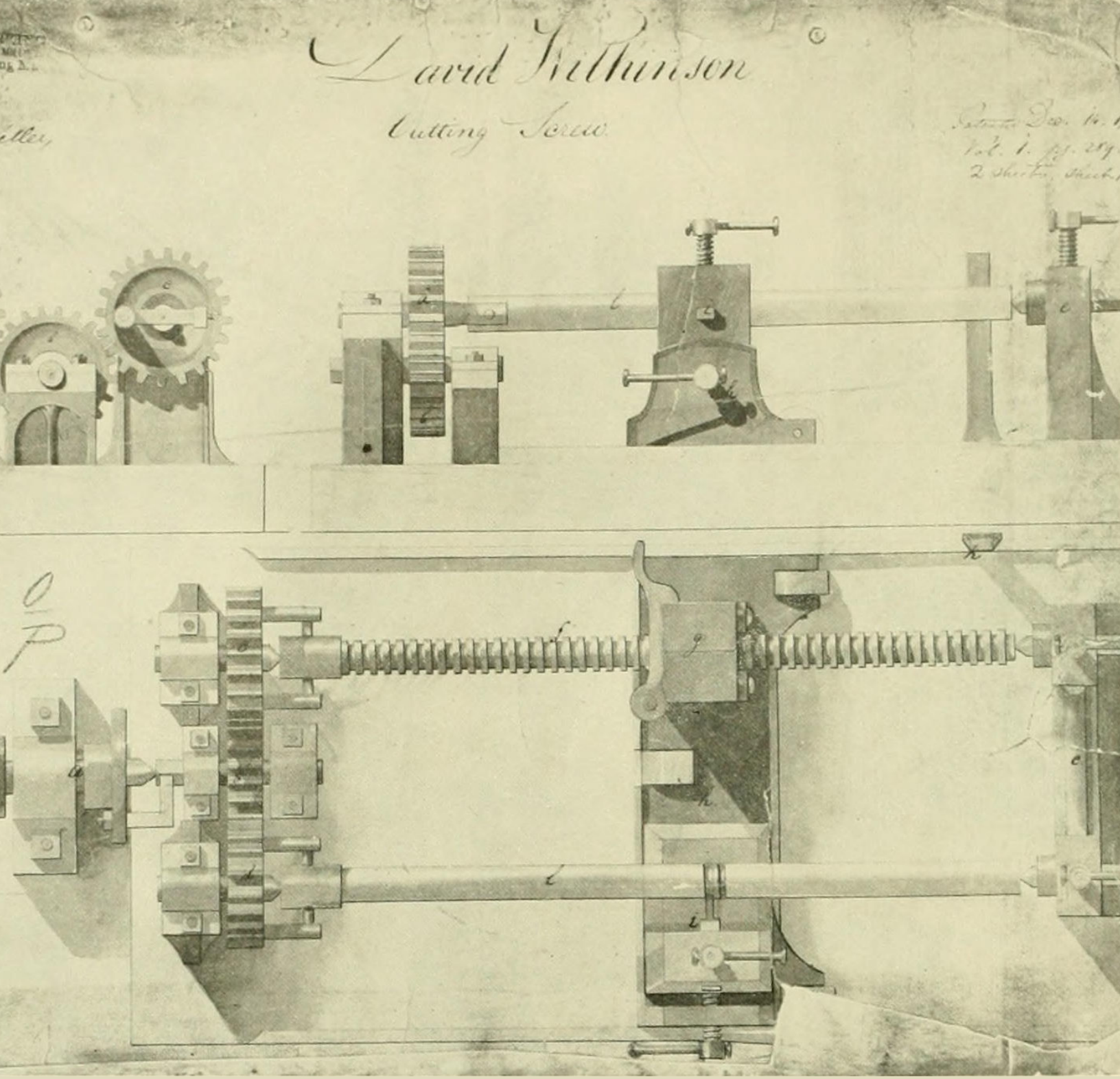


Wilkinson Mill

Character-Defining Features Report

Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park

Pawtucket, Rhode Island

September 2021

Character-Defining Features Report

for

Wilkinson Mill

Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park

Pawtucket, Rhode Island



LeeAnne R. Brooks, Architectural Conservator, M.H.P.

September 2021

Cover image: 1798 patent of David Wilkinson's heavy screw-cutting machine used in the Wilkinson slitting mill. *Old Slater Mill Association Archive. July 2021*

Acknowledgments

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I. INTRODUCTION

Introduction

PROJECT SUBJECT

Wilkinson Mill, located at 67 Roosevelt Avenue in Pawtucket Rhode Island, resides on the west bank of the Blackstone River within the boundaries of the Old Slater Mill National Historic Landmark Site. Acquired by the National Park Service in 2021, Wilkinson Mill sits on Roosevelt Avenue near Main Street on three acres shared with Old Slater Mill, the Sylvanus Brown House, and Hodgson Rotary Park. The surrounding area is primarily urban with the Pawtucket city government center located nearby.

PROJECT SCOPE AND OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this report is to help achieve National Park Service-wide goals of providing baseline research and documentation for a nationally significant structure. This type of report is authorized to provide basic documentation and research that is needed to guide future maintenance, repair, preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation projects that will ultimately preserve both the historical and architectural integrity of the structure.

Preferably, the character-defining features of a historic structure would be identified in an exhaustive Historic Structure Report (HSR), as outlined in NPS Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management Guideline.[1] An HSR would include a full historical background and architectural context study based on extensive primary and secondary research, coupled with on-site, non-destructive, interior and exterior architectural investigation of the building fabric. A comprehensive current physical description of the building would also contribute to the identification of the structure's Character Defining Features (CDFs).

The limited nature of a CDF report and time restraints allowed for focus on only the exterior of the structure. The report will not address any interior features such as the water wheel and its associated elements. Its focus will primarily be to provide identification of exterior character defining features in order to help guide the stewardship of the structure.

METHODOLOGY

The information provided in this report is the culmination of on-site physical observation, exterior architectural investigation and limited, baseline research of primary and secondary source material. During the week of July 18-24, 2021, a non-invasive, on-site architectural investigation was undertaken at Wilkinson Mill by architectural conservator, LeeAnne Brooks on behalf of Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park. *Preservation Brief 17, Architectural Character - Identifying the Visual Aspects of Historic Buildings*

1 Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management Guideline, n.d. National Park Service.

as an Aid to Preserving Their Character was used to guide the recording and analysis of exterior architectural and historic features of Wilkinson Mill and its surrounding landscape. Primary and secondary archival research within the Old Slater Mill Association (OSMA) Archive was also accomplished at that time.

Secondary research was also performed at multiple internet resources. Research covered readily accessible documentary and published resources that included secondary textual and cartographic documentation. Archival research was performed at the following institutions:

OLD SLATER MILL ASSOCIATION ARCHIVE (OSMA):

The OSMA archive is a collection of institutional records that includes both primary and secondary resources such as photographs, journals, newspaper articles, paintings, student research studies, and project and maintenance records that have been collected since their inception in 1921. Research material is unorganized and is spread among multiple locations. Many times, it resides in unlabeled folders, boxes, and drawers spread throughout the archive. This problem inhibits the speed at which research can be conducted and the ability to provide detailed citations for this report.

PAWTUCKET PUBLIC LIBRARY:

Pawtucket Public Library's Digital Newspapers Collection, and Historic Picture Collection housed on the Flickr website provided highly relevant newspaper accounts and photographs of people, companies, and events at Wilkinson Mill. A collection of Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps located at this library was additionally useful.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS – COLLECTION OF SANBORN MAPS:

The Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps collection provides a searchable online database of fire insurance maps in their Geography and Map Division. Although their collection is not complete, they provided key maps not found elsewhere.

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS (ASME):

The ASME website provided useful information regarding Wilkinson Mill's status as a Historic Mechanical Engineering Landmark and their recognition of David Wilkinson's contributions to the machine tool industry.

RESEARCH FINDINGS

Some of the more significant research findings included, but were not limited to, the following:

- Discovering and understanding the context in which Wilkinson Mill was constructed.
- Detailed information on the owners, tenants, and many uses of Wilkinson Mill.
- Photographic evidence of additions and other changes to the exterior of the structure.
- Insurance maps illustrating the building, additions, and their surroundings during multiple time frames.
- Detailed information on five Wilkinson Mill fires.

RESEARCH RECOMMENDATIONS

There is potential in the following future research topics:

1. Further research of Pawtucket newspaper archives may yield further information. The copies used for this report contained photos that were nearly indecipherable. Contact directly with the archive or newspapers may yield the original, legible photos that will provide additional, previously unknown details.

2. The Pawtucket Redevelopment Agency was, at one time, an owner of the structure. It is recommended that they be contacted to ascertain the number of archival records they have retained that could be useful.

3. The architectural firm of Haynes/deBoer have worked extensively on Slater and Wilkinson Mills. Their work there has generated a collection of architectural drawings of the site and both historic buildings. They have, in the past, indicated they are open to sharing drawings with the NPS.

4. The archaeologist in charge of the 1970 excavations was Albert T. Bartovics, a doctoral candidate at Brown University. Research should be conducted at Brown to discover Bartovics dissertation or research material.

5. Because this report focuses on the exterior of the building only, it is recommended that further research and analysis be conducted on both the interior and exterior of the building while creating a Historic Structure Report Part II for Wilkinson Mill.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Location of Site

National Park:	Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park
Preferred Structure Name:	Wilkinson Mill
Secondary Names:	The Stone Mill
Location:	67 Roosevelt Ave Pawtucket, 02860
County:	Providence County
State:	Rhode Island
Ownership:	Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park, National Park Service
GPS & UTM Location:	Latitude: 41° 52′ 40″ N
	Longitude: 71°22′ 58″ W
	Zone 19 302300 E 4638700 N

National Register of Historic Places

NRIS: 66000001

Designated: The Slater Mill Historic Site was added onto the National Register for Historic Places on March 12, 1976. It derives its primary significance under criterion A at the national level as the birthplace of America's Industrial Revolution. Slater Mill is credited as the first cotton mill in the nation and birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution. Contributing structures share the site. Wilkinson Mill, listed as a contributing resource, is part the Slater Mill complex of industrial structures. It played an important role in early industrial technological innovation. It housed an extensive machine shop where David Wilkinson worked with his ground-breaking early industrial inventions. The Sylvanus Brown house was built around 1758 and was moved to the site in 1962 as an example of a nineteenth century mill wright's house.

Recommendation: In 1975 a National Register Nomination was begun but never completed for Wilkinson Mill. [2] As it is a historically significant structure in its own right, it is recommended that a National Register nomination be completed and submitted for approval. Wilkinson Mill is significant under criterion A, B, and C. Structures eligible under criteria A are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broader patterns of our history. Criterion B structures are associated with the lives of persons significant to our past. Wilkinson Mill is the site of the beginning of the American machine tool industry and David Wilkinson, blacksmith, machinist, and tool inventor, is regarded as "father of the machine tool industry" in America. [3] Criterion C structures embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method

2 Written by Gary B. Kulik, Curator of Slater Mill Historic Site. 1975.

3 "Stone Mill Study May Tell Early Machine Tools Story," 1970. The Flyer, Old Slater Mill Association archive, Pawtucket, R.I.

of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

Additionally, we recommend that the documentation for the Slater Mill Historic Site National Register Nomination be updated to reflect current and contemporary knowledge based on the most recent research findings and conclusions of the history and architectural significance of Slater Mill and its contributing resources (Wilkinson Mill, Sylvanus Brown House, etc.).

National Historic Mechanical Engineering Landmark

Wilkinson Mill was designated a National Historic Mechanical Engineering Landmark on October 12, 1977.

Cultural Resource Inventory System (CRIS)

The Cultural Resource Inventory System (CRIS) is a web-based evaluated inventory of all prehistoric and historic structures in the parks of the National Park System having historical and/or architectural/engineering significance in which the Service has or plans to acquire any enforceable legal interest.

Wilkinson Mill

Preferred Structure Name:	Wilkinson Mill
Structure Number:	TDB
LCS Number:	1169642

II. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Historical Background and Context

INTRODUCTION

Wilkinson Mill was built between 1810 and 1813 in Pawtucket Rhode Island. Its location on the west bank of the Blackstone River, is within a few feet of Slater Mill, the first cotton mill in the United States. The Pawtucket of the 1700s century was much different place than it is today. The area where Wilkinson Mill stands was developed as an industrial site built by those who were lured by the possibilities the Blackstone River afforded. Four major industries occupied the area: grist and saw milling, iron forging and blacksmithing, and tanning.[1]

CONTEXT

Within ten years of the construction of Wilkinson Mill, its environs were crowded with mill buildings, forges, and factories, with the Wilkinson family's buildings dominating the landscape. In 1823 the site at and near Wilkinson Mill was illustrated on the Sargent's Trench map. (Figure 2.1) The area depicted on

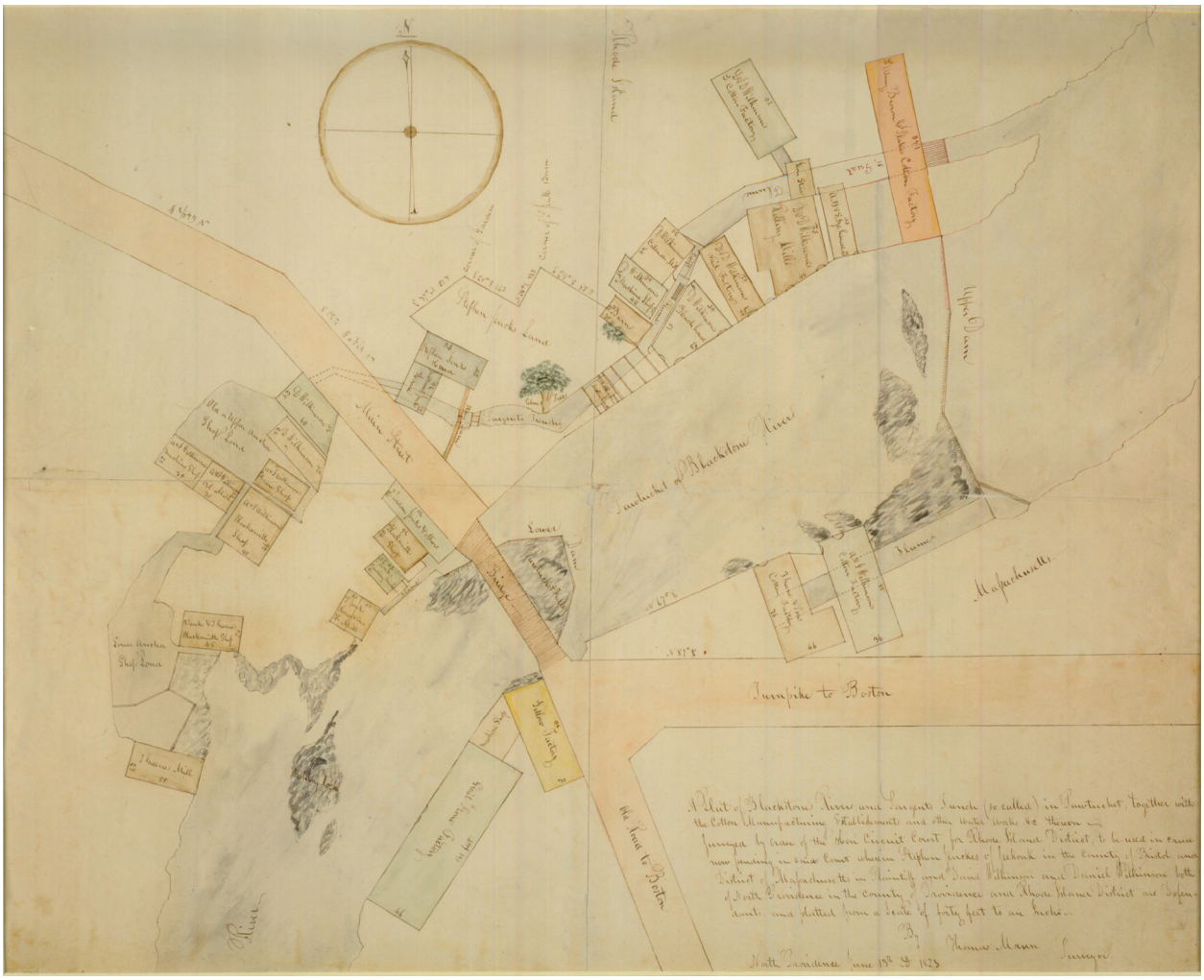


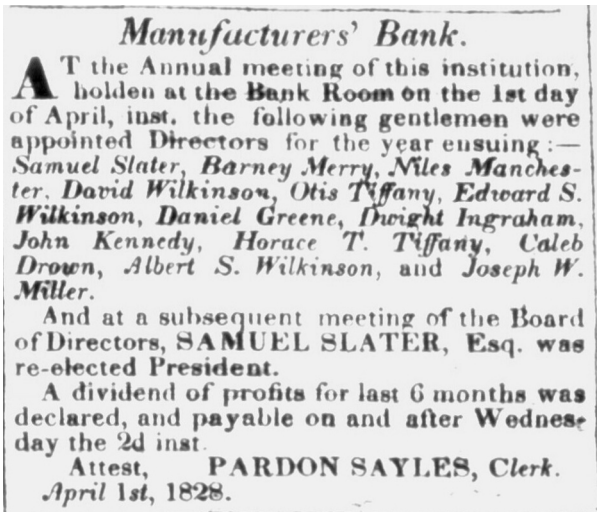
Figure 2.1. Thomas Mann's *Sargent's Trench Map*, 1823. Courtesy of the Old Slater Mill Association archive.

1 Paul Rivard, "The Wilkinson Mill, Updated Development Plan," (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

the map begins at Slater Mill and ends slightly south of Main Street. It shows what structures were there and who owned them. Seen throughout the map is the "Great Flume" and further south "Sargent's Trench," the canal that fed water to all of the structures on the west side of the Blackstone River. The following is a list of those structures:

Table 1: Blackstone River Structures			
West side of Blackstone River		**East side of Blackstone River**	
North of Main Street	**South of Main Street**	**North of Main Street**	**South of Main Street**
Almay, Brown & Slater Cotton Factory	D. Wilkinson's	T Greene's & ___ Cotton Factory	Great Stone Factory
D & D Wilkinson Cotton Factory	D. Wilkinson's	A & I Wilkinson's Cotton Factory	Yellow Factory
A.B.S. Dye House	A & I Wilkinson's Screw Shop		Machine Shop
Store	A & I Wilkinson's Blacksmith Shop		
D & D Wilkinson Rolling Mills	A & I Wilkinson's Machine Shop		
D & D Wilkinson Nail Factory	A & I Wilkinson's ___ Mill		
D. Wilkinson Calendar Mill	Jenks & Greene's Blacksmith Shop		
D. Wilkinson's Bleach House	T Greene's Mill		
D. Wilkinson's Machine Shop			
Barn			
D. Wilkinson's ___ House			
Steven Jenks House			

All but eight buildings in that location on the Blackstone River at that time were either owned by the Wilkinsons or Timothy Green (David Wilkinson's brother-in-law). Although this dominance only lasted 26 years, the Wilkinson family were leading citizens of Pawtucket and played an integral role in the development of the town and, more importantly the development of the cotton mill industry and the beginning of the Industrial Revolution.[2] (Figure 2.2)



Manufacturers' Bank.

AT the Annual meeting of this institution, holden at the Bank Room on the 1st day of April, inst. the following gentlemen were appointed Directors for the year ensuing:— *Samuel Slater, Barney Merry, Niles Manchester, David Wilkinson, Otis Tiffany, Edward S. Wilkinson, Daniel Greene, Dwight Ingraham, John Kennedy, Horace T. Tiffany, Caleb Drown, Albert S. Wilkinson,* and *Joseph W. Miller.*

And at a subsequent meeting of the Board of Directors, SAMUEL SLATER, Esq. was re-elected President.

A dividend of profits for last 6 months was declared, and payable on and after Wednesday the 2d inst.

Attest, PARDON SAYLES, *Clerk.*
April 1st, 1828.

Figure 2.2. *Manufacturers' Bank* annual meeting, Pawtucket, Rhode Island, April 1, 1828. Pawtucket Chronicle and Rhode Island and Massachusetts Register, April 5, 1828.

2 Thomas Mann, "Sergents Trench Map," (1823). Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The history of Wilkinson Mill begins with the history of the Wilkinson family. In the late 1700s Oziel and Lydia Wilkinson lived with their nine children in Smithfield Rhode Island where Oziel operated a blacksmith forge and taught his sons the trade.[3] In 1777, Oziel "produced hand-cut nails" which were "among the first hand-cut nails produced in America."[4] At the age of six, his son David was put to work heading nails.[5] In 1783 the family moved to Pawtucket, Rhode Island, where Oziel established an anchor forge on the Blackstone River.[6] This forge was originally owned in partnership with Benjamin Arnold, but by 1784 Oziel held sole ownership of the forge, which he then deeded to his sons Abraham and Isaac.[7] The forge was located south of the Main Street bridge. (Figure 2.1)



Figure 2.3. David Wilkinson, n.d., Courtesy of Old Slater Mill Association archive.

