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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Bridgham-Arch-Wilson Streets Historic District other names/site number Upper West End/Northern Elmwood

2. Location

street & number n/a not for publication city, town Providence n/a vicinity state Rhode Island code RI county Providence code 007 zip code 02907

3. Classification

Table with 3 columns: Ownership of Property, Category of Property, and Number of Resources within Property. Includes checkboxes for private/public ownership and building/district/site/structure/object categories. Resource counts: Contributing 151, Noncontributing 24 buildings, 175 Total.

Name of related multiple property listing: Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register n/a

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet. Signature of certifying official: Frank C. Williams, Date: 27 July 1988, State or Federal agency and bureau: Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet. Signature of commenting or other official: Date: State or Federal agency and bureau:

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is: entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register. removed from the National Register. other, (explain:). Signature of the Keeper: Andrew Byers, Date of Action: 9/1/88

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling
DOMESTIC/single dwelling
INDUSTRY/manufacturing facility
RELIGION/religious structure

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling
DOMESTIC/single dwelling
RELIGION/religious structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)MID-19TH CENTURY/Greek Revival/
Octagon Mode
LATE VICTORIAN/Italianate

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE, BRICK
walls WOOD
BRICK
roof ASPHALT
other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Located on the West Side of Providence on the northern edge of the Elmwood section (see Historic Resources of Elmwood: Historic and Architectural Resources, Partial Inventory, listed in the National Register of Historic Places), the Bridgham-Arch-Wilson Streets Historic District is a boot-shaped, suburban residential neighborhood which developed between about 1840 and 1920--with construction of ancillary buildings continuing even later--as infill between two major early transportation routes, Cranston Street (west) and Elmwood Avenue (east). Bridgham Street forms the northern boundary; Wilson and Harrison Streets, the southern boundary. Within these boundary edges are Arch, Constitution, Gilmore, Kendall, Fales, and Junction Streets.

The architecture in the district consists of wood-frame, one-and-one-half-story and, predominantly, two-and-one-half-story side-hall-plan, one- and two-family houses in restrained expressions of late Greek Revival, and Early Victorian styles, including Second Empire and Italianate. The Late Victorian period is also represented to a lesser degree including modest Stick Style, Queen Anne and Colonial Revival examples. In addition to the typical vernacular houses and associated utilitarian garages in the district, a few more elaborate houses, utilitarian brick commercial buildings, one industrial building and two institutional buildings exist.

Houses are close together on narrow lots and, with a few exceptions, set just back from the sidewalk line. Vegetation is generally restricted to scattered street trees and some back yard plantings. Despite the impacts of limited maintenance, unsympathetic alterations and spot loss of buildings resulting in vacant lots, the district sustains integrity of its relatively dense mid- to late nineteenth-century character. The district contains a total of 175 buildings, of which 151 are contributing and 24 are non-contributing structures, as well as 43 vacant lots.

The Bridgham-Arch-Wilson Streets area was an agricultural

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outskirt of Providence until the mid-nineteenth century when land pressure in the old central city core pushed industrial and residential growth to peripheral undeveloped areas. Initial construction in the district during the 1840s, 1850s and 1860s consisted of workers' housing for nearby manufacturing, as illustrated by the cluster of two-family Greek Revival and Early Victorian houses along Constitution and Gilmore Streets. In the 1870s and 1880s a second wave of development occurred, primarily along Arch, Wilson, and Bridgham Streets, with construction of one- and two-family houses by and for the middle class. The major twentieth century change in the district was the construction of typical one-, two-, and three-car, suburban residential garages, or "auto houses", at the rear of lots.

The Bridgham-Arch-Wilson Streets Historic District is one of several mid-nineteenth to early twentieth-century residential districts, a number of which are already listed in the National Register of Historic Places, which lie on an arched curve along the west side of downtown Providence. To the north is the large Broadway-Armory Historic District, containing many elaborate and high-style homes of noteworthy industrialists and the like. To the southeast are the Parkis-Comstock Historic District, a small collection of upper-middle-income residences, and the Wesleyan Avenue Historic District, a group of upper-middle-income single family houses. Further south is the Elmwood Historic District, consisting of architecturally distinguished single-family homes on suburban tree-lined streets. East, and closer to the downtown, is the Pine Street Historic District.

The Bridgham-Arch-Wilson Streets Historic District complements these other areas of Providence's West Side as a well-preserved example of a nineteenth century diverse neighborhood. The record of architectural development in the 1850s and 1860s contained in the district is of particular note.

INVENTORY: Contributing and Non-Contributing

The following is an inventory of structures within the Bridgham-Arch-Wilson Streets Historic District. Unless otherwise noted, all buildings are wood-frame construction. Vacant lots are listed at the end. Attribution of historic names to properties is based on historic map and deed information. In cases where no

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historic name could be determined, properties are simply designated by building type, i.e. "House". A number of houses are listed as "Mary Helen Potter House" and "Charles A. Potter House;" these were investment properties owned by members of the Potter family. Refer to the statement of significance for further discussion of this aspect of the district's development.

In general, all buildings constructed during the period of significance, defined as primarily from 1840 to 1920, but continuing to 1938, are defined as contributing, unless integrity has been lost. Early twentieth century concrete block garages, dated through historic maps and style, are included as contributing buildings because they document adjustments made to accommodate the automobile. Contributing buildings are indicated by (C), and non-contributing buildings by (NC).

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ARCH STREET (Numbers 10 through 52)

- 10 Elizabeth Sayles House (c. 1875-82): A 2½-story, end-gable structure which retains its original 2/2 windows, entry porch and bay window trim. Asbestos shingles cover or replace the original siding. Mrs. Sayles purchased the property in 1868. In 1895 Mrs. Sayles, Miss Mary E. Sayles, and Canfield Hector, physician, were residing in the house. (C)

Garage (ca 1910): 1-bay, hip-roof, wood-frame garage with swing doors. (C)

- 12 Annie B. Swan House (c. 1865-75): A full gable-end pediment and narrow, high entry porch with slim columns and carved floral brackets distinguish this transitional Greek Revival/Victorian house. It was apparently constructed as rental property by Samuel Swan (see 16 Arch Street); in 1895, John E. Spencer and John L. Watson, jeweler, were living here. (C)

- 15 James M. Anthony House (c. 1900): Stone, Carpenter & Willson, architects. A 2½-story, shingled, Colonial Revival dwelling with a 1½-story gambrel roof, a common form in Providence at the time. The symmetrical facade has a steeply pitched gable-roofed dormer over the entry porch and doorway with leaded sidelights and elliptical blind fan. Anthony, a co-owner of the James M. Anthony & Co. cigar store, resided here until his death in 1918. (C)

- 16 Samuel B. Swan House (c. 1867): A 2-1/2 story, end-gable, clapboarded house with fairly elaborate paired brackets trim, incised panels under windows, and round-arched upper windows in the 2-story, projecting front bay. Swan was a partner in Tucker, Swan & Co., coal and wood dealers, located at Dyer and Dorrance Streets, and later president of the Providence Board of Public Works. Swan also owned a rental property at 12 Arch Street. (C)

- 17 Charles H. Sprague House (c. 1874): Alpheus Morse, architect. This square, 2-story Second Empire dwelling has a low mansard roof, symmetrical facade, and academic, classically inspired trim. Sprague (1844-1900) was a partner in S.S. Sprague & Co., a wholesale grainshipping business founded by his father. He lived

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Arch Street (continued)

here until moving to Providence's East Side in 1895. (C)

Garage (ca 1920): Rusticated-cement-block, hip-roof, 3-bay garage, with vertical board swing doors. (C)

- 21-23 Charles E. Rawson House (c. 1865-75): A 2½-story, wide, end-gable, 2-family house with one-and two-story front window bays and two asymmetrical side entry porches. Rawson was a paper ruler, who purchased the property in 1876 but is not listed here until 1885. (C)
- 22 William E. Lovegrove House (c. 1879): A 2½-story, 2-family Second Empire house with a slate mansard roof, modillion cornice, and front and side porches. Lovegrove, a stove and tinware dealer, purchased this lot in 1867 and was one of the original occupants of the house. (C)
- 25 Moses M. and Fanny L. Stern House (c. 1865-75): A 2½-story, end-gable house altered with a 20th-century enclosed 1-story porch. Stern was a dealer in gentlemen's furnishing goods, 150 Westminster Street. They moved here in 1875. (C)
- 26 Charles H. Arnold House (c. 1873): 2½-story, Second Empire multi-family house with a mansard roof. Arnold, a teller with the American National Bank purchased the property in 1870 and resided here until 1882, when he moved to 39 Broadway. (C)
- 27 James E. Crandall House (c. 1865-69): A 1½-story, shingled, end-gable, 2-family house with shed dormers on the roof flanks and an enclosed 1-story front entry porch added in the early 20th century. Crandall, a carriage maker, bought the property in 1869. His shop was located at 31 Worcester Street, corner of Union. (C)
- 28 Alonzo W. Stanley House (c. 1873): A 2-story, 2-family house with a small entry porch and a mansard roof, restrained Renaissance Revival window trim, and modillion cornice. The porch columns and some cornice modillions have recently been removed. Stanley, a contractor and builder, erected this as an investment property. (C)

