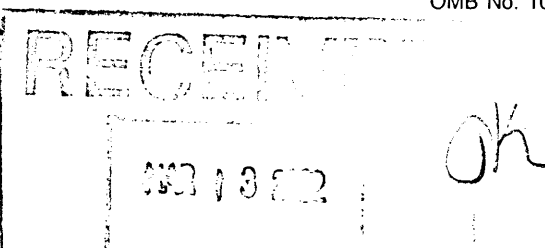
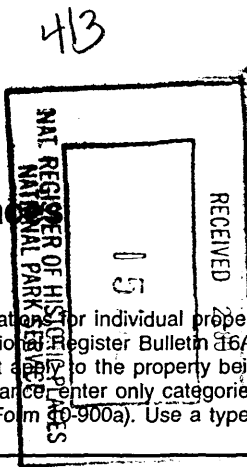


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 36A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Jones Brothers Granite Shed

other names/site number Vermont Granite Museum of Barre

2. Location

street & number 720 North Main Street, Vermont Route 302 not for publication

city or town Barre vicinity

state Vermont code VT county Washington code 023 zip code 05641

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Suzanne C. Jamale National Register Specialist, 3-8-02
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Vermont State Historic Preservation Office
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): _____

Elson H. Beall Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 4/26/02

Jones Brothers Granite Shed
Name of Property

Washington Co., Vermont
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2		Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Industry - Manufacturing facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Work in Progress

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Straight Granite Shed

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls weatherboard

roof asphalt

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Industry

Architecture

Period of Significance

1895-1950

Significant Dates

1895

1923

1925

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Jones Brothers Granite Shed
Name of Property

Washington Co., Vermont
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 14

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	18	697480	4898300
Zone	Easting	Northing	
2	18	698060	4898240

3	18	698090	4898090
Zone	Easting	Northing	
4	18	697680	4898100

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Miranda P. Burwell and Liz Pritchett

organization UVM Historic Preservation Program date November 28, 2001

street & number 442 Main Street telephone 802-656-3180

city or town Burlington state Vermont zip code 05401

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Vermont Granite Museum of Barre

street & number P.O. Box 282 telephone 802-476-4605

city or town Barre state Vermont zip code 05641

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service

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Jones Brothers Granite Shed
Barre, Washington County, VT

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Summary Paragraph

The Jones Brothers Granite Shed is the primary remaining structure from the Jones Brothers Company, which played an important role in the early granite industry in Vermont. The nomination includes the granite shed, also called Building No. 1 or The Mill, the Blacksmith Shop, and foundation remains of demolished Building No. 3, that have historically been part of the Jones Brothers Company and that maintain historic integrity. Situated between railroad tracks and the Stevens Branch of the Winooski River, the industrial complex processed rough granite hauled by horses and later by train from Millstone Hill. The Jones Brothers Granite Shed, built in 1895, is one of the earliest examples of the straight shed, an innovative design which replaced the horseshoe plan shed and took advantage of new technology afforded by overhead cranes to move granite. The straight shed is characterized by its linear plan, clapboard siding, gable roof with ventilating cupolas, shed roof wings along the eavesides, numerous paired, double hung windows, and clerestory windows above the wing roofs that admit light to the center of the lofty interior. The industrial, light frame, timber construction creates the distinctive broad, open, interior space. The simplicity of design and lack of exterior and interior decorative features emphasize the purely functional use of the building. A one-story, gable roof ell off the south façade was originally a free standing building constructed in 1923 as a recreation room. It was later connected to the granite shed for use as a sandblast studio and more recently functioned as an office. The west (rear) gable end of the building is now boarded over but was originally connected to the sawing and polishing mill called Building No. 3 that was torn down in 1990 following a fire. A one-story, gable roof, wood frame Blacksmith Shop, built c. 1923, is located south of the granite shed. The Jones Brothers granite shed is a very intact example of the straight granite shed and it retains integrity of materials, design, workmanship, location, setting, feeling, and association.

Building No. 1 (The Mill)

Building No. 1, also called the Mill, is 290 feet long and 75 feet wide. It functioned as the central, granite-cutting shed. The long, rectangular, gable roof, twenty-five bay, straight shed has one-bay shed roof wings flanking the length of the north eaves elevation and the eastern half of the south elevation. Clerestory windows line the sidewalls above the wings. The one-story, gable-on-hip roof ell that projects from the center of the south side was built in 1923 as a free-standing building which housed the recreation room and dining area. It later was connected to the main block for use as a sandblasting studio and finally functioned as an

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Jones Brothers Granite Shed
Barre, Washington County, VT

office. Atop the west end of the north wing of the granite shed is a gable roof wheel house, which was added when an improved, large wire saw was installed in 1952 to permit sawing longer lengths of stone.

Three, one-story, shed roof appendages were recently removed from Building No. 1. The location of two appendages that housed large granite cutting saws on the south façade, west of the ell, are now indicated by plywood board infill on the south elevation wall. The third appendage, which housed a tool grinding shop, was located approximately in the center of the north façade where plywood boards infill the former opening.

The granite shed has a timber frame, clapboard siding, corner board trim, a raking eaves, box cornice, exposed rafter tails, matchboard soffit, and nearly 2-foot thick concrete foundation walls. The rolled roofing is a temporary replacement of former asphalt shingles. Four gable roof cupolas are spaced along the ridgeline. Banks of paired six-over-six and nine-over-nine windows topped by paired nine-light sash line the eaves sides, and paired nine-light windows define the clerestory fenestration. All windows are in poor condition with glass and muntins missing or damaged. Most window openings are boarded over or covered with plastic. Oversized, sliding double doors at three sides of the building facilitated movement of large granite blocks to and from the building by means of rail. Windows and doors have flat stock trim.

East Façade

The front (east) façade of the south side wing contains a double door entrance for clients and visitors. The doors each have a nine-light window and two, horizontal lower panels. A paired nine-light transom window is located above this entrance. In the main block the right bay contains a large, two-part, plywood, sliding door on an exterior track. A paired, double hung, nine-over-nine window is located left of the sliding doors. The upper level of this façade contains five nine-over-nine windows (recently removed for storage), and a single nine-light sash at the left. The east façade of the north wing contains a window opening with board infill.

North Façade

The twenty-five bay north façade is spanned by a one-story wing that is set back one bay from the east end (front) of the building. The eave side of the wing has a row of eight, paired, six-over-six windows (at the east end) and six, paired, nine-over-nine windows (at the west end) all topped by paired, single sash, nine-light transom windows and interspersed with two loading doors. The tenth bay (reading from left to right) contains a plywood door that slides on an exterior track. In the eighteenth bay, a wide, sliding, plywood, double door on an

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Jones Brothers Granite Shed
Barre, Washington County, VT

exterior track, formerly served as an entrance for rail cars. Bays fourteen through sixteen are infilled with new, unpainted plywood boards at the location of a former machine shop. Two small, shed roof projections that house mechanical equipment extend from bays thirteen and seventeen. Windows in the bays that contain the two doors or two small, shed appendages are variations of the typical, paired, double hung windows with paired transoms found elsewhere on this elevation. The clerestory above the wing is defined by twenty, paired, nine-light windows. Atop the wing roof along the four west end bays of this elevation is a gable roof, plywood sided, wire saw wheelhouse added in 1952.

