

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

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

For HCRS use only

received JUL 28 1980

date entered

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

1. Name

historic TURNER FALLS HISTORIC DISTRICT

and/or common SAME

2. Location

*Roughly bounded by CT River, Power Canal,
9th and 6th Sts.*

street & number Multiple *NA* not for publication

city, town Montague *NA* vicinity of congressional district first

state Massachusetts code 025 county Franklin code 011

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple (see attached list)

street & number

city, town Montague *NA* vicinity of state Massachusetts

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Franklin County Register of Deeds

street & number 425 Main Street

city, town Greenfield state Massachusetts 01301

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1979 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town Boston state Mass. 02108

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☒ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date NA

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Turners Falls Historic District is located on a knoll along the eastern bank of the Connecticut River near the falls from which it gains its name. Turners Falls is one of five villages which together comprise the town of Montague. The district is approximately 130 acres in size and contains over 275 properties. It consists of a cohesive grouping of industrial, residential, commercial, institutional & religious structures built mostly between 1866 and 1886 in accordance with Alvah Crocker's original concept of a planned industrial community. The industrial and commercial buildings are of either brick or clapboard.

Residential structures represent a wide variety of single and multi-family configurations. In each building type, there are many fine examples of late nineteenth century vernacular design. A large proportion of the original buildings are extant, and there are only a few incompatible intrusions from this century.

The district was developed according to a plan laid out in 1867 by William P. Crocker and Charles W. Hazelton. A basic component of the plan was to develop mill sites along the river which would obtain water to power their machinery from the new power canal and dam system. The rest of the village was laid out in a horizontal grid pattern with the main avenues labelled alphabetically and the cross streets numerically. Avenue A was designed as a 100-foot wide tree-lined avenue while other streets are 60 feet wide.

The concrete dam of 1912-15 is the fifth dam on the site and replaced the stone and wood crib dam of 1867. Built by the Bates-Rogers Construction Company of Chicago, the dam is 1,035 feet long and 35 feet high. New gates, spillway and fish ladder were added in the 1970's. The present canal was completed c. 1912 when the 1867 canal was widened, deepened, and lengthened 1-½ miles to Montague City.

The original bridges over the canal were built by the Turners Falls Company to provide access to the mills. The present bridges include a 1912 footbridge below the Esleeck mills and the 1912 Sixth Street bridge. Both were built by the Eastern Bridge and Structural Company and are variations of a Pratt truss design. The Turners Falls-Gill Bridge spanning the Connecticut River was completed in 1938 and, at the time, was the longest bridge in the state. It was built by D. O'Connell and Sons of Holyoke at a cost of over \$1,000,000.

The Keith Paper Mill (#10) is a grouping of brick industrial buildings dating from 1877, with additions in 1892 and 1906. The main mill is a four-story, pitched-roof structure with dormer windows, dentilled cornices and projecting stairtowers. The buildings remain largely intact, except for removal of the tower cupolas, changes to some of the rooflines and removal of the original company offices.

The Esleeck Manufacturing Company (#11) is housed in the buildings of the Marshall Paper Company, an 1896 complex of brick industrial structures. The dominant mass is a long four-story, flat-roofed mill which features rhythmically spaced, segmental arched windows and a brick dentilled cornice.

Further south along the canal stands the Turners Fall Cotton Mill (#13) founded by Joseph Griswold of Colrain. The three-story brick structure features a square tower at the east end. The building is 250 feet long and has a 100 x 50-foot ell to the south. The simple restrained design includes segmental arched window heads and is significant for its well-preserved architectural integrity.

At the head of Avenue A just below the dam are the last remaining buildings of the Montague Paper Company (#59).

