

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places Registration Form**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of PropertyHistoric name: Chase Brass and Copper Company Rolling Mill (No. 1) Historic DistrictOther names/site number: Waterbury Manufacturing Company; Chase Metal Works

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. LocationStreet & number: 526 and 730 North Main Street, 40 East Farm StreetCity or town: Waterbury State: Connecticut County: New HavenNot For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this ___ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___national ___statewide ___local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___A ___B ___C ___D

Signature of certifying official/Title:**Date**_____
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official:**Date**_____
Title :**State or Federal agency/bureau
or Tribal Government**

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register
☐ determined eligible for the National Register
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register
☐ removed from the National Register
☐ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:

☒

Public – Local

☐

Public – State

☐

Public – Federal

☐

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)

☐

District

☒

Site

☐

Structure

☐

Object

☐

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>8</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>9</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRY/Manufacturing Facility, Industrial Storage

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRY/Industrial Storage

COMMERCE/TRADE/ Business, Warehouse

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER: Late 19th and Early 20th Century Industrial Complex

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, Concrete

Narrative Description

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

Summary Paragraph

The Chase Brass and Copper Company Rolling Mill complex encompasses a dense group of industrial buildings along North Main Street in Waterbury, Connecticut that historically serviced the Waterbury Manufacturing Company and Chase Companies, Inc. (Figure 1). At its height, the industrial site included over thirty interconnected brick and steel-framed buildings and was one of the largest brass and copper producers in the state. Today, the former industrial site encompasses nine extant buildings, constructed between ca. 1890 and ca. 1950, and one partially extant structure – a canal dating to at least the late-19th century (Figure 2).¹ The complex generally reflects a period of significance from ca. 1890-1958, during which time the site was owned and operated by the Waterbury Manufacturing Company and Chase Companies Inc. during the height of Waterbury's brass production.

¹ As the building complex evolved, buildings were expanded and connected via additions, connecting buildings, and enclosed walkways. For the purposes of this report, buildings that have evolved over time through additions and now form one cohesive unit are generally considered one building. Buildings that have been connected via enclosed walkways or connecting buildings, but remain architecturally distinct from one another will be considered separate units.

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Of the nine buildings, eight are considered contributing to the Historic District and one is noncontributing due to physical alterations that have diminished the building's integrity. A portion of the canal remains and is a contributing resource. The factory building (building 274/276/238/238A/238Ext), building 239, the Rolling Mill (buildings 34/223), the boiler house (building 237), the loft building (building 30/31/32) and the old boiler house (building 5/6) within the industrial complex are generally interconnected via connecting hallways and enclosed walkways and are oriented in a row, north-south. Building 250, building 231, and the forge building (building 271/271A) are located east of the main group of buildings. The canal, which is part of Great Brook, runs underneath the Rolling Mill (building 34/223) and is audible from the northern section of the Rolling Mill and the covered carport. The complex generally reflects late Victorian industrial architecture, and the buildings are characterized by brick-pier and steel-frame construction. Earlier buildings at the complex utilize brick pier-and-spandrel, fire-resistive construction. Buildings at the complex constructed in the early twentieth century have a steel frame with self-supporting brick walls, reinforced concrete, and steel sash windows. Common architectural features include segmental arched window openings with stone sills and brick arched headers, operable garage doors, and steel windows. Monitor roofs are found on several of the factory buildings. Alterations to the buildings since the company's closure in 1976 generally comprise replacement windows, brick and CMU infill, coating of the exterior in thick stucco, and replacement of historic fenestrations with modern garage doors. Despite these changes, the former industrial site retains high building density, a functional relationship between extant buildings, and vast, open spaces on the interior that reflect the original uses of the buildings.

Narrative Description

Setting

The Chase Brass and Copper Company Rolling Mill (No. 1) Historic District is located in Waterbury, Connecticut, a city in New Haven County, near the border of Litchfield County. Waterbury is located approximately 33 miles southwest of Hartford and 77 miles northeast of New York City. The Historic District is located in the Crownbrook neighborhood in the lower north end of Waterbury, Connecticut, and is approximately 2.2 miles southeast of the Waterbury-Wolcott line, 1.2 miles north of Interstate 84 (I-84), and 1.7 miles east of the Naugatuck River. The complex encompasses 15.1 acres and is generally bounded by North Main Street to the west, East Farm Street to the north, Orange Street and Vine Street to the east, and Cherry Street to the south. The parcel is generally flat and gradually slopes downward from East Farm Street to Cherry Street. The complex is located below street level, and a stone wall is located along North Main Street and extends from the pavement of the complex to the street. A stone wall is also located along Vine Street, separating the complex from residential construction. Paved asphalt is generally located between buildings with some lawn situated between buildings 271, 237 and Orange Street. A brick fence runs along North Main Street on the west side of the complex, and a chain link fence generally surrounds the remainder of the complex. Landscaping is generally vacant, and the complex is predominantly surrounded by residential construction. The loft building (building

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30/21/32) is located at the southeast corner of the complex and fronts onto North Main Street. A series of smaller buildings (building 5/6) that formerly served as the boiler house are positioned south of the rear ell of the loft building. The Rolling Mill (building 34/223) is located northeast of the former loft building and boiler house. A small, square building (building 239) is connected to the north elevation of the rolling mill, and connects the rolling mill to building 238, located north of building 239. Building 250 is located west of building 238, and is located at the southwest corner of East Farm Street and Orange Street. Buildings 231 and 271 (the former forge building) are located south of building 250. An additional boiler house (building 237) is located south of building 271 and east of the Rolling Mill.

The industrial site was historically powered by waterpower infrastructure, which ran through the complex. A canal ran underneath the Rolling Mill, and is still partly visible. According to the 1890 Sanborn Map, an 18' by 37' underground reservoir was located at the approximate location of the current loft building (building 30/31/32). Located north of the complex was Hitchcock's pond, now a paved area west of the Factory Building. A stream ran from Hitchcock's pond along the east side of the complex to an unnamed pond located at the southern end of the campus. During this time, wheel houses were present on the campus, housing the water wheels that powered the plant. In the 1901 Sanborn map, Hitchcock's pond is still present and a stream runs along the east side of the complex to a canal at the south end. The canal continues south to Waterbury Clock Manufacturing Works. In 1910, an additional rolling mill was constructed along the Naugatuck River, approximately three miles from the original complex. The new mill was connected to the site via a private railway.

While the current industrial site reflects a cohesive collection of buildings contributing to brass and copper construction within a high-density setting, other buildings associated with Chase Companies Inc. were located within the general proximity of the site and separated by residential construction. The Company's administration building, designed by Cass Gilbert, is located at 235 Grand Street within the Downtown Waterbury Historic District and approximately one mile southwest of the Chase Brass and Company Rolling Mill industrial complex. The Company's Rolling Mill No. 2 (Chase Metal Works) was located along the Naugatuck River, near Thomaston Avenue and Chase River Road, approximately three miles northwest of the complex.

Loft Building, Building 30/31/32, Contributing, 1917

Building 30/31/32 is located within the southwest section of the industrial complex, at the northeast intersection of North Main Street and Elizabeth Street. The building runs north-south parallel to North Main Street. The brick and concrete building, constructed in 1917, has concrete floors, a concrete roof, and brick curtain walls (photos 1-3). Several earlier brick buildings, originally located to the south and east, were demolished between 1950 and 1971, likely as a result of the flood of 1955.

The six-story, seventeen-bay, concrete loft building occupies a T-shaped footprint, sits on a rubble stone and brick foundation, and terminates in a flat roof (photo 4). The main block of the building, running along North Main Street and encompassing buildings 31 and 32, bends slightly to match

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the contour of North Main Street. A rear wing (Building 30) is located north of center along the west elevation of building 31/32 and extends east. The majority of the building retains its original double-hung, four-over-four light, steel sash window units, which opened to allow air through the top and bottom of the window frame. Windows are ganged to fill the width of each bay, typically in groups of three.

The main block of the building (Building 31/32) is seventeen bays long by three bays wide. Bays are separated by concrete piers that run the length of the elevation. Windows generally comprise double-hung, four-over-four-light, steel-sash windows, ganged in groups of three; double-hung, five-over-five light, steel-sash windows; and double-hung, three-over-three light, steel-sash windows, paired. Concrete sills and concrete headers are present on windows. Some windows, including all windows on the ground floor of the west elevation, have been boarded up; it is unknown if the original glazing is present underneath the wood boards. An entrance is located on the northernmost bay of the west elevation and comprises a double-leaf wood door with metal hardware that is accessed via concrete steps. The area above the door has been filled with concrete masonry units (CMU). The north and south elevations generally mirror the east and west elevations; however, no windows are present on the westernmost row of bays, which has brick infill. An elevator shaft, clad in concrete, is centrally located along the south elevation. Portions of the south elevation have been covered in stucco. An entrance is located along the south elevation and leads to the basement (photo 5). The entrance comprises a metal garage door.

The wing (building 30) extends from the east elevation of the main block. The wing generally mirrors the main block and is eight bays long by four bays wide. Windows on the wing generally mirror those on the main block and also include double-hung, four-over-four light, steel-sash units; no brick is present between stories. The first floor of the wing is not visible from the complex due to the presence of a privacy fence and other buildings. Exterior ductwork is present throughout the wing, protruding from the roofline and continuing along the concrete pilasters to the third story. A one-story, single-pile addition along the east elevation of the wing extends south. The southern elevation of the addition is clad in CMU. Broken brick is present, showing where a connection to another building in the factory complex previously stood.

The interior of the building generally comprises large areas of vast, open space with rows of concrete Turner columns running the length of the building (photos 6-8). The cylindrical Turner columns have flared plain capitals and a square connecting plate at the ceiling. The columns along the exterior walls of the building are rectangular with a curved ceiling connection; Turner columns are also present on this floor. The basement has a parged fieldstone foundation that runs the width of the windows; fieldstone is separated by concrete piers that fill the space between the windows (Photo 9). A dirt floor is present. The basement is accessible via a wooden stairwell and a horizontal opening freight elevator. A room is separated from the main space of the basement by a partition wall and doors; it is unknown what the room is used for. The interior walls vary throughout each floor, and include concrete block, brick, and gypsum wallboard. The ceilings are board-formed concrete, and the floor is finished concrete. The building has an interior freight

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elevator, and is connected to the original boiler house (building 5/6) through an interior hallway (photos 10-11).

Boiler room, Buildings 5/6 Contributing, ca. 1890

A series of interconnected brick buildings are located south of building 30 and west of building 31 (photo 12). The brick buildings are attached to the east elevation of building 30/32 and are offset diagonally, facing northeast. As the company expanded and evolved, the brick buildings became interconnected via enclosed walkways and additions, and today generally form one cohesive unit. The cluster of buildings is comprised of the former boiler house (building 6), two east-west gable buildings (building 5) used for annealing, and an additional east-west gable building with an unknown use. The boiler house (building 6), located on the eastern end of the cluster and oriented north-south, is the oldest of the brick buildings, constructed prior to 1890. The southern half of the building served as the engine room; it is unknown if the engine remains. The two southern east-west gable buildings were constructed between 1885 and 1901. The current configuration of buildings, including the northernmost east-west gable building, is present in 1951 aerial imagery. These buildings were originally surrounded by additional brick buildings to the west, east, and south. The former building to the west, housing the press room, machine room, and pattern storage, was replaced by the facility building (building 30/31/32). Additional brick buildings to the south and west were likely demolished after the flood of 1955.

The buildings are of brick bearing wall construction, laid in the common bond style, with segmental arched window openings. The three east-west gable buildings are oriented in a row north-south and are connected along the north and south elevations. The northern two buildings extend from the east elevation of building 30/31/32 to the west elevation of the former boiler house. The southernmost building extends from the east elevation of building 30/31/32 to the east elevation of the boiler house (photos 13-14). The cluster of buildings are all connected and form a roughly rectangular footprint.

The former boiler house is a two-story, six bay building, occupying a rectangular footprint and terminating in a gable roof sheathed in corrugated metal, with a monitor roof clad in metal (photo 15). Window units generally comprise rectangular, double-hung, four-over-four light, sash units with stone sills on the ground floor, and segmental arched openings on the upper floor that have been boarded up. Single-pane basement windows are present along the foundation, and four-pane awning units are present on the monitor roof. Window units on the north elevation have been boarded up. The building has a decorative brick cornice with brick angle patterning, raised brick detailing, and brick dentils.

The two northern-most east-gable buildings are one story, occupy rectangular footprints, and terminate in gable roofs sheathed in corrugated metal, with monitor roofs. The elevations of these buildings are not visible due to the presence of surrounding buildings. The southernmost building is one-and-a-half stories with a raised basement, occupies rectangular footprint, and terminates in a gable roof sheathed in corrugated metal. The building is in line with the east elevation of the former boiler house. A brick wall with a rubblestone foundation is attached to the southern

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elevation of the building, and is likely a remainder of the former riveting and pressing building that was demolished after the flood of 1955. Windows on the south elevation have been filled in with bricks or CMU. Similarly, the east elevation has been filled in with CMU; although brick is still present along the foundation. A metal rolling door is elevated off the ground of the east elevation. A brick connecting building joins the south elevation of building 30 to the northern elevation of the brick building cluster (building 5). The one-story, three-bay building terminates in a flat roof (photo 16). A parapet with decorative brick detailing and brick dentils is present along the east elevation. The windows have been boarded up.

The interior of building 5/6 generally comprises open space with metal trusses and columns visible throughout (photo 17). The trusses are connected to the exterior walls with brick corbel connections (photos 18-19). The building connection on the west and south walls of the original boiler house has been stabilized with the addition of CMU and a steel wide flange beam after the removal of the original brick wall up to the second floor. The cluster of buildings constructed after the original boiler house (building 5) are of steel wide flange construction with steel trusses and minimal interior walls. The interior walls that exist are CMU and gypsum wallboard. The building currently is not in use; the interior is filled with tires and evidence of possible fire damage is visible on the interior walls.

Rolling Mill, Building 34/223, Contributing, ca. 1900

Building 34/223 is located northeast of building 30/31/32 and building 5/6. The metal building was constructed between 1895 and 1901. In the 1901 Sanborn map notes, the eastern half of the building is denoted as an iron building with corrugated iron walls and large windows, and the western half of the building is denoted as a brick building used for annealing and casting (photo 20). A small brick addition is located north of the brick annealing room and was used for moulding and casting. On the 1950 Sanborn map, the entire building is marked as the Rolling Mill and noted as having a steel frame and concrete floors. Several small brick additions (building 2323A, 223B, 217, and 247) were attached to the west and north elevations. The additions have since been demolished.

The one-story building fronts North Main Street. The building terminates in four east-west gables sheathed in corrugated metal. The southern-most gable is five bays in length, is taller than the northern three gables, and extends the entire length of the building. The northern three gables are staggered in height based on original use of the building. The eastern half of the building, originally used as the Rolling Mill, is slightly taller than the western half of the building, originally used for annealing.

The west elevation of the building is clad in stucco and vertically oriented vinyl siding. A one-story porch supported by brick columns and terminating in a flat roof is present along a portion of the west elevation. Doors units generally comprise overhead rolling doors, some of which are accessed via long, concrete ramps, and single-leaf metal doors (photos 21-22). Windows generally comprise modern tripartite, double, and single-light window units. The south elevation of the Rolling Mill is clad in thick stucco, painted gray and has concrete piers, also coated in stucco

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(photo 23). Window units generally comprise modern, single-pane units, that are paired. A massive entryway is centrally located with concrete piers on either side. The entry extends the height of the building. No door unit was identified during field survey.

Two additions are located along the north elevation of the Rolling Mill. A two-story office building was constructed post 1960. The addition is clad in stucco, matching the Rolling Mill, and terminates in a flat roof (photo 24). Window and door units generally comprise double-hung, one-over-one light, vinyl sash units and single-leaf door units. The north elevation of the office has an entry porch supported by wood posts and terminating in a shed roof sheathed in terracotta. To the north of the office building is a carport, which was constructed after the closure of the company. The carport is clad in stucco, supported by metal posts, and terminates in a shed roof. The remainder of the north elevation is clad in brick; window units have been filled in with CMU (photo 25-26).

The Rolling Mill has been modified and altered since the closure of the Chase Rolling Mill. The building currently has a steel flat truss using steel wide flange beams, with the original wood trusses remaining only in one section at the north end of the building (photo 27-28). The original brick façade of the warehouse complex is still visible on the interior, although the exterior face has been stuccoed and painted on all sides; the stucco likely dates to the mid-twentieth century. A catwalk is suspended among the metal trusses. The trusses are supported by wide flange columns set in square concrete bases and support a corrugated metal roof (photo 29-31). The roof frame is minimally anchored on the historic brickwork of the building. The north, east, and west elevations have original stone or brick walls, while the southern spur of the building is constructed using CMU. Many of the original windows and openings have been enclosed and stuccoed, although they are still visible from the interior.

