

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

670



OMB No. 1024-0018

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 Agawam Center Historic District

other names/site number Main & Elm Streets Historic District

2. Location

street & number 24-196 Elm Street; 551-1008 Main Street not for publication

city or town Agawam vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Hampden code 013 zip code 01030

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.)

Brona Simon May 4, 2001
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Massachusetts Historical Commission, Deputy 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

Edson H. Beall 6-21-01

Agawam Center HD
Name of Property

Hampden, MA
County and State

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	
115	53	building
		sites
	1	structures
	2	objects
115	56	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

1 (Capt. Charles Leonard House)

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling, multiple dwelling
Agriculture/processing, storage
Religion/religious facility
Commerce/Trade/department store
Funerary/cemetery
Education/school

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling, multiple dwelling
Agriculture/storage
Commerce/Trade/department store
Funerary/cemetery
Education/school
Government/fire station
Religion/religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial/Georgian
Early Republic-Federal
Mid 19th century/Greek Revival/Gothic Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone, brick
walls wood, synthetics, brick
roof asphalt, stone
other

Narrative Description

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

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Agawam (Hampden), MA

Narrative Description

The town of Agawam is located on the alluvial flood plain of the west bank of the Connecticut River. On the north it is bordered by the Westfield River, which flows east in an irregular, ox-bowed course to empty into the Connecticut River, and on the south it is bordered by the Massachusetts-Connecticut boundary. The town's west boundary follows the crest of Provin Mountain that is part of a chain of mountains extending north to the Mount Tom and Mount Holyoke Ranges. Threemile Brook crosses the town in a north-south direction flowing into the Connecticut River south of the Center.

The Agawam Center Historic District is primarily a residential district interspersed with commercial and institutional buildings. The district is aligned on both sides of two principal roads. The first is a major north-south road, Main Street or MA Route 159, beginning on the north at an elevated highway, MA Route 57, and ending just south of the intersection of Adams and Main Streets. The second road is Elm Street, which runs perpendicular to Main Street from the west and intersects it in the center of the district. Buildings generally follow a uniform setback, but as Main Street's width increases, the setback correspondingly decreases. Both Elm and Main Streets are tree-lined. A description of the district's resources follows.

Georgian Style 1750-1776

There is one Georgian style house in the Agawam Center district the Bliss Tavern, 940 Main Street, ca. 1750 (AGA.72). **(Photograph No. 1)** This is a 2 1/2-story, center chimney house with a side gable roof that extends on the west for a saltbox or cat slide profile. The shingle-sided house is five bays wide and one bay deep but extends two bays beneath the roof extension. The result is a graceful set of proportions and a form of the Georgian style that was ample for its day. During the Federal period and ca. 1800 the house was updated, given new 6/6 windows on the first floor and a new trabeated door surround with paneled pilasters rising to a seven-light transom. The entry has a cross-and-bible style paneled door. Windows on the second floor remain 12/12 with the wide muntins of the Georgian period. This house represents the period of architectural style predating the flourishing of the Federal style that dominates the early history of the district.

Federal Style 1776-1820

Agawam Center has long been known for the fine quality of its remaining Federal architecture that today sets it apart from neighboring towns. While West Springfield and Springfield may have, and did, lose comparable buildings, several of Agawam's Federal buildings would stand out in any field. Their genesis was the prosperity that came with the Federal period, which reached its apex between 1793 and 1807, and they must be seen in the context of the architecture of the Connecticut River Valley south from Springfield to Long Island Sound. While houses in Massachusetts' valley towns were not as rich as those of the seacoast towns, much of the taste for high style Federal architecture traveled north as far as Springfield and Agawam and it is this context in which the architecture of Agawam may be viewed.

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The Georgian 2 ½-story house form already in use before the Revolution was continued into the 19th century with some changes that derived from an architectural movement in England by the Adams brothers that turned to more refined classical detail. The Adamesque style turned to classical architecture largely for its interiors but their influence extended to the exterior as well with taller, thinner proportions, more delicate moldings, carving and elaborate window compositions. From the more robust Georgian detailing that stood in relief from the plane of the facade, builders moved to subtle, attenuated forms that gained their attention by fineness of detail. Classical details such as wider cornices and colossal pilasters appear, and eaves make full returns across the gable ends for a more classical pediment. From predominant side gable roofs, hipped roofs emerged with two to four interior chimneys, and the square plan house with hipped roof became a favorite form with wealthy merchants in all parts of the Valley. Emphasis was given to the central portion of the façade on many houses by a pavilion that may step forward, or by full height pilasters in combination with a porch on Doric columns below a Palladian window composition at the second floor. Secondary entrances were present in the Georgian period in western Massachusetts, but it was in the Federal period that they were more consistently given decorative emphasis.

In Agawam Center Federal style buildings range from more modest cape forms to large, high style buildings with developed details derived from the English Adams brothers. While a range of Federal style buildings from 1 ½-story simple cape form houses to larger 2 ½-story houses with Federal detail is common in the Connecticut River Valley, Agawam is unusual in its high level of stylistic expression. Key to this outstanding characteristic is the high survival rate of Federal buildings. That is to say, in both level of architectural finesse and in number of examples, the high-style Federal houses of the center are outstanding and bear comparison with the more celebrated Valley towns of Connecticut.

To begin with the more modest, the Seth Adams, Jr. House, 854 Main Street, ca. 1790 (AGA.66) (Photograph No. 2), is a fine example of the amply proportioned, Federal-style cape house. The east or river-facing house is set on a rise behind a low brownstone embankment. Foundations beneath the main block of the house are granite, and those beneath a later porch are brick. The clapboard house is 1 ½-stories in height beneath a broadly pitched, side-gable roof. The slate roof has a center chimney that has been reduced in size. The house is five bays wide and three bays deep; window size is moderate and accommodates 6/6 replacement sash. Typical of the well-built cape house, at the second floor, fixed, four-light windows flank a pair of 6/6 windows to bring maximum light to the second story and a pleasing aspect to the gable ends.

A gabled portico from the 1940s covers the center entry of the east façade. On the west is a one-story kitchen ell that connects to a contemporary, two-bay garage. A side porch on the south was added at a later date. The porch is supported by three posts, but one of its bays has been enclosed with glass. A secondary entrance to the house is located through this porch. Although it is not as grand in scale as 2 ½-story Federal houses, this cape is representative of the high level of function that was often achieved by the Cape form, providing interior space for large families in an economical manner. Two outbuildings for farming equipment storage are at the rear of the house.

At 41 Elm Street is the Stephen and Hannah Bodurtha House, 1812, (AGA.41). (Photograph No. 3) This is a later, and smaller-scale Federal style house, 1 ½-stories in height under a slate, side gable roof. The house is oriented sideways on its lot facing east towards Main Street and towards an earlier road that passed in front of the house, but is now gone. The

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well-preserved, clapboard house has a reduced center chimney and is five bays wide and two bays deep. It has a center entrance with a trabeated surround that dates from a later Greek Revival alteration. The surround has the broad pilasters and high entablature of the Greek Revival style along with full-length sidelights. A 1 ½-story ell on the west added in 1859 is four bays long and has two, through-cornice, hipped dormers on its roof. At the angle of the house and ell is a hipped roof porch on Queen Anne turned posts, leading to a rear entry. A single-story ell extends from the south of the larger ell.

The third of the modest Federal houses is the Ellis-Cooper House, 676 Main Street, ca. 1800 (AGA.33), a simple cottage of 1 ½-stories under a relatively shallow, side-gable, asphalt shingle roof. It is five bays wide and despite the shallow roof pitch is a two-pile house. There is a 1 ½-story ell on the west, followed by a one-story ell for an L-shaped plan. The house has been vinyl sided but its trabeated surround was left uncovered. The surround is wider than the Allen House at 726 Main Street (AGA.37) (Photograph No. 4) and it has half-length sidelights. Between first-floor windows and the cornice line the house has more height than either the Bodurtha or Adams houses, making this a raised cape form. There are both an interior chimney that has been reduced and an added end-wall chimney.

The last of the Federal cottages and one that is relatively unchanged is the Worthington House, 1008 Main Street, ca. 1800 (AGA.78). This is a 1 ½-story house under a narrow, side-gable roof, and it is thought by some to have been an ell of another house that was moved to the site before 1830. It is five bays wide, but the entry is off-center by one bay. The house is two bays deep and there is a small center chimney. A shed roof addition on the north contains a secondary entry. There is also a single-story, shed-roof addition on the west. The door surround is the simplest: flat stock with an altered entablature and enclosed transom. The transom has the doubled muntins that were to become popular during the Greek Revival period, suggesting that the entry was indeed a later alteration of ca. 1820-1830.

The strength of the Agawam Center Historic District, however, lies in its high-style Federal-style buildings and the Allen House, 722-724-726 Main Street, ca. 1795 (AGA.37) (Photograph No. 4), is among the earliest. Like several of these Federal houses, it has a side-gable roof with two interior chimneys. The center entry has the tall proportions of the early Federal style. It is a trabeated surround of pilasters supporting a high entablature and projecting cornice. Below the entablature is an arched fan with leaded fanlight and in the spandrels at each side are carved linen fan motifs. Above the door is a Palladian window with curved muntins, and at each side the rectangular panels have leaded glass in a double scallop pattern. Windows of the five by three bay exterior have simple architrave surrounds with minimal molding. On the south elevation is a side porch with a hipped roof resting on fluted Doric columns. On the north is a 1 ½-story wing with two bays recessed and a flush third bay. Both porch and wing have full entablatures with a narrow fillet in high relief. A single-story ell on the west side of the wing connects it to a three bay garage. There are two outbuildings at the rear of the property.

The Captain Charles and Mercy Leonard House, 663 Main Street, 1805 (AGA.31), is the town's finest Federal building. It is listed individually on the National Register (NR 1975), has been recorded by the Historic American Buildings Survey, and photographed for The White Pine Series, Vol. XI, No. 4. The building has been attributed to Asher Benjamin for its similarity to illustrations in his published handbook *Country Builder's Assistant* of 1798, Plates 31 and 32. This level of architectural accomplishment suggests at the very least that the house was built by a housewright familiar with high-style Federal architecture through handbooks or travel, and may yet be directly linked to Benjamin. It is a two-story building on

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granite foundations with a hipped, asphalt shingle roof on which are two interior chimneys. The main block of the building is five bays wide and five bays deep with a two-story ell on the rear that is four bays long, followed by a single-story ell. Corner porches are located on the north and south façades at the intersection between the main block and ell. The principal elevation of the clapboard house is framed with shallow, panelled pilasters that have reeded capitals. In the center bay of this elevation is a full-height pavilion that is supported by a pair of engaged, colossal Doric columns. The gabled pavilion has an open pediment filled by an elliptical fanlight at roof level. Within the pavilion at second-floor level is a Palladian window composition and at the first floor is the main entry with a trabeated surround. The entry surround is composed of two pairs of narrow pilasters enclosing $\frac{3}{4}$ length sidelights and center door topped by a leaded fanlight. The fanlight spandrels are carved in a folded linen motif, found also at the Allen House, 722-726 Main Street, ca. 1795 (AGA.37), and the entablature of the surround is carved with a row of triglyphs below metopes at its cornice. Above the entry a Palladian window articulated by slender pilasters rests on a blind, carved balustrade. The classical entablatures found at the entry surround and Palladian window are repeated around the main block of the building, where there is also a fine row of dentils. On the south façade in the center bay is a secondary entry with a two-layer surround in which an architrave surround is overlaid on a slightly wider trabeated surround. Within the surround, a leaded glass fanlight tops a narrow, double-leaf door. Sash in the house is 12/12.

The Colton House-King Tavern, 740 Main Street, 1806 (AGA.38), set behind a row of four mature maple trees is another of the high style Federal houses of Agawam Center. It is two stories in height and rests on granite foundations, under a shallow, slate-covered, hipped roof from which rise two interior end chimneys. The house is five bays wide and two bays deep, its relatively narrow depth a Federal characteristic. Ionic pilasters articulate the five-bay façade. At the first floor, windows are 6/6; at the second floor windows are 9/9. The slender pilasters support a broad entablature at the cornice through which impost blocks are carved in relief for the four interior pilasters. The broad entry surround is trabeated and incorporates a generous elliptical fan-light with leaded glass above a paneled door. Sidelights are $\frac{3}{4}$ length. Directly over the main entry on the second floor is a Palladian window with an arched center opening flanked by rectangular window panels. Thin pilasters separate the components of the window. The center arched window has the Federal style's delicate curved muntins, while the side panels have leaded glass in a curvilinear urn and leaf pattern found in the highest Federal style. At the rear of the house is a 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -story kitchen ell. There is a carriage barn at the rear of the property.

The Button-Parsons House, 588 Main Street, ca. 1805 (AGA.27) (Photograph No. 5) is distinguished by its fine carving detail. Built the same year as the Charles and Emily Leonard House, it is a 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -story clapboard house on high brownstone foundations, is five bays wide and four bays deep, and has two interior end chimneys on its asphalt-shingled, side-gable roof. There is a two story shed roof addition on the west followed by a 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -story shed roof ell for a long rectangular plan. On the main block, the gables have full eaves returns ornamented with metopes. In the south gable field are two windows of 12/12 sash, a single 12/12 sash in the north field. Windows in the balance of the house are 6/6. The center entry has a Federal portico on fluted Doric columns. Pilasters and $\frac{3}{4}$ -length sidelights flank the entry door. Above the portico is a Palladian window composition with a blind balustrade and an entablature ornamented with triglyphs and metopes. The center, arched window has a simple Y-muntin pattern. On the south elevation is a single-story porch whose flat roof rests on three fluted Doric columns. An oriel window has been added to the north elevation.

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The Parsons-Hill House, 789 Main Street, 1826 (AGA.61), is a late Federal-style house, one of two brick 19th century houses in the district. It is more sparing in ornament than the earlier Federal houses described above but adds a dimension to the remaining examples of the period through its materials and details. The Parsons-Hill House, set on granite foundations, is 2 ½-stories in height beneath a front-gabled, asphalt shingle roof. The house rests on brownstone foundations and has brownstone sills and lintels; the masonry exterior has been completely painted white. The main block of the house is three bays wide and three bays deep. There is a 1 ½-story rear brick kitchen ell that has a small, rear-entry corner porch on a single turned post. On the main elevation the side entry has a three-light transom over a cross-and-bible style panelled door. Separating door and sidelights are thin, panelled pilasters. Of particular note is a second floor segmentally arched opening above the entry containing a pair of eight-light, casement windows. The opening has more the appearance of a loading bay than a residential window. There is a single interior chimney.

The Allen-Hastings House, 692 Main Street, ca. 1795 (AGA.35), dates from the Federal period but was later altered similarly to the Stephen and Hannah Bodurtha House, 41 Elm Street, ca. 1812 (AGA.41) (Photograph No. 3) with a prominent Greek Revival-style door surround. Set on granite foundations, the house follows the 2 ½-story, five-by-two-bay form with a side gable roof. It has relatively small 6/6 windows, placed close to the cornice on the second floor, a feature of the Georgian and of the early Federal styles. The center door surround is Greek Revival, a trabeated surround with broad pilasters and full-length sidelights. The building's proportions and scale give it a notable presence on Main Street.

The Agawam Center Cemetery, Main Street, 1776-present (AGA.802), is approximately ten acres in area and is set back from Main Street behind a white picket and granite post fence. A gravel drive defines the perimeter of the cemetery and divides it into sections. The east third of the cemetery is tree-shaded and contains the earliest stones approximately a quarter of which are brownstone, the remaining granite and marble. The earliest stones are brownstone, presumably quarried from nearby East Longmeadow. The stone that established the lot as a family burial ground, the Bliss stone dates from 1776 and is a rectangular stone approximately one-and-a-half feet high and two-and-a-half feet wide. It has a highly unusual border of stylized angels heads within which is the inscription to the triple gravesite of the three Bliss sons. Following the purchase of the land by the town in 1795 stones were consistently erected by Center residents. They are primarily brownstone until about 1860-70 when marble and granite came into greater use. The 1795-1870 stones are either in slab or tabernacle form and contain fine carving of the period from several discernable carver's hands. (Photograph no. 6) One distinctive motif is the use of a primary angel's head with a secondary and smaller angel's head above and at an angle to it. The second head has an almost whimsical, floating aspect. There are approximately five of these stones, each slightly different. There is serious damage to many early stones in the form of gouging, though spalling is occurring as well. Obelisks are in all stones and those in marble - true of all the marble monuments - show the greatest deterioration from acid rain. Weeping willow and urn motifs, common after 1850, appear proportionately. There are also a few figurative and geometric monuments. The cemetery is well maintained.