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<u>Map No.</u>	<u>Assessor's Map No.</u>	<u>Building Address</u>	<u>Owner's Name and Address</u>
1	2 - 2	Power Canal	Western Mass. Electric Co. 174 Brush Hill Avenue West Springfield, 01889
2		6th St. Bridge	Town of Montague
3		5th St. Bridge	Town of Montague
4		5th St. Pedestrian Bridge	Town of Montague
5		Keith Mills Footbridge	Western Mass. Electric Co. 174 Brush Hill Avenue West Springfield 01889
6		Turners Falls-Gill Bridge	Commonwealth of Mass. Dept. of Public Works 100 Nashua Street Boston 02114
9	2 - 3,4	Site of Montague Paper Co., Russell Cutlery-Keith Paper Mills	Western Mass. Electric Co.
10	2 - 1	Keith Paper Mills	Hammermill Mass. Paper Co. Broad Street Westfield 01085
11	3 - 2	Esleeck Mills	Esleeck Manufacturing Co. Canal Street Turners Falls 01376
12	3 - 1	Canal Street (Turners Falls Paper Co. Bldg)	Couture Bros. Inc. 187 Avenue A, Turners Falls 01376
13	3 - 27	Railroad Salvage (Turners Falls Cotton Mills)	William Vine 70 Britania Street, Meriden, CT

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14	3 - 45	108 J Street	Catherine Byk & Steven Apola 108 J Street Turners Falls 01376
15	3 - 31	78-84 J Street (Griswold Block)	Peter Crossman & L.M. Girard South Cross Road Gill RFD, Turners Falls
16	3 - 30	2 Seventh Street	Dennis Herzig 2 Seventh Street Turners Falls 01376
17	3 - 32	52 J Street	Ferdinand Engerman 52 J Street Turners Falls 01376
18	3 - 26	Canal Street Garage	Esleeck Manufacturing Co. Canal Street Turners Falls 01376
19	3 - 25	48 J Street	Wilfred & Margueriye Hamelin 48 J Street Turners Falls 01376
20	3 - 5, 6	73 Canal Street	Stanley, G. & F.S. Wojtasiewicz 73 Canal Street Turners Falls 01376
21	3 - 9, 10	5 Fifth Street	Zofia Niezwiecki 5 Fifth Street Turners Falls 01376
22	3 - 8	Fifth Street	Sophie N. Piecuch 5 Fifth Street Turners Falls 01376
23	3 - 3, 4	65 Canal Street	Richard Dubois & Ruth Crapo 62 Turnpike Road Turners Falls 01376
24	4 - 47	Canal Street Block (Keith Block)	Sabah E. Dawlett, Inc. P.O. Box 110 Turners Falls 01376

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25	3 - 33	Park, Avenue A at Sixth Street	Town of Montague
26	3 - 24	St. Anne's Church	St. Anne's Church J Street, Turners Falls 01376
27	3 - 22	St. Anne's Rectory	St. Anne's Church J Street Turners Falls 01376
28	3 - 23	St. Anne's School	St. Anne's Church J Street Turners Falls 01376
29	3-11, 12, 13	15 Fifth Street	W. & M.E. Shanahan 11 Montague Street Turners Falls 01376
30	3-14	23 Fifth Street	J.W. & M.E. Shanahan 11 Montague Street Turners Falls 01376
31	4-181, 186	10 Fourth Street	Vincent & Theresa Ferland 10 Fourth Street Turners Falls 01376
32	4-182	12 Fourth Street	Edith Riel 12 Fourth Street Turners Falls 01376
33	4 - 183	18 Fourth Street	Paul and Ronald Desilets P.O. Box 161 Greenfield 01301
34	4-184, 185	Fourth Street lot	Virginia Ritter 152 Avenue A Turners Falls 01376
35	4-173, 176, 177	7 Fourth Street	Helen Shulda 7 Fourth Street Turners Falls 01376

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36	4 - 172	11 Fourth Street	Donald & Gail Miller 335 Green River Road Greenfield
37	4 - 171	13 Fourth Street	Benjamin and Alice Chittick 13 Fourth Street Turners Falls 01376
38	4 - 168	15 Fourth Street	John Giknis 94 L Street Turners Falls 01376
39	4 - 167	Youth Center (Fourth Street Jail)	Town of Montague
40	4-157, 164	American House 25 Fourth Street	American House of Turners Fall c/o Royal Fountain 25 Fourth Street Turners Falls 01376
41	4 - 175	Third Street (near Canal)	Quinnehtuk Co. 174 Brush Hill Avenue W. Springfield 01889
42	4-174	14-16 Third Street	John Giknis 94 L Street Turners Falls 01376
43	4-170	22 Third Street	Thomas & Thomas Rodmakers, LTD. 22 Third Street Turners Falls 01376
44	4-169	Old T.F. Fire Dept.	Thomas & Thomas Rodmakers, LTD. 22 Third Street Turners Falls 01376
45	4-166	26-28 Third Street	Edward Fugere 28 Third Street Turners Falls 01376
46	4-165	30 Third Street	Edward Fugere 28 Third Street Turners Falls 01376

