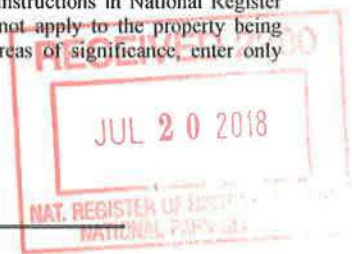


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

562829

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.



1. Name of Property

Historic name: Goshen Town Hall

Other names/site number: John James Memorial Hall

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

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

2. Location

Street & number: 42 Main Street

City or town: Goshen State: MA County: Hampshire (015)

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

<u>Brona Simon</u>	<u>July 10, 2018</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:	SHPO
Date	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property <input type="checkbox"/> meets <input type="checkbox"/> does not meet the National Register criteria.
Signature of commenting official: Date
Title: Brona Simon, Mass. State Historic Preservation Officer

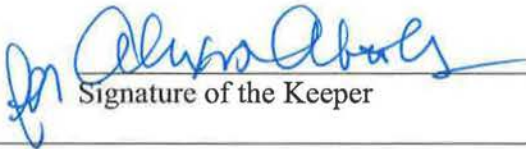
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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)


Signature of the Keeper

8/28/2018
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Classical Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property (Town Hall, GHS.24):

load-bearing coursed rubble walls: Goshen schist, gray quartzite, and white quartz
concrete and cement plaster
structural framing: wood: heavy timber
roof: slate

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Goshen Town Hall (GHS.24) is located on the north half of a lot at the intersection of Main Street and East Street. It faces west on the east side of Route 9 in a mile-long area of the town center potentially eligible for listing as a National Register district. This area is located approximately 15 miles northwest of Northampton, in northwestern Hampshire County. Across the street to the west is the 1782 late Georgian Goshen Congregational Church (GHS.13), and south of the town hall are the present town offices, located in the former Center School (GHS.25). The Goshen Town Hall is the premier public building in Goshen. Behind it to the east is a cleared field used for town events and recreation. The town hall is Classical Revival in style, built of fieldstone masonry construction and opened in 1911. It is heavy and formal with a dignified, wide, Tuscan-columned portico and stairs leading up to the front doors. The building has large double-hung windows and a slate roof with raised parapets. It sits on the site originally occupied by the 1782 meetinghouse, moved across the street in 1834 after being damaged by a tornado and now the Congregational Church. The Goshen Town Hall has excellent historical and physical integrity and was carefully rehabbed on the exterior in 2016. The nominated property consists of the town hall building and three noncontributing 2010 structures in the rear: two generators and a propane tank access hatch. In

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addition, there is a wooden sign on the lawn at the northeast corner of the town hall, a ca. 1995–1998 sign advertising a Four-H summer camp nearby on East Street. The former Center School, built in 1923 in the Colonial Revival style and modified in 1954, stands just south of the Goshen Town Hall on land that is now part of the same municipal lot. For the purposes of this nomination, the Center School and parking lot are not included; the boundary of the nominated property is a polygon extending from the road frontages on Main and East streets and ten feet from the building's south, side and east, rear walls. The Goshen Town Hall is eligible under Criteria A and C for its historical and architectural significance.

Narrative Description

Setting:

The town hall is the most imposing building on Main Street in Goshen Center. It fits well with the surrounding properties in not being too tall or out of scale with the other development on the street, none of which is over two stories tall. The lot on which the new town hall was to be built had originally been part of the commons on which the original 1782 meetinghouse sat. Because the church was moved across Route 9 in 1834, this original lot eventually came into the possession of the Tomlinson family who built an imposing summer home on the east side of Main Street in 1900. The current town hall lot was deeded to the town of Goshen by John C. and Dora Tomlinson on August 30, 1909, while the town hall construction was under way. This corner of Main Street and East Street has been the traditional heart of the town center for virtually all of town history. Today, the Congregational Church, originally the 1782 meetinghouse, and the Goshen Town Hall complement each other as bookends across Main Street from one another. They are of similar scale, size, and height, and have approximately the same setback from Main, about 20 to 25 feet, which thrusts them out in the streetscape and gives both buildings prominence along what is now Route 9. The Classical Revival design of the town hall is a fit with the understated dignity of the earlier church across the street. Both are front-gabled buildings with pediments and both are taller than the houses in the immediate vicinity.

Existing buildings along the developed one mile of Main Street in the town center are largely residential, and reflect the earliest period of settlement, from the 1779 John Williams House and Tavern (GHS.1) to houses built around 1950. Scattered along the street are such early two-story Federal-style houses as the 1788 Rev. Samuel Whitman Parsonage and the 1805 Nehemiah May House (GHS.15). In the 1820s through the late 1840s, modest Federal and Greek Revival-style one-story Capes were built along Main Street with a lower profile than the earlier Federal-style houses. Toward the end of the 19th century, Goshen began to attract tourists and then people interested in building summer homes in town. As a result, Main Street has a mixture of Georgian, Federal, Greek Revival, Queen Anne, Shingle Style, and Colonial Revival-style houses. There are a few 20th-century Cape-type houses and one ranch-type house on Main Street today. South of the town hall is the 1923/1954 Colonial Revival-style former elementary school (used as town offices since 1998). Later changes on Main Street are the utilitarian fire station (1988), which replaced the first fire station (1949) a block north of the town hall, and a small town park and paved parking lot dating from the 1970s on the west side of Route 9, now surrounded by the construction of a three-building senior citizen multiplex housing project. On the separate lot behind the town hall in a large field is 2015 playground set visible behind the town hall along East Street.

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Town Hall Exterior:

The west-facing Goshen Town Hall is a rectangular building, 40 feet wide by 60 feet long. To the rear is a 22-foot-by-40-foot one-story addition with offices and restrooms built in 1935–36. The building is front-gabled with stone-capped gabled parapets and a dark gray slate roof and is two-and-a-half stories tall. Walls are load-bearing fieldstone with quarried stone window lintels and sills showing undressed sills and lintels with “wedge and feather” quarry marks. The front façade is symmetrical and dominated by a dignified Tuscan-columned portico consisting of three bays separated by four pairs of unfluted columns. The center four columns are *di in antis* and separate the central bay with double doors leading into the hall, from the flanking bays to the north and south. These end bays terminate in two pairs of columns at the ends of the portico. The porch under the portico is six and a half feet wide. The north and south end of the porch wall terminate in pilasters. The columns support a wide flat wooden frieze with molded trimmed cornice and a tall parapet announcing “John James Memorial.” Above the front porch in the tympanum is a semi-circular lunette surrounded by arched fieldstone with a center keystone that lights the interior of the attic from the west.

Lateral elevations of the town hall were designed with five bays on the north and south sides (Photo #1). The first story of the building is four feet below grade and rests on concrete sleepers. First-floor window sills are at grade. The building contains a first-floor auditorium and stage designed for a capacity of around 100 (Photo #3). The second floor contains a public library room (Photo #6), a kitchen, and a dining room or social room (Photo #7). The rear addition contains two meeting rooms and two restrooms. An elevator tower and elevator were added to the north wall toward the rear of the building in 1998–99. The original floorplan and exterior and interior materials have a high level of historic integrity.

Exterior trim is cement plaster and concrete and includes the set of ten poured-concrete stairs leading up from grade to the front porch (stairs rebuilt in 1967–68); the concrete coping on the fieldstone front-stair pediments; the eight reinforced-concrete front Tuscan columns, each with 20-inch circumferences at the bases; and the window sills on north and south elevations and rear of the building. The exterior finish on the front façade under the portico is cement plaster, as is the finish on the projecting end pilasters and walls of the exterior stairway tower on the north side. The two five-paneled double front doors of oak are surmounted by a glass transom.

This front-gabled, two-story, load-bearing masonry building has an exterior profile of a story-and-a-half because the first-floor auditorium is situated four feet below grade and rests on sleepers with grade at the window sills. The front and rear gables have raised parapets with granite coping, which continues the fieldstone walls up above the roof.

The building is five bays deep on the north and south elevations. Each side bay contains a window on the first story and one on the second story directly above. All are wooden double-hung with multiple lights. On the north elevation, the exterior stair tower takes up the first bay on the west toward the front façade, followed by four bays. The eastern-most, or rear, bay was altered in 1998 to accommodate the new projecting exterior elevator tower (Photo #2). On the south elevation, the original five bays are delineated by the five tall second-story windows and the ground-floor windows below (Photo #1). At the ground floor facing south, there are only three windows in the auditorium because the end bays on this floor contain exterior doors with pillared entrances leading into the auditorium. All of the double-hung wooden windows with integral muntins are original to the 1911 building.

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Toward the front of the north elevation, recessed some two and a half feet from the front façade, is a projecting exterior five-sided stair tower connecting the two floors, added ca. 1998. It has three fixed-light wooden-framed windows with leaded glass, each with nine lights (Photo #4). All are set at the level of the second story and allow natural light down to the first floor. This stair tower has a five-sided conical slate roof (replaced in 2015) and a wooden running course at the sill line of the windows. The masonry walls on both sides of this roof have been protected with a metal plate over the original masonry wall to prevent water infiltration coming down from the roof. The walls of the stairway are cement plaster over two-by-four and timbered framing, a surface that was repaired and repainted in 2015–16.

Town Hall Structure:

The most succinct description of the structure of the town hall comes from architect William J. Howes on December 6, 1910, when he wrote up a paragraph on the construction of the building after discovering that the Goshen Building Committee had not insured it. William J. Howes's letter of December 6, 1910, to Oliver Walker, an insurance agent in Northampton, reads:

This building is a stone building, two and one-half stories high. The first story is four feet below grade and the floor sets directly upon sleepers embedded in a concrete foundation. The side walls are furred and fire stopped at floor and ceiling lines with blocking and opening filled full of mortar. These same stops run around each window. The lower floor ceiling is of [pressed] steel, all of the plastering is done upon wire lath throughout the building. The entrance porch is of solid concrete. At the eaves the walls run clear up between the rafters to the roof boards. The roof is of slate. The building is isolated, with no structures within one hundred feet. This is an exceptionally well constructed building for any country locality.

