

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. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Phillipsdale Historic District  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

address roughly bounded by Seekonk River, Roger Williams Avenue and Ruth Avenue not for publication  
city or town East Providence vicinity \_\_\_\_\_  
state Rhode Island code RI county Providence code 007 zip code 02916

### 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

Edward Anderson \_\_\_\_\_ Date 7/28/2011  
Signature of certifying official

State Historic Preservation Officer \_\_\_\_\_ RI Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission  
Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> see continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> see continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other (explain:)	_____	_____



## Summary Paragraph

Located on the east side of the Seekonk River in northern East Providence, Rhode Island, the Phillipsdale Historic District is a small mill village containing approximately 80 acres of land and water, including three industrial sites and a mill pond (which together comprise the bulk of the acreage), a dam, a railroad bridge, 75 workers' houses built by the manufacturing companies, 30 other houses, 3 former stores, a church, and a former school. The district encompasses the largest concentration of surviving historic resources built within Phillipsdale during its period of significance (1883-1958) primarily by three manufacturers: Richmond Paper Company, American Electrical Works, and Glenlyon Bleacheries. The district contains a total of 114 contributing historic resources and 11 noncontributing (most of which represent additional housing and commercial construction within the past 50 years). The district has a distinctive visual identity and sense of place, and good integrity of location, setting, design, feeling, and association.

## Narrative continued

The City of East Providence, with a land area of 13.7 square miles, is situated in eastern Providence County and bounded by the Rhode Island municipalities of Pawtucket on the north, Providence on the west, and Barrington on the south, and by Seekonk, Massachusetts on the east. The city also has several bodies of water along its borders, including the tidal Seekonk and Providence Rivers to the west, Narragansett Bay to the south, and the Ten Mile River, Central Pond, the James V. Turner Reservoir, and Runnins River to the east. The Ten Mile River veers westward below the Turner Reservoir and cuts across the northern third of East Providence to join the Seekonk River. These two rivers are the major topographical features of Phillipsdale, along with Omega Pond (1883), a mill pond created from the former Seekonk Cove at the juncture of the two rivers. The land rises gently north and east of these waterways.

In the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the area north of the Ten Mile River came to be known as Rumford, named for the Rumford Chemical Works plant that was established a mile or so inland from Seekonk Cove in 1857. Phillipsdale, as a defined community with its own identity separate from Rumford, did not exist prior to 1893, although the village locale was settled, if sparsely, more than two centuries before that, and had experienced some limited industrial development during that time. Most of those early industrial facilities do not survive, but the largest of them is still extant: process buildings and a dam and mill pond (now Omega Pond) built between 1883-1887 by the Richmond Paper Company. This complex southwest of the intersection of Roger Williams and Bourne Avenues; was purchased by American Electrical Works (AEW) in 1893 and renovated and expanded for wire manufacture. Seven Richmond Paper buildings remain part of the expanded complex. The Phillipsdale Historic District contains six other historic resources that pre-date AEW's arrival in 1893: five houses and a district school. Of the five houses, one (111 Roger Williams Ave.) was built ca. 1750 and although much altered retains some Colonial-era design elements; two (112 and 116 Roger Williams Ave.) were built ca. 1860-1870, and despite some alterations (to #116 in particular) are recognizably Greek Revival; the other two (259 and 261 Bourne Ave.) were built between ca. 1883-1893 and again despite some alterations are discernibly Late Victorian. The 1879-80 school (132 Roger Williams Ave.), which once had some modest pretensions to Queen Anne detailing (in its irregular roof form and windows, particularly, as seen in an architect's drawing) was enlarged and altered about 1902, and now appears to be more of that vintage.

By 1900, a pair of large manufacturers established plants on either side of the AEW. To the south of AEW was its affiliate Washburn Wire Company, and to the north was the Sayles Company's Glenlyon Bleacheries. As noted above, AEW took over the former Richmond Paper Co. complex in 1893 and over the next 40 years, until the company was sold in 1934, made numerous alterations (including some demolition and new construction) to enhance efficiencies and to accommodate technological improvements. The plant remained in industrial use by subsequent owners until the 1980s. Today there are 14 surviving brick industrial buildings, modified but still

representative of their varying periods of construction (1883-1897 and 1900-1934); the Richmond Paper/AEW complex was listed in the National Register in 2006. Glenlyon Bleacheries' original 1889 building, constructed just north of AEW, was a typical brick late 19<sup>th</sup> century industrial design, with a 5-story central tower rising above 2-story wings with pier-and-spandrel walls studded with regularly spaced steel multi-light windows; the plant was expanded several times before it closed in the 1950s. (An adjacent second Glenlyon plant built in the 1920s does not survive.) Washburn Wire, which in 1900 built a steel mill just south of the AEW plant, operated there until the 1980s, likewise renovating and expanding along the way; that plant was demolished in 2005.

Between 1893 and 1910, these three plants became among East Providence's biggest employers, with some 2,000 workers among them. AEW acquired some existing 18<sup>th</sup> and early to mid-19<sup>th</sup> century houses on Bourne Avenue and Roger Williams Avenue, and turned them into worker housing (four examples within the historic district are 259 and 261 Bourne, and 112 and 116 Roger Williams); it also built several dozen two-family workers' houses, as did Glenlyon Bleacheries. The new company-built housing stock was never intended to accommodate all employees, as an electric trolley line along Roger Williams Avenue (in place by 1900) allowed many workers to live beyond walking distance of their workplaces. Nonetheless both Eugene F. Phillips, owner of AEW, and Frank A. Sayles, owner of Glenlyon Bleacheries, made a concerted effort to create a pleasant residential neighborhood for some of their employees adjacent to the plants.

About half the historic district's inventory (75 buildings, 34 built by AEW and 42 by Glenlyon) is company-built worker housing. Although the vast majority of it was built for two-family occupancy and constructed between ca. 1902-1910, there are also a few single-family and three-family houses, as well as a scattering of other two-family dwellings built between 1910-1927. Many of these workers' houses can be categorized as distinct types, differentiated by design elements like wall material, roof form, dormers, porches, and fenestration patterns. Stylistically, many of these houses appear to be closer to vernacular late 19<sup>th</sup> century precedents, even though built in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century: some of the Glenlyon houses, clustered on the north side of Nelson Street and the adjacent stretches of Roger Williams and Ruth Avenues, have Italianate-style bracketed door hoods that make them appear to be older than they are. Other Glenlyon houses, specifically the 14 brick ones on Roger Williams Avenue, appear to be based on late 19<sup>th</sup> century English precedents for worker housing in model villages and company towns; at least two of these are known to be architect-designed, by the Providence firm of Hilton & Jackson, and they all may be the work of that firm. (See "Company-Built Worker Housing Typologies," below, for a more thorough description of AEW and Glenlyon worker housing.)

Other additions to the village between 1893 and 1910 that still survive within the district, with various alterations, include two stores (the Phillipsdale Store at 253 Bourne Ave., ca. 1895, which was AEW's company store; and a privately owned variety store at 160 Roger Williams Ave.); a Colonial Revival style church (130 Roger Williams Ave., built by Eugene F. Phillips), a police station (162 Roger Williams Ave.), and an office for AEW's company physician, Dr. William H.T. Hamill (247-249 Bourne Ave.). (The Phillipsdale train depot, built ca. 1898, was torn down in the 1970s.) As noted above, the village school was also enlarged in 1902 to accommodate a burgeoning population of young children. Glenlyon built its own company store ca. 1913, and replaced it in 1923 (see 293 Bourne Ave, now much altered.). The 1874 railroad bridge and 1883 dam at the west end of Omega Pond were both replaced in 1918.<sup>1</sup>

The historic district also contains about two dozen private single-family homes which were built between AEW's arrival in 1893 and Glenlyon Bleachery's closing in 1958. These houses are all wood-frame and

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<sup>1</sup> Both AEW and Glenlyon constructed worker housing and other facilities (e.g. Glenlyon's 1920s-era tennis courts and playground) outside the boundaries of the Phillipsdale Historic District. For the purposes of this nomination, clusters of non-contributing properties immediately adjacent to the district boundaries precluded extending those boundaries further, but additional study may be warranted to identify other surviving properties associated with these companies.

between 1 and 2½ stories tall, of a compatible scale with the company-built workers' housing, and exhibit elements of various architectural styles including Late Victorian, Bungalow, Cape Cod, Colonial Revival, and Garrison Colonial. Houses of the 1940s and 1950s particularly reflect an era of suburban development in Phillipsdale and neighboring Rumford, which in later years also introduced a number of ranch houses, suburban tract houses, and apartment buildings immediately outside the district boundaries.

The historic district's street pattern, largely established by 1900, reflects the importance of its primary street, Roger Williams Avenue, which runs north and then east through Phillipsdale, in part following the curving shoreline of Omega Pond: all of the District's secondary roads either directly intersect Roger Williams Avenue or connect to it within two blocks. The juncture of Roger Williams Avenue and Bourne Avenue was historically considered the village center. Other streets in the district include Ruth Avenue, one block east of and parallel to Roger Williams Avenue; Miriam and Nelson Streets, each one block long between Roger Williams and Bourne Aves; and two cul-de-sacs: Gill Street, off of Bourne, and Moody Street, off of Roger Williams. Roger Williams Avenue also connects Phillipsdale to the rest of East Providence, via intersecting major thoroughfares at either end of the street: North Broadway to the south, and Pawtucket Avenue to the east. These larger roads also provide access to other destinations in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and beyond, via Interstates 95 and 195, just a few miles away.

In 1927, AEW and Sayles Finishing Plants Inc. (by then the parent company of Glenlyon Bleacheries) both recorded plats of house lots, many of which already had houses on them, and began offering them for sale. Many of the initial buyers were occupants of the existing houses.

Aside from the surviving AEW and Glenlyon mill complexes along its western side (and two adjacent large vacant parcels, which were formerly the site of the Washburn Wire Company), the church and former school, and three former stores, the historic district remains almost entirely residential. The manufacturing plants continued in operation for several decades after the end of the period of significance, but the historic district has experienced relatively little new development (13 houses and an office building) since 1960. The non-contributing infill single-family houses are of a similar scale with the historic building fabric, if divergent in type. The office building (which incorporates the former 1923 Glenlyon store) is not particularly compatible with neighboring historic homes, but its intrusion is relatively minor.

The areas immediately outside the district boundaries, although part of the larger Phillipsdale neighborhood, are generally quite visually distinct from the district itself, as they contain mostly mid- to late 20<sup>th</sup> or early 21<sup>st</sup> century single- and multi-family residential construction or open spaces (the Glenlyon Playground, the Wannamoisett Country Club), and also an elementary school and an auto body shop. Some historic houses, which appear to date from within the district's period of significance, can be seen mixed in with these later intrusions outside the district, on Bourne Avenue from Edward Avenue to Brayton Avenue, in the five blocks east of Roger Williams Avenue between Bourne Avenue and Wilson Street, and along Roger Williams Avenue from Wilson Street south to North Broadway. These areas may merit further study for potential National Register eligibility.

The district was initially surveyed for its historic resources in 1975, and since then there has been little demolition, most notably of the 1899 Washburn Wire plant in 2005. In addition, the 1871 former L.A. Lockwood Company mill building at 7 Noyes Street (later part of the Glenlyon complex), and a ca. 1840s single-family house at 126 Roger Williams Avenue, are no longer standing. Most of the surviving historic workers' houses and other dwellings have been altered with modern materials such as asphalt roofing, vinyl siding and trim, and vinyl replacement windows, but the streetscapes within the District remain quite intact, and together comprise a unified, significant array of historical resources, representing a defined period of industrial activity and community growth in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

## Company-Built Mill Workers' Housing Typologies

Company-built workers' housing constructed between ca. 1902 and 1927 (although most of it was standing by 1910) by the American Electrical Works<sup>2</sup> and Glenlyon Bleacheries is largely concentrated within a compact 3-block stretch of Roger Williams Avenue and Ruth Avenue north of Bourne Avenue; there are also six Glenlyon houses sited on the east side of Roger Williams a short distance south of Bourne. Originally, many of these houses were identical or very similar in design to one another, and despite later alterations they are still readily identifiable as mill workers' housing. These houses, along with the mills themselves, collectively constitute the primary character-defining architectural and historical elements within the district.

Company-built workers' houses in Phillipsdale are 1½ to 2½ stories tall, typically with a side gable or hip roof (now asphalt), two chimneys, often a shed dormer or a shed-roofed wall dormer across the front, brick or wood-frame (now usually vinyl-sided) walls, raised brick or stone foundation, and little architectural ornament save perhaps at the main entrances, where some houses have bracketed door hoods or porticos. Most of these houses were built for two-family use or were occupied by more than one family very early on, although some formerly two-family houses are now single-family. They range in width from 3 to 6 bays across the façade, and are 2 bays deep. Entrances may be centered on the facade, with either a single or paired doors, located at each end of the facade, or on the side elevations, set back a few feet from the façade. Many of these houses originally had porches or porticoes sheltering the entrance(s), most of which survive. The two-family houses typically have side-by-side, mirror-image dwelling units, as found in mill villages all over Rhode Island.

For the purposes of this nomination, where large groups of company-built workers' houses share major design characteristics (such as height, roof form, wall materials, fenestration patterns, and porches), the housing has been categorized by type. Each type is fully described in this section, accompanied by a list of illustrative examples (and variations thereon). Then, within the district inventory that follows this section, all company-built workers' housing is listed by street address and then identified by type as appropriate; in such cases, only variations on typical features, later alterations, and historical information are further noted.

Where small groups (6 or fewer) of company-built houses share similar design characteristics, these are individually described in the inventory, with similarities noted. All privately-owned houses (some of which were occupied by mill workers) are also described individually.

### American Electrical Works Housing

In 1893 American Electrical Works purchased the site of the Richmond Paper Company's defunct paper mill just north of Omega Pond, as well as two additional tracts of vacant land that Richmond Paper had owned on the east side of Roger Williams Avenue, north of Bourne Avenue. This purchase, which today is also bounded by Ruth Avenue and Nelson Street, is where AEW built the bulk of its worker housing. Within this purchase, two distinct types of worker houses were erected between ca. 1902 and ca. 1915. (AEW also built a handful of other worker houses that don't fit either type; see the inventory.)

- AEW Two-Family House, Type A – Roger Williams Avenue (ca. 1902-15)

This row of 15 houses (which appears in a ca. 1900 photograph) stands on the east side of Roger Williams Avenue between Bourne Avenue and Nelson Street. Uniquely among company-built workers' housing in

<sup>2</sup> Although Washburn Wire Co. employees certainly lived in company-built worker housing in Phillipsdale, the property owner was always American Electrical Works. No primary source documentation was found attributing housing construction to Washburn Wire.

Phillipsdale, all 15 are sited perpendicular to the street, facing south. (In some cases, original front porches have been screened or enclosed, with a door placed in their west ends, so that the main entrance to the house currently faces the street.) Most of these houses were built between ca. 1902 and 1910, with only two later exceptions (ca. 1913 and ca. 1915). Although each has only one chimney and one main entrance, which would seem to imply single-family use, early directories contain more addresses for this part of Roger Williams Avenue than there are buildings, and no buildings have been demolished. Since the address numbers proceed in increments of four, it seems reasonable to conclude that these houses originally had paired addresses (e.g., 165 Roger Williams Ave. was 165-167; see footnote, p. 32) because they were either intentionally built for two-family use or adapted to it very early on. Today, these houses are all in single-family use.

AEW Type A original design characteristics (see historic photo and 165 Roger Williams Avenue): 1½ stories; side gable (now asphalt) roof; center chimney at the ridge; clapboards; simple wood trim; brick foundation. Three bays across the south façade, with a center entrance. Front porch on the south facade featuring a flat roof with a bracketed cornice. Wood 2/2 double-hung sash windows. Stands on a raised lot with a masonry (sometimes now parged) or concrete retaining wall; as one proceeds north along the street, the grade of house lots rises from a few inches to several feet above the street.

165 Roger Williams Ave.	197 Roger Williams Ave.	217 Roger Williams Ave.
169 Roger Williams Ave.	201 Roger Williams Ave.	221 Roger Williams Ave.
173 Roger Williams Ave.	205 Roger Williams Ave.	225 Roger Williams Ave.
177 Roger Williams Ave.	209 Roger Williams Ave.	229 Roger Williams Ave.
193 Roger Williams Ave.	213 Roger Williams Ave.	233 Roger Williams Ave.

- AEW Two-Family House, Type B – Ruth Avenue (ca. 1905-10)

This group of 11 adjacent dwellings stands on the west side of Ruth Avenue between Bourne Avenue and Edward Street. Although each has only one main entrance, most have two chimneys, which implies two-family use, and as with AEW's Type A houses, early directories indicate more addresses for this part of Ruth Avenue than there were buildings at the time, and no demolition has occurred. Maps also indicate paired addresses, in increments of four, as well as a different numbering system than currently exists (e.g., 30 Ruth Ave. was previously known as 36-38, until the street was renumbered around 1921; see footnote, p. 42). It seems reasonable to conclude that like AEW's Type A houses, its Type B houses were also either built for two family use or adapted to it very early on. Likewise, today these houses are all (with one exception) in single-family use.

Type B original design characteristics (see 38 and 42 Ruth Avenue): 1½ stories, side gable (now asphalt) roof, two chimneys at ridge, shed wall dormer with paired windows centered at front, wood shingle wall covering and simple wood trim, brick foundation. Three bays across the 1<sup>st</sup> floor level of the east façade, with a center entrance sheltered under an open front porch (seen on the 1921 and 1956 Sanborn maps; most of these porches have been enclosed, but 38 and 42 Ruth Ave. have surviving open porches). Two small windows at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor level of the façade, tucked under the eaves on either side of the dormer. Two bays deep. Wood windows, probably either 1/1 or 6/6.

22 Ruth Ave.	30 Ruth Ave.	38 Ruth Ave.
24 Ruth Ave.	32 Ruth Ave.	40 Ruth Ave.
26 Ruth Ave.	34 Ruth Ave.	42 Ruth Ave.
28 Ruth Ave.	36 Ruth Ave.	44 Ruth Ave.

Glenlyon Bleacheries Housing

Frederick C. Sayles, the head of a major textile manufacturing empire based in Saylesville, R.I., purchased several tracts of land in Phillipsdale between 1897 and 1899. One of these tracts became the site of the Glenlyon Print Works (built 1899), also known as Glenlyon Bleacheries, a satellite of the Glenlyon Dye Works at Saylesville. Four other parcels, located on both sides of Roger Williams Avenue north of Bourne Avenue (including the block now also bounded by Nelson Street and Ruth Avenue north of Nelson), were developed with Glenlyon's worker housing. A fifth parcel, on the east side of Roger Williams south of Bourne, held several large retaining ponds to supply process water for manufacturing, plus half a dozen Glenlyon worker houses. In 1900 Frederick C. Sayles sold all of this land to his nephew, Frank A. Sayles, who by then had taken over all the various Sayles companies, which he operated under the umbrella name of Sayles Bleacheries. Frank A. Sayles was the owner of Glenlyon Bleacheries when most of its worker housing was built in Phillipsdale, between ca. 1902 and 1910. (Some Glenlyon houses were built after Frank A. Sayles' death in 1920, on land acquired on the east side of Ruth Avenue; these are described individually in the inventory.) All Glenlyon housing was built for two families.

Note: primary and secondary source records variously used the names Glenlyon Print Works, Glenlyon Dye Works, Glenlyon Yarn Dye Works, Glenlyon Bleacheries, and Sayles Finishing Plants, Plants C and E, to refer to the Sayles-owned properties in Phillipsdale. To lessen confusion, and because the existing mill and most of the worker housing were built before Sayles Finishing Plants was incorporated in 1921, the collective name Glenlyon Bleacheries is used in this nomination.

