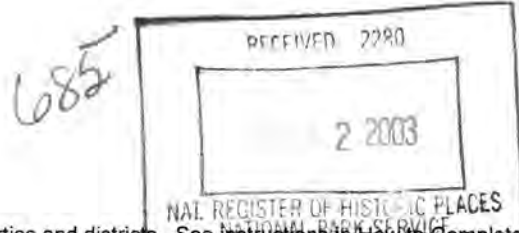


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Spencer Town Center Historic District (2003 Boundary Increase)

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 10-29 Grove; 1-51 High; 9-85 Main; 10-39 Mechanic; 13-72 Pleasant; 5-62 Wall Streets and portions of Prouty, Lincoln, Cherry and Jones Streets _____ not for publication

city or town Spencer _____ vicinity _____

state Massachusetts code MA county Worcester code 027 zip code 01562

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Betsy Kriedberg for _____ Date 6/6/03
Signature of certifying official/Title Cara Metz, Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

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

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

Patrick Andrews _____ 7/25/2003

Name of Property Spencer Town Center HD (Boundary Increase)

County and State Worcester, Massachusetts

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

(Check only one box)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal
- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

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

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| 129 | 22 | building |
| 0 | 0 | sites |
| 0 | 0 | structures |
| 2 | 0 | objects |
| 131 | 22 | Total |

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

2 (Pleasant St School & Grove St School)

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC/single dwelling/multiple dwelling/hotel
- COMMERCE/business/specialty store/department store
- SOCIAL/meeting hall
- GOVERNMENT/fire station/post office/public works
- EDUCATION/school
- RECREATION&CULTURE/theater/ monument
- INDUSTRY/manufacturing facility
- TRANSPORTATION/rail-related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC/single dwelling/multiple dwelling
- COMMERCE/business/specialty store
- GOVERNMENT/post office
- INDUSTRY/manufacturing facility
- RECREATION&CULTURE/ monument
- EDUCATION/school

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

- EARLY REPUBLIC/Federal. MID-19TH CENTURY/Greek Revival/Gothic Revival/ Italian Villa. LATE VICTORIAN/ Gothic/Italianate/Second Empire/Queen Anne. LATE 19TH&20TH C. REVIVALS/ Colonial Revival. LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH C. AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/ Bungalow.
- MODERN MOVEMENT/Moderne

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation STONE/granite; BRICK ; CONCRETE
- walls WOOD/weatherboard; SYNTHETICS/vinyl; BRICK
- roof STONE/slate; ASPHALT
- other _____

Narrative Description

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

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Spencer Town Center HD
2003 Boundary Extension
Spencer (Worcester), MA

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The Spencer Town Center Historic District was placed on the National Register in 1986. An adjacent district, the East Main Street – Cherry Street Historic District, was listed in 1996. The Spencer Town Center Historic District boundary increase adds properties on eight streets to the existing historic district: Pleasant, High, Prouty, Grove, Mechanic, Cherry, Wall and the north side of west Main Streets. The additional area is contiguous to the district adding to the west, north and south of it.

The boundary extension includes residential streets that developed during the town's industrial boom in the 1870s through the 1890s. These streets housed industrialists, businessmen, workers and their families in the Town Center's factories, and stores. The extension is also intended to incorporate the depot, industry factories and stores on the south side of the district on Wall, Cherry and Mechanic Streets. The properties of the boundary increase maintain the same standards of design and construction of the previously increased district.

The residential streets Grove, Pleasant, Prouty, High, and Main are quintessential mid-to-late 19th century, small town streets. They are lined with stylistically distinguished frame houses, and three brick schools, uniformly set slightly back and shaded by rows of mature street-side trees. The houses are in a moderate to good state of preservation. One of the most impressive features is the general absence of artificial siding and inappropriate replacement windows.

The commercial streets Cherry, Wall, and Mechanic are once again mid-to-late 19th century streetscapes with a mix of light industrial and commercial, masonry, and frame buildings. Here buildings are set close to the street line and there are no trees. Buildings are a mixture of party wall and stand-alone construction and in some cases there are rather large side lots retaining the area's 19th century appearance. They are moderately well preserved; original and early storefronts remain and original building uses have been sustained. There are only two apparently vacant buildings; the rest are occupied and attracting business.

The area of the boundary increase encompasses marked topographic changes in the landscape that have shaped the district's development over time, and today contribute to its varied and interesting character. The area is bounded on the northeast by an impounded stream that flows from Whittemore Lake across the extension area in a southwesterly direction. Pleasant Street runs parallel to the stream. The low land traversed by the stream rises abruptly on the west to a 900' high hill and on the east more gradually to a second hill. High Street rises across the crest of the west hill and Main Street rises as it progresses towards the east. Grove Street rises to the north on this extended hill area. The land slopes downward on the south side of Main Street to rise again beyond the district extension. Mechanic, Cherry and Wall Streets roughly follow the contours of a bowl-shaped area. As a result of this varied topography, the hills attracted residential construction, and the bowl-shaped area with its stream became the site of industry.

Federal Style 1776-1820

The Livermore Inn-Alonzo and Adeline Temple House, 1 High Street, (ca. 1800, MHC 194) is the sole Federal era house in the boundary increase district. It is 2½ stories in height under a side-gable roof and faces east on a corner lot. It is five bays wide and two bays deep and has two rear ells of 2½ stories on the west. The house was greatly altered in the

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Italianate period. On the east elevation a pair of three-sided bays were added at each side of the center entry. The entry itself was expanded to accommodate a double-leaf door and its surround altered. Trim at the cornice level was added. Overall the proportions of the main block seem to be larger than those of the Federal period, but this may be attributable to window enlargement as the enlarged windows contain 2/2 sash. The house is now vinyl sided which further obscures details that might give additional information to its alterations history. Foundations are high granite blocks and the roof is asphalt shingle.

Greek Revival 1830-1850

As the boundary increase area was by and large developed after 1850, the first architectural style to appear in any number is the Greek Revival and then only in a few examples. In general they have more the common forms of the style than its details, but there is one house that is singular in having all the features, albeit wrapped in vinyl.

The J. W. Moreland-J. Prouty House, 41 Main Street, (ca. 1850, MHC 125) is the best example of the Greek Revival style in the boundary increase area. Now covered in a blue vinyl siding, the house yet clearly displays the features of its style. It is a 2½ story, gable and wing form house with a front-gabled roof that makes full eaves returns to create a pediment. A wide frieze and broad cornerboards are other Greek Revival features, as is a full-width porch on fluted Doric columns. There is a two-story recessed wing on the east preceded by a second, slightly lower porch on fluted Doric columns. Here, the second floor above the porch has been extended and enclosed in an uncommon fashion. The main entry to the side hall plan house has wide, full-length sidelights, and sash is a mixture of 6/1 and 2/1.

What may be one of the first houses on upper Pleasant Street is the George Tucker House, 38 Pleasant Street, ca. 1845 (Photograph No. 1) Unlike most of the other later houses on the street that face east or west towards the street, this house is south facing indicating its construction when the street was open and a south orientation would have contributed to heating the building as well as given it a view towards the center of town. The house is sided in vinyl, has granite foundations and an asphalt roof. It is two bays wide and two bays deep with a front-gable roof that is its strongest Greek Revival feature. Added to the house is a full width, Queen Anne style porch that rests on half-length posts and sided porch railings.

Like the house at 38 Pleasant Street, the E. Adams House, 40 Pleasant Street (ca. 1830) is south facing and may have been moved to its site from Main Street in the 1840s. It is a 1½ story, vinyl sided building with a side-gable roof that extends on the southwest to first floor level to shelter a porch that is enclosed at one end and extends to first floor level on the north. The porch and roof extensions appear to be later additions to a modest Greek Revival period house as indicated by its granite foundations. There are concrete foundations on the added porch. The form of the house is both conservative and modest for its date. The main block is three bays wide, two bays deep, and has a center chimney. There is a one-story ell on the east with an exterior brick chimney. Sash is 2/2.

A compatible addition was made to the Greek Revival style, clapboard Andrew H. Sinnott House, 27 Main Street (1850-60) in the form of a porch. It is a three-bay wide house of 2½ stories with a front-gabled roof. Its plan is a shallow L-shape due to a transverse gable bay on the east elevation. Indicating the house's early date are granite foundations and the wide Greek Revival cornerboards of the clapboard exterior. The eaves of the asphalt-covered roof make substantial

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returns. A Queen Anne style porch was added to the house toward the end of the 19th century. The porch rests on turned posts with finely turned railings and well-detailed spindle frieze. Sash throughout is 1/1 replacement, an exception to the compatible changes made elsewhere.

A fair example of a Greek Revival farmhouse is the William A. Barr House, 72 Pleasant Street, ca. 1850. This is a 1½ story house with the typical front-gable roof, here a rather shallow pitch. The house is gable-and-wing in plan and has attached to its wing a shed and large carriage barn. The property is vinyl sided and all its windows are vinyl replacements, so many of the house's details are now gone or hidden. In addition to these alterations, a stock bay window has been installed in the gable of the house, and an exterior staircase in pressure treated wood has been added to the northwest corner of the house. Foundations are granite and the roof is asphalt shingles. A porch on posts crosses the wing and from the porch is a second entry to the house.

Although it is very late in date, the E. P. Cutter House at 14 Grove Street (ca. 1870, MHC 152) follows a Greek Revival pattern in plan and elevation that was perhaps the most popular of the period. It is a 2½ story, asbestos shingle and clapboard sided house with a front gable roof. Foundations are stone and the roof is asphalt shingles. Following the usual pattern, the house is three bays wide and two bays deep, and is side hall in plan. Its main entry is a trabeated surround with wide, half-length sidelights. Cornerboards are wide pilasters. Replacement windows have 6/1 sash with fake muntins. The house has a two-story addition on the south under a shed roof that contains a glassed-in, first floor porch.

The Capen-Howland House, 71 Main Street (ca. 1830, MHC 126) is a Greek Revival style house that has been so altered that its original stylistic features have been lost. Its form, however, remains to indicate its early date. This is a 2½ story house with a side gable roof, five bays wide and a shallow one bay deep. There is a rear two-story ell under a shed roof. The house has a center chimney on its asphalt shingle roof. Green vinyl siding covers all the trim and replacement 1/1 sash has been installed. A full width porch on the street elevation was added and enclosed.

Gothic Revival 1840-1860

The Gothic Revival style Mrs. Arthur M. Tower House, 46 Pleasant Street (ca. 1850) occupies a corner lot at the head of Pleasant Street and is south facing. It is a 1½ story house, a narrow two bays wide and three bays deep with a front-gabled roof. There is a 1½ story wing on the east and an ell attached to the wing on the north for an "h" shape plan. The roofs of all three sections of the building are steeply pitched in Gothic fashion. The clapboard-sided house rests on granite foundations and has an asphalt shingle roof. There are small, paired Italianate brackets at the eaves, a broad frieze and panelled cornerboards. An added shed roof dormer extends across the roof on the west side of the house, and on the east are steeply pitched gabled dormers with splayed Gothic surrounds that are scroll cut. There is an ogive window on the east elevation. What gives this house an eclectic appearance is the well-designed Queen Anne/Colonial Revival style porch that was added to it on the south. Set at an angle, each end of the porch is pedimented and the whole is supported by columns with entasis, or curvature. It has a fine Queen Anne style ball and spindle porch frieze. At approximately the same time the porch was added or altered, a single glazed window replaced the first floor window of the principal elevation with a leaded glass transom in Colonial Revival fashion. A porch on the east wing is

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supported on clustered posts with scrolled brackets and a portico on the north ell rests on battered posts. There is a separate garage.

The Dennis W. Ward House, 23 High Street (ca. 1850) is a 1½ story Gothic Revival House that has a front-gabled roof. It is three bays wide and five bays long for a rectangular plan. The east-facing house is asbestos shingle sided and has a wraparound porch that extends across the north, east and south elevations. The porch has open-panel posts and jigsaw cut brackets and capitals that are lacy and elegant. It leads to an entry with a very wide, trabeated surround. The steeply pitched roof is asphalt shingle covered and has a single-gabled dormer on the south and a through-cornice lancet window on the north. The windows of the balance of the house are 6/1-replacement sash. On the west is a 1½ story ell five bays long that has an added shed roof, three-sided bay.

Italianate 1840-1870

In the boundary increase area, the Italianate style is the best represented and reflects the affluence that Spencer experienced in the 1860s-1890s. The invention of the jigsaw ca. 1850 enabled carpenters to cut fanciful wood trim for eaves, porches, window and door surrounds. Some of the trim was intended to duplicate stone work of the Italian Renaissance; other trim was newly invented. In general, the style aimed to reproduce the effects of an Italian country villa or an urban palace or *palazzo*. In Spencer, an ability to manipulate wood and create exterior trim was demonstrated with skill. From twisted rope cornerboards to graceful eaves brackets, carpenters created Italianate details that add richness and character to the district.

Residential

The finest example of the Italianate style on West Main Street, and one of the best designed and maintained in Spencer, is found at the south-facing George Mullet House, 83 Main Street (ca. 1850, MHC 128). (Photograph No. 2) This is a 2½ story house under a side-gable, bracketed roof that makes full eaves returns to create deep pediments and extends to shelter a two-story porch on the south. The porch also extends across the east and west elevations; its supports are Italianate chamfered posts at each story. On the second floor there is a turned urn-motif balustrade, but on the first floor there is no balustrade giving the first floor of the house an open piazza effect that is coupled with three-quarter length first floor windows to bring full light to the interior. A design feature that distinguishes the house from most of its contemporaries is the use of flushboard on the south or principal elevation; the east and west elevations are clapboard. Joining the elevations are wide, recessed panels indicative of the Italianate style. Window lintels at both stories are entablature in form supported on shaped corbels. The house is scrupulously maintained on the exterior.

Retaining most of its Italianate style features is the James M. Capen House, 23 Pleasant Street (ca. 1860). This is an east facing, clapboard sided house, 2½ stories in height beneath a front-gabled roof that is asphalt shingled. Indicative of its mid-19th century date is the continued use of stone for foundations. The house has a transverse gable wing on the west rear giving the house an L-shaped plan. Italianate is the wrap-around verandah on east and south with many of its original chamfered post supports that have broad, crisp capitals and are supported by arched brackets at the eaves. The

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effect sought after by the posts and arched brackets is that of an Italian loggia, an effect that is seen on other Italianate style buildings in the district as well. To convey an impression of the rich carving of Italian villas and palazzi, carpenters added incised ornament known as Eastlake ornament to the capitals, window lintels of the first and second floor. Brackets are used at the main roof and porch roof eaves. The main entry door surround has been lost but a side entry has a portico on trusses. Windows of the first floor have been extended to $\frac{3}{4}$ length and are composed of $\frac{2}{2}$ sash to let more light to the interior. The house has two interior chimneys.

The Pardon Howland House, 28 Pleasant Street (1855, MHC 204) (Photograph No. 1) is Italianate in style, more *palazzo* than villa in its block-like form. The $2\frac{1}{2}$ story clapboard house sits on granite foundations and has a side-gable, asphalt shingled roof of shallow pitch. There is a rear two-story ell that connects at a right angle to a large carriage barn, making this a significant ensemble of parts. The main block of the house is a simple three bays wide with a broad center entry flanked by large-scale windows of 6/6 sash. The entry is broad enough to accommodate double-leaf doors and its surround is trabeated with panelled pilasters supporting a bracketed lintel on corbels. Window surrounds repeat this bracketed lintel, their corbels being doubled. The house's cornerboards are panelled pilasters and paired brackets support the wide eaves of the roof. A side porch is located at the junction of the main block and the broader ell. The building is now multifamily, but its change of use is imperceptible aside from five electric meters mounted on the west elevation.

Ample in scale and generous in detail is the Italianate H. P. Howland House at 34 Pleasant Street (ca. 1875, MHC 205). (Photograph No. 1) Where the house at 28 Pleasant Street is modelled on a palazzo, this house was intended to suggest the more complicated plan and elevation of a stone, country villa. It is a $2\frac{1}{2}$ story house with a front gable roof and transverse gables on both north and south and a flat roofed ell on the west for a Greek cross plan. It has high brick foundations, clapboard siding and an asphalt shingled roof. It is three bays wide and four bays deep which is a typical elevation, but what is further developed here is the increase in scale that was seen at 28 Pleasant Street. The size of the house and its features has grown strikingly more expansive. A wraparound porch crosses the west and south elevations. It is supported on Italianate chamfered posts with arched braces at the porch roof that give the porch an Italianate loggia effect. The porch railings are cut in an arched pattern with small spindle inserts – a pattern that may be unique in Spencer. Additional millwork is found on the porch posts whose capitals are set beneath small shaped corbels that are intended to resemble stone, and paired brackets at the house eaves. These brackets are scroll-cut for a highly ornamental effect. First and second floor windows carry out the stone references with lintels resting on corbels and ornamented with keystone blocks. The house has a side hall entry whose broad opening is filled with double leaf, glass and panel doors. Sash in the house is $\frac{2}{2}$. A small metal fountain in the front yard is another allusion to a country villa. The house has a carriage house at the rear.

At 55 Pleasant Street, the House (ca. 1875) (Photograph No. 4) is a popular form of the late Italianate style recognizable by the transverse gable centered on its principal $2\frac{1}{2}$ story elevation and the enlarged scale of the building. This is a three bay elevation with three-sided bays flanking a center, double leaf entrance in similar manner to the house at 51 Pleasant Street. A pedimented portico on replacement posts shelters the entry. There are paired brackets at the eaves and two gabled dormers with ornamental wood consoles at each side. Windows have pedimented lintels and there is a lancet window at the attic level of the gable. Attached on the west is a two-story wing for a wide rectangular plan. The wing has added pressure-treated wood railings. The house has been asbestos shingle sided and has an asphalt shingled roof and brick foundations. Adjacent to the house is a $2\frac{1}{2}$ story carriage barn ornamented with bargeboards.

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The Hugh and Mary Kelly House, 9 Main Street (ca. 1875) is a 2½ story late Italianate house that is a mere three bays wide and two bays deep but due to its scale is a very large building. A 2½ story wing on the west adds further to its size. The main block of the house follows a pattern that was very popular in Spencer; it has a central through-cornice gable with Italianate arched window beneath which is a center entrance with double leaf doors. At each side of the entrance is a three-sided bay of one story. This symmetrical elevation is repeated with several variations throughout the district. The center entry is reached through a portico on posts that was a later addition. Siding on the house includes clapboards on the main body and shingles in the gable. What is less common is the use of colored slate to create patterns on the roofs. The house is stylistically transitional to the Queen Anne in the complexity of its volume with the bays, gables, patterned slate roof and varied siding. A pair of tall chimneys is located on the main roof and a single chimney in the wing. Sash in the house is 2/2. The setting of the house at the top of a hill adds to its presence on West Main Street.

The Joseph Pope House, 18 Grove Street (ca. 1875, MHC 154) is one of several Italianate houses with integral carriage barns that remain on the street. It is 2½ stories in height under a front-gable roof. Like so many others of its period, the clapboard sided house is three bays wide. It is longer than most at five bays, however, and connects to a rear 2½ story ell that is attached to a carriage barn. Foundations are stone and the roof is asphalt. The south elevation of the ell has a side porch and a three-sided, two-story bay as well. The house takes its stylistic denomination from the bracketed eaves and capped window lintels with dentil work, the double leaf entry door with simple capped surround. Sash is replacement 1/1.

A second example of the integral carriage barn is found at the W. J. Livermore House, 19 Grove Street (ca. 1875). This is a large, 2½ story house with a front-gable roof. It is three bays wide and a deep six bays long to which is attached the barn. Set on a westward sloping lot, the barn is 2½ stories in height with an exposed basement. A porch spans the east and a portion of the south elevations. It rests on posts on high plinths, and decorative collar ties link the posts just below its frieze and paired brackets. On the south a square bay fills a portion of the porch. It has a panelled base below four slender windows. The paired porch brackets are repeated at the house's main eaves. As found also at 17 Grove Street, elaborate carved rope molding ornaments the corner pilasters. Sash is replacement 1/1.

The vinyl sided V. Snow-Wm. L. Nolan House, 47 Main Street, ca. 1850 has been heavily altered from a five bay, 2½ story side-gable house on brick foundations. It now has a three-sided bay on the west two bays, a centered door on the second floor that leads to a porch roof, and a two-story ell on the rear. There is a center portico that was a later addition as well. In addition to its overall form, remaining from its Italianate origins are two interior chimneys. Sash is 8/8 and vinyl replacement with fake muntins. The house is in poor condition. It is non-contributing.

The Italianate D. Prouty House, 15 Grove Street (ca. 1875, MHC 153) is a large building three bays wide, five bays deep and two-and-a-half stories high beneath a front-gable roof whose boxed eaves make returns. A shed roof porch extends across the street elevation supported by fine, Italianate, openwork posts. The house is sided in asbestos shingles; its roof is asphalt. There are two interior chimneys and a hipped roof dormer centered on the south side of the roof. Sash is 2/2.

Very close in plan and elevation to 15 Grove Street is its next door neighbor the H. P. Draper House, 17 Grove Street (ca. 1875), but the latter has retained much more of its original trim and its Italianate style is more evident. It is also 2½ stories in height and has a front gable roof with two interior chimneys. The clapboard sided house has cross gables and a

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2½ story wing on the rear. Paired brackets support wide boxed eaves that make substantial returns above wide pilasters that have been carved with rope trim – see also its neighbor at 19 Grove Street. While 15 Grove Street has a full width porch across the east elevation, 17 Grove Street has a wraparound porch on chamfered Italianate posts that rest on high plinths. The main block of the house is three bays wide with a sidehall plan, entered through double leaf doors.

