United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms* Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name Town of Andorer Multiple Resource Area

historic Historic Resources of the Town of Andover (Partial Inventory: Historic and Architectura

2. Loca	ation			
street & number	NA		.N/	- not for publication
of	Andover	imits of <u>NA</u> vicinity of	congressional district	Fifth
state Massach	usells	code 025 county	Essex	code 009
3. Clas	sification	·		
Category district building(s) structure site object iple Resource	Ownership public private x both Public Acquisition _NA_ in process e being considere	$\underline{-x}$ yes: restricted	Present Use _Xagriculture _Xcommercial _Xeducational entertainment _Xgovernment _Xindustrial military	_x_ museum _x_ park _X_ private resider _X_ religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Prop	erty	,	· ·
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street & number	<u>Multiple; see co</u>		state	
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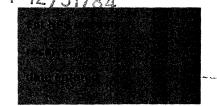
Historic American Engineering Record 1976; Federal National Park Service Washington, D.C.

American Woolen Company, Shawsheen Mills Ballardvale Mills Marland Woolen Mills Smith and Dove Flax Mills Tyer Rubber Company Passenger Station (Third Railroad Station) Stone Arch Bridge (Essex Street and Shawsheen Road) Ballardvale Mill Bridge Shawsheen Garage

National Register of Historic Places Federal National Park Service Washington, D.C. Benjamin Abbot House 1975 Shawsheen Village 1979

Historic American Buildings Survey 1934; Federal National Park Service Washington, D.C. Benjamin Abbot House

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7. Description

Andover Multiple Resource Nomination

Condition		Check one	C
<u>x</u> excellent x good X fair	_x_ deteriorated ruins unexposed	_x_ unaitered _X_ altered	

Check one __X_ original site __X_ moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

General Physical Description

The town of Andover is situated in the northwest corner of Essex County, 20 miles north of Boston. With nearly 32 square miles of land, it is one of Massachusetts' larger towns. The most significant topographical features are the valleys of the Merrimack River, which borders on the north, and of the Shawsheen River, which bisects the town diagonally from southwest to northeast. These are fed by the 220-acre Haggetts Pond in the west, Foster's Pond in the south, and numerous small streams. Running from northwest to southeast through the town is a series of low hills that includes Wood Hill, Pole Hill, Boston Hill and Prospect Hill (at 423' above sea level, the highest point in the county). Indian Ridge is a prominent glacial esker west of the Shawsheen River.

Historical Development

Unlike many New England towns, Andover was not built around a central green. The larger settlement, originally called Cochichewick, began in what is now North Andover, with a gradual and informal movement southward. Development of the present Andover has consequently been much more varied than most centralized towns.

Andover's first settlers established a network of roadways radiating from a center point on the Shawsheen River. Although the population was concentrated near the Shawsheen and Haggetts Pond, most of today's major thoroughfares are indicated on the 1830 map (see Map II) and were well-developed even in the 18th century. These roads still contain many notable examples of Andover's First Period, Georgian, and Federal architecture. Most of these early farmsteads survived until the early 20th century.

This diffuse pattern of growth began to change early in the 1800s, when the four falls of the Shawsheen began to attract industrial development, and Academy Hill became a major intellectual center. Nineteenth century Andover is characterized by self-contained centers of activity which were distinguished by peculiar geographic, economic, and cultural features.

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The districts proposed for the National Register represent these concentrated points of development. Frye Village/Shawsheen (NR 1979), the Andover Village Industrial District (Area 2), and Ballardvale (Area 3) are the manufacturing areas. Central Street (Area 4) and West Parish Center (Area 6) are geographically convenient residential neighborhoods focused on religious institutions. Academy Hill (Area 1), of course, hosts a concentration of schools. And the Main Street/Locke Street district (Area 5) provides an interesting physical and architectural transition between farming, commercial, and educational activities. Very little building occurred on the rural arteries in this period.

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Meanwhile, a small, multifunctional downtown was growing around Elm Square, at the intersection of Elm, North Main, Central, and Main Streets. During the last quarter of the 19th century and early 20th century, a small grid of streets was inserted east of Main and North Streets. Relatively dense Victorian suburbs were built for an increasingly numerous and prosperous citizenry.