West Façade

The west gable end is boarded over with plywood. This side of the building originally connected with Building No. 3 and was not an exterior wall until Building No. 3 burned and was later demolished.

South Façade

The twenty-four bay south façade has a one-bay wide shed roof wing that spans the first eight bays of the eastern (front) half of the granite shed. Paired nine-over-nine windows with paired nine-light transoms similar to those on the north elevation are located in bays one through seven, seventeen, and nineteen through twenty-two. Bays nineteen through twenty-two also have nine and six-light single sash below the lower sash of each of the paired windows. Bay eight (reading from east to west) contains a vertical board entrance door through which the employees entered and punched in at the time clock inside the door. At the west end of the wing, a one-story, shed roof, four-bay projection extending from the south wall of the granite shed serves as a connector between the plant and a one-story ell. The connector has a paired, nine-over-nine window and a plywood covered door on the east side, a boarded over window and a six-light window on the south side (east of the ell), and the west side is infilled with plywood.

The nine-by-two bay ell has clapboard siding, a gable-on-hip roof, and asphalt shingle roofing. The ell was built as a recreation room and later used as a sandblasting studio; in the 1970s it was remodeled as office space. The ell has a pedestrian door comprised of a four-light upper window, three horizontal lower panels and a single light transom window, centered on the east elevation. Square, nine-light windows, which are regularly spaced on each elevation, are now boarded over. In the east gable peak a modern, cube shaped, louvered vent has been placed over an original, wood, oculus louver with a circular surround flanked by board and batten siding; this circular vent and vertical siding are perhaps the sole

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Jones Brothers Granite Shed
Barre, Washington County, VT

decorative features of the entire granite shed structure. The ell interior retains its 1970s, one-quarter inch wall paneling.

Along the western half of the south façade of the main block, bays thirteen through sixteen, and twenty-three through twenty-four, are now boarded over with plywood following the recent removal of appendages in these locations that were built c. 1945 to house a Diamond Saw and Carborundum Saw. In bay eighteen, a sliding double door with an exterior track similar to the door in the same location on the north façade served as a railcar entrance. A band of twenty-two, paired, nine-light clerestory windows spans the elevation above the wing and ell roofs.

Interior

The interior of the granite shed retains its original volume with a vast, open, center bay running the length of the building, flanked by side bays in the wings. The exposed, braced, sawn timber frame of eight foot by eight foot and ten foot by ten foot timbers reinforced with four foot by six foot knee braces divide the interior into twenty-five approximately twelve foot bays. The massive, exposed, wood frame was stabilized and repaired in 1998. The floor is dirt and gravel with three, parallel concrete walkways in the center bay, and wood flooring in portions of the side bays. Remnants of railroad tracks cut through the western portion of the shed from south to north.

A balcony at the top of a flight of stairs at the front (east) gable end of the shed above the sliding double door entry provided access to the overhead bridge crane and also served as a visitor's gallery. The overhead crane for moving heavy granite the length of the shed is still in place. The stairs also lead to the dust collectors. The dust removal system was part of the ventilating equipment installed to help eliminate silicosis, an occupational disease hazard.

Rough granite blocks arrived via rail from Millstone Hill, entering the shed through the double doors at the east and south facades. Inside the plant, flat bed rail cars and small boxcars moved the blocks to different workstations where overhead cranes removed the stone from the cars. The open floor plan of the interior facilitated the movement of materials and allowed maximum light and ventilation from the large number of windows and cupolas.

Blacksmith Shop

This small, one and one-half story, gable roof building was constructed c. 1923 as a blacksmith shop. It has clapboard siding, a concrete foundation, asphalt roofing shingles, corner board trim, exposed rafter tails, a raking eaves and a box cornice. The building is

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Jones Brothers Granite Shed
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located on or near the site of the original horseshoe shaped granite cutting shed. The Blacksmith Shop appears generally intact although the window and door openings are now boarded over. Recent photographs indicate that the building had six-over-six, double hung windows and the right bay of each gable end contained a pedestrian door. In this structure tools were developed, manufactured and repaired for use in the granite industry. Since the 1940s the structure has served as a storage building.

Building No. 3 (demolished)

Building No. 3 was constructed as a sawing and polishing shed at the same time as Building No. 1. Surface evidence of a concrete floor and footings define the footprint of the building and several appendages. Remnants of milling equipment remain in the location of Building No. 3. Historic photos reveal that the building was similar in scale and plan to Building No. 1. A northern portion of the building was called the Chocolate Factory. One of the Jones Brothers largest contracts was with Hershey Chocolate. In this building chocolate rollers up to twenty-two feet long by one foot in diameter were made for sale to Hershey for crushing cocoa beans into powder. Similar large granite rollers used as paper presses were made for the newspaper and paper industry for clients such as Kimberly Clark and Northern. A fire in 1988 destroyed much of Building No. 3 and the remaining portion was later taken down.

Site

The Vermont Granite Museum of Barre purchased the Jones Brothers site in 1997. The site comprises 14 acres of the historic Jones Brothers Company complex. This site includes the 1895 granite shed called Building No. 1, portions of the foundation footprint of the perpendicular appendage called Building No. 3 which was torn down in 1990, the small c. 1923 blacksmith shop, and archeological remains.

The linear site is located on a flat floodplain terrace in the geophysical region known as the Vermont Piedmont. The site is bounded by the Stevens Branch of the Winooski River on the southwest and U.S. Route 302 on the northeast. Railroad tracks cut through the property parallel to the boundary along Route 302. Portions of former railroad tracks remain at the south side of the granite shed and cut through the western portion of the shed from south to north. The vehicular entrance to the site is located at the easterly portion of the property. The entrance road extends from Route 302 to the north and eastern sides of the granite shed. A secondary access road from Route 302 at the western end of the site passes through western portions of the property, which are primarily open woodland and meadows. Just south of the southern boundary line is the former Jones Brothers Office (now Washington County Mental

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Jones Brothers Granite Shed
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Health) and a boiler plant (now New York /Vermont Motor Express) both of which were built by Jones Brothers Company around 1925.

The broad field north of the existing shed was the site of former manufacturing buildings that were part of the complex but like Building No. 3 have been torn down. The largest of these structures was Building No. 2, constructed c. 1925 as another straight shed to provide more cutting and storage space north of and parallel to the Mill (No. 1). Later the shed served as a packing building where finished products were boxed for shipping.

Located off the south side of Building No. 1 was a sixty-ton boom derrick that was stabilized by cables and concrete piers and extended eighty-five feet above the ground. A non-historic, circular steel and concrete tank at the west end of the granite shed is associated with the abrasive reclamation operation that functioned on the site after the Jones Brothers granite processing activities ceased. Extensive granite discard piles are located along the east bank of the Stevens Branch. The discard, known as grout, comprises 75% of quarried granite, as most stone is unused due to poor quality. Some of the discarded stone has served to extend and stabilize the bank of the river.