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Arch Street (continued)

- 29 Wilbur W. Bridge House (c. 1869): A 1½-story, end-gable house with enclosed 1-story front porch, now vacant and boarded due to fire damage. Bridge was a dentist with the firm of Bridge Bros., 32 Westminster. His brother George A. Bridge, lived at 39 Arch Street. (C)
- Garage (ca 1930): Rusticated-cement-block, hip-roof, 1-bay garage, with multi-light swing doors. (C)
- 30 Jessie B. Bicknell House (c. 1882-89): A 2-story, Second Empire house with a multi-colored, patterned slate mansard roof, small entry porch and 2-story projecting window bay. Recent removal of aluminum siding has exposed wood clapboards, although side elevations window trim has been lost. Bicknell was a pattern maker. He purchased the property in 1885 and may have constructed the house. (C)
- 31 Abram Baker House (c. 1865-79): A 1½-story, end-gable house with side window bay, small enclosed front entry porch, and asbestos shingle siding. The house was apparently constructed as rental property by Baker, a jeweler at 358 Friendship. Early tenants included a dry goods dealer, a carpenter, and a clairvoyant. (C)
- Garage (after 1938): Plain, cement-block, end-gable, 1-bay garage, with overhead door. (NC)
- 33 George W. Chapin - William D. Hilton House (c. 1867): A 1½-story, end-gable, clapboarded house with bracketed doorhood. This is the best preserved of a group of similar structures. In 1873 the house was purchased by Florence B. and Henry Russell Teel, a bootmaker specializing in ladies footwear with a shop at 29 Snow Street. (C)
- 34 Daniel R. Child House (c. 1871): A typical end-gable, single entrance, 2-family house, elaborate for the area with paired-bracket cornice and rope molding on the corner pilasters and door hood. Child, a jewelry manufacturer moved to this house from Swansea, Massachusetts, where he returned in 1876. In 1878 the property was purchased by Edwin L. Barney of New Bedford. (C)

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Arch Street (continued)

Carriage House (c. 1865-75): A well preserved, 1½-story, cross-gable, clapboarded structure apparently built by Daniel R. Child for 36 Arch Street and pre-dating 34 Arch Street. (C)

35 Building (after 1938): 1-story, brick commercial building, either replacing or sheathing a late 19th-century structure in the same location. (NC)

35 rear Stephen A. Knight Stable (c. 1875-82): A 2-story, brick structure facing Fales Street with low hip roof and, on front facade, a mansard roof, large carriage entrance and gable dormer above with timberwork trim. The property was owned by Stephen A. Knight in 1875. It was probably operated as a commercial stable and later as a garage. (C)

36 William N. Otis House (c. 1865-75): A 2½-story, end-gable house with cross gables, 2-story projecting window bay and porch trimmed with brackets and pendant drops. Window trim is covered or removed for aluminum siding and porch columns removed. Probably constructed by Daniel R. Childs and associated with the carriage house at the rear of 34 Arch Street. The property was purchased in 1884 by William N. Otis, a gold refiner. (C)

Garage (after 1938): Plain, cement-block, end-gable, 1-bay garage, with overhead door. (NC)

37 Israel D. Washburn House (c. 1871): A well-preserved, 1½-story, end-gable, clapboarded house with bracketed doorhood. Washburn, a clerk at 331 High, acquired the property and began residing here in 1871. (C)

Garage (after 1938): Plain, cement-block, end-gable, 2-bay garage, with overhead door. (NC)

38 Florence A. Stowell House (c. 1865-75): A 2½-story, end-gable house with modillion cornice, front and side 2-story projecting window bays, bracketed doorhood, and pair of round-arch windows in facade gable. Simple window trim has been retained despite the addition of aluminum siding. (C)

38 rear House (ca 1890): A 2½-story, cross-gable, shingled house, with

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Arch Street (continued)

eave returns, paired 2/1 double-hung-sash, and entry on side elevation. (C)

- 39 Patrick Frank Hoye House (c. 1871-75): 2½-story, shingled, end-gable house with 2-story window bay and columned entry porch. Large shed dormers have been added to the full length of both roof flanks and the house is boarded as a result of fire. Hoye, a clerk with Green & Co., importers, purchased the property in 1871 and lived here. One of the early tenants in the 1880s and '90s was George A. Bridge, dentist and partner in Bridge Bros. (see 29 Arch Street). (C)

Garage (ca 1920): Rusticated-cement-block, hip-roof, 2-bay garage, with doors missing. (C)

- 42 Tristram H. Angell House (c. 1875): A 2½-story, clapboarded, Second Empire house with mansard roof. A third story has been added to the front projecting window bay and porch columns removed. Angell was a partner in Angell and Briggs (179 Washington), carpenters. He probably constructed the house in 1875 and was listed as living here in 1876. His widow, Elizabeth L., rented in the 1880s and 90s. (C)

Garage (ca 1920): Rusticated-cement-block, hip-roof, 2-bay garage, with swing doors. (C)

- 43 Emma M. Jucket House (c. 1901): Originally 2½-stories, this end-gable, multi-family house has been enlarged to almost 3 stories by shed dormers along both roof slopes. Miss Emma Jucket, a milliner, acquired the property in 1901. She was living here in 1903 with Mrs. Edmund B. Jucket, widow, perhaps her mother. (C)

Garage (ca 1930): Rusticated-cement-block, hip-roof, 2-bay garage, with bricked facade and swing doors. (C)

- 44 Arthur P. Sanborn House (c. 1887-89): A 2½-story, end-gable house with 2-story projecting window bay and small entry porch. Asphalt shingles have been removed, revealing clapboards and the building appears under restoration, although windows are partially boarded and open with no sash in place. Sanborn was a

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Arch Street (continued)

clerk, residing here in 1888 and renting portions of the house.
(C)

- 45 John E. Potter House (c. 1875): A 2-story, end-gable-roof clapboarded house with 2-story bay window and entry porch with ironwork cresting on the front. Front and side gables and rear porch are decorated with elaborate, open timberwork ornament. Potter (1845-97), born in North Dartmouth, Massachusetts, became a druggist in New Bedford and moved to Providence in 1873. He came to own two prosperous drugstores, one at Cranston and Gilmore Streets, the other at Elmwood Avenue and West Friendship Street. (C)

Garage (after 1938): Plain, cement-block, hip-roof, 2-bay garage, with swing doors. (NC)

- 46 Frank M. Mason House (c. 1882-88): A 2½-story, end-gable, asphalt-shingled house with 2-story projecting bay and small entry porch. The building's very plain architectural trim has been retained. Mason was a bookkeeper/clerk. He may have been living here from the 1880s and acquired the house in 1891, at which time he was with the Providence Institute for Savings. (C)

- 48 George N. Cummings House (c. 1882-88): A 3-story stuccoed (later) multi-family house with flat roof and 4-bay facade, with center two bays in a squared projecting pavilion. Apparently built as rental property by Cummings, an optician, the house was occupied in 1895 by a jeweler, bookkeeper, silversmith, and widow. (C)

- 49-51 John E. Potter House (c. 1882): A 2½-story, 2-family double-entrance mansard-roof structure with 2½-story projecting window bay and elaborate trim including handsome bracketing and delicate cast-iron cresting on the entrance porch. Potter lived next door, and his construction of this dwelling as an investment reflects his increasing prosperity in the 1880s (see 45 Arch Street). In 1880s and 90s it was occupied by Charles C. Spalding, insurance agent with an office at 87 Weybosset. (C)

Garage (ca 1920): Rusticated-cement-block, hip-roof, 2-bay garage, with swing doors. (C)

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Arch Street (continued)

