

100-1527-0018  
ESP. 10/31/84

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received JUL 6 1982  
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Landlord Fowler Tavern

and/or common Landlord Fowler Tavern

2. Location

street & number 171 Main Street N/A not for publication

city, town Westfield N/A vicinity of ~~Congressional district~~ First

state Massachusetts code 025 county Hampden code 013

3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Allen Ross

street & number 30 Court Street

city, town Westfield N/A vicinity of state Massachusetts

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number 50 State Street

city, town Springfield state Massachusetts

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth 11/79  
title has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date October 10, 1979  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town Boston state Massachusetts

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## 7. Description

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**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved date N/A

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Landlord Fowler Tavern stands on Main Street in Westfield near the confluence of the Little and Westfield Rivers. It presently occupies a small lot in a densely developed neighborhood.

The three story timber frame tavern is sheathed with clapboards and enclosed by a broad gambrel roof. It is nearly square in plan and has a central chimney rising through the ridge pole. Corners are trimmed with plain boards and the roof line with a simple modillion cornice.

The symmetrical facade is five bays wide with a center entry and flanking paired windows. The entry, a recent reconstruction, is enframed by elaborately carved pilasters supporting a molded entablature and broken scroll pediment. The windows contain 12/12 double hung sash. Five windows are located at the second story, above those of the first story. The roof is pierced by three pitched roof dormers. The secondary elevations are asymmetrically arranged.

The present appearance of the building is the result of a recent careful restoration (certified by the Secretary of the Interior). This restoration corrected a number of changes which had occurred earlier in this century: blocking of the central second story facade window, removal of original sash, replacement of the center chimney with twin chimneys, and removal of the elaborate Connecticut Valley doorway to the Metropolitan Museum of Art by Wallace Nutting in 1916 and addition of a one story facade porch.

## 8. Significance

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

**Specific dates** 1761 **Builder/Architect** unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Landlord Fowler Tavern possesses integrity of location and design, and is locally significant for its role as an early tavern. It meets criteria A & C of the National Register of Historic Places.

Daniel Fowler was licensed to open a tavern in 1761 which is the date generally ascribed to the nominated structure although its actual construction date may be somewhat earlier. Fowler was involved in town affairs, serving in 1775-76 as a member of the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety. The committee met at the tavern and the militia mustered there as well. When the Revolutionary War ended, the townspeople of Westfield celebrated at the tavern.

From its inception as a tavern in 1761 until approximately 1830, the Landlord Fowler Tavern lodged travelers along the Post Road. But in the period of 1825-1830, the Hampshire and Hampden canal came through Westfield, thus reducing traffic along the highway. Also, Westfield's center was creeping westward, thus encouraging new taverns to spring up around it. Thus, the business declined and the tavern eventually became purely a residence, with the exception of 1885-1916 when H.C. Schaeffer bought the property and conducted a cigar-making business on the premises. The present owner bought the house in 1950.

As a tavern in operation continuously for at least fifty-nine years, the Landlord Fowler Tavern property may be rich in historic archaeological remains. Varied forms of ceramic and glassware representing a range of time are likely to exist in archaeological features on the site. At the least, excavated historic archaeological materials from the Landlord Fowler Tavern would represent a good sample of colonial period material culture from western Massachusetts.

In its restored condition, the tavern provides an excellent example of eighteenth century Connecticut Valley design. Its superb entry is an exact reproduction of the one which was removed to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in the early twentieth century.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Bates, William G., "Pictures of Westfield As It Was," in Western Hampden Times, March 17, 1869 to August 3, 1870.  
Deeds, Hampden County Registry of Deeds, State Street, Springfield, Massachusetts.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .16  
Quadrangle name West Springfield, Mass., Conn.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UMT References

A 

1	8	6	8	7	1	6	0	4	6	6	5	0	8	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

See attached map. The boundaries are delineated in red.