In 1791 Oziel Wilkinson went into partnership with Moses Brown and purchased land on the west bank of the Blackstone River.[8] The following year, Oziel planned and—with the help of Moses Brown and Thomas Arnold—built the dam that would supply power for a rolling and slitting mill Oziel would eventually build upon his newly purchase land in 1794.[9]

Oziel's third son David showed a talent for creating iron tools and machine parts at an early age.[10] At the age of 15 he started visiting other tool shops to learn how to make various iron tools.[11] Four years later he was skillful enough to forge parts for spinning frames and carding machines for his brother-in-law Samuel Slater's cotton mill.[12] In 1793 he invented a marine steam engine for a steamboat that he and Elijah Ormsbee built and paddled on the Seekonk River fourteen years before Robert Fulton invented the world's first commercially successful steamboat.[13] In 1798 he invented the nation's first screw-cutting machine, which was housed in Oziel's new slitting mill. In ca.1800, David married Martha Sayles. They went on to have four children.[14] (Figure 2.3)

3 "David Wilkinson Family Genealogy," (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

4 Gary Kulik, Curator – Slater Mill, Untitled, (December 23, 1976) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

5 David Wilkinson, "David Wilkinson's Reminiscences," (1846). Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

6 Adrian Paquette - Curator, "Timeline of Events in the Life of David Wilkinson and Family, Pawtucket, Rhode Island," (2003). Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

7 "Wilkinson Mill, Historical Sketch," (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

8 Ibid.

9 Ibid. This dam is known today as the "upper dam."

10 Born January 5, 1771. "David Wilkinson Family Genealogy," (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

11 Adrian Paquette-Curator, "Timeline of Events in the Life of David Wilkinson and Family, Pawtucket, Rhode Island," (2003). Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

12 Ibid.

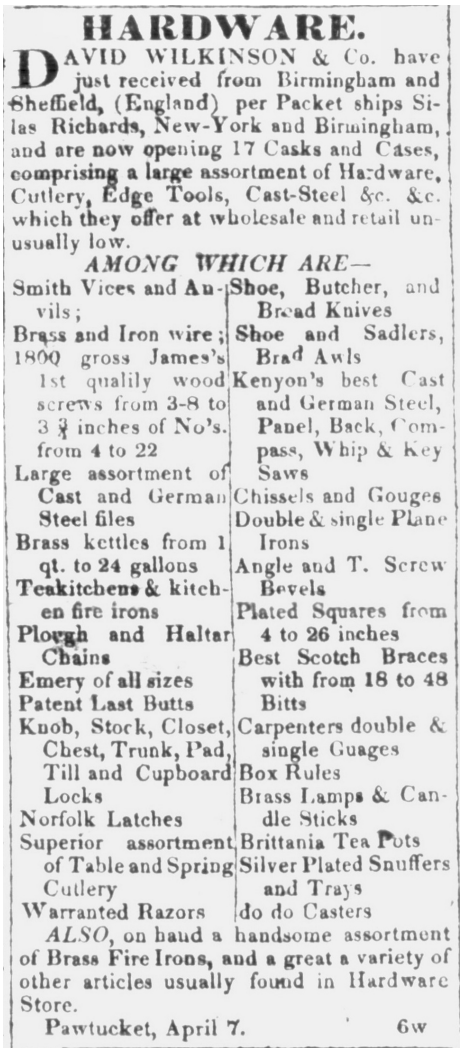
13 Gary Kulik, Patrick M. Malone, "A National Historic Mechanical Engineering Landmark, The Wilkinson Mill, 1811, Pawtucket Rhode Island, Slater Mill Historic Site," (*The American Society of Mechanical Engineers*, 1977): 4.

14 "David Wilkinson Family Genealogy," (n.d.)" Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.



PATENT
SELF ADJUSTING TEMPLES.
100 PAIR just received and for sale at the manufacturers prices.
This improvement we consider to be of great importance to the manufacturing interest.
DAVID WILKINSON & CO.
Jan. 12. tf

Figure 2.4. Patent, Self Adjusting Temples, Pawtucket Chronicle and Rhode Island and Massachusetts Register. March 15, 1828.



HARDWARE.

DAVID WILKINSON & Co. have just received from Birmingham and Sheffield, (England) per Packet ships Silas Richards, New-York and Birmingham, and are now opening 17 Casks and Cases, comprising a large assortment of Hardware, Cutlery, Edge Tools, Cast-Steel &c. &c. which they offer at wholesale and retail unusually low.

AMONG WHICH ARE—

Smith Vices and Anvils;
Brass and Iron wire;
1800 gross James's 1st qualily wood screws from 3-8 to 3 ¾ inches of No's. from 4 to 22
Large assortment of Cast and German Steel files
Brass kettles from 1 qt. to 24 gallons
Teakitchens & kitchen fire irons
Plough and Halter Chains
Emery of all sizes
Patent Last Butts
Knob, Stock, Closet, Chest, Trunk, Pad, Till and Cupboard Locks
Norfolk Latches
Superior assortment of Table and Spring Cutlery
Warranted Razors
Shoe, Butcher, and Bread Knives
Shoe and Sadlers, Brad Awls
Kenyon's best Cast and German Steel, Panel, Back, Compass, Whip & Key Saws
Chissels and Gouges
Double & single Plane Irons
Angle and T. Screw Bevels
Plated Squares from 4 to 26 inches
Best Scotch Braces with from 18 to 48 Bitts
Carpenters double & single Guages
Box Rules
Brass Lamps & Candle Sticks
Brittania Tea Pots
Silver Plated Snuffers and Trays
do do Casters

ALSO, on hand a handsome assortment of Brass Fire Irons, and a great a variety of other articles usually found in Hardware Store.

Pawtucket, April 7. 6w

Figure 2.5. David Wilkinson & Co. newspaper sales ad. Pawtucket Chronicle and Rhode Island and Massachusetts Register. April 7, 1827.

Between 1791 and 1812, at least seven other people were part owners of the land originally owned by Oziel Wilkinson and Moses Brown. In 1810 Oziel began constructing a stone mill next to his rolling and slitting mills. The construction took nearly three years and, in 1812, Oziel sold half of his rights to the property to his two sons, David and Daniel, and his son-in-law Hezekiah Howe (husband to his daughter, Lydia). Oziel Wilkinson died in 1815 and left his half ownership of the mill to his sons. By the next year, David had bought all but the ¼ share owned by his brother Daniel. They named their mill David Wilkinson and Company.[15] (Figure 2.4) They made cotton on the upper floors, while David's machine shop was located on the first floor.[16] (Figure 2.5) An interior water wheel located in the basement of the structure provided the power needed in the mill. Although sources disagree on when David Wilkinson built a vertical steam engine to be specifically used in their new stone mill, they overwhelmingly agree that he did provide a steam engine.

Time and experience helped David Wilkinson to become well known throughout the country. An untitled history written by Old Slater Mill Association (OSMA) curator Gary Kulik outlined just a few of the enterprises David and the Oziel Wilkinson and Company were involved in during their ownership of the stone mill:

> David Wilkinson soon achieved a reputation as a master machine builder. About 1817, he built the first successful power loom in Rhode Island from patterns supplied by the inventor William Gilmour. . . . The Wilkinson's built machinery, not only for New England, but for "almost every part of the country." They sent machinery as far south as Georgia, as far west as Pittsburgh. They also helped to train a substantial number of the region's first generation of textile machinists . . . It was the site of one of the first worsted manufactories in the U.S.[17]

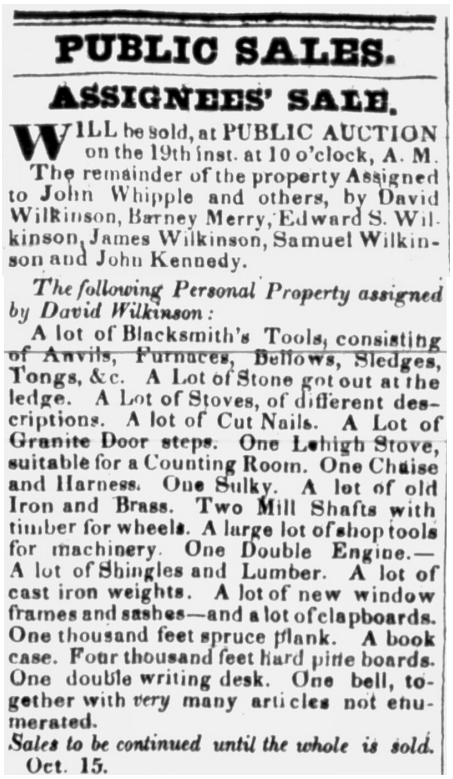
It is believed that in the first 30 years of cotton manufacturing in the United States, David Wilkinson trained almost all of New England's cotton mill mechanics.[18] He and his brother Daniel continued to manufacture nails, and in 1819 founded the Pawtucket Nail Manufacturing Company. With the use of ten machines, they manufactured one and a half to two tons

15 "Wilkinson Mill, Historical Sketch," (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

16 "Interpretation of Wilkinson Mill," (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

17 Gary Kulik and Patrick M. Malone, "A National Historic Mechanical Engineering Landmark, The Wilkinson Mill, 1811, Pawtucket Rhode Island, Slater Mill Historic Site," (*The American Society of Mechanical Engineers*, 1977): 4.

18 Adrian Paquette-Curator, "Timeline of Events in the Life of David Wilkinson and Family, Pawtucket, Rhode Island," (2003). Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.



PUBLIC SALES.

ASSIGNEES' SALE.

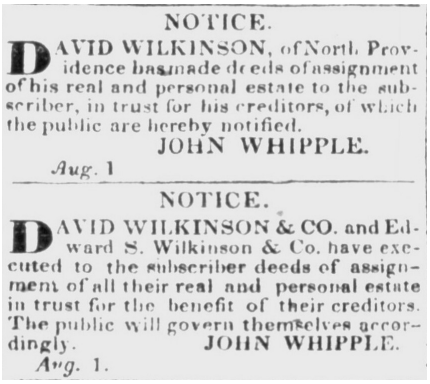
WILL be sold, at PUBLIC AUCTION on the 19th inst. at 10 o'clock, A. M. The remainder of the property Assigned to John Whipple and others, by David Wilkinson, Barney Merry, Edward S. Wilkinson, James Wilkinson, Samuel Wilkinson and John Kennedy.

The following Personal Property assigned by David Wilkinson:

A lot of Blacksmith's Tools, consisting of Anvils, Furnaces, Bellows, Sledges, Tongs, &c. A Lot of Stone got out at the ledge. A Lot of Stoves, of different descriptions. A lot of Cut Nails. A Lot of Granite Door steps. One Lehigh Stove, suitable for a Counting Room. One Chaise and Harness. One Sulky. A lot of old Iron and Brass. Two Mill Shafts with timber for wheels. A large lot of shop tools for machinery. One Double Engine.—A lot of Shingles and Lumber. A lot of cast iron weights. A lot of new window frames and sashes—and a lot of clapboards. One thousand feet spruce plank. A book case. Four thousand feet hard pine boards. One double writing desk. One bell, together with very many articles not enumerated.

Sales to be continued until the whole is sold.

Oct. 15.



NOTICE.

DAVID WILKINSON, of North Providence has made deeds of assignment of his real and personal estate to the subscriber, in trust for his creditors, of which the public are hereby notified.

JOHN WHIPPLE.

Aug. 1

NOTICE.

DAVID WILKINSON & CO. and Edward S. Wilkinson & Co. have executed to the subscriber deeds of assignment of all their real and personal estate in trust for the benefit of their creditors. The public will govern themselves accordingly.

JOHN WHIPPLE.

Aug. 1.



Water Privilege,

BUILDING, &C.

TO LET,

FOR a term of time, a valuable Water Privilege in Pawtucket; together with two large stone, and several large wooden Buildings, sufficient to carry on various branches of Manufacturing; being the same recently occupied by David Wilkinson & Co. and others.

Also, several Tenements for Families.

Also, the FRONT STORE in the Bank House, suitable for a dry goods or Crockery Store.

For further particulars, apply at the Manufacturers' Bank.

G. F. USHER, Cashier.

July 31

Figure 2.6. (right) *Public Sales – Assignees' Sale*, Pawtucket Chronicle and Rhode Island and Massachusetts Register notice of the auction selling David Wilkinson's possessions, October 15, 1830.

Figure 2.7. (far upper right) *Notice*, David Wilkinson announcement, August 8, 1829. Pawtucket Chronicle and Rhode Island and Massachusetts Register.

Figure 2.8. (far lower right) *Water Privilege, Building, &c.* TO LET, Wilkinson Mill and other Wilkinson properties for rent. January 7, 1831. Pawtucket Chronicle and Rhode Island and Massachusetts Register.

of nails daily.[19] In addition to manufacturing nails, they also manufactured and sold nail-making machines.[20]

Six years after establishing a factory village called Wilkinsonville in Sutton, Massachusetts,[21] David Wilkinson went bankrupt during the financial panic of 1829.[22] David's shares in the mill and its contents, including the mill's original water wheel,[23] were auctioned off.[24] (Figures 2.6 & 2.7) A year later, Daniel's heirs sold their interest in Wilkinson Mill to Thomas LeFavour and William Field.[25] (Figure 2.8) David and his family moved to the state of New York where David opened a textile machine shop. For the rest of his life, he lived in obscurity until a US Senate Bill and petition to the House of Representatives awarded him $10,000 as "Compensation for his invention called the gauge lathe, used by [the] United Sates." Nearly 60 years after his patent of the lathe, his work was recognized for "benefits accruing to the public service for the use of the

19 "Early Business of Pawtucket," (*Pawtucket Chronicle and Rhode Island and Massachusetts Register*, February 10, 1871), Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed September 10, 2021. https://pawtucket.advantage-preservation.com/

20 Adrian Paquette, "Timeline of Events in the Life of David Wilkinson and Family, Pawtucket, Rhode Island." (2003). Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

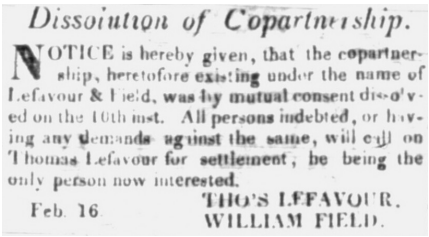
21 Ibid.

22 "Chronology of Ownership and Use of the Stone Mill Pawtucket, Rhode Island," (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

23 *Manufacturers and Farmers' Journal*, (Providence, R.I., September 17, 1829).

24 Ibid.

25 "Title Search – Old Slater Mill Lot, 1831. Deed book 6, p. 641." Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.



Dissolution of Copartnership.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the copartnership, heretofore existing under the name of Lefavour & Field, was by mutual consent dissolved on the 10th inst. All persons indebted, or having any demands against the same, will call on Thomas Lefavour for settlement, he being the only person now interested.

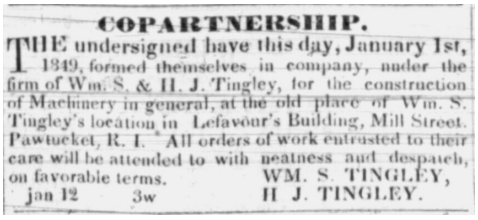
Feb. 16 THO'S LEFAVOUR.
WILLIAM FIELD.



Removal.

THE subscribers have removed to the mill belonging to Messrs Lefavour & Field, & have taken the shop formerly occupied by Mr. Wm. Field, where they continue to make Cotton Machinery of almost every description, also rail way drawings may be had at short notice and repairing of all kinds done at their Shop.

april 26 BROWN & CLARKE.



COPARTNERSHIP.

THE undersigned have this day, January 1st, 1849, formed themselves in company, under the firm of Wm. S. & H. J. Tingley, for the construction of Machinery in general, at the old place of Wm. S. Tingley's location in Lefavour's Building, Mill Street, Pawtucket, R. I. All orders of work entrusted to their care will be attended to with neatness and despatch, on favorable terms.

WM. S. TINGLEY,
H. J. TINGLEY.

jan 12 3w

Figure 2.9. (left) *Dissolution of Copartnership* [sic], Feb 16, 1838. Pawtucket Chronicle and Rhode Island and Massachusetts Register.

Figure 2.10. (right) *Removal*, Ad to announce tenancy of Brown & Clark, May 24, 1833. Pawtucket Chronicle and Rhode Island and Massachusetts Register.

Figure 2.11. *Copartnership*, announcement of Tingley partnership and their location at "LeFavour's Building." January 19, 1849. Pawtucket Chronicle and Rhode Island and Massachusetts Register.

principle of the gauge and sliding lathe, of which he was the inventor." David and his wife died within two days of each other in 1852 at Caledonia Springs, Ottawa, Canada.[26]

In 1838 William Field sold his shares to Thomas LeFavour, and for the first time the mill was owned by a single owner.[27] (Figure 2.9) The building continued to be used as a machine shop during LeFavour's ownership, as well as a cotton mill.[28] (Figure 2.10)

In 1849 the mill was bought at auction by John C. Tower and was then immediately sold to David LeFavour, John W. Lowden, and Susan Collins.[29] As with Slater Mill at about the same time, Wilkinson Mill was partitioned to accommodate multiple tenants.[30] In 1849 or 1850, the building was leased to James Ryder and Joseph Tillinghart.[31] In turn Ryder and Tillinghart rented a portion of the mill to machinery manufacturers Williams S. & H.J. Tingley. (Figure 2.11) Eventually LeFavour, Lowden and Collins defaulted on their mortgage. The mill and its equipment reverted to Pawtucket Institute for Savings and were sold at auction to Henry L. Kendall on October 31, 1861.[32] After six years Kendall sold the mill to James O. Starkweather for $20,000[33] who

26 Adrien Paquette, "Timeline of Events in the Life of David Wilkinson and Family," (2003). Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

27 "Title Search – Old Slater Mill Lot, 1838, Deed Book 6, p.612." Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

28 "Wilkinson Mill, Historical Sketch," (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

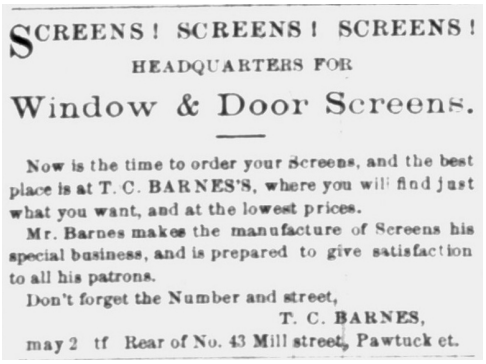
29 "Title Search – Old Slater Mill Lot, 1849, Deed Book 13, p.309." Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

30 LeeAnne R. Brooks & Lauren Laham, "Slater Mill Historic Structure Report," (*National Park Service*, Lowell, Massachusetts, September 2018).

31 "Wilkinson Mill, Historical Sketch," (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

32 "Chronology of Ownership and Use of the Stone Mill Pawtucket, Rhode Island," (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

33 "Title Search – Old Slater Mill Lot, 1867, North Providence Deed Brook 42, p. 118." Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.



SCREENS! SCREENS! SCREENS!

HEADQUARTERS FOR

Window & Door Screens.

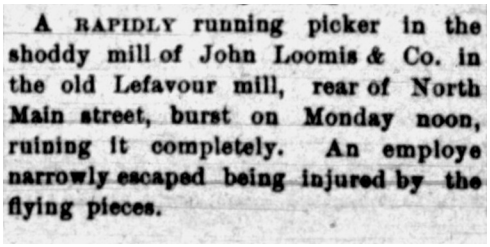
Now is the time to order your Screens, and the best place is at T. C. BARNES'S, where you will find just what you want, and at the lowest prices.

Mr. Barnes makes the manufacture of Screens his special business, and is prepared to give satisfaction to all his patrons.

Don't forget the Number and street,

T. C. BARNES,

may 2 tf Rear of No. 43 Mill street, Pawtuck et.



A RAPIDLY running picker in the shoddy mill of John Loomis & Co. in the old Lefavour mill, rear of North Main street, burst on Monday noon, ruining it completely. An employe narrowly escaped being injured by the flying pieces.

Figure 2.12. (top) *Screens, Screens, Screens*, T.C. Barnes' ad. May 16, 1879. Pawtucket Chronicle and Rhode Island and Massachusetts Register.

Figure 2.13. *Announcement of accident at John Loomis & Co.,* September 20, 1895. Pawtucket Chronicle and Rhode Island and Massachusetts Register.

operated a woolen factory.[34]

In 1873 Starkweather sold the mill to James Berney for $35,000. It was during his ownership that the upper floors of the mill began to be used for purposes other than cotton manufacturing. Berney manufactured coffin hardware, braided shoestrings, and jewelry.[35] In most cases, there is no way of knowing which part of the Wilkinson Mill complex housed which tenants.

In 1878 Berney defaulted on the mill's mortgage and Franklin Savings Bank became the new owner. By 1880 Berney was listed as a tenant on the third floor and attic, where he manufactured book clasps. His tenancy was short-lived, as he was gone by the end of the year.[36] Sharing the space at that time was T.C. Barnes's Screen Company.[37]

Franklin Savings Bank sold the mill to Pawtucket Electric Company in about 1887[38] which led to the abandonment of the mill basement and use of its water wheel.[39] This effectively ended the manufacture of cotton at Wilkinson Mill. This was a big change in the use of the mill, as cotton had been made intermittently on the upper floors for nearly 80 years. The electric company provided hydro-electric power to the city of Pawtucket using turbines housed in a structure east of the mill.[40]

In 1896 John Loomis & Company (Shoddy manufacturer)[41] rented space from the electric company; and in 1898 they were joined by James E, Hall, carpenter.[42] Pawtucket Electric Company sold the mill to Pawtucket Gas Company in 1902.[43] In 1919, Pawtucket Gas Co. sold the building to the Pawtucket Furniture Co. who used the stone mill as a furniture warehouse

34 "Early Business of Pawtucket," (*Pawtucket Chronicle and Rhode Island and Massachusetts Register* February 10, 1871), Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed September 10, 2021. https://pawtucket.advantage-preservation.com/

35 "Chronology of Ownership and Use of the Stone Mill Pawtucket, Rhode Island," (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

36 Ibid.

37 Ibid.

38 "Title Search – Old Slater Mill Lot, n.d. Pawtucket Deed Book 40, p. 493." Old Slater Mill Association archive, Pawtucket, R.I.,

39 "Stone Mill Study May Tell Early Machine Tools Story," (*The Flyer*, 1970). Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

40 Gary Kulik – Curator, Untitled, (December 23, 1976). Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.; Patrick Malone, former director OSMA, correspondence, April 22, 2022.

41 "Tenants in the Wilkinson Mill," (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

42 "Stone Mill Study May Tell Early Machine Tools Story," (*The Flyer*, 1970). Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

43 "Chronology of Ownership and Use of the Stone Mill, Pawtucket, Rhode Island," (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.



Furniture Store Buys Warehouse

Transfer of a four-story warehouse in the rear of the former location of the Pawtucket Furniture Co store on Roosevelt avenue to the New York Furniture Co was recorded today at City Hall

The property was owned by Gardner Investment Co. and was purchased by Morris and Louis Hazen, owners of the New York store who will use it as a warehouse.

The brothers said they will continue business at the store's present location and will use the warehouse to store furniture stocks.

Real estate transactions recorded at City Hall follow

WARRANTY DEEDS

Gardner Investment Company to Morris and Louis Hazen, land, buildings and improvements bounded and described as beginning at a point on the northeasterly line of a 20-foot gangway, which runs southeasterly from Roosevelt avenue and southwesterly from Slater avenue. Revenue stamps, $6500.

W. Wallace Potter to Rhode Island Hospital Trust Company, trustee, land, buildings and improvements on west side of Newport avenue, south side of Hunts avenue and north side of Saratoga avenue

Figure 2.14. *Furniture Store Buys Warehouse*, Announcement of mill sale to Morris and Louis Hazen, December 10, 1941. Pawtucket Times.

for many years.[44] In 1940 they defaulted on their mortgage and the building was sold to Lewis Realty.[45] Morris Hazen and his brother Louis Hazen bought the building sometime around 1940 and were co-owners of the Wilkinson Mill at the time of the fire.[46] (Figure 2.14) The mill continued to be used as a furniture warehouse until at least 1962. A 1949 Sanborn map[47] and a 1962 Sanborn map labeled the building as a "Furne W. HO," indicating that it was most likely in constant use as a furniture warehouse throughout first half of the 1900s.[48] Wilkinson Mill was not maintained during this time and quickly deteriorated. It was condemned in 1966 and the Pawtucket Redevelopment Agency gained control of the property.[49]

In 1969 the Pawtucket Redevelopment Agency publicly criticized the OSMA for the condition of the land south of Wilkinson Mill. Large chunks of stone and granite from other sites had been dumped there in the hopes they would be able to reuse the stone in restoration work at the site. (Figure 2.15) The stone was removed and, in a project funded by the local rotary club, Hodgson-Rotary Park was built south of Wilkinson Mill.[50]

Planning for the restoration of Wilkinson Mill began in 1969. OSMA planning documents discuss potential uses for the mill. Ultimately the mill underwent adaptive reuse rehabilitation project to provide additional museum space and offices for the association.[51] A great deal of interest was generated in 1970 when an archeological investigation was conducted in the east end of Wilkinson Mill's basement.[52] The information found was instrumental in the basement reconstruction project and the restoration of the remainder of the structure. Pawtucket Redevelopment Agency sold the Wilkinson Mill to the OSMA in 1972.

