NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

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 determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Watson, Newell & Company Factory
Other names/site number:
Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing

2. Location

Street & number: 67 Mechanic Street
City or town: Attleboro State: MA County: Bristol
Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐

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 at the following level(s) of significance:

___national ___statewide ✓local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

✓A ___B ✓C ___D

Brona Simon September 24, 2020

Signature of certifying official/Title: SHPO Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official: Date

Title : State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain:) _____

_____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:	x
Public – Local	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)	x
District	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

Watson, Newell & Company Factory | Bristol Co, Massachusetts
Name of Property | County and State

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
8		buildings
		sites
	1	structures
		objects
8	1	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRY/Manufacturing Facility
COMMERCE/TRADE/Warehouse

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/Multiple Dwelling
DOMESTIC/Secondary Structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)
LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Classical Revival
NO STYLE/Utilitarian

Materials:(enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK; STONE/Granite, Fieldstone; SYNTHETICS/Rubber, Vinyl

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Watson, Newell & Company Factory is an 8.85-acre former industrial property in Attleboro, Massachusetts. Used for the manufacture of silver jewelry and flatware from 1894 to 1955, the Watson, Newell & Company Factory is a well-preserved, representative example of late 19th- and early 20th-century industrial architecture in a modest interpretation of the Classical Revival style (photo 1). With its soaring smokestack, an iconic symbol of an industrial building, anchoring the west end of the complex along Mechanic Street, the former factory stands as a reminder of Attleboro's industrial heyday, when it was known as the "Jewelry Capital of the World" (photo 2). Converted to residential use in 2019 as part of an adaptive reuse/historic preservation project, the property is located in an area of single and multiple-family residences less than one mile from the center of Attleboro. The parcel contains eight contributing brick and wood-frame buildings constructed between 1894 and ca. 1916. Six of the buildings are attached; two are detached (see datasheet and figure 7). The only noncontributing resource is a concrete pad, now covered with grass, located at the northwest corner of the site. The pad marks the location of a former storage building that is discussed below. The Watson, Newell & Company Factory retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Narrative Description

The Watson, Newell & Company Factory is located at 67 Mechanic Street in Attleboro. The buildings in the complex have load-bearing masonry sections with heavy timber framing, and lightweight wood-frame sections. An asphalt parking lot surrounds the buildings and is accessed from Riverbank Road, which runs along the east lot line, and from two locations on Mechanic Street, which forms the southern lot line. The property is bordered on the west by modern apartment buildings, to the north by the Larson Woodland (a conservation area), and to the east by Riverbank Road. Mechanic's Pond is along the northwest end of the property (figure 1). In addition to paved parking, the property contains grassed areas and mature trees. A

branch of the Ten Mile River historically ran from Mechanic's Pond, outside the current factory boundary, through the southern end of the property and under the south end of Building No. 1. It functioned as a sluiceway and waterpower source for the factory (figures 2–6 and 9). The sluiceway was capped on both sides of the factory in the late 20th century and covered by the asphalt parking lot. As part of the rehabilitation in 2019, the sluiceway was infilled, an overflow spillway was installed to divert groundwater, and insulation was installed on the underside of the first floor.

The Watson, Newell & Company Factory underwent a historic preservation project that was completed in 2019 with the financial assistance of both the Massachusetts Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit and the federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit programs. The project created 91 units of affordable and market-rate housing for residents aged 55 and over. The rehabilitation included the cleaning, repair, and repointing of all brick elevations, new wood clapboard and cementitious siding on the wood-frame sections, and the installation of historically appropriate doors and historically appropriate 6/6 aluminum windows. A turbine gear assembly was removed from Building No. 1 and repurposed as the main entrance sign for the complex (figure 10, photo 1). On the interior, the I-beams, decking, and most masonry walls remain exposed and continue to be architecturally significant features within the residential units and public spaces. All existing stairs within the complex have been retained; two new pedestrian elevators have been built within Building Nos. 1 and 2. The open floor plates within Building Nos. 4, 4A, and 6, and the first floor of Building 2, were not rehabilitated; the unfinished interior spaces will be retained in their current state. The rehabilitation project maintained the historic integrity of the complex, as all work met the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Properties.

Main Factory Complex (Building Nos. 1–5 and Machine Shop; Photos 1–11, 15–22; Figure 7)
Located on the north side of Mechanic Street, the interconnected complex of buildings known as the main factory was constructed by Watson, Newell & Company between 1894 and ca. 1916. The four-story main factory complex, which faces south onto Mechanic Street, has a T-shaped footprint with the top of the T running east to west and parallel to Mechanic Street and the long end extending northward (figure 7). The complex includes three long manufacturing buildings (No. 1, No. 2, and No. 3; photo 1), with smaller attached buildings (No. 4, No. 5, and machine shop; photo 8) and later additions (Nos. 1A, 1B, 3A, 3B, 3C, and 4A; photos 2 and 3). Building No. 1, with its attached tower, is the oldest building in the complex. It stands between Building No. 2 at the north end and Building No. 3 at the south end (photo 6). A series of one- and two-story buildings are attached to the west elevations of Building Nos. 1 and 2: from north to south, Building No. 4 (storehouse), machine shop, and Building No. 5 (photos 2 and 8). A smokestack is attached to the west elevation of the powerhouse in the west end of Building No. 3B (photos 2 and 11).

The buildings in the complex have load-bearing masonry sections with heavy timber framing, and lightweight wood-frame sections. The approximately 42- to 46-feet-wide sections are illuminated by long rows of single and paired mullioned windows. The layout of the buildings was largely dictated by the presence of the river, and the buildings were designed to take full advantage of light from the east and south through large, evenly spaced windows lining the east elevations of the earliest sections of the main factory complex. Secondary structures are situated along the west elevation.

The following description of contributing resources in the Watson, Newell, & Company Factory progresses through the complex from south to north, beginning with Building No. 3, which forms the principal streetscape of the factory along Mechanic Street.

Building No. 3, 3A, 3B (Powerhouse, and Smokestack) and 3C (Photos 1–6, 9–11, 18, 19; Figure 7)
Constructed in a series of building campaigns between ca. 1905 and ca. 1916, Building No. 3 is situated parallel to Mechanic Street at the southern end of the main factory complex. It is four stories tall at the down slope (northern) end of the building, where it is banked into the slope along Mechanic Street. Measuring 28 bays long by seven bays wide, Building No. 3 consists of the main block (Buildings No. 3 and No. 3A in figure 7; photo 2), a powerhouse (Building No. 3B and associated smokestack; photo 2) at the west end, and Building No. 3C at the south end (photo 3).

The earliest component of Building No. 3 was constructed ca. 1905 as an expansion of the original factory building (Building No. 1). The wood-frame, wood-clapboarded section (Photo 3) rises four stories from an exposed brick foundation to a low-pitched rubber membrane-covered roof, and is nine bays long by five bays wide. Fenestration consists of single and paired windows with wood and aluminum sills along the upper levels.

Between 1905 and 1916, Building No. 3A was constructed at the original west end of Building No. 3 (photo 9). The four-story section is set on a full-height elevated basement, and rises to a low-pitched roof. It features evenly spaced pairs of mullioned window openings with rough-cut granite sills and red-brick arched lintels. Windows consist of paired double-hung and ten-lite awning sash. A corbelled-brick cornice is visible at the north and west elevations.

The brick powerhouse, identified as Building No. 3B in figure 7, was constructed ca. 1905–1916 at the west end of Building No. 3A. It features a prominent masonry smokestack attached to its west end (photo 10). Banked into the sloped site, the two-story powerhouse has a flat rubber-membrane roof and measures five bays wide by six bays long, including a two-bay engine room that connects to Building No. 3A (photo 10). Due to the change in grade, the south elevation (fronting on Mechanic Street) appears as a single story and features segmental-arched window openings with two pairs of windows with a continuous rough-cut granite sill course. The north elevation is two stories in height and has an arched, recessed entrance at the center bay and segmental-arched window openings with 10/10 wood sash and rough-cut granite sills.

Circa 1916, a red-brick addition one bay in width, identified as Building No. 3C in figure 7, was added to the south elevation of Building No. 3 and Building No. 3A. Building No. 3C, which rises three stories from an elevated basement, is 21 bays wide, features a corbelled-brick cornice, and has a flat rubber-membrane roof (photos 2 and 3). Fenestration consists of paired segmental-arched windows with rough-cut granite sills. It is accessed by paneled half-light aluminum entrances in the end bays.

Building No. 3 has exposed wood beams and decking, brick and drywall interior walls, and floors covered with vinyl planks, tile, or carpet. The powerhouse retains its two-story interior volume, brick walls, and exposed-wood-beam ceiling (photos 18, 19).

Building No. 1 (Photos 1–6, 8, 15–17, 21, 22; Figures 7, 9, and 10)
Located perpendicular to Building No. 3 is the four-story, red-brick and wood-frame Building No. 1. The north/south section of the building (photo 6, left) was constructed in 1894 and is the earliest building in the complex. The east, wood-frame wing (identified as Building No. 1A in figure 7; photo 4) was added ca. 1911; and the west, red-brick wing (identified as Building No. 1B in figure 7; photo 8 at right) was added ca. 1916.

Building No. 1 measures four bays wide by eleven bays long. It has a six-story, red-brick tower, also constructed in 1894, at the north end of its west elevation (photo 7). The evenly spaced fenestration of Building 1 consists of paired segmental-arched openings on the east elevation and single and paired mullioned openings on the west elevation. An arched loading bay occupies the fifth bay in the brick section along the first story of the east elevation. The flat, rubber membrane roof features an overhanging wood cornice decorated with wood brackets.

Building No. 1A (photo 1 at center) is a four-story, wood-frame building, six bays long by five bays wide. Clad in wood and cementitious siding, the addition has rectangular window openings. The slightly pitched, rubber membrane roof features an overhanging wood cornice. An entrance with a glazed-panel door is on the east elevation.

Building No. 1B (photo 8 at right) is a four-story brick building, six bays long by five bays wide. The first two stories have rectangular window openings with cast-stone lintels, brick sills, and paired sash. The upper floors contain evenly spaced window openings with cast-stone sills, red-brick-arch lintels, and paired sash. The flat rubber membrane-covered roof features an overhanging cornice supported by exposed rafter ends.

Building No. 1 has brick and drywall interior walls; vinyl-plank, tile, and carpet flooring; and exposed wood beams and decking (photo 19). The former sluiceway that ran beneath Building No. 1 has been capped on both sides of the building. As part of the rehabilitation, the sluiceway was infilled, an overflow spillway was installed to divert groundwater, and insulation was installed on the underside of the first floor in 2019. Figures 9 and 10 show the sluiceway channel and turbines historically used to generate waterpower for the factory prior to the rehabilitation. As noted above, a turbine gear assembly was removed and repurposed as the main entrance sign for the complex (photo 1).

Building No. 5 (Photo 8; Figure 7)
The one-story, red-brick Building No. 5 is adjacent to the west elevation of Building No. 1 (between Building No. 1 and the tower) and was constructed circa 1916. Building No. 5 is eight bays wide by four bays long and has a low-pitched, rubber-membrane-covered roof. The building features pairs of segmental-arch window openings with rough-cut granite sills and brick lintels. A wood-frame, rubber membrane-clad gable-roof head house is on the sloping roof of Building No. 5. The roughly three-foot-high head house runs the length of Building No. 5 and is set back from the roof edge adjacent to Building No. 1.

Building No. 5 has brick and drywall interior walls, vinyl-plank, tile, and carpet flooring, and exposed wood beams and decking. Steel posts are also present.

Machine Shop (Photos 2, 7, 8, 20; Figure 7)
The two-story, red-brick machine shop is adjacent to the west elevations of Building No. 1 and Building No. 2 (photo 8 at left). It was constructed in 1894 as a freestanding building and now functions as an extension of Building No. 2. The machine shop measures three bays wide by four bays long and has a rubber-membrane-covered end-gable roof with overhanging wood eaves decorated with paired brackets. Fenestration consists of regularly spaced paired and triple segmental-arched openings. One of Building No. 2's two brick chimneys pierces the north slope of the machine shop's roof. A ca. 1960, one-story, wood-frame shed on the machine shop's north elevation was removed as part of the factory's rehabilitation, and the north elevation of the machine shop was restored.