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47	4-163	Third Street	Montague Industries C/O Montague Machine Co. Avenue A Turners Falls 01376
48	4-281, 282	38 Third Street	Peter Crossman S. Cross Road Gill RFD Turners Falls 01376
49	4-48	Third Street	Elizabeth Dorrance 24 Second Street Turners Falls 01376
50	4-51	25 Third Street	Gene M. Beaubien 25 Third Street Turners Falls 01376
51	4-352,53	29 Third Street	John & Eva Baranoski 38 N. Hillside Road South Deerfield
52	4-54	33 Third Street	Peter Crossman South Cross Road Gill RFD Turners Falls
53	4-55	39 Third Street	Alfred & Sophie Desautels 39 Third Street Turners Falls 01376
54	4-49,50	24 Second Street	Elizabeth Dorrance 24 Second Street Turners Falls 01376
55	4-56	28-30 Second Street	Elizabeth Dorrance 24 Second Street Turners Falls 01376
56	4-42,43,46	Second Street	Elizabeth Dorrance 24 Second Street Turners Falls 01376

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57	4-280	Pioneer Litho	Edwin Gillespie Jr. & Jeffrey Manning Franklin Savings Institution Greenfield 01301
58	4-44	First Street lot	Elizabeth Dorrance 24 Second Street Turners Falls 01376
59	4-1	Montague Paper Co. Buildings, First St.	Edwin Gillespie and Jeffrey Manning Franklin Savings Institution Greenfield 01301
60	4-2	Park and WWI memorial	Town of Montague
61	4-57	Bank Block 54 Avenue A	Edmund R. Dunican P.O. Box 346 Turners Falls 01376
62	4-58	Allen Block 60-62 Avenue A	Lillian Sabato 60 Avenue A Turners Falls 01376
63	4-60	Avenue A lot	Elizabeth Dorrance 24 Second Street Turners Falls 01376
64	4-61	74-78 Avenue A	John and Beverly Lynch 326 Maple Street Springfield 01105
65	4-162	102 Avenue A	Wayne and Barbara Thayer 18 Willmark Avenue Turners Falls 01376
66	4-149,160,161	104 Avenue A	Catherine Carlsen 49 Conway Street Greenfield 01301
67	4-158	118 Avenue A	Lucia and Paul Trudel 2 Congress Street Greenfield 01301

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68	4-284	Avenue A lot	William Kopanou 118 Avenue A Turners Falls 01376
69	4-187	Hibernia Block 152 Avenue A	Virginia Ritter 152 Avenue A Turners Falls 01376
70	3-15	Avenue A	Robert and Irene Lord P.O. Box 195 Erving 01344
71	3-79	168-172 Avenue A	Francis Silva 12 Strachen Street Millers Falls 01349
72	3-16	Pioneer National Bank	First National Bank 1 Federal Street Greenfield 01301
73	3-21	U.S. Post Office	U.S. Government
74	3-42	Town Park and WWII Memorial	Town of Montague
75	3-41	Carnegie Library	Town of Montague
76	3-18, 71	177-179 Avenue A	John Giknis 94 L Street Turners Falls 01376
77	3-17	Turners Falls Inn (Hotel Vladish)	Turners Falls Development Corp. P.O. Box 1033 Amherst 01002
78	4-194-195	169-173 Avenue A	Eugene Singley 119 Conway Street Greenfield
79	4-193	Avenue A	Quinnehtuk Company 174 Brush Hill Road W. Springfield 01889

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80	4-191;192	Rooney's Shoes	Donald J. Rooney Brookside Avenue Greenfield
81	4-189	Rooney's Clothing Store	Donald J. Rooney Brookside Avenue Greenfield
82	4-156	Gunn Block Avenue A	Edward L. McCrea 110 Millers Falls Road Turners Falls 01376
83	4-155	Comet Cleaners	Harry Brenner 20 Sunset Drive Turners Falls 01376
84	4-154	115 Avenue A	William Kopanou 118 Avenue A Turners Falls 01376
85	4-180	113 Avenue A	George Starbuck and Sons 115 Avenue A Turners Falls
86	4-153	109 Avenue A	Veterans of Foreign Wars 109 Avenue A Turners Falls 01376
87	4-152	101-103 Avenue A	Stanley and Irene Dlugosz 17 Bridge Street Millers Falls
88	4-62	Colle Opera House Avenue A	Renaissance Church P.O. Box 281 Turners Falls 01376
89	4-63,64	Shea Theater Avenue A	Renaissance Church P.O. Box 281 Turners Falls 01376
90	4-65	Avenue A lot	Renaissance Church P.O. Box 281 Turners Falls, 01376