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Jones Brothers Granite Shed
Barre, Washington County, VT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Summary Paragraph

The Jones Brothers Granite Shed, built in 1895, is located between Vermont Route 302 and the Stevens Branch of the Winooski River in Barre, Vermont. It is a good example of a manufacturing plant for granite, one of Vermont's largest exports. The site qualifies for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its contributions to the patterns of Vermont history. The Jones Brothers Company was instrumental in expanding the granite industry in Barre, a city that was recognized internationally as "the granite capital of the world." Barre's success was a direct result the city's extraordinarily large reserve and export of high quality granite, the exceptional skill of her artisans in stone cutting, and early inventions of quarrying and manufacturing equipment. In 1886 Jones Brothers Company became among the first in Barre to establish both quarries and a manufacturing plant. In 1927 it became the first granite company to advertise finished granite monuments nationwide, and, until 1975 was one of the oldest granite manufacturing companies in the country. Jones Brothers incorporated the entire commercial granite process, from the quarrying of stone to the finished product. Guardian Memorials, a well-known name in memorial stones, was established by the Jones Brothers Company in 1925 and remained its hallmark until 1975 when Jones Brothers closed down, and the Guardian trademark was sold to the company of Beck and Beck. Under Criterion C the Jones Brothers Granite Shed qualifies for the National Register for its significance as an important example of industrial architecture. It is one of the earliest examples of the rectangular plan "straight shed" that took advantage of new technology for moving granite afforded by the interior, overhead crane invented by Lane Manufacturing Company in Montpelier, Vermont. The innovative building plan of the straight shed used in conjunction with overhead cranes replaced horseshoe shaped sheds and boom derrick technology.

Barre History

The town of Barre originated on November 6, 1780 when the Vermont Legislature issued a land charter to William Williams and sixty others. The town was named Wildersburgh commemorating a town by the same name in Massachusetts, the home of some of the charter members. The first known settlers of Wildersburgh arrived in 1788. The site of the first wood frame house built in 1800 by William Gouldsbury, a millwright, lies approximately one-third of a mile east of the Jones Brothers site on Richardson Road.

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Jones Brothers Granite Shed
Barre, Washington County, VT

The early settlers of Wildersburgh were apparently dissatisfied with the sound and length of the town name and agreed to change it. According to one legend, the final decision for securing the new town name was awarded to the winner of a bare-knuckled fistfight between Jonathan Sherman from Barre, Massachusetts and Captain Joseph Thompson from Holden, Massachusetts. Sherman was declared the winner and on October 19, 1793, Wildersburgh officially became Barre. In Massachusetts, the town of Barre commemorated Colonel Isaac Barre, a British nobleman and ally of the American colonists.

Unprecedented growth in Barre resulting from the rapid expansion of the granite industry led to its incorporation as a village in 1886. It became a city in 1895. Jones Brothers lies in the northernmost part of Barre City. This area was formerly known as Twingsville or Thwingsville after James Thwing who settled there about 1795. One of his descendants, Joshua Thwing, established an iron foundry in the early 1800s around which the village grew. This settlement lies less than three-quarters of a mile south of the Jones Brothers site.

Barre's early granite industry

Thompson's Gazetteer of 1824 refers to granite as the principal rock of the eastern part of Washington County. Although agriculture was the main pursuit of early European American colonists in Barre, a few enterprising settlers realized the value of the granite resources located in the southeast corner of town. Limited in scope, early granite quarrying activities centered in the areas that became known as Millstone Hill, where the quarries for the manufacture of granite millstones were located, and Cobble Hill, in reference to the production and common use of granite paving stones or cobbles.

According to local history, Robert Parker opened the first granite quarry in Barre in 1781. By 1802 the beginnings of the commercial granite quarrying industry in Barre were put in motion by Parker, Thomas Courser and Abijah Abbott. They uncovered rough rock for underpinnings, door steps and fence posts. An 1832 contract for granite to build the State Capitol in Montpelier was a turning point for the fledgling Barre granite industry. The Vermont Statehouse became one of the first buildings to use stone from Barre.

Prosperity in Barre's granite industry was assured after the railroad provided a direct connection between the quarries, manufacturing plants, and national and world markets. In 1875 the Central Vermont railroad was completed linking Montpelier and Barre. In 1889, citizen subscriptions of \$40,000 helped build the Barre Quarry Spur. The same

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Jones Brothers Granite Shed
Barre, Washington County, VT

year, the Barre and Chelsea Railroad made the transportation of raw granite considerably easier by installing the Sky Route, a rail line down Millstone Hill to the City of Barre. The steep ascent of the four-mile Sky Route between the quarries and Barre had thirty-five switchbacks. The Barre Branch Railroad, a subsidiary of Montpelier & Wells River Railroad, provided the link with outside markets.

Rapid growth in the industry saw a rise from one dozen quarries producing granite valued at \$59,675 in 1880 to sixty-eight quarries producing stone valued at over \$1.5 million in 1902. As production grew, waves of immigrants arrived to take part in the granite industry. Between 1880 and 1900 Barre's population multiplied five fold growing from 2,060 to over 11,700 residents. Historians estimate that by 1919 there were 5,000 men in the industry, nearly four-fifths of whom were skilled granite cutters, carvers and polishers - the finest workmen of their craft in the world. Today granite quarrying remains the principal industry of Barre.

Jones Brothers Company

Several generations of the Jones family are credited with the success of Jones Brothers Company. The business originated with four brothers, sons of Hugh Jones. Of Welsh ancestry, Hugh Jones and his parents immigrated to America and settled in Edensburg, Pennsylvania. The key individuals to establish the Jones family granite business were Hugh Jones' sons, Marshall, Seward, Dayton and Hugh John. Each son had his own business division to oversee; yet it was their combined efforts that led to the success of the company.

Marshall entered the monument business in Zanesville, Ohio in 1872. Soon after, Seward accepted a job with the same the business. In 1882 the two brothers established Jones Brothers, wholesale dealers in monument granite. They located their office in Boston to be near the granite centers in Quincy, Massachusetts. In 1884 Marshall and Seward opened a branch office in Aberdeen, Scotland, which served as a central location for processing and exporting foreign granite to the United States. By 1887 brothers Dayton and Hugh had joined the firm and were admitted to partnership.

In 1886, the Jones Brothers purchased a granite quarry on Millstone Hill from Mackie and Simpson. (Sources indicate that this was possibly the site of the first granite quarry of Robert Parker, who began the granite industry in Barre in 1781.) At the same time, the Jones Brothers began to rent the former Mackie and Simpson building on Granite Street in Barre to be used as a granite cutting plant. The granite was transported from Millstone

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Jones Brothers Granite Shed
Barre, Washington County, VT

Hill by horse-drawn wagons or sleds to the cutting plant on Granite Street. A huge boom derrick removed the granite from the wagons and it was carted into a horseshoe plan shed for processing.