- Glenlyon Bleacheries Two-Family House, Type A - Nelson Street and Ruth Avenue, ca. 1902-04

Nine Glenlyon Type A houses, or variations thereof, are clustered on the north side of Nelson Street and around the corner on the west side of Ruth Avenue. The four Nelson Street houses have some late 19<sup>th</sup> century detailing, but are not illustrated on the 1870 or 1895 maps, and have been confirmed by other sources as dating to ca. 1902. The five Ruth Avenue houses (two of them nearly identical to those on Nelson, three a larger version) were built between 1902-04.

Original design characteristics (see 9-11 Nelson St.): 1½ stories, side gable (now asphalt) roof, two chimneys at ridge, wood shingle wall covering and simple wood trim, brick foundation. Five bays across the 1<sup>st</sup> floor level of the south façade, with paired center entrances under a hood with curved Italianate-style brackets. Two small windows at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor level of the façade, tucked under the eaves. Two bays deep. Wood windows, probably 2/2 double hung sash. Stands on a raised lot fronted by a stone retaining wall.

1-3 Nelson St.

9-11 Nelson St.

92-94 Ruth Ave.

5-7 Nelson St.

13-15 Nelson St.

96-98 Ruth Ave.

Three additional houses on the west side of Ruth Avenue north of Nelson Street represent a larger version of Glenlyon's Two Family Type A House, 2½ stories tall and with a wider façade. The central front doors are spaced further apart, and there are 4 full-size windows in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor level at front (two of them paired over the front doors). The front porches are not original but were added between 1921 and 1956.

100-102 Ruth Ave.

104-106 Ruth Ave.

108-110 Ruth Ave.



- Glenlyon Bleacheries Two-Family House Type B - Roger Williams Avenue

Inspired by English models, this distinctive group of thirteen are the only brick houses in the district, mostly built between 1905 and 1910 (one is ca. 1913). Two of these houses (115-117 and 119-121 Roger Williams Avenue) are known to be the work of Providence architects Hilton & Jackson, and the rest share enough design characteristics that they too may be Hilton & Jackson's work, although that could not be documented. These houses are sited in various small clusters on Roger Williams Avenue. Since these houses vary in roof form, the location of entryways, and fenestration patterns, they are described more fully according to the subtypes below:

- Glenlyon Subtype B-1

These three are the largest of the brick houses; two are known to be architect-designed. Original design characteristics: 1½ stories; side gable (now asphalt) roof; two chimneys at the ridge; brick walls; brick segmental arches over 1<sup>st</sup> floor windows, wood trim; brick foundation. Broad shed-roofed wall dormer across the façade at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor level, with four bays of windows tucked underneath its eaves. Entrances at each end of the façade, with windows between. Wood 6/6 double hung sash windows. Variable design characteristics for individual buildings are described in the inventory.

115-117 Roger Williams Ave.

269-271 Roger Williams Ave.

273-275 Roger Williams Ave

- Glenlyon Subtype B-2

Original design characteristics: 1½ stories; hip (now asphalt) roof; brick walls; brick segmental arches over 1<sup>st</sup> floor windows, wood trim; brick foundation. Broad hip-roofed wall dormer across the façade at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor level. Entrances on the north and south sides, underneath shed-roofed porticoes with brick posts. Two bays of grouped windows on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the façade; three bays on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, tucked under the dormer eaves. Wood 6/6 double hung sash windows. Variable design characteristics for individual buildings are described in the inventory.

119-121 Roger Williams Ave.

178-180 Roger Williams Ave.

- Glenlyon Subtype B-3

Original design characteristics: 1½ stories; jerkinhead (now asphalt) roof with a single center chimney; brick walls; brick segmental arches over 1<sup>st</sup> floor windows, wood trim; brick foundation. Large hip-roofed dormer at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor level. Entrances on the north and south sides, originally underneath open porches. Four bays of windows on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the façade: two pairs flanked by two much smaller sash near the roof eaves; paired windows in the dormer. Wood 6/6 double hung sash windows. Variable design characteristics for individual buildings are described in the inventory.

166-168 Roger Williams Ave.

174-176 Roger Williams Ave.

170-172 Roger Williams Ave.

258-260 Roger Williams Ave.

- Glenlyon Subtype B-4

Original design characteristics: 1½ stories; side gable (now asphalt) roof with two end chimneys; brick walls; brick segmental arches over 1<sup>st</sup> floor windows, wood trim; brick foundation. Paired center entrances flanked

by a single window. Wood 6/6 double hung sash windows. Variable design characteristics for individual buildings are described in the inventory.

238-240 Roger Williams Ave.

244-246 Roger Williams Ave.

242-244 Roger Williams Ave.

250-252 Roger Williams Ave.

## INVENTORY

The inventory lists historic buildings, structures, and sites alphabetically by street name (Omega Pond, its dam and railroad bridge are listed under “Omega Pond,” preceding “Omega Way

Where a mill workers’ house built by American Electrical Works or Glenlyon Bleacheries is referred to as “Type A,” “Type B,” etc., please refer to the above typologies for a more detailed description.

Many buildings in the district, including most of the company-built workers’ houses, were originally surveyed by the R.I. Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission in 1975; architectural data has been updated to reflect conditions in 2010. Research data has also been updated following additional investigation of historic maps from the period 1850-1956, aerial photographs taken in 1939, and city directories. Where changes to street numbering systems were observed among these records, care was taken to match data to the correct building. Limited deed research was also done to identify which company built which houses. Some historic name and date information was also collected from secondary sources, particularly several newspaper articles published in the *Providence Journal*, and in *Sayles News*, a bi-weekly publication for Sayles employees in the 1920s.

Some of the non-company-built houses in the inventory do not have a specific historic name, because their original owner could not be identified through maps or directories. Also, most Phillipsdale buildings did not have a specific address until 1905 or later (previously, East Providence directories noted locations in general terms, such as “house at Phillipsdale” or “house, Roger Williams Avenue”). In cases where an exact construction date could not be identified, the date was estimated (e.g., “ca. 1902”) related to its first appearance on a historic map, in a city directory, or in a deed (whichever was earliest), or some combination of such sources.

**Contributing / Non-contributing** Buildings, structures, and objects have been evaluated on the basis of architectural and material integrity and/or period of construction. Those which have major alterations that have not gained significance over time, or changes which are deleterious to their historical appearance (such as a visually intrusive addition at the building's front), or a construction date after 1958 (the end of the period of significance), have been designated non-contributing and are marked with the code (NC). All other properties are to be considered contributing, including some properties which have unsympathetic alterations (for example, synthetic siding, vinyl replacement windows, changes to porches, etc.) that could be removed to restore the property to its historic appearance. Garages, outbuildings, sheds, etc. have been included for descriptive purposes only and are not included in the enumeration of contributing/non-contributing district properties.

## BICKNELL AVENUE

- 10 (NC)      LAWRENCE AND CAROLYN FOGERTY HOUSE (1991): Ranch; single-family; 1 story; side gable asphalt roof; brick veneer on lower half of south façade and vinyl siding above; vinyl trim; concrete foundation. Off-center entrance; vinyl 1/1 replacement double hung sash windows. Garage wing on west side is slightly set back from the façade and has same wall materials; secondary entrance and double-width overhead doors. House stands at the northeast corner of Bicknell Ave. and Ruth Ave. Built by current owner.

## **BOURNE AVENUE**

- 195           ERIC R. LEATHER HOUSE (1943): Single-family; 1½ stories; side gable asphalt roof; vinyl siding and trim; concrete foundation. Irregular massing: 1-story gable-roofed projections at south front and east side. Off-center entrance enclosed under a shed roof. Vinyl 6/1 replacement double hung sash windows; paired windows at front; sliders in east side projection. Stands at the northwest corner of Bourne and Ruth Avenues. First listed in the 1943 directory, owned by Eric R. Leather.
- GARAGE (after 1956): Stands behind and north of the house, facing Ruth Avenue. One story, front gable asphalt roof, vinyl siding, one overhead door.
- 209           FRANKLIN BERKINSHAW HOUSE (ca. 1941-42): Colonial Revival; single-family; 1½ stories; side gable asphalt roof with a large shed dormer at front and a large center chimney at the ridge; vinyl siding and trim; concrete foundation. Three bay façade with center entrance; front door has a shallow wood fanlight and multi-light wood sidelights. Other windows are wood 8/8 double hung sash on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the south façade; vinyl 6/6 replacements elsewhere. Stands at the northwest corner of Bourne Avenue and Gill Street. The 1941-42 directory lists Franklin Berkinshaw as the owner.
- GARAGE (by 1956): Stands behind and northeast of the house, facing Gill St. One story, side gable asphalt roof, vinyl siding, two pairs of hinged wooden doors.
- SHED (after 1956): Stands behind and northeast of and perpendicular to the garage and to Gill St. One story, side gable asphalt roof, T-111 siding.
- 215 (NC)     CHO KWANG HWAN HOUSE (ca. 1980): Single-family; 2½ stories; front gable asphalt roof; vinyl siding and trim; concrete foundation. Three bay façade with center entrance under a gabled, vaulted, columned portico. Vinyl 6/6 replacement double hung sash windows. Brick retaining wall across the front property line. Carport attached to the west side elevation.
- OUTBUILDING (late 20<sup>th</sup> c.): Stands behind and northwest of the house, partly visible behind a solid wood fence at the the back of the driveway; function unknown (no driveway access, therefore not a garage). One story, gable asphalt roof, vinyl siding.
- 245-47-49    AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1902): Late Victorian; now multi-family (3 units); 2½ stories; front gable asphalt roof; chimney on west roof slope; vinyl siding and trim; brick foundation. Side-by-side entrances under 2-story front porch, next to 2-story bay window; 2<sup>nd</sup> floor porch has an entrance as well, and is missing its railings. One story addition at the front southeast corner has a corner entrance (#245). Vinyl 1/1 replacement double hung sash windows. Stands on land purchased by AEW in 1893. From 1902-1928, Dr. William H.T. Hamill, company physician, had his medical office at #245 (the front corner addition) and residence at #247 (see also 162 Roger Williams Ave.). Also living here in 1902 was Herbert W. Bessom, assistant superintendent at AEW (#249).
- GARAGE (after 1956): Stands behind/northeast of the house; 1 story, front gable asphalt roof, vinyl siding, one overhead door.

**BOURNE AVENUE**

253 PHILLIPSDALE STORE, NOW HOUSE (ca. 1895): Late Victorian; 2½ stories; front gable asphalt roof with large gabled wall dormers on the east and west sides; chimney on the west roof slope; vinyl siding and trim; parged masonry foundation. Five bays across the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the south façade, with a center entrance (steel replacement door) under a simple flat-roofed, columned portico (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floor railings replaced in wrought iron). Bay window centered at 2<sup>nd</sup> floor front has a replacement steel door in its center. Vinyl 1/1 double hung replacement sash. Stands on land purchased by AEW in 1893 from John L. Gates (see 259 Bourne Ave.), co-owner of the Gates & Matthewson general store of Rumford; since the names Rumford and Phillipsdale were interchangeable at the time, this building may also have been that earlier store, but that could not be confirmed. It appears on the 1895 map. The name "Phillipsdale Store" first appears in the 1896 directory; it was later called Phillipsdale Market. The upper floors contained several apartments; residents in 1902 were Chace E. Allen, bookkeeper for AEW, and John J. Pender, hairdresser (both listed at #251). This was AEW's company store until 1932, selling dry goods, provisions, and other items; the village post office was also located here. A First National grocery store was here from 1933-1955, and various other commercial businesses mixed with apartments until 1980, when the building was fully converted to its current multi-family use.

GARAGE (by 1956): Stands behind/northeast of the house; 1 story, front gable asphalt roof, vertical board siding; paired hinged wooden doors.

259 JOHN L. GATES HOUSE (ca. 1885-1893). Late Victorian; originally single-family, now multi-family (3 units); 2½ stories; front gable asphalt roof with large gabled wall dormers on the east and west sides; chimney on the east roof slope; vinyl siding and trim; brick foundation. Two bays across the south façade; side hall plan, with the entrance under a simple gabled portico (with replacement wrought iron posts and railings), and paired windows on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor. Vinyl 1/1 double hung sash replacement windows. Brick retaining wall lines the front yard. Stands at the northwest corner of Bourne and Roger Williams Avenues. John L. Gates purchased a half-acre parcel of vacant land (once part of Rumford Chemical Works' holdings) from Walter B. Pierce in 1885, on which today's 253, 259, and 261 Bourne Avenue now stand. This house was built during his ownership but it is not known whether he lived here (Gates' home address was on Walnut Street in Rumford between 1892-1896). Gates and Henry Matthewson (see 261 Bourne), were business partners in a general store called Gates & Matthewson in Rumford, which may have been the predecessor to the Phillipsdale Store (see 253 Bourne); 253, 259, and 261 Bourne were all constructed on Gates' 1885 land purchase and are seen on maps from 1895 and 1897. This address first appears in the 1902 directory as the home of William H. Matthewson, watchman at American Electrical Works. The house is identical to 261 Bourne Ave. The 1921 Sanborn map shows these houses joined together by a 1-story building (no longer extant), as well as another separate building (see 160 Roger Williams Avenue), all on a single lot and collectively used by the Phillipsdale Volunteer Fire Company (also Phillipsdale Hose Co.), which directories indicate was located here from 1915-1924.

**BOURNE AVENUE**

- 261 HENRY MATTESON HOUSE (ca. 1889-1893). Late Victorian; originally single-family, now multi-family (3 units); 2½ stories; front gable asphalt roof with large gabled wall dormers on the east and west sides; chimney on the east roof slope; vinyl siding and trim; brick foundation. Two bays across the south façade; side hall plan, with the entrance under a simple gabled portico (with replacment wrought iron posts and railings), and paired windows on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor. Vinyl 1/1  
  
double hung sash replacement windows. Brick retaining wall lines the front yard. Henry Matteson built this house on a 4,800 square foot vacant lot that he had purchased from John L. Gates in 1889 (see 259 Bourne); Gates & Matteson were business partners in a general store in Rumford, which may have been the predecessor to the Phillipsdale Store (see 253 Bourne). This house is identical to 259 Bourne Ave, and appears on the 1895 map. This address first appears in the 1905 directory as the home of 6 boarders. The 1921 Sanborn map shows these houses joined together by a 1-story building (no longer extant) as well as another separate building (see 160 Roger Williams Avenue), all on a single lot and collectively used by the Phillipsdale Volunteer Fire Company (also Phillipsdale Hose Co.), which directories indicate was located here from 1915-1924.
- 263 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES HOUSE (ca. 1905-1906): Late Victorian; originally two-family, now multi-family (3 units); 2½ stories; front gable asphalt roof with small hip-roofed dormers on the east and west roof slopes; metal chimney flue on west roof slope; vinyl siding and trim; brick foundation. Three bays across the south façade; side hall plan, with the entrance under a simple flat-roofed, columned portico (vinyl- or metal-clad columns, no railings). Two-story bay window on the east side elevation. Vinyl 1/1 double hung sash replacement windows. Brick retaining wall lines the front yard. Similar to 259 and 261 Bourne Ave., but does not appear on the 1895 map. This address first appears in the 1905-1906 directory as the home of Alexander Ogg, master mechanic at Glenlyon Dye Works; he lived here for several decades, and later directories list as many as 4 Oggs at this address, including Alexander Jr. and Robert M., who ran a variety store and restaurant next door (see 293 Bourne Ave), and John, a foreman at Glenlyon Dye Works. The house is shown in a photo on the cover of *Sayles News*, September 15, 1922, as the residence of Alex Ogg and Jack Ogg.  
  
GARAGE (by 1956): Stands behind/northwest of the house; 1 story, hip asphalt roof, concrete block, two overhead doors.
- 293 (NC) OGG BROS. STORE AND RESTAURANT, now NEW ENGLAND CONSTRUCTION (1923; enlarged and altered ca. 1990): L-shaped, 1 story, hip asphalt roof with exposed joists along the south façade and west side; 2 story square southeast corner tower marks the location of the wood-and-glass-framed main entrance; vinyl siding and wood shingles; vinyl and wood trim; concrete foundation. The original commercial building, described in the January 15, 1923 edition of *Sayles News* (photos of the exterior and interior are in the July 15, 1923 issue) was a 1-story, hip-roofed, wood-framed building with a center entrance and 3 bays of multi-light casement windows on either side of the doorway. Originally built by the Sayles Finishing Plants for the workers of Plants C and E (Glenlyon Print and Yarn Dye Works), and conveniently located just east of the railroad tracks near the plant gate, the store and restaurant were operated by brothers Alex Ogg, Jr. and Bob Ogg, who lived next door (see 265 Bourne Ave.). Maps and directories indicate that Alex Ogg Jr. had already been operating a variety store in a different building on this property (no longer extant) for over a decade before this building was built. Directories list the Ogg store here until about 1960; then the AnCo Tool & Die Co. from 1963 to

the 1980s, and New England Construction since 1990, which appears to be responsible for enlarging and altering the building. Now, with its fenestration much altered, and located at the west end of the current L-shaped structure, the original store is barely recognizable.

- 310 RICHMOND PAPER COMPANY, LATER AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS (1883-1887 and 1900-1934). NR listed; see the NR nomination for description of 18 surviving buildings (14 contributing). Currently owned by the City of East Providence; occupied by various commercial and light industrial tenants, but targeted for mixed use redevelopment as "Phillipsdale Landing." (Note that the abutting lot to the south was previously occupied by the Washburn Wire Company complex; those buildings were demolished in 2005, but the site is part of Phillipsdale Landing.)

### GILL STREET

- 5 WILFRED SAXON HOUSE (ca. 1957): Cape Cod type; single-family; 1½ stories, side gable asphalt roof, wood shingle siding and trim, concrete foundation. Three bay west façade with center entrance featuring a simple "Colonial" surround. Vinyl multi-light picture window flanked by 4-light vinyl casement sash to the right of the front door; vinyl 8/1 double hung replacement sash to the left. Other windows are also vinyl 8/1. Exterior chimney on the south side elevation. Attached breezeway and garage on the north side appear to be original; garage is 1 story with a side gable asphalt roof, wood shingles, and one overhead door. Stands at the northeast corner of Gill Street and Bourne Avenue. Appears in the 1957 directory as the home of owner Wilfred Saxon and John H. Gill (see 20 Gill Street).
- 20 (NC) JOHN H. GILL HOUSE (1960): Ranch type; single-family; 1 story, side gable asphalt roof, aluminum siding and trim, concrete foundation. Front-gabled projection in the center of the east façade has the main entrance and a large single-light wood-framed picture window flanked by vinyl 1/1 double hung replacement sash. Other windows are also vinyl 1/1. Exterior chimney on the north side elevation. Attached breezeway and garage wing with one overhead door on the north side, well set back from the façade, appear to be original. First appears in the 1960 directory as the home of owner John H. Gill.
- 25 (NC) FRANK T. HUGHES HOUSE (1970): Cape Cod; single-family; 1½ stories, side gable asphalt roof, clapboards on the west façade, wood shingles on the sides, and wood trim; concrete foundation raised a full story above grade, with an integral 1-car garage in the basement level. Five bay façade with center entrance; large exterior chimney on the north side; wood 6/6 double hung sash windows. Garage has an overhead door. First appears in the 1970 directory as the home of owner Frank T. Hughes.
- OUTBUILDING (after 1970): Stands behind/southeast of the house; L-shaped footprint; small 1 story, front and side gable asphalt roof, clapboards and wood shingles, wood 6/1 double hung sash windows. Function unknown.

### MIRIAM STREET

The name of this street is variously spelled "Miriam," "Marian" and "Mariam" in early 20<sup>th</sup> century maps and directories. There is also another street in East Providence called "Marian Ave.," which is not in Phillipsdale. Directory references to "Marian" or "Mariam" Street or Avenue in Phillipsdale were assumed to apply to these houses.