Building No. 2 (Photos 1, 2, 6-8; Figure 7)
Building No. 2 was constructed in 1913 at the north end of Building No. 1. It is four stories high, four bays wide, and eighteen bays long (photo 6 at right). The fenestration on Building No. 2 differs from that of Building No. 1 with the windows being taller at the first and fourth stories and shorter at the second and third. Fenestration consists of regularly spaced, paired, mullioned segmental-arched openings with brick lintels and cast-stone sills. The windows along the first story of the east elevation are considerably taller than those along the upper stories and contain four-light transoms. One arched pedestrian entrance provides access to the building. The four-bay north elevation contains ten-light awning and fixed twelve-light windows as well as fixed steel overhead hoistway doors. The west elevation has two square, red-brick chimneys. The flat roof features an overhanging wood cornice with exposed rafter ends. On the interior, the first floor was not rehabilitated and remains a vacant, open floor plate with a poured-concrete floor, exposed red-brick walls, steel support posts, and exposed wood ceiling beams and decking. The upper floors were rehabilitated to accommodate residential use and have brick and drywall interior walls, exposed wood beams and decking, and steel support posts. Flooring is vinyl plank, tile, or covered with carpeting. Building No. 2 has brick walls, concrete flooring, and exposed wood beams and decking.

Building Nos. 4 and 4A (Photos 2, 7, 8; Figure 7)
The one-story, red-brick Building No. 4 was constructed in 1894 as a free-standing storehouse (photo 7). Building No. 4 is four bays wide by three bays long and has a one-story, red-brick addition (identified as Building No. 4A on figure 7), constructed in 1913, across the north elevation. The end-gable roof on Building No. 4 is covered with a rubber-membrane roof and features molded overhanging eaves and a monitor along the north slope. The building has a segmental-arched loading bay with two wood-panel doors on the west elevation. A fixed nine-light window is above and to the left of the entrance, and an oculus infilled with wooden louvers is centered above the entrance. Building No. 4A is four bays wide by two bays long and has a rubber-membrane shed roof. It has a recessed garage-door entrance on the west elevation and a pair of paneled doors on the north elevation. The interior of Building No. 4 consists of an open floor plate with brick walls and a concrete floor. Steel support posts are present, and wood beams and framing form the ceiling.

Building No. 6 (Photos 1, 6, 12; Figure 7)
Building No. 6, situated at the north end of the complex, was constructed ca. 1916 and was originally connected to Building No. 2 at the second floor via an overhead connector (no longer extant). The two-story, red-brick Building No. 6 is four bays wide by six bays long and has a concrete foundation. Fenestration consists of regularly spaced pairs of segmental-arched, mullioned windows. At the first story, the windows are capped by slightly recessed aluminum panels. The south elevation contains a segmental-arched pedestrian entrance with a pair of flush metal doors at the center bay of the first story. A steel overhead door within a brick-arched opening is on the second story of the south elevation, and originally led to the overhead connector to Building No. 2. At the north elevation, the historic paneled half-light loading doors at the second story were refinished, and the plywood infill at the first story was repainted. At the east elevation, a pair of historically appropriate half-light doors with flanking sidelights replaced a paneled aluminum door. The building has a low-pitched, rubber membrane-covered gable roof with overhanging wood eaves and exposed rafter ends (photo 12).

The interior of Building No. 6 consists of open floor plates with concrete (first floor) and wood (second floor) floors, steel support posts, and exposed wood ceiling beams and decking. Walls are a mixture of drywall and exposed brick. Wood window trim and some historic wood doors remain.

Garage (Photo 13; Figure 7)
The concrete garage is set at the northern end of the paved parking lot. Built ca. 1916, it is five bays wide and has an asphalt-shingled shed roof with exposed rafter ends. A flush metal pedestrian door, adjacent to a brick pier, occupies the fourth bay; the fifth bay contains an operable overhead rolling-aluminum garage door. The other three former garage doors are filled with plywood painted to match the functional garage door.

Concrete Pad (Photo 14; Figures 7 and 11)
The concrete pad, a noncontributing resource, marks the location of a storage building that stood in what is now a heavily wooded area at the northwest corner of the property (figures 7 and 11). The former one-story, red-brick building, constructed ca. 1924, measured two by two bays, and featured segmental-arched window openings along the north elevation. By 2014, as shown in figure 11, the building had become a ruin. In 2019 due to safety concerns and as part of the former factory's rehabilitation, the remaining walls were removed, and the foundation was infilled and paved with bituminous concrete to prevent passersby from potential injury.

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.)

- [x] 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.
- [x] 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.)

- [ ] 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
INDUSTRY
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance
1894–1955

Significant Dates
1894: Watson, Newell & Company acquire the property and construct Building No. 1
1955: Factory closes

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder
F. P. Sheldon & Sons (Building No. 2)

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Watson, Newell & Company Factory meets Criteria A and C for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. It meets Criterion A in the area of Industry as a manufacturer of jewelry and fine silver products. Renowned worldwide, the factory operated during the peak of Attleboro's jewelry industry and was the largest metalworking business in the city by 1930. The interconnected complex of factory buildings was constructed from 1894 to ca. 1916 by jewelry and flatware maker Watson, Newell & Company and was a center of employment in Attleboro for over 60 years, from 1894 to 1955. The community's pride in the company, which traced its roots to 1874 at another location in Attleboro, was reflected by the town's decision to hold the Bi-Centennial Ball of 1894 in the newly constructed factory. Today, the massive former factory with its tall smokestack contributes to the city's sense of place, and is a visual reminder of Attleboro's prosperous industrial past, as well as an emblem of a city that was once known as the "Jewelry Capital of the World."

The Watson, Newell & Company Factory also meets Criterion C as a modest example of late 19th- and early 20th-century Classical Revival-style industrial architecture. Recently the subject of an adaptive reuse project, the factory retains the long, narrow building footprints specific to jewelry manufacturers of its period, and displays such character-defining features as segmental-arched window openings, rough-cut granite sills, brick corbelling, exposed rafter ends, and a prominent brick smokestack. The factory is among the larger industrial buildings of its type and period in Attleboro and one of the best-preserved, as much of the city's industrial architecture has been substantially altered.

The Watson, Newell & Company Factory has a local level of significance, and it retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The period of significance for the complex begins in 1894, when Watson, Newell & Company acquired the property and constructed the factory's first building (Building No. 1), and ends in 1955, when The Watson Company (successor to Watson, Newell & Company) was acquired and moved its manufacturing operations to Connecticut.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Criterion A – Industry

The Watson, Newell & Company Factory was built during a manufacturing boom in Attleboro that occurred in the late 19th century as a result of the town's convenient rail access and growing reputation in the jewelry industry. Started in 1874 as a producer of pins, buttons, and other jewelry, Watson, Newell & Company grew over the next 20 years into a renowned manufacturer of silver jewelry, flatware, and souvenir spoons. That 20-year growth spurt culminated in the construction of a large new factory, now Building 1, in 1894 to accommodate 100 employees. Incremental additions to the factory complex between 1894 and ca. 1916 supported the company's continued success and contributions to Attleboro's growth as the "Jewelry Capital of the World," a moniker adopted by the town[1] in 1912.[2] The factory supported nearly 275 employees during its peak operation in the late 1920s, and it was the largest metalworking company in Attleboro by 1930. The company remained in operation until 1955.

[1] Attleboro became incorporated as a city in 1914.
[2] *Metal Industry, Vol. 11*, New York: Metal Industry Publishing Company (1913), 55.

Industrial Development in Attleboro

Attleboro, which was established in 1694, was largely an agricultural community during the Colonial Period. Industrial activity was occurring in the early 18th century in the form of grist and saw mill complex. By 1760, a local iron forge operated, and in 1767 Isaac Draper opened a tannery. The first cotton and woolen mills began operations in the early 19th century with the construction in 1809 of the Dodgeville Mill (NRDIS 2018) at 453 South Main Street, followed in 1811 by the Ingraham, Richardson & Company textile mill at the current site of the Watson, Newell & Company Factory, and in 1812 by the Atherton (later Hebron) Manufacturing Company (NRDIS 1984) on Knight Avenue. The thriving villages known today as Dodgeville and Hebronville developed around the Dodgeville and Atherton mills, with manufacturing buildings, tenement worker housing, churches, schools, and commercial establishments. By 1837, eight cotton mills operated over 13,000 spindles in Attleboro. Textile production remained the city's dominant industry into the 1850s.

The jewelry industry in Attleboro was initially small in scale compared to textiles but grew rapidly and emerged as an integral part of the town's economy by the mid-19th century. Button and jewelry manufacturing started locally in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Edward Price began producing metal buttons in 1793, and George Robinson opened a metal waistcoat button shop in 1804. The first jewelry shop in Attleboro is believed to be Colonel Obed Robinson's carbon jewelry factory started in 1807; Manning Richards opened another jewelry shop in 1810. Colonel Robinson and Otis Robinson formed a button-making company in 1812, and Richard Robinson and Company began manufacturing glass buttons in 1823. As of 1845, eleven jewelry shops in the city employed a total of 102 hands and produced $85,000 in profits. By 1855, Attleboro's jewelry, medal, and button manufacturers had more than doubled to nearly 25 shops, employing 725 hands and producing roughly $950,000 in profits.

The construction of the Attleboro and Taunton Railroad in 1869 spurred further industrial development in the town, particularly around Attleboro Center where Cobb, Gould & Company, makers of jewelry products and the forerunner to Watson, Newell & Company (see next section for details), opened on Dunham Street in 1874. By 1875, Attleboro's combined manufactured product value of $3.4 million ranked fourth in the county after Fall River, New Bedford, and Taunton. The town shipped jewelry products to Europe and Japan, earning it the moniker the "Jewelry Capital of the World."

Attleboro's economy expanded dramatically in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. In 1895, when Watson, Newell & Company opened its new factory, the total value of jewelry goods made in Attleboro was $4.2 million. By 1900, that number had reached $10 million and the jewelry industry employed more than half (5,691) of the town's 11,335 residents. Larger well-known firms included the L. G. Balfour Company, makers of high school class rings and insignia, which was established in 1913. Incorporated as a city in 1914, Attleboro led Massachusetts in jewelry production with a 61 percent share of the industry by 1920, when the jewelry industry accounted for 63 percent of the city's economic base and produced $35.3 million worth of goods.

At the start of the Great Depression, the city's record growth began to stagnate. Jewelry production declined to $18.5 million in 1929 and reached a low of $7.3 million in 1932. Following World War II, all industries throughout the Northeast experienced general downward trends as the availability of imported goods increased and factories migrated south for cheaper labor that would enable them to remain competitive. By the 1980s and 1990s, overseas production was rapidly replacing locally sourced jewelry

due to lower labor costs. Attleboro retains an active jewelry industry to the present, although at a much smaller scale characterized by artisanal jewelry and engraving shops.

Development of the Watson, Newell & Company Factory

Watson, Newell & Company started as Cobb, Gould & Company, makers of high-grade sterling silver products in 1874. Founders Charles Cobb, Samuel Gould, Clarence Watson, Fred Newell, and W.A. Battey began operations with twelve employees in the Hayward Building, which stood on Dunham Street in Attleboro.[3] Battey withdrew his interests in the firm one year later in 1875. Cobb retired in 1879, and Gould withdrew in January 1880. At that time, the firm's name was changed to the Watson & Newell Company. The name was changed again to Watson, Newell & Company in 1887, when Joseph R. Ripley joined the partners and the business employed approximately 100 people. The firm added Edward L. Gowen as a partner in 1891.

Clarence L. Watson (1849–1930) was born in Smithfield, Rhode Island, and as a young man moved to Providence, where he worked at the Providence Tool Company and other machine shops. He later moved to Attleboro and worked for Bliss Brothers before becoming a partner in Cobb, Gould & Company in 1874. His experience in machine tools was valuable to the new company. In 1879, Watson married Annie Capron, with whom he had one daughter, Edith. The family resided at 140 North Main Street in Attleboro. Watson also served as president of the First National Bank and owned a substantial amount of real estate in Attleboro. Fred A. Newell (1845–1910) was born in Franklin, Massachusetts, and moved to Attleboro as a young man. He worked in a straw shop before becoming a partner in Cobb, Gould & Company in 1874. Newell married Alida Walden in 1892, and the couple resided at 92 North Main Street in Attleboro.