The 20th century has been characterized by the steady subdivision of rural areas. These modern tracts are typically built on cul-de-sac streets, forming a fine capillary system between the main thoroughfares and the village centers. In contrast, Routes I-93 to the west and 495 on the north cut bold swathes through town, both servicing and encouraging major residential and industrial development in the last 20 years.

Andover today--as in the past--contains mostly single-family residences, comfortably sited and carefully landscaped with street trees and other plantings. The Shawsheen River is regularly punctuated by crowds of 19th/early 20th century industrial buildings, which also tend to be picturesquely sited. Located off Routes I-93 and 495, modern industrial parks are large but well set back from roads and horizontal in orientation. The small central business district in the middle of town is low and linear, and dates mainly from the early 20th century. Considering its tremendous population growth of recent years, Andover still contains a remarkable amount of open space--whether momentarily undeveloped or whether part of the one-fifth of Andover's land area officially conserved in reservations and a state forest.

Architectural Description

Andover contains an interesting variety of architectural styles of almost every description. The town is well known for its "Colonial" character: a number of First Period, Georgian, and Federal style buildings reinforced by a 20th century preference for Colonial Revival. Its best-developed architecture, however, is mid-Victorian in style: Greek, Gothic, and early Italianate/Romanesque, reflecting an era of great prosperity and energy. Subsequent development is most inventive in the Shingle style of the downtown area and in several widely scattered bungalows.

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Andover has always been conservative in architecture as well as in religion and politics. Most of its buildings are compact, small in scale, and modestly sited. Simple forms and an impressive attention to individual ornamental details are common themes throughout Andover's architectural history.

Building types in Andover can easily be summarized. Most of the houses are wood frame and 1½ or 2½ stories with gable roofs; brick and stone are uncommon but skillfully-used residential building materials. Industrial buildings represent a wide variety of architectural styles, but most are simple brick structures between one and four stories in height. The multifarious central business district tends toward low, "colonialized" brick buildings, but its most interesting structures are 2-4 story, ornamental Victorian storefronts. Public and institutional buildings tend to be subtle in design and also of brick. Andover's religious structures form an especially interesting and diverse architectural group, in a broad range of styles and materials.

The majority of Andover's streets are country roads laid out in the 18th century in conformance with topographical features. The earliest buildings were usually placed close to the street but comfortable distances apart, as farmlands were located behind or far distant from the houses. This pattern continued through the 19th century, even though buildings became increasingly dense. Careful 20th century zoning ensures spacious lot sizes and frontage for new development. Such complementary siting contributes heavily to the remarkable cohesion of Andover's architecture and is one of its most prominent attributes. Following is a brief summary of architectural development in Andover.

Several First Period houses (ca. 1640-1725) survive in varying degrees of intactness. Simplicity is the major characteristic of this period in Andover: no second-story overhangs with pendants are found here, but steep roofs, broad facades with very small and often asymmetrical windows, and center doorways are common features. All of Andover's First Period houses have been altered in the Georgian period, with some showing as many as 200 more years of evolution. Houses of this era were often strategically located on hills or crossroads or along thoroughfares and are scattered throughout the town (45, 300, 450, and Benjamin Abbott House, NR 1975).

The Georgian style (ca. 1725-1800) appears in profusion in Andover, from the center of town to the farthest outskirts. Characteristic of this period are gable roofs, symmetrical 5-bay facades, center chimneys, center doorways with simple trabeated frames, and small quiet moldings (167, 168). Hip roofs, pilasters, window cornices, and pedimented doorways are less common but well represented features (422, 506, and Area 4). Gambrel roofs are rare and more vernacular variations (443).

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Federal style architecture in Andover (ca. 1800-35) is very similar in form to the Georgian style. The same 2-story, 5-bay facade and center doorway are found in the latter style (509, 639); an added third story, hip roof, and occasional fanlight are the major but not universal distinctions (421, Areas 4 and 5). Roof balustrades and porticos are less common Federal style features (243, 507). The major exceptions to these vernacular renditions are found on Academy Hill (Area 1), where the high-style work of Boston architect Charles Bulfinch was influential.

