971

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

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NATIONAL REGISTER

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Merrimack-Middle Streets Historic District (Boundary Increase)
other names/site number

2. Location

street & number Merrimack, Middle, Prescott, Central & Market Streets N/A not for publication
city, town Lowell N/A vicinity
state Massachusetts code 025 county Middlesex code 017 zip code 01853

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
[X] private	[ ] building(s)	11	2 buildings
[X] public-local	[X] district		sites
[ ] public-State	[ ] site		structures
[ ] public-Federal	[ ] structure		objects
	[ ] object	11	2 Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] nomination [ ] request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property [X] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet.

Valerie A Talmage — 5/23/88
Signature of certifying official — Date

Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission;
State or Federal agency and bureau State Historic Preservation Officer

In my opinion, the property [ ] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

[✓] entered in the National Register. [ ] See continuation sheet. — Beth L. Savage — 7-15-88
[ ] determined eligible for the National Register. [ ] See continuation sheet.
[ ] determined not eligible for the National Register.
[ ] removed from the National Register.
[ ] other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

6. Function or Use Merrimack-Middle Streets Historic District, (Boundary Increase), Lowell, MA

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Commerce	Commerce

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (enter categories from instructions)
Early Republic- Federal	foundation unknown
	walls brick, stone
Mid-19th C.- Greek Revival	
Late Victorian- Italianate	roof unknown
Late 19th & 20th C. Revivals- Colonial Revival	other
Late 19th & 20th C. American Movements- Commercial Style	
Modern Movement- Moderne	

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Merrimack-Middle Street Historic District (NR 1979) and its proposed extension area are the heart of Lowell's central business district. The east end of Merrimack Street, together with the adjacent sections of Middle, Central, and Prescott Streets, comprise the original district. The original district included fifty resources. The proposed district extension comprises thirteen buildings, including buildings on Market and Central Streets. Of these thirteen buildings, eleven are considered contributing, while two are noncontributing.

The character of the district and its extension is established by the mid- to late-19th-century brick commercial buildings that dominate it, but the area is enhanced by several stone, concrete, and lighter-toned brick buildings from the first quarter of the 20th century. The buildings range in date from 1833 to 1963; in style from Late Federal to formalist modern; in quality from outstanding to poor. In general, the district's most significant buildings were built in the 1870s and 1880s. A brief recapitulation of the most outstanding buildings within the already-listed district is below; following this is a more extensive discussion of buildings (underlined) within the proposed extension.

Merrimack Street projects a lively diversity in the appearance of its structures. Although most are four of five stories tall, there is one "skyscraper" office building near the east end, and cornice heights rise and fall independently along the street. Each building stands distinct from its neighbors, creating stylistic contrast rather than harmony, but repeated details like the curved corners of the Nesmith Block (75-83 Merrimack Street) and the Howe Building (11 East Merrimack Street) give a sense of cohesion to the street.

There are few disfiguring intrusions within the district: these include the Cherry and Webb store with its unscaled, blank metal-plated facade on the northwest corner of John Street; and the Executive Building (100 Merrimack Street), its facade articulated into vertical strips in contrasting tones of pink. On Middle Street, the vacant Moller's Store is an overscaled tan brick structure. On Central Street, poor rehabilitations have spoiled the

☒ See continuation sheet

appearances of four small buildings. The vista north toward the district, from a point just south of the V where Central and Prescott Streets diverge, is overwhelmed by the new Townhouse Apartments and the billboard-like sidewall of the modern Central Savings Bank.

The east end of Merrimack Street is visually anchored by the Fairburn Building (10-14 East Merrimack Street), and the Howe Building (11 East Merrimack Street). Next to these, the monumental Hildreth Building (35 Merrimack Street) is one of the district's outstanding structures. This five-story double block has some similarities to the Fairburn Building. It was designed by the Boston firm of Van Brunt and Howe, successors of the firm Ware and Van Brunt. The Wyman Exchange (60-70 Merrimack Street), at the southwest corner of Central Street, was built in 1878 to replace an 1831 structure on the same site. At 128 Merrimack Street, the Masonic Temple, built in 1871-1872 for Hocum Hosford, is another of the district's significant structures.

Middle Street, never as important to Lowell's commerce, has had fewer changes than busier Merrimack Street. Its appearance is more uniform than Merrimack Street's, as its brick buildings were almost all built during the 1880s, and several storefronts survive altered. A recent civic improvement project has relaid the Belgian block pavement appropriate to the street, and installed reproductions of Late Victorian street lamps. The key structure on Middle Street is the Central Firehouse, built in 1889 for Wamesit Steamer No. 3, to replace an earlier structure that had burned.

Prescott Street, connecting Central and Merrimack streets and running parallel to the Eastern Canal, is distinguished by three fine buildings: the neoclassical Old Lowell National Bank Building (88 Prescott Street); the long, 4-story High Victorian Italianate Southwick Block (66-82 Prescott Street), built ca. 1879-1880; and the smaller Claflin Block adjacent to the north (58 Prescott Street), another example of the same High Victorian Italianate Commercial style.

North along Central Street is one of the significant vistas into the Merrimack Street district. This portion of Central is less distinguished for its buildings, than as a fine frame for a view of the west end of the Hildreth Building, and the Union Savings Bank. On the right is the five-story side of the 1906 Chalifoux Building, while on the left the rich Venetian Gothic wall of the Wyman Exchange enhances the northward view.

continued

Within the proposed extension area, the west side of Central Street at the south end of the district possesses two noteworthy buildings. The Federal/Greek Revival Mansur Building (101 Central Street; Map #11) is a 2 1/2-story brick structure with finely dressed granite sills and lintels, and three pedimented dormers at the facade. Constructed ca. 1836, it is typical of Lowell's brick commercial buildings of the 1820s-1840s, and is one of few survivors from that period. The adjacent New Mansur building or Enterprise Building (91 Central Street; Map #10) was built ca. 1885, on the site of the northern portion of the old Mansur Building at the corner of Central and Market Streets, and is typical of late Victorian commercial buildings found throughout the district. The two street elevations are constructed of pressed red brick trimmed with rock-faced sandstone and corbelled brickwork; brick relieving arches exist at alternate bays, rising from sandstone-trimmed brick piers delineating each bay.

Market Street, like Merrimack Street, is predominantly lined with four- and five-story buildings of the last quarter of the 19th century, while containing additional variety in several notable early 20th-century structures. The south side of Market Street is vacant leading to the canal, with the exception of the Old Market House (40 Market Street; Map #8)) and Waverly House (20 Market Street, ca. 1849; Map #9). Built in 1837, the former is a massive Greek Revival-style structure, built of brick with granite trim. Thirteen bays long and 3 1/2-stories in height, the structure has brick detailing including a heavy entablature, corner pilasters, and enclosed pediments in the gable ends. The latter structure is somewhat more altered, a two-story brick former hotel that retains its hammered granite sills and lintels.

The north side of Market Street contains several noteworthy buildings. Typical of the four-story brick commercial buildings of the late 19th century contained within the district are the Jonathan Tyler Building (43 Market Street, ca. 1880-1890; Map #2) and the C. B. Coburn Building (61-63 Market Street, ca. 1877-1878/ca. 1874-1875; Map B). The Italianate Tyler Building features a cast iron storefront, projecting window caps, and metal-bracketed cornice, while the Coburn Building (two buildings) features cast iron storefronts, corbelled brick cornices below metal cornices, granite sills and lintels (west), and panelled brickwork (east). Several notable early 20th-century commercial structures are contained within the district as well. A testament to the continued commercial growth in the 20th century, the Donovan Harness and Auto Supply Company (105 Market Street, ca. 1910; Map #7), is a two-story brick building trimmed with rough-faced granite sills and crowned by a corbelled brick parapet. The H. H. Wilder Building (29 Market Street, ca. 1880-1890; Map #1) is a substantial four-story, red brick Colonial

continued

Revival-style building (ca. 1920s facade) whose limestone trimmings include a rusticated first story, blind arches above the central second-story windows, splayed lintels with keystones, and a boxed cornice with modillions. One of the most substantial buildings within the district is the Art Moderne Father John's Medicine building (73-91 Market Street; Map #5). The five-story structure comprises three earlier buildings, which date from 1860-1890, behind the dark brown brick facade. The facade is ten bays wide, possessing cast stone and white terra cotta trimmings including sills, keystones, and beltcourses, and has a stepped parapet.

Two noncontributing buildings exist within the proposed extension area: the nine-story Com Fed Building (15 Market Street-ca. 1975) and the two-story C.G. Coburn Building (51 Market Street-ca. 1888-1890, altered ca. 1960).

Archaeological Description

One prehistoric site is recorded as abutting or slightly extending onto district property along its eastern boundary. The site is reportedly the largest village of the Wamesit Indians, said to have been at the confluence of the Merrimack and Concord Rivers. Little, if any, physical evidence exists to verify the location or presence of this site. No evidence of it has ever been recorded from the district area. Four additional prehistoric sites have also been recorded in the general area (within one mile), indicating the potential for native sites in this area as high. In general, however, the potential for significance archaeological remains, either prehistoric or historic, seems low as a result of extensive industrial and commercial development in the area, the early date of that development, and the fact that all commercial structures in the district extension have substantial foundations that would have destroyed earlier historic and/or prehistoric remains.

8. Statement of Significance Merrimak-Middle Streets Historic District, (Boundary Increase), Lowell, MA

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:
☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
Architecture
Commerce

Period of Significance
ca. 1836–1910

Significant Dates

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Merrimack-Middle Street Historic District and its proposed extension possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship, as well as significant associations with the development of Lowell in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Tracing its origins to the 1820s when Francis Cabot Lowell founded the first cotton mill along the Merrimack River, Lowell became America's first great industrial city. Merrimack Street developed as the city's primary commercial thoroughfare, with the adjacent streets, particularly Middle, Market, and Central, prospering as secondary commercial streets. The District and its proposed extension of thirteen buildings comprise an important group of 19th- and early-20th-century commercial buildings, which include examples of various styles including Greek Revival, Italianate, Second Empire, Romanesque Revival, early Twentieth Century Commercial, and Art Moderne. The Merrimack-Middle Street Historic District (Boundary Increase) is of local significance and meets Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

At the beginning of the 19th century, East Chelmsford (now Lowell) was merely a cluster of farms with a tavern on the highway between New Hampshire and Vermont. A path, approximately following the line of today's Merrimack Street, divided the mowing and tillage fields of Fletcher's Farm, on the north side, from the orchards and fields of Tyler's Farm to the south.

Between 1820 and 1850, however, the former hamlet grew into one of America's most important cities, and it became a significant focus of international attention for economic, social, and industrial reasons. From a population just over 200 persons in 1820, Lowell's population increased to 33,000 in three decades. During that time, New England's agrarian economy became one of manufacturing, and no industry was more important to that shift than cotton textile manufacturing. The Lowell system was predicated on a network of

☒ See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References Merrimack-Middle Streets Historic District, (Boundary Increase), Lowell, MA

Coburn, F.W., History of Lowell & Its People, (New York:1920).
Courier-Citizen Co., Illustrated History of Lowell & Vicinity, (Lowell:1897).
Hill, F.P., Lowell Illustrated, (Lowell:1884).
Hill, F.P., Lowell Book, (Boston:1889).
Lowell City Directories.
Report of the Lowell Historic Canal District Commission, (U.S.G.P.O.:1977).