The only load-bearing walls in the original building are the exterior masonry walls. There are no load-bearing interior walls because the auditorium, which covers the entire original first floor, is completely open. Above the auditorium, the second-story floor is supported by two 12-inch I-beams doubled and two 10-by-12-inch girders spanning 36½ feet from side to side and set into the lateral load-bearing stone walls between the auditorium windows. These heavy supports are set parallel to each other and approximately twelve feet apart down the long axis of the room. The attic is heavy timber of king-rod construction so that interior rooms have suspended ceilings to keep interior areas clear of supports and maximize the useful interior space. This king-rod truss system spans from the ridge pole to each tie beam below with queen rods tying the purlins to each tie beam at each strut (Photo #8). Architect Howes then used rods bolted through the tie beams running down from all the trusses to hang the wood and steel girders between the first and second floors. This type of heavy beam construction allows the weight of the roof to be carried horizontally to the heavy, solid-stone lateral walls below the attic and then down to the bottom of the foundation. The balance of the rods hanging down from the tie beams was used for the library partition between the library and dining room, and also along the main, north hallway wall. So the loads for the second-story interior walls were all hung from the attic truss-and-rod system and through-bolted, and the steel girders above and in the middle of the auditorium ceiling were also supported. By 1910, this king-rod system was almost never used for framing unless the ceilings were to be suspended, as they were in this building. The attic has only been used for storage and was insulated on top of the floor in 2016.

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Town Hall Exterior Walls:

The load-bearing exterior walls are broken fieldstone, or rubble, arranged in more or less even rows, known as “coursed rubble” (Photo #1). They are eighteen to twenty inches thick. The wall stone is local Goshen mica schist, tan quartzite, and white quartz. All three of these very hard types of stone called for hard mortar, which is what was used originally and darkened with lamp black. The walls on the first story were twelve inches deep as measured by the interior oak reveals on the window trim in the auditorium. The finish on the west wall at the back of the front porch was shown on the blueprints as “cement plaster,” which was also used as the exterior finish on the walls of the exterior stair tower. It is a very hard material, essentially plaster with Portland cement as a binder. The entire masonry front façade was repaired, resurfaced, and repainted an off-white color in 2015–2016. The exterior 1998–99 elevator tower is faced in a two-layer Stocorp EIFS (“Exterior Insulation and Finish System”) system.

Town Hall Slate Roof:

The current dark gray slate roof was put on in the fall of 2015 as part of the rehabilitation of the town hall exterior after the original roof, badly leaking and 105 years old, was removed. The new slate matches the color of the original almost perfectly and replicated the four-by-twenty-inch size of the slates.

Town Hall Interior:

There are two stairways on the west and east ends of the south elevation leading down into the first-floor auditorium (See Figures 1 and 2). The second story contains a front vestibule and three rooms and a long hallway along the north side of the building (Photo #5). From front to back they are: a kitchen to the right off the front vestibule; a social room or dining room in the middle (Photo #7); and a library across the rear east side (Photo #6). The hallway now leads to the elevator and tower at the back of the building north of the library.

The interior walls on both stories are entirely plaster and galvanized lath. All of the door, window, and woodwork trim is oak (Photo #5). The window reveals in the auditorium are oak and 12 inches deep, the same width as the oak window sills. In the auditorium, the oak woodwork is confined to the window sills, reveals, baseboards, and the cabinetry at the back (east) entrance. These cabinets were part of the original kitchen design, which was never built—only the cabinets were installed. They are located at the east end of the stage (Photo #3). The auditorium ceiling is embossed steel with a border pattern of steel coving around the room at the top of the walls. The steel coving also covers the structural I-beams and girders in the ceiling (Photo #3). The auditorium floor is maple and replaced the original oak flooring after water damage in 1955.

At the rear of the auditorium (see Plan A), a hallway leads from the south entrance north and up the staircase to the second floor. The hallway runs the 40 feet in width of the back of the auditorium. This area is directly under the front porch of the front façade. The architect designed this to “throw out the front of the building” to increase the interior space in the auditorium. The front wall of this stairway is now sheathed in vertical beadboard, to a height of eight feet four inches.

On the second story, the oak trim and accents are more extensive but the interior walls are still plaster and lath. The dining room and the library and hallways on the second floor have heavy crown molding in oak. The double front doors open into a vestibule and are five-paneled oak with deep reveals the thickness of the stone walls. All trim on the second story is oak, molded, and most is quarter-sawn. Oak baseboards

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are nine inches tall with molded trim. Flooring in the front vestibule and in the kitchen is sheet linoleum. The remainder of second-story flooring is Georgia yellow pine, three-and-a-half-inches wide. The library is carpeted.

Inside the front doors, the vestibule opens in three directions. The kitchen is to the right, or south. The social room or dining room is straight ahead to the east. There is a single-paneled oak door into the kitchen, and double doors into the social room. To the north or left are a set of French doors with nine upper lights above six wooden oak panels, separating the unheated vestibule from the hall on the north side of the building. The intent of this set of front hallway doors was to keep out the cold on the second floor as suggested to the architect by John C. Hammond, an attorney and building committee member. The exterior stair tower is located toward the front of the north elevation, but is set back from the front façade. It opens onto the north hall. The tower to the second floor is actually five-sided. The top of the staircase ceiling has oak coving. The staircase is open-well construction (Photo #4). It is lighted by three nine-light, fixed clerestory windows of leaded glass high up in the north wall to light the stairway. The staircase has unfluted Tuscan newels to match the exterior columns on the front façade. The balusters are one-by-one-inch and the handrails are oak. The oak molding in the stairway continues as a flat oak running course into the north hallway.

The north hallway is framed by two identical doors at the west and east ends. The west door leads up to the attic. The east door is the original doorway into the library. It now leads to a new short hallway to the elevator (Photo #5). Surrounding each single-paneled oak door is a huge solid oak lintel with a single-paneled frieze above the door lintel, between curved oak consoles. Both of these doors are single-paneled oak. The north side of the dining room can be opened into the north hall through two sets of oak French doors of ten lights between fixed side panels of five lights each. These doors bring light from both the south elevation of the dining room and the north hall. On the interior wall of the hall between the French doors to the dining room is a bronze plaque honoring Goshen-born Clarence Hawkes, a prolific 19th-century writer of stories for children. A bronze bust of John Canfield Tomlinson, given by his widow as a gift to the Goshen library in 1935 (Annual Report of the Town Officers, 1935, p. 40), is now in a corner of the dining room. The sculptor was William Clark Noble (1858–1938) from Gardner, Maine.

The town hall kitchen has early-1950s plain wooden cabinets painted white and linoleum counters, a double sink, electric restaurant stove, and refrigerator. Around 1952, a new pass-through, which replaced a door between the kitchen and dining room, provided more work and counter space (Photo #7). At the same time, Francis Dresser donated a stove and installed it in the kitchen. At that time, the Ladies Benevolent Association (LBA) from the church was in charge of the kitchen. The kitchen update also involved new linoleum counter tops, a new sink, and refrigerator. This pass-through increased the kitchen's counter space.

The library has a north wall added in 1998 that divides the library proper from an A.D.A.-mandated separate elevator hall with clerestory windows (Photo #5). The oak trim is both flat and some molded. The original wide oak crown molding in the library has been continued into the rear elevator hall. The built-in bookcases in the library are oak with coved molding at the top of the walls. The library has nine-foot-tall built-in bookcases with beadboard backs, laid vertically. All the doors on the second floor are oak and single-paneled, except for the library door with its single-paneled large glass insert.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations N/A

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

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Politics/Government

Entertainment/Recreation

Social History

Education

Architecture

Period of Significance

1908-1968

Significant Dates

1911 (building completed)

1935-1936 (rear addition)

Significant Persons

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Howes, William J. (1909-1911), architect

Howes, William J. and Paul S. Howes, (1935-1936 rear addition)

Cranson, Louis H., builder, 1909-1911

Henry A. and Howard E. Hathaway, stonemasons 1910-1911; 1935-1936

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Goshen Town Hall (GHS.24) meets Criteria A and C for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and is significant on the local level. Under Criterion A, it is eligible under Politics/Government for its role in all town activities related to the political process since 1911; under Entertainment/Recreation for its pivotal role in the private and public efforts to promote the town welfare and enhance the lives of the town's citizens by providing the major venue for leisure activities, such as dramatics, readings, lectures, movies, and musicals; and under Social History for its role in providing a gathering place for groups, such as the Goshen Women's Club, which promoted town improvement efforts, fundraised for 4-H efforts in town, and furthered the efforts of the Red Cross; and under Education for its occasional use as classroom and gym facility and its role in enhancing the lives of the town's citizens through study and the transmission of knowledge and skills. The town hall meets Criterion C on a local level as a well-designed and well-engineered example of a small-town early 20th-century Classical Revival-style public building designed by William J. Howes, who combined the use of plentiful local stone with the voiced needs of the rural community, into a design of usefulness using the latest engineering techniques to maximize the available space. His design worked well in carrying out the desire of the town to keep down the cost of construction. The Goshen Town Hall has a high level of historic integrity in all seven categories: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. It sits in its original location, is virtually the same as designed and built in 1909–1911, with a sympathetic 1935–1936 rear addition also designed by Howes in 1935 for \$75.47. The town hall is the most visible building in town. A representative of the Industrial Period (1870–1915) of Goshen history, no other building in town was constructed in the Classical Revival style. The period of significance extends from 1908, when planning and fund-raising began for the building, to 1968, the 50-year suggested cutoff for National Register purposes.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Early Civic History:

As with most of the hilltown areas west of the Connecticut River Valley, Goshen was not settled until the 1760s after the French and Indian Wars concluded when the French surrendered this area to Great Britain. This allowed early permanent settlement in the piedmont areas northwest of the Connecticut River Valley. As part of Narragansett Township No. 4, part of what became Goshen was laid out in 1736 as New Hingham Plantation west of Hatfield. The first settlers to the area that became Goshen were residents of New Hingham Plantation and an added grant named "Chesterfield Gore" given to the soldiers of King Phillip's War. Together, these two areas were incorporated as the Town of Chesterfield in 1762. What is now the town of Goshen was the east side of Chesterfield in the Gore. In 1781, residents in this northeast section of Chesterfield, willing to establish a meetinghouse closer to their homes, broke off from that town to form a new one nearer to where they lived. The Town of Goshen was incorporated on May 14, 1781. Some settlers to Chesterfield thus ended up in Goshen after 1762. The earliest settlers to Goshen were located in the Ball Road area northwest of the Goshen Center of Main Street. These people did not move, but became Goshen residents when the Goshen boundaries were established. A significant number were from Hingham, Plymouth County, Massachusetts, in the 1760s and many of the earliest settlers fought in the Revolutionary War, but were counted as residents of Chesterfield. Other early

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settlers came from Dudley, Charlton, Wrentham, Cohasset, Brookfield, Rehoboth, Tisbury, and Northampton in Massachusetts; Woodstock, Connecticut; and Long Island, New York.