The Greek Revival style (ca. 1830-50) initiated a period of much greater architectural variety, both in design motifs and building types. Although the familiar center entrance plan lingered (87, 192), the style is better characterized by $1\frac{1}{2}-2\frac{1}{2}$ story buildings with side hall plans (Areas 3 and 5). The duplex form emerges near the mills (215), and was occasionally picked up in the rural areas (441).

The most common stylistic details are corner pilasters and trabeated doorways (Area 3). A few delicate porticos and pedimented gable ends are found (508, 484, 507, and Areas 1 and 5); only one ambitious, hip roof design is known (322). The town's most distinctive and familiar Greek Revival motif, however, is small corner blocks at the window frames (192, 441, 167). In one case (197 Shawsheen Road in Area 6), these corner blocks are lavished on every other facade architrave as well.

Greek Revival style mill buildings were constructed of brick with gable roofs, granite window sills and lintels, and tied-in walls. Major examples survive at the Marland Mills and Smith & Dove complexes (Area 2) and at Ballardvale (Area 3). The Smith & Dove mills at Frye Village, demolished for construction of Shawsheen Village, were similarly constructed.

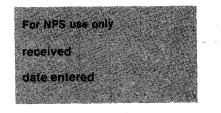
Closely linked in form with Greek Revival was the Gothic Revival style (ca. 1830-50). This style is most notable in Andover for its delicate bargeboards and cross-gables (194, 270, 400).

The Italianate style (ca. 1845-85) does not show a wide range in Andover, but it arrived early and boldly on substantial buildings. A variety of public buildings and manufacturers' homes downtown best represent this style in Andover (394, 326, 237). Gabled pavilions and wings, floor to ceiling windows with decorative cornices, corner quoins, and porches are their most obvious shared features. The late vernacular Italianate style with its bracketed eaves and door hood is barely evident in Andover (133). Vestiges of the style remain in many late 19th century mill buildings and commercial buildings, with their decorative brickwork and arched windows (327, 170, Area 2).

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Late 19th century tract development exemplifies the Queen Anne style (ca. 1885-1915) in Andover, usually found in downtown streetscapes. Picturesque masses with secondary gables, porches, recesses and projections manage to be both compact in form and restrained in emotion; most are middle-class housing (296, Areas 5 and 6). The closely related Shingle Style (ca. 1890-1910) exhibits the same restraint in its low, spreading forms, although it is bolder in effect (527, Area 5).

The last and still influential major building style in Andover is Colonial Revival (ca. 1915 to present). This period began with inventive derivations of the original (233), but has, since World War Two, become less inspired in its interpretation of proportions and motifs.

Preservation Activities

Andover's general conservatism has acted informally as its most effective means of preservation. On the private level, homeowners, businessmen, and investors have maintained their historic buildings quite well. Restoration and re-use have occurred in isolated cases, recent examples being the Musgrove Block renovation and the residential conversions of the Sacred Heart School (originally the Shawsheen Administration Building) and the Tyer Rubber Company factory. At the present time only one district (Shawsheen Village, NR 1979) and one individual building (the Benjamin Abbot House, NR 1975) are listed on the National Register. Andover has no local historic districts, although one was propsed for Central Street (Area 4) in 1976-77.

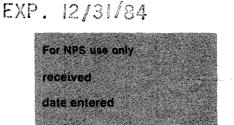
Public commitment to preservation is gradually increasing, evident in two architectural inventories (1967-68 and 1975-78) and the Andover Historical Commission's recent completion of a comprehensive preservation plan for the town implementation of which has already begun. In 1980 and 1981, the Commission's attention focused on preservation of two properties. Working with municipal and neighborhood groups, proposals were sought for the adaptive use of Bradlee School (23) in Ballardyale. Plans are now underway to recycle the building as condominium apartments. Shattuck Farm, one of the last and most complex vestiges of Andover's agricultural history, was the subject of intense and protracted negotiations when it was threatened by industrial development. Eventually, the three primary structures remaining from this 250-year old farmstead were moved to ensure their preservation and re-use. Through a series of preservation workshops for owners of inventoried properties--first offered in 1980--the Andover Historical Society has successfully begun to bridge the gap between the public and private sectors. It is hoped that the Multiple Resources National Register nomination will initiate greater involvement in and coordination of preservation activities in the town.