In 1889, the Barre and Chelsea Railroad made the transportation of raw granite considerably easier by installing the Sky Route, a rail line down Millstone Hill to the City of Barre. This four-mile line was the steepest grade east of the Rocky Mountains.

Before 1891, granite was cut solely by man or horsepower. It was primarily hand cut and polished with only the help of a few small machines brought over from Aberdeen. In 1891, the Jones Brothers pioneered the introduction of the pneumatic tool, revolutionizing the granite cutting process.

In 1895 the new site for the Jones Brothers Company was purchased from Alvin F. Sortwell. That year two straight sheds were built at right angles to each other. They became known as Building No.1 and Building No. 3. (Building No. 2 was built in 1925 to provide more working space; it no longer exists). A smaller horseshoe plan shed was also on the site. Today Building No. 1 is the only remaining granite shed on the property.

Built on the banks of the Stevens Branch to take advantage of the waterpower, steam was introduced to the site by 1900, powered by several boilers and an engine room. By 1916 the site had been electrified.

In order to offer a variety of colors of granite to customers, Jones Brothers Company acquired a number of quarries in Barre, and imported granite from abroad. Dark granite came from the Mackie and Simpson quarry on Millstone Hill. Light gray stone was mined from the C. E. Taynton Granite Quarry, a site that Jones Brothers acquired in 1898. Additional stone came from the Wells-Lamson Quarry the company bought in 1907. Light pink stone was imported from Scotland, and darker granites came from Sweden, Norway and Finland.

One project that brought Jones Brothers a high degree of notoriety in the industry was the manufacture of massive granite columns for St. John the Divine Cathedral in New York City. In 1900, Jones Brothers transported 16 pieces of granite, thirty-eight feet long and six feet in diameter (each weighing approximately one hundred tons), as well as an additional eight pieces measuring eighteen feet long and weighing forty tons, for use as columns for the cathedral. The entire project of hauling and erecting the columns took over a year to complete but was executed without a nick in the granite.

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Jones Brothers Granite Shed
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Besides the manufacture of memorials and monuments, Jones Brothers provided large granite rollers for the newspaper, pulp and paper industries for clients such as Kimberly Clark, St. Regis and Northern. Granite rollers were also manufactured for Hershey Chocolate, for crushing cocoa beans into chocolate powder.

According to a newspaper article from *Barre Granite* in October 1921, Vermont was the center of the monumental stone industry of the United States. "With the largest granite quarries in the world centered in Barre, imposing marble deposits in Rutland and Addison counties, and extensive slate quarries in Poultney and Fair Haven, the Green Mountain state has clear title to first place in the nation's production of stone." The Jones Brothers Company was described as "the largest monumental works in the world, with 100,000 square feet of floor space, 300 men employed, and annual sales of \$500,000 in the first two decades of the century." Later figures estimate a work force of up to 600 men.

At its peak of production a document from 1942 describes the "modern" amenities of the Jones Brothers plant:

The present plant covers a floor space of over 45,000 square feet, is fully electrified, and contains a modern heating plant and dust removal system for the comfort and health of the employees. Its equipment is all modernized and, outside of almost endless small tools and machines, comprises a 60-ton yard derrick, 6 overhead traveling cranes from 10 to 40 tons capacity, three mechanically fed gang saws, ample high speed efficiency polishing and grinding equipment for flat work, three cutting and polishing lathes for columns, vases and turned work of all kinds, huge vertical and horizontal grinding machines for contour work, fully equipped machine and forge shops, and a most modern sand blast studio for lettering and carving. The sand blast process of lettering and ornamentation has gone forward by leaps and bounds, but by many is considered still in its infancy and containing almost limitless possibilities.

Guardian Memorials, a well-known name in memorial stones, was established by the Jones Brothers Company in 1925 and remained its hallmark until 1975 when the Jones Brothers Company plant was closed down and the Guardian trademark was sold to the company of Beck and Beck.

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From its creation in 1882 until 1948, the Jones Brothers Company was a family run business. In 1948, Heber G. England, who had been involved in the company since 1927, took over as president though the family continued to retain shares. In 1963 Maurice Kelley bought out the company. He eventually sold the Guardian Trademark to the company of Beck and Beck and shut down the Jones Brothers Company in 1975.

Later uses of the site

In 1963 an abrasive reclamation operation began that used granite residue derived from wire sawing and other site operations. During the manufacturing process, waste residue, which was the consistency of mud, was drained from work areas and collected in settling basins. A retail lumber sale business briefly occupied the granite shed. In 1975 the Jones Brothers Company plant, one of the oldest continuously operating granite plants in the United States, closed. The Guardian Trademark was sold to Beck and Beck. Neglect and abandonment of the site in the following decades led to disrepair.

From 1997 to 1998 the Jones Brothers granite shed and surrounding land was purchased by the Barre Granite Center and Heritage Museum, a non-profit organization founded in 1995. The site comprises fourteen acres on three parcels, and includes the granite shed and former blacksmith shop, a large parking lot, and a partially wooded meadow, which is the westerly extension of the site.

In 1999 the name of the Barre Granite Center and Heritage Museum was changed to Vermont Granite Museum of Barre to better reflect the statewide heritage of the granite industry associated with the granite belt that extends from Hardwick to Bethel, Vermont. Presently, plans are underway to restore the Jones Brothers Granite Shed and to convert it into a museum, incorporating the surrounding grounds as an interpretive site.

Work In Progress

The Vermont Granite Museum of Barre is proposing to rehabilitate the large, rectangular, Jones Brothers Granite Shed, which ceased operations as a granite facility in the 1970s. It will be converted to use as a museum and educational center that will interpret the history and technology of the granite industry in Vermont. The intact shed will be restored. The exterior and interior features of the historic building will be retained as much as possible in a manner that meets *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*. The large appendage off the west end of the shed, called Building No. 3 that was torn down in 1990 after a fire will be rebuilt on its original footprint in a manner that is compatible in

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style and massing with the existing shed. Three smaller appendages, which were recently torn down due to deterioration and lack of structural integrity, will be rebuilt to match their original form and configuration. The small, former blacksmith shop in the south side of the lot will be retained and reused, probably for storage. Landscape designs for the site will respect the industrial nature of the setting and meet requirements for parking and traffic safety.

Criterion A

Under Criterion A, the Jones Brothers Company is significant for its associations with the history of the granite industry. Under local significance, the Jones Brothers Company was instrumental in expanding the granite industry in Barre, primarily due to the high quality of abundant stone, the skilled processing artisans, and its implementation of early inventions of manufacturing equipment such as the pneumatic drill and overhead cranes. In 1886 Jones Brothers Company became among the first in Barre to establish both quarries and a manufacturing plant. The business retains national significance as the first granite company to advertise finished granite monuments nationwide, and, until 1975 was one of the oldest granite manufacturing companies in the country.