The seat of government in Goshen has been housed in three buildings specifically built for the purpose: the 1782 meetinghouse, now the Congregational Church, (GHS.13); the "town house" (1874-1923) south of the church (former meetinghouse); and the current 1911 Goshen Town Hall. The first building was the meetinghouse, which in every town in Massachusetts was used both for secular and religious purposes, and was required as a condition to organize a new town. In Goshen this very building was the 1782 meetinghouse, now the Congregational Church. Although church and state were legally separated in 1811, it was not until 1833 that Massachusetts adopted a new state constitution that separated church and state, a process known as "disestablishment."

In the early days, Goshen town meetings were held in various buildings. Goshen's first town meeting on May 23, 1781, was held at the home of John Williams (GHS.1) on the north end of what is now Main Street on land now in the Goshen Cemetery (at an unknown date the Williams House was moved south to its present location between Routes 9 and 112). John James, Jr. was elected moderator of this first town meeting. He had settled in Chesterfield in 1769 coming from Cohasset, a part of Hingham, where his family had settled in 1638. James was the first merchant in town and later a partner with John Williams. The second meeting was also held at John Williams's house. The new meetinghouse, that is, the Goshen Congregational Church, was being put up by Capt. Jonathan Warner of Williamsburg on the site of the current town hall. Construction was sufficiently along that it hosted the third Goshen town meeting in December 1782.

As the location of both the seat of government and the church, the new meetinghouse was a cold and uncomfortable space, especially in the winter, which accounts for how many other buildings were used for town meetings in the early days. Between 1782 and 1834, winter meetings were often moved to private houses with enough heated space for worship services. In addition to the John Williams House at the north end of Main Street, other taverns filled the bill, such as the Nehemiah May House (GHS.15) at 25 Main Street, or the Lemuel Lyon House (razed), formerly north of the house at 64 Main Street. These three houses were used for services and meetings until 1834, when they were then moved to a hall over the Ebenezer Town store on Main Street, a practice that continued until 1842. Next door to Town's store was the Reuben Dresser, Jr. Hotel built in 1818. In 1858, Dresser's hotel and Town's store were attached. The store, then located on the present site of the municipal parking lot south of the Congregational Church, is also gone. In 1842, town meetings were again held at the Congregational Church. After the Town store/Dresser Hotel burned down in October 1867, Major Joseph Hawkes built a commodious hotel, the "Highland House," on the site. It was a large 2½-story front-gabled building with wide verandas. After the Highland House was constructed on Main Street, town meetings were held upstairs in a large room named "Bridgeman Hall." On November 12, 1874, the first modern town hall, called a "town house," was dedicated. It stood south of the church, but was not large enough for town meetings, which continued to be held in Bridgeman Hall most often until the new town hall, the subject of the present nomination, was opened in 1911.

Because of heavy rains and wind, the wood-shingled roof on the 1782 meetinghouse was damaged in August 1834, then the building was moved across the street between October 31 and November 3, 1834. It went from the current lot of the Goshen Town Hall to where it is today, across the street. The roof was repaired with a used slate roof to cover the damaged original wood-shingled roof, the end porches were removed, and the building was remodeled to its present appearance. Interestingly, in 1836, President Andrew Jackson, in order to thwart the power of the Bank of the United States, returned the 1836 federal

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budget surplus directly to the states to get it away from the bank; in Massachusetts, that money was distributed to the towns and cities to provide capital for constructing new town houses. Goshen had just brought its meetinghouse up to day in 1834, only two years before the federal funds became available. So Goshen saw fit to continue to use the meetinghouse for both secular and religious purposes. For this reason, Goshen, unlike some of the surrounding towns in western Massachusetts, does not have a federally funded town house dating from the late 1830s and early 1840s.

The 1874–1923 “town house” was not suited for town meetings because of its size. It was a modest one-story, rectangular, wood-frame, front-gabled structure built on the lot south of the Congregational Church. It is known to have served as a place to keep town records and house a small library collection of books. There was little actual town business to conduct. Elected officials worked out of their homes. But well-attended town meetings were still held at the Highland House, where there was room for gatherings. By 1911, the 1874 “town house” was no longer needed. In 1923, it was sold at auction to Henry B. Dresser, a local farmer, for \$24.00, just as the town decided to build a new elementary school. Since 1911, town meetings are regularly held in the current town hall.

Criterion A
Politics/Government:

The John James Memorial Hall was built for a “library and social purposes” according to the Certificate of Plans filed with the state by William Howes, the architect, on June 10, 1909. But the Goshen building committee also wanted to add a stage in the auditorium, indicating a local interest in a more multi-purpose building. In 1909, there were very few governmental functions that the town of Goshen needed to accommodate. On a regular basis, chief among these were select board meetings. After the new town hall opened, the Goshen select board met in the middle of the town hall auditorium, whose more visible purpose was as a room large enough to hold town meetings. The town hall auditorium is also where voters cast their ballots in elections. After 1936, when the rear addition opened, it contained two rooms, called “committee rooms”: the south room originally housed the select board offices and a vault for town records, the north room was used for various town committee meetings.

The construction of the Goshen Town Hall was an enormous undertaking for such a small rural town. Goshen had a population of 316 in 1900, which dropped to 279 in the 1910 federal census, and hit its lowest point in 1920 with 224. In addition, the rural population was isolated and many were farmers living just above subsistence level. They were conservative and chose to avoid risks. By 1900, many young people were still being drawn to the valley for industrial jobs. Many of the older residents in Goshen had experienced the periodic financial booms and busts that had plagued the country since the 19th century. The townsfolk of Goshen were familiar with the greatest financial collapse in the nation’s history, the Panic of 1893, when land speculation caused a severe depression to ripple across the United States, causing 156 railroads and 500 banks to fail. All Americans felt the nationwide 1893 recession. Added to this was another depression in 1907, also felt nationwide.

Goshen was able to build a town hall in 1911 through the generosity of a local Goshen farmer, John James, Jr., who had died in March 1804, leaving \$100 to accrue interest for 100 years and then be used for any of the following purposes: the support of a minister of the Congregational Society, the schools, or the poor, or for the building and repairing of public buildings. Mr. John James, Jr. had come from a civic-minded early family in Hingham, Plymouth County, Massachusetts. In 1907, while Goshen was trying to decide how to divide the John James legacy, the selectmen of the town and the officers of the church

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petitioned the Hampshire Probate Court to render a decision on the division of the John James legacy. The decision was handed down on May 3, 1907, when the original \$100 dollars James had left had reached \$19,431.72. The court decided the town would get \$10,556.72 and the Congregational Parish, that is, the Goshen Congregational Church, would get \$8,000. The town and the church fathers decided to use some of the James legacy to build a town hall to be used for governmental and social purposes and for a library. William J. Howes, a Holyoke architect, was hired to design the building, and locally, a "Goshen Building Fund" was set up and began taking donations on October 19, 1908.

During the last half of 1908, the town hall project got underway. Architect Howes did a list and estimate of the materials needed for the new building, dated October 12, 1908. A building fund was set up and began collecting donations on October 19, 1908. Ultimately, when the building fund members closed the solicitations on September 30, 1910, they had raised \$11,455.28. The town of Goshen authorized borrowing additional money, not to exceed \$1,000, to help complete the town hall. This \$1,000 was not included in the final building fund tally of \$11,455, and several items had not been started yet, including the cost of bookshelves in the library. In today's dollars the value of the building fund receipts would be around \$286,375. But the original building still needed site work and furniture. When completed the total cost was around \$14,000, according to George L. Barrus in 1944, and that included everything: grading the site, landscaping, and some furniture bought after the building was formally opened in 1911. Today, the cost would translate to around \$350,000 in a town whose population in 1910 was 279.

A widely misunderstood and oft-repeated belief to this day is that the John James Fund from his 1805 Will paid for the total cost for the new 1911 town hall. The confusion comes from conflating the "John James Fund" from his will with the "John James Building Fund" that was set up in 1908 solely for the purpose of raising money for the new town hall, to be named the John James Memorial (over time, the building became known as the Goshen Town Hall). But when the Goshen Building Committee ended fundraising and closed its books on September 30, 1910, the town of Goshen and the Congregational Parish had each donated \$1,000 for a building that ended up costing \$14,000. An additional \$1,000 came from the town of Goshen by way of a town meeting in 1910. The records show that only \$5.00 came from a Goshen resident.

Most of the out-of-town donors to the Goshen town hall fund were wealthy people related to John James, Jr. The head of the Building Fund was Helen Field James of nearby Williamsburg, Massachusetts, widow of Lyman D. James, a lifelong storekeeper and postmaster in Williamsburg, who died in 1902. Lyman Dwight James was a great-grandson of John James, Jr. Mrs. James's own family roots were appreciable. She was the great-granddaughter of Captain Jonathan Warner, builder/carpenter of the Goshen meetinghouse in 1782, now the Goshen Congregational Church, and several other early meetinghouses, including those in Ashfield and Williamsburg (both no longer extant). She was born in Conway and was the sister of the Chicago merchandising entrepreneur Marshall Field, who owned the most successful department store in Chicago. Marshall Field died in January 1906, and left money to his sister Helen James, who gave to the Goshen Town Hall Building Fund. Her donation before the end of September 1910 was \$1,700 (or \$42,500 in current dollars), amounting to about eight percent of the total Goshen town hall project cost of \$14,000. Her nephews, L. W. and D. R. James, gave \$200 and \$500 respectively to the Goshen Fund. According to the building fund records, the largest private donor was James Babcock of Michigan, a relative by marriage of the John Williams family who came to Goshen in 1779. Mr. Babcock's total donation from Oct. 19, 1908, to September 30, 1910, was \$3,700, valued today at \$92,500.

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The town spent another \$5,000, by a vote at town meeting in 1936, to construct the rear, one-story addition. In today's dollars this would be around \$84,745.75, a substantial commitment for two rooms, a vault with a used bank safe, and two restrooms. The architectural/structural design of the rear addition, by Howes was a mere \$75.74, according to the architect's 1935 invoice.