Watson and Newell initially focused their efforts on the production of solid rolled-plate silver jewelry, particularly sleeve and collar buttons. After Ripley and Gowen joined the firm, the company began to broaden its production line. As of 1894, Watson, Newell & Company maintained 100 employees who produced several styles of lace, cuff and shawl pins, and a line of buttons. Under Watson's leadership, the company began looking for a larger space to accommodate the company's growing workforce and productivity. In 1894, the firm purchased the former Ingraham, Richardson & Company property at 67 Mechanic Street, commonly referred to as Mechanic's Mill. The site on a branch of the Ten Mile River and with an adjacent mill pond was ideal for water-powered manufacturing. Mechanic's Mill was a textile mill, but all textile production was suspended after the factory was largely destroyed in an 1891 fire.

Watson, Newell & Company began construction of what would become the present factory complex in 1894. Comparing Sanborn Maps from 1885, 1894, and 1899 indicates that the four-story Building No. 1, attached two-story machine shop, and detached one-story store house (Building No. 4) occupy approximately the same footprints as the earlier textile mill on the site (figures 2–4). It is unknown if any bricks or portions of the cellar holes or foundations from the textile mill were reused in the construction of the new factory, although materials were likely salvaged if possible. Like the earlier textile mill, Building No. 1 was built across the branch of the Ten Mile River that ran southwest from Mechanic's Pond and functioned as a sluiceway and waterpower source. The Watson, Newell & Company Factory used both water and steam power, and turbine bases are extant in the basement of Building No. 1 (figures 9 and 10). A solid block of granite weighing roughly twelve tons was also installed in the basement as a base for the large, mechanically operated pattern stamps used to create impressions on flatware or

[3] The Hayward Building was destroyed in the Great Fire of 1898.

jewelry. The tower (photo 8), built in 1894 adjacent to Building No. 1 and the machine shop, housed a water-storage tank.

The Town of Attleboro deemed the new factory so attractive that it proudly held its Bi-Centennial Ball in the partially completed building in October 1894. Once the factory was operational, Watson, Newell & Company began producing sterling silver flatware, hollowware, and souvenir spoons (under the subsidiary name Mechanics Sterling) in addition to jewelry. The first recorded and accredited patent assigned to the company came from designers Eustice Crees and Charles S. Court in May 1896. Crees and Court designed primarily spoon handles but also created patterns for button hooks and brush backs. English-born head of production Joseph Straker, regarded as "unquestionably one of the finest silver craftsmen in America," designed the "Four Seasons" compote, a silver serving dish that was valued at $10,000 in 1933.[4] E.W. Scott designed the first Watson, Newell & Company flatware patterns, recorded in 1896. Scott's pattern borrowed closely from a popular design by the rival Gorham Company in Providence, which immediately accused Scott of design infringement and successfully prosecuted the case in court. As a result, an injunction was obtained to prevent Watson, Newell & Company from manufacturing Scott's design.

Despite the legal setback, the company flourished. In January 1897, the industry publication *Jewelers' Circular* reported that "Watson, Newell & Co. keep nearly 250 hands busy, and do several thousand dollars' worth of business every day. The shop is looked on as one of the most active in town." In September 1897, a local Attleboro newspaper reported that the company purchased an enormous pattern stamp, weighing seventeen tons and intended for the hardest work, from the Mossberg & Granville Manufacturing Company, a manufacturer of jewelers' and silversmiths' machinery, of Providence, Rhode Island. The pattern stamp was a substantial capital investment and had a hammer that weighed 1,200 pounds and was used for the "heaviest kind of work."[5]

In the early 20th century, the notable silver designer Percy Bertram Ball (1879–1957) joined Watson, Newell & Co. Born in England to Charles Ball, a Birmingham-based jeweler, and Clara Ball, a painter, he immigrated to Providence, Rhode Island, with his parents and siblings in 1891. Ball, whose silver designs are displayed at the Cooper Hewitt Museum in New York, also worked for other major American silver manufacturers such as the Gorham Manufacturing Company and R. Wallace & Sons, where he designed silver tea and coffee services in the Art Deco style.

According to local historians, Watson, Newell & Company's most inspired creations were the fruit and flower designs patented from 1902 to 1904. The patterns included over 35 different flower and seed designs and 12 different fruit designs. The 1903 "lily" design was put into regular flatware production. By 1904, the company employed 350 people.

The first expansion of the complex occurred ca. 1905, when Building No. 3 was constructed south of Building No. 1 along Mechanic Street (figure 5). The four-story wood frame building, facing Mechanic Street, and the area now occupied by Building No. 3C, was landscaped with mature trees and manicured bushes. A wood-framed, flat-roofed entrance porch was located at the easternmost bay of Building No. 3, supported by a pair of round columns with turned balusters. A single-story, wood-frame storage shed was

[4]Paul H. Tedesco, *1894 Attleborough – Attleboro 1978: Hub of the Jewelry World* (Danvers, MA: Bradford & Bigelow, Inc., 1979), 88.
[5]*The Jewelers' Circular and Horological Review* (New York, NY: The Jewelers' Circular Pub, 1897), 38.

located east of Building No. 3 and was capped by a gable roof (figure 8). It was demolished between 1911 and 1924.

Following Fred Newell's death in 1910, Watson took full management of the company, which was incorporated as The Watson Company. At this time, the Watson, Newell & Company was valued at $500,000 and employed 200 operatives "producing sterling flatware and hollowware."[6] Further expansion of the facilities included a ca. 1911 addition to Building No. 1 (figures 6 and 8); the 1913 construction of Building No. 2, designed by engineering firm F.P. Sheldon & Sons (see **Criterion C – Architecture**); a 1913 addition to Building No. 4; and the ca. 1916 construction of Building Nos. 5 and 6 and the garage.[7]

Production increased throughout the first quarter of the 20th century. The 1915 edition of the *Souvenirs in Sterling Silver* catalogue noted that The Watson Company had offices in New York City, Chicago, San Francisco, and Denver. As of 1922, the company maintained a work force of almost 275 operatives. A storage building was constructed ca. 1924 (as noted in Section 7, it was removed in 2019, but the location is marked by a concrete pad).

Clarence Watson passed away in 1930 at the age of 81. According to his obituary, at the time of his death, the Watson Company was the largest metal working business in Attleboro and it employed a larger number of people than any other shop.[8] It remained in business for an additional 25 years under the management of Watson's son-in-law Grover Richards. Despite the economic downturn of the Great Depression, the company persevered; maintaining a workforce of roughly 275 workers and introducing new spoon handle designs.

In April 1955, The Watson Company was sold to R. Wallace & Sons, silversmiths, and relocated to Wallingford, Connecticut. The factory in Attleboro was then sold to Watson's daughter Edith and her husband Grover Richards, who rented it out. By 1958, the building was occupied by the Bruce Diamond Corporation, which manufactured record-player needles. Sheds were added ca. 1960 to Building No. 2 and the Machine Shop and to Building No. 6. In 1964, the property was sold to Capron Realty Trust, who continued to manage it as a rental property, housing several small manufacturing companies throughout the remainder of the 20th century and first decade of the 21st century.

Recent History

In 2017, the property was acquired by the Mechanic Redevelopment Limited Partnership for conversion from industrial to residential use. The resulting adaptive reuse/historic preservation project created a total of 91 affordable and market-rate apartments. The complex, named Sterling Lofts, is designed for residents age 55 and over. The rehabilitation project, managed by the Mechanic Redevelopment Limited Partnership, a subsidiary of WinnDevelopment, with Attleboro native Robert J. Verrier as the lead architect for The Architectural Team, preserved the architectural integrity of the complex, and the work, described in Section 7, meets the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Properties.

[6] Orra Stone, *History of Massachusetts Industries: Their Inception, Growth, and Success Volume 4* (Boston, MA: S.J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1930), 250.
[7] Sanborn Map Company, *Insurance Maps of Attleboro, Massachusetts* (New York, NY: Sanborn Map Company, 1924).
[8] Stone refers to the company as a "large corporation" but gives no further insight into the finances of this company besides the aforementioned figures. See Stone, *History of Massachusetts Industry*, 250.

Criterion C – Architecture

The buildings in the Watson, Newell & Company Factory, constructed from 1894 to ca. 1916 (Building Nos. 1–6 and Machine Shop), are locally rare, well-preserved, utilitarian examples of Classical Revival-style industrial architecture. Character-defining features of industrial architecture of their period include segmental-arched window openings, mullioned multi-light sash, rough-cut granite sills, brick corbelling, and exposed rafter ends. Building No. 2 was designed by the noted industrial engineering firm F.P. Sheldon & Sons (see MA DPS plans, 1913); the designers of the other buildings are unknown. The factory, which retains its prominent smokestack, is among the larger industrial buildings of its type and period in Attleboro. It is also a rare survivor, as much of the city's industrial architecture has been substantially altered or lost.

Industrial buildings in Attleboro were regularly constructed of wood in the 19th century but transitioned to brick by the early 20th century. The Watson, Newell & Company Factory reflects these changing construction techniques and methods, initially using a combination of brick and wood frame and, after 1911, only brick for fire safety. While its design is typical of other late 19th-/early 20th-century jewelry factories in Attleboro, many of them are no longer extant, and most of those that are extant have been altered.

Lost buildings include Antata Brothers Inc. at 53 Falmouth Street (ca. 1860, ATT.200, demolished between 2013 and 2017); Finberg Manufacturing Company at 140 Park Street (ca. 1895, ATT.179), Swank Products Jewelry Manufacturing Company at 6 Hazel Avenue (ca. 1902, ATT.369, demolished between 2013 and 2017); and R. F. Simmons Company at 191 North Main Street (1892, ATT.110, designed by O.M. Higgins and C.I. Bigney Construction Co., demolished).

Extant factories are Robbins Jewelry Company at 61 School Street (1887, ATT.368,); Horton, Angell & Co. at 129 Bank Street (ca. 1895, ATT.126, George W. Cady Company); Sadler Brothers Jewelry Company Mill at 561 Newport Avenue (1915, ATT.599); the all-brick Leach and Garner Gold and Silver Plate Jewelry Company at 49 Pearl Street (1909; ATT.362; Densmore and LeClear, architects; Temple & Crane Construction Company/Westcott Construction Company); and the D.E. Makepeace Company at 46 Pine Street (1899, ATT.363, Karl Hyde, NRIND).

Like Watson Newell & Company, these extant and nonextant buildings feature(d) long, relatively narrow footprints that accommodated the straight run required to produce machine-made jewelry. They also had character-defining, tightly spaced windows designed to maximize light. Almost all used segmental arches for the window openings, which allowed for larger windows by concentrating the wall loads on the piers between the openings. Flat or near-flat, built-up roofs also maximized the usable space on the upper stories.

Of the extant former jewelry factories listed above, all except the National Register-listed D. E. Makepeace Company have lost their architectural integrity, The Robbins Jewelry Company (ATT.368), Sadler Brothers Jewelry Company Mill (ATT.599), and the Leach and Garner Gold and Silver Plate Jewelry Company (ATT.362) have been altered by the replacement of historic materials with synthetic materials including windows and siding. In general, the replacement windows are not compatible with the historic buildings. The Horton, Angell & Co. Building (ATT.126) has lost character-defining features due to alteration of the fenestration pattern and replacement of historic building materials with synthetic materials. Lastly, the loss of the Swank Products Jewelry Manufacturing Company (ATT.369) has diminished the integrity of the Robbins Jewelry Company and the Leach and Garner Gold and Silver Plate Jewelry Company as these buildings were adjacent to one another and formed a campus of jewelry

related businesses on Pearl Street along with the Attleboro Gold and Silver Chain Jewelry Company (ca. 1939, ATT.360).

Today the Watson-Newell Company Factory and the D. W. Makepeace Company, which was also preserved through adaptive reuse to housing, are rare and outstanding examples of industrial architecture reflecting the city's important jewelry-making industry.