At 28 Grove Street is the L. N. Stearns House (ca. 1875), a late Italianate house that is 2½ stories, three by three bays in the main block, and has a front-gable roof. It has a 2½ story ell on the east followed by an attached 2½ story carriage barn for a complex plan. The house sits on a block that is only one lot deep so its attached carriage house on the east fronts onto Jones Street, which may have been an alley at the time of the house's construction. The carriage barn has been converted to a second residence whose address is 5 Jones Street. The Stearns House is side hall in plan with its side entry under an elaborate Italianate hood on consoles. The house is sided in clapboards and has an asphalt shingled roof and high granite foundations. Sash is 2/2. A wide frieze and cornerboards trim the house in Italianate style and the eaves have paired brackets.

The rear carriage house, converted to a Colonial Revival style residence is 5 Jones Street (ca. 1875). The main block of the carriage house has brick foundations but there are also pressed concrete block foundations beneath an added two-story bay on the south. The house is four bays wide and two bays deep and has a side-gable roof. The main entry is reached from a Colonial Revival portico on columns and the simple entry has sidelights. The building has corner pilasters with capitals that would have been added at the time of conversion. Sash is 2/2. There is a separate pressed concrete block garage.

Although it is not in perfect condition, the Weatherbee Drug Store and House, 23-25 Mechanic Street (1873) is a good example of the Italianate style. It is a long, rectangular plan house on a corner lot with an asphalt, front-gable roof. The main block of the house is 2½ stories in height, is three bays wide and has a single story commercial addition on its street elevation. There is a two-story rear ell and a separate carriage barn at the rear that has been converted to storage use. Typical of the Italianate style are the bracketed eaves and paneled pilasters. Window lintels are bracketed and have a scrolled applique ornament. The west gable field has an Italianate arched window. The street elevation at the second story has a highly unusual, three-sided projecting bay window. On the south elevation are two porches on posts that may have been altered for two-family occupancy from a single side porch.

The H. Rice House, 65 Main Street, ca. 1850-70 is an Italianate period house that has been altered to become a very basic multifamily house. It is 2½ stories high under a front-gable roof. The house is sided in clapboards and has an asphalt shingle roof. It is three bays wide and three long bays deep for a rectangular plan. It has a two-story porch on the front. At the first floor level the porch is supported on turned posts with brackets at the eaves, but on the second floor the posts are replacements of pressure-treated wood. Sash is a mixture of 6/1 and replacement 1/1 sash. Both window and door surrounds are flat stock.

A house that might be overlooked due to its asphalt-shingled exterior and absence of trim is at 36 High Street (1870-1887). This is an Italianate style house that exhibits one of the most striking features of the style, a flat roof with wide

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eaves overhang to suggest the Italian country villa. The L-plan house is a tall 2½ stories in height and has the long paired windows that the style introduced to architecture in the United States. High brick foundations mark it as a post-1870 house.

The Italianate style appeared on High Street first at the J. N Grout House, 11 High Street (ca. 1870, MHC 195). It is a 2 ½ story, front-gabled house that faces east and has a wrap around porch on the east and south screening the three by six bays. The plan of the house is complicated by a transverse gable bay on the south. There are pedimented dormers on the roof with scrolled and splayed sides. Delicate scrollwork also appears in the gable ends of the house. The porch rests on turned posts with spindle frieze and brackets at the eaves. Window lintels on the first floor are pedimented. Sash is replacement 1/1 throughout the house.

The Luther Hill House, 29 High Street (ca. 1860) has been so altered that it retains no stylistic features. The 2½ story house with two, 2½ story ells on its rear is the equivalent of three joined houses. A multifamily house, it is now vinyl sided, has an asphalt shingle roof and retains its granite foundations. Sash is mainly 1/1 vinyl replacement and all window and door surrounds have been removed or covered with vinyl.

The Mrs. E. Wilson House at 60 Pleasant Street (1880s) takes a common form of the late period of the style. It is 1½ stories in height, three by three bays and has a front-gabled roof with boxed eaves and returns. The house has a rear two-story ell followed by a 2½ story offset addition with a front-gabled roof for a complex plan. The ell has an integral, two-story enclosed porch. The building is sided in asbestos shingles and has brick foundations, while its roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The house has some replacement sash and some is 4 vertical lights/1 sash. The house has high floor to ceiling proportions evening out the difference in stories between the main block and the ell. Italianate in style is the hipped roof entry hood on scrolled consoles with pendants.

Reflecting Pleasant Street's agricultural past of the 1860s and 70s is the H. Belcher House at 50 Pleasant Street (ca. 1875). This is a 2½ story, asbestos sided, Italianate house that has a 1½ story ell on the east and an attached carriage barn for an L-shaped plan. It has brick and granite foundations and an asphalt shingled roof. What gives it its Italianate designation is its entry hood on elaborate consoles, the capped window surrounds, paired brackets at the eaves and wide frieze. The carriage barn has a shed roof extension of two stories on its east elevation to provide second living quarters. There is a 10-light transom over the barn's original two-bay opening that has now been filled in with overhead garage doors.

Commercial

The M. J. Powers Block, 14 Mechanic Street, ca. 1870 is a two story Italianate block with a flat roof to which is attached a three-story false front façade. On its south elevation is a one-story wing that offers a second commercial space. The building has brick foundations and is clapboard sided. Window lintels on the false front are pedimented and have incised scroll ornament. The parapet roof has a wide overhang that is supported by consoles and consoles terminate each side of the roof. The building's first story is enclosed and covered with Texture 111. Its north elevation has a second story porch attached to it resting on braced posts.

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Institutional

Although its address is 45 Main Street, the Main Street School's, 1867 entry is on School Street, and the building is set back from Main Street on a sloping corner lot. The brick school is 3½ stories in height under a front-gabled roof covered with slate. It is four bays wide and six bays deep for a rectangular plan. Foundations are stone. The school is Italianate in style and with Italianate arched windows in the gable end, brackets at the eaves and quoins at the building corners. Drip label window lintels are an Italianate feature as well. Sash is 2/2 and 1/1 and the third story windows are boarded up. There are two interior end chimneys. The entry door to the school is unprepossessing although it has a transom light.

French Second Empire 1860-1880

The French Second Empire style, identified by a mansard roof is represented by five examples in the district boundary increase. Although it was not as popular as the Italianate style, the French Second Empire was a sophisticated alternative that lent itself to large single family homes and multifamily houses as well.

The mansard roof of the French Second Empire style Mrs. A. F. Hamilton House at 21 Grove Street (ca. 1875) has been inappropriately sided in vinyl to simulate clapboards, but the form of the house contributes to the architecture of the street. This is a 2½ story house that has a two-story ell on the rear and a connecting carriage barn. As is the case in several other of the similarly laid out houses with carriage barns on the street, this barn has been converted to a house. The main block of the house is three bays wide and two bays deep. Vinyl siding hides its trim, the original entry has been altered, and replacement vinyl windows have changed its original character. It is non-contributing.

The Mrs. Morse House, 24 Mechanic Street (ca. 1860) is a French Second Empire that has been nearly buried behind a two-story commercial addition of wood shingles and Texture 111. The clapboard house itself is partially sided in vinyl. It is 2½ stories in height and three bays wide and has an asphalt shingled mansard roof with paired brackets at the eaves. Most of the exposed windows have been replaced. Foundations are not visible. The addition to the street elevation probably dates from the 1880s or 1890s as it has a parapet roof that mimics those of its commercial neighbors from the turn of the century.

The George Grant House, 19 High Street (ca. 1870, MHC 198) is a 2½ story, French Second Empire cottage whose two rear, two-story ells increase its size significantly. The main block of the house is three bays wide and six bays deep. The roof is covered with slate laid in a fish-scale pattern; the siding of the house is clapboard and there are paired brackets at the eaves. A small portico on turned posts has been added to the east or street elevation but the original door is slightly recessed with wide, plane surround, full-length sidelights and double leaf, arched glass doors. Barrel vaulted dormers with splayed side surrounds on the roof retain trim that has been lost elsewhere. There is a shallow three-sided bay on the south and a transverse gable bay. The house has wide corner pilasters. There is a secondary apartment at the rear of the house.

The most elegant French Second Empire house in the district increase is the L. W. Prouty House, 25 High Street (ca. 1865). (Photograph No. 5) The house is three bays wide, 2½ stories high and sits on high granite foundations. There is a single-story, four-sided bay on the southeast corner of the east-facing house, and a centered 2½

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story pavilion. The pavilion contains the main entry that is arched within an architrave surround and has double leaf, arched, glass doors. Tying the east elevation together are wide corner pilasters and a gazebo porch that rests on $\frac{3}{4}$ length columns set on plinths and topped with Egyptian Revival style lotus capitals. The porch balustrade is a jigsaw-cut, diamond and circle motif. Exterior ornament is carried to the eaves where there are paired brackets above a row of festoon molding. The porch is glassed in at the southeast corner. The large house also has a shallow three-sided bay on the south and a transverse bay followed by an added rear ell of two-stories.

High Victorian Gothic 1870-1880

The High Victorian Gothic style was the continuation of the Gothic Revival style that had begun in the 1830s. It was a style that was less frequently used than the Italianate and French Second Empire during the 1860s, but in the 1870s had a resurgence that took a more ornate, more elaborated form based on medieval precedent. High Victorian Gothic was most often applied to institutional buildings such as schools, courthouses and urban churches, but it also can be seen on residences from the 1870s through the 1890s. In Spencer's boundary increase district it is found exclusively on residences and their outbuildings.

One of the finest and best-preserved High Gothic Revival cottages in Spencer is found at the Thomas Clark House, 39 Pleasant Street (ca. 1875). It is set on a high lot, which give its $1\frac{1}{2}$ story height a greater presence. It has a steeply pitched, front-gable roof and transverse gables on north and south elevations for a Greek cross plan. The main block of the house has a porch that extends on south, east and north elevations and is highly ornamented. It rests on posts on plinths with arched brackets at the eaves. The porch frieze is cut into cross and trefoil patterns to suggest medieval Gothic ornament. Bargeboards trim the gable end of the roof and contain at their peak an elaborate motif of king post trusses and carved brackets. The side hall plan house has a broad entry with full-length sidelights. A secondary entrance beneath a portico is located on the north facade. There is a carriage barn southwest of the house.

The Mrs. C. Kane House, 15 Main Street (ca. 1880, MHC 123) is one of the most extravagant High Victorian Gothic houses in Spencer. It is a south-facing, front-gabled house of $2\frac{1}{2}$ stories with a particularly steep roof and a transverse gable wing on the west. There is also a two-story ell on the rear. The main block of the building is three bays wide with a center entry between two, three-sided bays. It is shaded by a porch that wraps around the west, south, and east elevations. The porch roof has three pediments and rests on turned posts and saw-cut brackets. A secondary porch on the wing and ell has been enclosed in glass. The roof of the house is slate and asphalt shingles, and the foundations are not visible; siding is a mixture of clapboards and shingles. There are two interior chimneys and sash is 2/1. The extravagance of the house lies in its bargeboards that are extremely wide and carved in a fanciful trefoil pattern. They terminate in carved openwork rondels and in the gable ends are joined by carved truss work. The bargeboards are not limited to the front gable, as is the case in many of the Gothic Revival cottages of the period; rather, they are repeated in the transverse gables in a final demonstration of decorative finesse.

The R. Biscoe House, 51 Pleasant Street (ca. 1880) is another example of the High Victorian Gothic style. This is a side gabled house, $2\frac{1}{2}$ stories high, three bays wide and two bays deep. The three bays of the primary elevation

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consist of two, three-sided bays flanking a center entrance. A porch that extended across the center entrance has been glass enclosed but its cornice remains. There is a 2½ story rear ell; the clapboard house sits on parged brick foundations, and has an asphalt shingled roof. What determines the stylistic character of the house is primarily its ornament. Incised or Eastlake, scroll-cut, and carved ornament create medieval period-inspired designs on the exterior. Windows of the first story have pedimented lintels with elaborate carving in their tympanums; second story windows have entablature lintels on brackets with scroll cut ornament in their friezes. More overtly Gothic are the lancet windows in the attic gables and the carved bargeboards at the gable roof line. There are two tall interior chimneys.

Between 1870 and 1884 the southern Grove Street area was developed with mainly Italianate style buildings, but a High Victorian Gothic example was constructed as well. The D. Bryant House, 24 Grove Street (ca. 1875, MHC 155) is a 2½ story house with a steeply pitched front-gable, asphalt roof with a wide overhang. The house extends deeply on its lot with transverse gables on the south and north, and a rear 2½ story ell that connects to a 2½ story carriage barn. The block of the Bryant House and the three houses north of it was laid out one lot deep so the carriage barn fronted on a wide alley or street. Before the turn of the century, the carriage barn was converted to a house that fronts on the alley that became Jones Street. Whereas many western Massachusetts towns were using brick for foundations after the 1850s, Spencer stands out for its continued use of granite and the Bryant House falls in this category, its granite blocks probably coming from an active quarry at the corner of Grove and Starr Streets. What is High Victorian Gothic about the Bryant House is its medieval-inspired trim. Bargeboards trim off the gable roof ends that are also ornamented with fan-shaped brackets and post trusses at their corners. In the gable fields are rondel windows with floral-ornamented surrounds. First floor windows on the west and north elevations have become Gothic-like, full-length and narrow, although some windows on the south have been replaced with vinyl sash. The main entry door is Queen Anne in style with multiple lights surrounding a large pane of glass in the upper half.

The converted D. Bryant Carriage House has become 3 Jones Street (ca. 1875, MHC 156). It is a front-gabled building with a cross gable for a Greek cross plan. It is three bays wide and two bays deep and the three bay section is preceded by a full width Queen Anne style porch with a shingled pedimented entry, turned posts. The porch roof has a frieze and scrolled brackets at its eaves. The main entry is within the porch, but there is a secondary entry on the south that has a pedimented portico on rope-carved consoles. The foundations of the carriage house are at least partially of brick. The front gable has a wide raking frieze that joins the cornerboards by a curve rather than an angle, an unusual detail. Doors on this elevation are glass and panels.

Queen Anne 1870-1910

The Queen Anne style was embraced vigorously in small towns and suburbs across the country during the late 19th and early 20th centuries because it was identified as a style that was particularly American and distinct from European-based styles. It was promoted in architectural journals, builders manuals, and pattern books as the ideal style for upwardly striving communities for whom neighborhoods filled with neat yards, picturesque detached houses lived in by like-minded, middle class families. In Spencer many of these objectives had been accomplished by the Italianate style so the Queen Anne appears, but at a more modest level than many other communities in Massachusetts whose growth coincided with the style's popularity.

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Residential

One of the most exuberant and high style examples of the Queen Anne in the district is found at the Cummings & Bass House, 20 Grove Street, ca. 1880. Occupying a corner lot, the 2½ story house has a front gable roof. It is three bays wide and multiple bays long for a rectangular plan. There is a two-story ell on the rear and a two story, three-sided bay on the south elevation. The house has brick foundations, an asphalt shingle roof, and clapboard and shingle exterior. Trim patterns are coordinated and repeated at various scales for a sophisticated approach to the exterior ornament not usually found at this period. A gazebo porch on columns wraps around the west and part of the south elevations. The porch has a spindle and ball frieze motif that is enlarged and repeated in its entry pediment and again the attic window balustrade in its gable fields on north and west. Windows at both stories have unique surrounds that are trabeated with the entablatures carrying a panel and diamond pattern. Scrolled brackets are at the eaves, and on the north elevation is a stained glass oval stair window. The siding of the house was intended to be visually stimulating with pattern and movement. On the north elevation, for instance, is a single story bay that has imbricated and mouse tooth pattern shingles. A rear porch has posts that rest on panelled plinths. There is a separated carriage house at the rear.

The Noah Sagendorph House, 26 High Street (ca. 1884, MHC 196) (Photograph No. 6) is unrestrained in its Queen Anne style and represents the most high style expression of its era in the boundary increase district. It is a 2½ story house with a complex roof configuration and interior volume. The main block of the house has a front-gable, slate roof ornamented along its ridgeline with iron cresting rails. There is a 1½ story, side-gable wing on the south that has a slate-covered mansard roof. Both sections are covered with clapboards and stickwork and their foundations are brick. The entry of the three bay main block is centered, and adjacent to it is a 2½ story, three-sided bay. The entry door is double leaf and its surround has incised Eastlake style quatrefoil ornament. Window surrounds have footed sills. A wraparound porch with a circular gazebo corner extends across the west and south elevations of the main block. It has a spindle frieze and is supported on posts with brackets above turned railings. Cast stone stairs entered between cast stone rampant lions lead to the porch. The south wing of the house has two, through-cornice dormers and a separate entry. Chimneys are ornamentally laid and their brick is multicolored.

At a smaller scale, the house at 49 High Street (1895-1900) is also a very fine example of the Queen Anne. It exhibits the two primary objectives of the style having a complex volume and a lively exterior. It is a 1½ story house in a gable and wing plan. Within its cottage-sized dimensions it manages to include two major blocks of interior space that are extended to the exterior with a corner porch and chamfered bays on two sides. A through-cornice dormer adds complexity to the second story volume as well. The result is a sense of unpredictable and interesting interior spaces. The exterior trim and surface are calculated to be equally picturesque and to catch the eye with clapboards on the first floor, shingles on the second and a corner porch that has arched brackets and a frieze that are both ornamented with turned spindles. Cutwork ornament and pendants further decorate the side, chamfered bays. The house has an asphalt shingle roof and brick foundations and there is a separate garage.

A pair of Queen Anne style buildings that reveals the town's need for relatively inexpensive housing that would yet meet middle class picturesque standards is found at the multifamily J. R. Prouty Houses, 14 and 16 Pleasant Street (ca. 1890).

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Together they make a pair of originally identical tenements in the Queen Anne style. They are three stories in height beneath a hipped roof, four bays wide by 5 bays deep, for a long, rectangular plan. Of the two, #14 is the better preserved on the exterior giving us the more accurate reflection of their original appearance. It is clapboard sided, has brick foundations and an asphalt shingle roof. The building represents the Queen Anne style in both its volume and exterior details. Although the building had to be economical through simplicity in plan to accommodate several units, there are several complexities of volume that typify the style, e.g. the hipped roof adds visual interest to the building and there is a recessed corner on the northwest that is filled with porches for the second and third floor units. Exterior decorative details that were used to give the building a picturesque quality are stringcourses that divide the buildings at the stories, the ornamental porch railings and spindlework friezes, turned posts and brackets at the porch eaves. The bracket motif is repeated at the roof with paired brackets. A side entry has a portico on carved consoles and a favorite decorative device, the Queen Anne window of multiple panes bordering a single light window, is used on the stairwell windows. Sash in the building is 2/2.

At 63 Main Street (ca. 1885) is a large multifamily house with a complex elevation. It is 2½ stories high with a side gable roof. Projecting from the center of the street elevation is a transverse gable in which is a porch on replacement posts at the first story, a glass enclosed porch at the second story level and a third story, through-cornice porch in the gable field. The house is sided in asbestos shingles and has an asphalt roof. There is a 2½ story wing on the east that contains a second entry. The side hall entry of the main block is actually retrograde Italianate in style with a pedimented surround and ¾ length sidelights. Sash is replacement 1/1.

A third version of the multifamily Queen Anne is found at 10 High Street (ca. 1880) a 2½ story, front-gabled house set into a hillside that slopes away to the east. With its exposed basement, the house is three stories on its eastern half. It is three bays wide and approximately six bays long and has a three-story rear ell. There is a transverse gable on the main block on the south that rises three stories too. A corner porch in the angle of the bay is three stories and is supported on posts. There are paired, scrolled brackets at the eaves. The building is sided in asbestos shingles, has brick foundations and asphalt-shingled roof.

Next door at the Mrs. H. S. Wilson House, 12 High Street (ca. 1880) is an idiosyncratic Queen Anne style house that is unique to the district. It is a 1½ story house with a steeply pitched, pyramidal hipped roof and a hexagonal corner tower. The small house has a two-story rear ell under a shed roof. The house is west facing and it has a one-story bay on its south elevation. It is aluminum sided, has an asphalt-shingled roof and parged brick foundations. There are through-cornice dormers on the south and west with gables with trusses in them and splayed dormer surrounds. Brackets ornament the eaves. There is an altered, enclosed entry to the house.

The east-facing Queen Anne Julia A. Fay House, 13 Grove Street (ca. 1875) has remarkably retained its abundant trim. It is a 2½ story house with a side gable roof and a transverse gable bay at the front for a T-shaped plan. In the southeast angle of two sections of the house is a corner porch on posts with scroll-cut frieze and unusual trusswork pendants. Trim continues at the eaves where brackets rise from a broad panelled frieze that is itself trimmed by a cutwork stringcourse. The front-gable section of the house has bargeboards at its raking eaves that are ornamented in a floral and star openwork pattern repeated in the south and north gable ends. The exterior of the house is sided in asphalt shingles in two colors and textures; foundations are stone and the roof is asphalt shingles. The entry to the house is a panelled,

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double leaf door and window surrounds have deeply molded lintels at both stories. Two, three-sided bays on the south and east add to the complexity of the volume of the house in true Queen Anne manner.

At 70 Pleasant Street (ca. 1885) is a modest, but well-preserved version of the Queen Anne style. It is a front-gabled house, 1½ stories in height, facing south with a transverse gable on the west and a 1½ story ell on the rear. The main block of the house is three bays wide and three bays deep and it sits on high brick foundations. The side hall entry to the house is a Colonial Revival style, barrel vaulted portico on Doric columns that was probably added at a later date. There is a porch on the east side of the rear ell that also is supported by Doric columns. The asphalt-shingled roof is sharply pitched and the eaves are rather broad and thin. The house is clapboard sided and enlivened with shingles in the gables set off by wide cornerboards and frieze. The east elevation of the house is the most elaborate of all the elevations. There are two through-cornice dormers on the main block and one on the ell and they are front-gabled with scroll-cut surrounds. On the east is also a single-story three-sided bay with a panelled base. Window lintels are capped and sash is 2/2. There is a carriage barn at the rear of the house.