Criterion A.
Education

Since its opening in July 1911, the Goshen Town Hall has operated as a general civic and social center, but it has also supplied space for educational activities, both planned and unplanned. One function has been as a library. The formal educational activities in the town hall arose because better school facilities were needed. Center School opened in 1923 next to the town hall, combining the remaining three of six original one-room schoolhouses in town. Because of increased enrollment in 1951-1953, the town hall dining hall was converted to use as a classroom for grades six, seven, and eight. Despite the completion of the new addition to Center School in 1954, the town hall was again used, this time for indoor basketball practice. All Goshen elementary school graduations were held on the town hall stage in the auditorium, as well as all school gatherings, until the new Hampshire Regional School opened in the fall of 1972.

Originally, the two explicit functions the town of Goshen needed were a place for a decent library and a place to conduct governmental and social functions. In 1911, the new town hall supplied both of these needs. The first written mention of a library in Goshen was in 1796, and as with many towns, the library resided in various homes. In Goshen, it was moved into the town house in 1874, nearly 100 years after the town was incorporated in 1781. At a town meeting held March 2, 1891, Goshen accepted the state act of 1890 to promote the establishment of a free public library.

The new town hall was designed with a large, well-lit room at the rear of the second floor for the library. The small library collection was promptly moved from the old town house across the street after the new building was completed, and set up on new shelving. The library in the town hall also functioned as the school library from 1923, when Center School elementary school opened, until a small library was carved out of the basement classroom in the Center School addition in 1954. The two-room Goshen elementary school did not need a library in its floorplan when it was constructed in 1923. It had one right next door in the town hall. By 1938, there were over 3,000 volumes in the town hall library. The librarian worked with both the Goshen Center School and the high school in Williamsburg to encourage students to use it for school work. The Goshen library also expanded its holdings of government bulletins in agriculture and home economics to serve townspeople in its largely rural population.

In addition to the library, there were other groups who sponsored educational programs and activities in the Goshen Town Hall. The Goshen Women's Club programs in the 1920s through the early 1960s list interest groups with an educational bent, such as their popular Reading Group, and guest nights with speakers on topics such as child psychology, handwriting analysis, and various panel discussions, flower arranging, childrens' problems, and travel programs like "My Life in Africa" in 1953-1954 or "Highlights of Switzerland" in the 1962-1963 program. Similar programs have continued to the present under the auspices of the library, of the Women's Club, and of the Goshen Council on Aging.

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Criterion A: Entertainment and Recreation, and Social History

The town hall has been the location for all major indoor activities and festivities in Goshen. From its grand opening on July 4, 1911, it has been the locus of nearly all social, recreational, and dramatic functions in town, as originally planned in 1909. One of the earliest social events recorded occurred six weeks after the building opened. *The Hampshire Gazette* noted on August 18, 1911, that the "Loomis' orchestra and dance" would be held the following Friday at the John James Memorial Hall. In 1931, when the town of Goshen celebrated its Sesquicentennial celebration (1781–1931), an "Old-Fashioned Costume Ball" was held there on August 15, 1931, featuring the Richmond's Orchestra of Northampton. The town hall met a felt need and was in constant use for social events from its earliest days. Between 1911 and the mid- to late 1950s, before television and more extensive travel caught the public imagination, Goshen's town hall was a hub of social life. Over the years it hosted dramatics, musicals, school plays and graduations, sing-alongs, wedding receptions, funeral dinners, social club gatherings, round and square dances, impromptu whist games and suppers in the upstairs dining room, senior meetings, fairs, plays, and luncheons, and old movies in the auditorium. Ruth Dresser recalls the Christmas parties for children in the town hall with a large tree in the auditorium. Each child received a large orange and a bag of candy. For couples who were married in the Goshen church, the town hall across the street provided a convenient and inexpensive place to hold wedding receptions and funeral gatherings before the church added a dining room and kitchen in 1962. These gatherings still continue to be held in the town hall regularly and frequently. In the area of entertainment, the Women's Club engaged in constant activities once the town hall was available: Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Halloween parties, banquet entertainments, dramatics, card parties, costume parties, dancing, movies in the 1940s and 1950s, and debates such as the 1960–61 season's "Pro and Con: Humorous Debate."

The town hall has hosted hundreds of social programs. The Goshen Women's Club led the way. From the time the town hall opened, this social, recreational, and civic organization met in the town hall as well as in the homes of its members. The Women's Club held fairs, fundraisers, and dramatic performances. Their social programs and activities included several standing committees: Village Improvement, Missionary, Red Cross, and Camp Howe. Camp Howe moved to Goshen in 1939–1940 when the Hampshire County Extension Service took over some the abandoned buildings at the D.A.R. State Forest. It was supported by the Goshen Women's Club through fundraising activities and programs beginning in the early 1940s; it has since become the largest 4-H camp in Massachusetts.

After the settlement of the John James legacy in 1908, both the town of Goshen and the Congregational Parish benefitted from the bequest. The parish donated \$1,000 to the John James Memorial Building Fund and the town donated the same amount, followed by another \$1,000 from the town. As an undated church newsletter notes, "For many years the dining room and kitchen belonged to the Ladies Benevolent Association (LBA) of the Congregational Church. The ladies gave up their interest in these [town hall rooms] when a new kitchen was added in the church" in 1962–63. Through the years, both the LBA and the Goshen Women's Club held dinners and banquets in the upstairs dining room of the town hall. These dinners were well-attended and frequently spilled over into the library next to the dining room where additional tables were set up. The church would also use the town hall at times when the church building was too cold for services in the winter. Until the church replaced the wood-burning stoves in the sanctuary with a new oil system in 1952, church services were often held in the library or the auditorium of the James Memorial Hall in the coldest weather of the 1940s and 1950s. During 1962–63 when the church building was raised up to excavate for a full foundation and rear addition, services and Sunday school were held in the town hall auditorium.

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The town hall was also famous as the site of Goshen's well-loved Flower Show, which started in 1939 and was held in the Highland House hotel that first year. Sponsored by the LBA and held in conjunction with the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture, it was held at the Goshen Town Hall from 1940 until the 1950s, and then moved to the church building across the street, its home every August until 1999, its 60th and final year.

Another very popular and well-known regional Goshen entertainment was the Goshen Follies, sponsored by the Goshen Fire Department between 1953 and 1963 to raise money for the upkeep of the fire hall. The entertainment was always held in the Goshen town hall auditorium to a packed audience focused on the stage. This song and dance and comedy event was closely modeled on the minstrel shows of yore with an interlocutor and plenty of jokes and songs. It was always preceded by a popular dinner upstairs in the town hall.

Criterion C: Architecture

The Classical Revival architectural style that was chosen for the Goshen Town Hall was a popular style from around 1895–1945, but is rarely seen in the small Highland communities of western Massachusetts. It was more common for institutional buildings in larger communities. The front-gabled Goshen Town Hall is dominated by a classical porch with four pairs of Tuscan columns supporting an undecorated entablature on a simple front-gabled fieldstone building. The dignity of the design is further enhanced by the elevated front porch and sweeping stairs. By setting the first floor four feet below grade, the building not only required less building material—that is, fewer stones—to achieve two useful stories, but set the imposing front entrance above all other buildings in Goshen Center. It is entirely of masonry construction, and the idea for the fieldstone coursed-rubble construction apparently came from the Goshen Building Committee of local men cost-conscious and practical enough to want to use local stone readily at hand. Goshen was famous for the abundance of its rock, from outcroppings of ledges to scattered fieldstone. Since Goshen was particularly well-known for its mica schist, an excellent and popular building stone, it was entirely fitting that the town hall be constructed using this material. The inspiration of architect William J. Howes was to pair Yankee thrift and common sense with the Classical Revival style to bring together inexpensive material readily at hand, and an architectural style bespeaking the dignified look of a small-town civic building.

The town hall is not a large structure, measuring only 40 by 60 feet. It was designed by Architect William J. Howes to have all the conveniences found in larger public buildings. He insisted that it be as open as possible to take maximum advantage of its small size, and bent his engineering knowledge to the task. The only load-bearing walls are the four original exterior walls from 1911. Amazingly, the building contained no load-bearing interior walls because the entire first floor was open, and demising walls on the second floor were suspended from the king-rod system in the attic. To achieve the openness, the architect had to do a good deal of convincing of both townsfolk and workmen. Some of this he accomplished by his design, but he also used his engineering knowledge of structure to create a very strong, but practical, building that remains useful, beautiful, and safe. His use of the king-rod trusses was for the express purpose of hanging the ceilings of the first story in such a way that there were no interior posts in the way of sightlines anywhere in the first-floor auditorium. Smaller rods were hung from the purlins in the attic at the struts through the second story so that the structure also had no posts in the kitchen, dining room, or library. He coupled this with two steel I-beams and several girders in the auditorium ceiling to span between the exterior stone walls from the north side to the south side of the room, some 37 ½ feet, to create a completely open auditorium, with no row of supporting posts blocking the view of the stage.

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To maximize the capacity of the auditorium, Howes settled on the third method of maintaining maximum interior space. He designed the stairway to the second floor within an exterior stair tower so that it did not take away space from the auditorium. By doing this, he was able to have an entrance on the south elevation of the building, which led across the front end of the building at the end of the auditorium to the north stairway leading to the second floor.

The last remarkable design feature Howes employed made the building very strong as well as stable. He put state-of-the-art lally columns in the front façade wall on each side to the front doors and also used them to reinforce the concrete and cement plaster columns of the portico, as well as some of the interior walls. Invented in 1898 and first patented by John Lally, a Waltham, Massachusetts, contractor, lally columns were round, thin-walled, structural-steel columns oriented vertically to provide support of beams and timbers stretching over long spans. When a lally column is filled with concrete and reinforced, it shares the compression load and helps prevent local buckling of the shell. This method of construction has served the town hall well for more than 100 years. Unfortunately, the cement plaster finish on the concrete columns of the front façade has delaminated, and is in urgent need of repair by a masonry restorer.

