

FORM A - AREA

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

Form numbers in this area	Area letter
	I



53:28, 29

119

Lowell

of area (if any) Lowell Hosiery

Company Buildings
Mount Vernon Street

al date or period 1869-1874

ses:
251 Mt. Vernon Street
roadway (Rear entrance on Farnham Street)

251 MT. VERNON
231 MT. VERNON

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 Harriet White

Organization D.P.D. Architectural Survey

Date 11/80

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

The earliest of the three buildings is 80' x 30' random rubble with quarry-faced blocks as quoins and window surrounds. Originally three stories in height, but top story removed and replaced with a shallow pitch roof.

The other two buildings were built prior to 1876 and are identical in style, both are two-story brick structures, one 100' x 30', the other 100' x 40'. A one-story boiler house is attached to the smaller building.

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

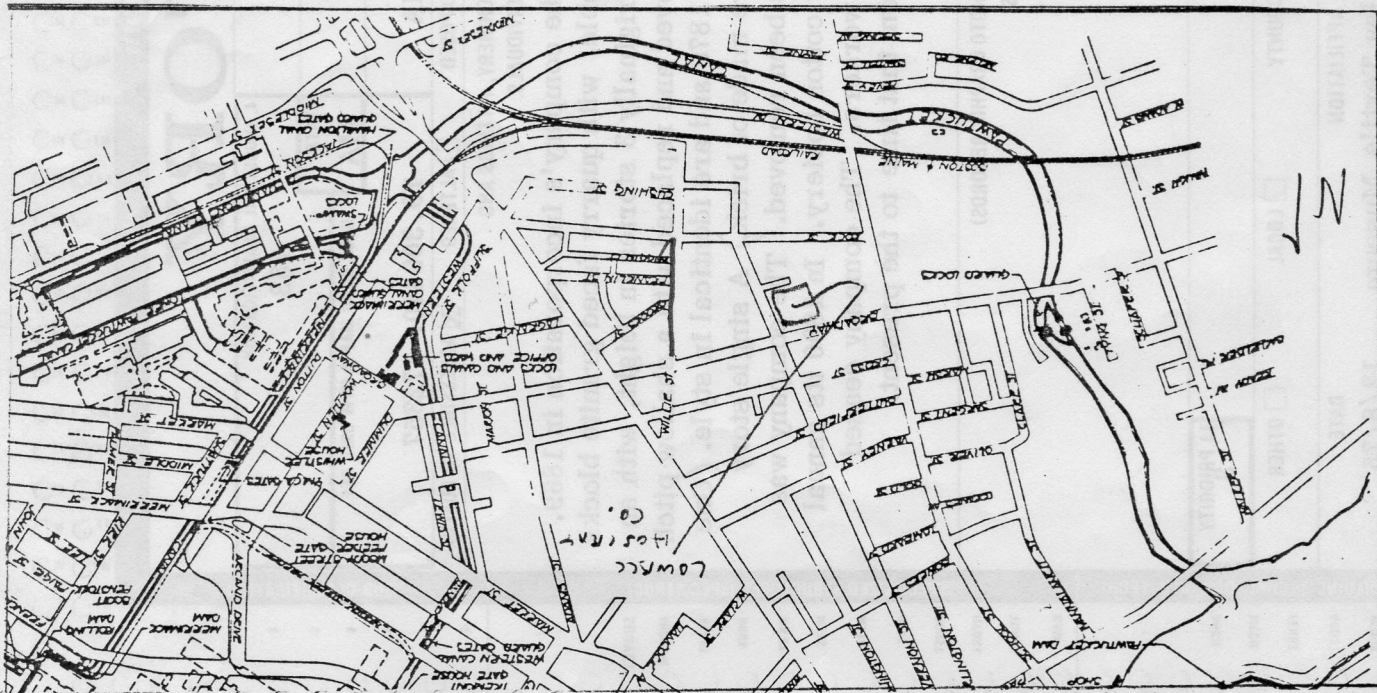
The three mills of the Lowell Hosiery Company were built between 1869 and 1874. The company was incorporated in 1869, and manufactured women's and children's plain and fancy cotton hosiery. In 1890 its annual output was approximately three million pairs of hose. The company then employed 300 workers. It ceased operations after World War I and the buildings have been used at times since then as warehouses and a laundry company. The Lowell Electric Supply Company and Northern Industries (a fabric coating firm) now occupy the structures.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- D.H. Hurd, History of Middlesex County (Philadelphia, 1890), Volume II.
- Birdseye View of Lowell, 1876.
- Lowell City Atlases, 1879, 1896, 1906, 1924.
- MMS, Page 5.