Boiler House, building 237, Contributing, ca. 1910

The Boiler House, constructed ca. 1910, is attached to the east elevation of the Rolling Mill (photo 32). The building was constructed between 1901 and 1921 and previously held the cauldron to melt the brass ingots used in the production of the brass products. The two-story, steel-framed building has brick walls, a gable roof, and a concrete floor. The boiler house occupies a rectangular footprint and terminates in a low-pitched gable roof. The exterior has been coated with thick stucco. The façade (south elevation) has an overhead rolling door and a single-leaf door. Single-pane, rectangular window units are present on the west elevation (photo 33). No other door or window units were identified. Additional details are obscured by the retaining wall along Orange and Vine Streets and the building is not visible from most locations in the complex. The condition of the brick underneath the stucco is unknown.

Building 239, Contributing, ca. 1910

Building 239 is located north of the Rolling Mill and connects the former Rolling Mill to building 238/238A/274/276. Building 239 is a square, four-story, brick pier-and-spandrel building with a flat roof, segmental arched windows, and concrete floors (photo 34). It is mostly obscured by the surrounding buildings. The building was constructed between 1901 and 1921. Bays are separated

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by brick piers. The brick is laid in the common bond style, with an arched brick header and stone sill around the windows. Windows generally comprise double-hung, two-over-one light, vinyl-sash units, single-pane vinyl sash units, and double-hung, one-over-one light, vinyl sash units. Some windows have been boarded up. In cases where windows were replaced with modern single-pane units, the remainder of the original window frame has been boarded up. Raised brick detailing at the parapet is evident on the west and south face; it is unknown if it is extant on the east side as the parapet is covered with stucco.

The south elevation has a stepped center parapet. The center step of the parapet allows for an additional transom window (photo 35). The east and west facades have an increase in parapet height to account for the arched truck breezeway at the south end of the rolling mill warehouse (photo 36-37). The west entry has since been enclosed by the west addition to the rolling mill, although it is still visible on the interior of the building, and the arch has been filled by windows visible above the addition. A loading dock is attached to the west elevation of building 239. The loading dock has been stuccoed to match the Rolling Mill and comprises an overhead rolling door and pedestrian door leading to a fire stairwell under the overhang (photo 38). The windows on the east elevation have been enclosed and the wall has been painted. A standard door located on the north side of the east wing of the building has been covered with plywood and houses the stairs to access an apartment installed over the drive through. The second pier space on the top floor of the east side has been replaced with a door to access a wall mounted wide-flange metal platform with air conditioning units. The building connects to the south to the Rolling Mill, and to the west and north to the Factory building (photo 39).

An elevator shaft is located within the building (photos 40-42). The elevator is no longer in the shaft, but the doors remain with a Peelle Company latch mechanism visible from the ground floor of the shaft.² The roof of the elevator shaft is pyramidal glass with metal mullions. To the south of the freight elevator is an enclosed set of fire stairs that are not original to the building and are accessible from the street level adjacent to an overhead rolling door.

Factory Building, Building 238/238A/238Ext/274/276, Contributing, 1908

The Factory building is a 450-foot-long building located at the northern end of the industrial complex at the southeast intersection of East Farm Street and North Main Street (photo 43). The Factory Building encompasses the original factory building (building 238), constructed 1908, a brick garage and storage addition (building 274 and 276), constructed ca. 1915, a brick and wood-frame addition used for shipping (building 238A), constructed ca. 1915, and a wood-frame addition used for annealing and pickling (building 238 Ext), constructed ca. 1940.

The original factory building is a two-and-a-half-story, nine-bay, brick building that occupies a rectangular footprint and terminates in a gable roof with a monitor roof. The building has a steel-framing system and concrete floors. A quarry-faced stone foundation is visible on the north elevation, which fronts onto East Farm Street. Brick piers separate bays and extend from the top

² Peelle Company is a historic elevator company founded in New York in 1905 and is still in operation today. They are a global provider of Vertical Slide Freight Elevator Doors.

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of the foundation to the cornice, which has decorative brick detailing (photo 44). Four door openings are located along the foundation of the building, interrupting the stone foundation. Three of the openings have arched doorways with a decorative brick header; the entrances have been filled in with brick. The center-right doorway comprises a metal garage door. Windows on the north elevation have been altered, with replacement double-pane sliding windows. The remainder of the original window footprint has been filled in and covered in stucco. The windows retain their original stone sills and brick arched headers. Three windows are centrally located on the gable-end of the north elevation have been boarded up. The remaining elevations of the original factory building are obscured by the additions.

The brick garage and storage addition (building 376/274) is attached to the west elevation of the factory building and extends the length of the factory building (photo 45). The northern half of the addition was constructed between 1908 and 1921, and the southern half was constructed between 1921 and 1950. The addition fronts onto East Farm Street and terminates in a low-pitched gable roof. The north elevation of the addition generally matches the style of the original factory building, with a brick façade and matching decorative cornice detailing. Window units generally comprise double-hung, eight-over-eight light, wooden sash units with stone sills and arched headers. Original arched door openings have been filled in with brick and boarded up. The central door opening on the north elevation has a single-leaf, pedestrian door; the original footprint has been filled in with CMU. Another brick addition is located along the west elevation and terminates in a shed roof. The west elevation has a brick parapet; no window or door units are present. The southern half of the west elevation and the south elevation have been covered in stucco (photo 46). Window units generally comprise double-pane sliding, replacement windows, and double-hung, one-over-one light, vinyl sash window units. Several enclosed entry porches are located along the east elevation, have modern storefront windows, and terminate in hipped roofs sheathed in terracotta.

The brick and wood-frame addition used for shipping (238A), extends from the east elevation of the original factory building, and fronts onto East Farm Street. The building occupies a rectangular footprint and terminates in a low-pitched gable roof. The north elevation is clad in brick; the east and south elevations are clad in stucco (photo 47). Window units generally comprise segmental arched openings with brick arched headers; window units are boarded up or filled in with brick. The south elevation has two loading dock bays (photo 48).

The wood-frame addition used for annealing and pickling is attached to the east elevation of the original factory building, south of the shipping addition. This wood addition was replaced by a modern shed-roofed addition of the same footprint. The addition has steel-frame construction, terminates in a shed roof, and is clad in stucco. Window and door units generally comprise operable garage doors, single-leaf pedestrian doors, and fixed, eight-pane window units. Double-pane sliding windows separated by brick piers are visible along the east elevation of the monitor roof.

The interior of the original brass rolling mill building currently is used as a warehouse (photos 49-50). The interior of the building has been painted cream matching the stucco on the exterior of the

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building. The monitor roof is not visible from the interior of the building due to the addition of a drop ceiling in the main warehouse area (photos 51-52). The brick pier pattern on the exterior of the building is also visible in the interior (photos 53-54). The brick arched openings have been covered with concrete masonry units and stuccoed, matching the exterior treatment. There are cutoff wide flange beams from a previous mezzanine, protruding approximately eight feet above floor level (photos 55-56).

Building 250, Contributing, ca. 1910

Building 250 is located at the northeast corner of the complex at the southwest intersection of Orange Street and East Farm Street, and is located west of building 238/238A/238Ext/274/276. This building, constructed ca. 1910, first appears on the 1922 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map. The building served as a factory building with a small rear addition used for annealing and a small addition of the west elevation used as a switch house. The four-story building occupies an L-shaped footprint and terminates in a flat roof; a one-story brick building is located within the ell of the building at the corner of Orange Street and East Farm Street (photo 57). This common bond brick pier-and-spandrel building sits on a concrete foundation.

The main block of the building is nine bays in length along East Farm Street by eight bays in width. A wing extends from the east elevation of the main block towards Orange Street and is four bays in width by four bays in height. Bays are generally separated by brick piers extending from the foundation to the cornice, which features decorative brick detailing. Window units generally comprise segmental arched openings with paired, double-hung, two-over-two light, sash units. Windows have stone sills and brick arched headers; some windows, including all windows on the north elevation and the majority of windows on the west elevation, have been boarded up (photo 58-59). Windows on the southern elevation have generally been replaced with smaller, modern windows. Door units generally comprise overhead rolling, garage doors, and single-leaf pedestrian door units. Original arched door openings have either been filled in with CMU or boarded up.

The west elevation of the building has a staggered depth, with the southern half recessed in depth by one bay to accommodate a stairwell (photo 60). Two additions, constructed ca. 1950, are attached to the recessed portion of the west elevation (photo 61). The southern-most addition is a square, brick building with brick pier-and-spandrel construction, terminating in a shed roof. A smaller, brick addition is located to the north and terminates in a flat roof. An elevator shaft is located on the south elevation of the building (photo 62). Attached to the south elevation of the building west of the elevator shaft, is a one-story, brick addition, constructed ca. 1940. The addition is five bays by two bays, has decorative brick corbeling, and terminates in a shed roof. It has an operable, rolling garage door.

A one-story, brick building is located at the corner of Orange and East Farm streets, within the corner of the ell of the factory building (photo 63-64). A brick building first appears in this place on the 1921 Sanborn map. On the 1950 Sanborn map, the building is denoted as a restaurant. It is unknown if the current building in this location, used as a bodega, is original. The one-story,

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corner store is clad in CMU and brick, has a brick parapet and modern storefront windows, and terminates in a flat roof. This building is not included within the boundaries of the historic district.

Storehouse, Building 231, Contributing, ca. 1930

The Storehouse (building 231) abuts Orange Street, south of Building 250 and faces west toward the interior of the complex. The building, constructed ca. 1930, is visible on the 1934 aerial and first appears on Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps in 1950. It was originally used for the storage of flammable liquids associated with the brass rolling process. The 1950 Sanborn map shows the interior divided into five bays corresponding to storage for four different liquids: two bays for oil, and one each for lacquer, alcohol, and acid. The floor and roof are listed as concrete, with the oil, lacquer, and alcohol bays having tile walls.

The one-story, five-bay by two-bay, rectangular, brick building occupies a rectangular footprint and terminates in a flat roof (photo 65). Bays are separated by brick piers that have been truncated at varying heights before they reach the roofline. The entire building is coated with thick stucco and painted grey. The condition of the brick underneath is unknown. Five modern overhead metal rolling doors are located on the façade (west elevation); these correspond to the original purpose of the building, although the size of the doors may not be original. The remaining three elevations have single, segmental arched window openings, with brick lintels and sills. Window openings on the north and south elevations are taller in height than those on the east (photos 66-67). All window openings have been filled in and stuccoed over; the original glazing is unknown. Door openings are located on the north and south elevation. The opening on the north elevation has been filled in with CMU. The opening on the south elevation is partially obstructed from public view by a privacy fence but appears to generally match the north elevation. The condition of the interior of the building is currently unknown.

Forge Building, Building 271/271A, Non-Contributing, ca. 1930

The Forge Building is located southwest of building 231 and west of building 239. The brick building, constructed ca. 1930, was built on the site of an earlier wagon shed, with an attached steel-framed building. The steel-framed building is present on the 1950 Sanborn map, attached to the southwest corner of the forge building, but was demolished between 2008 and 2012 based on historic aerial imagery. The Forge building is comprised of three sections with flat roofs and parapets, and walls coated with thick stucco (photo 68). The original portion of the building is constructed of a steel frame, with concrete floors and a concrete roof and appears on the 1934 aerial map. This portion of the building has a two-story section that originally had a monitor roof, which has since been removed, and a slightly shorter section to the south. A one-story wood-frame addition with a concrete floor was added to the north end of the building by 1950. The building faces west.

The two-story building occupies a rectangular footprint and is five bays wide by nineteen bays long. The exterior of the building has been substantially altered. Windows on the ground floor of

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the west elevation have been filled in and stuccoed over. The windows were originally slightly recessed from the building. The original footprint and window glazing is unknown. Modern, square, single-pane window units are located on the upper-story of the west elevation (photo 69). Two arched entrances are located on the west elevation. One entrance has a modern, operable metal garage door; the remainder of the arched opening has been filled in and stuccoed. The other arched entrance has a recessed, single-leaf pedestrian door; the remainder of the former entrance has been filled in and stuccoed over. The east elevation is partially obscured by a privacy fence but generally mirrors the west elevation. Windows on the north and south elevations generally comprise rectangular openings and segmental arched openings; all window openings have been filled in or boarded up (photo 70). The one-story wood-frame addition has three modern garage doors and one single-leaf pedestrian door on the west elevation; it is unknown whether the doors are original to the building (photo 71). No additional window or door units were identified on the remainder of the wood-frame addition.

The interior of the north addition has columns supporting the roof and is currently used as reclaimed vehicle storage (photo 72). The southern portion of the building is currently vacant. From the interior of the southern portion, the original arched window openings are visible, as are the CMU used to enclose them. Arched windows that are not visible from the exterior on the north side are visible from the interior. Previously there was a mezzanine on the west wall, as seen by the I-beams that have been cut back. Other interior structures may have existed, evidenced by the I-beams visible every other window on the east wall. Minimal interior modifications have been made, with alterations to the south wall, and a divided room has been constructed. The random stone foundation of the east wall is visible from the interior of the building.

Canal, Contributing

A canal runs underneath the complex. The canal, which is part of Great Brook, runs underneath the Rolling Mill, and is audible from the northern section of the Rolling Mill and the attached carport (photo 73-74). The entry to the canal, located within the Rolling Mill is generally covered by rocks and stones.

Integrity Statement

The complex retains a moderate to high degree of integrity in location, setting, association, feeling, materials, and design, conveying its significance as a late-nineteenth and early-to-mid twentieth century brass and copper manufacturing site during the height of brass production in Waterbury, Connecticut. Extant resources range in date from ca. 1890 to ca. 1930 and reflect the manufacturing processes that occurred at the site as well as the architectural styles and construction practices associated with brass manufacturing and production during this period. As the company expanded and evolved, additional buildings were constructed to house various required manufacturing processes. The contributing resources incorporate elements of late 19th c. and early 20th c. industrial architecture including brick pier-and-spandrel construction with fire-resistive construction, steel-frame construction with self-supporting brick walls, reinforced concrete, and steel sash windows.

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During Chase Companies Inc.'s period of ownership, the buildings were continually altered and adapted to meet the evolving needs of the company. Since the closure of the company in 1976, the site has been partially vacant. Alterations to the buildings since 1976, generally comprise replacement windows, brick and CMU infill, coating of the exterior in thick stucco, and replacement of historic fenestrations with modern garage doors. Despite these changes, the former industrial site retains high building density, a functional relationship between extant buildings, and vast, open spaces on the interior that reflect the earlier uses of the buildings.

The complex retains its original site along North Main Street, approximately three miles from the Naugatuck River, which originally served as the main source of waterpower. Overall, the complex retains a moderate degree of association. While several buildings were destroyed by the flood of 1955, the complex retains the necessary buildings characteristic of a brass factory, including factory buildings, annealing shops, a rolling mill, and boiler houses. Extant buildings date from ca. 1890 to ca. 1930, illustrating both the manufacturing process that occurred at the site and the changes to building design and construction that occurred throughout the twentieth century. Despite some buildings having been coated in exterior stucco, the complex retains a moderately high degree of integrity in materials and design. The use of brick and brick-and-spandrel construction on earlier buildings as well as the use of iron and steel-frame construction on later buildings reflects the popular design and construction methods of the time and shows the evolution of the site.

District Data Table

Resource Number	Resource Name	Date	Resource Count	
			Contributing	Noncontributing
1	Loft Building (Building 30/31/32)	1917	1 building	
2	Boiler House (Building 5/6)	Ca. 1890	1 building	
3	Rolling Mill (Building 34/223)	Ca. 1900	1 building	
4	Boiler House (Building 237)	Ca. 1910	1 building	
5	Building 239	Ca. 1910	1 building	
6	Factory Building (Building 238/238A/238Ext, 274, 276)	1908	1 building	
7	Building 250	Ca. 1910	1 building	
8	Storehouse (building 231)	Ca. 1930	1 building	
9	Forge Building (Building 271/271A)	Ca. 1930		1 building
10	Canal	Pre-1890	1 structure	

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☐ C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- ☐ B. Removed from its original location
- ☐ C. A birthplace or grave
- ☐ D. A cemetery
- ☐ E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- ☐ F. A commemorative property
- ☐ G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRY

Period of Significance

ca.1890-1958

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Peck, Theodore B.

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

The Chase Brass and Copper Company Rolling Mill No. 1 Historic District is significant for the National Register at the local level under Criterion A in the category of Industry. The industrial complex is associated with the height of Waterbury's status as the "brass capital" of the world, with the company producing over 100,000,000 pounds of brass during their peak in the 1920s. Originally part of the United States Button Company in the 1850s, the complex was purchased by Augustus Sabin Chase in 1875 and became the Waterbury Manufacturing Company. The Chase family later purchased additional brass manufacturing plants and formed Chase Companies, Inc, with their original manufacturing complex along North Main Street becoming known as the Chase Brass and Copper Company Rolling Mill No. 1. Chase Companies Inc. quickly gained prominence as one of the largest brass manufacturers in the city of Waterbury, becoming known as one of the "Big Three" alongside Scovill Manufacturing Co. and American Brass Co. The company retained prominence through World War II, after which it began to decline due to copper shortages, decreased demand for brass, and increased competition from foreign manufacturers. The company moved operations to Ohio in 1958 following the Flood of 1955, which destroyed several buildings at the site as well as their Rolling Mill No. 2, which was located along the Naugatuck River. The period of significance for the industrial site extends from ca. 1890, when the earliest surviving buildings at the site were constructed, to 1958, when operations at the complex ceased. The history of the Chase Brass and Copper Company Rolling Mill No. 1, from its start as a button manufacturer in the nineteenth century to its decline after World War II, encapsulates the history and general trends of the brass industry within Waterbury, and serves as a visual imprint of the brass industry during this time.