- 50 Thomas H. Cannon House (c. 1902-08): A large, 3½-story, plain Queen Anne house with recessed center entry between semi-octagonal corner bays and 2nd and 3rd story porches above. Cannon apparently erected this house as rental property. (C)
- 52 Raymond G. Place House (c. 1855): A 1½-story, flank-gable shingled house with a rear ell (part of which predates 1875) and an early twentieth century porch across front. Place, a cashier with the Mt. Vernon Bank, was living here in 1855 (then 19 Hickory). In the late 1860s Place started a prosperous coal dealing business at 39 Pearl (corner of Central), later Raymond G. Place & Son. In 1894 the property was acquired by the Cannon family, apparently as rental investment and remained with the Cannon family until 1950s. (C)

BRIDGHAM STREET (Numbers 26 through 74)

- 26 Walter S. Kenyon House (c. 1870-75): A 2½-story, end-gable, 2-family house, with 1-story projecting window bay and entry porch on the front. Aluminum siding has been removed revealing clapboards, although most window trim has been lost. Kenyon, a dentist, acquired the property in 1895. (C)

Garage (ca 1930): Cement block, hip-roof, 2-bay garage, with double overhead door. (C)

- 38 Thomas W. Gorton House (c. 1864): A square, 3-story, 2-bay-facade dwelling with low hip roof, wide front windows (altered?) and central entry porch (columns removed). The original clapboard has been covered with shingles. Listed as a merchant in the 1869 Providence directory, Gorton was in the watch and watch-repair business by 1871. (C)

Garage (ca 1930): Rusticated-cement-block, hip-roof, 3-bay garage, with vertical board swing doors. (C)

- 48 Thomas Moffitt House (c. 1868): A 2½-story end-gabled, 2-family house with two round-arch windows in the gable end and an entry porch (one column replaced by plain wood post). Thomas

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Bridgham Street (continued)

Moffitt built the house as his dwelling. In 1894 Anne E. Moffitt, widow, William Moffitt, blacksmith, and William F. Hardy, clerk, resided here. (C)

Garage (after 1938): Plain, cement-block, 2-bay garage, with no roof structure remaining. It replaces an earlier wood-frame building on same site. (NC)

- 52 Simon S. Page House (c. 1868): A 2½-story, end-gable house with 2-story projecting window bay and small entry porch and modillion/dentil architectural trim. Page, a builder and real estate investor, apparently constructed this on speculation. (C)

- 56 Mary L. and Elizabeth B. Welch House (c. 1875): A 2½-story, Second Empire house with mansard roof, 2-story front and side window bays, bracketed entry hood and several arched and circular windows. The Misses Welch acquired the property and began living here in 1879. It may have been constructed by Stillman Welch, listed at 89 Bridgham in 1875 and this address in 1876. (C)

Garage (ca 1930): Wood-frame, hip-roof, 3-bay garage, with doors replaced. (C)

- 62 William Harris House (c. 1875-82): A 2½-story, end-gable house with decoratively incised bargeboards on the front and side gables, incised panels under the front 2-story projecting window bay and entry porch column bases. Probably constructed as rental, occupied in the 1890s by a police/watchman, a minister, and by Mrs. Henry Kendall (1877-mid-1880s). (See 70 Bridgham Street). (C)

Carriage House (c. 1875-82): A 1½-story, gable-roofed structure with original clapboards covered in asphalt shingles. (C)

- 64-66 Samuel A. Darling - George O. Rogers House (c. 1868): A 2½-story, Second Empire house with mansard roof, front and side entry porches, and front 2-story projecting window bay. Despite asphalt siding, the house retains its modillion trim. Samuel Darling, of Darling, Brown and Sharpe is listed as living here from 1880 to 1886 when he moved to his new house at 41 Wesleyan Avenue. Mr. and Mrs. George O. Rogers were listed in the 1902

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Bridgham Street (continued)

Providence Blue Book at this address. (C)

Garage (ca 1930): Cement-block, hip-roof, 2-bay garage, with swing doors, and facing onto Kendall Street. (C)

- 70 Henry E. Kendall House (c. 1870-71): A 2½-story, end-gable house with bracketed cornice and entry porch, 1-story front and side bay windows, and two round-arch windows in the front gable end. Kendall, a carpenter, lived at 85 Bridgham Street (now gone), with a shop at the rear. After his death in the mid-1870s, his wife moved to number 62 Bridgham. Kendall constructed this house as an investment. (C)

Garage (ca 1930): Cement-block, hip-roof, 2-bay garage, with swing doors. It replaces an earlier wood-frame outbuilding on the same site. (C)

- 72-72½ Potter House (c. 1875-82): A wide, 2½-story, end-gable, multi-family house, with centered, 2-story projecting window bay, recessed side porch entry and front entry surmounted by a bracketed hood with rope moulding. This largely intact house, was originally identical to 74 Bridgham Street, now altered; most likely the pair was constructed as investment rental property, and was owned by Potter family until 1920. (C)

- 74 Potter House (c. 1875-82): Now altered by raising of the roof, boarded and vacant, the house was originally identical to 72 Bridgham Street. It retains its recessed side porch and front hood. Like its neighbor, it was constructed as investment rental property by the Potter family. (C)

CONSTITUTION STREET (Numbers 7 through 49)

- 7 House (c. 1865): A square, 2-story, hip-roof house with two transom-lit entries on either end of one side. The house is currently sheathed in asbestos shingle and a window or perhaps the original entry at one of the front 3 bays may have been closed (see 14 Constitution Street, a similar house). Apparently, a two-unit rental property, the house was occupied in the 1890s by John Church, a toolmaker, and a nurse, and in the

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Constitution Street (continued)

1900s by a driver and a grocer. (C)

- 14 Read House (c. 1860): A basically square, hip-roof, clapboarded house with 3-bay facade, sidehall plan, and hooded entry. The property was owned by the Read family from the 1880s to about 1920. In the 1890s the property was occupied by H.H. Barber, a draftsman, and John Long, a waiter. (C)
- 14 rear Read Commercial/Industrial Building (c. 1885, probably rebuilt ca 1930): A large, square, 2-story brick building with tall second story windows, originally owned by Josephus Read. Read's occupation is not listed in the directories. This building may have been part of the R.I. Rug Work Company and in 1918 was owned by A.M. Read et al. Records indicate the building was damaged by fire in about 1920. (C)
- 17 James Wheeler House (c. 1853-55): A small, 1½-story clapboarded end-gable house with entry on the 3-bay gable flank and plain detailing, set at the back of its lot. The house was most likely constructed by John H. Brown, a carpenter who purchased the land from Daniel Field in 1852. James Wheeler, a laborer, bought the property in 1855, and it remained in the Wheeler family until 1901. (C)
- 18 John Marshall House (c. 1862): A modest, end-gable Greek Revival cottage with paneled corner pilasters, cornice return, and a possible original bracketed doorhood over recessed, transomed entry; a side gable has been added in recent years. Marshall was an enameler with a shop at 43 Clifford Street. In 1895 the house apparently had two units occupied by a moulder, a jeweler, and an engineer. (C)
- 21 George G. Mathewson House (c. 1862): A 1½-story, end-gable Greek Revival cottage with recessed entry and simple detailing; a bay window has been added to the front. Mathewson, a carpenter, evidently constructed this two-unit building as rental property and owned other property in the area. Turn of the century occupants included a clerk, a grocer, and a fireman. (C)
- Garage (ca 1930): Cement-block, flat-roof (remodelled from hip?), 2-bay garage, with entry replaced. (C)

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Constitution Street (continued)

- 25 Mary Helen Potter House (c. 1875-82): A 2½-story, end-gable, clapboarded house with 2-story projecting front window bay, bracketed entry hood, and restrained detailing. Apparently constructed with two rental units, the house had a teamster and a boxmaker among its early occupants. (C)
- 27-29 Mary Helen Potter House (c. 1885): A 2½-story, end-gable, clapboarded, 2-family house with 2-story projecting front window bay and double entry surmounted with bracketed doorhood, trimmed with rope molding. Early renters included a policeman, a carpenter, and a teamster. (C)
- 30 Charles A. Potter House (c. 1860-75): A small, 1½-story end-gable cottage. Trim is now covered by or removed for aluminum siding. This house apparently had two rental units, occupied in the 1890s by a fireman, a jeweler, a clerk, and a teamster. (C)
- Garage (after 1938): Ship-lap-sheathed wood-frame, hip-roof, 2-car garage, with multi-light swing doors. (NC)
- 39 Mary Helen Potter House (c. 1882-89): A 2½-story, end-gable, shingled house with 2-story, front, projecting window bay and double entry bracketed doorhood with rope molding. A rental property, the house was occupied in 1895 by Silas N. Adams, a salesman. (C)
- 40-42 Charles A. Potter House (c. 1882-89): A 2½-story, end-gable house with handsome bracketed trim on double entry porch, projecting 2-story window bay, and front and side gables. The house is sheathed in clapboards with novelty patterned shingles in the gables. Originally constructed by Charles A. Potter as a rental investment property. (C)
- 49 House (c. 1860-75): A 2½-story house with gable flank on Constitution Street and gable end on Lester Street. The house retains its original basic form, although altered by aluminum siding, porches. In 1892 the property was owned and probably used as workers' housing by the Mechanical Fabric Company, 40 Sprague Street, Providence. (C)

