

FORM A - AREA

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 294 Washington Street, Boston, MA. 02108

Form numbers in this area	Area letter
See Owners' List	B

Photo (3x3" or 3x5")  
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Photo number PFNR-1-17

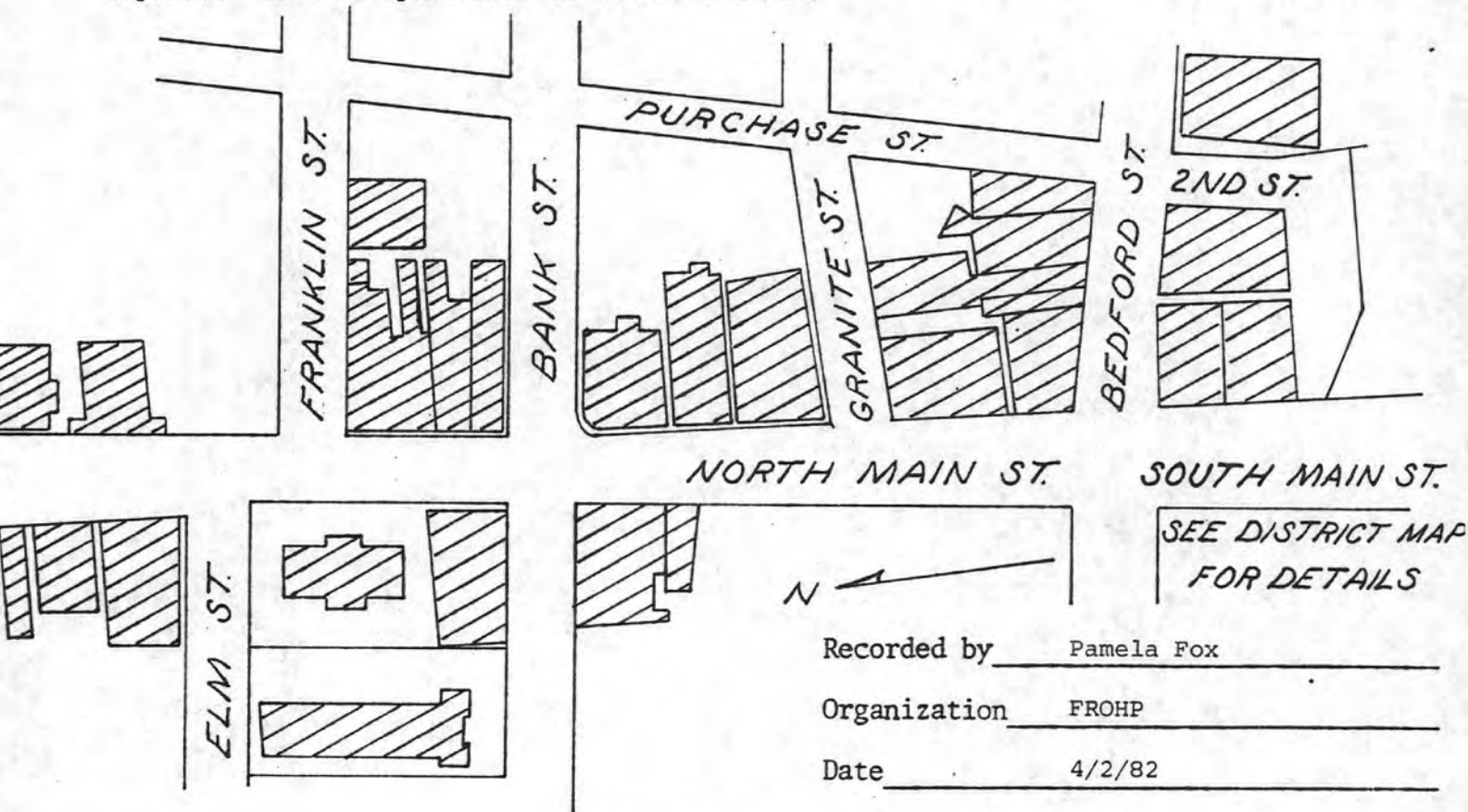
Town Fall River, Mass.

Name of area (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Downtown Fall River Historic District

General date or period 1845-1931

Sketch map. Draw a general map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. (Attach a separate sheet if space here is not sufficient)



**ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE of area. (Describe physical setting, general character, and architecturally significant structures).**

The Downtown Fall River Historic District is a compact urban commercial area extending five blocks along Main Street north of City Hall. Architecturally, it is important as the location of Fall River's most distinctive civic institutions, banks and business offices, including such landmarks as the Bank Street Armory, Fall River Public Library, and U.S. Customs House and Post Office. The 28 buildings are low in scale, ranging from one to five stories and exhibit a range of masonry commercial styles dating predominantly from 1885 to 1930.

The development of the district was shaped in large measure by two disastrous fires which ravaged much of the downtown in 1843 and again in 1928. The earliest buildings still standing were erected after the fire of 1843, which consumed 20 acres between Borden and Franklin Streets and leveled the core of the prospering mill town. Any first-period structures which might have remained in this early settlement area were destroyed, as well as the mostly frame commercial buildings erected during the town's first two decades of industrialization. The burnt district was quickly (Continued)

**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE of area. (Explain development of area, what caused it, and how it affected community; be specific).**

As the center of the early settlement area and traditional location of major banks, hotels and government buildings, the Downtown Fall River Historic District played a significant role in the evolution of Fall River from rural village to textile city. Located here were those early and influential financial institutions which provided the capital support system for the developing textile industry. The overwhelming success of that industry is reflected in the monumental late 19th century public buildings which remain from the city's heyday as the textile capital of the nation. Two nearly simultaneous 20th century disasters reshaped the downtown: the fire of 1928, which destroyed much of the physical heritage of the 19th century city, and the economic collapse of the textile industry in the late 1920's, which destroyed its economic base. Today, the district remains the principal center of commerce and banking in a city struggling toward revitalization.

At the beginning of the 19th century, the area which is now downtown was sparsely settled compared to surrounding villages because of its topographical disadvantages, particularly the steep grade to the waterfront, unprotected harbor and granite ledges which limited agricultural use. Until the start of industrial development about 1812, the town was little more than a cluster of perhaps 20 buildings centered at the junction of Main and Bedford Streets, with other houses scattered along Main Street. The steep slope and Quequechan River waterfalls provided an ideal site for water-powered mills, however, and, with the erection of the Troy Mill and Fall River Manufactory in 1813, the cotton-spinning era began in earnest. Population increased steadily after 1820 and the Bedford/Main area was built up with handsome late Federal houses. The town hall moved to Market Square (now Government Center) from Steep Brook in 1836; and in 1846 and 1847, the building of the railroad (Continued)

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

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INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Continuation)

rebuilt with more substantial brick and stone commercial blocks, of which the only remaining example is the Mt. Hope Block of 1845 (91-105 No. Main), a simple, hipped roof Greek Revival brick hotel which once extended the entire length of the block.

The post-Civil War period was one of extraordinarily rapid industrial growth in Fall River and by the 1880's Fall River and its rival, New Bedford, were the leading textile-producing centers in the United States. Because the banks helped finance the mills and shared in the general prosperity, it is not surprising that many of the most significant late 19th century downtown buildings were built for these financial institutions. The most important surviving post-Civil War building, and the district's only remaining Italianate commercial example, is the Old Red Bank or Fall River Savings Bank of 1869 (141 No. Main) designed by the best-known Boston commercial architect of the period, Nathaniel J. Bradlee. The crisp, bold detailing of the second floor, executed in painted stone against the pressed red brick wall surface, stands out despite unfortunate alterations at ground level.

In 1887 the B.M.C. Durfee Trust Co. erected a substantial 3-story brick and brownstone commercial block to house its offices, and in 1890 the rival Fall River National Bank erected its imposing 4-story brick and brownstone headquarters on the next corner. The latter, designed by Wm. R. Walker & Sons of Providence, is most notable for its terra cotta banding, corner bow and copper balustrade. As the only two Victorian commercial blocks to survive the 1928 fire, these buildings are important reminders of the city's heyday. Also remaining from this period is the 1884 Masonic Temple (31-37 Franklin), notable for its panel brick detailing.