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

Criterion A: Industry

The Chase Brass and Copper Company Rolling Mill No. 1, of Chase Companies Inc. is significant under Criterion A in the area of Industry as a major producer of brass in the country. It was one of the three largest brass manufacturers in Waterbury throughout the twentieth century, producing over 100,000,000 pounds of brass annually during its peak. The rise and fall of the industrial complex, from its start as a button manufacturer in the nineteenth century to its decline after World War II encapsulates the history and general trends of the brass industry within Connecticut. Surviving buildings at the site, dating from ca. 1890 to ca. 1930, with later additions, serve as a cohesive collection of industrial buildings that continue to depict the manufacturing process that

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occurred at the site and represent the various components and building uses that were needed during brass production.

One of the few remaining extant brass manufacturing sites in the city and the only one of the “Big Three” manufacturing complexes to survive, the site serves as a visual symbol of the once functioning brass industry that defined the city for over a century. Of the big three brass manufacturers that dominated Waterbury throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth century (Chase Companies, Inc., Scovill Manufacturing Co., and American Brass Co.) only the Chase Brass and Copper Company Rolling Mill No 1, associated with Chase Companies, Inc. is still extant. Scovill Manufacturing Co. occupied a sprawling complex located between East Main Street, Bridge and Mill streets, and the Mad River. Between 1900-1920, nearly seventy buildings were constructed; only the administration building and stack remain, the rest of the site having been demolished for the construction of a shopping mall.³ The site of American Brass Co. (later Anaconda) has similarly been lost. These three companies were vital economic drivers and wage producers in the Naugatuck River Valley. Chase companies, Inc. contributed significantly to the expansion of Waterbury’s manufacturing base in the middle to late 19th and early 20th centuries. From 1876 to 1958, the Waterbury Manufacturing Company employed hundreds of residents; many having immigrated to the area seeking manufacturing work.

Development of the Brass Industry

The brass industry in the country quickly became concentrated along the Naugatuck Valley, with Waterbury becoming known as the “Brass Capital”. The development of the brass industry in Waterbury began in 1802 when Abel Porter began manufacturing brass buttons. By 1818, Waterbury had four large button shops and two clock factories.⁴ Growth of the manufacturing industry within Waterbury accelerated after 1820, and by the mid-1830s, Waterbury had begun to grow a reputation as an important industrial center. Between 600-700 men and women were employed by local metal factories, producing gilt buttons and brass and copper goods.⁵ Several factors influenced the emergence of the brass industry in Waterbury: poor soil health led residents into industry rather than agriculture, the Naugatuck River could be used as a power source, the location provided access to the New York market, and metalworking pioneers were already established within the region.⁶

During this period, all raw materials required for the production of brass were imported.⁷ Copper was obtained by purchasing old stills, kettles, ship sheathing, and similar items. These items were melted down and imported zinc was added to create brass ingots. Brass was then taken to an iron

³ Preservation Connecticut, “Mill Record Waterbury: Scovill Mfg. Co.” Mills: Making Places of Connecticut, accessed June 2025.

⁴ Rossano, “Western Uplands,” 34.

⁵ Rossano, “Western Uplands,” 34.

⁶ “History of Brass Making of Brass Making in the Naugatuck Valley,” *Copper Development Association* online, 1998.

⁷ William G. Lathrop, *The Brass Industry in the United States: A Study of the Origin and the Development of the Brass Industry in the Naugatuck Valley and Its Subsequent Extension over the Nation* (Connecticut: Mount Carmel, 1926), 40.

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mill in Litchfield to be rolled; after which they were returned to the brass factories in Waterbury and “finished by being run between steel rolls two inches in diameter driven by horse power. The forms were struck by dies from the sheet brass, concave, convex, round or oval; the face was gilded and the product placed upon the market.”⁸ Brass during this time came in the form of brass sheet or brass wire. Brass sheet was used for stills, tin shops, clocks, plated ware, fire engines, and lithographs; brass wire was used for cards, brushes, cages, and machinery.⁹

Between 1820 and 1850 several additional companies began manufacturing brass; by 1843, three factories rolled brass in Waterbury, employing about 600 workers and using 250 tons of copper yearly.¹⁰ In 1827, W.H. Scovill began manufacturing brass in the form of sheets, bars, and wires; meanwhile, Benedict and Burnham Company began producing brass sheets and wires. In the 1850s, Holmes, Booth and Hayden produced rolled brass sheet, dawn wire, builders’ hardware, and daguerreotype plates. Other companies, including Brown and Brothers Brass Mill, Brown an Elton Brass Mill, Hitchcock Button Company, and Waterbury Brass Company, similarly began manufacturing brass during this period.¹¹ Spurred by industrial development, Waterbury’s population increased from 2,900 in 1830 to 5,000 in 1850, and doubled to 10,000 in 1860.¹² The Naugatuck Railroad, chartered in 1845, improved options for the transport of materials and goods, connecting Waterbury to the shoreline and providing access to New Haven and New York.¹³ The Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill Railroad reached Waterbury shortly after 1850. By 1855, 2000 tons of copper was produced annually in the Naugatuck Valley.

By the mid-1800s, copper was found in and around Lake Superior, reducing the need to import copper from outside of the country. By 1850, the U.S. was mining approximately 650 tons of copper, the vast majority of which came from Lake Superior.¹⁴ This copper was brought to Waterbury to be used in brass manufacturing. In 1867, zinc was found in Wisconsin, marking the beginning of domestic zinc production. By 1870, the brass industry had become independent of foreign sources, with copper brought to Waterbury from Lake Superior and zinc brought to Waterbury from Wisconsin. Later, additional sources of copper were found in Montana and Arizona and brought to Waterbury, expanding the domestic copper market.¹⁵

Industrial growth and the monopolization of the brass industry in Waterbury continued and accelerated during the second half of the nineteenth century and early twentieth century. While a large number of relatively small companies produced brass during the early-to-mid nineteenth century, this gave way to fewer, but much larger firms with heavy capital, employing upwards of thousands of workers. By 1884, seventy-five percent of the nation’s brass rolling and

⁸ Lathrop, *The Brass Industry*, 40.

⁹ Lathrop, *The Brass Industry*, 47.

¹⁰ Jeremy Brecher, Jerry Lombardi, and Jan Stackhouse, *Brass Valley: The Story of Working People’s Lives and Struggles in an American Industrial Region* (Temple University Press, 1982), 48.

¹¹ Rossano, “Western Uplands,” 34

¹² Rossano, “Western Uplands,” 36

¹³ Rossano, “Western Uplands,” 27.

¹⁴ Lathrop, *The Brass Industry*, 65.

¹⁵ Lathrop, *The Brass Industry*, 94.

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manufacturing was located within the Naugatuck Valley, and by 1895, Waterbury became Connecticut's third largest industrial center, producing over sixty percent of the country's sheet brass.¹⁶ The state also produced seventy-five percent of the nation's brass rolling, thirty-three percent of the nation's brass castings, and fifty percent of the nation's brassware.¹⁷ A wide variety of products were produced within Waterbury including wire, small arms, cartridges, lamp fixtures, bird cages, finishing reels, chains, picture wire, clocks, locks, and bolts, with clockmaking having the most substantial demand for brass.¹⁸ At this point the brass industry was largely dominated by three companies" Scovill, American (later Anaconda), and Chase.

World War I led to rapid industrial growth throughout the nation. Within Waterbury, brass and copper manufacturing companies began manufacturing products for the war effort. Brass was needed for the production of ammunition, artillery shell cases, aviation equipment, and condenser tubes for boilers on ships. Brass companies in Waterbury quickly transitioned to the manufacture and production of these items. Brass exports totaled 300,000,000 in 1916, the majority of which came from Naugatuck valley.¹⁹ By 1916, brass factories in Waterbury were overrun with new orders, prices doubled. Stock prices doubled for companies such as Scovill. Thousands of out-of-state workers poured in to pick up jobs at manufacturing companies, and companies began commencing new construction projects aimed at increasing productivity. Many mills expanded their plants, building new rolling mills and annealing shops to keep up with the demand, and new machinery such as electric melting furnaces were adopted.²⁰

This rapid growth, however, was short lived; the end of WWI led to the cancellation of war orders and a decline in manufacturing throughout the state. Thousands of workers were laid off, and labor strikes were held at many of the large brass mills.²¹ By 1920, turmoil was relatively gone; however, the growth rate of the industry had substantially slowed. Between 1930 and 1932, unemployment rates within the state rose from 7.5 percent to 25 percent, and employment within the manufacturing industry dropped by forty-five percent.²² This decline was short-lived. World War II led to a massive economic boom as brass manufacturers again turned towards military production. In 1939 approximately 350,000 people were employed in Connecticut's manufacturing industry; by 1944, approximately 550,000 people were employed in Connecticut's manufacturing industry.²³ During WWII, brass companies in Waterbury produced cartridge clips for rifles, brass rods, sheets, and tubes, mortar shells, artillery equipment, and small caliber bullets among various other wartime products. Nearly every factory in the city was engaged in wartime production. Production for the military in Waterbury during WWII was so high that Waterbury

¹⁶ Rossano, "Western Uplands," 57-58

¹⁷ "History of Brass Making," *Copper Development Association*.

¹⁸ Emily McAdam, "The Needs of Time: Thomaston Connecticut in World War I," Central Connecticut State University, accessed June 2025.

¹⁹ McAdam, "The Needs of Time."

²⁰ McAdam, "The Needs of Time."

²¹ Rossano, "Western Uplands," 59

²² Rossano, "Western Uplands," 79

²³ Rossano, "Western Uplands," 80

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was believed to be a strategic bombing target for the axis and air wardens were appointed in the city to coordinate in case of an air raid.²⁴

The Connecticut brass industry hit its peak during World War II, employing approximately 50,000 workers; however, in the decades following the war, Waterbury's brass industry would all but come to an end with all three major brass producer's closing and/or leaving Waterbury; American (Anaconda) closed in 1970, followed by Chase Companies Inc, and Scovill in 1976. Several factors impacted the decline of the brass industry in Waterbury, one of which was the Flood of 1955. The Flood of 1955 was the result of two successive hurricanes, hurricane Connie and Diane, that occurred within a few months of each other, with the first coming in August and the second in October.²⁵ The hurricanes caused severe damage throughout the state, and the subsequent flooding is recognized as one of the greatest natural disasters effecting the state of Connecticut. Within Waterbury, the flood caused 53 million dollars' worth of damage, destroying bridges, houses, and manufacturing complexes.²⁶

The industry was also affected by shortages in copper around this time, resulting in many companies temporarily closing mills and laying off workers. At the same time as these shortages, the demand for brass was declining, as plastic and aluminum began replacing copper and brass in many applications.²⁷ American companies also struggled to compete against foreign brass manufacturers, with England, Germany, Switzerland, the Netherlands, and Japan also exporting brass and copper products to the United States. Imported products were sold at a significantly lower prices, costing up to twenty percent less than the American-made products.²⁸ In 1983, the State Department of Economic Development announced that the amount of imported brass products increased from 81 million pounds in 1963 to 286 million pounds in 1983.²⁹ Other factors contributing to the fall of the industry included plants and equipment becoming obsolete, westward migration of brass companies for a more central location within the country, labor disputes, and increased government regulation, including environmental regulations which prohibited the use of low-cost fuel and high-sulfur oil and required the installation of new exhaust systems in factories. The factors coupled together led to the closure of brass companies throughout Waterbury and the Naugatuck Valley. By 1970, less than 5,000 workers were employed at brass manufacturing sites in the Naugatuck Valley, and by 1980, less than 2,500 workers were employed, marking the end of Waterbury's height as the "brass city".

²⁴ Ken Burns, "The War: The Four Towns: Waterbury, Connecticut." *PBS* online, accessed June 2025.

²⁵ "The Flood of 1955," *Mattatuck Museum*, accessed June 2025.

²⁶ Jill Padelford, "The Flood That We Forget: October 15 and 16, 1955," *Connecticut History*, October 16, 2020.

²⁷ Raechel Guest, "Myriad of Factors Led to the Collapse of Brass Production in Waterbury," *The Waterbury Observer* (Waterbury, CT), 2012.

²⁸ Guest, "Myriad of Factors."

²⁹ Guest, "Myriad of Factors."

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Brass Production and Manufacturing Process

Brass is made using two raw materials: copper and zinc. The percentage of copper and zinc varies but generally sixty to eighty percent of brass is copper and twenty-four percent is zinc. Brass with a higher percentage of zinc is generally stronger and harder but is also more difficult to form.³⁰ Small amounts of additional materials, such as lead, tin, or nickel, may be added to enhance specific properties. The production of brass involves melting zinc and bronze in a furnace, then allowing the metal to solidify in a roll. The metal is then shaped through a series of operations including hot rolling, cold rolling, and annealing.³¹

Brass was often chosen for industrial applications because of its versatility, durability, heat resistance, and corrosion resistance.³² Brass was used across various markets, including consumer and household goods, military equipment, and industrial equipment. Brass was widely utilized during industrialization, used in construction of machinery and infrastructure in the form of gears, bearings, and valves. It was used for steam engines, plumbing systems, electrical systems, and other mechanical components, as well as in the construction of railroads and ships.³³ It is also used for household items like doorknobs, light fixtures, decorative plates, utensils, and military equipment such as ammunition.³⁴

Early brass production in the country involved obtaining old stills, kettles, and ship siding, melting it down, and infusing it with zinc. The infusion process was invented in 1781 by James Emerson in England. It is believed that Abel Porter & Co., which was established in 1802 in Waterbury, was the first to implement this process in the United States.³⁵ Early brass manufacturers in Waterbury brought brass ingots, metals that had been melted down and formed into a flat bar, to an iron mill in Bradleyville (Litchfield), where they were initially rolled.³⁶

By the 1900s, rolling mills were incorporated into the brass companies and constructed on site, so ingots no longer needed to be brought to Litchfield. Hot rolling involved heating molded brass in a furnace until it reaches a desired temperature and then feeding it through a series of opposing steel rollers. The rollers reduced the thickness of the brass while increasing the width. As brass is rolled, it loses its ductility, becoming more difficult to stretch. When this happens, the brass must go through the annealing process, which involves reheating the brass and washing it to remove surface impurities. Once the brass has gone through the annealing process, it is then fed through another series of rollers; this is known as cold rolling, and is completed at a much lower temperature than hot rolling. Cold rolling increases the strength and hardness of the

³⁰ "Brass," How Products are Made, Vol. 6, accessed June 2025.

³¹ "Brass," How Products are Made, Vol. 6.

³² "The Fascinating History of Brass: From Ancient Times to the Modern Day," *Metallfx* online, September 2024.

³³ "The Fascinating History of Brass: From Ancient Times to the Modern Day," *Metallfx* online, September 2024.

³⁴ "History of Brass Manufacturing," *Dawn Metal Tube*, accessed June 2025.

³⁵ Raechel Guest, "Brass Beginnings," *The Waterbury Observer* (Waterbury, CT), 2009.

³⁶ Guest, "Brass Beginnings."

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brass.³⁷ After the brass is rolled, it is cut to its desired width, and then drawn through “progressively smaller dies to create any size wire, rod, or tube, which were generally the final products at most mills.”³⁸

Chase Brass and Copper Company Rolling Mill No. 1

The site of the Chase Brass and Copper Company Rolling Mill No. 1 was continuously used for brass manufacturing and production from 1852 through 1958, and extant buildings at the site date from ca. 1890 through ca. 1930. As was common for brass companies in Waterbury during this period, the site evolved from an earlier button factory: The William R. Hitchcock & Company, which was incorporated in 1852 and manufactured covered buttons made with rolled sheet brass. The company occupied a factory on North Main Street built by William R. Hitchcock, J.M.L, and W.H. Scovill; the factory building would later be used by the Waterbury Manufacturing Company and Chase Companies, Inc.³⁹ In 1865, following the sale of the William R. Hitchcock Company, the United States Button Company was organized with a capital of \$50,000.⁴⁰ The United States Button Company was located along North Main Street, occupying the site of the present manufacturing complex. In March 1875, the property of the United States Button Company was sold at auction and was purchased by Augustus Sabin Chase.⁴¹ Chase’s new company was incorporated in January 1876 with a capital of \$25,000, and adopted the name of the Waterbury Manufacturing Company. Between the acquisition of the company and his death in 1896, A.S. Chase served as president, and his son Henry S. Chase served as secretary and treasurer.⁴² The company produced brass buttons, harness trimmings, brass bedsteads, gas chandeliers, and small metal novelties. When electricity was first introduced, electric light sockets for the bulbs were also made.⁴³ During this time, several brick buildings were constructed such as a casting shop and foundry. Buildings 5/6 which housed the boiler and engine were constructed ca. 1890 and are still extant today (Figure 3).