Greek Revival and Gothic Revival Styles 1820-1850

The Greek Revival style buildings in Agawam Center have survived in fair number, but have fared less well in their state of preservation and do not seem to have risen to the architectural level of the Federal buildings.

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Setting a high standard, nevertheless, is the Halen-Lombard House, 111 Elm Street, ca. 1830 (AGA.47), a 2 1/2-story Greek Revival house that has one of the finest porticoes in the district. The roof is front-gabled and its eaves make full returns for a pediment. A broad frieze at the eaves is divided by a narrow fillet and wide corner pilasters have three fluting-like channels carved into them. The building retains its clapboard exterior but 1/1 replacement windows have been installed. The Greek Revival portico rests on fluted Doric columns supporting an entablature that has a dentilled fillet. The entry itself has 3/4-length sidelights. The west elevation has a three-sided, two-story bay. There is a separate garage at the rear.

The Freeman-Pond House, 845 Main Street, ca. 1825 (AGA. 65), is a Greek Revival-style cape house that illustrates how the form could be modified to be more economical in space and in materials than the ample Seth Adams House. Here the clapboard house is 1 1/2-stories in height, but the more steeply pitched, asphalt-shingled roof allows for a single-pile plan rather than the double-pile Adams plan. The center chimney house is three bays wide, the third bay being altered to a paired rather than single window. This is a conservative plan and elevation, and subsequent owners altered the building to gain more space. On the second floor, two dormers were added to the side gable roof and on the first floor a porch was added on the south; finally a bow window was installed on the north elevation. A rear kitchen ell of 1 1/2-stories has a shed roof dormer on the south. The main entry to the house has a Greek Revival-style trabeated surround with wide pilasters beneath a high entablature - it was not reduced to match the balance of the house. The amply scaled surround encloses full-length sidelights that came into vogue during the Greek Revival period.

The Marsh-Campbell House, 769 Main Street, 1841 (AGA.59) is the second of two brick houses in the district dating before 1850, the earlier being the Parsons-Hill House, 789 Main Street, 1826, (AGA.61). The house appears today to be stylistically modest although its proportions and materials are generous. Old photographs show that it had a more striking appearance during the second half of the 19th century when its setting was intact and alterations were fewer. It is 2 1/2-stories beneath a side-gable roof, but it is oriented towards the south, with a gable end facing the street. As with the Parsons-Hill House, the Marsh-Campbell House has brownstone foundations. It also has brownstone sills and lintels. It is three bays wide and three bays deep. The south façade has a 1 1/2-story brick addition at its third bay which makes its original configuration somewhat difficult to discern. The center entry is slightly recessed beneath a simple brownstone lintel. Sash is replacement 6/6. There is a screened porch added to the east façade and a separate garage.

The Congregational Parsonage, 706 Main Street, ca. 1850 (AGA.36), is Greek Revival in style but it has undergone substantial altering. The vinyl-sided building is 2 1/2-stories in height and has a front-gabled roof. The main block is three bays wide by four bays deep for a side-hall plan. Recently added porticoes on posts shelter both main and side entries. A 1 1/2-story addition on the rear has been extended on the south elevation for two stories and nine bays, including a two-bay garage. All windows are 1/1 vinyl replacement sash.

The First Baptist Church of America, 760 Main Street, ca. 1830 (AGA.39), was originally a Gothic Revival-style, front-gabled church oriented towards Main Street. While its orientation remains the same, the addition of two-story wings on both north and south change the main block from a front-gabled roof to a side gable, and over time the building has lost most of its stylistic features. It is a 1 1/2-story structure on parged foundations and has been vinyl sided. On both north and south elevations, the eaves make full returns to create pediments. The north elevation has a shallow

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secondary pedimented section that is divided into three bays by vinyl-covered pilasters. The two outer bays have windows with 16/12 sash; the center bay is blind. An oculus opening is located in the upper gable field. The truncated entry tower is located off-center on the east façade. It is composed of a pedimented vestibule that is preceded by a pedimented entry bay, a motif repeated on the north elevation. Three windows of 24/12 sash are located on the tower's north side and two bays of smaller altered openings are on its south side. Original ogive windows have been removed. The church has three attached wings on its west dating 1959 and beyond. All appear to be on concrete foundations. The first wing is two-and-a-half stories, with a front-gabled roof and a portico on columns. It is three bays wide and four bays deep and connects at an angle to a two-and-a-half story side gabled building that is five bays long. This wing is connected by a one-story segment to the third wing, Bodurtha Hall. The Hall is 1 ½-stories high and has a front-gabled roof and a three bay façade entered through a portico on posts. It is a concrete block structure with partial vinyl siding. All three sections of the church have asphalt shingle roofs.

The Cemantha and Charles Leonard House, 914 Main Street, ca. 1850, (AGA.71), was originally a large and well-detailed Greek Revival house, but vinyl siding and replacement vinyl windows have removed much of its character. It is 2 ½-stories high under a side gable roof. Two interior chimneys are paired near the center of the ridge and a third chimney has been added to the exterior of the north elevation cutting through the eaves. At the center door surround of the five bay façade are two wide pilasters that are panelled, but siding hides the entablature of the surround. A large two-story ell extends from the west facade. Although alterations have compromised this house, its form and suggested detail do identify it as a 19th century Greek Revival style dwelling.

The south-facing Perkins-Fisk House, 571 Main Street, ca. 1830 (AGA.26) has been veiled by the addition of a two-story porch across its west and south façades, however the 2 ½-story house is Greek Revival in style and can be identified as such from its principal elevation. Remaining from its Greek Revival origin is the center door surround that is trabeated with broad pilasters enclosing ¾ length sidelights that are now louvered. The main block of the house, five bays wide and three bays deep, has a side-gable roof that has been altered on its west end to a hipped configuration to shelter the added porch. A 2 ½-story ell, only slightly lower than the main block is located on the east façade. It is three bays long and one bay deep and is also screened by a two-story porch on posts with brackets and lattice spandrel. The house is shingle sided and has brick foundations. Most of the sash is replacement, although there is some 6/1 sash in the ell.

On Elm Street the Desire and Thomas Pyne House, 62 Elm Street, ca. 1855 (AGA.43), is in the Gothic Revival style. It is 1 ½-stories in height and has a steeply-pitched, front-gable, asphalt shingled roof that signals its original Gothic Revival intentions. Barge boards may well have ornamented the raking eaves of the roof. Three bays wide and three bays deep, the clapboard covered house follows the popular sidehall plan. On the west, a two story, three-sided bay that is atypical for the 1850s in Agawam, adds complexity to the plan and visual appeal to the elevation.

The Mrs. G.-Baptist Society House, 684 Main Street, ca. 1855 (AGA.34) (Photograph No. 7) is transitional between the Greek Revival and Italianate styles. The eaves of its front-gable, slate-covered roof make full returns to form a pediment in Greek Revival style that rests on corner pilasters that are Italianate in their arched panels. One of the most visually lively buildings in the district, the well-maintained, 2 ½-story house is three bays wide and two bays deep, and has a wrap-around porch on Italianate posts that rest on paneled plinths. Paired, scroll-cut brackets ornament the porch frieze and turned balusters add visual interest to the porch railing. The main entry to the side hall plan house is recessed. It has a

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tall transom light above the door and full-length sidelights beside it. Full-length windows are found at the first floor level, a common Italianate feature. There is a single-story bay that was added on the south façade and a 1 ½-story rear ell. Typical of its period for Agawam, the house was constructed on brick foundations.

Italianate Style 1850-1870

Agawam Center's Italianate houses are concentrated on Elm Street in the district, though there are several examples on Main Street. The Brooks-Chapin House, 807 Main Street, ca. 1830 & ca. 1870 (AGA. 63), is a well-preserved Italianate style house that adds to the stylistic diversity of the Agawam Center historic district. It is a 2 ½-story house that is gable-and-wing in plan. Deed research indicates that a portion of the house may date ca. 1830, however, its current stylistic appearance is Italianate.

There is a shallow, transverse gable bay on the north façade for a variety of interior volume. The gabled elevation is three bays wide and is composed of three, full-length Italianate-style windows with later 6/1 sash. In both gable fields are lunette windows. Entry to the house is at the junction of the two house sections. The wing is three bays deep and on its east is an attached, enclosed, one-story porch. The porch rests on a high, lattice apron. Painted shingles have replaced original clapboard exterior, and the house rests on brick foundations. Deed research places the date of a house on this site to 1838 suggesting that the wing was an older section to which the Italianate gabled section was added ca. 1870.

Although it is not as well preserved as the Brooks-Chapin House, the Clark-Billings House at 32 Elm Street, ca. 1870 (AGA. 40), is as stylistically distinct an Italianate house. It is a front-gabled, 2 ½-story house that is vinyl sided. On brick foundations, the house is three by three bays and has a 1 ½-story rear ell followed by a single story ell for a long rectangular plan. The main elevation has full-length windows on the first floor adjacent to an Italianate portico on chamfered piers above paneled plinths. The door has ¾-length sidelights and a large transom that is characteristic of the style. A pair of arched windows is in the gable field that is formed by full eaves returns. On the east elevation is a side porch with a single, chamfered post at its corner.

The Bailey-Thompson House, 869 Main Street, ca. 1865-70 (AGA.67), is representative of an Italianate style house that was built in increasing numbers during the second half of the 19th century in Agawam. It is a 2 ½-story version of the more common one-and-a-half story, side-hall cottage. It has a front gable roof, is three bays wide and two bays deep. A cross-gable roof on the south gives the house a more complex floor plan, and in the angle of the two sections of the house, a two-story porch was added in the last decade. The exterior of the house is asbestos shingle sided; the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The most well-defined stylistic feature of the house is a pedimented entry hood that is supported on scrolled Italianate consoles. Windows are 2/2 sash.

The Sykes-Worthington House, 70 Elm Street, ca. 1850 (AGA.44), is a house that may have begun as a 1 ½-story house but is thought to have been raised to a full 2 ½-stories ca. 1870. The alterations brought it to an Italianate style. The center chimney house has a side gable roof. It is five bays wide and two bays deep. On the east a single story side porch rests on posts and extends over a three-sided bay suggesting the porch was added after the bay. Italianate in style

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are the panelled corner pilasters and the high lintels over the 6/6 sash windows at both stories. These windows are elongated on the first floor, a common Italianate stylistic feature. The main entry of the house has a trabeated surround with an added Colonial Revival portico on posts. The surround has paneled pilasters and half-length sidelights. Italianate in style as well is the hood on scrolled consoles that ornaments the entry to the side hall plan house. The house has been completely vinyl sided and vinyl replacement windows have been added, so its original character has been compromised. A recent pressure-treated wood porch replaces an original stoop. Foundations are parged brick.

The Mrs. Norton House at 130 Elm Street, ca. 1855 (AGA.49) (Photograph No. 8) is a modest and atypical Italianate style house. It is two-and-a-half stories in height beneath a side-gable, asphalt shingle roof whose eaves make full returns for gable pediments. It has two shed roof dormers. The vinyl sided house is five bays wide but its door is not in the center, as is customary. Rather, it is in an end bay. There is a one-story wing on the east. First floor windows are full-length, an Italianate feature; they now have replacement sash. The street elevation has a full width porch that is supported on posts linked by turned railings that are not original to the house.

The best example of the Italianate style in Agawam Center is found at 44 Elm Street, the Chapin-Oldroyd House, ca. 1850 (AGA.42). (Photograph No. 9) This is a 1 ½-story Italianate cottage that is three bays wide and two bays deep. It has a slate, side-gable roof with a centered, through-cornice gable dormer containing an arched window on its principal elevation, a characteristic of the Italianate style that was intended to suggest a villa. This is an elevation that became very popular in the region in both 1 ½- and two-story buildings. Directly below the dormer is the main entry, a partially enclosed portico that is supported by Italianate piers with scrollwork brackets. Flanking the center entry are long, Italianate, paired-4/4 sash. A side porch on the east elevation is half open and half closed and has bracketed posts and a secondary entry. Brackets at the eaves are ornamented with pendants and rest on wide cornice boards. The clapboard house has two interior chimneys.

Queen Anne Style 1870-1910

The Queen Anne style is represented in Agawam Center, but it is a very modest version; without the great variety in plan and elevation, in surface ornamentation, and details that characterize the style in nearby Springfield, for instance. The style is modestly represented by the W. C. Campbell House at 844 Main Street, ca. 1890, (AGA.347). A two-family house on a slight rise above Main Street, it is 2 ½-stories in height beneath a front-gabled, asphalt roof. The painted, asbestos shingle-sided house is two bays wide and three bays long and there is a two-story ell on the rear that is three bays long, for an extended rectangular plan. A two-story bay on the south façade adds a touch of complexity to the otherwise simple elevation. A two-story, stacked porch on the street façade has been considerably altered; there are two side hall entries at first and second floors. The roof makes returns. There are two interior and one exterior chimneys. Sash is a combination of 1/1 and 6/6.

The H. K. Bodurtha House, 75 Elm Street, ca. 1870 (AGA.45) is a late Italianate style house with a front gable roof. It is 2 ½-stories high and its eaves make full returns to enclose an Italianate style arched window with fanned muntins in its gable field.

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The Pyne House at 84 Elm Street, ca. 1880, (AGA.46) is an additive Queen Anne. The main block of the south-facing house is a front-gabled, 2 ½-story block with a three-sided bay rising two stories next to the entry. There is a 1 ½-story ell on the west with two, through-cornice dormers added to it. The ell is five bays long and it contains a second entry. A porch on turned posts precedes both the ell and the main block. The porch entry is marked by a small pediment.

The M. Bacon House at 883 Main Street, 1900-1910, (AGA.68) is a late Queen Anne style house. Set on high brick foundations it is 2 ½-stories high beneath a front gabled roof whose eaves make a full return with enough breadth to form a pent roof. This is a roof feature that is repeated nearby at 907 Main Street, ca. 1900 (AGA.70) and indicates a relatively late date in the style. The house has been vinyl sided and many of its windows are 1/1 vinyl replacements. A full width porch rests on posts with ornamental jig saw-cut brackets. The house's late date is also revealed by its proportions that have increased from earlier versions of the style but have become simplified with only a two-bay width and a two-bay depth. There is a three-sided bay on the south elevation and a cross gable on the north for variety in the plan that was favored by the Queen Anne style.

Colonial Revival Style 1876-1910

Perhaps the most popular and long-lived style to be represented in the district is the Colonial Revival and one of its more unusual examples is a building that was constructed as both an office and a dwelling, the Agawam Company Woolen Mill Office and House, 159-165 Elm Street, ca. 1880 (AGA.50). It is a front-gabled house, 2 ½-stories high with a cross gable on the east, and a rear, one-and-a-half story ell. The building is three bays wide, and on the east elevation of the main block is a recessed porch one story in height that rests on Doric columns. The porch has a pedimented entry whose gable field is ornamented with a floral relief. Both the recessed porch on columns and the floral relief are features not found elsewhere in the Center and are indications that the building was intended to be high style at the time of its construction. It has, however, been sided with vinyl and most of its sash has been replaced with 1/1 and 6/6, altering what would have been a distinguished original appearance.

The Agawam Company House, 194-196 Elm Street, ca. 1900 (AGA.52), is also vinyl sided and has a combination of 1/1 vinyl replacement windows, 6/1 and 4/1 wooden windows. It is set on parged brick foundations on a hillside that slopes east towards the mill. It is 2 ½-stories high, five bays wide and two bays deep, beneath a side-gable, asphalt shingled roof. Two entries are centered. There is a one-story ell on the rear of the building, a glassed-in porch across the front, and a garage at each side. This is a simply constructed, utilitarian building with no apparent stylistic ornament, signaling its tenant house use.

The house at 700 Main Street, ca. 1922 (AGA.324) is a well-maintained example of a very popular Colonial Revival style house, being 2 ½-stories with a slight gable roof and a full-width, pediment-entry porch across the front. A large gabled dormer is centered on the roof and there is a shallow oriel on the north elevation at the first floor for variety of interior volume. The porch is supported by half-length Doric columns that rest on a solid, shingled, porch roof. Windows follow the common Colonial Revival pattern that places them in multiples for greater light to the interior. The three-bay façade has a triple window and a double window composition at each side of the center entry. Sash is 1/1. The house is sided with shingles and clapboards.