Just before the turn of the century, in a clear expression of civic pride and enthusiasm, the City of Fall River erected two monumental granite institutional buildings: the Bank Street Armory (1895-97) (72 Bank Street) and the Fall River Public Library (1896-98) (94 No. Main). The armory, constructed of rock-faced granite in the Romanesque Revival style, stands like a medieval fortress protecting the city, while the library, with its smooth granite facade and quiet Renaissance Revival detailing, represents a commitment to a more peaceful world of learning and enlightenment. The competition for the design of the library was won by the nationally recognized architectural firm headed by Ralph Adams Cram, who is best remembered for his ecclesiastical commissions and work in the Gothic Revival style.

The downtown district contains representative examples of early 20th century architecture, all generally embellished with some type of classical ornament. The tan brick Globe Building of 1906 (39-45 No. Main) is enriched by details such as banded rustication, ionic fluted pilasters, splayed keystone lintels and a full cornice. The small, stone 1911 Fall River Gas Co. (155 No. Main) has perhaps the best-articulated and best-preserved classical revival facade and forms an interesting contrast to the small cast stone Union Savings Bank (20 So. Main) of a decade later, in which elements such as the pilasters, entablature and cornice have become noticeably simpler and flatter.

In 1928 Fall River experienced the most devastating fire in its history, as a blaze which started in the abandoned Pocasset Mill spread into the Main Street area as far north as

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Bank Street and destroyed some \$4 million dollars in property. Because the late 1920's was a period of economic decline, the rebuilding was accomplished on a modest scale and without undue expense. Two of the post-fire buildings are good examples of the newly emerging Art Deco style: the First Federal Building of 1928 (1 No. Main) and the nearby Fall River Cooperative Bank of 1929 (26-30 Bedford St.). Both display the characteristic flat wall surfaces and low relief ornamentation. Opposite First Federal at 6-10 So. Main, the Citizens Savings Bank of 1928 adapts Romanesque forms to enrich the flat wall surface favored during this period. Together these three buildings, which are all of light-colored limestone or cast stone, form a visually unified ensemble which anchors the southern edge of the district. A more exuberant post-fire commercial building, the 1928 Burke Building at 7-17 North Main, is the city's finest example of the use of architectural terra cotta. The wide-arched storefronts, polychrome floral spandrels and imaginative free classical detailing greatly enliven the streetscape. The last major building to be erected in the downtown district was the 1931 U.S. Customs House and Post Office (9 Third St.). A High Victorian Gothic post office on the same site survived the 1928 fire but not the efforts of politicians to secure a newer and more modern version as part of the rebuilding program. The resulting late Renaissance Revival institution by U.S. Treasury supervising architect, William Wetmore, is conservative in style, although the flatness of the ornament and Egyptian palm leaf capitals suggest some Art Deco influence. Because of its size, dignified presence, and granite block construction, the Customs House and Post Office is a landmark of the downtown district.

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BANK STREET

- 72 Bank Street Armory (1895-7) A city landmark visible from many downtown approaches, this Romanesque Revival structure of rock-faced granite ashlar is monumental in scale and has a medieval, fortress-like appearance enhanced by the use of projecting corner pavillions, a crenelated parapet, and small round-arched windows. The armory is symmetrical in plan and extends the full length of the block between Bank and Elm Streets. It was designed by the Boston firm of Wait and Cutter in association with the prominent local architect, Louis Destremps, whose work includes Notre Dame Church. The building contains quarters for six companies and a 150' X 75' drill hall.

BEDFORD STREET

- 16- Coughlin Building (1929) A three-story, 2-bay pier and spandrel brick commercial  
18 building with a shaped parapet in the Art-Deco manner. Now part of First Federal Savings, the building was built as the Coughlin Building, with a florist shop on the first floor. The building was designed by prominent local architect Louis Destremps.
- 22 R. A. Wilcox Company (1951) This 2-story commercial building was "modern" by 1950 standards and features a polished stone facade with the original storefront and signage. It has been occupied since its construction by the R. A. Wilcox Co. Stationery Store, which was established in 1874. Although not fifty years old, the R. A. Wilcox Company Building contributes to the commercial character of the district.
- 26- Fall River Cooperative Bank (1929) The limestone facade of this 2-story commercial  
30 building is a fine example of the Art-Deco style, with the characteristic flatness and low relief ornamentation. Fluted pilasters are used between the three 2-story metal window units, which have wide pressed metal spandrels. The building is virtually intact including the pedimented center entrance. It was designed by the firm of Darling and Parlin for the Fall River Cooperative Bank, which was organized in 1888 and had its offices in the Massasoit Bank building at 29 Bedford Street until the fire of 1928.
- 33 One-story 1950 commercial building with limestone facade along Bedford Street and brick facing City Hall.

FRANKLIN STREET

- 21- (1908) 2-story yellow Roman brick early 20th century commercial building, at rear  
23 of Mt. Hope Block, originally built as storage.

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- 31- Police Athletic League (former Masonic Hall) (1884) This 4-story pressed red brick commercial building is notable for its "panel brick" detailing, particularly the corbelling, sawtooth patterns and inset crosses at the cornice line. The segmental arched windows have incised stone tympanums and slightly projecting brick hood lintels. The building was erected for use as a Music Hall with rooms for social gatherings and lectures and was later used as a Masonic Hall.

NORTH MAIN STREET

- 1 First Federal Building (1928) One of several well-detailed Art-Deco buildings erected after the 1928 fire, the First Federal has the flat facade, low relief pilasters, and pressed terra cotta ornament characteristic of the style. The 3-story cast stone building was designed by Edward M. Corbett with associate architects Hutchins and French. The first floor has been modernized. Originally known as the Macomber and the Clark Buildings, the building has housed the First Federal Savings and Loan Association since the mid-1950's. The bank was incorporated in the late 1940's.
- 7- Burke Building (1928) One of the most decorative buildings to be erected after the 1928 fire, the 3-story white terra cotta Burke Building is also important as the city's best example of terra cotta commercial architecture. Remarkably, the first floor series of three wide arched storefronts and an offset right entrance accented by a free-classical broken scroll pediment, has remained largely intact. Polychrome floral spandrels separate levels 2 and 3, and the building terminates with a bracketed cornice and parapet with urn finials. The building was designed by local architect and engineer David Shapiro for Thomas F. Burke, owner of a men's clothing store located here at least through 1940.
- 25- Fall River Trust Company (1929) Classical elements are loosely adapted to embellish this 3-story brick commercial building, which has been modernized at ground level but retains its delicate Federal Revival second-floor wooden window units. The architects, Parlin and Darling, also designed the similar Buffington Building. Eagle's Restaurant was located here for 41 years; the bank has been here only in recent years, when it expanded its offices from the nearby Globe Building (see 39-45 No. Main).

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- 39- The Globe Building/Fall River Trust Co. (1906) This 5-story, 5-bay tan brick  
45 commercial building is enriched by classical detailing executed in white cast  
stone. Notable design features include an arcaded first story, banded rustication  
on the second floor, ionic fluted pilasters extending from level 3 to 5, splayed  
keystone lintels and a full cornice with a parapet broken by sections of balustrade.  
The Globe Building is historically significant as the home for some 23 years of the  
Fall River Daily Globe, a newspaper established in 1885 as a Democratic rival to the  
older and more patrician Fall River Herald. The newspaper occupied the entire  
fifth floor and half of the ground floor until 1929, when it was merged with the  
Herald. The Fall River Trust Company was chartered in 1919 and has occupied  
offices in the Globe Building from 1920 to the present.
- 44- This narrow, 3-story, 2-bay white glazed brick commercial building was constructed  
46 in 1898 and is notable for its idiosyncratic free classical detailing and largely  
intact storefront.
- 49- Fall River National Bank (1890) This handsome structure is one of the finest com-  
59 mercial buildings in the district and one of only two surviving Victorian commercial  
blocks. The terra cotta spandrels of the dark red pressed brick Commercial Style  
building are ornamented with the type of swirling, naturalistic foliage forms  
popularized by Chicago architect Louis Sullivan. The corner site is emphasized  
by the pressed metal corner bow with original curved glass, and the roofline is  
enhanced by a bracketed copper cornice and copper pierced pediment, with a date  
panel at the corner. The building originally extended only four bays along North  
Main Street and was extended by six bays in the early 20th century. A 2-story  
metal oriel above the single center bay has been removed, and the original brown-  
stone first floor was removed in a 1958 "modernization." The building was designed  
by the well-known Providence firm of William R. Walker and Sons for the Fall River  
National Bank, one of the city's oldest and most powerful financial institutions.  
When the Fall River Bank was chartered in 1825, many of the incorporators were also  
shareholders in the Fall River Iron Works, which controlled many of the early mills.  
The first president was David Anthony, the founder of the Fall River Manufactory,  
who remained in this post for 40 years. The first bank building on the site was  
destroyed by the 1843 fire; the second was razed to make way for the present  
structure. The bank was reorganized in 1864 as the Fall River National Bank under  
the new national banking act, at which time Col. Richard Borden became president.  
Because Borden was also one of the principal organizers and for 50 years treasurer  
of the Fall River Iron Works, the bank became even more closely associated with  
this major conglomerate. It remains in business at this location under its recent  
new name--The Bank of New England.
- 52- Bennett Building (1900) The use of white cast stone for the free classical pilaster  
64 caps, cornice and other detailing enlivens the otherwise utilitarian tan Roman  
brick facade of this 6 X 8 bay Commercial Style building. It was designed by  
Joseph M. Darling, Sr. and was only 3 stories high and 3 bays wide until 1903.  
It housed a number of small dry goods stores and professional offices.