Augustus Sabin (A.S.) Chase was born in Pomfret, Connecticut, on August 15, 1828 to Seth Chase (1798-1893), and Eliza Hempstead Dodge (1801-1884). Augustus obtained a brief education at Woodstock Academy and briefly taught at a small single-room school in Brooklyn, Connecticut before working as a clerk for the Danielson Manufacturing Company, a small textile manufacturer in Killingly, Connecticut.⁴⁴ In 1850, A.S. Chase came to Waterbury to work as a clerk for the

³⁷ “Brass,” *How Products are Made*, Vol. 6.

³⁸ McAdam, “The Needs of Time.”

³⁹ Henry Bronson, *The History of Waterbury, Connecticut: The Original Township Embracing Present Watertown and Plymouth, and Parts of Oxford, Wolcott, Middlebury, Prospect and Naugatuck. With an Appendix of Biography, Genealogy and Statistics* (Bronson brothers, 1858), 562.

⁴⁰ Joseph Anderson and Anna Lydia Ward, *The Town and City of Waterbury, Connecticut* (Price and Lee Company: 1896), 397.

⁴¹ Anderson and Ward, *The Town and City of Waterbury*, 397.

⁴² Anderson and Ward, *The Town and City of Waterbury*, 397.

⁴³ “National Endowment for the Humanities,” *The Waterbury Democrat* (Waterbury, CT), Oct. 14, 1942.

⁴⁴ *Special Acts and Resolutions of the State of Connecticut* (The State, 1837), 781.

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Waterbury National Bank, then located on Prospect Street.⁴⁵ During his time in Waterbury, he married Martha Clark Starkweather (1830-1906), and they had six children, three boys and the girls. In 1864, A.S. Chase became the president of the Waterbury National Bank,⁴⁶ and in 1868 he organized a group of prominent men throughout Waterbury to become shareholders in the Waterbury Printing Company. The same company published and distributed the city's leading newspaper, the *Waterbury American*. Once established, A.S. Chase assumed the role of President of the Waterbury Printing Company.⁴⁷ The same year, A.S. Chase established a trust for St. Margaret's School located on Church and Grove Streets in Waterbury.⁴⁸

While continuing to serve as president of the Waterbury National Bank, Chase founded the Waterbury Manufacturing Company in 1876 after purchasing the former United States Button Company factory on North Main Street. He later became president of the Holmes, Booth, & Hayden Manufacturing Company of Waterbury in 1878.⁴⁹ In 1888 he became president of the Waterbury Watch Company.⁵⁰ Increasing his stronghold on Waterbury manufacturing in 1889, A.S. Chase served as president of the Smith & Griggs Manufacturing Company.⁵¹

Following the death of A.S. Chase in 1896, his son Henry Sabin Chase took over as president of the Waterbury Manufacturing Company. In 1900, he established the Chase Rolling Mill, and constructed the company's first on site brass rolling mill located along North Main Street (Figure 4-5). The Rolling Mill (buildings 34/223) is a large brick and iron building that originally housed the hot and cold rolling and annealing services, and is still extant today. In 1905 local newspapers reported that well-reputed industrial architect Theodore B. Peck (1856-1927) designed plans for a new mill building to be erected on North Main Street by the Waterbury Manufacturing Co.⁵² Further expanding on their business, the Chase Metal Works was constructed in 1910 across the Naugatuck River in Waterville. During the time, a team of Percheron horses were used for transporting wood from Kent, coal from the Freight Street railway station, and shipments between the Chase Rolling Mill No. 1 and Chase Metal Works. At their height, the company had 350 horses.⁵³ In 1914, the Chase Metal Works was connected to the Chase Rolling Mill by a private railway line, and the horses were no longer used to transport materials. A series of major alterations were completed to the Chase Metal Works in 1914, including changing the course of the Naugatuck River for a mile and a half, which opened up an additional 40 acres of land for new construction. According to a report in 1926, Chase Metal Works was "one of the most efficiently organized and most completely modern brass rolling mills now in operation. It has a capacity

⁴⁵ Anderson and Ward, *The Town and City of Waterbury*, 310.

⁴⁶ Anderson and Ward, *The Town and City of Waterbury*, 310.

⁴⁷ Howard Lockwood, *The American Stationer* (Howard Lockwood, 1896), 1011-12.

⁴⁸ "Mattatuck Museum Collections in CT - Augustus Sabin Chase," accessed June 4, 2018, <http://www.mattatuckcollections.org/Obj2551?sid=7528&x=288476>.

⁴⁹ "New Haven County," *Hartford Courant* (Hartford, CT), May 13, 1878. Retrieved from Newspapers.com.

⁵⁰ "City and Suburbs," *The Waterbury Democrat* (Waterbury, CT), May 1, 1888. Retrieved from Newspapers.com.

⁵¹ "City News," *The Waterbury Democrat* (Waterbury, CT), May 21, 1890. Retrieved from Newspapers.com.

⁵² "New Work Under Way: Building Business Brisk in Waterbury Just Now," *The Waterbury Democrat* (Waterbury, Ct), Oct. 30, 1905. Retrieved from Newspapers.com.

⁵³ Raechel Guest, "The Big Three," *Waterbury Observer* (Waterbury, CT), 2011.

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tonnage output larger than that of any independent mill in the country. All modern machinery and processes have been installed and a full line of rolling mill products is marketed.”⁵⁴

Additional buildings were also constructed at Chase Rolling Mill No. 1 during this time, including buildings 237 and 239, which were attached to the Rolling Mill; both buildings survive today. Two factory buildings, building 238/238A/238Ext/274/275, a 450-foot-long building located at the center of the campus, and building 250, a four-story brick building, part of which was used for annealing, were constructed in 1908 and 1910 and survive today (Figure 6). During this time, the Waterbury Manufacturing Company manufactured plumbing goods, electrical parts, containers and closures, hot forgings, fittings, and other miscellaneous brass goods. Chase Companies Inc. also produced other various brass products, including parts for the automotive industry, construction materials, and home décor products.

During World War I, the Waterbury Manufacturing Company began fulfilling contracts for the military, which had high demand for wartime products. At the onset of the war, the company shifted entirely to produce exclusively for the war effort; this included brass artillery cases. The brass artillery division alone employed 1,774 workers.⁵⁵ The company also began producing ammunition, and other wartime materials to aid the war effort. The increased demand led to growth of the company, and in 1917, the Loft Building (building 30/31/32), fronting North Main Street, was constructed (Figure 7-8). Local architect Theodore Barnard Peck was hired to design the new building. In 1917, Henry Chase merged the Waterbury Manufacturing Company, Chase Rolling Mills Company, and Chase Metal Works Company to form The Chase Companies Inc., with a capital stock of \$4,000,000 which increased to \$10,000,00 by 1922.⁵⁶ Calculated for inflation, this would be \$100,457,812.50 for the former and \$191,348,214.29 for the latter in 2025.

Henry S. Chase died on March 4, 1918. At the time of his death, Chase Companies Inc. comprised of the Chase Rolling Mill Company, the Waterbury Manufacturing Company, and the Chase Metals Works. After his death, his younger brother Frederick Starkweather Chase (1862-1947) inherited the Chase Companies Inc. After WWI, the company attempted to return to the production of buttons, copper pipes, plumbing supplies and other products that were in production prior to the war; however, the demand for these items greatly decreased during the great depression. Looking to diversify, the company entered the consumer market, manufacturing a line of modern household goods made of chrome-plated metal, copper, and brass. Chase Companies partnered with leading industrial designers including Russel Wright, Lurelle Guild, and Walter Von Nessen, on the collection. During the 1920s, Chase Companies Inc. was producing 100,000,000 pounds of brass

⁵⁴ Lathrop, “The Brass Industry,” 148.

⁵⁵ Connecticut Development Commission, *Register of War Production Facilities in Connecticut* (Hartford, CT: State of Connecticut Development Commission), 212.

⁵⁶ The capital stock of the Waterbury Manufacturing Company was \$2,000,000; the Chase Rolling Mill was also \$2,000,000 and the Chase Metal Works was \$4,000,000. *The Metal Industry* (New York: The Metal Industry Publishing Company, 1923), 99.

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annually.⁵⁷ Following the height of World War II, two additional buildings were constructed. The storehouse (building 231) and the forge building (building 271/271a) were constructed ca. 1930; both buildings survive today (Figure 9-10). Many of the extant buildings at the complex illustrate the styles and construction methods popularized during this period, specifically the use of iron and steel framing to create large open spaces. With the introduction of iron and steel construction, buildings grew in height and interior spans grew in width. This is evident in the Chase Rolling Mills complex. Victorian Industrial architecture is notable for its high-style brick detailing, and the complex is an excellent example of purpose-built industrial architecture. The brick-pier construction of the buildings, a defining feature of Victorian Industrial Architecture, is featured extensively across the complex, and has been used in previous advertising campaigns.

In 1936, Frederick Chase facilitated the sale of the company to the Kennecott Copper Corporation, reorganizing the company his father founded in 1876 into the Chase Brass & Copper Co.⁵⁸ Frederick continued to serve as president until 1939, when he retired. Following F.S. Chase's retirement, his nephew Rodney Chase (1897-1957), son of H.S. Chase, took over as Vice President of Chase Brass & Copper Co. and worked with the company for over thirty years.⁵⁹ Between 1930 and the early 1940s, the company produced over 500 decorative accessory, tableware, and lighting designs.

During the 1940s, Chase Companies Inc. turned away from the consumer market to produce war materials, again becoming a major supplier during World War II. The Chase Brass and Copper Company produced over 50 million cartridge cases and mortar shells and over a billion small caliber bullets during the war.⁶⁰ In September of 1939, the Chase Brass and Copper Company received a U.S. defense contract to manufacture brass cartridges and pipes for the Panama Canal.⁶¹ The factory began operating six days a week due to the new demand caused by WWII. As the war continued, new contracts were awarded to Waterbury's "Big Three" brass manufacturers, with Chase receiving over seven million dollars in contracts.⁶² Labor unions agreed to postpone striking during wartime, and the federal government assisted in constructing housing in neighboring towns and bringing in additional workers to fulfill full-time production.⁶³ Production was in such high demand that in December of 1941, the U.S. government constructed a \$16,000,000 facility in Euclid, Ohio, for the Chase Brass and Copper Company. By the mid-1940s, Chase Companies Inc. operated potentially the "largest brass and copper warehouse system in the world," with nineteen

⁵⁷ Lathrop, *The Brass Industry*, 148

⁵⁸ George E. Condon, *CLEVELAND: Prodigy of the Western Reserve* (Grand Lake Media. LLC, 1980).

⁵⁹ Rodney held various positions with the company including organizing the home décor chrome ware department in the early 1930s. Rodney is also credited with designing the centaur logo used by the Chase company still today "Rodney Chase Dies at 60 in Waterbury," *Hartford Courant* (Hartford, CT), Jul. 16, 1957. Retrieved from Newspapers.com.

⁶⁰ Burns, "The War."

⁶¹ "Local Firm Get U.S. Contracts," *The Waterbury Democrat* (Waterbury, CT), Sep. 9, 1939. Retrieved from Newspapers.com.

⁶² "Uncle Sam Spending \$1,000,000 Here: Army, Navy Supplies Ordered To Date Cost More Than \$9,886,703," *The Waterbury Democrat* (Waterbury, CT), Sep. 17, 1940. Retrieved from Newspapers.com.

⁶³ Guest, "Myriad of Factors."

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warehouses in principal cities throughout the country.⁶⁴ Brass would be made at one of Chase's three rolling mills (which comprised the two in Waterbury and one in Ohio), and then shipped to the warehouses, where it would then be delivered to customers within one day.

In May 1953, the Small Defense Plants Administration awarded the Chase Brass & Copper Company two contracts for over \$100,000 to study and manufacture steel cartridge cases, seamless copper tubing, brass for the Air Force, and cartridge case discs.⁶⁵ Despite the contracts, Chase Companies, Inc. struggled to produce and manufacture brass supplies at a prewar level. In July 1955, the company temporarily shut down their three mills in Waterbury and Cleveland, laying off approximately 2,000 workers. The company cited a copper shortage as the reason for the temporary closure.⁶⁶ Just one month later, in August of 1955, the Waterbury Manufacturing Company, still a division of Chase Brass & Copper, laid off over 1,000 employees.⁶⁷ To make matters worse, the flood of August 1955 completely hindered operations for many factories in the Naugatuck River Valley. The flood damaged many of the buildings at the Rolling Mill No. 1 and also partially wiped out the Rolling Mill No. 2. Several smaller brick buildings at the south end of the campus were likely damaged during the flood and subsequently demolished.

In addition to layoffs and environmental factors, the price of copper had risen dramatically domestically, and foreign prices created a competitive market that dismissed Waterbury products. At the peak of production following World War II, the Naugatuck Valley brass industry employed 25,000 workers; by 1960, that number dwindled to 10,000 or less, and by 1980 there were only approximately 5,000 workers still employed by the brass industry there.⁶⁸ In November of 1957, the Chase Brass & Copper Co. announced the closing of the Waterbury Manufacturing Co. division, citing economic conditions as the reason for closing (Figure 11-13).⁶⁹ In 1976 the Chase Brass & Copper Co. closed its doors in Waterbury permanently following a seven-month strike of the United Auto Workers.⁷⁰

Only two sites in Waterbury, Connecticut, related to brass production and manufacturing are listed in the National Register. The Waterbury Brass Mill Site, located at Idlewood Avenue along Hamilton Park was added to the National Register in 1975. The site comprises just two extant resources related to brass production: a ca. 1870 storage building that has been heavily altered and an open granite pit containing. Also present is a stone wall that was once part of a dam on

⁶⁴ Chase Brass & Copper Co., *The Chase Dictionary of Brass and Copper Terms: Brief and non-technical explanations of the terms used in ordering or describing Brass and Copper* (Waterbury: Chase Brass & Copper Co., 1937), 75.

⁶⁵ Robert D. Byrnes, "Connecticut Firms Get 14 Contracts Worth \$5,091,446 From Government," *Hartford Courant* (Hartford, CT), May 4, 1953. Retrieved from Newspapers.com.

⁶⁶ Guest, "Myriad of Factors."

⁶⁷ Guest, "Myriad of Factors."

⁶⁸ Guest, "Myriad of Factors."

⁶⁹ "UAW Officials Seek to Keep Plant Open," *The Bridgeport Post* (Bridgeport, CT), Nov. 14, 1957. Retrieved from Newspapers.com.

⁷⁰ Constance Neyer, "Waterbury Industrial Park Sold to Stamford Developer," *Hartford Courant* (Hartford, CT), Jul. 4, 1985. Retrieved from Newspapers.com.

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the site and the outline of a canal trench.⁷¹ The Matthews and Willard Factory, located in the North Square neighborhood of Waterbury, was listed on the National Register in 1987. The site encompasses a complex of connected brick mill buildings, constructed between 1874-1887⁷². No site listed on the National Register is associated with the height of the brass industry in Waterbury during the twentieth century. While the Matthews and Willard Factory is significant for its association with the development of the brass industry, it is representative of a nineteenth century manufacturing plant rather than the twentieth century, during the height of the brass industry in Waterbury. The brass industry in Waterbury rapidly expanded during the twentieth century as a result of new production methods and manufacturing advancements alongside a greater demand for brass sparked by WWI. This growth and development of the brass industry during its height in the twentieth century is best represented by the Chase Brass and Copper Company Rolling Mill No. 1, associated with one of the largest brass manufacturing companies during this time.

⁷¹ Christine B. Brockmeyer, "Waterbury Brass Mill Site," National Register of Historic Places Inventory Nomination Form (Washington D.C.: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1975), Section 8: 1.

⁷² Matthew Roth and Bruce Clouette, "Matthews and Willard Factory," National Register of Historic Places Inventory Nomination Form (Washington D.C.: United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1987), Section 8: 1.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 15.1

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 41.563813 | Longitude: -73.030914 |
| 2. Latitude: 41.563357 | Longitude: -73.029719 |
| 3. Latitude: 41.560718 | Longitude: -73.032505 |
| 4. Latitude: 41.561214 | Longitude: -73.033839 |

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927 or ☐ NAD 1983

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

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

The boundary encompasses three parcels of land that make up the former factory complex: 526 North Main Street, 730 North Main Street, and 40 East Farm Street. The two parcels along North Main Street comprise 4.3 acres (526 North Main Street) and 12.25 acres (70 North Main Street) and the parcel along East Farm Street comprises 0.93 acres. The southern parcel (526 North Main Street) stretches south beyond the factory buildings towards Cherry Street, where it is bordered by residential development. Due to the lack of extant factory buildings and surrounding residential development, the southern 2.38 acres of the parcel (i.e. land located south of building 5/6 and building 3-/31/32) is not included within the Historic District boundary. The Historic District boundary encompasses 15.1 acres and is generally

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bounded by North Main Street to the west, East Farm Street to the north, Orange Street and Vine Street to the east, and Cherry Street to the south. The boundary of the nominated property is consistent with the parcel lines (2025) and is shown on Figure 2.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries encompass land held by the company at this location during the period of significance. The boundaries encompass the Chase Brass and Copper Rolling Mill No. 1, as well as additions made during the tenure of Chase Companies Inc. The northeast corner of the property, which has been parceled off and is not used for manufacturing purposes, is not included in the boundaries. The dam to the south of the complex did not serve this mill complex and is not included within the boundaries.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: David George, M.A (Principle Investigator); Brenna Pisanelli, M.A., (Senior Project Manager); Karolyn Duke M.A., (Junior Architectural Historian); Amanda Bentz M.A. (Architectural Historian); and Christina Volpe M.A., (Historian)

(Edited by Jenny Scofield, CT SHPO)

organization: Heritage Consultants, LLC.

street & number: 830 Berlin Turnpike

city or town: Berlin state: Connecticut zip code: 06037

e-mail: _____

telephone: _____

date: July 2025

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

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

Photographs

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

Photo Log

Name of Property: Chase Brass and Copper Company Rolling Mill No. 1

City or Vicinity: Waterbury

County: New Haven

State: Connecticut

Photographer: Heritage Consultants, LLC

Date Photographed: 2025

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

- Photo 1. South Elevation of the Loft Building (building 30/31/32). Photo facing north.
- Photo 2. East elevation of the Loft Building (building 30/31/32). Photo facing west.
- Photo 3. North elevation of the Loft Building (building 30/31/32). Photo facing south.
- Photo 4. Photo showing the foundation of the Loft Building (building 0/31/32). Photo facing north.
- Photo 5. Entrance along the south elevation of the Loft Building (building 30/31/32). Photo facing north.
- Photo 6. Interior of the Loft Building (building 30/31/32). Photo showing the basement level.
- Photo 7. Interior of the Loft Building (building 30/31/32). Photo showing the interior of the first floor.
- Photo 8. Interior of the Loft Building (building 30/31/32). Photo showing the interior of the second floor, looking south.
- Photo 9. Interior of the Loft Building (building 30/31/32). Photo showing the basement level and foundation.

