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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form**

413  
JAN 16 1996  
INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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 Fisherville Historic District

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Location**

street & number roughly bounded by Main, Elmwood, Ferry and Sampson streets N/A not for publication

city or town Grafton N/A vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Worcester code 027 zip code 01519

**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 12/12/95  
Signature of certifying official/Title Judith B. McDonough, Executive Director Date  
Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer

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): \_\_\_\_\_

Entered in the

National Register Date of Action

for Signature of the Keeper Henry M. Lapadula 2/14/96

Fisherville Historic District  
Name of Property

Worcester, MA  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
175	50	buildings
		sites
4		structures
1		objects
180	50	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**

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

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY: Manufacturing facility

DOMESTIC: Multiple dwelling

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Multiple dwelling

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

MID-19TH CENTURY/OTHER: Vernacular

LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/OTHER:

Vernacular

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone: granite

walls Wood: weatherboard

Brick

roof Asphalt

other

**Narrative Description**

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

**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.)

**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.

**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.

**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
- 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

ARCHITECTURE

INDUSTRY

**Period of Significance**

1810 - 1935

**Significant Dates**

N/A

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

N/A

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Fisherville Historic District  
Name of Property

Worcester, Ma  
County and State

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property roughly 120 acres

#### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 19	276700	4673000	3. 19	277230	4673120
Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
2. 19	276770	4673240	4. 19	277180	4672940
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

Christine S. Beard, Preservation Consultant, for the Grafton Historical Commission  
name/title with Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date December 1995

street & number 220 Morrissey Boulevard telephone 508-887-0700

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 Owners

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**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.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Fisherville Historic District  
Grafton, (Worcester County)  
Massachusetts

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### 7. DESCRIPTION

Fisherville is one of three textile mill villages within the town of Grafton, Worcester County, Massachusetts. Located near the eastern boundary of Worcester County, Grafton is surrounded by seven towns and cities. The town landscape is characterized by hilly terrain and abundant waterways. Two significant rivers, the Blackstone and the Quinsigamond, intersect in the southern part of Grafton. Just south of where the two rivers convene is Fisherville Pond which, together with the Blackstone Canal of 1828, provided water power to support the Fisherville Mill around which the village developed.

The Fisherville Historic District includes the core of the industrial village, its factory, associated residences, public buildings, and commercial structures. Properties lie along the principal thoroughfares (Main, Elmwood, and Ferry Streets) and secondary streets (Demers, Orchard, and Sampson Streets, English Row, and Railroad Court). The district contains a total of 126 principal buildings, 103 outbuildings, and one monument. Among the outbuildings are several structures associated with the mill, including an office, stockhouse, and electric building. Also associated with the mill are a dam and remnants of the Blackstone Canal. Several features related to the canal, including its towpath, a culvert, a lock, and a control gate are also included. Of the 126 principal buildings, only six are noncontributing (five noncontributing due to age, one due to alteration). Of the 107 outbuildings, 44 are noncontributing (nearly all due to age). The noncontributing outbuildings are predominantly modern sheds without foundations.

There is very little wooded or undeveloped land in the district. Most lots are small with only minimal yards. The larger parcels, particularly along Elmwood Street and the western end of Main Street, typically have mowed lawn area and residential gardens. In the southwest corner of the district, bordering the Sutton town line, is a wooded area of about 25 acres. There is also a parcel of undeveloped land on the south side of Main Street opposite the mill where the Blackstone Canal winds through low overgrowth.

The district includes a variety of building types but is dominated by late nineteenth century vernacular residences, most of which are two-family houses built for workers of the Fisherville Mill. At the east end of the district is the mill and associated outbuildings, located on a 16 acre site. Southwest of the mill is an area of densely developed multi-family workers housing constructed on small lots in various phases by the mill owners. Along Main, Ferry, and Elmwood Streets is a mix of single and multi-family dwellings set on modest size lots (typically 16,000 to 20,000 square feet), the exceptions being two larger lots on Elmwood Street at the westernmost border of the district (3.5 and 4.5 acres) and the property at 119 Main Street which contains 26.6 acres. In addition to the mill and residences, there are two churches, a library, a club, and three small commercial buildings which contribute to the district.

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Residences date from about 1820 to 1935 with the earliest being single family dwellings and most after about 1860 being multi-family houses. Roughly 60% of the houses in the district were built between 1890 and 1920. Although nearly half are of Vernacular design, a full range of architectural styles is represented, including Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate, Second Empire, Gothic Revival, Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival, and Craftsman styles. Houses are generally simple wood-frame structures built by local carpenters and housewrights. One house is finished with stucco. For the most part, they remain well-preserved although there is a significant amount of synthetic siding. Most continue to function as residences, a few have been converted to commercial use or from single to multi-family use.

Extant public and institutional buildings contributing to the Fisherville Historic District were built between 1883 and 1938. Among these are examples of architect-designed buildings in the Gothic Revival, Queen Anne, Vernacular, and Tudor Revival styles. All are of wood-frame construction except the public library which is constructed of brick. These buildings remain well-preserved and all are used for their original purpose.

The few contributing commercial buildings in the district vary in design. Most are small one or two-story structures constructed of wood or concrete block with limited architectural detailing.

Alterations to residential buildings within the district are generally minimal, typically consisting of single-story side or rear additions, application of synthetic siding, or replacement doors and windows. This is most prevalent in the area of workers housing on Orchard, Sampson, and Demers Streets. The commercial, public, and institutional buildings have been altered very little. Losses in the district are limited to a school (dating from 1900) and four buildings associated with the mill, two of which were apparently residential blocks (one off Railroad Court and three on the lot opposite the mill). Although the Providence & Worcester Railroad ran tracks through Fisherville just west of the mill in 1847-48, it does not appear that any station or freight buildings associated with the railroad were ever constructed in the village (just to the south was a station in the village of Farnumsville). There are no buildings associated with the railroad remaining in Fisherville.

Until 1842 much of Fisherville was a part of Sutton. Prior to about 1840 Main Street extended eastward only as far as Ferry Street. Together, these two streets formed the principal route through Fisherville. The only other road in Fisherville at the time was Elmwood Street. By the mid-nineteenth century Main Street had been extended eastward to Providence Road in the village of Farnumsville. The earliest development in Fisherville was along these principal streets, beginning with a four story brick factory (no longer extant) at the current location of the Fisherville Mill at the east end of the district and spreading west and south. As late as 1870, Main, Ferry, and Elmwood Streets were the only streets in the village. Toward the end of the century, the Fisher Manufacturing Company began laying out secondary streets on company-owned land between Ferry and Main Streets where they built multi-family housing blocks. Portions of Orchard, Demers (then Cross), and Sampson Streets were in existence by 1898. By 1910 English Row had been laid out and Orchard and Sampson

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Streets extended to their current length. Today's street pattern remains largely unchanged from the 1910 configuration. Little infill construction has occurred since the 1920s (only five noncontributing principal buildings). The historic character of the area distinguishes the district from its immediate surroundings. Beyond the district boundaries, a greater number of buildings postdating 1950 are found.

An important feature to the development of industry in Fisherville was the Blackstone Canal (MHC #929), constructed in 1828 parallel to the Blackstone River through the entire southern section of town. The canal facilitated construction of Fisherville's first mill in 1830. Today clear remnants of the canal remain. The canal runs just west of the mill through the picker/wheel house, through a stone culvert beneath Main Street, and then continues southward, paralleling the Blackstone River. Much of the canal trench and towpath are visible as are the stone culvert, a lock, control gate, headrace and tailrace. [A National Register nomination is currently being prepared for the entire Blackstone Canal.]

Mill Complex

The focus of the village and the district is the Fisher Manufacturing Company complex (60 Main Street - MHC #W) at the east end of the district. The complex remains largely intact, with a main mill, office building, stock house, electric building, dam, and canal features. The main mill (MHC #466) is a four-story brick structure trimmed with granite. It is typical of late nineteenth century industrial design with its segmentally-arched window opening, multi-pane sash, nearly flat roof, and prominent entry/stair towers. The earliest section of the mill dates to 1888 and makes up the westernmost portion of the existing structure. The eastern portion, a mirror image of the 1888 section, was constructed in 1891. Attached to the west end of the mill are the two-story picker/wheel house and single-story power plant of the 1880s. Both are simple utilitarian structures constructed of brick. Extending from the rear (north) elevation of the mill is a single-story brick and stone weave shop, built in 1888. Fenestration is similar to that of the mill's main section. The original pitched roof has been replaced by a series of shed roofs. The weave shop is joined to the main mill by a low brick addition which appears to date from about 1922.

Both the office/storehouse (MHC #467) and stock house (MHC #468) buildings appear to have been built in 1881. These simple single-story brick structures have granite foundations and sills. The office/storehouse, located close to the street in front of the mill, is eight bays wide with segmentally-arched windows and a corner entry. The stock house, located on the opposite side of Main Street, is void of fenestration with the exception of three segmentally-arched loading doors on each side elevation.

The electrical building (MHC #469) stands northwest of the main mill and appears to have been built in the early twentieth century. It is a small square brick building of utilitarian design.

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A stone stepped dam (MHC #926) spans the Blackstone River northeast of the main mill creating the Fisherville Pond. This unusual dam is an English style of construction that came into use in America by 1825. The exact date of the dam is unknown.

Company Housing

By the mid-nineteenth century, Erastus Fisher, then principal owner of the mill, had begun constructing multi-family residences to house mill workers. About 1860 Fisher constructed four "tenement" houses just west of the mill. Construction of mill housing continued under George Fisher and the Fisher Manufacturing Company who built about six additional multi-family houses between 1880 and 1890, and undertook a large-scale building campaigns between 1890 and 1895, constructing about 25 two-family residences. By 1910 about 10 more had been built and only a handful between 1910 and 1915. The company constructed little after 1915.

The earliest company housing was built by E. Fisher & Son about 1860 on land just west of the mill. Two of these survive, 1 & 3 Railroad Court. Although now quite altered with the addition of synthetic siding and window replacement, these multi-family houses retain their simple Vernacular forms. Both are two-story buildings with rectangular plans and gable roofs (#1 was built with two units while #3 had four units). It is unlikely that they had any significant architectural detailing based on other similar houses in the area.

The Fisher Manufacturing Company, successor to E. Fisher & Son, was responsible for constructing the majority of multi-family houses in Fisherville, beginning in the 1880s. The first tenements built by Fisher Manufacturing Company were long rectangular structures containing six units each. Built ca. 1880, there are four buildings of this type remaining, at 10 Railroad Court, 12 Railroad Court, 11-21 Sampson Street (MHC #492), and 23-33 Sampson Street (MHC #493). These simple Vernacular buildings are two-stories high, twelve bays long, and three paired entries evenly spaced across the symmetrical facade. Typical of company housing, architectural detail is limited to chamfered bracing at the porch hoods. These are the largest of the company-built house as all others were designed for two families.