William J. Howes, Goshen Town Hall architect:

William J. Howes (ca. 1866–1946) of Holyoke designed the Goshen Town Hall in 1909. At the invitation of the town, he returned in 1922–1923 to design and oversee construction of the Goshen Center School next to the Goshen Town Hall, and returned in 1935–36 with his son, Paul S. Howes, to design the rear addition to the town hall, which added two meeting rooms, one for the select board with a vault, and two restrooms. The firm is listed in the 1935 Holyoke city directory as “architects and structural engineers.” His known architectural work in Massachusetts spans the years 1897 to 1936, and included numerous private residences, commercial buildings, town halls, two armories, and several churches in western Massachusetts. In the late 1930s or early 1940s, he was a charter member of the Massachusetts Archeological Society and served as its vice president after developing an avid interest in archaeology. William Howes spent significant time in the early 1940s documenting sites and studying artifacts in Hadley, Massachusetts. He had a dozen articles and updates published in the *Bulletin of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society* on local sites in Hadley, on Indian soapstone quarries in Western Massachusetts, and on aboriginal New England pottery, written between 1942 and his death in 1946. Howes was no stranger to the Hilltowns. His family had settled in Ashfield around the time of the Revolutionary War in 1775–76. His father, James R. Howes of Springfield, was a state inspector of public buildings for 25 years and donated his own archeological collection to the Holyoke Public Library.

There is no complete list of Howes’ architectural work. He designed the Shelburne Falls Town Hall (SHL.7) at 51 Bridge Street in 1897. Most of his work known before the construction of the Goshen Town Hall involved buildings and commissions in Hampden County. His office was on High Street in Holyoke. His work includes the 1894 St. Andrews Evangelical and Reformed Church (HLY.130); the original portion of the 1899 McAuslan-Wakelin Building (HLY.244) (with an addition by Howes and Howes in 1920 (HLY.193), listed in the National Register; the 1900 Holyoke National Guard Armory (HLY.134), whose rear was razed in 2016; the 1902 New England Telephone and Telegraph Co. Building (HLY.250) listed in the National Register; the Holyoke Canoe Club (HLY.171); and two summer homes of the Metcalf family opposite the Canoe Club; the Pavilion at Mountain Park (HLY.940); the Ingleside School in Holyoke (ca. 1909–10); several private homes in the Highland Park neighborhood in Holyoke (all pre-1910); and the Holyoke Golf Club building (1911). Howes designed the highly praised National Guard Armory in Pittsfield, which was dedicated in May 1909, just before he filed the Goshen Town Hall

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plans with the state. After the Goshen job, Howes designed the Liberty Methodist Church (SPR.4216) in Springfield in 1921. In 1935, together with Paul A. Howes, his son, he returned to Goshen and designed and oversaw construction of the one-story rear addition to the Goshen Town Hall to accommodate a meeting room, toilets, and a select board's meeting room with a large bank safe for town records. Howes also did several buildings at the Northampton State Hospital, including apparently a women's infirmary, a south infirmary, and a horse barn. The only other building William J. Howes did in the Classical Revival style was the one-story Assembly Pavilion at Mountain Park on Mt. Tom in Holyoke, which also used a Tuscan-columned open front porch. A photo of this pavilion is shown in a 1912 pamphlet on Mountain Park published by the Holyoke Street Railway Company.

Louis H. Cranson, Construction Contractor/ Builder, Goshen Town Hall:

Louis Cranson, from Williamsburg, was the builder of the Goshen Town Hall. Included in his work was the framing and form carpentry for concrete elements such as the front stairway, and other framing needed for the concrete parts of the building, as well as the heavy timber construction of the roof and attic. The exterior stair tower is wood-framed as well. The interior wooden wall framing, doors, and window trim was under his direction as the builder. At the same time as the town hall work, Cranson was in the process of building the Queen Anne-style Walter and Mary Benjamin House in 1909-1910 at 29 Main Street, next door to the Goshen Store which the Benjamins owned. After the town hall job, Cranson also built four other houses on Main Street, possibly as spin-offs. The first was the Mrs. C. W. Mellen House in 1918 at 52 Main Street, back from the road behind what is now the fire station on Main. The second was the Walter Barker House in the 1930s at 48 Main Street at the corner of Main Street and East Street, and the last two were the two cottages he built facing East Street east of and behind Barker's house and across East Street from the town hall.

Henry A. and Howard E. Hathaway & Sons, Goshen Town Hall exterior masonry: The Hathaways were the stone masons on the exterior walls of the new town hall and, following the February 1935 plans of Howes and Howes, the rear one-story addition to the building of 1935-36. They were Goshen residents and did other stonework jobs on Main Street. Examples of their Goshen residential work for summer people before the town hall job in 1909-11 can be seen on Main Street: the 1900 J. C. Hammond House, at 47 Main Street; the ca. 1903-05 Charles N. Fitts House, at 27 Main Street; and the ca. 1905-08 A. Lyman Williston House at 59 Main Street, which was designed by Holyoke architect George P. B. Alderman. The Hathaways also did foundation stone work at Scudder Hall at Mountain Rest in Goshen.

Conclusion

The biggest construction project Goshen ever saw was completed and dedicated on July 4, 1911. The festivities were well-attended. Mrs. James was undoubtedly pleased with the newspaper coverage. The nearly two-year-old project took far longer than anyone had thought at the outset. None of the local men had any idea what the project would take, how much it would cost, or what kind of a commitment it would require to complete. Many local townsfolk provided labor that infused cash into Goshen and surrounding towns. Early on in the fall of 1909, most of the labor was local and unskilled. As the building went up, more accomplished tradesmen were involved, mostly masons and carpenters. The Goshen family surnames on the more than 400 line items of expenditures included: Ball, Barrus, Bates, Black, Church, Dadmun, Damon, Godfrey, Hathaway, Loomis, Mollison, Packard, Porter, Rice, Richardson, Sears, and many others. Some laborers came from Chesterfield, Ashfield, and Williamsburg. Examples of Goshen men who received payments in the final tally included: Henry Addison Hathaway and Howard Hathaway, the stone masons with the bulk of the actual construction, each received a little less than

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\$1,200 apiece or just shy of \$29,000 each in current dollars. John Steward Mollison, listed as “Board of Masons,” was paid \$202.81, or \$5,075.25 today. But the construction of the town hall also put small but significant sums in the pockets of young people in town. Phil Porter, age 17 or 18, was paid a total of \$18.00 for “labor.” Today this would be \$450.00. He was only one of the young Goshen men who worked on the town hall. Within six months of the building’s completion, Route 9 was paved between Goshen and Williamsburg. The “Good Roads” movement in the United States in the decade after 1910 met the demand for better roads to accommodate the demand of Americans who began to buy cars and travel. In a few short years, Goshen was on the main route between Springfield and Pittsfield and tourists began to arrive in numbers and pass through town. The Goshen Town Hall became the signature building, and it remains so today.

Town Hall Alterations and Updates

The building has a high level of historic integrity on both the exterior and interior, given the changing needs and uses by the town over the last 100 years. The major change to the town hall was the 1935–1936 rear addition. At the same time, the town hall was fitted with electricity and steam heat by connecting underground to the boiler room in the 1923 Goshen Center School building. In 1994, the original double-hung wooden windows in the two rear offices of the 1936 addition were replaced with new vinyl windows with non-integral muntins. Other alterations, mostly exterior, to the town hall were less intrusive: the 1967–68 removal of the original concrete toed front stairway and replacement with new plain concrete stairs; a 1986 south-side exterior concrete handicapped ramp leading onto the stage in the auditorium; and a 1998–99 north-side elevator to the second story with an exterior elevator tower and associated minor change to the library and upstairs hallway. This new elevator tower required the removal of two original exterior windows from the north wall on the first and second floors of the building.

Over the years, other minor interior changes were made: removal of a chemical toilet for women from a front hall closet, when the downstairs bathrooms were installed in 1936; the 1955 repair/replacement of the auditorium wood floor and lower walls; the 1984 installation of vinyl flooring in the auditorium over the wooden floors; and then the removal in 2010 of this vinyl flooring and replacement with wood auditorium floors. The front façade column capitals and plinths were extensively repaired in 1994 by Janet and Leo Travers, masonry restoration experts from Connecticut. In 2009–2010 a new heating system was installed when the previous one failed. Removal of steam pipes and installation of air-circulating ductwork resulted in some unfortunate damage to interior plaster and lath walls, to the embossed steel ceiling in the auditorium, and to the 1999 Stocorp Exterior Insulation and Finishing System (EIFS) two-coat system, which provides both insulation and exterior finish to the elevator tower. Through the years, the slate roof had been repaired and patched until it was completely replaced and the roof parapets extensively repaired during the historic rehabilitation in 2015–16. The front concrete stairs, rebuilt in 1968, have fieldstone pedestals topped with Goshen schist caps, rebuilt in 2015–2016 during a major historic rehabilitation, and new stair railing.

Building Condition

The interior and exterior of the building are structurally sound. In 2015, the major historic rehabilitation stabilized and restored the front portico and columns, replaced the slate roof, rebuilt the tops of the gabled parapets and the front stairway and pediments, and re-poured the handicapped entrance on the south side. This was done in accordance with a 2014 Town Hall Advisory and Rehabilitation Committee report charged with examining the building, documenting its history and condition and recommending to the

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select board work that needed attention. After rehabilitation of the buildings' roof and exterior stairs in 2015–2016, a planned phase two remains, which will include rehabilitating and reglazing the original windows, repairing and replacing warped oak woodwork at the windows, and working on the kitchen and bathrooms.

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Newspapers and Unpublished Sources

Assessors' Records. The school and the town hall are on 0.900 acres, located on Parcel #5-58-0-E. The town hall building was originally 40 feet x 60 feet (rear addition added 1936) and the town hall lot is 84 feet x 71 ft. 5.1/50" or about 6,006 sq. Goshen Assessors' file.

Bingham, James S. The Banister House, Manuscript, p. 73ff, ca. 1998. On file: Goshen Library and also Goshen Museum.

Black, Ralmon. "Helen Eliza (Field) James 2/31837-11/14/1930" 3pp. typescript. Williamsburg Historical Society.

Certificate for Plans, Chief of District Police, State House, for the John James Memorial Building. Springfield Mass. Submitted by W. J. Howes, Holyoke Mass. [Goshen town hall architect], June 10, 1909.

Costello, Pat. On the legal status of the town hall: Letter from Pat Costello, Kopelman and Paige P.C. to Nancy Hoff, Board of Selectmen, Re: Ownership of John James Memorial Building and Appurtenant Land, March 29, 1991.

Correspondence between William J. Howes, architect, and the Goshen Building Committee, contactors, and laborers on the construction and supervision of the Goshen Town Hall, 1908-1911.