F. P. Sheldon & Sons

The firm F. P. Sheldon & Sons designed Building No. 2, constructed in 1913, in the Watson, Newell & Company Factory complex. According to their records, F.P. Sheldon & Sons had no other commissions in Attleboro and had one commission in North Attleborough: the North Attleborough Electric Light & Water Department (ca. 1884, NAL.13). The firm focused largely on industrial buildings for textile concerns. In a 1921 company publication they featured only three designs for jewelry-related businesses. These include the Watson Company Building No. 2, as well as the Gorham Manufacturing Company Building (ca. 1890, demolished) and the Herrick Building (36 Garnett Street, demolished); both were located in Providence, Rhode Island. It is possible that Building No. 2 is the last remaining jewelry-related building designed by the firm.[9]

Other notable mill complexes in New England designed by Frank P. Sheldon include the Berkshire Mill No. 1 (1889, ADA.516, NR 1982), a 3 ½-story rectangular brick building with a low-pitched roof in Adams, Massachusetts; a five-story addition to the Crompton and Knowles Loom Works (1905, WOR.BG, some buildings demolished ca. 2012) in Worcester, Massachusetts; a five-story extension to the Lyman Cotton Mill (1895, 72 Front Street, HLY.69) in Holyoke, Massachusetts; auxiliary buildings at the Bourne Mill (1900, NRDIS 2006) in Tiverton, Rhode Island, which featured one of the state's first sawtooth weave sheds; the Greystone Mill Complex (1904–1911, NRDIS 2007) in North Providence, Rhode Island; and Building No. 4 at the Shaw Stocking Company (1907, LOW.2587, demolished) in Lowell, Massachusetts.

Frank P. Sheldon (1846–1915) was a prolific New England mill engineer in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Sheldon began his career working as an engineer in Rhode Island and Massachusetts textile mills during the mid-to-late 1860s. In 1870, he designed the first automatic screw-threading machine for the American Screw Company in Providence. He established his own mill-engineering firm in 1871 with an office on Westminster Street in downtown Providence, and went on to design prominent plants in New England and several southern states for the next 45 years. He also served as director of textiles for the United States at the Paris Exposition Universelle Internationale in 1900.

Following Sheldon's death on August 17, 1915, his son Arthur Noyes Sheldon, a graduate of Harvard University in 1900 with a bachelor of science in engineering and architecture, maintained the business. For the company's 50th anniversary in 1921, F.P. Sheldon & Sons published a corporate retrospective titled *A Half Century of Achievement.* At the time of the book's release, the firm had expanded its portfolio to include a wide variety of industrial mill designs, as well as equipment and construction services, and had 566 contracts with 289 clients in 20 states and four Canadian provinces

[9] F.P. Sheldon & Sons, *A Half Century of Achievement: A Book Commemorating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Establishment by F.P. Sheldon, in 1870, of the Firm Now Known as F.P. Sheldon & Son / F.P. Sheldon & Sons* (Charleston, SC: Nabu Press, 1921).

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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 # _____
____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:
____ State Historic Preservation Office
____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
____ Local government
____University
____ Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): ATT.451

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 8.85acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

UTM References
Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927 or ☒ NAD 1983

1. Zone: 19	Easting: 309870	Northing: 4646230
2. Zone: 19	Easting: 310052	Northing: 4646247
3. Zone: 19	Easting: 310103	Northing: 4646125
4. Zone: 19	Easting: 309884	Northing: 4646097

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Watson, Newell & Company Factory boundary follows the legal limits of Lot 102C on the City of Attleboro, Massachusetts, Assessors Map No. 41.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary is limited to the parcel of land on which the former Watson, Newell & Company Factory buildings stand.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Laura Kline, Alisa M. Augenstein, and Elizabeth Totten, Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.; Brian Lever, Epsilon Associates; with Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director
organization: Massachusetts Historical Commission
street & number: 220 Morrissey Boulevard
city or town: Boston state: MA zip code: 02125
e-mail: betsy.friedberg@sec.state.ma.us
telephone: 617 727 8470
date: August 2020

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Watson, Newell & Company Factory

City or Vicinity: Attleboro

County: Bristol State: MA

Photographer: Alisa M. Augenstein

Date Photographed: November 2019, April 2020, July 2020

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 22. View northwest of main factory complex (left to right, Building Nos. 3C, 3, 1A, 1, 2, 6). Photographed April 2020.

2 of 22. View northeast of main factory complex (left to right, Building Nos. 2, 4, machine shop, 1B, smokestack, 3B, 3C). Photographed April 2020.

3 of 22. View northwest of main factory complex (left to right, Building Nos. 3C, 3, 1A, 1). Photographed April 2020.

4 of 22. View southwest of main factory complex (left to right, Building Nos. 3C, 3, 1A, 1). Photographed April 2020.

5 of 22. View west of main factory complex (left to right, Building Nos. 3, 1, 1A). Photographed April 2020.

6 of 22. View southwest of main factory complex (left to right, Building Nos. 3, 1A, 1, 2, 6). Photographed April 2020.

7 of 22. View southeast of main factory complex (left to right, Building Nos. 2, 4A, 4, machine shop, tower). Photographed April 2020.

8 of 22. View northeast of main factory complex (left to right, Building Nos. 2, 4, machine shop, tower, 5, 1B). Photographed November 2019.

9 of 22. View southeast of Buildings No. 3A and 3B. Photographed April 2020.

10 of 22. View south of Building No. 3B and smokestack. Photographed April 2020.

11 of 22. View south of Building No. 3B and smokestack. Photographed November 2019.

12 of 22. View southeast of Building No. 6. Photographed April 2020.

13 of 22. View northeast of garage. Photographed April 2020.

14 of 22. View northeast of concrete pad. Photographed July 2020.

15 of 22. View of Building No. 1 interior, first floor (Main Lobby). Photographed November 2019.

16 of 22. View of tower stair, Building No. 1 interior. Photographed November 2019.

17 of 22. View of Building No. 1 interior, first floor (Elevator Lobby). Photographed November 2019.

18 of 22. View of Building No. 3B interior, first floor. Photographed April 2020.

19 of 22. View of Building Nos. 3 and 3C interior, first floor (Unit 105). Photographed November 2019.

20 of 22. View of machine shop interior, second floor (Unit 220). Photographed November 2019.

21 of 22. View of Building No. 1 interior, third floor (Unit 317). Photographed November 2019.

22 of 22. View of Building Nos. 1 and 1B interior, third floor corridor. Photographed November 2019.

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8 of 11. Ca. 1910 historic postcard showing Watson, Newell & Company Factory.

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10 of 11. Photograph of the turbines used to generate waterpower for the factory (taken in 2014).

11 of 11. Photograph of the storage building remains (taken in 2014).

Watson, Newell & Company Factory
Datasheet

MHC No.	Historic Name	Construction Date	NR Property Type	NR Status	Photo No.
ATT.667	Building 1 (including Tower)	1894	Building	Contributing	1, 3-6, 15-17, 21, 22
ATT.674	Building 1A	Ca. 1911	Building	Contributing	1, 3-6
ATT.675	Building 1B	Ca. 1916	Building	Contributing	2, 8, 22
ATT.668	Building 2	1913 with ca. 1960 attached shed	Building	Contributing	1, 2, 6-8
ATT.669	Building 3 (including Smokestack)	Ca. 1905–1916	Building	Contributing	1, 3-6, 19
ATT.676	Building 3A	Ca. 1905-1916	Building	Contributing	9
ATT.677	Building 3B	Ca. 1905-1916	Building	Contributing	2, 9-11, 18
ATT.678	Building 3C	Ca. 1916	Building	Contributing	1-4, 19
ATT.670	Building 4	1894	Building	Contributing	2, 7, 8
ATT.679	Building 4A	1913	Building	Contributing	7
ATT.670	Machine Shop	1894	Building	Contributing	2, 7, 8, 20
ATT.671	Building 5	Ca. 1916	Building	Contributing	8
ATT.672	Building 6	Ca. 1916	Building	Contributing	1, 6, 12
ATT.673	Garage	Ca. 1916	Building	Contributing	13
ATT.995	Concrete Pad	2019	Structure	Noncontributing	14