Between 1890 and 1920 the Fisher Manufacturing Company built close to 50 two-family houses near the mill. All are side-by-side two-family houses and have a basic rectangular plan, small rear ells, and symmetrical fenestration. Stylistic detailing and the configuration of ells and fenestration vary among six different house designs. All six designs employ simple utilitarian features. Architectural decoration is limited to chamfered bracing at door hoods, cross gables, and dormers. In the 1890s three of the six designs were used. One, found at 11-13, 15-17, and 19-21 Orchard Street (MHC #AB - ca. 1890), has the basic rectangular plan with a central party wall (running front to back) and small rear ells in line with the outside walls, forming a U-shaped plan. These houses, rise one and one-half stories and have a pair of center entries flanked by four windows. At the second story are four windows, each of which are set in a gabled wall dormer. The second house type built during the

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1890s has the same U-shaped plan and central entries. The roof extends over the rear ells creating a saltbox profile. The facade is four bays wide with the entries set beneath a hipped door hood. Above the entries, the two central windows at the second floor are set in a shed wall dormer. Examples of this house type are found in the eight houses on the west side of Orchard Street (12-14, 16-18, 20-22, 24-26, 28-30, 32-34, 36-38, and 40-42 - MHC #AC - ca. 1890). The third type built in the 1890s is the smallest of the Fisher Manufacturing Company houses, being four bays wide and two stories high. A single ell, divided into two spaces by a party wall, is centered on the rear of the main block. The facade has a central paired entry set beneath a hipped hood with diagonal bracing. Above the entry the two central windows at the second floor are set beneath a steep cross gable. Five examples of this type were built on Orchard Street (23-25, 27-29, and 31-33 - MHC# 506-508) and Demers Street (11-13 and 12-14 - MHC #529 & 530).

Houses built by the Fisher Manufacturing Company after 1900 were somewhat larger than those constructed previously. Of the three house designs used by Fisher between 1900 and 1915, the one built most often was six bays wide with a small rear ell extending from the center of each half of the main block. This house type is represented on Demers Street (16-18, 17-19, and 20-22 - MHC #531-533 - ca. 1905), English Row (2-4, 5-7, 9-11, 13-15, and 17-19 - MHC #AE - ca. 1905), Orchard Street (47-49, 51-53, 55-57, 59-61, 63-65, 67-69, and 71-73 - MHC #512-516 - ca. 1910), and Sampson Street (58-60 and 62-64 - MHC #501 & 502 - ca. 1910). These houses are two rooms deep and have paired central entries sheltered by hipped porches. They exhibit one of the few architectural embellishments on the company housing in the turned porch posts that remain on several of the houses. The houses have a hip dormer projecting from the roof at the center of the facade. Nearly identical houses were built at 44-46, 48-50, and 52-54 Orchard Street (MHC #AD - ca. 1910). They differ only in the arrangement of the ell which is centered at the rear of the main block and divided into two spaces by a party wall. The final company house design is the second most prevalent in the district. It has the basic rectangular plan with small ells extending from the rear of each half of the house and a four bay facade. This type is unusual for its two-story gabled side extensions. In addition to a front porch sheltering paired entries, the houses each have a rear porch extending between the ells. A shed dormer projects from the center of each roof at the facade. Examples are found on Sampson Street (12-14, 16-18, 22-24, 28-30, 32-34, & 38-40 - MHC#AA - ca. 1910) and on Orchard Street (35-37, 39-41, & 43-45 - MHC #509-511 - ca. 1910).

An anomaly within the district is the Fisher Boarding House (37 Sampson Street - MHC #494) which was built about 1915. The building is essentially Vernacular but is sparsely decorated with Colonial Revival elements. With an L-shaped plan, the house is two stories high and enclosed by a hip roof. There is one entry on each of the two principal facades. The entry at the west elevation is sheltered by a Colonial Revival porch with Tuscan columns. The south entry is enclosed within a pedimented vestibule. Its fenestration reflects the interior plan of common spaces on the first floor and numerous smaller bedrooms on the second floor.

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About 1905 the Fisher Manufacturing Company built five identical single-family homes along the east side of Ferry Street (31, 33, 35, 37, and 39). Although the company purchased a number of scattered single-family homes in the district during the nineteenth century, these are the only single-family dwellings they commissioned to be built.

Other Multi-Family Housing

In addition to the multi-family housing built by the Fisher Manufacturing Company, there were a number of similar dwellings constructed by investors to rent to workers of the nearby mill. Unlike the rows of identical houses built by the Fisher Manufacturing Company, those built independently have greater variations in design and are scattered in various locations along Main and Elmwood Streets. All were built between 1890 and 1930 as side-by-side two-family houses. Of the twelve that stand in the district, half were designed in the Colonial Revival style and built after 1900. These include the houses at 78 Main Street (ca. 1915 - MHC #479), 84 Main Street (ca. 1905 - MHC #484), 113 Main Street (ca. 1915), 115 Main Street (ca. 1915), 21-23 Elmwood Street (ca. 1915), and 61 Elmwood Street (ca. 1915). These houses are all very similar, having rectangular plans, hip roofs, and symmetrical facades. Other details which characterize them include hip or gable dormers and porches across the facade.

The remaining multi-family houses are essentially Vernacular but a few incorporate elements from other styles. The houses at 26 Elmwood Street (ca. 1890), 30-32 Elmwood Street (ca. 1890), 111 Main Street (ca. 1905), and 112 Main Street (ca. 1905) exhibit Queen Anne influence in the form of cross gables, steep gabled dormers, vergeboards, decorative shingle patters, and turned porch posts. At 76 Main Street (ca. 1925 - MHC #478) Greek Revival style details are found in the pedimented door hoods and side porches supported on Tuscan columns.

Single-Family Housing

Although approximately 65% of the residences in the district are multi-family, there are a significant number of single-family dwellings that contribute to the historic character of the area. These are located primarily along Main, Ferry and Elmwood Streets. Single-family houses in the district date from about 1820 to 1930. Most of the earliest dwellings stand along Ferry Street which was the principal thoroughfare through Fisherville in the early part of the nineteenth century. In addition to one house on Elmwood Street, the map of 1857 shows six houses along Ferry Street within the district boundaries. Today four houses in the district predate 1850. Although somewhat altered by additions and window replacement, the Ferry House (18 Ferry Street - ca. 1820 - MHC #543) is typical of early nineteenth century houses. It is a center entry Cape Cod style house with a large central chimney. Trim is very simple, consisting of narrow cornerboards, unmolded window and door surrounds, and a box cornice. The Holbrook House (16 Elmwood Street - ca. 1820) is the only example of the Federal style in Fisherville. This unique house is an excellent example of the style and period with its square plan, two-stories, five-bay facade, center entry, hip roof, and fan light. The W. Ferry House (15

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Ferry Street - MHC #541) of ca. 1850 is one of only two Greek Revival style single-family residences in the district. Its gabled facade, deep eaves with box cornice, and entry surrounds are all indicative of the style. One other house appears to date from the early nineteenth century, the Ferry/Gauthier House (4 Ferry Street - MHC# 539 - ca. 1850; ca. 1915). It has been substantially altered over the years and is notable today for its early twentieth century Colonial Revival details.

During the period from 1860 through the 1880s, when E. Fisher & Company was just beginning to construct company housing, only a few single-family residences were built in Fisherville. The most impressive of these is the Fisher House (75 Main Street - MHC #477 - ca. 1875). The only high-style residence in the district, the house reflects the prominence and affluence of its owner, Erastus Fisher, owner of the nearby mill. This impressive dwelling combines elements of Italianate and Second Empire design, in its square plan, bay windows, panelled cornerboards, and cornice with paired brackets and pendants. Other notable features include a wrapping veranda with chamfered posts, hip roof with bell-cast cross gable at the facade, and prominent window trim. More in keeping with the overall character of the district is the Ballou House (20 Ferry Street - MHC #545 - ca. 1880) which is smaller and less highly articulated than the Fisher House. This Greek Revival style cape has a center entry with wide surrounds, a dentilled cornice, wide cornerboards, and pilasters supporting an entablature. The only other house of this period that has been identified is the Cooper House (13 Ferry Street - ca. 1870). A Vernacular style house, this is a one and one-half story, gable-front, side-hall cottage.

Between 1890 and 1900 the greatest number of single-family residences were constructed. This corresponds to Fisher Manufacturing Company's expansion of the mill. It was also the period when the Fisher Manufacturing Company built most of its multi-family housing. Of the 22 houses identified from this period, 20 were designed in the Queen Anne style or exhibit elements from that style. There are essentially two variations of the Queen Anne house type in Fisherville. Most common is the small, modest gable-front cottage which is adorned with characteristic details of Queen Anne design. The best examples of include the Willard Ferry House (23 Ferry Street - MHC #546 - ca. 1890), Wilder House (79 Main Street - MHC # 480 - ca. 1890), and Hattie Brady House (81 Main Street - MHC #481 - ca. 1890). Features which distinguish this house type include vergeboards, cross gables, decorative wood shingles, and porches with ornate railings. The second Queen Anne house type, used far less frequently in Fisherville, is a more ambitious house that is typically larger with a more varied floor plan and more complex roof arrangement, often incorporating a turret or cross gables. These houses have a greater level of high style detailing which typically includes bay windows, decorative shingle patterns, and wrapping porches with ornate detailing. This type is best illustrated by the George Wagnall House (93 Main Street - MHC #487 - ca. 1895) and Alphonse G. Brigham House (117 Main Street - 1890s).

Although multi-family company housing continued to be built at a great rate through 1910, construction of single-family houses slowed after 1900. Only about a dozen single-family residences were erected between 1900 and 1930. About half were designed in the Colonial Revival style, while

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the remainder were simple Vernacular structures. There are essentially two types of Colonial Revival houses, with roughly equal numbers of each in the district. One is a modest one and one-half story cottage with a porch across the facade and a gambrel roof. Architectural detailing is very limited, with Colonial Revival elements, including Tuscan columns at porches and gambrel dormers and bays. Examples of this house type are found at 19 Elmwood Street (ca. 1915) and 40 Elmwood Street (ca. 1915). The second type of Colonial Revival residence is somewhat larger with a greater level of architectural detailing, as seen at 12 Elmwood Street (ca. 1925) and 41 Elmwood Street (ca. 1915). The house at 12 Elmwood Street is unusual as the only stucco building in the district and the only house of its kind in South Grafton. The house is two stories in height with a three-bay facade, center entry, and gable roof. The entry is enclosed within a gabled vestibule. Windows at the second floor are set close to the eaves. The house at 41 Elmwood Street is more typical of early twentieth century Colonial Revival houses with its gambrel roof, broad shed dormer across the facade, paired windows, and gabled entry porch with truncated columns. The remaining few houses built between 1900 and 1930 are simple Vernacular dwellings, typically with gable fronts and porches at the facade. They have little or no architectural detailing other than narrow cornerboards and molded window surrounds. The best examples of these are at 53 and 55 Elmwood Street (both ca. 1900). The most recent contributing residence in the district is a small Cape built about 1930 at 8 Orchard Street. The only one of its kind in the district, this house is a simple one and one-half story dwelling with a center entry and symmetrical fenestration and unmolded trim.

