

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

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

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

Photo number Mills 2-33/35

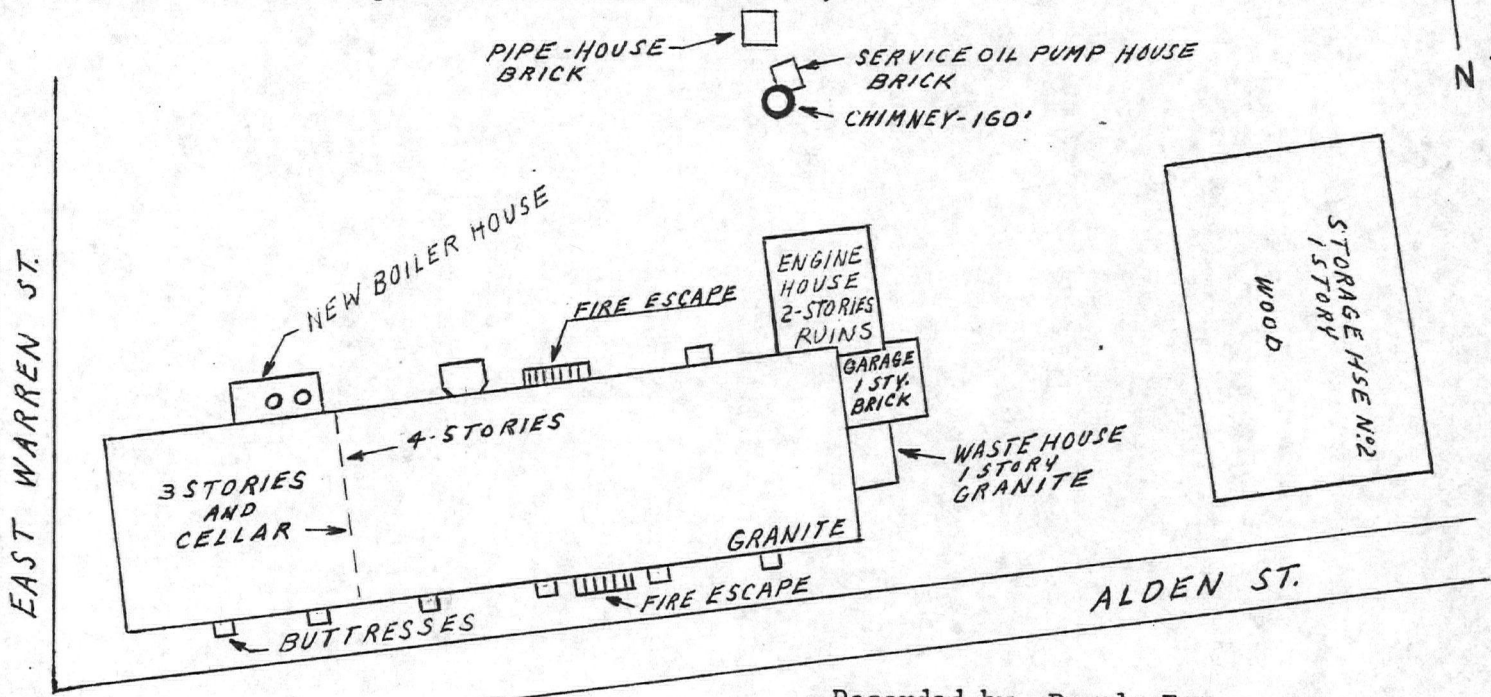
Town Fall River, Mass.

Name of area (if any) Cornell Mills

Alden Street

General date or period 1890

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



Recorded by Pamela Fox

Organization FROHP

Date 3/10/82

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

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

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

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

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received 1/5/83

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 3 of 10

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Fall River Multiple Resource Area  
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

21. Chace Mills

Substantive Review

Keeper

2/16/83 Barbara J. [Signature]

Attest

22. Chace, A. B., Rowhouses

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

2/16/83 Delores Byers

Attest

23. Chace's, Oliver, Thread Mill

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

2/16/83 Delores Byers

Attest

24. Charlton Mill

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

2/16/83 Delores Byers

Attest

25. Chase-Hyde Farm

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

2/16/83 Delores Byers

Attest

26. Children's Home

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

2/16/83 Delores Byers

Attest

27. Church of the Ascension

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

2/16/83 Delores Byers

Attest

28. Collins, William, House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

2/16/83 Delores Byers

Attest

29. Connell, William M., School

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

2/16/83 Delores Byers

Attest

30. Cornell Mills

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

2/16/83 Delores Byers

Attest

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Cornell Mills (Fall River MRA)  
Bristol County  
MASSACHUSETTS

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

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

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
Discipline \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 see continuation sheet

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

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

## 8. Significance

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Area of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- \_\_\_\_\_ summary paragraph
- \_\_\_\_\_ completeness
- \_\_\_\_\_ clarity
- \_\_\_\_\_ applicable criteria
- \_\_\_\_\_ justification of areas checked
- \_\_\_\_\_ relating significance to the resource
- \_\_\_\_\_ context
- \_\_\_\_\_ relationship of integrity to significance
- \_\_\_\_\_ justification of exception
- \_\_\_\_\_ other

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

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

UMT References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

## 11. Form Prepared By

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_\_ national \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

## 13. Other

- \_\_\_\_\_ Maps
- \_\_\_\_\_ Photographs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: 202 272 - 3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



NAME: Cornell Mills

LOCATION: Alden Street  
Fall River, <sup>MA</sup> Mass.

PHOTO CREDIT: Pamela Shields (1981)

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

IDENTIFICATION: Cornell Mills  
General view, looking east

*Photo # 1 of 2*



Fall River MRA, Ma

Mills 2-33

Cornell Mill

n/e view



Fall River MRA, Ma

Mills 2-35.  
Cornell Mills  
n/w view

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000279