

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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

For HCRS use only

received NOV 3 1980

date entered DEC 3 1980

1. Name

historic Spaulding Block

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number 141-143 Main Street not for publication

city, town Webster vicinity of congressional district Second

state Massachusetts code 025 county Worcester code 027

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
☐ district	☐ public	☒ occupied	☐ agriculture	☐ museum
☒ building(s)	☒ private	☐ unoccupied	☒ commercial	☐ park
☐ structure	☐ both	☐ work in progress	☐ educational	☐ private residence
☐ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	☐ entertainment	☐ religious
☐ object	☐ in process	☒ yes: restricted	☐ government	☐ scientific
	☐ being considered	☐ yes: unrestricted	☐ industrial	☐ transportation
		☐ no	☐ military	☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Guy Laverdiere

street & number Upper Gore Road

city, town Webster, vicinity of state Massachusetts 01570

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Registry of Deeds

street & number 2 Main Street

city, town Worcester, state Massachusetts

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth
has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town 294 Washington Street, Boston, state Massachusetts 02108

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☒ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located on the north side of Main Street, one lot east of Davis Street, in Webster's central business district, the Spaulding Block is a rectangular plan commercial block which covers most of its narrow lot. The block's facade (south elevation) is built out to the sidewalk, the west elevation faces a narrow alley, the north elevation has an attached one-and-one half story wooden shed facing a rear court, and the east elevation is concealed by a closely built (but not connected) wood-frame structure. The Spaulding Block is a three-story brick building, the rear portion of which (90% of the structure) was built in 1866, while the facade was added in 1897.

The facade is symmetrical, having two store fronts with paired center entries at the first story; although now covered with modern materials these store fronts are framed at the facade's corners by two iron piers which rise to a metal cornice. The facade's upper stories are faced with a Flemish bond of red brick stretchers and blackened headers; trimmings are of dressed limestone. Fenestration of the second and third stories is identical, each containing a central window of paired 6/1 sash set in a quoined surround with an arched head; each central window is flanked by two recessed bay windows, each of which is made up of three sets of 9/1 sash. A steep gable with a limestone coping rises above the third story; centered on the gable is a window made up of four eight-pane casements.

The west elevation rises from a base of rock-faced granite above which the wall is faced with common red brick, except for the elevation's southernmost bay where the brickwork matches that of the facade. Fenestration is asymmetrical; all windows (except as noted) consist of 6/6 sash set in an undecorated brick surround with a granite sill and a low-arched head. At the first story, near the building's north-west corner are three windows separated by a doorway and by a six-pane light, both of which have rectangular granite lintels. Moving from north to south at the second story, there are four windows, a three-sided oriel window (9/1 sash) and two more windows; at the third story there are seven unevenly spaced windows. At the roof is a projecting brick cornice.

The rear (north) elevation is symmetrically arranged and contains a shingle-covered addition with a shed roof at the basement and first story; above, the second story contains five windows, the third story four windows and the gable two windows, all identical to the windows of the west elevation. The gable is trimmed with a projecting brick cornice.

The east elevation is not fully visible; former windows have been bricked over, but retain their arches and sills. Alterations to the block since its 1897 enlargement have been minimal and are confined to modern materials applied to the building's store fronts.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
☐ prehistoric	☐ archeology-prehistoric	☐ community planning	☐ landscape architecture	☐ religion
☐ 1400–1499	☐ archeology-historic	☐ conservation	☐ law	☐ science
☐ 1500–1599	☐ agriculture	☐ economics	☐ literature	☐ sculpture
☐ 1600–1699	☒ architecture	☐ education	☐ military	☐ social/
☐ 1700–1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☒ 1800–1899	☒ commerce	☐ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☐ 1900–	☐ communications	☐ industry	☐ politics/government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☐ other (specify)

Specific dates 1866, 1897 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Spaulding Block possesses integrity of design, location and materials as well as historical associations with several local businesses and fraternal organizations. Now the oldest brick commercial building extant in Webster, the Spaulding Block is the product of two periods of construction. In 1866, the largest portion of the building was constructed, a three-and-one half story block of simple Italianate/utilitarian design with low-arched window heads, rock-faced granite trim and, perhaps, a facade of pressed red brick. In 1897, the original facade was removed, an addition of approximately 10' depth was made, and the current late Queen Anne/Tudor facade was constructed. Faced with a Flemish bond of red and blackened bricks, this facade retains recessed bay windows, quoined window surrounds and a high central gable with a stone coping; the only significant alterations to the building's 1897 design are the covering of original store fronts with modern materials.