Public and Institutional Buildings

Although the character of the district is largely residential, there are two churches, a social club, and a library, all of which were built on land donated by the Fisher Manufacturing Company. The earliest of these buildings is St. James Catholic Church (87 Main Street - MHC #486), built in 1883. Although the building has been resided, resulting in the loss of some trim, it retains character-defining features of its original Gothic Revival design. The church has a steep pitched roof and tall spired bell tower. The entry is set in a projecting vestibule beneath a pointed arch with a tracery field. Narrow buttresses remain at entry corners and pointed arched windows have latticed stained glass. On the opposite side of Main Street the Union Congregational Church (86 Main Street - MHC #485), also in the Gothic Revival style, remains more intact. Constructed in 1895, it is the most well-preserved late nineteenth century church in Grafton. Its asymmetrical plan includes a square bell tower set in the angle of two wings. The church has pointed arch windows and a small rose window, all with opalescent glass. Stages of the tower are decorated with flared shingles skirting while corners of the building have projecting buttresses with molded pilasters. Major windows are trimmed with scroll detailing. The South Grafton Branch Library (73 Main Street - MHC #475), built in 1938, is significant as the only municipal building in Grafton designed in the Tudor Revival style. It is also the only building of that style in the district. This small brick structure has a slate roof and large cross gable centered on its facade forming a T-shaped plan. The main entry is set in a gabled vestibule enclosure on the face of the cross gable. Although much altered, the Fisher Hall French Social Club (16 Ferry Street - MHC #542 - ca. 1915) retains significance for its associations with the Fisher

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Manufacturing Company and the ethnic community of Fisherville. The building is two-stories in height, six bays deep, and enclosed by a flat roof. The two principal entries are sheltered by pedimented door hoods and one of the original entry doors remains as do the 6/2 sash windows at the second story.

Commercial Buildings

There are three contributing commercial buildings in the district, and only two that remain in commercial use. Another, the Fisherville General Store & Post Office (68 Main Street - MHC #470), was converted to apartments in the mid-twentieth century but remain significant as the only nineteenth century commercial building in Fisherville and for its associations with the Fisherville mill. Although built ca. 1850-1870, it has been substantially altered and retains little of its historic fabric. At the western edge of the district at 121 Main Street, is a small single-story concrete block commercial building that was constructed about 1930. It has a square plan, flat roof, and stepped parapet at the facade. Fenestration has been altered by the addition of a large loading door at the facade. The building is essentially utilitarian, having no architectural ornamentation. The third commercial building, also built about 1930, is a single-story wood-frame store with clapboard sheathing located at 95 Main Street (MHC #488). This well-preserved structure has a stepped parapet and glazed storefront with center entry at the facade. Architectural detailing is limited to simple unmolded window and door trim.

Other Resources

The district includes one object, the World War I Monument at the intersection of Main and Elmwood Streets. Erected in 1922, the monument is a smooth granite egg-shaped boulder holding a bronze plaque embossed with an eagle.

Archaeological Description

A high potential exists for the recovery of prehistoric sites within the boundaries of the Fisherville Historic District. At least seven prehistoric sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile) including one site within the district boundary. Site 19-WR-112 is reported as a village near the center of Scandersville on the north side of Main Street. Additional interpretative information is not available for this site. The physical characteristics of the district include well drained Aeolian and alluvial soils on level to moderately sloping terraces and floodplain surfaces along the Blackstone River. These characteristics indicate favorable locational criteria for Native American subsistence and settlement activities. Several of the prehistoric sites recorded in this area are founded around the margins of the Blackstone River floodplain and along its tributary streams. Given the above information, the large size of the district (120 acres) and the presence of a known site, a high potential exists for the recovery of significant prehistoric survivals. Prehistoric potential may be greater in the western portion of the district where open space is greater and the known site is present.

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A high potential also exists for the recovery of significant historic archaeological remains within the district structural remains may survive from the 1831 Canal Manufacturing Company Mill originally located where the Blackstone River intersects Main Street at the site of the current Fisherville Mill in the eastern portion of the district. The Canal Manufacturing Company Mill burned in 1880. Subsurface components of that mill including its water power system may have survived the fire and demolition and even incorporated into the new mill built in 1881. Dumping area may also survive associated with operations at the 1831 mill and its replacement. Archaeological survivals also likely exist from features related to the Blackstone Canal which runs west of the Fisherville Mill. Portions of the canal prism appear to remain intact including the canal trend, towpath and embankment. Archaeological survivals of a stone culvert, lock and control gate also survive intact. A headrace and tailrace also survive, probably associated with the canal's use later as a power source. Structural remains from residences in the district could date from 1820 during the town's agricultural settlement. Prior to 1860 most residences are characterized as single family. After that date multifamily housing was characteristic. Documented building losses in the district are limited to four structures associated with the mill among which two were residential blocks. One structure was located off Railroad Court with three on the lot opposite the mill. A school (1900) was also lost.

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**8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Fisherville Historic District in Grafton, Massachusetts, possesses integrity of design, location, setting, materials, and workmanship, as well as association with the development of Fisherville into a small industrial village functioning around a single mill. Beginning with construction of a four-story brick mill in 1831 by the Canal Cotton Company, the village gradually expanded through the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries under the Fisher family who owned the mill for much of its history. Today this largely residential district remains a well-preserved collection of mill buildings, houses, stores, and public buildings associated with the Fisherville mill. It is one of the most-intact of the town's four nineteenth-century industrial villages. The period of significance for the district is 1810 through 1935, to encompass the earliest structures built in the village and the last buildings constructed before the economy of Farnumsville took a downward turn. The Fisherville Historic District is of local significance and meets Criteria A and C for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Until 1825 the economic base of Grafton was still primarily agricultural although small milling operations had been established at various location in town along the Quinsigamond and Blackstone Rivers. The first mill in Grafton, a saw mill, was in operation by 1729 on the Quinsigamond just west of the town center. In the southern part of town along the Blackstone River, a grist mill, scythemaking shop, and currying operation were established by the mid-eighteenth century. By 1775 a second fulling mill was established on the Blackstone River and another fulling mill, a grist/saw mill,

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and a scythe shop were all operating in North Grafton. The Willard family had begun production of their well-known clocks in the northeast section of town by 1766. Manufacturing continued to function on a small scale into the early nineteenth century. In 1800 Grafton had several saw and grist mills, at least one fulling mill, three triphammers, several scythemaking shops, two tanneries, and a currying operation. In 1812 Albert Stone added a carding mill to his fulling mill at North Grafton. About the same time Peter Farnum began operating a small woolen mill in South Grafton, just east of where Fisherville is now located.

Industrial Development

During the decade between 1825 and 1835 the town's economy was transformed from one reliant on farming to one dominated by industry. Although boot and shoe making remained primarily a cottage industry into the early nineteenth century, the production of leather goods and leather processing became increasingly important to the town economy. Beginning with the opening of J.W. Slocomb's small shoe factory near the center in 1813, Grafton became the third largest producer of boots and shoes in the state by 1837, employing 1,392 people that year. The leather industry was hard hit by the depression that followed the financial panic of 1837. Despite a dramatic decrease in production, ten boot and shoe factories, five curriers, and two tanneries remained in Grafton in 1866.

Textile production was also becoming a significant industry for Grafton by 1837 when 469 people were employed in textile related businesses. The New England Manufacturing Company constructed its "upper mill" in North Grafton in 1826, adding the "lower mill" a few years later. Their mills, together with associated workers housing, village green, churches, stores, and school comprised what was know as the New England Village. Similarly, in South Grafton three small industrial villages developed along the Blackstone River. Peter Farnum expanded his textile operation (in Farnumsville) in 1827 with the construction of a four-story stone mill. As at the New England Village, associated housing, commercial, and institutional buildings were rapidly built around the mill, creating the small industrial village of Farnumsville. Another industrial village developed in the southwest corner of town around the 1835 textile mill of Esek Saunders and his brothers.

The third mill village in South Grafton was Fisherville. Although the Blackstone Canal of 1828 ran the entire length of the Blackstone River through the southern portion of Grafton, only the mill at Fisherville made use of the canal as a source of water power. In 1831 the Canal Manufacturing Company began construction of a four-story brick factory where the Blackstone River now intersects Main Street (site of the current Fisherville mill). Principals of the Canal Manufacturing Company were Peter Farnum, Luther Wright, and Daniel Pitts, owners of the nearby Farnumsville mill. Fisherville was then known simply as "Farnumsville upper village." The upper mill at Fisherville had the capacity for 60 looms and turned out 1800 yards of cotton cloth per day. The Canal Manufacturing Company was gradually bought out by brothers Waterman and Erastus Fisher who operated under the name Waterman A. Fisher & Company from 1845 until 1857 when Erastus became sole owner.

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Like the leather industry, the town's textile mills suffered financial losses following the panic of 1837 but the textile industry rebounded relatively fast and by 1855 there were six cotton mills in town employing 500 people. By 1870 Erastus Fisher's sons, Henry, George and Albert, had joined their father in business and the company became E. Fisher & Sons. The mill was enlarged in 1869 and by 1879 the company produced 1,500,000 yards of cloth annually. Following a devastating fire in 1880, George Fisher bought out his brothers and established the Fisher Manufacturing Company. George Fisher constructed a new factory, which held 342 looms, on the site of the old mill. This 1881 mill is the earliest section of the existing building. The Fisher Manufacturing Company began producing "fancy" cottons in 1883, an item that would eventually become the company's specialty. Subsequent expansions of the mill were undertaken in 1888 and 1905. The building size was nearly doubled in 1891, increasing its capacity to 763 looms and 31,120 spindles. By 1893 the mill employed 400 people. The business continued to prosper through the nineteenth century, and after George Fisher's death in 1900, under company presidents M.V. Adams and Oliver Ames. In 1909 the factory was expanded by another third, increasing capacity to 1018 looms and employing 500 people by 1911. The business operated through the 1920s but could not withstand financial hardships brought about by the Depression.

Although leather production and goods remained the leading industry in Grafton until about 1900, accounting for 70% of the goods manufactured in Grafton in 1880, textile manufacturing was a substantial part of the economy, with the value of textile goods produced in Grafton more than doubling between 1875 and 1885. While the leather industry declined rapidly after 1900, with only one manufacturer remaining in 1910, the textile industry sustained production through the 1920s until the Depression.

Earliest Residential Development

At the time the Canal Manufacturing Company built its mill in Fisherville in 1831 the only other structures there were a few houses. These houses included several dwellings built by the Fisher Family near the intersection of Ferry and Main Streets and an isolated house near the intersection of Elmwood and Main Streets. Of these, the Holbrook House (16 Elmwood Street - ca. 1820) and the Ferry House (18 Ferry Street - MHC #543 - ca. 1820-1830) remain. The Ferry family continued to build houses along Ferry Street into the 1850s. The Ferry/Gauthier House (4 Ferry Street - MHC #539 - ca. 1850; ca. 1915) and the W. Ferry House (15 Ferry Street - MHC #541 - ca. 1850) are the only other buildings in the district constructed prior to about 1860.

Company Development

Prior to about 1840, Main Street was laid out only as far east as Ferry Street. By 1857 Main Street had been extended eastward past the Fisherville mill to Providence Road in Farnumsville. Very early on, the district contained residences associated with the factory. As early as 1832 the Canal Manufacturing Company was assessed by the town for two houses in addition to their factory and

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water privileges. It is not known if these were houses built by the company or if the company purchased houses that had been built previously by local residents. In 1845, by which time Waterman Fisher had taken over the mill, the company owned six houses. It may be that these are the buildings that appear on the 1857 map just west of the mill but it is not known for certain. Regardless, none of these early buildings remain today. The earliest surviving mill housing, built by Erastus Fisher & Son around 1860, is located just west of the factory at 1 and 3 Railroad Court. Construction of these multi-family dwellings marks the start of a series of building campaigns by the various owners of the mill. Construction of mill housing would last into the twentieth century and ultimately define the character of the industrial village of Fisherville.