The granite workers were primarily immigrants from Scotland, Italy, Canada and Sweden. Scots from the granite region near Aberdeen are thought to be the first immigrants to arrive for employment in Barre's granite industry in the mid 1800s. They were followed by Italians, who became well known for their carving skill and techniques. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, workers from Scandinavia, Greece, Ireland, England, Canada and Spain joined the ranks of the Barre granite workers. Each ethnic population had its own cultural community within Barre's North End, which had become the immigrant workers section of town. In 1880, when the granite industry was still small scale, 95% of the population of Barre was native-born. By 1910, when the industry was employing over three thousand people, that number had dropped to 62% .

As the industry grew and attracted immigrants from abroad, Jones Brothers responded to the critical need for worker's housing. The company constructed six dwellings on Richardson Road across Route 302 for its workers. Today three duplexes remain from this former company housing.

The granite workers were very active politically and unions had a strong voice in the working conditions of the employees. There were fifteen local unions in 1900, comprised of more than 90% of Barre's working class. A strike in 1922 greatly affected the

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community. In 1923 Jones Brothers Company responded to grievances by constructing a new building with a recreation room for its employees, which was used to serve workers hot meals brought in from a local restaurant. Two men per shift were responsible for overseeing the recreation room. This action showed the management's efforts to work amiably with the workers. The recreation room was later connected to the granite shed and transformed into a sandblast studio and eventually, after the granite works closed down, into an office space.

Women were not employed by Jones Brothers until the sandblast studio was built in the former recreation ell. There, women did the rubber cutting work, which involved stretching a rubber stencil over polished stone and cutting out the design and lettering for the piece. The sandblast process would later be employed to cut away areas where the letters and designs had been removed from the stencil. Twenty-one women were employed by the 1970s. When the sandblast studio became an office, women were employed as office personnel.

Criterion C

Under Criterion C the Jones Brothers Granite Shed, built in 1895, is an excellent example of industrial architecture constructed for the processing of granite. It embodies the innovative building plan of the straight shed used in conjunction with overhead cranes to move granite throughout the building for processing, thus replacing horseshoe shaped sheds and boom derrick technology. The straight shed could easily accommodate delivery of raw stone into the building by rail. The concept of the straight shed was innovative, as most of the granite sheds of this period were circular, relying primarily on the circular path of a single central derrick boom to lift large blocks of granite off transportation carts or wagons.

The original granite cutting and polishing shed was made up of two straight sheds perpendicular to each other. The Mill, also called Building No. 1, housed lathes, gang saws (installed in 1914) and polishing machines. Building No. 3 was used for polishing, and later to manufacture rollers for the chocolate and paper industries. Around 1925, a second plant called Building No. 2 was constructed to provide more working space, and a blacksmith shop, boiler plant and separate office structure were built. Other small appendages were added to the Mill after 1925. Remaining today are Building No. 1 and the blacksmith shop. The boiler plant and office also exist, but are under separate ownership.

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With the east gable front facing Route 302, the Jones Brothers shed runs 290 feet in an east-west direction and is approximately 75 feet in width. The building is designed to be utilitarian to best accommodate the granite manufacturing process. The large number of windows and four cupolas in the gable roof were necessary for maximum natural light and ventilation. On the east end, an open stairway leads to a balcony, which provided access to the overhead ten-ton capacity bridge cranes that are still in place. The open interior, a key architectural feature of light timber frame construction, provides ample space for workstations and movement of large blocks of granite. Although the exact process of manufacturing memorials and monuments is not immediately discernible because the machinery no longer remains, within the rectangular shed a rectangular grid of paths becomes evident through existing interior features that define the movement of granite during the manufacturing process. The granite entered the building by rail through double doors where railroad tracks passed through the building on the south, north and east elevations. The overhead cranes moved up and down the length of the building removing granite from the rail cars and depositing it at various workstations. Large pieces of granite were cut to size by oversized saws in the two appendages located on the south elevation. (These appendages were removed in 1998). Tools were manufactured and repaired in the tool shop in the north appendage (removed in 1998). Carving of designs and lettering was assisted by workers in the Sandblast Studio in the south side ell.

The Jones Brothers Granite shed is a good example of turn of the century industrial architecture, notable for its open, utilitarian interior, rather than any particular architectural style. There are no exterior or interior decorative elements. Despite its extraordinary mass, the granite shed can be classified as a light timber frame building because of the use of minimal structure for maximum space. After much of the former plant was destroyed by fire in 1988, the remaining, existing granite shed comprises approximately 27,500 of the original 85,000 square feet of the two original sheds. The Jones Brothers Granite Shed is a very good example of industrial architecture and is an excellent example of a straight granite shed built during a time of tremendous growth in the Barre granite industry.

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Jones Brothers monuments and memorials – a representative list

Among the Jones Brothers most famous monuments and memorials found throughout the world are the Green Beret Memorial, the Brigham Young Memorial, the Weymouth War Memorial in Weymouth, Massachusetts, the Meridan War Memorial in Meridan, Connecticut, and the Mormon Memorial in Manchester, New York.

Other well known monuments and memorials produced by Jones Brothers Manufacturing include the Beacon Monument at the State House in Boston, the Fort Fisher War Memorial in Fort Fisher, North Carolina, and a part of a memorial to Taras Shevchenko, an Ukrainian poet and freedom fighter, in Washington, D. C. As recently as 1973, Jones Brothers was commissioned to create a memorial for Fairmont, West Virginia, to honor the coal miners who lost their lives in mine disasters. When the "Battle Monument" at West Point was in need of replacement in 1973, Jones Brothers was contacted to create the bases as well as to provide a report of the manufacturing process.

Jones Brothers is responsible for the creation and manufacture of memorials for the families of Woolrich, Firestone, Heinz, Hood, Hershey, Ringling, and Webb as well as countless less prominent families. Memorials for prominent individuals include William Henry Harrison (former President of the United States), B. F. Keith (the founder of American Vaudeville), Thomas R. Marshall (former Vice President of the United States), James E. Matthews (former Vice President of Bethlehem Steel), Bowman Gray (Reynolds Tobacco Co.), John Boyle O'Reilly (poet and writer), Samuel Reed (Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court), Garrett Schenck (President, Great Northern Paper), Fred Wardell (President, Eureka Vacuum Cleaner), and John Weeks (former United States Secretary of War), A. E. Armstrong (Armstrong Manufacturers), Elbert Gary (United States Steel Company), Darius Miller (Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad), and LeGrand Parish (President, Lima Locomotive Works).