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

state N/A code county code

state N/A code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Candace Jenkins, Registration Director with Lee David Hamberg

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date May, 1981

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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Valerie Ann Talmage

title Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission date June 28, 1982

For NPS use only

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

Delores Byers

Entered in the  
National Register

date 8/11/82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

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

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page

Kelley, John Frederick, Early Domestic Architecture of Connecticut, New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1964 page 141.

Kimball, Fiske, Domestic Architecture of the American Colonies and of the Early Republic, New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1966, p. 107, fig. 77.

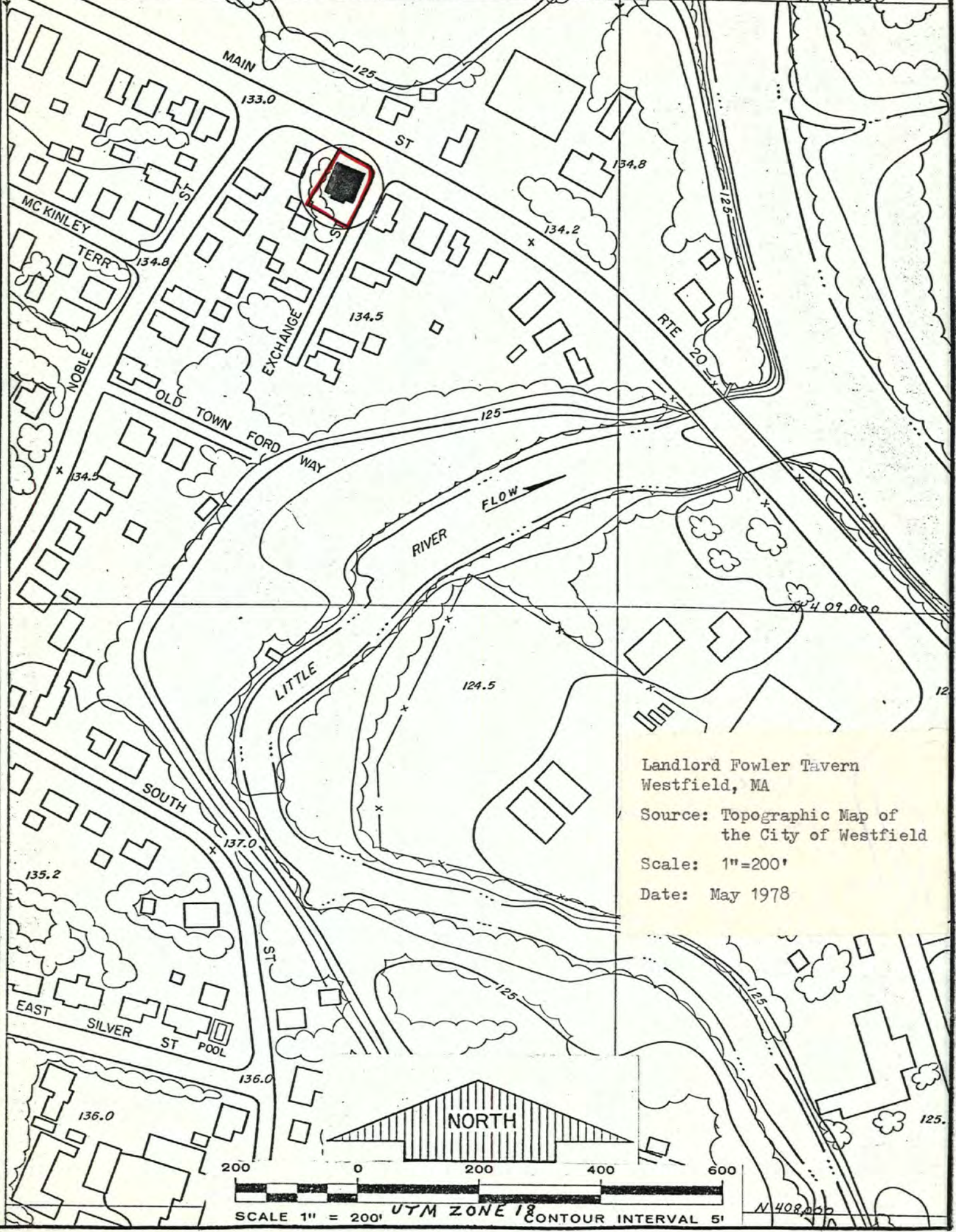
Lockwood, Rev. John H., Westfield and Its Historic Influences 1869-1919, Springfield, MA: Springfield Printing and Binding Co., 1922, vol. 1, p. 567.