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- 79 Fall River Five Cents Savings (1914) Like most bank buildings from the first two decades of the 20th century, this 2-story brick structure used traditional classical forms to create a dignified facade. The crisp intact white terra cotta and cast stone detailing includes a pedimented center entrance, Corinthian fluted pilasters, an inset marble name panel in the entablature, a dentil cornice, and a stepped parapet with center cartouche. The building was erected for the Fall River Five Cents Savings, which was chartered in 1855 to serve small depositors. The offices were located in the Pocasset Block and later in the Mt. Hope Block, part of which was torn down to make way for the present structure.
- 80- Durfee Block (1887) This distinctive Victorian brick commercial block is important as one of only two remaining in the district. The 3-story building is constructed of dark red pressed brick with brownstone accents including pilaster caps, sill and lintel courses, and a brick, stone and copper cornice. Remarkably, the storefront has remained largely intact except for a cast stone classical pedimented entrance on North Main sheltered by a metal and glass marquee. The building may be the work of George A. Clough (1843-1916), who served as Boston's first city architect from 1873 to 1883 before opening up his own firm. The November 12, 1887 issue of American Architect and Building News mentions Clough as the architect of a "brick and stone bank building 70' X 125'" to be occupied by the First National Bank and the Durfee Trust Co." The building was erected in 1887 for the B.M.C. Durfee Trust Co. (originally the B.M.C. Durfee & Co.), chartered in 1870. This firm was organized by John S. Brayton and his sister, Mary Brayton Young, the remarried widow of Fall River Iron Works founder Major Bradford Durfee. The bank was named for their son, B.M.C. Durfee, who was never involved in its operations. Historically, the bank was closely allied to the textile industry in financing the importation of cotton for thriving mills. The Braytons also controlled the First National Bank, which was incorporated in 1864 and was also located in the Durfee Block. In 1925 the First National was absorbed by the Durfee Trust, which in 1928 also took over the Massasoit-Pocasset and Metacomet National Banks.
- 84
- 85 At the same time it was building its new headquarters at 79 North Main in 1914, the Fall River Five Cents Savings Bank also erected this 4-story, 6-bay yellow brick utilitarian commercial structure. It was originally the same height as the bank and uses the same combination of brick with classical cast stone trim. The storefront has been "modernized" and a 4th floor added.
- 91- Mt. Hope Block (1845) This Greek Revival brick block, the oldest commercial structure in the downtown district, is the only remaining one of a number of such substantial masonry buildings erected after the 1843 fire. The 4-story, 8-bay building is constructed of soft brick laid in a common bond pattern and has small upper story windows, a wide wooden cornice, shallow hipped roof and original chimneys. The storefront is contemporary but sympathetically designed. The building was erected as the Mt. Hope House under the management of William Waite and originally extended the entire block between Bank and Franklin. From 1878 to 1902 it was run as the
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"Narragansett Hotel." From 1890 to 1912 the Evans House hotel also occupied the building, and a faded sign for the Evans painted onto the side of the building is still visible. Another hotel in the block, the Bristol House, was established in 1902 and remained in this location until 1915 when the southern portion of the building was torn down to make way for the Fall River Five Cents Savings Bank. In the early years, the building was also a stage-coach relay station and had a stable at the rear.

- 94 Fall River Public Library (1896-99) This imposing granite civic building, one of the landmarks in the downtown district, is Renaissance Revival in style and features a center rusticated entrance, heavy pedimented lintels over the first floor windows on North Main Street, and cast iron lamps flanking the entrance walkway. The building stands two stories above the basement level. The monumental design is enhanced by a small setback and grassed lawn with trees in front. The largely intact central circulation room is richly embellished with marble columns, mosaic floors and ornamental plasterwork framing a central skylight. The building was designed by the prestigious Boston firm of Cram, Wentworth and Goodhue following a competition held in 1895. That firm's senior partner, Ralph Adams Cram (1863-1942), is considered America's leading exponent of the Gothic Revival style and is best known for his churches, particularly St. John the Divine in New York City. The Fall River Public Library was established in 1860 and began with a core collection donated by the earlier Fall River Athenaeum founded in 1835. The land for the library was acquired from the heirs of Mary Brayton Young, with the total cost for land, building and furnishings being \$252,000.
- 141 Old Red Bank (Fall River Savings Bank) (1869/1976) Were it not for the incompatible additions which obscure the first floor, the 2-story Fall River Savings Bank would be one of the most distinguished buildings in the district. The second floor portion of the Italianate brick facade, with its bold carved and painted stone detailing, has survived and features paired Corinthian pilasters, round arched windows with hooded lintels, a bracketed cornice and a central semi-circular roof pediment which emphasizes the center of the 3 bays. The design is the work of Nathaniel J. Bradlee (1829-1888), Boston's best-known and most prolific commercial architect of his time. Bradlee is said to have designed at least 500 Boston commercial buildings, of which only a few survive today. The bank was built for the Fall River Savings Bank, which was incorporated in 1828 as the Fall River Institution for Savings but changed its name in 1855. The bank was one of the earliest to be established in the city and had as its founders many of the early mill owners. The first president, Micah H. Ruggles, also served as agent for the Pocasset Mills from 1837 to 1857 and was involved in the building of the Pocasset Mill and the Granite Block.
- 150 Masonic Temple (1922) Although it was erected for use as a masonic hall, the design of this 5-story yellow brick pier and spandrel building is typical of utilitarian commercial buildings of the period. The large corner structure extends 9 bays on

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No. Main and 15 bays along Elm Street. Simple classically-inspired trim, executed in cast stone, includes flat fluted pilasters between paired bays, a name block above the third floor center bay, keystones above the fifth floor windows, and a copper cornice and brick parapet. The banded rusticated piers have been retained at the storefront level. The architect was Wm. B. Robinson. The temple was the fourth meeting place of the Freemasons in Fall River. The oldest of the city's four lodges is the Mt. Hope, established in 1824; the others are the King Philip, Narragansett and Massasoit. The first meeting place of the lodges was in the Pocasset Block, the second in a hall above Fall River Savings, and the third in the 1884 Masonic Temple on Franklin Street. The cost of the present temple was close to half a million dollars and, at the time of its construction, it was one of the largest and most modern such facilities in southeastern Massachusetts.

