

EXP. 10/31/84

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination FormSee instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only

received MAY 23 1983

date entered

## 1. Name

historic Ames Manufacturing Company

and/or common Ames Mills

## 2. Location

street &amp; number 5-7 Springfield Street N/A not for publication

city, town Chicopee N/A vicinity of ~~congressional district~~

state Massachusetts code 025 county Hampden code 013

## 3. Classification

| Category                                        | Ownership                                   | Status                                                | Present Use                                    |                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district    | <input checked="" 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                   | <b>Public Acquisition</b>                   | <b>Accessible</b>                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment         | <input type="checkbox"/> religious         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object                 | N/A in process                              | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted              | <input type="checkbox"/> government            | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific        |
|                                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation    |
|                                                 |                                             | <input type="checkbox"/> no                           | <input type="checkbox"/> military              | <input type="checkbox"/> other:            |

## 4. Owner of Property

name Edward J. Wickles; Thomas J. Wickles; Joseph Partyka, Jr.; Joan Partyka

street &amp; number c/o 142 Casino Avenue

city, town Chicopee N/A vicinity of state Massachusetts

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Hampden County Registry of Deeds

street &amp; number 50 State Street

city, town Springfield state MA

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Inventory of the Historic  
Assets of the Commonwealth  
#224-228  
has this property been determined eligible? 12/21/81  
☒ yes ☐ nodate 1979 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town Boston state MA

## 7. Description

Ames Manufacturing Company

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☐ good  
☒ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☒ unaltered  
☐ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved date N/A

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Ames Manufacturing Company, occupies 19 interconnected buildings (19,000 square feet of floor area in all) on approximately five acres of land between the Chicopee River and the Chicopee Power Canal. This H-shaped complex of industrial buildings was constructed in several stages between 1847 and 1915, all utilizing load bearing, brick exterior walls and heavy timber columns and beams. A range of styles and degrees of ornamentation is exhibited yet the whole is remarkably consistent in form. This cohesion derives from the common building material, proportions, and multipaned fenestration. Many of the buildings, constructed by the same contractor, display common bricklaying techniques--as in the corbelled gable ends of buildings 8 and 14 (Photo 6) -- and in the cornice of double brick dentil courses supported by brackets found in most of the other buildings (Photo 2).

The factory in its present configuration was substantially in place by the end of the Civil War. Since that time, upper floors have been added to several buildings and some demolition has occurred, but these changes have not latered the factory's basic character as strongly established by the mid-19th century.

Generally, the buildings have no pretensions to architectural style, but are typical New England mill construction, with a minimum of decorative trim. Buildings 2 and 8, which have pilasters and pediments of the late Greek Revival style (Photo 5) are exceptions, as is the added top stage of the central tower, using the Romanesque Revival style (Photo 1).

A power canal to the south of the buildings take advantage of a 36-foot drop in the Chicopee River at this point. A notch in the canal's retaining wall just west of the tower between buildings 6 and 7 indicates the former water intake position. A remnant of the penstock remains in the cellar of Building 7. The sluiceway turned northwest at the north wall of Building 7 and ran in a straight line to a point in the river now marked by a notch in the river's retaining wall. Thus, grade level in most of the site is below the level of the canal. A roadway runs along the north side of the canal (Photo 2). (To the south of the canal is a railroad track and then the center of the town.) A substantial distance separates the roadway from the south wall of Buildings 1, 6, and 7, permitting natural light to reach their ground floors.

The roadway and courts on the site now are covered with macadam, but cobblestones are still exposed to the east of Building 2, suggesting that cobblestones were initially used for the paving surface throughout.

### Representative and Key Buildings

Buildings 1 and 7, the original machine shop (1847-50) with addition (c.1860), just east of the tower, are linked and appear as one building (Photo 1). Together they have 25 bays of 12/12 double hung sash on the

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south elevation. Lintels and sills are brownstone. Originally three stories high with a gable roof and dormers (as seen in a Civil War time view), a fourth story was added in the late 1860's; the plane of this fourth story wall projects one wythe. Star anchors, located at each floor between the windows mark the location of interior building tie rods. There are four doors at the second floor, with bridges leading to the canal roadway. The north elevation is similar, but with one additional bay to compensate for the tower. Windows at ground floor are 9/9. Both buildings have cellars.

Building 6, another machine shop (1859-65), also a three story structure with an added fourth story (Photos 1, 2, 4). It has 13 bays of 12/12 windows (on the first floor they are 16/12), and more of the star anchors. Its cornice line is higher than that of Buildings 1 and 7, but the break provided by the tower detracts attention from the differences. The north elevation of Building 6 has one more bay (14) to compensate for the tower, with 16/16 windows at first floor level. A connector to the north range of buildings, forming the cross bar of the H configuration, joins the second, third and fourth stories of Building 6. The west elevation has two stories above Building 9, with four 12/12 windows at each level. Here the roof appears as a low pitched gable.

The tower that projects between buildings 6 and 7 does not show on the 1855 map but does appear in a Civil War period view, and may have been part of the building program precipitated by the War (Photo 1). In the second, third, fourth floors (above the canal roadway level) it has two 12/12 windows in the south face, one such window in the west face, and no fenestration in the east face. The top stage has two round arched openings in each of the four faces. Spanning the base of each of these openings are three small round arched openings. Each large arch has a prominent drip molding, and these are surmounted by an arcaded corbel course. There is a molded cornice under this top or belfry stage which, together with the brighter red shade of bricks and the white tone of the mortar (all other mortar in the factory is red), suggests that the top stage of the tower may have been added, although it shows in the Civil War time view. As there is no further record or confirmation of when it was constructed, the matter remains unresolved.

Building 9, 1908, Building 6 with Building 3. Both Building 9 and Building 3 (Photos 2 and 4) are one story high on their south elevations, toward the canal, and two stories high on their north elevation. Their north elevations form a continuous wall with 9/9 windows and doors in the lower level, 15/15 windows above in Building 9, and 6/6 above Building 3. Building 3 has a low gable roof with ridge line running east-west. The south elevation is made irregular by the projection of Building 18. Building 18 has a low gable roof with ridge line running north-south, and has three 15/15 windows facing the canal.

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Building 3, 13, and 18 all have the distinctive double dentil course supported by bracket, in brick, at the cornice line. A portion of building 18, however, is a later, perhaps early 20th century addition of wood that is unique in the complex and for which no explanation has been found.

