

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	SMV.691
Historic Name:	
Common Name:	
Address:	600A Mystic Valley Pkwy
City/Town:	Somerville
Village/Neighborhood:	West Somerville;
Local No:	
Year Constructed:	C 1915
Architectural Style(s):	No style;
Use(s):	Industrial Complex or District; Other Manufacturing; Power House; Warehouse;
Significance:	Architecture; Industry;
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials:	Wall: Brick; Wood;
Demolished	No



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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PL W 50M USGS BOST, N 507A

AREA 2 FORM NO. _____

WEST SOMERVILLE 691

Town Somerville

Address 600A Mystic Valley Parkway

Historic Name _____

Use Present Industrial

Original Industrial

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1915, Bldg. D - 1919

Source Sanborn Map 1933/34-1950

Style n/a

Architect Unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric Brick

Outbuildings Several-see reverse

Major Alterations (Dates) See reverse

Condition Good

Moved No Date 65,937 + 10,966 +

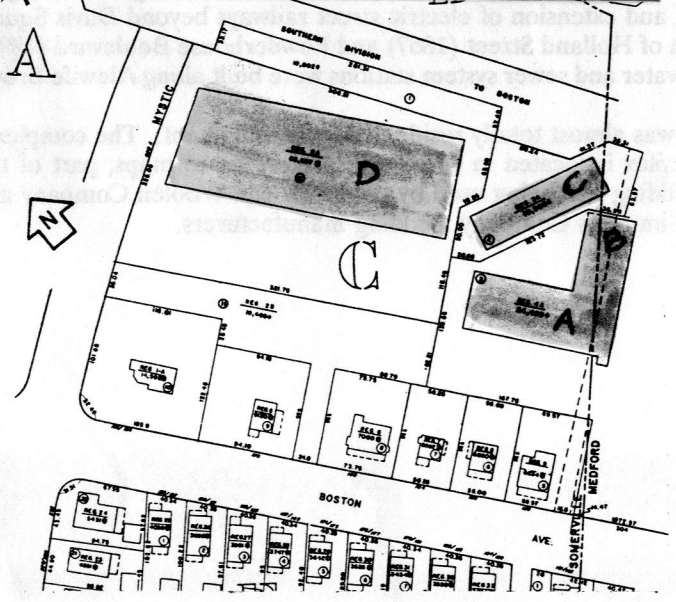
Acreege 24,480 sq. ft.

Setting Industrial complex near rail-road in residential area

Recorded By Fitch & Hollister, The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Organization Somerville Historic Preservation Commission

Date May, 1990



UTM Reference _____

USGS Quadrangle _____

Scale 1:25,000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

This industrial complex consists of four buildings: A: a four-story loft building with a very shallow gable roof. Brick piers divide the building into regular bays. The fenestration consists of paired, segmentally arched, 6/6, double-hung, wood sash; the first floor windows are bricked in. A stair tower at the center of the east end is original to building; a second stair tower with glass block windows added later. B: A two-story, flat roofed, brick powerhouse with yellow brick stack, flat topped blind arches with corbelling, and multi-light steel sash. The powerhouse is connected to Building A via a one-story, brick addition. C: A two-story, flat roofed, frame structure covered with asphalt shingles. Fenestration consists of 2/2 wood double-hung units many of which are blocked. D: A four-story, flat roofed pier and spandrel building with brick infill, five loading bays on the southern end, and a large red brick chimney adjacent to Building B. A second floor passage connects this building to Building A.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

West Somerville, located at the extreme western end of the city, is roughly bounded by Medford (north); Curtis, Holland, and Elmwood Streets (east); and Alewife Brook, which forms the boundary with Arlington (west). During the 18th and 19th centuries, the gentle topography fostered farming and dairying. Increased residential development took place beginning in the late 19th century, due to better transportation linkages and greater land pressures. Rail improvements included connecting the Lexington and Arlington Branch Railroad to the Boston and Lowell in 1870, and extension of electric street railways beyond Davis Square in the 1890s. Major street improvements included the construction of Holland Street (1867) and Powderhouse Boulevard (1899). Commercial development focused at Teele Square, and municipal water and sewer system stations were built along Alewife Brook.

This industrial complex is the only one in West Somerville, which was almost totally residential in development. The complex is located on the Somerville and Medford line and part of the complex is located in Medford. According to maps, part of this complex was constructed in 1919. Between 1927 and 1933, the building was being used by the American Woolen Company as a storage warehouse. In the 1940s the building was owned by the Simmons Company, bedding manufacturers.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Somerville City Directories
- Hopkins Map, 1874
- Hopkins Map, 1884
- Sanborn Map, 1900
- Sanborn Map, 1900 - Updated to 1931
- Sanborn Map, 1933/34 - Updated to 1950

