

Tremont Yard  
1840s; 1862; 2010

### Building History

Originally the Tremont Mills Powerhouse and Mill No.2 (ca. 1840s and 1862), many millyard buildings were demolished between 1929 and 1933. Later, this building, which included manufacturing space on the upper floors and an adjacent picker house, was razed to a single story and continued to house hydroelectric turbines for several decades. The site is significant for its association with engineer James B. Francis, his role in pioneering turbine experiments of 1855, and the history of subsequent turbine technology.

By 2007, the building was in ruins and owned by the Commonwealth as part of the Lowell Heritage State Park who was seeking private redevelopment of the site. Completed in 2010 by Soucy Industries, Tremont Yard preserved historically significant basement waterpower features and constructed a new building above. Brick and historic replica windows on the ground floor reflect the site's historic roots while the glass, horizontal and vertical structural elements, and deep metal cornice with brackets echo the scale, mass, and context of the original building. Now home to the headquarters of Jeanne D'Arc Credit Union, the building is an exciting blend of old and new construction.



*Tremont Mills Powerhouse and Mill No. 2 as seen in 1939. (Photo – Lowell National Historical Park)*



*Tremont Yard as seen after being constructed in 2010.*