- 3 AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS HOUSE (ca. 1905): Single-family; 1½ stories, side gable asphalt roof, off-center chimney behind the ridge, vinyl siding and trim, brick foundation. Three bay north façade with off-center entrance and front porch with bracketed cornice. Vinyl 6/1 replacement double hung sash. Secondary entrance in a small enclosure on the west side. The 1905 directory lists John Mitchell, laborer, at 3 "Marian Ave, Phil.," along with 3 boarders (also named Mitchell, presumably family members).

GARAGE (after 1956): Stands behind/southeast of the house; 1 story, front gable asphalt roof, vertical board siding, paired wooden doors

- 4 AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS HOUSE (ca. 1905): Single-family; 1½ stories, side gable asphalt roof, off-center chimney behind the ridge, vinyl siding and trim, brick foundation. Three bay south façade with off-center entrance with a faux-Colonial surround and a vinyl multi-light picture window to the left of the front door (both later alterations), and a 6/6 vinyl replacement double hung sash window to the right. Other windows also vinyl 6/6. Secondary entrance in a small enclosure on the east side. Originally, this house had a front porch (seen on the 1921 map; removed, date unknown) and was likely identical to 3 Miriam across the street. This address appears in the 1905 directory as the home of Remington Albert, a laborer.

## MOODY STREET

- 1 HOUSE (ca. 1902): Single-family; 1½ stories; front gable asphalt roof; wood shingles and wood trim; brick foundation. Two bay west façade has the main entrance in a shed-roofed projection on the south side which is integrated into the main body of the house; there is a diamond-shaped ornament in the wooden lintel over the front door. Windows on the façade are vinyl sliders; other windows are vinyl 1/1 replacement double hung sash. Secondary entrance in a small enclosure on the north side. This house, which stands behind 105 Roger Williams Avenue, appears in the 1902 directory located at "rear Roger Williams Ave.;" by the early 1920s its address was "105r Roger Williams Ave." Moody Street is a small cul-de-sac platted in 1926. This house's first occupant was DeForest Pierce, a blacksmith, who lived here until at least 1910; directories do not indicate whether he was the owner.

GARAGE (by 1956): Stands behind/northeast of the house; 1 story, front gable asphalt roof, concrete block (wood shingles in the front gable end), two overhead doors.

## NELSON STREET

- 1-3 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1902). Later alterations include: chimneys replaced with metal flues; vinyl siding and trim; vinyl 2/2 replacement windows. Unit #1 windows have changed, with a wood picture window on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor covered over by vinyl siding. The four houses on the north side of Nelson Street are mentioned in a 1907 *Providence Journal* article as having been built about five years earlier. This address appears in the 1905 directory as the home of Thomas Duffy, laborer (#1) and

Michael Gallagher, laborer (#3); Duffy had one boarder living with him, and Gallagher had two, also named Gallagher and likely family members.

OUTBUILDING (after 1956): Stands north of the house, slightly visible from Roger Williams Avenue; 1 story, gable asphalt roof, vinyl siding, one window in the west elevation; function unknown.

5-7 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1902). Later alterations include: a 1-story front screened porch (added after 1956) covering the entrances and flanking windows (bracketed door hood presumably removed); some window sash are wood 2/2 with horizontal muntins, otherwise vinyl 1/1 replacements. The four houses on the north side of Nelson Street are mentioned in a 1907 *Providence Journal* article as having been built about 5 years earlier; they are also featured in a photograph with the article. This address appears in the 1905 directory as the home of John Benson, a laborer (#5) and Adam Morrisson, a blacksmith (#7).

OUTBUILDING (after 1956): Stands north of the house, only partially visible from Nelson Street; 1 story, gable asphalt roof, clapboards, one window in the south elevation; function unknown.

9-11 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1902). This is the most intact example of this type on Nelson St.; later alterations include vinyl 1/1 replacement windows. The four houses on the north side of Nelson Street are mentioned in a 1907 *Providence Journal* article as having been built about 5 years earlier; they are also featured in a photograph with the article. This address appears in the 1905 directory as the home of James M. Muir, a laborer (#9), and John Freebairn, a fireman (#11).

10 MELBOURNE A. THOMPSON HOUSE (ca. 1951): Single-family; 2 stories; side gable asphalt roof; aluminum siding and trim (concrete block wall on the east side, 1<sup>st</sup> floor level, where an attached garage used to stand); concrete foundation. Massing is in two sections: a 2-story garage wing on the east side is slightly shorter than the main house, and its 2<sup>nd</sup> floor slightly overhangs the 1<sup>st</sup> on its east elevation. Three bays across the north façade with a center entrance flanked by a pair of wood 6/6 double hung windows to the right and an overhead garage door to the left. Other windows are vinyl 6/6 replacement sash. Appears in the 1951 directory as the home of owner Melbourne A. Thompson.

13-15 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1902). Later alterations include aluminum siding and trim; a 1-story enclosed front porch (added by 1956) across entire façade with paired center entrances (original bracketed door hood presumably removed) flanked by groups of three 1/1 windows; vinyl 1/1 replacement windows. The four houses on the north side of Nelson Street are mentioned in a 1907 *Providence Journal* article as having been built about 5 years earlier; they are also featured in a photograph with the article. This address appears in the 1905 directory as the home of Patrick McGovern, a laborer (#13) and John H. Link, a foreman (#15).

GARAGE (by 1956): Stands north of the house, facing Ruth Avenue; 1 story, hip asphalt roof, aluminum siding, one overhead door.



- 14 CASIMIR J. DZIOK HOUSE (ca. 1953): Cape Cod; single-family; 1½ stories; side gable asphalt roof; off-center chimney at ridge; vinyl siding and trim; concrete or parged masonry foundation. Three bays across the north façade, with a center entrance; the window to the left of the front door is shorter than the window to the right. Large shed dormer and screened porch at the rear (south), visible from Ruth Avenue. Vinyl 6/6 double hung sash replacement windows. Appears in the 1953 directory as the home of Casimir J. Dziok.
- OUTBUILDING (after 1956): Stands west of the house, facing away from the street; 1 story, side gable asphalt roof, T-111 or vertical board siding; no doors or windows visible from the street; function unknown.

## NOYES STREET

- 1 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES, ALSO GLENLYON PRINT WORKS, LATER SAYLES FINISHING PLANTS, INC., PLANT C (1899); J.W. Bishop Co., builders in 1899. Massive industrial complex with a rectangular footprint consisting of several attached 1 and 2 story buildings with flat rubber-membrane roofs, corbelled yellow brick cornice, yellow brick walls and trim, and a brick foundation. The east façade of the main mill building is about 36 bays across, with a central 5-story tower; its south side elevation is about 26 bays deep. Fenestration generally consists of regularly spaced, segmental-arched window openings, separated by brick piers; there are several truck loading bays on the east façade north of the tower. On the east façade, many of the 1<sup>st</sup> floor windows are metal multi-light paired casement sash, with blocked-up transoms above; the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor windows are similarly configured but have single-light casements. Built under the direction of Frank A. Sayles, grandson of the company founder, as a satellite plant of the Glenlyon Dye Works, a division of Sayles Bleacheries, one of the state's largest textile manufacturers, headquartered in Saylesville, R.I. A second Phillipsdale plant, the Glenlyon Yarn Dye Works (Plant E), was built just north of here in 1920; it no longer survives. Plant C now houses a mix of commercial and light industrial businesses, some of which occupy the three recent warehouse-type additions to the north side (all are a tall 1 story with a flat roof, metal and concrete walls, concrete foundations, and multiple loading bays). There are also three additional adjacent non-contributing warehouse buildings on the former site of Plant E (just outside the district boundaries).

WAREHOUSE 1 (by 1921): Stands southwest of the main mill, and appears on the 1921 map. Two stories, flat roof, concrete walls and foundation. Two loading doors in its east elevation; 5 bays of window openings on the sides are either closed down to accommodate smaller sash, or infilled with concrete block.

## OMEGA POND

- OMEGA POND (1883). An irregularly shaped 17 acre fresh water mill pond at the juncture of the Ten Mile and Seekonk Rivers; originally called Paper Mill Pond, then Phillipsdale Pond, and finally renamed Omega Pond, after the small Omega textile mill that once stood near its eastern end. The pond was created in 1882, when Richmond Paper Co. entered into an agreement with the Providence & Worcester Railroad to incorporate a dam into the abutments of an 1874 railroad bridge crossing the western end of Seekonk Cove, where the two rivers met, thus turning the cove into a mill pond. The pond furnished the paper mill with the great quantities of fresh water necessary for its chemical pulping process. (An 1893 deed from Richmond Paper Co. to American Electrical Works confers the water rights to a million gallons a day from this pond.)

The creation of this mill pond directly spurred the large-scale industrial development that led to the residential settlement of Phillipsdale in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

- OMEGA POND DAM (1918); designed by Perry Searle, engineer. A massive gravity dam of granite masonry and concrete backing set on and partly anchored by wooden pilings, 14 feet high

with a spillway of 112 feet and a stepped downstream face. The upstream face of the dam is almost vertical, with an inclined pile of sand and gravel topped by sediment deposits. The crest of the dam is about 16 feet upstream of the adjacent railroad bridge; the stone abutments of the dam and bridge are integrated, which is a rare combination in New England. Perry Searle worked for the East Providence Water Works, which built this dam to replace a deteriorating 1882 dam, located a bit further downstream, that had also incorporated the abutments of an 1874 railroad bridge as part of its structural support system. (Some remnants of the 1882 dam structure are still visible at extreme low tide.) That original dam was built by Richmond Paper Co. to impound the waters of Seekonk Cove, creating the mill pond now known as Omega Pond.

- **OMEGA POND RAILROAD BRIDGE (1918).** A steel, single-span, through-truss bridge seated on masonry abutments that, in an unusual feature, form part of the structural system of the adjacent Omega Pond Dam. The overall bridge measurements are approximately 133 feet long by 33 feet wide by 30 feet tall. The truss pattern is a double intersection Warren, with substantial, lattice-like diagonals that can withstand heavy loads, and vertical sub-struts, extending only half the height of the truss panels, that provide additional strength and rigidity. This was a typical bridge form used by the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad in the first quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The bridge originally had two tracks, but today only has one, along with a deteriorating wooden walkway crossing the span near its center line. Almost all of the principal connections of the truss are riveted, a common technology by 1918. The abutments for the bridge and dam are made primarily of coursed, mortared, quarry-faced granite ashlar, with a thick layer of concrete on the bridge abutments. The dam's stone abutments tie into the U-shaped abutments of the bridge, forming an integrated structural system. This bridge was built by the NY, NH & H Railroad to replace the original 1874 covered bridge that had been constructed by the Providence & Worcester Railroad across the western end of Omega Pond. That bridge was part of a spur line of the railroad's East Providence branch, running along the east shore of the Seekonk River. Both the current bridge and tracks serve a freight line today; the tracks continue from the north end of the bridge along the west side of Roger Williams Avenue, past the American Electrical Works and Glenlyon Bleacheries complexes.

## OMEGA WAY

- 14 (NC) **HOUSE (2005):** Split level; single-family; 2 stories; side gable asphalt roof; vinyl siding and trim; concrete foundation. Four bays across the north façade with a recessed off-center entrance half a story above grade; the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor level projects over the first; bow window with vinyl casement sash at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor front; all other windows are vinyl 1/1 double hung sash. Two garage bays are integrated into the 1<sup>st</sup> floor level, to the right of the front door. Similar in design to 16 Omega Way. First appears in the 2005 directory as the residence of Stephen C. and Joanna Durfee, but they are not listed as the owners.

**OUTBUILDING (ca. 2005):** Stands behind and southwest of the house, facing away from the street; 1 story, side gable asphalt roof, vinyl siding, no windows or doors visible; function unknown.

- 15 **HOUSE (ca. 1929-1930):** Bungalow; single-family; 1½ stories; hip asphalt roof with hipped dormers on the front and east side roof slopes; vinyl siding and trim; concrete or parged masonry foundation. Large screened porch at front, integrated with the roofline; three bay south façade with center entrance. Windows are mostly wood 6/1 double hung sash. A large deck has been

added to the west side elevation, well set back from the façade. This house, originally 5 Omega Way, first appears in the 1929-1930 directory as the home of George A. Gould, who is not listed as the owner. The address changed to 15 Omega Way in 1933, occupied by Stephen D. Knowles; he is listed as the owner in the 1941-1942 directory.

GARAGE (after 1930): Stands behind/north of the house; large, 1 story, side gable asphalt roof, vertical board and wood novelty siding, two overhead doors.

- 16 (NC) JOSE U. COLIN HOUSE (2007): Split level; single-family; 2 stories; side gable asphalt roof; vinyl siding and trim; concrete foundation. Stands perpendicular to the street, facing west toward Omega Pond. Four bays across the west façade with a recessed off-center entrance half a story above grade; the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor level projects over the first; bow window with vinyl casement sash at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor front; all other windows are vinyl 1/1 double hung sash. Two garage bays are integrated into the 1<sup>st</sup> floor level of the north side elevation, facing the street. Similar in design to 14 Omega Way. First appears in the 2007 directory as the home of owner Jose U. Colin.

## ROGER WILLIAMS AVENUE

- \* **NOTE:** On the east side of Roger Williams Ave., between Bourne Ave. and Nelson St., there are fifteen single-family houses (odd-numbered addresses from 165 to 233). All were built by American Electrical Works and have been designated Type A in this nomination. The 1902 and 1905 directories contain more street numbers than there are current buildings here. Since no houses have been demolished within this group, the explanation is likely that despite being small cottages with one entrance, these were in two-family use very early on, if not actually intended for two families. The 1921 map shows the current street numbers, but since the numbers “skip” as they proceed in sequence up the street (165, 169, 173, 177, etc.), it would appear that the “lost” street numbers do relate to existing buildings (165[-167], 169[-171], etc.). Occupant names are listed for these houses under that assumption. The properties affected are marked below with an asterisk [\*].

- 103-105 HOUSE (ca. 1895): Late Victorian; two-family; 2½ stories; front gable asphalt roof; chimney at ridge; vinyl siding and trim; brick foundation. Three bay west façade; side hall plan with side-by-side entrances under a gabled portico (posts replaced, no railings). Windows are a mix of wood 2/2 and 1/1 replacement double hung sash. Secondary entrance on south side. The house first appears on the 1895 map; its original owner is unknown, but the 1905 directory lists four members of the Billings family living at 105 Roger Williams Ave: Frank A., a machinist, and three boarders.

GARAGE (by 1956): Stands behind/east of the house, facing Moody Street; 1 story, concrete block, side gable asphalt roof, two sets of sliding wooden doors.

- 107-109 GEORGE P. LAWTON AND OLIVE B. LAWTON HOUSE (ca.1895): Late Victorian; two-family; 2½ stories; front gable asphalt roof; chimney on south roof slope; asbestos shingles and wood trim; brick foundation. Three bay west façade; side hall plan with side-by-side entrances under a 2-story front porch (2<sup>nd</sup> floor porch door at front). Vinyl 1/1 replacement double hung sash windows. Secondary entrance on south side; 1 story addition at rear (visible from Moody St.). This house first appears on the 1895 map; the Lawtons are listed as living at “Roger Williams Ave., Rumford” in the 1898 and 1902 directories, but by 1905 George Lawton’s address was 107 Roger Williams Ave. in Phillipsdale. George Lawton was in the ice cream

business. Olive B. Lawton, a widow, may have been George's mother: her recent death was recorded in the 1902 directory.

GARAGE (by 1921): Stands behind/east of the house, facing Moody Street: 1 story, concrete block, side gable asphalt roof, two overhead doors.

- 111 EDWARDS-CARPENTER-SHERMAN HOUSE (ca. 1750s et. seq.): Colonial, now much altered; single-family; 1½ stories; side gable asphalt roof; wood shingle siding and wood trim; stone foundation. The original structure, apparently built as a store, is at the north end of the house: it has 3 bays across the west façade with a side entrance and an end chimney. A 3-bay addition to the south side elevation was added shortly after the original construction; this portion of the house was either altered or replaced sometime after 1956, as it presently includes a recessed main entrance and an integral two-car garage on its south side. Its original owner is unknown; the building is identified on the 1831 map as a store, and seems to have been converted to residential use by 1850. Owners on late 19<sup>th</sup> century maps were Mrs. Edwards (1850), W.S. Carpenter (1870), and N. Sherman (1882); a ca. 1890s photo identifies this as the Sherman House.

SHED (date unknown): Stands behind/southeast of the house; 1 story; front gable asphalt roof; wood shingles; large door in its west front.

- 112 JOSEPH B. FITTS HOUSE (ca. 1860): Greek Revival/Italianate; single-family; 1½ stories; side gable asphalt roof with curved brackets in the gables; asbestos shingle siding and wood trim; brick foundation. Five-bay east façade has a center entrance with sidelights and capped by a bracketed entablature. A 1-story, flat-roofed sunroom on the south side was originally an open porch (seen on the 1921 map; enclosed by 1956); it has simple brackets on its cornice. Wood 1/1 double hung sash replacement windows. Large shed dormer at the rear. This house appears on an 1862 map, owned by Jos. B. Fitts. The 1895 map shows the property owned by American Electrical Works. The address first appears in the 1902 directory as the residence of John McHugh, an engineer at AEW, and Peter C. McHugh, a laborer.

GARAGE (by 1956): Stands behind/northwest of the house; 1 ½ stories; steeply pitched front gable asphalt roof with large shed dormers on the north and south sides; wood shingles; two overhead garage doors; pedestrian door to the right of the garage bays, sheltered under its own steeply pitched, deep gable roof. A boarded-up hayloft-type opening (with hoist) above the garage doors has an entablature with dentils, which may have been salvaged from an earlier building. Possible residential use on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

- 115-117 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B-1 (ca. 1910); Hilton & Jackson, architects. Design variations: entrances are under hip-roofed, columned porticos; four single windows between the entrances; 2<sup>nd</sup> floor windows are paired over the doors, and grouped in threes over the 1<sup>st</sup> floor windows. Later alterations: all window sash are vinyl double hung 6/6 replacements. This address first appears in the 1910 directory as the home of James Higgins, operative (#115) and Joseph W. Murdock, shipper (#117). A photo of this house (and 119-121 next door) appears in the R. I. Chapter, American Institute of Architects 1910 Yearbook. GARAGE (after 1956): Stands behind/east of the house; 1 story, end gable asphalt roof, brick, 3 overhead doors.