In addition to commissioning construction of workers housing, Erastus Fisher also purchased a number of single-family houses previously built by nearby residents. The tax valuation of 1880 indicates that E. Fisher & Sons owned four multi-family houses and seven single-family homes including those previously owned by "Cooper," "Ferry," and "McNamara." This probably refers to 13 Ferry Street (ca. 1870), owned by S. Cooper in 1870, and 4 Ferry Street (MHC #539 - ca. 1850; ca. 1915), owned by C. McNamara in 1870.

Construction of the multi-family tenements that characterize the district occurred in several phases that roughly coincided with expansions to the mill. About the time the mill burned and was rebuilt by the Fisher Manufacturing Company in 1881, four large tenements were built at 11-21 and 23-33 Sampson Street (ca. 1880 - MHC# Z) and 10 & 12 Railroad Court. These similar two-story buildings contain six units each and were the first workers housing built by the Fisher Manufacturing Company.

Between 1890 and 1895 the Fisher Manufacturing Company undertook the first of several major building campaigns, constructing about 25 multi-family houses, primarily along Orchard Street. Development was focussed on company-owned land southwest of the factory. Orchard Street was laid out as the principal road through the small neighborhood of workers housing and at that time extended just past Demers Street. Demers Street extended only as far east as Orchard Street. Nearly all of the houses were two-family dwellings, in keeping with the Rhode Island system of manufacturing adopted by the Fisher Manufacturing Company whereby whole families were employed in the mill. This is in contrast to the Waltham system, used in industrial communities such as Lowell and Lawrence, which characteristically employed young women and housed them in large boarding houses. The multi-family houses built by the Fisher Manufacturing Company in the 1890s were all similar in that they were two-stories in height, set close to the street, and of similar dimensions and materials. The specific floor plans, elevations, and architectural detailing varied between three different designs used for those houses built between 1890 and 1895. Identical houses were built in detached rows, creating uniform streetscapes. On the west side of Orchard Street, the eight houses from 12-14 through 40-42 Orchard Street (ca. 1890- MHC# AC) are all identical and comprise the longest row of identical houses in the district. On the opposite side of Orchard Street, the three houses at 11-13, 15-17 & 19-21 Orchard Street (ca. 1890 - MHC# AB) are of another design. The third design used in the 1890s is

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represented in the five houses at 23-25, 27-29 & 31-33 Orchard Street (ca. 1890) and 11-13 & 12-14 Demers Street (ca. 1895 - MHC# 529).

About 1909 the factory was increased by a third and about 30 additional two-family houses were built to accommodate the increased work force. To allow for additional house lots, Orchard, Demers, and Sampson Streets were extended and English Row was laid out, creating the street pattern that exists today. Houses built between about 1905 and 1915 follow the same basic form as those constructed previously but three slightly different designs were used. Identical houses were built along English Row (2-4 through 17-19; ca. 1905 - MHC# AE), at 16-18, 17-19 & 20-22 Demers Street (ca. 1905 - MHC #531-533), along the east side of Orchard Street (47-49 through 71-73; ca. 1910 - MHC #512-516), and at 58-60 & 62-64 Sampson Street (ca. 1910 - MHC #501 & 502). A second design was used for those houses at 35-37, 39-4 & 43-45 Orchard Street (ca. 1910 - MHC #509-511) and a row of six houses on the west side of Sampson Street (12-14 through 38-40 - ca. 1910 - MHC# AA). The third house design used between 1905 and 1915 is represented in three houses at 44-46, 48-50 & 52-54 Orchard Street (ca. 1910 - MHC# AD). Construction of housing by the Fisher Manufacturing Company dropped off sharply after about 1915. The last residential building commissioned by the company was the Fisher Boarding House (ca. 1915 - MHC# 494) at 57 Sampson Street. The need for a boarding house suggests a change in the work force to include increasing numbers of single men and women. It is one of three remaining examples of this building type in town.

In addition to constructing multi-family housing, the Fisher Manufacturing Company built a row of five detached single-family homes along the east side of Ferry Street, abutting the neighborhood of two-family houses. It is likely that these were built for senior factory personnel. Prior to construction of the Ferry Street houses, the only other single-family home built by the mill owners in Fisherville was the house at 72 Main Street (MHC #476 - ca. 1860). It also owned by Waterman A. Fisher & Company as early as 1857 and also occupied by senior factory personnel. By 1898 it was occupied by mill superintendent, Ellis Earnshaw. In 1902 it was the home of James Coyne, overseer for the mill.

Typical of many mill villages, the physical appearance of Fisherville reflects the hierarchy within the mill company. Here the multi-family houses of the factory workers and small single-family homes of the supervisors are clearly distinguished from the high-style mill owner's house, the Fisher House (ca. 1875 - MHC# 477) at 75 Main Street. It was built as the residence of Erastus Fisher who was owner of the mill from 1845 until 1880, first in partnership with his brother, Waterman, and later with his sons, Henry, George, and Albert.

As was common with mill villages where a single company owns much of the land surrounding the factory, the Fisherville Manufacturing Company built or donated land for several commercial, institutional, and social buildings intended to serve the mill workers. Together with the residences, these buildings were the physical framework of a self-contained village. The earliest is the Fisherville General Store & Post Office (68 Main Street - ca. 1860 - MHC #470). Although considerably altered, it retains its basic form and is the oldest commercial building in the district. Two churches where

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built on company-owned land near the center of the village, convenient to workers' residences: St. James Catholic Church (1883 - MHC# 486) at 87 Main Street and Union Congregational Church (1895 - MHC# 485) at 86 Main Street. Both continue to serve as religious centers for South Grafton. Nearby is the South Grafton Branch Library (1938 - MHC# 475) at 73 Main Street. To provide a meeting and entertainment focus for factory employees, the Fisher Hall French Social Club (16 Ferry Street - ca. 1915 - MHC# 542) was built. Historically known as the Cercle Lacordaire, the building housed a movie theater and meeting hall. In the 1960s it was purchased by the catholic church and used as a parish hall and is currently houses a commercial use. A school was also built (1900) to accommodate the local population but has since been demolished.

The French Social Club is a reminder of the ethnic associations of many of the mill workers. Much of Grafton's work force by the end of the nineteenth century were foreign-born immigrants. By 1855 large numbers of Irish immigrants were already in Grafton, followed by waves of Canadian, English, and Scottish immigrants. By 1870 the latter totaled nearly one quarter of the town's population. By 1875 the French Canadian population outnumbered the Irish. The highest percentage of foreign-born residents was reached in 1895 (33.15%). English and Scottish immigrants were found mostly in North Grafton, while a large number of French Canadians settled in South Grafton. In the late nineteenth century, most of the parishioners of St. James Church were from Quebec, Ireland, and the maritime provinces. Eventually the congregation was further diversified by immigrants from Poland, Italy, Lithuania, and Slovakia. This is reflected, not only by the surviving institutions but also in the names of some property owners and occupants.

Other Residential Development

At the same time the Fisher Manufacturing Company was constructing their workers' housing, remaining vacant land west of the factory, along Main, Ferry, and Elmwood Streets, was being divided into house lots and filled with both single and multi-family houses. Roughly half of the houses built in the district were commissioned by the mill owners while the remainder were constructed privately, most between 1890 and 1915 when the majority of company housing was being constructed. Residential construction west of the mill was facilitated by the Worcester & Blackstone Valley Street Railway which was extended along Main Street around 1900. The majority of privately built houses were for workers employed in the mills, primarily the skilled craftsman, specialists, or senior personnel. P. Frank Kelley, overseer of the Fisher Manufacturing Company, owned the house at 22 Elmwood Street (ca. 1890). Master mechanic, Charles Wilder, lived at 79 Main Street (ca. 1890 - MHC# X). Ellsworth Howe was the company paymaster in the late nineteenth century and he owned the house at 81 Main Street (ca. 1890 - MHC# X). James Shaw and Robert Newsham worked as loom fixers and owned the houses at 103 (MHC #517) and 107 Main Street (ca. 1890) respectively. A few of the houses from this period were owned by mill operatives who were able to secure enough capital to build houses of their own. These include 95 and 99 Main Street (ca. 1890 - MHC# Y) which was owned by weavers Alexander Legassey and George Fitzsimmons (respectively), 23 Ferry

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Street (ca. 1890 - MHC# 546) which was the home of machinist Willard Ferry, and 101 Main Street (ca. 1890 - MHC# Y), the home of mill operative Michael Corey.

In addition to the company-built housing, multi-family residences were constructed by investors for rent to mill employees. About a dozen of these are represented in the district. Most are two-family houses, similar to those built by the Fisher Manufacturing Company, and are primarily located at the west end of Main Street and along Elmwood Street. Well-preserved examples remain at 30-32 Elmwood Street (ca. 1890), 26 Elmwood Street (ca. 1890), and 84 Main Street (ca. 1905 - MHC #484). Only one building, 114 Main Street (ca. 1915), appears to have been designed with small multiple apartments.

Residential construction continued into the twentieth century, although falling off sharply after about 1915. Only five contributing buildings in the district were built after 1915. These were built on scattered lots throughout the district. The Fisher Manufacturing Company continued production in the early twentieth century, employing 700 people as late as 1930, but ultimately could not survive the Depression. Most of the company's real estate, including the workers' housing, was sold.

Recent preservation efforts within the district have had strong support from the town planning department, the local historical commission, and residents of the district. Several proposals for adaptive reuse of the mill have recently been set forth and further study of these continues. Residents of the district are committed to preserving the historic character of the neighborhood and retaining the mill as its focus.

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of prehistoric settlement in Grafton are poorly understood, any surviving sites would be significant. Prehistoric sites in this area can contribute to a greater understanding of Native American subsistence and settlement patterns along the eastern edge of the Central Massachusetts uplands and the relationship of those sites to sites in the coastal lowlands. Sites in this area can also be used to test hypotheses relating to prehistoric settlement and subsistence in different but neighboring riverine drainages. The nominated property lies within interior portions of the Blackstone River system near its border with the Assabet/Concord/Merrimack River drainage to the northeast. Sites in the area may have similarities to sites in either drainage system, represent similarities with both drainages, or represent an interior adaptation independent of either drainage. Historic archaeological remains described above have the potential to provide detailed information on the social, cultural, and economic changes that occurred as a village was transformed from a initial reliance based on farming to a core industrial village. Few homes were present in Fisherville when the Canal Manufacturing Company mill was built in 1831. Structural survivals of residences from this period would be important since few examples survive intact. Detail analysis of occupational related features associated with these survivals as well as those still intact could provide insights into Grafton's agricultural beginning and the start of the town's shoe industry, Boot and shoe manufacture characterized the

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manufacturing base until 1837 when textiles were produced. boots and shoes may have been produced as type of cottage industry prior to large scale production in the mills.

The study of structural survivals and related occupational type features from mid 19th to 20th century single and multi-family homes in the district can provide valuable information on the hierarchy within the mill village including Grafton's ethnic divisions and social stratification. The comparative study of archaeological survivals from these resources can identify important social cultural and economic divisions between factory workers who occupied multi-family homes, factory supervisors who live in small single family homes and the mill owners high style homes. Within these classes of data the evolution and make-up of Grafton's ethnic divisions can also be studied through detailed analysis of occupational related features and municipal dump areas. By 1855 Grafton already had a large number of Irish inhabitants followed by French Canadian, English, and Scottish immigrants. By the late 19th and early 20th century Polish, Italian, Lithuanian and Slovakian immigrants were also present. Each of these groups came to Grafton with different cultural backgrounds which might be reflected in the archaeological record. Archaeological resources may help to identify ways in which these different backgrounds adapted to working class life within the leather and textile industry and their contributions to Grafton's character as it exists today.