Methodology

The Multiple Resources National Register Nomination has been partially drawn from the Andover Historic Building Survey. This survey was conducted for the Andover Historical Commission from 1975-1978 by Nancy Stack, preservation

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planner, and Juliet Mofford, historian. However, unless otherwise noted, the enclosed Massachusetts Historical Commission inventory forms were prepared for the Andover Historical Commission in 1980 by Wendy Frontiero, architectural historian.

The entire town of Andover was included in the original survey boundaries; 740 structures, chosen for their architectural and historical significance, are found in the completed survey. All of these structures were evaluated according to such criteria as architectural significance, historical associations, environmental importance, and design integrity. The most notable buildings from each historical/architectural period and geographical area were thus identified for National Register purposes.

Nominated Districts

Seven National Register districts have been identified within the town, based on historical patterns of use, visual cohesion, architectural quality, and degree of representation of local history. These seven districts encompass the residential, agricultural, industrial, educational aspects of Andover, although the last two are emphasized. Most of the districts are historically and architecturally heterogeneous; each reflects local history in a distinct way.

Academy Hill (Area 1) has always been the center of Andover's most famous activity, education. Physically largest, the area contains virtually all of the Phillips Academy, former Abbot Academy, and former Andover Theological Seminary campuses. The district is also distinguished by its many high-style, architect-designed buildings.

Ballardvale (Area 3) is an early mill village and the town's most complex planned community. Its small-scale, vernacular structures were built contemporaneously in a delicate harmony of styles.

Central Street (Area 4) has long been Andover's most prestigious residential neighborhood, with the town's most ostentatious homes. Three churches add to the architectural and social importance of the area.

The Main Street/Locke Street District (Area 5) blends a variety of styles within an integrated streetscape. This district particularly represents the cultural connections of middle-class farming, business, and academy life.

The Andover Village Industrial District (Area 2)--Marland Mills, Tyer Rubber Company, and Abbott Village--contain the earliest extant industrial structures in Andover. Numerous factory buildings are complemented by multifarious streetscapes of modest worker housing.

Shawsheen Village, a planned community of the early 20th century, is distinguished by its single architectural style (Colonial Revival) and its executive-level orientation. Shawsheen is Andover's only National Register

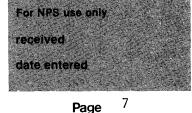
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district at present (NR 1979).

West Parish Church was the religious and social center for a quiet farming community (Area 6). Georgian and Federal-style homesteads dominate, but a few later styles are found in particularly exemplary designs.

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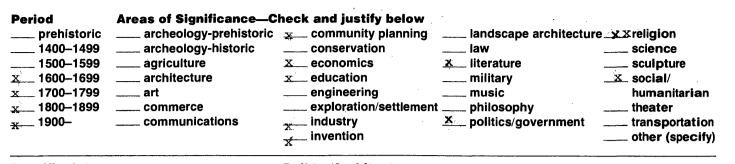
Intrusions in all seven districts are minimal, generally represented by modern infill housing.

Nominated Buildings

Forty-two significant individual structures were chosen for National Register listing outside of the seven districts. These buildings are examples of 17th through 20th century design which stand out architecturally, historically, and visually over others of the same periods; most are rural houses.

8. Significance

Andover Multiple Resource Nomination



Specific dates

SeetText

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

VArchitect David Hidden, Charles Bulfinch, Jacob Chickering, William Jenkins, John Stevens, Theodore Voelleers, J.F. Eation, George Adams, Hartwell & Richardson, Guy Lowell

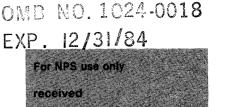
Modern Andover is a portion of the old township called Co hichewick which originally included Andover, North Andover, and part of Lawrence. The town is distinguished architecturally and culturally from its neighbors by the peculiar nature of its mills and educational institutions. "The hill, the mill, and the till is a traditional but apt summary of Andover's character: the schools on Academy Hill brought national prestige to Andover, and the textile mills created the town's prosperity, but the early farmsteads still symbolize Andover to many.