Building 2, the counting room and office (1847-50), is at the (east) end of the range of buildings along the canal (Photos 5, and 8). Like the others it is a pre-Civil War structure, but has some architectural pretensions. It is 2½ stories high, with three bays, twin chimneys, and a slate, gable roof. The central door is glazed with side lights and transom under a peaked, wooden hood supported by diagonal braces. The words "Ames Manufacturing Co." appear above the door in raised brownstone lettering. The three front steps are wood, flanked an Ames manufactured cannon ball at each side on the ground. The first floor has double 12/12 windows flanking the entrance. The brownstone lintels of these windows are slightly peaked and supported by small blocks. The second floor initially had three 12/12 windows, but the end windows have been shortened; the original sills have been left in place. Four pilasters, projecting one wythe, define the corners of the building and separate the bays.

On the rear (North) elevation, grade is at basement floor level, exposing the brick basement walls. There are four pilasters at first and second story levels, as on the facade. Originally, both first and second stories had four 12/12 windows, but some changes have been made. The basement has three double warehouse doors. On the east elevation the gable end has a brick dentil course for many a pediment and highlighting its ranking cornice. An 8/8 window occupies the gable field while two 12/12 windows appear at second and first story and basement levels. The cornice at the top, the water table at the bottom, and the pilasters at the corners, all project slightly, to frame the four windows. The west elevation is similar but is now obscured by a metal addition. A brownstone water table encircles the building, forming the lintels of the basement windows and there is brownstone facing under the water table on the facade. The projecting slate roof has two molded brick chimneys.

Building 2 is connected by a 20th century shed (Building 19) to Building 8 established by the raised numerals 1860 in two cast-iron lintels in its basement floor (Photos 3, 5, 6). The facade of Building 8, facing the canal, repeats the pediment and pilasters of the office. Wide friezes run under raking cornices to define the pediment, which is recessed one wythe. Of the original, paired, 9/9 windows, one remains in the pedimented and three at the second floor. The two central pilasters have been replaced with modern 25-pane windows at second-floor, and four such new windows and a door have been installed at first-floor level. The original windows have brownstone lintels and sills. Segments of the removed pilasters remain in place on the facade. The rear (north) elevation does not repeat the pediment. Instead, the gable end's are accentuated by diagonal lines and corbelled stretchers. There are paired windows in the gable end and 12/12 windows at the basement and first- and second-story levels with doors and

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and added windows. The side elevations have an irregular pattern of 12/12 windows and the cast-iron lintels with the 1860 year date. There is a square, brick stair tower on the east elevation, near the front (south). The roof is slate, and has five monitors in its east slope

Building 8 is connected to Building 1 by Building 15, which is a small, 20th century infill structure. It does have the brick dentils at the roof line, and multi-pane windows on the top two floors. On the first two floors the west half of the structure is a void, for reasons unknown.

Turning now to the other side of the H configuration, Building 12 is the easternmost structure in the north range of three buildings toward the river (Photo 3). Built between 1865 and 1870, it has three floors with 11 bays of 12/12 windows on the north and south elevations. The windows have segmental relieving arches of two rows of headers, and brownstone sills. There are star and round cast-iron washers between the windows to anchor tie rods. It has a cornice of brick dentils and brackets. The end (east) elevation has a large, central door at the first floor, double loading doors at the second, both flanked by windows, and three such windows on the third floor. The low gable end is similar to that of other roofs, and the double dentil course and brackets are continued under the gable end.

Building 10 originally a long three-story structure, received a fourth floor in 1913 and a partial fifth floor in 1929 (Photo 1, 3). It has 25 bays of 15/20 windows with rock-faced brownstone sills and segmental lintels, except in the seven bays of the fifth floor where the windows are 2/2. The north elevation of Building 10, is the largest expanse of uninterrupted wall in the complex. In the basement of the south elevation are two double loading doors with transoms under segmental relieving arches, this time of three rows of headers. Fourteen bays of the south elevation are part of the connector to the south range of buildings, apparently constructed as part of Building #6. The Building #11 is a substantial structure itself with three bays of the segmental-arched, 15/20 windows on its east and west elevations in the upper floors.

Building 11 is open at grade forming a tunnel with round-arched openings at the east and west ends. The two ranges of buildings are also connected by enclosed wood and metal walkways east of the connector, at the upper levels.

Building 16, the westernmost structure in the north range, was built as a four-story structure in 1915 with a fifth story added in 1929 (Photo 1-4). Its north and south elevations have 13-bays which continued the line of Building #10. In the ground floor are single-sash, 15-pane windows on the south, 18-pane on the north, in the second floor 18/24, in the third and fourth windows of two vertical panes under a divided transom, and in the fifth 2/2 all with segmental lintels. Sills in floors one through four are rock-faced granite, and in the fifth floor are concrete. The typical motif of brick double dentil course and brackets is used at the top of the fourth floor, surmounted by a concrete string course, while only a single dentil course appears at the roof line.

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The main entrance, 5 Springfield Street, is located in the west end of Building 16. It has a recessed double door, each leaf with a vertical recessed panel with bolection moldings over a smaller horizontal panel. There is a molded, metal-clad cornice over the doorway, supported by modest consoles. A wide, oak staircase rises from a foyer, inside the entrance, to the fifth floor. It has dog-leg runs, square newel posts with molded tops, a heavy molded hand rail, and octagonal balusters in a closed string course. The wall side of the stairway is a panelled dado, while the ceilings of the landings and hall are embossed metal. At the top of the stairway is a 1929-era executive's office with panelled walls, exposed beams, and a large, built-in cupboard under round arch with keystone -- all executed in dark colored wood.

Building 14, a a forge shop and curing room, constructed in 1878, is a free-standing structure located between the northern range of the H configuration and the river (Photograph 3,7). One story high, it has a steeply-pitched, slate roof with two-gable-roofed cupolas, and stepped gable ends as found at the north gable of Building 8. The fenestration of Building 13's north elevation is nine 12/12 windows with brownstone sills and lintels and a double, panelled, wood loading door. The south elevation has seven of these windows, a modern door, and an overhead garage door. There is an added shed dormer on this slope of the roof. The west elevation displays stone lintels for two windows that have been bricked up, and a cinder-block-filled section that apparently once was a garage door. The east elevation is a solid wall except for one small, six-pane window, with no indication it ever had more fenestration.

Building 17 is two-story boiler house with a tall round stack at the southwest corner (Photo 3.) The date 1922 appears in the paraket of the west elevation. While the brick laying is different from that of the older building, it is still carefully done. For example, on the north and south elevations, piers form recessed areas for the multi-paned windows.

Building 5 abuts Building 17, to its east. Part of the Civil War time construction, Building 5 is a 1½ story, gable-roofed structure. In the east elevation is a large, central, round-arched opening that has been bricked up. There are three 9/9 original windows in the north elevation, and several new and closed in openings. The south elevation has two wide gauge doors and several smaller openings, one or two of which may be original.