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- Photo 10. Interior of the Loft Building (building 30/1/32). Photo showing the Interior freight elevator.
- Photo 11. Interior of the Loft Building (building 30/31/32). Photo showing the first floor of the connecting building between the Loft building and the boiler house building 5/6).
- Photo 12. South and east elevations of the original boiler house (building 5/6). Photo facing northwest.
- Photo 13. South elevation of the original boiler house (building 5/6). Photo facing north.
- Photo 14. South elevation of the original boiler house (building 5/6). Photo facing north.
- Photo 15. East elevation of the original boiler house (building 5/6). Photo facing northwest.
- Photo 16. East elevation of the connecting building between the Loft Building (building 30/31/32) and the original boiler house (building 5/6). Photo facing west.
- Photo 17. Interior of the original boiler house (building 5/6).
- Photo 18. Interior of the original boiler house (building 5/6) showing the south elevation. Photo facing north.
- Photo 19. Interior of the connecting building between the Loft Building (building 30/31/32) and the original boiler house (building 5/6).
- Photo 20. West elevation of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223). Photo facing east.
- Photo 21. Photo showing entrances on the west elevation of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223). Photo facing east.
- Photo 22. Detail of the west elevation of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223). Photo facing east.
- Photo 23. South elevation of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223). Photo facing north.
- Photo 24. North elevation of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223). Photo facing south.
- Photo 25. North elevation of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223). Photo facing south.
- Photo 26. North and east elevations of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223). Photo facing southwest.
- Photo 27. Interior of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223). Photo facing west.
- Photo 28. Interior of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223) showing detail of the east elevation. Photo facing west.
- Photo 29. Interior of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223). Photo facing west.
- Photo 30. Interior of the Rolling Mill (building 32/223) showing west elevation. Photo facing east.
- Photo 31. Interior of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223). Photo facing east.
- Photo 32. North elevation of the boiler house (building 237). Photo facing south.
- Photo 33. West elevation of the boiler house (building 237). Photo facing east.
- Photo 34. South and east elevations of building 239. Photo facing northwest.
- Photo 35. South elevation of building 239. Photo facing north.
- Photo 36. Photo showing brick detailing on the west elevation of 239. Photo facing west.
- Photo 37. West elevation of building 239. Photo facing west.
- Photo 38. South elevation of connecting building between building 239 and the factory building (building 238/238A/238Ext/274/276). Photo facing north.

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- Photo 39. Photo showing connection between the Rolling Mill (left), building 239 (center), and the factory building (left). Photo facing east.
- Photo 40. Interior photo of the ground floor of building 239.
- Photo 41. Interior of building 239.
- Photo 42. Interior of building 239. Photo facing west.
- Photo 43. North elevation of the Factory building (building 238/238A/238Ext/274/276). Photo facing southwest.
- Photo 44. North elevation of the original block of the Factory building (building 238/238A/238Ext/274/276). Photo facing south.
- Photo 45. North elevation of the east addition of the Factory building (building 238/238A/238Ext/274/276). Photo facing south.
- Photo 46. West elevation of the factory building (building 238/238A/238Ext/274/276). Photo facing east.
- Photo 47. East elevation of the factory building (building 238/238A/238Ext/274/276). Photo facing west.
- Photo 48. Photo showing an entrance on the east elevation of the factory building (building 238/238A/238Ext/274/276). Photo facing west.
- Photo 49. Interior of the Factory Building.
- Photo 50. Interior of the Factory Building.
- Photo 51. Interior of the Factory Building.
- Photo 52. Interior of the Factory Building.
- Photo 53. Interior of the Factory Building.
- Photo 54. Interior of the Factory Building.
- Photo 55. Interior of the Factory Building.
- Photo 56. Interior of the Factory Building.
- Photo 57. South elevation of building 250. Photo facing north.
- Photo 58. North and west elevations of building 250. Photo facing southeast.
- Photo 59. North elevation of building 250. Photo facing south.
- Photo 60. West elevation of building 250. Photo facing east.
- Photo 61. Photo showing addition on the west elevation of building 250. Photo facing east.
- Photo 62. South and east elevations of building 250. Photo facing northwest.
- Photo 63. North and east elevations of building 250. Photo facing southwest.
- Photo 64. East elevation of building 250. Photo facing west.
- Photo 65. West elevation of building 231. Photo facing east.
- Photo 66. North elevation of building 231. Photo facing south.
- Photo 67. North and east elevations of building 231. Photo facing southwest.
- Photo 68. South and west elevations of the forge building (building 271/271A). Photo facing northeast.
- Photo 69. West elevation of the forge building (building 271/271A). Photo facing east.
- Photo 70. South elevations of the forge building (building 271/271A). Photo facing north.
- Photo 71. West elevation of the north addition on the forge building (building 271/271A). Photo facing east.
- Photo 72. Interior of the forge building (building 271/271A). Photo facing south.

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Photo 73. Photo of the flooring types and entrance to the buried canal at the Rolling Mill
(building 34/223).

Photo 74. Photo showing the opening of the canal at the Rolling Mill (Building 34/223).

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GRAPHICS

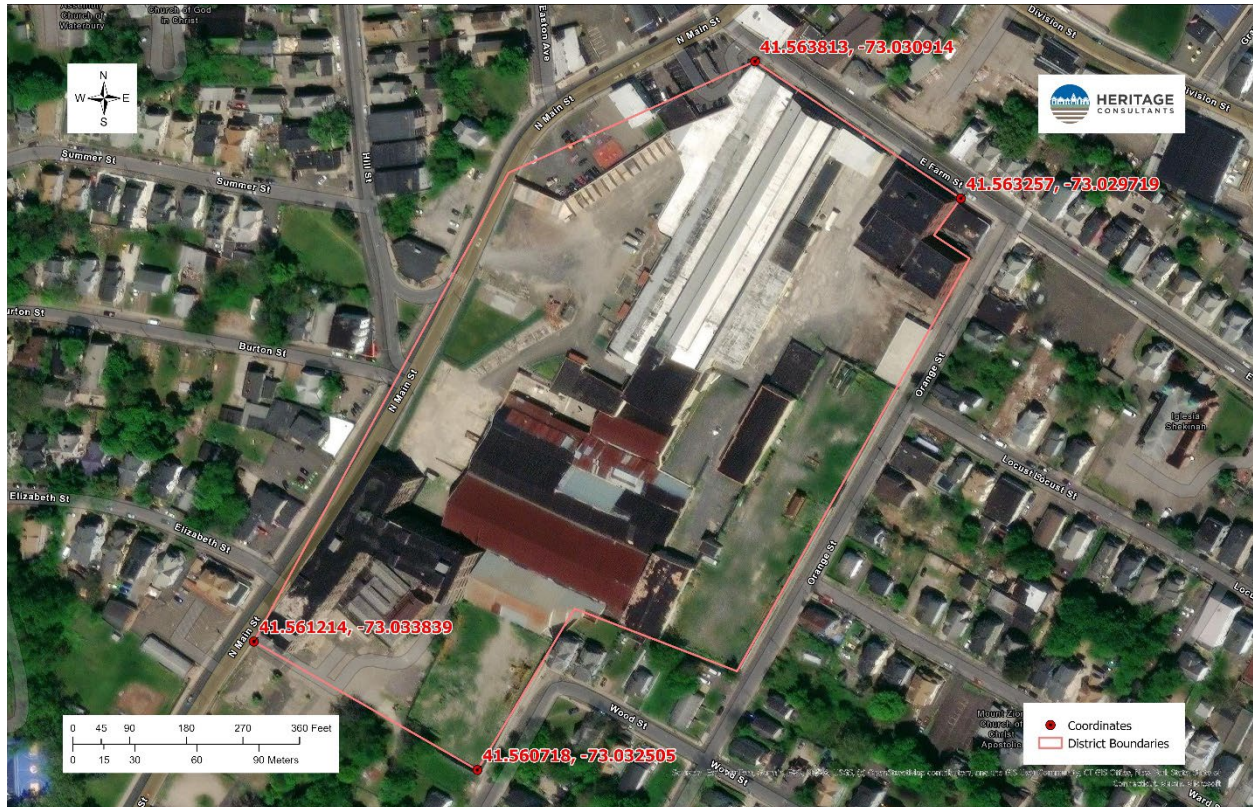


Figure 1: Chase Brass and Copper Company Rolling Mill No. 1 Historic District

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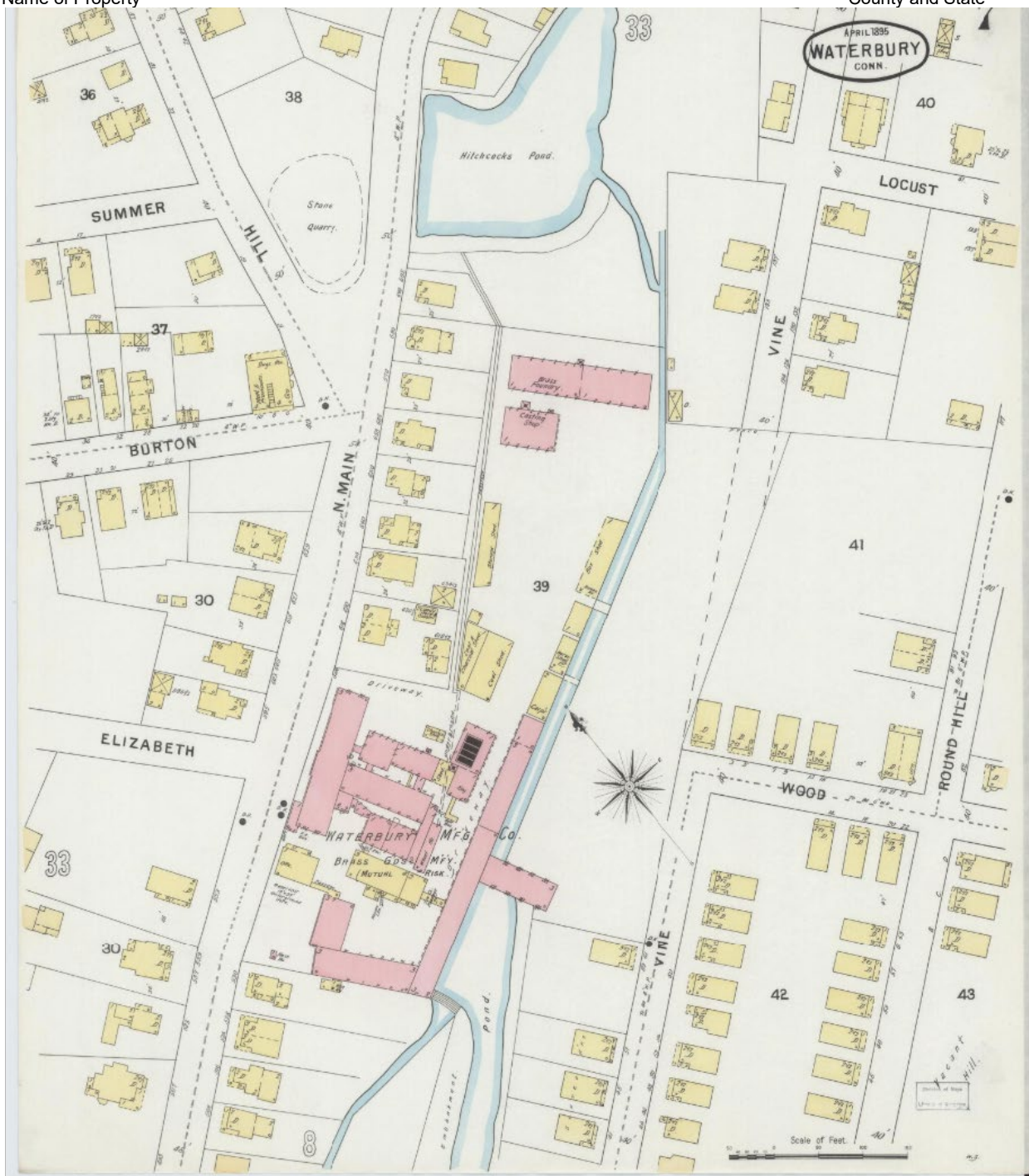


Figure 3: 1895 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, loc.gov

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Figure 4: 1901 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, page 23, loc.gov

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Figure 5: 1901 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, page 24, loc.gov

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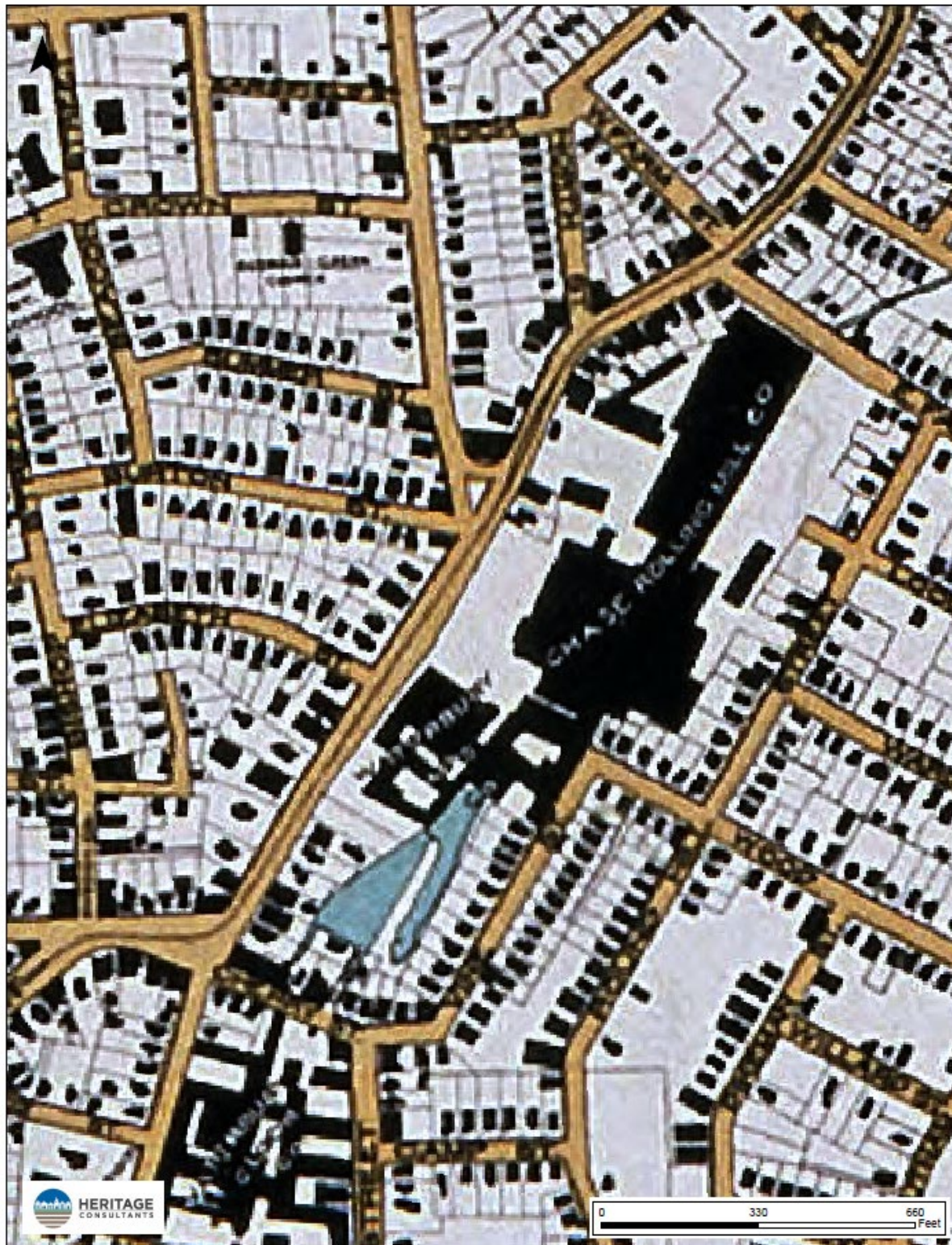