Figures

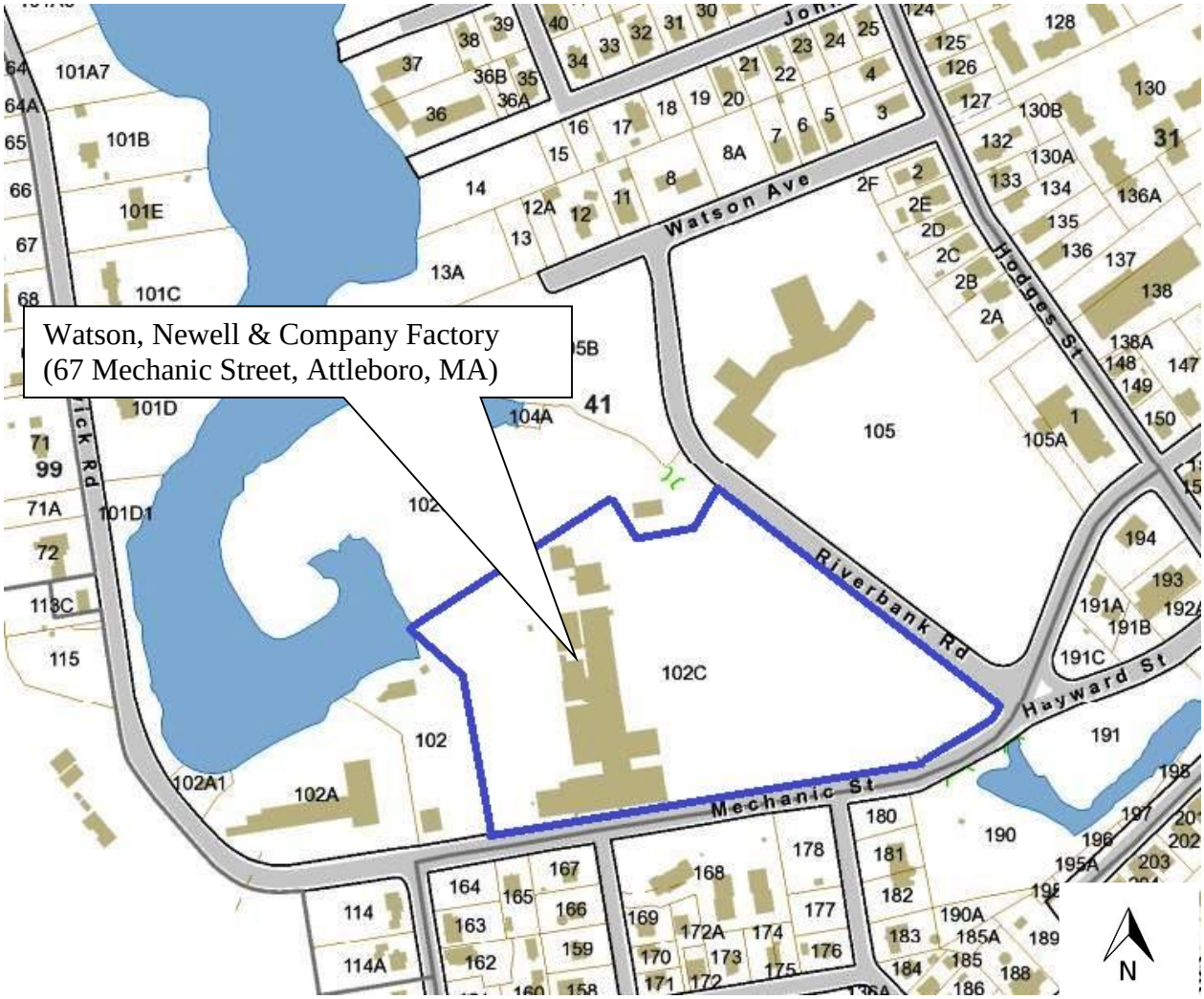


Figure 1. City of Attleboro Assessor's map

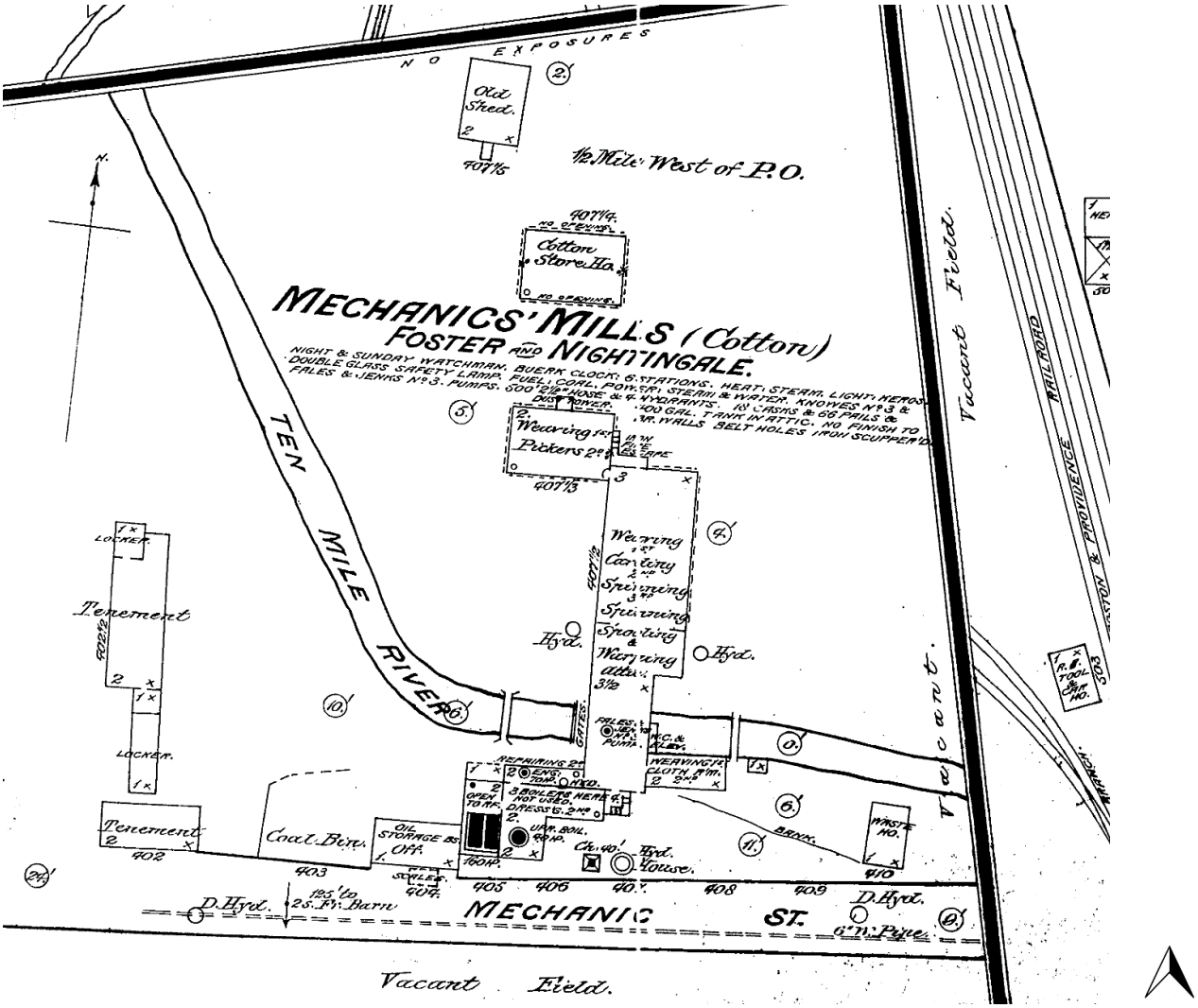


Figure 2. 1885 Sanborn Map showing the Mechanics' Mills/Foster and Nightingale complex, which preceded the Watson, Newell & Company Factory on the present site.

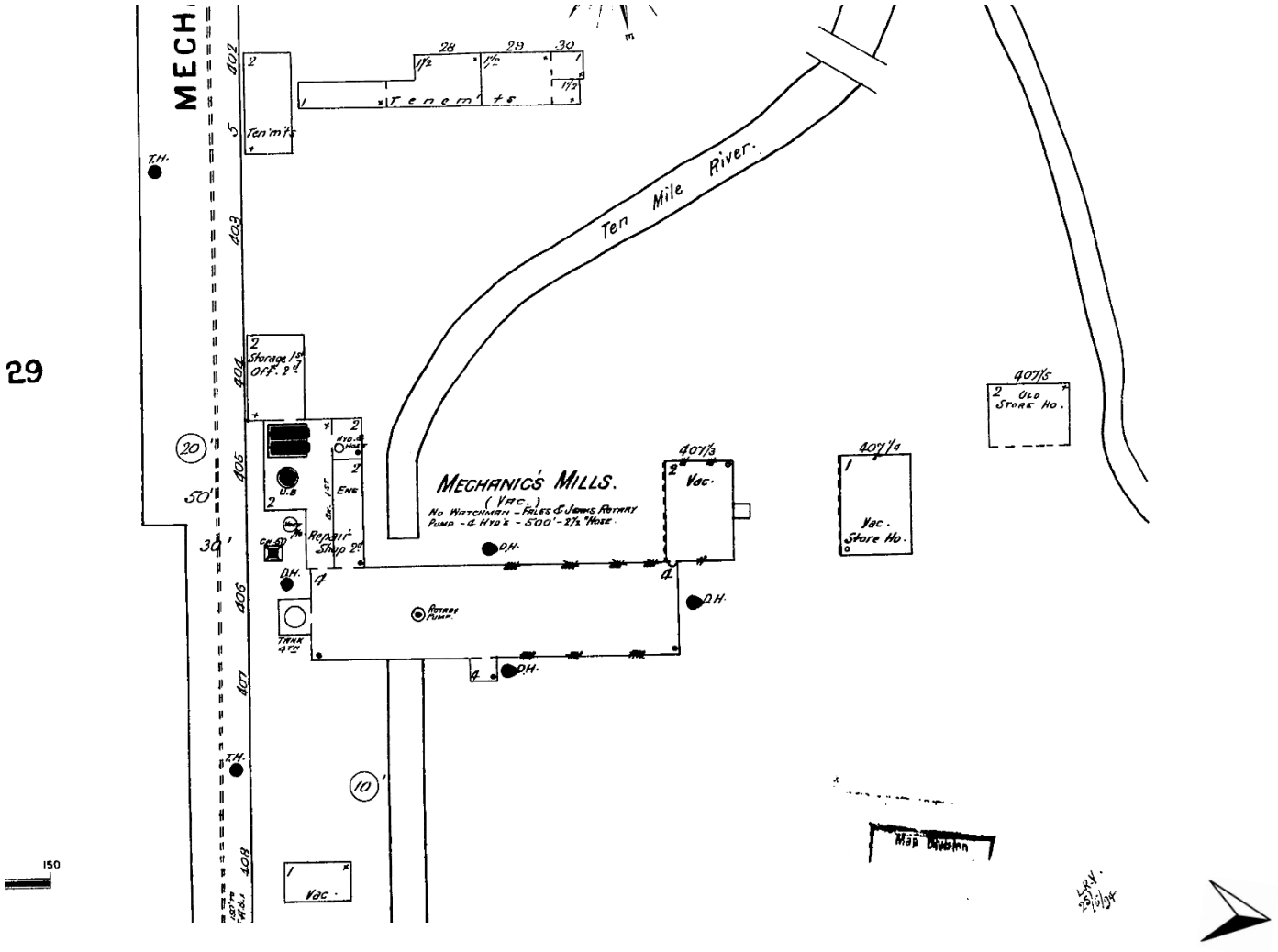


Figure 3. 1894 Sanborn Map showing the new, but as yet unoccupied Watson, Newell & Company Factory on the site of the former Mechanic's Mills.

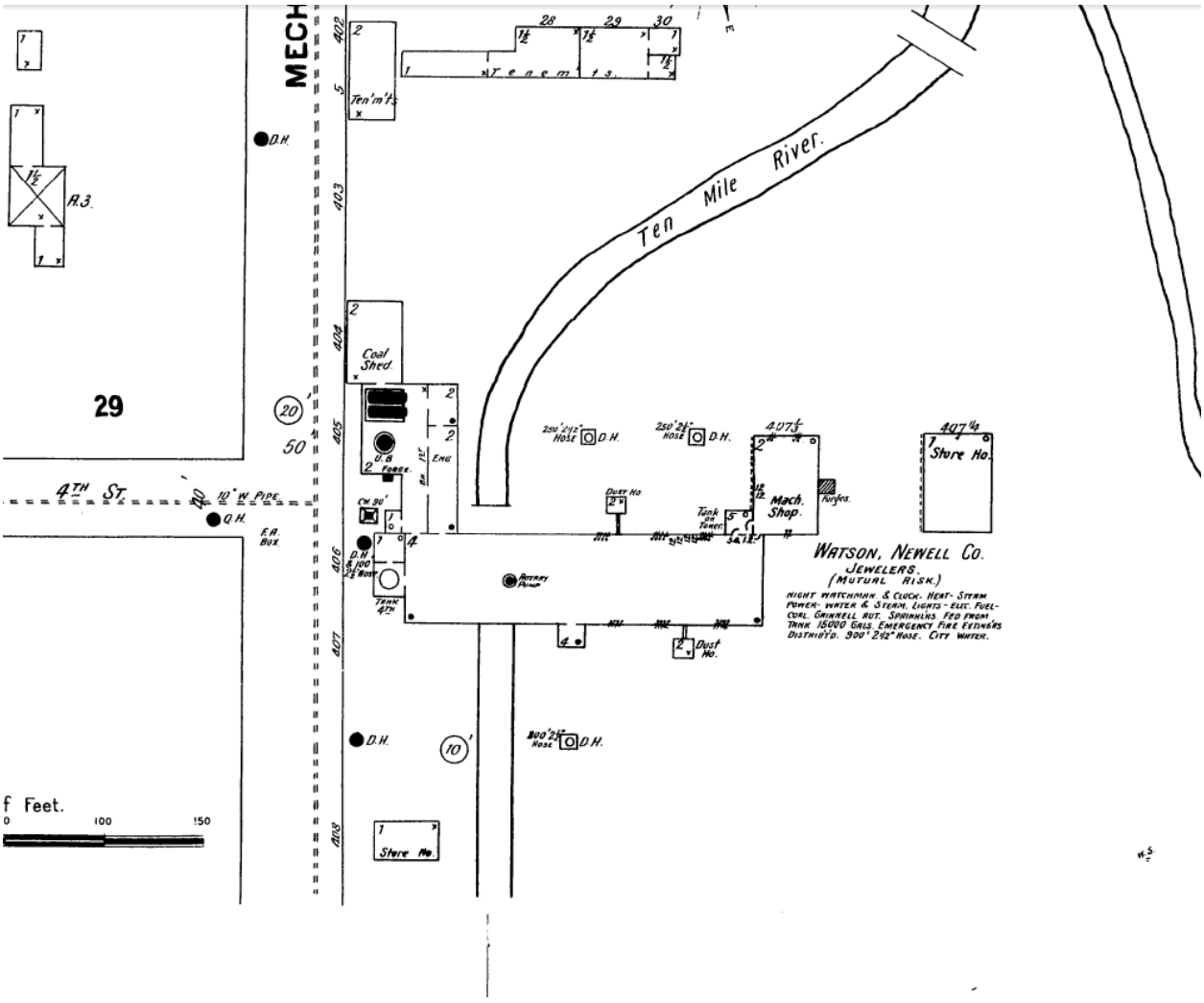


Figure 4. 1899 Sanborn Map showing Watson, Newell & Company Factory.