Building 4 is a small, free standing structure located between Building 12 and west of Building 8 (Photo 3). Dating from (1855-59), it is one story high with a low gable roof and dentils at the eaves. The north elevation has four 12/12 windows, while the south is a solid wall. The east elevation has a single door, and the west a recessed doorway under a segmental arch.

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Interior Construction

The interiors of the Civil War era buildings are typical, heavy, timber mill construction, tied in with the load-bearing, brick exterior walls. The heavy posts, beams, and sub-flooring tended to char rather than burn freely, a scheme encouraged by the insurance companies to curb fire losses. The difference in the number of posts in the various buildings is a dramatic indication of the advance in the technology of industrial construction. At one extreme is the forest of posts found in the first floor of Building 7 (Photograph 3), while at the other extreme the upper floors of Building 16 are free of posts under wide-spanning steel trusses.

The cellars of Buildings 1 and 7 have square brick posts, and the buildings are divided from one another by brick walls. There are several stairways in the complex, at least one of which is narrow and made up mostly of winders. The tower facing the canal was built for an elevator, whose housing is easily visible in the belfry.

## 8. Significance

Ames Manufacturing Company, Chicopee, MA

| 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce    | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy             | <input type="checkbox"/> theater         |
| <input 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** 1847–50, 1859–65 **Builder/Architect** Charles McClallan

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Ames Manufacturing Company reflects Chicopee's dramatic growth as an industrial center in the 19th century. Through structures dating from the mid 19th to early 20th centuries, the architecture incorporates important changes in technology and economic development. Possessing integrity of design, materials, workmanship, location, and setting, the property meets Criteria A and C of the National Register.

Until the early 19th century, Chicopee was little more than an agricultural district of Springfield (from which it separated in 1848). Several early Federal period mills began to harness the power of a 50-foot drop in the Chicopee River between Chicopee Falls and the Connecticut River. However, it was not until the introduction of outside capital that industrial prosperity was well established.

In 1822, Edmund Dwight of Springfield established in Chicopee Falls the first company town in western Massachusetts. His Boston and Springfield Manufacturing Company (later called the Chicopee Manufacturing Company), incorporated to build cotton mills as well as to develop the surrounding town, was backed by the same Boston investors who financed the mills at Waltham and Lowell. In Chicopee, these incorporators were responsible for building the factories, power canal, streets, schools, and housing.

The textile mills which quickly developed required a wide variety of related manufactures which characterized Chicopee's small industry for the next half century. In 1829 Edmund Dwight induced Nathan Peabody Ames and James Tyler Ames to relocate their edge tool business from Chelmsford to Chicopee. Dwight furnished a shop, machinery, and water power for the manufacture of small steel edge tools such as knives, hatchets, and chisels.

In 1834 the Ames Manufacturing Company was incorporated (with Dwight as its first president) with a capital of \$30,000 and buildings were erected in Chicopee Center. During the 1830's the company won wide recognition for its swords, cannon, and cannonballs produced for the U.S. Army, gun machinery made for England and Germany, bells cast for public buildings, and for leather belting, military accoutrements, and military harness. The company introduced electroplating in 1839, and with the acquisition of the Springfield Canal Company machine shop in 1845 became a major manufacturer of textile and other machinery. The resulting prosperity was aided by the arrival of the Chicopee Branch Railroad in 1846 and by the forthcoming government needs of the Mexican War.

(Continued)

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

1) Area Survey and Inventory Forms; Massachusetts Historical Commission, by Deborah Shea, November 30, 1978. 2) 1847, 1853 City Directories. 3) 1937 Map, A.G. Spaldings and Brothers Map. 4) Vera Shlakman, Economic History of a Factory Town, Northampton, 1915. 5) Ames file at Chicopee (Cont.)

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 4.9 acres

Quadrangle name Springfield North Ma.

Quadrangle scale 1:25,000

UMT References

A 18 6 9 78 8 0 4 6 68 9 20  
Zone Easting Northing

B 18 6 97 8 90 46 6 88 90  
Zone Easting Northing

C 18 6 9 78 3 0 4 6 68 8 70

D 18 6 97 6 20 46 68 8 8 0

E 18 6 9 7 6 4 0 4 6 68 9 8 0

F 18 6 9 7 6 90 4 6 6 99 6 0

G 18 6 9 78 1 0 4 6 68 9 90

H 18 6 9 78 20 46 6 89 2 0

Verbal boundary description and justification

see attached deed description and sketch map

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

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| N/A   |      |        |      |

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Wendy Frontiero, Preservation Planner, with Peter Stott, MHC, David Ransom, consultant, and Charles Schmitt, consultant

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date January 18, 1983

street & number 294 Washington Street telephone (617) 727-8470

city or town Boston state Massachusetts

## 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Patricia Z Weslowski

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 4/28/83

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the  
National Register

for Melores Byan  
Keeper of the National Register

date 6/23/83

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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By 1848, 300 men were employed in the Ames shops, by then producing the Boyden turbine, lathes, planning machines, and gunstock machinery as well. Ames became one of the first firms in the U.S. to manufacture and market a standard line of machine tools to the general public. Among its customers were pioneers in the American machine tool industry, as well as both national armories. Casting of bronze statues was begun in 1853, making Ames the first American factory to do so.

This antebellum period of growth resulted in the relocation of the company to its present quarters. Charles McClallan (b.1803) was the builder of the mid-19th century structures (Buildings 1,6,7,8), as well as many other period mills and houses in the area. McClallan started as a bricklayer, established himself as a contractor, and carried on an extensive construction business in Massachusetts. The corbelled brick cornices found in the gable ends of several buildings here are characteristics of his masonry work.

Although Chicopee did not attain the same extraordinary growth as Springfield from the Civil War, this was the most active period in the history of the Ames Manufacturing Company. Employment reached 1500 as the company of cannon, cannon shot, and other munitions for the Union Army. During the height of the Civil War, the Ames Company was the nation's largest producer of light artillery and the third largest supplier of heavy ordnance. Intensified business called for new building program, and by the end of the war the present H-shape configuration of the complex was substantially in place.

After the war, the company encountered problems finding peacetime business. Bronze and cast iron as industrial materials gave way to steel, but Ames did not progress with the times. Despite large foreign orders, by the late 1870's the number of employees was down to 350.

Even the Spanish-American manufacture of sewing machines, bicycles (the "Victor" wheel), and automobiles (the Stevens-Duryea) proved to be unsuccessful attempts to stay in business. The Ames Sword Company, specializing in society swords and uniforms until 1936 was a pale 20th century survivor of the Ames activities.