Settlement: ca. 1630-1715

The lands about Lake Cochichewick (which is now included in North Andover) were reserved by the General Court in 1634 for an inland plantation. To encourage settlement here, inhabitants were offered three years' immunity from all taxes, levies, and services except for military duty. Settlers came, and a church was organized for the growing community in 1645. In the following year the town was incorporated as Cochichewick, soon renamed Andover.

By 1654 the town was regarded as remote (20 miles from Boston, 20 from Newburyport) but "well-fitted". Building was at first closely restricted to houselots laid out around the meetinghouse in the northern part of town, but a number of residents soon migrated to more distant farmlands to the south. The attractiveness and prosperity of the southern part of the original town is indicated by the "mansion houses" built for Daniel Bigsbie ca. 1675 (300) and for brothers Thomas and Benjamin Abbot ca. 1685 (45; Benjamin Abbott House, NR 1975).

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Farming was the major occupation of Andover residents during the settlement period, but many also doubled as millers, carpenters, weavers, shoemakers, innkeepers etc. Saw mills and grist mills were quickly built to take advantage of the falls of the Shawsheen River, and an ironworks was encouraged by the town as early as 1689.

By the end of the century, the community in the southern part of town was well established. It had its own surveyors, constable, fence-viewer, poundkeeper, and grammar school, as well as 61 taxpayers (only 20 fewer than the northern section). Andover was a frontier outpost but suffered only isolated confrontations with Indians in this period. More troubling was the witchcraft hysteria which touched the town briefly in 1692-93; 41 citizens were accused of witchcraft and three were actually hanged.

The settlement period culminated in 1709 with the division of the town into the North Parish (present North Andover) and South Parish (now Andover) for the sake of geographical convenience. The South Parish meetinghouse was raised in 1711, Samuel Phillips (1689-1771) minister.

Growth and Development: ca. 1715-1770

The 18th century was a time of increasing prosperity and social maturity in Andover--that is, the South Parish. Increased commerce, better education, new people, and a devout Congregational outlook propelled Andover's steady advancement.

Although farming still dominated economic life, manufacturing and commerce began to take hold in this period. Frye Village (now the site of Shawsheen Village) originated in 1718 when Samuel Frye built grist and saw mills on the fourth falls of the Shawsheen; his son later added a fulling mill. Doctors, lawyers, and Isaac Abbot's general store/social center (later a prominent tavern, #181) made their first appearance in Andover at this time, indicating the increasing cultural complexity of the time.

Andover's conservative physical and cultural development is rooted in this period. Rev. Phillips reigned firmly until his death in 1771, a symbol of intellectual and moral rectitude and the founder of a prominent dynasty. Not surprisingly, the meetinghouse (1734) built under his leadership had a very domestic appearance-- $2\frac{1}{2}$ stories with five window bays and a center doorway. Many simple farmhouses were built at this time and still stand along the old roadways, their characteristically vernacular facades sheltering generations of prominent, well-established families (168, 422, 504, 506, Area 6). A grammar school was built in 1718, followed about forty years later by a network of district schools.

The relative calm of life in this era was broken only by the numerous wars among the British, French, and Indians; Andover's involvement seems to have consisted mainly of supplying military heroes--notably Colonel Joseph Frye. The major break which was to change Andover's historical orientation, the Revolutionary War, was preceded by local resolutions adamantly protesting the Stamp Act while deploring

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illegal, violent demonstrations.

Cultural Transition: ca. 1770-1830

A new complexity of issues--political, economic, religious, and educational-touched Andover between 1770 and 1830. This was a spirited age which determined many of the trends for Andover's later prominence.