☐ See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☒ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested HPCA #s 10283MA; 10207MA; and 1081MA
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository: Massachusetts Historical Commission

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 2.9 acres (boundary increase)

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A			
B			
C			
D			

☒ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

☒ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

☒ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director/MHC with Christine Scott Beard, Preservation Consultant
organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date November 1987
street & number 80 Boylston Street telephone (617)727-8470
city or town Boston state Massachusetts zip code 02116

canals that distributed the water power from the Merrimack River to complexes of four- and five-story brick mills. Lowell was a planned community, and in the ground plan the canals were laid first, with streets, buildings, and parks planned around the canals.

The rise of steam power in the textile industry after 1850 had a tremendous impact on Lowell. With its great system of canals, Lowell had led the field in the exploitation of its water power; to utilize steam,, however, the factories had to import large quantities of fuel, and get them into the mills at a low cost. Other textile cities, notably Fall River and New Bedford, were better located to utilize steam, although they did so gradually, allowing Lowell to maintain a key position throughout the 19th century and into the early 20th century.

Development in the Merrimack Street area began in the mid-19th century in the wake of the city's industrial activity, and by 1876, Merrimack Street was completely developed, with mill-related buildings running through from Bridge and Prescott Streets eastward to the canal. Most of the buildings within the District and its extension area were constructed in the subsequent, less expansive period of Lowell's history. The suspension of manufacturers during the Civil War sent the "mill girls" from Lowell back to their homes; post-war resumption of industry was staffed by increasing numbers of immigrants for whom the semi-utopian Lowell arrangements previously provided to workers by the manufacturers were unnecessary. The boardinghouses were sold out of corporation management, and with less company intervention in daily life, Lowell became less distinct from other cities. It is believed that the increased family-oriented population created a strong demand for the type of downtown business district found in other cities, with merchandise displayed in store windows, restaurants and cafeterias, law offices, banks, and other urban services. These demands were met by the numerous commercial buildings constructed within both the district and its proposed extension area. As the result of Lowell's great prosperity as an industrial town, its commercial center thrived. The Merrimack-Middle Street area was densely built up with substantial commercial buildings, beginning in the 19th century and continuing into the 20th century until post World War I inflation dramatically slowed development.

The architectural significance of the Merrimack-Middle Street Historic District and its proposed extension is derived from the rich grouping of commercial buildings dating from the 19th and early 20th centuries that have remained substantially intact with few major intrusions.

continued

Within the proposed extension area, Market Street derives its architectural significance from the stylistically varied commercial buildings of the 19th and early 20th centuries. One of the earliest building in the extension is the Old Market House (40 Market Street), constructed in 1837. It was financed jointly by Middlesex County and the city of Lowell, and included stalls on the lower levels for use by tradesmen and merchants, as well as space for the courts and police on the upper levels. The Waverly House (20 Market Street, ca. 1849) survives as a remnant of Lowell's first period of commercial development. The building, which retains some Greek Revival-style features, was used as a hotel nearly continuously from its construction until 1919. Several modest four-story brick commercial buildings exist on Market Street having typical features of the Italianate (Jonathan Tyler Building, 43 Market Street) and late 19th-century vernacular commercial styles (C. B. Coburn Building, 61 Market Street), such as molded window caps, bracketed or corbelled cornices, segmental-arched openings, and cast iron storefronts.

Early 20th-century variations are represented by the two-story Independent Beef and Provision Co. Building (95-103 Market Street, ca. 1907) with its terracotta tiles and granite trimmings, and by the adjacent Donovan Harness and Auto Supply Company Building (105 Market Street), featuring rock-faced granite sills and a relieving arch of contrasting brick accentuating the central two bays.

Also represented on Market Street are the Colonial Revival style in the H.H. Wilder Building (29 Market Street, ca. 1880-1890, altered ca. 1920s), a visually prominent structure adjacent to a vacant corner lot, handsomely trimmed with rusticated limestone, and the Art Moderne style in Father John's Medicine Building (73-91 Market Street, facade ca. 1920). The Carleton and Hovey Company manufactured Father John's patent medicine, named for its inventor, Father John O'Brien, pastor of Lowell's St. Patrick's Church and one of the founders of St. John's Hospital. The medicine, sold by Carleton and Hovey from about 1855 on, was very popular in Lowell, where patent medicine production was a major Lowell business in the second half of the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Central Street possesses one of Lowell's few surviving commercial buildings of the 1820s and 1830s in the Mansur Building (101 Central Street). Its twin, parapet-linked chimneys and "rolled" cornice treatment along the raking eaves are characteristic of Federal/Greek Revival buildings in Lowell. The building was erected ca. 1836 by Aaron Mansur of Tewksbury, and soon contained a dry

continued

goods store, boot and shoe store, and lawyer's office. The Mansur family's association with this block continued intermittently through the late 19th century, when the northern section of the Mansur Building was demolished for the construction of the New Mansur Building or Enterprise Building (91 Central Street, ca. 1885). This building, prominently sited on a corner lot, is representative of Lowell's late Victorian commercial architecture, and contrasted with the adjacent old Mansur Building, illustrates the changes in scale and design over half a century. The New Mansur Building was first occupied by the Yorick Club, a young men's organization, and various commercial ventures; in 1917, Dickerman and McQuade's men's outfitters moved into the building, beginning the McQuade's association with the building which continued through 1984.

The Merrimack Street area is still the active important central business district it has always been. Historic buildings are occupied by imaginative merchants, and there are signs within the district of a real committment to improve ambience and appearance. Middle Street has appropriate paving and lighting, and a restaurant in the Institute building is carefully inserted to enhance the street.

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the southwestern corner of the district, the boundary runs northerly along the west lot line of #30, A, and #10 to the northwest corner of #10. It then turns easterly along the south side of Merrimack Street to the northeast corner of #15. It then turns north across Merrimack Street and along the west side lot line of #1, east along the rear lot lines of #1 and #2, and northeasterly along the west side lot line of #3 to Lee Street.

It continues southeasterly along the south side of Lee Street to the east side of John Street. The boundary then turns northeasterly along the east side of John Street to the south side of Paige Street and continues along said side to the east side of Bridge Street. It then turns northeast, then southeast around #46 to the west side of Canal Street. It continues southwesterly along the rear lot lines of #25, #50, #43, #44, and #45, then turns northwesterly along the south lot line of #45 to the intersection of Prescott and Central Streets. It then turns westerly across Central Street to the intersection of Central and Market Street, then turns southerly along the front lot lines of #91 and #101 Central Street. The boundary then runs west, and then north along the side and rear lot lines of #101 Central Street. It then turns west, south, and west around the rear of #91 Central Street, then turns south and west around #20 Market Street. At the southwest corner of #40 Market Street the boundary turns north and continues along the west lot line of #40 Market to the west side of Market Street. The boundary continues westerly along the south lot lines of #73, #79, #95, and #105 Market Street to the intersection of Market and Palmer Streets, then turns northerly along the side lot line of #105 Market Street. It then turns westerly across Palmer Street and along the rear lot lines of #32, #31, #30 to the point of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The Lowell Merrimack-Middle Street Historic District (Boundary Increase) is bounded on the west by the City Hall Historic District (NR 1975), and is partially bounded on the north, east, and south by the Locks and Canals Historic District (NR 1976, NHL 1977). The City Hall District is composed chiefly of civic and other public buildings, while the Locks and Canals District is made up of properties once owned by the Proprietors of the Locks and related structures of the Twelve Corporations. The Merrimack-Middle Street District of a different character, being made up of commercial structures.

continued

The earliest structures were constructed by the first merchants and professionals who had come to serve the new industrial community. Although the area was planned by and originally owned by the Proprietors of the Locks and Canals, the development was independent of the Corporations and controlled simply through deed restrictions which specified appropriate materials and provided for common passageways such as City Avenue and City Hall Avenue. Later structures represent the growing independence and diversification of the business community.

The proposed enlargement of the existing boundary of the Merrimack-Middle Street Historic District will include all buildings on the north side of Market Street between Central and Palmer Streets; these are commercial buildings dating from the 19th and early 20th centuries, and are largely unaltered. The north side of Market Street west of Palmer Street includes considerably more intrusions and alterations, making it inappropriate for inclusion within the district. The south side of Market Street between Central and Palmer Streets contains only two buildings--#20 Market Street, (ca. 1849), and #40 Market Street (ca. 1837); the proposed boundary revision includes both properties; together, the two are in keeping with the mid- to late-19th century brick commercial character of the existing district.

The two buildings proposed for inclusion along the west side of Central Street (#91 and #101) are largely unaltered 19th-century brick commercial buildings (ca. 1885 and ca. 1836); buildings south of the proposed boundary at #101 Central Street, which date from the 20th century, have been more significantly altered than those within the district.

The proposed extension to the Merrimack-Middle Street Historic District contains eleven contributing buildings that possess commercial character, scale, materials, range of styles, and uses similar to those within the existing District. The extension includes two noncontributing buildings: 51 Market Street and 15 Market Street. The former has been substantially altered while the latter is a ca. 1975 office building.

Quad- Lowell
Scale- 1:25000

UTM References-

Point	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	19	310700	4723740
B	19	310700	4723620
C	19	310620	4723620
D	19	310480	4723700
E	19	310490	4723750

MERRIMACK-MIDDLE STREETS HISTORIC DISTRICT EXTENSION
Lowell, Massachusetts
DISTRICT DATA SHEET

MAP#	HISTORIC NAME	STREET ADDRESS	DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	STYLE	STATUS/RESOURCE
A	ComFed Building	15 Market Street	ca. 1975		NC/B
1	H.H. Wilder & Co.	29 Market Street	ca. 1800/ca.1920	Colonial Revival	C/B
2	Jonathan Tyler Bldg.	43 Market Street	ca. 1890-1900	Italianate	C/B
B	C.B. Coburn Building	51 Market Street	ca. 1880-1890; altered ca. 1960	Altered	NC/B
3	Birke's Dept. Store	61-63 Market Street	ca. 1875	Italianate	C/B
4	Birke's Dept. Store	67 Market Street	ca. 1875	Italianate	C/B
5	Father John's Medicine	73-91 Market Street	ca. 1875/ca. 1920	Art Moderne	C/B
6	Independent Beef and Provisions Company	95 Market Street	ca. 1907	Early 20th c. Commercial	C/B
7	Donovan Harness and Auto Supply Company	105 Market Street	ca. 1910	Early 20th c. w/Romanesque motifs	C/B
8	Old Market House	40 Market Street	ca. 1837	Greek Revival	C/B
9	The Waverly House	20 Market Street	ca. 1849	Greek Revival	C/B
10	Enterprise Building (McQuade's)	91 Central Street	ca. 1885	Late 19th c. Commercial	C/B
11	Mansur Building	101 Central Street	ca. 1836	Federal/Greek Revival	C/B