In 1908 the property was purchased by A.G. Spalding and Brothers Manufacturing Company, which employed nearly 200 people in the production of sporting equipment. Albert Goodwill Spalding (1850-1915), a baseball player, broke into the major leagues as a pitcher for the Boston Red Sox (then the Bostons) in 1871. He moved to Chicago in the mid-1870's where, in addition to playing baseball, he opened a sporting goods store. After pursuing both careers for some years, when his playing days came to an end, he concentrated on the manufacture and sale of sporting goods. His firm was active in supplying merchandise for the popular production of bicycles for him by the Lamb Knitting Machine Co. there.

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Chicopee

A.G. Spalding & Bros. Manufacturing Company became an important presence in Chicopee with its purchase of the Ames Manufacturing Co. factory then largely idle. Spalding used all the existing manufacturing space and added more, including Building 16 and the top floor of other buildings, as noted. He also built a range of structures along the river's edge, now demolished. Various departments of the factory were devoted to gymnasium apparatus, racquet manufacturing, wood work, golf clubs, and so on. Building 8 was entirely devoted to the production of golf balls. At its height, the Spalding empire had 14 factories in various locations and 60 retail stores, manufacturing being concentrated in Chicopee. In 1948, Spalding moved to a new factory several miles away and sold the old buildings, which have been rented to various tenants over the ensuing decades.

The 19th century complex of the Ames Manufacturing Company has remained substantially intact despite profound economic change. The firm's extensive and diverse activities are represented today by the surviving counting room and offices, machine shops, founding and forge shop, boiler house, etcetera, thus providing a significant example of industrial development in Chicopee.

Section 9 Continued

Associated Factory Mutual, Map of A.G. Spalding & Bros. Manufacturing Co., Boston: 1937.

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Springfield Union, December 15, 1964. December 21, 1949

Thaddeus M. Szetela, History of Chicopee, Chicopee: City of Chicopee, nd (1958?), based on newspaper articles by Bessie Kerr.

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Ames Manufacturing Company  
Hampden County  
MASSACHUSETTS

MAY 23 1983

Working No. \_\_\_\_\_

Fed. Reg. Date: 2-7-84Date Due: 6/23/83 - 7/7/83Action: ☒ ACCEPT 6/23/83

Entered in the \_\_\_\_\_ RETURN \_\_\_\_\_

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. Name2. Location3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property5. Location of Legal Description6. Representation in Existing Surveyshas this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

## **8. Significance**

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas 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**

Address of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT 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



Chicopee, Ma.  
Ames Mfg. Co.

View north showing Buildings 16 & 10 at  
rear, Buildings 6 & 7 in foreground.

Photo by D. Ransom, 1980  
Negative filed with photographer

Photo 1 of 8

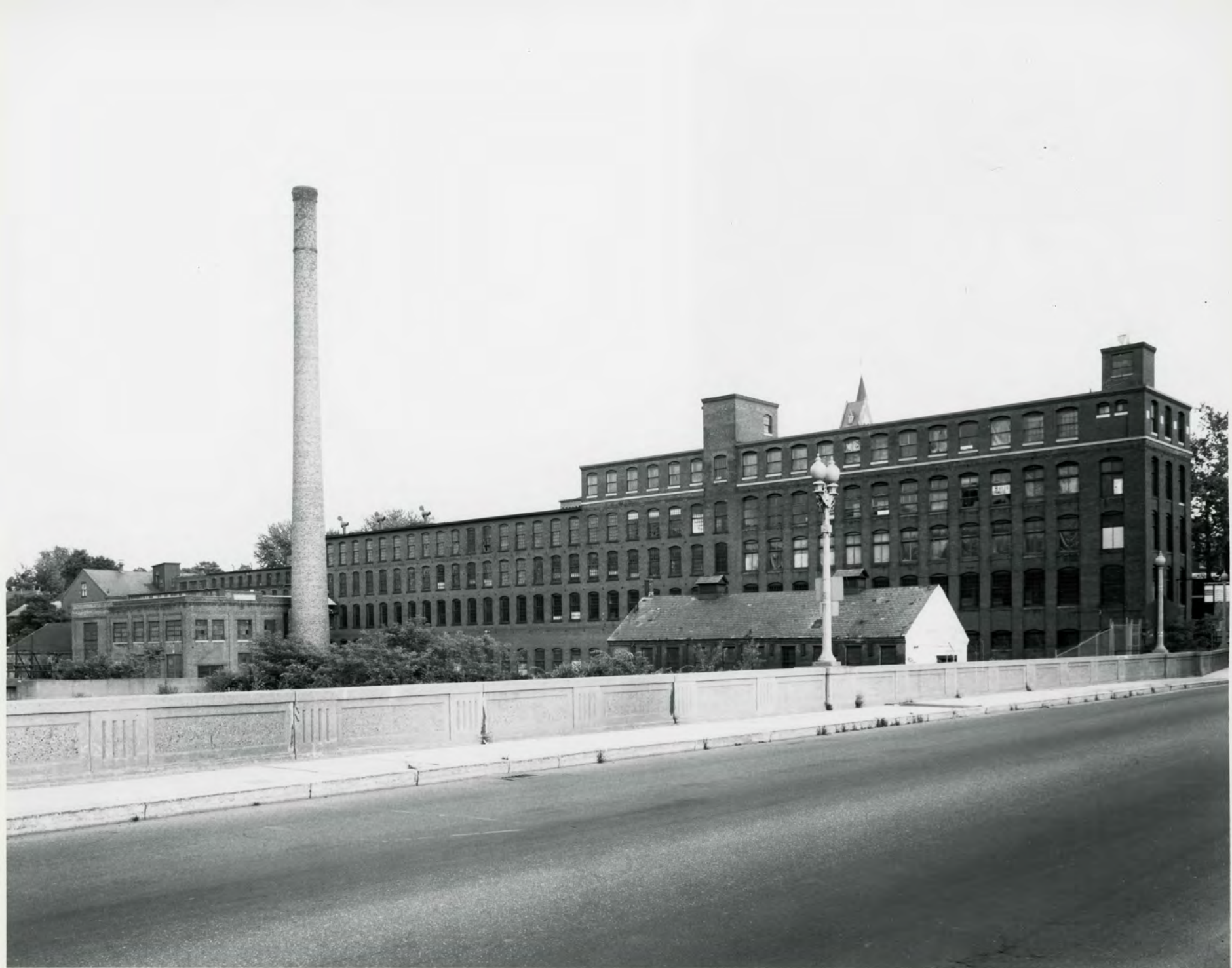


Chicopee, Ma.  
Ames Mfg. Co.