44 Ibid.

45 Ibid.

46 "Fire Ruins Furniture Warehouse; Wind Protects Old Slater Mill," (*Pawtucket Evening Times*, April 5, 1948). Pawtucket Public Library, Accessed Aug 23, 2021. https://pawtucket.advantage-preservation.com/viewer/?k=furniture%20warehouse&t=37597&i=t&m=between&ord=k1&fn=the_pawtucket_times_usa_rhode_island_pawtucket_19520526_english_17&df=1&dt=10

47 "Fire Insurance Map from Pawtucket, Providence County, Rhode Island, Volume 1, Sheet 4," (*Sanborn Fire Insurance Company*, 1949). Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed August 22, 2021. http://www.pawtuckethistoryresearchcenter.org/research/maps

48 "Fire Insurance Map from Pawtucket, Providence County, Rhode Island, Volume 1, Sheet 4," (*Sanborn Fire Insurance Company*, 1962). Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed August 21, 2021. http://www.pawtuckethistoryresearchcenter.org/research/maps

49 "Title Search – Old Slater Mill Lot, n.d. Pawtucket Deed Book 636, p.104." Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

50 "Saved from the Wrecking Ball," (*Pawtucket Journal-Bulletin*, January 9, 1967). Old Slater Mill Association Archive, Scrap Book 1967-1970. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

51 Paul Rivard, "The Wilkinson Mill, Updated Development Plan," (ca. 1970). Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

52 "Archeology (multiple editions)," (*The Flyer*, ca. 1970). Slater Mill Historic Site, Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.



Figure 2.15. *Rock Piles,* at Wilkinson Mill, July 9, 1969. Pawtucket Times. Old Slater Mill Association archive, Scrapbook 1967-1970.

Since the 1970s, Wilkinson Mill has been used as museum space, office space, and archival and object storage. In 2021 the Slater Mill Historic Site, including Wilkinson Mill and the Sylvanus Brown House were acquired by the National Park Service. In addition to these uses, Wilkinson Mill currently serves as NPS headquarters for the Blackstone River Valley National Historic Park.

Owner and Tenants

Although much is known about the ownership and tenancies of Wilkinson Mill, there are periods of time where its use is only partially known, or completely unknown. After 1823 the mill housed multiple types of businesses with cotton manufacturing being done intermittently until 1887. The following table contains the known owners and tenants of the mill.

Table 2: Owners and Tenants

Date	Occupants	Role	Use
1791	Oziel Wilkinson[53] Moses Brown	Owner	Land purchased
1810-1812	Oziel Wilkinson[54]	Owner/Tenant	Stone mill built
1812-1815	Oziel Wilkinson[55] David Wilkinson Daniel Wilkinson Hezekiah Howe (son-in-law to Oziel)	Owner/Tenant	Cotton Mill and Machine Shop
1815-1816	David Wilkinson[56] Daniel Wilkinson Hezekiah Howe	Owner/Tenant	Cotton Mill and Machine Shop
1816-1829	David Wilkinson[57] Daniel Wilkinson	Owner/Tenant	Cotton Mill and Machine Shop
1829-1830	Daniel Wilkinson[58] Thomas LeFavour William Field	Owner/Tenant	Cotton Mill and Machine Shop
1830-1838	Thomas LeFavour[59] William Field	Owner/Tenant	Cotton Mill and Machine Shop
1833 - ?	Brown & Clark[60]	Tenant	Cotton Mill and Machine Shop
1838-1849	Thomas LeFavour[61]	Owner/Tenant	Cotton Mill and Machine Shop

53 "Wilkinson Mill, Historical Sketch", (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

54 Ibid.

55 Ibid.

56 Ibid.

57 Ibid.

58 "Chronology of Ownership and Use of the Stone Mill Pawtucket, Rhode Island, " (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

59 "Title Search – Old Slater Mill Lot, 1831, North Providence Deed book 6, p. 641." Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

60 "Removal," (*Pawtucket Chronicle and Rhode Island and Massachusetts Register*, May 24, 1833.) Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed August 23, 2021. http://www.pawtuckethistoryresearchcenter.org/research

61 Adrien Paquette, "Timeline of Events in the Life of David Wilkinson and Family," (2003). Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

Table 2: Owners and Tenants			
Date	**Occupants**	**Role**	**Use**
1849	John C. Tower[62]	Owner	Tower bought the mill at auction and sold immediately to LeFavour, Lowden, and Collins
1849	David LeFavour, John W, Lowden, and Susan Collins[63]	Owners	Unknown
ca. 1849-1861	James Ryder[64] Joseph Tillinghart	Tenants	Unknown
ca. 1849-?	William S Tingley[65] H.J. Tingley	Tenants	Machine Shop
1861	Pawtucket Institute for Savings[66]	Owner	LeFavour, Lowden, and Collins defaulted on loan and property reverted back to the lien holder.
1861-1867	Henry L. Kendall[67]	Owner/Tenant – (Bought mill at auction)	Unknown
1867-1873	James O. Starkweather[68]	Owner/Tenant	Woolen Factory
1873-1878	James Berney[69]	Owner/Tenant	Coffin Hardware, braided shoestrings, jewelry
1873-1887	Lorenzo P. Bosworth – Bosworth Machine Co.[70]	Tenant-first story	Leather machinery & jeweler's tools
1874-?	Nickerson & Perrin[71]	Tenant	Publishers
1875-1881	H.F. Jenks & Co.[72]	Tenant	Builder's hardware (located in the basement and second story)
1877-?	B.A. Sibley[73]	Tenant	Agent for jeweler's tools

62 "Title Search – Old Slater Mill Lot, 1849, North Providence Deed Book 13, p.309." Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

63 Ibid.

64 "Wilkinson Mill, Historical Sketch", (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

65 "Copartnership," (*Pawtucket Chronicle and Rhode Island and Massachusetts Register*, January 19, 1849). Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed August 23, 2021. http://www.pawtuckethistoryresearchcenter.org/research

66 "Chronology of Ownership and Use of the Stone Mill Pawtucket, Rhode Island," (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

67 Ibid.

68 Ibid.

69 Ibid.

70 Ibid.

71 "Tenants in the Wilkinson Mill," (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

72 Ibid.

73 Ibid.

Table 2: Owners and Tenants			
Date	**Occupants**	**Role**	**Use**
1878-ca.1887	Franklin Savings Bank [74]	Owner	Berney defaulted on loan and the property reverted back to the lien holder – Franklin Savings Bank
1878-1883	T.C. Barnes [75]	Tenant	Screen doors and frames
1880	James Berney[76]	Tenant	Book clasp manufacturing
1881-?	Andrew Stafford[77]	Tenant	Shoe lace manufacturing
1882-1886	Charles F. Easton[78]	Tenant	Stockinette and cotton goods
1883-1884	Edward Blodgett[79]	Tenant	Glazed thread
1883-1901	G.C. Douglass[80]	Tenant	Corset laces and cotton braiding manufacturing
1883-1887	Pawtucket Braided Fishing Lines[81]	Tenant	Braided fishing line
1883-?	Union Tool[82]	Tenant	Machinists
1883-1887	A.G. Hazzard & Oscar Newell – Pawtucket [83] Braided Fishing Line Company	Tenant	Braided fishing line. (Located in the attic)
ca.1887-1902	Pawtucket Electric Company[84]	Owner/Tenant	Electric company used turbines located in a structure west of the mill.
1893-1896	Seth Wilkinson[85]	Tenant	Silk wiping cloth washer
1896-?	John Loomis & Co[86] (Figure 2.13)	Tenant	Shoddy manufacturer

74 "Chronology of Ownership and Use of the Stone Mill Pawtucket, Rhode Island," (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

75 Ibid.

76 Ibid.

77 "Fire," (*Pawtucket Gazette and Chronicle*, April 22, 1881.) Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed August 23, 2021. https://pawtucket.advantage-preservation.com/viewer/?t=33987&i=t&d=01011886-12311920&e=old%20lefavour%20mill&m=between&ord=e1&fn=evening_times_usa_rhode_island_pawtucket_19131126_english_1&df=1&dt=4

78 "Chronology of Ownership and Use of the Stone Mill, Pawtucket, Rhode Island." (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

79 Ibid.

80 Ibid.

81 Ibid.

82 Ibid.

83 "Tenants in the Wilkinson Mill," (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

84 "Title Search – Old Slater Mill Lot, n.d., Pawtucket Deed Book 40, p. 493." Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

85 Ibid.

86 Ibid.

Table 2: Owners and Tenants			
Date	**Occupants**	**Role**	**Use**
1898-1901	James E. Hall[87]	Tenant	Carpenter
1902-1919	Pawtucket Gas Company[88]	Owner/Tenant	Gas supplier
1919-1940	Pawtucket Furniture Company[89]	Owner/Tenant	Furniture storage
1940	Lewis Realty[90]	1940	Pawtucket Furniture Company defaulted on loan. The mill was sold to Lewis Realty
1941-1962	Morris & Louis Hazen[91]	Owner/Tenant	Furniture storage
1962-1972	Vacant[92]		
1972-2021	OSMA	Owner/Tenant	Museum
2021-present	National Park Service	Owner/Tenant	Museum

87 "Stone Mill Study May Tell Early Machine Tools Story," (*The Flyer*, 1970). Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

88 "Chronology of Ownership and Use of the Stone Mill, Pawtucket, Rhode Island," (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

89 Ibid.

90 Ibid.

91 "Fire Ruins Furniture Warehouse; Wind Protects Old Slater Mill," (*Pawtucket Evening Times*, April 5, 1948). Pawtucket Public Library, Accessed Aug 23, 2021.

92 "Title Search – Old Slater Mill Lot, n.d., Pawtucket Deed Book 636, p.104." Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

III. CHRONOLOGY OF DEVELOPMENT AND USE

Chronology of Development and Use

INTRODUCTION - EXTERIOR

As shown in the Historical Background and Use chapter, Wilkinson Mill had many different owners and uses. Those owners, tenants, and their varied uses of Wilkinson Mill are partially responsible for creating the structural chronology of the mill. The mill has also survived five major fires and more than one flood. The mill's location has stayed the same but its surroundings have changed greatly. As early as 1823, most of the surrounding structures were located on the east side of the Great Flume with Slater Mill and Wilkinson Mill either straddling the flume or located west of the flume. What is now known as Roosevelt Street did not exist. Eventually, a north/south thoroughfare would be located west of the mill site. Known by many different names over the decades, it was located further west of the mill and was lined with structures that sat between Wilkinson and the street.

In order to better understand the mill as it is today, and for the purpose of identification, four distinct eras have been established. The eras were determined by significant events or architectural changes at the mill. The first era covers the construction of Wilkinson Mill beginning in 1810 to when David Wilkinson lost the mill in the financial crisis of 1829. During the next period, 1829 to 1919, the building use widens to include the manufacture of shoe laces, fishing line, and window screens to name just a few. This period also sees the end of cotton manufacturing within the mill. 1919 saw the end of industrial manufacturing in the mill as the building was purchased for the purpose of storing furniture. The era ends in 1970 when the Old Slater Mill Association (OSMA)begins a rehabilitation of the building for use as offices and a museum. The final era, beginning in 1970, encompasses the ownership of OSMA and the current ownership of the National Park Service.

The following section uses multiple source types to assist in understanding how the building has evolved throughout its history. Through the process of analyzing historic drawings, maps and photographs; and studying secondary sources, it is possible to not only track physical changes and use within the site and building envelope, but to occasionally tie those changes to events occurring specifically at the mill.

OVERVIEW, 1810-1829

The first era saw the construction of Wilkinson Mill and its associated structures by the Wilkinson family. The rolling and slitting mills that would eventually be attached to the mill had already been built and the nearby Slater Mill had been in full use for 17 years.

The mill's primary purpose was cotton manufacturing with a machine shop located in the east side of the basement.

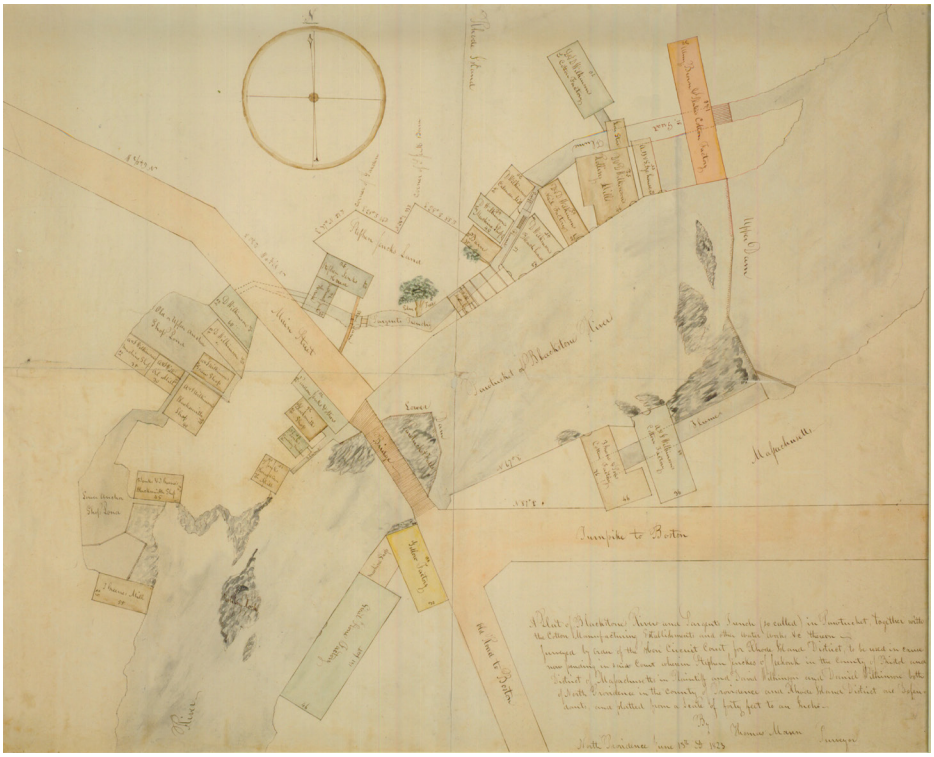


Figure 3.1. "Plat of Blackstone River and Sergents Trench in Pawtucket," Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I.

1810-1829

Wilkinson Mill was constructed on the west side of the Blackstone River "as part of the reconstruction after the flood of 1807."[1] The choice of stone construction could be attributable to the risk of flooding, but was most likely a reaction to a trend of insurance companies that began in 1811. Due to the frequency of fires in wood-framed mill buildings they began refusing to insure them, or offered to insure only two-thirds of a wood-framed mill.[2]

The lack of early images and maps inhibits early documentation of Wilkinson Mill. Simply put, it is not known what the newly built Wilkinson mill looked like. The first known image of the industrial area where Wilkinson Mill was built was a map drawn in 1823, thirteen years after the mill's construction.[3] This map of the mill district in Pawtucket gives us the first image of Wilkinson Mill. (Figure 3.1) The size and shape of the structure is very much like what can be seen today. It was, most likely, a front-gable, stone structure, but was not connected to any other structure at this time. A canal or flume ran from the Great Flume to the mill highlighting the structure's water power generating capabilities. The "D & D Wilkinson's Rolling Mills" were free-standing nearby with a smaller "store" connected to their west facade. The site at which the mill

1 *Chronology of Ownership and Use of the Stone Mill*, Pawtucket, Rhode Island n.d. Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.

2 LeeAnne Brooks & Lauren Laham, *Slater Mill Historic Structure Report,* 2018. Lowell, MA, National Park Service. 37.

3 Thomas Mann, *Plat of Blackstone River and Sergents Trench in Pawtucket*, 1823. Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.



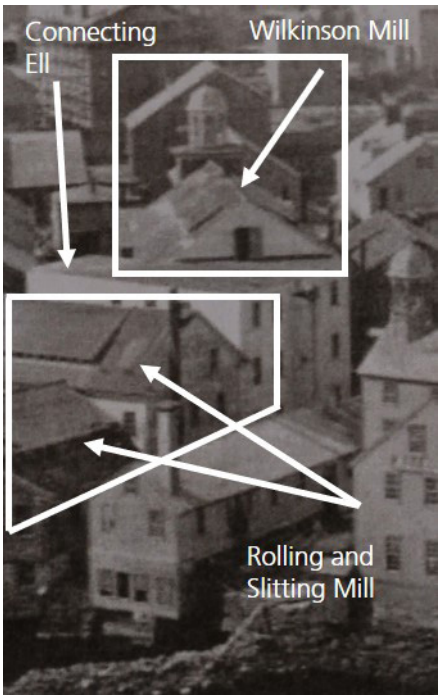


Figure 3.2. (above) Henry F. Walling, Map of the State of Rhode Island (Pawtucket Inset), Pawtucket Library, Map Collection, Flickr Pro.
Figure 3.3. (right) Pawtucket Mill district & Wilkinson Mill's east façade. Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I.

sat was, in 1823, still in the early stages of development. The mill functioned as both a cotton mill and as David Wilkinson's small machine shop located in the east side of the mill's basement.[4]

OVERVIEW, 1829-1919

This era began with David Wilkinson's loss of the mill in 1829 and its subsequent sale to those outside the Wilkinson family. As was previously discussed, it was during this time building use widened to include a wide variety of manufacturing types. The property changed hands many times with multiple owners defaulting on their mortgages. This type of instability had a negative effect on the fabric of the building. As early as 1876 the building was described as "not in very good repair". This period also sees the end of cotton manufacturing within the mill. The surrounding site evolved as well. The north/south thoroughfare known as Mill Street had been constructed with structures lining its east and west side. Its location with structures along its east side ensured that the mill did not face Mill Street.

1829-1919

This era began with David Wilkinson's loss of the mill in 1829. It also begins a long period of time where no known images or available descriptions of the building and its surrounding site exist. It is not until 1855 that a map of Pawtucket gives us a view of Wilkinson Mill's continuing free-standing status. (Figure 3.2) Seen in this map are nearby are structures that might be the rolling and slitting mills that would eventually come to be attached to Wilkinson's east façade.[5]

4 *Wilkinson Mill, Historical Sketch*, n.d. Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.

5 Henry F. Walling. *Map of the State of Rhode Island* (Pawtucket Inset). 1855. Pawtucket Library, Map Collection, Flickr Pro. Accessed August 22, 2021. https://www.flickr.com/photos/pawtucketlibrary/sets/72157698868094475/

A photo taken in 1869 provides us with a few building details that were impossible to know before this time. (Figure 3.3) The mill building was a 3½ story gabled building with a flat-roofed, wood-framed ell connected to its east façade. Its east gable was wood-framed and covered in wood siding. A single door opening in the gable led to the flat roof of the wood-framed ell. It is unknown where the primary entrance to the building was located. The mill's roof contained monitor windows that nearly ran from gable to gable on both slopes, and a central-ridge brick chimney. The west façade contained a 3½ story tower topped by an open cupola. In this early photo it is unclear what material was used to build the tower. As the cupola and ell were not visible in the 1855 map, this photo provides a build date of ca. 1869 for both additions.[6] Although the purpose for this substantial change to the east façade of the mill is unknown, it is possible a larger building attracted a larger more diverse group of tenants needing a larger space.

An 1876 Barlow Insurance drawing provides previously unknown details about the design of Wilkinson Mill. (Figure 3.4) A centrally located monitor window was located in the south slope of its gable roof. The stair tower is shown as a three-story tower with windows at each level and topped with a wooden cupola. The roof contained two chimneys. One, was located on the north interior-slope, while the other was an interior-ridge chimney. A site map attached to the Barlow Insurance drawing shows the mill was located on "Wilkinson Place," a street that ran along the mill's south façade. [7]

The Barlow Insurance company's written description of the mill provided further information. The building was listed as "not in very good repair" proving that regular maintenance was not performed on the structure at this time, leaving it vulnerable to deterioration and partial loss of original design and materials. It also confirmed that an entrance door to the ell roof could be reached through Wilkinson's attic. The mill's roof was covered with shingles with a wood cornice. Power for the building was provided by a "Water, turbine wheel." The building was heated with stoves set on sheet iron; with kerosene used for lighting. There was a coal-fed, two horsepower, upright boiler located in the attic to heat dressing machines. There were no fire extinguishers or sprinklers inside the mill. Two water hydrants with pumps were located outside the mill.[8]

The 1880 Barlow Insurance map shows only minor changes to the mill. An exterior staircase was added to the north façade of the brick stair tower; and the interior-slope chimney is no longer visible.[9] (Figure 3.5)

6 Photograph, Pawtucket, R.I. Mill District, ca. 1869, Pawtucket, RI. Old Slater Mill Association archive, Arcadia Photos, Box 1, Pawtucket, RI. July 2021.