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The house at 648 Main Street, 1922 (AGA.313) is a Colonial Revival/Craftsman style four-square house that is 2 ½-stories high on pressed concrete blocks beneath a hipped roof. It is four bays wide and three bays deep and on the roof is a centered, hipped dormer. The roof had wide eaves overhangs ornamented with brackets in Craftsman style. The house is clapboard covered on the first floor and shingled on the second floor, a common motif of the Colonial Revival style. A full-width porch has a stacked, one-bay section on the second floor. The porch at both sides has half-length posts on a high apron. There is a shallow, three-sided bay on the south elevation, and sash throughout the house is a mixture of vertical 4/1 and 5/1 lights.

At 67 Elm Street, ca. 1915 (AGA.272) is a very large-scale Colonial Revival style house. It is 2 ½-stories high under a hipped roof, a form that is often referred to during this period as a four-square. Centered on the roof is a broad dormer beneath which at the second floor level is a three-sided bay that rests on a first-story porch. This is not a common elevation in the area but appears to be a carpenter's version of the style seen more often in neighboring Springfield. The house is a generously proportioned three bays wide and three bays deep and is covered with asbestos siding. It has brick foundations, two interior chimneys, and 2/2 replacement sash.

Also large in scale is the Manley House at 89 Elm Street, ca. 1910 (AGA.276), a front gabled house, 2 ½-stories high. On the street elevation, an enclosed, stacked porch is adjacent to a three-sided bay in which the center window has a stained glass transom, a Colonial Revival detail that is repeated on the second floor. The use of a stacked porch for multi-family houses was a popular form in the greater Springfield area. The house rests on brick foundations and there is a rear, glass-enclosed porch on the east elevation. Some of the sash is original 2/2, but mostly the windows are replacements.

The house at 664 Main Street, ca. 1922 (AGA.31) is a less well-preserved version of the Colonial Revival /Craftsman four-square house. The stucco-covered building is 2 ½-stories in height beneath a pyramidal hipped roof of asphalt shingles that has shed roof dormers on three sides. The house is three bays wide and three bays deep and has an enclosed porch across its principal façade with a gabled entry. Sash is 6/1.

The Agawam Fire Department Station, 35 Elm Street, 1918 (AGA.264), is late Colonial Revival in style. It is 1 ½-stories high under a front-gambrel roof. Now vinyl sided, the building has a slate roof that extends from its upper angle to create a shed roof dormer three windows long. The street elevation has a two-bay extension added across its first story to accommodate longer fire trucks. The building is three bays long and a 1 ½-story addition is in construction on the south façade.

Colonial Revival in style as well is the J. B. Brouse multi-family house at 24, 26, 28 Elm Street, ca. 1910 (AGA.262). It is a large, 3 ½-story house with a front-gambrel roof. The building is three bays wide and four long bays deep for a rectangular plan. To add further space to the interior, there is a transverse gambrel gable on its west façade. It sits on a high brick foundation and is asphalt shingle-sided on the upper story and a half, and asbestos shingle sided on its two lower stories.

The Colonial Revival persisted well into the 20th century, sometimes under the label Neo-colonial style after 1920. Representative of this phase of the style is the Davis Library, 733 Main Street, 1924 (AGA.58), designed by the Boston architectural firm of Coolidge and Carlson. It is a masonry building, 1 ½-stories, with a side-gable slate roof. Deep red

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brick is laid in Flemish bond and in soldier rows for window lintels. The building has paired, end-wall chimneys, a feature that relates the style more to mid-Atlantic colonial antecedents than to New England. The building is three bays wide, in the center of which is a large, front-gabled vestibule. A clock is centered in the vestibule's gable field above a recessed entry that is supported by a column and pier pair at each side. These support an entablature whose frieze is carved with "Agawam Public Library." The opening has a set of double-leaf doors. Windows have 6/6 sash on the first floor and shutters have carved cut-outs of open books in their upper panels. On the north façade is a single arched window opening that is set high in the wall, rises to the attic level, and has a Federal-style curved muntin pattern in its arch. Above it is set the building's completion date in metal numbers: "1924." A rear one-story ell extends from the east elevation. It has an added access ramp to its entry.

Colonial Revival continued after World War II, and the house at 103 Elm Street, 1948, (AGA.282) is typical of the style as it was built economically and in large numbers. This is a 1 ½-story, varicolored brick house with a side gable roof. It is a compact three bays wide and two bays deep and has an attached one-bay garage on the west. There is a center chimney behind the roof ridge. The center door surround is composed of two pilasters that rise to meet the cornice without a full entablature. This is a version of the Colonial Revival surround that makes allusion to its antecedents without their full reproduction – a simplified and less expensive interpretation that appeared more often in frame construction than in masonry.

Bungalow Style 1910-1930

The bungalow, a building form rather than a specific style, is numerically well represented in the district. Whereas bungalows could be decorated in fanciful styles that ranged from Egyptian to Tyrolean, those in the Agawam Center district are the more standard Craftsman. Two bungalows are side by side at 799 and 795 Main Street. The house at 799 Main Street, ca. 1925 (AGA.340) (Photograph No. 10) is 1 ½-stories with a centered, hipped dormer on its side-gable roof. The painted, shingle-sided house is three bays wide and five bays deep, and a one-story extension at the rear kicks out its roofline. A porch on the street façade rests on turned Queen Anne-style posts, as does an added side porch entry at a one-story rear ell addition. The house has pressed concrete block foundations, a material that appears often in the district at both foundations and in elevations during the 1920s. The main entry door is slightly off center between paired windows. The door is a good example of the Craftsman style, with a six-light upper section.

The house at 795 Main Street, 1917 (AGA.62), is a vinyl-sided bungalow whose porch has been enclosed. This is the most common alteration made to bungalows to increase their year-round useable space for northern climates. The house is 1 ½-stories high under a side-gabled roof, but the roof has been raised in the rear to accommodate a full second story. A large off-center dormer has also been added to the front elevation. The house is three bays wide and four bays deep and rests on a pressed concrete block foundation. There is a separate garage on the property.

The Pratley House, 675 Main Street, ca. 1912 (AGA.318), is one of the least altered of the Center's bungalows. It is 1 ½-stories with a side-gable, asphalt-shingled roof that extends on the west to become a porch supported on portly Doric columns. Centered on the roof are two gabled dormers that are connected by a low, shed-roof section that contains a band of three windows, a Craftsman-style detail. The shingled house is three bays wide and two bays deep. The center door is flanked by two Craftsman-style square sidelights of eight fixed lights. There is a shallow oriel on the south façade.

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The Tudor Revival style did not appear to any great extent in Agawam Center. There are no Tudor Revival style houses, but the house at 779 Main Street, ca. 1918 (AGA. 60), a lively English Cottage style house, has strong Tudor Revival/Craftsman features in its varied roofline and mixed materials. It is the only example of this style in the district and is a well-detailed version that contributes to the district. The house is 2 ½-stories and sided with shingles on the upper stories, clapboard on the first. Brick is used for foundations and for porch supports; the roof is slate. The main block of the house has a side gable roof that has a full-height transverse gable section on the street façade. This gable section's roof extends to the first floor level on one side to incorporate a front gable entry that is glassed in on two sides. The effect is a staggered gable façade that characterizes the English Cottage style. Triple window compositions are used at all three stories of the front elevation. At the first and second floors they are divided by a broad stringcourse and at the third floor they become a Palladian composition. This window is repeated on the south façade third story above an entry with a shingled hood and Craftsman style sidelights flanking its door.

The Benjamin Phelps School, 689 Main Street, 1939 and 1976 (AGA.30) is full Tudor Revival in style and was designed by West Springfield architect Paul B. Johnson. The deep red brick is laid in varied relief for a rough faced surface. The building is 1 ½-stories high with a side gable roof on which are two end wall chimneys. The asphalt shingle roof extends on the rear elevation to the first floor level creating a cat-slide profile. The main block of the building constructed in 1938 is five bays by three bays and centered on the principal elevation is a 1 ½-story projecting vestibule with a recessed entry whose cast stone surround is a three-point Tudor arch. At each side are long, full-height windows with metal replacement sash. Above the entry are three small 4/4 windows that are linked by a metal balcony. On the east elevation, a 1 ½-story ell connects the main block to an L-shaped wing of two stories that was added in 1976. The small ell has a porch with Tudor posts and brackets and a scroll-cut screen. The L-shaped wing has a gable roof and strips of five 6/6 replacement windows with fake muntins. In the center of the first floor is a single, three-sided bay of metal casement sash.

Commercial and industrial buildings

The Agawam Woolen Mill, 168 Elm Street, 1898 (AGA.51), (**Photograph No. 11**) is a brick, three-story building set on the west side of the Threemile Brook. As is the case with many industrial buildings of the period, it is an additive building with varied materials and features. It is composed of three attached sections, one behind the other, each seven bays long. The first section, the washing, carding & mule spinning area, facing the road is eight bays wide and is ornamented at the flat roofline with a corbelled cornice. Windows are 12/12 segmentally arched in the first section and have splayed lintels and 12/12 sash in the second and third sections that were the inspection, weaving, and mule spinning rooms. Attached to the first section on the east is a 2 ½-story picking house, with five bays of 8/8 segmentally arched windows followed by a more recent brick wool storage section with 4 bays of industrial sash. On the east are a one-story wing and an attached fire-brick chimney.

The commercial block at 770 Main Street, ca. 1950 (AGA.336) is a brick and concrete block building that is one story in height beneath a flat roof. It is four bays wide and approximately five bays deep for a rectangular plan. The building was a former garage that was converted to office use and has a Neo-Colonial bent with its street façade constructed in brick,

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its windows glazed with 8/12 sash, and a narrow hood over its entry. The balance of the building is utilitarian, painted concrete block and there is a wood loading shelter on the south.

Next door, the Agawam Public Market, 768 Main Street, ca. 1940 (AGA.334) is a one-story, utilitarian concrete and brick building with a flat roof. It has six bays of entry and full height glass display windows across its main façade. The display window system is supported on a metal framework; a wood handicap access ramp, a recent addition, is located on its street façade as the entrance is above street level. The building is without openings on its lateral elevations. There is a one-story entry on the rear of the building.

The Variety Store and Apartment, 644-646 Main Street, ca. 1920 (AGA.312) is a 2 ½-story Colonial Revival/Craftsman style building that is vinyl sided. It has a hipped roof with wide eaves overhanging above an apartment and first floor store. The building is four bays wide and a long, four bays deep. The first floor has a replacement window beside a full storefront with a center double-leaf door flanked by glass display windows. The second floor has four bays of 1/1 replacement sash flanking two recessed bays behind a screened porch. Entry to stairs to the second floor is through a south façade enclosed portico.

At 701-719 Main Street, 1945 (AGA.297) is a red brick commercial block that has one two-story section flanked by single story sections, all under flat roofs. The exterior has received different treatment over time, including portions that have been painted and an end portion that has been sided in metal. Entries and display windows are metal frame and several have been enlarged to full length. The only form of ornament on the block is a section of synthetic shingle roof that was added to suggest a pent roof.

Archaeological Description

While no prehistoric sites are recorded in the Agawam Center Historic District, it is possible that sites are present. Three sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile). Environmental characteristics of the district include several locational criteria (slope, soil drainage, proximity to wetlands) that are favorable indicators for many types of prehistoric sites. The district is located on a well-drained, level to moderately sloping alluvial terrace on the southeast bank of the confluence of Threemile Brook and the Westfield River. The confluence of the Westfield and Connecticut Rivers lies approximately two miles east of the district. Given the above information, the availability of open land in the district, and known prehistoric settlement distributions in the Connecticut Valley region, a high potential exists for the recovery of prehistoric resources in the district.

A high potential also exists for the recovery of historic archaeological resources in the district, though much of it remains to be documented. Although the west bank of the Connecticut River and the area south of the Westfield River were settled after 1660, potential sites from this period have yet to be identified in the district. Potential 18th century sites have also yet to be identified in the district. Documentary research combined with archaeological survey and excavation can help locate evidence of archaeological resources from these periods including structural remains, features, and artifacts. The sites of extant 18th century residences and taverns can also contain important archaeological resources in the areas surrounding existing structures. These resources can include structural evidence from related outbuildings (barns, shops), evidence of alterations to existing structures, occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) and artifact distributions. Documented and potential 19th century sites are more numerous in the district and represent a pattern of residential settlement with limited commercial and institutional use that probably began in the 18th century. The 1831 map

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of Agawam documents a flourishing village in the Main and Elm Street locale within the district with a school, two churches, two inns, a small woolen mill, thirty houses and a cemetery. By comparison, the district data sheet lists only ten houses, two inns and one church that predate 1831. This evidence supports a high potential for the recovery of historic archaeological resources from the late 18th and especially early 19th century period. Known 19th century sites in the district include the site of the Center's first general store built by Stephen and Edward K. Bodurtha in 1859 on Main Street where the Agawam Public Market now stands, and a brick town hall and two-room schoolhouse built in 1874-75 on the site of the Benjamin Phelps School (1938) at 689 Main Street. Archaeological resources might also survive related to earlier textile manufacturing in the vicinity of the Agawam Woolen Mill (ca. 1898) at 168 Elm Street. Additional documentary research combined with archaeological survey and testing may locate structural evidence of mill buildings, water- power facilities (power canals, wheel pits) and archaeological features related to woolen and textile mills present on the site beginning with the Bodurtha Mill in 1800 and continuing to the existing mill. Archaeological evidence may also survive from a company-built boarding house built for the original Bodurtha Mill in 1800. Unmarked graves, funerary related objects and post molds may survive at the Agawam Center Cemetery that became a town cemetery in 1795 but was used as the Bliss Family Cemetery beginning in 1774.

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Agawam Center HD
Name of Property

Hampden, MA
County and State

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)

AGRICULTURE

ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance

Ca. 1750-1951

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

N/a

Architect/Builder

Coolidge & Carson (Davis Library)

Paul B. Johnson (Phelps School)

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

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Agawam (Hampden), MA****NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The town of Agawam is a Connecticut River valley town that developed as a secondary settlement on allotted fields and common land of an English plantation. Following a settlement pattern that was established in the mid to late 18th century in the valley, Agawam was begun as a settlement for second generation Springfield plantation residents for whom there was not enough land to support their increasing families. It was the destination as well of new arrivals to the valley and possibly for those who came to prefer the outlying Agawam land to the more settled Springfield. Within this larger context Agawam Center is significant as a village center that developed along an existing thoroughfare, precipitated in part by the presence of a series of inns that catered to travelers and their commerce. The Center is important for its 18th and 19th century farming history of a mixed agriculture in which dairy farming was highly successful. The Center is a good example of the spread of population from urban centers at the beginning of the 20th century; it is a farming village turned streetcar suburb by greatly improved transportation in the forms of the trolley and automobile.

The Center is significant for its architecture, principally for its fine collection of Federal style buildings. It has representative examples of succeeding stylistic periods from Greek Revival through the bungalows of the early 20th century each representing eras of prosperity and growth. The following narrative describes Agawam Center's origins, summarizes its history, and identifies some of its residents whose contributions are known because they were documented at the time.

Contact Period (1500-1620)

Archaeologists believe the Connecticut River and the Westfield River are the likely locus of native American settlement during the Contact Period. One of the seven native core groups thought to have occupied the Connecticut River valley as a whole is believed to have concentrated in the Enfield, Connecticut, area with a second population concentration in Agawam and West Springfield.

Trails in a north-south direction were established by these groups following the flat floodplain along the Connecticut River, paths that were to be further developed once English settlement occurred in the subsequent period. The primary trail on the west side of the river passed through Agawam from Suffield, Connecticut, with a fording point over the Westfield River.

During this period any actual contact in western Massachusetts between native Americans and English settlers has not been documented, although there may have been individual episodes with through-travelers.

Plantation Period (1620-1675)

More is understood by archaeologists about native American presence in the area during the Plantation Period. The primary group, the Agawams, was a regional core group of native Americans that perhaps persisted from the Contact Period, and they occupied the area from Enfield Falls, Connecticut as far north as South Hadley. They occupied both sides of the river with a large population concentrated on the Agawam floodplains and also occupied a palisaded village

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on the east side of the river in Springfield. Accounts kept by William Pynchon, one of the founders and earliest settlers of Agawam Plantation, suggest that native Americans had traveled to Roxbury where he lived at the time to entice him to settle here. They described the attractions of their home territory that they called "Quinneccticott," its game and resources. While one of their primary concerns was getting English protection against other invading native American groups, they also hoped to interest Pynchon in the beaver trade potential of the area. On the lookout for opportunity, Pynchon sent a trade scouting party that included John Woodcock and John Cable to explore the area in 1635. Cable and Woodcock traveled up the Connecticut River, then by fording falls, made their way to the Agawam area and sent back reports that confirmed its plentiful resources. Cable and Woodcock remained in Agawam and built a house in which to live and trade. While we know little of their experience, court records reveal that Woodcock was not entirely satisfied with the arrangement. He sued Cable four years later for payment for working on construction of the trade outpost. The court found that his claim was valid but that it was cancelled out by the value of his rent for having lived in the building. Despite what the experience may have been like for these two individuals, its success on the trading front convinced Pynchon that a more permanent settlement was likely to be profitable.

In 1636 William Pynchon, Nathaniel Mitchel, Henry Smith, John Burr, William Blake, Edmond Wood, Thomas Ufford and John Clark contracted with the Bay Colony for a new Plantation. In return for a grant of land, they were obligated to settle between forty and fifty families, counting both rich and poor among them, and a minister. At the same time they negotiated with the Agawams for their claim to the land. Pynchon's party received a purchase of twenty-five square miles on both sides of the river in return for sets of eighteen coats, hatchets, hoes, knives and fathom of wampum. The native Americans were also given rights to harvest the crops they already had planted, to continued access to fish, deer, groundnuts, walnuts, acorns and peas growing in the wild. According to the inventory of the Town of Agawam, Pynchon initially intended the plantation to be laid out on the Agawam side of the river, but he shifted the homelots to the east because the west was "so incombered with Indians" the settlers would "lose half the benefits" from trespassing. With this move, Agawam became the area used for agriculture, for pasturing horses and cattle, while Springfield was the settlement and trading center. The allotment map drawn up by the Proprietors shows that narrow 80-rod-long lots on the east shore were, as far as possible, extended directly across the river to the west Agawam side, all the way to the Agawam or Threemile River as it was later called. This was the first division of planting lands and in general, these were the plowing fields for the Springfield settlement. Divisions established later for common pasture and tillage land became Feeding Hills. The two divisions were known as the *inner commons* and the *outer commons* and ultimately became Agawam Center and Feeding Hills. Settlement during this period was in "The Meadows" - a section northwest of the Agawam Center Historic District and close to the Westfield River - where the first house of Woodcock and Cable had been built.

In 1660 Thomas Cooper, Abel Leonard, and Thomas Merrick settled on the southwest side of Westfield River, and other house lots were granted on the west side of the Connecticut River over a period of several years. In 1674 west side residents petitioned to get a ferryboat across the river to get to meetings safely, but the ferry was slow to be set up and it took until 1683 and the drowning of Mercy and Samuel Bodurtha and their newly born daughter before one was belatedly put in operation.

William Pynchon's account book that dates ca. 1645 shows that he tried to learn the language of the native Americans with whom he traded for furs. His trading contacts ranged mainly between the area of Wethersfield, Connecticut, and

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Northfield, Massachusetts, so encompassed a large segment of the valley's native American people. Pynchon's notes are instructive for what they tell us about his efforts to relate to the people, but they also give us a slight view into the nature of the Agawam's subsistence form of agriculture at the time. Pynchon recorded the names of the months that corresponded to the work done by the native Americans and gave them successive numbers, "1 being when they set their Indian corn; 2 when the women work their corn; 3 when they hill the corn; 4 when the squashes are ripe and Indian corn is eatable; 5-6 between harvest and eating come; 7 white frost on ye grass and grain; 8-9 middle of winter; 10 sun thaws; 11 ice in river all gone; and 12 fish catching".

William Pynchon's interest in the language may have been a personal and cultural one, but it was no doubt part of his efforts to facilitate trade with native Americans. He was the settlement's principal merchant, who directed trade and kept a warehouse in Windsor, Connecticut, where the produce and goods were collected before shipping them to Hartford and Boston. When Pynchon returned to England - ironically to escape religious persecution - his son John took over the family trading and farming business and added the West Indies as a market for Agawam's produce.

Colonial Period (1675-1775)Town History and Development

In 1675 King Philip's War came to Springfield and four settlers were killed, while thirty-two houses, twenty-five barns, Maj. Pynchon's corn and sawmills were burned down. The attack was limited to the east bank of Springfield, but it had an indirect effect on the west bank. After the attack, native Americans left the whole area and their land was taken over by the English. Since there seems to have been a presence of native Americans on the west side since the Contact Period, this event probably opened it to more sustained, if not vigorous, settlement. By 1693 thirty-two families lived on the west bank and attended the Park Street meetinghouse in West Springfield.

Development was further boosted in 1707 when Springfield divided land on the west side of the Threemile River into ten-acre lots that were distributed to all males 21 years and older. Clearly this was an expansion for the next generation of Springfield families, one that aimed to establish its young men with their own property. Names that are to be familiar in Agawam history make their appearance, such as the Leonard, Sykes, Ferry, Ball, Cooper, Fowler, Worthington, and additional members of the Bodurtha families. Settlement of these new families, added to the existing thirty-two, was adequate to justify hiring a teacher for the west side the following year in 1708. The teacher circulated among households teaching religious catechism, reading, and writing. Children were sent to the teacher in the house in which he was staying. Here he remained for periods proportional to the number of children he (and it usually was a man teacher at this period) was working with. In 1740 the town built a school building near the parish line (now gone). Typical of settlement in Agawam at the time was the land grant in 1747 to Jonathon Bodurtha. [N.B. The spelling of this family name changes frequently.] The land remained in the family after his death in 1764 and the house constructed at 41 Elm Street in 1812 (AGA.41) (Photograph No. 3).

By 1750 Agawam's Main Street had become one of two important turnpikes on the west side. It connected Hartford and Holyoke while the second turnpike ran through Feeding Hills between Hartford and Northampton. Turnpike travel gave rise to taverns and they, in turn, often became commercial centers attracting people for shipping mail, goods, passengers,

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and news. Agawam Center's development was precipitated by the establishment of three taverns in its boundaries. The Bliss Tavern, 940 Main Street, ca. 1750. (AGA.72), (**Photograph No. 1**) a Leonard tavern and a Worthington tavern (the latter two now gone) were built along its route in the Center and served a sizable stage-traveling population. Agawam as a whole by 1757 had about seventy-five families and had grown sufficiently to become a separate parish, the sixth parish of Springfield. It is clear from this sequence of events that Agawam did not follow the development pattern that was most common in the Connecticut River Valley, the linear street village. The linear pattern was one in which a main street was laid out with homelots for settlers at each side and common land was set aside for them in outer fields. Beginning as a mixture of common and assigned lots of Springfield settlers, rather, Agawam was gradually divided, settlement was dispersed, and the town only secondarily developed along a travel route into a linear street village at the Center.

In 1774 Agawam and its northern neighbor West Springfield, until then two parishes of Springfield, were merged as the single town of West Springfield. The merger did not absorb Agawam's separate identity; it remained intact as the second parish of West Springfield. The split from Springfield was a natural separation both for population purposes and in recognition of the dividing effect of the Connecticut River. Practically speaking, the network among people was unchanged. The ferry continued to operate between Agawam and Springfield and was an important link for trade during the Colonial Period with goods being transported across the river to be collected and sent south. Agawam's farmers continued to supply their produce for trade with Boston, Hartford, and the West Indies through Springfield. The West Indies trade was an important source of revenue as well as molasses, rum, and sugar for Connecticut River valley farmers.

Federal Period (1775-1830)Town History and Development

During the Revolutionary War, Agawam men were among the two companies of minutemen that were sent to Lexington in 1775. Among them the families of Leonard, Parsons, Bliss, Cooley, Cooper, and Merrick were represented, and Maj. Colton led an entire company. In addition to the personal commitments made by individuals to take part in the Revolution, the impact of the war on Agawam's population fell on its farmers. As we have seen, the Connecticut Valley farmers and merchants before the Revolution had relied on trade with the West Indies, and in the Bay Colony to Hartford and Boston for a substantial portion of their business, a business that was now interrupted.

After the Revolution, however, Agawam and the other valley towns buckled down to pay off debts and go back with full attention to their farming and trade. Active trade in agricultural produce was one of the principal reasons the Federal period became a prosperous one between 1793 and 1807 for all the Connecticut River valley including Agawam. Several Main Street residents benefited indirectly from both trade and farming. Charles Leonard and his wife Mercy Remington built the Leonard House 663 Main Street, 1805 (AGA.28), as the Center's fourth inn where they put up travelers between Boston and Hartford and farmed. Others found wealth in unexpected places - Rufus Colton won \$5,000 in a lottery and with it he and his wife Polly built the Colton House-King Tavern, 740 Main Street, 1806 (AGA.38).

Having more than one source of income and more than one market for agricultural trade were an advantage when the Embargo Act of 1807 and the War of 1812 dampened and finally interrupted West Indies trade beyond reclamation. The

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period of prosperity continued, albeit at a more modest level. Springfield and Agawam's traders and farmers turned their attention to developing more local markets along the river and inland, which required more overland shipping and a lesser emphasis on long-distance river shipping.

Agawam Center developed as a village in the Federal period. Although Main Street had been a stage road since about 1750 with three taverns at its side, in 1780 it was formally laid out as a 20-rod-wide road and homes began to join the taverns. At the same time Elm Street developed as a west connector to Feeding Hills and was, in fact, known as West Street as late as 1873. By the end of the Federal period and creation of the map of 1831, both Main and Elm Streets, within the Agawam Center Historic District, were flourishing with a school, two churches, two inns, a small woolen mill, thirty houses, and a cemetery.

Architecture

Of the houses that remain from this period, Main Street developed first with the Seth Adams, Jr. House, 854 Main Street, ca. 1790 (AGA.66) (Photograph No. 2), the Allen House, 722-726 Main Street, ca. 1795 (AGA.37) (Photograph No. 4), and the Hastings House, 692 Main Street, ca. 1795 (AGA.35). They were soon joined by the Ellis-Cooper House, 676 Main Street, ca. 1800 (AGA.33), possibly by the Worthington House, 1008 Main Street, ca. 1800 (AGA.78), the Captain Charles and Mercy Leonard House, 663 Main Street, 1805, (AGA.28), the Button-Parsons House, 588 Main Street, ca. 1805 (AGA.27) (Photograph No. 5), the Polly and Rufus Colton House, 740 Main Street, 1806 (AGA.38) that also became a tavern by 1830. Finally towards the end of the period, the Parsons-Hill House was built at 789 Main Street, 1826 (AGA.61). Elm Street saw much more limited development with only three houses, one of which remains today, the Stephen and Hannah Bodurtha House, 41 Elm Street, 1812, (AGA.41) (Photograph No. 3).

The Center got its cemetery in 1795 (AGA.802), when the town bought land from Roxanna and Jedediah Bliss of the Bliss Tavern, 940 Main Street, ca. 1750 (AGA.72). Jedediah and Phebe Bliss had begun a family cemetery on the land between 1774 and 1776 when they buried three of their sons there, Rhamer in 1774, Calvin and Luther in 1776. Phebe died in 1793 and it appears that Jedediah had remarried by 1795. With this purchase it became a town cemetery.

In 1800 Agawam Center and Feeding Hills were divided into two parishes and residents dug a ditch between the two to mark their separation. Such a literal boundary suggests a need to be perfectly clear to avoid disputes and apportion tithes to the two churches. In fact, as the single meetinghouse was now in the Feeding Hills parish, Agawam Center needed a meetinghouse. Residents bought a structural frame from the members of a Suffield, Connecticut, church, and between 1800 and 1803 set it up for use. Once again, Roxanna and Jedediah Bliss stepped forward and the parish's first meeting was held at their tavern, 940 Main Street, ca. 1750 (AGA.72) (Photograph No. 1). The new church, now gone, was on Main Street, just south of the Congregational Church of today. Roderick Allen of the Emily and Roderick Allen House, 722-724 Main Street, ca. 1795 (AGA.37) (Photograph No. 4), a carpenter, built a bier for the church in 1810. In 1817 the Congregationalists began sharing the meetinghouse with the Baptists and later with the Methodists.

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Agawam (Hampden), MAAgriculture

The Center's residents were predominantly farmers. Theirs was a mixed agriculture with livestock, cattle and sheep, some pasture and tilling land. They grew for themselves and their surplus went to trade. As Agawam was still part of Springfield during this period, census figures in the 1790-1830 censuses are unreliable to use for agricultural information.

Industrial Development

Agriculture and trade were not the only occupations of Agawam's residents, who began to diversify during the Federal period. About 1800 Justus and Calvin Bodurtha (also referred to as Bodurtha) built on Threemile Brook, at the 68 Elm Street site, the Center's first industry. They constructed a water-powered mill for processing, carding, and fulling wool which was grown by local farmers and they may also have done some weaving. They operated at this local level until 1812 when the war cut off British-produced broadcloth. The Bodurthas stepped into the gap to meet the demand, added looms to their plant, and began weaving at a larger scale. Unfortunately, once British goods were again available, the demand for their broadcloth dried up, and they returned to processing and weaving wool for area farmers.

Early Industrial Period (1830-1870)Town Development

Agawam Center consolidated its position as an institutional, residential, and commercial nexus during the Early Industrial Period. One of the first additions came in 1830, when the Congregationalists bought the Baptist's share of their jointly owned church, and the Baptists built a new one at 760 Main Street, 1830, (AGA.39). The Congregationalists established a parsonage at 706 Main Street, ca. 1855 (AGA.36), and may in fact have built it. Continuing the cooperative relationship between the two denominations, when the Congregationalists bought the Emily and Roderick Allen House, 722-726 Main Street, ca. 1795 (AGA.37), **(Photograph No. 4)** to serve as a new parsonage, the Baptists bought the house at 706 Main Street about 1870 for their parsonage.

Outside the Center, a wooden covered bridge was constructed in 1840 over the Westfield River at the north end of Agawam to improve connection to West Springfield's center; this had the benefit of increasing travel through Agawam Center as well.

Industry

Industrial expansion came to the Bodurthas' mill when in 1840 a new company known as the Norton & Bodurtha Company was formed. With additional capital Norton & Bodurtha rebuilt the 1800 mill and added on to it to continue producing custom work. The Norton and Bodurtha Company was successful in its custom wool production and in 1857 was incorporated and reorganized as the Agawam Company with expanded ownership. Agawam Center residents continued to be a part of the mill's ownership and direction. In addition to N. Norton, possibly at the Mrs. Norton House, 130 Elm Street, ca. 1855 (AGA.49) **(Photograph No. 8)**, Ashbel Sykes of the Maria and Ashbel Sykes House, 70 Elm Street, ca. 1850, (AGA.44) was an incorporator. Thomas Pyne, of the Desire and Thomas Pyne House, 62 Elm Street, ca. 1855 (AGA.43) became president and treasurer. The company increased manufacturing production by adding stockinet, satinnet and flannels to their inventory. More labor was needed to run the fabric looms and young women from

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the area who were eager to be independent and adventurous were hired on as mill workers. They got \$4 a week in pay plus room and board in a company-built boardinghouse (now gone).

Agawam's industrial base grew during this period when Martin King, who kept an inn from about 1830 at the Colton House-King Tavern, 740 Main Street, 1806 (AGA.38), is recorded as owning a paper mill on Silver Lake just west of the Center. Martin and Mercy King may have continued to operate the tavern simultaneously.

At long last, in 1855, Agawam incorporated as a town. There was no dedicated town hall, however, until 1875, so meetings were held in various buildings, and after 1859 sometimes in the Center's first general store built by Stephen and Edward K. Bodurtha, (1859) on Main Street, on the site now occupied by the Agawam Public Market. The Bodurthas lived at 41 Elm Street, the Stephen and Hannah Bodurtha House, 1812 (AGA.41) (Photograph No. 3). Stephen did not live to see it finished, as he died in 1858. The store included a hall on the second floor that was used sometimes for town meetings, at other times for singing school and various group meetings. It became a commercial center of sorts when the Bodurthas added a cobbler shop in the back in the 1860s, and it became a butcher shop later. John Lombard who lived at the Haleh-Lombard House, 111 Elm Street, ca. 1830, (AGA.47) made molasses candy in a small business in the basement of the store, and the Post Office was on the first floor in one-half of the building. The store was moved to make way for a new building, ca. 1938.

During the Civil War, 172 soldiers served from Agawam, and town women rallied to provide for them. Mrs. Samuel Bodurtha held sewing sessions at her house at 75 Elm Street, ca. 1850 (AGA.45), to make uniforms for the soldiers. The war had a mixed effect on the town. While twenty-two young men died, the Agawam Mill profited from manufacture of stockinet that was in demand during the war. To meet this demand, the company bought an existing mill in South Hadley where they did the carding, spinning, and weaving before sending the fabric to the Agawam mill to be finished.

Agriculture

Agriculture remained the town's major occupation, and commercial tobacco was grown at a significant level. Between 1855 and 1865 twenty-three acres in tobacco increased to one hundred and five acres. Farmers grew tobacco and some became cigar makers. By the 1850s Agawam produced more cigars than Southwick, Springfield, and Westfield. The Center's farmers added tobacco to their mixed form of agriculture, and dairy products were increasingly important. Tobacco barns were specifically indicated on the maps of 1920 and 1931 at the Ellis-Cooper House, 676 Main Street, ca. 1800 (AGA.330); the Allen House, 722-724 Main Street, ca. 1795 (AGA.37) (Photograph No. 4); the Charles and Mercy Leonard House, 663 Main Street, 1805 (AGA.28); the Stephen and Hannah Bodurtha House at 41 Elm Street, 1812 (AGA.41) (Photograph No. 3). A portion of the tobacco barn may survive today as a garage at the Allen House.

Among the farmers in town during this period was Loren W. Fisk, who with his wife Eunice bought the farm at 571 Main Street, ca. 1845 (AGA.26), before 1854 and built the Fisk House at 551 Main Street, ca. 1860 (AGA.25). Fisk came to Agawam not as a farmer but as the former owner of a successful hack, or livery, business. His had been the first livery to meet trains from Boston and to deliver passengers to their Springfield destinations. The Fisk's three sons, George, Edward, and William Fisk, alternately continued to farm after their father's death in 1886.

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Agawam (Hampden), MAArchitecture

While there was not a large increase in absolute numbers of buildings in the Center during this period, by 1830 older buildings were being taken down or lost and new ones were replacing them or being built on divided lots on both Main and Elm Streets. On Elm Street the buildings still clustered at the east end in 1830, but by 1855 construction had spread as far as Threemile Brook. Among the houses from this period were the Halen-Lombard House, 111 Elm Street ca. 1830 (AGA.47) followed by mill expansion at 168 Elm Street, (AGA.51) ca. 1840 (Photograph No. 11); the Chapin-Oldroyd House, 44 Elm Street ca. 1850 (AGA.42) (Photograph No. 9); the Bodurtha House, 75 Elm Street, ca. 1850 (AGA.45); the Sykes-Worthington House, 70 Elm Street, ca. 1850 (AGA.44); the Desire and Thomas Pyne House, 62 Elm Street, ca. 1855 (AGA. 43); and the Mrs. Norton House, 130 Elm Street, ca. 1855 (AGA.49) (Photograph No. 8). The latter three houses may be attributed to the mill and its expansion before the Civil War as the Norton Bodurtha Company. The wing of the Brooks-Chapin House, 807 Main Street, ca. 1831 and 1870 (AGA.67) appears to date from this period as well, rented by David and Cynthia Parsons from Herrick and Matilda Brooks.

Changes on Main Street were well distributed and more varied. Altering the appearance of the street considerably were the additions of the First Baptist Church, 760 Main Street, ca.1830 (AGA.39) and right next door to it the Bodurtha Store, 1859 (now gone). The Perkins-Fisk House, 571 Main Street, ca. 1830 (AGA.26); the Eunice and Loren Fisk House, 551 Main Street, ca. 1855 (AGA.25); the Marsh-Campbell House, 769 Main Street, 1841 (AGA.59); the Cemantha and Charles W. Leonard House, 914 Main Street, ca. 1850 (AGA.71); and the Congregational Parsonage 706 Main Street, ca. 1850 (AGA.39); were joined by the Mrs. G.-Baptist Society House, 684 Main Street, ca. 1855 (AGA.34) (Photograph No. 7). Together they provide much of the distinctive character that distinguishes the streetscape today.

Late Industrial Period (1870-1915)Town History and Development

The Late Industrial Period was one of wild contrasts for the district. Nowhere is the change better epitomized than in the modes of transportation that existed at the beginning of the period and those that were in place by its end. The seemingly indefatigable ferry between Agawam and Springfield that began in 1683 was still in operation for the first nine years of the Late Industrial Period, lasting until 1879 when a bridge was constructed at the south end of Agawam to Springfield across the Connecticut River. Meanwhile, in the early decades of the period, stagecoach traffic was still making its way along Main Street. Yet by the end of 1900 the Springfield Street Railway Company was operating a horse-drawn trolley there. The implications of these changes were felt in the Center's economic base, its architecture and ultimately in much of its appearance today. The period began with the Center getting Agawam's first town hall building. Between 1874 and 1875 two institutional buildings were constructed (both now gone) on the site of today's Benjamin Phelps School, one a brick town hall and the other a frame, two-room schoolhouse that was built by Main Street resident Roderick Allen, a carpenter who lived with his wife Polly at the Allen House, 722-726 Main Street, ca. 1795 (AGA.37) (Photograph No. 4). Construction of the town hall cemented the Center's role in Agawam as the locus of the town's government, a role it had shared with Feeding Hills until that time.

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At the outset of the period the Center's population remained fairly static, as North Agawam was developing and absorbing new arrivals and population growth. Static population notwithstanding, the Center was most certainly active and socially engaged, and we have a brief but illuminating account of the time that characterizes it well. Elsie Hastings wrote of Agawam Center as it was in the 1890s, a seemingly bucolic agricultural village with its clubs, church activities, and meeting spots. She recounts how Elm Street was paved with red gravel and beside it was a path for bicycles that also ran up and down Main Street. Willis Campbell of 844 Main Street, ca. 1890 (AGA.348), who grew up at 769 Main Street, 1841 (AGA. 59) as superintendent of streets was responsible for laying out these bike paths. Harry Hastings, Charles W. Hastings's son, acted as a cowherd for several Elm Street residents. He drove Edward K. Bodurtha's cows from his farm at 41 Elm Street, 1812 (AGA. 41) (Photograph No. 3), together with W. B. Rice's two to three cows from the Halen-Lombard House, 111 Elm Street ca. 1830 (AGA.47) with his own single cow out Elm Street to pasture. Mr. Rice ran a stable from his home on Elm Street.

The Hastings now owned the former Bodurtha store beside the church and had barrels of peanuts and roasted potatoes for loiterers. But for those whose socializing took a more improving tack, a current events club was organized. Church work was important to residents as well. The Baptist Society, still a separate organization from the Baptist church, bought the house at 684 Main Street as their headquarters, and meetings for the Center's Baptists took place here.

Center residents were also actively engaged in town affairs. Willis Campbell, one of the Center's farmers, for instance, was consistently active in town government serving at one time or another as superintendent of streets, fence viewer, Constable, town assessor, and tax collector. Charles W. Hastings, insurance agent, store proprietor, farmer and deacon at the First Baptist Church, was Public Weigher and Measurer of Wood. Farmer Henry E. Bodurtha in the year 1901 managed to be chairman of the board of health, selectman, assessor, and overseer of the poor during that single year.

Elsie Hastings' account was written at a significant point in the Center's history because it documented a time that was about to change dramatically. Although growth had begun on Elm Street about 1895, it was the construction of a new iron replacement bridge over the Westfield River in 1899 that precipitated a more rapid pace of change. The new bridge was structurally able to carry the weight of trolley tracks and the Springfield Street Railway Company seeing the opportunity had a trolley operating through the Center down to the Connecticut boundary by the end of 1900. Photographs of Main Street taken during the first decade of the 20th century show that the trolley went up the west side of Main Street and was separated from the road by a grassy strip. A double row of elm trees lined the east side of the street. There was a larger green in front of the store at this time, and a trolley stop/shelter was constructed in front of the Baptist Church on Main Street. Even so, Elm Street was still a tree-shaded dirt road as late as 1914. The Center was now both idyllic and convenient to work in Springfield, a point that was not missed by the many people who moved here between 1905 and 1930.

Amenities and utilities added to the Center's attractive qualities. Increasingly aware of its appearance, the town in 1882 had set up a perpetual care fund for the Center cemetery, which became a garden type cemetery with shade trees, fencing, and grassy aspects. In 1890 the Agawam Free Public Library was formed, and every Friday residents of the Center could check out books at the town hall. Telephone service arrived in 1895, electricity a decade later, and a water system in 1912.

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Townpeople were not unaware of what was changing in the town, and in 1908 they voted to establish a board of assessors whose charge it was to distinguish between farm property and suburban property valuations.

The *absence* of one factor was also important to the Center's future as a suburban residential district. The railroad came through Agawam between 1901 and 1938 but passed through Feeding Hills rather than through the Center, sparing it noise and collateral development.

Agriculture

By the 1890s most other Valley town's farmers were reaching out to attract immigrants as farm laborers to help them raising tobacco, onions, and other market vegetable crops. Directories show how these immigrants boarded on the farms, lived in tenement houses, and later bought their own property. But a similar population change did not occur in the Center. It is not possible to separate the Center's agricultural statistics from the town as a whole, but from contemporary accounts, extant farm buildings, and photographs it is possible to see that Center farmers concentrated on dairy and egg production and secondarily on large cash crops such as tobacco. Milk production in Agawam was among the highest of towns in the Valley during this period. There were 239 farms and 260 barns, but only four tobacco barns in 1875. That year Agawam's farmers produced 286,878 gallons of milk in contrast to cattle-raising Blandford's 27,965 gallons. Tobacco production was actually high despite the few number of dedicated tobacco barns with 374,679 lbs., only slightly below Whately's 375,873 lbs. Land was intensively used in the Center for fodder and market garden crops, smaller amounts of tobacco, potatoes and corn. When farmers needed pasturage for their cows, as Elsie Hastings' account indicated, they drove them to outlying fields that they often rented.

The Center's residents were not all farmers or exclusively so; they followed diverse occupations. Alvin Raymond and his wife Elizabeth, for example, were cigarmakers at the Ellis-Cooper House, 676 Main Street, ca. 1800 (AGA.33) as were A. and Elizabeth Clark at the Clark-Billings House, 32 Elm Street, ca. 1870 (AGA.40). Lyman and his third wife Alice Allen lived at the Allen House, 722-726 Main Street, 1790 (AGA.37), (**Photograph No. 4**) where Lyman was a joiner and his wife Alice raised their three children. Mary and Paris Goodell lived in the Freeman-Pond House, 845 Main Street, ca. 1825 (AGA. 65) and Paris was a laborer.

The Center's tobacco farmers Freda and Michael Ahl, first at the Brooks-Chapin House, 807 Main Street, ca. 1830 and ca. 1870 (AGA. 63) then at the Bliss Tavern, 940 Main Street, ca. 1750 (AGA.72) (**Photograph No. 1**) were long-time farmers. They were followed at the Brooks-Chapin House by Henry and Sarah Cook who were dairy farmers and milk dealers. George and Grace Reed in the Parsons-Hill House, 789 Main Street, 1826 (AGA. 61) were also milk dealers and each of these two farms had a large dairy barn on its property at the time. Reed was also a mail carrier. Fremont and Erma King at 854 Main Street in the Seth Adams House, ca. 1790 (AGA.66) (**Photograph No. 2**), were listed as farmers, and the existence of a large livestock dairy barn on the property mapped in 1920 suggests that they also were dairy farmers. Sarah and Hubbard Kelsey, who lived at the Button-Parsons House, 588 Main Street, 1805 (AGA. 27) (**Photograph No. 5**), were running the Prairie Stock Farm and Edward Fisk at the Perkins-Fisk House, 571 Main Street, ca. 1845 (AGA. 26) was still listing himself as a farmer in 1912 (he died in 1916). The Bodurthas, Edward K. and Henry E., both listed themselves as farmers in 1901 at the Stephen and Hannah Bodurtha House, 41 Elm Street, 1812 (AGA.41)

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(**Photograph No. 3**), as did William B. Rice, who lived with his wife Emma in the Halen-Lombard House, 111 Elm Street, ca. 1830 (AGA.47). Charles and Elbert Campbell at the Marsh-Campbell House, 769 Main Street, 1841 (AGA. 59) were farmers as were Frank Campbell in the Colton House-King Tavern, 740 Main Street, 1806 (AGA. 38) and Willis Campbell at the W. C. Campbell House, 844 Main Street, ca.1890 (AGA.347). Between 1901 and 1912 five farmers were on Main Street and one on Elm Street in houses now gone, including two that were listed as stock farmers.

Toward the end of the period, the shift from a solely agricultural-based area to a mixed economy began. The Agawam directory of 1912 reveals the shift at 845 Main Street, John Pond of the Pond-Ekberg printing company lived. Herbert Billings at 32 Elm Street was employed at the Agawam Company, and J. Benson Brouse at 3 Elm Street (now gone) was a frame filer.

Industry

In 1875 with the war activities over, the Agawam Company sold its South Hadley mill and consolidated its Elm Street mill to continue to produce wool, but on a more limited scale. As in decades earlier, Center residents were instrumental in the company and in two cases their involvement was passed on within families. Thomas Pyne, president and treasurer of Agawam Company died in 1883 and his brother Samuel (S. Pyne House, 84 Elm Street, ca. 1880 (AGA. 46)) became president and agent. Ashbel Sykes passed his position as treasurer to his son Frederick.

In 1889 the company had a major setback as the dye house, brick mill, and empty boardinghouse burned to the ground. The woolen company office at 159-165 Elm Street, ca. 1880 (AGA.298) and storehouse [now gone] on the south side of the street were saved. The current mill at 168 Elm Street, 1889 (AGA.51) (**Photograph No. 11**) was promptly built and textile manufacturing continued until the Depression. The company expanded its market selling fabric to large department stores and added a new cold-resistant fabric, used for example in cold storage work such as the long coats that butchers wore. Meanwhile it continued to make jerseys, broadcloth, cassimeres, and tweeds. The company became publicly owned during the period, and many Agawam residents were stockholders.

Architecture

Infill took place along Main and Elm Streets as the occasional two-family house or triple-decker was built, reflecting the growing suburban nature of the Center. The largest of these multi-families is the triple-decker J. B. Brouse House, 24-26 Elm Street, ca. 1885 (AGA.262) that J. B. Brouse built next to his house at 3 Elm Street (now gone). The houses at 67 and 89 Elm Street, ca. 1910-1915 (AGA.272 and 276), are close second in size. Mill-related rather than suburban development was the addition of the Agawam Company House at 194-196 Elm Street ca. 1900 (AGA.52) and the company office and house at 159-165 Elm Street, ca. 1886 (AGA.298). The Pratley House, 675 Main Street, ca. 1912 (AGA.318) is perhaps the first suburban bungalow to appear on Main Street.

Early Modern Period (1915-1940)Town History and Development

If we were to identify a single person who made a significant impact on the development of the Agawam Center District during the Early Modern Period, it would have to be Minerva J. Davis. Davis was born in Agawam; her parents were

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Harvey and Jane Davison Porter who founded the Agawam distillery that operated south of the district. She was organist at the First Baptist Church where she and her husband Charles Davis were married. He wrote for the *Boston Globe* and the *New York Herald Tribune* and they lived away from Agawam, but after his death Minerva Davis returned to town and funded construction of the Charles Palmer Davis Library at 733 Main Street, 1924 (AGA.58). She hired the prominent Boston firm Coolidge and Carlson to design it for the Center. The Davises bought the Captain Charles and Mercy Leonard House as early as 1912, and on the Sanborn map of 1920 it was a two-family house. Then in 1938 Minerva Davis restored the main block of the house and rehabilitated its ell as a community center for the town. The building had gone through many owners over the decades and her intervention preserved it for the town. Finally, Davis willed the library \$10,000 in 1956 for an addition.

The layout of the district became much more complex during the Early Modern period as side streets mostly one to two blocks long were opened off Main Street to accommodate new suburban development. They were carved from former farmland that had risen in value with Agawam Center's shift to a suburban community. In several cases recorded at the Hampden County Registry of deeds, farmers sold blocks of land to investors and speculators who then sold them to developers. In response to the greater number of homes in the Center, the Agawam Fire Department Station was built in 1918 and served by 20 volunteers with one red fire truck. The larger number of residents led to the construction of the Benjamin Phelps School, 689 Main Street, 1938 (AGA.30) on the site of the former town hall and schoolhouse. The school was named for Benjamin Phelps, first superintendent of schools and the first principal of the high school.

Agawam in 1930 celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary with an historical pageant that was remarkable for the fact that a fair number of its historical figures were played by their descendents. The Bodurtha family members who were drowned trying to get to a baptism in Springfield, for instance, were played by Bodurtha family members. Suburbanization of the town continued; in 1936 Main Street's trolley tracks were pulled up, and busses began providing public transportation. As automobiles became widely owned, automobile repair shops appeared and one was added to the Marsh-Campbell farm at 769 Main Street, 1841 (AGA.59), converted from a barn. At the end of the period, elm trees still lined Main Street, two deep on the east.

Industry

In 1918 Agawam Mill stockholders voted to sell the business to the Harris-Emery Company who continued its wool textile manufacture, running the machinery on steam now rather than waterpower. Harris-Emery was adding the mill to its other textile mill holdings so they were well received, and the company had about seventy employees whom they housed in fourteen rental properties in town. Within a few years Harris and Emery both died, and the company was once again reorganized as the Agawam Woolen Company. The process of reorganization did not prevent it after World War I from becoming a top producer of cap cloth, then top coatings and automobile upholstery material.

Architecture

Between 1915 and 1940 the first building boom took place in the district with construction of single-family suburban homes on lots divided from former fields on both Main and Elms Streets. Bungalows were among the most frequently built houses and appear almost exclusively on Main Street: the Pratley House, 675 Main Street, ca. 1912 (AGA.318); 795

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Main Street, 1917, (AGA.62) and 799 Main Street, ca. 1925 (AGA.340) (Photograph No. 10) were among them. Colonial Revival houses appeared in numbers on both Main and Elm Streets: 648 Main Street, ca. 1910 (AGA.313); 700 Main Street, ca. 1922 (AGA.323.); 50 Elm Street, ca. 1927 (AGA.266); and 67 Elm Street, ca. 1915 (AGA.272) are examples.

Modern Period (1940-present)Town History and Development

After World War II Agawam Center continued to grow as a suburb and the impact of automobile travel increased in the district. At the beginning of the period textile industry fell off, to be replaced with modest commercial development. Businesses catering to the car located on Main Street at the commercial block of 701-719 Main Street, ca. 1945 (AGA.327). For the first time, the building was set back to provide for parking in front of the store; a gas station located in 1955 at 770 Main Street (now converted to offices); a mixed use variety store and apartment was built at 644-646 Main Street, ca. 1920 (AGA.312); a business use was added to the house at 648 Main Street, ca. 1922 (AGA.313). A store at 723 Main Street (AGA.328) was built in 1964 next to the commercial block and shared its paved setback. After Main Street became a state highway in 1958, the trend continued. In addition to the commercial buildings, a bank and two churches appeared on Main Street reflecting the Center's importance to Agawam. St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church and Rectory built at 823 and 833 Main Street, ca. 1971 (AGA.344 and 345), and the Westfield Savings Bank at 643 Main Street in 1968 (AGA.260), were located here because it was both convenient to reach and because the Center was perceived as the established institutional center of Agawam. The Baptists enlarged their church in three directions during the 1950s, when their congregation grew. Housing continued to be added on the side streets, but only an occasional lot on Main and Elm Streets saw residential construction.

Outside the district to the south, Agawam's Riverside Park had been open since 1870, but had been an amusement park for river traffic, then for trolley traffic. Shortly after the trolley was stopped and busses took over the route in 1936 Riverside was sold to owners who took advantage of its automobile accessibility to improve it. The resulting increase in attendance has had an impact on the Agawam Center Historic District. Main Street as State Route 159 was widened to allow more traffic, trees were lost and their replacement was by a single rather than a double row of trees in order to accommodate the new stores and lanes for cars. As Riverside expanded, traffic increased through the district and its rural/suburban nature today is tempered for several months each summer by cars filtering into the amusement park.

Industry

The wool manufacturing business in the mid-1940s essentially came to an end when textiles from the south, synthetics and imports flooded the market, bringing about a price decline. The Agawam Woolen Company went out of business, and its stockholders in 1952 tried to reorganize as the Agawam Manufacturing Company so they could lease out the building to other users. In 1954 they sold the building to a pattern manufacturing company for casting work. Then the flood of 1955 washed out the dam on Threemile Brook above the mill, and it was not rebuilt. Several small manufacturing companies occupy the building today, and it continues in manufacturing use.

Architecture

Between 1940 and 1950 there was a consistent amount of active construction on Elm and Main Streets. It was, without

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exception, devoted to small ranch and cape-style houses that were preferred for their compact scale. The small cottages answered the high demand for housing by returning veterans and their families and could be quickly and economically built. With more available land on Elm Street to divide into new lots, they appear in greater number there than on Main Street. 103 and 110 Elm Street, both built ca. 1948 (AGA.282 & 283), are good examples, as are 861 Main Street, ca. 1950 (AGA.353) and 935 Main Street, ca. 1950 (AGA.370).

Preservation activities have been sustained during the past ten years in the town. To recognize the historic significance of the Agawam Center Historic District and to encourage preservation of its historic buildings, the Agawam Historical Commission and the Agawam Department of Planning have undertaken an historic resource inventory and this nomination. The Historical Commission has been involved in saving the Elm Street fire station as a museum, but losses to commercial change elsewhere in the town and the pressure from Riverside Park, recently enlarged and renamed Six Flags Over New England, have accelerated their efforts and have underscored the Center's importance for the whole town.

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of prehistoric settlement in Agawam are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Prehistoric sites in the district may contain information important in the study of Native American adaptations to a temperate forest riverine environment, a habitat unique within the state of Massachusetts. Potential sites in this area may contribute important information indicating the overall importance of sites along secondary drainages to sites along the main course of the Connecticut River. Prehistoric sites along Three Mile Brook and the Westfield River within the district may have a seasonal or functional role in a larger Native American settlement and subsistence system based at larger sites along the Connecticut River. Information may be present indicating a relationship or development between prehistoric site distributions and later Native American core areas recognized during the Contact and Plantation Periods. The possibility of locating stratified prehistoric sites in alluvial deposits also indicates a high potential for recovering information important in the research of tool assemblies and chronologies and ceramic technology and style. The location of the district in close proximity to river drainages that functioned as important north/south and east/west transportation corridors also indicated the potential for locating sites and information that contribute to the analysis of prehistoric exchange.

Historic archaeological resources described above have the potential to document many of the social, cultural, and economic characteristics that typified the evolution and growth of a 18th century farming village to a 20th century suburb. Information might also be present that documents earlier settlement or land use in the district during the Plantation Period. Additional documentary research combined with archaeological survey and testing can help locate many of the district's 18th and early 19th century homes that no longer survive. This information can help reconstruct life and settlement in the district during its early period of growth. Structural evidence can help reconstruct the settlement plan of the district while detailed analysis of occupational-related features (trash pits, privies, wells) can contribute information relating to the lives of the district's inhabitants, including the social, cultural, and economic activities that occurred in the district. Potential structural, feature, and artifact evidence in the vicinity of the property now occupied by the Agawam Woolen Mill may also contribute information on the evolution and importance of the textile industry in the district. Structural evidence may survive that documents the physical growth of mills at this location and the extent to which the site was altered through successive stages of industrial use. Similar evidence may also survive that documents the evolution and use of water power on the site and the re-use or abandonment of water power structures as mill operations change, to steam and/or

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electrical power. Detailed analysis of the fills from mill structures and occupational-related features may contain information relating to textile technologies in use throughout the 19th century and how technologies and production changed through time. Unmarked graves at the Agawam Center Cemetery can also contribute important information by helping to accurately define the cemetery boundaries and burial patterns within those boundaries. Some social groups including paupers and other indigent persons may have deliberately been buried in unmarked graves, either in specified areas of the cemetery or around its periphery. Unmarked graves could also be the result of vandalism or burial markers that did not survive through time. Information may survive that helps understand the evolution of the cemetery from a family burial ground to a larger municipal cemetery.

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(end)

Agawam Center HD
Name of Property

Hampden, MA
County, State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property c. 82 acres

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 18 696560 4660600
Zone Easting Northing

2. 18 696600 4658800
Zone Easting Northing

3. 18 697600 4658800
Zone Easting Northing

4. 18 697560 4660600
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, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, with Betsy Friedberg, MHC, NR director

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date May 2001

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

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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Agawam (Hampden), MA**Boundary Description**

Are drawn on accompanying assessor's maps. They follow lot lines on the east (odd-numbered) side of Main Street from 551 Main Street to 975 Main Street, and on the west (even-numbered) side between 588 and 1008 Main Street. On the intersecting Elm Street, the boundaries follow lot lines on the north (odd-numbered) side between 35 and 167 Elm Street, and on the south (even-numbered) side between 24 and 196 Elm Street.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of this district were drawn to include most of what has historically been considered Agawam Center and to include a concentration of 18th and 19th century buildings. They were drawn to follow the rear lot lines of the buildings at each side of Main Street and Elm Street from the overpass of Route 57 on the north, to the Agawam mill company house on Elm Street on the west and on the south the property lines of 1008 Main Street beyond which the mix of 19th – 20th century buildings diminishes swiftly to predominantly 20th century. Fewer infill buildings could have been included with narrower boundaries on the south and west, however, the more generous boundaries were chosen to include within the district several 18th and early 19th century buildings that are potentially threatened by the Six Flags amusement park on south Main Street. On the west they were generously drawn to include the mill and mill house that were historically significant to Agawam Center.

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Agawam (Hampden), MA**

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographer: Tammy Peters

Date: June 2000

Negatives: at Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, West Springfield, MA

1. Bliss Tavern, facing NW
2. Seth Adams, Jr. House, facing NW
3. Stephen and Hannah Bodurtha House, facing SW
4. Allen House, facing W
5. Button-Parsons House, facing NW
6. Agawam Center Cemetery, facing NW
7. Mrs. G – Baptist Society House, facing SW
8. Mrs. Norton House, facing NE
9. Chapin-Oldroyd House, facing NW
10. 799 Main Street, facing NE
11. Agawam Woolen Mill, Elm Street, facing NW

(end)

AGAWAM CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
AGAWAM (HAMPDEN), MA

Assessors	MHC	Address	Historic Name	Date	Style	Resource	Status
K10 1 3	262	24-26-28 Elm Street	J. B. Brouse House	ca. 1885	Colonial Revival	B	C
K10 1 2	40	32 Elm Street	Clark-Billings House	ca. 1870	Italianate	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1970	Utilitarian	B	NC
K9 2 21	263	35 Elm Street	Fire Department Station	1918	Colonial Revival	B	C
K9 2 22	41	41 Elm Street	Steph. & Hanna Bodurtha House	1812	Federal	B	C
K10 1 1	42	44 Elm Street	Chapin-Oldroyd House	ca. 1850	Italianate	B	C
K9 2 23	264	47 Elm Street	House	ca. 1955	Cape	B	NC
K9 3 14	265	50 Elm Street	House	ca. 1927	Colonial Revival	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1930	Utilitarian	B	C
K9 3 13	266	56 Elm Street	House	ca. 1922	Ranch	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1950	Utilitarian	B	C
K9 2 24	266	55 Elm Street	House	ca. 1947	English Cottage	B	NC
K9 3 12	43	62 Elm Street	Desire & Thomas Pyne House	ca. 1855	Gothic Revival	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1980	Utilitarian	B	NC
K9 2 25	267	67 Elm Street	House	ca. 1915	Colonial Revival	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1925	Utilitarian	B	C
K9 3 11	44	70 Elm Street	Sykes-Worthington House	ca. 1850	Italianate	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1935	Utilitarian	B	C
K9 3 26	268	75 Elm Street	H.K. Bodurtha House	ca. 1875	Italianate	B	C
K9 3 10	269	76 Elm Street	House	ca. 1963	Colonial Revival	B	NC
K9 3 9	46	84 Elm Street	S. Pyne House	ca. 1880	Queen Anne	B	C
K9 2 27	270	89 Elm Street	Manley House	ca. 1910	Colonial Revival	B	C
			Carriage House	ca. 1910	Colonial Revival	B	C
K9 3 8	271	94 Elm Street	House	ca. 1915	Colonial Revival	B	NC
			Garage	ca. 1940	Utilitarian	B	C
K9 2 28	272	95 Elm Street	House	ca. 1952	Ranch	B	NC
K9 3 7	273	100 Elm Street	House	ca. 1954	Ranch	B	NC
K9 2 29	274	103 Elm Street	House	1948	Colonial Revival	B	C
K9 3 6	275	110 Elm Street	House	ca. 1948	Ranch	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1948	Utilitarian	B	C

AGAWAM CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
AGAWAM (HAMPDEN), MA

Assessors	MHC	Address	Historic Name	Date	Style	Resource	Status
K9 2 30	47	111 Elm Street	Halen-Lombard House	ca. 1830	Greek Revival	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1930	Utilitarian	B	NC
K9 3 5	276	114 Elm Street	House	ca. 1923	Colonial Revival	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1923	Utilitarian	B	C
K9 3 4	48	120 Elm Street	House	ca. 1985	Colonial Revival	B	NC
			Garage	ca. 1920	Utilitarian	B	C
K9 2 31	277	121 Elm Street	House	ca. 1926	Colonial Revival	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1926	Utilitarian	B	C
K9 2 33	278	123 Elm Street	House	ca. 1938	Cape	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1940	Utilitarian	B	C
K9 3 3	279	126 Elm Street	House	ca. 1920	English Cottage	B	NC
			Garage	ca. 1920	Utilitarian	B	C
K9 2 34	280	129 Elm Street	House	ca. 1948	Cape	B	C
K9 3 2	49	130 Elm Street	Mrs. Norton House	ca. 1855	Italianate	B	C
K9 2 35	281	139 Elm Street	House	ca. 1917	No style	B	NC
			Garage	ca. 1920	Utilitarian	B	C
K9 2 37	282	159-165 Elm Street	Agawam Woolen Mill Office/House	ca. 1880	Colonial Revival	B	C
		167 Elm Street	Mill Storage Building	ca. 1900	No style	B	C
K9 2 38	51	168 Elm Street	Agawam Woolen Mill	ca. 1898	Utilitarian	B	C
J9 3 17	52	194-196 Elm Street	Agawam Company House	ca. 1900	No style	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1925	Utilitarian	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1930	Utilitarian	B	C
K11 6 4	25	551 Main Street	House	ca. 1855	Colonial Revival	B	C
			Carriage House	ca. 1900	Colonial Revival	B	C
K11 6 1	26	571 Main Street	Perkins-Fisk House	ca. 1845	Greek Revival	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1840	Utilitarian	B	C
K11 6 6	284	583 Main Street	House	1993	Neo Colonial	B	NC
K11 2 26	27	588 Main Street	Button-Parsons House	1805	Federal	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1935	Utilitarian	B	C
K11 2 25	285	608 Main Street	House	ca. 1963	Ranch	B	NC

AGAWAM CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
AGAWAM (HAMPDEN), MA

Assessors	MHC	Address	Historic Name	Date	Style	Resource	Status
K11 5 3	286	609 Main Street	House	ca. 1960	Ranch	B	NC
K11 5 4	287	617 Main Street	House	ca. 1965	Ranch	B	NC
K11 1 1	288	624 Main Street	House	ca. 1955	Ranch	B	NC
K11 4 3	289	629 Main Street	House	ca. 1950	Colonial Revival	B	NC
K10 10 6	290	634 Main Street	BR Gas Station	ca. 1975	Colonial Revival	B	NC
K10 11 1	291	643 Main Street	Westfield Bank	ca. 1968	Colonial Revival	B	NC
K10 3 13	292	644-646 Main Street	Variety Store/Apartment	ca. 1920	Colonial Revival	B	C
K10 3 28	293	648 Main Street	House	ca. 1922	Craftsman	B	C
K10 1 38	294	660 Main Street	House	ca. 1890	Colonial Revival	B	C
K10 11 2	28	663 Main Street	Capt. Charles and Mercy Leonard H. 1805		Federal	B	NR
			Garage	ca. 1940	Colonial Revival	B	C
K10 1 37	31	664 Main Street	House	ca. 1922	Craftsman	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1922	Utilitarian	B	C
K10 1 36	32	670-672 Main Street	House	ca. 1910	No style	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1930	Utilitarian	B	C
K10 11 3	295	675 Main Street	Pratley House	ca. 1912	Bungalow	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1948	Utilitarian	B	C
K10 1 34	33	676 Main Street	Ellis-Cooper House	1800	Federal	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1970	Utilitarian	B	NC
K10 1 33	34	684 Main Street	Mrs. G – Baptist Society House	ca. 1855	GrRev/Ital	B	C
L10 5 1	30	689 Main Street	Benjamin Phelps School	1938	Tudor Revival	B	C
	919		Veteran Memorial Bell	1989		O	NC
	920		Memorial marker	1993		O	NC
	921		Gazebo	1993	Neo-Queen A.	ST	NC
K10 1 32	35	692 Main Street	Allen-Hastings House	ca. 1795	Federal	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1950	Utilitarian	B	C
			Playhouse	ca. 1950	Utilitarian	B	C
K10 1 31	296	700 Main Street	House	ca. 1922	Colonial Revival	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1940	Utilitarian	B	C
			Shed	ca. 1930	Utilitarian	B	C

AGAWAM CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
AGAWAM (HAMPDEN), MA

Assessors	MHC	Address	Historic Name	Date	Style	Resource	Status
K10 1 30	36	706 Main Street	Congregational Parsonage	1850	Greek Revival	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1960	Utilitarian	B	NC
K10 12 4	297	709-719 Main Street	Commercial block	1945	Utilitarian	B	C
K10 12 6	298	723 Main Street	Commercial block	ca. 1964	No style	B	NC
K10 1 5	37	722-726 Main Street	Lt. William Allen House	ca. 1795	Federal	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1920	Utilitarian	B	C
			Shed	ca. 1940	Utilitarian	B	C
			Shed	ca. 1950	Utilitarian	B	C
K10 13 2	58	733 Main Street	Charles P. Davis Public Library	1924	Colonial Revival	B	C
K10 1 4	38	740 Main Street	Colton House – King Tavern	1806	Federal	B	C
			Barn	ca. 1900	Utilitarian	B	C
	36	745 Main Street	Agawam Congregational Church	ca. 1960	Colonial Revival	B	NC
K9 4 5	299	755 Main Street	House	1951	Ranch	B	NC
K9 2 42	39	760 Main Street	First Baptist Ch. Of America	ca. 1830	Goth Rev/altered	B	NC
K9 2 20	300	768 Main Street	Agawam Public Market	ca. 1940	Utilitarian	B	C
K9 4 6	59	769 Main Street	Marsh-Campbell House	1841	Greek Revival	B	C
			Garage		Utilitarian	B	NC
K9 2 19	301	770 Main Street	Commercial block	ca. 1955	Utilitarian	B	NC
K9 4 7	60	779 Main Street	House	ca. 1918	Engl Cottage	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1960	Utilitarian	B	NC
K9 5 7	61	789 Main Street	Parsons-Hill House	1826	Federal	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1980	Utilitarian	B	NC
K9 5 8	62	795 Main Street	House	1917	Bungalow	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1960	Utilitarian	B	NC
K9 5 9	302	799 Main Street	House	ca. 1925	Bungalow	B	C
K9 2 17	303	800 Main Street	Agawam Fire Station	1996	Colonial Revival	B	NC
	802	Main Street	Agawam Center Cemetery	1795		SI	C
K9 5 10	63	807 Main Street	Brooks-Chapin House	1830/1870	Italianate	B	C
			Garage/Dairy House	ca. 1920	Utilitarian	B	C
			Log house	ca. 1940	Utilitarian	B	C

AGAWAM CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
AGAWAM (HAMPDEN), MA

Assessors	MHC	Address	Historic Name	Date	Style	Resource	Status
K9 5 11	922	817 Main Street	Virgin Mary Statue			O	NC
K9 5 12	304	823 Main Street	St. John Evang. Roman Cath. Ch.	1971	No-Gothic	B	NC
	305	833 Main Street	Rectory	1971	No style	B	NC
			Garage	ca. 1960	Utilitarian	B	NC
	306	844 Main Street	W.C. Campbell House	ca. 1890	Queen Anne	B	C
			Shed	ca. 1940	Utilitarian	B	C
K9 5 13	65	845 Main Street	Freeman-Pond House	ca. 1825	Greek Revival	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1970	Utilitarian	B	NC
K9 2 12	66	854 Main Street	Seth Adams Jr. House	ca. 1790	Federal	B	C
			Carriage shed	ca. 1900	Utilitarian	B	C
K9 5 14	307	855 Main Street	House	ca. 1920	Col Rev/altered	B	NC
K9 5 15	308	861 Main Street	House	1950	Ranch	B	NC
			Garage		Utilitarian	B	NC
K8 4 6	67	869 Main Street	Bailey-Thompson House	ca. 1870	Italianate	B	C
K8 3 3	309	874 Main Street	House	ca. 1930	Cape	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1930	Utilitarian	B	B
K8 4 7	310	875 Main Street	House	ca. 1955	Cape	B	NC
K8 3 2		880 Main Street	House	ca. 1953	Cape	B	NC
			Garage	ca. 1953	Utilitarian	C	NC
K8 4 8	68	883 Main Street	M. Bacon House	ca. 1910	Queen Anne	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1920	Utilitarian	B	C
K8 2 8	311	890 Main Street	House	ca. 1945	Ranch/altered	B	NC
K8 4 9	312	891 Main Street	Stanley House	ca. 1910	Bungalow	B	C
K8 2 7	313	900 Main Street	House	ca. 1958	Cape	B	NC
K8 4 10	69	901 Main Street	Harper House	ca. 1910	Colonial Revival	B	C
K8 4 11	70	907 Main Street	Smith House	ca. 1900	Colonial Revival	B	C
			Carriage house	ca. 1950	Colonial Revival	B	NC
			Garage	ca. 1920	Utilitarian	B	C
K8 1 9	71	914 Main Street	Cemantha and Chas. Leonard H.	ca. 1850	Greek Revival	B	C

AGAWAM CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
AGAWAM (HAMPDEN), MA

Assessors	MHC	Address	Historic Name	Date	Style	Resource	Status
K8 1 8	314	924 Main Street	House	ca. 1920	No style	B	NC
			Garage	ca. 1970	Utilitarian	B	NC
K8 4 12	315	927 Main Street	House	ca. 1930	Colonial Revival	B	C
			Shed	ca. 1950	Utilitarian	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1940	Utilitarian	B	C
K8 4 13	316	935 Main Street	House	ca. 1950	Cape	B	NC
K8 1 7	317	938 Main Street	House	ca. 1954	Cape	B	NC
K8 1 6	72	940 Main Street	Bliss Tavern	ca. 1750	Georgian	B	C
K8 4 14	318	943 Main Street	House	ca. 1919	Bungalow	B	C
K8 4 15	73	947 Main Street	House	ca. 1912	Bungalow	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1920	Utilitarian	B	C
K8 1 5	319	954 Main Street	House	ca. 1910	Q. Anne/altered	B	NC
K8 4 16	320	959 Main Street	House	ca. 1919	Bungalow	B	C
K8 1 17	321	963 Main Street	House	ca. 1918	Bungalow	B	C
K8 4 18	322	969 Main Street	House	ca. 1919	Bungalow	B	C
K8 1 4	76	970 Main Street	House	ca. 1920	No style	B	C
			Garage	2000	Utilitarian	B	NC
K8 4 19	323	975 Main Street	House	ca. 1920	Bungalow	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1920	Utilitarian	B	C
K8 1 3	324	976 Main Street	House	ca. 1920	Bungalow	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1920	Utilitarian	B	C
K8 1 2	325	980 Main Street	House	ca. 1920	Bungalow	B	C
			Garage	ca. 1920	Utilitarian	B	C
K8 1 1	326	986 Main Street	House	ca. 1980	Colonial Revival	B	NC
K7 3 9	327	1000 Main Street	Nicky's Pizza House	ca. 1975	No style	B	NC
K7 3 8	78	1008 Main Street	Worthington House	ca. 1800	Federal	B	C

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Agawam Center Historic District
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Hampden

DATE RECEIVED: 5/15/01 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/05/01
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/21/01 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/30/01
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 01000670

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: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 6-21-01 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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



BLISS TAVERN, AGAWAM CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
HAMPDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

TAMMY PETERS

JUNE 2000

PIONEER VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION

NORTHWEST

PHOTOGRAPH NUMBER 1





STEPHEN AND HANNAH BODURTHA HOUSE, AGAWAM CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
HAMPDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

BONNIE PARSONS

JUNE, 2000

PIONEER VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION

SOUTH WEST

PHOTOGRAPH NUMBER 3



ALLEN HOUSE, AGAWAM CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
HAMPDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

BONNIE PARSONS

JUNE 2000

PIONEER VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION

WEST STREET

PHOTOGRAPH NUMBER 4





In Memory of
Mrs SYBIL WORTHINGTON-
ON, Consort of
Cap^t. JON.^A WORTHINGTON
who with a new born
son, died 20th Mar^h
1873. Aged 45 Years.
Also
another infant son,
who died 10th April
1870. Aged 10 days.



MRS. G. BAPTIST SOCIETY HOUSE, AGAWAM CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
HAMPDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

BONNIE PARSONS

JUNE 2000

PIONEER PLANNING COMMISSION

SOUTH WEST

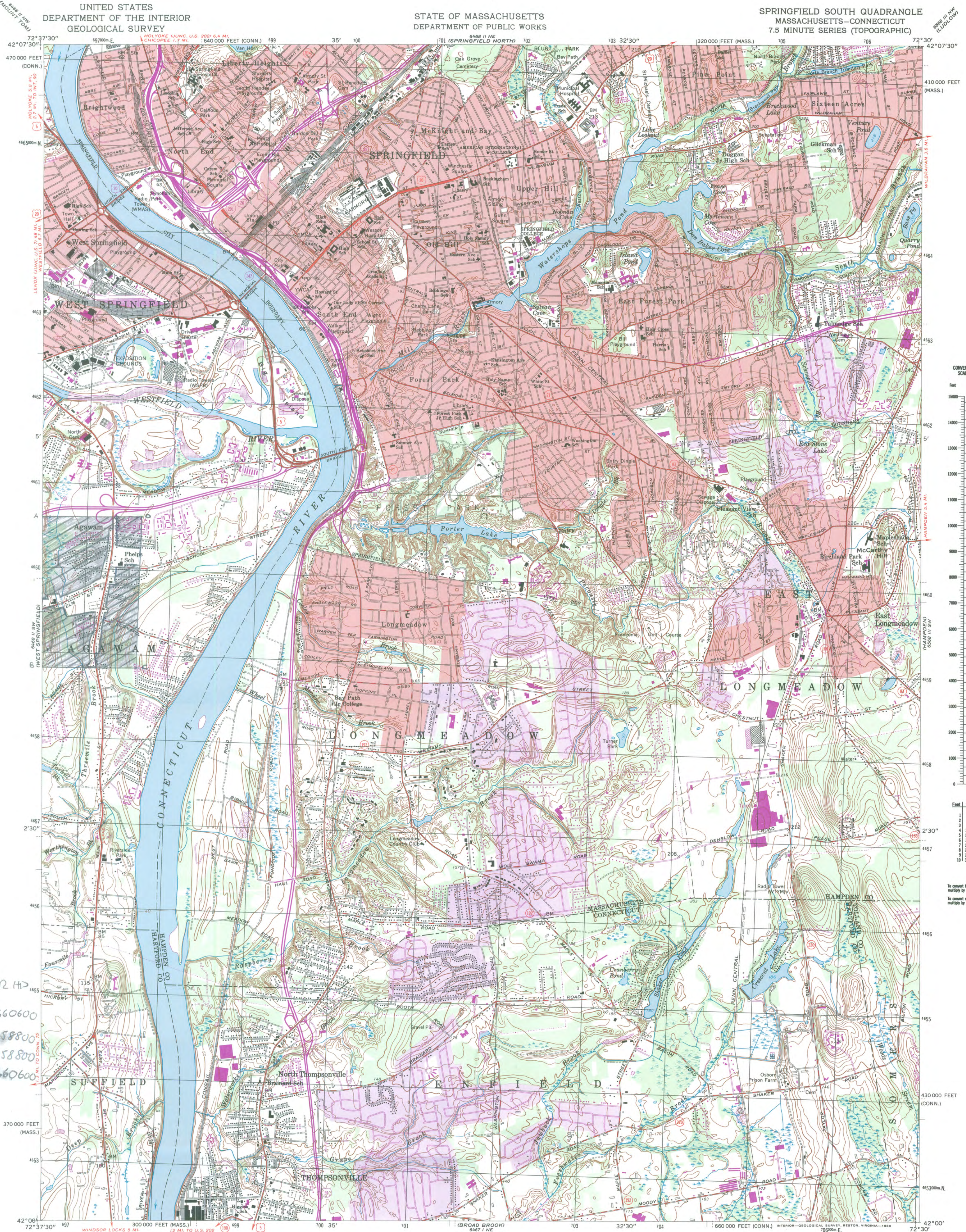
PHOTOGRAPH NUMBER 7











Feet	Meters
1	3048
2	6096
3	9144
4	12192
5	15240
6	18288
7	21336
8	24384
9	27432
10	30480

To convert feet to meters
multiply by 3.048

To convert meters to feet
multiply by 3.2808

AGAWAM CENTER HD
A. 18/696580 / 4660600
B. 18/696600 / 4658800
C. 18/697600 / 4658800
D. 18/697560 / 4660600

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

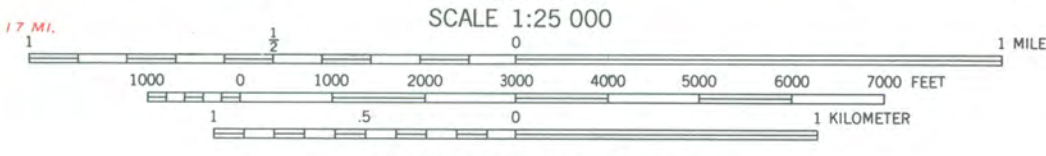
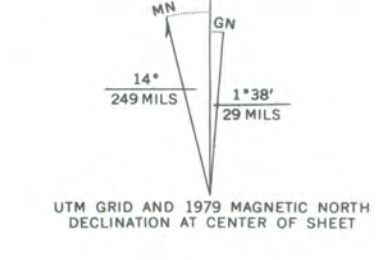
Control by USGS, USC&GS, Massachusetts Geologic Survey,
and Connecticut Geologic Survey

Topography by planetair surveys 1933 and 1942
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,
zone 18

Red tint indicates areas in which only
landmark buildings are shown

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



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO 80225 OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983,
move the projection lines 5 meters south and
38 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

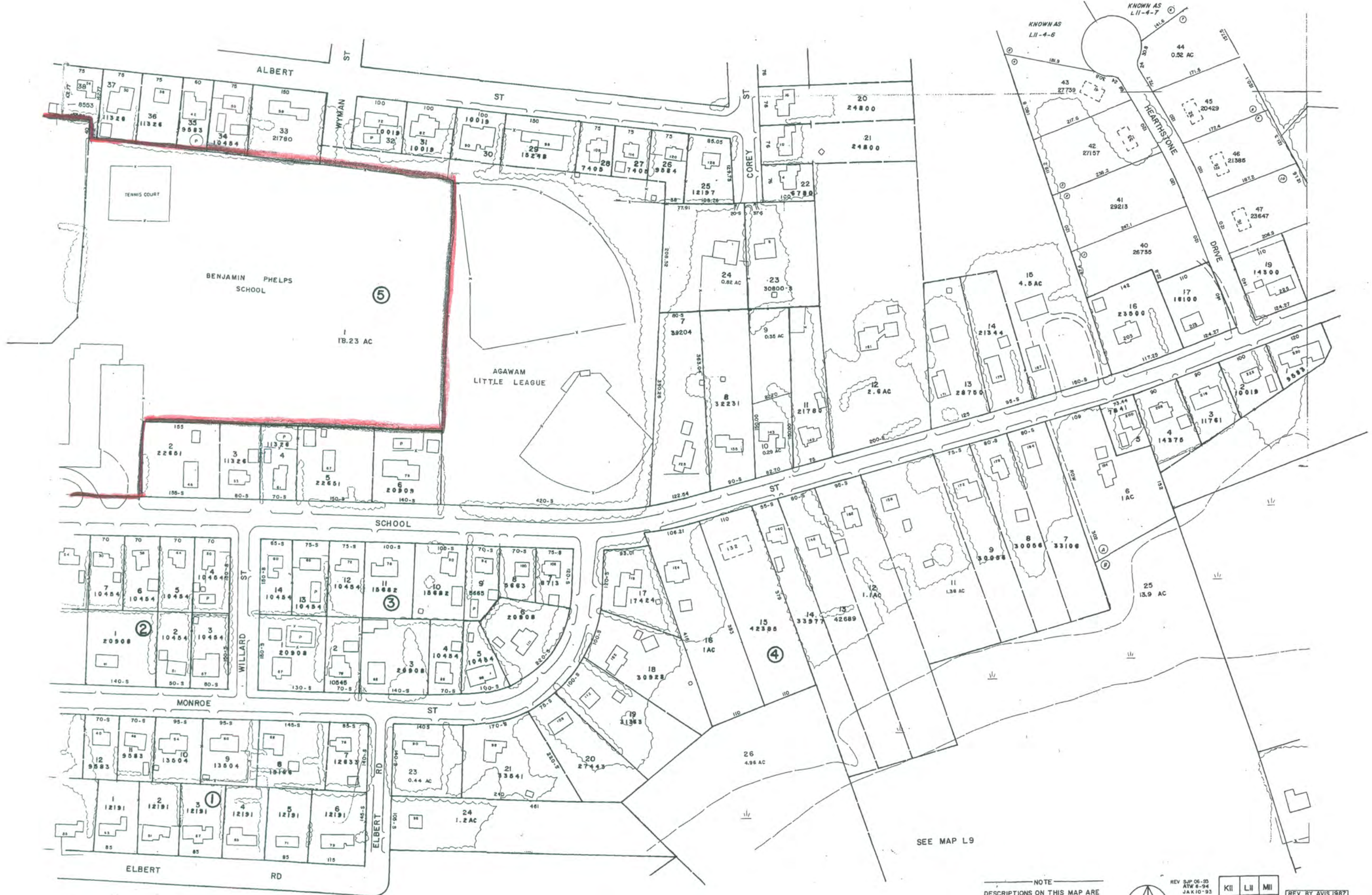
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
U.S. Route ——— State Route ———
Interstate Route ———