**ROGER WILLIAMS AVENUE**

- 116           A.B. CARPENTER HOUSE (by 1870): Originally Greek Revival?; single-family; 1½ stories; side gable asphalt roof; vinyl siding and trim; brick foundation. Three bay east façade has a side hall plan (original trim is gone from the front door but there is a suggestion of an entablature). Open, hip-roofed porch and a secondary entrance on the south side. One story addition, slightly set back from the main house, on the north side. Vinyl 1/1 replacement double hung sash windows. Shown on the 1870 map on land owned by A.B. Carpenter. The 1895 map shows the property owned by American Electrical Works. This address first appears in the 1905 directory as the home of Mark A. Evans, a foreman at AEW and the head of household, along with two boarders, machinist Howard E. Evans and AEW clerk Raymond T. Evans.
- SHED (date unknown): Stands south of the house in the side yard; 1 story; side gable asphalt roof; vertical board siding.
- 119-121       GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B-2 (ca. 1905); Hilton & Jackson, architects. Design variations: two chimneys, on the north and south roof slopes. Windows are grouped in threes on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor front, paired on the 2<sup>nd</sup> (the middle pair is significantly smaller). Wood shingles or clapboards on the sides of the porticoes. Later alterations: All windows are vinyl 1/1 double hung replacements. The south portico has a fenced wooden deck on its south side (a later addition); the north portico has partial-height brick posts that do not support its roof. This address first appears in the 1905 directory as the home of Bernard Keane, barber (#121); in 1910 Thomas Henderson, foreman (#119), and John B. Packer, clerk (#121), lived here. A photograph of this house (and 115-117 next door) appears in the Rhode Island Chapter, American Institute of Architects 1910 yearbook, as well as on the cover of *Sayles News*, May 15, 1924.
- 120           ELLERY R. BILLINGS HOUSE (1931-1932): Dutch Colonial, 2 stories, side gambrel asphalt roof with large shed dormer across the front, vinyl siding and trim, raised concrete foundation. Side hall plan; front door (with vinyl-multi-light sidelights) is sheltered under a flat-roofed, columned portico. Large picture window (not original) to the left of the front door. Vinyl 1/1 double hung sash replacement windows. One-story addition on the south side has vinyl slider windows, and a secondary entrance with pressure-treated wooden stairs on its south side elevation. The 1895 map shows this property owned by American Electrical Works (at which time there was a house on it in a different location); it also appears as a house lot (with no building) on AEW's Phillipsdale Plat of 1927. This address first appears in the 1931-32 directory as the home of Ellery R. Billings, who is listed as the owner in 1937.
- 124 (NC)      HOUSE (late 20<sup>th</sup>/early 21<sup>st</sup> c.): Prefabricated single-family; 1 story; side gable asphalt roof with large chimney in front roof slope; vinyl siding and trim; concrete foundation. Stands end to the street, facing north; the main entrance is near the front northeast corner. Vinyl multi-light windows. This house replaced one that first appeared in the 1963 directory. A housing trailer, mounted on concrete blocks, sits in the back yard.
- OUTBUILDING (late 20<sup>th</sup>/early 21<sup>st</sup> c.): Stands behind/west of the house and the trailer; 1 story, side gable asphalt roof, vinyl siding; east façade has a center entrance and two windows; function unknown.

**ROGER WILLIAMS AVENUE**

125 JOHN W. FARRELL HOUSE (ca. 1941-1942): Cape Cod; 1½ stories; side gable asphalt roof with two gabled front dormers; wood shingles and trim; concrete foundation. The house stands perpendicular to the street, facing south. Side hall plan; simple trim around front door; small bay window centered on the south façade; other façade windows are small, double hung sash and casements. All double-hung windows are vinyl 6/6 or 4/4 replacements; casements are vinyl multi-light. One-story addition with gable roof at the rear. Appears in the 1941-42 directory as the residence of owner John W. Farrell; possibly also appears in a 1939 aerial photo.

GARAGE (ca. 1941-1942): Stands southeast of the house, facing the street; 1 story, front gable asphalt roof, wood shingles, two overhead doors; has a similar character as the house, and may be original.

126 (NC) HOUSE (after 1975): Split level; 2 stories; side gable asphalt roof; vinyl siding and trim; concrete foundation. Off-center main entrance is half a level above grade and has faux Colonial door surround. Vinyl 6/6 double hung sash windows; bow window with multi-light vinyl casements at 2<sup>nd</sup> floor front. Two garage bays in the north side elevation, facing Omega Way. This house replaced a ca. 1840 house on this site.

128 MALCOLM C. GOULD HOUSE (ca. 1929-1930): Bungalow; 1½ stories; hip asphalt roof with hip-roofed front dormer with paired windows; vinyl siding and trim; stucco foundation. Five bays across the east façade, with an off-center front door and an inset screened porch at the front northeast corner; another screened porch at the rear (west side). Mostly vinyl 1/1 double hung sash replacement windows. This land was formerly the property of American Electrical Works, platted as part of the Phillipsdale Plat in 1927. The address is first listed in the 1929-1930 directory as the home of Malcolm C. Gould, who is listed as the owner by 1937.

GARAGE (by 1939): Stands behind/west of the house, facing Omega Way; very small 1 story, hip asphalt roof, vinyl siding, one overhead door. Similar in character to the house and may be original; appears in a 1939 aerial photo.

129 ALF. J. COELHO HOUSE I (ca. 1935): 1½ stories, hip asphalt roof with hip-roofed front dormer with paired windows, exterior chimney on the south side, vinyl siding and trim, concrete foundation. Three bays across the west façade, with an off-center front door (which is a steel replacement). Vinyl slider windows at front; all other windows are vinyl 1/1 double hung sash. Appears in the 1935 directory as the home of owner Alf. J. Coelho (the first of two he built; see also 131 Roger Williams Ave.)

GARAGE (by 1939): Stands behind/northeast of the house; 1 story, hip asphalt roof, vinyl siding; two overhead doors. Similar in character to the house and may be original; appears in a 1939 aerial photo.

130 GRACE PHILLIPS MEMORIAL CHURCH (1903, with later additions): Colonial Revival; 1½ stories; pedimented front gable asphalt roof; vinyl siding and trim; raised brick foundation. A 1-story vestibule and a 3-story steeple with a belfry project from the east façade; the base of the steeple contains the main entrance, with arched wooden double door and a concrete stairway.

**ROGER WILLIAMS AVENUE**

Stained glass windows with arched headers are found on the main level (two on the east façade, flanking the entrance; 4 on each side); other windows in the basement and the steeple are vinyl 1/1 double hung replacement sash. A 1-story concrete block addition at the rear (date unknown), projecting out on both sides, contains a secondary entrance at the top of a wooden stairway. The church was built by Eugene F. Phillips, for the benefit of his employees, in memory of his daughter Grace, who had died at age 4. For several decades the church was not dedicated to any specific Protestant denomination, but in 1948 it was purchased by the Rhode Island Episcopal Convention. It is currently used by an Assembly of God congregation and known as "Grace Chapel."

- 131 ALF. J. COELHO HOUSE II (ca. 1941-1942): Cape Cod; 1½ stories; side gable asphalt roof with two small gabled dormers at front and a small off-center chimney at the ridge; clapboards at front and wood shingles on the sides, with wood trim; concrete foundation. Three bay west façade with a center entrance; vinyl 8/8 and 6/6 double hung sash replacement windows. Not seen in the 1939 aerial photo, but appears in the 1941-42 directory as the home of owner Alf. J. Coelho (the second of two he built; see also 129 Roger Williams Ave.)

GARAGE (after 1941-42): Stands behind/northeast of the house; 1 story, front gable asphalt roof, clapboards, double width overhead door.

- 132 DISTRICT SCHOOL NO. 9, later PHILLIPSDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL, later GRACE CHURCH PARISH HOUSE (1879-1880; enlarged and extensively remodeled in 1902), Walker & Gould, architects for original school. 1 story; hip asphalt roof in two sections; clapboards and wood trim; raised stone foundation. The off-center main entrance on the east façade is recessed under an inset porch between two front-gabled projections, each containing three windows; several more windows are found across the front and along the sides; all windows are vinyl 1/1 double hung replacement sash. The original school consisted of what is today the right-hand gabled projection, with boys' and girls' entrances on either side of it; additions to both north and south sides, and a reconfiguration of the main entrance, concurrent with a spike in the village's population, resulted in the present appearance. The school was built on a lot given to the Town of East Providence by Rumford Chemical Works, which owned extensive landholdings in this area at the time; it served children of workers at several local factories such as Rumford Chemical, Clyde (formerly Omega) Mill and Riverside Mill. (A drawing of the original school by Walker & Gould identified it as the "Primary School, Clyde Village.") It was renamed Phillipsdale Primary School in 1917, and remained in that use until 1933 when a new elementary school was built on Horsford Avenue in Rumford (and was then renamed Roger Williams Primary School). This building was later used as an American Legion Hall. It was purchased by Grace Episcopal Church (see 130 Roger Williams Ave.) in the 1960s. Today it serves as the Assembly of God Church's parish house.

- 133-135 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1913). 1½ stories plus attic; side gable asphalt roof with very steep pitch, descending in part to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor level over the front doors, and two chimneys behind the ridge; wood shingles and trim; brick foundation. Entrances are at either end of the west façade, in 3-bay projections containing a center door flanked by two double hung windows. Recessed between the entrance projections are two bay windows on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor, and a shed dormer on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Windows are a mix of wood 2/2 and 1/1 sash. This appears to be an architect-designed house and although it is made of wood, it may be the work of



architects Hilton & Jackson, who designed two nearby brick houses (see 113-115 and 117-119 Roger Williams Ave.), and possibly as many as 10 more, for Glenlyon. This address appears in the 1913 directory as the home of George A. Gould, an engineer at Glenlyon Dye Works (#135); he lived here at least through 1926.

- 137-139 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1902). 2½ stories, side gambrel (now asphalt) roof with 2 chimneys behind the ridge and a third centered on the front roof slope; three large gabled dormers with paired double-hung windows across the front; asbestos shingle siding; wood trim; brick foundation. Six bays across the 1<sup>st</sup> floor level of the west façade, with entrances at either end set back within inset corner porches; front doors have short sidelights and multi-light transoms. Mostly vinyl 1/1 replacement double hung sash windows. South porch railings replaced. This is one of a group of three originally identical houses (see 141-143 and 145-147 Roger Williams Ave.), seen in a ca. 1900 historic photo. The 1902 directory first lists the address 137 Roger Williams Ave. as the home of William H. Atkinson, a laborer.
- 141-143 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1905). 2½ stories, side gambrel (now asphalt) roof with a chimney centered on the front roof slope (the original 2 chimneys behind the ridge are no longer visible); three large gabled dormers with paired double-hung windows across the front; vinyl siding and trim; brick foundation. Six bays across the 1<sup>st</sup> floor level of the west façade, with entrances at each end set back within inset corner porches (railings and posts replaced); original sidelights and transom at front doors covered over, and front doors replaced. Vinyl 1/1 double hung sash replacement windows. This is one of a group of three originally identical houses (see 137-139 and 145-147 Roger Williams Ave.), seen in a ca. 1900 historic photo. This address first appears in the 1905 directory as the home of Elizabeth A. Stevens, widow of George, and Elmer E. Stevens, foreman at Glenlyon Dye Works, plus one boarder (#141); and George G. Taubert, foreman at Glenlyon Dye Works, plus one boarder (#143).
- 145-147 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1905). 2½ stories, side gambrel (now asphalt) roof with a chimney centered on the front roof slope (the original 2 chimneys behind the ridge are no longer visible); three large gabled dormers with paired double-hung windows across the front; vinyl siding and trim; brick foundation. Six bays across the 1<sup>st</sup> floor level of the west façade, with entrances at each end set back within inset corner porches (railings and posts replaced); original sidelights and transom at front doors covered over, and front doors replaced. Vinyl 6/1 double hung sash replacement windows. This is one of a group of three originally identical houses (see 137-139 and 141-143 Roger Williams Ave.), seen in a ca. 1900 historic photo. This address first appears in the 1905 directory as the home of Charles B. Cassatello (#145) and Everett E. Smith (#147), both foremen at Glenlyon Dye Works. A photo of this house is on the cover of *Sayles News*, May 15, 1924.
- 158-160 THOMAS R. HARVIE STORE AND HOUSE (ca. 1902): 1½ stories, front gambrel asphalt roof, vinyl siding and trim, concrete or parged masonry foundation. The east façade contains a storefront, with large wood-framed plate glass windows flanking an entrance; and a second doorway that apparently leads to the upper floor. Small shed dormers on the north and south roof slopes. Upper floor windows are wood 1/1 double hung sash. The 1902 directory lists Thomas R. Harvie's dry goods store at 158 Roger Williams Ave., and his residence at #160

**ROGER WILLIAMS AVENUE**

(upstairs); an advertisement in the directory refers to this as a new dry goods store at 160 Roger Williams Avenue, "near the electric car terminus." (The building stands just north of the village center at the intersection of Roger Williams and Bourne Avenues.) It shares a lot with houses at 259 and 261 Bourne Ave. Collectively, these three buildings are shown on the 1921 Sanborn map as the location of the Phillipsdale Volunteer Fire Co., which directories indicate was also located at 160 Roger Williams Ave. from 1915-1924. Commercial businesses (mostly a series of variety stores) occupied the storefront until about 2000.

162 PHILLIPSDALE POLICE STATION, later DR. WILLIAM H.T. HAMILL HOUSE (ca. 1907; house added, 1929-1930): 2 stories; hip asphalt roof with deep bracketed eaves; wood shingles and trim; raised concrete foundation. A 1-story hip-roofed projection on the east façade has the main entrance centered between two 9-light wood windows, and two similar windows on its sides. Other windows are typically wood 8/8 and 6/6 double hung sash, and grouped in twos and threes on the side elevations. An inset porch with a tapered column at the front northeast corner runs along the north side and leads to a second entrance. A photograph of the former Phillipsdale Police Station appears in a 1907 *Providence Journal* article: it was a small wood-shingled building, 1 story tall with a hip roof, 3 bays across the front with a center entrance, and 2 bays deep; the entrance projection on the current house matches the front half of the police station in that photo. The police station is mentioned only in the 1910 and 1913 directories (at 164 Roger Williams Ave), although it can still be seen on the 1917 and 1921 maps. The house first appears in the 1929-1930 directory as 162 Roger Williams Ave., the home of Dr. William H.T. Hamill, who was AEW's company physician for more than 25 years (see 245 Bourne Ave.).

GARAGE (by 1939): Stands behind/southwest of the house; large, 1 story, hip asphalt roof, wood shingles, double-width overhead door, windows in its south side and west/rear elevations (visible from Bourne Avenue). Similar in character to the house, and may be original; appears in a 1939 aerial photo.

163 AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS SINGLE-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1905): This is similar to the row of AEW "Type A" houses along the east side of Roger Williams Avenue (see odd numbers 165-233), but unlike them it directly faces the street. One and a half stories; side gable asphalt roof; off-center chimney behind the ridge; asbestos shingle siding and wood trim, brick foundation. Three bays across the west façade, with an off-center entrance under a shed-roofed hood with decorative brackets; front steps and railings replaced. All windows are vinyl 1/1 double hung replacement sash; the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor windows at front are small and tucked under the eaves. One-story sunporch on the south side elevation has a flat roof with a bracketed cornice, screened windows, and a secondary entrance in its south side. This address appears in the 1905 directory as the home of Thomas Gill, a teamster.

165 \* AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1902). This is the most intact example of this type on Roger Williams Avenue. Later alterations include vinyl 1/1 double hung sash replacement windows. (Note this house has had its clapboard siding restored since 1975.) This address appears in the 1902 directory as the home of Charles O'Neill, machinist; William Crombie, laborer, is also listed as living at #167.

- 166-168 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B-3 (ca. 1910); possibly Hilton & Jackson, architects. Later alterations: side entrance porches are now enclosed, with wood shingled walls, and steel doors facing the street. All windows are vinyl double hung 1/1 replacements. Dormer is vinyl sided. This address appears in the 1910 directory as the home of Frank M. Shepard, barber and restaurant (#166) and Andrew Howe, finisher (#168). This house appears on the cover of *Sayles News*, May 15, 1924.
- GARAGE (by 1956): Stands behind/northwest of the house; 1 story, hip asphalt roof, concrete block, double-width overhead door.
- 169 \* AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1902). Later alterations include: asbestos siding; bow window with single-light vinyl casements in the west side elevation (facing the street); all other windows vinyl 1/1 replacement double hung sash; front porch enclosed, with a door in its west end that now functions as the main entrance. The address #169 does not appear in the 1902 directory, but #171 does, as the home of Ernest J. Brooks, agent of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad at Phillipsdale.
- GARAGE (by 1956): Stands behind/east of the house, accessed from and facing Gill Street; a large 1 story building, front gable asphalt roof, concrete block (clapboards in the front gable end), three overhead doors.
- 170-172 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B-3 (ca. 1910); possibly Hilton & Jackson, architects. Dormer is wood-shingled. Later alterations: side entrance porches are now enclosed, with wood shingled walls, and steel doors facing the street. Windows are vinyl double hung 1/1 replacements. Several 1-story additions (after 1956) at the north side and rear northwest corner, all clad in wood shingles with varied roof forms. This address appears in the 1910 directory as the home of William Glendenning, special police, plus one boarder (#170), and Charles Helmick, carpenter (#172).
- 173 \* AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1902). Later alterations include vinyl siding and trim; wood 2/1 replacement double hung sash windows; front porch enclosed, with a door in its west end that now functions as the main entrance. This address appears in the 1902 directory as the home of Bernard K. Young, laborer (#173) and Herbert H. Greene, laborer (#175).
- GARAGE (after 1956): Stands behind/northeast of the house, accessed from and facing Gill Street; 1 story, front gable asphalt roof, wood shingles, one overhead door.
- 174-176 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B-3 (ca. 1910); possibly Hilton & Jackson, architects. Windows are wood 6/6 double hung sash. Later alterations: side entrance porches have been removed; the south side door has a wooden deck in front of it. Dormer is vinyl sided. A 1-story garage (added by 1956) is attached to the north side near the front of the house; it has a front gable asphalt roof, concrete block walls with clapboards in the gable, and one overhead door. This address appears in the 1910 directory as the home of Louisa Tabor, widow (#174) and John Farrell, clerk (#176).

177 \* AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1902). Later alterations include vinyl siding and trim; front porch enclosed, with a door in its west end that now functions as the main entrance. The address #177 does not appear in the 1902 directory, but Harriet A. Olney, widow, and John P. Olney, foreman, lived at #179.

GARAGE (after 1956): Stands behind/northeast of the house, accessed from Gill Street (faces south); 1 story, front gable asphalt roof, vinyl siding, one overhead door.

178-180 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE TYPE B-2 (ca. 1910); possibly by Hilton & Jackson, architects. (ca. 1910); possibly Hilton & Jackson. Design variations: one chimney, centered on the ridge. Windows are paired on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor front, and single sash on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor; a large wood-framed, gable-roofed projection at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor front has a single window. Later alterations: all windows are vinyl double hung 6/6 replacements. Vinyl siding on the sides of the porticoes. This address appears in the 1910 directory as the home of Thomas J. McAloon, foreman (#178, #180 not found). This house appears on the cover of *Sayles News*, September 15, 1922.

181-183 \* AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS THREE-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1902). Late Victorian; 2½ stories; front gambrel roof with two gambrel dormers on each side and a large chimney on the north roof slope; vinyl siding and trim; raised brick foundation. Two-story front porch (with solid walls instead of railings) and a 2-story bay window on the west façade; another 2-story bay window on the north side. Side-by-side entrances within the 1<sup>st</sup> floor level of the porch; another porch door on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. All windows are vinyl 1/1 double hung replacement sash. A deck and pergola have been added to the south side (since 1975). This house and its mirror-image twin at 189-191 Roger Williams Ave. mark the intersection with Miriam St.; a third match (although built by Glenlyon Bleacheries) stands at 237-239 Roger Williams Ave., at the south corner of Nelson St. This address first appears in the 1902 directory as the home of Luther A. Cooke, clerk (#181); residents in 1905 were George J. Richards, machinist (#181), Bernard K. Young, foreman (#183), and Michael McDonough, laborer (#185). Appears within a long row of AEW Type A houses in a ca. 1900 photograph.

GARAGE (by 1956): Stands behind/east of the house, facing Miriam St.; 1 story, hip asphalt roof, wood shingles, one overhead door.

189-191 \* AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS THREE-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1902). Late Victorian; 2½ stories; front gambrel roof with single gambrel dormers on each side and a large chimney on the south roof slope; vinyl siding and trim; raised brick foundation. Two-story front porch (with apparently original wooden railings) and a 2-story bay window on the west façade; another 2-story bay window on the south side. Side-by-side entrances within the 1<sup>st</sup> floor level of the porch; another porch door on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. All windows are vinyl 1/1 double hung replacement sash. This house and its mirror-image twin at 181-183 Roger Williams Ave. mark the intersection with Miriam St.; a third match is found at 237-239 Roger Williams Ave., corner of Nelson St. The 1902 directory lists Oliver Emery, clerk, at #187; in 1905, residents were (#187) Wicktor Benson, laborer [later, Victor – see 205 Roger Williams Ave.], (#189) Robert Patterson, clerk, and (#191) Joseph Charette, laborer. Appears within a long row of AEW Type A houses in a ca. 1900 photograph.