7 *Old Slater Mill, Pratt and Spencer*, No. 3191, Barlow Insurance Surveys, New York, 1876, Old Slater Mill Association Archive, Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

8 Ibid.

9 *James Berney, Coffin Trimmings, No. 4055*, March 1880, Barlow Insurance Surveys, New York, March 1880, Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

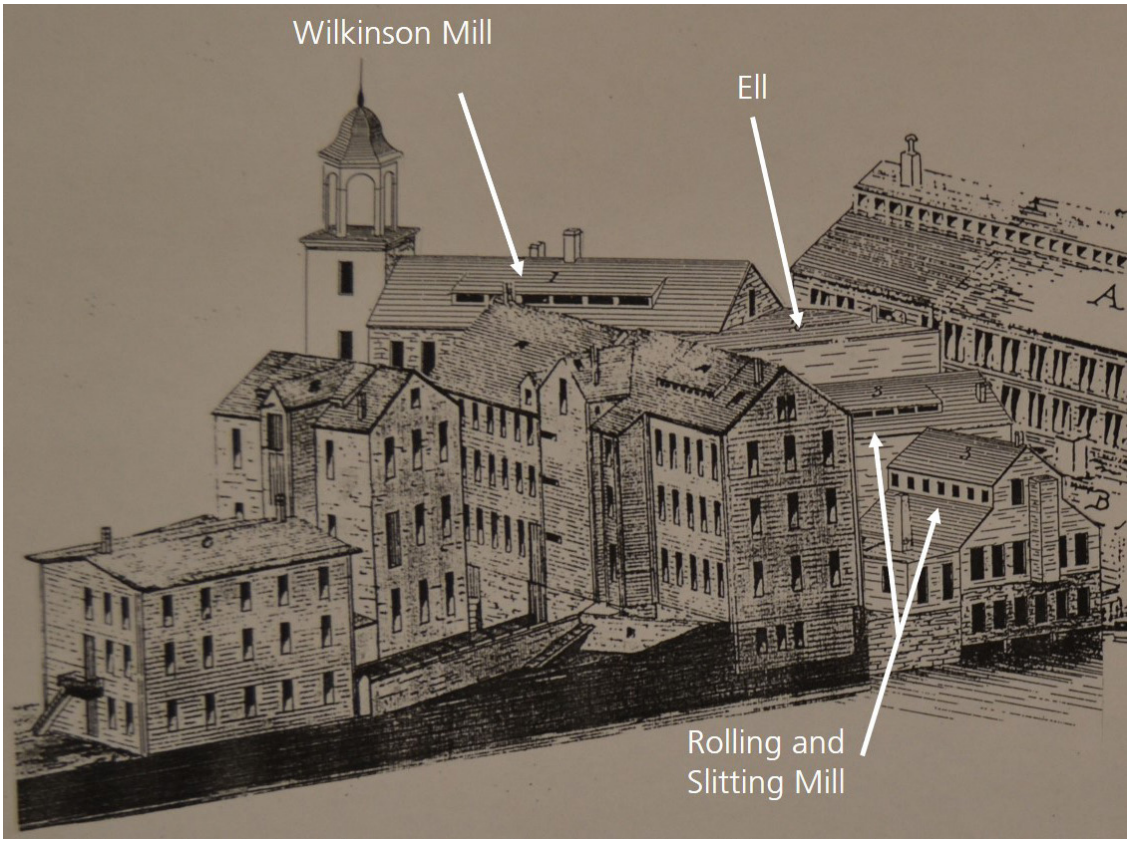


Figure 3.4. "Old Slater Mill, Pratt and Spencer, No. 3191" 1869 Barlow Insurance Policy drawing. Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I.

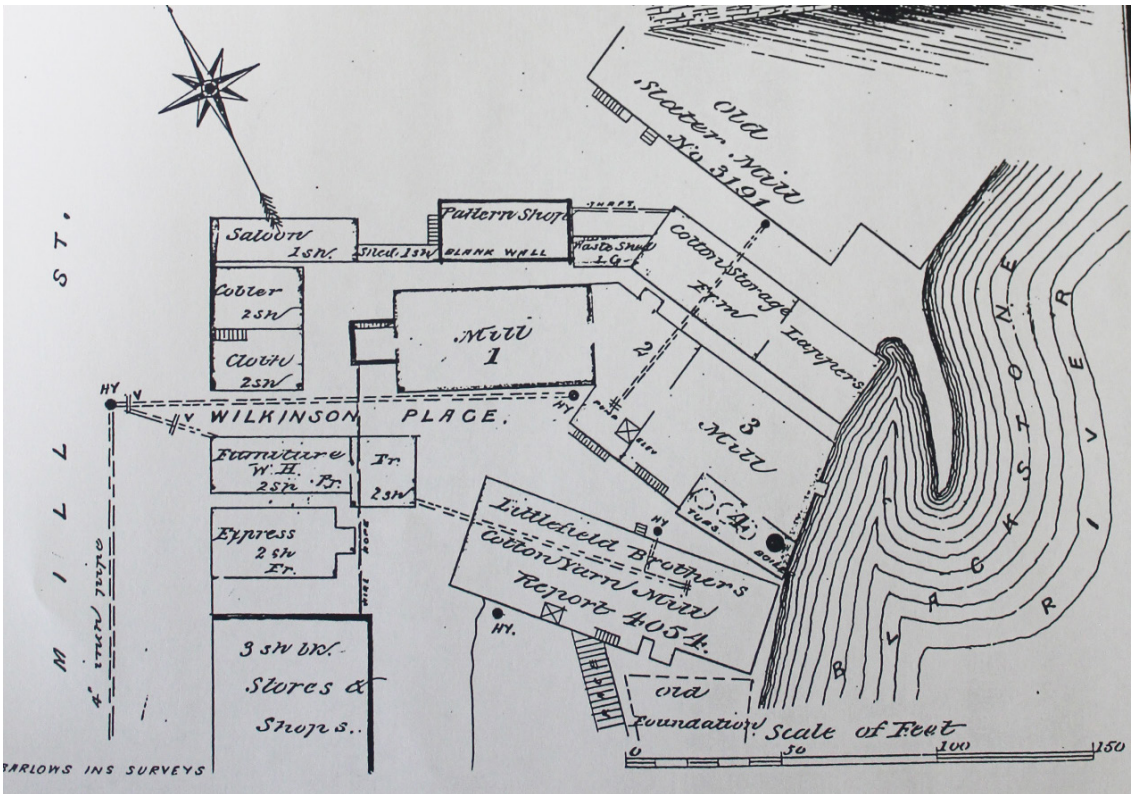


Figure 3.5. "James Berney, Coffin Trimmings, No. 4055" 1880 Barlow Insurance Policy map. Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I.





Figure 3.6. (left) Pawtucket Mill district & Wilkinson Mill's east façade. Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I.
Figure 3.7. (right) Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Pawtucket, Providence County, Rhode Island." Sanborn Map Company, Map 15. 1890. Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C.

Further exterior details may be seen in an 1880 photograph. (Figure 3.6) Large, centrally located, monitor windows can be seen on both slopes of Wilkinson's gable roof. The side-gable roof of the rolling mill was removed and incorporated into the ell's flat roof. The doorway in the mill's attic (leading to the ell roof) was flanked by two window openings at this time.[10]

Wilkinson Mill has been subject to five large fires during in its lifetime. All of the fires contributed to loss of material on the interior of the building. It is much more difficult to determine what exterior components were damaged as the newspaper accounts of the fire did not provide detailed exterior information. The fire of 1881 most certainly destroyed large portions of roof shingles, sheeting, and possible roof trusses. The Pawtucket Gazette mentions: "The roof of the building was nearly destroyed . . ." Due to its close proximity, the wooden cornice was also likely damaged or destroyed.[11] Within two months the mill was undergoing repairs.[12] On February 3, 1884 another fire struck Wilkinson Mill.

10 Photograph, Pawtucket, R.I. Mill district, 1880. Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021

11 *Fire*, Pawtucket Gazette and Chronicle, April 15, 1881. Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed August 23, 2021. https://pawtucket.advantage-preservation.com/viewer/?t=33987&i=t&d=01011886-12311920&e=old%20lefavour%20mill&m=between&ord=e1&fn=evening_times_usa_rhode_island_pawtucket_19131126_english_1&df=1&dt=4

12 *Local Intelligence*, Pawtucket Gazette and Chronicle, June 10, 1881. Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed August 23, 2021. https://pawtucket.advantage-preservation.com/viewer/?t=33987&i=t&d=01011886-12311920&e=old%20lefavour%20mill&m=between&ord=e1&fn=evening_times_usa_rhode_island_pawtucket_19131126_english_1&df=1&dt=4

Once again, the fire was concentrated primarily in the attic and major damage was done to the roof.[13]

Another, smaller fire took place on January 9, 1885. It started and was confined to the attic where the Pawtucket Braided Line Company was located. Water and fire were reported to cause "quite heavy damage." Water damage affected all the tenants in the mill.[14]

On February 19, 1886 the Pawtucket Gazette reported that a disastrous flood swelled the Blackstone River and the falls below the mill were raised to at least ten feet. In this flood the walls of the mill were damaged.[15] In 1887 the Pawtucket Electric Company made the decision to not repair or replace any of the equipment in the basement and instead opted to store their turbines in a building located east of the mill.[16]

In 1890 there were three boiler exhaust chimneys in the west attic or roof. (Figure 3.7) It was also at this time that an 80-foot, brick, smoke stack was added near the north elevation and stair tower. A one-story framed addition was attached to the west wall near the stair tower.[17] Although it is unknown why these changes were made to the mill, adding these types of industrial elements to or near the mill most likely signaled changes in how the building was used.

Further information regarding Wilkinson Mill's location was noted on a plat drawn by H.L. Spencer, an occupant of Slater Mill. Spencer noted that the entire site where the mill sits was once known as "Old Slater Mill Estate."[18] By 1902 there was only one boiler exhaust left in the attic or on the roof.[19]

By 1910 the appearance of the mill had changed.[20] The cupola located on the brick stair tower was removed, and a second story bridge was added to the south wall

13 *Fire*, Pawtucket Gazette and Chronicle, February 8, 1884. Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed Aug 23, 2021. https://pawtucket.advantage-preservation.com

14 *Record of Fires in 1884*, January 9, 1885. Pawtucket Gazette and Chronicle, Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed August 23, 2021. https://pawtucket.advantage-preservation.com

15 *February Floods*, February 19, 1886. Pawtucket Gazette and Chronicle, Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed August 23, 2021. https://pawtucket.advantage-preservation.com/viewer/?t=33987&i=t&d=01011886-12311920&e=old%20lefavour%20mill&m=between&ord=e1&fn=evening_times_usa_rhode_island_pawtucket_19131126_english_1&df=1&dt=4

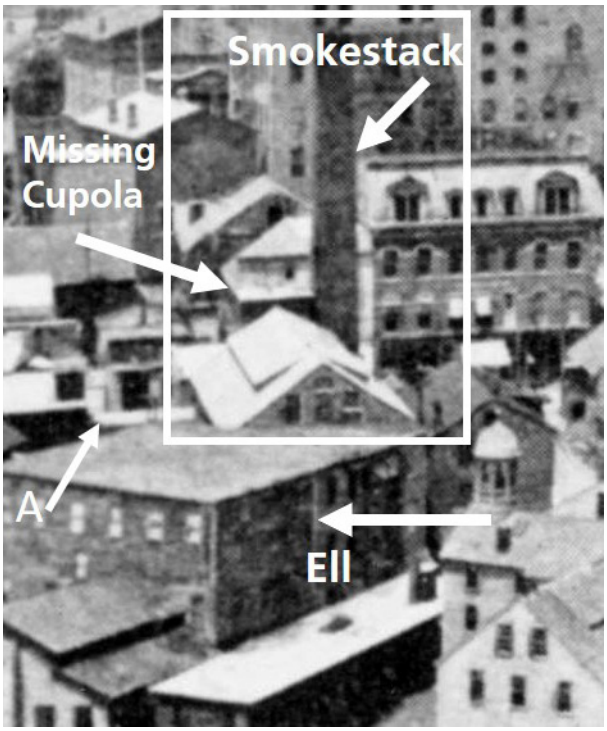
16 Gary Kulik – Curator, Untitled, December 23, 1976. Old Slater Mill Association archive, Pawtucket, R.I.; Patrick Malone, former director OSMA, correspondence April 22, 2022.

17 *Fire Insurance Map, Pawtucket, Providence County, Rhode Island*. May 15. 1890. Sanborn Map Company Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C., Accessed 2018. https://www.loc.gov/item/sanborn08096_002/.

18 H.L. Spencer, *Plat of Land Belonging to the Pawtucket Gas & Electric Light Co. and the Old Slater Mill Estate Pawtucket R.I.* 1892. Old Slater Mill Association archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

19 *Fire Insurance Map from Pawtucket, Providence County, Rhode Island*. Sheet 4. 1902. Sanborn Map Company, Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C., Accessed 2018. https://www.loc.gov/item/sanborn08096_003/

20 Photograph, Pawtucket, R.I. Mill district, 1910. Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.




THREE BUILDINGS GUTTED BY FLAMES

Figure 3.8. (left) Pawtucket, R.I. Mill district, 1910. Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I.
Figure 3.9. (above) "Three Buildings Gutted by Flames," November 26, 1913. Pawtucket Evening Times, Pawtucket Public Library.

of the stair tower that led from the stair tower to a nearby structure. (Figure 3.8) The tightly packed nature of the mill site, with clearances between structures sometimes only a few feet wide, caused the mill to catch fire once again.

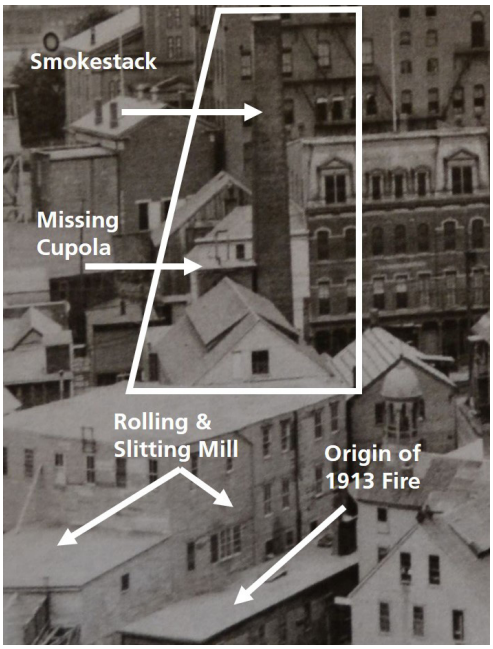
On November 26, 1913 two of the structures sitting between Slater Mill and Wilkinson Mill caught fire. (Figure 3.9) The fire quickly moved to the wood-framed ell then on to the second story of Wilkinson Mill. According to local news reports, the flames "travelled through the stone section toward North Main street [sic] with ravaging effect." This time the attic was spared but the second story sustained great damage.[21]

A photograph taken sometime after 1912 shows new siding on the east gable end with only one window visible. These repairs were most likely done to correct the damage caused by the fire. (Figure 3.10) Although portions of the rolling and slitting mill also burned in this fire, they were repaired as can be seen in photos and maps around 1913 and 1917. The monitor roof on the rolling mill was replaced with a flat roof.[22] A very simple map drawn in 1917 shows no changes to the mill or its surroundings.[23]

21 *Three Buildings Gutted by Flames*, Pawtucket Evening Times, November 26, 1913. Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed August 23, 2021. https://pawtucket.advantage-preservation.com/viewer/?t=33987&i=t&d=01011886-12311920&e=old%20lefavour%20mill&m=between&ord=e1&fn=evening_times_usa_rhode_island_pawtucket_19131126_english_1&df=1&dt=4

22 Photograph, Pawtucket, R.I. Mill district, 1912. Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

23 *Richards Standard Atlas*, Vol. 2 1917. Richards Map Co., Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.



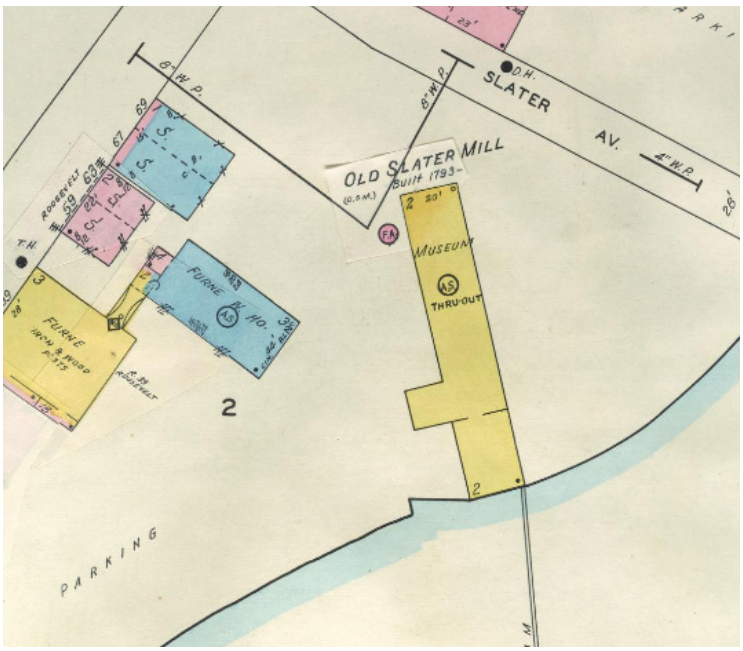


Figure 3.10. (left) Pawtucket, R.I. Mill district, 1912. Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I.
Figure 3.11. (right) "Fire Insurance Map, Pawtucket, Central Falls, Providence County, Rhode Island." Vol.1 Sheet 4, 1923. *Sanborn Map Company of New York*, Digital Sanborn Maps.

OVERVIEW, 1919-1966

The end of manufacturing in the mill signaled the end of an era and the beginning of nearly a half of a century of warehouse use that ended with the condemnation of the building.

1919-1966

By ca. 1925, the mill and its surroundings had undergone a major change in its use and appearance. A 1923 Sanborn Map shows the rolling and slitting mill no long present on the east side of the Mill. The canal leading to Wilkinson Mill was no longer visible either due to its removal or burial. (Figure 3.11) Nearly all of the nearby small industrial structures lining the river had been removed and in their place was a parking lot heralding the new dominance of the automobile.[24]

The Sanborn Insurance map of 1923 also provides detailed information about the exterior of the mill. The mill contained an automatic sprinkler system, and the ca. 1890 one-story, wood addition was described as a two-story, wood addition with a door leading to the mill and a bridge leading to a structure located to the south of the mill. This is clearly referring to the bridge seen in the 1910 photo. The east wall, which had been for many years attached to the wood-framed ell, is shown as being 3½ stories and built with cement block.[25] The remainder of the structure is identified as a stone building with an attached brick stair tower.

24 *Fire Insurance Map, Pawtucket, Central Falls, Providence County, Rhode Island. Vol.1 Sheet 4*, 1923. Sanborn Map Company of New York Digital Sanborn Maps. Accessed August 22, 2021. https://digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com/about?accountid=7136

25 Ibid.

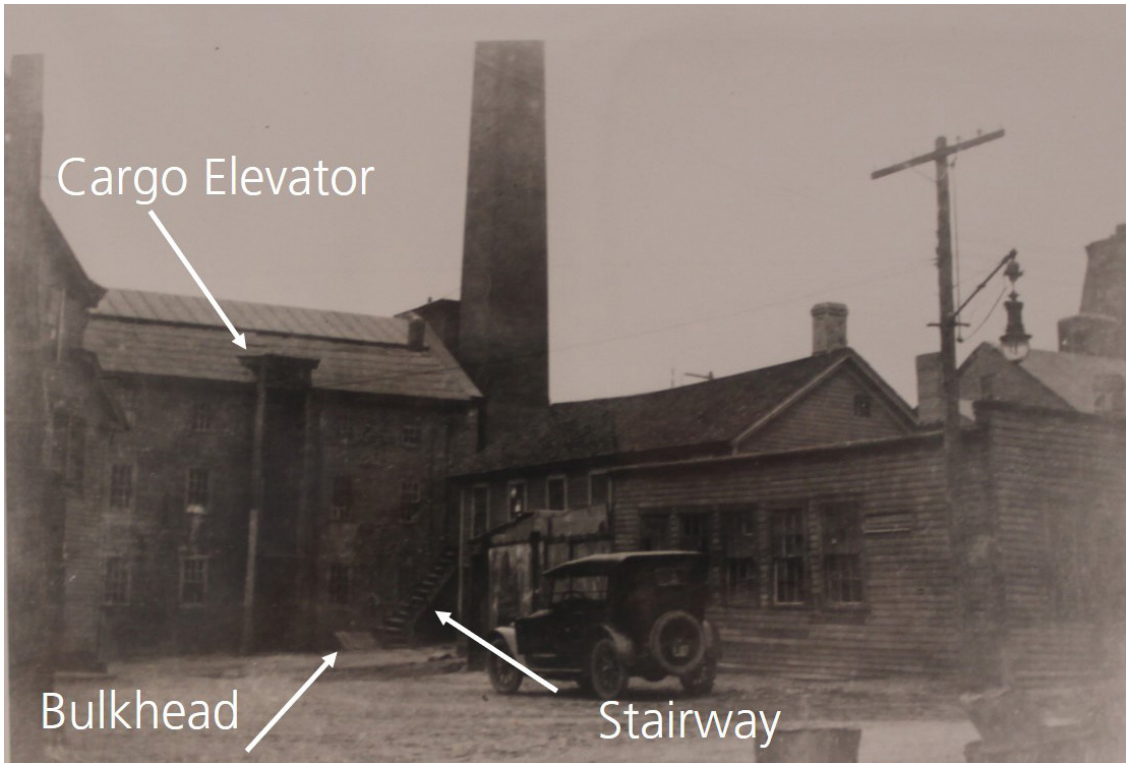


Figure 3.12. Pawtucket, R.I., Wilkinson Mill, 1924. Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I.



Figure 3.13. "Pawtucket-Wilkinson Mill 1810," 1940. Rhode Island Mills and Mill Villages Photograph Collection, Providence Public Library Digital Collections.



Figure 3.14. Pawtucket, R.I. Wilkinson Mill, ca. 1944, Old Slater Mill Association Archive, 409.2. Pawtucket, R.I.

An image taken in 1924 shows the mill with stone walls, wide monitor windows on the north slope with a small chimney located nearby on the northwest end of the building. (Figure 3.12) Additionally, there were three additional features attached to the mill by 1924. A cargo elevator was attached to the north elevation over the third (from the west) vertical row of windows. It terminated above the roofline. To the west of the elevator was a stairway located between the first and second vertical row of windows. It turned and rose up the north wall to the second story. Near the base of the stairs was a basement bulkhead. The windows on the north wall were filled with what potentially could be original 6/6 sashes.[26]

By 1940 the entire building was showing signs of poor maintenance. (Figure 3.13) The roof was covered with nothing but tar paper, and its wood trim was faded and in need of paint. The window openings on the south elevation were filled with 2/2 double-hung sashes that could potentially have dated to the repairs from the 1884 fire. The larger monitor windows are visible on the south slope of the roof.[27] Sometime between 1948 and 1950 the majority of the windows of the mill were either boarded up or filled with brick.[28]

A photo taken a few years before the 1948 fire, gives us the first somewhat detailed look at the east wall of the mill. (Figure 3.14) Taken in 1944, the photo shows a cement block east wall with a wood framed gable end containing a door and window opening.[29] Additionally, the roof is seen to still contain the

26 Photograph, Pawtucket, R.I. Wilkinson Mill, 1924. Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

27 *Pawtucket-Wilkinson Mill 1810,* 1940. Rhode Island Mills and Mill Villages Photograph Collection, Providence Public Library Digital Collections. Accessed July 2021.https://provlibdigital.org/islandora/object/islandora%3A161

28 *Saved from the Wrecking Ball*, Pawtucket Journal-Bulletin, January 9, 1967. Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed August 23, 2021. https://pawtucket.advantage-preservation.com/

29 *Dam Replacement*, Photograph, Pawtucket, R.I. Wilkinson Mill, August 15, 1944. 409.2. Old Slater Mill Association Archive, Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.


