: Town of Jaffrey, 1937. Vol. I, pp. 382-390.

Lehtinen, Alice E. E., History of Jaffrey, New Hampshire. Jaffrey, NH: Town of Jaffrey, 1971. Vol. III, pp. 46-48, 305.

Tolles, Bryant F., Jr. New Hampshire Architecture: An Illustrated Guide. Hanover, NH: University Press of New England, 1979. p. 131

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Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 2

mill property was finally sold in August of 1943 to the Greenville Mills of Greenville, New Hampshire.⁹ The new owners installed new machinery and commenced the production of rayon textiles at the end of September, 1943.¹⁰ Nylon, acetate and dacron were later produced, much of it for military use during World War II.

The prosperity of wartime didn't carryover indefinitely into peacetime, however, and in 1969 the property was sold to Trudi Toys of Norwalk, Connecticut. The new owner's intention of using the mill for the production of stuffed animals never was fulfilled and once again the property was sold, this time to its present owners, the D. D. Bean Development Corporation (1972). Today, the mills are let to a number of tenants for the production of fire hoses and valves, the printing of business forms, product assembly and warehousing.

The mills have provided significant employment opportunities to the inhabitants of Jaffrey over many years. When in operation as textile mills they were the largest employer in town and as such were of significance not only economically but also culturally in the sense of being the focus of town life.

It is, however, in the area of architecture and townscape that the enduring significance of the mills lies. No more substantial or ambitious an industrial complex was ever built or attempted in the town even up to today, and nothing approaching it in stylistic quality and age remains. Virtually all of Jaffrey's early mill and industrial buildings were of timber construction, necessarily cruder than brick, less permanent and less grand. Of particular significance is the location of the complex within the downtown, for it's a highly visible and a highly important one: at an intersection of three major roadways, across from the Town Common and the Town Offices and other public buildings, adjacent to the commercial area of downtown and straddling the Contoocook River which itself is a major townscape element and central to Jaffrey's self-image.

Because of this fortunate location the architectural quality and interest of the Mills are able to play an especially vital role in the townscape of Jaffrey. They are seen daily by all who pass through the town and are noticed and remembered. As a complex of integrated buildings it truly is fundamental to the design, appearance, scale and tone of the downtown.

The significance of the Jaffrey Mills is more than just local, however. Many brick mill buildings were constructed throughout New Hampshire during the mid and late 19th century, but few are so in scale with their surroundings or as nicely detailed or as well-situated. Probably the architectural feature most unique is the concave mansard roof treatment that is so prominent a feature of the Original Building and the Mill Office. Roof types of New Hampshire mill buildings were generally either pitched or flat, although several mills in the southwestern area of the state have pitched roofs with clerestory windows. Although common with other building types during this era, mansard roofs were seldom used on industrial buildings, only one example having been traced in New Hampshire (and that not of a concave design*). Perhaps other examples existed but have since passed from the scene. If so, the Jaffrey Mills are probably the last of this type in New Hampshire.