Archaeological resources associated with the Blackstone Canal can also provide important information relating to canal construction techniques, design and the transition between the canal's use as a transportation corridor to a water power function. Archaeological testing can identify construction factories and detailed components of the canal prism which could indicate exactly how different portions of the canal were constructed, what kinds of materials were used and modification which may have deviated from the overall canal design and other similar canals in the region. This information could have significance relating to the overall development of canal technology in eastern United States. The identification and mapping of those portions of the canal used for water power can provide detail regarding canal modifications for water power use and the contributing effect they may have had on the failures of the canal for transportation.

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UTM References (cont.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
5	19	277460	4673030
6	19	277950	4672990
7	19	278030	4672700
8	19	277890	4672480
9	19	277580	4672300
10	19	277310	4672590
11	19	276940	4672550
12	19	276880	4672860

(end)

Boundary Description

The Fisherville Historic District includes properties along the principal thoroughfares (Main, Elmwood, and Ferry Streets) and secondary streets (Demers, Orchard, and Sampson Streets, English Row, and Railroad Court) in the village of Fisherville, located in the southern part of Grafton. In nearly all locations, the boundaries follow current property lines of lots bordering these streets. At 103 Main Street and in the northeast corner of the district, the boundaries follow the east bank of the Blackstone River and south shore of Fisherville Pond. At the southeast corner of the district, the boundary follows the north bank of the Blackstone River. Exact boundaries are delineated on an attached map.

Boundary Justification

The Fisherville Historic District includes the core of the industrial village, its factory, associated residences, public buildings, and commercial structures. Most of the buildings date from the nineteenth or early twentieth centuries. The northern boundary of the district is easily defined as it borders the Providence & Worcester Railroad bed, the Blackstone River, and Fisherville Pond. A small cluster of modern houses along Sunnyside Terrace has been excluded from the district, as has

(continued)

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Fisherville Historic District  
Grafton, (Worcester County)  
Massachusetts**

Section number 10 Page 2

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the adjacent modern fire station. West of the district, along Main and Elmwood Streets, is a residential area with many houses postdating the mid-twentieth century. Historic houses are far more scattered here than in the district. There are a number of houses on both Murray Avenue and Farnum Street which appear to have been built during the period of significance for the district but have been substantially altered and retain little integrity. For this reason they have been excluded from the district. Much of the southern boundary of the district borders the Sutton town line. A cluster of modern houses at the south end of Orchard Street (west side) have also been excluded from the district. On the opposite side of Orchard Street just outside the district is a large vacant lot owned by the town of Grafton. The boundary at the southeast corner of the district is defined by the rambling path of the Blackstone River. The Fisherville Historic District is contiguous with the Farnumville Historic District, separated by the Blackstone River where it passes under Main Street. The two districts are distinct communities, each having a unique character and history.

(end)

**Fisherville Historic District  
Grafton (Worcester County), Massachusetts  
District Data Sheet**

<b>MAP#</b>	<b>MHC#</b>	<b>HISTORIC NAME</b>	<b>STREET ADDRESS</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>STYLE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>TYPE</b>
114-91	529	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing shed	11-13 Demers Street	ca. 1895 ca. 1970	Queen Anne	C NC	B B
114-107	530	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing shed		ca. 1895 ca. 1895	Queen Anne	C C	B B
114-106	532	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	16-18 Demers Street	ca. 1905	Vernacular	C	B
114-92	531	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing shed	17-19 Demers Street	ca. 1905 ca. 1970	Vernacular	C NC	B B
114-105	533	Fisher Manufacturing Co. housing shed	20-22 Demers Street	ca. 1905 ca. 1970	Vernacular	C NC	B B
114-39		garage	12 Elmwood Street	ca. 1925 ca. 1925	Colonial Revival	C C	B B
114-26		garage	15 Elmwood Street	ca. 1925 ca. 1935	Vernacular	C C	B B
114-38		Holbrook House garage	16 Elmwood Street	ca. 1820 by 1910	Federal	C C	B B
114-27			19 Elmwood Street	ca. 1915	Colonial Revival	C	B
114-28			21-23 Elmwood Street	ca. 1915	Colonial Revival	C	B
		garage shed		ca. 1930 ca. 1900-1920		C C	B B
114-37		P. Frank Kelley House	22 Elmwood Street	ca. 1890	Queen Anne	C	B
114-36			26 Elmwood Street	ca. 1890	Queen Anne	C	B
		shed		ca. 1900		C	B
114-35			28 Elmwood Street	ca. 1925	Colonial Revival	C	B
		garage		ca. 1950		NC	B
114-34			30-32 Elmwood Street	ca. 1890	Queen Anne	C	B
		cottage		ca. 1890-1900	Queen Anne	C	B
		garage		ca. 1920		C	B
114-33			34 Elmwood Street	ca. 1895	Queen Anne	C	B
		shed		ca. 1980		NC	B
		shed		ca. 1960		NC	B
114-32			38 Elmwood Street	ca. 1895	Queen Anne	C	B
		garage		ca. 1920-1930		C	B

**Fisherville Historic District  
Grafton (Worcester County), Massachusetts  
District Data Sheet**

<b>MAP#</b>	<b>MHC#</b>	<b>HISTORIC NAME</b>	<b>STREET ADDRESS</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>STYLE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>TYPE</b>
114-31		garage	40 Elmwood Street	ca. 1915	Colonial Revival	C	B
		barn		ca. 1930		C	B
				ca. 1940-1960		NC	B
114-17			41 Elmwood Street	ca. 1915	Colonial Revival	C	B
114-31A			44 Elmwood Street	ca. 1975	Astylistic	NC	B
114-10			53 Elmwood Street	ca. 1900	Vernacular	C	B
114-9			55 Elmwood Street	ca. 1900	Vernacular	C	B
		shed		ca. 1970		NC	B
106-6		Alphonse Vigeant House	54 Elmwood Street	ca. 1890	Queen Anne	C	B
		cottage		ca. 1890		C	B
114-1			61 Elmwood Street	ca. 1915	Colonial Revival	C	B
		garage		ca. 1930		C	B
		shed		ca. 1970		NC	B
		shed		ca. 1930-1950		NC	B
		shed		ca. 1930-1950		NC	B
		shed		ca. 1930-1950		NC	B
		shed		ca. 1930-1950		NC	B
114-102	534	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	2-4 English Row	ca. 1905	Vernacular	C	B
114-93	AE; 535	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	5-7 English Row	ca. 1905	Vernacular	C	B
		garage		ca. 1920-1930		C	B
		shed		ca. 1970		NC	B
114-94	AE; 536	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	9-11 English Row	ca. 1905	Vernacular	C	B
		shed		ca. 1970		NC	B
114-95	AE; 537	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	13-15 English Row	ca. 1905	Vernacular	C	B
		shed		ca. 1970		NC	B
114-96	AE; 538	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	17-19 English Row	ca. 1905	Vernacular	C	B
		shed		ca. 1970		NC	B
114-134	539	Ferry/Gauthier House	4 Ferry Street	ca. 1850; ca.1915	Colonial Revival	C	B
		cottage		ca. 1900		C	B
114-133			8 Ferry Street	unknown	very altered	NC	B
114-132	540		10 Ferry Street	ca. 1950	Astylistic	NC	B

**Fisherville Historic District  
Grafton (Worcester County), Massachusetts  
District Data Sheet**

<b>MAP#</b>	<b>MHC#</b>	<b>HISTORIC NAME</b>	<b>STREET ADDRESS</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>STYLE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>TYPE</b>
120			11 Ferry Street	ca. 1975	Astylistic	NC	B
114-121		Cooper House	13 Ferry Street	ca. 1870	Vernacular	C	B
114-122	541	W. Ferry House	15 Ferry Street	ca. 1850	Greek Revival	C	B
		garage		ca. 1930		C	B
		barn		ca. 1870-1900		C	B
114-131	542	Fisher Hall French Social Club	16 Ferry Street	ca. 1915	Vernacular	C	B
114-123		U.S. Post Office	17 Ferry Street	ca. 1960	Vernacular	NC	B
114-129	543	Ferry House	18 Ferry Street	ca. 1820-1830	Vernacular	C	B
		garage		ca. 1930		C	B
		shed		late 19th c.		C	B
114-124	544	Hardy House	19 Ferry Street	ca. 1890	Vernacular	C	B
		shed		ca. 1970		NC	B
128	545	Ballou House	20 Ferry Street	ca. 1880	Gothic Revival	C	B
		shop/shed		ca. 1910		C	B
		shed		ca. 1910		C	B
		shed		ca. 1910		C	B
114-125	546	Willard Ferry House	23 Ferry Street	ca. 1890	Queen Anne	C	B
		barn; cottage		ca. 1890; ca. 1900		C	B
		garage		ca. 1930		C	B
114-104	547		27 Ferry Street	ca. 1885	Vernacular	C	B
		shed		ca. 1970-1980		NC	B
114-103	548		29 Ferry Street	ca. 1905	Vernacular	C	B
		shed		ca. 1970		NC	B
114-101		Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	31 Ferry Street	ca. 1905	Vernacular	C	B
114-100		Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	33 Ferry Street	ca. 1905	Vernacular	C	B
114-99		Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	35 Ferry Street	ca. 1905	Vernacular	C	B
		shed		ca. 1960-1970		NC	B
114-98		Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	37 Ferry Street	ca. 1905	Vernacular	C	B
114-97		Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	39 Ferry Street	ca. 1905	Vernacular	C	B
	927	World War I Monument	Main & Elmwood	1922		C	O

**Fisherville Historic District  
Grafton (Worcester County), Massachusetts  
District Data Sheet**

<b>MAP#</b>	<b>MHC#</b>	<b>HISTORIC NAME</b>	<b>STREET ADDRESS</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>STYLE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>TYPE</b>
115-2	W;466-469; 924-926	Fisher Manufacturing Company	60 & 61 Main Street	1881, 1891	Vernacular	C	B
		office/storehouse		1881		C	B
		stock house		1881		C	B
		control gate		19th century		C	S
115-121		electric building		early 20th century		C	B
		dam		19th century		C	S
		culvert		19th century		C	S
	929	Blackstone Canal		1828	NA	C	S
114-59	470	Fisherville Gen'l Store & Post Office	68 Main Street	ca. 1850-1870	Vernacular	C	B
114-54	X; 476	Ellis Earnshaw House	72 Main Street	ca. 1860	Greek Revival	C	B
		shed		ca. 1970		NC	B
114-115	475	South Grafton Branch Library	73 Main Street	1938	Tudor Revival	C	B
114-116	477	Fisher House	75 Main Street	1870s	Second Empire/Italianate	C	B
114-53	X; 478		76 Main Street	ca. 1925	Vernacular/Greek Revival	C	B
114-52	X; 479	Wilder House	78 Main Street	ca. 1915	Colonial Revival	C	B
		garage		ca. 1950		NC	B
114-117	X; 480		79 Main Street	ca. 1890	Queen Anne	C	B
		garage		ca. 1950		NC	B
114-51			80 Main Street	ca. 1900	Queen Anne	C	B
		garage		ca. 1920		C	B
114-118	X; 481	Brady/Howe House	81 Main Street	ca. 1890	Queen Anne	C	B
		garage		ca. 1935		C	B
114-50	X; 482		82 Main Street	ca. 1905	Colonial Revival	C	B
		garage		ca. 1930		C	B
114-119	483	F.A. Bonn House	83 Main Street	ca. 1890	Stick Style/Queen Anne	C	B
		barn/garage		ca. 1890		C	B
114-49	X; 484		84 Main Street	ca. 1905	Colonial Revival	C	B
		garage		ca. 1920		C	B
		garage		ca. 1950		NC	B
114-48	485	Union Congregational Church	86 Main Street	1895	Queen Anne/Gothic Revival	C	B
114-135	486	St. James Catholic Church	87 Main Street	1883-84	Gothic Revival	C	B