## ROGER WILLIAMS AVENUE

GARAGE (by 1956): Stands behind/east of the house, facing Miriam St.; 1 story, hip asphalt roof, concrete, three overhead doors.

193 \* AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1902). Later alterations include: vinyl siding and trim; vinyl 1/1 replacement double hung sash windows. This address first appears in the 1902 directory as the home of William H. Meeker, a clerk at the Varley Duplex Magnet Co. (makers of electro magnets and coil windings) at Phillipsdale; residents in 1905 were Josiah Walton (#193), and Frederick Kessler, laborer, plus two boarders (#195).

197 \* AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1905). Later alterations include: aluminum siding and trim; vinyl 1/1 replacement double hung sash windows; front porch removed, steps added on south façade (after 1975); front door replaced. This address was not found in the 1902 or 1905 directories, but Norman MacLeod, machinist, lived at #199 in 1905.

201 \* AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1905). Later alterations include asbestos siding; large picture window with flanking 4/1 double hung sash on the west side (facing the street); wood 6/1 replacement double hung sash. This address appears in the 1905 directory as the home of John Barr, laborer.

GARAGE (by 1956): Stands behind/northeast of the house; 1 story, hip asphalt roof, concrete block, two garage bays (one blocked up, the other containing an overhead door).

205 \* AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS CO. TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1910). Later alterations include vinyl siding and trim; vinyl 1/1 double hung sash replacement windows; front porch screened in, with a door in its west end. This address appears in the 1910 directory as the home of Victor Benson, who is listed in later directories as a wire worker (he lived here until at least 1921-22), as well as August Johnson, laborer, and two boarders.

GARAGE (after 1956): Stands behind/northeast of the house; small, 1 story, front gable asphalt roof, wood shingles, one overhead door.

209 \* AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1905). Later alterations include vinyl siding and trim; vinyl 1/1 double hung sash replacement windows; front porch removed and a deck added to south façade (after 1975); secondary entrance in a small enclosure on the south façade behind the deck. This address appears in the 1905 directory as the home of Edward Horrox, laborer (#209) and George A. Gould, engineer (#211).

213 \* AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1905). Later alterations include vinyl siding and trim; vinyl 1/1 double hung sash replacement windows; brackets removed from front porch cornice; stair railings replaced. This address appears in the 1905 directory as the home of A. Ellis Standish, foreman at Glenlyon Dye Works (#213) and John Cryer, folder (#215).

## ROGER WILLIAMS AVENUE

217 \* AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1910). Later alterations include wood shingle siding; vinyl 1/1 double hung sash replacement windows; front

porch railings replaced with solid, shingled walls. This address appears in the 1905 directory as the home of Carrie Walton, widow of Josiah.

221 \* AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1905-1913). Later alterations include asbestos shingle siding; some vinyl 1/1 double hung sash replacement windows; front porch screened in, with a door in its west end. This address first appears in the 1913 directory as the home of Philip Kessler, foreman at AEW, but the house may be closer to 1905, as are its neighbors.

GARAGE (after 1956): Stands behind/northeast of the house; 1 story, front gable asphalt roof, wood novelty siding, one pair of hinged wooden doors.

225 \* AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1905-1915). Later alterations include vinyl siding and trim; vinyl 1/1 double hung sash replacement windows; front step railings replaced. This address first appears in the 1915 directory as the home of Richard Bailey, carpenter, but the house may be closer to 1905, as are its neighbors.

229 \* AMERICAN ELECTRICALWORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1910). Later alterations include wood shingle siding; vinyl 1/1 double hung sash replacement windows. This address appears in the 1910 directory as the home of Matthew Halbut, laborer.

GARAGE (by 1956): Stands behind/northeast of the house; 1 story, hip asphalt roof, wood shingles; apparently converted to another use, as the former overhead door opening has been infilled with 3 windows.

233 \* AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1910). Later alterations include vinyl siding and trim; vinyl 6/6 double hung sash replacement windows; front porch railings replaced. This address appears in the 1915 directory as the home of John Barr, fireman.

GARAGE (after 1956): Stands behind/southeast of the house; very large, 1½ stories, side gable asphalt roof, vinyl siding, double width overhead door.

234-236 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1927-1928): 1½ stories; side gable asphalt roof; vinyl siding and trim; concrete foundation. The main block is four bays across the east façade, with paired windows on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor and smaller windows under the eaves on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor; all windows are vinyl 1/1 double hung replacement sash. On the north and south sides are 1-story ells, each with a chimney at its ridge, containing the entrances to each unit; the 1956 maps shows that these ells originally had open porches at the front, which are now enclosed, with a door and two windows on the front; the doorways have sidelights and a transom light (multilight on the south ell, single light on the north ell). This house has some 19<sup>th</sup> century detailing but only first appears in the 1927-28 directory as the home of Michael F. Hanley (later listed as an assistant engineer, #234) and Mrs. Theresa McDermott (#236); the house is seen in the 1939 aerial photo.

## **ROGER WILLIAMS AVENUE**

237-239 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES THREE-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1910). Late Victorian; 2½ stories; front gambrel roof with single gambrel dormers on each side and a large chimney on the north roof slope; vinyl siding and trim; raised brick foundation. Two-story front porch (missing

its 2<sup>nd</sup> floor deck and all railings, removed since 1975) and a 2-story bay window on the west façade; another 2-story bay window on the north side. Side-by-side entrances within the 1<sup>st</sup> floor level of the porch; former porch door on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor has been altered to a very small window. All windows are vinyl 1/1 double hung replacement sash. This house stands at the corner of Nelson Street, near other Glenlyon houses, but originally was identical to 181-183 Roger Williams Avenue and very similar to 187-189 Roger Williams Avenue, both built by AEW. This address appears in the 1910 directory as the home of Elliott Browne, engineer.

GARAGE (by 1956): Stands behind/east of the house, facing Nelson Street; 1 story, side gable asphalt roof, concrete block with vinyl siding in the gable ends, three overhead doors.

- 238-240 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B-4 (ca. 1910); possibly Hilton & Jackson, architects. Design variations: the center part of the roof extends forward over the doors; there are no windows over the doors, but paired windows at either side of the extended roofline. Windows are wood 6/6 and may be original. This address appears in the 1910 directory as the home of Eric Lindberg, laborer (#238) and Ellis Chadwick, laborer (#240).
- 242-244 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B-4 (ca. 1910); possibly Hilton & Jackson, architects. Design variations: shed wall dormer at front, with three windows grouped under its eaves; no other windows at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor level front. Later alterations: vinyl double hung 1/1 replacement sash. This address appears in the 1910 directory as the home of William Cullen, mixer (#242) and Charles L. Travis, driver (#244).
- 246-248 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B-4 (ca. 1913); possibly Hilton & Jackson, architects. Design variations: shed wall dormer at front, with three windows grouped under its eaves; no other windows at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor level front. Later alterations: vinyl double hung 1/1 replacement sash. This address appears in the 1913 directory as the home of Ernest Jones, operative, although it may have been built a few years earlier like its neighbors. This house appears on the cover of *Sayles News*, May 15, 1924.
- 250-252 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B-4 (ca. 1910); possibly Hilton & Jackson, architects. Design variations: the center part of the roof extends forward over the doors; there are no windows over the doors, but paired windows at either side of the extended roofline. Later alterations: vinyl double hung 1/1 replacement sash. This address appears in the 1910 directory as the home of James Hackett (#250) and Morris Nelson, dyer (#252).
- 253-255 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1910). 2½ stories; side gable asphalt roof; two chimneys at the ridge; vinyl siding and trim; brick foundation. Six bays across the west façade with entrances at each end; doors are surmounted by hip-roofed hoods with elaborate Italianate-style brackets. Despite the late 19<sup>th</sup> century detailing, this house does not appear on any maps before 1900. Four windows on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, one over each door and two paired in the middle. Originally identical to 257-259 Roger Williams Ave. Stands on land purchased by Frank A. Sayles in 1898. The address 251 Roger Williams Ave (which may refer to this house) appears in the 1902 directory as the home of John J. Pender, hairdresser; but the next listings are not until in 1910, for Isabella Muir, widow (#253) and Oscar Carlson, carpenter (#255).

## ROGER WILLIAMS AVENUE

- 257-259 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1910). 2½ stories; side gable asphalt roof; two chimneys at the ridge; vinyl siding and trim; stone veneer over a brick foundation. Six bays across the west façade with entrances at each end; doors are surmounted by hip-roofed hoods with elaborate Italianate-style brackets. Despite the late 19<sup>th</sup> century detailing, this house does not appear on any maps before 1900. Four windows on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, one over each door and two paired in the middle. Originally identical to 253-255 Roger Williams Ave. Stands on land purchased by Frank A. Sayles in 1898. This address first appears in the 1910 directory as the home of John Cryer, folder (#259).
- 258-260 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B-3 VARIANT (ca. 1910); possibly Hilton & Jackson, architects. This variation on Glenlyon Type B-3 has a side gable roof and a shed-roofed (now vinyl-sided) front dormer, and a 4-bay façade with entrances at each end flanking pairs of windows; windows are also paired in the dormer. All windows are vinyl double hung 1/1 replacements. This address appears in the 1910 directory as the home of James Rison, operative, plus one boarder (#258). This house appears on the cover of *Sayles News*, September 15, 1922.
- 261-263 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1910). 2 stories; hip asphalt roof with tall chimneys and large shed dormers on the north and south roof slopes; vinyl siding and trim; brick foundation. Six bays across the 1<sup>st</sup> floor level of the west façade, with paired windows in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> bays; four windows on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Entrances are located on the north and south sides in projecting shed-roofed enclosures that were originally open porches, set back from the façade. Wood 1/1 double hung sash replacement windows. Originally identical to 265-267 Roger Williams Avenue. Stands on land purchased by Frank A. Sayles in 1898. This address appears in the 1910 directory as the home of William Taylor, foreman (#263).
- 265-267 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1915). 2 stories; hip asphalt roof with tall chimneys and large shed dormers on the north and south roof slopes; vinyl siding and trim; brick foundation. Six bays across the 1<sup>st</sup> floor level of the west façade, with paired windows in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> bays; four windows on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Entrances are located on the north and south sides in projecting shed-roofed enclosures that were originally open porches, set back from the façade. Vinyl 1/1 double hung sash replacement windows. Originally identical to 261-263 Roger Williams Avenue. Stands on land purchased by Frank A. Sayles in 1898. This house appears in the 1915 directory as the home of William Cullen, color mixer at Glenlyon Dye Works (#267).
- 269-271 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B-1 (ca. 1910); possibly by Hilton & Jackson, architects. Design variations: entrances are under flat-roofed hoods with no supporting columns; two pairs of windows between the entrances; 2<sup>nd</sup> floor windows are paired over the doors, and grouped in threes over the 1<sup>st</sup> floor windows. Later alterations: all windows are vinyl double hung 1/1 replacements. Stands on a high raised lot with a concrete block retaining wall, facing north (the street turns eastward in front of this house). This house appears in the 1910 directory as the home of John Gustafson, laborer (#271).
- 273-275 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B-1 (ca. 1910); possibly by Hilton & Jackson, architects. Design variations: entrances are under flat-roofed hoods with simple supporting posts (which are possibly a later alteration); two single windows between the entrances; 2<sup>nd</sup> floor windows are single sash over the doors and paired over the 1<sup>st</sup> floor windows. Later alterations: all windows are vinyl double hung 6/6 replacements. Stands on a



raised lot with a concrete retaining wall, facing north (the street turned eastward in front of 269-271). This address appears in the 1910 directory as the home of William A. Evans, engineer (#275). This house appears on the cover of *Sayles News*, September 15, 1922.

## RUTH AVENUE

~ **NOTE:** The 1917 map shows 11 AEW Type B houses on the west side of Ruth Ave. between Bourne Ave. and Nelson St. Of these, only 5 (between Bourne Ave. and Miriam Ave.) have addresses, using even numbers 26-42, but apparently representing half of a pair of numbers (e.g., shown as “26-”). The numbers also proceed in increments of four (26, 30, 34, 38, 42). This numbering implies two-family use. (All of these houses have two chimneys, despite a single entryway.) Directories from 1910-1921 bear this theory out, as they contain even-numbered addresses on Ruth Ave from 24-66, which if paired up (24-26, 30-32, etc.) can be matched with all 11 AEW houses. (No houses in this group were demolished.) The 1921 Sanborn map shows the current numbering system, which is increments of two (24, 26, 30, 32, etc.), by which time each house had only one family living in it. Occupants listed in 1905 and 1910 directories were matched to current buildings by comparing past and current addresses. The properties affected are marked below with a superscript tilde [~].

10            AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS SINGLE-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1905): 1½ stories; front gable asphalt roof with a chimney at the ridge; vinyl siding and trim; parged masonry foundation. Three bays across the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the east façade (2 windows on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor); side hall plan; all windows are vinyl 1/1 double hung sash replacement sash. North side ell (after 1956) is well set back from the façade, and has a bow window on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor level (5 vinyl single-light casements) and two small windows tucked under the eaves. Small enclosed secondary entrance on the south side. This address appears in the 1905 directory as the home of Andrew Russell, laborer, plus three boarders.

SHED (after 1956): Stands south of the house, facing away from the street; 1 story, gambrel asphalt roof; vertical board siding.

22            AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS HOUSE (ca. 1902-1905). This is a slightly taller version of AEW Type B that apparently was built as a single-family house. It has only one chimney (off-center, behind the ridge), has larger 2<sup>nd</sup> floor windows; and lacks the typical front dormer. Later alterations include vinyl siding and trim; vinyl 6/6 replacement windows; porch decking and railings replaced. This address first appears in the 1905 directory as the home of Charles Erickson, laborer, plus one boarder; Charles Erickson is also listed in the 1902 directory as boarding on Ruth Ave.

GARAGE (by 1956): Stands behind and northwest of the house; 1 story, front gable asphalt roof, vinyl siding (vinyl fishscale shingles in the gable end), two overhead doors.

## RUTH AVENUE

24            AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B (ca. 1905). Later alterations include.: asbestos shingle siding; vinyl 1/1 replacement windows; front porch enclosed (after 1956), with an entrance in its south end and wood 4-light windows. This address appears in the 1905 directory as the home of William G. Huntrods, furnace man (#24) and Samuel S. Smith, machinist (#26), plus a boarder in each unit.

25            WILLIAM J. WOODS HOUSE (ca. 1937): 1 story; side gable asphalt roof; vinyl siding and trim; concrete foundation. L-shaped footprint; four bay west façade; the main entrance and a

wood-framed picture window with flanking double-hung sash are in the short leg of the L, projecting forward at the northern end of the house. Other windows are mostly vinyl 1/1 double hung replacement sash. Secondary entrance in small shed-roofed enclosure on the north side. Several other additions at the rear (east), visible from Bicknell Avenue. According to directories and maps, from about 1921 to 1936, William J. Woods owned a small variety store on this property; he built this house in about 1937, and may have continued to run the store for a few more years; the 1941-42 directory was the first to list just his residence here.

**GARAGE (by 1956):** Stands forward/southwest of the house, in the front yard and closer to the street than the house; 1 story; front gable asphalt roof; clapboards; 2 pairs of hinged wood and glass doors.

- 25½ (NC) **GARAGE FOR 25 RUTH AVE, now HOUSE (by 1956; converted to residential use by 1961):** Single-family; 1½ stories; side gable asphalt roof; vinyl siding and trim; concrete foundation. Three bay west façade with off-center entrance; four small vinyl slider windows on the north side; secondary entrance at the rear. Other windows are vinyl 1/1 double hung replacement sash. This building appears on the 1956 map as a garage for 25 Ruth Ave (accessible from but perpendicular to Bicknell Avenue); the 1961 directory lists Mrs. Ruth Neal living at 25R Ruth Avenue.
- 26 ~ **AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B (ca. 1910).** Later alterations include: vinyl siding and trim; vinyl 1/1 replacement windows; front porch enclosed (after 1956), with an entrance in its south end and wood 4-light windows. The original address of this house was 28-30 Ruth Ave; the 1910 directory lists Esther Tabor at #28.
- 28 ~ **AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B (ca. 1905).** Later alterations include: vinyl siding and trim; wood 6/6 windows, front porch enclosed (after 1956), with an entrance in its south end and vinyl 1/1 windows. The original address of this house was 32-34 Ruth Ave; those addresses appear in the 1905 directory as the home of Fred J. Pierson, laborer (#32), and Frank Gustafson, laborer, plus two boarders (#34).
- 30 ~ **AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B (ca. 1905).** Later alterations include: converted to 2-family use; vinyl siding and trim; vinyl 1/1 replacement windows, and a pair of vinyl slider windows at 1<sup>st</sup> floor front; front porch enclosed (after 1956), with an entrance in its south end. The original address of this house was 36-38 Ruth Ave.; the 1905 directory lists Mrs. Hattie F. Tate, widow, at 36 Ruth along with two boarders.

## **RUTH AVENUE**

- 32 ~ **AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B (ca. 1910).** Later alterations include: vinyl siding and trim; vinyl 1/1 replacement windows; front porch removed (before 1975); front door replaced. The original address of this house was 40-42 Ruth Ave.; the 1905 directory lists William Swickler, laborer, at 40 Ruth.
- 34 ~ **AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B (ca. 1905).** Later alterations include: paired windows at 1<sup>st</sup> floor front (before 1975); vinyl 1/1 replacement windows; front porch removed (before 1975). The original address of this house was 44-46 Ruth Ave.; the 1905 directory lists James Duffy, laborer, plus ten boarders at 44 Ruth.

GARAGE (by 1956): Stands behind/northwest of the house; 1 story, hip asphalt roof, wood shingles, double width overhead door (also visible from Miriam St.).

36 ~ AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B (ca. 1905). Later alterations include: vinyl 1/1 replacement windows; front porch removed, and Colonial Revival style portico with front gable roof, vaulted ceiling, and tapered Doric columns added over the front door (before 1975). Attached 1-story garage (by 1956) on the north side, well set back from the façade, has a front gable asphalt roof, wood shingles, and paired hinged wooden doors. The original address of this house was 48-50 Ruth Ave; the 1905 directory lists Michael King, foreman, at 48 Ruth.

38 ~ AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B (ca. 1905). Later alterations include: aluminum siding and trim; vinyl 6/6 replacement windows; the open front porch has a shed roof, and may retain its original railings and posts (porch entrance is on the south side). The original address of this house was 52-54 Ruth Ave; the 1905 directory lists William A. Moody, laborer (#52) and Frederick A. Reek, laborer, plus one boarder (#54).

40 ~ AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B (ca. 1900). Later alterations include: vinyl 1/1 replacement windows; front porch removed, and Colonial Revival style surround with fanlight and multi-light sidelights added to the front door (before 1975). The original address of this house was 56-58 Ruth; the 1905 directory lists Erick Carlson, laborer (#56) and Peter Bowelk, laborer (#58).

42 ~ AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B (ca. 1910). This is a variant on Type A, with a wider façade, a larger shed dormer across most of the façade, and 4 windows on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor front (two of them paired over the front door). Later alterations include: vinyl siding and trim; vinyl 1/1 replacement windows; front porch has a flat roof, and may retain its original railings and posts (porch can be entered from both north and south sides). The original address of this house was 60-62 Ruth Ave; the 1910 directory lists Manuel Motta, laborer (#60) and Antonio Amaral, laborer (#62).