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91	4-35	IOOF Block 23 Avenue A	William Gardner 110 L Street Turners Falls 01376
92	4-36	Avenue A lot	Edmund R. Dunican P.O. Box 346 Turners Falls 01376
93	4-4	Town Office Building (Turners Falls Company)	Town of Montague
94	6-12	66 K Street	William J & K. Lapointe 66 K Street Turners Falls 01376
95	6-13	60 K Street	Alida M. Fugere 60 K Street Turners Falls 01376
96	6-14	56 K Street	Lionel Bourbeau 56 K Street Turners Falls 01376
97	6-15,16	38 K Street	Herbert E. & Dolores Greene 38 K Street Turners Falls 01376
98	6-17	40 K Street	Eugene Paulin 40 K Street Turners Falls 01376
99	3-39	36 K Street	Gertrude Broderick 36 K Street Turners Falls 01376
100	3-38	34 K Street	Ralph Sturtevant 34 K Street Turners Falls 01376
101	3-40	62 Seventh Street	Arnold Smith 62 Seventh Street Turners Falls 01376

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102	4-277,278	K Street	J.M. Sr. and H.V. Downs Franklin Savings Institution Greenfield
103	4-275;276	24 K Street	Rose Murphy 24 K Street Turners Falls 01376
104	4-274	22 K Street	Mitchell Darash 22 K Street Turners Falls 01376
105	4-273	20 K Street	Stephen and Tamma Fairbrother 20 K Street Turner Falls 01376
106	4-272	16 K Street	Paul Bassett Nadeau Avenue Turners Falls 01376
107	4-271	14 K Street	John, Mary and Walter Dobosz 14 K Street Turners Falls 01376
108	4-270	12 K Street	Russell and Helen Dion 12 K Street Turners Falls 01376
109	4-268,269	St. Stanislaus Society 6 K Street	St. Stanislaus Society 6 K Street Turners Falls 01376
110	4-267	4 K Street	Albert Giknis 10 Marshall Street Turners Falls 01376
111	4-266	Turners Falls Athletic Club(St. Mary's Temper- ance Society)	Turners Falls Athletic Club Fifth Street Turners Falls 01376
112	6-25	Grace Methodist Church	Grace Methodist Church K Street Turners Falls 01376

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124	4-265	1 K Street	T.M. and D.L. Adamski 1 K Street Turners Falls 01376
125	6-21	30 T Street	Frances Bauch 30 T Street Turners Falls 01376
126	4-257	75 Seventh Street	Dennis Choleva 75 Seventh Street Turners Falls 01376
127	6-72, 73, 74	St. Mary's Church and Rectory	St. Mary's Church Seventh Street Turners Falls 01376
128	4-226, 254, 255 256	First Congregational Church	First Congregational Church 79 Seventh Street Turners Falls 01376
129	4-248, 253	7 T Street	William Gardner III 110 L Street Turners Falls 01376
130	4-243, 244	3 T Street	Nellie Rastallis 3 T Street Turners Falls 01376
131	4-242	90 Fifth Street	Gilbert Campbell 90 Fifth Street Turners Falls 01376
132	4-249, 250	140 L Street	William Gardner III 110 L Street Turners Falls 01376
133	4-247	136 L Street	Louis Valley 7 T Street Turners Falls 01376
134	4-245, 246	132 L Street	Thomas and Gretchen Judd Curtis Road Winchester, N.H. 03470

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113	6-24	39 K Street	Michael Conway 39 K Street Turners Falls 01376
114	6-23	37 K Street	Sophie Sokolosky 37 K Street Turners Falls 01376
115	6-22	35 K Street	Alphonse Gagne 35 K Street Turners Falls 01376
116	6-18	33 K Street	Rudolph Boudreau Jr. 107 Fairview Street Greenfield
117	4-258	69-71 Seventh Street	Nora Ryan 71 Seventh Street Turners Falls 01376
118	4-259	17 K Street	George and Gail LeBlanc 17 K Street Turners Falls 01376
119	4-260	13 K Street	Blanche Meyer 13K Street Turners Falls 01376
120	4-261	11 K Street	James J. Gregory 11 K Street Turners Falls 01376
121	4-262	9 K Street	Joseph Sierokoski 9 K Street Turners Falls 01376
122	4-263	7 K Street	Carl Tetreault 7 K Street Turners Falls 01376
123	4-264	5 K Street	Edmund Molongoski 5 K Street Turners Falls 01376

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135	4-241	98 Fifth Street	Dana M. Wojtkowski 20 Prospect Street Turners Falls 01376
136	6-27	School Street lot	Edward Reum 26 School Street Turners Falls 01376
137	6-28	26 School Street	Edward Reum 26 School Street Turners Falls 01376
138	6-348	30 School Street	Rita M. Kasandi 30 School Street Turners Falls
139	6-71	178 L Street	Antonia Sojka c/o F. Sojka 178 L Street Turners Falls 01376
140	6-69, 70	182 L Street	Gladys Brostowski 182 L Street Turners Falls 01376
141	6-83	187 L Street	Donald Skole Linda Lane Turners Falls 01376
142	6-82	183-185 L Street	Raymond Zukowski 183 L Street Turners Falls 01376
143	6-81	177-179 L Street	John Trask 177 L Street Turners Falls 01376
144	6-79	173 L Street	Steven and Marion Finer Franklin Institution for Savings Greenfield 01301
145	6-78	163-167 L Street	Edward Dlugosz Federal Street Montague

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146	6-76	1 Columbus Avenue	Elks Lodge of Montague #2521 1 Columbus Avenue Turners Falls 01376
147	6-76	153 L Street	Annie J. Lysiak 153 L Street Turners Falls 01376
148	6-75	128 Seventh Street	Virginia Stoughton 128 Seventh Street Turners Falls 01376
149	6-87	Knights of Columbus	Knights of Columbus 3 Columbus Avenue Turners Falls 01376
150	4-279	L Street at Prospect	Quinnehtuk Company 174 Brush Hill Road West Springfield 01889
151	4-231, 232	117 L Street	Frank Welcome 117 L Street Turners Falls 01376
152	4-230	111 L Street	Sabah E. Dawlett Inc. P.O. Box 110 Turners Falls 01376
153	4-229	109 L Street	Sabah E. Dawlet Inc. P.O. Box 110 Turners Falls 01376
154	4-227, 228	105 L Street	Olive DeGraffe 105 L Street Turners Falls 01376
155	4-225	103 L Street	Alphonse San Soucie 103 L Street Turners Falls 01376
156	4-224	128-130 Fourth Street	A.A. and S.A. Webb 761 Leyden Road Greenfield 01301

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157	4-122	127 Fourth Street	John Fuller and Carol Palmer Randall Road Montague 01351
158	4-121	87 L Street	Richard and Drena Breor 87 L Street Turners Falls 01376
159	4-120	85 L Street	Christopher and Helen Doolittle 85 L Street Turners Falls, 01376
160	4-119	83 L Street	Mary Trombly 83 L Street Turners Falls, 03176
161	4-118	79 L Street	Beatrice Payne C/O Edward Moody #9 Road Rowe 01367
162	4-83	63 L Street	John Putala 63 L Street Turners Falls 01376
163	4-84	59 L Street	Norman and Jean Clarke 59 L Street Turners Falls 01376
164	4-85	57 L Street	Ruth Mooney and Danny Richards 57 L Street Turners Falls, 01376
165	4-86	55 L Street	Weiss Realty Corp 119 Wells Street Greenfield, 01301
166	4-87	130 Second Street	Weiss Realty Corp. 119 Wells Street Greenfield, 01301
167	4-20,283	25 L Street	Genevieve and Phyllis Choleva 25 L Street Turners Falls 01376

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169	4-17	19 L Street	William P. Devino 21 Pine Street Greenfield 01301
170	4-16	15 L Street	Walter and Natalie Sokolowski 15 L Street Turners Falls 01376
171	4-233,239,240	6 Spring Street	Eugene Prunier 6 Spring Street Turners Falls 01376
172	4-234	Spring Street	John Marriott 325 S. Willard Street Burlington, VT 05401
173	4-235	Spring Street	Frank Carme 91 Fourth Street Turners Falls 01376
174	4-236,237,238	9 Spring Street	Victor and Cecile LaMountain 9 Spring Street Turners Falls 01376
175	4-115	Fourth Street	George Sazama Davis Street Turners Falls 01376
176	4-113,114	141 Fourth Street	Jacob J. Ptak 141 Fourth Street Turners Falls, 01376
177	4-104,107,108, 109	Fourth Street	Peter Crossman South Cross Road Gill RFD Turners Falls 01376
178	4-116	136 Third Street	John Stevens 136 Third Street Turners Falls 01376

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179	4-112	140 Third Street	Frank Prue 140 Third Street Turners Falls, 01376
180	4-110,111	144 Third Street	Janice W. Brown 144 Third Street Turners Falls, 01376
181	4-105,106	150 Third Street	Eleanor I. McCarthy 150 Third Street Turners Falls 01376
182	4-90	133 Third Street	Eugene Sanoriski 133 Third Street Turners Falls 01376
183	4-91	137 Third Street	Donald and Charlotte Williams 137 Third Street Turners Falls 01376
184	4-96	Third Street	Victoria Warren Ivy Street, Turners Falls 01376
185	4-97,100,101, 102	Garage, Third Street	Francis and Cynthia Ahearn Turnpike Road Turners Falls, 01376
186	4-89	Second Street	Alice A. Sokolosky 30 Stevens Street Turners Falls 01376
187	4-92	Hermann Sons Lodge Second Street	Victoria Warren Ivy Street Turners Falls, 01376
188	4-88	Second Street	Victoria Warren Ivy Street Turners Falls, 01376
189	4-24	First Street at L	Sabah E. Dawlett Inc. P.O. Box 110 Turners Falls, 01376

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190	4-31	First Street (site of Montague Paper Tenement Block)	Town of Montague
191	4-81	58-62 L Street	Frank Reipold 58 L Street Turners Falls 01376
192	4-126	L Street	Stanley Garbiel 84 L Street Turners Falls, 01376
193	4-125	84 L Street	Stanley Garbiel 84 L Street Turners Falls, 01376
194	4-124	88-90 L Street	Julia M. Saulnier et als. 70 High Street Turners Falls 01376
195	4-123	94 L Street	John Giknis 94 L Street Turners Falls 01376
196	4-199	104 Fourth Street	Donald Skole Linda Lane Turners Falls 01376
197	4-222	106 L Street	Estate of T.R. White C/O K. Dion 106 L Street Turners Falls, 01376
198	4-220	110 L Street	William and Edith Gardner 73 State Road Millers Falls 01349
199	4-221	112 L Street	Albert and Dorothy Giknis 10 Marshall Street Turners Falls 01376
200	4-196	Fifth Street	Carl and Ronald Lenois 56 Crescent Street Turners Falls 01376

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201	4-200	63 Fifth Street	James Lonergan 63 Fifth Street Turners Falls 01376
202	4-201	65 Fifth Street	Joseph Baranowski 65 Fifth Street Turners Falls 01376
203	4-204	69 Fifth Street	Catherine Hughs 69 Fifth Street Turners Falls 01376
204	4-204	73 Fifth Street	Shirley A. Foster 73 Fifth Street Turners Falls 01376
205	4-206	75 Fifth Street	Paul Smith 75 Fifth Street Turners Falls, 01376
206	4-210	79 Fifth Street	Jean Roy 25 Elm Street Greenfield 01301
207	4-211	81-83 Fifth Street	Donald Skole Linda Lane Turners Falls. 01376
208	4-213	85-89 Fifth Street	Sabah E. Dawlett, Inc. P.O. Box 110 Turners Falls, 01376
209	4-217,218	91 Fifth Street	Herbert Adams 91 Fifth Street Turners Falls, 01376
210	4-219	95 Fifth Street	Donald Skole Linda Lane Turners Falls 01376
211	4-190	56 Fourth Street	Charles Donovan Jr. 56 Fourth Street Turners Falls 01376