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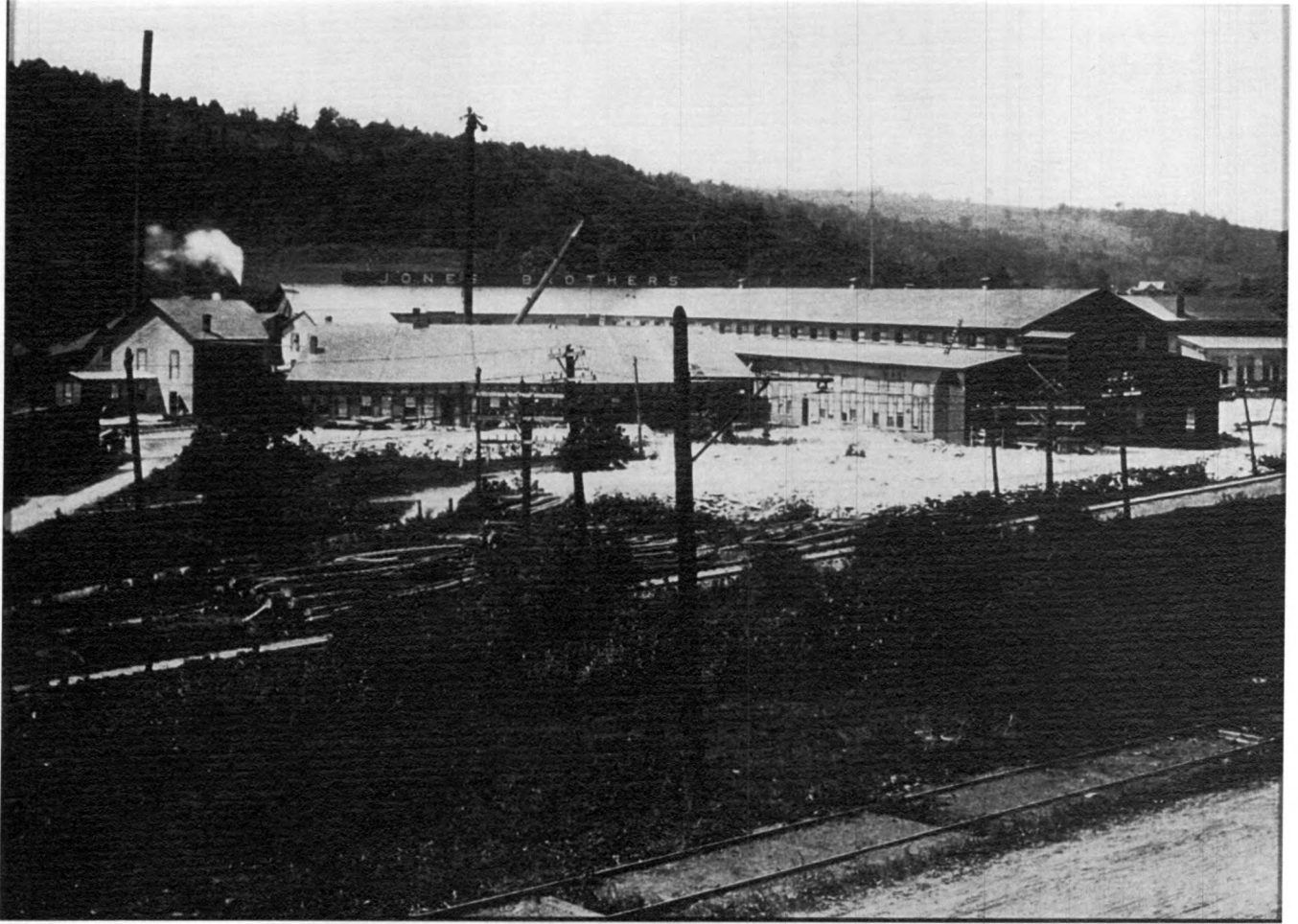
Jones Brothers Granite Shed
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Boundary Description

The boundary of this property is defined by Lots #1, #3, and #4, as recorded in Map Book 4, Map 63 of the Barre City Land Records, Barre, Vermont.

Boundary Justification

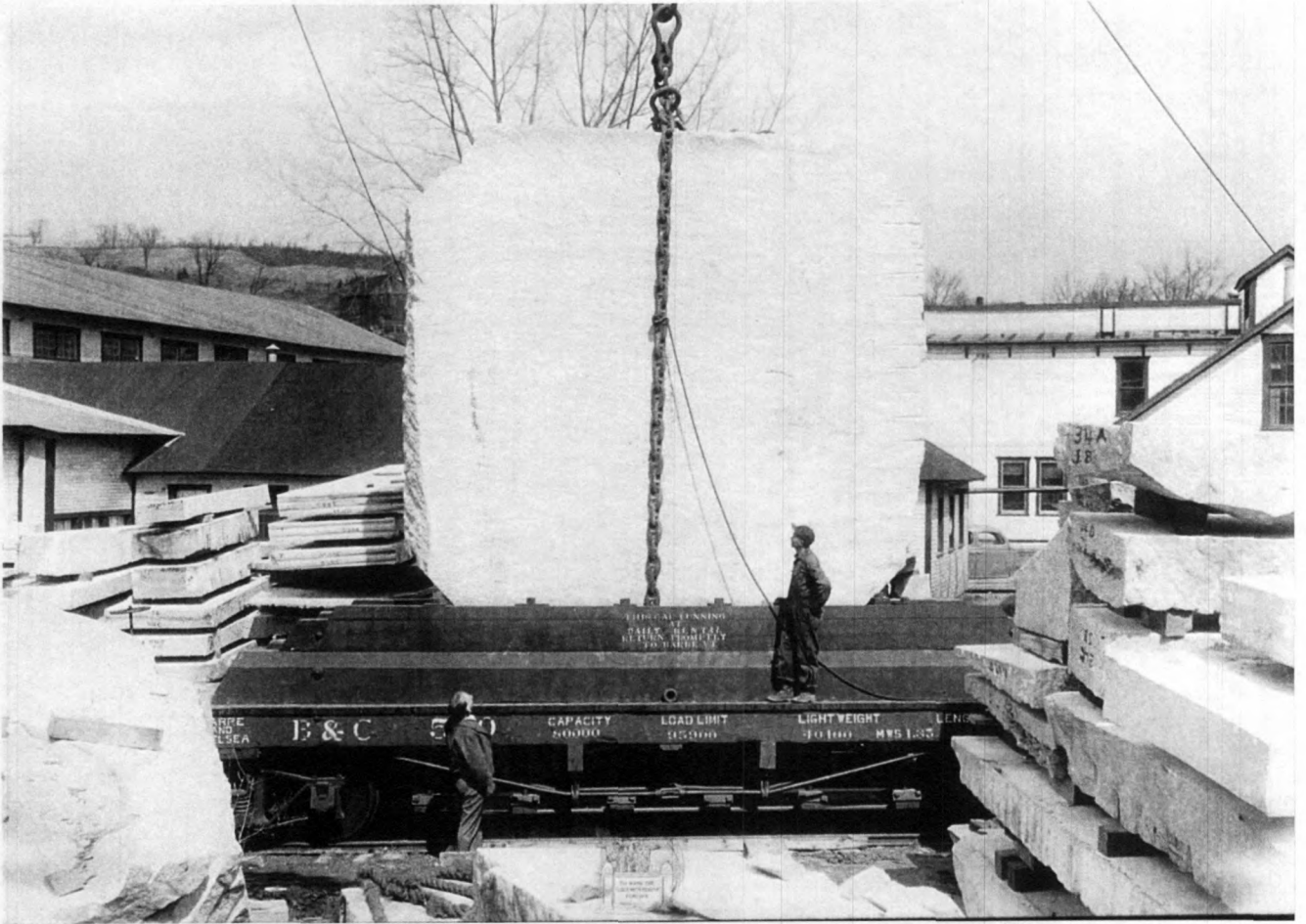
The boundary includes Building No. 1, the Blacksmith Shop, foundation remains of demolished Building No. 3, and remains of railroad tracks found within the boundary limits that have historically been part of the Jones Brothers Company and that maintain historic integrity. Open meadows and woodland comprise the westerly portions of the site. That parcel of the original Jones Brothers Company south of the nominated site has been excluded because it has been subdivided into two lots and is under different ownership (Lot #2, owned by Washington County Mental Health, and a parcel owned by NY VT Motor Express, Inc.). The southern boundary is established by the parcels owned by Washington County Mental Health and NY VT Motor Express, Inc. The western boundary is set by the Stevens Branch of the Winooski River. The northern and eastern boundaries are established by the Washington County Railroad right of way, except a small portion of Lot #1, which is located between the right of way and U. S. Route 302.