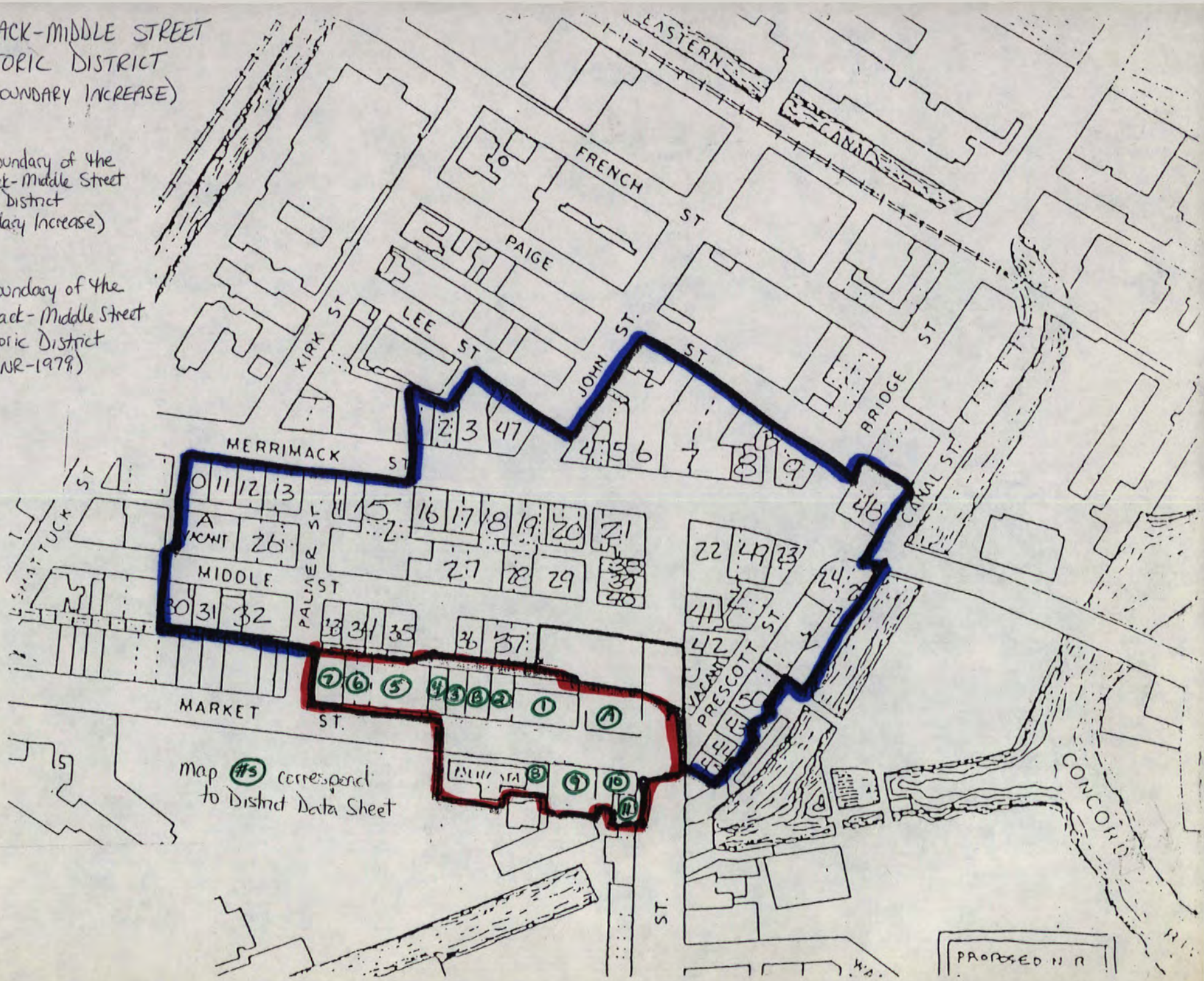
KEY
C....contributing
NC...noncontributing
B....building

TOTAL FOR DISTRICT EXTENSION
Contributing: 11B
Noncontributing: 2B

MERRIMACK-MIDDLE STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT (BOUNDARY INCREASE)

boundary of the Merrimack-Middle Street historic District (Boundary Increase)

boundary of the Merrimack-Middle Street Historic District (NR-1978)



88000971
PDIL

WASO Form - 177
("R" June 1984)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Merrimack--Middle Streets Historic District
(Boundary Increase)
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

Substantive Review

MAY 31 1988

Working No. _____
Fed. Reg. Date: _____
Date Due: 6/30/88 - 7/15/88
Action: ✓ ACCEPT 7-15-88
___ RETURN _____
___ REJECT _____
Federal Agency: _____

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

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☒ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Architecturally and historically significant addition to Lowell's primary commercial district. Extension justifies the period of significance through 1938.

Recom./Criteria Accept A+C
Reviewer Swan
Discipline Architectural History
Date 7/15/88
___ see continuation sheet

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

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use

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
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ unaltered	☐ original site
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ altered	☐ moved date _____
☐ fair	☐ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM 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: _____

GPO 918-450

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet


SPORTING GOODS
LOLL & HARTFORD INC.
BENEFICIAL
LOANS

MERRIMACK-MIDDLE STREETS HISTORIC DISTRICT EXTENSION
MARKET AND CENTRAL STREETS
LOWELL, MA

photographer/negative - Brian Pfeiffer /ACT
45 School Street, Boston, MA
September 1985

VIEW - southwest from Prescott Street, within the existing NR district, showing 101 Central Street (left) and 91 Central Street (right)

Photo #1 of 5

MERRIMACK-MIDDLE STREETS HISTORIC DISTRICT EXTENSION
MARKET AND CENTRAL STREETS
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

PHOTOGRAPHER: BRIAN PFEIFFER - SEPTEMBER, 1985
ACT, 45 SCHOOL STREET, BOSTON, MA
PHOTO 1 OF 5

VIEW: GENERAL VIEW LOOKING SOUTHWEST FROM PRESCOTT STREET WITHIN THE EXISTING NATIONAL REGISTER DISTRICT SHOWING 101 CENTRAL STREET (LEFT) AND 91 CENTRAL STREET (RIGHT).


BENEFICIAL
LOANS

MERRIMACK-MIDDLE STREETS HISTORK DISTRICT EXTENSION
MARKET AND CENTRAL STREETS
LOWELL, MA

photographer/negative - Brian Pfeiffer/ACT
45 school Street, Boston, MA
September 1985

VIEW - West side of Central Street, showing left to right - 101 Central Street and 91 Central Street

Photo # 2 of 5

MERRIMACK-MIDDLE STREETS HISTORIC DISTRICT EXTENSION
MARKET AND CENTRAL STREETS
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

PHOTOGRAPHER: BRIAN PFEIFFER - SEPTEMBER, 1985
ACT, 45 SCHOOL STREET, BOSTON, MA
PHOTO 2 OF 5

VIEW: BUILDINGS ON WEST SIDE OF CENTRAL STREET
SHOWING (LEFT TO RIGHT) 101 CENTRAL STREET
AND 91 CENTRAL STREET


BIRKS
DEPARTMENT STORE
USEHOLD
Moore's
PAINTS

MERRIMACK-MIDDLE STREETS HISTORIC DISTRICT EXTENSION
MARKET AND CENTRAL STREETS
LOWELL, MA

photographer/negative - Brian Pfeiffer / ACT
45 School Street, Boston, MA
September 1985

View - north side of Market Street, showing (left to right)
73-91 Market Street, 67, 61, 51, 43, and 29 Market Street

Photo #3 of 5

MERRIMACK-MIDDLE STREETS HISTORIC DISTRICT EXTENSION
MARKET AND CENTRAL STREETS
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

PHOTOGRAPHER: BRIAN PFEIFFER - SEPTEMBER, 1985
ACT, 45 SCHOOL STREET, BOSTON, MA
PHOTO 3 OF 5

VIEW: BUILDINGS ON NORTH SIDE OF MARKET STREET
SHOWING (LEFT TO RIGHT) 73-91 MARKET STREET,
67 MARKET STREET, 61 MARKET STREET, 51 MARKET
STREET, 43 MARKET STREET AND 29 MARKET STREET


DENNIS
OFFICE SUPPLY
Corp.
DENNIS OFFICE SUPPLY CORP.
Laboratory and Offices
Father John's
Medicine

MERRIMACK-MIDDLE STREETS HISTORIC DISTRICT EXTENSION
MARKET AND CENTRAL STREETS
LOWELL, MA

photographer/negative - Brian Pfeiffer/ACT
45 School Street, Boston, MA
September 1985

view - northside of Market Street, showing (left to right)
105, 95, and 73-79 Market Street

Photo #4 of 5

MERRIMACK-MIDDLE STREETS HISTORIC DISTRICT EXTENSION
MARKET AND CENTRAL STREETS
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

PHOTOGRAPHER: BRIAN PFEIFFER - SEPTEMBER, 1985
ACT, 45 SCHOOL STREET, BOSTON, MA
PHOTO 4 OF 5

VIEW: BUILDINGS ON NORTH SIDE OF MARKET STREET
SHOWING (LEFT TO RIGHT) 105 MARKET STREET,
95 MARKET STREET AND 73-79 MARKET STREET


TRASH
TRASH

PHOTO NO. 5 of 5

1. NAME

Historic - Old Market House

Common - Old Police Station

2. LOCATION

City - Lowell

County - Middlesex

State - Massachusetts

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

Photo Credit - Henry Keating Date - 1979

Negative Filed at - Wright-Pierce
99 Market St.
Lowell, MA
452-8938

4. IDENTIFICATION

Looking Southwest - Old Market House
Market St., Lowell

MERRIMACK-MIDDLE STREETS HISTORIC DISTRICT EXTENSION
MARKET AND CENTRAL STREETS
LOWELL, MA

photographer/negative - Brian Pfeiffer/ACT
45 School Street, Boston, MA
September 1985

new - Southwest on Market Street at Old Market House,
40 Market Street

Photo #5 of 5

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

LOWELL QUADRANGLE
MASSACHUSETTS–NEW HAMPSHIRE
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

6769 IV SW (NASHUA NORTH)
6769 I SW (SALEM DEPOT)
6769 II NW (NASHUA SOUTH)
6769 II SW (WESTFORD)
6769 III NW (LAWRENCE)
6769 III SW (WILMINGTON)

71°22′30″ — 580 000 FEET (N.H.) — 307 000m E — 20′ — 17′30″ — 660 000 FEET (MASS.) — 71°15′
42°45′ — 42°42′30″ — 42°40′ — 42°37′30″
90 000 FEET (N.H.) — 4735 000m N — 630 000 FEET (MASS.) — 600 000 FEET (MASS.) — 4723 000m N — 50 000 FEET (N.H.)