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DEXTER STREET (Number 178)

- 178 St. Charles Borromeo Roman Catholic Church (c. 1915): Walter Fontaine, (Woonsocket), architect. A neo-Renaissance church with a 4-level arcaded square campanile. Detailing includes elaborate use of brick corbeling for cornice design and facade trim, granite sills, and decorative concrete ornaments, and paired stained glass windows with patterned brick surrounds. The church has a strong design relationship with nearby Cranston Street Armory (1907; NR). This French Catholic Church was organized in 1878 under the name of St. John's Society; meetings were originally held at LaSalle Academy on Fountain Street. Fontaine was the architect of many French Catholic churches. (C)
- 178 St. Borromeo Church Rectory (c. 1888): An imposing 2½-story Second Empire house with mansard roof, incised decorative details, projecting window bays and entry porch. The house was constructed by John W. Moore and acquired by the church for use as a rectory in 1921. (C)

Garage (ca 1920, after 1938): Rusticated-cement-block, 2-bay garage, with corner quoins. Later rebuilt as shed with gable roof and shed-roofed observation tower projecting from roof. (NC)

ELMWOOD AVENUE (Numbers 59, 63)

- 59 Silas M. Field - Howard E. Blanchard House (c. 1850-57; c. 1922): A 2½-story house with gable flank on Elmwood Avenue and gable end on Arch Street, probably constructed as a rental investment by Field. Blanchard purchased the house in 1921 and was most likely responsible for the Colonial Revival style remodelling. (C)
- 63 Silas M. Field House (c. 1857): The City's largest of four remaining octagonal houses, this is a 2-story stuccoed structure (probably built of the aggregate mixture advocated for such structures by the man who promoted the octagon house, Orson Squire Fowler) with later large, rear brick wing and mansard roof. Field was a jeweler with Riley and Field on Pine Street who lived here until his death in 1886. His son, Silas E. Field, also a jeweler, lived here until 1900. In 1918 S.E. Field also owned 14, 16, and 27 Wilson Street and 59 Elmwood Avenue,

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Elmwood Avenue (continued)

flanking the intersection, although this property had been sold to A.A. Ballert. (C)

GILMORE STREET (Numbers 26 through 48)

- 26-28 Mary Helen Potter House (c. 1886-89): A square, 2-story, hip-roof, clapboarded house, somewhat altered by siding. A rental property with several units, of which one occupant in the early 1900s was William M. Phelps, carpenter and part owner of Dawley and Phelps (20-22 Gilmore, gone; previously A.N. Parker, see 192 Lester Street). (C)
- 31 Hiram and Olive L. Tufts House (c. 1865-75): A 2½-story, end-gable, shingled house with 2-story front projecting window bay, bracketed doorhood, and dentil trim (see also 33 Gilmore Street). Apparently a rental property. The Tufts family owned the property and resided here from the 1870s into the twentieth century. Tufts was a collector. (C)
- 32 Mary Helen Potter House (c. 1865-75): A 2½-story, end-gable asphalt shingled house with 2-story front projecting window bay and bracketed doorhood. Probably constructed for rental investment and occupied in 1895 by a jeweler and a clerk. (C)
- Garage (ca 1930): Rusticated-cement-block, hip-roof, 1-bay garage, with multi-light swing doors. (C)
- 33 Robert Gilmore House (c. 1869-75): A 3-story, hip-roof, asphalt shingled house with projecting, 3-story front window bay, bracketed doorhood and dentil trim. The house may have originally been identical to 31 Gilmore Street and later altered with addition of the third story. Robert Gilmore, a machinist, was the first owner and lived here until his death c. 1914. Portions of the house were rented out to tenants. (C)
- 34 Lydia Gardner House (c. 1865-75): A 2½-story, end-gable, clapboarded house with restrained detailing and bracketed doorhood. Mrs. Gardner, the first owner, lived here until c. 1900 and rented units and rooms. Rental occupants in 1895 included a teacher, dressmaker, registered pharmacist, and wood turner. (C)

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Gilmore Street (continued)

- 35 House (c. 1865-75): A 2½-story, end-gable house with 2-story projecting window bay and bracketed doorhood. The house has been sheathed in asbestos shingle and is now vacant and boarded after a fire. Hannah Randall, a widow, acquired the property by 1895. She lived here and rented portions of the house for income. (C)
- 36 Charles A. Potter House (c. 1845-57): A 2½-story, end-gable, shingled, Greek Revival house with panelled cornerboards, entry trim and later doorhood. Probably constructed as a 2-family rental, the house was occupied in 1895 by a jeweler, a clerk, and a carpenter. (C)
- 38 House (c. 1850-57): A 2½-story, end-gable clapboarded Greek Revival house with plain wide corner boards, cornice, and recessed entry surround. John C. Tufts acquired the property in 1890 as an investment (see 40 Gilmore Street). In 1895 the only occupant was Mrs. Harriet M. Arnold, widow. (C)
- 39 Miss Roby Parker House (c. 1850-57): A 2½-story, end-gable, clapboarded Greek Revival house with plain, wide cornerboards and cornice, and recessed entry surround. Miss Parker, of Scituate, purchased the property in 1850 and was living here in 1858. In 1892 the house was occupied by Daniel Cole, toolmaker, and Mrs. Lorenz Aleksandra. (C)
- Garage (ca 1930): Rusticated-cement-block, hip-roof, 2-bay garage, with doors replaced. (C)
- 40 John C. Tufts House (c. 1865-75): Located at the corner of Arch and Gilmore Streets, this 2½-story, end-gable, clapboarded house with bracketed doorhood may have replaced an earlier house shown on the 1857 Cushing and Walling map on the lot. Tufts was a bookkeeper. He acquired this house in 1890 and was living here in 1895, renting a unit to Charles A. Stoddard, clerk. The Tufts also owned 38 and 43 Gilmore St. (C)
- 43 House (c. 1860-75): A 2½-story, end-gable building, constructed as, or converted to, commercial use by 1889 when it appears on insurance maps as a shop. It was acquired by John C. Tufts in 1897 as an investment, and occupied in 1894 by James R. Fuller, grocer, who may have had a shop on the first floor. Tufts also

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Gilmore Street (continued)

owned 38 and 40 Gilmore Street. (C)

- 47 House (c. 1857-70): A 2½-story end-gable, shingled, Greek Revival house with full gable pediment. A shed dormer was added and the entry slightly modified in the early twentieth century. Currently, the building is vacant and boarded after a fire. Mrs. Emma F. Donaldson acquired the property in 1892. She was living here by 1895 and renting to a jeweler and a clerk. (C)

Garage (ca 1930): Rusticated-cement-block, brick-front, hip-roof, 2-bay garage. (C)

- 48 House (c. 1850-65): A 1½-story, end-gable Greek Revival cottage with cornice returns and recessed entry with sidelights, wide entablature and panelled pilasters. Cornerboards and gable trim have been removed or covered with aluminum siding. In 1888 the house was purchased by William and Hannah B. Sprague as their residence. Sprague was a polisher. (C)

HARRISON STREET (Numbers 155 through 174)

- 155 Saint Charles Borromeo School (1932): A large, rectangular, 2-story institutional building constructed of yellow brick with limestone trim and Romanesque details and set on a high basement. The building sits on the site of the original St. Charles Church. (Constructed 1887; demolished early 20th century). (C)
- 165 Saint Charles residence (after 1938): A 2-story, multi-unit residence of buff brick. (NC)
- 166 J. Wing House (c. 1865-75): A 2½-story, shingled, Second Empire house with mansard roof, projecting window bay, and hooded entry. Wing owned the property in 1875 and may have built the house. The property apparently belonged to R.I. Rug Works Company at the turn of the century and may have been used as housing. (C)
- 166 rear House (c. 1895-1900): A small, plain house with low pitched gable roof set at the back of the lot. It may have been workers' housing for R.I. Rug Works at the turn of the century. (C)

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Harrison Street (continued)

- 168 John Marshall House (c. 1865-75): A 2½-story, shingled, end-gable house with entry porch (columns replaced). Marshall, who owned other property in the area, may have constructed this as a rental investment. (C)
- 172-174 House (c. 1865-75): A tall, narrow, 3-story, house with low hip roof, wide overhanging cornice and 3-bay, sidehall plan. This is the only palazzo-inspired Italianate house, a popular type of the period, remaining in the district today. (C)