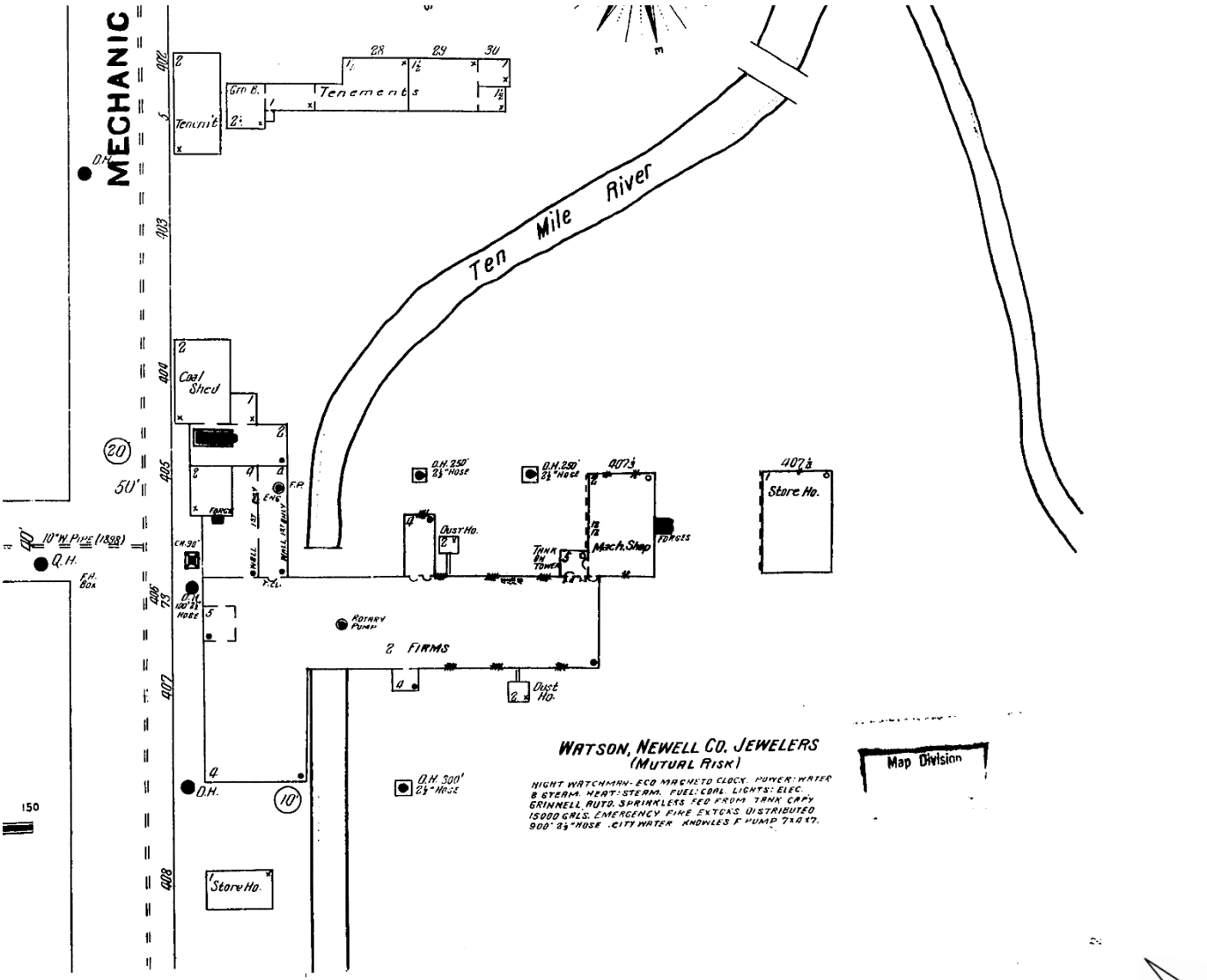


Figure 5. 1905 Sanborn Map showing Watson, Newell & Company Factory with addition of Building No. 3.

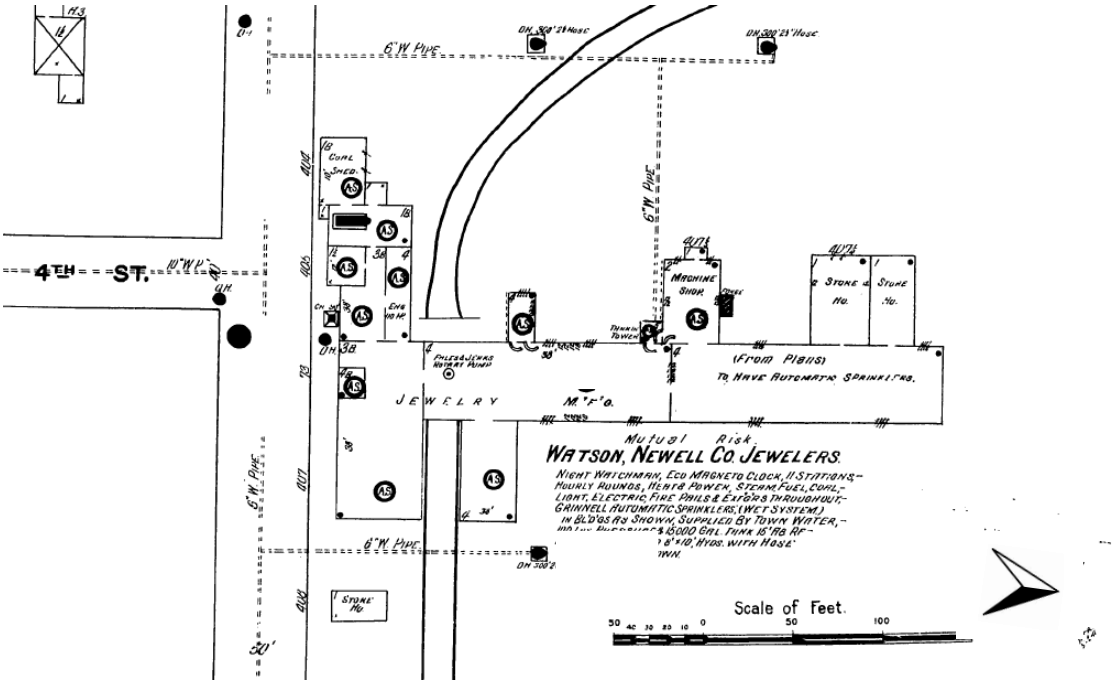


Figure 6. 1911 Sanborn Map showing Watson, Newell & Company Factory with planned construction of Building No. 2

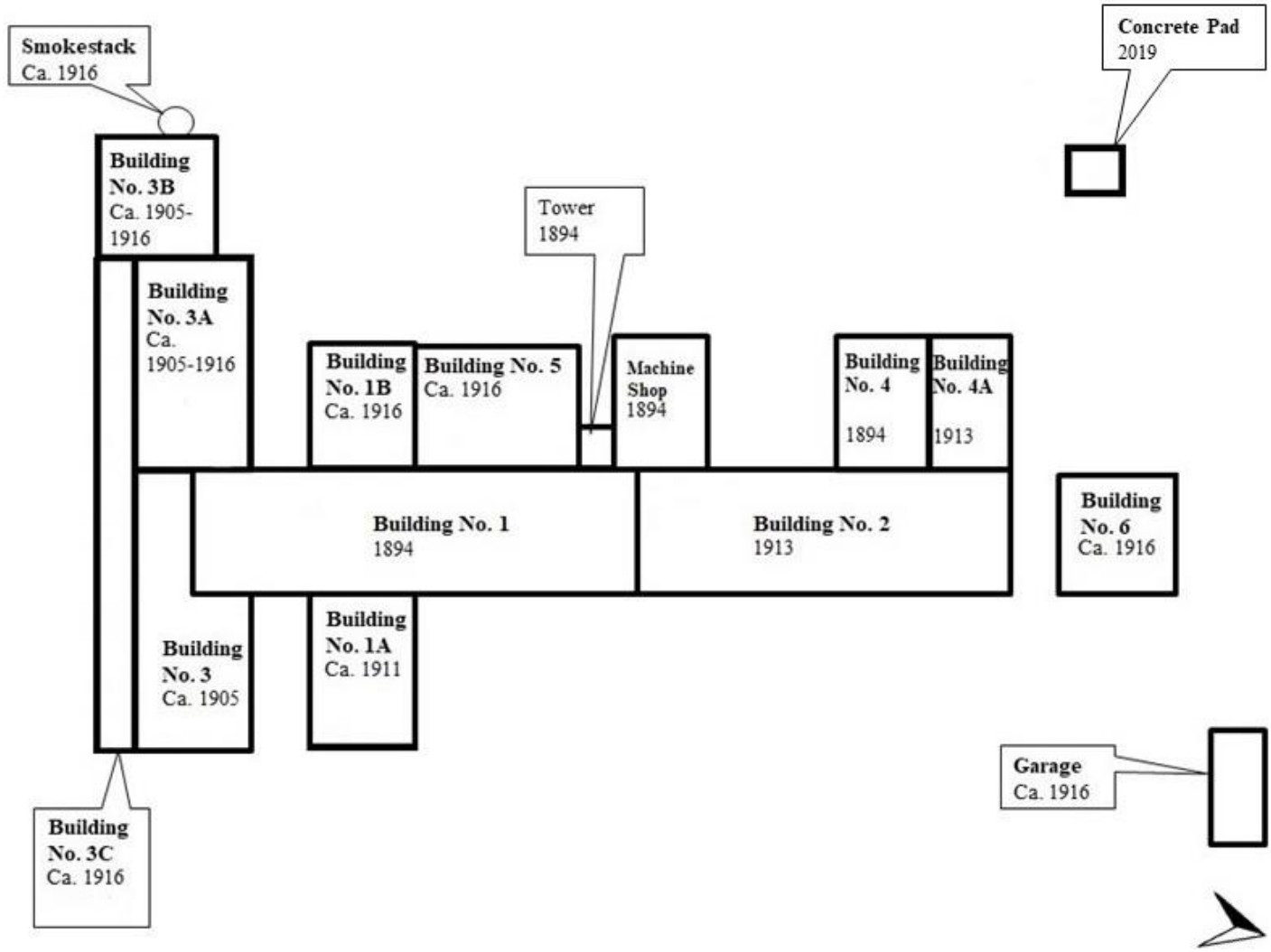


Figure 7. Construction sequence for Watson, Newell & Company Factory.

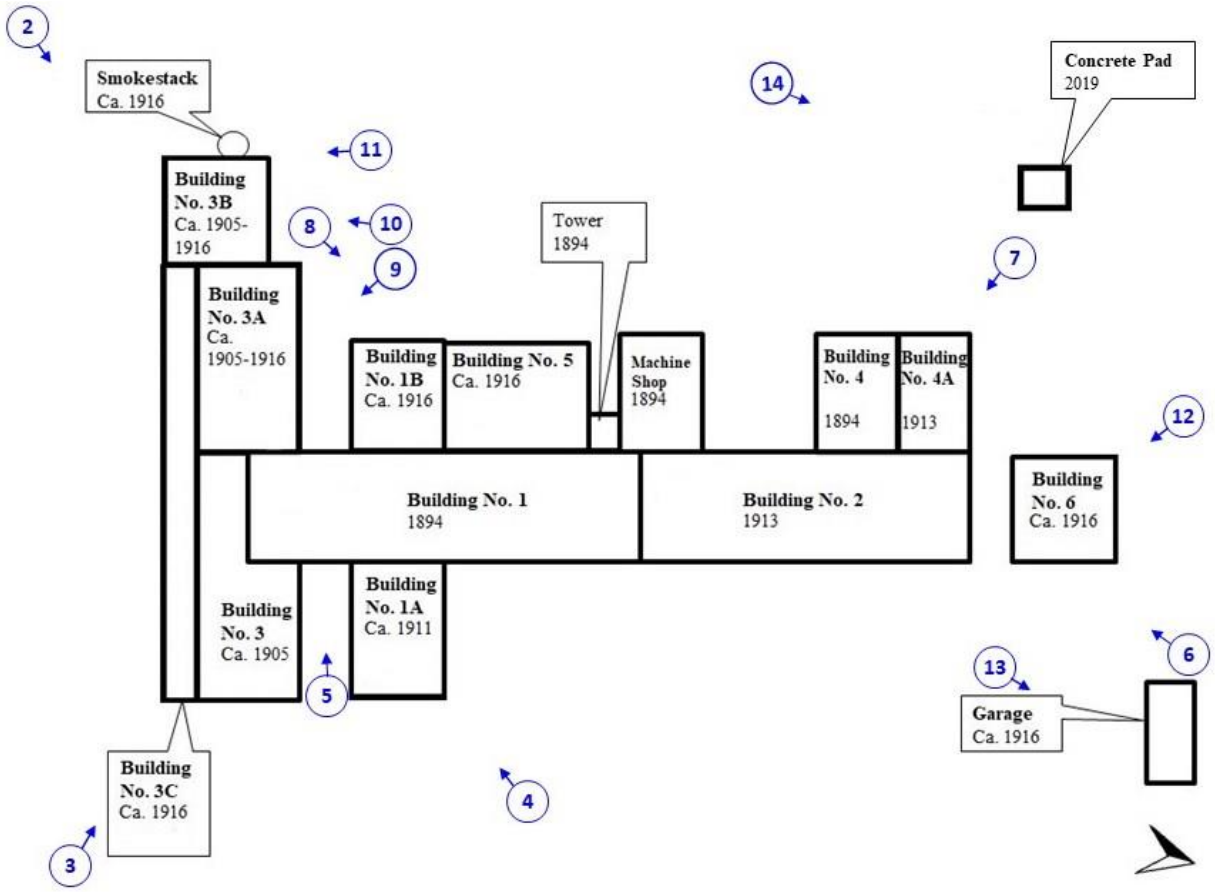
Figure 8. Ca. 1911 postcard. This view shows the south (façade) and east elevations of the Watson, Newell & Company wood-frame buildings from Mechanic Street before the one-bay-deep brick section was added to the façade. (L-R: Building No. 3 and Building No. 1A). A former store house, demolished between 1911 and 1924, is shown at far right. Photograph courtesy of the Attleboro Public Library, Local History Room.