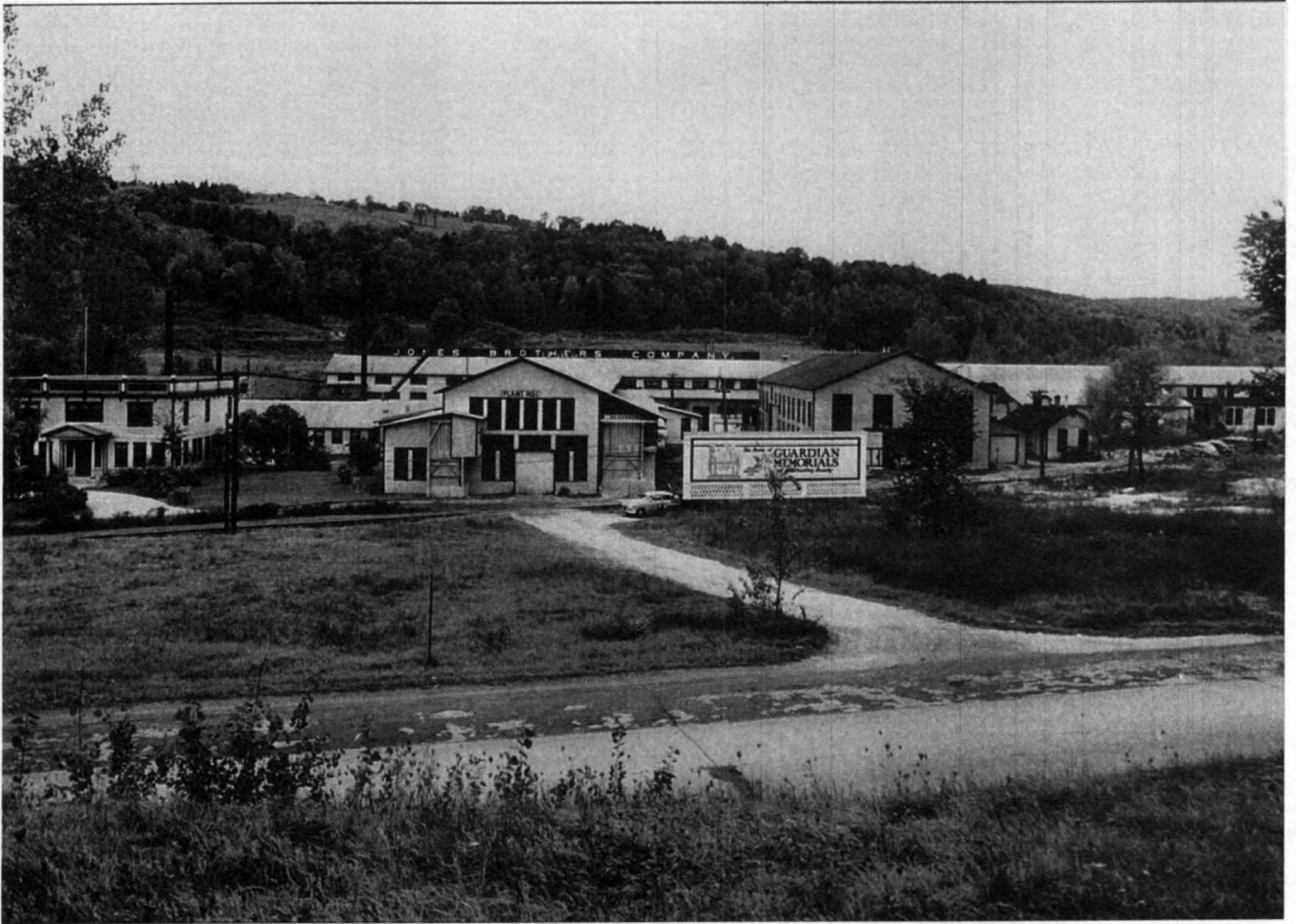
Historic Photograph 1
Jones Brothers Company, 1912-14
Courtesy Aldrich Library, Barre, VT



Historic Photograph 2
Jones Brothers Company, Interior view of Granite Shed, c. 1915-1920
Jones Brothers Photographic Collection
Courtesy Aldrich Library, Barre, VT