The Queen Anne J. M. Capen House, 22 Pleasant Street (ca. 1880) (Photograph No. 3) faces west and has as its most prominent feature a three story square bay angled at its southwest corner to receive full afternoon sun. This is a house in need of maintenance, but one that has lost little, if any, of its original exterior detailing making it one of the finest of its style in Spencer Center. It is 2½ stories in height beneath a steeply pitched, front-gabled roof with an equally pitched transverse gable on the south for an L-shaped plan. The house rests on high brick foundations and its siding is a mixture of clapboards and shingles. It is three bays wide and four bays deep and is given complexity of volume by the bays and two porches that add variation to the elevations. A full-width porch on the west has turned posts with openwork railings; and there is a second floor porch at the transverse gable bay with ornamental railings. The bay's gable is decorated with a King-post truss. Sash is 2/2 but on the angled bay it has been embellished with Queen Anne windows of multipaned glass surrounding the 2/2 lights.

The house at 35 Pleasant Street (ca. 1885, MHC 206) is Queen Anne in style. It is sided in vinyl, has brick foundations and an asphalt shingle roof. It is the form favored on these streets of Spencer during the Queen Anne period being 2½ stories high under a front-gabled roof with shallow cross gables at each side elevation. A full-width porch crosses the three-bay street façade. Although vinyl siding detracts from the detail that defines the house as Queen Anne in style, there is considerable ornament that has not been covered over. The porch railing, for example, rests on Queen Anne style posts with jigsaw cut braces at the eaves and a frieze cut in a floral pattern. Shaped braces at the extended eaves of the roof are ornamented with a fan motif and the eaves themselves are decorated with bargeboards. At the gable a king post truss has both floral and geometric designs. Sash is 2/2 and there is a side, two-story porch.

At 18 Pleasant Street (ca. 1895) the Queen Anne style is late and merging with the Tudor Revival. The 2½ story, three-by-three bay building has a front-gabled, asphalt shingled roof with a transverse gable on the south and a chamfered bay on the west adjacent to a hipped roof porch. In addition to these features, the volume of the building is made more complex in Tudor Revival fashion, by the extension of the roof on the south to the first floor level for an asymmetrical profile. The exterior of the house has been made picturesque with a variety of shingle patterns above the clapboards of the first floor. There are waves, diamonds, mouse tooth and imbricated shingle patterns at work. All of these features are

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found in the Queen Anne style and from the Tudor Revival is the use of stepped gables and second floor wall overhangs, both of which are ornamented with decorative corbelling. A pediment marks the porch entry and its roof supported by half-length columns above a shingled railing. Windows have small capped lintels and sash is 4/1, except in the gable field are fixed 12/ light windows, one playfully overlapped by the west bay. Typical of its date are the building's brick foundations.

Representative of the standard type of construction that took place in this rural community at the turn-of-the 20th century is the house at Mrs. M. Karey House, 25 Main Street (ca. 1880). It is a 2½ story, now vinyl sided house with an asphalt shingled, front-gable roof. It is a relatively simple two bays wide and about three bays long with a two-story rear ell for a rectangular plan. This is a side hall plan house entered beneath a full width porch on battered posts and sided railings. A stock, four-sided bay window has replaced the original window of the principal elevation and all the other windows of the house are 1/1 replacements as well.

Vinyl siding and many replacement 1/1 vinyl windows have compromised the character of this mid-19th century house, but it retains in form and some detail much of its period. Like many of the houses built between 1850 and 1900 in Spencer, the Grout-Mrs. B. Carney House, 29 West Main Street (ca. 1870, MHC 124) is 2½ stories high beneath a front-gabled, asphalt roof that makes returns at the eaves. It is three bays wide and there is a 1½ story wing on the west that is united to the main block of the building by a porch that rests on turned posts and replacement railings. In the wing are two through-cornice dormers with hipped roofs. There are two interior chimneys on the house, and brick foundations are parged.

Somewhat more elaborated is the house next door at 69 Main Street (ca. 1900). It is also front-gable, 2½ stories and has an asphalt roof. Siding is vinyl and the foundations are brick. There is a shallow transverse gable bay on the east and a wraparound porch connects to it. The porch has been mostly enclosed. Sash is replacement 1/1.

Commercial

The commercial buildings that line Mechanic Street are a combination of houses converted to commercial use and buildings constructed for commercial use. Development of the street as a commercial neighborhood was rapid so there is a consistency among many of the buildings, although it is not immediately evident due to alterations. As most of the extant buildings date from 1880-1895 they are influenced by the Queen Anne style, in this case indicated by the presence of parapet walls with their stepped gables, by the use of bracketed eaves, and turned posts at secondary porches and entries.

The Ashbury Nichols Store, 17 Mechanic Street (ca. 1875) (Photograph No. 7) is a 2½ story building with a front-gabled roof to which is attached a false front with a parapet wall. Now blue vinyl sided, the building has an altered first floor enclosed commercial front beneath a shingled pent roof. The building is set into an upward slope on the east so goes from 2½ stories to 1½ stories in the rear. The rear portion is also front-gabled and rises slightly above the roofline of the front section. It has a side porch on turned posts on the north. All the windows are vinyl or aluminum replacements.

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The Morton Nichols Store, 19 Mechanic Street (ca. 1880) is a brick building that is two stories in the front and one story at the rear beneath a shed roof. The building has a commercial false front, a parapet front elevation wall that has a raised rectangular center. The wall is ornamented with consoles and there are brackets at the roof eaves. Attached to the parapet wall is an added one story commercial storefront that has a center entry. It also has a parapet wall that rises slightly above its single story and has an arched center section.

The Wall Street Grocery Store-Print Shop, 30 Wall Street (1894) originally a Queen Anne commercial building is now occupied as a residence. It was reconstructed after the fire of 1893, as it appears on Sanborn insurance map of 1887 with essentially the same irregular plan. The building is two stories in height, clapboard sided, beneath a flat roof. Though two bays wide and four bays long, the building is trapezoidal in plan. It sits on brick foundations. Following the pattern established on Mechanic Street for commercial buildings, it has a false front with a parapet wall on the east, or street elevation. The parapet wall is well detailed for the Queen Anne with a bracketed cornice and curved consoles at the ends. The main entry, topped by a transom, is beside a double pane showcase window that also has a transom section. Window lintels are entablature in form supported on brackets.

The Green Block, 31 Mechanic Street (1882) (Photograph No. 7) is a vacant commercial building Queen Anne in style with storefronts on its first floor level. It is three stories high under a flat roof and is vinyl sided. A large corner building it is five by five bays with an angled corner entrance. The first floor on the west and north elevations is divided into storefront bays that are now boarded up. There are five storefronts on the Mechanic Street elevation and three on the Cherry Street elevation. The Cherry Street elevation also has an added two-bay section of two stories to make up its five bays. A second entry to the upper stories is centered on the west façade. The storefronts are set off from the upper stories by a broad entablature and panelled pilasters on granite blocks divide the storefronts. Carved consoles cap the pilasters. Topping the third story is a pent roof supported by turned brackets beneath a painted cast stone parapet wall that extends around the perimeter of the building. The west parapet wall above the center entry has a pedimented gable whose field is shingled and has small brackets under its full returns. In this section "M. Lamoreaux" signage and 1915 date are in carved wood indicating a change in ownership. The windows of the building are boarded up.

Closely set on the south to the Green Block is the three-story Kane Block, 37-39 Mechanic Street (1878). It is four bays wide and has rusticated clapboard siding in wood with quoins as its southwest corner. The building has a slightly lower floor alignment but also has a pent roof on brackets at its eaves level and pedimented parapet wall on its flat roof. The first floor has been altered by the addition of vertical artificial siding and a pent roof. Second and third floor window lintels are entablatures on brackets corresponding to those at the Greens Block.

The B. C. Dustin & Sons Bakery, 5 Wall Street (1879) has no particular style, but its form, a 2½ story house with a front-gable roof and tall proportions, is late 19th century. It is three bays wide and three bays deep and has a two-story wing on the rear. The building is stucco covered and has an asphalt shingle roof that makes returns at the eaves. The foundations are not visible. Presumably they are brick. There is a shed roof dormer on the south side of the west-facing house. All the windows have been replaced with 1/1 sash.

Spencer Center's Railroad Depot, 62 Wall Street (1894) is a single story, brick Queen Anne style building with an appropriately sheltering hipped roof whose broad eaves overhangs are supported on exaggerated braces. Rafters are

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exposed in the eaves and are shaped for ornament. The depot is six bays wide and two bays deep. Windows have stone sills. It has an incompatible, two-story concrete block addition on the east.

At 7 Cherry Street is a cobbler's shop (ca. 1900) that is the smallest Queen Anne commercial building in the district. It is two bays wide, two bays deep, and is a single story in height. It is vinyl sided and has low brick foundations. The building has a front-gable, asphalt roof that is hidden on its street elevation by a stepped parapet wall. Brackets ornament the eaves at the front and there is one window on that elevation with a fixed, 20-light sash. Two windows on the side have capped lintel surrounds.

Industrial

The William E. Barr Shoe Heel Factory, 15 Wall Street (1894) is a typical industrial building of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It is a brick building three stories high and has a flat roof. Set on a slope, the building's basement is exposed on the west for a four story elevation and on the north the three stories are divided into four bays with centered, double width loading bays flanked by segmentally arched windows containing 6/6 sash. Windows have granite sills. On the north is a concrete loading dock. The east elevation of the manufacturing building is twelve bays long. The south elevation has a concrete block addition with a garage type opening at its southwest corner.

The H. P. Howland Flour, Grain and Hay Company, 24-28 Wall Street (1894) a two-story brick industrial building is stepped forward from number 24 on a curving street. Its exposed northern elevation has the remains of a painted advertisement sign on it for Spencer Grain Company. It is divided into three bays by piers. The center bay has on the first floor a recessed entry enclosed by a garage door. On one side the entry is flanked by double segmentally arched windows and a window and door on the other side. The corners of the building are laid in an angled brick, reflecting the splay of the walls on the curving street. It has a flat roof. Attached on the south is a second brick building, 2½ stories high with a front-gabled roof. This section of the building has a center double-leaf entry and segmentally arched windows in its three bay front while it is eight bays long and has a two-story ell on the rear. The south façade has several loading bays.

Tudor Revival 1885-1930

The Richard and Susan Sugden House, 7 High Street (1875 and remodeled in 1903) (Photograph No. 8) is one of the district extension's only Tudor Revival style houses. It is a 2½ story, front gabled house with a transverse gable on each side, a three-story corner tower on the south east, and a 2½ story ell on the south. Windows in the tower are 1/1 rounded glass sash. To the south ell is attached a large carriage barn with a hipped roof. There is a separate caretaker's cottage on the south side of the carriage barn. The roof of the house is both slate and asphalt shingle; the house exterior is a mixture of fieldstone, brick, clapboards and shingles. Across the east elevation is a Colonial Revival style porch supported on Doric columns. It has a balustrade of turned balusters and an apron with an unusual circle-in-the-square lattice. The porch in a highly unusual fashion curves around the tower. It has a pedimented entry and then extends on the northeast to become a porte-cochere. The main entry to the house is an arched Colonial Revival door with architrave surround enclosing wide stained glass sidelights. A second opening adjacent to the doorway is a single stained glass

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window. Eaves make returns at each gable end to form pediments and the eaves are ornamented with Colonial Revival style modillions and dentil row. The south elevation that overlooks Main Street is further embellished with a one-story, rounded bay of fieldstone with a crenellated roofline. The carriage barn has a rounded corner tower too, with a conical roof that matches that on the house. The upper story of the carriage barn is stucco with half-timbering, a Tudor Revival motif.

Victorian Eclectic 1880-1915

The Victorian Eclectic as its name suggests is a combination of stylistic motifs that were current at the turn-of-the-century. They often combined Romanesque features such as arched entries and round towers with the asymmetry of the Queen Anne style. The style was exclusively used on masonry buildings where brickwork or stonework contribute to the decorative character of the building.

Commercial

The Heffernan Block, 18 Mechanic Street (1894) is a brick commercial block, two stories in height under a flat roof with a stepped parapet front wall. The Victorian Eclectic building is four bays wide and six bays long and on the first floor is a storefront with a center, recessed entry. The storefront windows have been boarded in. The masonry work is particularly striking, as there is a row of corbelled brick between first and second floors, rusticated stone lintels and sills at the windows. The rusticated stone is also used between windows on the second floor and they are emphasized by a row of corbelled brick below them. Pilaster set off the center stepped parapet and frame the brickwork sign "Heffernan" and "1894" in the pediment.

Institutional

The Grove Street School, 23 Grove Street (1876 and 1883, MHC 154) and the Pleasant Street School, 54 Pleasant Street, (1883, MHC 263) were both listed on the National Register as individual properties in 1996. They are included here as part of the district's institutional buildings representing the Victorian Eclectic style that was common at the time they were constructed and altered in the case of the Grove Street School.

The Grove Street School is a 2½ story brick building that is T-shaped in plan with a center, front-gabled wing and a main side-gabled block. In the corners made by the wing and main block were originally two wooden porches for separate entries to the school. The porches have been removed. The building's gabled roof ends are jerkin head in configuration, a form that is typical of the Victorian Eclectic style. The building's brick is a soft red and mortar has been tinted a rose color. The brick is offset by granite used for the watertable, lintels and sills, and date stones in the center wing. On the second story are paired windows and in the attic is an arched window with fixed 40 light sash. The main block is framed by corner pilasters and further ornamental brickwork is found on the north elevation where an interior

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chimney is indicated on the exterior by corbelled brick in a Panel Brick style. Corbelled brick also ornaments the raking cornice of the gable ends and bargeboards give the roofline further decoration. An early photograph taken before the building was expanded in 1883 shows that the original building had the same plan and also used the same jerkin head roof motif.

The Pleasant Street School, 54 Pleasant Street (1883, MHC 263) is an imposing brick school building due to its 2½ story height, raised on a high basement beneath a steeply hipped roof. The school has granite foundations and an asphalt-shingled roof. Stylistically the school incorporates elements of the Colonial and Renaissance Revivals with Queen Anne, hence its falling into the Victorian Eclectic category. Centered on the main square block of the building is a shallow and stepped, Renaissance Revival pavilion that is three bays wide. It is topped by a full pediment. Pilasters articulate the three bays of the main block and those of the pavilion. In the angles made between the main block and the pavilion, at each side are entries that are sheltered by wooden porticoes. The portico on the west retains most of its original trim while that on the east has been altered. The east portico has half-length, turned Queen Anne posts and elaborate scroll-cut frieze. The masonry of the building is one of its highlights. Contrasting with the deep red brick, the watertable, lintels, stylized pilaster capitals, and stringcourse segments are dressed granite. Corbelled bricks mark the raking eaves of the pediment, the entablature of the outer walls. Colonial Revival in style are the fanlights above second story pavilion windows. A central gable field, fan window has been boarded up. Sash in the building is partially replacement 1/1 and original 6/6. There are two interior chimneys.

The Cherry Street Firehouse, Cherry Street (1884), is also Victorian Eclectic, but it manages to include in its stylistic mix several very modern features that were forward looking for its 1884 date. The firehouse is a two-story, brick building under a slate-covered, pyramidal hipped roof. A four-story tower is located at the building's south east corner. The tower also has a pyramidal hipped roof that is slate-covered. Brick pilasters divide the street elevation into three bays. On the first floor the bays are filled with double-width vehicle entries and on the second floor there are segmentally arched window openings. Those in the center bay have been boarded up. What gives the building a particular distinction is the use of granite bases and granite capitals with flared granite brackets at each side on the pilasters and granite lintels across the bays. Window openings on the second floor have finely splayed lintels and the skilled brickwork extends to the ornamented cornice. The building's most contemporary feature is the widely extended roof that creates broad eaves above a row of closely spaced modillion blocks.

Colonial Revival 1880-1910

After the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia in 1876 the country's designers turned back to colonial buildings of the eastern seaboard for inspiration. First Period, Georgian, and Federal forms and details were revived along with Dutch colonial and frequently they were mixed together. While the initial thrust of this style slowed down after 1915, it may be said that the Colonial Revival continues today. From the 1920s it was called Neo-colonial, but the garrison colonials and Georgians that are built today are carrying the same impulse as earlier and the style persists in suburbs throughout the country. In Spencer's boundary increase district, there was minimal construction during this period so examples are few.

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Residential

The Mrs. E. Forest House, 17 Main Street (ca. 1880) has been altered by an extension on the west and by the vinyl that covers its 2½ story exterior. It does, however, have a fine Colonial Revival porch that is unique in Spencer. The stylistically simple body of the house is 5 bays wide and has a front-gable roof with a shallow transverse gable on the east. It has a broad center doorway with six-light transom and full-length sidelights that are very conservative in style. The extension is of two bays on the west beneath a shed roof, giving the principal elevation an asymmetry that is offset by a curved, wraparound porch on south and east that spans the extension and the main block of the house. The Colonial Revival porch has a pedimented entry and rests on posts connected by railings of scroll cutwork that are lace-like in their pattern. The porch is further embellished by an apron that, too, is a dense geometric pattern.

Dating about 1900 is the vinyl sided house at 85 Main Street. It is 2½ stories high and has a front-gable, asphalt shingled roof. Set on fieldstone foundations, the house is side hall in plan, and sash is paired in the fashion of the early 20th century. It is two bays wide with paired windows next to the entry. The house has a two-story porch on the south resting on posts.

Commercial

The commercial building at 14 Mechanic Street (ca. 1900) is almost residential in scale. It is 2½ stories in height with a front-gable roof following the pattern established for commercial buildings on Mechanic Street by the Queen Anne style. Unlike those slightly earlier buildings, however, number 14 does not have a false front or parapet roof. Rather the beige vinyl covered building has an enclosed second story porch with paired half-length columns that give it its slim stylistic designation. The first floor windows have been filled in and all details have been covered with vinyl.

Craftsman Bungalows 1910-1945

The Craftsman style that was applied to the bungalow house form in the early 20th century was a conscious effort among designers and builders to return to an earlier approach to construction – the hand-crafted approach that used local materials and set buildings into their natural landscapes rather than displaying them. In Spencer, bungalows were fit into some of the remaining house lots on High and Pleasant Streets where they fit well among the 1½ story cottages of the 19th century although they occupied their lots with the same regularity of spacing and setback as other buildings. Wood clapboards and shingles, stucco, brick, and fieldstone are the most popular materials of these houses.

One of the most representative is the dormer-front, Craftsman bungalow at 20 High Street (ca. 1920). It is 1½ stories in height under a side-gabled roof that extends to form a porch on the west, or street, elevation. The exterior of the house is clapboard sided; it has concrete foundations and a brick porch with Craftsman style, battered wood corner posts. The porch has been glassed in. There is an oriel on the south façade and an exterior, through-cornice chimney. The center, front-gabled dormer has a triple ribbon window of six fixed lights that are repeated on the oriel. At the widely overhanging eaves are Craftsman style exposed and exaggerated, pergola-shaped rafters.

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Neo-colonial Style 1920-1945

America's builders continued in the 20th century to provide houses with colonial motifs to a public for which those motifs were both familiar and suggestive of upper middle class values. The motifs were changed and updated during the 1920s and 30s to adjust to higher building costs and a public taste for modernization. This was a time of general economic slowdown in Spencer's economy and building in the boundary increase was limited but there are several good examples of the Neo-colonial style.

Residential

The best example of a Neo-colonial style house is at 10 Grove Street (ca. 1920). The asbestos-sided house is 2½ stories in height and rests on fieldstone foundations. It has an asphalt shingled, side-gable roof that has narrow boxed eaves. The house is three bays wide and two bays deep and ornamentation is minimal. Its side entry is its main stylistic expression: a narrow entry has a surround that includes a dummy arched fan. Window surrounds are flat stock and sash is 6/1. There is a two-story porch on the rear elevation.

Commercial

11-13 Mechanic Street (ca. 1930) (Photograph No. 7) is a more robust example of the Neo-colonial. The commercial building is 2½ stories in height under a front-gambrel roof and has two, first floor double glass storefronts with recessed entries. Lateral first floor walls are brick and cast stone; the second floor walls are wood shingle sided. A gambrel roof and wood shingle siding are Neo-colonial motifs as is the 6/1 sash. The building has a shed roof dormer on the north, and between the two storefronts is an entry to the apartment space of the second floor. The base of the storefront at #13 is pigmented structural glass. It has been lost from the base of #11.

Industrial Buildings

Bemis & Hobbs Oil Company, Wall Street (ca. 1920). The northernmost section of this building at 24 Wall Street is two stories in height and is constructed on the first floor of a material that became very popular in the early decades of the 20th century, pressed concrete block. The pressed concrete block rises in the front to create a false front, parapet wall, and behind it is a later addition second story of wood that has a shed roof. The two-story wood wing was built to connect to an earlier brick building on the south at 24-28 Wall Street.

Modern Movement 1920-1950

Spencer's district extension has two buildings from the Modern Movement. The first is the New England Telephone

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Building, 15 Mechanic Street, 1929-30. (Photograph No. 7) This building is in the Art Deco style, aiming with its abstract geometric brickwork to appear as a clear departure from historically based architecture. This is a one-story brick building on a concrete base. It is seven bays wide with its entry in the third bay. Stepped piers separate the bays and the brickwork makes a corbelled pattern above the windows and a V-shaped chevron pattern that rises from a sandstone stringcourse. Windows typical of the period are steel casements in the outer four bays. The basement has a sandstone watertable with a precise groove marking its top.