Built for Cyrus Spaulding, the Spaulding Block originally housed Spaulding's hardware store, a business which had been founded by Spaulding's father, Erastus, in 1834. The block also housed the jeweler's shop of John Hinds until 1894 (ground floor), the printing office of the Webster Times after 1867 (second story), the Webster Masonic Lodge (third story) and the Webster Sigel Lodge, a late nineteenth century German-American fraternal organization. In 1902, the Spaulding Block was sold to Rosebrooks & Cummings who maintained Spaulding's hardware business until 1928, after which it was operated by Waite's Hardware Company until 1978, when the business closed permanently. The Spaulding Block is one of the few remaining structures which reflect the late nineteenth century commercial character of Railroad Square.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Leavens, Charles. Notes on the History of Webster, Vol. II. at Webster Public Library
The Webster Times. October 1866; July 6, 1873.
Assessor's Records. Webster Town Hall.

10. Geographical Data

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property 6,000 square feet

Quadrangle name Webster

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle scale 1:25000

UMT References

A

1	9
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2	6	1	2	6	0
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4	6	5	9	0	3	0
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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification

nominated property includes only that land and building shown on Webster Assessor's Map #1, Block F, Lot 8.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

Richard W. R. Dery & B.R. Pfeiffer, Webster Community Development
name/title for Candace Jenkins, Evaluation Director

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date July 1980

street & number 294 Washington Street telephone (617) 727-8470

city or town Boston state Massachusetts

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Petruke W. Slesowski* 1/20/80

title Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission date

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Carol D. Shaw
Keeper of the National Register