View east, showing Buildings 16, 11, & 6 at  
rear, Buildings 13, 3, 9 and 18 in foreground.

Photo by D. Ransom, 1980  
Negative filed with photographer

Photo 2 of 8



Chicopee, Ma.  
Ames Mfg. Co.

View southeast, showing Buildings 4, 8,  
17, 12, 10, 16 and 14.

Photo by Michael Janeczck, 1982  
Negative filed with Carlson-Schmitt  
Architects, Agawam, Ma.

Photo 3 of 8



PROPERTY NAME: AMES MILLS

Chicopee, Ma.

Ames Mfg. Co.

View east, showing Buildings 16, 11, 13,  
3, 9 and 6.

Photo by Michael Janeczck, 1982

Negative filed with Carlson-Schmitt  
Architects, Agawam, Ma.

Photo 4 of 8



Chicopee, Ma.  
Ames Mfg. Co.

View northwest, showing Buildings 2 & 8

Photo by D. Ransom, 1980  
Negative filed with photographer

Photo 5 of 8



PROPERTY NAME: AMES MILLS

Chicopee, Ma.  
Ames Mfg. Co.

View southwest, Showing Building 8.

Photo by Michael Janeczck, 1982  
Negative filed with Carlson-Schmitt  
Architects, Agawam, Ma.

Photo 6 of 8



Chicopee, Ma.  
Ames Mfg. Co.

View east, showing Building 14.

Photo by D. Ransom, 1980  
Negative filed with photographer

Photo 7 of 8



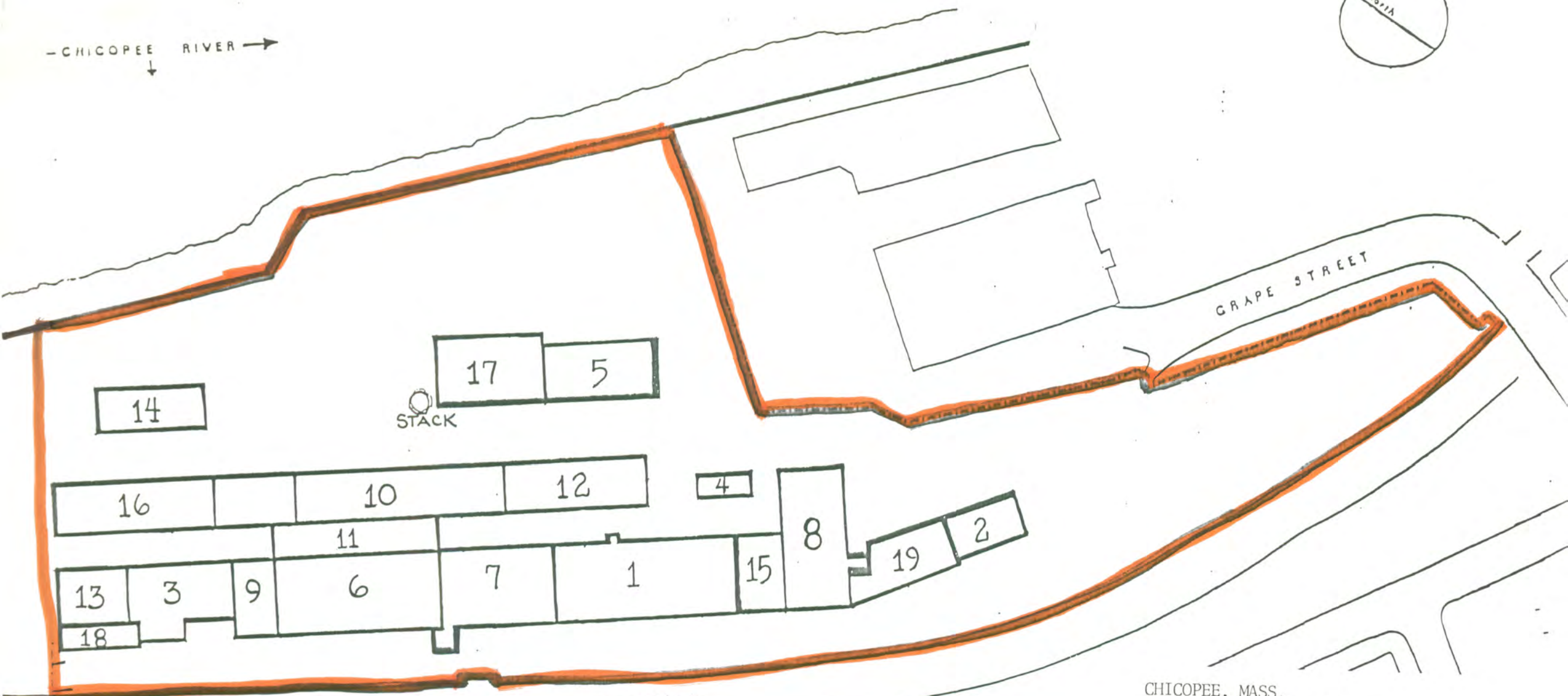
Chicopee, Ma.  
Ames Mfg. Co.

Interior of Building 7.

Photo by D. Ransom, 1980  
Negative filed with photographer

Photo 8 of 8

- CHICOPEE RIVER →



STACK

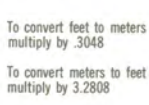
GRAPE STREET

← canal →

FRONT

CHICOPEE, MASS.  
Ames Manufacturing Co.

Source: Area Survey Form, 1979  
1" = 80'



UTM References:

|   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| A | 18/697880/4668920 |
| B | 18/697890/4668890 |
| C | 18/697830/4668870 |
| D | 18/697620/4668880 |
| E | 18/697640/4668980 |
| F | 18/697690/4668960 |
| G | 18/697810/4668990 |
| H | 18/697820/4668920 |



MASS.

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

1972  
PHOTOREVISED 1979  
AMS 6468 II NE—SERIES V81

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with the State of Massachusetts agencies from aerial photographs taken 1975 and other source data. This information not field checked. Map edited 1979.

860

CITY OF CHICOPEE

16213

J.A. REALTY INC.

J.A. REALTY INC.

CHICOPEE RIVER

AREA  
0.76 ACRES

CANAL

QUINNEHTUK Co.

SCALE: 1 IN. = 40 FT.

OWER GRAPE ST

CANAL

ST.

ST.

GRAPE

FRONT ST.

GRAPE ST.

AMES

AVE.