At 8 High Street, ca. 1950 is an Art Moderne building. Set into the hillside of High Street, the clapboard-covered building is one story at the street level and two stories at the rear. It has an asphalt-shingled, hipped roof and is three bays wide and four bays deep. What gives it its Art Moderne character is the use of a simple, rounded corner hood over the center door. The unsupported hood of metal is rounded to give an impression of its being streamlined and is set in a molded architrave surround that is also streamlined in its simplicity. A geometric patterned wood frieze is the building's only other ornament. Windows are paired and have non-historic horizontal muntins.

In the boundary increase area there are 22 non-contributing buildings. Of those, only 9 were considered non-contributing for the extent of their alterations. The remaining 13 were constructed after the period of significance and some of them may at a later date be considered for contributing status. One house at 59 Main Street may be considered an intrusion for the extent of its alterations and loss of integrity. Most new construction has been residential and maintains the set back and distance from lot lines of earlier buildings. In so doing it does not detract from the district. An exception to this rule is the Flex-Con factory on Wall Street that respects neither the street line nor the historical materials and feeling of the neighborhood. It is considered an intrusion.

Archaeological Description

While no ancient Native American sites are recorded within the district, sites may be present. Six Native sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile) in similar environmental settings as the boundary increase locale. All of the sites referenced above are located near wetlands, usually swamps, streams or man-made ponds. Terraces bordering streams are a common site location. Environmental characteristics of the boundary increase area support the presence of ancient Native American sites. All of the nominated area lies within 1,000 feet of a stream that flows from Lake Whittemore to another impoundment, forming Cider Mill Pond. Well-drained, level to moderately sloping terraces, and other landforms are located throughout the area. Given the above information, a high potential exists for the presence of ancient sites in the district boundary increase area; however, the potential for locating significant sites within that area is low to moderate.

A high potential exists for locating historic archaeological resources in the district. Evidence of European settlement in Spencer may exist after 1713 when the town land, then part of Leicester, was opened for sale. Settlement in Spencer occurred in 1721 when the first permanent settlement was made. Town settlement grew at a slow rate with the boundary increase area known as the "Lower Village." The meetinghouse was located in the "Upper Village" where increased

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settlement occurred. The 1794 map of the area does not illustrate mills, churches, or other institutions in the lower village area. Residential buildings may have been present; however, dwellings were not represented on the 1794 map. Structural evidence of 18th century buildings may exist in the boundary increase area; however, their locations have yet to be determined. Structural evidence may exist from James Livermore's inn operated by ca. 1800 at 1 High Street. Portions of that inn were reportedly incorporated into the present structure at that address. Occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) may exist at archaeological sites and existing structures such as the Livermore Inn.

During the 19th century, potential archaeological resources increase dramatically as settlement increases and distinctions between lower and upper portions of Spencer Center are lost. Residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial sites can be documented in the boundary increase area throughout the 19th and 20th century periods. Structural evidence may exist from a house moved about 1842 from the corner of Main and Pleasant Streets. Cartographic and architectural evidence indicate the house may be the E. Adams House (ca. 1830) now located at 40 Pleasant Street. Archaeological evidence may also exist from the William and Jane Henshaw House, no longer extant, shown on 1856 and 1870 atlases of the area. Structural evidence of the Boyce House (ca. 1880), replaced by the Nichols store, may exist at 17 Mechanic Street. Unidentified residential sites dating to the 19th and possible 18th century may exist along most streets in the boundary increase area, especially Main Street, Pleasant Street, Mechanic Street, High Street, and Grove Street. Single family houses characterize most potential residential sites in the increase area; however, after 1880, multi-family homes also exist and may survive as archaeological sites.

Commercial sites dating to the district's 19th century period of growth may also survive in the boundary increase area. Structural evidence of a grocery store may survive at the site of 30 Wall Street, the office and residence of Dr. Wheeler at 10 Mechanic Street now the U. S. Post Office, the Hotel Waldo and offices of the *Spencer Leader* newspaper on Wall Street, the Park Theater (1913) on Mechanic Street, and a roller skating rink (1884) on the west side of Wall Street.

Nineteenth and early 20th century industrial sites may also survive in the boundary increase area. Structural evidence of several industries and shops may exist on the east side of Wall Street including the William A. Barr and Son heel manufactory, the E. E. Stone planning mill and lumber company, and the Dustin and Clark Machine shop. Archaeological evidence of a railroad depot (1893), freight house (1893) and a large stable may also survive on Wall Street.

Archaeological evidence of 19th and early 20th century outbuildings and occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) may also survive with extant buildings and potential archaeological sites in the boundary increase area. Outbuildings may include small structures used for cottage industries such as shoe manufacture, tool sheds, agriculture related sheds, and barns/stables. Most potential outbuilding types may be characteristic of the entire 19th and 20th century period. Potential trash deposits may also span the entire period mentioned, with privies and wells less common during the latter 19th and early 20th century period as public sewage and water become available.

(end)

Name of Property Spencer Town Center HD (Boundary Increase)

County and State Worcester, Massachusetts

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- A** owned by religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

INDUSTRY

COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance

1800-1953

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository: _____

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Statement of Significance

The boundary increase area is a consistent and significant part of the Spencer Center Historic District according to criterion A. The boundary increase deserves to become part of that district because it was here that many of the people lived and worked who contributed to the industry, commerce, and public life that made up Spencer Center's history. Boot manufacturers, wire and textile manufacturers, millers, bakers, lumber dealers, carpenters, livery owners, and the people who worked in their operations all were part of the boundary increase area. They were the selectmen, the assessors, historians, music teachers, milliners, store clerks, the instigators of public water and sewer, electricity and gas, the promoters of railroads and paved roads. The buildings in the district over time housed the mix of activities that have come to define much of a town center: grain exchange, boot heel factory, movie theater, railroad depot, photographers's studios, pharmacy, meeting hall, schools, printing shop and more. These are many of the same occupations and same actual families that lived throughout the Spencer Center Historic District.

The boundary increase is similarly consistent with the existing historic district according to criterion C. Contained within the boundary increase area are some of the town's finest and most representative styles from the 1850s through the early 1900s with Italianate, French Second Empire, Queen Anne, and High Victorian Gothic dominating. The boundary increase has integrity of materials, feeling, workmanship, location, design, setting, and association. It is of local significance. The opening of the period of significance is 1800 which falls within the period of significance of the original district and its end date of 1953 corresponds to the fifty-year limit customary to National Register requirements.

Colonial Period (1675-1775)

Spencer began as part of a 1686 grant, the Eight-Mile grant, which established the plantation of Leicester. The Proprietors of the new plantation were given seven years to settle fifty families, establish a meetinghouse and a minister. The awarding of Leicester to the Proprietors, however, was in a place and at a time that discouraged the plantation's success. It coincided with King Philip's War that had begun in 1675 with Native American raids in nearby Brookfield, so few people ventured to Leicester, none to the western section that was to become Spencer. Having missed their deadline, the Proprietors asked for an extension ca. 1692. In their request, they narrowed down the amount of land that had to be settled and served by a single meetinghouse by setting Leicester as the designated settlement area and Spencer as privately held Proprietors's reserve. For about twenty years only Leicester, then, was open to settlement, and Spencer was held in reserve. In 1713 with settlement of Leicester proceeding satisfactorily, the Proprietors opened Spencer for sale. Sales were slow. One person bought land in Spencer in 1717, but he did not stay, and the area awaited its first permanent settler until 1721. By 1742 there were 41 settlers.

Having been held in reserve and then slowly settled, Spencer did not start off on an equal footing with Leicester, and its smaller population was not able to make up for the slow start. Spencer residents had to travel long distances to the Leicester meetinghouse and schools, and Leicester was reluctant to open new yet necessary roads. Spencer settlers

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began early to request separation so that their taxes would go to their own needs. While the General Court refused to allow Spencer separate status as a second parish, in 1753 they did allow the area and its population of 500 to become an incorporated district of Leicester, and with this status came a measure of independence. With an improvement in its legal situation, Spencer attracted additional residents who, by the end of the period, had grown to number 1,042.

Federal Period (1775-1830)

Town Development

During the Federal Period Spencer Center was divided into the "lower village" (the section of Main Street that is the subject of this boundary increase), that was less populated and at an actual lower elevation than the "upper village" where the meetinghouse was located. By the end of the Federal Period and the map of 1834 this distinction was no longer made and all of the area was known as Spencer Center. The lower village was slightly more than a stage stop during most of the Federal Period, however. Upper and lower villages were both aligned along Main Street or MA Route 9, the major east to west route. Also known as the Post Road, Main Street had been laid out as a county road before 1725 and the travel between Boston and the Connecticut River valley along Main Street was such that the lower village at the time of the Revolution supported three inns, but little else.

Spencer's residents took part in the Revolution and the town supported it financially as well. None of the participants came from the district boundary increase. After the Revolution the General Court turned to regularizing the status of its town and village components. In 1786 all Massachusetts districts that had incorporated before 1777 were automatically made towns, so the date of incorporation and date of becoming a town are different in Spencer.

Not too long after 1786 Spencer was mapped for the commonwealth. This 1794 map locates three county roads that traveled in an east to west direction and the town's waterways and mill sites, but does not note local roads or buildings. No mill sites are located in the area of the boundary increase, and we know from later secondary histories that the lower village has no mills, churches or other institutions, but there were several inns established by this date. Local historians place three inns in the Center in 1800. Two of the inns were outside the boundary increase. One was kept by Ebenezer Mason on Main Street east of the Sugden Block; a second was kept by Isaac Jenks at the northwest corner of Main and Pleasant Streets; but the third was James Livermore's inn on the northwest corner of Main Street where High Street was later to be put in, a portion of which may still exist at 1 High Street (ca. 1800, MHC 194). In 1810 the volume of travelers and number of residents merited the lower village a post office, and Isaac Jenks, innkeeper, was named the town's first Postmaster with the office in his inn. A description of the lower village ca. 1800 states that there were only two houses visible from the top of Pleasant Street. School No. 9 however on West Main Street was at the foot of Sumner Hill and was known as "Old Red."

Agriculture and Industry

Spencer was above all at this time an agricultural town. It was endowed with a series of streams and waterways that

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were attractive to millwrights for their power, so grist and sawmills were set up as part of the agricultural system. In addition to these activities, farmers turned to cottage industries to supplement their incomes particularly during the winters when chores were fewer. Most towns in Massachusetts included cordwainers among their residents and a few were even willing to give land to a cordwainer who would settle and take over the making of boots. Spencer was fortunate that it attracted a boot maker of ingenuity and industry in Josiah Green and was home to the brilliant sewing machine inventor Elias Howe. Convergence of the skills of the two men assured Spencer of a leading industrial role in boot and shoe making. Green was making boots on a production scale by 1812 in the Center district and he was joined by Isaac Prouty, boot maker, in 1820. The town's success in the industry was propelled through much of the 19th century by Green and Prouty, and subsequent manufacturers carried it well into the 20th century.

Boot making was not the only industry that originated during the Federal Period in Spencer. Spinning and wire mills were also established in town by 1820 and would grow to large-scale industry in the following periods. The residential section of the boundary increase to the Spencer Center Historic District developed, in part, as a result of these industries; the commercial section developed in a strong supporting function.

Architecture

There are two houses in the district boundary increase that appear to date from the Federal Period. The first is the Livermore Inn-Alonzo and Adeline Temple House, 1 High Street (ca. 1800, MHC 194). It was altered by Temple during his residency but its high granite foundations and basic 2½ story, five bay form remain.

From the very end of the period is the J. Prouty House, 41 Main Street (ca. 1830, MHC 125). This house appears on the map of 1834 and is stylistically developed as a Greek Revival building.

More problematic is a house that was described variously as having been moved to its present location about 1842 or earlier, from Main Street near the corner of Main and Pleasant Streets. More than one house was moved from this general area, hence there is some confusion, but J. H. Temple describes a house moved for D. W. Adams by 60 yoke of oxen to the corner of Lincoln and Pleasant Streets. Evidence suggests that this may be the E. Adams House, 40 Pleasant Street (ca. 1830). Identification of 40 Pleasant Street as the moved building is based on three factors: its appearance at the site on the map of 1856, the family name of a later owner, and its apparent age.

Early Industrial Period (1830-1870)

Town Development

The map of 1834 presents the first solid picture of Spencer Center as a residential and commercial nexus. It has grown: new streets lead off Main Street. Pleasant Street is now in place leading north and there is one house on it. Jenks's Inn continues in business as Draper's Inn, and the Mason inn is still in place but no longer identified as such. The Livermore inn may still be in existence as an inn, but it is not identified as such on the map, so may have been converted to a

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residence. Both residential and industrial growth mark the appearance of the district extension. The two sides of Main Street have developed with houses, and south of Main Street along the stream that emanates from Moose Pond are mills and boarding houses. The north side of Main Street, west of Pleasant Street, now has ten houses in addition to the inn. Mechanic Street leading south from Main Street has three houses.

Residential and industrial growth continued to characterize the Center between 1834 and 1856, when the Clark atlas shows us what has occurred in the intervening two decades. Industry is dispersed throughout the town on its streams but one of the places of concentration now is developing between a new street, Elm Street, and Mechanic Street south of Main Street where the water from Moose Pond has been controlled to create a millpond known as Capen Pond. On Capen Pond is a boot shop, and the Barnes and Mullet sash and blind shop that operated with the water that flowed between Capen and Muzzy Pond further east. Mechanic Street is a mix of two houses, a tin shop and what may be a commercial building owned by C.G. Belcher and P. Hubbard.

Ten houses still appear on the north side of Main Street, but now Pleasant Street has been developed with houses on its east side up to Lincoln Street and beyond, and a portion of High Street has been laid out with four houses built on its west side, one on its east. Population figures confirm the growth that is seen. The town had in 1830 a population of 1,688 and by 1860 it had risen to 2,777. By 1870 and the end of the Early Industrial Period, the population had risen to 3,952.

The population growth is reflected in a comparison between the atlases of 1856 and 1870 as new streets are laid out and existing streets are extended. During this fourteen-year period High Street was extended north to Pleasant Street and Prouty Street was constructed to connect the two midway. The west end of Main Street has its first residential street, Bell Street, put in place on the north side. South of Main Street, Elm Street has been extended to meet a new street, Chestnut Street, and the area between Elm and Mechanic Streets is now occupied by a much larger millpond.

Representative of the impact industry had on the Center during the Early Industrial Period is the appearance of three men and their families in Spencer in 1841. Silas Eldridge, his brother Nathaniel, and their friend William Henshaw moved to the town, bought property and established Silas Eldridge & Company to manufacture cotton cloth and satinet wraps. The wives of Silas and William, Sarah and Jane, were sisters and all were Methodists, except for Silas, closely binding the three families. In 1845 Nathaniel left the firm to begin a second cotton mill; Silas retired in 1849; and William Henshaw added the manufacture of hay cutting machines and ran the textile mill alone until 1852 when the mill burned to the ground. In 1857 Henshaw and a new partner, his son-in-law James Capen, a miller, rebuilt a grain and gristmill on the cotton mill foundations. As the brief Henshaw, Eldridge, Capen history demonstrates, during the evolution of early industry from small shops employing a few people to factories that depended on a workforce, business partnerships were formed, they were shifted and remade and existing sites and businesses were absorbed and adapted for new functions. The lower village cannot be separated from the rest of Spencer when it comes to evaluating the significance of the growth in industry, but it can be identified as an industrial site and home to many of the key people involved.

The atlases of 1856 and 1870 show that William and Jane Henshaw had built a house on Pleasant Street (now gone), Silas Eldridge built at 15 High Street, ca. 1860 and James Capen and his wife Jennie Henshaw had joined the elder Henshaws on Pleasant Street with the James and Jennie Capen house at 23 Pleasant Street (ca. 1860). Further, the families became part of the town's civic and religious life. William Henshaw was a tax collector, assessor, selectman,

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town treasurer, and representative to the General Court. Jane Henshaw and her sister Mrs. Eldridge were active in the Methodist Church.

Colonel Alonzo Temple (Livermore Inn-Alonzo and Adeline Temple House, 1 High Street ca. 1800-56, MHC 194) was instrumental in the appearance of Spencer and contributed to the flexibility of its manufacturing facilities. Temple was an entrepreneur who at different times of his life was a laborer, business manager, carpenter, and real estate speculator. As carpenter and builder he was responsible for constructing the Methodist Church and several houses on Main Street, the Temple House on High Street, as well as the Livermore-Comins House, 75 Main Street (ca. 1850, MHC 127). Temple's own house may incorporate part of the Federal Period Livermore Inn, but its current exterior appearance is stylistically much later than the Federal Period, and it is plausible that he was responsible for the alterations. Lorenzo and Chloe Livermore for whom he built the house at 75 Main Street, joined with Temple to build a large manufacturing building on Main Street in the late 1840s. It was Temple who rebuilt a burned mill in 1837 that became Silas Eldridge's cotton mill in 1841 and was taken over by William Henshaw before it burned again in 1852. Ever active, he built on speculation eight workers's tenements on a tract of land that he opened as Temple Street, and in the 1850s opened up High Street in the boundary increase. He was a state legislator, selectman, and assessor.

The strong connection between the district's residential and industrial sections is illustrated by William A. Barr, at the William and Leonora Barr House, 70 Pleasant Street (ca. 1855). Barr played a key role in Spencer's manufacturing. He began his working life at 18 in a Spencer wire mill, then in 1859 started his own business manufacturing boot heels, in all likelihood in his home. He ventured taking a load of heels to the Lynn boot factories and found he could sell them at a profit. So with Lynn factories an outlet for his heels, he came back to Spencer, bought out an existing heel factory from a Mr. Rice and went into production at a larger scale. About 1870, he and his son Alton built a new factory on Wall Street. This particular building burned down but was replaced, and the business grew to employ over fifty women at 15 Wall Street (1894). As was the case with many of the manufacturers of Spencer, William Barr was active in town government, serving as selectman for six years.

Just as there were sawmills in the Colonial and Federal Periods that were necessary to build the homes and barns of the early residents of Spencer, woodworking mills were required to create the more elaborate architectural features of mid-19th century homes and barns. Two Spencer men addressed that need in the lower village. Edward E. Stone (E.E. and Eliza Stone House, 31 High Street, ca. 1880) and George Mullet (Mullet House, 83 Main Street, ca. 1860, MHC 128), started a planing mill (now gone) that also manufactured window sash and blinds near the newly impounded pond on the south side of Main Street around 1860. Mullet, a contractor and builder, had come to Spencer ca. 1845 and took part in the construction of several textile mills, the Congregational and Methodist Churches. Stone had come to town as a wheelwright to construct a water wheel for the Upham textile mill ca. 1860. The two were in partnership for a few years before a fire destroyed the mill around 1864 and their partnership split up. The flushboarded Mullet house, a high style Italianate building, may be an example of their craft and is one of the most elegant houses in the district. After the fire, George Mullet re-built the company on the same site in partnership with a Mr. Barnes while Edward E. Stone turned to selling lumber throughout Worcester County. He was to play a significant role in the town's development in the following period.

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While his father Colonel Alonzo Temple was active in building and real estate during this period, Joseph Warren Temple, (Livermore Inn-Alonzo & Adeline Temple House, 1 High Street, ca. 1850, MHC 194), combined commerce and industry in his long career in Spencer. He is representative of the men who moved relatively freely among commerce, industry, and civic duty and in the process contributed to the history and appearance of Spencer Center. Temple began clerking in a store in town when he was twelve, then at 24 in 1850 began his own store in Leicester with his brother William. William died and Joseph returned to Spencer to open a new general store in 1859. He ran the store until about 1864 when he began the boot business by buying an existing company. As it grew he merged it with a second boot manufactory that he successfully continued until 1883. Temple was among the more civic-minded town residents. For 35 years beginning in 1849 he was a volunteer firefighter, and he was a strong proponent for bringing the railroad branch of the Boston and Albany to South Spencer. He took part in Massachusetts's Village Improvement Movement of the second half of the 19th century, urging and directing architectural and landscape work to improve the town's appearance. Meanwhile he was an assessor and town clerk and wrote a history of Spencer and one of Worcester County.

Beginning in 1851 when he was named Spencer's postmaster, one man's name appears time and time again in the town's history and that is Luther Hill (Luther and Louisa Hill House, 29 High Street, ca. 1860 and Luther Hill Park, Park Street, 1888, MHC 916, NR pending 2003). From the 1870s to the 1890s trial judge Luther Hill was a progressive leader to whom enormous authority was given to manage the town's finances and to develop its public utilities. He was also one of the rare characters who stands out from his contemporaries for the sheer boldness of his plans and his sense of adventure.

Architecture

Building in the district boundary increase section of the lower village could have populated it with Greek Revival style cottages, but there are few buildings extant from the 1830-1856 period and those are primarily Gothic Revival in style. A small number that appeared between 1856 and 1870 were built in the Italianate style. In 1867 a new brick, Italianate style school, the Main Street School, 45 Main Street, was constructed at a cost of \$22,000. It replaced one on the west corner of Sampson Street that was torn down in 1940s.

Late Industrial Period (1870-1915)

Town History and Development

Between 1870 and 1884 the area of the boundary increase developed further with new streets and extensions. Part of the development came about because from the 1870s on it was common for landowners to lay out streets on their agricultural land for residential development that they or others then built upon. Joseph Pope, grandson and namesake of Spencer's second Congregational Church minister, is a good example of this pattern. He laid out on his land Grove Street, Pope, Starr, and Jones Streets and built his own and one or more other houses on Grove Street.

Mixing residential and industrial uses in any one neighborhood was considered normal during the 19th century, so Pope was also operating a quarry in his development at the corner of Grove and Starr Streets. By 1880 the quarry had produced granite for 15 building foundations and uncounted retaining walls. Its presence explains the continued use of

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granite for foundations in Spencer and noticeable on Grove Street, when brick had long replaced stone for foundations elsewhere.