JUNCTION STREET (Number 5-7)

- 5-7 George W. Butterworth House (c. 1912): A large 3½-story, clapboarded, multi-family house with wide overhanging eaves, 3-story front projecting window bay, 3-story, rear recessed corner porch (first and second stories now enclosed), and plain double doorhood. A 2-story front porch has recently been removed and windows altered on the facade. Butterworth, a superintendant for a jewelry firm, lived in one unit and rented the two or three others. (C)

KENDALL STREET (Number 1)

- 1 Mary Helen Potter House (c. 1865-75): A 2½-story, flank-gable house with entry on the side, the house is the only address on Kendall Street, originally an alleyway. The house was apparently constructed with two rental units which were occupied in 1895 by two teamsters and a sewing machine worker. (C)

LESTER STREET (Numbers 160 through 192)

- 160 Charles A. Potter House (c. 1860-70): A 2-story, end-gable, shingled house at the corner of Lester and Gilmore Streets, with alterations to windows, entry, and addition of a 1-story glass-enclosed porch. (C)
- 166 Joseph Lalime House (c. 1875-82): A 2½-story, end-gable shingled house with 2-story front projecting window bay and bracketed doorhood. Lalime, a carpenter, owned and occupied the

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Lester Street (continued)

house from 1890 to the mid-1920s. (C)

- 178-180 Charles A. Potter House (c. 1887-89): A 2½-story, end-gable house with 2-story, front projecting window bay. All trim and detailing have been covered or replaced by aluminum siding. In the early 20th century the house was occupied by an organ builder and three clerks, all members of the Duhaime family. (C)

Garage (after 1938): Plain, cement-block, hip-roof, 2-bay garage, with overhead door. (NC)

- 186 House (c. 1865-75): Probably originally constructed with 1½-stories, this 2-story house retains its bracketed, 1-story window bay and doorhood although the house is now covered in aluminum siding. Parker, widow of Albert N. Parker, owned the property and resided here from the late 1880s to the early 1900s following the death of her husband (see 192 Lester Street). (C)

Garage (ca 1920): Rusticated-cement-block, hip-roof, 2-bay garage, with multi-light swing doors. (C)

- 192 Albert N. Parker House (c. 1874): A 1½-story, asymmetrical cottage with a rectangular end-gable main block and 3-story cross-gable projection on Harrison Street. Entrance is through a side porch into the projection; simple door surround treatment consists of fluted pilasters and a simple entablature. An ell with bracketed porch is located at the rear. Windows have been replaced by multi-light casements (early 20th century), but the house is well preserved. Parker, a carpenter with a shop at 20 Gilmore Street (gone) built this as his residence, living here until his death in 1887. His widow, Ellen Parker then moved to 186 Lester Street and this was rented to John H. Ward, Superintendent of the Providence Athletic Association. (C)

Garage (after 1938): Plain, cement-block, end-gable, 1-bay garage facing on Harrison Street. (NC)

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WARREN STREET (Numbers 53 through 61)

- 53 A.T. Cross Pencil Company Building (c. 1880): A rare, surviving building form in Providence, this wood-frame, 2½-story, end-gable industrial building (3 bays wide and 11 bays deep) has high second story windows, and central entrance and loading doors in the gable end. It was constructed by Alonzo T. Cross, founder of the noted A.T. Cross Company, manufacturers of pens and pencils, for manufacture of stylographic pens and used by the company until 1960. (C)
- 53 rear A.T. Cross Building (c. 1880): A 1½-story, wood frame, gable roofed auxiliary building to the main factory, this structure may have housed Cross's office or display room for the Shipman automatic steam engines he sold. (C)
- 53 side Building (after 1938): A 1½-story concrete building, probably for storage. (NC)
- 55 John Collins House (c. 1879): A 2½-story, end-gable house with 2-story projecting window bay and bracketed doorhood. Collins was a carpenter and may have constructed this as a rental investment. Early occupants included Frank A. Boyd, collector, Charles W. Pettingill, carpenter, and Mrs. Pettingill, who operated a "shirt manufactory" in the A.T. Cross building for several years. (C)
- 57 Henry J. Goffe House (c. 1870): A 2½-story, end-gable house with bracketed doorhood. Goffe, a tailor, purchased this as a rental investment in 1880. (C)
- 61 House (c. 1865): A 2½-story, end-gable house with full gable pediment and bracketed doorhood. The property was owned by the heirs of a William Richards from 1864 to 1901. William Richards, clerk, American National Bank, is listed as living here in 1892. (C)

WILSON STREET (Numbers 14 through 129)

- 14 Silas M. Field House (c. 1857-75): A 1½-story, end-gable, clapboarded cottage with modillion cornices on the bracketed doorhood and 1-story projecting bay window. A shed dormer has been added to one gable flank. This was one of several rental

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Wilson Street (continued)

properties Field owned in the area. Field lived at 63 Elmwood Avenue in the district. (C)

Garage (ca 1920): Rusticated-cement-block, hip-roof, 1-bay garage, with swing doors. (C)

- 15-17 Robert B. Little House (c. 1880): A large, 3-story, symmetrical house with a slate mansard roof, decorative sunburst motif panels and recessed, arcaded double porch flanked by bay windows. Little was a coal dealer (Tucker & Little, Dyer, cor. Dorrance) residing at 18 Arch Street (demolished). This building was constructed as rental investment. (C)

- 16-18 William A. Salisbury House (c. 1872): A simple 2½-story, end-gable house, now altered with aluminum siding and asbestos shingles. The entry was widened perhaps in the early twentieth century. Salisbury was the first owner. The property remained in Salisbury family ownership into the twentieth century. (C)

Garage (ca 1930): Rusticated-cement-block, hip-roof, 2-bay garage, with swing doors. (C)

- 22 Henry T. Hall House (c. 1868): A 1½-story, end-gable, shingled cottage with side gables and bracketed entry hood. The building is vacant and boarded. Hall, a carpenter, likely built this house. He was living here by 1869 with his wife Angerette and son Charles T. Hall. The property remained in Hall family ownership until at least 1913. (C)

Outbuilding (late 19th century): 2-story, wood-frame, flank-gable outbuilding, with shiplap siding, multi-light double-hung-sash windows, and wood roof shingles under asphalt. (C)

- 25 Daniel W. Field House (c. 1871-72): A square, 2-story, hip-roof house set slightly back from the street behind a granite based wrought iron fence on two building lots with central hooded entry flanked by 1-story window bays, arched window triplet on the second story and central gable with oculus window. Some decorative trim has been removed but original clapboard sheathing remains. A similarly styled contemporary carriage house to the rear has been demolished within the last ten years. A greenhouse also stood at the rear of the property in 1889. Field's

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Wilson Street (continued)

occupation is not listed in directories. He lived here until his death in about 1878. The property was purchased by Alphonse Deslauriers, a roofer, in 1891. By 1896 he was treasurer at Ste, Onge & O'Neill Co., dry good merchants at 252 Westminster. (C)

- 26 James Gleason House (c. 1865-75): A typical 2½-story end-gable house with 2-story, projecting, front window bay and bracketed doorhood. The house is sheathed in aluminum siding and asbestos shingles. Gleason was the original owner. His occupation is not listed in directories. (C)
- 26A House (ca 1865-75): A 2½-story, end-gable house with asbestos shingle and bracketed sidehall entry hood, set at the rear of 26 Wilson Street. (C)
- 28 John Collins House (c. 1865-72): Set at the rear of the 30 Wilson Street lot, this 1½-story end-gable cottage retains its entry doorhood although siding is now aluminum and a shed dormer has been added to one roof flank. Collins, a carpenter, may have constructed the house. He moved here in 1873 and lived here into the 1890s. (C)
- 30 Lester B. and Eliza Randall House (c. 1868): A 2½-story, end-gable house with plain detailing, now sheathed in aluminum siding. A second entrance has been added to the front facade. Randall, a carpenter, likely built this house and lived here from 1869 through the 1880s. In 1892 he had moved to 34 Wilson Street. (C)
- 32-34 House (c. 1870): A 2½-story, end-gable, shingled house, with 2-story front projecting bay windows, bracketed doorhood and modillion/dentil detailing. Long shed dormers have been added to the roof flanks. The house may have been built by Lester Randall who moved here in 1892 (see 30 Wilson Street). (C)
- 35 W. Clarence Butler House (c. 1876-77): A 1½-story, mansard roof, clapboarded cottage with front columned entrance porch, bay window, and side porch, decorated with brackets and incised panels. Butler, a partner in Butler, Brown & Co., dealers in machinery and supplies on Exchange Place, died soon after building this house. It was then purchased by James J. Newman of