CHASE PLACE

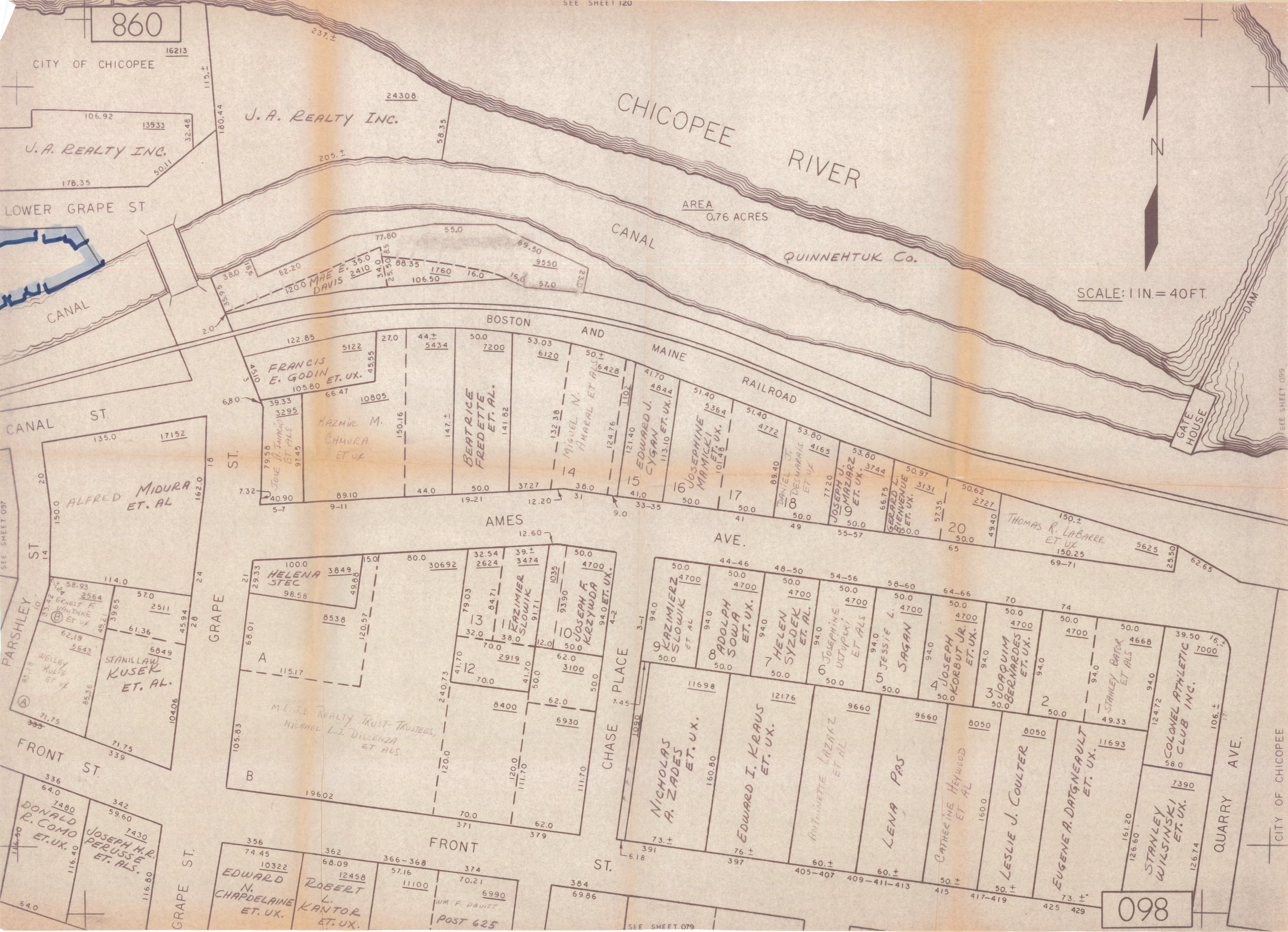
ST.