LOWELL HOSIERY CO.



HAEHR INVENTORY

EXISTING SURVEYS: PHOTOGRAPHS: DWS: DATA: DATES OF CONSTRUCTION: BULK PRODUCT INDUSTRIES (BULP): EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES (EXTR):

1. NAME OF STRUCTURE
Lowell Hosiery Company

2. DATE
1869

3. NATURE OF STRUCTURE
Knitting Mills

4. INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION
153

5. LOCATION: STREET & NUMBER
261 Mount Vernon Street

CITY OR TOWN
Lowell

COUNTY
Middlesex

STATE
MA

6. USGS QUAD MAP & UTM GRID REF.
19.309440. 472357

7. OWNER OF PROPERTY
Farnsworth, Inc. & Lowell Electric Supply Co., 261 Mt. Vernon St., Lowell, MA

8. CONDITION: EXCELLENT GOOD FAIR DETERIORATED RUINS UNEXPOSED ALTERED ACCESSIBLE TO PUBLIC

9. DESCRIPTION & BACKGROUND HISTORY: NUMBER OF STRUCTURES; DIMENSIONS; FABRIC; STRUCTURE & FORM; SURVIVING MACHINERY, FITTINGS AND EQUIPMENT; APPROX. AREA OF SITE; ALTERATIONS; PRESENT USE; ENGINEER/ ARCHITECT/DESIGNER; IMPORTANT EVENTS & INDIVIDUALS.

The three mills of the Lowell Hosiery Company were built within five years of the company's incorporation in 1869. The earliest of the buildings is a structure ~~constructed~~ of uncoursed granite rubble, with quarry faced granite blocks used ^{as quoins} ~~in corners~~ as well as to edge the windows of the mill. The building was originally 3 stories in height, with an attic and a pitch roof, but at some time the third story and attic have been removed and replaced with a shallow pitch roof. (The building is 80'x30'). The other two mill buildings were built prior to 1876 and are identical in style. (One building is 100'x30', the other is 40'x100'. Both are two stories in height and are made of brick.) A single story boiler house is attached to the smaller of the two buildings, but the chimney has been removed. The company was organized in 1869 for the manufacture of women's and children's plain and fancy cotton hosiery. In 1890 its annual production was almost three million pairs of hose. The company employed 300 workers. The company ceased operations immediately after World War I and has been used for warehousing from that time to the present.

10. PHOTOGRAPHS & SKETCH MAP ON REVERSE SIDE.

11. RELATED SOURCES OF INFORMATION: HISTORICAL REFERENCES (PUBLISHED ARTICLES, MANUSCRIPTS, REPORTS, DRAWINGS, PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORDS) CONTACTS: (NAMES & ADDRESSES OF ANYONE WITH EYE-WITNESS ACCOUNTS OR RELEVANT INFORMATION); TAPE RECORDINGS.

D. H. Hurd, History of Middlesex County (Phila., 1890), Vol. II
Birdseye view of Lowell, 1876
Lowell City Atlases, 1879, 1896, 1906, 1924

12. DANGER OF DEMOLITION OR DAMAGE YES NO
 NATURE OF THREAT:

13. PRIORITY
3

14. EXISTING SURVEYS NHL NR HAER HABS COUNTY LOCAL OTHER

15. INVENTORIED BY: YOUR NAME
Peter M. Molloy

800 Mass. Ave., North Andover, MA
 Merrimack Valley Textile Museum
 12/8/75

PLEASE RETURN TO THE HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, WASHINGTON, DC 20240

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES (MFI) UTILITIES (UTI) POWER SOURCES & PRIME MOVERS (PS & PM) TRANSPORTATION (TRANS) COMM BRIDGES

1. MACH 2. FABR 3. EQUIP 4. INST 5. GMFG 6. 7. WATER 8. SANI 9. GAS 10. ELEC 11. MSL 12. WATER 13. WHEEL 14. WATER 15. TURB 16. WIND 17. STEAM 18. RECIP 19. STEAM 20. TURB 21. COMB 22. INT 23. DIESEL 24. ELEC

RR ROAD CANAL MARINE AIR PIPE T&T COMM

BEAM ARCH TRUSS SUSP AQUE TRES CANI MOVE

FOUND 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93

DAM TUNIS HYDRA CONST HEAT MATH MAIS P & ET HOUS ADAPT MUSEUM SURVEY

WOOD TEXT METAL FOOD CHEM BPGC AGR