SPRINGFIELD SOUTH, MASS.-CONN.
42072-A5-TF-024

1958
PHOTOREVISED 1979
DMA 6468 II SE-SERIES V814



Agawam Center
USGS KZ



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COMPILED FROM PHOTOGRAPHY ON APRIL 23, 1983

SCALE 1" = 80'
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SEE MAP L9

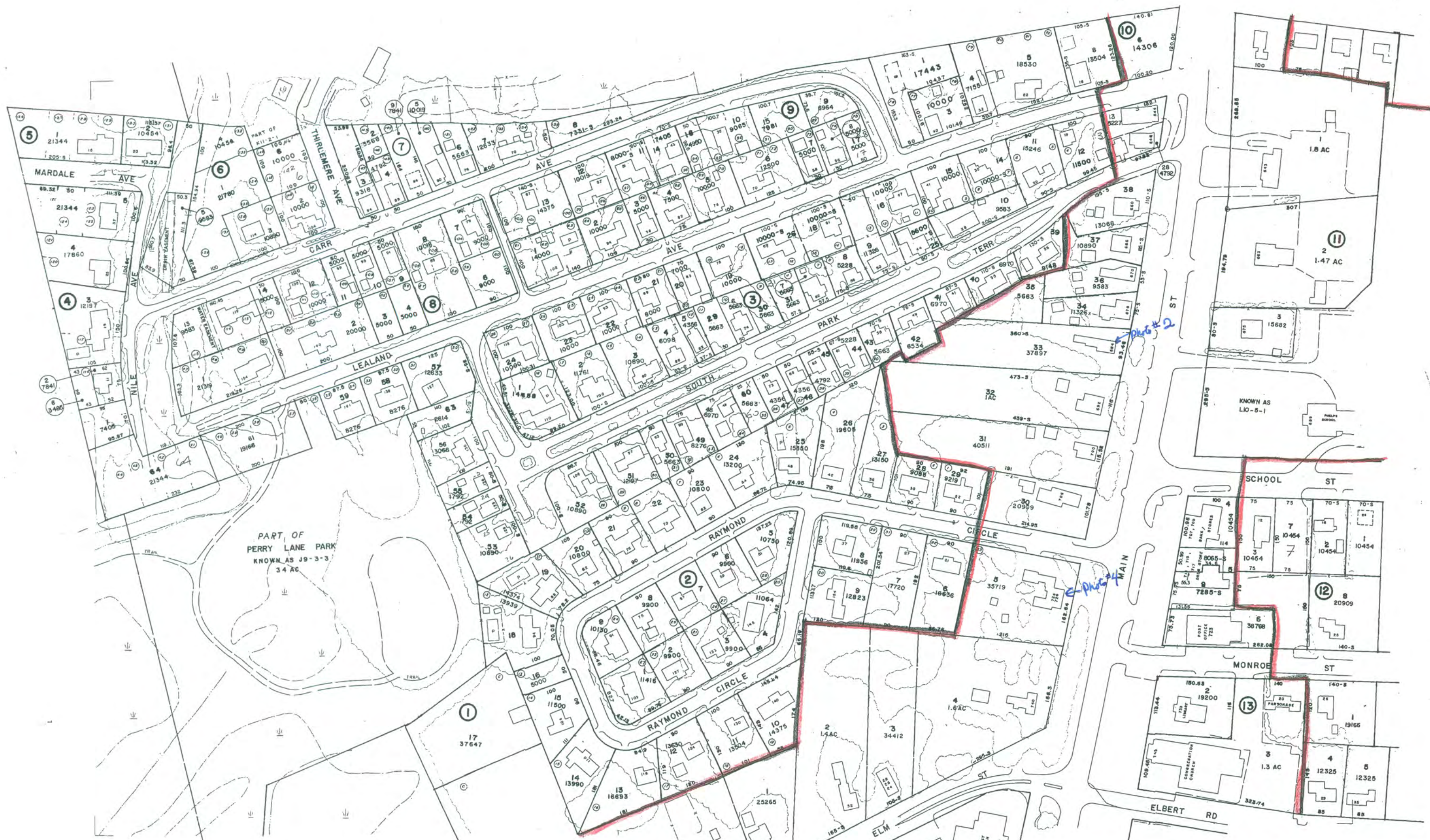
NOTE
DESCRIPTIONS ON THIS MAP ARE
NOT FOR LEGAL PURPOSES AND
ARE USED FOR ASSESSMENT DATA.



REV 5/10/83
ATW 6-94
JAK 10-93
HAL 10-98

KII	LII	MII
KIO	LIO	MIO
K9	L9	M9

REV BY AVIS 1987



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80 0 80 160 240 FEET
SCALE 1" = 80'

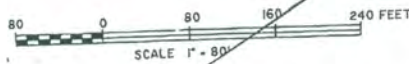
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JII	KII	LII
JIO	KIO	LIO
J9	K9	L9

NOT TO SCALE
HAL-11-95
HAL-8-96
HAL-2-97
HAL-4-98
HAL-2-00



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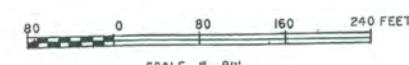


110	110	110
109	109	109
108	108	108

REV BY AVIS 1987
REV SEP 07-95
HAL 6/96



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REV JAK 10-93
DJPH-94
HAL11-95
HAL 2-97

J10	K10	L10
J9	K9	L9
J8	K8	L8

REV SJP 06-92
REV BY AVIS 1987
REV BY SJP 1990
REV BY DMB 1990



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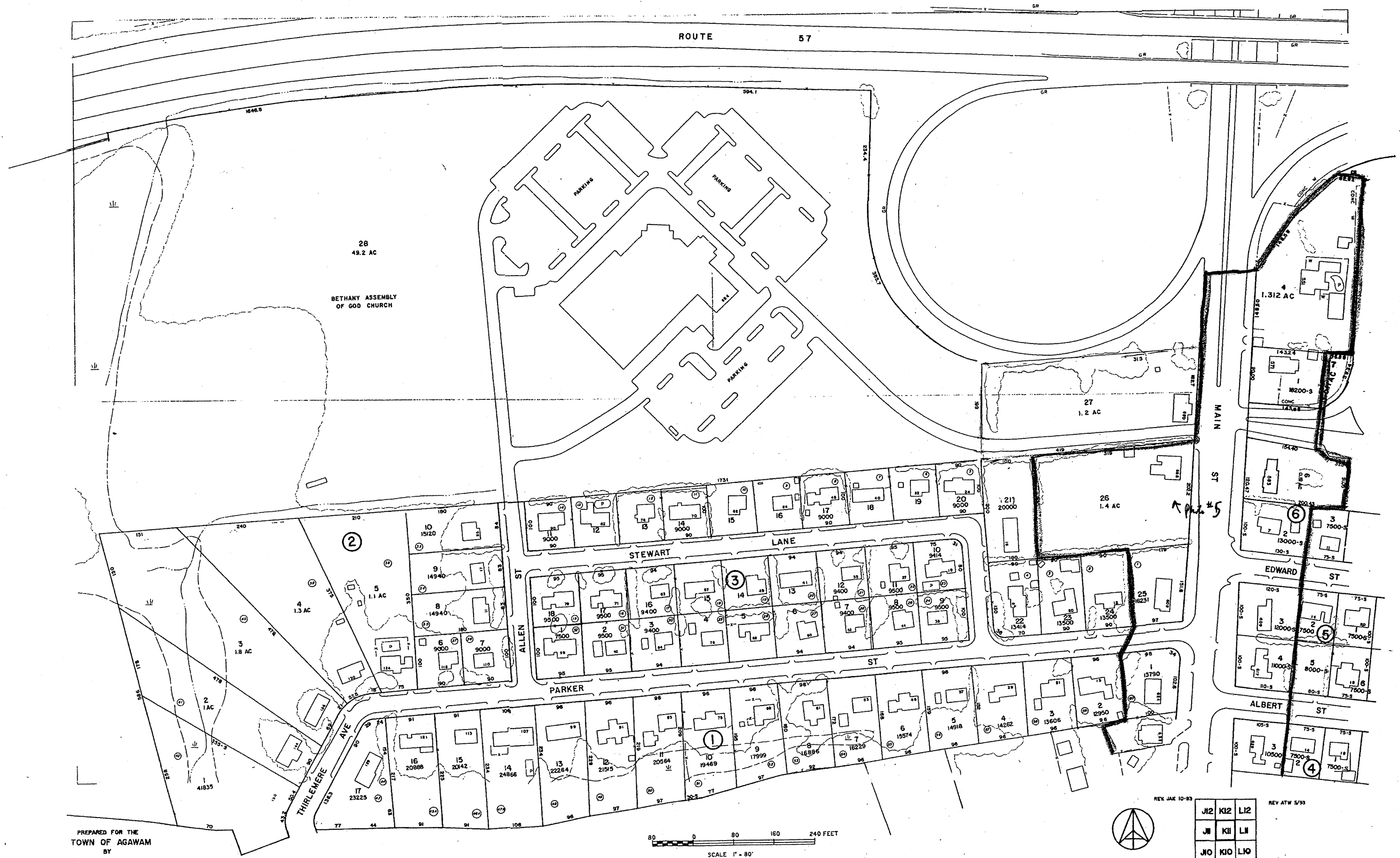
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REV. JAN. 03-91
REV. SEP. 07-93
REV. ATW 08-95
HAL 12-97
HAL 01-99

J8	K8	L8
J7	K7	L7
J6	K6	L6

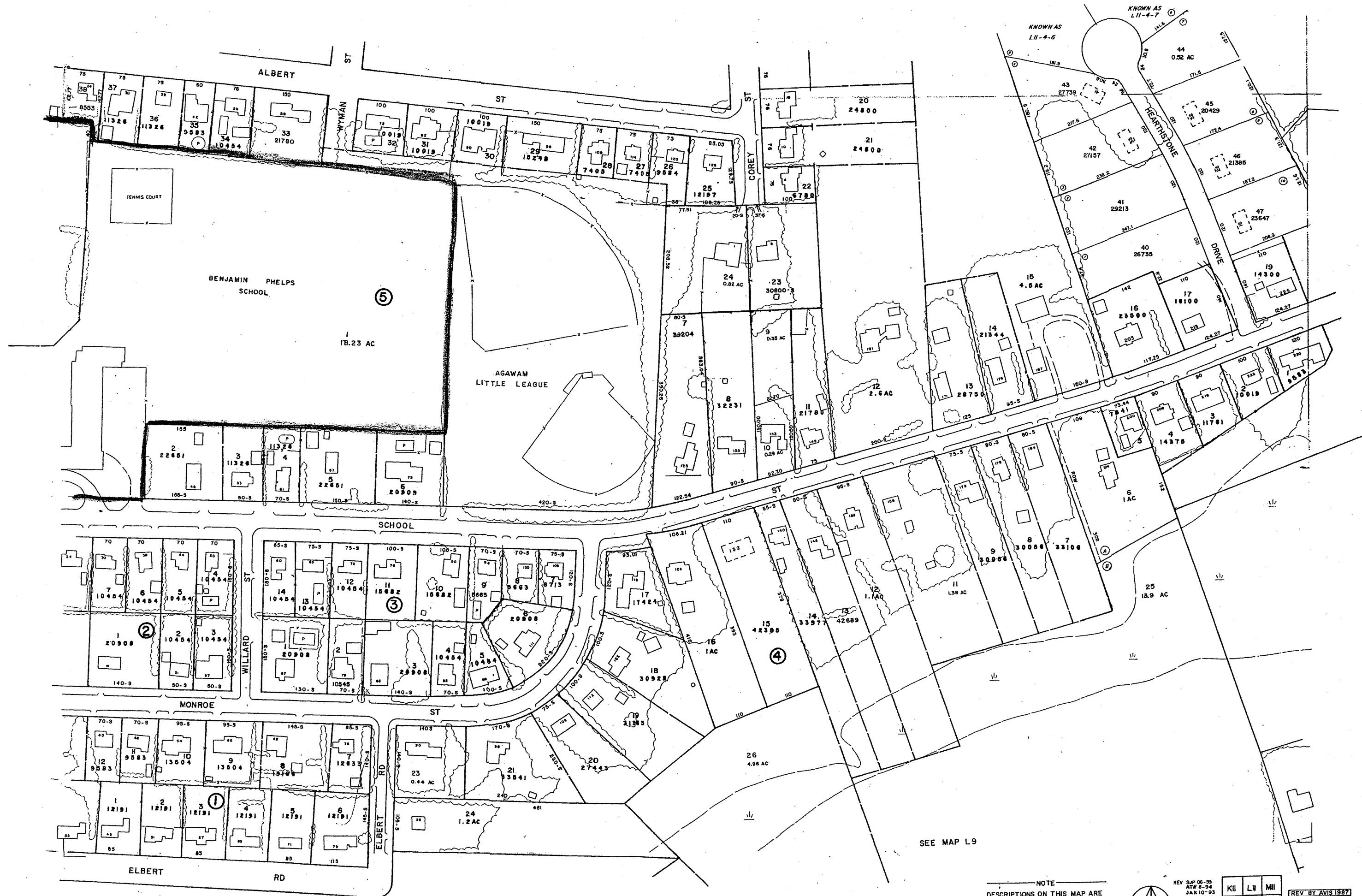
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REV 5/10/83
ATW 6-94
JAK 10-93
MAL 10-95

K11	L11	M11
K10	L10	M10
K9	L9	M9

REV BY AVIS 1987

SEE MAP L9



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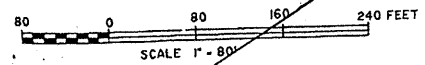


JH	KH	LH
JO	KIO	LIO
J9	K9	L9

REV BY SUP 1980
HAL-11-95
HAL-8-96
HAL-2-97
HAL-4-98
HAL-2-00



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I10	J10	K10
I9	J9	K9
I8	J8	K8

REV BY AVIS 1987

REV SEP 07-95
HAL 6/96

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SCALE 1" = 80'
80 0 80 160 240 FEET

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J10	K10	L10
J9	K9	L9
J8	K8	L8

REV JAK 10-93
DJPI 11-94
HAL 11-95
HAL 2-97
REV BY AVIS 1987
REV BY DMB 1990



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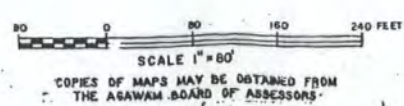
REV. JAK 10-95	J9	K9	L9
HAL 6/96	J8	K8	L8
HAL 2-97	J7	K7	L7
HAL 2-98			

REV BY AVIS 1987
REV BY DMB 1990



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REV. JAN 03-91
REV. SEP 07-93
REV. MAY 08-93
HAL 12-97
HAL 01-98

J8	K8	L8
J7	K7	L7
J6	K6	L6

REV BY AVIS 1987



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

May 4, 2001

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Mail Stop 2280, Suite 400
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Agawam Center HD, Agawam (Hampden), 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
Deborah Dachos, Town of Agawam
David Cecchi, Agawam Historical Commission
Richard Cohen, Mayor, Town of Agawam