GARAGE (after 1956): Stands behind/west and downhill from the house; 1 story, side gable asphalt roof, vinyl siding, double width overhead door.

## **RUTH AVENUE**

44 AMERICAN ELECTRICAL WORKS TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B (ca. 1905). Later alterations include: vinyl 1/1 replacement windows; front porch removed (before 1975), and gable-roofed portico with Queen Anne style posts added to front door (after 1975). The original address of this house was 64-66 Ruth Ave; the 1905 directory lists Benny Viola, laborer, at 66 Ruth.

GARAGE (by 1956): Stands behind/northwest of the house; 1 story, front gable asphalt roof, wood shingles, overhead door.

45 HOUSE (1927-1928): Single-family; 1½ stories; front gable asphalt roof with shed dormer on the south side; vinyl siding and trim; concrete foundation. Three bay façade with center entrance

inside an enclosed front porch; small paired windows in the gable end above the front door. Porch windows are wood fixed single-light sash at the front, 2/2 double hung sash on the sides; other windows are vinyl 1/1 replacement sash. (Note this house stands north of #49, out of order as the street addresses proceed from south to north.) This address first appears in the 1927-28 directory as the home of John Dietsch, who is not listed as the owner (nor are several subsequent residents in the 1930s), so this apparently was a rental property, and not previously owned by any of the mills.

GARAGE (by 1956): Stands south of the house in the side yard; 1 story, front gable asphalt roof, wood shingles, paired hinged wood and glass doors. May be original to the house.

- 49 (NC) JOHN J. CAPALBO HOUSE (ca. 1965): Garrison Colonial; 2 stories (2<sup>nd</sup> floor level overhangs the 1<sup>st</sup>); side gable asphalt roof; vinyl siding and trim; concrete foundation. Three bay façade, with side entrance, large vinyl picture windows (flanked by single-light casements) centered at 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floor levels, and vinyl 1/1 double hung replacement sash windows. Secondary entrance on the south side. (Note this house stands south of #45, out of order as the street addresses proceed from south to north.) This address appears in the 1965 directory as the home of owner John J. Capalbo.

GARAGE (after 1956): Stands behind/southeast of the house; 1 story, side gable asphalt roof, concrete block, two overhead doors.

- 56 ERNEST W. WEISS HOUSE (ca. 1953): 1½ stories; side gable asphalt roof in two sections; vinyl siding and trim; concrete foundation. Two bay east façade with side entrance in the north section, set back from the south section; chimney just below the ridge, above the front door; two bays deep. Vinyl 8/1 double hung sash replacement windows. Secondary entrance on the north side. This address appears in the 1953 directory as the home of owner Ernest W. Weiss.

SHED (after 1956): Stands behind/southwest of the house; 1 story, asphalt gable roof, vertical board siding.

- 57 (NC) ROBERT DEMACEDO HOUSE (ca. 2000): Split level; 2 stories; side gable asphalt roof; clapboards on the front and wood shingles on the sides; wood trim; concrete foundation. Four bay west façade; off-center front door, deeply recessed, with a picture window to its left; other windows are vinyl 1/1 double hung replacement sash; no windows on north or south sides. Integral one-car garage in the ground floor level at the front. This address appears in the 2000 directory as the home of owner Robert DeMacedo.

## RUTH AVENUE

- 60 WILLIAM M. DOULL HOUSE (ca. 1953): Cape Cod; 1½ stories; side gable asphalt roof with off-center chimney at the ridge; wood shingles and trim; concrete foundation. Three-bay east façade with a center entrance; vinyl 6/6 double hung sash replacement windows; two bays deep. Secondary entrance in the south side. This address appears in the 1953 directory as the home of owner William M. Doull.

- 61-63 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1905). 1½ stories; side gable asphalt roof with one chimney near the south end of the ridge (the other original chimney has been removed since 1975); aluminum siding and trim; parged masonry foundation. Three bays

across the west façade on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor, with paired center entrances flanked by double hung sash windows; four bays of windows on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor; 2 bays deep. All windows are vinyl 1/1 replacement sash. A front porch shown in the 1975 survey photo has been removed. This address appears in the 1905 directory as the home of William A. Evans, engineer, plus 2 boarders (#61) and Emanuel Swanson, laborer, plus 3 boarders.

SHED (after 1956): Stands behind/southeast of the house, near the Edward St. side of the lot; 1 story, front gable asphalt roof, vertical board siding.

- 66 GEORGE E. CRANDALL HOUSE (ca. 1953): 1½ stories; side gable asphalt roof with off-center chimney at the ridge; vinyl siding and trim; concrete foundation. Three bay east façade with a center entrance; part of the roofline extends over the front door and a slightly projecting section at front; vinyl 6/1 double hung sash replacement windows; two bays deep. Large deck at the rear. This address appears in the 1953 directory as the home of George E. Crandall.
- 71-73 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1921): 2 stories; hip asphalt roof with one chimney on the south roof slope (north chimney removed since 1975); vinyl siding and trim; parged masonry foundation. Four bays across the west façade with paired center entrances flanked by paired double hung sash windows; 2 bays deep. All windows are wood 1/1 sash. Enclosed secondary entrance on the south side; 1 story screened porch on the north side is shown as an open porch on the 1921 map. Similar design to 75-77, 87-89, 91-93, and 95-97 Ruth Ave. Although this house appears on the 1921 map, its address does not show up in directories until 1923-24, as the home of Donald McFarlane, dyer, and his wife Mary (#71).
- 75-77 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1917): 2 stories; hip asphalt roof with 2 chimneys, on the north and south roof slopes; vinyl siding and trim; parged masonry foundation. Four bays across the west façade with paired center entrances flanked by paired double hung sash windows; 2 bays deep. All windows are vinyl 6/6 replacement sash. Enclosed 1 story wings on the north and south sides are shown as open porches on the 1921 map. Similar design to 71-73, 87-89, 91-93, and 95-97 Ruth Ave. Although this house appears on the 1917 and 1921 maps, its address does not show up in directories until 1923-24, as the home of Maxime G. Prgent, clerk (#75) and John J. Gannon, foreman (#77). This house appears on the cover of *Sayles News*, May 15, 1924.

## RUTH AVENUE

- 76 JOHN MURPHY, JR. HOUSE (ca. 1953): Garrison Colonial; 1½ stories; side gable asphalt roof with a chimney at the ridge near the south end of the house; vinyl siding and trim; concrete foundation. Two bay east façade, with side entrance and paired windows at the 1<sup>st</sup> floor; the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor level overhangs the 1<sup>st</sup>. Windows are vinyl double hung replacements, with interior muntins in a decorative pattern in the upper sash. Secondary entrance on the south side.
- 79-81 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1921): 2 stories; side gambrel roof with 2 chimneys at the ridge, 2 large shed dormers front and rear; and a large centered gambrel dormer at front; asbestos siding and wood trim (what looks like vinyl flooring has been applied to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor front); parged masonry foundation. Stands facing northwest toward the intersection of Ruth Ave., Frederick St. and Nelson St. Four bays across the façade with paired center entrances flanked by two double hung sash windows; 2 bays deep. All windows are vinyl 6/6 replacement sash. A 1-story screened front porch shelters the entrances and two windows

(seen on the 1921 map). Although this house appears on the 1921 map, its address does not show up in directories until 1923-24, as the home of William Burgess, foreman at Glenlyon Print Works, and his wife Catherine (#79); and Bernard J. McCusker, foreman at Glenlyon Dye Works and his wife Helena V. (#81). This house appears twice on the cover of *Sayles News*, September 15, 1922 and May 15, 1924.

- 80 GEORGE H. DESGRENIER HOUSE (ca. 1951): 2 stories; side gable asphalt roof; vinyl siding and trim; concrete foundation. Two bay east façade, with side entrance; windows are all vinyl double hung replacement sash, 8/8 on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor front and 6/6 elsewhere. Exterior chimney on the north side; secondary entrance on the south side. Addition at rear (west) is 1 story with a shed roof. This address appears in the 1951 directory as the home of owner George H. Desgrenier.
- 86 JOHN A. WARD HOUSE (ca. 1951): Garrison Colonial; 2 stories; side gable asphalt roof with an off-center chimney below the ridge; vinyl siding and trim; concrete foundation. Two bay east façade, with side entrance and paired windows at the 1<sup>st</sup> floor; the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor level overhangs the 1<sup>st</sup>. Windows are vinyl 6/6 double hung replacements. Concrete block exterior chimney added to the north side. Secondary entrance and attached 1-car garage (after 1956) on the south side; garage is 1 story with a side gable asphalt roof, vinyl siding, and one overhead door. This address appears in the 1951 directory as the home of owner John A. Ward.
- 87-89 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1921): 2 stories; hip asphalt roof with 2 chimneys, on the north and south roof slopes; vinyl siding and trim; parged masonry foundation. Three bays across the west façade with paired center entrances under a simple bracketed hood flanked by paired double hung sash windows; 4 bays of windows at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor front; 2 bays deep. All windows are vinyl 1/1 replacement sash. Enclosed 1 story wings on the north and south sides are shown as open porches on the 1921 map. Similar design to 71-73, 75-77, 91-93, and 95-97 Ruth Ave. Although this house appears on the 1921 map, its address does not show up in directories until 1923-24, as the home of Charles Doherty, fireman, and wife Eva (#87) and Mary P. Kelly, invoice clerk (#89). This house appears on the cover of *Sayles News*, September 15, 1922.

## RUTH AVENUE

- 91-93 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1921): 2 stories; side gambrel asphalt roof with 2 chimneys, on the north and south roof slopes; vinyl siding and trim; parged masonry foundation. Three bays across the west façade with paired center entrances under a pedimented, bracketed hood, flanked by paired double hung sash windows; 4 bays of windows at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor front; 2 bays deep. All windows are vinyl 1/1 replacement sash. One story wing on the north side (enclosed since 1975) and open porch on the south side are both shown as open porches on the 1921 map. Similar design to 71-73, 75-77, 87-89, and 95-97 Ruth Ave. Although this house appears on the 1921 map, its address does not show up in directories until 1923-24, as the home of George E. Downs, clerk at Glenlyon Print Works, and Mrs. Alice C. Downs (#91) and Joseph P. Vanslette, chemist, and wife Elizabeth A. (#93).
- 92-94 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1905). Later alterations include: vinyl siding and trim; vinyl 1/1 replacement windows, and a vinyl-framed bow window

with 4 single-light casements to the right of the front doors; front doors replaced. This address appears in the 1905 directory as the home of Jeremiah Degnan, laborer (#94).

95-97 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1921). 2 stories; hip asphalt roof with 2 chimneys at the ridge and a large shed dormer at front; vinyl siding and trim; brick foundation. Five bays across the west façade with paired center entrances flanked by two double hung sash windows; 4 bays of windows at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor front; 2 bays deep. All windows are vinyl 1/1 replacement sash. Front porch added since 1956 (seen in the 1975 survey photo); south side carport also added since 1956. Similar design to 71-73, 75-77, 87-89, and 91-93 Ruth Ave. Although this house appears on the 1921 map, its address does not show up in directories until 1923-24, as the home of Samuel T. Robb, calico printer (#97).

96-98 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A (ca. 1905). Later alterations include: asbestos siding; vinyl 1/1 and 2/2 replacement windows. This address appears in the 1905 directory as the home of James Nuttall, folder (#98).

SHED (after 1956): Stands behind/northwest of the house; 1 story; front gable asphalt roof; vertical board siding, paired hinged wooden doors.

99-101 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE (ca. 1915): 2 stories, hip asphalt roof with center chimney at the ridge; brick walls and trim on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor, vinyl siding and trim on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor; brick foundation. Entrance enclosures at north and south sides are set back a few feet from the west façade, with long concrete curbed ramps leading up to the doorways. Four bays of windows (two groups of 3 casements or fixed sash, flanked by one small double hung sash) across 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the west façade; paired double hung sash on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor front; 2 bays deep. Windows are mostly vinyl 1/1 replacement sash. A large carport stands behind (southeast of) the house. This house appears on the 1917 map (with the address 97-99 Ruth); the 1915 directory lists Andrew Ewart, overseer at Glenlyon Dye Works, at 99 Ruth.

100-102 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A VARIATION (ca. 1905). Later alterations include: vinyl wood-grain siding, vinyl trim (wood fish-scale shingles in side gable ends may be original); enclosed front porch with doors in its north and south ends (added by 1956); aluminum 1/1 replacement windows. This address appears in the 1905 directory as the home of John Hagenberg, laborer, plus 2 boarders (#100), and James Higgins, laborer, plus 3 boarders (#102).

## RUTH AVENUE

104-106 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE A VARIATION (ca. 1905). Later alterations include: vinyl siding in side gable ends only; vinyl 1/1 replacement windows; an open front porch (added by 1956) has a bracketed cornice that looks original, but its wrought iron railings and wood posts are replacements. This address appears in the 1905 directory as the home of Andrew Howe, laborer, plus 2 boarders (#104) and James Morton, machinist, plus 1 boarder (#106).

108-110 GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE, TYPE B VARIATION (ca. 1905). Later alterations include: vinyl siding and trim; wood 2/2 sash (Unit #110) and vinyl 1/1 replacement windows (Unit #108); open front porch (added by 1956) has Queen Anne style posts but replacement wood railings. This address appears in the 1905 directory as the home of Frederick A. Jaquith, machinist (#108) and Dennis Cahill, laborer plus 1 boarder (#110).

109            GLENLYON BLEACHERIES TWO-FAMILY HOUSE AND JAMES P. KEARNS GROCERY STORE (ca. 1905, store ca. 1910, alterations after 1956): 2½ stories standing on a fully exposed basement at the front; front gable asphalt roof with a small hip-roofed dormer on the south side; wood shingles (stone veneer on the basement façade); wood trim; parged masonry foundation. The house stands perpendicular to the street, facing south, with the original entrance centered under a front porch that wraps around the west side. The basement level formerly housed a grocery store, with its storefront facing the street; later alterations produced a center entrance flanked by a pair of vinyl slider windows and a vinyl 1/1 double hung window. All windows are vinyl 1/1 double hung replacement sash. This address appears in the 1905 directory as the home of James P. Kearns, watchman, plus 2 boarders. Kearns operated a grocery store at this address from 1910 till about 1922; after that, others operated a grocery store here until about 1955 (directories mention a vacant store in 1955 and 1965, after which the store appears to have been converted to residential use.).

OUTBUILDING (after 1956): Stands behind/northeast of the house, mostly out of view from the street; 1 story, gable asphalt roof, vertical board siding; function unknown.

[End Section 7]



**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)

Property is:

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

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

ARCHITECTURE

INDUSTRY

**Period of Significance**

1883-1958

**Significant Dates**

1883-1887

1893-1910

1911-1927

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

Walker & Gould

Hilton & Jackson

## Period of Significance Justification

Although the Phillipsdale Historic District contains about half a dozen historic resources that predate the period of significance, that period begins when Richmond Paper Co. arrived in Phillipsdale in 1883 and constructed a paper mill, a dam and a mill pond, which precipitated Phillipsdale's development as a distinct mill village. Three other manufacturers, American Electrical Works, Glenlyon Bleacheries, and Washburn Wire Company, were actually responsible for that development, which primarily occurred between 1893 and 1927. The period of significance ends in 1958 when the Sayles Finishing Plants, the last of the village's founding companies, sold off the last of the Glenlyon Bleacheries complex.

**Criteria Considerations** (explain, if necessary) N/A

### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Begin with a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria. Provide at least one additional paragraph for each area of significance. Include additional historic context or developmental history as appropriate).

### Summary Paragraph

The Phillipsdale Historic District meets Criteria A and C for National Register listing. Under Criterion A, Phillipsdale developed as a distinct mill village in three phases (1883-1887; 1893-1910; and 1911-1958), each related to the establishment, expansion and continuation of large manufacturing companies including Richmond Paper Company, American Electrical Works/Washburn Wire Company, and Glenlyon Bleacheries. These manufacturers were among East Providence's largest employers and made major contributions to their various industries. In addition, the district represents two distinct approaches, by the paternalistic owners of American Electrical Works and Glenlyon Bleacheries in particular, to developing an attractive community for their employees. American Electrical Works housing represents a typical late 19<sup>th</sup> century mill village, with rows of identical houses, whereas Glenlyon was influenced by the "model village" concept prevalent in both New England and England in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, and therefore took a more heterogeneous route with its housing, some of which was architect-designed. Under Criterion C, the district's surviving historic resources, including two mill complexes, a dam, a mill pond, a railroad bridge, 75 worker houses, 3 former stores, a church, a former school, and thirty private residences, collectively represent a variety of engineering innovations, building types, and architectural styles of the mid-18<sup>th</sup> through the mid-20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The Phillipsdale Historic District has local significance, although the four manufacturers that played a role in creating the mill village have statewide and even national significance.

**Narrative** continued

### Early History

The Phillipsdale neighborhood of East Providence has only borne that name since the late 1890s, but it traces its roots back to a tiny, short-lived settlement called "Seakuncke" that Roger Williams established in 1636 near the cove at the juncture of the Seekonk and Ten Mile Rivers. Williams left Seakuncke a few months later to establish what became his permanent settlement at Providence on the west side of the Seekonk River, but his brief stay in Phillipsdale has never been forgotten. In 1936 a stone monument was erected to commemorate the traditional site of the "Roger Williams Spring," on the north side of Roger Williams Avenue, outside the boundaries of the historic district. Seakuncke and present-day East Providence were part of the Plymouth Colony town of Rehoboth, later Rehoboth, Massachusetts. In 1812 Rehoboth was divided into two municipalities, and the western half took back its original name of Seekonk. In 1862, after a lengthy boundary dispute between Rhode Island and Massachusetts was finally settled in the courts, the western section of Seekonk, Massachusetts became East Providence, Rhode Island.

For much of its early history, the future site of Phillipsdale lay just beyond the original central village of Rehoboth, known as the Ring of the Green, and later as Seekonk Centre. It was a rural area with scattered farmsteads and other buildings. The oldest surviving building in the historic district is the Edwards-Carpenter-Sherman House at 111 Roger Williams Avenue, which was originally built ca. 1750 as a store, and persisted in that use for about a century before being fully converted to residential use; it has been altered over the years but Colonial-era design elements can still be seen.<sup>3</sup>

The proximity of the Ten Mile River induced industrial development, if only on a limited scale at first. In the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, several small water-powered grist and saw mills were built on the river, and by the early 1800s, two small cotton mills had been erected: the Omega (later Clyde) Mill, at the head of Seekonk Cove, built ca. 1801, and Hunts Mills, ca. 1823, a little further up the Ten Mile River. (Neither mill survives today.) A tiny village, also called Omega, emerged near the Omega Mill (outside the present historic district boundaries)<sup>4</sup>, but other than that, the limited residential development that occurred here for most of the 19<sup>th</sup> century did not coalesce into a distinct community.

A scattering of other houses were built further north along Roger Williams Avenue in the middle decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Within the historic district, two surviving houses from this era stand across the street from the 18<sup>th</sup> century former store: the Joseph B. Fitts House, ca. 1860, at 112 Roger Williams Avenue, and the A.B. Carpenter House, ca. 1870, next door at number 116. The Fitts house retains much of its original Greek Revival/Italianate detailing, but the Carpenter house is less intact (although still contributing).

By the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, railroad access and proximity to the rapidly industrializing centers of Providence and Pawtucket enhanced the potential of the area for large-scale manufacturing. Though the Ten Mile River could not supply enough hydropower for major textile production, the availability of steam power from the 1820s on made the large expanses of open land with access to processing water and the Seekonk River's shipping channel attractive to manufacturers. In 1857 George F. Wilson moved his Rumford Chemical Works (makers of Rumford baking powder) from Providence to Seekonk Centre, and built a new plant near the Ten Mile River, about a mile east of Seekonk Cove. Wilson also began to acquire large expanses of neighboring property, and by 1870 Rumford Chemical Works owned all of the land fronting on the Ten Mile River and on the Seekonk River north of the cove (including the former Omega Mill, by then called Clyde Mill, as well as Hunts Mills and some other industrial sites). Rumford flourished, and lent its name to the surrounding Seekonk Center neighborhood.