Fire Ruins Furniture Warehouse; Wind Protects Old Slater Mill

Figure 3.15. "Fire Ruins Furniture Warehouse; Wind Protects Old Slater Mill," Pawtucket Evening Times, April 5, 1948.

wider monitor windows thus dating the shorter, double monitor windows seen in 1970 to after the fire of 1948.

The last of the five Wilkinson Mill fires took place on April 5, 1948. (Figure 3.15) Newspaper accounts described the fire as a "a spectacular wind-swept fire which destroyed their well-stocked 3½ story warehouse …" They also stated that the "fire destroyed the interior of the second and third floors, the loft and roof …" Massive amounts of water was used to stop the blaze which caused up to six inches of water to flood the first story and basement levels.[30]

The fire started in the grass near the east wall.[31] Although the 1924 Sanborn map identifies the east wall as made of cement block, the 1948 Pawtucket Evening Times article notes that the east wall caught fire because it was made of tar-paper. This contradiction could be explained using the 1944 photo with its east wall containing block and a potential tar paper gable end. All photos taken of the east wall after the fire show the east wall filled to the top of the gable with cement block.

A 1949 photo confirms that the 80-foot brick smokestack that had sat at the northwest corner of the mill, was replaced with a much smaller brick chimney which was attached to the north façade of the bell tower by 1949.[32] (Figure 3.16) The basement door opening on the south elevation was sheltered with a shed roof from ca. 1954 to ca. 1961.[33] In 1954 and in 1955 Hurricane Edna flooded the Blackstone River. It is clear from the photograph of the flood and the east elevation of the mill that once again Wilkinson Mill experienced at least some flooding.[34] (Figure 3.17)

30 *Fire Ruins Furniture Warehouse; Wind Protects Old Slater Mill,* Pawtucket Evening Times, April 5, 1948. Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed August 23, 2021. https://pawtucket.advantage-preservation.com/viewer/?k=furniture%20warehouse&t=37597&i=t&m=between&ord=k1&fn=the_pawtucket_times_usa_rhode_island_pawtucket_19520526_english_17&df=1&dt=10

31 Ibid.

32 Photograph, Pawtucket, R.I., Old Slater Mill and Wilkinson Mill, 1949, #231. Old Slater Mill Association Archive, Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

33 Photograph, Pawtucket, R.I., Wilkinson Mill, 1958, #429. Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

34 Photograph, Pawtucket, R.I., Blackstone River and Wilkinson Mill, 1954. Providence Public Library Digital Collections, "Rhode Island Mills and Mill Villages" Photograph Collection. Accessed August 22, 2021. https://www.flickr.com/photos/pawtucketlibrary/sets/72157709968669226/

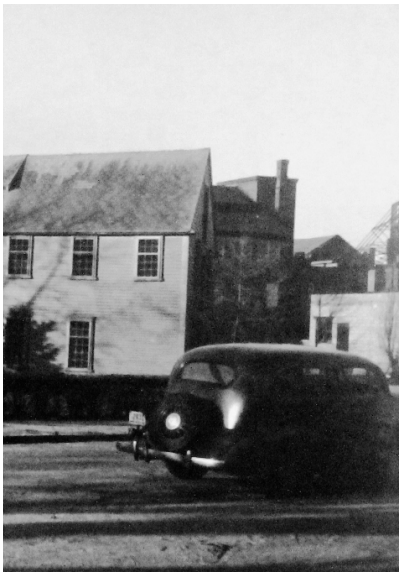




Figure 3.16. (left) Pawtucket, R.I., Old Slater Mill and Wilkinson Mill, 1949. Old Slater Mill Association Archive, #231. Pawtucket, R.I.
Figure 3.17. (right) Pawtucket, R.I., Blackstone River and Wilkinson Mill, 1954. Providence Public Library Digital Collections, "Rhode Island Mills and Mill Villages" Photograph Collection.

After the mill was deemed unsafe and condemned in 1966, the Pawtucket Redevelopment Agency (PRA) took possession of the property. [35] Although the mill continued to belong to the PRA, OSMA gained control of the structure and began raising money to save Wilkinson Mill and to rehabilitate Slater Mill. Work began immediately to clean up the surrounding area. The nearby furniture store and Wilkinson's second story bridge was removed, and Hodgeson-Rotary Park was installed south of the mill.

35 *Title Search – Old Slater Mill Lot*, Pawtucket Deed Book 636, 104. Old Slater Mill Association Archive, Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.



Figure 3.18. Pawtucket R.I., Wilkinson Mill, 1971. Old Slater Mill Association Archive, #231. Pawtucket, R.I.

OVERVIEW, 1970-PRESENT

In 1970 the Old Slater Mill Association (OSMA) worked in conjunction with the Pawtucket Redevelopment Agency to facilitate a rehabilitation of the building for future OSMA use as offices and a museum. This final era, beginning in 1970, encompasses the ownership of OSMA and the current ownership of the National Park Service.

1970-Present

Work began in ca. 1970 on "Part I of the redevelopment plan" which encompassed the restoration of the exterior of the building on all but the east wall.[36] Photographs and construction drawings from this time allow for an in-depth inventory and condition assessment of the exterior of the structure prior to rehabilitation.

1971 - SOUTH ELEVATION: (FIGURE 3.18)

Side gable roof covered with asphalt shingles and contained two short monitor windows spaced widely apart instead of the original wide, single, centered monitor windows.

- Deteriorating wooden cornice
- This wall was in poor condition with random open holes in the masonry. The wall area above the third-floor window openings was poorly repaired with block stone or concrete block. There is an overabundance of mortar filling the areas around the blocks, indicating there was potential structural issues at this time. Cracked stone lintels. Most of the third-floor window openings are missing their lintels.
-

36 Paul E. Rivard, Director, *The Wilkinson Mill – Updated Development Plan*, n.d. Old Slater Mill Association Archive, Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

- Most of the window openings were filled with concrete block. The remaining five contained undersized 2/2 sash windows.
- Four window openings were blocked with stone instead of block indicating they had been closed up an earlier time.
- Two openings topped with brick arches (located over all four of the old window stone filled openings).
- Two basement openings are topped with two iron vertical shafts used as lintels.
- A blocked-up window is located on the southeast corner at basement level. It is surrounded by brick.
- Stone race archway missing.[37]



Figure 3.19. "View of Wilkinson Mill In 1971 - Wilkinson Mill, Roosevelt Avenue, Pawtucket, Providence County, RI," 1971. Library of Congress.

1970 – WEST ELEVATION: (FIGURE 3.19)

- White paint around the arched doorway on the south wall indicates the site of the second story bridge. Holes for the bridge framing are in the south wall of the tower. The bridge's wood or iron support pieces are imbedded in both structures.

37 Photograph, Pawtucket R.I., Wilkinson Mill, 1971, #231. Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

- There are three window openings on the west elevation of the mill. The second story opening appears to be filled with sash(es), while the third-floor opening is filled with concrete block. The ground floor window opening has been moved to the south and is boarded up.
- Nine-panel wood doors fill three of the four west elevation tower door openings. Stone lintels are located above all four door openings. The ground level door is boarded up and inaccessible.
- Structural cracks run between each door opening in the west tower wall.
- Wall condition is poor with obvious areas of failing mortar and brick.[38]

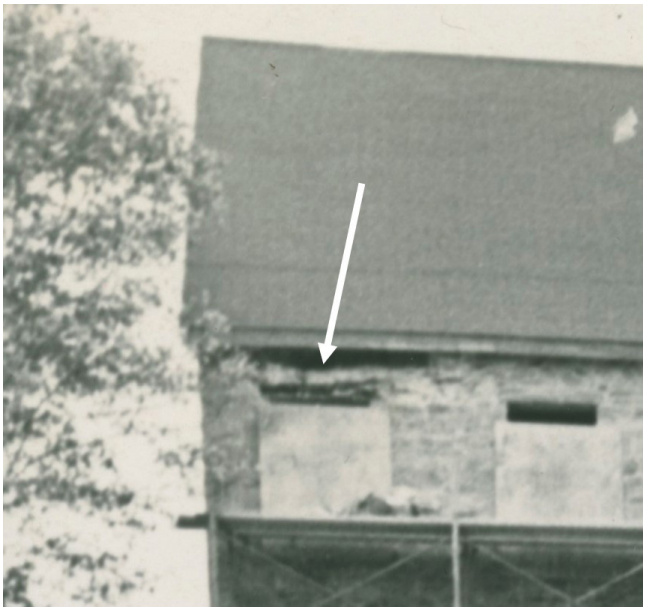


Figure 3.20. "View of Wilkinson Mill In 1971 - Wilkinson Mill, Roosevelt Avenue, Pawtucket, Providence County, RI," 1971. Library of Congress.

1970 – NORTH ELEVATION (FIGURE 3.20)

- Side gable roof covered with asphalt shingles and contains two short monitor windows spaced widely apart instead of the original wide, single, centered monitor windows.
- Window openings were either boarded up or filled with concrete block.

38 Photograph, *View of Wilkinson Mill in 1971*, *Wilkinson Mill, Roosevelt Avenue, Pawtucket, Providence County, R.I.* Pawtucket, R.I., 1971. Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C. Accessed July 2021. https://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/hh/item/ri0103/



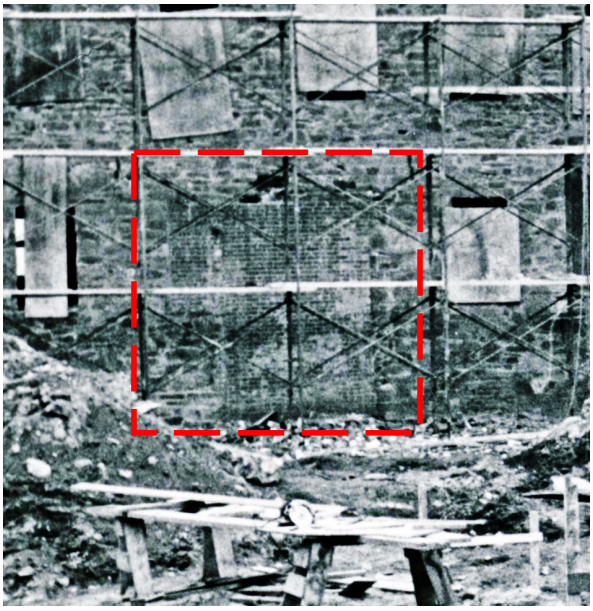


Figure 3.21. (left) Pawtucket, R.I., Wilkinson Mill, 1970. Pawtucket Library, Historical Photo Collection, Flickr Pro.
Figure 3.22. (right) Pawtucket, R.I., Wilkinson Mill, 1970. Pawtucket Library, Historical Photo Collection, Flickr Pro.

- Many window stone lintels were missing.
- This wall was in poor condition. The wall area above the third-floor window openings was poorly repaired with block stone or concrete block. The area above the third story window openings has failing brick. (Figure 3.21)
- Wide doorway opening located between window openings on the ground floor. A temporary, wide, stone lintel was added for stability. The opening was filled with brick all the way to ground level. Its location, directly next to a window indicates this door was added after the building's initial construction.[39] (Figure 3.22)

In 1970 the smaller brick smokestack located on the stair tower's north elevation was removed leaving a clear imprint on the north elevation of the brick stair tower. The tower's north cornice was cut to accommodate the smaller smoke stack.[40]

As work progressed the Wilkinson Mill of today began to be seen. (Figure 3.23) All three walls (north, south, and west) were repointed, repaired, and made stable. Photos taken during the exterior work show structural repairs such as the rebuilding of the masonry between the top of the window openings and the cornice. Removal of the window blocks began the process of window opening repair and eventually the installation of new window frames and sash.[41]

39 Photograph, Pawtucket, R.I., Wilkinson Mill, 1970. Pawtucket Library, Historical Photo Collection. Accessed August 22, 2021. https://www.flickr.com/photos/pawtucketlibrary/collections/72157668214268496/

40 Ibid.

41 Photograph, Pawtucket R.I., Wilkinson Mill, 1970. Pawtucket Library, Historical Photo Collection. Accessed August 22, 2021. https://www.flickr.com/photos/pawtucketlibrary/collections/72157668214268496/



Figure 3.23. Pawtucket R.I., Wilkinson Mill, 1971. Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I.

The stair tower and its cornice were repaired. Some areas in the third story of the tower needed to be completely rebuilt. The restored window openings were filled with 9/9 double-hung sashes with new lintels installed above many of the windows. The large opening on the north wall was repaired with stone matching the rest of the mill's walls. The basement arches on the south elevation had either their siding replaced and painted or were just painted. The large door opening on the north wall was filled with well-matched stone.[42] (Figure 3.22)

The roof was completely redesigned to accommodate the original longer single monitor window style on each slope.[43] The asphalt shingles were replaced with slate shingles.[44] By 1972 the reproduction cupola was installed on the brick stair tower.[45] (Figure 3.24) Haynes/Doboer Associates Architects designed the cupola based on an 1869 photo of the Wilkinson and Slater Mills cupolas.[46] (Figure 3.25)

There is no other part of Wilkinson Mill that has had as many changes as the east elevation. There are no early complete images of the wall. There is only one 20th century image of the wall. Photos taken in 1972 show how the east wall looked after the concrete block had been removed. (Figure 3.26) The ground floor was still enclosed in concrete block. The floors can be seen but

42 Ibid.

43 Ibid.

44 Ken Weed, Central Falls MFG. CO., *Phase Two, Exterior Doors and Door Frames, November 27, 1972*. Old Slater Mill Association Archive, Pawtucket, R.I. Flat File #A-7. July 2021.

45 *Bonnet' For Mill*, The Pawtucket Times, July 5, 1972. Old Slater Mill Association archive, Slater Mill Scrap Book, 1971-1978. July 2021.

46 Haynes/Deboer Associates Architects, *Proposal for Architectural and Engineering Services for Slater Mill Preservation Projects, Project Three: Restoration of Mill Cupolas*, November 30, 2009. Old Slater Mill Association Archive, Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021



Figure 3.24. (left) Pawtucket R.I., Wilkinson Mill, 1972. Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I.
Figure 3.25. (below) Pawtucket, R.I. Wilkinson and Slater Mills 1869, Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I.
Figure 3.26. (bottom) "The Work of IA," Society for Industrial Archeology Newsletter. n.d. Old Slater Mill Association archive, Slater Mill Scrap Book, 1971-1978.





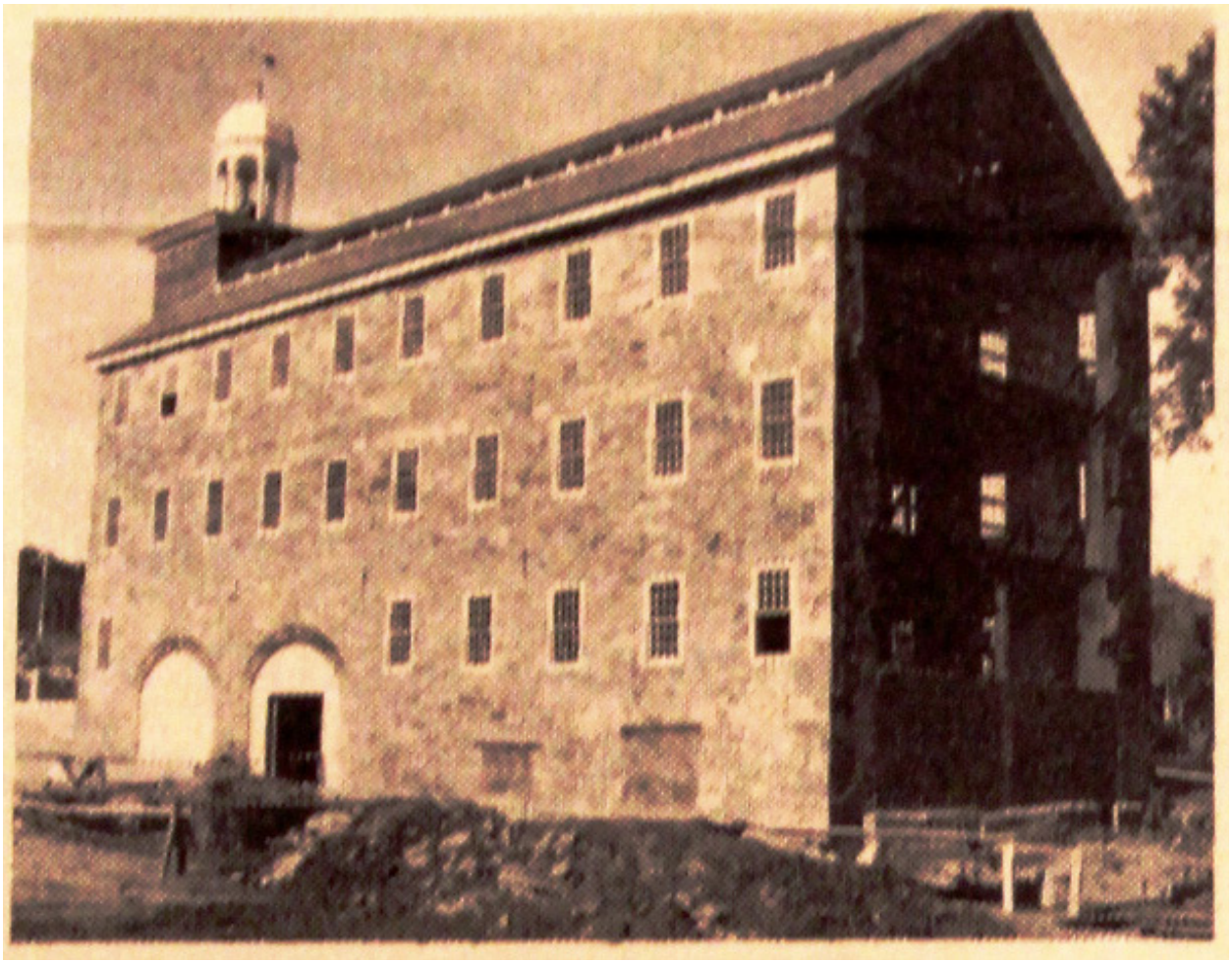






Figure 3.27. (left) "A Sense of History," Pawtucket Times, n.d. Old Slater Mill Association archive.
Figure 3.28. (right) Pawtucket R.I., Wilkinson Mill, 1985. Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I.

it is impossible to know what they are made of.[47] Another 1972 image shows even less of the wall, but it is possible to see floor supports. (Figure 3.27) It is impossible to tell if they were made of wood or steel.[48] The entire east wall was restored in 1972 with stone matching the rest of the structure.[49]

By 1985 the basement windows on the south elevation had been opened and filled with 8/12 and 8/8 sashes. (Figure 3.28) The basement door was filled with a four-panel, wood door. The door and the 8/12 window are topped with two iron vertical shafts used as lintels.[50]

Roof repairs were done in 1990. The slate ridge cap was removed and the ridge was flashed with 60 mil, EPDM membrane bed in elastic cement.[51] Broken or missing slate pieces were replaced. The slate ridge cap was reinstalled with salvaged or new slate pieces using spots of elastic cement and large head, Slater's hard copper wire nails. It was point sealed with elastic cement.[52]

By 1999 regular water infiltration had taken its toll on the brick stair tower. An exterior project was put out for bid to include the following work:

47 *The Work of IA*, Society for Industrial Archeology Newsletter. n.d. Slater Mill Scrap Book, 1971-1978. Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021

48 *A Sense of History*, Pawtucket Times, n.d. Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I., July 2021

49 Photograph, Pawtucket, R.I., Wilkinson Mill, 1972. Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

50 Patrick Malone, former director of OSMA, correspondence, April 22, 2022.

51 RMB International Construction Group, *Letter/Proposal to Mr., Robert Macieski*, March 6, 1990. Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.

52 *Project Report*, n.d. Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

- Install new subsurface drainage system from the base of Wilkinson Mill belfry southerly and easterly raceway and northerly to the existing storm drain.
- Clean exterior brick wall surfaces of the belfry, replace selected ashlar where missing and bricks where deteriorated, spot repointing of selected exterior brick and ashlar wall surfaces.[53]

It is unclear whether this project was ever accomplished.

In April of 2006 the bell tower was repaired. The structural issues were as follows:

> The mortar is hard . . .[54] Also contributing to the decay of the brick is a reoccurring water drainage problem at the base of the tower. The exterior brick on each of the three sides of the tower will first be washed . . . and rinsed, the mortar joints will be completely cut out with grinders equipped with diamond blades and a vacuum system, then repointed with high lime mortar . . . Approx [sic] 65 spalled English bricks will be removed and replaced. The stone wall and fence at the northwest side of the tower will be removed and drainage will be installed. The cobles outside the tower entrance will be reset to direct drainage to the lower outside corner of the entryway. Repoint the mortar void in the north stone facework of the mill.[55]

Paul Choquette & Co. were hired to repair these issues. Excavations were done near the foundation. Waterproofing and storm water drainage was added on the west wall. Complete repointing was done to all three sides of the tower.

In 2010 the cupola was in need of repair:

- Inspected and prepared for painting and paint steel components of weather vane.
- Removed and replaced top eight courses of clapboards.
- Cleaned, prepared for painting.
- Inspected all components, repaired or replaced all deteriorated, missing or damaged pieces in-kind. Used solid mahogany for replacement. Used epoxy consolidates where required.
- Replaced wood cribbing with new Spanish cedar pieces.
- Resoldered open joints.
- Removed post base. Installed solid wood base.
- Patched, repaired, caulked impost blocks. [56]

Within a year the window sashes were also in need of repair:

- Surface preparation, painting, and reglazing of all double hung sash in 79 windows.

53 Gail Fowler Mohanty - Executive Director Old Slater Mill Association, Letter to Alfred St. Angelo, August 2, 1999. Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021

54 Most likely containing Portland cement.

55 Old Slater Mill Association, *Request for Proposals*, July 2006. Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

56 *Cupola Repairs, Preliminary*, February 25, 2010. Flat file A-4. Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

- Work included painting interior surfaces of sash.
- Repair and restore deteriorated wood using wood consolidate repair system.
- New wood to be painted with two coated exterior oil base primer sealer. Two coats exterior acrylic latex gloss finish.
- Painted exterior wood to be re-painted
- Treated with two parts raw linseed oil and one part turpentine, one coat oil base wood primer, two coats 100% acrylic latex.[57]

Repair to the south elevation arches and to a basement window sill on the north elevation was accomplished in 2021.[58]

57 *Project Specifications, Wilkinson Mill, Exterior Woodwork Restoration*. 2011. Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

58 Nathaniel Risteen, in discussion with the author, July 2021.

IV. CHARACTER-DEFINING FEATURES

Character Defining Features

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this chapter is to identify Wilkinson Mill's character-defining features (CDF). CDFs are those visual features and elements that define the structure, and contribute to its architectural integrity. The NPS definition of character-defining features is described as follows:

> . . . visual aspects and physical features that comprise the appearance of every historic building. Character-defining elements include the overall shape of the building, its materials, craftsmanship, decorative details, interior spaces and features, as well as the various aspects of its site and environment.[1]

A CDF may date to the structure's initial construction, or be a later alteration made within the building's period of significance. In some cases, a CDF may be a missing architectural element or site feature that existed during the structure's period of significance. The identification of these missing historic features is based on the observations of textual and photographic primary source documentation. To retain the historic integrity of the structure, it is important to retain these elements.