Deed from John C. Tomlinson and Dora G. Tomlinson to Inhabitants of Town of Goshen (corner of East St. and Main St., Goshen) "on which the John James Memorial Hall and Library is being erected", Book 646, page 47 #1909900 and plan pages 50 and 51. John James Memorial Lot with addition given by John C. Tomlinson Esq., and Wife dated August 30, 1909 [See notes from Margaret Waggoner on original town commons for meeting house, 1 ½ acre on land on the dividing line between the properties of Lemuel Lyon on the north and Widow Margaret May on the south, dated May, 1782].

Goshen Massachusetts Bicentennial 1781-1981 Souvenir Booklet.

Notebooks from ca. 2012 and 2013 in Select Board Office. Includes Proposal for sandblasting the town hall exterior, ca. 2013, and other recent material. See Goshen Select Board staff.

Otis, Virginia. "1805 John James bequest, Goshen reaps large rewards for \$100 legacy" *Daily Hampshire Gazette*, Sept. 3, 1976, p. 12.

Reiken, Rick. "Restoring Goshen pillars no simple job." *Daily Hampshire Gazette*, November 17, 1994.

"Repairs to Front Entrance of John James Memorial Hall, Goshen Massachusetts," drawn by Maurice Howes, Goshen resident, August 21, 1967. On file: Goshen Town Clerk's files in town vault.

Goshen Town Hall
Name of Property

Hampshire MA
County and State

Roberts, Norene. Goshen Annotated Bibliography, 2000-2015. Updated periodically.

Roberts, Norene. Town Hall Timeline. Construction and major maintenance, alterations, and updates from 1909-2015. Compiled from various sources. Updated periodically.

“School Days in the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s” May 18, 2007 program of the Goshen Historical Society. Presenters: Arlene Harry, Margarite Webb, Anne Warner, and Laura Barrus.

“Specifications for Addition to the James Memorial Building at Goshen Massachusetts,” and related documents and drawings on new steam heating system by William H. and Paul S. Howes, 1935. In 1935 folder in Goshen Town Hall vault.

“Specifications for Repair” and related correspondence and Contract Agreement between Town of Goshen and Myron F. Clark, March 7, 1955. Covering foundation, floor, and wall repairs in the town hall auditorium. In 1955 folder, Goshen Town Hall vault.

Taylor, Deacon Oliver (1795-1835) and Emmons Putney. Diary (1835-1867): “Record Kept by Dea[con] Oliver Taylor of Goshen, Mass., copied by his Grand-son Emmons Putney of Goshen, Mass.” Entries from 1795 to 1867. On file: Goshen Historical Society Museum and Town Clerk’s office, copied from the Goshen Historical Museum in 1998.

Town Hall Elevator contract file and alterations to library by George Dole, contractor, and A.D.A. material, 1998-1999. In town vault in magazine box. See town clerk.

“W. J. Howes, 80, Noted Holyoke Architect, Dies.” *Springfield Weekly Republican*, February 7, 1946.

Water Records, Town of Goshen (ca. 2005 to 2013). Post-1999 (death of Harold Mollison). These records include the period starting with moving the school out of Goshen, the day care center (closed August 1, 2010), and the current inactive status of the water supply to the town buildings which went into effect on April 2, 2012 and will expire April 2, 2017. Water records maintained by Stephen Mollison are from 2005-2011 when he died. On file with the Goshen Select Board.

Weber, Eric. “Williamsburg, Massachusetts Families: Genealogical Notes.” John James Family.

Reports

Annual Report of the Town Officers for Year Ending Feb. 1, 1910, Annual Town Meeting, Article 11.

Annual Report of the Town Officers, “Report of Free Public Library,” 1935, pp. 39-41; 1937, p. 41-42; 1938, p. 43; 1937, pp. 41-42; 1939, p. 43.

Annual Report of the Town Officers. Annual Town Meeting, April 1980, Article 18. Book 6, p. 107.

Ford, Kathy. Town Hall Renovation/Restoration, by Ford Gillen Architects, Inc., draft report dated April 23, 2012. This study was not completed. Draft only. There is also a disc of this report provided by Ms. Ford. Includes 2012 Leet engineering inspection (see below). Digital copy and report with Select Board staff (2014).

Goshen Town Hall
Name of Property

Hampshire MA
County and State

Leet, Robert, P.E., Whetstone Engineering, Structural and Civil Engineering. "Goshen Hall Renovation Project #11037", December 28, 2011 project description and summary from four visits between July 8, 2011 and December 8, 2011.

Leet, Robert, P.E., Whetstone Engineering, Structural and Civil Engineering. "Goshen Hall Renovation Project #11037", One page list of priorities "based primarily on the integrity of the building itself. "Dated March 7, 2012.

Hill-Engineers, Architects, Planners, Inc., 50 Depot Street, Dalton, MA 1-800-825-1119. Town Buildings Inspection Report. Duration: January 31, 2007-April 2, 2007 to Joe Dunn, Goshen Select Board.

Included engineering evaluation (architectural, mechanical, electrical, and structural aspects of town buildings): town hall, town office building, town DPW garage, Firehouse, Goshen Museum. All assessments were based on visual inspection. "No destructive testing within the buildings was performed [p. 2]."

Roberts, Norene, Sandy Papush, and David Pesuit. Goshen Town Hall Rehabilitation Advisory Committee. Goshen Town Hall Report, June 30, 2014.

Photographs

Annual Report of Goshen Mass for the year ending December 31, 1954. (front cover).

Otis, Virginia L. "Goshen reaps large rewards from \$100 legacy." *Daily Hampshire Gazette*, Sept. 3, 1976, p. 12.

Annual Report of Goshen Mass for the year ending December 31, 1997. (front cover).
1987 photo in the *Daily Hampshire Gazette* 1987 article on town hall talk by George Barrus at a Goshen Historical Society meeting (This talk videotaped by Steve Mollison, should be in the Goshen Museum. There may be other photos used by Barrus.).

Historical photos ca. 1950 (estimate)-1960 of the Goshen Town Hall at the Goshen Museum. Mostly around the 175th Anniversary of the town, taken from 1953-1960. Several folders: Town Hall File PH-8 0271-28 Town hall"; PU-2 S.P.B. to Lee Burland; and "Town Hall not entered into computer" with photos; two large format undated Donald Roy, Photographer, 297 Springfield St., Springfield MA.; also three digital photos from the Pixel laptop display known as Pixie.

Blueprints

Original town hall blueprints dated April 23, 1909 by William J. Howes of Holyoke and January 14, 1935 rear addition by Howes and Howes [William J. and Paul S. Howes]. Originals on file: Department of Public Safety Collection at the Massachusetts Archives, Boston, MA. There are two rolls (1909 and 1935): Locator Information: "Goshen Town Hall" in Case D, Rack 5, Apt. 7 #11503. Eight sheets total. Ordered in tiff format in April 2014, and in large sheets housed in Town Clerk files and Goshen Historical Commission files in the Goshen Museum.

Goshen Town Hall

Hampshire MA

Name of Property

County and State

Elevator Contract construction file on 1998-1999. Includes Goshen handicapped committee docs, minutes, etc.; Specifications Book for construction; Hilltown C.D.C. documents and correspondence, 2 sets of large blueprints; George Dole bid documents, etc. In T.H. Vault in "Elevator" magazine file box. See Goshen Town Clerk.

Town Hall interior first floor showing stage and drawn by McClintock & Craig, Inc. Engineers and Architects, Inc., August 1963, Drawing 616-3. Showing upgrades in town hall like removal of low return steam apparatus and replacement with high steam system; removal of wet returns, and new high returns, and motorized valves on radiator. Also includes two sheets on same system upgrades and handrails in school building. On file: Town Clerk's roll of town hall blueprints.

Sobon, Jack. A.I.A. and Master Builder. "Section (not to scale) Showing Proposed Shore Under South Purlin at West Gable (April 25, 2014)" in Town Hall attic.

Personal Communications from Goshen residents on town hall to Norene Roberts

Black, Ralmon. February, 2015. (Helen E. James)

Carver, Ernie. January 28, 2015. (dancing)

Dresser, Ruth Mollison. January 21 & 27, 2015. (school events, Firemen's Follies, interior use, etc.)

Fuller, Hattie. January 28, 2015. (school and social events)

Harry, Arlene. December, 2014. (kitchen and lunch program)

Mollison, Helen. January 30, 2015. (use of kitchen, dancing)

Mollison, Stephen. March, 2003. (projectile points at town farm)

Ulman, Elaine. February 6, 2015. (new ca. 2002 library sign)

Webb, Marguerite. December, 2014-January, 2015. (kitchen, lunch program, interior use)

Williams, Allan. February 25 and 26, 2015. Williams Granite Company, Chester, Mass. (sills and lintels)

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 # _____
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

____ Name of repository: Goshen Historical Commission's Goshen Museum.

Goshen Town Hall
Name of Property

Hampshire MA
County and State

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): GHS.24

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property less than one acre

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 18 | Easting: 680920 | Northing: 4700900 |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

This nomination is for the Goshen Town Hall only. The boundary of the nominated property is shown on the Town of Goshen Assessors' Sheet 5, and is a portion of the north half of lot 58. The boundary includes the frontage on Main and East streets in front of the town hall and then follows a line of convenience ten feet from the south and east sides of the building. The boundary extends from the road frontages on Main and East streets and ten feet from the building's south, side and east, rear walls, and includes three noncontributing 2010 structures in the rear: two generators and a propane tank access hatch.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

For the purposes of this nomination, the boundary of the nominated property is a polygon enclosing the Goshen Town Hall. The Center School and parking lot on the southern side of lot 58 are not included. The Center School and other historic buildings in the immediate vicinity of the Goshen Town Hall are likely eligible for listing as a National Register district.