The era began with the Revolutionary War, whose major effect on Andover was comparatively positive. The need for economic independence from England during and after the war was a catalyst for local industry--a powder mill (1775-1796), paper mill (1789-1820), and most importantly, textile mills. Abraham Marland established the first such manufactury in 1807 at what is now Abbot Village. His successful venture was soon followed by others: Abel and Paschal Abbot (ca. 1814), John Howarth & Company (ca. 1824), and Smith, Dove & Company (1824). Although many of the manufacturers--Marland, Dove, and the Smith brothers--were recent immigrants, labor was mostly local at this early stage. A remarkable number of factory buildings and related housing survive from this period (Area 2).

Commercial and cultural development was naturally stimulated by the industrial activity. Andover's first bank was established in 1826 as a direct result of the emergence of manufacturing. Phillips Academy (1778) and Abbott Academy (1829) (Area 1) nurtured another kind of self-reliance, founded (as Phillips' constitution states) to teach youth "the great end and real business of living."

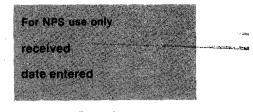
Religious activity also increased, although in forms which signalled the end of an era. The rise of Unitarianism led to the establishment of Andover Theological Seminary, a national stronghold of Puritanism (Area 1). The Seminary's strong missionary emphasis was abetted by Flagg and Kould's printing office, which by 1819 was publishing theological texts in twelve languages. Andover's religious unity survived through 1827 with the congenial separation of West Parish (one of the state's last purely ecclesiastical parishes), founded at the time of western Andover's agricultural and demographic peak (Area 6). The original church building is the oldest ecclesiastical structure extant in the Andovers, and is a fine example of its style.

Architecture of this period clearly reflects the transitional mood. Interspersed among the few ambitious Georgian homes (ca. 1790s) near the center of town (Area 4) are many graceful Federal residences which entirely altered the town's aspect (243, 293, Area 4). The most notable designers working in Andover at the time are Boston architect Charles Bulfinch (Bulfinch Hall and Phelps House in Area 1) and the talented local builder, David Hidden (232 and Area 1). Reflecting its prominent and vigorous early development, Academy Hill presents a fascinating collection of Federal period architecture. The scale and elegance of these buildings contrast dramatically with the schools' philosophical conservatism.

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Samuel Phillips, Jr. was the leading light of the age--instigator of Phillips Academy, paper and powder manufacturer, friend to George Washington, and Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth. His locally unrivalled Federal mansion (1782-85; burned 1887) was an imposing addition to Academy Hill.

Ascendance of Manufacturing, ca. 1830-1860

The prosperity of manufacturing in the mid-19th century firmly established Andover's character. A new architectural, social, and cultural diversity came to the town, now centered around the Shawsheen River.

Even as Marland Manufacturing Company and Smith, Dove & company expanded and incorporated, other mills were founded and new businesses begun. Among the most important of these were Ballardvale Manufacturing Company (1836) and Ballardvale Machine Shop Company (1848), both directed by the ambitious John Marland (Abraham Marland's son), Whipple File Company (1860), and Sawyer, Phelps & Company (1832, most famous in its later incarnation as Davis & Furber Machine Company of North Andover; see Machine Shop Village, NR pending). Andover's factories were nationally known for their innovation and success, and the concentration of such intensive activity was essential to the town's development. (Areas 2,3) The introduction of railroad lines in 1835 and 1847 greatly facilitated this development (994, 995).

During the 1840s and 50s the local population increased at an unprecedented rate, fueled by middle and working class immigrants from Scotland, Ireland, and England who came to run the factories or to work in them (Area 3). Lawyers, physicians, and merchants also began to multiply.

This changing population was served by a wealth of new religious societies made possible by the Commonwealth's 1833 repeal of mandatory taxation to support the Congregational Church. The new societies included the Methodist Episcopal Church (1829), Baptist Church (1832), Protestant Episcopal Church (1835), and Free Christian Church (1850-52). The Congregationalists accepted the splintering with remarkable grace, perhaps sustained by the religious revivalism which engaged Andover in the 1830s.