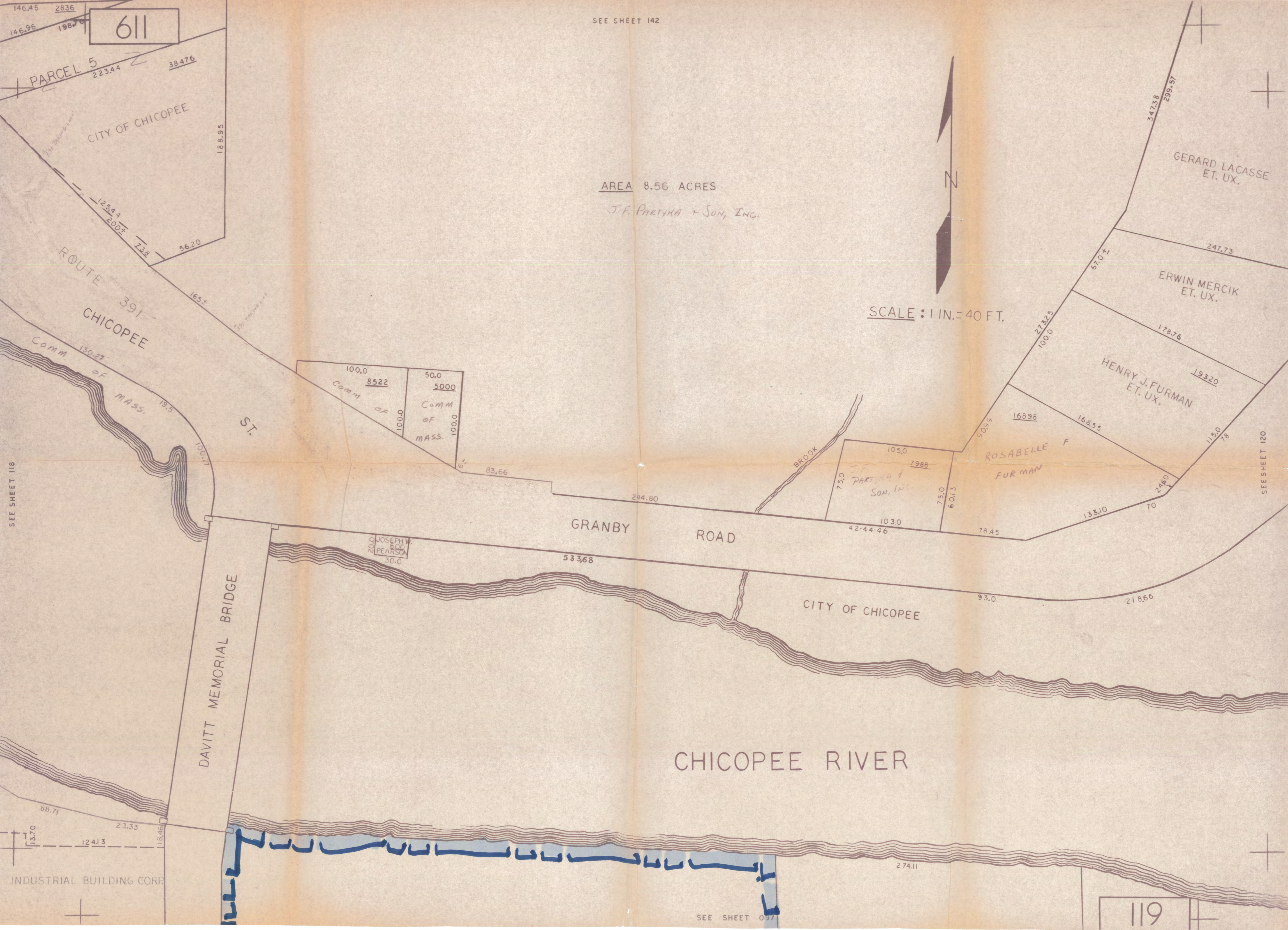
FRONT

QUARRY AVE.

CITY OF CHICOPEE

098





SEE SHEET 142

611

PARCEL 5

CITY OF CHICOPEE

AREA 8.56 ACRES  
J.F. PARTIKA & SON, INC.

N

SCALE: 1 IN. = 40 FT.

ROUTE 391  
CHICOPEE

ST.

GRANBY ROAD

CITY OF CHICOPEE

CHICOPEE RIVER

DAVITT MEMORIAL BRIDGE

INDUSTRIAL BUILDING CORP.

SEE SHEET 097

119

L60

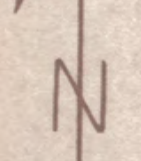
53387

AREA 4.75 ACRES

THOMAS J. WICKLES  
ET ALS

J. A. REALTY Co.  
SPRINGFIELD INC.

CITY OF CHICOPEE



SCALE: 1 IN. = 40 FT.



097



The City of  
Chicopee

City Hall • Market Square  
Massachusetts • 01013  
(413) 594-4711

Executive Office  
Robert F. Kumor, Jr.  
Mayor

RECEIVED

MAR 31 1983

MASS. HIST. COMM.

23 March 1983

Ms. Candace Jenkins  
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 Washington Street  
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Ms. Jenkins,

I send this letter in support of the nomination of the Ames Manufacturing Company complex for listing in the National Register of Historic Sites. The immense physical presence of the Mill in the heart of our downtown is symbolic of the important role the Mill, its owners, workers, artists and craftsmen played in the history of this City.

With the placement of the Mill on the National Register we will be insuring that the building will be reused and that an important symbol of Chicopee's contribution to the growth of the Nation will be preserved.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Kumor, Jr.  
MAYOR

RFK/map

# Edward Bellamy Memorial Association

6 CENTER STREET CHICOPEE MASS. 01013



RECEIVED

March 28, 1983 APR - 4 1983

Ms. Candace Jenkins  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
294 Washington Street  
Boston, Ma. 02108

Dear Ms. Jenkins:

At the March Board of Directors Meeting of The Edward Bellamy Memorial Association I was directed to express our support in favor of National Register Status for the Ames Manufacturing Complex. Our property the Bellamy House on Church Street is a National Historic Landmark.

The Ames Complex has played a vital role in the manufacturing history of our region and the nation. During the Civil War the Ames River Complex play a key role in the Union's War efforts. The Ames Company was the largest producer of light artillery and the third largest supplier of heavy ordinance for the war effort. And at the turn of the century A.G. Spalding moved his sporting goods business into the Ames buildings. Spalding would remain in the Ames Complex for nearly fifty years.

The Edward Bellamy Memorial Association believes The Ames Complex is deserving of National Register Status. We are hopeful this request will receive favorable consideration.

Yours truly,

Stephen R. Jendrysik  
Secretary

PRESIDENT  
\*SAMUEL N. FREEDMAN  
SPRINGFIELD  
VICE-PRESIDENT  
\*MARC WEBB  
CHICOPEE  
CLERK  
\*NORMAN GIROUARD  
CHICOPEE  
SECRETARY  
\*STEPHEN R. JENDRYSIK  
CHICOPEE  
TREASURER  
\*GEORGE D. OUMETTE  
CHICOPEE  
ASSISTANT TREASURER  
\*MRS. HELEN NOVAK  
CHICOPEE  
COUNSEL  
\*ROBERT A. GELINAS, ESQ.  
CHICOPEE  
LIBRARIAN  
\*MRS. RITA THORMEYER  
CHICOPEE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
\*ELLIOT H. CHARTRAND  
CHICOPEE  
\*HENRY FILAR  
CHICOPEE  
\*RICHARD GARVEY  
SPRINGFIELD  
EDWIN JASINSKI  
SPRINGFIELD  
PETER KROKIDAS  
CHICOPEE  
ROBERT KUMOR  
CHICOPEE  
MRS. EMILY PARTYKA  
CHICOPEE  
MS. IRENE ROUILLARD  
CHICOPEE  
MRS. ANNE SZETELA  
CHICOPEE  
\*EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

gar



Bellamy House  
91-93 Church Street, Chicopee, Mass. 01020  
The Church Street Historic District

# DANIEL O'CONNELL'S SONS, INC.

GENERAL CONTRACTORS

ESTABLISHED  
1879

TELEPHONE  
(413) 534-5667

480 HAMPDEN STREET  
P.O. BOX 267  
HOLYOKE, MASS. 01041-0267  
March 30, 1983

RECEIVED

APR - 2 1983

MASS. HIST. COMM.

Ms. Candice Jenkins  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
294 Washington Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Re: Ames Manufacturing Company Complex  
Springfield Street  
Chicopee, Massachusetts

Dear Ms. Jenkins:

This company has been engaged by the owner of the above property to provide development services, financing, construction management and property management for the conversion of the complex into 132 units of housing and approximately 15,000 square feet of commercial space. Our feasibility analysis gives us reason to believe that this structure can be preserved.

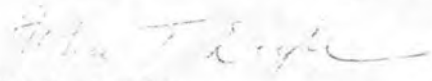
As you will learn from your research, the history of this complex is rich. Its location in the very center of the city will be a visual reminder of the roles played by craftsmen, workers and entrepreneurs to thousands who pass it each day. It will also illustrate in a significant way what can be done when the historic preservation process is properly followed.

The placement of this property on the National Register is critical to its preservation. As one of the oldest construction companies in the United States, we are pleased to have a part in restoring this property which has served the city and the nation so well.