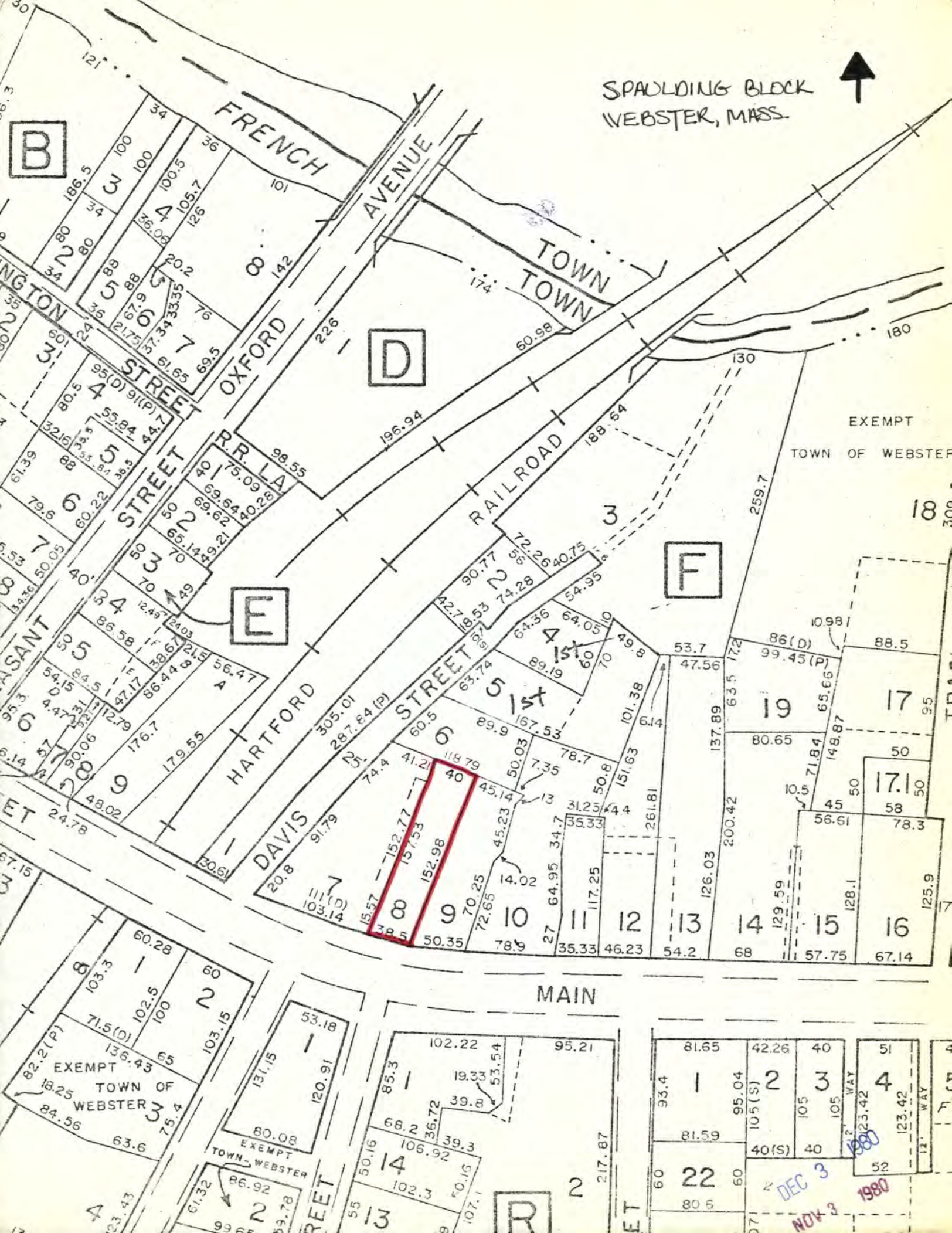
date 12-3-80

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

SPALDING BLOCK
WEBSTER, MASS.



Property

Spaulding Block

State

MA Worcester

Working Number

11.3.80.2737

*DUE
1/3/81*

TECHNICAL

Photos 1

Maps 1

CONTROL

HISTORIAN

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

Oldest Commercial bldg in Webster is one of few remaining structures reflecting commercial character of 819th St on Railroad Sq. 12-3-80

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered _____

Federal Register Entry 2-2-82

Re-submit _____

DEC 3 1980



19__

ARCHITECTURAL INVENTORY

Worcester Heritage Society
Worcester, Massachusetts (Use Back)

Additional Info: (History, Source Material, Section Details, Description)

Address

Proximity to Setting: Detrimental None

Photograph: Webster, Massachusetts
(Spaulding Block)
141-143 Main Street

taken: February 1980
negative on file: B. R. Pfeiffer
91 Westland Avenue Box 82
Boston, Massachusetts 02115