Figure 6: 1909 map of the Waterbury Manufacturing Company
Sections 9-end page 47

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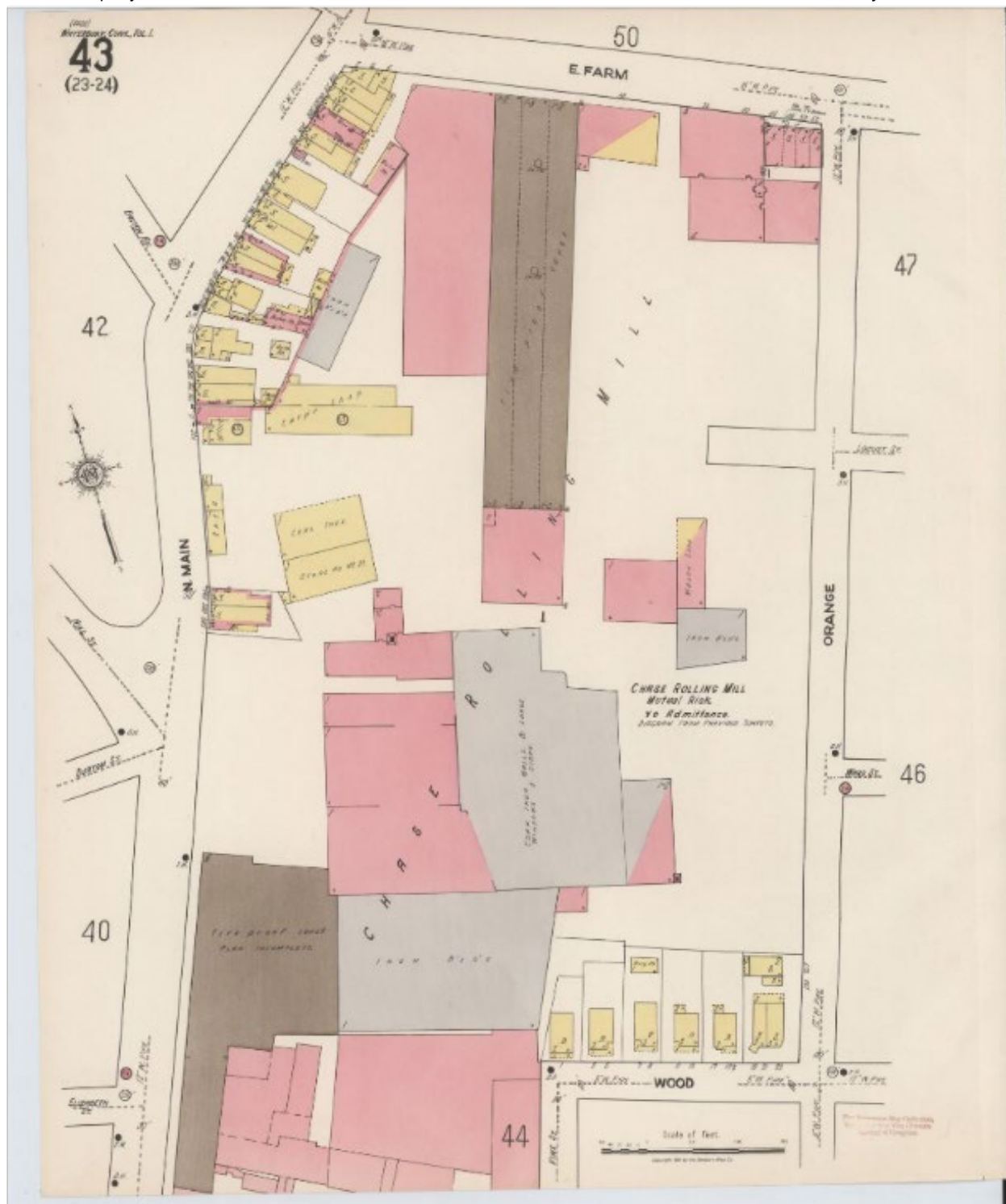


Figure 7: 1922 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, page 43, loc.gov

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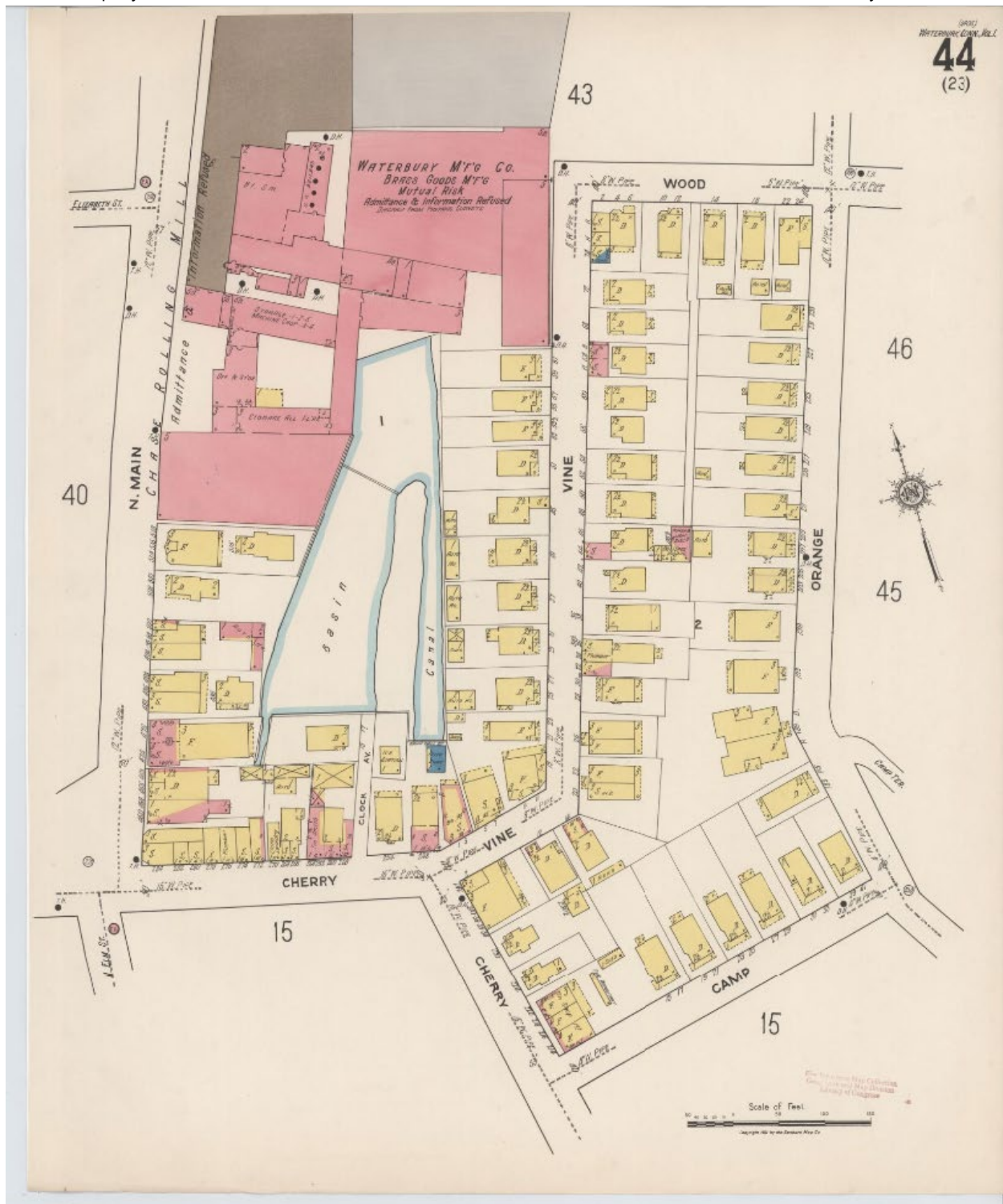


Figure 8: 1922 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, page 44, loc.gov

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Figure 9: 1934 Aerial Imagery of the Chase Brass and Copper Company Rolling Mill (No. 1)

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Figure 10: 1944 Aerial Imagery of the Chase Brass and Copper Company Rolling Mill (No. 1)

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Figure 11: 1950 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, page 43 loc.gov

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Figure 12: 1950 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, page 44, loc.gov

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Figure 13: 1951 Aerial Imagery of the Chase Brass and Copper Company Rolling Mill (No. 1)

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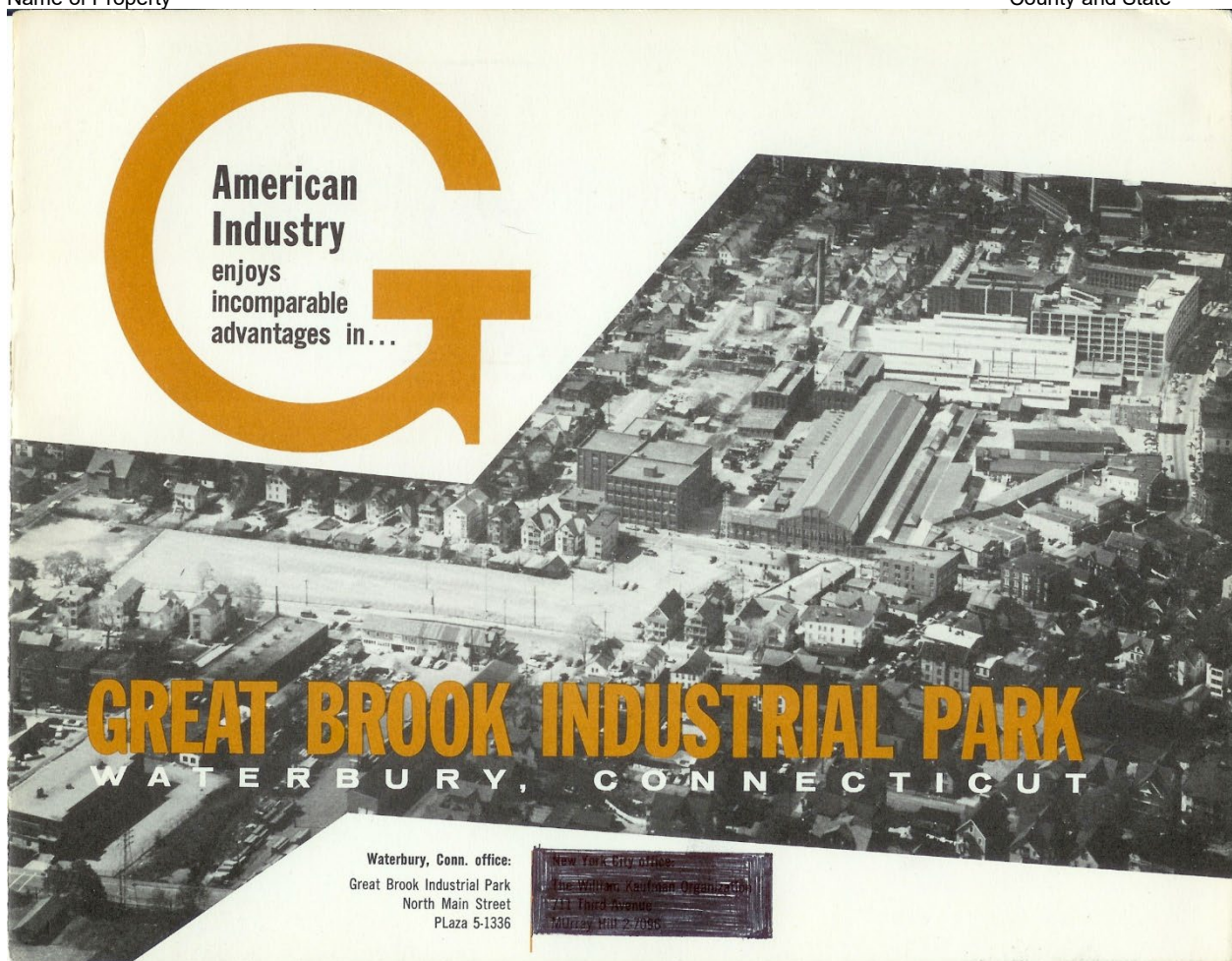
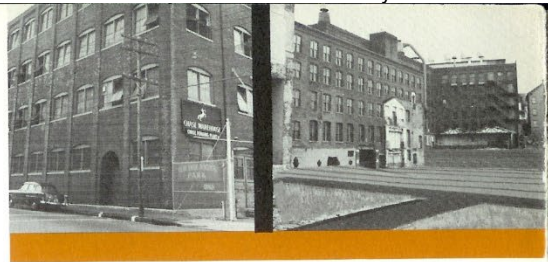
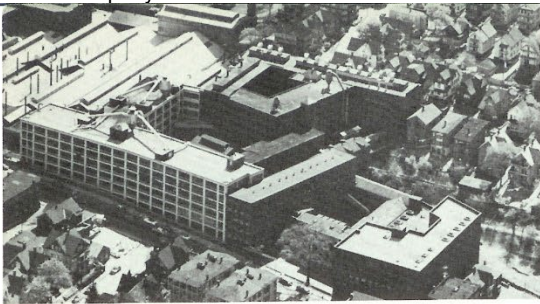


Figure 14: Aerial Imagery of the Chase Brass and Copper Company Rolling Mill (no. 1) from the Great Brook Industrial Park brochure; date published unknown

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LOCATE...OR RELOCATE
where you start with EVERY ADVANTAGE... **GREAT BROOK**

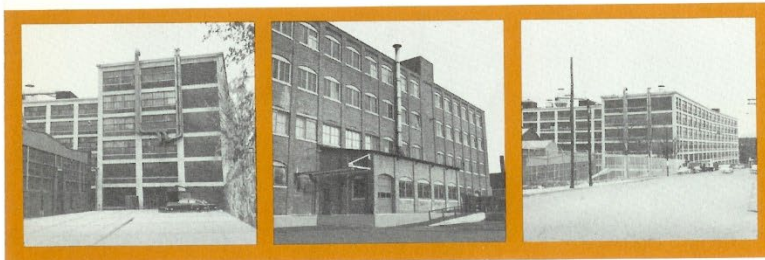


Figure 15: Photos of various buildings at the Chase Brass and Copper Company Rolling Mill (no. 1) from the Great Brook Industrial Park brochure; date published unknown

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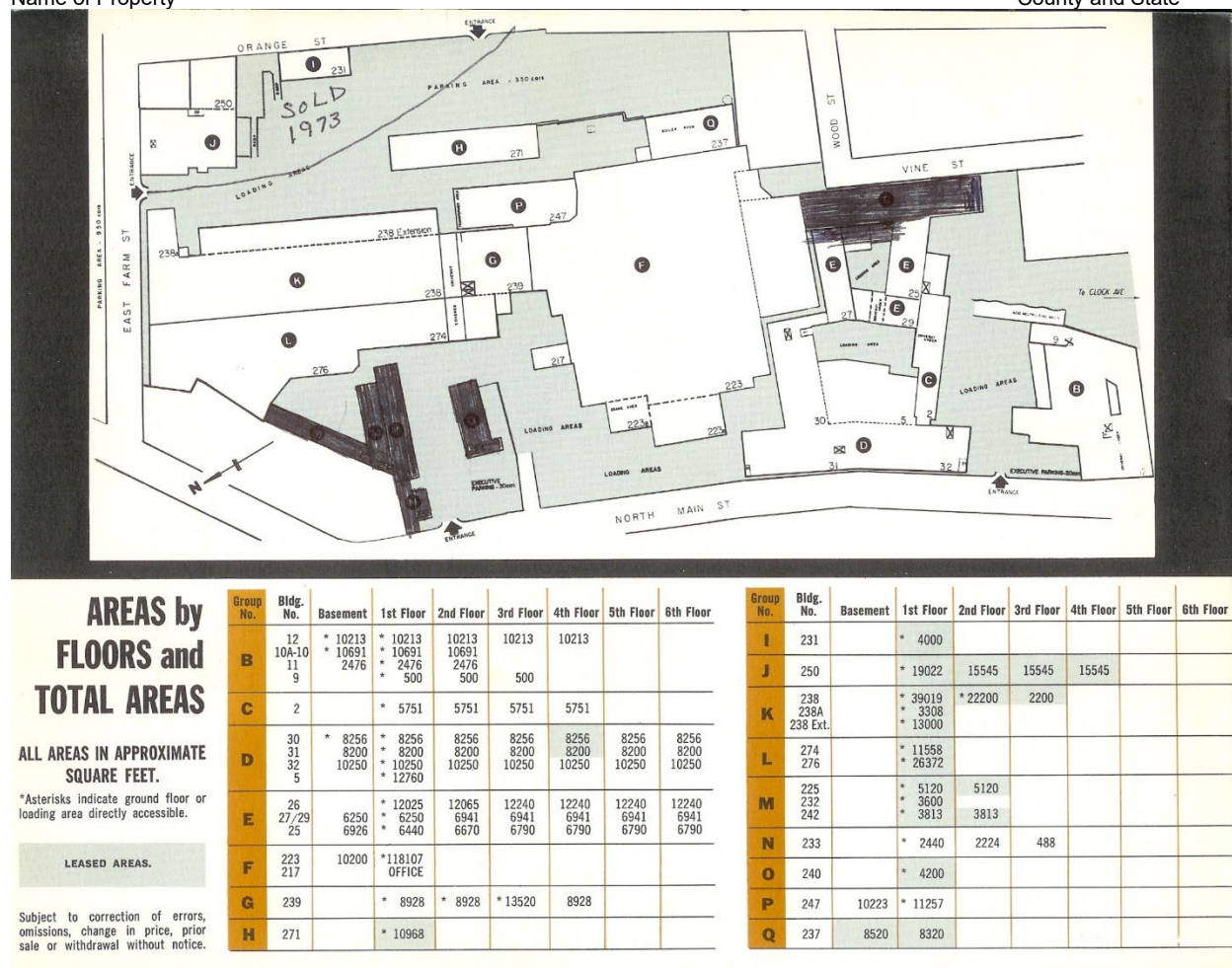