Although northern East Providence was still semi-rural two decades after his arrival, George F. Wilson apparently had visions of a major industrial center there, as described by Horace Greeley in an 1872 essay on American chemical manufactures:

When Mr. Wilson first removed to Seekonk Plains they presented to an ordinary observer few or no attractions for any purpose whatsoever. But his eye saw in the barren waste cheap building-sites and rich gardens, busy commerce in idle wharf sites, rapid and cheap transportation in a railroad then but half-occupied, ample power and wealth in an abundance of pure water (the

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<sup>3</sup> Further south on Roger Williams Ave., outside the district boundaries, are a couple of other 18th century houses, including the Nathaniel Daggett House, ca. 1708 (NR listed), which was acquired by American Electrical Works and altered for use as worker housing ca. 1895.

<sup>4</sup> Approximately a dozen early to mid-19th century houses adjacent to the site of Omega Mill may merit further study for National Register eligibility.

latter a consideration of no little importance to the Works he had determined to build), and last, but not least, health in the pure atmosphere of the elevated plain.<sup>5</sup>

By 1863 Wilson had developed a satellite plant of Rumford Chemical Works, called “Riverside,” on the banks of the Seekonk, with a small steel works, an agricultural operation, and a facility for producing the primary chemicals required for manufacture at the main plant. (This “Riverside,” not to be confused with the neighborhood of the same name located in southern East Providence, became the site of the Glenlyon Print Works in 1899.) Rumford Chemical Works also built three tenement houses near its Riverside plant; these are collectively seen on the 1882 and 1895 maps near the intersection of today's Roger Williams Avenue and Noyes Street, on either side of a railroad crossing. None of these tenements survive, although they apparently were mentioned, and one was photographed, in a 1907 *Providence Journal* article about Phillipsdale.<sup>6</sup>

In 1874, the Providence & Worcester Railroad added a spur line that ran from the coal piers on the East Providence side of Providence Harbor northward along the Seekonk River into Pawtucket and beyond. Where the tracks crossed the western end of Seekonk Cove, the railroad built a covered bridge (no longer extant, but documented in historic photographs). Improved access to rail networks and fuel supplies, combined with open land and plentiful water, finally made Wilson's Riverside environs a prime industrial site, and over the next few decades several other manufacturers acquired lands there.

By the 1870s neighborhood population, although growing slowly, had increased enough to require a district primary school, which was built on Roger Williams Avenue on land donated to the Town of East Providence by Rumford Chemical Works. Built in 1879-1880 and designed by Providence architects Walker & Gould, School No. 9 (132 Roger Williams Ave.) served the children of workers at Rumford Chemical Works' main and Riverside plants, and the Clyde Mill.<sup>7</sup> (A drawing of the original school by Walker & Gould identified it as the “Primary School, Clyde Village,” perhaps because the village at Clyde Mills was the nearest named community, even though the school was sited closer to the Riverside plant.) The one-room, wood-frame schoolhouse, with separate entrances for girls and boys, was substantially enlarged in 1902 in response to a population boom in Phillipsdale, and from then on was known as the Phillipsdale Primary School, serving grades 1 through 4 (older children who wanted to continue their education had to walk a few miles to the Union Grammar School on Pawtucket Avenue). In 1933 the school was supplanted by a new elementary school on Horsford Avenue, during a time when East Providence's aging rural schoolhouses were being replaced by larger, more modern and more centralized schools. The old primary school building was subsequently acquired by Grace Memorial Church next door, and since then has served as a parish house.

### **Richmond Paper Company (1883-1887)**

The second major manufacturer to locate in what was to become Phillipsdale was Richmond Paper Company, founded in 1882 by Franklin H. Richmond (1820-1898), whose son-in-law and business partner, Charles S. Wheelwright (1847-1913), was a papermaker by profession. Using an emerging sulfite process technology

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<sup>5</sup> Quoted in Edward Connors' Richmond Paper Company National Register nomination, Sec. 8, p.2.

<sup>6</sup> Conforti, p. 106, says that many AEW workers occupied “a huge boarding house, the Sullivan house,” located at the bend of Roger Williams Avenue (where a mid-late 20th c. office building at 264 Roger Williams Ave. stands today). This boarding house is mentioned in early directories; its original address was 220 Roger Williams Ave (the west side of the street, where the brick Glenlyon worker houses stand, was partially renumbered by 1956), which is shown on earlier maps as one of the Rumford Chemical tenement houses. That property was never owned by AEW, although certainly some of their workers may have lived at the boarding house.

<sup>7</sup> Conforti, p. 102, says that Omega Village had a population of 200-300 people by 1870. Census records were not researched for this nomination, but the 1870 atlas has an inset map of Omega Village (not “Clyde”) showing only a dozen buildings, at least two of which look like mill buildings. If Omega had that many residents, the village extended much farther from the mills than it appears to do on either the inset map or the larger map.

developed in Sweden, for which Wheelwright had obtained the American license, Richmond Paper set out to make high-quality pulp and paper from wood chips instead of the traditional cotton or linen waste. In 1883 George F. Wilson sold to Franklin H. Richmond 25 acres of open waterfront land on the north shore of Seekonk Cove, west of the railroad line and Roger Williams Avenue, and south of today's Bourne Avenue. One of Richmond Paper's first tasks upon acquiring its new property was to create a pond for process water. In 1883, the company built a dam across the tidal cove at the mouth of the Ten Mile River, incorporating the abutments of the existing railroad bridge into the structure. The pond was initially called Paper Mill Pond and subsequently became known as Omega Pond. The dam and the railroad bridge were both replaced in 1918 and remain in service. Over the next four years Richmond Paper Company constructed an extensive pulping and papermaking mill (see 300 Bourne Ave.) which produced about 15 tons of high-quality paper a day. Unfortunately the sulfite process was plagued with technical difficulties, and despite the company's numerous efforts at innovation, heavy debt and a decline in the paper market caused the business to fail by 1887. Although this particular business was commercially unsuccessful, the chemical-based papermaking technology that Richmond Paper introduced in Rhode Island dominated the American paper industry until the 1950s.

Aside from constructing its manufacturing plant and creating the mill pond, both of which remain a dominant physical presence in Phillipsdale, Richmond Paper Company had little influence on the further development of its immediate neighborhood.<sup>8</sup> Only two surviving houses in the historic district, at 259 and 261 Bourne Avenue (ca. 1885-1893 and ca. 1889-1893, respectively) may have been built during Richmond Paper's brief four years of existence, but not by the company itself. It was the next generation of major manufacturers to locate on the banks of the Seekonk north of Paper Mill Pond that spurred the rapid evolution of a still-unnamed and sparsely populated country hamlet into a thriving mill village. Three companies jointly share the credit for the emergence of Phillipsdale as a distinct community: American Electrical Works, its affiliate Washburn Wire Company, and the Glenlyon Bleacheries, a division of the Sayles Bleacheries headquartered at Saylesville, Rhode Island. Between 1893 and 1910, these three companies built (or in AEW's case, expanded) sizeable manufacturing plants on the Seekonk River, and became among the largest employers in East Providence, with more than 2,000 workers among them.

### **American Electrical Works and Washburn Wire Company**

American Electrical Works (AEW) was founded in 1870 and incorporated in 1882 by Eugene F. Phillips (1843-1905), a major contributor to the development of the electrical wire industry in Rhode Island. Phillips switched careers from banking to manufacturing when the use of electricity was still in its infancy, and in a barn in his back yard in Providence he began experimenting with various materials to insulate copper telephone and telegraph wire. From those modest roots grew one of the largest steel and copper wire manufacturing companies in the country, supplying insulated and uninsulated wire of all sizes from delicate filaments to heavy cable, for an extensive variety of uses including electric light and power, telegraph, telephone, railways, machinery and small appliances, musical instruments, and watches and clocks.

Eugene F. Phillips' first insulated wire company was located at Stewart and Conduit Streets in Providence. That building expanded several times until it finally occupied an entire city block, and still the business outgrew it. In 1893, Phillips purchased the former Richmond Paper complex on the Seekonk River in East Providence, along with the dam and the right to take process water from Paper Mill Pond. The new site provided plenty of room for expansion, as well as a rail line that led directly to the coal yards on Providence Harbor, and access to

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<sup>8</sup> Connors, Sec. 8, p. 8. notes evidence that architect Edmund March Wheelwright, brother of Charles S. Wheelwright, designed a rooming house for Richmond Paper Co. in 1887. If any worker housing was built by Richmond Paper Co., it does not survive. A large wood-frame building footprint shown on a lot owned by AEW on the 1895 map, a short distance north of the northeast corner of Roger Williams and Bourne Aves., might possibly have been a boardinghouse, but it does not survive and could not be documented as being built by Richmond Paper rather than AEW.

a wharf on the Seekonk River. Phillips immediately began modifying and expanding that plant to convert it from a paper mill to a wire mill.

The arrival of a successful manufacturing company in an expanding industry, bringing numerous new employment opportunities, had a major impact on Phillipsdale. Between 1893 and 1898 AEW acquired several properties adjacent to its plant, including two existing houses and a store on Bourne Avenue at the intersection of Roger Williams Avenue (see 259, 261, and 253 Bourne, respectively), as well as about 7 acres of land just north and east of that intersection, and a few more acres on the east shoreline of the mill pond, as far south as Clyde Mills, including several existing 18<sup>th</sup> and early-mid-19<sup>th</sup> century houses that then were converted for occupancy by AEW employees (see 112 and 116 Roger Williams Avenue). By 1894 the name "Phillipsdale" began to appear in city directories, and it also appears on the 1895 map associated with both the village and the mill pond. By 1896 AEW's company store at 253 Bourne Ave. was up and running in the new village center. By 1898, planning was underway with the Town of East Providence to lay out several new streets, including Ruth Avenue, Nelson Street, and Miriam Street,<sup>9</sup> and to realign Roger Williams Avenue to straighten out a jagged intersection with Bourne Avenue. An electric trolley line was installed by 1900.<sup>10</sup> By 1902 construction had begun on the first of 34 AEW workers' houses, most of which were completed by about 1910, with two groups of identical two-family houses on both Roger Williams and Ruth Avenues and a few other single- and two-family houses on Ruth Avenue, Bourne Avenue, and Miriam Street<sup>11</sup> In 1903, Eugene Phillips built the Grace Phillips Memorial Church (130 Roger Williams Ave.) in memory of his daughter Grace, who had died at age four.

While all these improvements were going on in Phillipsdale, business at AEW was booming, both in the U.S. and in Canada. (In 1889 Phillips established another wire manufacturing plant in Montreal, which became one of the largest of its kind, known as Eugene F. Phillips Electrical Works, Ltd.) As electricity was applied to more and more uses, Phillips continually sought to innovate and diversify AEW's product lines, enhancing his reputation as a pioneer in the wire industry. By the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, AEW had more than 1,000 employees and was processing more than 50 tons of copper billet into rods for wire manufacture daily.

One of AEW's suppliers of copper wire was the Washburn & Moen Company of Worcester, Mass.. After that firm was acquired by a national corporation in the 1890s, Charles G. Washburn, a close associate of Eugene F. Phillips, left that firm in 1900 to start his own business making steel wire products, the Washburn Wire Company. He persuaded Eugene Phillips to join him as a partner, and Washburn Wire built an open-hearth furnace and wire mill on Omega Pond just east of AEW's plant, completed in 1901. This was Rhode Island's first and only steel mill (and remained so until it closed in 1982). Although the two companies merged with Eugene F. Phillips presiding over both as of about 1902, they continued to operate under their own names, and were repeatedly cited in various early 20<sup>th</sup> century business publications as producers of the finest quality metals. Washburn Wire, however, grew far bigger than AEW; by 1928 it was East Providence's largest employer and produced 40,000 gross tons of flat and shaped steel annually. While employees of Washburn

<sup>9</sup> Eugene F. Phillips had two granddaughters named Ruth and Miriam, daughters of Eugene R. Phillips (Bicknell, p. 361).

<sup>10</sup> Sources differ on this date, but it makes sense that the trolley line would have followed the realignment of Roger Williams Ave., not preceded it.

<sup>11</sup> Conforti, pp. 106-107, quotes a Providence Journal article from 1900 indicating that AEW "has erected more houses this past year than has been erected elsewhere in the whole town, and they are good structures, partly two tenements, yet many single tenement houses. It is understood that a large number are to be erected this coming season." His bibliography does not give the exact citation for this article, which was not found during research for this nomination. As is noted in Sec. 7, many of the AEW houses on Roger Williams Ave that are presently used as single-family houses and appear to have been built for that use, were occupied by two families very soon after they were built, according to early directories. Thus they are described in the inventory as two-family houses. The 1898 directory contains no address numbers for buildings in Phillipsdale, so the existence of specific AEW houses could not be confirmed through directories until 1902 at the earliest. AEW company records referenced in Conforti's bibliography, which might have cleared up some of this conflicting information between primary and secondary sources, were not found

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Wire certainly lived in Phillipsdale, any company-built homes occupied by AEW and Washburn Wire employees were constructed on land owned by AEW.<sup>12</sup>

With several thousand people working and living in Phillipsdale shortly after the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, it was determined that the village needed a police force. The East Providence Police Chief assigned two officers to regular patrol duty in Phillipsdale (one on the day shift, one at night), and a small police station was built just north of the village center. A 1907 *Providence Journal* article describes the police station as a “quaint and curious” diminutive wooden structure (two feet by four feet, which would not be large enough to house a desk and a chair for one officer, never mind the two interior “iron cages” that the building reportedly contained), but a photograph of the police station accompanying that article, shows a small but reasonably sized and fairly ordinary-looking wood-shingled building. A Phillipsdale resident quoted in the article observed that while the villagers themselves were “peaceable, law-abiding” folk who never saw the inside of either of the holding cells at the police station, “them ragamuffins that come here from outside gives the police here more trouble than all the rest of the population put together.” Whatever mischief those “ragamuffins” may have gotten into, Phillipsdale does not appear to have experienced long-term problems with keeping law and order, as the police station was only used until about 1913. In 1929 or 1930 part of it was incorporated into a new house built for Dr. William H.T. Hamill, who had been AEW’s company physician for more than twenty-five years (see 162 Roger Williams Ave., also 245 Bourne Ave.)

Eugene F. Phillips did not live to see Phillipsdale reach its peak of prosperity. After his death in 1905, his sons Frank N. Phillips (president at AEW) and Eugene R. Phillips (president at Washburn Wire) carried on their father’s work in developing both the manufacturing companies and the village. Some of the old Richmond Paper buildings at AEW were demolished to make room for new facilities, and Washburn Wire likewise made improvements to its own plant.

In 1927, AEW recorded the “Phillipsdale Plat” with the City of East Providence, illustrating 90 house lots in various locations within the village. Those within the historic district lie in the blocks bounded by Roger Williams Avenue, Bourne Avenue, Ruth Avenue, Miriam Street and Nelson Street; and along the west side of Roger Williams Ave between Omega Way and Wilson Street. (Interestingly, the plat shows no buildings, although many of these lots were already built upon by 1927.) The recording of this plat signaled the end of AEW providing rental housing for its workers, although many AEW and Washburn Wire employees subsequently purchased homes they already occupied within the plat. In 1934, AEW was sold to the Kennecott Wire & Cable Company, which later became a division of the Okonite Wire & Cable Company.

Washburn Wire Company, meanwhile, spent the 1920s to 1940s producing hot-rolled high-carbon steel rods and strips for use in products as diverse as aircraft and automotive valve springs, music wire, razor blades, drill rods, rope wire, roller bearings, band saws, and bobby pins. The company was so busy and successful that Phillipsdale was likened to a miniature Pittsburgh in a 1941 *Providence Journal* article. By that time, Washburn Wire had built a finishing mill in New York (the largest manufacturing plant in Manhattan); products were shipped there directly from a wharf on the Seekonk River. An expansion of the Phillipsdale plant in 1950 increased production from 56,000 to 92,000 tons a year and provided jobs for some 400 additional workers.

### **Glenlyon Bleacheries**

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12 Conforti, p. 108, says that AEW not only merged with Washburn Wire, but became a division of it. He and the East Providence Survey Report (p. 32) both give Washburn Wire, rather than AEW, credit for the further development of company housing in the early 20th century. However, deeds and plat maps indicate that AEW owned all the land on which its company housing was built, whether those houses were occupied by their own or Washburn Wire employees. Since company records were not available, and since building names are typically credited to the property owner at the time of construction, for the purposes of this nomination these houses are named for AEW rather than Washburn Wire.

Despite Phillipsdale taking its name from the president of American Electrical Works, the company that built the largest amount of worker housing in the historic district was actually Glenlyon Bleacheries, a subsidiary of the extensive Sayles Bleacheries textile empire based at Saylesville, Rhode Island. This business had been established back in 1847-48 by William F. Sayles, whose Moshassuck Bleachery, named after the river on which it stood in Lincoln, Rhode Island, produced bleached, dyed, and finished cotton sheeting and shirting. Within the next two decades the business grew to occupy a sprawling complex in a mill village called Saylesville (the Saylesville Historic District was listed in the National Register in 1984). In 1863, William took his younger brother Frederic (or Frederick) C. Sayles (1835-1903) on as a partner, after which the business was called W.F. and F.C. Sayles. The company built the Moshassuck Valley Railroad to connect Saylesville to the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad.

The boom years after the Civil War were very good to the Sayles brothers. They added a second bleachery at Saylesville in 1868 and branched out into additional, finer classes of cotton goods such as wide sheetings, fancy lawns, and nainsooks. In 1876, under Frederic's supervision, two new divisions of the company were founded, Glenlyon Dye Works in Saylesville and the Lorraine Worsted Mills in Pawtucket. By 1879, the daily output at Saylesville was 40 tons, and by 1890, 50 tons, making the Sayles brothers owners of the largest bleachery in the world. (Frederic was also elected the first Mayor of Pawtucket, in 1885 and served one term in office.) After William's death in 1894, his share of the business passed to his son, Frank A. Sayles (1861-1920), two years later, Frank bought out his uncle Frederic's holdings in Saylesville, and the business was renamed Sayles Bleacheries. By 1898 the Glenlyon Dye Works had moved into a separate plant at Saylesville (called Plant B), and was in the process of securing another site in Phillipsdale for a satellite finishing plant.

Between 1897-1899, Frederic C. Sayles bought from Rumford Chemical Works several tracts of land and some existing small manufacturing buildings, located north and west of the intersection of Roger Williams and Bourne Avenues. He also bought additional parcels southeast of that intersection, and further north on both sides of Roger Williams Avenue. In 1899 the new Glenlyon Print Works (also known as Glenlyon Dye Works Plant C, or Glenlyon Bleacheries), opened in Phillipsdale, devoted to the printing of cottons and silks. Frank A. Sayles bought the Phillipsdale holdings from his uncle in 1900, and Glenlyon Bleacheries began to build dozens of new units (42 in total) of worker housing for Plant C employees. These houses are clustered in several small groups: one on the east side of Roger Williams Avenue south of Bourne Avenue, two on the west side of Roger Williams north of Bourne Avenue, a third in the block bounded by Roger Williams, Ruth Avenue, and Nelson Street; and another on the east side of Ruth Avenue between Edward Street and Roger Williams Avenue. These are all two-family houses, the bulk of which were constructed between ca. 1902 and 1910. Glenlyon also built tennis courts and a club house for its employees during this period.