The CDFs of Wilkinson Mill are presented in the following table. If a CDF is a missing element, that is noted.

Wilkinson Mill is considered a part of the Slater Mill Historic District. The district's period of significance, as determined by an approved 1976 National Register nomination, is 1700 to 1899. However, the 2018 Slater Mill Historic Structure Report redefined the district's period to be 1793 to 1925. Wilkinson Mill's period of significance should however be 1810-1970. These dates are determined by the mill's original construction date of 1810 and the combined end of its commercial use and its major rehabilitation in 1970. Ideally, CDFs are prepared as part of a HSR, which documents the structure's developmental history, historic appearance, physical description, complete CDF chapter (interior and exterior), and history. The full HSR documentation informs the complete identification of the CDFs. Consequently, the CDFs described herein are preliminary, considering the more thorough historical and architectural documentation has not yet been undertaken.

INTEGRITY

The level of historic integrity of a structure and/or architectural element is reflected in its ability to contribute to the historic appearance of the structure. This report will not only identify the CDFs of Wilkinson Mill, but will also

1 Lee H. Nelson, *Preservation Briefs 17 – Architectural Character: Identifying the Visual Aspects of Historic Buildings as an Aid to Preserving Their Character* 1988. Washington, D.C.: Technical Preservation Services, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, September. 1.

assess the integrity of those features. It is the intent of this report that by identifying the level of integrity of each character-defining feature, mindful and appropriate preservation and rehabilitation projects can be accomplished. CDFs with a ranking of high integrity can be identified in historic photographs, drawings, and/or primary source descriptions of the mill. A medium integrity ranking is given to those features believed to be a significant architectural feature that has undergone a higher level of rehabilitation.

	Table 3: Character-Defining Feature Inventory	Integrity			Figure No.
		High	Medium	Low	
Exterior Features					
Location	Located in Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park (BLRV). BLRV is spread out over two states (Massachusetts and Rhode Island, acreage TBD). BLRV contains five historic districts, one of which is the Old Slater Mill National Historic Landmark District in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, where Wilkinson Mill is located (3.06 acres).	X			4.1
	Pawtucket is located in northeast Rhode Island near the Massachusetts border. Rhode Island is surrounded on the north and east by Massachusetts, on the west by Connecticut, and on the south by the Atlantic Ocean.	X			4.2
	The Blackstone River, on which the mill sits, runs through the center of Pawtucket and meets up with the Seekonk and Providence Rivers, and eventually out to Narragansett Bay and the Atlantic Ocean.	X			4.3
Setting and Landscape	Wilkinson Mill resides in an urban/commercial setting.	X			
	The history and use of Wilkinson Mill are intrinsically tied to its setting on the west bank of the Blackstone River.	X			4.4
	There is a significant view from each elevation of the structure. To the east is the river, dam, tailrace, and flume to which the mill has been historically tied. To the west is the view of Pawtucket's commercial district, in which the mill has always resided. To the north, the 1970s planned mill complex with Slater Mill and the Sylvanus Brown house can be seen. To the south is the Hodgson-Rotary Park which is indicative of the 1960s urban renewal era in which it was constructed. It was completed as a first step towards the rehabilitation of Wilkinson Mill.	X			4.2, 4.4, 4.5
	Wilkinson Mill's close proximity to Slater Mill illustrates the crowded industrial setting in which they existed during the 19th century.		X		4.5
Approach and Access	Accessed via Roosevelt Avenue (formerly known as Mill Street and North Main Street).	X			4.8
	Approach from the north on a 1970s designed circulation walkway that leads to the east entrance stair and doorway.	X			4.6
	Approach from the south through Hodgson-Rotary Park, crossing over the raceway via a bridge, to a walkway that leads to the east entrance stair and doorway	X			4.18
	Approach from the west via a stairway that leads from a walkway that lines Roosevelt Street.	X			4.7
	Missing Historic Feature: Wilkinson Place (street) that led from Mill Street east along the south elevation of Wilkinson Mill.				

	Table 3: Character-Defining Feature Inventory	Integrity			Figure No.
		High	Medium	Low	
Exterior Features					
Siting	Wilkinson Mill occupies its original 1810 site in downtown Pawtucket, Rhode, Island.	X			4.2
	The orientation of the mill and its proximity to the Blackstone River.	X			4.2
Mass, Scale, and Shape	Rectangular, massed plan, linear in design. 3½ stories tall.	X			4.2
Doorway Openings	Functional placement and location of the primary exterior doorway openings allowing access to the interior spaces on all elevations	X			
	East elevation, 1970s era primary entrance door opening.	X			4.6
	East elevation, 1970s era basement entrance door opening.	X			4.14
Doorway Openings	West elevation, stair tower, four cargo door openings in stair tower.	X			4.8
	South elevation arched openings associated with the mill's boiler and/or steam engine located in the basement.	X			4.8
	South elevation entrance opening.	X			4.9
	Vertical iron shaft header on south door opening.				4.9
	Arched tailrace door opening.	X			4.14, 4.16
	Rectangular tailrace door opening.	X			4.17
	Missing Historic Feature: ground floor door opening on southwest corner of the structure (the opening now contains a 36-light, fixed sash).				
Window Openings	Symmetrical placement of window openings during the building of Wilkinson Mill (1810-1813).	X			4.8
	East elevation: 1970s window openings.	X			4.13
	West elevation: five window openings with partial stone lintels (lintels were partially covered when stair tower was added).	X			4.8
	West elevation: large 36-light window opening on southwest corner, ground floor .	X			4.11
	North elevation: all window openings.	X			4.7
	South elevation: all window openings.	X			4.8
	Vertical iron shaft lintel on southwest corner window opening.				4.9
	Roof: 1970s monitor window openings and windows located on the roof's north and south slope.	X			4.12
	All 1970s window sash and frames.	X			4.8
	Missing Historic Feature: large door opening possibly used to accommodate the installation of David Wilkinson's steam engine.				4.10
Roof and Roof-Related Features	Gable roof with slate shingle covering.	X			4.12
	Center-ridge brick chimney.	X			4.12
	Boxed cornice on all rooflines ca. 1850 (restored 1970s)	X			4.12
	1970s era cupola.	X			4.8

	Table 3: Character-Defining Feature Inventory	Integrity			Figure No.
		High	Medium	Low	
Exterior Features					
Projecting Features	East elevation: 1970s era stone steps, wood stoop, and metal handrailing.	X			4.14
	East elevation: 1970s basement stone steps, stoop, and metal handrailing.	X			4.14
	South elevation: metal anchor tie rods.	X			4.15
	West elevation: Wooden cargo arm.		X		4.8
	Stair tower: Cupola metal weathervane.	X			4.8
	North elevation: metal anchor tie rods.	X			4.6
	Missing Historic Feature: North elevation: bulkhead. *Missing Historic Feature: West elevation: small brick smokestack.*				
Materials and Craftsmanship	Early industrial vernacular style structure, designer/architect unknown.	X			
	North and south elevations: load-bearing, stone walls.	X			4.8
	East elevation: 1970s stone wall.	X			4.13
	West elevation: stone wall.	X			4.8
	Stair Tower: Handmade red brick laid in 9/1 American Common bond.	X			4.8
	1810 & 1970s limestone window and door lintels.[2]	X			4.8
	1810 & 1970s limestone door opening thresholds in each stair tower door opening.	X			4.8
Individually Important Outdoor Spaces	East elevation: Mill headrace masonry, gate, and trash-rack and stone arch.		X		4.16
	South elevation: Mill tailrace masonry, and grate components.		X		4.17

2 Multi-paned window opening on southwest corner has "1810" carved in lintel. Carving is of unknown date and origin.

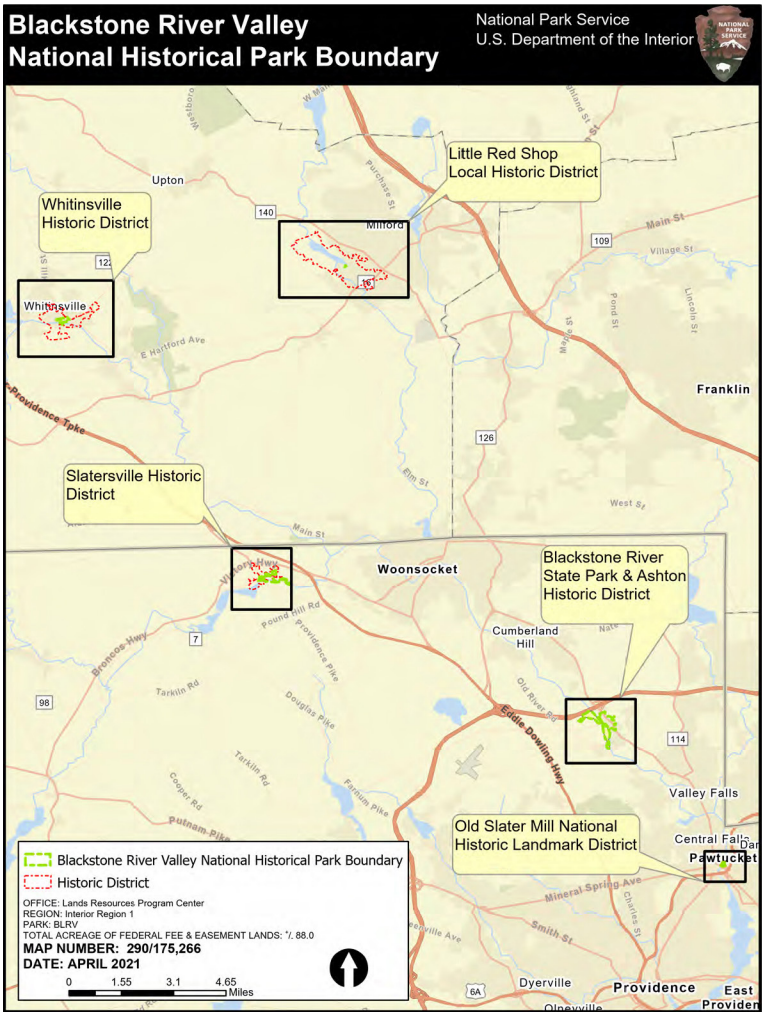


Figure 4.1. Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park Boundary map, National Park Service, April 2021.

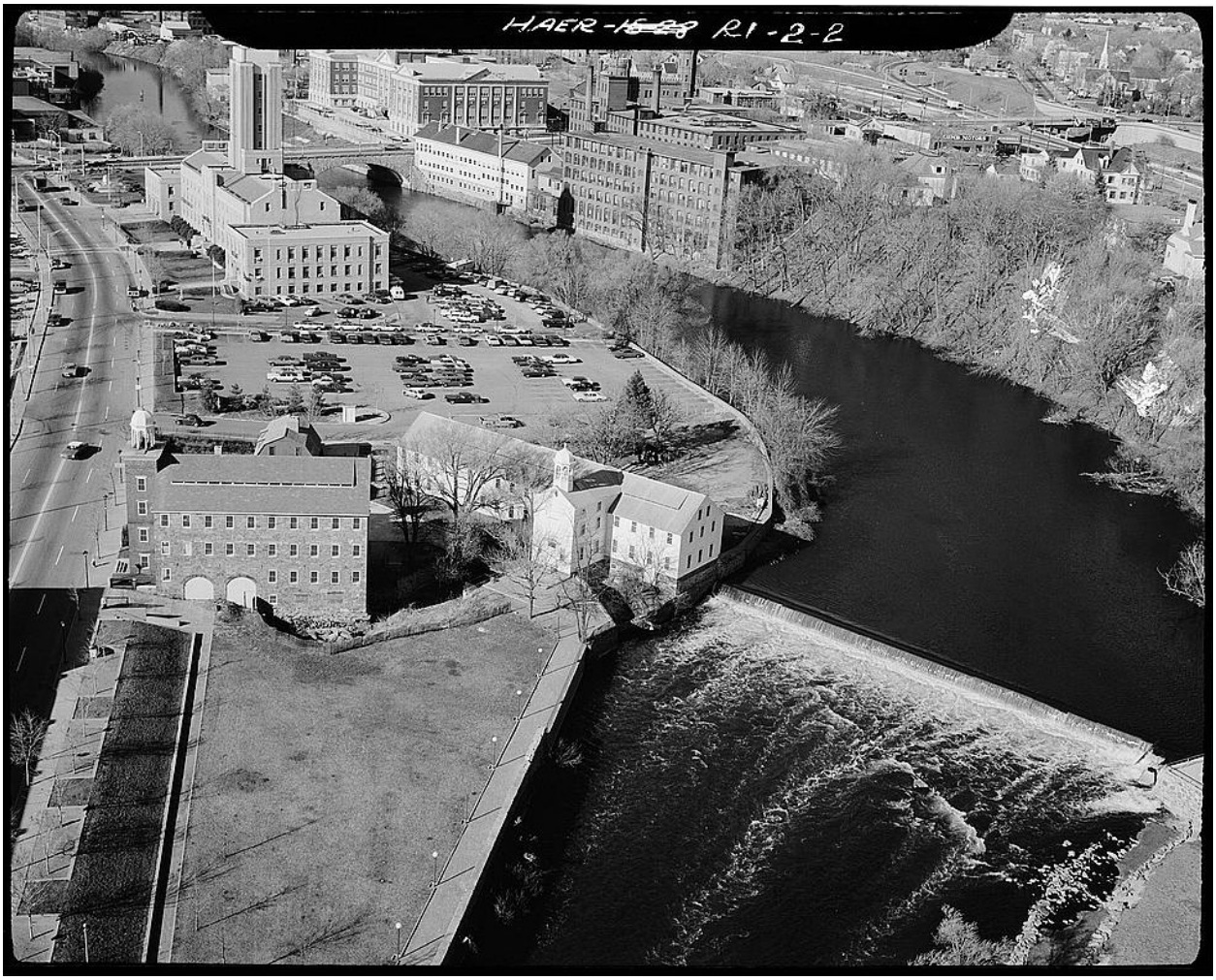


Figure 4.2. (above) Old Slater Mill Historic Site Aerial View, Historic American Building Survey, 1978.
Figure 4.3. (right) Map of Rhode Island, Alamy.com. 2021.

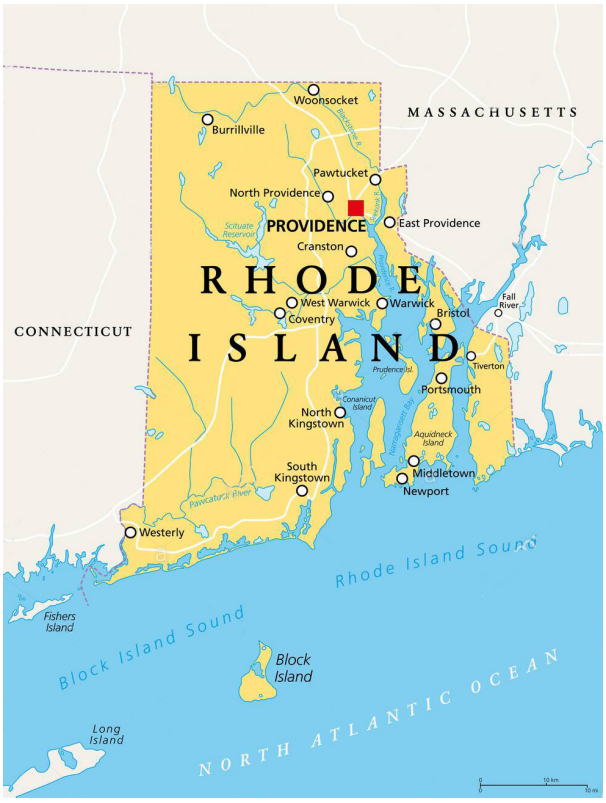




Figure 4.4. Slater Mill Historic Site, looking north. Photo taken by the author, 2018.



Figure 4.5. Slater Mill Historic Site, looking south. Photo taken by the author, 2018.



Figure 4.6. Wilkinson Mill, northeast oblique, August 2021. Photo taken by the author.



Figure 4.7. Wilkinson Mill, northwest oblique, August 2021. Photo taken by the author.



Figure 4.8. Wilkinson Mill, southwest oblique, August 2021. Photo taken by the author.



Figure 4.9. Wilkinson Mill, south wall detail, August 2021. Photo taken by the author.



Figure 4.10. (above) Wilkinson Mill, north wall, outline of removed large door opening. August 2021. Photo taken by the author.



Figure 4.11. (right) Wilkinson Mill, multi-paned window on southwest corner ground floor. August 2021. Photo taken by Nathaniel Risteen.



Figure 4.12. Wilkinson Mill, south slope of the roof with monitor windows. August 2021. Photo taken by the author.



Figure 4.13. Wilkinson Mill, southeast oblique. August 2021. Photo taken by the author.



Figure 4.14. Wilkinson Mill, east wall detail. August 2021. Photo taken by the author.



Figure 4.15. Wilkinson Mill, south wall, metal anchor tie rods. August 2021. Photo taken by the author.



Figure 4.16. Wilkinson Mill, headrace masonry, gate, and trash-rack and stone arch. August 2021. Photo taken by the author.



Figure 4.17. Wilkinson Mill, mill tailrace masonry, and grate components. August 2021. Photo taken by author.



Figure 4.18. Wilkinson Mill south elevation & Hodgson-Rotary Park. August 2021. Photo taken by author.

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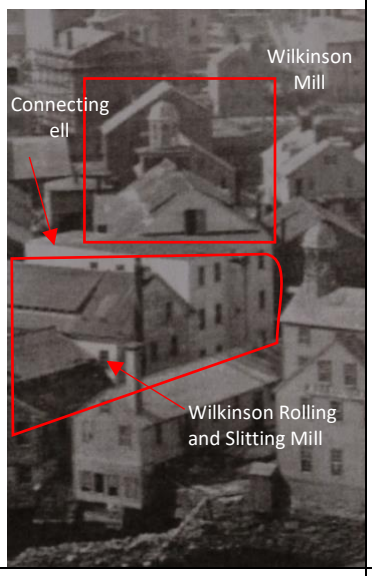
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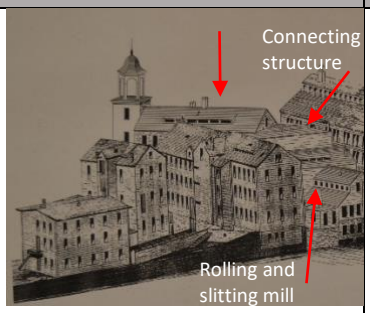
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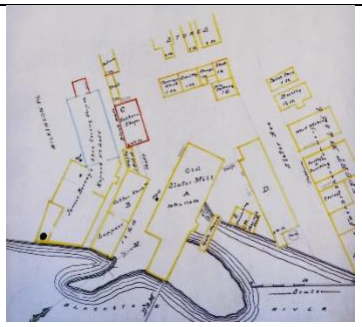
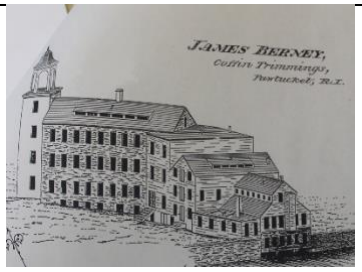
APPENDIX A: CHRONOLOGY TABLE

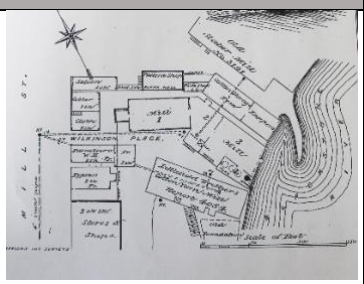
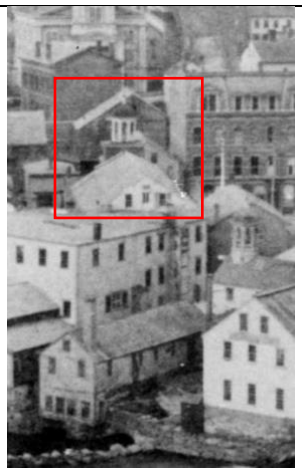
Chronology Table

Date		Structural Evolution	Source
1794		Rolling and slitting mill built.	"Wilkinson Mill," Historical Sketch, (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.
1810 – 1813		Wilkinson Mill is built "as part of the reconstruction after the flood of 1807."	"Chronology of Ownership and Use of the Stone Mill Pawtucket, Rhode Island," (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.
1810-1813		A small machine shop occupied the east side of the basement.	"Wilkinson Mill," Historical Sketch, (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.
1823		The site at which the mill sits was, in 1823, in the early stages of development. Pictured here, the mill is not connected to any other structure. A nearby, smaller "store" is connected to the a nearby structure. A canal or flume runs from the Great Flume to the mill.	Thomas Mann, "Sergents Trench Map," (1823) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

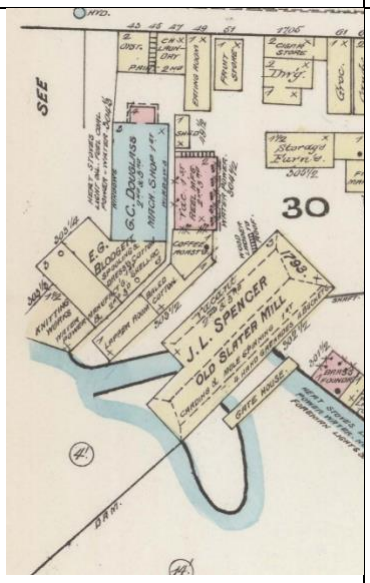
Date		Structural Evolution	Source
1855		Wilkinson Mill appears as a free-standing structure.	Henry F. Walling, "Map of the State of Rhode Island (Pawtucket Inset)," (1855). (Pawtucket, R.I., Pawtucket Library, Map Collection). Accessed August 22, 2021. https://www.flickr.com/photos/pawtucketlibrary/sets/72157698868094475/
1869		First known photo of Wilkinson Mill. Mill connected to ell and rolling and slitting mills to the east. Wood siding and single door opening on east gable end. Cupola and stair tower present on west wall. Monitor windows on both roof slopes. Central ridge chimney. Rolling and slitting mill roof configuration: side gable with monitor windows next to flat-roofed ell. Monitor roof on river building.	Photograph, "Pawtucket, R.I. Mill District, ca. 1869, Pawtucket, RI." Old Slater Mill Association archive, Arcadia Photos, Box 1, Pawtucket, RI. July 2021.
1869		"This is when the mill was connected to the slitting mill by walkway or gangway." As can be seen in the 1870 map below, the first generation of the ell connecting Wilkinson Mill to the rolling and slitting mill resembled a bridge or walkway.	"Wilkinson Mill," Historical Sketch, (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

Date		Structural Evolution	Source
1876		Stair tower visible containing two west elevation window openings and topped by the cupola. Center ridge chimney and north slope chimney present. Monitor window centrally located on east slope. East elevation connected to ell structure. East gable end covered with wood siding with a centrally located, single door opening.	"Old Slater Mill, Pratt and Spencer, No. 3191," (New York, *Barlow Insurance Surveys*, 1876) Old Slater Mill Association Archive, H.L. Fairbrother, Tannery- #4056 Second Floor, Metal File Cabinet. Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.
February 8, 1876		**"Power:** Water, turbine wheel. **Walls:** Stone. **Roofs**: Shingle. **Cornice:** Wood. **Ladders:** None exterior. **Floors:** Ordinary, single plank. **Ceilings:** Open, boxed, boxed plastered. **Stairs:** Enclosed. **Stories:** Basement, three stories and attic opening into No. 2, (ell) **Basement:** Annealing. H.F. Jenks & Co. iron stove used for annealing, set on protected floor. **First story:** Machine shop, Bosworth Machine Co, no forge. **Second story:** Hardware, H.F. Jenks & Co. forges and ovens not well secured. **Third story:** Spooling and braiding James Barney. **Attic:** Dressing, James Barney. **Heating:** By stoves, set on sheet iron. **Lighting:** Kerosene used by tenants; gas used by Berney	Ibid.