Figure 16: Floor plans and table of square footage of buildings at the Chase Brass and Copper Company Rolling Mill (No. 1) from the Great Brook Industrial Park brochure; date published unknown

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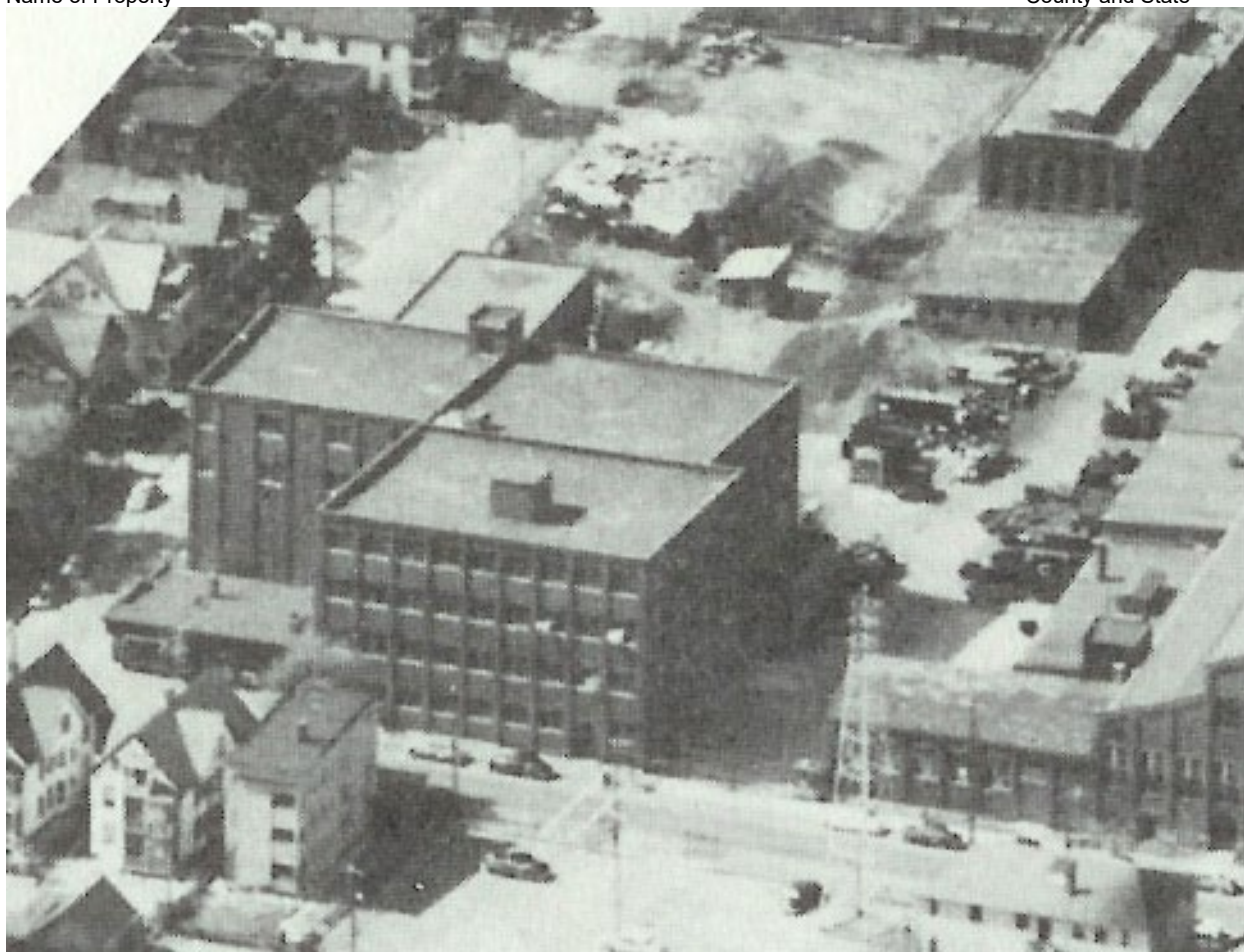


Figure 17: Image of the building 271/271a at the Chase Brass and Copper Company Rolling Mill (no. 1) from the Great Brook Industrial Park brochure; date published unknown

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.



Photo 1: South elevation of the Loft Building (building 30/31/32). Photo facing north.



Photo 2: East elevation of the Loft Building (building 30/31/32). Photo facing west.



Photo 3: North elevation of the Loft Building (building 30/31/32). Photo facing south.



Photo 4: Photo showing the foundation of the Loft Building (building 0/31/32). Photo facing north.



Photo 5: Entrance along the south elevation of the Loft Building (building 30/31/32). Photo facing north.



Photo 6: Interior of the Loft Building (building 30/31/32). Photo showing the basement level.



Photo 7: Interior of the Loft Building (building 30/31/32). Photo showing the interior of the first floor.

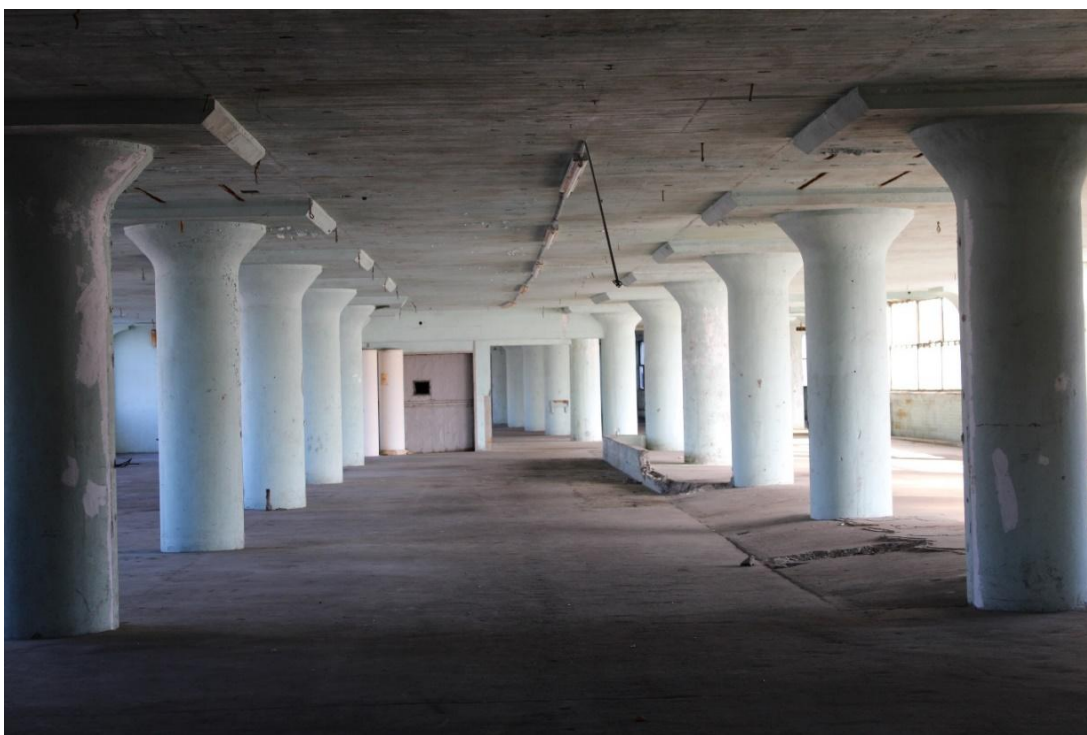


Photo 8: Interior of the Loft Building (building 30/31/32). Photo showing the interior of the second floor, looking south.



Photo 9: Interior of the Loft Building (building 30/31/32). Photo showing the basement level and foundation.



Photo 10: Interior of the Loft Building (building 30/1/32). Photo showing the Interior freight elevator.



Photo 11: Interior of the Loft Building (building 30/31/32). Photo showing the first floor of the connecting building between the Loft building and the boiler house building 5/6).



Photo 12: South and east elevations of the original boiler house (building 5/6). Photo facing northwest.

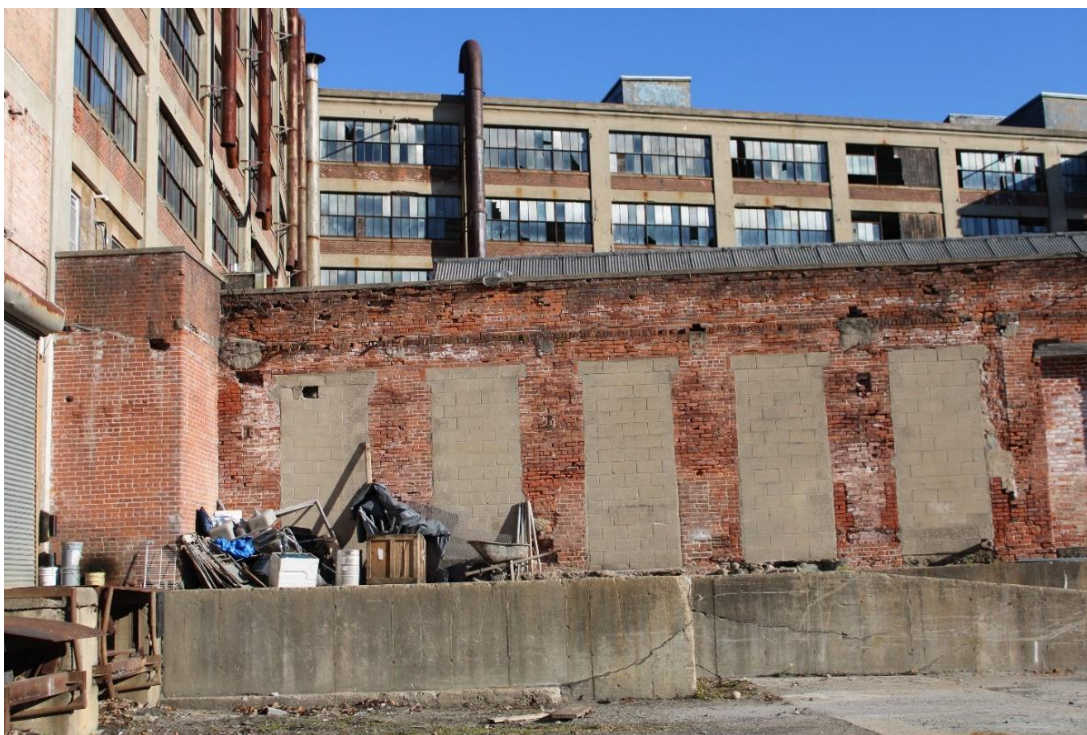


Photo 13: South elevation of the original boiler house (building 5/6). Photo facing north.



Photo 14: South elevation of the original boiler house (building 5/6). Photo facing north.

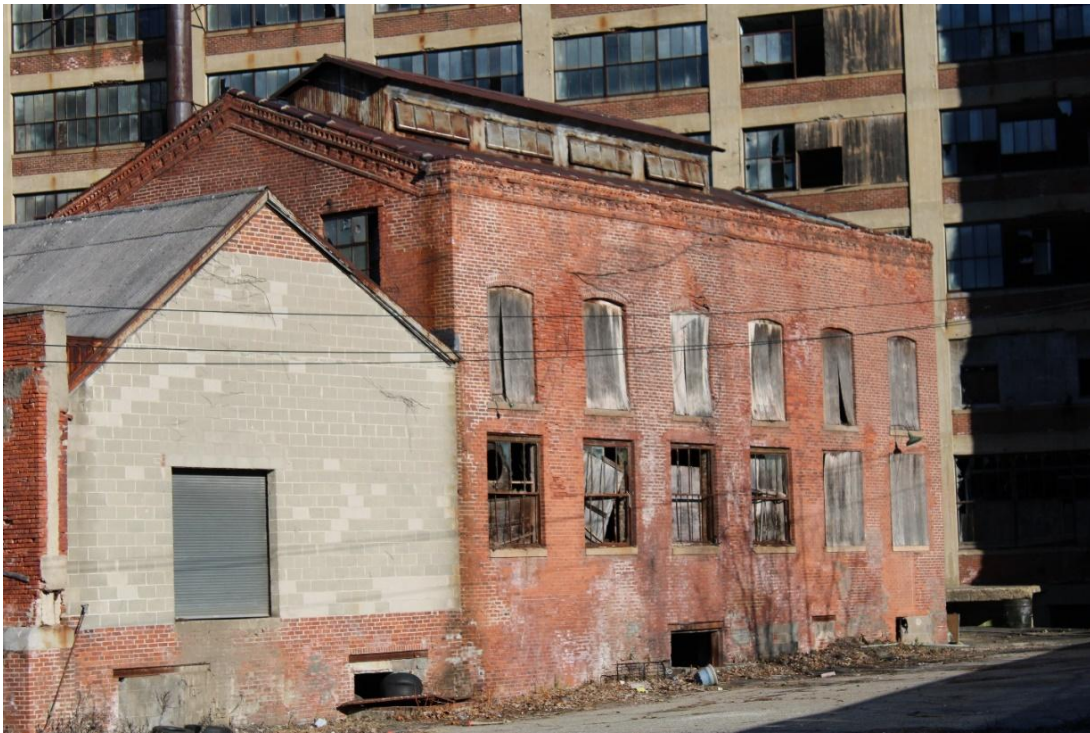


Photo 15: East elevation of the original boiler house (building 5/6). Photo facing northwest.



Photo 16: East elevation of the connecting building between the Loft Building (building 30/31/32) and the original boiler house (building 5/6). Photo facing west.



Photo 17: Interior of the original boiler house (building 5/6).



Photo 18: Interior of the original boiler house (building 5/6) showing the south elevation. Photo facing north.



Photo 19: Interior of the connecting building between the Loft Building (building 30/31/32) and the original boiler house (building 5/6).



Photo 20: West elevation of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223). Photo facing east.



Photo 21: Photo showing entrances on the west elevation of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223). Photo facing east.



Photo 22: Detail of the west elevation of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223). Photo facing east.



Photo 23: South elevation of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223). Photo facing north.



Photo 24: North elevation of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223). Photo facing south.



Photo 25: North elevation of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223). Photo facing south.



Photo 26: North and east elevations of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223). Photo facing southwest.

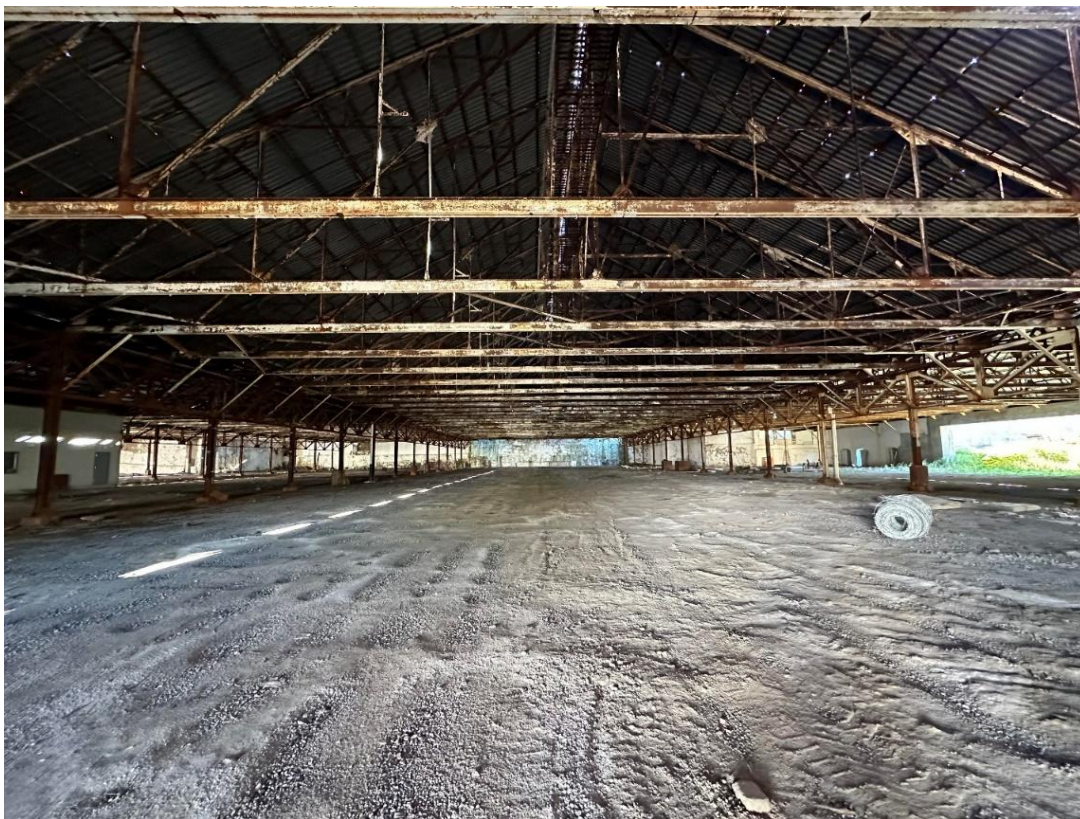


Photo 27: Interior of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223). Photo facing west.