Thirteen Glenlyon worker houses, all on Roger Williams Avenue, are constructed in brick (the only brick houses in the historic district). A photograph of two of them, at 115-117 and 119-121 Roger Williams Ave., appears in the 1910 Yearbook of the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Their design is credited to the Providence architectural firm of Hilton & Jackson. It is possible, if not probable, that the other twelve brick Glenlyon houses are also Hilton & Jackson's work, as they all have a similar architectural character reflecting English model housing precedents.

Howard K. Hilton (1867-1909) and Frederick Ellis Jackson (1879-1950) formed an architectural partnership in Providence in 1902, shortly after Jackson had graduated from the Cornell School of Architecture (1900) and trained at the École des Beaux Arts in Paris. The firm became known mostly for designing distinguished public buildings in Rhode Island (including the Samuel Bridgham Public Library in East Providence, the Woodbury Memorial Church in Providence, and the Surgical Ward and Operating Theatre of Providence's Homeopathic Hospital, to name a few examples), as well as sophisticated residential buildings. The partnership lasted only



seven years, due to Hilton's death in 1909 (right around the time the brick Glenlyon Bleachery houses were completed), after which Jackson became a partner in the Providence firm of Jackson, Robertson & Adams for nearly fifty years. Jackson, Robertson & Adams designed numerous houses, churches, hospitals, libraries, and municipal and other public buildings (most prominent among the last-named is the Rhode Island Supreme & Superior and Providence County Courthouse); they were also known for planning housing projects, and Jackson himself served on Providence's City Planning Commission from 1931 to 1944.

Frank A. Sayles died in 1920; the following year, Glenlyon's parent company, Sayles Bleacheries, incorporated as Sayles Finishing Plants Inc., which at the time was one of the largest textile finishing companies in the world still in family ownership, producing approximately 7.5 million yards of cloth a week. Meanwhile, in Phillipsdale, the Glenlyon Bleacheries division added several more units of two-family housing, mostly along the eastern side of Ruth Avenue from Edward Avenue to Roger Williams Avenue, from ca. 1913-1927; and in 1920 built a second plant next to Plant C, known as Plant E (no longer extant). The company also built additional recreational facilities in Phillipsdale in the 1920s, including more tennis courts, an athletic field, and a playground, as well as another huge new plant at Biltmore, North Carolina called the Sayles-Biltmore Bleacheries, in 1925-1926.

In 1927, the Sayles Finishing Plants recorded the "Phillipsdale Plat No. 2" with the City of East Providence, illustrating 67 house lots in various locations within the village. Those within the historic district lie mostly at the north ends of Roger Williams and Ruth Avenues, with several other clusters on Roger Williams Ave. near the intersection at Bourne Ave. (As with AEW's Phillipsdale Plat of the same year, this plat shows no buildings, although many of these lots were already built upon by 1927; a Replat of Phillipsdale Plat No. 2, recorded in 1940, does show existing building footprints.) The recording of this plat signaled the end of Sayles Finishing Plants providing rental housing for its workers, although many employees subsequently purchased homes that they already occupied within the plat.

### **"A Magic Village:" The Model Village Concept and Its Influence on Phillipsdale**

Between AEW's arrival in 1893 and the completion of the first phase of worker housing construction by both AEW and Glenlyon Bleacheries in 1910, Phillipsdale acquired a workforce of over 2,000, plus 300 new tenements, several stores, a restaurant, a church, an expanded school, and its own post office, train depot, and police station.<sup>13</sup> In September, 1907, the *Providence Sunday Journal* published a lengthy paean, illustrated with numerous photographs, to the "magic village" of Phillipsdale, noting its astonishingly rapid growth over the previous eight years:

...It is a community, which if located in any other part of the State or in fact any other part of New England, could not fail to attract attention on account of its marvelous growth, but which has been overlooked to a great extent on account of its location almost under the shadow of the buildings of Rhode Island's two largest cities [Providence and Pawtucket]. ...

<sup>13</sup> The 1907 Providence Journal article is the source of the figure of 300 tenements. The term apparently applied to all company-built housing in Phillipsdale, regardless of occupancy (single-family, two-family, three-family, or boarding house). It is not clear whether the reporter meant 300 units of housing, or 300 buildings, but the Historic District in 1907 comprised over 90 units of worker housing in about 50 dwellings, so one might assume that the village as it was then defined was substantially bigger than the District. Directories, however, reveal that the boundaries between Phillipsdale and Rumford were fluid and imprecise. It is quite common to find references to houses on the same street being variously located in Phillipsdale and Rumford (this blurring of boundaries, also cited in a 1971 Journal article, persists even today), so the 1907 Journal article may have counted buildings that were listed as being in Rumford in early directories. In any case, while a number of company-built homes survive in Phillipsdale (and Rumford) outside the boundaries of this district, substantial intrusion of mid- to late 20th century infill construction precluded nominating all of the surviving late 19th and early 20th century housing stock.

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An effort is being made to make the place a model factory village which will be second to none in the State, and the effort of the proprietors of the leading industries to attain this end are being co-operated with by the tenants and owners of private homes. ...

Notwithstanding the *Journal* reporter's evident admiration, Phillipsdale is not a pure example of a "model factory village." With two or three manufacturers involved in community development, there was no single guiding vision for the layout and growth of the village. Also, the village was never intended to house all of the companies' employees; it accommodated at most a few hundred residents. (An electric trolley line was installed on Roger Williams Avenue by 1900, allowing company employees to live wherever they chose, and many workers lived in Rumford, elsewhere in East Providence, in Providence, or in other Rhode Island or even Massachusetts communities.) Other than this one newspaper article, no evidence has been found to confirm that Phillipsdale was, in fact, formally planned, or that Eugene F. Phillips and Frank A. Sayles actually coordinated their respective development activity. However, it seems plausible that they might have collaborated, if only informally, given their similarly paternalistic attitudes toward their employees and their efforts to make Phillipsdale an attractive place to live and work. Whether or not that collaboration actually occurred, Phillipsdale represents two different approaches to corporate-driven community planning and development.

American Electrical Works' non-industrial development in Phillipsdale consists of two distinct rows of mostly identical, attractively detailed houses, each with its own yard, on the parallel streets of Roger Williams and Ruth Avenues, sited on a slight rise overlooking the plant, along with a company store and a church near the village center. This bears a close resemblance to a traditional, low-density New England mill village constructed by a paternalistic manufacturer. "Paternalism was considered by many 19<sup>th</sup> century businessmen to be a moral responsibility, protecting society while furthering business,"<sup>14</sup> and Eugene F. Phillips fit this profile: he was lauded not only as a "genius" for his business and technological acumen, but also as "a man of broad understanding, tolerance and sympathy, and thoroughly democratic in his tastes ... greatly loved by his employees, and highly respected and honored by his associates in the business world."<sup>15</sup>

In contrast, while the Glenlyon Bleacheries' housing on Roger Williams Avenue, Nelson Street, and Ruth Avenue shares generally similar design characteristics (such as materials, heights, and fenestration patterns), few of these houses are actually identical to each other. This approach seems to have percolated down from Saylesville, which was quite sizeable (much larger than Phillipsdale), and had been built up with a conscious effort to avoid homogeneity, resulting in a variety of house types and styles, with very few identical houses sited next to each other. Saylesville's architectural character was influenced by the concepts of the "model village" and "model company town," which developed in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century in response to some of the ills of industrialization and urbanization, such as the squalid living conditions that many mill and factory workers endured (especially those at the lower end of the wage scale), and a generalized anxiety about a perceived decline in moral standards brought about by thousands of people moving away from the protective guidance of family, church, and community in order to seek new employment opportunities in cities. By the late 19<sup>th</sup> century there were several examples of model villages in New England, including one at Peace Dale, Rhode Island, about 30 miles south of Providence, which the Sayles family would certainly have known about and could readily have visited. But the original concept first developed in England, and it is likely that Frank A. Sayles, for one, had some firsthand knowledge of examples there as well: "Frank A. Sayles had traveled in Europe and had been impressed by the efforts of some manufacturers to avoid what was perceived as the dullness, the utilitarian aspect, and the dinginess of industrial settlements. The Sayles Company hired architects

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14 Garner, p. 53.

15 Bicknell, p. 361.

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to design their houses.”<sup>16</sup> One specific model company town in England, Port Sunlight, may have caught Frank A. Sayles’ attention—or at least, the attention of his architects in Phillipsdale, Hilton & Jackson.

Port Sunlight was created by William H. Lever, founder of Lever Bros. A strong believer in respectability, hard work, and clean living, Lever was also self-educated, and firmly espoused the notion that anyone could better themselves given a fair chance. In 1889 Lever Bros. built a new factory and planned community on the banks of the Mersey River near Liverpool. Named after one of the company’s brands of soap, Port Sunlight provided not only “neat and cheerful” cottages and shops, but also (by 1909) a school, adult education institutes for men and women, a library, a theatre, a concert hall, a gymnasium, and a swimming pool, all of which Lever Bros. employees were encouraged to use in the cause of self-improvement. Architect-designed buildings evoked older English, Flemish, and Dutch styles, and were arranged in blocks on wide, tree-lined streets. The Port Sunlight soap factory was likewise carefully designed to promote an efficient yet healthful and pleasant work environment. One notable result of the Port Sunlight approach was that Lever Bros. experienced very little labor strife (This was true at Peace Dale, as well). Model communities like Peace Dale and Port Sunlight were well publicized, and while not universally admired (some social critics rebuked model communities for being exploitative of workers, by forcing them to rent company-owned houses and shop in company-owned stores), the pragmatic notion that a happy, healthy worker was a more loyal and productive worker, and thus good for business, was not lost on manufacturers elsewhere.

As noted above, a photograph of two Glenlyon Bleacheries brick houses in Phillipsdale, designed by Hilton & Jackson, appears in the 1910 Yearbook of the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Institute of Architects; in the 1911 RI AIA yearbook is a Hilton & Jackson drawing of Frank A. Sayles’ personal residence in Pawtucket, and on the next two pages are three illustrations of Port Sunlight (the community plan and two photographs of worker housing). This interesting coincidence may be just that, but clearly Port Sunlight was known to, and admired by, Rhode Island’s architectural community, and perhaps among the manufacturing community as well.

Glenlyon Bleacheries also took paternalism several steps further than AEW is known to have done, by actively promoting the image of its workers as a family, providing them with numerous educational, social, and recreational opportunities, and routinely stressing on-the-job safety. These characteristics may have been introduced at Glenlyon Print Works as soon as the new plant was built, but were much in evidence by the time that Glenlyon’s parent company, Sayles Bleacheries, instituted an employee-produced newspaper, *Sayles News*, in September 1918. In the first issue, the editors commented:

“ ... We have an organization of about 3,000 people ... this paper will endeavor to keep the whole organization informed as to what is going on in the various groups, developing in this way the interest of the whole membership in all activities and building up a better cooperation between all members ...

It will be our priority to publish only the news that will make for good will and harmony.

Personals and jokes are very necessary and are the life of a paper of this kind, but the personals must be true to the fact, and the jokes must be without personal sting.”

True to its editorial philosophy, *Sayles News* was liberally illustrated with photographs showing workers relaxing and having fun, whether playing sports, attending the annual summer outing or a holiday party, or just taking a break during the work day (even, once in a while, reading *Sayles News*). It was filled with references not only to employees’ professional milestones (transfers, promotions, resignations, and retirements) but also—and far more frequently—to their personal lives (birthdays, anniversaries, bridal showers, weddings, baby announcements, vacations, get well wishes, death notices, sympathy notes and cards of thanks). It teased men

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<sup>16</sup> Lincoln survey report, p. 35.

about their recent haircuts and their minor fenderbenders in the village; it congratulated women about the “new sparkler” on their ring fingers. It cheered on the various company sports teams (tennis, bowling, baseball, soccer, horseshoes, and more). It reported on the many organizations and events with which employees were involved, such as musical concerts, plays, dances, charity fundraisers, and meetings of clubs and other groups. It printed photographs of employees’ children, as well as childhood photos of employees themselves (usually captioned, “Do You Know Him (Her)?”, and inviting readers to send in their guesses). Every issue also had some sort of health and safety advertisement, such as warnings to be careful when handling dangerous equipment and machinery. *Sayles News* did occasionally touch on business matters (several issues in 1925-26, described the construction of the new Sayles-Biltmore plant in Biltmore, North Carolina), but for the most part, it appears to have remained dedicated to its mission of building “good will and harmony,” every two weeks for at least ten years.

Like most other New England textile concerns, Sayles Finishing Plants suffered a decline in business as the 20<sup>th</sup> century progressed, and by World War II, its operations at Phillipsdale were dramatically reduced. Plant E was leased to Cook’s Yarn and Dye Works in 1942; Cook bought the building outright in 1957, and used it as a warehouse; it was demolished sometime in the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Plant C was sold to Almac’s, a Rhode Island-based grocery store chain (now defunct), in 1958.

## Recent History

At AEW, Okonite Wire & Cable continued in business until 1987. The plant was sold in 1988 and, dubbed “Phillipsdale Landing” by its new owner, and leased to a variety of commercial and light industrial businesses. A developer acquired Phillipsdale Landing in 2005, and in cooperation with the City of East Providence planned a mixed commercial and residential development project which would reuse many of the historic structures. This project is still pending; meanwhile, mixed commercial/industrial uses continue to occupy the complex.

Washburn Wire, by the mid-1970s, had endured several years of financial difficulty and a bitter 9-month strike that cost millions of dollars in lost business. The company filed for bankruptcy in 1976, and finally closed in 1982. Ocean State Steel then occupied the plant for about 12 years, but closed in 1994 in the face of environmental problems. The plant was demolished in 2005. Its site, owned by the City of East Providence and located within the Phillipsdale Landing redevelopment area, has been environmentally remediated and is currently vacant.

After Sayles Finishing Plants left Phillipsdale, some local residents worked at Cook’s Yarn and Dye Works for the decade or so that it remained in business. After that, Almac’s used the former textile finishing plant as a distribution center for several more decades. In recent years the plant has been occupied by a mix of commercial and light industrial businesses. (Several recent, very large warehouses have been added to the original plant; these are largely out of view from the village. Two additional warehouses on an adjacent lot are not in the district.) Glenlyon’s process water reservoirs, on the south side of Bourne Avenue east of Roger Williams Avenue, were filled in shortly after Sayles Finishing Plants’ departure, and that land was subsequently developed with several apartment buildings and a suburban-style housing development.

## Conclusion

Within the historic district today, contributing buildings and structures associated with American Electrical Works include the AEW plant, the Phillipsdale Store, Grace Phillips Memorial Church, and 34 company-built worker houses, as well as four 19<sup>th</sup> century houses acquired by AEW and converted to multi-family use for its

Document page number   53  

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workers. Contributing buildings associated with Glenlyon Bleacheries include its original plant and 42 company-built worker houses. Omega Pond, including its dam and railroad bridge, and an additional 29 privately built homes complete the inventory of contributing properties. There are also 11 non-contributing buildings.

[End Section 8]

**9. Major Bibliographical References****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

# \_\_\_\_\_

**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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"Plat of Land sold to James M. Campbell by Rumford Chemical Works." by S.B. Cushing. March 1882. Recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 29; copied on Plat Card 74.

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** (do not include previously listed acreage) approximately 67 acres

Acreage does not include approximately 13 acres of the Richmond Paper Co./American Electrical Works site, listed in the National Register in 2006.

**UTM References**

1	<u>19</u> Zone	<u>303060</u> Easting	<u>4635336</u> Northing
2	<u>19</u> Zone	<u>303660</u> Easting	<u>4634820</u> Northing
3	<u>19</u> Zone	<u>303560</u> Easting	<u>4634760</u> Northing
4	<u>19</u> Zone	<u>303740</u> Easting	<u>4634420</u> Northing
5	<u>19</u> Zone	<u>303680</u> Easting	<u>4634360</u> Northing
6	<u>19</u> Zone	<u>303800</u> Easting	<u>4634200</u> Northing
7	<u>19</u> Zone	<u>303820</u> Easting	<u>4633960</u> Northing
8	<u>19</u> Zone	<u>303580</u> Easting	<u>4634040</u> Northing
9	<u>19</u> Zone	<u>303600</u> Easting	<u>4634340</u> Northing
10	<u>19</u> Zone	<u>303480</u> Easting	<u>4634320</u> Northing
11	<u>19</u> Zone	<u>303260</u> Easting	<u>4634360</u> Northing
12	<u>19</u> Zone	<u>302920</u> Easting	<u>4634440</u> Northing
13	<u>19</u> Zone	<u>303200</u> Easting	<u>4635180</u> Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (describe the boundaries of the property)

The Phillipsdale Historic District includes Omega Pond and the following lots as identified on East Providence Tax Assessor's Maps as of October 2010.

Plat 203 Block 1: Lots 1, 4

Plat 302 Block 1: Lot 8

Block 15: Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

Block 16: Lots 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Plat 303 Block 1: Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

Block 2: Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28

Block 3: Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18

[continued on next page]

Document page number 58

[continued from previous page]

Plat 303 Block 4: Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Block 6: Lot 7

Block 7: Lots 1, 3, 3.1, 4, 5,

Block 8: Lots 1, 2, 3,

Block 11: Lots 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22,

Block 12: Lots 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 12.1, 12.2

Block 13: Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Plat 304 Block 2, Lot 13

**Boundary Justification** (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The district boundaries encompass the largest concentration of historic resources associated with the four manufacturers responsible for Phillipsdale's development as a mill village during the period of significance. Boundaries were drawn to eliminate as many non-contributing properties as possible.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Kathryn J. Cavanaugh, Preservation Consultant

organization \_\_\_\_\_ date October 2010

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city or town Cranston state RI zip code 02905

e-mail kathycavanaugh@cox.net

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location. A **map** (to scale or sketch) for historic districts or properties having large acreage and/or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets** (if necessary)
- **Additional items** Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items they require.

**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600 x 1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Phillipsdale Historic District

City: East Providence

County: Providence State: Rhode Island

Photographer: Kathryn J. Cavanaugh

Date Photographed: 2010

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Document page number 59

- 1 of 18. 300 Bourne Ave RP-AEW1 LookingSW
- 2 of 18. 300 Bourne Ave RP-AEW1 LookingW
- 3 of 18. 1-3, 5-7, 9-11, 13-15 (L-R) Nelson St Looking NE.
- 4 of 18. 1 Noyes St Glenly on Bleacheries Looking NW
- 5 of 18. Omega Pond Dam Looking S
- 6 of 18. Omega Pond Dam Looking SE from RR Bridge
- 7 of 18. Omega Pond RR Bridge & Dam Looking NW
- 8 of 18. 24, 26, 30, 32 Ruth Ave. (L-R) Looking SW
- 9 of 18. 87-89, 91-93, 95-97 Ruth Ave (L-R) Looking NE
- 10 of 18. 92-94, 96-98, 100-102 Ruth Ave (L-R) Looking NW
- 11 of 18. 119-121, 115-117 Roger Williams Ave Looking SE
- 12 of 18. 145-147, 141-143, 137-139 Roger Williams Ave Looking SE
- 13 of 18. 165, 171, 173, 177 Roger Williams Ave Looking NE
- 14 of 18. 189-191 Roger Williams Ave Streetscape Looking NE
- 15 of 18. 238-240 Roger Williams Ave Streetscape Looking NW
- 16 of 18. 250-252 Roger Williams Ave Streetscape Looking SW
- 17 of 18. 258-260 Roger Williams Ave Streetscape Looking SW
- 18 of 18. 265-267, 261-263, 257-259 Roger Williams Ave (L-R) Looking SE

**Property Owner:** (complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications 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.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.





Seekonk River

Seekonk River

Omega Pond

**Proposed Phillipsdale National Register Historic District  
East Providence, RI  
June 2011**

-  Proposed National Register District Boundary
-  Property Boundaries
-  Non-Contributing Properties











































SPEED  
LIMIT  
25

268

268