We look forward to working with your office during the development process.

Very truly yours,

Daniel O'Connell's Sons, Inc.

  
John T. Doyle  
Financial Vice President  
JTD:mao

cc: Mr. David Modzelewski  
Mr. Joseph F. Partyka

22637

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that, THE OLD SPALDING CORPORATION, a  
Massachusetts corporation located at 5-7 Springfield Street,  
~~XX~~ Chicopee, Hampden County, Massachusetts

~~being conveyed~~, for consideration paid, and in full consideration of TWO HUNDRED TEN  
THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$210,000.00)

grants to THOMAS J. WICKLES of 10 Pleasant View Drive, and EDWARD J. WICKLES of 32 Pleasant  
View Drive, both in Hatfield, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, and JOSEPH F. PARTYKA and  
JOAN PARTYKA, both of P. O. Box 248, Chicopee, Hampden County, Massachusetts  
~~XX~~ with warranty covenants

~~the land in~~ Certain real estate situated on the easterly side of Springfield Street, Chicopee,  
Hampden County, Massachusetts, being more particularly bounded and described as  
follows: [Description and encumbrances, if any]

PARCEL ONE: Beginning at a point on the Easterly side of Springfield Street, said point  
being the intersection of the Southerly face of the North wall of the canal and the  
Easterly line of Springfield Street; thence running N. 13° 34' 45" E. twenty-seven (27)  
feet along the Easterly side of said Springfield Street to a drill hole at an angle in  
said street line, said drill hole being sixty-six and 77/100 (66.77) feet Northerly from  
the North face of the South wall of said canal, measured along said Easterly line of said  
Springfield Street; thence running N. 17° 28' 40" E. along said Easterly line of said  
Springfield Street two hundred seventeen and 35/100 (217.35) feet to the Northerly face  
of a concrete wall; thence S. 84° 52' 20" E., one hundred sixty-three and 5/100 (163.05)  
feet along the Northerly face of said concrete wall; thence running N. 49° 55' 40" E.,  
fifty and 11/100 (50.11) feet along the Northwesternly face of said concrete wall; thence  
running S. 84° 59' 40" E. Two hundred fifty-six and 14/100 (256.14) feet along said  
Northerly face of said concrete wall to land of the J. A. Realty Company of Springfield,  
Inc.; thence running S. 0° 25' 20" W. along said land of the J. A. Realty Company of  
Springfield, Inc., two hundred eleven and 59/100 (211.59) feet to a drill hole; thence  
continuing S. 74° 02' 30" E. along land of the J. A. Realty Company of Springfield, Inc.,  
two hundred seventy-two and 9/100 (272.09) feet to an iron pin in the Southerly line of  
Grape Street; thence continuing S. 89° 48' 40" E. along said Southerly line of Grape  
Street, two hundred twenty-one and 18/100 (221.18) feet to an iron pin; thence running  
S. 29° 28' 40" E. along the Westerly line of Grape Street, about forty-four and 46/100  
(44.46) feet to the Southerly face of the Northerly wall of said canal; thence running  
Westerly along said Southerly face of said Northerly wall of said canal about one thous-  
and sixty (1,060) feet to the place of beginning.

Also including all other land owned of record by the grantor herein lying between  
the concrete wall as mentioned in the third, fourth, and fifth courses of the above de-  
scription and the Chicopee River. Said land is subject to an easement given to the City  
of Chicopee along the said Chicopee River under instrument recorded in the Hampden County  
Registry of Deeds, Book 1709, Page 562.

Being the same premises as shown on Plan of Cobb, Beesley & Miles, Engineers,  
dated August, 1948, entitled "Plan of Property in Chicopee, Mass. owned by A. G. Spalding  
& Bros., Inc.", recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds.

Also including any waterpower rights owned of record by the grantor which pertain  
to the above described property and subject to water rights as set forth in instruments  
recorded in said Registry, Book 196, Page 223, and Book 1551, Page 234, if applicable.

Subject to the rights to the canal wall as given to the Quinnehtuk Company under  
instrument recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds, Book 1498, Page 311, if  
applicable.

Also subject to any restrictions or so-called conditions of record so far as  
the same may now be in force.

Together with the benefits and subject to the burdens of any and all easements,  
rights of way and water rights of record, so far as the same affect the above described  
premises and may be now in force.

Subject to possible rights of way referred to under instrument recorded in Regis-  
try, Book 669, Page 17, so far as the same may now exist.

Being the same premises conveyed to The Old Spalding Corporation by deed of  
Bernard M. Crosby and James R. Crowe dated October 16, 1967 and recorded in Hampden  
County Registry of Deeds, Book 3298, Page 251.

PARCEL TWO: Beginning at a point situated in the southerly line of lower Grape Street, Chicopee, Massachusetts, said point being the southeasterly corner of the parcel herein described and being the intersection of two courses designated as S 74° 02' 30" E., 272.09 feet and S 89° 48' 40" E, 221.18 feet, as shown on a plan recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds, Book of Plans 27, Page 122, entitled plan of property in Chicopee, Massachusetts, owned by A. G. Spalding & Brothers, Inc. dated August 1948; thence running,

- N 43° 12' 55" W      Along land of said The Old Spalding Corporation a distance of 88.84 feet to a point; thence running,
- S 51° 01' 26" E      Along other land of J. A. Realty Company of Springfield, Inc., a distance of 69.75 feet to a point; thence running,
- S 57° 17' 53" E      Along other land of J. A. Realty Company of Springfield, Inc., a distance of 16.50 feet to a point situated in the Westerly line of lower Grape Street; thence running
- S 31° 17' 20" W      Along the Westerly line of said lower Grape Street, a distance of 14.00 feet to a point, the place of beginning.

The above described parcel of land contains 536 square feet, and all as shown on a plan made by Durkee, White, Towne & Chapdelaine, Civil Engineers, Drawing 93-5382 A, recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds, Book of Plans 117, Page 76 and 77.

Excepting the premises conveyed to J. A. Realty Company of Springfield, MA, by deed of The Old Spalding Corporation dated June 30, 1969 and recorded in Book 3457, Page 25 of the Hampden County Registry of Deeds as shown on Plan recorded in Book of Plans 117, Page 76.

Subject to a right to maintain pump house as it now exists over and as shown on said Plan Book 27, Page 122.

Subject to restrictions of record.

Being a portion of the same premises conveyed to to The Old Spalding Corporation by deed of J. A. Realty Company of Springfield, Inc. dated June 30, 1969 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds, Book 3443, Page 300.