MANCHESTER 19 MI. LONDONDERRY 9 MI. — WINDHAM 4 MI. — SALEM DEPOT 3.8 MI.
MANCHESTER 9 MI. TYNGSBORO 4.2 MI. — 3.8 MI. TO INTERSTATE 93 LAWRENCE (P.O.) 7 MI. — 3.5 MI. TO INTERSTATE 93 HAVERHILL 1.3 MI. — METHUEN 4.3 MI. HAVERHILL 1.3 MI.
CHELMSFORD CENTER 2.2 MI. BOSTON 28 MI. — BILLERICA 5 MI. BOSTON 25 MI. — 3 MI. TO U.S. 3 34 MI. TO INT. 90

Jeremy Hill — Lookout Tower — Cambridge Hill — Gumpas Pond — Gumpas Hill — Seavey Hill — Pelham — Gravel Pit — Sherburne Sch — St Patricks Convent Sch — Atwood Cem — Gibson Cem — Pelham Memorial Sch — Gumpas Cem — Pine Valley Golf Club — Gage Hill — Harris Pond — Poplar Hill — Ski Tows — Little Island Pond — Cedar Pond — Peters Pond — Bartlett — Pulpit Rock — Israel Brotherhood Cem — St Casimirs Cem — Camp Alexander — Long Pond — Long Pond Park — Oak Grove Cem — Varnumtown — Winter Hill — Marsh Hill — Burns Hill — Collinsville — Bump Hill — Industrial Waste Ponds — Jr High Sch — Dracut High Sch — Dracut — Radio Tower (WCAP) — Nickel Mine Hill — Whortleberry Hill — Loon Hill — Kenwood — Spruce Swamp — LOWELL-DRACUT STATE FOREST — Ledge Hill — Pawtucketville — Centralville — Christian Hill — Duck Islands — Belvidere — Oaklands — Bleachery — Ayres City — Lowell Cemetery — Great Swamp — Wamesit — Gravel Pits — Golf Course — Trull Brook Golf Club — Longmeadow Golf Club — Mem Stadium — Pawtucketville Mem Sch — Lowell General Hospital — Lowell High Sch — Keith Hall High Sch — Water Tank — Reservoirs — Flagg Meadow Playground — Hovey Field — Gage Park — McPherson Playground — Veterans Memorial Sch — St Louis Field — Pumping Sta — Hildreth Cem — Hovey Square — Goodhue Field — Playground — Tewksbury — Lowell — Chelmsford — North Chelmsford — Middlesex Village — Highlands — Pawtucketville — Centralville — Belvidere — Oaklands — Bleachery — Ayres City — Lowell Cemetery — Tewksbury — Dracut — Collinsville — Varnumtown — Pelham — Gumpas Pond — Long Pond — Little Island Pond — Harris Pond — Cedar Pond — Peters Pond — Bartlett — Gumpas Brook — Golden Brook — Beaver Brook — Tonys Brook — Atwood Brook — Harris Brook — Trull Brook — Nickel Mine Brook — Loon Brook — Richardson Brook — Double Brook — Spruce Swamp — Pawtucket Falls — Pawtucket Canal — Merrimack River — Concord River — Middlesex Canal — Hunts Falls Bridge — Ouellette Bridge — Pawtucket Dam — Gaging Sta — Water Tank — Reservoirs — Flood Control Station — Fire Sta — Police Dept — Post Office — Town Hall — Library — Armory — Schools — Cemeteries — Churches — Hospitals — Golf Course — Playgrounds — Parks — Recreation Areas — Industrial Waste Ponds — Radio Tower — Drive-in Theater — Filtration Plant — Incinerator — Gravel Pits — Quarry — Lookout Tower — Ski Tows — Pine Valley Golf Club — Longmeadow Golf Club — Trull Brook Golf Club — Mem Stadium — Golf Course — Drive-in Theater — Lookout Tower — Water Tank — Reservoirs — Flood Control Station — Gaging Sta — Hunts Falls Bridge — Ouellette Bridge — Pawtucket Dam — Fire Sta — Police Dept — Post Office — Town Hall — Library — Armory — Schools — Cemeteries — Churches — Hospitals — Playgrounds — Parks — Recreation Areas — Industrial Waste Ponds — Radio Tower — Drive-in Theater — Filtration Plant — Incinerator — Gravel Pits — Quarry — Lookout Tower — Ski Tows — Pine Valley Golf Club — Longmeadow Golf Club — Trull Brook Golf Club — Mem Stadium — Golf Course — Drive-in Theater

HILLSBOROUGH CO MIDDLESEX CO — NEW HAMPSHIRE MASSACHUSETTS — ESSEX CO MIDDLESEX CO

CONVERSION SCALES

Feet	Meters
15000	4500
14000	4000
13000	3500
12000	3000
11000	2500
10000	2000
9000	1500
8000	1000
7000	900
6000	800
5000	700
4000	600
3000	500
2000	400
1000	300
0	200
	100
	0

Feet	Meters
1	.3048
2	.5096
3	.9144
4	1.2192
5	1.5240
6	1.8288
7	2.1336
8	2.4384
9	2.7432
10	3.0480

To convert feet to meters multiply by .3048
To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808

MERRIMACK–MIDDLE STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT (Boundary Increase) Lowell, MA

Quad - Lowell
Scale 1:25000

UTM References for boundary increase
A 19/310700/4723740
B 19/310700/4723620
C 19/310620/4723620
D 19/310480/4723700
E 19/310490/4723750

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey

Topography by planetable surveys 1939 and 1944. Revised 1966

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone, and New Hampshire coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid
zone 19

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with State of Massachusetts agencies from aerial photographs taken 1977 and other source data. This information not field checked. Map edited 1979

MN — GN — 15° 267 MILS — 1°34′ 28 MILS
UTM GRID AND 1979 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

SCALE 1:25 000
1 MILE — 1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET — 1 KILOMETER
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

MASS.
QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty — Light-duty
Medium-duty — Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route — State Route

LOWELL, MASS.–N. H.
N4237.5—W7115/7.5

1966
PHOTOREVISED 1979
AMS 6769 III NE–SERIES V814

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1979



COMPILED AND CONTROLLED BY JAMES W. SEWALL COMPANY, OLD TOWN, MAINE
BY PHOTOGRAMMETRIC METHODS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY JAMES W. SEWALL COMPANY, OLD TOWN, MAINE

MERRIMACK-MIDDLE STREET
HISTORIC DISTRICT
(BOUNDARY INCREASE)
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

MERRIMACK-MIDDLE STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT (DOCUMENTED 1978)

MERRIMACK-MIDDLE STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT (BOUNDARY INCREASE)

Map (#) - correspond with listed Data Sheet

SCALE 1:1,200
0 100 200 300 400 500 FEET

CONTOUR INTERVAL 2 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

500 - FOOT GRID IS BASED ON MASSACHUSETTS CO-ORDINATE SYSTEM

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
TRAFFIC ROUTING STUDIES
DRACUT - LOWELL

CONTRACT NO. 16834 DATE OF PHOTOGRAPHY MARCH 25, 1973

SHEET NO. 6 OF 10 SHEETS

May 27, 1988

Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the nomination forms for the following properties:

There are three properties in Boston:

Eliot Hall; 7A Eliot Street

First Church of Jamaica Plain; 6 Eliot Street

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of New England; 520 Parker Street

Haverhill, Intervale Factory; 402 River Street

Lincoln, Woods End Road Historic District; 68 Baker Bridge Road, 1, 5, 9, and 10 Woods End Road

Lowell, Merrimack-Middle Streets Historic District (Boundary Increase); Merrimack, Middle, Prescott, Central, and Market Streets;

A. Hocum Hosford Building HPCA# 10283MA

Vestry Building HPCA# 10207MA

D. L. Page Building HPCA# 1081MA

Quincy, Massachusetts Fields School; Rawson Road and Beach Street; HPCA# 0570-84-MA

They have been voted eligible by the State Review Board and have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. Owners were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30-75 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment. No comments have been received to date.

Sincerely,

Betsy Friedberg

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

BF/es

Enclosure

MAY 31 1988

88000971

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

AD

RECEIVED 2280
NOV 30 1999
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name MERRIMACK-MIDDLE STREETS HD (1999 AMENDMENT)

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number MULTIPLE ADDRESSES (SEE DATA SHEET) ☐ not for publication

city or town LOWELL ☐ vicinity

state MASSACHUSETTS code MA county MIDDLESEX code 017 zip code 01852

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Judith B. McDonough 11/19/99

Signature of certifying official/Title Judith B. McDonough, Executive Director Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register
  - ☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ determined eligible for the National Register
  - ☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ determined not eligible for the National Register
- ☐ removed from the National Register
- ☒ other (explain): Additional Documentation Accepted

for

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

Edson H. Beall 12/30/99

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

x private
X public-local
_ public-State
_ public-Federal

(Check only one box)

_ building(s)
x district
_ site
_ structure
_ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
14		building
		sites
		structures
		objects
14 (see continuation sheet)		Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

_____

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

38 (NRDIS, 1978, 1988)

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: hotel
GOVERNMENT: fire station
INDUSTRY: manufacturing facility
RELIGIOUS: church

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling
COMMERCE/TRADE: business, professional, Financial institution, restaurant, specialty store

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal
MID-19th CENTURY: Greek Revival
LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate, Gothic, Second Empire, Queen Anne (cont.)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone
walls brick, stone
roof asphalt
other terra cotta (cladding), cast iron (storefronts, cladding), concrete (trim)

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

5. CLASSIFICATION

Explanation of number of resources:

With the change in the period of significance to 1949, fourteen buildings previous counted as non-contributing are now considered contributing. Thus the cumulative total for the Merrimack-Middle Street HD is now at 52 contributing and 13 non contributing buildings, for a total of 64 total properties.

(end)

7. ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION (cont.)

Late Victorian: Romanesque, Renaissance
Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals: Colonial Revival, Classical Revival
Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements: Commercial Style, Chicago, Skyscraper
Modern Movement: Moderne, Art Deco

Narrative Description

Although the Merrimack- Middle Street Historic District is dominated by mid-to-late 19th century commercial buildings, there are many well-preserved structures from the first half of the 20th century that also contribute to the historic character of the streetscape. In the early 20th century the great industrial and economic prosperity of the 19th century continued to benefit the city, as reflected in the building stock. Successful businessmen built impressive shops, office buildings, banks, hotels, and warehouses that are now representative of the last phase of great industrial prosperity for Lowell. Buildings in the district constructed between 1900-1949 include a great variety of types, styles and sizes, ranging from single-story retail stores to three and four-story office buildings to a ten-story "skyscraper." All are of masonry bearing wall construction. Of the 14 contributing buildings constructed in the first half of the 20th century, seven were built between 1920 and 1935. In addition, two predate 1910, four from 1910-1919, and one from c. 1940. Typically, those constructed along Merrimack Street have a higher degree of architectural ornamentation, while those along Middle and Market Streets, with a few exceptions, are more subdued in their detailing. The revival styles that dominated design in the district at the end of the 19th century remained popular in the early 20th century. The Classical, Renaissance, Romanesque and Colonial Revival style buildings were being constructed alongside more modern Art Deco, Art Moderne, and Chicago style examples.