Transportation improvements brought about other development. Major changes were made south of Main Street to accommodate a railroad spur constructed in 1878 from South Spencer to the lower village. The rail tracks came up from the south to turn eastward and cross Elm Street and end at Mechanic Street where the depot, freight house and freight yard were constructed. To situate them in this convenient part of town, Capen's Pond was reduced to a quarter of its 1870 size, and the land filled in. Culverts diverted water from Cider Mill Brook so that two new streets could be put in to reach the depot from Main Street: Wall Street was laid out south from Main Street and Cherry Street was extended across Mechanic to meet up with Wall Street. Wall, Mechanic, and Cherry Streets were quickly built up with businesses while the western end of Main, Grove, Pleasant, and High Streets were well developed with residences by 1884.

One of the first businesses to appear on Wall Street was the B. C. Dustin and Son Bakery, 5 Wall Street that went up as a small building in 1879 and was expanded to its present size in 1887. The bakery advertised that it sold bread and cakes, plain and fancy, and that five people were always employed. The bakery provides an unexpected glimpse of how Spencer had grown by the 1880s. Census records list tenement after tenement of immigrant families from this time, and the Dustins in 1887 offered on Christmas morning a bakery treat for the town's children. 1,200 children showed up at their door for the first Christmas treat, and in 1888 the bakers expected 2,000.

Construction of the branch railroad to the lower village was promoted by several of the district boundary increase's prominent citizens. Joseph Warren Temple (Alonzo & Adeline Temple House, 1 High Street, ca. 1850, MHC 194) was instrumental in advocating for the branch. Luther Hill (Luther and Louisa Hill House, 29 High Street, ca. 1855) managed its financing and construction on behalf of the town. The branch shuttled passengers and freight from the lower village to the Boston and Albany Railroad in South Spencer thereby opening both upper and lower villages of Spencer Center to the economic advantages of the railroad. Befitting its importance to the Center, the depot was described in contemporary newspaper reports as particularly fine, down to its ladies waiting room thoughtfully furnished by the station agent with a mirror and center table.

Two commercial blocks built side by side epitomize the optimism and entrepreneurial spirit generated by the railroad. In 1878 Richard M. Kane, a Spencer merchant, built the Kane Block 37-39 Mechanic Street as a small general store. Next door Henry R. Green built the Green Block, 31 Mechanic Street (1882) (Photograph No. 7) as a combination commercial block and boot and shoe shop. Kane enlarged his building in 1884 to within inches of the Green Block and tried to echo its architectural details. The two buildings brought a great deal of commercial activity to the area, so Green divided the upper floors of his building into studios and apartments rather than using them for a shoe shop. Among the first stores to go into the block was the Collette and Heureux clothing store in 1885. This store had a long history in the building and in 1890 building on their identity from an earlier location they painted the first story blue – hence their popular name, The Blue Store Clothing Company. In 1887 the building held six tenements or apartments mixed in with two photographic studios – one a prominent photographer Louis Hevey, and two music studios on the upper floors, the Collette and Heureux clothing store, and a millinery store on the first floor. The Kane Block housed a barber, a hat company, Kane's men's clothing store, and on the second floor a meeting hall occupied by one of the social organizations he belonged to, the Foresters. Kane advertised that he sold hats, caps, boots, shoes and rubbers, shirts, ties, collars, and cuffs in stylish patterns.

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On Wall Street by 1875 George Tucker and Aaron Woodbury had a livery business that they ran from a large stable at the site of 24 Wall Street. They handled shipping freight and passengers from the Center to the railroad in South Spencer before the branch was constructed and continued to operate stages to Leicester and Worcester after the railroad arrived, along with delivering children to school. Henry P. Howland constructed a flour, grain, and hay business on the west side of

the street on the site of 24 Wall Street, and there were two grocery stores, one at the site of 30 Wall Street, ca. 1887. On the east side of the street, were the B. C. Dustin & Sons Bakery, 5 Wall Street, ca. 1884, the William A. Barr and Son heel manufactory on the site of 15 Wall Street, the Dustin & Clark machine shop (now gone), a cobbler (now gone), and the E. E. Stone planing mill and lumber company (now gone). About 1885, Stone bought back the Barnes and Mullet planing and lumber mill that he had earlier founded with Mullet. He expanded it to make sashes and cabinets and did interior carpentry. He advertised that the company made its own designs and would also work to order. Stone owned his own timber land where he employed 40 men who produced 2,500,000 feet of lumber a year. Then in 1892 he started making wooden boxes for shoes and boots on Wall Street and this portion of the business escalated until there was little pine left in town. The business employed up to 35 men and lasted into the 1920s.

The connection within the boundary increase area between the commercial-industrial area south of Main Street and the residential area of High and Pleasant Streets persisted. Business owners who lived on High and Pleasant Streets were: Henry P. Howland at 34 Pleasant Street (ca. 1875); (Photograph No. 3) William Barr at 72 Pleasant Street (1850s); Richard Sugden at 7 High Street (ca. 1885) (Photograph No. 8) and E. E. Stone at 16 High Street (ca. 1875).

Meanwhile two railroad sidings were added from the freight depot: one for Sugden's wire Company and other for E. E. Stone's lumberyard on inside corner of Wall Street, considerably enhancing the business of both.

On Mechanic Street between 1870 and 1884 what had been primarily a residential street changed its use to a commercial area with the railroad at one end and Main Street businesses at the other. On the west side of the street, Dr. Wheeler, town physician, lived and had his offices in a building at the site of 10 Mechanic Street (now the U. S. Post Office). A small saloon was built next door to the Cutting House (both now gone) and Mary J. Powers built a commercial block at 22 Mechanic Street (ca. 1870). Mrs. Mary Morse's House, 24 Mechanic Street (ca. 1860) was converted from the house where she and her four children lived, to a dining hall, millinery shop, and apartment owned by E. Marchesault in 1884. Marchesault had a candy, fruit and cigar store in the building in 1886. He kept a smoking room at the rear and sold everything from figs to sardines and coconuts. On the southwest corner, site of 28-30 Mechanic Street, T. J. Comins who lived at 75 Main Street in the Livermore-Comins House (ca. 1850) built a store across from the depot. The store was lost in the first of a string of fires that was to plague the area, burning down in 1881. On the east side of the street, a new building went up as the Morton Nichols store at 19 Mechanic Street (ca. 1880) and the Ashbury Nichols Store (Photograph No. 7) appears to have replaced the Boyce House at 17 Mechanic Street (ca. 1880). Ashbury Nichols lived at 18 High Street (ca. 1880). Orlando Weatherbee built his home and drug store at 23-25 Mechanic Street, in 1873. Weatherbee seems to have straddled the line between pharmaceuticals and home remedies. In addition to filling prescriptions, he made Weatherbee's compound cathartic pills, Weatherbee's compound extract of sarsaparilla, and in an unlikely stretch of entrepreneurial imagination, Weatherbee's bird food.

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Once the railroad was in place, Luther Hill turned to a new civic improvement, a water system that he and his next-door neighbor on High Street, E. E. Stone, promoted and financed. Italian laborers were brought in to do the construction that began in 1882 on the west end of Main Street near Sampson Street in the boundary increase. Water pipes were manufactured on Mechanic Street and within a year water was flowing into a hydrant at the Depot on Wall Street. To demonstrate the accomplishment a hose was hooked up to the hydrant and a stream of water was sent over the top of the Green and Kane Blocks. Hill and another neighbor, Richard Sugden (Richard and Susan Sugden House, 7 High Street, 1875) (Photograph No. 8) erected water fountains in front of their houses on High Street to show off the new system. The Henry P. Howland House at 28 Pleasant Street, (ca. 1880) (Photograph No. 3) still has a fountain in its front yard.

The distinction between public good and private aggrandizement was not firmly drawn at the end of the 19th century and Hill took part in the two realms with little criticism. To celebrate the success of the water system, for instance, he held a town-wide party for 1200 people. Seven hundred and seventy-eight of the families then signed on for town water for their homes and businesses, and Hill became president of the Spencer Water Company. Following up on its water system success, in 1883 the town began installing a sewer system.

Spurred on by an 1881 fire on Mechanic Street and its new water system that was ready for action in 1883, Spencer began work on the Cherry Street firehouse, Cherry Street, in 1884. From Orlando Weatherbee's estate, the town bought a part of his house lot at 23-25 Mechanic Street, and C. M. Tripp who lived at 35 High Street (ca. 1884) was hired to construct the building at a cost of \$7,940. At its completion in 1884 it was two stories high with 70' high hose tower. The John O'Gara Hose Company, named for selectman O'Gara, was formed and the town bought a \$400 hose truck for the station. It was here on Cherry Street in 1888 that the fire department's first safety net was demonstrated. The optimistic and trusting firemen George Ramer and Thomas Donahue jumped from the second story of the station into the net held by their fellow firemen - without harm.

After establishing the Center railroad, town water and sewer systems, Luther Hill in 1885 turned to organizing the Spencer Gas Company. This time another of Hill's neighbors Richard Sugden (Sugden House, 7 High Street, ca. 1875 & 1903) financed the enterprise. The project was fraught with problems – namely, fire and explosions. In 1887 the first of the gas works buildings exploded and the John O'Gara Hose Company bravely put it out before other explosions could occur. Undaunted, Hill had the works rebuilt within a few months. That didn't put an end to the fires though. Eventually there were so many fires at the gas house that the railroad dug special channels under their tracks for fire hoses to cross without shutting down the rail line. Meanwhile, Judge Hill went full tilt promoting the use of gas. He held parties at his Hill House at 29 High Street (ca. 1860) to demonstrate cooking with gas, but he also showed off a gas furnace, gas logs in his fireplace and gas space heaters that guests were encouraged to covet.

Despite the demonstrable uses for gas, Hill and his supporters must have reconsidered its future, because in 1887 he announced that he would light the town's streets with electricity. Once again he turned to a dramatic demonstration to sell the new utility. He worked with his neighbor E. E. Stone (E. E. and Eliza Stone House, 16 High Street, ca. 1870) and at the site of 39 Wall Street, Stone's woodworking shop, they installed a gas engine that generated electricity for all the streets in the immediate area. Electricity was a resounding success and E. E. Stone and his son Ralph in 1908 installed a 250-watt dynamo and generated power for businesses on Main, Wall, and Mechanic Streets until 1911. Fortier Electric

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Company who had their business in the Mrs. Mary Morse House, 24 Mechanic Street (ca. 1860) did much of the new wiring for town in 1915. They were in the Marsh House until 1950s. Meanwhile, the gas company had folded in 1899.

Ironically, in 1893, nine years after the fire station was built, a disastrous fire burned down the railroad depot, freight house, and all but one business on Wall Street. The principal hydrant serving the area at the corner of Mechanic and Wall Streets, the one that had first been used to demonstrate the fire-fighting capabilities of a public water system, had been temporarily shut down for repairs. Only the Dustin Bakery at 5 Wall Street (ca. 1884) is noted in contemporary reports as having been spared due to its masonry construction. Thanks to the work of the O'Gara Hose Company, the fire was held to Wall Street, and Mechanic Street's buildings were saved.

Reconstruction was fairly prompt on Wall Street. A new freight house (now gone) and passenger depot (62 Wall Street, 1894) were built, this time in brick. The Heffernan printing company that had been in the Wall Street Grocery Store at the site of 28 Wall Street constructed a new brick building, the Heffernan Block, 18 Mechanic Street (1894). The William Barr Shoe Peg Factory built the brick industrial heel factory at 15 Wall Street (1894), and H. P. Howland Flour and Grain Company rebuilt their business at a new brick building, 24-28 Wall Street (1894). Tucker and Woodbury did not reconstruct their business on Wall Street, but within two years in its place was the Hotel Waldo (now gone). Woodbury moved his share of the business to his home at William and Eleanor Watson House, 19 Pleasant Street (ca. 1855) and operated it until 1911. Nor did E. E. Stone and Company Planing Mills reconstruct their lumber yards entirely, but they did rebuild a woodworking shop (now gone) site of 39 Wall Street. In 1913 the company made more than 60,000 boxes for New York apple growers to ship to Europe, and continued to do so until the late 1920s.

The corner of Cherry and Mechanic Streets was known in the late 1880s and 1890s as Depot Square primarily because it was one of the lower village's public activity centers. With passengers and freight activity around the depots, people coming to the Green and Kane Blocks for business, or to stay at the Waldo hotel on Wall Street, peddlers and street performers were drawn to ply their trades and to entertain. In 1884 a roller skating rink was built on the west side of Wall Street (now gone), but it was converted to a bowling alley when townspeople worried that skating was promoting promiscuous behavior. A somewhat more highbrow form of entertainment was provided by Orlando Weatherbee on the lawn beside his drug store (23-25 Mechanic Street, ca. 1860). Here Weatherbee held band concerts that drew up to 1500 people to hear performers such as the Spencer Cornet Band.

The entertainment spread north from the Square and Mechanic Street was the next to respond. It became something of a theatrical neighborhood when selectman Richard Kane (Kane's Block, 39-37 Mechanic Street ca. 188) put in the first movie theater, the Park Theater on Mechanic Street (now gone). Seeing the popularity of the movies, in 1915 William Bosse converted his Mechanic Street ice cream and candy store (Morton Nichols Store, 19 Mechanic Street, ca. 1880) into a 13-seat movie theater with a false front befitting a movie palace. It was renamed the Royal Theatre in 1917. In 1905 Edward Desplain took over the second floor of the H. P. Howland Grain Store and set up a second bowling alley. He had three alleys and two pool tables and was in business until 1912 as the White Bowling Alleys.

All the activity at this part of town was enhanced from 1890 when a section of Mechanic Street was given the area's the first macadam surface. By the summer of 1890 Pleasant, Mechanic, Wall, and Chestnut Streets were at least in portions

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macadamized. Main Street followed in 1892 and then the surface was laid in front of the schools on Grove, Pleasant, Main and Maple Streets. Photographs show that the streets were attractively laid with cobblestone gutters. In 1913 Pleasant Street to Lincoln Street was covered in Tarvia to bind the surface, but as late as 1925 an unpaved lane was maintained on its west side for horses. With the new pavement in place, transportation was further improved in 1896 when the Warren, Brookfield & Spencer Street Railroad began travelling on Main Street. It continued until 1918.

We have noted above the strong connection between the businesses found on Wall and Mechanic Streets and the residential area of Pleasant and High Streets. Proximity to the business and services of the Center was a compelling reason to settle on Pleasant and High Streets but its elevation, open space and scenic views drew others. One of Spencer's most successful entrepreneurs was Noah Sagendorph who between 1857 and 1864 re-built an empty satinet factory at Mill and Valley Streets with a partner William Upham, and manufactured fine woolen goods by steam power. In the census of 1870 Sagendorph is listed as having come to Spencer from New York - perhaps with a relative Rebecca who is listed as a domestic servant. He was boarding with John and Cora Cutter and listed himself as a woolen mill worker rather than an owner in 1870. The textile business prospered and Sagendorph built a house on the crest of High Street at 26 High Street (ca. 1884, MHC 196) (Photograph No. 6) from which he became a progressive gentleman farmer with extensive property on Pleasant Street, the district's boundary increase. A real estate investor, by 1884 he was also to own the house at 41 High Street (ca. 1870). Another High Street resident who built to take advantage of the beauty of the hillside was Richard Sugden (Richard and Ann Sugden House, 7 High Street, 1875) (Photograph No. 8). Sugden, an English immigrant, and his partner Nathaniel Myrick established a wire manufacturing business in 1850. Myrick sold out but Sugden continued until he had control of Spencer's wire industry, along the way starting a brick works in East Brookfield, acting as the sole financial backer of the Spencer Water Works, a stockholder in the gas company, and a director and stockholder in the Spencer National Bank.

Several of these High Street residents seem to have shared a sense of *noblesse oblige* that crystallized in 1888. In that year Richard Sugden gave the library on Pleasant Street, Luther Hill donated the Luther Hill Park, and E. E. Stone donated a fence to Myrick Park. Town-generated improvements also were made. When Grove Street and its surrounding development attracted new homes with young families, the town built the Grove Street School, 23 Grove Street, in 1876 to educate the area's children. It began as a single story building, constructed of Spencer-manufactured brick by a local builder Frank S. Moses for \$44,500. In 1883 a second story was added and in two years it was provided with running water from Shaw Pond. It was one of the town's first schools to have a lunchroom in 1913 where children were improbably allowed to cook their own lunches on gas stoves in the basement. The town's first Parent-Teachers Association was formed at the Pleasant Street School, 54 Pleasant Street (1883) in 1913. The Grove Street School followed that same year and Main Street School's parents organized to support their children's school in 1914.

Less fortunate children were working in Spencer's factories. The town felt an obligation, and in fact were legally obliged to educate these young people, so in 1903 it began enforcing literacy laws for factory workers between the ages of 14 and 21. Evening school was set up in 1906 at the Main Street School, 45 Main Street (1867). The town closed the evening school in 1909-10, but when a group of 38 Greek immigrants protested and agreed to pay \$2 each semester for their classes, they were re-instituted. The literacy program had become an essential factor in immigrant life.

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Commerce and Industry

Depot Square continued to be a small business commercial center in the period, and the Green Block, 31 Mechanic Street (1882), and the Kane Block, 37-39 Mechanic Street (ca. 1878), were a locus of much of it. In 1915 Moses Lamoreaux bought the Green Block and installed his furniture store on the entire first floor. Nearby, a cobbler worked from 7 Cherry Street, built ca. 1900 in the Square and a new commercial block went up at 14 Mechanic Street, ca. 1900 in the place of an earlier building that had burned.

Two large businesses that were to have long existences in Spencer developed during the Late Industrial Period. The first was begun in 1875 when James Pickup (32 High Street, ca. 1850) bought the *Spencer Sun* newspaper. Between 1875 and his death in 1887, the English-born newsman set impeccable journalistic standards that were to be maintained by his successor William J. Heffernan into the 1960s. Pickup trained Heffernan who lived at the Mrs. Arthur M. Tower House, 46 Pleasant Street (ca. 1850) and the latter went on to establish a printing business in 1888 on Wall Street and to buy a second newspaper, the *Spencer Leader* in 1892. The 1893 fire on Wall Street destroyed *Leader's* offices and his printing business, but Heffernan took his paper to Boston to be printed and there was only a four-day lapse in its publication. Within the year he had built the Heffernan Building, 18 Mechanic Street (1894) where he operated his printing business and published the *Leader* weekly. Using his experience and perspective on town affairs, he took part in town government as town treasurer and moderator for 44 years. Heffernan continued to live in Spencer even after his business moved to Worcester in 1934.

Noah Sagendorph of the Noah Sagendorph House, 26 High Street (ca. 1884, MHC 196) (Photograph No. 6) as noted above became a gentleman farmer as well as a textile manufacturer and part owner of the Prouty Shoe Company. His farm was on Pleasant Street north of the district boundaries. In 1900 he linked his home and his farm when he had a well dug on the west side of High Street with a 60' windmill over it (now gone) to supply water for his farm. Sagendorph's son Arthur took over the farm in 1910. In 1902 he had married Martha Page and bought the Richard Sugden House, 7 High Street (ca. 1885) and completely remodelled and expanded it in 1903. From their newly altered home, the younger Sagendorphs kept a recreation club for their farm workers and had monthly dinners and dances for their 50 employees and their families. At the farm the Guernseys were replaced with Ayrshires and the farm was so well run that its milk was the first in town that could be "certified" for its low bacteria count.

Meanwhile, the Barr heel factory continued to operate at 15 Wall Street (1894) under the ownership of Alton H. Barr, William Barr's son, between 1883 and 1915. Then at the end of the period the business went into bankruptcy and the building was taken over by the Allen Squire Company that used it for cutting leather for athletic shoes.

The district boundary increase was home to another manufacturer who became very successful during the Late Industrial Period. J. W. Temple (Alonzo & Adeline Temple House, 1 High Street, ca. 1850, MHC 194) purchased an interest in the boot manufacturing firm of Bullard & Boyden, later Bullard & Temple, where he remained until 1883. Bullard & Temple Company was located on the east corner of Grove and Main Streets. Temple was then from 1883-84 a State Representative, and clerk of the mercantile committee. Back in Spencer in 1887 he was elected treasurer of the Spencer Savings Bank.

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Early in the period Patrick Condon invented the shoe-pegging machine and then sold his patent rights and moved to Grove Street. Condon was among Spencer's numerous mechanical prodigies, and it is not surprising that he and others like him were fascinated by the automobile. Known as the first person to own a car in Spencer, he demonstrated his roadster's capabilities by racing it at the fairgrounds. John Goodell Prouty who lived at the L. W. Prouty House, 25 High Street (ca. 1865) (Photograph No. 5) was also intrigued by automobiles and bought a new one each year from 1903 until about 1910. In 1905 he built a shelter for his car – the first garage in Spencer (now gone). The town's mail was being delivered by car as early as 1913 and delivery trucks were becoming commonplace.

Until about 1880 the residential section of Main Street was made up of single-family homes, but then a few multi-family houses began to appear across the street from the shoe factories. Their appearance corresponds with an improvement in the economic condition of many of the immigrants who had lived south of Main Street in workers's housing and had begun to move out of the tenements into less crowded housing. One of these multi-family houses is 63 Main Street (ca. 1885) a second is located at 69 Main Street (ca. 1900). Other single family houses were divided to accommodate more than one family, such as the Snow-Nolan House, 47 Main Street (ca. 1850) or the H. Rice House, 65 Main Street (1850-70). Never one to miss out, Luther and his wife Eliza Hill in 1881 capitalized on the demand for more and better housing and converted the barn that was attached to their house into a tenement in 1895. The connected building then had 31 rooms with tenants in eleven rooms and the Hill family in twenty rooms. One of the more striking examples of the improvements in economic condition of immigrants is that of Hugh and Mary Kelly who, as Hugh rose in the textile manufacturing process, built the house at 9 Main Street, ca. 1875. Andrew H. Sinnott, an Irish immigrant who lived at 27 Main Street (1850-60) came to own several stores on Main Street and rental property through the town. He also acted as Spencer's Overseer to the Poor in 1889.

Pleasant and High Streets were later to see multi-family housing owned by J. R. Prouty - probably Jenny Richardson Prouty, wife of Charles who owned the adjacent Prouty Shoe Company, or possibly Joel R. Prouty a wire manufacturer. The two triple-deckers at 14 and 16 Pleasant Street (ca. 1895) were clearly more apartments than tenements with families living and sleeping in single units, no shared bathrooms, dormitories or kitchens.

Houses continued to be moved into the district boundary increase area to make way for new construction. The Isaac Prouty House (ca. 1850), was moved to 29 Grove Street in 1887 and in 1888 the Jeremiah Grout House of ca. 1850 was moved to 48 Pleasant Street. Both houses have lost their original stylistic character through alterations.

Early Modern Period (1915-1940)

Town Development

Between 1915 and 1940 residential development on Pleasant, Main, Grove, and High Streets was limited to scattered infill. The slowing of development pace is attributable to the effects of both World War I and the subsequent Depression. At 10 Grove Street (ca. 1920) a house was constructed to replace a portion of a box factory that had burned. The bungalow at 20 High Street (ca. 1920) filled in a long-empty lot, as did the house at 53 Main Street (ca. 1940). One other house, a bungalow at 25 Pleasant Street, (ca. 1915) accounts for new house construction on that street. Mechanic

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Street got several new buildings. The first is the commercial block 11-13 Mechanic Street (ca. 1930) that houses both apartments and stores. The New England Telephone Building went up at 15 Mechanic Street (1929-30) (Photograph No. 7); a new U.S. Post Office was built at 10 Mechanic Street (1930). Around the block, the Bemis & Hobbs Oil Company Building, Wall Street (ca. 1920) was the last of a long line of buildings constructed on that site.

In 1926 Spencer's Town Hall burned down. Unharmed in its front lawn was the monument dedicated to the Howe family of Spencer who were important figures in industry with their invention of the sewing machine and the Howe truss bridge. The monument was a 1907 design by Paul Winter Morris of New York and in 1920 Frank McQuade of Spencer added letters in bronze so that passing motorists could read the monument. With destruction of town hall, there was a threat to its safety during rebuilding, so it was moved to the Main Street School, 45 Main Street (1867) in 1927.

The work of one woman, Martha Page Sagendorph, (7 High Street, 1875 and 1903) has been highlighted in local history during both World War I and the Depression. Sagendorph was the first graduate in 1901 of Hahnemann Hospital's school of nursing in Worcester and used her training during the war by, among other things, holding classes to teach women how to make bandages for the war effort. The Depression had a strong impact on Spencer's worker population, and Sagendorph led the town to make Christmas at town hall for families who were out of work.

It was through the schools of the boundary increase that some of the efforts were made to improve conditions for struggling workers. The Federal Emergency Relief Administration financed education for the town's younger children when the first public kindergarten was held in 1934 at the Main Street School, 45 Main Street (1867). The PTA in 1939 determined to improve children's nutrition at the Pleasant Street School, 54 Pleasant Street (1883) serving their first hot lunches.

Commerce and Industry

On 15 Wall Street the Barr Shoe Peg Factory building of 1894 became part of the Allen-Squire Shoe company and it was here that the company made parts for athletic, Boy Scout, and biking shoes from 1917. The company is notable because it was the first in town to introduce coffee breaks during the working day for its employees and the first to provide them with group insurance. The company faltered in the 1920s and 30s with a post-war decline in sales and the Depression, but rebounded in the 1940s when they were contracted to produce boots for soldiers during World War II.

The Heffernan printing business at 18 Mechanic Street (1894) was not as affected by the economy. Rather, the company in the 1920s was so occupied printing for colleges that they had to turn other work down. To increase production they took over the whole building for their process and then added two stories in the rear in 1925. William's son Neil took over as assistant editor in 1922 and ran the business in the building until the company moved to Worcester in 1934.

At 37 Main Street, ca. 1935 Plante's Auto Body Shop was constructed on the site of a former store.

Mechanic Street remained a sometime gathering place during the 1920s. In 1922 Victor Fortier set up a radio speaker horn inside his Mechanic Street building to broadcast the World Series to people who gathered on the street, and two

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years later he did the same thing for the Democratic Convention. In 1924 the White Bowling Alley reopened as the Regal Bowling Alley in the H. P. Howland Grain Company building, 26 Wall Street (1894). It remained in operation until 1950. In the 1930s, however, fewer people came to the area, as in 1933 all passenger trains were removed from Spencer Center's depot, 62 Wall Street (1894).

Recent History (1940-)

With the demise of shoe and textile manufacturing in Spencer, post-World War II development in the boundary increase area has been negligible. One of the events that made an impact on the district was closing of the railroad in 1951 and removal of tracks in 1973. A housing project was then erected in the former freight yard. One of the industries that persisted into the period was at the Barr Shoe Peg Factory, 15 Wall Street (1894). The Allen Squire Shoe Company went out of business in the 1950s, but in 1954 the building was bought by George Saad and Son, Inc. for reprocessing synthetic fabrics. It is now vacant.

Moses Lamoreaux's furniture business adapted to the times and during the 1940s he owned the Green, Kane, Heffernan, Colette and Kingsley blocks for his furniture and hardware businesses. It was the largest furniture business between Springfield and Worcester. During World War II Lamoreaux used the storefronts at 11-13 Mechanic Street to display photographs of all of Spencer's soldiers.

Roger Lecaire's lumber company operated in the 1950s on the site of Weatherbee House and storage building, 23-25 Mechanic Street (1873), before moving on. In 1959-60 the Post Office was greatly altered so that it was essentially a new facility and about 1990 the E. E. Stone Planing mill building was demolished and the Flex-Con Factory was constructed at 39 Wall Street. Small businesses have continued to occupy the buildings of Mechanic Street, in the depot at 62 Wall Street, and at the Kane Block 37-39 Mechanic Street, but the Green Block, 31 Mechanic Street, has been vacated and sealed.

The residential streets have seen scanty additional development. Since 1950 two houses were built on Prouty Street, three on Pleasant Street, and one on High Street. A fair number of the larger houses have been divided into multi-family apartments on all these streets, thereby keeping them economically viable.

Preservation work in Spencer has been spearheaded by the Spencer Historical Commission whose members have been active in documenting the town's resources. In addition to listing individual properties and districts on the National Register, the Commission has placed preservation restrictions on the Pleasant Street and Grove Street Schools in an effort to preserve these important buildings. Preservation concerns center around the future of these two school buildings and the Prouty High School (in the Spencer Center Historic District) that is soon to be vacated. None of the buildings has viable plans for reuse at the present and demolition by neglect or actual demolition are threats. The Green Block on Mechanic Street is a great concern. This building contributes to the history of the Center's development and to its

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architectural diversity. It is vacant and vulnerable to loss. Vinyl siding and vinyl replacement windows, while less prevalent than in many towns in the region, continue to appear and damage the historical appearance of buildings.

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of ancient Native American settlement in Spencer are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Ancient sites in this area may contribute significant information relating to interior upland sites and Native use of the Worcester Plateau/Central Massachusetts uplands in general. Native sites in this area may contain information that documents patterns of subsistence and settlement in the Central Massachusetts uplands and how these patterns compared or were influenced by regional patterns in the coastal lowlands to the east and Connecticut River Valley to the west. Ancient sites in the district locale may also contribute information that indicates the importance of river drainage boundaries in the development of social, cultural and economic systems of Native peoples who inhabited the area. The Spencer Center Historic District lies near the headwaters of the Chicopee River drainage that drains westerly to the Connecticut River and the Thames River that flows southerly to Long Island Sound. Both areas may have influenced the cultural evolution of Native people in the Spencer locale.

Historic archaeological resources described above have the potential to provide detailed information on the social, cultural, and economic characteristics that typified life in a 19th century neighborhood that grew and prospered as a direct result of its association with the town's most important industry – boot and shoe manufacturing. Archaeological survivals of residential structures in the boundary increase area may help reconstruct the districts initial growth initial growth in the 18th and early 19th centuries for which few examples exist in the town center. Similar remains from later 19th and early 20th century structures no longer extant may contribute important locational and architectural information on contributing members of the district that have been removed or demolished. Structural features associated with existing buildings may identify patterns of adaptative reuse as residences were altered to businesses and vice versa. Detailed analysis of the contents from occupational related features associated with extant buildings and archaeological sites may contribute important information relating to functional use of the structure and the lives of its inhabitants. Occupational related features may also help identify rental properties and locations where manufacturing activities took place. Technological and production related information may be present that identify the scope and importance of cottage industries related to boot and shoe manufacture in the district. Important information that identifies and details aspects of multi-family housing may also be available since actual homes where this form of residency occurred is not always known. Residents of the boundary increase area and district included a wide spectrum of the town's social structure. Analysis of occupational-related features can help detail these social differences and better understand the lives of the district's inhabitants. Structural remains from outbuildings can also help better understand the functional variation of this building type in the district in residential, commercial, and industrial contexts. Outbuildings may contribute to a better understanding of the growth of boot and shoe manufacture by identifying and describing the role of "ten footers" or small structures where these activities took place. This information may clarify the evolutionary relationship between manufacturing in residential homes, outbuildings or ten-footers, and actual factories.

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Bibliography

Maps and Atlases

Map of 1834
O. H. Bailey Bird's Eye View of 1892
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Photographs

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(end)

SpencerCenterHDIncrease
Name of Property

Worcester, MA
County, State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property 46.07 ac.

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

| | | | | | |
|-------|---------|----------|-------|---------|----------|
| 1. 18 | 747280 | 4680460 | 3. 19 | 252520 | 4681520 |
| Zone | Easting | Northing | Zone | Easting | Northing |
| 2. 18 | 747500 | 4680840 | 4. 19 | 252960 | 4681400 |
| Zone | Easting | Northing | Zone | Easting | Northing |

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Bonnie Parsons/Principal Planner/PVPC with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date May 2003

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

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02125

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

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

Photographs

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

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

Property Owner

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

name multiple owners

street & number telephone

city or town state zip code

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

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Geographical Data

UTM References (continued)

| | | | |
|----|----|--------|---------|
| 5. | 19 | 253100 | 4681360 |
| 6. | 19 | 253120 | 4681400 |
| 7. | 19 | 253000 | 4680880 |
| 8. | 19 | 252500 | 4681000 |

(Note that some UTM points lie in Section 18, others lie in Section 19, hence the discrepancy in easting numbers.)

Boundary Description

See enclosed Spencer assessor's maps for a visual confirmation of the boundary.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Spencer Center Historic District were increased to include a concentration of buildings constructed during Spencer Center's most active period of economic growth and community development that encompassed most of the Early and Late Industrial Periods from 1850 to the 1890s. The boundaries were drawn to include the residential development that occurred between those decades on the north side of Main Street including an early 19th century inn, to include the best examples of the styles that dominated the Center during those decades: the Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Italianate, Queen Anne and Victorian Eclectic. But the boundaries were also drawn to include a commercial and industrial area on the south side of Main Street. Boundaries were increased in this area to include where development began at a source of water power but then expanded with the advent of a railroad line in to Spencer Center. For clarity, the boundaries were drawn to follow the rear lot lines of the properties added to the district.

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PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographer: Bonnie Parsons

Date: 2002

Location of negatives: Spencer Historical Commission

1. Pardon Howland House, H.P. Howland House, George Tucker House, 28-38 Pleasant Street
2. George Mullet House, 83 Main Street
3. Pardon Howland House, H.P. Howland House, 24 Pleasant Street, James Capen House
4. M.N. Horr House, 55 Pleasant Street
5. L.W. Prouty House, 25 High Street
6. Noah Sagendorph House, 26 High Street
7. Mechanic Street business district
8. Richard and Susan Sugden House, 7 High Street
9. Spencer Center railroad depot, 62 Wall Street

(end)

SPENCER CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT 2003 BOUNDARY EXTENSION

| District Data Sheet | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---------|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------|------------------------|----------|---------------|
| Map # | MHC# | Historic Name | Address | Date | Style | Resource | Status NC/C/I |
| | | | Cherry Street | | | | |
| U-7-53 | SPN 284 | Cobbler's Shop | 7 Cherry Street | ca. 1900 | false front commercial | B | C |
| U-7-54 | SPN 285 | Cherry Street Fire House | Cherry Street | 1884 | Victorian Eclectic | B | C |
| | | | Grove Street | | | | |
| U-14-62 | SPN 286 | house | 10 Grove Street | ca. 1920. | Neo-colonial | B | C |
| U-14-7 | SPN 287 | Julia A. Fay House | 13 Grove Street | ca. 1875 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-14-61 | SPN 152 | E. P. Cutter House | 14 Grove Street | ca. 1870 | Greek Revival | B | C |
| U-14-61 | | garage | 14 Grove Street | ca. 1940 | utilitarian | B | C |
| U-14-8 | SPN 153 | D. Prouty House | 15 Grove Street | ca. 1875 | Italianate/Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-14-9 | SPN 288 | H. P. Draper House | 17 Grove Street | ca. 1875 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-14-60 | SPN 154 | Joseph Pope House | 18 Grove Street | ca. 1875 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-14-10 | SPN 289 | W. J. Livermore House | 19 Grove Street | ca. 1875 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-14-59 | SPN 290 | Cummings & Bass Hse. | 20 Grove Street | ca. 1880 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-14-59 | | carriage house | 20 Grove Street | ca. 1880 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-14-11 | SPN 291 | Mrs. A.F. Hamilton Hse. | 21 Grove Street | ca. 1875 | French Second Empire | B | NC |
| U-14-12 | SPN 264 | Grove Street School | 23 Grove Street | 1876&1883 | Victorian Eclectic | B | C |
| U-14-58 | SPN 155 | D. Bryant House | 24 Grove Street | ca. 1875 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-14-58 | SPN 156 | carriage house | 3 Jones Street | ca. 1875 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-14- | SPN 292 | L. N. Stearns House | 28 Grove Street | ca. 1875 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-14- | | carriage house | 5 Jones Street | ca. 1875 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-14-15 | SPN 293 | First Isaac Prouty House | 29 Grove Street | ca. 1850 | no style | B | C |
| | | | High Street | | | | |
| U-13-55 | SPN 194 | Livermore Inn-Temple House | 1 High Street | ca. 1800 & 70 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-13-56 | SPN 294 | Richard & Susan Sugden H. | 7 High Street | 1875 & 1903 | Tudor Revival | B | C |
| U-13-56 | SPN 295 | caretaker's house | 7 High Street | 1903 | Queen Anne/CR | B | C |
| U-13'98 | SPN 296 | commercial building | 8 High Street | ca. 1940 | Art Deco | B | C |

SPENCER CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT, 2003 BOUNDARY EXTENSION

| U-13-98 | SPN 297 | L. Bemis House | 10 High Street | ca. 1880 | Queen Anne | B | C |
|---------|---------|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|----------|---------------|
| U-13-57 | SPN 195 | J.N. Grout House | 11 High Street | ca. 1855 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-13-96 | SPN 298 | Mrs. H.S. Watson Hse. | 12 High Street | ca. 1880 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-13-96 | SPN 299 | house | 12 High Street, rear | ca. 1900 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-13-58 | SPN 300 | Mrs. S.C. Eldridge Hse. | 15 High Street | 1855-1870 | Italianate/Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-13-58 | | garage | 15 High Street | ca. 1950 | utilitarian | B | C |
| U-13-58 | | carriage barn | 15 High Street | ca. 1885 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-13-94 | SPN 301 | E.E. & Eliza Stone House | 16 High Street | ca. 1875 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-13-93 | SPN 302 | Ashbury Nichols House | 18 High Street | ca. 1880 | no style | B | C |
| U-13-59 | SPN 198 | George F. Grout House | 19 High Street | ca. 1865 | French 2nd Emp. | B | C |
| U-13-59 | | carriage barn | 19 High Street | ca. 1860 | utilitarian | B | C |
| Map # | MHC# | Historic Name | Address | Date | Style | Resource | Status NC/C/I |
| U-13-92 | SPN 303 | house | 20 High Street | ca. 1920 | bungalow | B | C |
| U-13-60 | SPN 304 | Dennis Ward House | 23 High Street | ca. 1850 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-13-80 | SPN 197 | house | 24 High Street | ca. 1892 | Queen Anne/CR | B | C |
| U-13-62 | SPN 305 | L. W. Prouty House | 25 High Street | ca. 1865 | French 2nd Emp. | B | C |
| U-13-79 | SPN 198 | Noah Sagendorph Hse. | 26 High Street | ca. 1880 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-13-64 | SPN 306 | C.P. Prouty House | 27 High Street | ca. 1884 | Colonial Revival | B | C |
| U-13-64 | | garage | 27 High Street | ca. 1920 | utilitarian | B | C |
| U-13-78 | SPN 307 | house | 28 High Street | ca. 1945 | cape | B | C |
| U-13-65 | SPN 308 | Luther & Louisa Hill House | 29 High Street | ca. 1870 | no style | B | C |
| U-13-77 | SPN 199 | House | 30 High Street | ca. 1886 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-13- | SPN 309 | Wilson-Stone House | 31 High Street | ca. 1870 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-13-76 | SPN 310 | Jas. Pickup House | 32 High Street | ca. 1875 | Gothic Revival | B | C |
| U-13-76 | | garage | 32 High Street | ca. 1930 | utilitarian | B | C |
| U-13-75 | SPN 311 | W. C. Lyford House | 34 High Street | ca. 1875 | Gothic Revival | B | C |
| U-13-75 | SPN 312 | C. Tripp House | 35 High Street | ca. 1884 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-13-74 | SPN 313 | A. L. Bellows House | 36 High Street | ca. 1880 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-13-73 | SPN 314 | house | 40 High Street | ca. 1890 | no style | B | C |
| U-13-73 | SPN 315 | house | 40 1/2 High Street | ca. 1890 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-13-68 | SPN 316 | Noah Sagendorph Hse. | 41 High Street | ca. 1870 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-13-68 | | garage | 41 High Street | ca. 1950 | utilitarian | B | NC |
| U-13-69 | SPN 317 | house | 43 High Street | ca. 1950 | cape | B | NC |
| U-13-70 | SPN 318 | house | 45 High Street | ca. 1900 | no style | B | C |
| U-13-71 | SPN 319 | house | 47 High Street | ca. 1885 | Italianate | B | C |

SPENVER CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT, 2003 BOUNDARY EXTENSION

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| U-13-72 | SPN 320 | house | 49 High Street | ca. 1900 | no style | B | C |
| U-22-1 | SPN 321 | house | 51 High Street | ca. 1885 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| | | | Lincoln Street | | | | |
| U-20-28 | SPN 322 | house | 2 Lincoln Street | ca. 1870 | Italianate | B | C |
| | | | Main Street | | | | |
| U-2-39 | SPN 323 | Hugh and Mary Kelly House | 9 Main Street | ca. 1875 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-12-40 | SPN 123 | Mrs. C. Kane House | 15 Main Street | ca. 1860 | High Victorian Gothic | B | C |
| U-12-41 | SPN 324 | Mrs. E. Forest House | 17 Main Street | ca. 1880 | Colonial Revival | B | C |
| U-12-41 | | garage | 17 Main Street | ca. 1930 | utilitarian | B | C |
| U-12-31 | SPN 325 | Mrs. M. Karey | 25 Main Street | ca. 1880 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-12-31 | | garage | 25 Main Street | ca. 1970 | utilitarian | B | NC |
| U-12-32 | SPN 326 | A. H. Sinnott House | 27 Main Street | 1850-60 | Greek Revival | B | C |
| U-12-32 | | garage | 27 Main Street | 1930-60 | utilitarian | B | C |
| U-12-33 | SPN 124 | Grout-Carney House | 29 Main Street | ca. 1870 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-12-33 | | carriage barn | 29 Main Street | ca. 1870 | utilitarian | B | C |
| U-12-18 | SPN 327 | E. McCormick House | 35 Main Street | ca. 1870-80 | no style | B | C |
| U-12-19 | SPN 328 | Plante's Auto Body | 37 Main Street | ca. 1935 | utilitarian | B | C |
| U-12-20 | SPN 125 | Moreland-Prouty House | 41 Main Street | ca. 1850 | Greek Revival | B | C |
| Map # | MHC# | Historic Name | Address | Date | Style | Resource | Status NC/C/I |
| U-13-1 | SPN 329 | Main Street School | 45 Main Street | 1867 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-13-1 | SPN 916 | Howe Monument | 45 Main Street | 1907 | N/A | O | C |
| U-13-2 | SPN 330 | Snow-Nolan House | 47 Main Street | ca. 1850 | altered Italianate | B | NC |
| U-13-4 | SPN 331 | house | 53 Main Street | ca. 1940? | cape | B | NC |
| U-13-4 | | shed | 53 Main Street | ca. 1990 | utilitarian | B | NC |
| U-13-48 | SPN 332 | house | 59 Main Street | ca. 1910 | no style | B | NC/Intrusion |
| U-13-49 | SPN 333 | house | 63 Main Street | ca. 1885 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-13-40 | SPN 334 | H. Rice House | 65 Main Street | 1850-70 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-13-51 | SPN 335 | house | 69 Main Street | ca. 1900 | no style | B | NC |
| U-13-52 | SPN 126 | Capen-Howland House | 71 Main Street | ca. 1830 | Greek Revival | B | C |
| U-13-52 | | garage | 71 Main Street | ca. 1940? | utilitarian | B | C |
| U-13-53 | SPN 127 | Livermore-Comins House | 75 Main Street | ca. 1850 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-13-54 | SPN 128 | George Mullett House | 83 Main Street | ca. 1850 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-13-55 | SPN 336 | house | 85 Main Street | ca. 1900 | no style | B | C |

SPENCER CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT, 2003 BOUNDARY EXTENSION

| Map # | MHC# | Historic Name | Address | Date | Style | Resource | Status NC/C/I |
|------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------|----------|---------------|
| Mechanic Street | | | | | | | |
| U-7-38 | SPN 337 | U. S. Post Office | 10 Mechanic Street | 1930&59 | no style | B | NC |
| U-7-48 | SPN 338 | commercial block | 11-13 Mechanic Street | ca. 1930 | Neo-colonial | B | C |
| U-7-37 | SPN 339 | commercial block | 14 Mechanic Street | ca. 1900 | Colonial Revival | B | NC |
| U-7-49 | SPN 340 | New England Telephone | 15 Mechanic Street | 1929-30 | Moderne | B | C |
| U-7-50 | SPN 341 | Ashbury Nichols Store | 17 Mechanic Street | ca. 1880 | no style | B | C |
| U-7-36 | SPN 342 | Heffernan Building | 18 Mechanic Street | 1894 | Victorian Eclectic | B | C |
| U-7-51 | SPN 343 | Morton Nichols Store | 19 Mechanic Street | ca. 1880 | Queen Anne | B | NC |
| U-7- | SPN 344 | M. J. Powers Block | 22 Mechanic Street | ca. 1870 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-7-34 | SPN 345 | Mrs. Morse House | 24 Mechanic Street | ca. 1860 | French 2nd Empire | B | C |
| U-7-52 | SPN 346 | Weatherbee Drug Store | 23-25 Mechanic Street | 1873 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-7-52 | | blacksmith-storage building | 23-25 Mechanic Street | ca. 1873 | utilitarian | B | C |
| U-7- | SPN 347 | Store | 28-30 Mechanic Street | post 1881 | no style | B | C |
| U-7-204 | SPN 348 | Green Block | 31 Mechanic Street | 1882 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-7-206 | SPN 349 | Kane Block | 37-39 Mechanic Street | 1878 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| Pleasant Street | | | | | | | |
| U-13-102 | SPN 350 | Samuel Adams House | 13 Pleasant Street | ca. 1884 | no style | B | C |
| U-13-117 | SPN 351 | multifamily house | 14 Pleasant Street | ca. 1895 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-13-116 | SPN 352 | multifamily house | 16 Pleasant Street | ca. 1895 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-13-115 | SPN 353 | house | 18 Pleasant Street | ca. 1895 | Queen Anne/Tudor | B | C |
| U-13-104 | SPN 354 | W.C. Watson House | 19 Pleasant Street | ca. 1855 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-13-114 | SPN 202 | house | 20 Pleasant Street | ca. 1885 | no style | B | NC |
| U-13-113 | SPN 355 | James M. Capen House | 22 Pleasant Street | ca. 1880 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-13-105 | SPN 356 | James M. Capen House | 23 Pleasant Street | ca. 1860 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-13-112 | SPN 357 | house | 24 Pleasant Street | ca. 1885 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-13-112 | | garage | 24 Pleasant Street | ca. 1970 | utilitarian | B | NC |
| U-13-106 | SPN 358 | house | 25 Pleasant Street | ca. 1915 | bungalow | B | C |
| Map # | MHC# | Historic Name | Address | Date | Style | Resource | Status NC/C/I |
| U-13-111 | SPN 204 | Pardon Howland House | 28 Pleasant Street | 1855 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-13-107 | SPN 359 | house | 29 Pleasant Street | ca. 1960 | cape | B | NC |
| U-13-81 | SPN 360 | E.H. Howland House | 31 Pleasant Street | ca. 1865 | French 2nd Empire | B | NC |
| U-13-110 | SPN 205 | H.P. Howland House | 34 Pleasant Street | ca. 1875 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-13-110 | | carriage barn | 34 Pleasant Street | ca. 1850 | utilitarian | B | C |

SPENVCER CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT, 2003 BOUNDARY EXTENSION

| | | | | | | | |
|----------|---------|----------------------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|---|----|
| U-13-110 | SPN 917 | fountain | 34 Pleasant Street | ca. 1884 | N/A | O | C |
| U-13-82 | SPN 206 | house | 35 Pleasant Street | ca. 1885 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-13-109 | SPN 361 | George Tucker House | 38 Pleasant Street | ca. 1845 | Greek Revival | B | C |
| U-13-109 | | shed | 38 Pleasant Street | ca. 1950 | utilitarian | B | C |
| U-13-83 | SPN 362 | Thomas Clark House | 39 Pleasant Street | ca. 1875 | High Victorian Gothic | B | C |
| U-13-83 | | carriage barn | 39 Pleasant Street | ca. 1875 | utilitarian | B | C |
| U-13-108 | SPN 363 | E. Adams House | 40 Pleasant Street | ca. 1830 | Greek Revival | B | C |
| U-13-84 | SPN 364 | house | 41 Pleasant Street | ca. 1890 | Colonial Revival | B | C |
| U-13-85 | SPN 365 | house | 43 Pleasant Street | ca. 1890 | no style | B | C |
| U-20-29 | SPN 366 | Mrs. Arthur M. Tower House | 46 Pleasant Street | ca. 1850 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-13-86 | SPN 207 | C.T. Thayer House | 47 Pleasant Street | ca. 1890 | High Victorian Gothic | B | C |
| U-20-60 | SPN 367 | T.S. Wright House | 48 Pleasant Street | ca. 1850&88 | no style | B | C |
| U-13-87 | SPN 368 | R. Biscoe House | 49 Pleasant Street | ca. 1880 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-20-59 | SPN 369 | H. Belcher House | 50 Pleasant Street | ca. 1875 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-13-88 | SPN 370 | R. Biscoe House | 51 Pleasant Street | ca. 1880 | High Victorian Gothic | B | C |
| U-20-58 | SPN 371 | house | 52 Pleasant Street | ca. 1890 | no style | B | NC |
| U-20-57 | SPN 263 | Pleasant Street School | 54 Pleasant Street | 1883 | Victorian Eclectic | B | C |
| U-13-89 | SPN 372 | M.N. Horr House | 55 Pleasant Street | ca. 1875 | Italianate | B | C |
| U-13-89 | | carriage barn | 55 Pleasant Street | ca. 1885 | High Victorian Gothic | B | C |
| U-20-36 | SPN 373 | Mrs. E. Wilson House | 60 Pleasant Street | 1880s | Italianate | B | C |
| U-20-55 | SPN 374 | house | 62 Pleasant Street | 1950s | cape | B | NC |
| U-20-54 | SPN 375 | house | 64 Pleasant Street | 1950s | cape | B | NC |
| U-20-53 | SPN 376 | house | 70 Pleasant Street | ca. 1885 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-20-53 | | carriage barn | 70 Pleasant Street | ca. 1885 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-20-52 | SPN 377 | Wm. A. Barr House | 72 Pleasant Street | 1850s | Greek Revival | B | C |
| U-20-52 | | carriage barn | 72 Pleasant Street | ca. 1850 | utilitarian | B | C |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | Prouty Street | | | | |
| U-13-90 | SPN 378 | E. Beeman House | 1 Prouty Street | ca. 1880 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-13-90 | | garage | 1 Prouty Street | ca. 1940 | utilitarian | B | C |
| U-13-91 | | house | 3 Prouty Street | ca. 1960 | ranch | B | NC |
| U-13-80 | | house | 4A-4B Prouty Street | ca. 1985 | raised ranch | B | NC |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | Wall Street | | | | |
| U-7-29 | SPN 379 | B.C. Dustin & Sons Bakery | 5 Wall Street | 1879 | no style | B | C |

SPENCER CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT, 2003 BOUNDARY EXTENSION

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| U-7-30 | SPN 380 | Wm. Barr Shoe Peg Factory | 15 Wall Street | 1894 | utilitarian | B | C |
| U-7-27 | SPN 381 | Bemis & Hobbs Oil Company | 24 Wall Street | ca. 1920 | utilitarian | B | C |
| | SPN 382 | H. P. Howland Flour Co. | 26 Wall Street | 1894 | utilitarian | B | C |
| Map # | MHC# | Historic Name | Address | Date | Style | Resource | Status NC/C/I |
| | SPN 383 | Wall Street Grocery Store | 28 Wall Street | ca. 1887 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| U-7-32 | | Flex-Con Factory | 39 Wall Street | ca. 1990 | utilitarian | B | NC |
| U-7-25 | SPN 384 | Spencer Center Depot | 62 Wall Street | 1894 | Queen Anne | B | C |
| | | Contributing | Non-Contributing | | | | |
| | | <i>Bldgs.</i> | 131 | 22 | | | |
| | | <i>Objects</i> | 2 | 0 | | | |
| | | <i>Total</i> | 133 | 22 | | | |

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Spencer Town Center Historic District (Boundary Increase)

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester

DATE RECEIVED: 6/12/03 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/09/03
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/25/03 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/27/03
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 03000685

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT _____ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept Boundary increase

REVIEWER Patrick Andrews DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE _____ DATE 7/25/2003

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



Pardon Howland House, H.P. Howland House, George Tucker House (R-4)
Spencer, Massachusetts
Photograph No. 1



LB Weston-Cliff
8189 87 N-1 H 16-27



George Mullet House
Spencer, Massachusetts
Photograph No. 2



LB Uxton (No. 16)
0108 07 H-1 H-1-43 8R08 2



H.P. Howland House, Pardon Howland House, 24 Pleasant Street House, James M. Capen House (L-R)
Spencer, Massachusetts
Photograph No. 3

LB_010007_00990001.JPG 001 HD
010007_00990001_001



55

M. N. Horr House
Spencer, Massachusetts
Photograph No. 4





L. W. Prouty House
Spencer, Massachusetts
Photograph No. 5



LB Whelan (18) - 13
0106 97 H-1 H-1-31 58



Noah Sagendorph House
Spencer, Massachusetts
Photograph No. 6



11-1 11-2-24 111-111



84L C00

625 WBL

SPENCER
PIZZA

CC

11-13 Mechanic Street (partial) New England Telephone Co. Building, Ashbury Nichols Store, Morton Nichols Store,
Weatherbee Drug Store, Green Block

Spencer, Massachusetts
Photograph No. 7





Richard and Susan Sugden House
Spencer, Massachusetts
Photograph No. 8



No. 15 4888
1-45 6888 2111/188



ARTIE'S HOT DOGS
GRAND OPENING

ARTIE'S RESTAURANT
THE BASS AMERICA

RAILROAD
CROSSING

STOP

P

OPEN

OPEN

GM

ARTIE'S

Spencer Center Depot
Spencer, Massachusetts
Photograph No. 9



Spencer Town Center Historic District (Boundary Increase)

Zone 18
1. 747 250 46 80 840
2. 747 520 46 80 840
7.5 X 15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Warren
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. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
1982

Produced by the United States Geological Survey in cooperation with Massachusetts Department of Public Works
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1980. Field checked 1981. Map edited 1982.
Supersedes Warren and East Brookfield 1:25,000-scale maps dated 1969

Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 19: Universal Transverse Mercator
10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone. 1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 6 meters south and 39 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map
CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

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

| CONVERSION TABLE | | DECLINATION DIAGRAM | | ADJOINING MAPS | | |
|------------------|---------|---------------------|--|----------------|---|---|
| Meters | Feet | MAGNETIC | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1 | 3.2808 | 15° | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 2 | 6.5616 | 15° | | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 3 | 9.8424 | 15° | | 7 | 8 | |
| 4 | 13.1232 | 15° | | | | |
| 5 | 16.4040 | 15° | | | | |
| 6 | 19.6848 | 15° | | | | |
| 7 | 22.9656 | 15° | | | | |
| 8 | 26.2464 | 15° | | | | |
| 9 | 29.5272 | 15° | | | | |
| 10 | 32.8080 | 15° | | | | |

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

UTM grid convergence (GN) and 1982 magnetic declination (MD) at center of map
Diagram is approximate

1. Warren Dam
2. North Brookfield
3. Ludlow
4. South North
5. Massena
6. Massachusetts
7. Shelburne

ISBN 0-607-23427-X
9 780607 234275

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
- Fourbridge: overpass; underpass
- Built-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown
- House; barn; church; school; large structure
- Boundary: National, with monument; State; County, parish; Civil township; precinct; district; Incorporated city, village, town; National or State reservation; small park; Land grant with monument; found section corner
- U.S. public lands survey: range, township, section
- Range, township; section line location approximate
- Fence or field line
- Power transmission line, located tower
- Dam; dam with lock
- Cemetery; grave
- Campground; picnic area; U.S. location monument
- Windmill; water well; spring
- Mine shaft; prospect; adit or cave
- Control: national station; vertical station; spot elevation
- Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression
- Distorted surface: strip mine, lava, sand
- Bathymetric contours: index; intermediate
- Perennial ice and snow; intermittent lake and stream
- Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small
- Submerged marsh; marsh, swamp
- Land subject to controlled inundation; woodland
- Sand; mangrove
- Ochard; vineyard

SPENCER TOWN CENTER 147 RT
zone 19

WORCESTER SOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS WORCESTER COUNTY

7.5 X 15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

Spencer Town Center
H.D. (Boundary Survey)
42071-B7-TM-025

Worcester South
MASSACHUSETTS
1:25 000-scale metric
topographic map

2012



7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE
SHOWING

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



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

Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1960. Field checked 1982. Map edited 1983
Supersedes Leicester and Worcester South 1:25,000-scale
maps dated 1969 and 1973

Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 19: Universal
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10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate
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CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS
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CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
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THIS MAP COMPLES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
P.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225

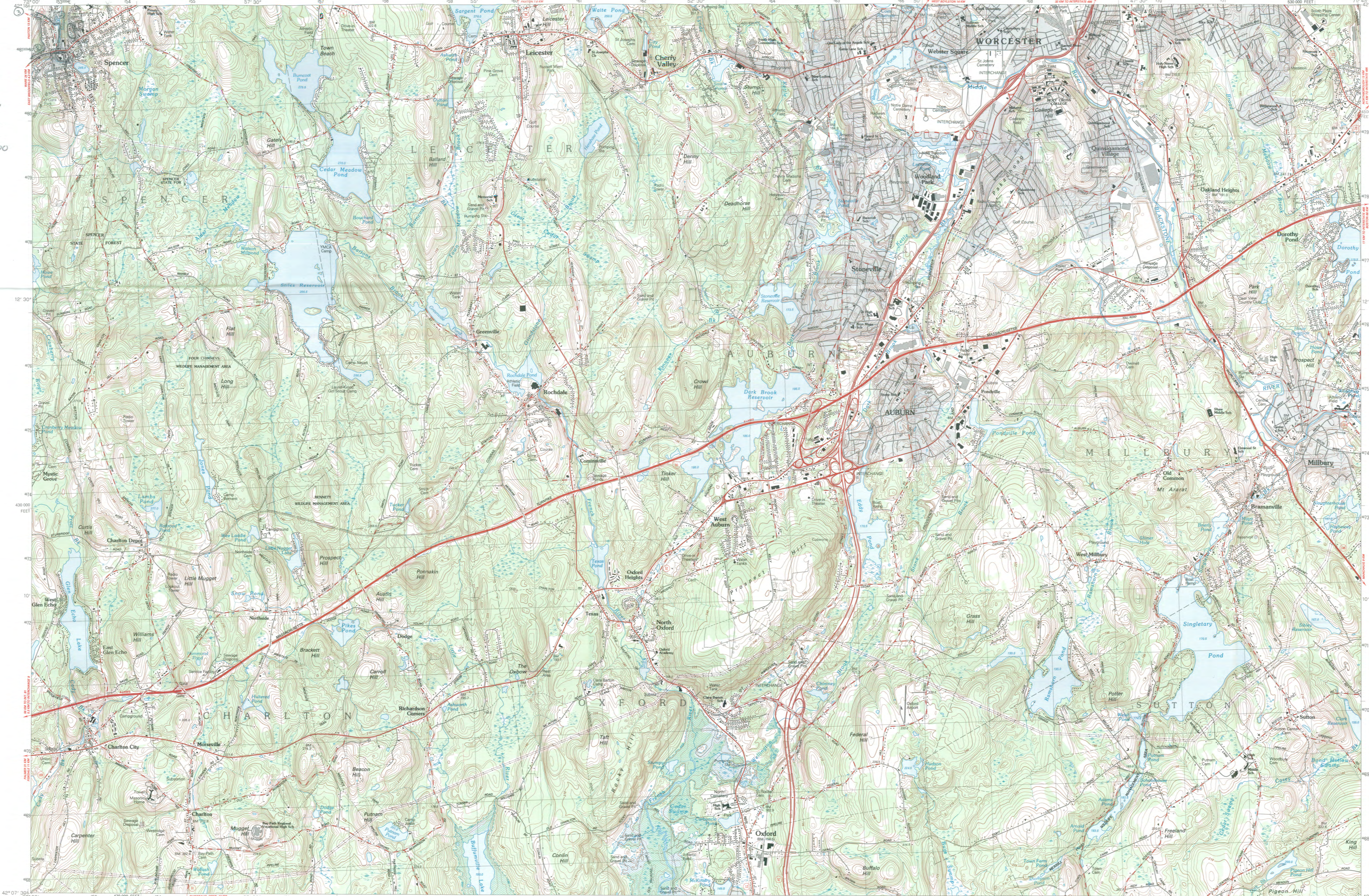
| CONVERSION TABLE | | DECLINATION DIAGRAM | | ADJOINING MAPS | | | | |
|------------------|---------|------------------------------------|--|----------------|---|---|---|---|
| Meters | Feet | 207 MILS 15° 15' N 15° 15' S | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1 | 3.2808 | | | 6 | 7 | 8 | 1 North Brookfield 2 Rowley North 3 Marlborough 4 Milford 5 Middlebury 6 Andover 7 Woburn 8 Sabotage | |
| 2 | 6.5617 | | | | | | | |
| 3 | 9.8425 | | | | | | | |
| 4 | 13.1234 | | | | | | | |
| 5 | 16.4042 | | | | | | | |
| 6 | 19.6850 | | | | | | | |
| 7 | 22.9659 | | | | | | | |
| 8 | 26.2467 | | | | | | | |
| 9 | 29.5275 | | | | | | | |
| 10 | 32.8084 | | | | | | | |

ISBN 0-607-83423-7
9 780607 234237

Topographic Map Symbols

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- Secondary highway, hard surface
- Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
- Unimproved road, trail
- Road marker: Interstates; U.S.; State
- Railroad: standard gauge; narrow gauge
- Bridge: drawbridge
- Footbridge: covered; underpass
- Built-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown
- House; barn; church; school; large structure
- Boundary: National, with monument; State; County, parish; Civil township, precinct, district; Incorporated city, village, town; National or State reservation; small park; Land grant with monument; found section corner; U.S. public lands survey; range, township; section
- Range, township, section line: location approximate
- Fence or field line
- Power transmission line, located tower
- Dam; dam with lock
- Cemetery: grave
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- Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small
- Submerged marsh; marsh, swamp
- Land subject to controlled inundation; woodland
- Shrub; mangrove
- Orchard; vineyard

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request



SCALE 1:25 000
1 CENTIMETER ON THE MAP REPRESENTS 25 METERS ON THE GROUND
CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS

WORCESTER SOUTH, MASS.
42071-B7-TM-025
1983

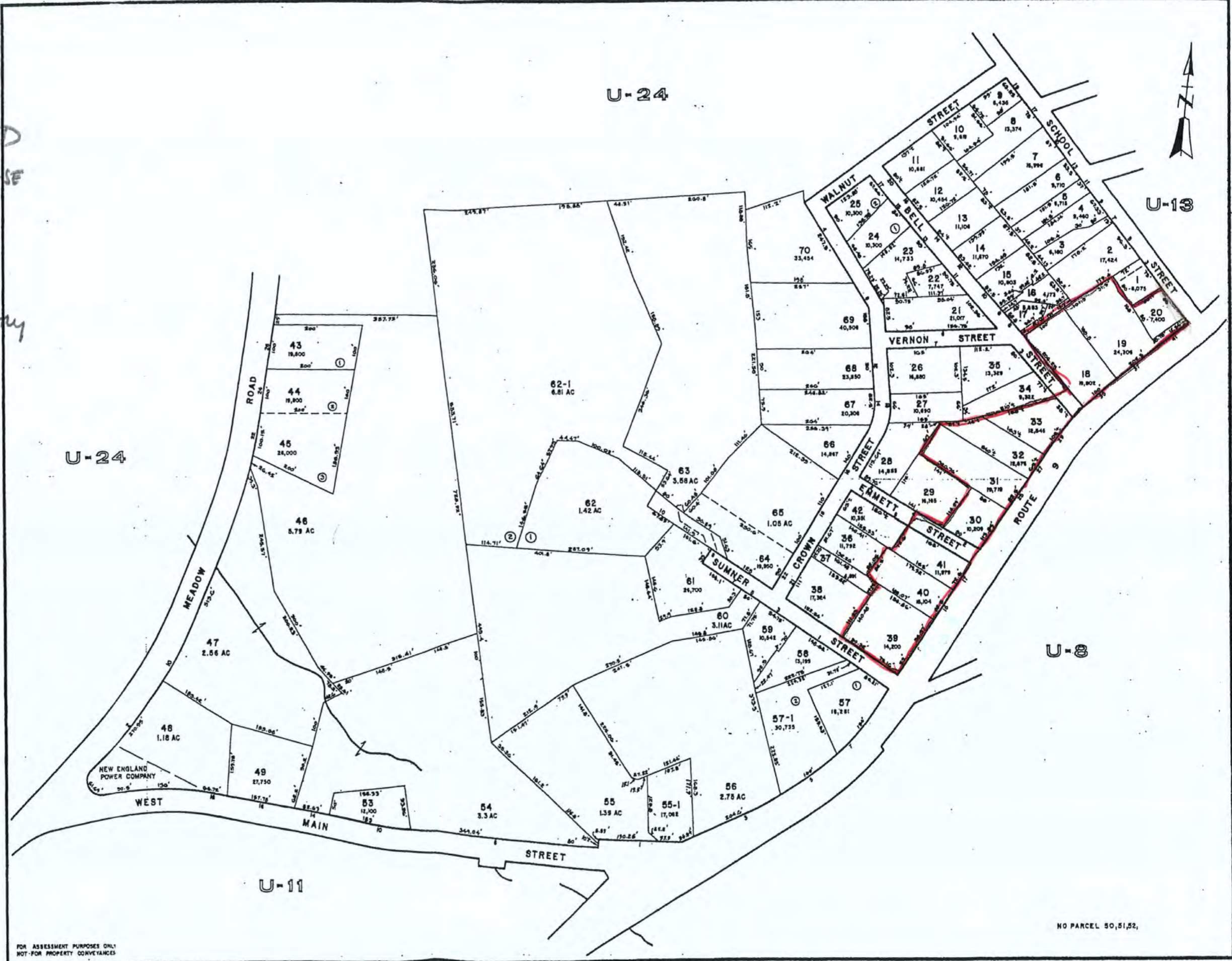
- 3. 252520
- 4681520
- 4. 252960
- 4681400
- 5. 253100
- 4681360
- 6. 253120
- 4681400
- 7. 253000
- 4680880
- 8. 252500
- 4681000