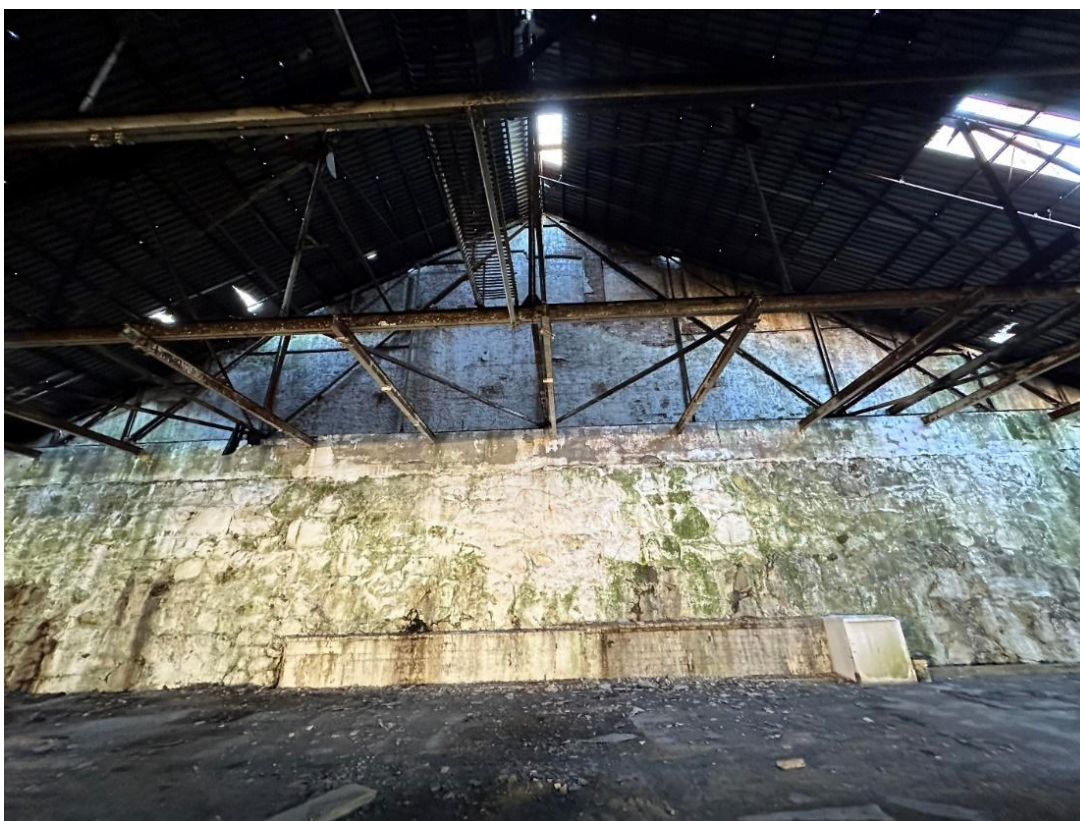


Photo 28: Interior of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223) showing detail of the east elevation. Photo facing west.



Photo 29: Interior of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223). Photo facing west.



Photo 30: Interior of the Rolling Mill (building 32/223) showing west elevation. Photo facing east.



Photo 31: Interior of the Rolling Mill (building 34/223). Photo facing east.



Photo 32: North elevation of the boiler house (building 237). Photo facing south.



Photo 33: West elevation of the boiler house (building 237). Photo facing east.



Photo 34: South and east elevations of building 239. Photo facing northwest.



Photo 35: South elevation of building 239. Photo facing north.



Photo 36: Photo showing brick detailing on the west elevation of 239. Photo facing west.



Photo 37: West elevation of building 239. Photo facing west.



Photo 38: South elevation of connecting building between building 239 and the factory building (building 238/238A/238Ext/274/276). Photo facing north.



Photo 39: Photo showing connection between the Rolling Mill (left), building 239 (center), and the factory building (left). Photo facing east.

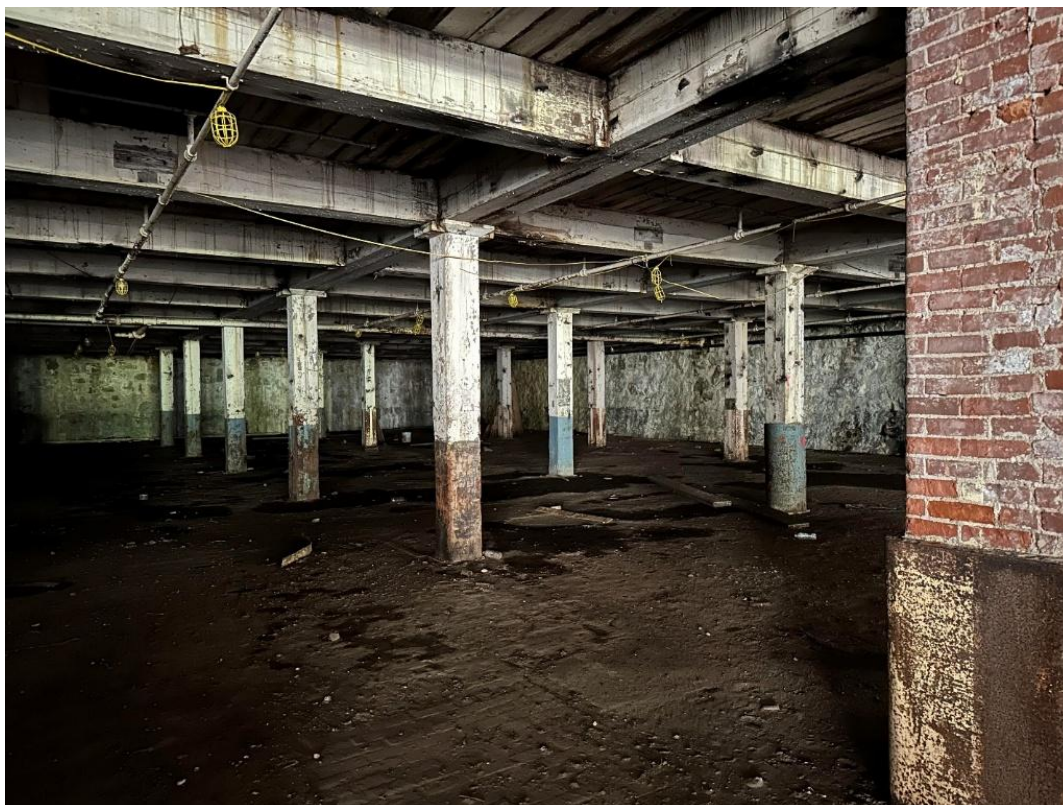


Photo 40: Interior photo of the ground floor of building 239.



Photo 41: Interior of building 239.



Photo 42: Interior of building 239. Photo facing west.



Photo 43: North elevation of the Factory building (building 238/238A/238Ext/274/276). Photo facing southwest.

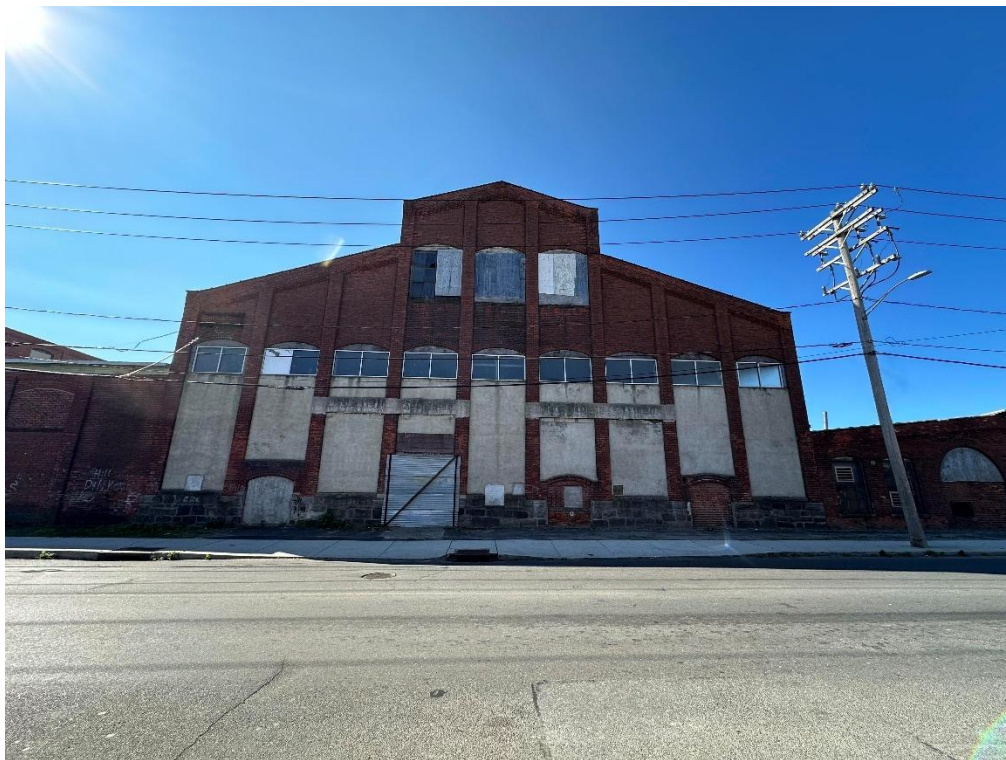


Photo 44: North elevation of the original block of the Factory building (building 238/238A/238Ext/274/276). Photo facing south.



Photo 45: North elevation of the east addition of the Factory building (building 238/238A/238Ext/274/276). Photo facing south.



Photo 46: West elevation of the factory building (building 238/238A/238Ext/274/276). Photo facing east.



Photo 47: East elevation of the factory building (building 238/238A/238Ext/274/276). Photo facing west.



Photo 48: Photo showing an entrance on the east elevation of the factory building (building 238/238A/238Ext/274/276). Photo facing west.



Photo 49: Interior of the Factory Building.



Photo 50: Interior of the Factory Building.



Photo 51: Interior of the Factory Building.



Photo 52: Interior of the Factory Building.



Photo 53: Interior of the Factory Building.



Photo 54: Interior of the Factory Building.



Photo 55: Interior of the Factory Building.

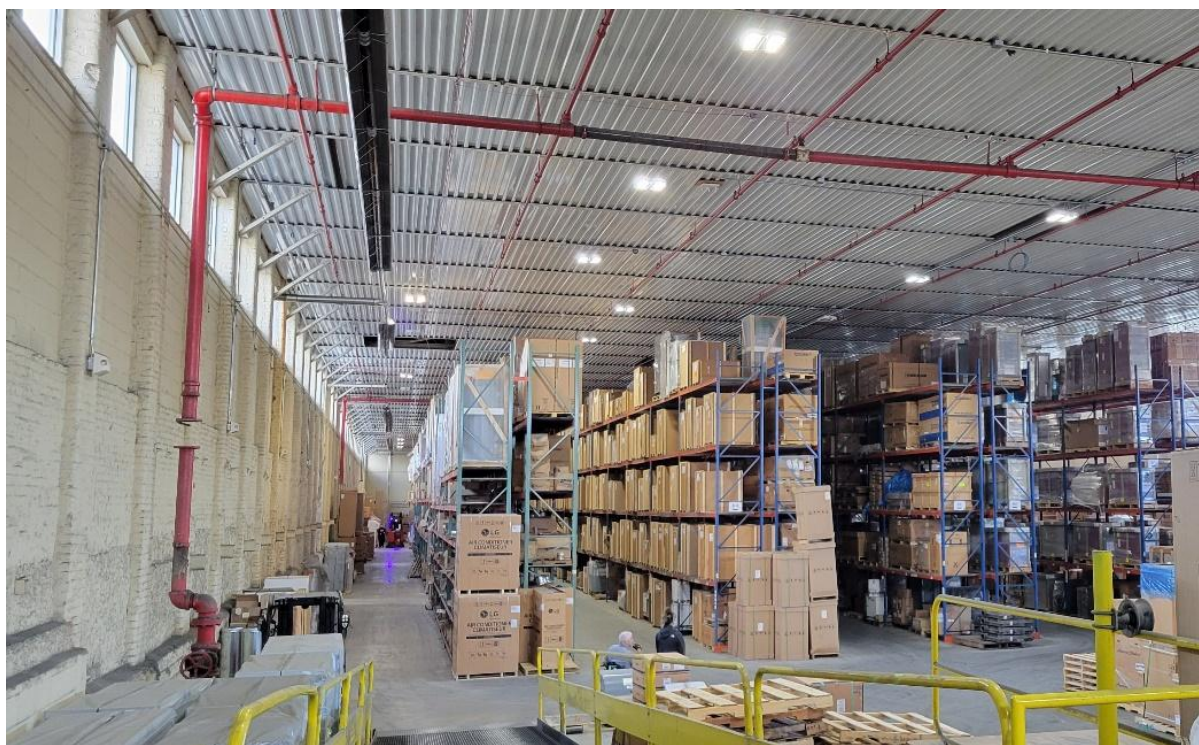


Photo 56: Interior of the Factory Building.



Photo 57: South elevation of building 250. Photo facing north.

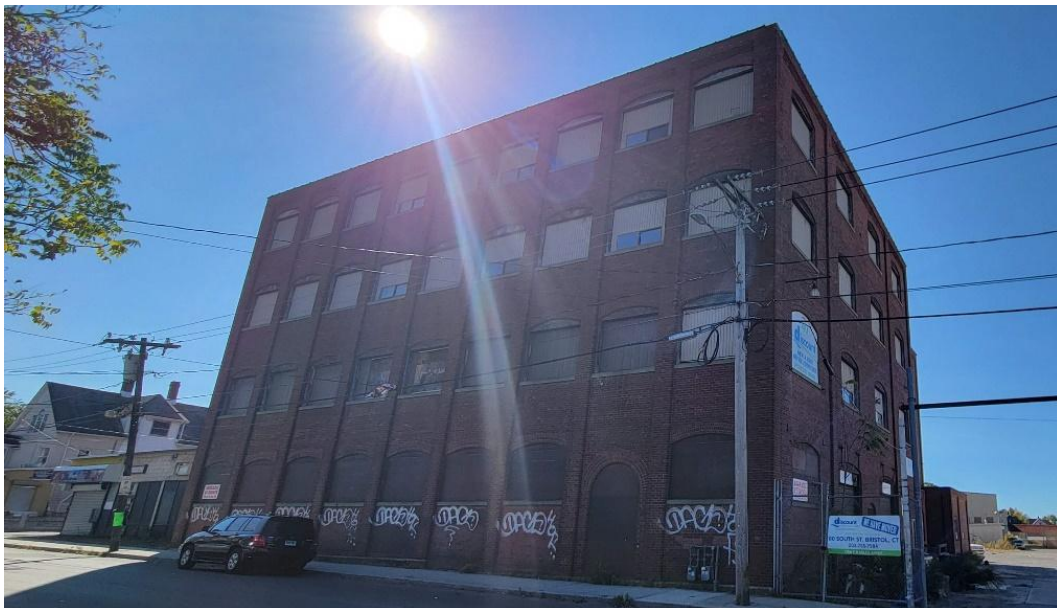


Photo 58: North and west elevations of building 250. Photo facing southeast.



Photo 59: North elevation of building 250. Photo facing south.



Photo 60: West elevation of building 250. Photo facing east.



Photo 61: Photo showing addition on the west elevation of building 250. Photo facing east.



Photo 62: South and east elevations of building 250. Photo facing northwest.



Photo 63: North and east elevations of building 250. Photo facing southwest.



Photo 64: East elevation of building 250. Photo facing west.



Photo 65: West elevation of building 231. Photo facing east.



Photo 66: North elevation of building 231. Photo facing south.



Photo 67: North and east elevations of building 231. Photo facing southwest.



Photo 68: South and west elevations of the forge building (building 271/271A). Photo facing northeast.



Photo 69: West elevation of the forge building (building 271/271A). Photo facing east.



Photo 70: South elevations of the forge building (building 271/271A). Photo facing north.



Photo 71: West elevation of the north addition on the forge building (building 271/271A). Photo facing east.



Photo 72: Interior of the forge building (building 271/271A). Photo facing south.



Photo 73: Photo of the flooring types and entrance to the buried canal at the Rolling Mill (building 34/223).



Photo 74: Photo showing the opening of the canal at the Rolling Mill (Building 34/223).