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Wilson Street (continued)

James J. Newman & Co., general contractors at 37, 39, and 43
Wilson Street. (C)

- 36-38 Nelson W. Colgrove House (c. 1910-13): A large, 3-story multi-family house with full front window bays and 3-story porch supported on 2-story Tuscan columns. Window trim remains despite addition of asphalt siding; a 3-story rear porch is a later addition. Colgrove, a contractor, resided here and rented units. (C)

Carriage House/Garage (c. 1900): A 1½-story flank-gable structure sheathed in wood shingles. (C)

- 43 Newman Warehouse, later Providence Public Market Stables (c. 1875; c. 1910): A 3-story, L-plan, flat-roofed, brick warehouse with dentil cornice, elliptical arched windows and loading bays constructed by James J. Newman, contractors (see 35 Wilson Street). In the early 20th century the property was purchased by Providence Public Market Co. as a stable and the 1-story brick addition constructed on the old lumber yard. (C)

- 45-47 James J. Newman House (c. 1882-89): A 2½-story, end-gable house with full gable pediment, 2-story front window bay and entry porch with restrained Queen Anne detailing. Newman, a contractor, constructed this as a rental investment (see 35 and 43 Wilson Street). (C)

- 48 Dr. Edgar W. Remington House (c. 1888): A 2½-story, end/cross-gable house with carved cornice corner brackets and circular modillions on steeply peaked doorhood. Window trim is either removed or covered for aluminum siding. Edgar W. Remington, a physician, constructed this house. He was living here in 1892 with Charles M. Clough, clerk. (C)

Garage (ca 1930): Rusticated-cement-block, end-gable, 1-bay garage, with multi-light swing doors. (C)

- 49 Richard B. Davis House (c. 1884-89): A 2½-story, end-gable, shingled house with paired cornice corner brackets, 2-story front window bay and 2-story porch. Davis, a painter, built this as his residence, and remained here until his death in about 1900. (C)

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Wilson Street (continued)

Garage (ca 1920): Rusticated-cement-block, hip-roof, 2-bay garage, with swing doors. (C)

55 House (c. 1860-75): A 2½-story, end-gable, clapboarded house with plain cornice, narrow corner boards, and restrained bracketed doorhood. (C)

57-59 William H. Cannon House (c. 1882-89): A 2½-story, mansard-roof, clapboarded house with 3-story projecting window bay and bracketed doorhood. The house has been sandblasted. Cannon was a bookkeeper at Asa Peck and Co., wood dealer, 219 Carol Street; he lived here and rented rooms and apartments. (C)

58 John S. and Mary Little House (c. 1885-86): A 2½-story, end-gable house with 2-story projecting window bay and bracketed doorhood. Some windows have been changed and window trim lost to asbestos and aluminum siding. Little was a moulder and moved here from 118 Lester in 1886. He rented one unit to William U. Sayer, a woodturner, in 1892. The property remained in Little family ownership until 1932. (C)

60 House (c. 1850-57): A 1½-story, end-gable cottage with recessed entry. Decorative trim has been removed or covered by asbestos shingles. (C)

Garage (after 1938): Wood-frame-and-asbestos-shingle, end-gable, 2-bay garage. (NC)

64 Thomas H. Esten House (c. 1860-70): A 2½-story, end-gable house which retains its wide cornice, recessed entry with transom, sidelights, and entablature, although corner pilasters have been removed or covered by wood shingle. Esten who owned the house in the 1870s, was a woolgrader for the Wanskuk Company, 20 Exchange Place. (C)

71 Charles H. Perkins House (c. 1865-75): A 1½-story flank-gable cottage with center gable with round-arch windows on street facade and recessed side entry. Perkins acquired the property in 1887, apparently as an investment. In 1892 Fred W. Esleeck, a jeweler, occupied the house. (C)

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Wilson Street (continued)

Garage (after 1938): Plain, cement-block, end-gable, 1-bay garage. (NC)

- 75 Joseph A. Fowler House (c. 1865-75): A 2½-story, end-gable house with dentil cornice and bracketed doorhood. Window trim has been removed or covered by aluminum siding. In 1892 Joseph Fowlers widow, Matilda B. Fowler, and P.S. Tillinghast, a postal clerk, were living here. (C)
- 79 John Sweeney House (c. 1868): A 2½-story, end-gable house with modillion 2-story projecting window bay and bracketed doorhood. The building is sheathed in asphalt shingles. Sweeney, a carpenter, may have built this house. He was living here in 1869. Additional residents in 1892 included a moulder and a widow. (C)
- Garage (ca 1920): Rusticated-cement-block, hip-roof, 2-bay garage. (C)
- 82 Hannah and William H. Stevens House (c. 1865-75): A 1½-story, end-gable, shingled cottage with projecting window bay and bracketed doorhood. The building is currently boarded and vacant. Stevens, a milliner with a shop at the Arcade, was living here in 1875. In 1892 Miss Clementine A. Harris boarded here. (C)
- Garage (ca 1930): Rusticated-cement-block, hip-roof, 2-bay garage. (C)
- 83 Thomas Remington House (c. 1850-57): A 1½-story, end-gable, Greek Revival cottage. All trim has been removed or covered with aluminum siding. Remington was the first owner of the property. It remained in Remington family ownership until the 20th century. (C)
- 84-86 House (c. 1870-75): A 2½-story, bell-cast mansard roof house with wide-bracketed cornice and 2-story projecting window bay. The house has been sheathed in asphalt and the entry altered, but retains its basic form and details. (C)
- 90 House (c. 1868-75): A 2½-story, mansard roof house with bracketed doorhood. The building is sheathed in asphalt shingles and the cornice has been removed. (C)

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Wilson Street (continued)

- 98 House (c. 1850-57): A 2½-story, end-gable Greek Revival house with full gable pediment and recessed entry. Window trim has been removed or covered by aluminum siding, although entry entablature projects through siding. (C)

Carriage House (c. 1875-82): A 1½-story, end-gable, double-door carriage house/garage, sheathed in clapboards. (C)

- 105 House (c. 1865-75): A 2½-story, end-gable house with 2-story projecting window bay. All detail has been removed or covered by aluminum siding. Charles A. Hubbard purchased the property in 1888. (C)

Garage (ca 1930): Rusticated-cement-block, hip-roof, 2-bay garage, with overhead door. (C)

- 106 James A. and Frances J. Hodges House (c. 1865-75): A 1½-story, end-gable, 2-family house with detailing removed or covered by aluminum siding. Hodges, a watch toolmaker and jeweler who owned the property was living here through the 1880s. In 1892 Arthur Browning, clerk and T.P. Carpenter, stylophen maker, also lived here. (C)

- 115 House (c. 1875-82): A 2½-story, end-gable house with 2-story projecting window bay and bracketed doorhood. The window and cornice trim are removed or covered with aluminum siding. (C)

Garage (ca 1910): Wood-frame-and-shiplap-siding, low-pitch-end-gable, 1-bay garage. (C)

- 129 House (c. 1860-75): A 2½-story, end-gable house with a 2-story, hip-roof addition, 1-story side window bay and bracketed entry hood. The building is currently boarded and vacant as a result of fire. (C)

Garage (ca 1920): Rusticated-cement-block, flat-roof, 2-bay garage, with swing doors and asymmetrical plan. Faces onto Harrison Street. (C)

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Vacant Lots (Plats 30 and 31) (43 total)

Arch Street: Plat 30, lots 532, 574, 534, 575, 577, 585, 544

Bridgham Street: Plat 30, lots 561, 568, 555, 554, 553

Constitution Street: Plat 30, lots 232, 226, 211, 215, 209

Gilmore Street: Plat 30, lots 238, 236, 204, 205, 341

Harrison Street: Plat 30, lot 221, Plat 31, lot 13

Lester Street: Plat 30, lots 207, 218

Warren Street: Plat 30, lot 301

Wilson Street: Plat 30, lots 618, 506, 233, 235, 341, 243, 248,
249, 257, 291, 289, 285, 284, 280, 278, 277

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE
 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
 INDUSTRY

Period of Significance

1840-1938

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Stone, Carpenter & Willson

Alpheus Morse

Walter Fontaine

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

The Bridgham-Arch-Wilson Streets Historic District contains an important record of suburban residential development and architecture on the West Side of Providence from 1840 to the 1930s (1938 for the purposes of this nomination). The heterogeneous quality of the district derives from its domestic architecture, which embodies the distinctive characteristics of a range of popular vernacular styles and includes many of the earliest remaining buildings in the area, alongside a number of consciously designed, more elaborate houses, and a record of early utilitarian "auto house" building types. The district's physical appearance reflects citywide economic, social and transportation historical development factors. It also reflects the important role of individual landowners/developers in shaping the city during its period of greatest growth and prosperity. The property owners and tenants who lived in the district were craftsmen, tradesmen and skilled workers who provided goods and services to Providence's expanding population, industries, and businesses, as well as some individuals of substance. In addition to these primary historic themes, the district also contains an architecturally significant Roman Catholic Church, which also reflects local late nineteenth-century ethnic immigration trends, and a rare surviving wood-frame industrial building which housed the early factory of a nationally important manufacturing company.

