The textile producer Bates Manufacturing helped outfit the Union Army during the Civil War. As recently as 1950's, when more than 5000 people were employed in the complex, Bates was the largest employer in the state of Maine. The Mill complex is situated between the Androscoggin River and the canal system which first powered the mills. The vast mill complex is now becoming home to industrial employers.

Building #5 was completed in 1914. The building was designed by Albert Khan, the principal architect for most of the large American automobile companies for 30 years. His firm designed more than a thousand projects for Ford, among them the fabrication and assembly plant in River Rouge, Mich., one of the largest industrial complexes in the world. By 1937 his firm was producing 19 percent of all architect-designed industrial buildings in the United States. In his time he was considered the world's foremost industrial architect and the "father of modern factory design."

Building # 5 was designed specifically for the jacquard weaving of bedspreads. It's 350,000 sq ft. of floor space makes it the largest of all the Bates Mill buildings. Two walkways span cross Canal #1 and connect the Building with the rest of the complex.





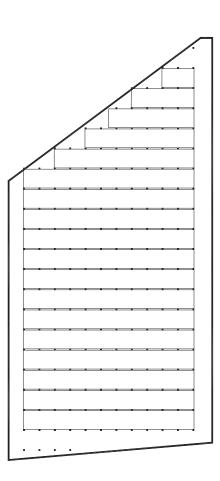












Plan Parti Columns spaced 24' x 32'