**Fisherville Historic District  
Grafton (Worcester County), Massachusetts  
District Data Sheet**

MAP#	MHC#	HISTORIC NAME	STREET ADDRESS	DATE	STYLE	STATUS	TYPE
		rectory		1887	Colonial Revival	C	B
		garage/barn		ca. 1885		C	B
		school		ca. 1950-1960		NC	B
114-136	Y; 487	George Wagnall House	93 Main Street	ca. 1895	Italianate/Queen Anne	C	B
		garage		ca. 1895		C	B
		shed/garage		ca. 1930		C	B
114-137	Y;488;Y;489	Alexander Legassey House	95 Main Street	ca. 1890	Queen Anne	C	B
		cottage		ca. 1895		C	B
		store		ca. 1930	Vernacular	C	B
114-139	Y; 490	George Fitzsimmons House	99 Main Street	ca. 1890	Queen Anne	C	B
		garage		ca. 1935		C	B
114-140	Y; 491	Michael Corey House	101 Main Street	ca. 1890	Queen Anne	C	B
		garage		ca. 1950		NC	B
114-150	517	James Shaw House	103 Main Street	ca. 1890c; ca. 1925	Queen Anne	C	B
		garage		ca. 1935		C	B
114-144		Robert Newsham House	107 Main Street	ca. 1890	altered	C	B
		garage		ca. 1935		C	B
114-145			109 Main Street	ca. 1890	Queen Anne	C	B
		garage		ca. 1920		C	B
114-25			110 Main Street	ca. 1895	Queen Anne	C	B
		garage		ca. 1950		NC	B
114-146			111 Main Street	ca. 1905	Queen Anne	C	B
		shed		ca. 1950		NC	B
114-24			112 Main Street	ca. 1905	Queen Anne	C	B
		shed		ca. 1920		C	B
114-147			113 Main Street	ca. 1915	Colonial Revival	C	B
		shed		ca. 1950-1970		NC	B
114-23			114 Main Street	ca. 1915	Vernacular	C	B
114-148			115 Main Street	ca. 1915	Colonial Revival	C	B
		garage		ca. 1920		C	B
114-149		Alphonse G. Brigham House	117 Main Street	1890s	Queen Anne	C	B
		shop/shed		ca. 1960-1970		NC	B

**Fisherville Historic District  
Grafton (Worcester County), Massachusetts  
District Data Sheet**

<b>MAP#</b>	<b>MHC#</b>	<b>HISTORIC NAME</b>	<b>STREET ADDRESS</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>STYLE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>TYPE</b>
114-150		Brigham House	119 Main Street	ca. 1895	Victorian/Queen Anne	C	B
		garage		ca. 1920		C	B
152		shed	121 Main Street	ca. 1930	Modern	C	B
				ca. 1950		NC	B
114-114		shed	8 Orchard Street	ca. 1935	Cape	C	B
				ca. 1935		C	B
114-72			9 Orchard Street				V
114-73	AB; 503	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	11-13 Orchard Street	ca. 1890	Vernacular	C	B
		garage		ca. 1930		C	B
114-113	AC; 518	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	12-14 Orchard Street	ca. 1890	Vernacular	C	B
		shed		ca. 1890		C	B
114-74	AB; 504	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	15-17 Orchard Street	ca. 1890	Vernacular	C	B
		garage		ca. 1930		C	B
114-112	AC; 519	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	16-18 Orchard Street	ca. 1890	Vernacular	C	B
		garage		ca. 1930		C	B
114-75	AB; 505	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	19-21 Orchard Street	ca. 1890	Vernacular	C	B
		shed		ca. 1970		NC	B
114-111	AC; 520	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	20-22 Orchard Street	ca. 1890	Vernacular	C	B
		shed		ca. 1890		C	B
114-76	506	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	23-25 Orchard Street	ca. 1890	Vernacular	C	B
		shed		ca. 1970		NC	B
114-110	AC; 521	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	24-26 Orchard Street	ca. 1890	Vernacular	C	B
		garage		ca. 1930		C	B
114-77	507	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	27-29 Orchard Street	ca. 1890	Vernacular	C	B
		shed		ca. 1970		NC	B
114-109	AC; 522	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	28-30 Orchard Street	ca. 1890	Vernacular	C	B
		shed		ca. 1890		C	B
114-78	508	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	31-33 Orchard Street	ca. 1890	Vernacular	C	B
		garage		ca. 1950-1960		NC	B
114-108	AC; 523	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	32-34 Orchard Street	ca. 1890	Vernacular	C	B
		shed		ca. 1890		C	B

**Fisherville Historic District  
Grafton (Worcester County), Massachusetts  
District Data Sheet**

<b>MAP#</b>	<b>MHC#</b>	<b>HISTORIC NAME</b>	<b>STREET ADDRESS</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>STYLE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>TYPE</b>
114-79	509	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing garage	35-37 Orchard Street	ca. 1910 ca. 1930	Vernacular	C C	B B
114-90	AC; 524	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	36-38 Orchard Street	ca. 1890	Vernacular	C	B
114-80	510	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing shed	39-41 Orchard Street	ca. 1910 ca. 1970	Vernacular	C NC	B B
114-89	AC; 525	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing shed	40-42 Orchard Street	ca. 1890 ca. 1980	Vernacular	C NC	B B
114-82	511	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing garage	43-45 Orchard Street	ca. 1910 ca. 1930	Vernacular	C C	B B
114-88	AD; 526	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing shed	44-46 Orchard Street	ca. 1910 ca. 1970	Vernacular	C NC	B B
114-81	512	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	47-49 Orchard Street	ca. 1910	Vernacular	C	B
114-87	AD; 527	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	48-50 Orchard Street	ca. 1910	Vernacular	C	B
114-86	513	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	52-54 Orchard Street	ca. 1910	Vernacular	C	B
114-83	AD; 528	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing shed	51-53 Orchard Street	ca. 1910 ca. 1930	Vernacular	C C	B B
114-84	514	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing shed	55-57 Orchard Street	ca. 1910 ca. 1950	Vernacular	C NC	B B
122-3	515	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing shed	59-61 Orchard Street	ca. 1910 ca. 1970	Vernacular	C NC	B B
122-4	516	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing garage shed	63-65 Orchard Street	ca. 1910 ca. 1930 ca. 1970	Vernacular	C C NC	B B B
122-5		Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing garage shed workshop/shed	67-69 Orchard Street	ca. 1910 ca. 1930 ca. 1950 ca. 1950	Vernacular	C C NC NC	B B B B
122-6		Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	71-73 Orchard Street	ca. 1910	Vernacular	C	B
114-57		E. Fisher & Sons Housing	1 Railroad Court	ca. 1865	Vernacular	C	B
114-56		E. Fisher & Sons Housing	3 Railroad Court	ca. 1865	Vernacular	C	B
114-58		Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	10 Railroad Court	ca. 1880	Vernacular	C	B
114-55		Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	12 Railroad Court	ca. 1880	Vernacular	C	B

**Fisherville Historic District  
Grafton (Worcester County), Massachusetts  
District Data Sheet**

<b>MAP#</b>	<b>MHC#</b>	<b>HISTORIC NAME</b>	<b>STREET ADDRESS</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>STYLE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>TYPE</b>
114-61	Z; 492	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing shed	11-21 Sampson Street	ca. 1880 ca. 1950	Vernacular	C NC	B B
114-71	AA; 495	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	12-14 Sampson Street	ca. 1910	Vernacular	C	B
114-70	AA; 496	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	16-18 Sampson Street	ca. 1910	Vernacular	C	B
114-69	AA; 497	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	20-22 Sampson Street	ca. 1910	Vernacular	C	B
114-62	Z; 493	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	23-33 Sampson Street	ca. 1880	Vernacular	C	B
114-68	AA; 498	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	28-30 Sampson Street	ca. 1910	Vernacular	C	B
114-67	AA; 499	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	32-34 Sampson Street	ca. 1910	Vernacular	C	B
114-63	494	Fisher Boarding House	37 Sampson Street	ca. 1915	Colonial Revival/Vernacular	C	B
114-66	AA; 500	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	38-40 Sampson Street	ca. 1910	Vernacular	C	B
114-65	501	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	58-60 Sampson Street	ca. 1910	Vernacular	C	B
122-7	502	Fisher Manufacturing Co. Housing	62-64 Sampson Street	ca. 1910	Vernacular	C	B

Contributing                  Noncontributing

Building	175	50
Structure	4	
Object	1	
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>50</b>

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Fisherville Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester

DATE RECEIVED: 1/16/96      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/31/96  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/16/96      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/01/96  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 96000056

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    2/16/96    **Entered in the**  
DATE **National Register**

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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



Fisherville Mill  
Fisherville Historic District  
Grafton, MA (Worcester County)

Chris Beard

2/94

Christine Beard Assoc

View NW along north side of Street.

1 of 11



Union Cong. Church, 84 & 82 Main St.

Fisherville Historic District

Grafton, MA (Worcester County)

Chris Beard

2/9/11

Christine Beard Assoc.

View NE along north side of street.

2 of 11



South Grafton Branch Library & 75 Main St.  
Fisherville Historic District  
Grafton, MA (Worcester County)

Chris Beard

2/94

Christine Beard Assoc

View SW along south side of street.

3 of 11



SWIMMING POOLS  
& SUPPLIES

95-107, 112 & 114 Main St  
Fisherville Historic District  
Grafton MA (Worcester County)

Chris Beard

2/94

Christine Beard Assoc

View SW along south side of street

4 of 11



19 1/2 21-23 Elmwood St.  
Fisherville Historic District  
Grafton, MA (Worcester County)

Chris Beard

2/94

Christine Beard Assoc

View SW along south side of street

5 of 11



33 through 39 Ferry St.

Fisherville Historic District

Grafton, MA (Worcester County)

Chris Beard

2/94

Christine Beard Assoc.

View SE along east side of street.

6 of 11



5-7 through 17-19 English Row

Fisherville Historic District

Grafton, MA (Worcester County)

Chris Beard

2/94

Christine Beard Assoc.

View NE along east side of street.

7 of 11



11-13 & 17-19 Demers St & 2-4 English Row  
Fisherville Historic District

Grafton, MA (Worcester County)

Chris Beard

2/94

Christine Beard Assoc

View SW along south side of street.

8 of 11



11-13 through 51-53 Orchard St.

Fisherville Historic District

Grafton, MA (Worcester County)

Chris Beard

2194

Christine Beard Assoc

View NE along east side of street.

9 of 11



082 KGN

11-21  $\frac{1}{2}$  23-33 Sampson St.  
Fisherville Historic District  
Grafton, MA (Worcester County)

Chris Beard

2/94

Christine Beard Assoc.