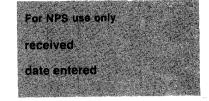
At the same time, the community enthusiastically began a new architectural age. The Greek Revival style was adopted in the 1820s by the mills (most notably Ballardvale (Area 3) and Frye Village), churches (the Baptist Church in Area 4 and the first Episcopal Church), academies (Area 1), and a limited range of residences (Nathaniel Swift's mansion on Main Street-- 1832, demolished ca. 1922-- was the town's most impressive example). Greek Revival was also the last style to significantly affect the agricultural outskirts, whose economic importance was declining (484, 508, Area 6). The Gothic style found only a very limited popularity in Andover (1840s), although its delicacy here is admirable (194, 270). John Dove's elaborate Gothic estate is probably Andover's best architectural piece (400).

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Jacob Chickering-- housewright, "artist," and pianomaker (no relation to the Boston firm) -- was Andover's own master builder of the mid-century. His most creative works are delicately styled in the Greek and Gothic modes (192, 194, Baptist Church in Area 4, Area 3).

The Italianate Revival began in Andover very early (late 1840s), perhaps influenced by the sophistication of the British immigrants. The mansions of manufacturers Nathan Frye (394), Benjamin Punchard (237), and John Marland (in Area 3) are excellent examples of Andover's stylishly simple Italianate homes. Punchard Free school (1856, the town's first public high school), Town Hall (1858; 326), and the present South Church (in Area 4) are institutional models of the period, all by Boston architects. William Jenkins was the most prominent local builder of the period; his fine period house stands on Main Street (Area 5).

The action that best summarizes the significance of this period is the political recognition of the distinct industrial centers developing around Cochichewick Brook and the Shawsheen River. North Andover and Andover were legally divided in 1855 with little debate and apparently no controversy over which section merited the distinction of the original name. Andover's new Town Hall was built from the designs of Theodore Voelkers, an architect best known (appropriately enough) for his mills.

Commercial and Cultural Expansion, ca. 1860-1918

The economic energy of the Civil War spurred Andover's maturation as an industrial and commercial center. Industrial wealth built many of the town's notable structures, both architecturally and socially significant, during this period and the town lost almost entirely its agricultural temperament.

The busy textile manufactures and machine shops were supplemented by a rich diversity of businesses that included Tyer Rubber Company (1856); Area 2, J.W. Barnard & Company (ca. 1860, shoe manufacturing), Craighead & Kintz (1883, decorative metalwork), the weekly <u>Andover Townsman</u> (1887), and of course numerous tradesmen. Commercial and industrial building increased rapidly in this period, most notably along Main Street (169, 325, 327). In addition, the philanthropy of Smith & Dove and other businessmen created Memorial Hall Library (1873;169) and major new buildings at the Seminary and Abbot Academy (Area 1).

Population was increasing slowly at this time, with a sharp internal shift from farming to manufacturing and trades jobs. Social clubs flourished and recreational outings became popular at waterside groves and the newly public Indian Ridge Reservation (1897). The Seminary, which gave 19th century Andover its leading intellectuals, began to decline after much publicized heresy trials in the 1880s, and in 1908 it removed entirely to Cambridge. The flourishing Phillips Academy quickly bought up and moved into the vacant property. The Bradlee School (1889; 23) in Ballardvale and Stowe School (1894) downtown are

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the two major examples of municipal building in this period.

Towards the end of this period many of the earlier farmsteads were sold out of the original families for the first time and became less intensively worked. In return, a small network of late-century streets and middle-class Victorian tracts coalesced around the newly vigorous Main Street commercial district. The town's ebullience is evident in neighborhoods of modestly-sized but energetic Queen Anne, Shingle, and Colonial Revival style houses (Area 5) and in a number of similarly styled estates farther south around Route 28 (233).

Andover's outlook was permanently altered at the turn of the century by a flood of technological changes: the institution of police and fire departments, a public drinking water system, a sewage system, electric railways, automobiles, electric lights, and a telephone exchange. Most importantly, textile manufacturing began to shift gears early in the 20th century.