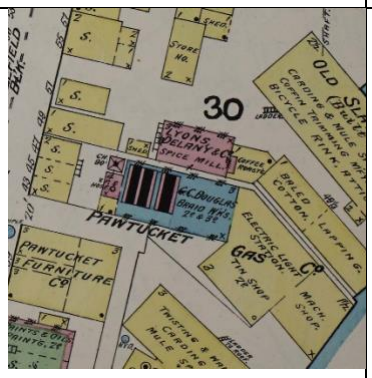
Date		Structural Evolution	Source
		Watchman: None **Oils:** Paraffine, lard and machinery oils for lubricating, linseed oil and varnish **Hours:** 10 ½ per day **Boilers:** A 2 H.P. upright boiler in attic of No.1, for heating dressing machines. **Fuel:** Coal **Hydrants:** Two large outside hydrants connect with pump in mill. **Sprinklers:** None **Extinguishers:** None **Lightning Rods:** Yes **Ladders:** None exterior The building is well advance in years and not in very good repair."	
1876		Wilkinson Mill is shown to be located on Wilkinson Place and labeled "James Berney's Shoestring Shop etc." Mill is color-coded to reflect stone wall construction, with the stair tower color-coded as brick. Ell structure is open to rolling and slitting mill.	Ibid.
1880		Four-story brick stair tower with cupola. Four window openings on south wall. Central ridge chimney on Wilkinson Mill structure. Single window opening centrally located in east gable end. Three-story, flat-roofed, ell structure: attached to Wilkinson Mill east wall. South elevation has a staired entrance. Side gable, three-story structure: with monitor windows. Entrance on its south elevation. Cargo door openings on second and third floors. Structure with monitor roof: next to river (as part of the rolling and slitting mill).	"James Berney, Shoe Strings & Jewelry M'F'Y, Pawtucket R.I." (New York, *Barlow Insurance Surveys*, March 1880.) Second Floor, Metal File Cabinet- Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

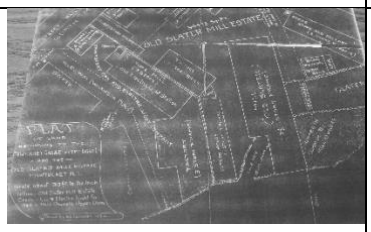
Date		Structural Evolution	Source
1880		Drawing shows a staircase rising up the north wall of the stair tower. Elevator located in ell structure.	"James Berney, Coffin Trimmings, No. 4055," (New York, *Barlow Insurance Surveys*, March 1880), Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.
1880		Very little change in the stone mill. The connecting ell is now extended over to where the side gable structure used to be. East gable has wood siding, symmetrically arranged door opening filled with half glass door, flanked by two window openings. Brick stair tower and cupola present on west stone mill wall. Monitor windows on both roof slopes.	Photograph, (1880), Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.
April 22, 1881	Fire!	". . .half-past one o'clock last Friday morning . . .A violent snow storm prevailed at the time, but the fire department were quickly at work and soon had a number of hydrant streams playing into the burning building . . . The LeFavour mill . . . The floors were also saturated with oil, making a veritable fire trap, and before the flames could be subdued, they had made their way to the third story and roof and to the brick tower in front, the latter being badly charred. The roof of the building was nearly destroyed . . . It is not known just what caused the fire, but when first discovered it was confined wholly to the northwest corner of the second floor near a chimney. It apparently	"Fire," (*Pawtucket Gazette and Chronicle*, April 22, 1881.) Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed August 23, 2021. https://pawtucket.advantage-preservation.com/viewer/?t=33987&i=t&d=01011886-12311920&e=old%20lefavour%20mill&m=between&ord=e1&fn=evening_times_usa_rhode_island_pawtucket_19131126_

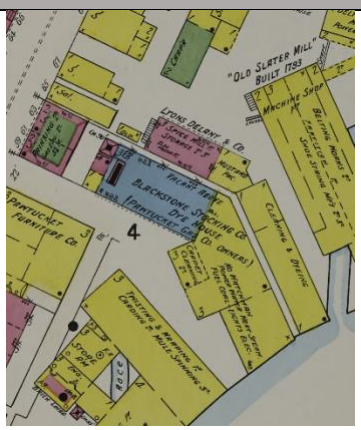
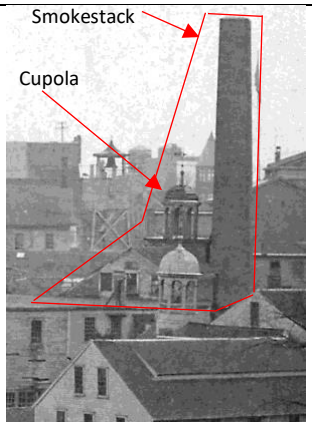
Date		Structural Evolution	Source
	CAPT. Jenks will discard the terms "office" and "machine shop" when he recovers from the effects of the fire in the Lefavour-Berney mill and will hang out the sign, "Artis ms' Bazaar."	caught between the sheathing on the lower side of the third floor . . .There are several wooden additions on the rear, extending to the river, which are unharmed by the fire. This first floor was and is occupied by the Bosworth Machine Company, whose machinery was considerably damaged by water and was insured. The second floor was occupied by Capt. H.F. Jenks, manufacturer of window springs . . . whose stock and tools were considerable damaged. He had no insurance, his policy having expired but a short time previously. His loss is in the neighborhood of $300. The third story and attic were occupied by Andrew Stafford for the manufacture of shoe laces . . . The mill is the one that has supplied the Chronicle office with motive power for the last eight years. . . The fire was the largest that has occurred since the introduction of water . . . On the roof near the tower was a wooden brace or support carrying a dozen telephone wires. The roof fell in, but the wires remained unhurt and taught."	english_1&df=1&dt=4 (*Pawtucket Gazette and Chronicle*, May 20, 1881). Accessed August 23, 2021. https://pawtucket.advantage-preservation.com/ Stair tower, north wall. Photo taken by the author.
June 10, 1881	THE LeFavour-Berney mill is undergoing repairs. In several places portions of the old Providence *Gazette*, published prior 1800 have been found.	"The LeFavour-Berney Mill is undergoing repairs . . ."	(*Pawtucket Gazette and Chronicle*, June 10, 1881). Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed Aug 23, 2021. https://pawtucket.advantage-preservation.com/viewer/?t=33987&i=t&d=01011886-12311920&e=old

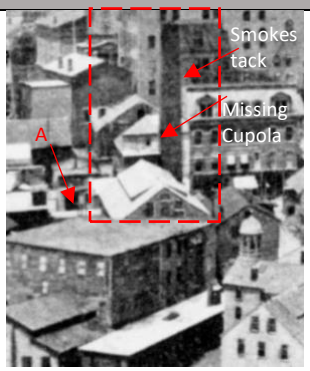
Date		Structural Evolution	Source
			%20lefavour%20mill&m=between&ord=e1&fn=evening_times_usa_rhode_island_pawtucket_19131126_english_1&df=1&dt=4
1884		Wilkinson Mill labeled "G.C. Douglass, 2nd & 3rd" "Machine Shop 1st" Ell structure labeled "E.G. Blodgett, Spooling & Dress'g Cotton" Rolling and splitting mill building labeled "Knitting Works, Water Power Manufact'g" This map is color-coded to reflect the brick stair tower, stone mill, wood framed ell, and frame rolling and splitting mill. Stair tower: 4-story structure. Mill: 3-story structure. Shingle roof. Windows on north and south elevations. Heating: stoves. Light: oil, fuel: coal. Power: Water.	"Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Pawtucket, Providence County, Rhode Island, Sheet 8" (Pawtucket, Rhode Island: *Sanborn Map Company*, November 1884), Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C., http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3774pm.g3774pm_g080961884.
February 3, 1884	Fire!	"Fire in the old LeFavour mill in the rear of 39 Mill street [sic]. The fire caught in the attic occupied by the Pawtucket Braided Line Company, consisting of Oscar A. Newell and Alonzo Hazzard. The fire was confined to this room, the fire and water doing quite heavy damage. The other occupants of the mill suffered from loss by water . . .Loss $7500. Insured."	"Record of Fires in 1864," (*Pawtucket Gazette and Chronicle*, February 3, 1884). Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed Aug 23, 2021. https://pawtucket.advantage-preservation.com/viewer/?t=33987&i=t&d=01011886-12311920&e=old

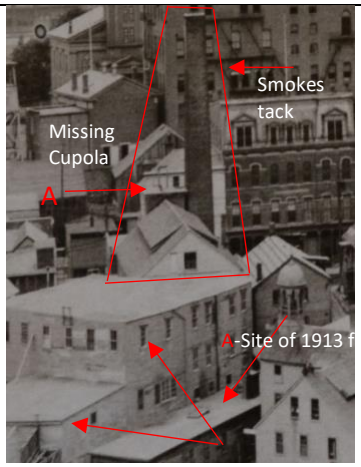
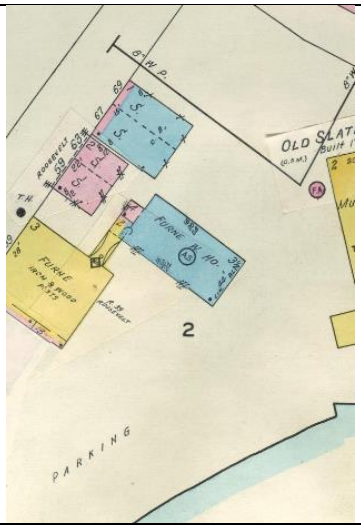
Date		Structural Evolution	Source
			%20lefavour%20mill&m=between&ord=e1&fn=evening_times_usa_rhode_island_pawtucket_19131126_english_1&df=1&dt=4
		"The fire is supposed to have been caused by spontaneous combustion."	Untitled, (Pawtucket, R.I., *Pawtucket Gazette and Chronicle*, February 8, 1884). Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed August 23, 2021. https://pawtucket.advantagepreservation.com/viewer/?t=33987&i=t&d=01011886-12311920&e=old%20lefavour%20mill&m=between&ord=e1&fn=evening_times_usa_rhode_island_pawtucket_19131126_english_1&df=1&dt=4
January 9, 1885	"Record of Fires in 1884"	Another, smaller fire took place on January 9, 1885. It started and was confined to the attic where the Pawtucket Braided Line Company was located. Water and fire were reported to cause ". . . quite heavy damage." Water damage affected all the tenants in the mill.	"Record of Fires in 1884", (Pawtucket, R.I., *Pawtucket Gazette and Chronicle* January 9, 1885). Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed August 23, 2021.

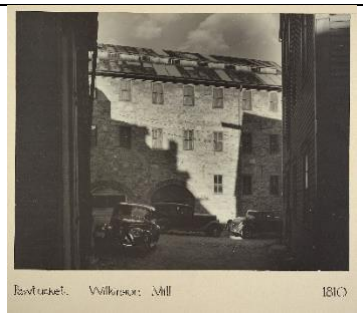
Date		Structural Evolution	Source
1886	"February Floods"	"The rain which began falling on Thursday (February 11, 1886) morning . . . did not cease until Saturday evening (2/13/1886). The rainfall in this section was fully nine inches, and the pouring flood did much damage in various section of New England, its most marked effects being shown in Rhode Island. A number of inches of snow remained on the ground at the time the rain began to fall and its melting augmented the flow of water into the various streams and reservoirs. The water increased in force and volume as it neared Pawtucket falls, and the scene was grandly terrific. Saturday morning at one time ten feet of water were pouring over the rocks, and huge masses of ice and portions of wooden buildings would now and then dash into the seething, boiling torrent below, and go sailing quickly toward the sea . . . The walls of the LeFavour-Berney Bank mill were damaged.	"February Floods", (Pawtucket R.I., *Pawtucket Gazette and Chronicle*, February 19, 1886). Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed August 23, 2021. https://pawtucket.advantagepreservation.com/viewer/?t=33987&i=t&d=01011886-12311920&e=old%20lefavour%20mill&m=between&ord=e1&fn=evening_times_usa_rhode_island_pawtucket_19131126_english_1&df=1&dt=4
1890		Wilkinson Mill labeled "G.C. Douglass, 2nd & 3rd" "Braid W's, 3 floors" Shingle roof. Windows on north and south elevations. Three boiler exhaust chimneys in west attic or roof. Stair tower labeled: 4-story structure, shingle roof. 80-foot brick smokestack located north of stair tower and next to west wall of mill. 1 story, frame addition attached to south wall of stair tower and attached to west wall of mill. Ell structure labeled "Electric Light Station, Gas Co., Tin Shop – 2nd, 3 floors" Rolling and splitting mill building labeled "Machine Shop, 1 ½ floors"	"Fire Insurance Map, Pawtucket, Providence County, Rhode Island," (*Sanborn Map Company*, May 15. 1890.) Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C., Accessed 2018. https://www.loc.gov/item/sanborn08096_002/.

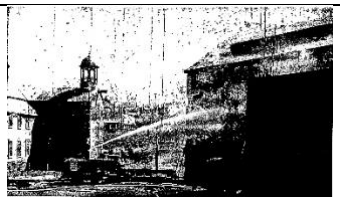
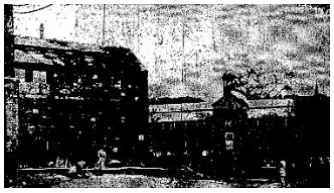
Date		Structural Evolution	Source
		This map is color-coded to reflect the brick stair tower, stone mill, frame ell, and frame rolling and splitting mill.	
1892		Wilkinson sits on an alleyway called “Wilkinson Place” in “Old Slater Mill Estate.” Plat says: “Copied by H.L. Spencer 1892. Structure labeled “Stone Mill (3 story)” “Old Electrical Light Station.” “12,495 SQ FT” Ell labeled “Factory (3 Story frame). Brick smokestack north of stair tower. All three connected structures are labeled “Pawtucket Gas and Electric Light Company.” Framed addition south of the stair tower is not present. This is an error as the addition is visible on 1890 and 1902 maps.	H.L. Spencer, “Plat of Land Belonging to the Pawtucket Gas & Electric Light Co. and the Old Slater Mill Estate Pawtucket R.I.” (1892). Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.
20th Century		“In the 20th century, the mill was used for a time as a hydro-electrical generating plant (the turbines were placed in an addition to the west side of the mill . . .”	Gary Kulik, Curator – Slater Mill, Untitled, (December 23, 1976) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

Date		Structural Evolution	Source
1902		Wilkinson Mill labeled: "All-Blackstone Stocking Co. Dye House (Pawtucket Gas Co. Owners). Vacant above." Shingle roof. Windows on south elevation only. One boiler exhaust chimney in west attic/roof. Ell has been partitioned off in southwest corner and is labeled "Carpet Cleaning. 2 stories" The remainder of the ell is identified as 3 stories. The monitor roofed mill (nearest the river) is identified as a 1 ½ story structure. "Blackstone Stocking Co." label is written across ell and rolling mill. Stair Tower: 4 stories. 90-foot brick smokestack attached to stair tower and west wall of stone mill. One-story, frame addition attached to the southwest wall. Rolling & slitting mill: "No watchman, Power-Water, Heat-steam, Fuel-coal, Lights-elec."	"Fire Insurance Map from Pawtucket, Providence County, Rhode Island. Sheet 4." (*Sanborn Map Company*, 1902), Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C., Accessed 2018. https://www.loc.gov/item/sanborn08096_003/
1910		Wood siding, symmetrically arranged door and two window openings on east gable end. Monitor windows visible on north roof slope. Brick tower and cupola centrally located on west wall. Brick smokestack located at west wall north of stair tower.	Photograph, (1910), Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021

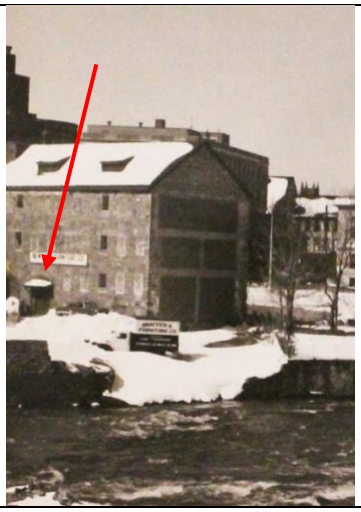
Date		Structural Evolution	Source
1910		Wood siding, symmetrically arranged door and two window openings on east gable end. Monitor windows on both roof slopes. Brick tower centrally located on west wall. Cupola missing. Brick smokestack located at west wall north of stair tower. Figure A: Possible location of second-story bridge leading from stair tower to structure next door.	Photograph, (1910). Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021
November 26, 1913	 	One of the one-story buildings, located between Slater and Wilkinson Mills, caught fire. It is unknown what started the fire, but soon after it spread to the other nearby one-story structure and eventually to Wilkinson. "... while at the corner, they (flames) ate through the roof and caught the corner of the old LeFavour mill property ..." (Wilkinson) "... while the flames from the smaller building caught the wooden section of the mill (rolling and slitting mill) at the second story, they travelled through the stone section toward North Main street [sic] with ravaging effect." "Fortunately, it was possible to close the fire doors blocking the runway (bridge) from the firm's store that opens in North Main Street ... " "... ran through the stone portion, charring the floor and beams ..." "In the attic ... little harm was done ... except that there may be some injury by smoke." It is unknown what repairs were made to the mill at this time. Although it is clear that portions of the rolling and slitting mill also burned in this fire, they were	"Three Buildings Gutted by Flames", (Pawtucket, R.I., *Pawtucket Evening Times*, November 26, 1913). Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed August 23, 2021. https://pawtucket.advantage-preservation.com/viewer/?t=33987&i=t&d=01011886-12311920&fn=evening_times_usa_rhode_island_pawtucket_19131126_english_1

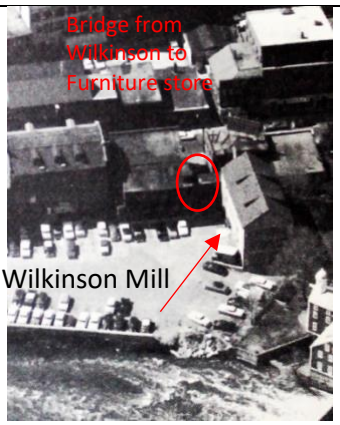
Date		Structural Evolution	Source
		repaired as can be seen in photos and maps around 1913 and 1917.	
ca. 1912	 Rolling and slitting Mill	East gable end has been renovated. New wood siding on east gable. New wood door located on the south end of the east gable. Single window opening centrally located in east gable. These repairs were most likely completed after the fire in 1913. Monitor windows on both roof slopes. Brick tower centrally located on west wall. Brick smokestack located on west wall north of stair tower. No change in connecting ell. The monitor-roofed structure (nearest to the river) now has a flat roof. This change could be a result of the 1913 fire, as the one-story buildings next door to the rolling and slitting mills are where the fire originated (A).	Photograph, (ca. 1912). Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021
1923		Mill is a free-standing structure. Ell structure and rolling and slitting mills no longer exist. It is at this time that the east wall was most likely filled with wood framing and heavy tar paper. (See April 5, 1948) Wilkinson Mill labeled “Furne W. Ho.” East wall labeled as “Cem. Blk, 3 ½ stories” The building was equipped with an automatic sprinkler system.	“Fire Insurance Map, Pawtucket, Central Falls, Providence County, Rhode Island. Vol.1 Sheet 4,” (New York, *Sanborn Map Company* 1923) Digital Sanborn Maps. Accessed August 22, 2021. https://digitalsanb

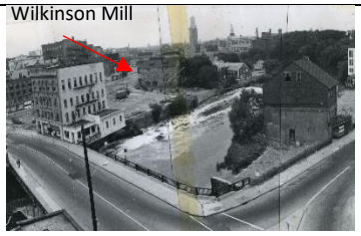
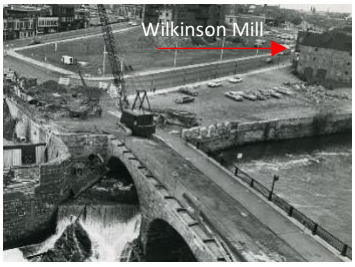
Date		Structural Evolution	Source
		Windows are notated on the south elevation only. This is contradictory to existing documentation. Although there is no additional information regarding the south elevation during this time, a 1924 photograph of the north elevation confirms window sashes were present in the north wall. The stair tower is labeled as 4 stories with a wood frame addition attached to its south wall. The wood addition is labeled 2 stories with a door leading into the mill and a wood-framed bridge connecting to the "Furne" building located south of the mill. Large smokestack is gone.	ornmaps.proquest.com/about?accountid=7136
1924		North elevation of Wilkinson Mill. Stair tower and large smokestack is visible. Shingle roof with monitor windows. Potentially original, 6/6 double-hung sashes. Chimney on north slope near west wall. Exterior cargo elevator attached to the north wall from ground level to above roof level. Stairway located on north wall between 1st and 2nd windows, turns and goes up wall to 2nd floor. Bulkhead visible at base of stairs.	Photograph, (1924). Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021
1940		Image shows "Wilkinson Mill built 1810 Pawtucket, Rhode Island." South elevation. North wall windows contain 2/2 sashes lined with some type of material on the interior of the sashes. Both arches are visible and are filled with vertical siding.	"Photograph, Pawtucket-Wilkinson Mill 1810," (1940). Rhode Island Mills and Mill Villages Photograph Collection, Providence Public Library Digital