Goshen Town Hall
Name of Property

Hampshire MA
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Norene Roberts, Ph.D. with Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director
organization: Massachusetts Historical Commission
street & number: 220 Morrissey Boulevard
city or town: Boston state: MA zip code: 02125
e-mail: betsy.friedberg@sec.state.ma.us
telephone: 671-727-8470
date: January, 2018

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Goshen Town Hall
Name of Property

Hampshire MA
County and State

Photo Log

Name of Property: Goshen Town Hall

City or Vicinity: Goshen

County: Hampshire State: MA

Photographer: Joe D. Roberts

Date Photographed: Photos: 1-2 on Sept. 24, 2017; Photos: 3-7 on Feb. 13, 2015; Photo 8 on Aug. 4, 2016.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1. View facing northeast of front facade (left) and south elevation (right)
2. View facing west southwest of east elevation (left) and north elevation (right)
3. View facing east of first floor auditorium toward the stage
4. View facing north looking up at balustrade and stair tower windows
5. View facing east in north hall, second floor, toward elevator hall and library
6. View facing northwest toward library entrance, hall way to elevator, and clerestory windows
7. View facing northwest in dining hall, second floor
8. View facing east of town hall attic.

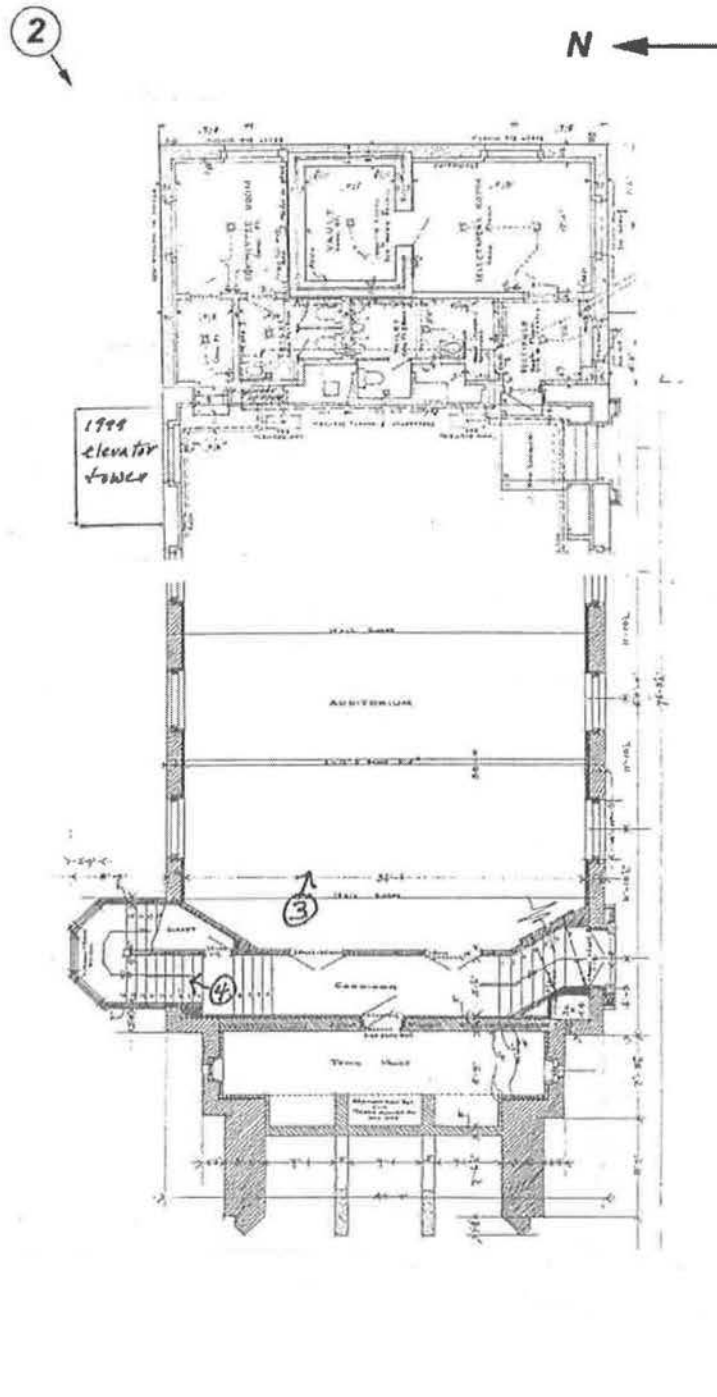
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Goshen Town Hall
Name of Property

Hampshire MA
County and State

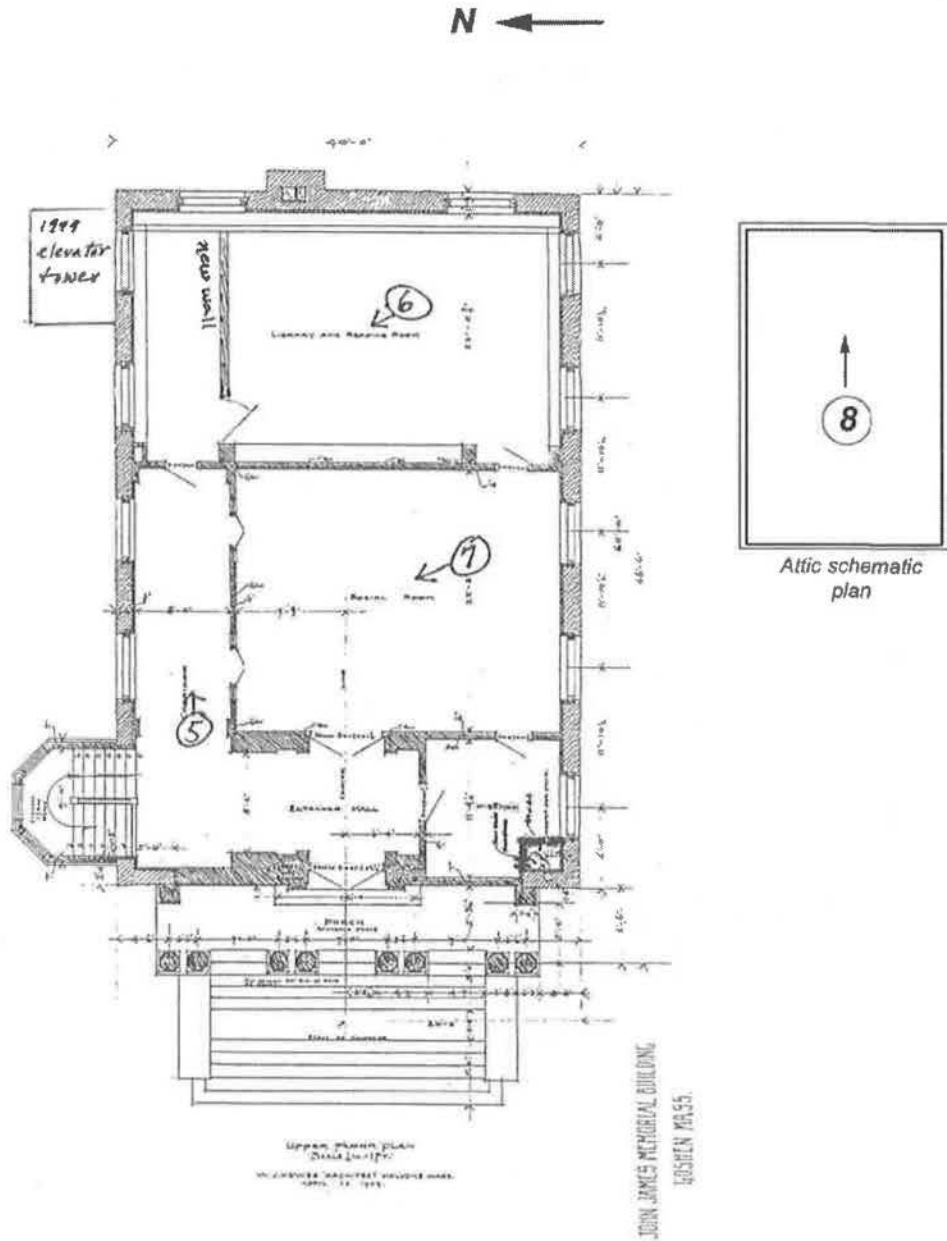
Plans and Photo Keys



Plan A and Photo Key: First Floor (1909-11) with rear additions (1935-36)

Goshen Town Hall
Name of Property

Hampshire MA
County and State



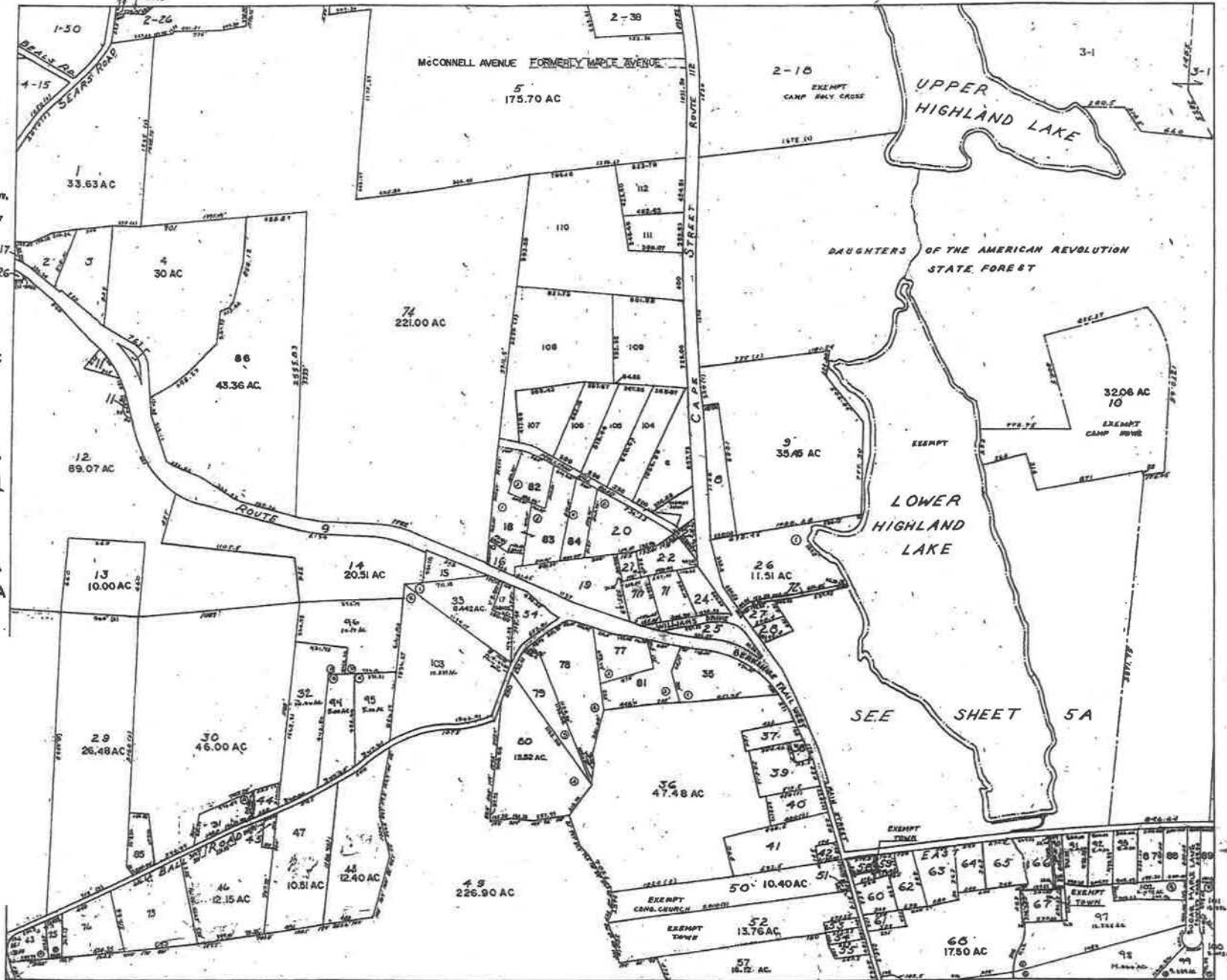
Plan B and Photo Key: Second Floor and Attic schematic plan (1909-11)