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

Early access to the area of the district from the central settlement node at the Providence River was provided by Cranston Street, laid out in 1717, and Greenwich Street, now Elmwood Avenue, laid out in 1731. Along these and other thoroughfares, early nineteenth century development was initially restricted to

9. Major Bibliographical References

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository:

Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property c. 20 acres

UTM References

A	<u>1</u> <u>9</u>	<u>2</u> <u>9</u> <u>8</u> <u>6</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>6</u> <u>3</u> <u>1</u> <u>6</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u>1</u> <u>9</u>	<u>2</u> <u>9</u> <u>8</u> <u>1</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>6</u> <u>3</u> <u>1</u> <u>4</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u>

B	<u>1</u> <u>9</u>	<u>2</u> <u>9</u> <u>8</u> <u>6</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>6</u> <u>3</u> <u>1</u> <u>3</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	<u>1</u> <u>9</u>	<u>2</u> <u>9</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>6</u> <u>3</u> <u>1</u> <u>6</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

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scattered nurseries, farms, country estates, and industrial activities. By the late 1840s, a "drug works" had been established by Calvin Dean (listed in 1850s and '60s directories as a tanner and currier) on Pearl Street just north of the district with lands including the Arch and Bridgham Streets area. However, most of the area remained as woods or open fields.

Land in the district was primarily portions of two large plats and one large family holding at mid-century. This ownership distribution reflected the pattern of mid-nineteenth century land division which characterized the West Side: fragmenting of acreage acquired by agriculturists/residents in the earlier part of the century, and land speculation by wealthy industrialists and merchants, turned real estate developers. The irregular street pattern is also in part a function of multiple and independent platting. In 1845, Daniel Field subdivided a large area (Estate of Daniel Field) which included the lots on both sides of Wilson and Warren Streets, as well as the southern half of Constitution, Harrison, and Gilmore Streets in the district, extending south of the district. This subdivision marked the beginning of intensive platting and street layout in Elmwood, a process which was basically complete by about 1860. The second area in the district to be formally platted included both sides of Arch Street and the east half of Bridgham Street. This was accomplished in 1855 by George W. Chapin, of W.R.G. Chapin, merchants, and Abiel S. Sampson, a master carpenter and partner in Angell & Sampson, Builders, who purchased a portion of the "drug works" land from Calvin Dean.

The land in the western portion of the district including Lester Street, western Bridgham Street, and the northern half of Harrison, Gilmore, and Constitution Streets was owned by Ferdinand Potter of Cranston and developed in a slightly different manner. Potter had started one of the first nurseries in lower Elmwood in the 1830s and like other members of the Potter family owned large tracts of land throughout Elmwood. Between 1840 and the mid-1880s he subdivided and developed land in the district, but it apparently was not formally platted. Potter constructed houses as rental investments and on speculation in addition to selling lots, but retained ownership of most of his lands. Prior to his death in 1886 he divided the land among three children, two of whom (Mary Helen and Charles A. Potter) continued the same general ownership pattern into the twentieth century.

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These land development activities responded to the demand for convenient workers' housing to serve various heavy industrial concerns being established in the vicinity of the district and to general residential pressures in Providence during its period of tremendous growth as a leading industrial city from 1835-1873. By about 1860 all the streets in the district were laid out including Pond (now Lester), Hickory (now Gilmore), Bridgham, Constitution, Calvin (now Arch), Harrison, Wilson, Warren, Junction, Kendall, and Fales Streets. The majority of land was platted into house lots and approximately two dozen houses had been constructed scattered along the west side of Wilson and both sides of Gilmore and Constitution Streets.

With streets laid out, lots platted, and house construction continuing, the introduction of public transportation reinforced and encouraged residential development in the district and throughout Providence's West Side. Horse drawn streetcars operated by the Elmwood Omnibus Company ran from Market Square out Elmwood Avenue starting in 1855, and a line laid out along Cranston Street by 1860 provided residents with ready access to the city center. Consequently, residential development within the district was fast paced. By 1875 little more than two dozen house lots remained undeveloped and by 1890 most of these had been filled. Public improvements were also installed in this period with sewers and water in place by 1890.

Construction was also encouraged by the growth of industries on the periphery of the district that provided employment for many district residents. Among the industries were the A.B. Rice and Co. Lumber Yard on the west side of Lester between Harrison and Gilmore streets, the A. & W. Sprague ironworks factory between Cromwell and Sprague Streets and the Mechanical Fabric Company (U.S. Rubber) rubber works on Warren Street. Within the district a few scattered commercial/industrial buildings were constructed including a handsome brick commercial stable at 35 Arch Street (c. 1875-82) and James J. Newman's contracting shop and lumber yard at 43 Wilson Street (later the Providence Public Market Stables; c. 1875). Of greater significance, however, was Alonzo T. Cross's launching of his newly patented stylographic pen manufacturing process in the building he constructed at 53 Warren Street in 1880. Although Cross did not live in the neighborhood, many of his employees did. By the early twentieth century A. T. Cross & Company was a highly successful, nationally known

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manufacturer of pens and pencils, and although they most likely had other manufacturing locations, this property was retained in company ownership until 1960. The two well preserved buildings are significant for their associations with the A. T. Cross Company and as rare surviving wood-frame industrial buildings of this period in Providence. This juxtaposition of residential and limited industrial landuse typifies the nature of much of the City's development in the neighborhoods just beyond downtown during the latter part of the nineteenth and the early twentieth centuries.

By 1900, the automobile had appeared in Providence, as in other cities, and during the ensuing three decades autos gradually superceded horse-drawn vehicles and electric trolley public transportation. For district residents, convenient public transportation service continued with bus lines along the major routes. Prior to 1900 few district residents had owned private horses and few properties incorporated stables; streetcars and suburban railways were the primary transportation service for circulation within and for travelling out of the city. One measure of the economic stability of the district in the early twentieth century was the introduction of the private car, as evidenced by the number of small garages, or "auto houses" constructed, despite no real change in public transportation access.

The residents of the district, both property owners and tenants, represented a variety of socio-economic groups. They were predominantly involved in retail, crafts and service trades: bookkeepers/clerks, insurance agents, merchants, carpenters, contractors, teachers, teamsters, milliners, dentists, and coal dealers. A number worked in nearby industries as skilled labor or in supervisory positions. A lesser number were members of the City's social elite, such as the Roger's family, listed in local social register.

The district's population was homogenously Yankee in ethnic composition from the mid-nineteenth century until about 1890. Towards the end of the century other nationalities and ethnic groups, particularly French Canadian, began to locate here in fairly substantial numbers. This demographic shift reflected both citywide and national immigration trends. In the district, French names begin to appear as both tenants and property owners; among them were Alphonse Deslauriers, a roofer, later in the dry

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goods trade, who purchased Daniel Field's House at 25 Wilson Street as his residence in 1891. The presence of a French Canadian population in Providence is evidenced by the founding of St. Charles Church in 1874, the first citywide church for French-speaking Catholics, and construction of the first church building at the corner of Lester and Harrison Streets in 1878, followed by a school (1887). At this time, the French population was scattered through the city, but concentrated in the lower west end. Construction of the church encouraged relocation into the Bridgham-Arch-Wilson Streets neighborhood. The growth of this population segment contributed to the fact that by 1905, Rhode Island was the first state in the Union to have a Roman Catholic majority. The present church, replacing the original, constructed in 1917 after the design of ecclesiastical architect, Walter Fontaine, and school (1932) continue to serve the citywide French Catholic population.