Revival Styles

The earliest of the 20th century buildings in the district is the **Chalifoux Building** (24-26 Merrimack Street, **photo #6**). It is a five-story Renaissance Revival style building faced with buff-colored brick and ornamented with cast iron and cast stone elements. Although the storefront level has been reworked, the main entrance remains largely intact. Brick piers and cast stone spandrels divide the upper three floors. Ornate scrolled pediments top windows at the fourth floor while those at the fifth floor are set in round arches. The roofline is finished with a frieze with dentils and a copper cornice with modillions.

The Classical Revival style was used to embellish two buildings in the district. The **Union National Bank**, 61 Merrimack Street, 1924, **photos #5, 17**) is an L-shaped structure with

(continued)

principal facades on both John and Merrimack Streets. The elevations are faced with fine cut granite ashlar and are dominated by multi-story columns. It is ornamented with carved detailing, including Ionic capitals, scrolls, egg & dart and dentil mouldings, and entablatures. The Merrimack Street entrance is contained within a two-story arch with a monumental fanlight. The John Street entry has a more subdued pediment above it. The former **Lowell National Bank** (88 Prescott Street, 1919-20, **photo #19)** is constructed of brick, yet faced with sandstone at its façade. The façade of this four-story building is divided into three bays by four monolithic Corinthian pilasters rising from marble plinths. The pilasters support a broad entablature with modillions. Between the pilasters are large glazed areas of windows with paneled spandrels and multiple lights. The fourth floor is largely unornamented with the exception of a simple molded cornice.

The Colonial Revival style is represented by only one 20th century building in the district. The four-story **Lowell Electric Light Company** (29 Market Street, **photo #13)** was constructed between 1924 and 1936. The red brick façade is trimmed with sandstone. The first floor is faced with smooth ashlar set on a granite base. At the second floor, windows in the seven central bays have arched heads and are visually tied with a wrought iron balcony. Splayed lintels with keystone top remaining windows. A broad cornice with modillions articulates the roofline.

Chicago Style

Four buildings in the district incorporate elements of Chicago Style design, although only one could be considered a skyscraper. The **Sun Building** (2-8 Merrimack Street, 1912-14, **photo #9)** is a ten-story steel-frame and reinforced concrete structure. The tallest, by far, in the district, it was designed by Clarence Blackall. It is typical of early skyscraper design in that an exterior grid of intersecting piers and spandrels expresses its internal skeleton. The two-story base consists of granite piers, capped with a sunburst motif, flanking cast-iron storefronts. The upper floors are faced with buff-colored brick with granite and green marble trim. The building rises to an entablature with dentils and a simple parapet.

Three other buildings in the district incorporate elements from Chicago Style design into four-story versions. Although they do not achieve the height typically associated with Chicago Style buildings, their large window area and expressed skeleton are clearly of that style. The **Courier-Citizen Building** (15 Kearney Square, 1924, **photo #18)** is constructed on red brick trimmed with cast concrete and green marble. The facade is divided into three wide bays by brick piers set on marble bases. The piers rise to simple stylized capitals and support a wide entablature topped by a stepped brick parapet. Full pediments top the three symmetrical entries at the façade. Windows contain metal sash and are separated by cast concrete spandrels. The **D.L. Page Company Building** (16-18 Merrimack Street, c. 1913, **photo #8)** is faced with gold brick above cast iron storefronts. Above the first floor, the façade is divided into three bays by slender brick piers.

(continued)

Spandrel panels are decorated with marble insets. The façade is topped by a decorative pressed metal cornice and a stepped parapet. A recent renovation project has restored much of the building's historic character. **Moller's Department Store** (31-33 Middle Street, 1923, **photo #16**) is far more restrained in its use of Chicago Style elements. There is little in the way of architectural detailing yet the expression of internal skeleton and its large window area are indicative of the style. The two-story base is divided into storefronts by simple concrete piers. The upper two floors are faced with buff brick trimmed with concrete sills, keystones, and cornice.

Modern Styles

There are three buildings in the district that were designed in the Art Deco style, the most impressive of which is the **Cherry & Webb Company Building** (105 Merrimack Street, 1924, **photo #2**). Built in the mid-1920s, it has terra cotta clad facades at both Merrimack and John Streets. Above the 1950s storefronts the building retains its decorative parapet, pier and spandrel paneling, floral decoration on piers, and egg & dart belt course over the storefronts. A renovation project (Certified Rehabilitation) is underway to restore other original terra cotta elements that were removed in the 1950s. The 1924 portion of the building adjoins three older sections at the rear. The only other examples of Art Deco design are the two single-story adjoining buildings at **19-25 Merrimack Street** (c. 1940,**photo #7**). Although the storefronts have been altered, the remainder of the terra cotta facades appear to be intact. These were two distinct buildings when constructed but now function as one. Both have very simple flush terra cotta facades framed by rusticated terra cotta piers. The western portion has a stepped parapet while the eastern portion has a straight parapet.

The only example of Art Moderne style design is the **Carleton & Hovey Company/Father John's Medicine Building** (73-91 Market Street,**photo #12**). Constructed between 1924 and 1936, the building is faced with dark red bolts. The symmetrical ten-bay façade is trimmed with cast concrete and terra cotta in the form of keystones, spandrel decoration, sills, bracketed belt courses, and a decorative cornice. The high parapet has recessed panels and a centered plaque inscribed with the name "Carleton & Hovey Company". Metal letters above the second floor spell out "Father John's Medicine."

Miscellaneous Buildings

Four buildings in the district are more significant for their historical association than their architectural contributions. Although these have little or no reference to a particular architectural style, they contribute to the streetscape in the scale and materials. The **Frank G. Cover Flour & Grain Company** (150-154 Middle Street,**photo #14**) is a three-story red brick building with a

(continued)

modern storefront. Above the storefront, windows are symmetrical and set in segmental arch openings. The only notable architectural feature is a copper cornice with modillions. The building at **95-103 Market Street** (c. 1907, **photo #11**) is a two-story red brick building with new wood frame storefronts. Upper story windows have granite sills and keystones. The parapet is decorated with terra cotta panels. The **Fellows Building** (129 Middle Street, **photo #15**) was partially destroyed by fire and rebuilt in 1904. This four-story red brick building is 13 bays wide. A granite lintel running the width of the storefronts, a steel entablature above the second floor, and a corbelled cornice emphasizes its horizontality. An arched window centered on the fourth floor divides the façade in two. The only articulations are rusticated granite sills. The **J.C. Donovan Harness & Auto Supply Company** (105 Market Street, c. 1910, **photo #10**) is also constructed of red brick and has virtually no architectural detailing. Second story windows have rusticated granite sills and splayed brick heads. A metal clad entablature runs above modern storefronts.

In preparing the data sheet for this district, 13 buildings were designated as noncontributing. Nine of these were so designated because of significant alteration and loss of integrity; while the remaining four were constructed after the period of significance. Since the initial listing of this district in 1978, three contributing buildings have been demolished: 190 Merrimack Street (demolished 1991), 198-200 and 210 Merrimack Street (both 1986). All three lots are currently vacant.

Archaeological Description

At least one prehistoric site is recorded abutting or extending into the district along its eastern boundary. The site, 19-MD-47, was reportedly the largest village of the Wamesit Indians, said to be located at the confluence of the Concord and Merrimack Rivers. Little, if any, physical evidence exists to verify the location or presence of this site. No evidence from the site has ever been recorded in the district area. Four additional prehistoric sites have also been recorded in the general area (within one mile), demonstrating a potential for Native American sites in the vicinity of the district. Environmental characteristics of the area also indicate the presence of several locational criteria (slope, soil drainage, distance to wetlands) that are favorable indicators for many types of prehistoric sites. Prior to 19th century industrial development of the area, the district property was characterized by a well drained level to moderately sloping terrace within 1000 feet of the west bank of the Concord River at its confluence with the Merrimack River. Given the above information, a high potential was originally present for the recovery of prehistoric resources within the Merrimack – Middle Streets Historic District. However, because of the impacts associated with intense 19th and 20th century industrial, commercial and residential development in the area, a low potential exists for the recovery of significant prehistoric resources in the district. Any prehistoric resources that were present in the district were probably destroyed or adversely impacted by historic period construction. Little if any intact deposits exist

(continued)

in the district that can be associated with Native American occupation of the area. Any resources that were located would likely be significant.

There is a high potential for locating historic period resources in the Merrimack – Middle Streets Historic District. While 19th and 20th century industrial and urban development likely impacted pre-1800 Anglo-American resources as much as it did Native American resources, the potential for recovering post-1800 resources associated with the planned industrial development of Lowell is high. Since the 1970's, archaeological research using documentary studies and field testing have documented the archaeological research potential for a number of properties in the Lowell locale. One of the more important interdisciplinary research efforts near the Merrimack – Middle Streets District has been the study at the Boot Mills Complex located immediately north of the nominated district. This study verified the intact structural remains of residential and industrial buildings as well as related archaeological features. In the Merrimack – Middle Streets District, structural remains and occupational related features may survive from 19th century residential homes no longer extant in the southern portion of the district. Archaeological evidence may also exist from an 1831 structure replaced in 1878 by the Wyman Exchange located at 60-70 Merrimack Street at the southeast corner of Central Street. Archaeological evidence may also survive from three contributing buildings demolished since the original listing of the district in 1978. These structures include 190 Merrimack Street (demolished 1991), 198-200 Merrimack Street (demolished 1986), 210 Merrimack Street (demolished 1986). All three sites are now vacant lots.

(end)

Merrimack-Middle Sts HD (1999 Amendment)
Name of Property

Middlesex, MA
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

X **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

_ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

X **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

_ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

_ **A** owned by religious institution or used for religious purposes.

_ **B** removed from its original location.

_ **C** a birthplace or grave.

_ **D** a cemetery.

_ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

_ **F** a commemorative property.

_ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance

1800-1949

Significant Dates

n/a

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

(SEE ATTACHED CONTINUATION SHEET)

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

_ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
x previously listed in the National Register
_ previously determined eligible by the National Register
_ designated a National Historic Landmark
_ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_____
_ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #_____

Primary location of additional data:

x State Historic Preservation Office
_ Other State agency
_ Federal agency
x Local government
_ University
_ Other

Name of repository:
Lowell Historic Board

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architect/Builder

ARCHITECT/BUILDER	STREET ADDRESS	NAME	DATE
Blackall, Clarence/ H.R. Howes Construction	2-8 Merrimack St.	Sun Building	1912-14
Davis, Millard F.	75-83 Merrimack St.	Nesmith Block	1833
	170-184 Merrimack St.	Albion Block	1879
Davis, Millard F./Melay, F.F.	24-26 Merrimack St.	Colonial/Chalifoux Bld.	1906
Derby, Robinson & Shepard	16-18 Merrimack St.	D.L. Page Co. Building	c. 1913
Gilbert, Perley & Assocs.	105 Merrimack St.	Cherry & Webb Co. B.	1924
Graves, Harry Prescott	15 Kearney Sq.	Courier-Citizen Bldg.	c. 1924
	101 Central St.	Mansur Building	c. 1836
Hutchins and French/ Hersey, Ira G. & Sons	61 Merrimack St.	Union National Bank	1924
Howard, Horace/Rand, J.H.	40-70 Market St.	Old Market House	c. 1837
Howe, John F. and Henry C.	11 Kearney Sq.	Howe Building	1892
James, Thomas M. Company	88 Prescott St.	Old Lowell Natl. Bank	1920
Merrill & Cutler	142 Middle St.	Central Fire H. Exten.	c. 1880
	25 Central St.	Bowditch Hotel	1880s
Psoinos Construction Co.	94-100 Merrimack St.	Lincoln Building	1963 alts.
Roach, J.G.	20 Market St.	Waverly House	c. 1849
Rourke, Henry L.	134-144 Merrimack St.	A.G. Pollard Building	1875-80
Runnels, R.E. Constr. Co.	198-200 Merrimack St.	Solomon's Building	1962 alts.
Stickney, Frederick W.	55-67 Middle St.	Pollard Exchange	1891
Van Brunt and Howe	33-35 Merrimack St.	Hildreth Building	1882-84

Narrative Statement of Significance

The purpose of this amendment is to extend the period of significance for the Merrimack-Middle Street Historic District into the 20th century (up to 1949 to include buildings fifty years and older). Extending the period of significance gives warranted recognition to the 20th century buildings that contributed to the economy, architecture and development of downtown Lowell at the end of its industrial heyday. By expanding the period of significance, 14 additional buildings (of the 65 buildings in the district) will be considered contributing resources. Previously, the period of significance ended in 1899. Twentieth century resources within the district are of local significance and meet Criteria A and C for listing in the National Register. They retain integrity of design, location, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

(continued)

Merrimack Street became Lowell's primary commercial thoroughfare during the first half of the 19th century. By 1850 the city has prospered enormously, primarily due to industrial expansion. At the time, Lowell was the largest cotton textile center in the United States and the second largest city in Massachusetts. Large industrial complexes were constructed along the Merrimack River, north of the district, and the Concord River (to the east of the district) and along the many canals that encircled the downtown area. The city flourished economically through the 19th century and into the early 20th century. The strong economy spurred the growth of numerous businesses. Merchants flaunted their success through the construction of high style edifices along Merrimack, Middle and Market Streets. Although Merrimack Street was dominated by commercial uses in the mid-19th century, the area to the south, which includes much of the district, still had a large number of residential buildings. An 1849 report on health conditions describes the area bounded by Shattuck, Market, Central and Merrimack Streets as being terribly congested and overcrowded, with 254 tenements housing some 1,445 people. There was also a public school, coal yard, and livery stables in the area. During the second half of the 19th century and into the 20th century the number of residences dwindled as the city continued to prosper, and as the demand for commercial space grew, and as more sufficient housing was constructed away from the downtown area.

Although the bulk of construction in the district occurred in the last three decades of the 19th century, the 20th century stock indicates continued economic prosperity and commercial growth. The earliest and among the largest of the 20th century structures is the **Chalifoux Building** (a.k.a.Colonial Building). Constructed in 1906, it was one of several department stores in the immediate area. Others include the grand Bon Marche (to the west on Merrimack Street in the adjacent City Hall NRDIS) and **Moller's Department Store** (31-33 Middle Street) of 1923. Joseph L. Chalifoux, owner of Lowell's largest clothing stores, commissioned the Chalifoux Building. A native of Quebec, Chalifoux was also director of the Union National Bank, trustee of the Lowell Textile School and the Central Savings Bank, and one-time president of the Board of Trade. Chalifoux was also responsible for the construction of **16-18 Merrimack Street** c. 1913. For more than 50 years D.L. Page Company, bakers and confectioners occupied it. Another important manufacturer in the district was the Carleton & Hovey Company, makers of patent medicines who, in the 1920s, reconstructed the fronts of three buildings at **73-91 Market Street** to create the existing unified façade. The company, most well known for their Father John's Medicine, had its start in the Belvidere section of the city where George H. Carleton opened an apothecary shop in 1828. Charles Hovey joined Carleton in 1832 as an apprentice and later became a partner. In the 1890s the business was purchased by A.J. Fay, who greatly expanded production of Father John's Medicine.

Two major bank buildings were constructed in the district in the early 20th century. The **Old Lowell National Bank** (88 Prescott Street) was completed in 1920. The bank, which was established in 1828, had occupied three locations prior to settling here. A 1928 description of the building notes that the "floors are of Tennessee marble and the counter of Sienna Italian marble, making an interior that harmonizes well the imposing colonnaded façade facing Prescott and

(continued)

Central Streets." In 1924 the **Union National Bank**replaced its older building at 61 Merrimack Street (also 39 John Street) with the existing Classical Revival structure. The bank was established in 1902 through the merger of the First National, Railroad National, and Merchants National Banks. Designed by Hutchins & French of Boston the new bank was opened in 1926 and was described as "an entire new building, resplendent in the most modern banking facilities of the day."

The city's two principal newspapers built new headquarters in the downtown area in the early 20th century. Construction began on the **Sun Building** (2-8 Merrimack Street) in 1912 following the design of architect Clarence Blackall. Built to house the *Lowell Sun*, this high rise office building is the only one of its kind in the city. Founded in 1878 by David J. and John H. Harrington, the *Sun* grew to become the city's largest, and eventually the only, newspaper. In 1960 the *Sun* moved operations to the former **Courier-Citizen Building** at 15 Kearney Square. This building is the result of a major remodeling of a former mill building (Massachusetts Cotton Mill) undertaken by the *Courier-Citizen* newspaper around 1924. The building's architect is believed to have been Harry Prescott Graves who designed the nearby Trade High School and High School Annex buildings.

Between 1924 and 1936 the building at 29 Market Street, formerly belonging to H.H. Wilder & Company (kitchen equipment manufacturers), was acquired by the **Lowell Electric Light Company** and converted to their offices. Lowell Electric reconstructed the front of the building to create the existing Colonial Revival façade.

In addition to the great office buildings and manufacturing facilities erected for the city's large companies, a number of buildings were erected to house the smaller businesses that prospered throughout the downtown, particularly on the secondary streets surrounding Merrimack Street. J.C. Donovan Harness and Auto Supply Company was located at **105 Market Street** (c. 1910) in the 1910s and 1920s. The building at **150 Middle Street** was built in 1911 for J.B. Cover & Company (flour and grain) and Cover's Poultry Supply Store. The Independent Beef and Provisions Company occupied **95-103 Market Street** (c. 1907). Among the earliest occupants of the **Fellows Building** (129 Middle Street, 1904) were Samuel H. May & Company (electrical contractors), Robert J. Fleming Company (shoemakers), and H.H. Wilder Company (brass foundry).

Very little is known about the occupants of **19-25 Merrimack Street** (. 1940) but the use of this site was clearly commercial at the time of construction. Through most of the 20th century there have been various food shops and restaurants at this location.

Little construction has occurred within the district since the 1940s; only four buildings date from the second half of the 20th century.

(continued)

The Merrimack-Middle Street Historic District continues to function as the city's central business district. Following a period of economic recession that continued through the 1970s when the buildings fell into disuse and disrepair, downtown Lowell has gradually become a viable commercial center once again. Although a few new buildings have been constructed since 1950, a significant amount of renovation, most of it sympathetic to the historic character of the area, has been undertaken.

Archaeological Significance

Historic archaeological resources described above have the potential to provide detailed information on the social, cultural, and economic characteristics responsible for the growth of America's first great industrial city. Archaeological resources can be used to document the birth of the industrial revolution in this area and the change in the New England agrarian economy to manufacturing and the manufacture of cotton textiles. While 19th and 20th century industrial and urban growth may preclude the possibility of recovering 18th century agrarian resources, any discoveries in this area could be highly significant. Any evidence of farmsteads that predate the planned industrial growth of Lowell could provide important information relating to the early settlement of Lowell for which little information survives. These resources may also provide important information on agricultural technologies in use during the period. Most potential archaeological resources in the district likely date to the post 1800 period and the planned development of Lowell as an industrial city. Further documentary research assisted by archaeological survey and testing can be used to document the extent to which Lowell was a planned community in which the canals were planned first then streets, buildings and parks. Archaeological resources can be used to document the role of Lowell in the industrial revolution by contributing information to research topics including such areas as technology, labor, class divisions, working-class life, material culture, diet, health and sanitation, immigration and worker-owner relations. Potential structural remains of commercial buildings dating to the early 19th century can be especially important by documenting Lowell's first period of commercial development. Few commercial buildings survive in the district from the 1820-1830 period.

(end)

Middlesex-Middle Sts. HD (1999 Amendment)
Name of Property

Middlesex, MA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property c. 7 acres

UTM References See continuation sheet.
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 19	310550`	4723840	3. 19	310710	4723880
Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
2. 19	310670	4723820	4. 19	310810	4723800
Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing

x See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Christine Beard, Consultant, with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date November 1999

street & number 220 Morrissey Boulevard telephone 617-727-8470

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02125

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name multiple

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town Lowell state MA zip code 01852

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.0. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018
(Rev. 10-90)

9. BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

Atlas of the City of Lowell, Massachusetts (L.J. Richards & Company, 1896, 1906, 1924)
City Atlas of Lowell, Massachusetts (Philadelphia: Hopkins, 1879)
Lowell Building Department – Permit Records
Lowell Cultural Resources Inventory
Merrimack-Middle Street Historic District Nomination (1978), (1988 expansion)
Property Atlas of the City of Lowell, Massachusetts (Philadelphia: Franklin Survey Company, 1936)

(end)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

UTM references (cont.)

E	19	310700	4723650
F	19	310590	4723640
G	19	310520	4723680

Verbal Boundary Description

The district boundaries are shown as a bold line on the attached map entitled "Merrimack-Middle Street Historic District (1999 Amendment)."

Boundary Justification

This amendment acknowledges the overlay of significant 20th century architecture in the Merrimack-Middle Street Historic District. The boundaries conform to the district boundaries drawn for the original 1978 Nation Register nomination and amended by the 1988 amendment.