view: south elevation (facade) taken from a position facing north-east

DEC 3

1980

NOV 3

1980

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

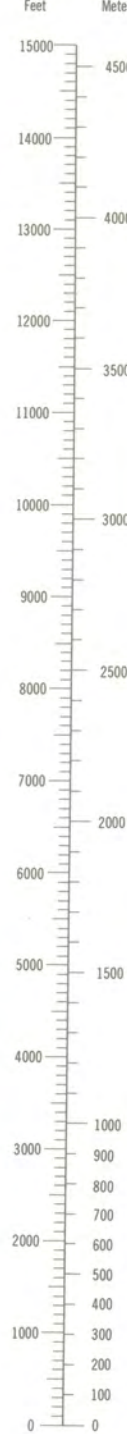


COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

WEBSTER QUADRANGLE
MASSACHUSETTS-CONNECTICUT
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

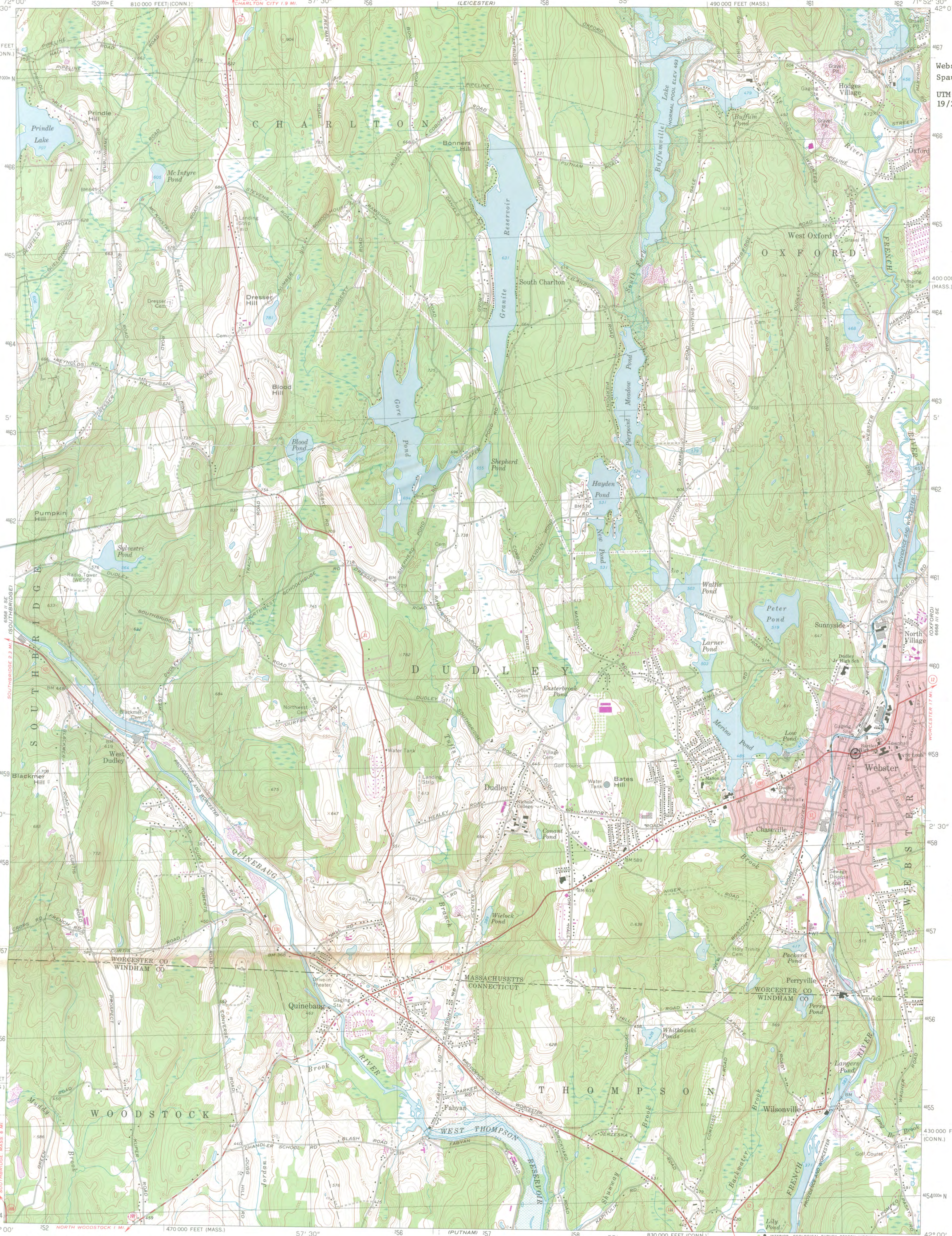
Webster, Mass.
Spaulding Block
UTM References:
19/261260/4659030

CONVERSION
SCALES

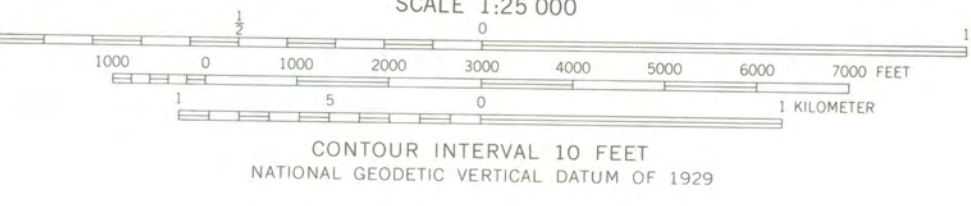
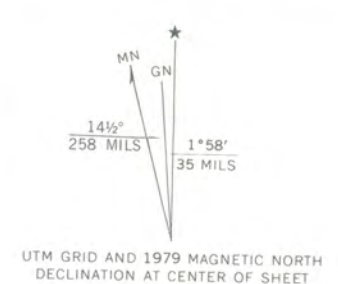


Feet	Meters
1	0.3048
10	3.048
100	30.48
1000	304.8
10000	3048
100000	30480
1000000	304800

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



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1942-1943. Revised from aerial
photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1969
Polyconic projection, 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone, and Connecticut coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid,
zone 19
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Areas covered by dashed light-blue pattern
are subject to controlled inundation



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with the State of
Massachusetts agencies from aerial photographs taken 1975 and other
source data. This information not field checked. Map edited 1979

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, all weather, hard surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface
Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Unimproved road, fair or dry weather
State Route

WEBSTER, MASS.-CONN.
N4200-W7152.5/7.5
1969
PHOTOREVISED 1979
AMS 6668 III SW-SERIES V814



DEC 3 1980

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered DEC 3 1980

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Holyoke Canal System	Holyoke Hampden County
Tack Factory, The	Norwell vicinity Plymouth County
Eddy Block	Webster Worcester County
Water Shops Armory	Springfield Hampden County
Gunn and Hubbard Blocks	Springfield Hampden County
Spaulding Block	Webster Worcester County
Shumway Block	Webster Worcester County

Also Notified

Honorable Paul Tsongas
Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Honorable Silvio O. Conte
Honorable Gerry E. Studds
Honorable Edward P. Boland

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mrs. Patricia L. Weslowski
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

NR Byers/bjr/1/6/81

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.