View NE along east side of street.

10 of 11



37 Sampson St.

Fisherville Historic District

Grafton, MA (Worcester County)

Chris Beard

2/94

Christine Beard Assoc.

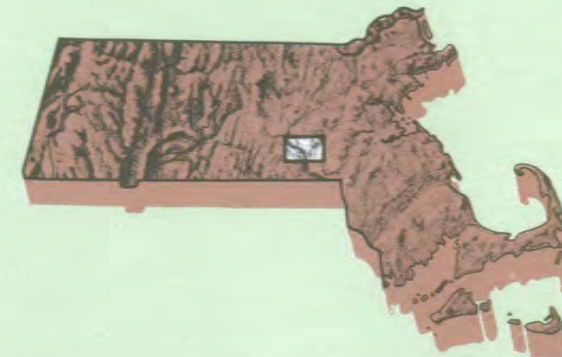
View SE along east side of street

"of"

# Milford

MASSACHUSETTS

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

1982

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

Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey  
Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
taken 1980. Field checked 1981. Map edited 1982  
Supersedes Milford and Grafton 1:25,000-scale maps  
dated 1968 and 1969

Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 19: Universal  
Transverse Mercator  
10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate  
system, mainland zone. 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 0.3 METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

CONVERSION TABLE		DECLINATION DIAGRAM		ADJOINING MAPS		
Meters	Feet	1° 15' 30" N		1	2	3
1	3.2808	1° 15' 00" N		4	5	
2	6.5617	1° 14' 30" N		6	7	8
3	9.8425	1° 14' 00" N				
4	13.1234	1° 13' 30" N				
5	16.4042	1° 13' 00" N				
6	19.6850	1° 12' 30" N				
7	22.9659	1° 12' 00" N				
8	26.2467	1° 11' 30" N				
9	29.5275	1° 11' 00" N				
10	32.8084	1° 10' 30" N				

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808  
To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

UTM grid convergence (GCM) at center of map  
Magnetic declination (MAG) at center of map  
Diagram is approximate

1 Worcester North  
2 Middlesex South  
3 Framingham  
4 Middlesex South  
5 Middlesex  
6 Worcester  
7 Ludlow  
8 Franklin

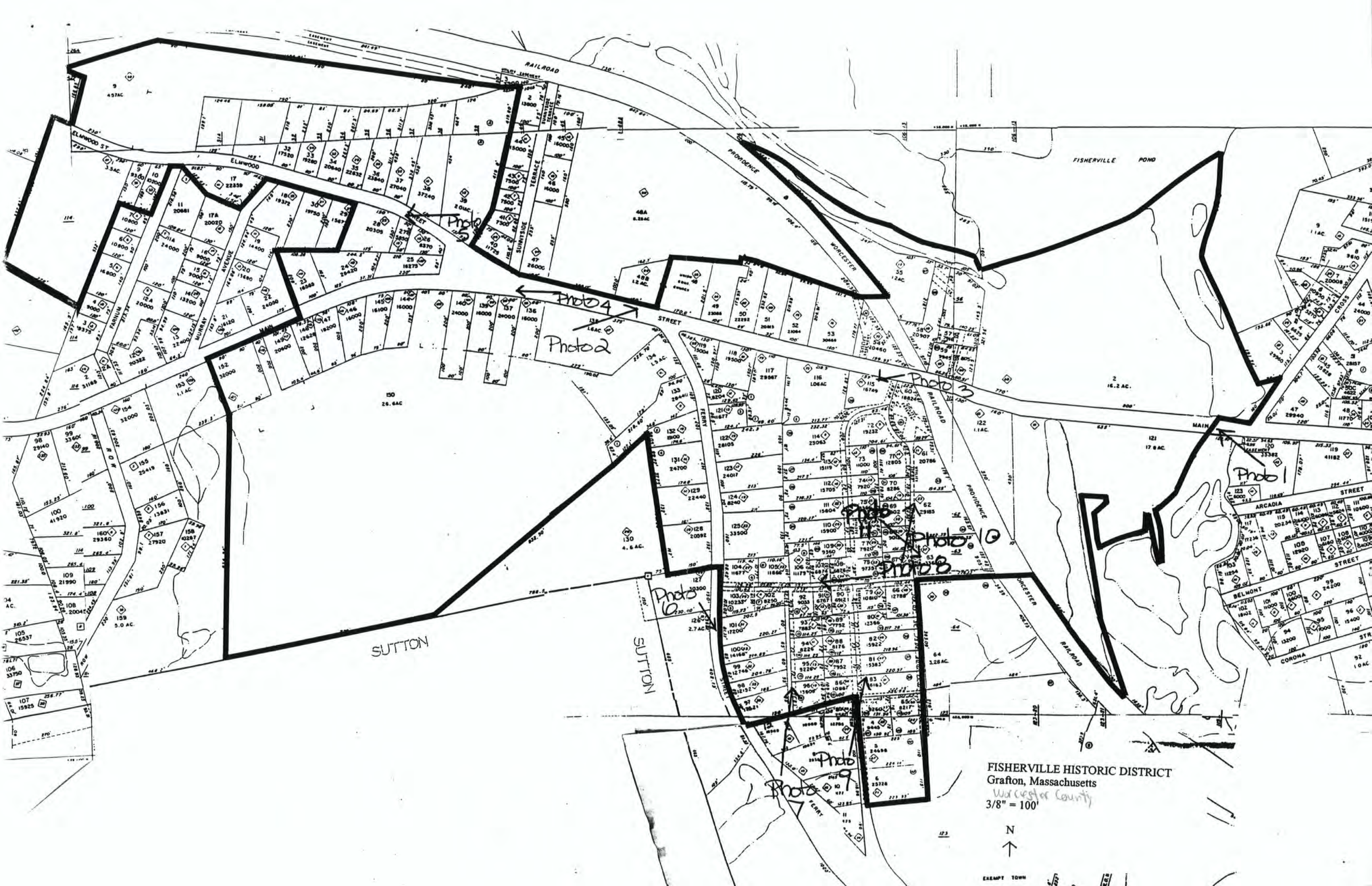
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

### 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 gauge; narrow gauge
- 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 land 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; shaft or cave; Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation; Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression; Distorted surface: stipe, mire, lava, sand; Bathymetric contours: index; intermediate; Parental lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream; Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small; Submerged marsh; marsh, swamp; Land subject to controlled flooding; woodland; Scrub; mangrove; Orchard; vineyard

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request

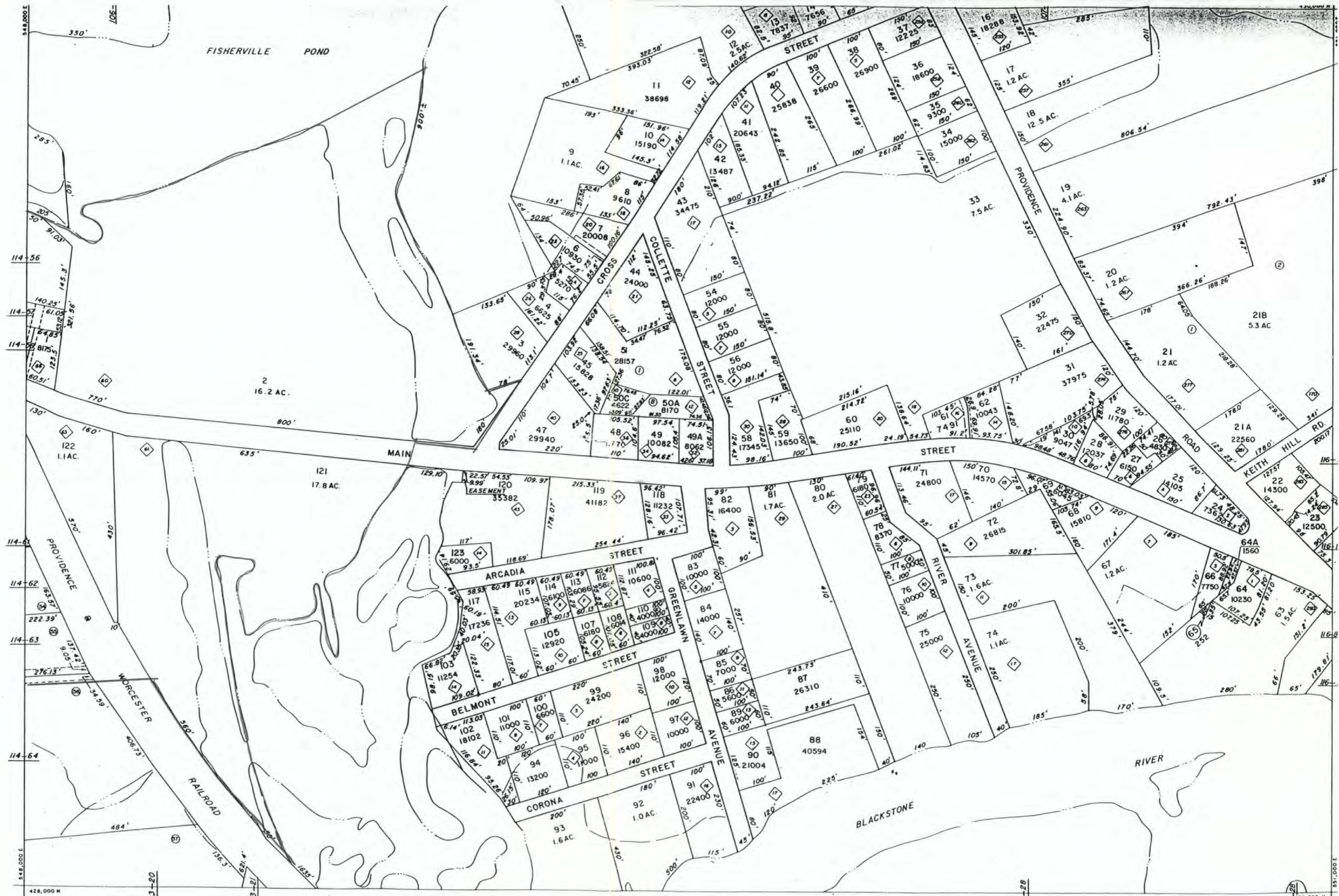




FISHERVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT  
Grafton, Massachusetts  
Worcester County  
3/8" = 100'



EXEMPT TOWN



COL-EAST INC.  
BOSTON & PITTSFIELD

FISHERVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT  
GRAFTON, MA  
Worcester County