Westfield Maps, 1853, 1855, 1870, 1884, 1894, and 1912.

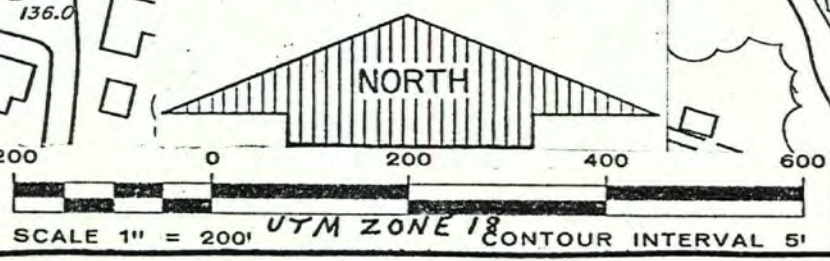
E264,000

E265,000

N 410,000



Landlord Fowler Tavern  
 Westfield, MA  
 Source: Topographic Map of  
 the City of Westfield  
 Scale: 1"=200'  
 Date: May 1978



N 408,000

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Landlord Fowler Tavern, Hampden County,  
MASSACHUSETTS,

Working No. 7/6/82-1929  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.1.83  
Date Due: 8-4-82 / 8-20-82  
Action:  ACCEPT 8/11/82  
 RETURN  
 REJECT  
Entered in the National Register  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom. / Criteria \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
Discipline \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for:  technical corrections cited below  
 substantive reasons discussed below

**1. Name**

**2. Location**

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

**4. Owner of Property**

**5. Location of Legal Description**

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

**7. Description**

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

## 8. Significance

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (In one paragraph)

- \_\_\_\_\_ summary paragraph
- \_\_\_\_\_ completeness
- \_\_\_\_\_ clarity
- \_\_\_\_\_ applicable criteria
- \_\_\_\_\_ justification of areas checked
- \_\_\_\_\_ relating significance to the resource
- \_\_\_\_\_ context
- \_\_\_\_\_ relationship of integrity to significance
- \_\_\_\_\_ justification of exception
- \_\_\_\_\_ other

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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## 10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UMT References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_\_ national \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

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## 13. Other

- \_\_\_\_\_ Maps
- \_\_\_\_\_ Photographs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



Landlord Fowler Tavern  
171 Main St.  
Westfield, Mass. 01085

#1013

View of north (front) facade,  
Spring, 1982

Negative in possession of photographer:  
Lee David Hamburg



Landlord Fowler Tavern  
171 Main St.  
Westfield, Mass. 01085

#2 of 3

View of front doorway (based on  
original in Metropolitan Museum  
of Art, New York City)  
Spring, 1982