- 152- Horton Building (1897) Utilitarian 3-story brick commercial building with brown-  
158 stone quoins, banding and cornice designed by Fall River architect Joseph M. Darling.
- 155 Fall River Gas Co. (1911) A distinctive, well-preserved example of the Renaissance Revival aesthetic adapted for commercial use, this 2-story, 5-bay limestone building retains its original wide plate-glass storefront windows with small-paned transom area and also has a well-articulated second floor, bracketed cornice and roof balustrade. It was erected for the Fall River Gas Co., which was organized in 1846 and was owned and operated by the Fall River Iron Works until 1880, when the present company was incorporated.
- 162 This small 2-story, 1-bay 1895 painted brick commercial facade has a modernized storefront but retains its second floor round arched windows, brick corbelling, and decorative square stone rosette panels set in rows above each story. The building is historically significant as the home, first of "The Casino," and later of the Bijou Theatre, although only the facade survives from these once lavish entertainment facilities. The Casino is said to have had a polo rink 47' X 100', 14 bowling alleys, 10 pool tables, and 2 private assembly rooms. In 1901 the Casino held the Pan-American Textile exhibit from the Pan-American Fair, which attracted visitors from all over the world to view textile products. In 1903 the Casino was reconstructed as the Bijou Theatre, which offered dramatic productions and road shows. It was said to be the second theatre in New England to show talking pictures. The rear wooden portion of the theatre was demolished in 1933 and the building became the Bijou Restaurant, then the Fall River Community Development Agency.

PURCHASE STREET

- 10- Buffington Building (1916) Elements loosely adapted from the classical vocabulary,  
18 such as the cast stone door entablature, and copper medallion frieze and bracketed cornice, are used to ornament this simple pier and spandrel office building. The

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5-story brick structure was designed by Maude Darling-Parlin, for many years the city's only woman architect, for James Buffington, a descendant of one of Fall River's early mayors. The 1928 fire gutted most of the interior.

SOUTH MAIN STREET

- 6- Citizens Savings Bank (1928) The architects of this handsome 4-story limestone bank, the Thomas M. James Co. of Boston, adapted Romanesque forms to embellish the basically flat wall surface favored during this period. Notable detailing includes the 2-story triple arches at ground level (now broken by a modern marquee), upper story arcade, and corbelled cornice. The building was constructed for the Citizens Savings Bank, which was incorporated in 1851 and moved to this site in 1876, occupying a granite building destroyed in the 1928 fire.
- 20 Union Savings Bank (1921) This building utilizes a late, flattened version of the dignified Renaissance Revival forms favored for early 20th century bank buildings. The small, largely intact cast stone structure, designed by the prolific local architect Joseph M. Darling, has a center entrance marked by a bracketed lintel, shallow pilasters between large metal window bays, a modillion block cornice and parapet, and an early ornamental metal marquee. It was constructed for the Union Savings Bank, which was incorporated in 1868 and moved to this site in 1898. The interior of the building was gutted by the 1928 fire, but the exterior survived except for the roof.

THIRD STREET

- 9 U.S. Customs House and Post Office (1931) This impressive 2-story granite institutional building is square in plan and occupies a full downtown block. In style it is late Renaissance Revival with some Art Deco influence evident in the flatness of the ornament and use of Egyptian palm leaf pilaster capitals. Along the principal facade, arched 2-story windows are framed by shallow pilasters and flanked by slightly projecting corner pavillions. The building is crowned by a modillion cornice and roof balustrade. Supervising architect James A. Wetmore (1863-1940) served for some 45 years as architectural supervisor of the U.S. Treasury Department, during which time at least 2,000 buildings were designed in his office. An earlier High Victorian Gothic post office was demolished to make way for this version.

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and opening of the steamship line to New York City connected Fall River to the mainstream New England transportation network.

In 1843 the first of several disastrous downtown fires destroyed the early settlement area, which was rebuilt within a few years. By 1850 Fall River was an established industrial center, and the economic boom and rapid expansion of the textile industry following the Civil War made it the leading textile-producing city in the nation by the 1880's.

Land use in the city reflected the mill-based economy. Mills were located near water supplies, working-class tenements sprung up within walking distance of the mills, and mill owners built mansions in the Highlands. South Main Street became the favored location for retail and commercial enterprises, while government buildings, banks, insurance companies, and hotels were concentrated in the lower North Main Street area which constitutes the present-day Downtown Fall River Historic District.

Impressive downtown government buildings symbolized the town's new wealth and success. The granite, mansard-roofed Town Hall with its tall center clock tower stood close to the site of today's modern counterpart (just outside the district), and an even more elaborate polychrome High Victorian Gothic post office stood on the site of the present U.S. Customs House and Post Office. The Bank Street Armory and Fall River Public Library, both large-scale granite buildings dating from the mid-1890's, remain from this period of civic ebullience.

Nearly one-third of the buildings in the district are associated with the financial institutions which developed in response to the expanding industrial economy. Of these, the most significant historically are the Fall River Bank, the Fall River Savings Bank, and the B.M.C. Durfee Trust Co. The Fall River Bank was the city's second bank but the first to be chartered in Fall River and the first to locate in the downtown district. It was established in 1825 and the next year moved to the corner of North Main and Bank Streets, where its third building of 1890 remains today at 49-59 No. Main. In management, the Fall River Bank was closely tied to the Fall River Iron Works, a powerful consortium whose shareholders owned all or part of the Fall River Manufactory, Annawan, Troy and Metacomet Mills, American Print Works, Fall River Gas Works, Fall River Railroad, and Bay State Steamboat Line. The bank's first president was David Anthony, also the founder of the Fall River Manufactory, who held this post for 40 years. The Fall River Bank was the first in the city to be re-organized as a national bank under the federal legislation of 1864, at which time Col. Richard Borden became president. Because Borden was also one of the principal organizers and for 50 years the treasurer of the Fall River Iron Works, the bank became even more closely associated with this major conglomerate.

The next bank to be organized, the Fall River Savings Bank (141 No. Main), was incorporated in 1828 under the name Fall River Institution for Savings. Like the other early banks, many of the founders were involved in the developing textile industry. The first president, Micah H. Ruggles, also served as agent for the Pocasset Mills from 1837 to 1857 and was instrumental in the building of the Pocasset Mill and the Granite Block. The bank erected its present headquarters in 1869.

In 1870 a private banking house, the B.M.C. Durfee & Co., was organized by two prominent local citizens, John S. Brayton and his sister, Mary B. Young. Mrs. Young was the remarried widow of Major Bradford Durfee, one of the founders of the Fall River Iron Works,

(Continued)

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Fall River, Mass.	Form No: See Owners' List
Property Name: Downtown Fall River Historic District	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Continuation) - Page 2

and upon his death she inherited a large fortune. She is perhaps best remembered for her gift to the city of a large tract of land and the fully equipped high school still standing on the site and also named for her son, Bradford Matthew Chaloner Durfee. Historically, the Durfee bank was closely allied to the textile industry and financed the importation of cotton for thriving mills. The Braytons also controlled the First National Bank, which was incorporated in 1864 and was also located in the Durfee Block at 80-84 No. Main after it was built in 1887. The B.M.C. Durfee Co., by then the Durfee Trust, absorbed the First National Bank in 1925 and the Massasoit-Pocasset and Metacomet National Banks after the 1928 fire.

Of the other six banks associated with present-day buildings in the district, the oldest is the Citizens Savings Bank, which opened for business in 1851 and moved to its present location in the mid-1870's, at which time it shared quarters in the granite Pocasset Bank. The present structure at 6-10 So. Main is the bank's third on the site. In 1855 the Fall River Five Cents Savings Bank was incorporated to encourage small savers. Offices were located in the Pocasset Block and later the Mt. Hope Block, part of which was torn down in 1914 to make way for the present headquarters at 79 No. Main. The Union Savings Bank was incorporated in 1869 and has been at the same location since 1872. The present building at 20 So. Main dates from 1921.

The Fall River Cooperative Bank was organized in 1888 and built its own building at 26-30 Bedford St. after the 1928 fire. The 1919 Fall River Trust Co. has occupied quarters in the Globe Building at 39-45 No. Main St. since 1920 and in recent years expanded to 25-35 No. Main St. as well. The last downtown bank to be established, the First Federal Savings and Loan Association opened in the late 1940's and moved to its present building at 1 No. Main St. in the mid-1950's.

Because of its location at the intersection of major transportation routes, the downtown district was the favored site for inns and taverns as early as the beginning of the 19th century. The only remaining building associated with the hotel trade is the Mt. Hope Block, built just after the fire of 1845, which housed one or more hotels until 1915 including the Mt. Hope House (1845-1878), The Narragansett (1878-1902), the Evans House (1890-1912), and the Bristol House (1902-1915). In the early years, it was a stagecoach stop with a stable in the rear.