Shawsheen and Suburbia, ca. 1918 to present

Economic decline and the pervasive effects of the automobile combined after World War One to re-direct the course of town growth, although the social infrastructure has remained intact. Industrial diversification, suburbanization, and an intense Colonial nostalgia have been the major trends of the era.

Andover has most obviously changed in its manufacturing base. After World War One, the mills began gradually to move south and reduce their local operations. Smith & Dove and the Ballardvale Mills were closed in the 1920s; Marland Mills held out on a smaller scale (under J.P. Stevens & Company until the 1960s).

William Wood (1858-1926), president of the enormous American Woolen Company, misread the signs and invested heavily in Andover manufacturing. His 600-acre Shawsheen Village was built ca. 1918-25 as a model community for middle and upper level executives. Company-built houses, stores, offices, recreational facilities, and of course a mill sprang up to great public approval, but by the 1930s all but the mill building and Wood family houses were sold to private owners (400, 400A and Shawsheen Village, NR 1979).

Shawsheen's neat rows of Colonial Revival homes were an inspiration for Andover, reinforced by a similarly grand-scale building boom at Phillips Academy (Area 1). A Neo-Georgian crop of major institutional buildings grew on the Hill during Phillips' "golden age" of the 1920s and 30s, as the school acquired a national reputation. Principal architect for the Academy at this time was Guy Lowell, who had designed Boston's Museum of Fine Arts. The town contributed to the new pattern of development with a neo-classical school (the third Punchard Free School) and auditorium complex in the 1930s. The same desire for visual uniformity and dignity surfaced in such popular residential developments as Johnson Acres (1940s, off Elm Street), where developer Fred Cheever imposed a long list of building restrictions on prospective homeowners. With only one notable exception (64 Cheever Circle, an

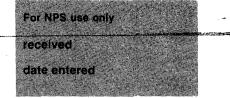
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International Style building), they responded with Colonial Revival houses.

Claude Fuess, headmaster at Phillips Academy and local historian, spoke for many in the 'fifties when he deplored the so-called "conspicuous ugliness" of Victorian architecture. In that spirit many of Andover's most prominent Victorian buildings have been altered (Memorial Hall Library in 1928; 169) or demolished (the Seminary's Gothic-style Brechin Hall; Joyce's Castle"; and Peter Smith's Second Empire estate, "Forest Hill") over the last sixty years.

Economic diversification--including the recent additions of Gillette, Raytheon, and the North Atlantic IRS Service Center -- and the presence of two superhighways have encouraged rapid sub-division of the old estates and farmsteads since 1918. Today's population of 27,000 is nearly double that of just twenty years ago, but the environmental impact is relatively subtle. The physical size of the town plus its taste for complementary architectural styles have, on the whole, successfully accommodated the old and new aspects of Andover.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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1. Lower Shawshee		Keeper CTION Attest	W.H. Bracham 6.10.82- Patrick Andres 6/8/22
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12. Abbot, Asa and Sylvester	, House Entered in the National Register	Keeper	Selous Byers 1/10/8:
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13. Andover National Bank	Substantive Neview	Keeper	4H Braunam 6.10.82
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14. Andover Town Hall	Entered in the National Register	Keeper	Selous Byen clouls
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- 18. Chandler-Bigsby-Abbot Ho	ouse Substantive Review	Keeper	WiBrainam 6-10. 82
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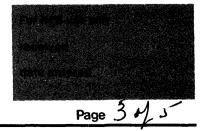
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28.	Gray, David, House	Substantive Review	Keeper	W.H. Brailian 6.10.82
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29.	Harding, Sarah H., House	Entered in the National Register	Keeper	Delous Byen 6/10/8
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42. Pillsbury-French House	Entered In the National Register	Keeper	Delous Beyers 4
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43. Punchard, Benjamin, Hous	se Substantive Review	Keeper	N.H. Bracham 6.10.82
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46. Third Railroad Station	Entered in the National Register	Keeper	Alour Byen 6,
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47. Ward, Richard, House	Entered in the National Register	Keeper	Delous Byen
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48. Woodbridge House	Substantive Review	Keeper	W.H. Brownan 6.10.8:
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