(end)

PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Robbins Block, 102-110 Merrimack Street
2. Cherry & Wells Co. Building, 105 Merrimack Street
3. 115-121 Merrimack Street
4. Vestry Building, 92 Merrimack Street
5. Union National Bank, 61 Merrimack Street
6. Chalifoux Building/Colonial Building, 24-26 Merrimack Street
7. 19-25 Merrimack Street
8. D.L. Page Co. Building, 16-18 Merrimack Sreet
9. Sun Building, 2-8 Merrimack Street
10. J.C. Donovan Harness & Auto Supply Company, 105 Market Street
11. 95-103 Market Street
12. Carleton & Hovey Company/Father John's Medicine Building, 73-91 Market Street
13. Lowell Electric Light Company, 29 Market Street
14. Frank G. Cover Flour & Grain Co. Building, 150-154 Middle Street
15. Fellows Building, 129 Middle Street
16. Moller's Department Store, 31-33 Middle Street
17. Union National Bank (John Street façade)
18. Courier-Citizen Building, 15 Kearney Square
19. Old Lowell National Bank, 88 Prescott Street

(end)

Merrimack-Middle Street Historic District
Lowell, MA
District Data Sheet

Map #	MHC#	Street Address	Historic Name	Date	Style/Type	Status	Resource	Assessors #
33		**9 Central Street**	Wyman's Exchange	1878	Victorian Gothic	C	B	M11370
32	2594	**21 Central Street**	Harrison Hotel	c. 1893-1896	Late 19th C. Commercial	C	B	M15320
31	107	**25 Central Street**	Bowditch Hotel	1880s	Altered	NC	B	T00640
30	104	**29 Central Street**		1950	None	NC	B	T06860
26	106	**30 Central Street**		possibly 19th C.	Altered	NC	B	L14365
27	105	**40 Central Street**		possibly 19th C.	Altered	NC	B	F90805
47	1933	**45 Central Street**		1977-1978	Modern	NC	B	290004
29	108	**50-56 Central Street**		1973	Modern	NC	B	C04070
C		60 Central Street	vacant					E00790
62	1218	**91 Central Street**	Enterprise Building/ New Mansur Building	c. 1885	Queen Anne	C	B	M13000
61	1219	**101 Central Street**	Mansur Building	c. 1836	Federal/Greek Revival	C	B	J00350
6	90	**25 John Street** (joined to 65 Merrimack St.)	New Nesmith Building (John St. facade)	ca. 1850-56	Italianate	C	B	E00670
7	*91*	*39 John Street (joined to 61 Merrimack St. & 101 Paige St.)*	*Union National Bank (Jchn St. facade)*	*1924*	*Classical Revival*		*B*	*U90020*
A		53 John Street	vacant					U90030
16	103	**10 Kearney Square**	Fairburn Building	1880	Queen Anne	C	B	S00600
19	102	**11 Kearney Square**	Howe Building	1892	Queen Anne	C	B	H08910
17	101	**15 Kearney Square** (joined to 36 Prescott Street)	Courier-Citizen Bldg.	1890s/c. 1924	Chicago Style	C	B	L90740
63	1217	**20 Market Street**	The Waverly House	c. 1849	Greek Revival	C	B	M12970
60	1209	**29 Market Street**	Lowell Electric Light Co.	bet. 1924 & 1936	Colonial Revival	C	B	P10415
64	21	**40-70 Market Street**	Old Market House	c. 1837	Greek Revival	C	B	M91740
59	1210	**43 Market Street**	Jonathan Tyler Bldg.	c. 1890-1900	Italianate	C	B	C01555
58	1211	**57 Market Street**	Jonathan Tyler Bldg.	bet. 1879 & 1896	Italianate	C	B	N00360
57	1212/ 1213	**61 Market Street**	C.B. Coburn Building	c. 1870	Italianate	C	B	B07050

Structures noted as "joined" function as one building but have prominent elevations on more than one street. They are counted as one resource; the C or NC status has been applied to the main block of the building; secondary portions are in italics.

Merrimack-Middle Street Historic District
Lowell, MA
District Data Sheet

56	52	**73-91 Market Street**	Carleton & Hovey Co. /Father John's Medicine Building	bet.1924 & 1936	Art Moderne	C	B	290001
55	1215	**95-103 Market Street**		c. 1907	Early 20th C. Commercial	C	B	N03270
54	1216	**105 Market Street**	J.C. Donovan Harness & Auto Supply Company	c. 1910	Early 20th C. Commercial	C	B	K05820
15	99	**1-5 Merrimack St.**	Simpson's Block	c. 1844-1850	Greek Revival/Italianate	C	B	A02930
23	100	**2-8 Merrimack St.**	Sun Building	1912-1914	Chicago Style	C	B	290002
14		**15 Merrimack St.**	Bus Ticket Office	c. 1997	Contemporary	NC	B	201782
24	98	**16-18 Merrimack St.**	D.L. Page Co. Building	c. 1913	Chicago Style	C	B	T10805 (Unit 1A) M23455 (Unit 2A) M23435 (Unit 2B) T10810 (Unit 2C) T10815 (Unit 2D) T10820 (Unit 3A) T10825 (Unit 3B) T10830 (Unit 3C) C17510 (Unit 3D) T10835 (Unit 4A) T10840 (Unit 4B) T10845 (Unit 4C) T10850 (Unit 4D)
13	95	**19-25 Merrimack St.** (joined to 129 Paige St.)		c. 1940	Art Deco	C	B	J90030
25	97	**24-26 Merrimack St.**	Chalifoux Bldg./ Colonial Bldg.	1906/c. 1925	Renaissance Revival	C	B	G07811
11	93	**33-35 Merrimack St.**	Hildreth Building	1882-1884	Renaissance Rev./Queen Anne	C	B	H09030
10	91	**61 Merrimack St.** (joined to 39 John St. & 101 Paige Street)	Union National Bank (Merrimack St. facade)	1924	Classical Revival	C	B	U90040
9	*90*	*65 Merrimack St. (joined to 25 John St.)*	*New Nesmith Building (Merrimack St. facade)*	*ca. 1850-56*	*Italianate*			*E00670*

Structures noted as "joined" function as one building but have prominent elevations on more than one street. They are counted as one resource; the C or NC status has been applied to the main block of the building; secondary portions are in italics.

Merrimack-Middle Street Historic District
Lowell, MA
District Data Sheet

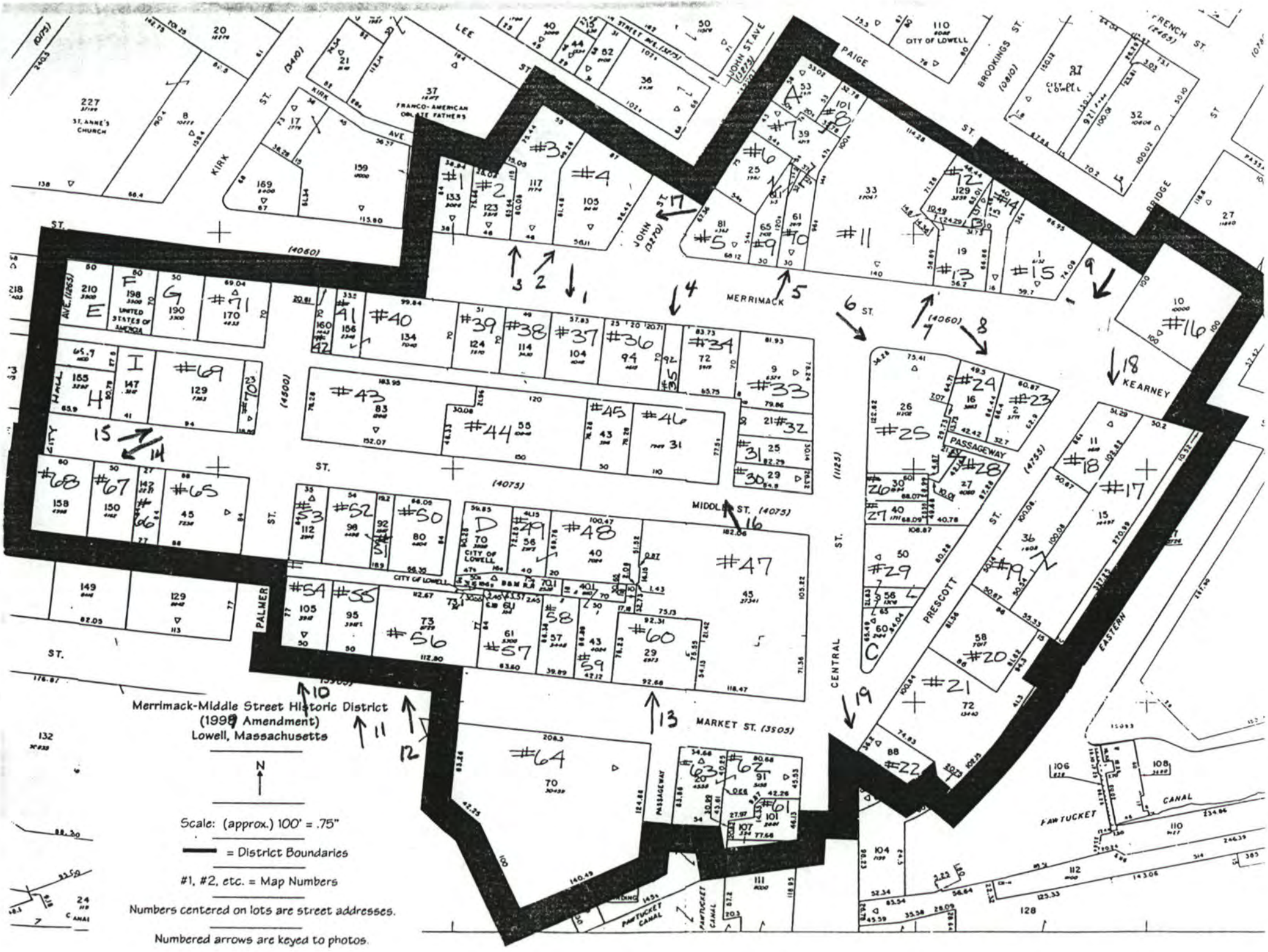
34	89	**72-86 Merrimack St.**	First Unitarian Church	1832	Greek Revival (altered)	C	B	S17935
5	40	**75-83 Merrimack St.**	Nesmith Block	1833	Federal/Greek Revival	C	B	G07811
35	88	**92 Merrimack St.**	Vestry Building	c. 1860	Altered	NC	B	S19610
36	88	**94-100 Merrimack St.**	Lincoln Bdg./Executive Bdg.	1923/1963/1985	Altered	NC	B	S19610
37	87	**102-110 Merrimack St.**	Robbins Block	c. 1850-1860	Italianate	C	B	M22465
4	82	**105 Merrimack St.**	Cherry Webb & Company Building	c. 1850/c. 1860/ c. 1865/1924	Second Empire/Italianate/ Art Deco	C	B	B07920
38		**114-122 Merrimack St.**	Davis Block	c. 1860	Italianate	C	B	P90675
3	85/179	**115-121 Merrimack St.**		c. 1920/1970/1998	Altered	NC	B	S19370
39	86	**124 Merrimack St.**	Masonic Temple/ Hosford Building	1871	Second Empire	C	B	L01050
2	84	**123-127 Merrimack St.**		c. 1850	Altered	NC	B	D00866
1	81	**133 Merrimack St.**	B.T. Thompson Building	c. 1851-1860	Italianate	C	B	H02270
40	83	**134-144 Merrimack St.**	A.G. Pollard & Co. Bldg.	1875-1880/1926/ 1978	Altered	NC	B	C16025
41	80	**154-156 Merrimack St.**	Fellows Building	1893	Renaissance Revival	C	B	C16026
42	75	**160 Merrimack St.**	Middlesex Safe Deposit & Trust Company Bldg.	1894	Classical/Renaissance Rev.	C	B	W01810
71	76	**170-184 Merrimack St.**	Albion Block	1879/c. 1890	Italianate/Classical Revival	C	B	G00740
G	77	190 Merrimack St.	vacant (demolished 1991)					
F	78	198-200 Merrimack St.	vacant (demolished 1986)					
E	79	210 Merrimack St.	vacant (demolished 1986)					
46	125	**31-33 Middle Street**	Moller's Dept. Store	1923	Early 20th C. Commercial	C	B	T07480
45	124	**43-49 Middle Street**	A. Hocum Hosford Bldg.	1882	Queen Anne	C	B	S19615
48	123	**40-46 Middle Street**	Talbot Building	1887	Late 19th C. Commercial	C	B	210234
44	121	**55-67 Middle Street**	Pollard Exchange	1891	Classical Revival	C	B	L01110
49	122	**56 Middle Street**	"K" Building	1886	Queen Anne	C	B	210235
D	968	70 Middle Street	vacant					200171
50	120	**80-88 Middle Street**	Derby Electric Company Building	c. 1892	Romanesque Revival	C	B	210236
43		**83 Middle Street**	Nesmith/Pollard Bldg.	bet. 1924 & 1936	Altered	NC	B	C16027
51	119	**92 Middle Street**	Plaistow Building	1896	Late 19th C. Commercial	C	B	T06930

Structures noted as "joined" function as one building but have prominent elevations on more than one street. They are counted as one resource; the C or NC status has been applied to the main block of the building; secondary portions are in italics.