Three other historically important hotels are no longer standing. The Wilbur House at No. Main and Granite Streets was the leading hostelry of the 1870's and 80's. The elegant Hotel Mellen of 1888 remained in business through 1962 when it became a temporary City Hall and remained in use until 1976; it was demolished shortly thereafter. The Mohican, which opened in 1914, was a remodelling of an earlier lodging facility at Main and Central Streets which dated back to 1847. Until it was destroyed by the fire of 1928, it was the city's leading early 20th century hotel, accommodating 500 guests.

The downtown district was also the home for 23 years of the Fall River Daily Globe, a newspaper established in 1885 as a Democratic rival to the older and more patrician Fall River Herald. The paper's politics were consistently liberal, and its principal stockholders were small businessmen from the city's Irish community. The newspaper occupied part of the Globe Building at 39-45 No. Main St. from 1906 to 1929, when it was merged with the Herald.

The Downtown Fall River Historic District is significant for its role in Fall River's civic and commercial development and as the focus of major examples of institutional architecture from the late 19th and early 20th centuries; it meets criteria A and C of the National Register.

DOWNTOWN FALL RIVER HISTORIC DISTRICT

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point located on the southwest corner of Third and Bedford Streets and thence running south, southwesterly on the west line of Third Street 243.74 feet to a point, thence running west, northwesterly 151.10 feet to a point, thence running north approximately 100 feet to a point, thence running west approximately 130 feet to a point, thence running northwesterly approximately 60 feet to a point in the east side of South Main Street, thence running north in the east property line of South Main Street, crossing Bedford Street, and continuing north on the east property line of North Main Street for a distance of approximately 400 feet to a point, thence turning west, crossing North Main Street and running west along the south property line of Assessor's Lot #N-9-15, for a distance of 137.7 feet to a point, thence running north for a distance of 112.20 feet along the west property line of same property, thence continuing north crossing Bank Street to a point being the north side property line of Bank Street, thence running west, northwesterly to a point being the northeast corner of Durfee and Bank Streets, thence running north, northeasterly to a point forming the southeast corner of Durfee and Elm Streets, thence running east, southeasterly for approximately 150 feet to a point, thence running north, northeasterly, crossing Elm Street, thence following the west property lines on a north, northeasterly plane of Assessor's Plat #32, 30 and 64 to a point, thence running east, southeasterly 135.22 feet to a point in the west side of North Main Street, thence running on a south, southeasterly plane, crossing North Main Street to a point, located on the northwest corner of Assessor's Plat #38, thence running east, southeasterly along said plat for a distance of 166.67 feet to a point, thence running south for a distance of 68 feet to a point, thence running east, southeasterly for a distance of 42.05 feet to a point, thence running south, southwesterly for a distance of 57.73 feet to a point, thence running east, southeasterly for a distance of 58.47 feet to a point, thence running south, southwesterly for a distance of 105.27 feet to a point in the north side of Franklin Street, thence crossing Franklin Street in a south west plane to a point forming the northeast corner of Assessor's Plat #N-7-2, thence running south, southwesterly for a distance of 89.45 feet to a point, thence running west, northwesterly 47.16 feet to a point, thence running south, southwesterly 88.9 feet to a point on the north side of Bank Street at property line, thence running south, southeasterly across Bank Street to a point forming the northeast corner of Assessor's Plat #N-7-49, thence running south, southwesterly 90.75 feet to a point, thence running south 72.77 feet to the north property line of Granite Street, thence running southeast across Granite Street to a point forming the northeast corner of Assessor's Plat #N-7-29,

thence running south 58.66 feet to point, thence running south, southwesterly 86.20 feet to a point forming the northwest corner of Bedford and Purchase Streets, thence running south, southwesterly across the intersection of Bedford and Purchase Streets to the northwest corner of Assessor's Plat #N-6-17, thence running east, southeasterly 212.94 feet to original starting points and encompassing all property lying within the above described boundaries, containing 308,418 square feet of private property or 7.08 square acres.

Street Name NORTH MAIN STREET DOWNTOWN FALL RIVER HISTORIC DISTRICT, FALL RIVER, MASS.

Number	Map-Plat-Lot No.	Lot Square Footage	Historic Name	Date Built	Style	Current Owner
1	N-7-44,45	2080	First Federal Building	1928	Art Deco	First Federal Savings & Loan Assoc. 1 North Main Street, Fall River, 02720
7-17	N-7-28	4096	Burke Building	1928	20th Cent. Commercial Neo-Classical	Lorraine M. Couto 4700 No. Main St., Apt. 4K, Fall River, 02720
25-35	N-7-27	7369	Fall River Trust Co.	1929	Neo-Classical (Adamesque)	Fall River Trust Co. 43 No. Main St., Fall River, 02720
39-45	N-7-12	4566	The Globe Building	1906	Neo-Classical	Fall River Trust Co. 43 No. Main St., Fall River, 02720
44-46	N-9-15	15,068		1898	Neo-Classical	Gail F. Nixdorf & Wendy L. Trageser Wild Cherry Drive, Little Compton, RI 02837
49-59	N-7-13,14	9424	Fall River National Bank	1890	Late Picturesque Commercial Block	Bank of New England Bristol County, N.A. 57 North Main Street, Fall River, 02720
52-58	N-9-15	15,068	Bennett Building	1900	Neo-Classical	Gail F. Nixdorf & Wendy L. Trageser Wild Cherry Drive, Little Compton, RI 02837

Street Name NORTH MAIN STREET DOWNTOWN FALL RIVER HISTORIC DISTRICT, FALL RIVER, MASS.

Number	Map-Plat-Lot No.	Lot Square Footage	Historic Name	Date Built	Style	Current Owner
79	N-7-11	9583	Fall River Five Cent Savings	1914	Neo-Classical	Fall River Five Cent Savings Bank 79 North Main Street, Fall River, 02720
80	N-10-47	8787	Durfee Block	1887	Victorian Brick Commercial	Benjamin M. Gottlieb et al 80 North Main Street, Fall River, 02720
85	N-7-48	3824		c.1915	Brick Commercial	Alan C. Biszko & James J. Karem No. Main Realty Trust 4 Lark Street, Fall River, 02720
91-105	N-7-1	8959	Mt. Hope Block	c.1845	Greek Revival Commercial Block	Ronald J. Ferris & Robert S. Karem 281 No. Eastern Ave., Fall River, 02720
94	N-10-46	31,344	Fall River Public Library	1898	Italian Renaissance	Mayor Carlton M. Viveiros City of Fall River One Government Center, Fall River, 02722
141	N-8-37	106,040	The Old Red Bank	1869/1954/1976	High Italianate w/additions	Fall River Savings Bank 141 North Main Street, Fall River, 02720
150	N-10-32	10,736	Masonic Temple	1922	Neo-Classical	James J. Karem & Michael Biszko 154 No. Main Street, Fall River, 02720















**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received 4/5/83  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 4 of 10

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Fall River Multiple Resource Area  
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

31. Coughlin School

*Substantive Review*

Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

32. Crescent Mill

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

33. Davol School

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

34. Davol, William C., Jr., House

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

35. Downtown Fall River Historic District

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

36. Durfee Mills

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

37. Earle, John M., House

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

38. Fall River Bleachery

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

39. First Baptist Church

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

40. Flint Mills

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

2/16/83 [Signature]

Attest

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Downtown Fall River Historic District (Fall River  
MRA)  
Bristol County  
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 115/83-15  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.7.84  
Date Due: 2/3/83 - 2/19/83  
Action:  ACCEPT 2/16/83  
 RETURN  
Entered in the National Register  REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
Discipline \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for:  technical corrections cited below  
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

## 8. Significance

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Area of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- \_\_\_\_\_ summary paragraph
- \_\_\_\_\_ completeness
- \_\_\_\_\_ clarity
- \_\_\_\_\_ applicable criteria
- \_\_\_\_\_ justification of areas checked
- \_\_\_\_\_ relating significance to the resource
- \_\_\_\_\_ context
- \_\_\_\_\_ relationship of integrity to significance
- \_\_\_\_\_ justification of exception
- \_\_\_\_\_ other

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

---

## 10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UMT References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

---

## 11. Form Prepared By

---

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_\_ national \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

---

## 13. Other

- \_\_\_\_\_ Maps
- \_\_\_\_\_ Photographs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



UNION SAVINGS BANK

Union Savings

76°

UNION SAVINGS BANK

CITIZEN SAVINGS BANK

TO EAST 195

EAST 195

NO RIGHT TURN

7

NAME: South and North Main Street-streetscape

LOCATION: Downtown Fall River Historic District  
Fall River, <sup>MA</sup> Mass.

PHOTO CREDIT: Vivienne Lasky (1982)

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Fall River Office of Historic  
Preservation  
One Government Center  
Fall River, Mass. 02722  
(VLNR-3-4)

IDENTIFICATION: Downtown Fall River Historic District  
View of South and North Main Streets  
looking north.

photo 1 of 1



J.A.L.  
31-37 Franklin St.  
Comm II #1

Fall River, Mass  
MRA  
Downtown Dist.



Buffington Bldg  
10-18 Purchase  
Comm II # 4

Fall River, Mass.  
MRA

Downtown Dist.

R. A. WILCOX CO.



26

R. A. Wilcox  
22 Bedford St.  
Comm. I #5

Fall River, Mass.  
MRA  
Downtown Dist.



Fall River Peoples Co-op Bank  
26-30 Bedford  
Comm. I - # 6

Fall River, Mass.  
MRA  
Downtown Dist.



FIRST FEDERAL  
BUILDING

FIRST FEDERAL

FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS

FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS

J. AMY

First Federal Bldg.  
1 No. Main  
Comm. I - # 11

Fall River, Mass.  
MRA  
Downtown Dist.



FIRST FEDERAL  
BUILDING

MAXWELL'S

DIGITAL PRESS

FIRST FEDERAL



Burke Bldg.  
7-17 No. Main  
Comm. I - #12

Fall River, Mass.  
MRA  
Downtown Dist.



FALL RIVER TRUST CO.

28

Fall River Trust Co.  
25-35 No Main  
Comm. I - #13

Fall River, Mass.  
MRA  
Downtown Dist.



1910

WALK  
UP

WALK UP  
TO  
SECOND FLOOR

21 NORTH BROAD ST.

Globe Bldg.  
39-45 No. Main  
Comm. I - #14

Fall River, Mass.  
MRA  
Downtown Dist.



44-46 No Main  
Comm. I # 15

Fall River, Mass.  
MRA  
Downtown Dist.



Bank of  
New England

BANK OF NEW ENGLAND

BANK OF NEW ENGLAND

Fall River National Bank  
49-59 No Main  
Comm. I - # 17

Fall River, Mass.  
MRA  
Downtown Dist.



FALL RIVER FIVE CENTS SAVINGS BANK

Fall River 5¢ Savings  
79 No. Main  
Comm. I - #18

Fall River, Mass.  
MRA  
Downtown Dist.



85 NORTH MAIN ST.

85-95 No Main  
Comm. I - # 19

Fall River, Mass.  
MRA  
Downtown Dist.



MAIN DRUG

GALE'S RESTAURANT

FLOODES VARIETY

JIM WALLIS

75 NORTH

Mt. Hope Block  
91-105 No. Main  
Comm. I - #20

Fall River, Mass.  
MRA  
Downtown Dist.



Fall River Savings Bank  
141 No. Main  
Comm. I - #21

Fall River, Mass.  
MRA  
Downtown Dist.



Surfee Trust Bldg.  
80-84 No. Main  
Comm. I - # 22

Fall River, Mass.  
MRA  
Downtown Dist.



ENTRANCE ONLY  
PULLMAN PROPERTY CARDS  
WILL BE ACCEPTED

→

Masonic Temple  
150 No Main  
Comm. I - # ~~30~~ 23

Fall River, Mass.  
MRA  
Downtown Dist.

**feitelberg insurance**  
fall river travel

Make it in  
Massachusetts

Feitelburg Insurance  
152-158 No. Main  
Comm. I - #24

Fall River, Mass.  
MRA  
Downtown Dist.



Community Devel. Center  
162-164 No. Main  
Comm. I - # 25

Fall River, Mass.  
MRA  
Downtown Dist.



Fall River Gas Co.  
155 No. Main  
Comm. I - #26

Fall River, Mass.  
NKA  
Downtown Dist.



INST. 2 - 10A

FALL RIVER PUBLIC LIBRARY

94 NO. MAIN

Fall River, Mass  
MRA  
Dartmouth Dist.



FALL RIVER FIVE CENTS SAVINGS BANK

THE BIG  
5c  
FALL RIVER  
FIVE CENTS  
SAVINGS BANK

OLD RED BANK

Fall River MRA, MA

PFNR-1-17

Downtown Fall River  
Historic District

Streetscape

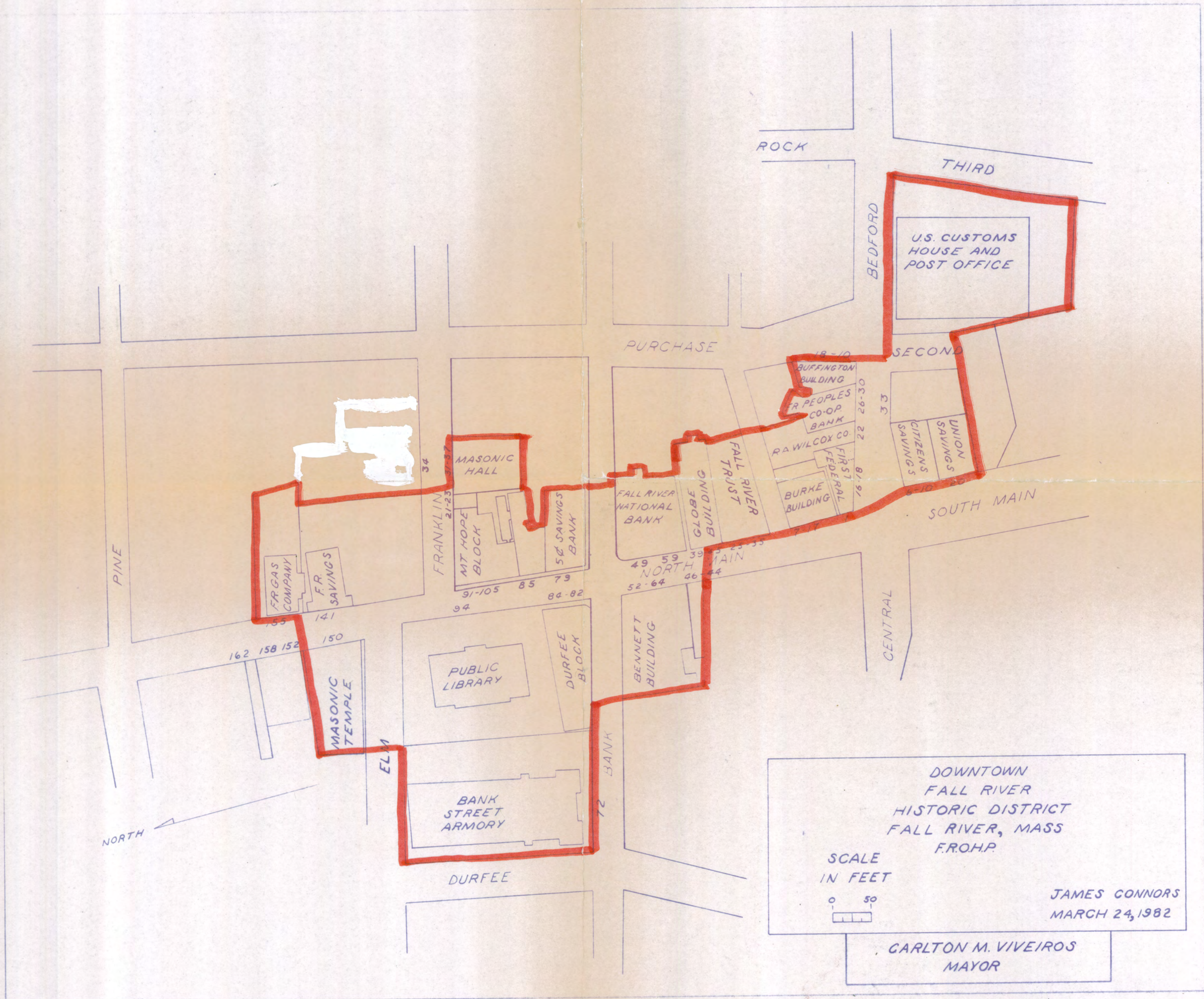


INST. 1 - 37A

BANK ST. ARMORY (FRONT)  
72 BANK ST.

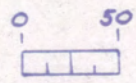
Fall River, Mass.  
MRA

Downtown Dist.



DOWNTOWN  
 FALL RIVER  
 HISTORIC DISTRICT  
 FALL RIVER, MASS  
 F.R.O.H.P.

SCALE  
 IN FEET



JAMES CONNORS  
 MARCH 24, 1982

CARLTON M. VIVEIROS  
 MAYOR

(No Non-contributing Structures)

Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000279

*Object  
Downtown Dist.*

Union Savings Bank  
20 South Main Street  
Fall River, MASS 02721

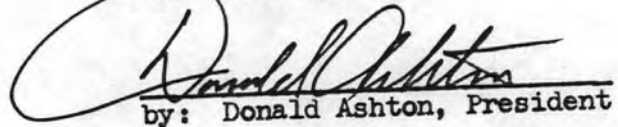
Chairman  
State Review Board  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Office of the Secretary of State  
294 Washington Street  
Boston, Mass. 02108

RE: 20 South Main Street, Fall River, Mass.,  
nomination to National Register

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Board of Investment of the Union Savings Bank, owner of the building numbered 20 South Main Street, Fall River, Massachusetts, has voted unanimously to object to the nomination of the building at the said location to the National Register of Historic places. No person or corporation other than the Union Savings Bank has any interest in said property.

Union Savings Bank

  
by: Donald Ashton, President

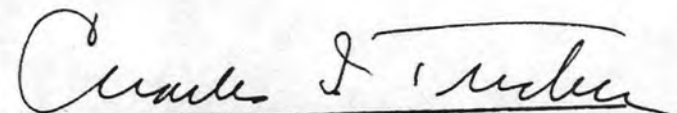
September 2, 1982

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BRISTOL, SS.

Fall River

Then personally appeared before me the above-named Donald Ashton, President of the Union Savings Bank and made oath that the statement above set forth is true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

  
Charles I. Tucker, Notary Public

My commission expires: 5/19/83



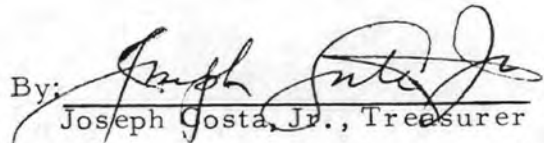
Object  
Downtown Dist.

OBJECTION TO LISTING IN NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

The Fall River Peoples Co-operative Bank, a Massachusetts banking corporation, with principal place of business at 30 Bedford Street, Fall River, Massachusetts, being the sole owner of the premises located at 26 & 30 Bedford Street, Fall River, Massachusetts, which parcels are otherwise designated as lots numbered 29, 31, 40, 41 and 111 on plan N-7 of the Assessors of the City of Fall River, in accordance with the rights given to it by the National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980 and Federal regulations 36 CFR Part 60, does hereby object to the listing of any and all of the aforesaid parcels of real estate in the National Registry of Historic Places.

In witness whereof, The Fall River Peoples Co-operative Bank has caused these presents to be executed in its name and behalf by Joseph Costa, Jr., its Treasurer thereunto duly authorized, on this eighth day of October, 1982.

The Fall River Peoples  
Co-operative Bank

By:   
Joseph Costa, Jr., Treasurer


COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Bristol, ss.

Fall River

October 8, 1982

Then personally appeared the above named Joseph Costa, Jr., Treasurer as aforesaid, and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be the free act and deed of The Fall River Peoples Co-operative Bank, before me,

  
Marie D. Thompson, Notary Public  
My commission expires May 6, 1983

*Object  
Downtown Dist.*

OBJECTION TO LISTING IN NATIONAL REGISTER  
OF HISTORIC PLACES

The First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Massachusetts a Federal association with principal place of business at One North Main Street, Fall River, Massachusetts, being the sole owner of the premises designated as One North Main Street and 16 - 18 Bedford Street, Fall River, Massachusetts, in a notice to property owners dated August 26, 1982, in accordance with the rights given to it by the National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980 and Federal regulations 36 CFR Part 60, does hereby object to the listing of any and all of the aforesaid parcels of real estate in the National Registry of Historic Places.

In witness whereof, First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Massachusetts has caused these presents to be executed in its name and behalf by Robert F. Stoico, its President thereunto duly authorized, on this eighth day of October 1982.

First Federal Savings And Loan  
Association Of Massachusetts

By: *Robert F. Stoico*  
Robert F. Stoico, President

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BRISTOL, ss.

FALL RIVER

OCTOBER 8, 1982

Then personally appeared the above named Robert F. Stoico, President as aforesaid, and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be the free act and deed of First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Massachusetts, before me.

*John G. Winters*  
John G. Winters, NOTARY PUBLIC  
My commission expires July 8, 1988

Object  
Downtown Dist.

Objection to Listing in National Register.  
of Historic Places

The Fall River Five Cents Savings Bank, a Massachusetts banking corporation, with a principal place of business at 79 North Main Street, Fall River, Massachusetts, being the sole owner of the premises at 79 North Main Street in a notice to property owners dated August 26, 1982, in accordance with the rights given to it by the National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980 and Federal Regulations enacted pursuant thereto, does hereby object to the listing of any and all of the aforesaid premises in the National Registry of Historic Places.

In witness whereof, the Fall River Five Cents Savings Bank has caused these presents to be executed in its name and behalf by Donald A. Bogle, its President, thereunto duly authorized, on this twelfth day of October, 1982.

FALL RIVER FIVE CENTS SAVINGS BANK

By: Donald A. Bogle  
Donald A. Bogle, President

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BRISTOL, SS.

October 12, 1982

Then personally appeared the above named Donald A. Bogle, President as aforesaid, and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be the free act and deed of the Fall River Five Cents Savings Bank, before me,

Peter C. Bogle  
Peter C. Bogle - Notary Public

My commission expires: September 7, 1984

Object  
Downtown Dist.



Double J Realty Corp.  
7 North Main Street  
Fall River, Massachusetts 02720  
(617) 678-1557 or (617) 674-2323

James E. Harrington, Pres.  
John T. Scanlon, Vice-Pres.

October 12, 1982

Double J Realty Corporation owners of the property at 7-17 North Main Street, Fall River, Massachusetts, sole owners of said property hereby object to the creation of a historic district and the inclusion of its property in such district and listed in the National Registry of Historic places.

DOUBLE J REALTY CORPORATION

James E. Harrington  
James E. Harrington, President

John T. Scanlon  
John T. Scanlon, Vice Pres., Treasurer

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Fall River

Personally appeared before me - James E. Harrington, President, of aforesaid, and John T. Scanlon, Treasurer and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be the free act and deed of DOUBLE J REALTY CORPORATION.

John J. Harrington  
JOHN J. HARRINGTON  
NOTARY PUBLIC

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES SEPT. 30, 1988

My Commission expires: Sept. 30, 1988

HENRY J. FEITELBERG  
676 MADISON STREET  
FALL RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS 02720

*Object  
Downtown Dist.*

RECEIVED

MASSACHUSETTS  
te

October 12, 1982 OCT 18 1982

MASS. HIST. COMM.

PH CONNOLLY  
e

Patricia L. Weslowski  
Executive Director  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
294 Washington Street  
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Ms. Weslowski:

RE: Objection to Listing  
of HORTON BUILDING  
152 - 158 No. Main St.  
Fall River, MA 02722  
Owned by Henry J. and  
Ann B. Feitelberg

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it  
nominations.

We, as owners, wish to object to the nomination of our  
property to the National Register as we have no present  
plans or desire to change the building's appearance in  
any way.

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object  
ter.

Respectfully,

*Henry J. Feitelberg*  
Henry J. Feitelberg

ination.  
: Mr.  
ice,

*Ann B. Feitelberg*  
Ann B. Feitelberg

on,  
s

Subscribed to and sworn before me this 12th day of  
October, 1982.

*Joseph A. Marshall*  
Joseph A. Marshall, Notary  
*my Commission expires 1-22-88*



**MASSACHUSETTS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
Office of the Secretary of State**

294 Washington Street  
Boston, Massachusetts  
02108  
617-727-8470

**MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY**  
Secretary of State

NOV 8 1982

October 29, 1982

Barry Hodge, Division Attorney  
108 Frederick Street  
McAlister Plaza  
P.O. Box 2148  
Greenville, S.C. 29602

RE: Davis Mills Buildings #1, 2, 3  
Arkwright Building #1

Dear Mr. Hodge:

The above referenced property was considered for listing in the National Register of Historic Places by the Massachusetts State Review Board on October 13, 1982. After much deliberation over the significance of the building and your objection to its listing, the Board voted that it appeared to meet the criteria for evaluation of National Register nominations.

The State Historic Preservation Officer will forward this nomination to the Keeper of the National Register within the next few weeks for a final decision on eligibility. Your notarized objection will be forwarded along with the nomination. Because a majority of owners did not object to listing, the Keeper may list the complex in the National Register.

Your objection will be forwarded to the Keeper along with the nomination. If you wish, you may submit another letter directly to the Keeper: Mr. Jerry Rogers, Keeper of the National Register, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

We sincerely hope that you will consider withdrawing your objection, since your property represents an important aspect of Fall River's history.

Sincerely,

Candace Jenkins  
Registration Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

CJ/sac

cc: Bill Hargraves, Fall River Office of Historic Preservation

DELORIS

UNITED  
MERCHANTS

LEWISTON STREET • FALL RIVER, MASS. 02722

November 23, 1982

Mr. Jerry Rogers  
Keeper of the National Register  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C.

Re: Davis Mills Building #2  
Quequechan Street, Fall River, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Rogers:

It is my understanding that the Massachusetts Historical Commission will, within the next few weeks, forward to your office a nomination of the captioned property for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, and will include with such nomination a copy of a notarized statement from me objecting, on behalf of United Merchants and Manufacturers, Inc., to such listing.

As is evident from the enclosed copy of a letter of today's date to the Massachusetts Historical Commission, there has been some confusion over identification of various mill properties located in the City of Fall River. At the present time, the only structure owned by United Merchants and Manufacturers, Inc. and located in the City of Fall River with respect to which we have received notification of proposed listing from the Commission is Davis Mills Building #2.

My understanding of the procedures of the Massachusetts Historical Commission, based on a conversation with one of its staff members, is that the Commission has viewed the question of the proposed listing of Davis Mills Building #2 within the context of a geographical area the boundaries

UNITED MERCHANTS AND MANUFACTURERS, INC.

Mr. Jerry Rogers

- 2 -

November 23, 1982

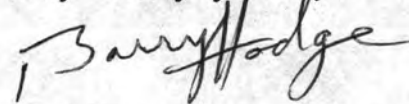
of which have been set in somewhat arbitrary fashion. I understand, further, that the Commission has not received objections to National Register Listing from a majority of the owners of the discrete parcels of real estate located within this geographical area. The Commission has informed me, in consequence, of its intention to forward a nomination of Davis #2 to your office.

I am aware that 36CFR 60.2 (c) expressly disclaims any intent to restrain private property interests. However, constraints on the local level exist, and additional restrictions stemming from both State and local regulatory action may develop, with respect to structures classified as "Historic".

Please regard this letter as a further request that the Davis Mills Building #2 property owned by United Merchants and Manufacturers, Inc., and located on Quequechan Street, Fall River, Massachusetts be excluded from the National Register of Historic Places.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,



Barry Hodge  
Assistant General Counsel

BH:jfd

Encl.

cc: Mr. S. Greenwald  
Herbert J. Tamres, Esq.

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DEC 1 1982

DATE REC'D \_\_\_\_\_

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED) \_\_\_\_\_

INFORMATIVE MATERIAL SENT \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED) \_\_\_\_\_

DATE ACTION TAKEN \_\_\_\_\_

INITIALS \_\_\_\_\_

# UNITED MERCHANTS

LEWISTON STREET • FALL RIVER, MASS. 02722

November 23, 1982

Ms. Candace Jenkins  
Registration Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
294 Washington Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Dear Ms. Jenkins:

Thank you for your letter of October 29, 1982 on the subject of Davis Mills Buildings #1, #2, #3, and Arkwright Building #1.

Based on a conversation with Ms. Fitch of your office, it would appear that the nomenclature used by the Massachusetts Historical Commission in identifying the above listed structures differs from that used by United Merchants and Manufacturers, Inc. For the record, we seem to agree on the identities of Davis Mills Buildings #1 and #2. The structure located on Quequechan Street and identified by the Commission as Arkwright Building #1 is known to the corporation as Davis Mills Building #3. The properties located on Lewiston Street in Fall River, and known to the Commission as the Chace Mills, are identified for corporate purposes as Arkwright structures.

The Notices from your office dated August 26, 1982 which were provided to the corporation identified Davis Mills Building #1 and #2, and Arkwright #1, as being under consideration for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. It would appear, based on the discussion set forth above, that these Notices referred to the three (3) structures located on Quequechan Street. United Merchants and Manufacturers, Inc. is the sole owner of

UNITED MERCHANTS AND MANUFACTURERS, INC.

Ms. Candace Jenkins

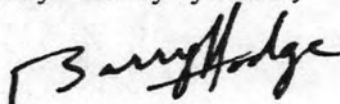
- 2 -

November 23, 1982

record of Davis Mills Building #2. Roma Chemical, Inc. is the owner of record of Davis Mills Building #1. In August of 1982, Arkwright #1 (Davis #3) was sold by United Merchants to the Quaker Fabric Corporation, 941 Grinnell Street, Fall River, Massachusetts 02722.

As set forth in my notarized statement of October 5, 1982, United Merchants and Manufacturers, Inc. objects to the listing of Davis Mills Building #2 in the National Register of Historic Places.

Very truly yours,



Barry Hodge  
Assistant General Counsel

BH:jfd

cc: Mr. S. Greenwald  
Herbert J. Tamres, Esq.

THE  
*Citizens*



SAVINGS BANK/ Fall River, Mass.

November 23, 1982

Mr. Jerry Rogers, Keeper of the National Register  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C.

RE: OBJECTION TO LISTING IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER  
4 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
FALL RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS

Dear Mr. Rogers:

We have been informed by Candace Jenkins, Registration Director for the Massachusetts Historical Commission that the Massachusetts State Review Board is forwarding to your office the nomination of our building to the National Register. We have been further informed that your office will make the final decision on eligibility.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that we continue to be opposed to such a listing. We do not feel that our building, built in 1928, is either historically or architecturally distinguished, nor is it part of any readily identifiable classification or grouping of buildings. We feel that the strictures resulting from the listing would be an unwarranted intrusion into our freedom of action with respect to our building, and that the esthetics simply do not justify such action in our case.

We are in no way opposed to the goals or programs of the National Register or the preservation concept as a general matter, but we strongly feel that the program is inappropriate when applied to a building such as ours.

Your understanding and appreciation of our situation is sincerely requested.

Very truly yours,

Thomas A. Ryan  
President

TAR/pam



# FALL RIVER TRUST CO.

Main Office - 43 North Main Street, Fall River, Massachusetts 02722

December 6, 1982

Mr. Jerry Rogers, Keeper of the National Register  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C. 20000

Re: Objection to Listing of  
Fall River Trust Company Building  
43 North Main St.  
Fall River, Mass.

Dear Mr. Rogers:

On October 8, 1982, we objected to our building being listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and we sent a letter enclosing our notarized objection to this listing.

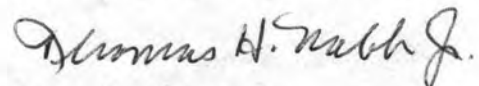
This letter was sent to Patricia L. Weslowski, Executive Director, State Historic Preservation Officer, Massachusetts Historical Commission, 294 Washington Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02108.

We received a letter dated October 29, 1982, informing us that our objection had not been recognized and the listing in National Register had been forwarded to you for nomination.

We again wish to object to the listing of our building in the National Register, and we are enclosing a copy of our original notarized objection and sincerely hope you will recognize our request.

Sincerely,

FALL RIVER TRUST COMPANY



Thomas H. Nabb, Jr.  
President

THN:ec  
Enc.