SPENCER (MA)
TOWN CENTER HD
BOUNDARY INCREASE

Map 1 of 5

EXISTING
TOWN CENTER BOUNDARY

2003 B.I.
BOUNDARY



FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY
NOT FOR PROPERTY CONVEYANCES

PREPARED BY PHOTOGRAMMETRIC METHODS BY
JOHN E. O'DONNELL & ASSOCIATES
AUBURN, MAINE
1984

LEGEND
ADJACENT SHEET NO.
COMMON OWNERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT LOT NO.
SCALED DIMENSION

12
OR
±

PROPERTY MAP
SPENCER
MASSACHUSETTS

SCALE IN FEET
0 100 200

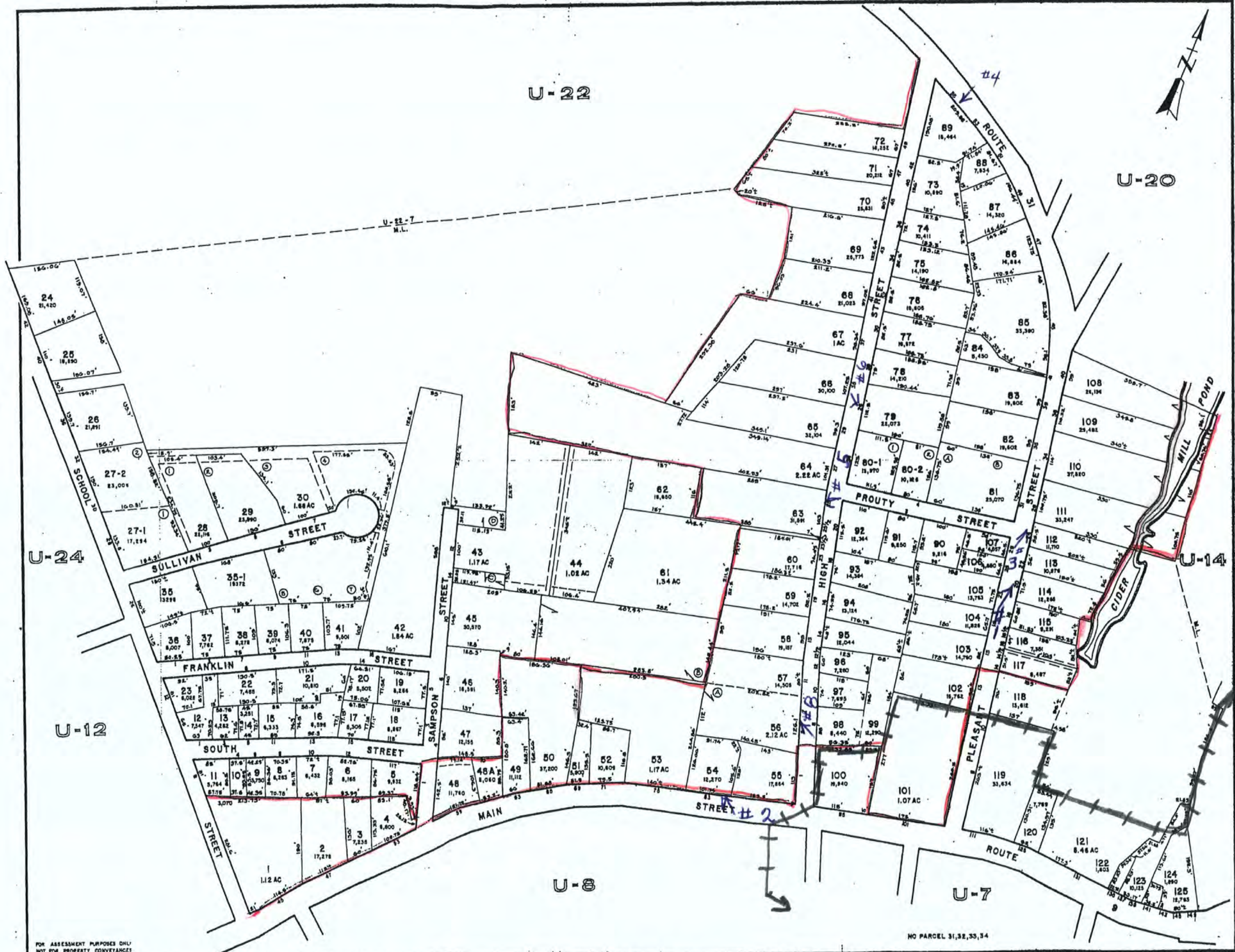
U-12

NO PARCEL 50, 51, 52,

SPENCER (MA)
TOWN CENTER HD
2003 BOUNDARY
INCREASE

MAP 2 OF 5

— EXISTING
SPENCER
TOWN CENTER
HD BOUNDARY
— 2003 B.T.
BOUNDARY



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LEGEND
ADJACENT SHEET NO. 12

PROPERTY MAP

SPENCER

SCALE IN FEET

U-13

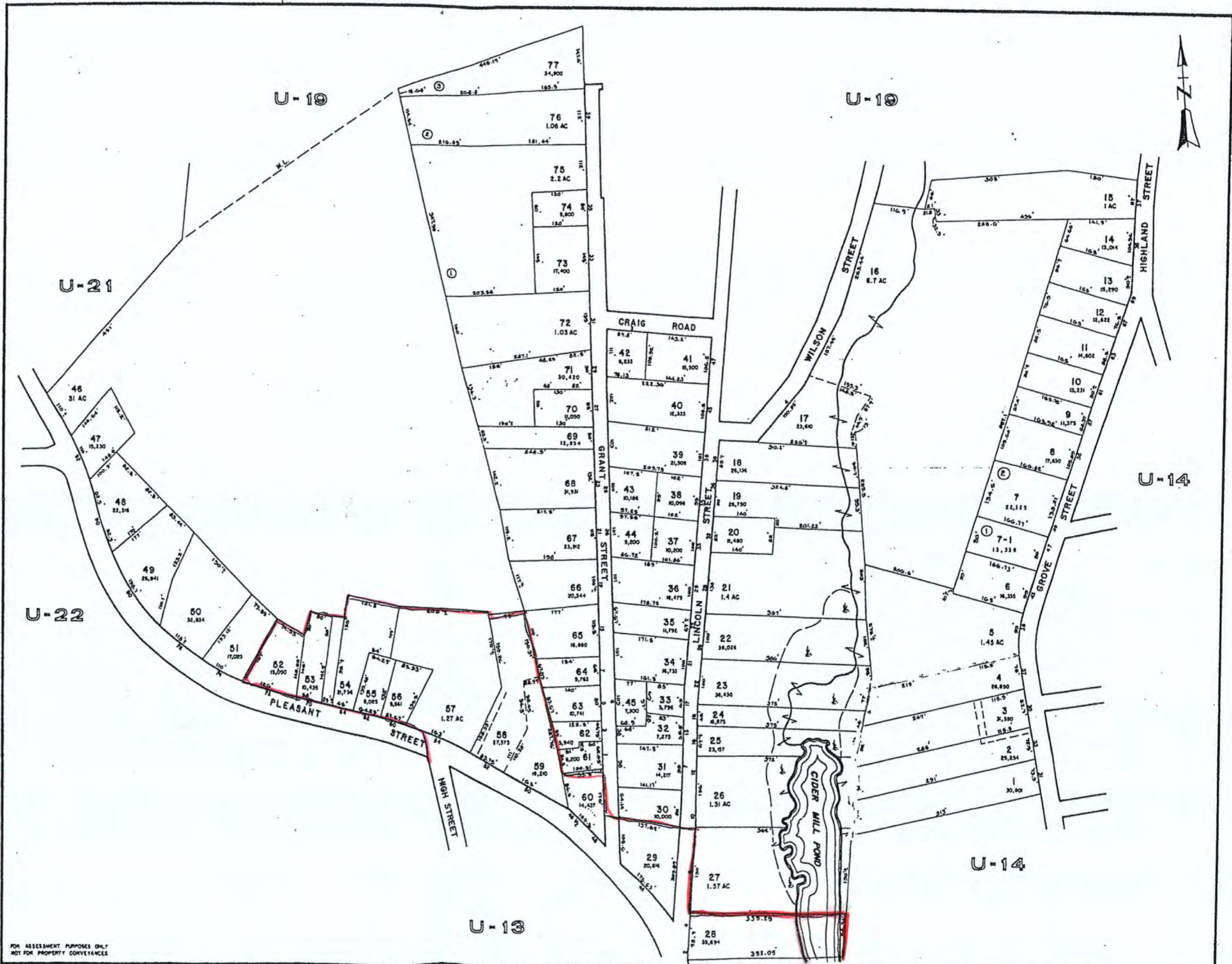
SPENCER (MA)
TOWN CENTER HD
BOUNDARY INCREASE

Map 3 of 5

- EXISTING
TOWN CENTER
BOUNDARY

- 2003 B.I.
BOUNDARY

1.71
5.39 acres



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AUBURN, MAINE

LEGEND
ADJACENT SHEET NO.
COMMON OWNERSHIP

12
OF 17

PROPERTY MAP
SPENCER

SCALE IN FEET

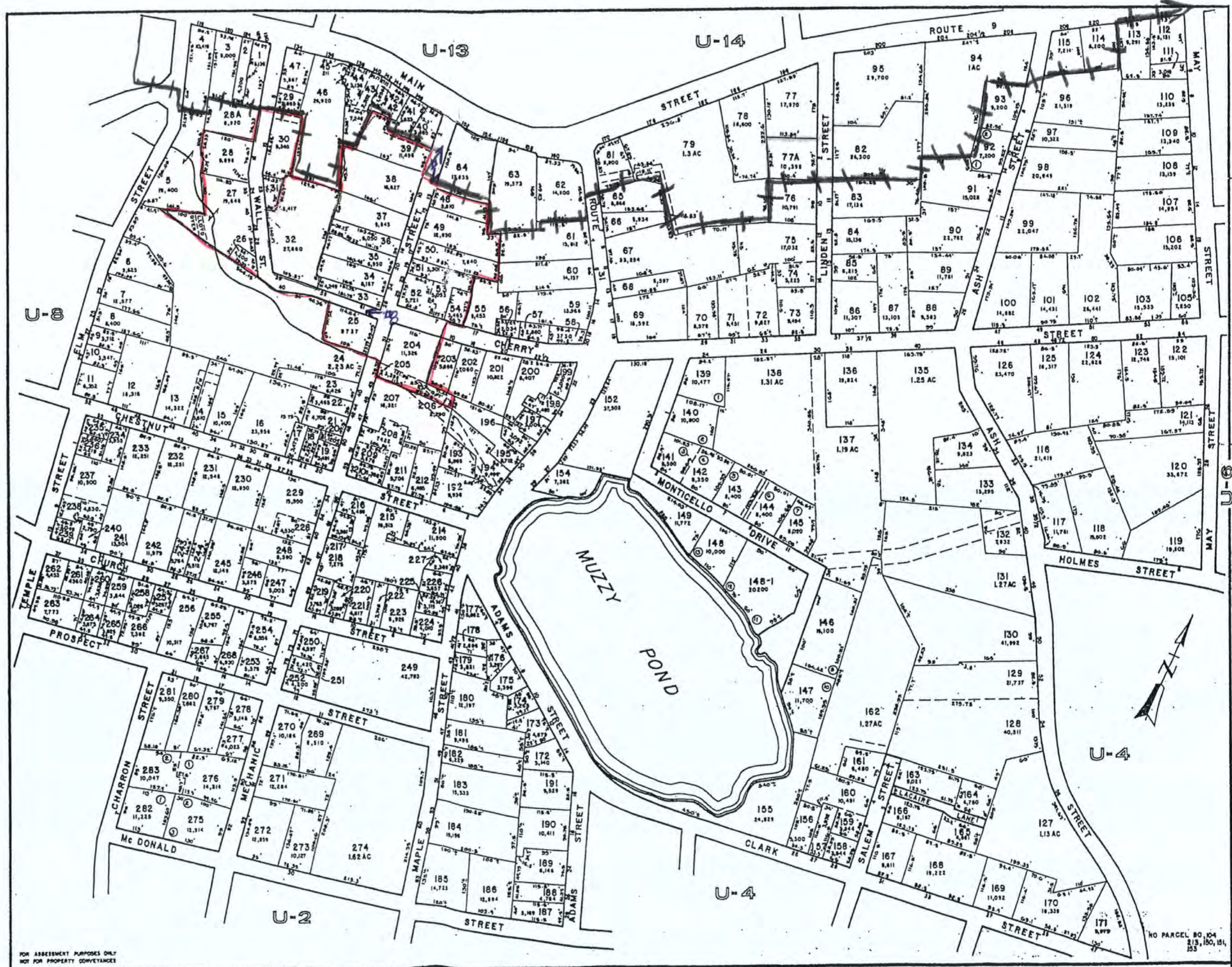
U-20

SPENCER MA
TOWN CENTER HD
BOUNDARY INCREASE

Map 4 of 5

— EXISTING TOWN
CENTER HD
BOUNDARY

— 2003 B.I.
BOUNDARY



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LEGEND

PROPERTY MAP

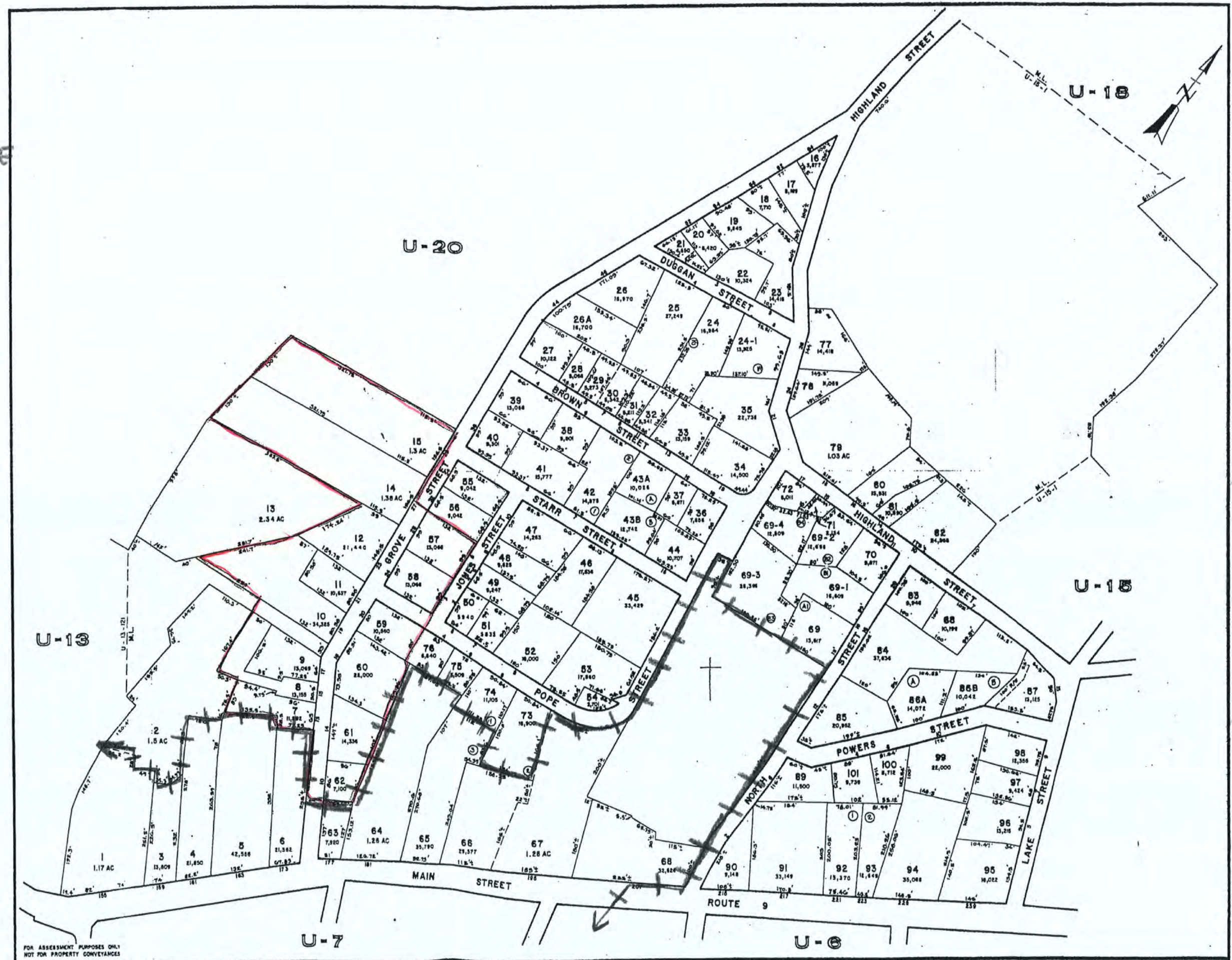
SCALE IN FEET

NO PARCEL NO. 104
215, 150, 151,
153

SPENCER MA
TOWN CENTER HD
BOUNDARY INCREASE

Map S B 5

- EXISTING HD
BOUNDARY
- 2003 BOUNDARY
INCREASE



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JOHN E. O'DONNELL & ASSOCIATES

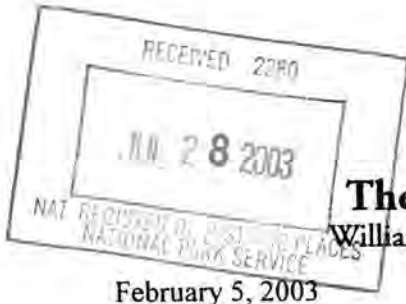
LEGEND
ADJACENT SHEET NO. 12

PROPERTY MAP
SPENCER

SCALE IN FEET

11-14

NR file



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

February 5, 2003

Ms. Tina Borghild Norwood
U.S. Postal Service
Federal Preservation Office
Facilities Headquarters
4301 Wilson Boulevard #300
Arlington, VA 22203-1861

Re: Spencer, MA Post Office, 10 Mechanic Street, Spencer

Dear Ms. Norwood:

We are writing to inform you that the Federal property referenced above is located within the boundaries of the proposed Spencer Center Historic District boundary extension, which will be considered by the Massachusetts Historical Commission for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register of Historic Places is the Federal government's official list of historic properties worthy of preservation. Listing in the National Register provides recognition and assists in preserving our nation's heritage.

Listing of the Spencer Center Historic District extension provides recognition of the community's historic importance and assures protective review of Federal projects that might adversely affect the character of the district. If the district is listed in the National Register, certain Federal investment tax credits for rehabilitation and other provisions may apply.

In Massachusetts, properties nominated to the National Register are automatically listed in the State Register of Historic Places. State Register properties owned by municipalities and nonprofit organizations may compete for state restoration grants.

You are invited to attend the meeting of the Massachusetts Historical Commission at which the nomination of the Spencer Center Historic District boundary extension will be considered. The Commission will meet at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 12, 2003, at the Massachusetts State Archives, Dorchester, Massachusetts. The Commission meeting is a public meeting and all interested parties are encouraged to attend. If you have special needs and would like to attend the meeting, please contact the Commission and staff will make any arrangements that are necessary.

You are also invited to attend a local meeting at which the nomination of the District will be discussed. The meeting will be held at the Spencer Town Hall, 157 Main Street, on Thursday February 27, 2003, at 7 p.m. All interested parties are invited and encouraged to attend.

220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
(617) 727-8470 • Fax: (617) 727-5128
www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc

Attached please find notices that explain, in greater detail, the results of listing in the National Register and that describe the rights and procedures by which an owner may comment on or object to listing in the National Register.

A draft copy of the National Register nomination for the District will be available at the Sugden Public Library in Spencer. Should you have any questions about this nomination prior to the Massachusetts Historical Commission meeting, please contact me at this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cara H Metz", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Cara H. Metz

State Historic Preservation Officer
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Enclosures: NR Criteria, Rights of Owners



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



May 29, 2003

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street NW, 8th floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Spencer Center HD (2003 Boundary Extension), Spencer (Worcester), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of the properties included in the district were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 45 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

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

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Bonnie Parsons, PVPC, Consultant
Robert Ferreira, Planning Board
Anna Marie Hughes, Spencer Historical Commission
Vincent Cloutier, Board of Selectmen