Figure 9. Photograph of former sluiceway beneath Building No. 1 (taken in 2014).

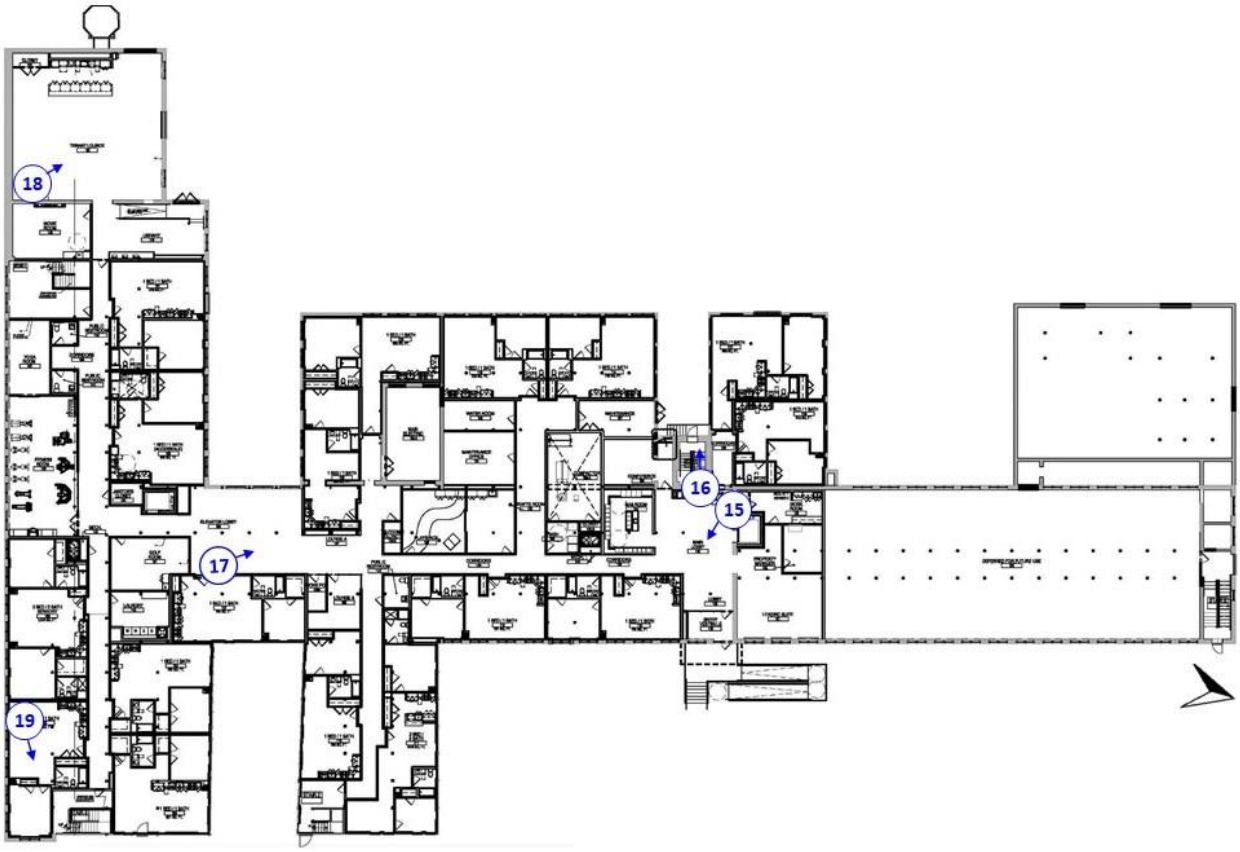
Figure 10 Photograph of the turbines used to generate waterpower for the factory (taken in 2014).

Figure 11 Photograph of the storage building remains before demolition (taken in 2014).

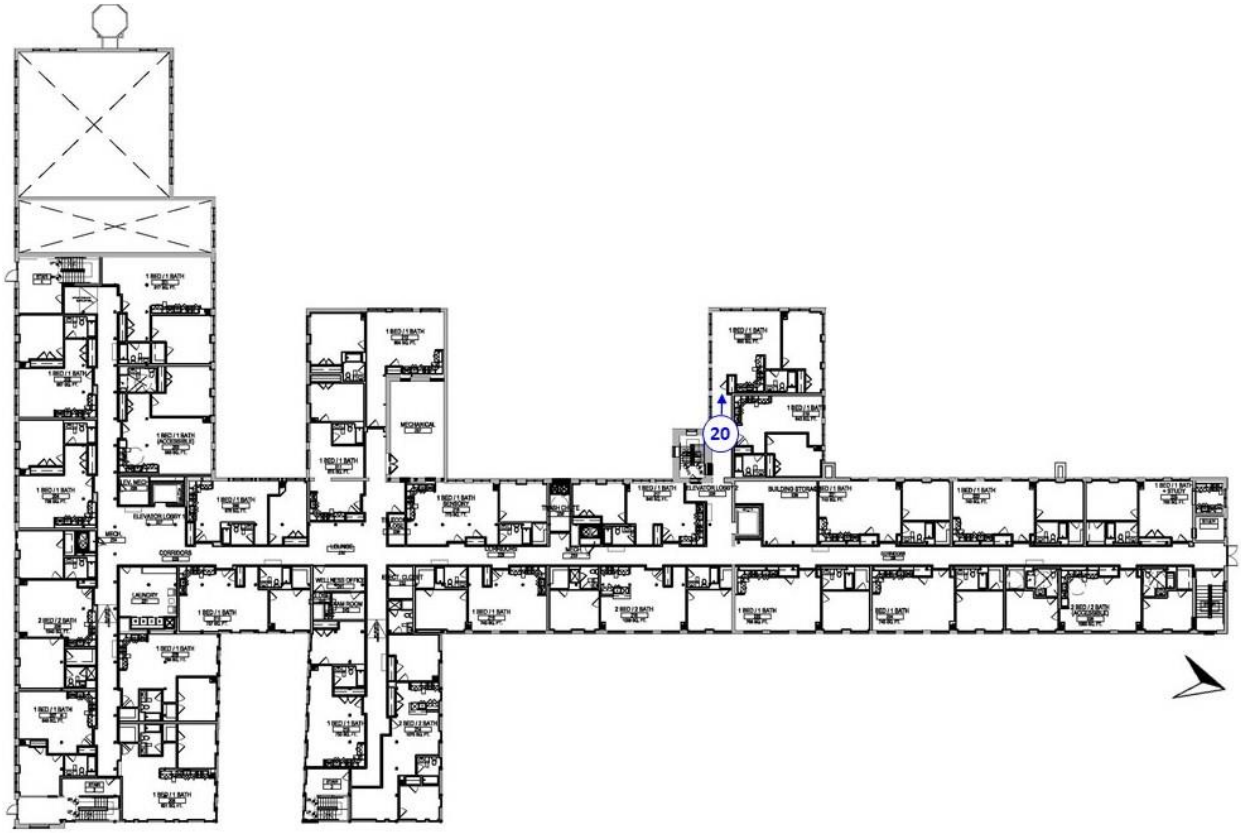
Key to Photographs



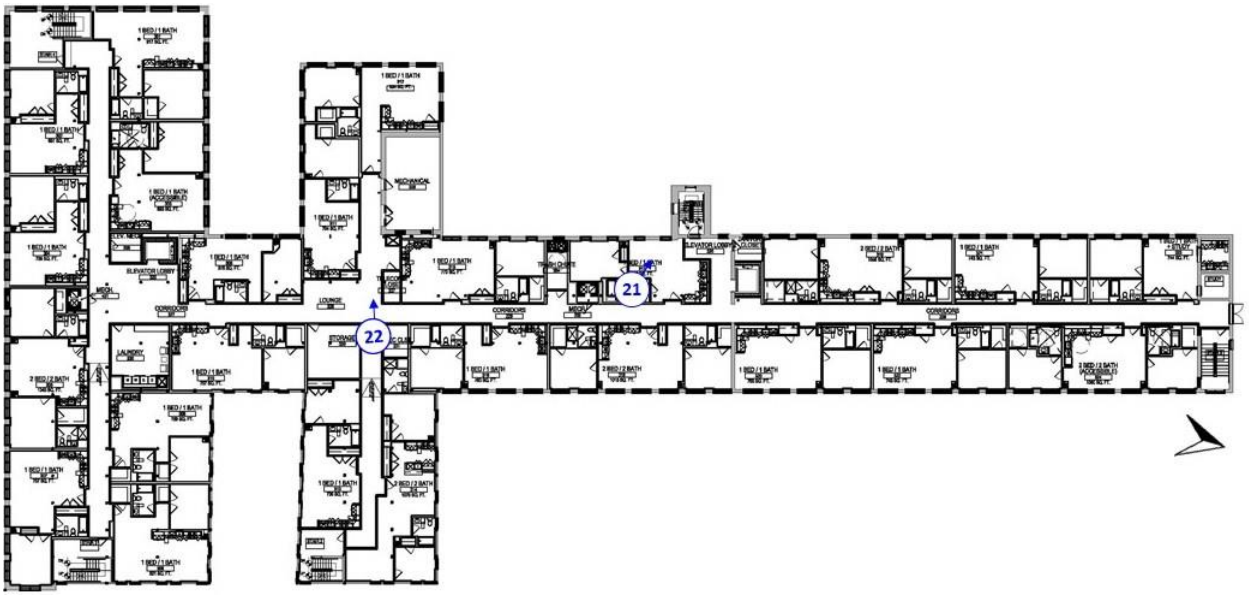
Site plan (Exterior Photographs 1–14)



Interior Photographs 15–19 (First Floor)



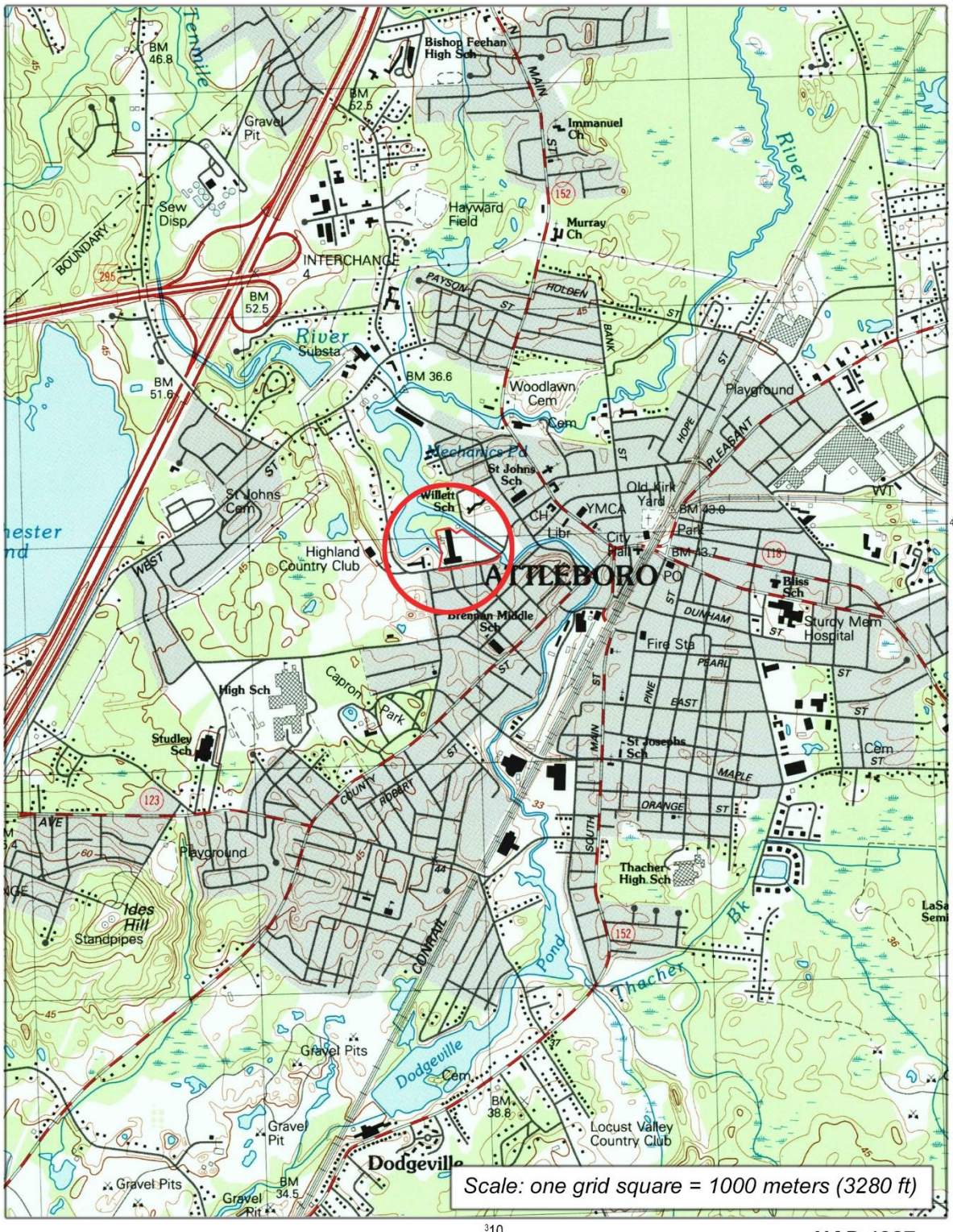
Interior Photograph 20 (Second Floor)



Interior Photographs 21, 22 (Third Floor)

Watson, Newell & Company Factory
Name of Property

Bristol Co, Massachusetts
County and State



US Geological Survey Topographic Map Excerpt (Attleboro, MA, 1987)

Watson, Newell & Company Factory, Attleboro (Bristol Co.), MA

1. View northwest of main factory complex (left to right, Building Nos. 3C, 3, 1A, 1, 2, 6).

2. View northeast of main factory complex (left to right, Building Nos. 2, 4, Machine Shop, 1B, Smokestack, 3B, 3C).

Photos: Alisa M. Augenstein, April 2020

Watson, Newell & Company Factory, Attleboro (Bristol Co.), MA

3. View northwest of main factory complex (left to right, Building Nos. 3C, 3, 1A, 1).

4. View southwest of main factory complex (left to right, Building Nos. 3C, 3, 1A, 1).

Photos: Alisa M. Augenstein, April 2020

Watson, Newell & Company Factory, Attleboro (Bristol Co.), MA

5. View west of main factory complex (left to right, Building Nos. 3, 1, 1A).

6. View southwest of main factory complex (left to right, Building Nos. 3, 1A, 1, 2, 6).

Photos: Alisa M. Augenstein, April 2020

Watson, Newell & Company Factory, Attleboro (Bristol Co.), MA

7. View southeast of main factory complex (left to right, Building Nos. 2, 4A, 4, Machine Shop, Tower). Photographed April 2020.

8. View northeast of main factory complex (left to right, Building Nos. 2, 4, Machine Shop, Tower, 5, 1B). Photographed November 2019.

Photos: Alisa M. Augenstein,

Watson, Newell & Company Factory, Attleboro (Bristol Co.), MA

9. View southeast of Buildings No. 3A and 3B.

10. View south of Building No. 3B and Smokestack.

Photos: Alisa M. Augenstein, April 2020

Watson, Newell & Company Factory, Attleboro (Bristol Co.), MA

11. View south of Building No. 3B and Smokestack. Photographed November 2019.

12. View southeast of Building No. 6. Photographed April 2020.

Photos: Alisa M. Augenstein

Watson, Newell & Company Factory, Attleboro (Bristol Co.), MA

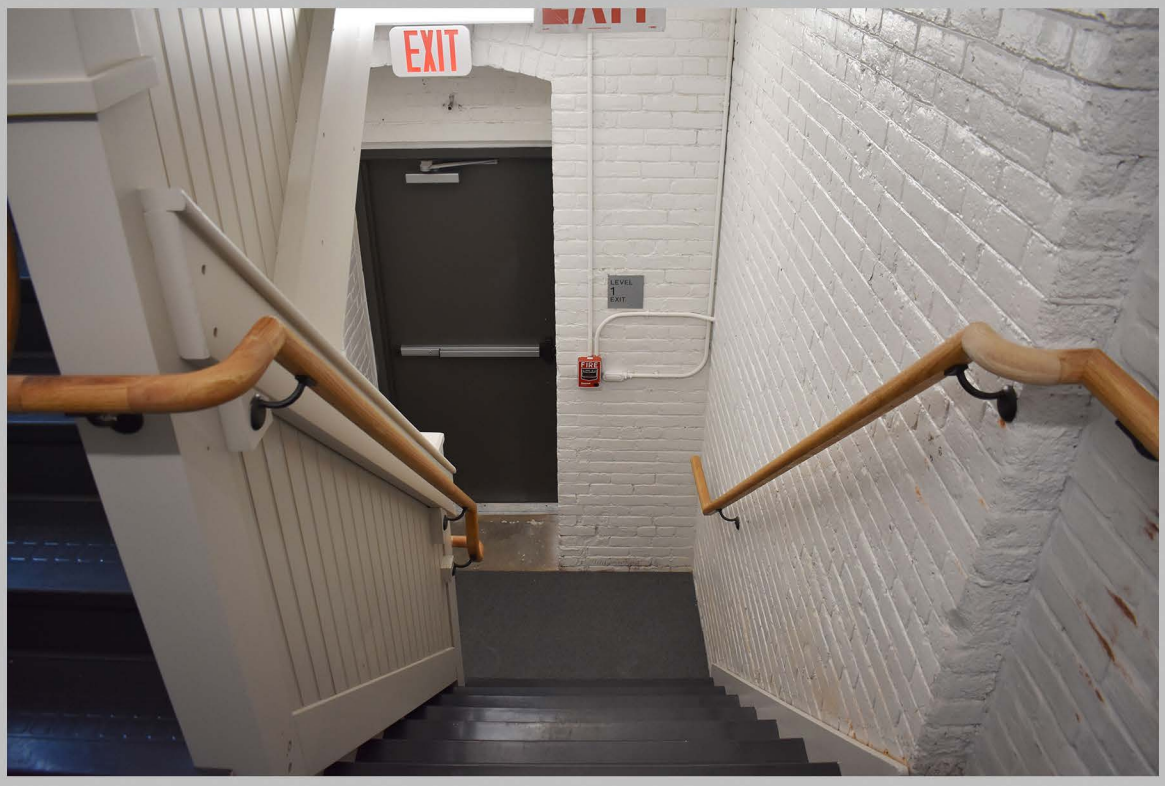
13. View northeast of Garage. Photographed April 2020.

14. View northeast of Concrete Pad. Photographed July 2020.

Photos: Alisa M. Augenstein,

Watson, Newell & Company Factory, Attleboro (Bristol Co.), MA

15. View of Building No. 1 interior, first floor (Main Lobby).



16. View of Tower stair, Building No. 1 interior.

Photos: Alisa M. Augenstein, November 2019

Watson, Newell & Company Factory, Attleboro (Bristol Co.), MA

17. View of Building No. 1 interior, first floor (Elevator Lobby). Photographed November 2019.

18. View of Building No. 3B interior, first floor. Photographed April 2020.

Photos: Alisa M. Augenstein

Watson, Newell & Company Factory, Attleboro (Bristol Co.), MA

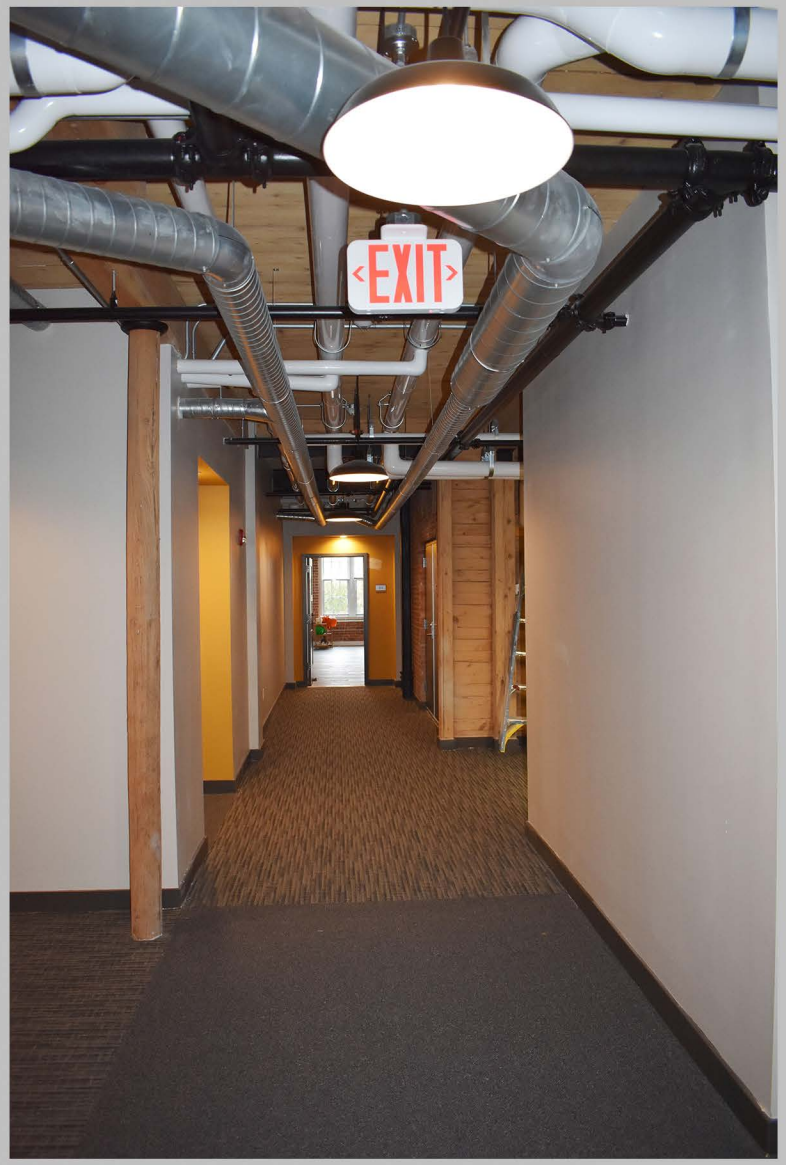
19. View of Building Nos. 3 and 3C interior, first floor (Unit 105).

20. View of Machine Shop interior, second floor (Unit 220).

Photos: Alisa M. Augenstein, November 2019

Watson, Newell & Company Factory, Attleboro (Bristol Co.), MA

21. View of Building No. 1 interior, third floor (Unit 317).



22. View of Building Nos. 1 and 1B interior, third floor corridor.

Photos: Alisa M. Augenstein, November 2019