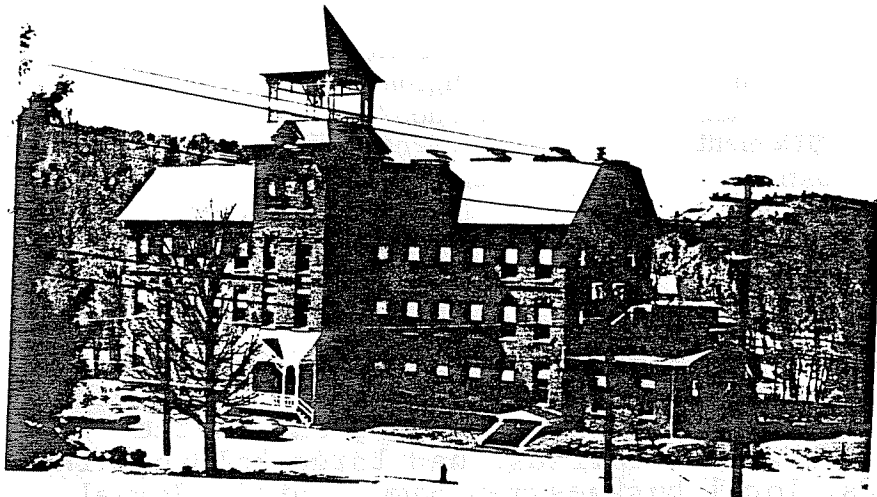


FORM B - BUILDING

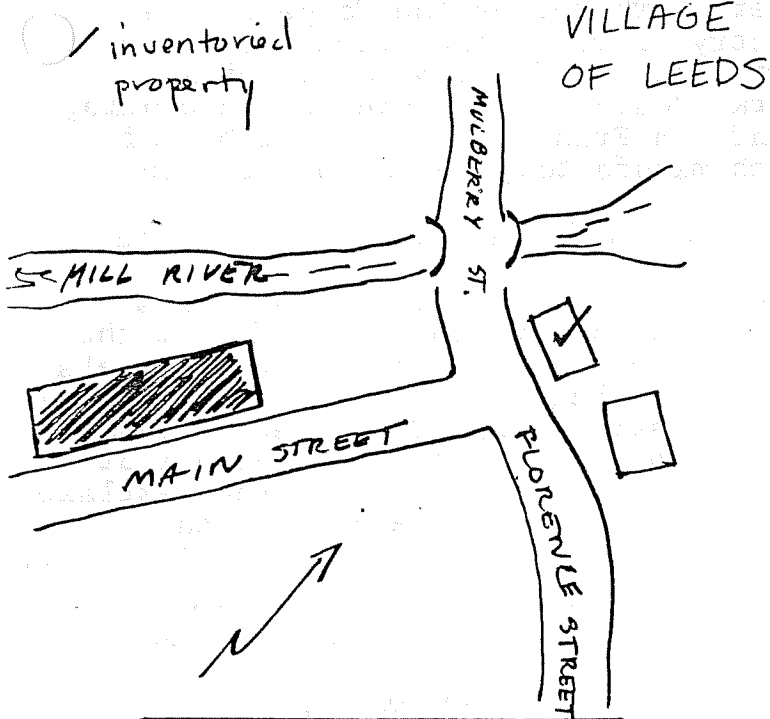
In Area no.	Form no.
	103-31

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston



Leeds (Northampton)
 SS Main & Mulberry Streets
Nonotuck Silk Mill Co.
 ent use in process of conversion
apartments
 ent owner Leeds Village Apts.
 ription:
1880
 Daily Hampshire Gazette
 ource September 21, 1880
Italianate / Stick
Victorian Industrial
 itect E. C. Gardner

4. Map. Draw sketch in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



Exterior wall fabric brick
 Outbuildings (describe) none
 Other features 4 stories; central tower
with bell; polychrome brickwork;
stickwork at base of tower
 some windows
 Altered bricked in Date _____
 Moved no Date _____

5. Lot size:
 One acre or less x Over one acre _____
 Approximate frontage 200 feet
 Approximate distance of building from street
50 feet

6. Recorded by C. Bubie
 Organization Northampton Historical
 Commission
 Date August 1, 1975

RECEIVED

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
 USGS Quadrant _____
 MHC Photo no. _____

(over)

APR 5 1976

7. Original owner (if known) Nonotuck Silk Co.

Original use Factory

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates converted to apartments, 1974-75

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science/ invention	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Arts	<input type="checkbox"/>	Industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social/ humanitarian	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Community development	<input type="checkbox"/>				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

The Nonotuck Silk Company, incorporated during the 1860's, owned this industrial site and the series of mill structures at Leeds center throughout the nineteenth century. The Silk Company, one of the city's most successful industrial enterprises, had large holdings in Florence as well as in Leeds; local businessmen Samuel Hill, Samuel Hinkley, A. T. Lilly, and others were involved in the running of the company.

Sewing silk, crochet, knitting, and embroidery silk, and later, silk hosiery and silk underwear were marketed by the Company on a nationwide basis. The local industry borrowed both techniques and machines and workmen from England; offices of the Nonotuck Silk Company were maintained in New York, Boston, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, and San Francisco. For a number of years a foreign office and a branch manufactory in Canada were in operation.

A portion of the factory complex was for a time leased to the Northampton Emery Wheel Company.

The present factory structure stands on the site of previous buildings leveled by the Great Flood of 1874 which resulted from the collapse of the Williamsburg dam. The body of the building parallels the riverbed; an impressive tower containing entranceways and fronting on Main St rises above the four story structure. Completed in 1880, the five story structure was designed by architect E. C. Gardner of Springfield who at that same time designed a residence in the Eastlake style for Lucius Dimock, director of the mills. The base of the structure measures 122 x 42, the tower, 20 feet square, rises 100 feet.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.) Map of Florence & Leeds, 1860; Atlas of Northampton, 1873, 1884, 1895.

"A Chronicle of Industry on the Mill River," Smith College Studies in History, Vol. XXI, Nos. 1-4, 1935-36.

Daily Hampshire Gazette, September 21, 1880.