

Part of old Franklin mill building being offered for movie-making

By KATIE AHERN

Citizen.com

kahern@citizen.com

Article Date: Wednesday, October 8, 2008

The Granite Media Center is no longer the only option for filmmakers in New Hampshire, as the Franklin Business Center at 20 Canal St. Franklin has recently begun advertising its building for use as a film studio.

Co-owner Alex Gorelik said that this new offer is in response to a few requests by filmmakers to lease the space for their productions. Gorelik thought the historic six-story 1865 mill building with more than 186,000 square feet of uniquely structured space would be the perfect location for film makers to produce their works. They would not have to build sets as they could alter the already appealing rooms and warehouses to become what they want.

Gorelik leases many different rooms in the center for use as artist's studios, conference rooms, industrial spaces, self storage and office space. He already leases a few rooms to a few local bands for practice space. Another tenant independently films events such as concerts and car shows.

There are 10 loading docks located throughout the complex to service both the ground floor and the upper level as well as a freight elevator with a 6,000 pound capacity to move large items such as cars or other props.

The Business Center is located in downtown Franklin and offers free parking, Merrimack River views, 24-hour maintenance, security cameras and is Internet ready.

Gorelik does not see his building as competing with the Granite Media Center in nearby Tilton.

"The more that's going on in the film industry in New Hampshire, the better," he said. "We have everything they have, but we have a lot more." Gorelik thinks the GMC is much smaller than his space in comparison.

Gorelik believes he is opening up huge possibilities by advertising his property as film production space.

New Hampshire's landscape offers an appealing atmosphere to filmmakers across the country, but up until the GMC there weren't any production studios available to film scenes indoors.