Negative in possession of  
photographer: Lee David Hamberg



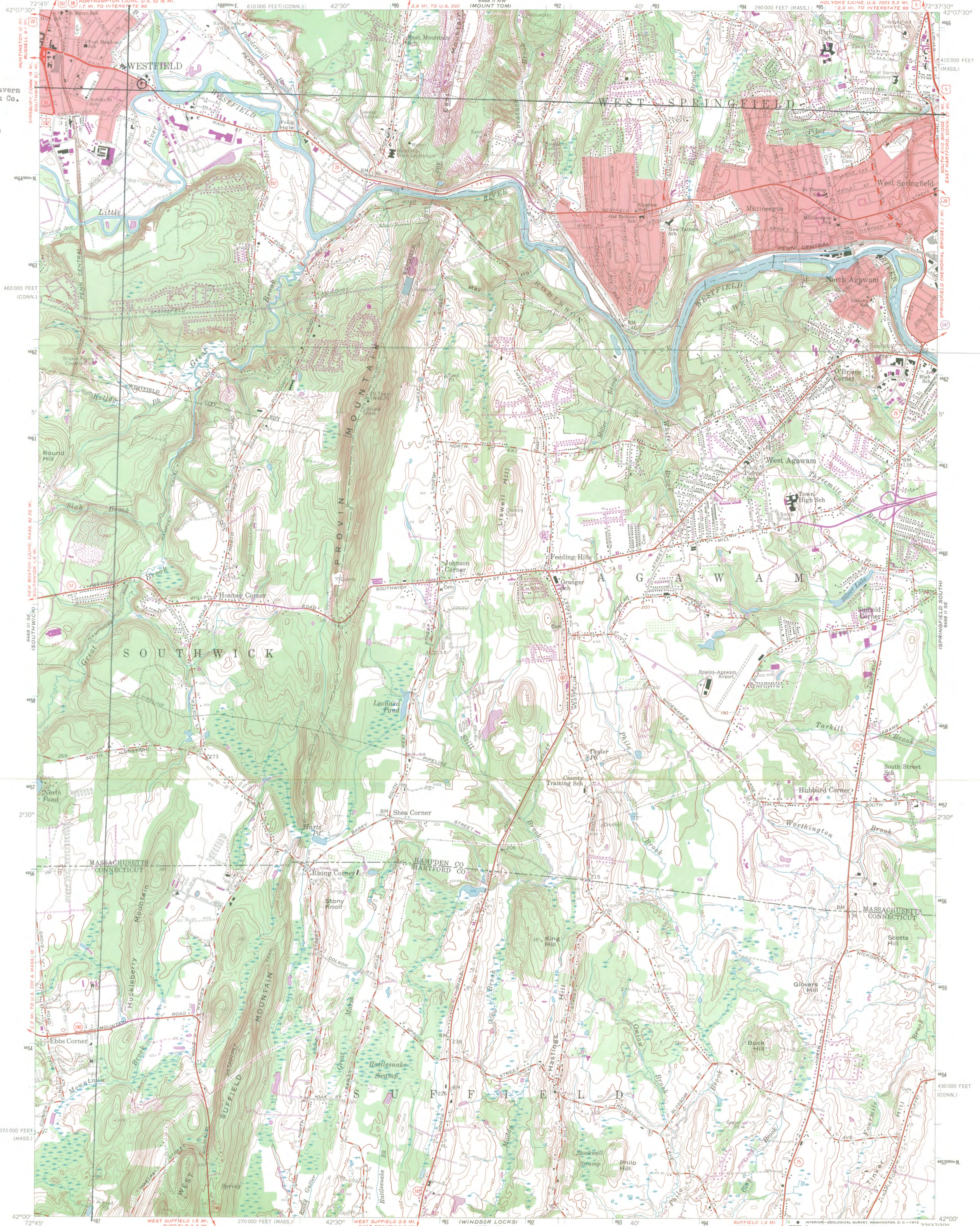
Landlord Fowler Tavern #303  
171 Main St.  
Westfield, Mass. 01085

View of south (rear) facade,  
Spring 1982

Negative in possession of photo-  
grapher: Lee David Hamberg



Landlord Fowler Tavern  
Westfield, Hampden Co.  
MA  
UTM Reference:  
18/687160 4665080



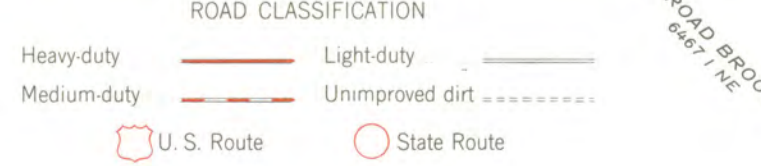
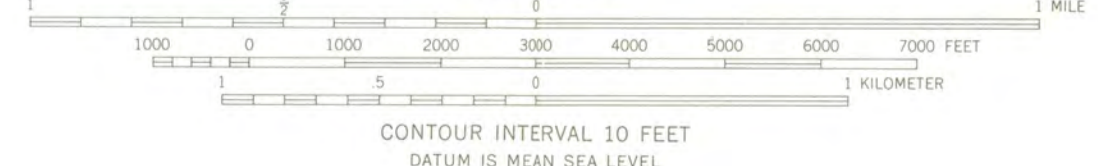
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS, US&GS, Massachusetts Geodetic Survey,  
Massachusetts Harbor and Land Commission, and  
Connecticut Geodetic Survey

Topography by planetable surveys 1933 and 1942-1943  
Culture revised from aerial photographs by photogrammetric  
methods. Aerial photographs taken 1957. Field check 1958

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 ticks,  
zone 18, shown in blue

Red tint indicates areas in which only  
landmark buildings are shown



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with  
Connecticut Highway Department from aerial photographs  
taken 1970. This information not field checked

WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASS.—CONN.  
N 4200—W 7237.5/7.5  
1958  
PHOTOREVISED 1970  
AMS 6488 II SW—SERIES V814



# Westfield Historical Commission

WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01085

MASS. HIST. COMM.  
January 18, 1982

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

Dear Ms. Weslowski:

Your letter to Mayor McDermott dated December 23, 1981, was turned over to the Historical Commission.

The Commission voted at its January 4, 1982 meeting, to inform the State Commission of our desire to have the Landlord Fowler Tavern and the Octagon House formally presented for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. It is our understanding that the nominations will be presented to the State Review Board soon for nomination to the National Register.

We have been working on this nomination for sometime, and trust that they will be accepted.

Very truly yours,

Carl E. Walker  
Chairman

48 Westwood Drive  
Westfield, MA 01085

# City of Westfield, Massachusetts

— DEPARTMENT of COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT —

Patrick M. Condon  
Director

January 20, 1982

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

RECEIVED

JAN 25 1982

MASS. HIST. COMM.

Dear Ms. Weslowski:

Please accept our department's endorsement of the two pending Westfield nominations for National Register status: The Loomis Octagon House, and the Landlord Fowler Tavern.

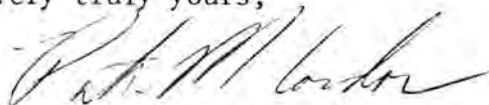
As you may know, the Landlord Fowler Tavern has been carefully restored through a concerted effort that involved Block Grant funds from this office.

The original doorway, which is now on display at the New York Metropolitan Museum for its significance as an exemplar of Georgian period design, has been accurately restored. With this restoration and others, the building is, we feel, the single most important area example of the Georgian style, both from an architectural and a historic point of view.

The Loomis Octagon House is one of a handful of such homes remaining nationwide and is the only one in our region. National Register status for this building, which is now showing significant decay, would make its future restoration far more likely.

In conclusion, the Westfield Office of Community Development heartily endorses the inclusion of these two structures into the National Register of Historic Places.

Very truly yours,



Patrick M. Condon  
Director

PMC/lm



**MASSACHUSETTS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION**

6/28/82

Ms. Carol Shull, Acting Keeper  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20243

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
Office of the Secretary of State**

294 Washington Street  
Boston, Massachusetts  
02108  
617-727-8470

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY  
Secretary of State

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the following nomination forms:

- Becket: Becket Center Historic District (local)  
Billerica: Manning Manse (local)  
Lowell: Allen House (local)  
Lowell: South Common Historic District (local)  
Lowell: Washington Square Historic District (local)  
Lowell: Wamesit Canal and Whipple Mill Complex (local)  
Northampton: Dimock Estate (local)  
✓ Westfield: Landlord Fowler Tavern (local - DOE: 11/79)



All have been voted eligible by the State Review Board and have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. Owners were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 - 75 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment. Comments received to date are attached to the nomination forms.

Sincerely,

*Candace Jenkins*

Candace Jenkins  
Registration Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

CJ/sac