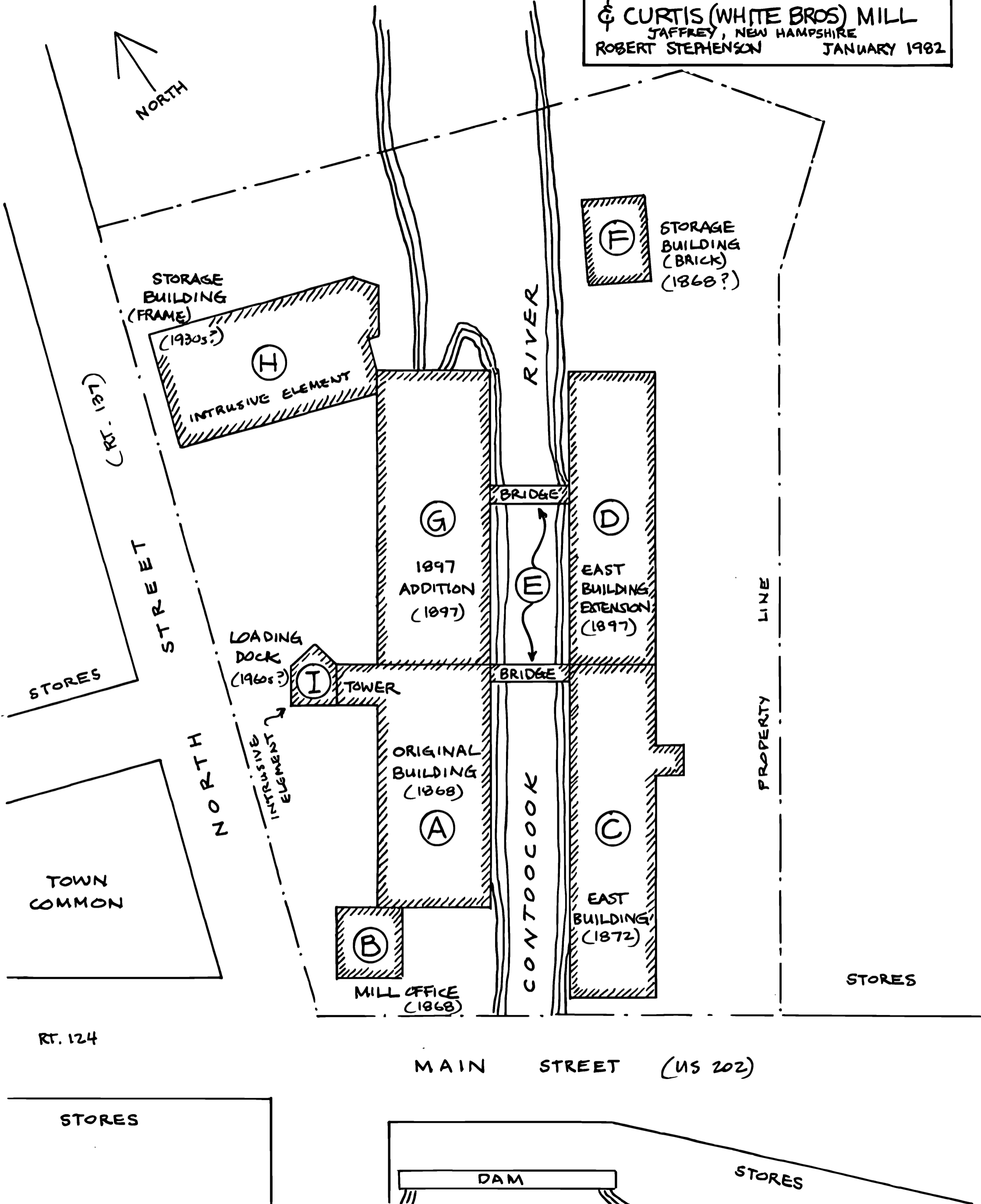
⁹ Lehtinen, Alice E. E. History of Jaffrey, New Hampshire. Jaffrey, NH: Town of Jaffrey, 1971. Vol III, p. 46.

¹⁰ Ibid., p. 47.

* This example, a far smaller mill, is in Ashland (Grafton County) far to the north. See Tolles, Bryant F., Jr. New Hampshire Architecture: An Illustrated Guide. Hanover, NH: University Press of New England, 1979. pp. 279-80.

APR 1 1982

SKETCH MAP ~ STONE BROS.
& CURTIS (WHITE BROS) MILL
JAFFREY, NEW HAMPSHIRE
ROBERT STEPHENSON JANUARY 1982



RT. 124

MAIN STREET (US 202)

STORES

DAM

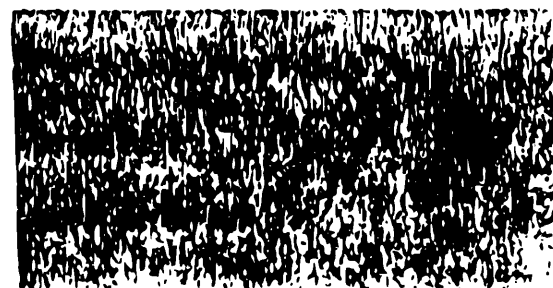
STORES

APR 12 1982

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

**National Register of Historic Places
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NOV 1982



Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 2

Tolles, Bryant F., Jr. New Hampshire Architecture: An Illustrated Guide.
Hanover, NH: University Press of New England, 1979. p. 131.

Cutter, Daniel B. History of the Town of Jaffrey, New Hampshire 1749-1880.
Concord, NH: Privately printed, 1881. p. 146.

Item number 10

about two hundred sixty-six (266) feet and about sixty-six (66) feet; thence southeasterly by land now or formerly of Perry and land now or formerly of Godin Realty Company by two lines measuring respectively about sixty-six (66) feet and about three hundred twenty-four (324) feet; thence southwesterly by the northerly line of Main Street about two hundred four (204) feet. (From quitclaim deed dated 6 March 1972.)

Tax Assessor's map and parcel numbers: Map #5E4 Parcel #157