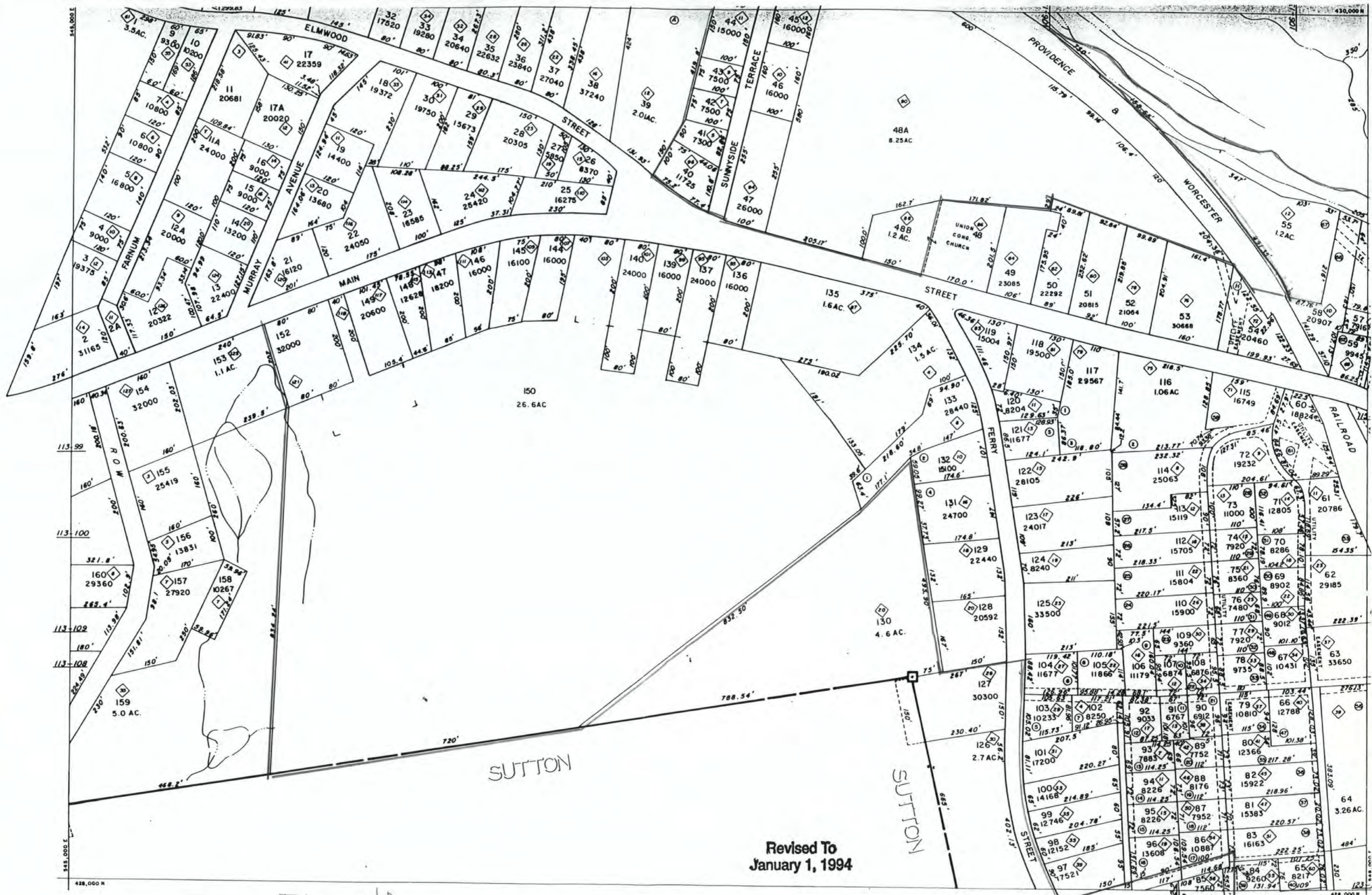
GRAFTON

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NO PARCEL 46,53,57  
SCALE 1 INCH = 200 FEET

106	107	108
114	115	116
122	123	124

115



Revised To  
January 1, 1994

Fisherville H.D.  
Grafton (Worcester County) MA

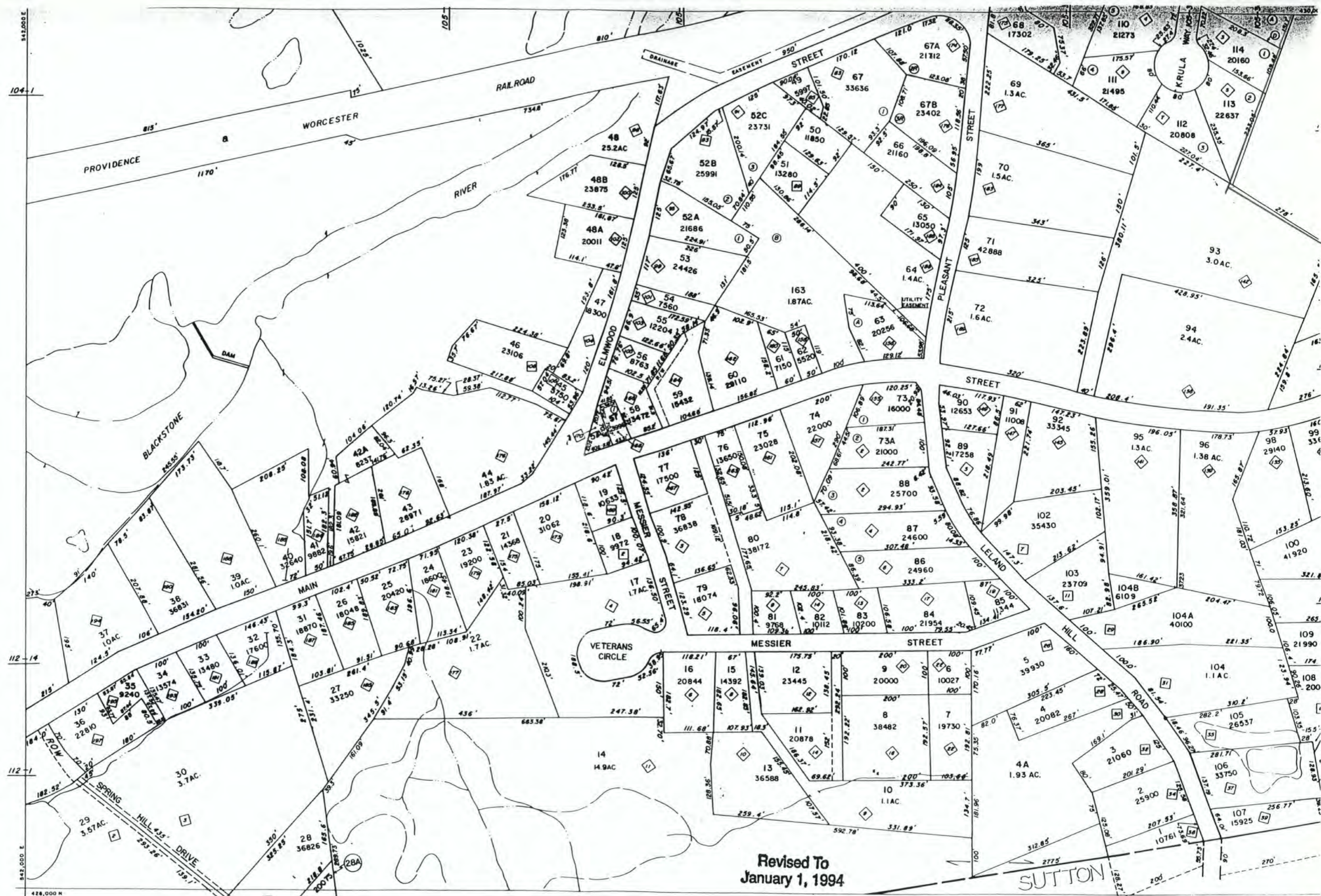
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LITTLETON, NH 03561

SCALE 1 INCH = 200 FEET

105	106	107
113	114	115



104-1  
 112-14  
 112-1  
 842,000 E  
 428,000 N

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NO PARCEL IDI  
 SCALE 1 INCH = 200 FEET

104	105	106
112	113	114
120	121	122



845,000 E  
 103-12  
 105-17  
 103-20  
 104-23  
 105-26A  
 105-26  
 102-22  
 845,000 E  
 430,000 N

NEW ENGLAND POWER CO.

EASEMENT

FISHERVILLE POND

RAILROAD

COL-EAST INC.  
BOSTON & PITTSFIELD

*Fisherville H.D.  
Grafton (Worcester County) MA*

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January 1, 1994

NO PARCEL 1, 9  
SCALE 1 INCH = 200 FEET

97	98	99
105	106	107
113	114	115

106  
10



426,000 N

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SCALE 1 INCH = 200 FEET

113	114	115
121	122	123
128	129	

122

426,000 N



**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth  
Massachusetts Historical Commission



December 12, 1995

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

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Fisherville Historic District, Grafton (Worcester County), Massachusetts 01519

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. Since the town of Grafton is a participant in the Certified Local Government program, owners were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 60 to 120 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betsy Friedberg".

Betsy Friedberg  
National Register Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Mildred Bean, Chair, Grafton Historical Commission  
Raymond E. Mead, Chair, Grafton Board of Selectmen  
Christine S. Beard, Preservation Consultant  
Head Librarian, Grafton Public Library

DATE TUE, FEB 6, 1996, 3:33 PM  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY REPORT  
REFERENCE No.: 96000056

Control No.: 960130/EHB

PROPERTY NAME: Fisherville Historic District

OTHER NAME/ NOT APPLICABLE  
SITE No. :

MULTIPLE NAME: NOT APPLICABLE

ADDRESS/ Roughly bounded by Main, Elmwood, Ferry and Sampson Sts.  
BOUNDARY

CITY: Grafton

COUNTY: Worcester

STATE: MASSACHUSETTS

Restricted Location Information: Owner: PRIVATE Resource Type: DISTRICT  
LOCAL

	Contributing	Noncontributing
Buildings	175	50
Sites	0	0
Structures	4	0
Objects	1	0

Nomination/Determination Type: SINGLE RESOURCE

Nominator: STATE GOVERNMENT

Nominator Name:  
NOT APPLICABLE

Federal Agency: NOT APPLICABLE

NPS Park Name: NOT APPLICABLE

Certification: DATE RECEIVED/PENDING NOMINATION Date: 01/16/96

Other Certification: NOT APPLICABLE

Historic Functions: INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION  
DOMESTIC

Historic Subfunctions: MANUFACTURING FACILITY  
MULTIPLE DWELLING  
SINGLE DWELLING

Current Functions: DOMESTIC

Current Subfunctions: MULTIPLE DWELLING  
SINGLE DWELLING

Level of Significance: LOCAL Applicable Criteria: EVENT  
ARCHITECTURE/ENGINEERING

Significant Person's Name: NOT APPLICABLE

Criteria Considerations: NOT APPLICABLE

Area of Significance: COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
ARCHITECTURE  
INDUSTRY

Periods of: 1800-1824 1825-1849  
 Significance: 1850-1874 1875-1899  
 1900-1924 1925-1949

Circa: Specific Sig. Years:

NOT APPLICABLE

Architect/Builder/Engineer/  
 Designer:

Cultural Affiliation:

NOT APPLICABLE

NOT APPLICABLE

Other Documentation:

NOT APPLICABLE

HABS No. N/A

HAER No. N/A

Architectural Styles: LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS

Describe Other Style: NOT APPLICABLE

Foundation Materials: SANDSTONE  
 Wall Materials: WEATHERBOARD BRICK  
 Roof Materials: ASPHALT  
 Other Materials: NONE LISTED

Acreeage: 120.0

UTM	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
Coordinates:	19/	76 700/	46 73 000	19/	76 770/	46 73 240
	19/	77 230/	46 73 120	19/	77 180/	46 72 940
	19/	77 460/	46 73 030	19/	77 950/	46 72 990
	19/	78 030/	46 72 700	19/	77 890/	46 72 480
	19/	77 580/	46 72 300	19/	77 310/	46 72 590
	19/	76 940/	46 72 550	19/	76 880/	46 72 860