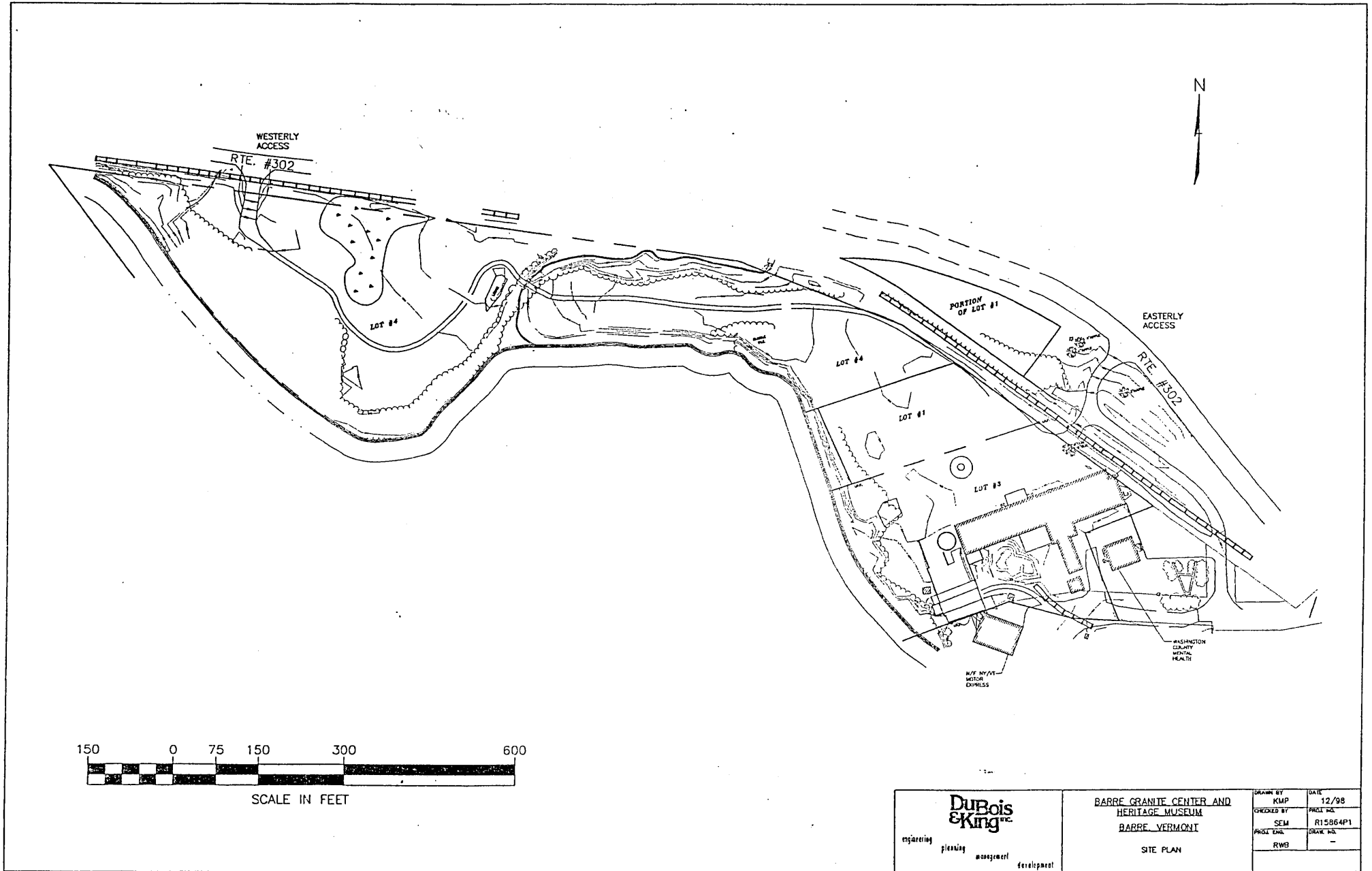


Historic Photograph 3
Jones Brothers Company, moving stone into shed, c. 1930, office in background.
Courtesy Aldrich Library, Barre, VT




Historic Photograph 4
Jones Brothers Company, c. 1940
Courtesy Aldrich Library, Barre, VT

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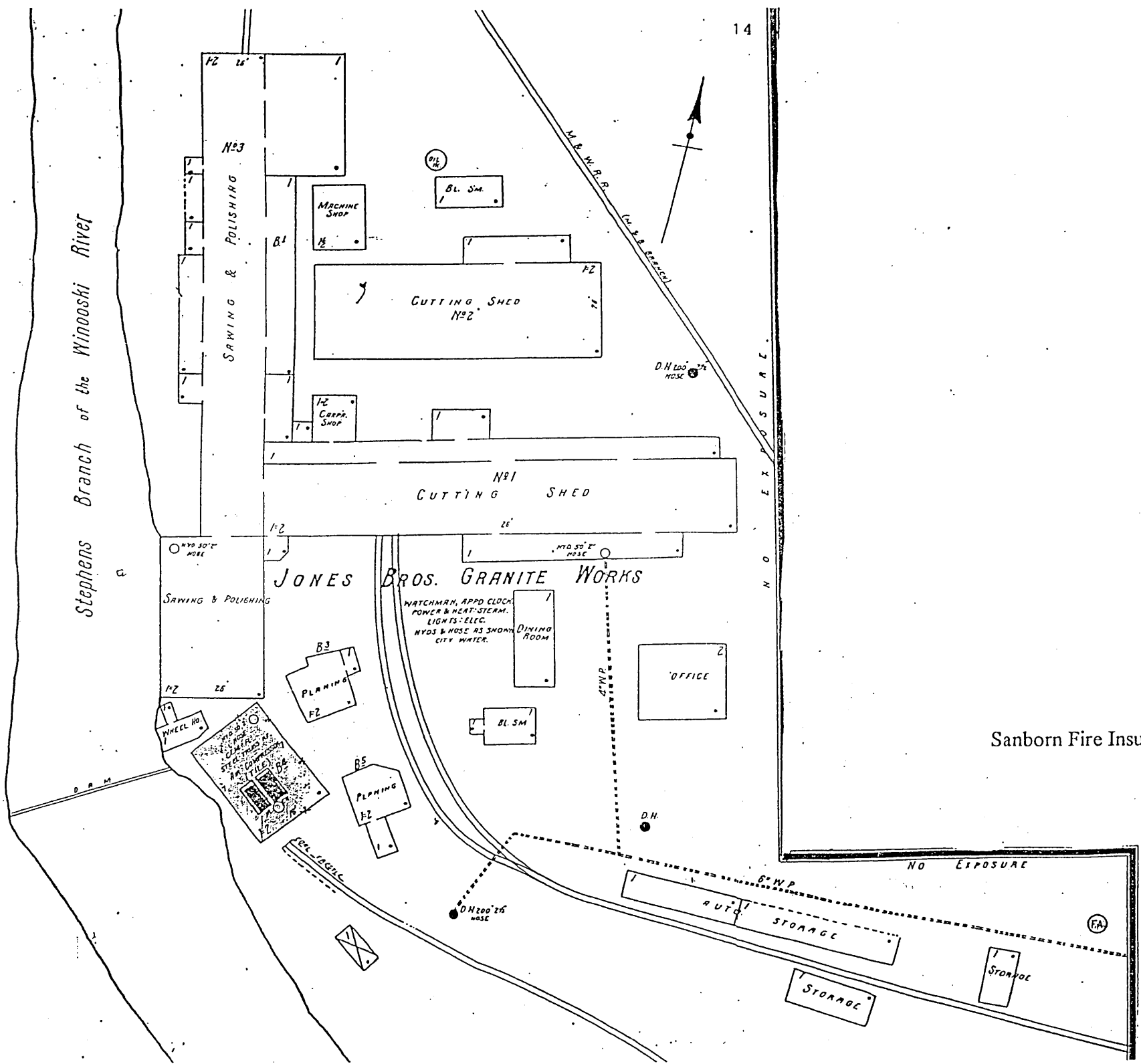


SCALE IN FEET

 engineering planning management development	BARRE GRANITE CENTER AND HERITAGE MUSEUM BARRE, VERMONT SITE PLAN		DRAWN BY KMP	DATE 12/98
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			PROJECT LEAD RWB	DRAWN NO. -

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14



Stephens Branch of the Winouski River

JONES BROS. GRANITE WORKS

Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1925