DATE OF REVISIONS: DEC. 1983 - TO LOT #74
 DEC. 1985 - ADD LOTS 75 & 76

JUNE 1988 - ADDED LOT 89, REVISED LOT 30
 JUNE 2000 - ADDED LOTS 88, 87, 86, 85
 REVISED LOTS 4 & 89
 MARCH 2004 - ADDED 90-93
 REVISED 66, 67
 DEC. 2004 - ADD 94-96, 97, 97-102, SUGAR PLANE LANE
 REVISE 93, 95, 95
 ADD ALLEGE 90-93
 DELETE 47
 MARCH 2008 - COMBINED LOTS - 17 WITH 33
 36 WITH 57
 CHANGED LOT - 97 TO 103
 MARCH 2013 SPLIT LOTS - ADDED LOTS 104, 105, 106, 107,
 108, 109, 110, 111, 112
 COMBINED LOTS 12 AND 7
 WITH 3-1

The Town of Goshen Assessor's Office uses a base map dated 3-28-78. Revisions are added on each sheet in the upper left and dated accordingly.

Gina M. Papineau, MAA
 Gina M. Papineau, MAA
 Assessor
 February 11, 2015



TOWN OF GOSHEN MASSACHUSETTS
ASSESSORS PLAN

PREPARED BY
 ALBEE HUNTLEY JR. & ASSOCIATES INC.
 REGISTERED LAND SURVEYORS & CIVIL ENGINEERS
 225 BRIDGE STREET
 NORTHAMPTON MASSACHUSETTS
 REVISED AND REPRINTED BY
 CARTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATES, INC.
 LITTLETON, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03561

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
10	11	

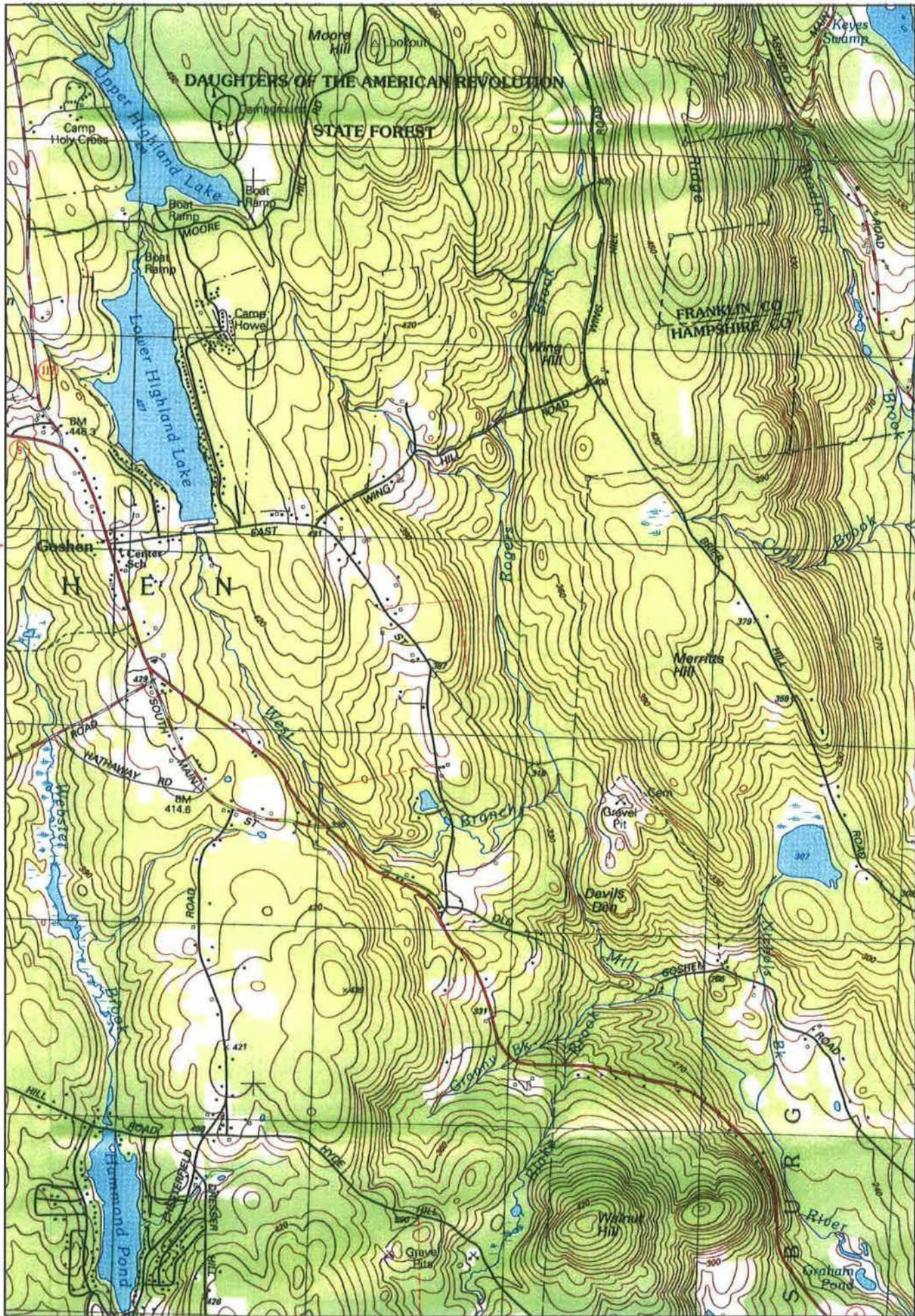


DATE OF INDEXING: 1987
 DATE OF REVISIONS: 3-28-78

REVISED AND REPRINTED BY
 HOLMBERG & HOWE INC.
 EASTHAMPTON, MASS.

SHEET
 5





Goshen, Mass 1947
 1:25,000 metric

Zone 18
 E 680920
 N 4700900

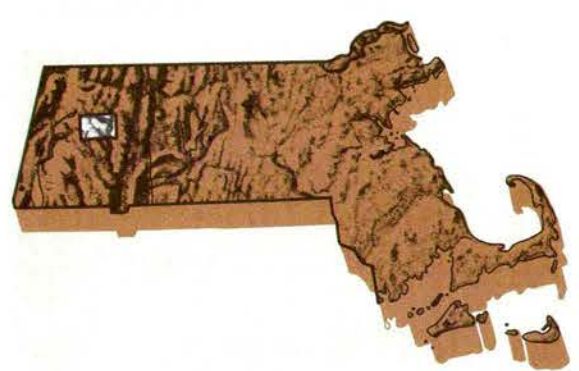
Goshen Town Hall
 42 Main St.
 Goshen MA 01032

GOSHEN, MASSACHUSETTS

7.5 X 15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Goshen MASSACHUSETTS 1:25 000-scale metric topographic map



7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE SHOWING

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



U.S. Department of the Interior U.S. Geological Survey 1997

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
 Derived from imagery taken 1981 and other sources. Photo-collage using imagery taken 1997; no major culture or drainage changes observed. Survey control current as of 1984. Boundaries revised 1999.
 Supersedes Goshen and Worthington 1:25,000-scale maps dated 1972.
 North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27). Projection and 1000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 18, 10 000-foot ticks. Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone.
 North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software.
 There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map.

CONTOUR INTERVAL 6 METERS
 NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
 CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
 OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

CONVERSION TABLE		DECLINATION DIAGRAM		ADJOINING MAPS		
Meters	Feet	Magnetic Declination		1	2	3
1	3.2808	Magnetic Declination		4	5	
2	6.5616	Magnetic Declination		6	7	8
3	9.8424	Magnetic Declination		1 Chester		
4	13.1232	Magnetic Declination		2 Ashfield		
5	16.4040	Magnetic Declination		3 Greenfield		
6	19.6848	Magnetic Declination		4 Pittsfield East		
7	22.9656	Magnetic Declination		5 Williamstown		
8	26.2464	Magnetic Declination		6 East Lee		
9	29.5272	Magnetic Declination		7 Chester		
10	32.8080	Magnetic Declination		8 Easthampton		



Topographic Map Symbols

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

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY P.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225

SCALE 1:25 000 1 CENTIMETER ON THE MAP REPRESENTS 250 METERS ON THE GROUND

GOSHEN, MASSACHUSETTS

1997



JORDAN'S MEMORIAL



CAMP HOME

DO NOT ENTER











EXIT

ROYAL SOCIETY
OF CANADA
1827-1927
100th Anniversary





EXIT







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

July 18, 2018

Dr. Julie Ernstein
Deputy Keeper
Acting Chief, National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1849 C Street NW, Stop 7228
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Dr. Ernstein:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Goshen Town Hall, Goshen (Hampshire County), Massachusetts

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owner of the property was notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 75 days before the meeting and was afforded the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Betsy Friedberg".

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Angela Otis, Chair, Goshen Select Board
Norene Roberts, Consultant
Chair, Goshen Historical Commission
Chair, Goshen Planning Board