ARCHITECTURE

Near the northern boundary of Elmwood and close to Providence's center, the Bridgham-Arch-Wilson Streets neighborhood was one of the earliest West Side areas to be platted. The district contains a concentration of some of the oldest remaining suburban houses in Providence. The earliest houses date to the 1850s and early 1860s. They are typical 1 1/2- and 2 1/2-story, one- and two-family houses of simple end-gable form with vernacular Greek Revival ornamentation: wide cornices and corner pilasters, recessed entries with sidelights and broad entablatures. Among the best examples are at 18 Constitution Street (c. 1862), 21 Constitution Street (c. 1862), 36 Gilmore Street (c. 1845-57), 38 Gilmore Street (c. 1850-57), and 39 Gilmore Street (c. 1850-57). Two other important house types of this period are represented by 17 Constitution Street (c. 1853-55), a very small, vernacular worker's cottage, and 63 Elmwood Avenue (c. 1857), the largest of Providence's few constructed and remaining octagon houses, a consciously designed house type of wide, though brief national popularity.

Between about 1860 and 1900, the Bridgham-Arch-Wilson Streets Historic District largely achieved the lively visual heterogeneity from which its architectural significance is derived. Vernacular, side-hall plan, end-gable houses were embellished with details selected from standard stock sources. Most commonly used was the wide selection of Italianate

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bracketing options, appearing at cornice, windows, projecting front multi-story bays, and entry door-hoods or porches. Typical examples are found at 12 Arch Street (c. 1865-75), 16 Arch Street (c. 1865-75), 48 Bridgham Street (c. 1868), 70 Bridgham Street (c. 1870-71), 31 Gilmore Street (c. 1865-75), 32 Gilmore Street (c. 1865-75), and 55 Warren Street (c. 1879).

To a lesser degree builders and owners selected alternative decorative references to the Queen Anne style, such as at 45-47 Wilson Street (c. 1882-89); Eastlake incised decoration, such as at 62 Bridgham Street (c. 1875-82) with its contemporary carriage house; or Stick Style open timberwork such as at 45 Arch Street (c. 1875). Perhaps the most elaborate of this general type is the house built by Daniel R. Child, a jewelry manufacturer, at 34 Arch Street (1871) with its relatively ornate paired bracket and rope molding trim. A number of 1 1/2-story cottages with bracketed trim were also constructed. The house at 33 Arch Street (c. 1867) is the best preserved of a row of five similar structures of this type. A further house variation expressed its multi-family function with both front and side entry porches such as a pair constructed by the Potter family at 72 and 74 Bridgham Street (c. 1875-82) and by 21-23 Arch Street (c. 1865-75) with its two asymmetrical side porches.

Also popular beginning in the 1870s were mansard-roofed Second Empire houses, constructed primarily with 2 1/2-stories, 3-bay, sidehall plans, and bracketed ornament as illustrated by 28 Arch Street (c. 1873), 49-51 Arch Street (c. 1882), and 84-86 Wilson Street (c. 1870-75), or by larger multi-unit houses extending almost the depth of lot at 22 Arch Street (c. 1870). A cottage was also constructed at 35 Wilson Street (c. 1876-77) and a singular example of a 3-story multi-family house with elaborate carved detailing stands at 15-17 Wilson Street (c.1880).

Few open house lots remained in the district at the turn of the twentieth century. Nevertheless, the imposing 3-story houses at 50 Arch Street (c. 1902-08), 5-7 Junction Street (c. 1912), and 36-38 Wilson Street (c. 1910-13) represent the larger scale of multi-family construction in the early twentieth century when Providence reached its peak population.

Many of the houses constructed in the district were built on speculation or as rental investments. It was not uncommon for a property owner residing in the neighborhood to construct or

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purchase houses nearby, as did John E. Potter, a druggist, at 45 and 49-51 Arch Street. Others constructed multi-family structures for use as their own residence and for rental income, as did Nelson Colgrove, contractor, at 36-38 Wilson Street and Robert Gilmore, at 33 Gilmore Street. The presence of numerous carpenters in the district, as well as the Archibald B. Rice Lumber Yard on Lester Street (just outside the district) and James J. Newman's contractor business at 43 Wilson Street from the 1870s to 1890s, provided a ready supply of construction materials and workmen. Among the carpenters were Albert and Nathan Parker (186, 192 Lester Street with a shop at 20 Gilmore Street, now demolished); their successor, William Phelps of Dawley and Phelps (26-28 Gilmore Street); Joseph Lalime (166 Lester Street); Henry Kendall, whose house and shop were at 85 Bridgham Street (demolished), and who owned 62 and 70 Bridgham; Tristram Angell, partner in Angell and Briggs (42 Arch Street); and John Collins (28 Wilson, 55 Warren Streets).

Complementing the solid core of vernacular suburban houses were a handful of architect-designed and more stylishly finished dwellings constructed, like the earlier octagonal house, close to fashionable Elmwood Avenue and the park-like setting of Grace Church Cemetery (NR). The individuals responsible for these buildings included Daniel W. Field, probably the son of the Daniel Field responsible for platting the southern portion of the district, who in 1871-72 built the center gable Italianate house at 25 Wilson Street; Charles H. Sprague, a grain merchant, who engaged the architect Alpheus Morse to design his Second Empire house at 17 Arch Street (c. 1874); and James M. Anthony, a cigar store owner whose Colonial Revival house (c. 1900) at 15 Arch Street was designed by Stone, Carpenter & Willson, architects.

The district's visual diversity is further enhanced by examples of non-domestic architectural forms constructed at various points in the district's history. These include the rare surviving wood-frame industrial buildings of the A.T. Cross Company; the Stephen A. Knight Stable, Read, and Newman Warehouse buildings, and, in the twentieth century, the St. Charles Borromeo Church. The church is architecturally important as an example of the work of the architect, Walter Fontaine. A native of Woonsocket, Fontaine worked in the offices of Stone, Carpenter and Willson (the firm responsible for the church's first school) for ten years before starting his own practice in 1903. He designed numerous schools, churches and other institutional buildings in Rhode

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Island, Massachusetts and Connecticut. St. Charles Borromeo is architecturally notable for the quality of its neo-Renaissance, large-scaled design constructed in yellow brick, and, within its immediate context, for its design references to the nearby massive Cranston Street Armory of 1907 (NR).

The Bridgham-Arch-Wilson Streets Historic District remained relatively stable through the 1930s, then entered a period of urban decline. Recent revitalization efforts occurring elsewhere on the West Side of Providence have found relatively limited expression in the district to date. It is hoped that official recognition of the district's historic and architectural value through listing in the National Register will provide awareness and incentive for stabilization and revitalization of this preservation-worthy neighborhood.

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The northeast corner of the Brigham-Arch-Wilson Streets Historic District begins on Bridgham Street at a point at the northeast corner of plat 30 lot 562. The boundary follows southerly along the east line of lot 562 and the north and east lines of plat 30 lot 533, then crosses Arch Street and follows the east line of lot 571 to its southeast corner. The boundary continues westerly along the south lines of lots 571, 572 and 573, then southerly along the east lines of lots 574 and 263, and crosses Wilson Street to a point at the northwest corner of lot 269. It then continues easterly along the north lines of lots 269 and 261, then southerly along Elmwood Avenue and the east lines of lots 261 and 270, then westerly along the south or back lines of all lots facing on the south side of Wilson Street to the northeast corner off lot 304. The boundary then heads southerly along the east line of lot 304, then turns and continues westerly along Warren Street and the south line of lots 304, 303, 302 and 300, then turns and proceeds northerly along the west lines of lots 300 and 292, and crosses Wilson Street again to the southwest corner of lot 234. The boundary proceeds westerly along the south line of all lots facing on the north side of Wilson Street, crossing Harrison Street, and leaving plat 30, to the northeast corner of plat 31 lot 14. The boundary continues westerly along the south lines of plat 31 lots 14 and 42 on Harrison Street, northerly along the the west lines of plat 31 lots 42 and 44 on Dexter Street, easterly along the north lines of plat 31 lots 44 and 10 on Lester Street, and crosses Harrison Street again, leaving plat 31, to the northwest corner of plat 30 lot 220. The boundary continues easterly along the north line of lots facing on the south side of Lester Street, crossing Constitution Street, to the intersection with Gilmore Street. The boundary turns and heads southeasterly along the north line of lots facing on the south side of Gilmore Street to the northeast corner of lot 203. The boundary turns heading northeasterly across Gilmore Street and the west lines of lots 198 and 188. At the northwest corner of lot 188 the boundary turns and heads easterly along the north line of all lots facing on the south side of Bridgham Street, crossing Kendall, Fales and Junction Streets, to the point of beginning.

The boundaries are drawn to encompass the concentration of nineteenth century residential architecture which defines the character of the district. Major thoroughfares, Dexter Street and Elmwood Avenue, have historically marked the east and west boundaries of the neighborhood. An area of modern housing lies to

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the north, and higher industrial use and demolition rates exist to the south.