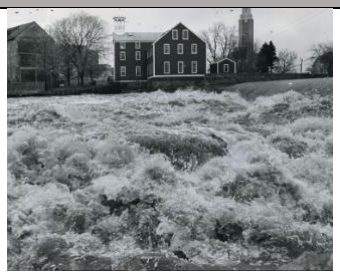
Date		Structural Evolution	Source
		Right arch has a door within the siding. Left arch appears to have a ribbon multi-paned window. Monitor windows on roof. Roof condition is poor. Metal gutters line the roof with a downspout between the 3rd and 4th row of windows.	Collections. Accessed July 2021. https://provlibdigital.org/islandora/object/islandora%3A161
April 5, 1948	 *Fire Ruins Furniture Warehouse; Wind Protects Old Slater Mill* 	". . . a spectacular wind-swept fire which destroyed their well-stocked 3 ½ story warehouse . . ." "The blaze started from a grass fire which ignited the tar-papered east wall of the structure." "Morris Hazen . . . and his brother Louis Hazen . . .co-owners . . ." " . . .fire destroyed the interior of the second and third floors, the loft and roof . . ." "A fire door on the second floor prevented flames from spreading through a wooden overpass (bridge) over Wilkinson Place to the Shaffer Furniture Company." "The windows on the north side of the building were either bricked up or boarded up and firemen had to smash in the boards on at least 10 windows on the two upper floors to use water to an advantage." The windows on the north elevation were boarded up sometime between 1924 (see 1924 photo) and 1948. "More than six inches of water settled on the ground floor and firemen were forced to drill holes in the planking to allow the water to escape." "The east wall of the structure is made of wood, covered with sheets of heavy tar paper." It is likely that this repair was made when the ell and rolling and	"Fire Ruins Furniture Warehouse; Wind Protects Old Slater Mill", (Pawtucket, R.I., *Pawtucket Evening Times*, April 5, 1948). Pawtucket Public Library. Accessed Aug 23, 2021. https://pawtucket.advantage-preservation.com/viewer/?k=furniture%20warehouse&t=37597&i=t&m=between&ord=k1&fn=the_pawtucket_times_usa_rhode_island_pawtucket_19520526_english_17&df=1&dt=10

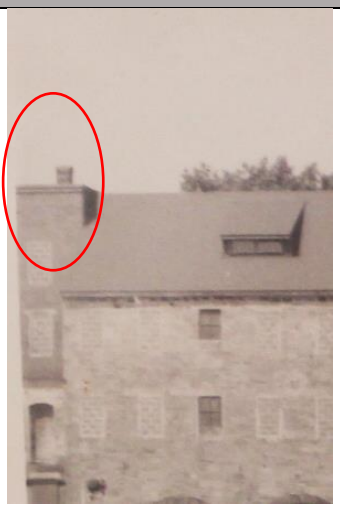
Date		Structural Evolution	Source
		slitting mills were removed from the east wall in ca.1925. "The warehouse was formerly occupied by the Old Pawtucket Furniture Company and the Hazen's said they acquired the building about 8 years ago."	
1948		". . .was damaged by fire about 12 years ago (1948). It was after, that repairs were made and many of the windows bricked up."	"Saved from the Wrecking Ball," (*Pawtucket Journal-Bulletin*, January 9, 1967). Old Slater Mill Association Archive, Scrap Book 1967-1970. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.
1949		Monitor windows visible on north slope of roof. Large brick smokestack is gone. Small brick chimney in its place.	Photograph, (1949). Old Slater Mill Association archive. 2018
ca. 1950		North elevation. Windows blocked up. Smaller monitor windows. Parking lot in place from river to the east elevation. Unknown structure in the foreground.	Photograph, (ca. 1950). Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.

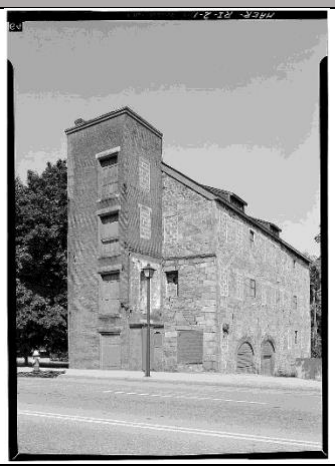
Date		Structural Evolution	Source
1954		Wilkinson and Slater Mills in high water due to Hurricane Edna and ensuing flood.	"Photograph, Pawtucket, R.I., Blackstone River and Wilkinson Mill," (1954). Providence Public Library Digital Collections. Accessed August 22, 2021. https://www.flickr.com/photos/pawtucketlibrary/sets/72157709968669226/
ca. 1955		Oblique view of southeast elevations. All but five windows blocked up on south elevation. The entire east elevation is made of concrete block. Stair tower and small chimney visible. Small brick chimney visible next to stair tower's north wall/west wall of mill. Two small monitor windows on roof's south slope. Sign reading "New York Furniture Co." located on south wall. Shed roof located over basement door opening on south elevation.	Photograph, (ca. 1955). Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.
1958		Shed roof over basement door opening on south elevation. No changes.	Photograph, (1958). Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.

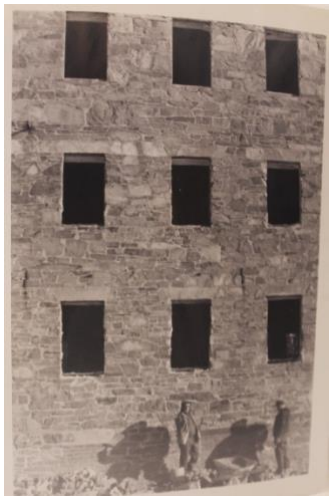
Date		Structural Evolution	Source
ca. 1960		Detail of east wall.	Photograph, (ca. 1960). Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.
1961		Furniture store and second floor bridge visible. Smaller monitor windows. Small smokestack not visible.	"Pawtucket Diamond Jubilee," (1961). Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.
1967		White paint marks the site of the second-story door, where the bridge leading to the furniture store was attached to the mill. Article: "It was reported interior work will be easy because the three floors and attic are in good condition." " . . . was damaged by fire about 12 years ago (1948). It was after, that repairs were made and many of the windows bricked up." ". . . board of managers . . . conduct a $400,000 fund drive to enhance the area around the old mill. Plans call for part of the money to be used to purchase from the city's redevelopment agency three parcels of land around the mill on both sides of the Blackstone River. Other Portions of the money will be used to purchase the stone mill and renovate it as well as the Slater Mill."	"Saved from the Wrecking Ball," (Pawtucket, R.I. *Journal-Bulletin,* January 9, 1967). Old Slater Mill Association Archive, Scrap Book 1967-1970. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

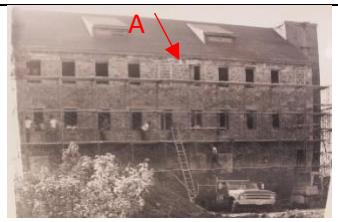
Date		Structural Evolution	Source
1968	 	Entire site, pre-restoration.	"Photograph, Pawtucket, R.I., Wilkinson Mill," (1970). Pawtucket Library, Historical Photo Collection. Accessed August 22, 2021. https://www.flickr.com/photos/pawtucketlibrary/50341360743/in/album-72157667646354770/
July 9, 1969		Granite rubble dumped next to Wilkinson Mill, for possible use in upcoming restoration. Eventually it was decided that the stone would not be needed and was removed.	"Photograph, Pawtucket, R.I., Wilkinson Mill," (1970). Pawtucket Library, Historical Photo Collection. Accessed August 22, 2021. https://www.flickr.com/photos/pawtucketlibrary/50341360743/in/album-72157667646354770/

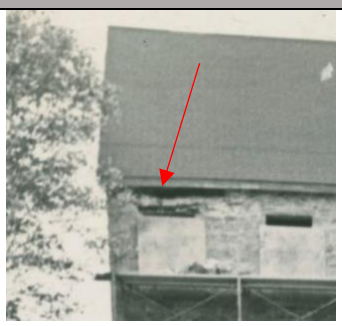
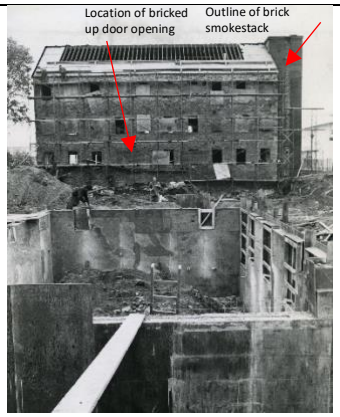
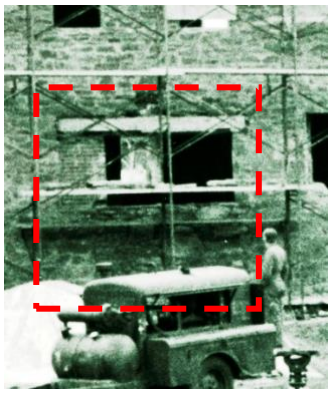
Date		Structural Evolution	Source
March 25, 1969		Although it is clear from this image there was potential flood damage to the mill, it cannot be confirmed as this is the only available documentation of this flood.	"Photograph, Pawtucket, R.I., Wilkinson Mill," (1970). Pawtucket Library, Historical Photo Collection. Accessed August 22, 2021.https://www.flickr.com/photos/pawtucketlibrary/sets/72157709987099272/with/48414622392/
1970		South elevation. Arched doorway, pre-rehabilitation. Note: the infill above the arch is deteriorating.	Photograph, (1970). Old Slater Mill Association Archive. July 2021.
1970		This is one of the first photos of the south elevation with enough clarity to see condition issues. Windows: The basement windows are filled with brick and topped with iron lintels. A blocked-up window is located on the southeast corner at basement level. It is surrounded by brick. Stone race archway missing. Five of the window openings contain 2/2 sashes. Their openings are larger than the windows. The remainder of the openings are filled with concrete block. Four window openings on the first story have been closed-up with stone, which signals they were filled at a different time than the	Photograph, (ca. 1970). Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021. Photograph, (ca. 1970). Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.

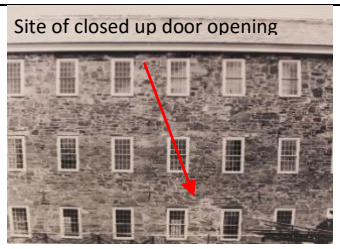
Date		Structural Evolution	Source
		remainder of the windows, which are filled with concrete block. This wall is in poor condition with random open holes in the masonry. The wall area above the third-floor window openings was poorly repaired with block stone or concrete block. There is an overabundance of mortar filling the areas around the blocks, indicating there was potential structural issues at this time. Most of the third-floor window openings are missing their lintels. The wide monitor windows are missing and in their place are two small monitor windows spaced widely apart. Small brick smokestack visible.	
1970		Southwest oblique view showing the stair tower pre-restoration. Windows on the ground level in the tower are boarded up. White paint around the arched doorway on the south wall indicates the site of the second story bridge. Holes for the bridge framing are in the south wall of the tower. The bridge's wood or iron support pieces are imbedded in both structures. There are three window openings on the west elevation of the mill. The second story opening appears to be filled with sash(es), while the third-floor opening is filled with concrete block. The ground floor window opening has been moved to the south and is boarded up. Nine-panel wood doors fill three of the four west elevation tower door openings. The ground level door appears to be boarded up. Structural cracks run between each door opening.	Photograph, Pawtucket Public Library. (1970). Accessed Aug 23, 2021. https://www.flickr.com/photos/pawtucketlibrary/collections/72157668214268496/ "Photograph, View of Wilkinson Mill in 1971, Wilkinson Mill, Roosevelt Avenue, Providence County, Pawtucket, R.I.," (Washington, D.C., *Library of*

Date		Structural Evolution	Source
		Stone lintels are located above all four door openings. The tower is in extremely poor condition. Many bricks are loose due to poor or missing mortar. Small brick smokestack visible.	*Congress Prints and Photographs Division,* 1971). Accessed July 2021. https://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/hh/item/ri0103/
1972		"Remove brick tower [smokestack]."	Ken Weed, Central Falls MFG. CO., "Phase Two, Exterior Doors and Door Frames," (November 27, 1972). Old Slater Mill Association Archive, Flat File #A-7. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

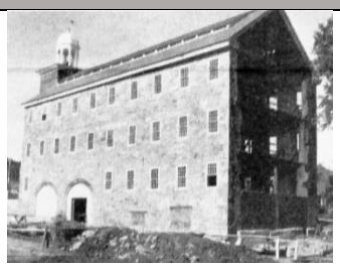
Date		Structural Evolution	Source
1971	 	South elevation rehabilitation. At this stage of rehabilitation almost all of the window openings have been opened up. The five older windows are still in place. Two small monitor windows still in place on the roof's south slope. Shingles are falling off the roof. Detail of south wall after most openings have been cleared out and lintels repaired/replaced. Holes in the wall have been repaired. Extensive repointing has been done. Basement openings are still bricked up.	Photograph, (1971). Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.
1971		South elevation rehabilitation. Roof repaired with reproduction monitor window. New roof cornice. Almost all window openings filled with new 9/9 sashes. Basement arches have either had the siding replaced and painted or just painted. Stair tower rehabilitation in progress. Small brick smokestack missing.	Photograph, (1971). Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.

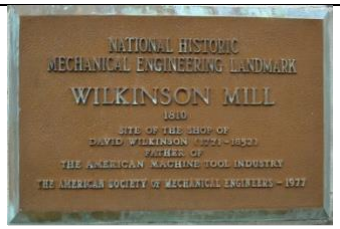
Date		Structural Evolution	Source
1971		South wall of stair tower. The deterioration of the mortar seen in earlier pictures signaled a dangerously deteriorated wall. This photo shows the deterioration at the top of the wall.	Photograph, (1971). Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.
		Inside the south wall of the stair tower during rehabilitation. Based on the amount of deterioration seen here, this section of wall would have collapsed soon if it had not been repaired.	Photograph, (1971). Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.
1971		North Elevation - early in the rehabilitation project. Two small monitor windows. Two window openings contain concrete block. The newspaper article from April 5, 1948 stated: “The windows on the north side of the building were either bricked up or boarded up.” What is seen here (some windows blocked up and others boarded up) could be the appearance of the north wall from 1948 to 1971. Some third-floor window openings on the right side appear to contain window frames. One window opening on the third floor is narrower and contains a small window frame (A). Many stone lintels are missing.	Photograph, (1971). Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.

Date		Structural Evolution	Source
1971		North elevation, northeast corner rehabilitation. Structural failure.	Photograph, Pawtucket Public Library. (1970). Accessed Aug 23, 2021. https://www.flickr.com/photos/pawtucketlibrary/collections/72157668214268496/
1970	 	*This photo contains notations in black marker along the roof line. North elevation rehabilitation. The roof is opened up to facilitate the restoration of the north slope monitor windows. The remainder of the roof repair is also in progress. Workers can be seen either shortening or lengthening the roof overhang, it is unclear which. Wall repairs have been done at the roofline. Most of the windows have plywood covering to protect the structure. There is a clear imprint from the removed small brick smokestack on the north wall of the stair tower. The tower's cornice has been cut to accommodate the stack. Wide doorway opening located between window openings on the ground floor. A temporary, wide, stone lintel has been added for stability. Opening was filled with brick all the way to ground level. Its location, directly next to a window indicates this door was added after the building's construction.	Ibid. Photograph, Pawtucket Public Library. (1970). Accessed Aug 23, 2021. https://www.flickr.com/photos/pawtucketlibrary/collections/72157668214268496/

Date		Structural Evolution	Source
ca .1971	Restoration Planning	"Part I of the redevelopment plan for Wilkinson Mill has been completed. This portion of the plan involved only the exterior restoration of the mill on three sides."	Paul Rivard, "The Wilkinson Mill, Updated Development Plan," (n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.
1972		Installation of new slate roof.	Photograph, (1972). Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.
1972	 	North elevation – finished rehabilitation project. Nearly complete roof restoration: Monitor windows, cornice, soffit, and slate shingles. Stair tower and nearby roof area rehabilitation still in progress.	Photograph, (1972). Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.

Date		Structural Evolution	Source
1972	 	Cupola reproduction. What is believed to be the original cupola disappeared from Wilkinson Mill sometime around 1910.   The Haynes/Doboer Associates Architects designed the cupola in 1971, which was based on the 1869 photo of the Wilkinson and Slater Mills cupolas.	Photograph, (1972). Old Slater Mill Association archive, Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021. Haynes/Deboer Associates Architects, "Proposal for Architectural and Engineering Services for Slater Mill Preservation Projects, Project Three: Restoration of Mill Cupolas," (November 30, 2009). Old Slater Mill Association Archive, Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021
1972	 	Placement of new cupola on Wilkinson Mill.	"Bonnet' For Mill", (*The Pawtucket Times,* July 5, 1972). Old Slater Mill Association archive, Slater Mill Scrap Book, 1971-1978. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.

Date		Structural Evolution	Source
1972	 	There is no other part of Wilkinson Mill that has had as many changes as the east elevation. There are very few images of the wall after the ell was removed. The upper image is the first of two images that show how the east wall looked after the concrete block had been removed in 1972, and after the north and south walls had been rehabilitated. Very little is visible. The ground floor is still enclosed in concrete block. The floors can be seen but it is impossible to know what they are made of. The second image shows even less of the wall, but it is possible to see floor supports. It is impossible to tell if they were made of wood or steel.	"The Work of IA", (*Society for Industrial Archeology* Newsletter. n.d.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive, Slater Mill Scrap Book, 1971-1978. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021. "A Sense of History," (Pawtucket, R.I., Pawtucket Times, n.d.). Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I., July 2021.
1972		Rehabilitation of east elevation. East wall has been rebuilt using stone that matches the rest of the building. Window frames installed but there are no sashes. The restoration of the raceway and arch is in progress.	Photograph, (1972). Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.

Date		Structural Evolution	Source
ca. 1975		The 1970-1972 rehabilitation project is complete.	Photograph, (ca. 1975). Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.
1977		Designated a National Historic Mechanical Engineering Landmark[1]	American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), Accessed September 15, 2021. https://www.asme.org/about-asme/engineering-history/landmarks/30-wilkinson-mill
1985		Very little changed on the south wall in the years between 1972 and 1985. The brick infill in the basement window and door opening(s) has been taken out, and now have been filled with 8/8 sashes and a four-panel wood door. The window opening on the southeast corner shows no sash at this time. The door located in the south elevation arch appears to have been replaced.	Photograph, (ca. 1985). Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.

[1] Photo taken by the author.

Date		Structural Evolution	Source
1990	Roof restoration	"Remove existing slate shingles . . ."	Letter/Proposal to Mr., Robert Macieski, *(RMB International Construction Group*, March 6, 1990). Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.
		"Work Description: . . . Slate ridge cap was removed . . . The Ridge was flashed with 60 mil, EPDM membrane bed in elastic cement. Broken or missing [slate] pieces were replaced. The slate ridge cap . . . was then reinstalled with salvaged or new slate pieces . . . with spots of elastic cement and large head, Slater's hard copper wire nails and point seal with elastic cement." "Future work . . . includes painting the window sills, restoring the windows and door in the wheel pit . . . enhancing our climate control over collections space on the third floor . . ."	"Project Report," (n.d.). Old Slater Mill Association archive. July 2021.
1999	Maintenance	"We are currently putting . . . projects out to bid . . . install new subsurface drainage system from the base of Wilkinson Mill belfry southerly and easterly raceway and northerly to the existing storm drain." ". . . second project is to clean exterior brick wall surfaces of the belfry, replace selected ashlar where missing and bricks where deteriorated, spot repointing of selected exterior brick and ashlar wall surfaces, spot consolidating wheel pit masonry at water flow-	Gail Fowler Mohanty - Executive Director Old Slater Mill Association, "Letter to Alfred St. Angelo," (Pawtucket, R.I., Old Slater Mill Association, August 2, 1999). Old Slater Mill Association Archive.

Date		Structural Evolution	Source
		through locations and cutting out and caulking reentrant corners at Wilkinson Mill ashlar and belfry walls . . ."	Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021
July 2006	Masonry, cupola, tower, drainage project	"The brick tower was likely built before 1840 and was repointed with a surface of a red repointing mortar sometime in the late 19th century. The mortar is hard . . ." "Also contributing to the decay of the brick is a reoccurring water drainage problem at the base of the tower." The exterior brick on each of the three sides of the tower will first be washed . . . and rinsed, the mortar joints will be completely cut out with grinders equipped with diamond blades and a vacuum system, then repointed with high lime mortar. . . Approx 65 spalled English bricks will be removed and replaced. The stone wall and fence at the northwest side of the tower will be removed and drainage will be installed. The cobles outside the tower entrance will be reset to direct drainage to the lower outside corner of the entryway. Repoint the mortar void in the north stone facework of the mill.	"Request for Proposals," (2006). Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021
April 2006 - winner of the contract	Masonry, cupola, tower, drainage project	"Complete re-pointing of three sides of the brick Bell Tower including replacement of damaged brick and areas of stone masonry . . . Excavation, foundation, waterproofing and storm water drainage for west wall. . ."	Paul Choquette & Co, "Bid on Restoration and Repair of Brick and Stone Masonry," (April 4, 2006.) Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.
February 2010	Cupola project	"Inspect . . . prepare for painting and paint steel components of weather vane . . ."	"Cupola Repairs, Preliminary," (February 25,

Date		Structural Evolution	Source
		"Remove and replace top 8 courses of clapboards." "Clean, prepare for painting . . metal cap flashing." "Inspect all components, repair or replace all deteriorated, missing or damaged pieces in-kind. Use solid mahogany for replacement . . . Use epoxy consolidates where required." Replace wood cribbing with new Spanish cedar pieces . . ." " . . . resolder open joints . . ." "Remove post base. Install solid wood base . . ." "Patch, repair, caulk impost blocks . . ."	2010). Old Slater Mill Association Archive, Flat file A-4. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.
2011-2012	Window project	". . . surface preparation, painting, and reglazing . . . of all double hung sash in 79 windows. Work to include painting interior surfaces of sash . . . " ". . . repair and restoration of deteriorated wood (not requiring replacement) using wood consolidate repair system . . ." "New wood to be painted . . . two coated exterior oil base primer sealer. Two coats exterior acrylic latex gloss finish." "Painted exterior wood to be re-painted: . . . treat with two parts raw linseed oil and one part turpentine, one coat oil base wood primer, two coats 100% acrylic latex . . ." "Painted Interior wood sash surfaces to be repainted: On bare wood, one coat alkyd interior primer, two coats interior latex semi-gloss."	"Project Specifications, Wilkinson Mill, Exterior Woodwork Restoration," (2011). Old Slater Mill Association Archive. Pawtucket, R.I. July 2021.