Merrimack-Middle Street Historic District
Lowell, MA
District Data Sheet

52	117	**96-108 Middle Street**	Institute Building	1891	Romanesque Rev./ Queen Anne	C	B	B01220
53		**112 Middle Street**	McCarthy Building	c. 1880	Italianate	C	B	B01220
69	116	**129 Middle Street**	Fellows Building	1886/1904	Late 19th C. Commercial	C	B	G00750
66	51	**142 Middle Street**	Central Fire House Extension	c. 1880	Italianate	C	B	M22720
I		147 Middle Street	vacant					G00760
67	115	**150-154 Middle Street**	Frank G. Cover Flour & Grain Company Building	c. 1911	Early 20th C. Commercial	C	B	R05560
H		155 Middle Street	vacant					G00700
68	114	**158-170 Middle Street**	H.R. Barker Building	c. 1880s	Italianate	C	B	T07860
8	*91*	*101 Paige Street (joined to 61 Merrimack St. & 39 John Street)*	*Union Nat'l Bank Addition*	*ca. 1960*	*Modern*			
12	*96*	*129 Paige Street* (joined to 19-25 Merrimack Street)	*Ladd Building*	*c.1880*	*Italianate*			*J90030*
B		137 Paige Street	vacant					J91385
70		**23 Palmer Street**	Arthur Staples Building	c. 1880s	Late 19th C. Commercial	C	B	G00780
65		**45 Palmer Street**	Central Firehouse	1889	Romanesque Revival	C	B	M22720
19	*101*	*36 Prescott Street (joined to 15 Kearney Square)*	*Courier-Citizen Building Addition*	*c. 1970s*	*Modern*			*L90720*
		58 Prescott Street	Claflin Block	c. 1880s	Italianate	C	B	R08920
21	57	**66-82 Prescott Street**	Southwick Block	c. 1879	Italianate	C	B	F08260
22	109	**88 Prescott Street**	Old Lowell Nat'l Bank	1919-1920	Classical Revival	C	B	S19375

Structures noted as "joined" function as one building but have prominent elevations on more than one street. They are counted as one resource; the C or NC status has been applied to the main block of the building; secondary portions are in italics.


Merrimack-Middle Street Historic District
(1998 Amendment)
Lowell, Massachusetts
N
Scale: (approx.) 100' = .75"
= District Boundaries
#1, #2, etc. = Map Numbers
Numbers centered on lots are street addresses.
Numbered arrows are keyed to photos.
MERRIMACK ST. (4060)
MIDDLE ST. (4075)
MARKET ST. (3505)
JOHN ST. (2270)
KIRK ST.
LEE ST.
PAIGE ST.
BRIDGE ST.
KEARNEY ST.
PASSAGEWAY
PRESCOTT ST.
CENTRAL ST. (1125)
EASTERN CANAL
PAWTUCKET CANAL
PALMER ST.
CITY HALL AVE. (1263)
ST. ANNE'S CHURCH
FRANCO-AMERICAN ORLATT FATHERS
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
CITY OF LOWELL
B&M R.R.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Merrimack--Middle Streets Historic District (Boundary Increase)

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 11/30/99 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/14/00
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 88000971

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:	N	DATA PROBLEM:	N	LANDSCAPE:	N	LESS THAN 50 YEARS:	N
OTHER:	N	PDIL:	N	PERIOD:	N	PROGRAM UNAPPROVED:	N
REQUEST:	N	SAMPLE:	N	SLR DRAFT:	N	NATIONAL:	N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

√ ACCEPT ___ RETURN ___ REJECT 12-30-99 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Accepted

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept

REVIEWER E Beall DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE ____ DATE 12/30/99

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N


EASY N
94
96
ALL TRAFFIC
MUST
TURN RIGHT

Robbins Block
102-110 Merrimack St.

PHOTO 1


Cherry
&
Webb's

Cherry & Webb Company Bldg.
105 Merrimack St.

PHOTO 2


LAMODA

115-121 Merrimack St.

PHOTO 3


LS FOR DOLLARS
92
94
EASY

Vestry Bldg.
92 Merrimack St.

PHOTO 4


MCMXXIV
UNION NATIONAL
BANK

Union Nat'l Bank
61 Merrimack St.

PHOTO 5


DUNKIN' DONUTS
DUNKIN' DONUTS

Chalifoux Bldg./Colonial Bldg.
24-26 Merrimack St.

PHOTO 6


SEAFOOD RESTAURANT
THE USUAL
THE USUAL

19-25 Merrimack St.

PHOTO 7


OPTICIAN LTD.
THE MERRIN

D.L. Page Co. Bldg.
16-18 Merrimack St.

PHOTO 8


ONE W

Sun Building
2-8 Merrimack St.

PHOTO 9


BLUE SHAMROCK PUB
BLUE SHAMROCK
PUB
FOOD & SPIRITS
BLUE SHAMROCK
PUB
FOOD & SPIRITS

J.C. Donovan Harness & Auto Supply Co.
105 Market St.

PHOTO 10


103
99
95

95-103 Market St.

Photo 11


Father John's Medicine
FATHER JOHN'S MEDICINE
95

Carleton & Harvey Co. / Father John's Medicine Bldg.
73-91 Market St.

PHOTO 12


FURNITURE
TOW AREA
NO PARKING

29 Market St.
Lowell Electric Light Co.

Photo 13


ROGERS
PRINTING
CARD
TOY CO.
ROGERS
SAVE-MOR FURNITURE
B 407

Frank G. Cover Flour & Grain Co. Bldg.
150-154 Middle St.

PHOTO 14



Fellows Bldg.
129 Middle St.

PHOTO 15


RAMP

Moller's Dept. Store
31-33 Middle St.

PHOTO 16


UNION NATIONAL BANK

Union Nat'l Bank
(John St. facade)

P1101017


THE SUN

Corner-Citizen Bldg.
15 Kearney Sq.

PHOTO 18


COMMERCIAL BANK AND TRUST
PATRIOT PRINTING

Old Lowell Nat'l Bank
88 Prescott St.

PHOTO 19

42071-F3-TM-025
MERRIMACK - MIDDLE ST. HD
1999 AMENDMENT
LOWELL (MIDDLESEX CO.) MASS.

Lowell

MASSACHUSETTS–NEW HAMPSHIRE

1:25 000-scale *metric* topographic map



7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE SHOWING

- Contours and elevations in meters
- Highways, roads and other manmade structures
- Water features
- Woodland areas
- Geographic names

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

1987

Produced by the United States Geological Survey in cooperation with Massachusetts Department of Public Works

Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts agencies

Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1981. Field checked 1983. Map edited 1987
This area also covered by 7.5-minute 1:24,000-scale maps: Nashua South 1965 and Lowell 1966

Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 19
Universal Transverse Mercator
10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone, and New Hampshire coordinate system
1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983, move the projection lines 6 meters south and 40 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map

CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

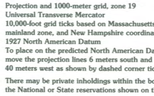
CONVERSION TABLE

Meters	Feet
1	3.2808
2	6.5617
3	9.8425
4	13.1234
5	16.4042
6	19.6850
7	22.9659
8	26.2467
9	29.5276
10	32.8084

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808

To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

DECLINATION DIAGRAM



UTM grid convergence (GN) and 1987 magnetic declination (MN) at center of map
Diagram is approximate

ADJOINING MAPS

1	2	3
4		5
6	7	8

1 Milford
2 Nashua
3 Haverhill
4 Townsend
5 Lawrence
6 Ayer
7 Billerica
8 Reading

ISBN 0-607-23461-X

Topographic Map Symbols

- Primary highway, hard surface
- Secondary highway, hard surface
- Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
- Unimproved road; trail
- Route marker: Interstate; U. S.; State
- Railroad: standard gage; narrow gage
- Bridge; drawbridge
- Footbridge; overpass; underpass
- Built-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown
- House; barn; church; school; large structure
- Boundary:
  - National, with monument
  - State
  - County, parish
  - Civil township, precinct, district
  - Incorporated city, village, town
  - National or State reservation; small park
  - Land grant with monument; found section corner
  - U. S. public lands survey: range, township; section
  - Range, township; section line: location approximate
- Fence or field line
- Power transmission line, located tower
- Dam; dam with lock
- Cemetery; grave
- Campground; picnic area; U. S. location monument
- Windmill; water well; spring
- Mine shaft; prospect; adit or cave
- Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation
- Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression
- Distorted surface: strip mine, lava; sand
- Bathymetric contours: index; intermediate
- Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream
- Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small
- Swamp; marsh
- Submerged marsh; land subject to controlled inundation
- Woodland; scattered trees
- Scrub; mangrove
- Orchard; vineyard

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request

Merrimack–Middle Street
Historic District
Lowell, MA

A - 19 310 550 4723840
B - 19 310 670 4723820
C - 19 310 710 4723880
D - 19 310 810 4723800
E - 19 310 700 4723650
F - 19 310 510 4723460
G - 19 310 520 4723610

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1987

SCALE 1:25 000
1 CENTIMETER REPRESENTS 250 METERS
CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS

RECEIVED 2280
NOV 30 1999
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

November 19, 1999

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Mail Stop 2280, Suite 400
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following technical amendment to an established National Register Historic District:

Merrimack – Middle Streets Historic District, Lowell (Middlesex Co.), Mass.

The technical amendment extends the period of significance to 1949, and consequently changes the status of a number of properties to contributing.

Sincerely,

Betsy Friedberg

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Debra Grossman, Lowell Historical Commission
Christine Beard, Preservation Consultant
Hon. Irene Donahue, Mayor, City of Lowell
Stephen Stowell, Lowell Historical Commission
Denise Sullivan, Division of Planning & Development

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www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc