

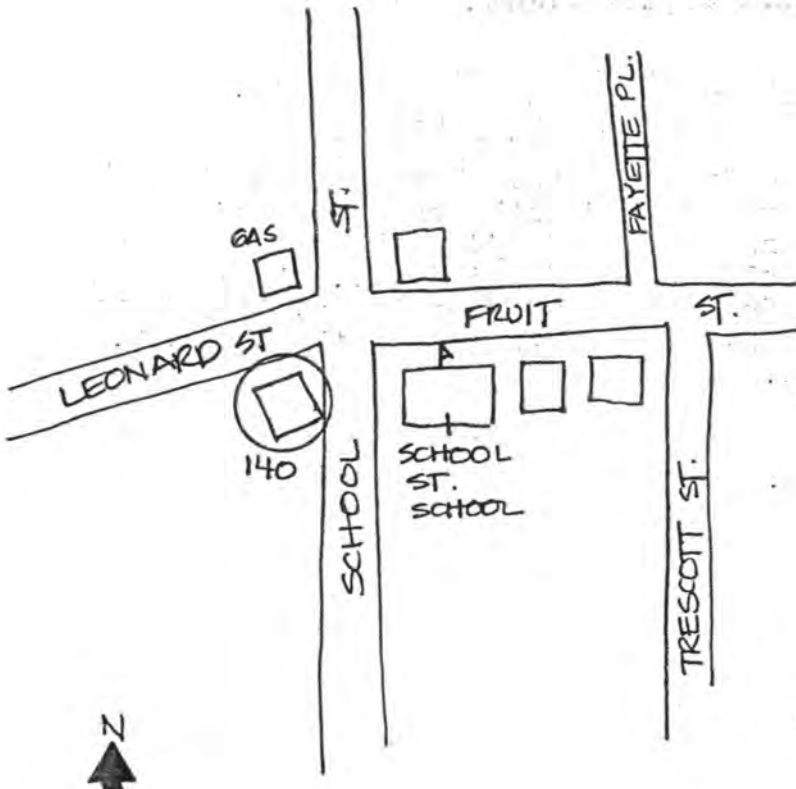
FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.	Form no.
	140

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")  
Staple to left side of form  
Photo number \_\_\_\_\_

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location  
in relation to nearest cross streets and  
other buildings. Indicate north.



1. Town Taunton ✓  
Address Corner Leonard and School Sts.  
Name Central Fire Station ✓  
Present use Fire Station  
Present owner City of Taunton

3. Description:  
Date 1869  
Source City Records  
Style Italianate  
Architect A. E. Swasey, Jr.  
Exterior wall fabric Common Bond Brick  
Outbuildings (describe) None  
Other features See attached

Altered No Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Moved No Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size: WARD-3, PLAN-16, BL OCK-28, LOT-7  
One acre or less x Over one acre \_\_\_\_\_  
Approximate frontage 45'  
Approximate distance of building from street  
0'

6. Recorded by T.W./C.C.  
Organization T.C.H.S.

Date 6/27/79  
UTM: 19/326450/4641010

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) City of Taunton  
 Original use Fire Station  
 Subsequent uses (if any) and dates N/A

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science/ invention	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Arts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/ humanitarian	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Community development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

The earliest extant fire station in the city, the Central Fire Station is perhaps also the most stylistically well-designed, exhibiting fully-developed Italianate details.

Designed by architect A.E. Swasey, Jr. and executed by builder Z. Sherman in 1869, it is in virtually unaltered condition, retaining even original engine doors.

Description: The brick, 2½-story firehouse displays a square plan and cross gable roof. Its main facade, facing Leonard St., is broken by four large engine bays, braced by granite posts and lintels, and inset with double frame doors. Both segmental and flat-topped window openings are trimmed with peaked, granite lintels and sills and incorporate 6/6 and 6/4 sash windows. The gable area houses paired elongated 4/4 windows. The roof, covered with slates, is introduced by a box cornice with modillions. A hose-drying tower, engaged into the structure at the rear, is topped by a wooden balustrade.

The Central Fire Station possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and association. It meets criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places as Taunton's permanent firehouse built to serve central Taunton during an initial wave of municipal advancement following the city's incorporation in 1864.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

City Records.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Taunton	Form No: 140
Property Name: Central Fire Station	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.  
Historical Significance (cont.)

Architecturally, it is distinguished for the high quality of its Italianate design which represents an early work by noted Boston Architect A.E. Swasey the firm of Hartwell and Swasey subsequently (1873) designed a number of fire stations for the City of Fall River (NR 1982).

*Boundaries conform to current lot lines.*

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received  
date entered MAY 21 1984

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 2 of 9

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Taunton Multiple Resource Area  
State Bristol County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

11. Bassett, C. J. H., House Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper Melores Byers 7/5/84  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

12. Beattie, W. C., House Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper Melores Byers 7/5/84  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

13. Brow's Tavern Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper Melores Byers 7/5/84  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

14. Brownell, Henry G., House Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper Melores Byers 7/5/84  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

15. Buildings at 80 and 88 W.  
Brittania St. Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper Melores Byers 7/5/84  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

16. Capron, George, House Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper Melores Byers 7/5/84  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

17. Central Fire Station Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper Melores Byers 7/5/84  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

18. Colby, Samuel, House Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper Melores Byers 7/5/84  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

19. Dean, Abiezar, House Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper Melores Byers 7/5/84  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

20. Dean-Barstow House Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper Melores Byers 7/5/84  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Central Fire Station (Taunton MRA)  
Bristol County  
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. MAY 21 1984

Fed. Reg. Date: 2.5.85

Date Due: 6/21/84 - 7/5/84

Action:  ACCEPT 7-5-84

RETURN

REJECT

Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Entered in the  
National Register

- 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

- excellent
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- ruins
- unexposed

Check one

- unaltered
- altered

Check one

- original site
- moved date \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

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**8. Significance**

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas 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

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_  
Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

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

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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**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 \_\_\_\_\_

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**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

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

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



#140

Central Fire Station

Taunton MRA, Ma

MAY 1980

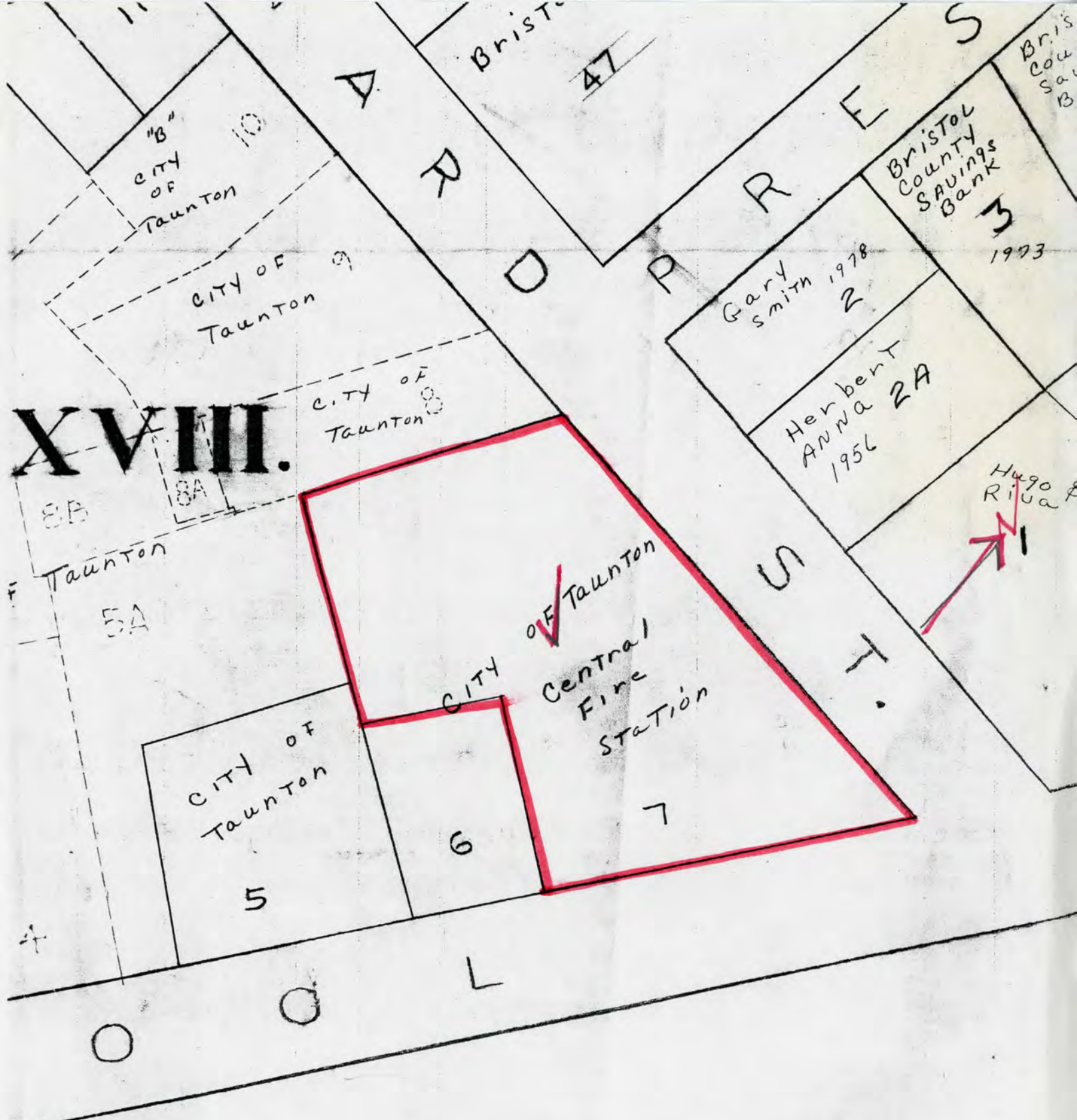


by Berkey

MAY 1980



by Berkey



TAUNTON MULTIPLE RESOURCE  
NOMINATION

FORM NO. 140

CENTRAL FIRE STATION

SCALE: 1" = 40'

MAP NO. WD 3, Pg. 16, Lot 7

ACREAGE *less than one*

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000297