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212	4-197	60 Fourth Street	Arthur and Mary Charron 60 Fourth Street Turners Falls 01376
213	4-198	66 Fourth Street	Donald and Gail Miller 335 Green River Road Greenfield
214	4-202	74 Fourth Street	Sabah E. Dawlett, Inc. P.O. Box 110 Turners Falls 01376
215	4-203	78 Fourth Street	Rita B. Przybala 78 Fourth Street Turners Falls 01376
216	4-207	80 Fourth Street	Joseph Zak and Joseph Zak Jr. 80 Fourth Street Turners Falls 01376
217	4-208	82 Fourth Street	John Zukowski 82 Fourth Street Turners Falls 01376
218	4-209	84 Fourth Street	T.J. Legere and B.M Wasielewski 67 Montague Road Turners Falls 01376
219	4-212	86-88 Fourth Street	James and Amelia Baird 8 Dell Street Turners Falls 01376
220	4-214	90 Fourth Street	Walter Wojtkowski 20 Prospect Street Turners Falls 01376
221	4-216	94 Fourth Street	Pauline Kozik 94 Fourth Street Turners Falls 01376
222	4-147	69 Fourth Street	Shirley Johnson and Donald Baron 14 High Street Turners Falls 01376

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<u>Map No.</u>	<u>Assessor's Map No.</u>	<u>Building Address</u>	<u>Owner's Name and Address</u>
223	4-146	83 Fourth Street	Warren and Lenore Thomas 168 Montague City Road Turners Falls 01376
224	4-142	87 Fourth Street	Anna Schneider 87 Fourth Street Turners Falls 01376
225	4-138	89 Fourth Street	George A. Stone 89 Fourth Street Turners Falls 01376
226	4-137	91 Fourth Street	Marie Verrier 91 Fourth Street Turners Falls 01376
227	4-136	93 Fourth Street	Frank Waraksa 93 Fourth Street Turners Falls 01376
228	4-131	99 Fourth Street	William Beaubien 24 High Street Turners Falls 01376
229	4-130	101 Fourth Street	Mary A. Pipione 101 Fourth Street Turners Falls 01376
230	4-129	101 Fourth Street	Sandra Richotte 94 Fourth Street Turners Falls 01376
231	4-151	Third Street	Adelbert and Barbara Gerry Cross Street Bernardston
232	4-148,149	70 Third Street	Renaissance Church P.O. Box 281 Turners Falls 01376
233	4-145	74 Third Street	Raymond Denkewicz Federal Street Millers Falls

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<u>Map No.</u>	<u>Assessor's Map No.</u>	<u>Building Address</u>	<u>Owner's Name and Address</u>
234	4-144	76-78 Third Street	Francis Carme 91 Fourth Street Turners Falls 01376
235	4-143	80 Third Street	Albert and Julian Saulnier 70 High Street Turners Falls 01376
236	4-141	82 Third Street	Bessie E. Baker 82 Third Street Turners Falls 01376
237	4-139-140	86 Third Street	Renaissance Church P.O. Box 281 Turners Falls 01376
238	4-134,135	96-98 Third Street	James and Joanne Mayrand 11 Main Street Turners Falls 01376
239	4-133	100-104 Third Street	Jacqueline Emond 104 Third Street, Turners Falls 01376
240	4-132	106 Third Street	Estate of Mary Grigo C/O Earl Duncan 106 Third Street Turners Falls 01376
241	4-128	110 Third Street	Anna King 110 Third Street Turners Falls 01376
242	4-127	116 Third Street	Donald Skole Linda Lane Turners Falls 01376
243	4-69	John Russell Cutlery Block	Richard and Robert Abuza 181 Main Street Northampton 01060
244	4-67	60 Second Street	Peter Crossman S. Cross Road Gill RFD Turners Falls 01376

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245	4-68	64-68 Second Street	Peter Crossman S. Cross Road Gill RFD Turners Falls 01376
246	4-70	70-72 Second Street	Albert and Sellena Velander 72 Second Street Turners Falls 01376
247	4-71	76 Second Street	Thomas and Gretchen Judd Curtis Road Winchester, NH 01376
248	4-72	80 Second Street	Weiss Realty Corp. 119 Wells Street Greenfield
249	4-73	84 Second Street	Edward Cadran 84 Second Street Turners Falls 01376
250	4-74	88 Second Street	Weiss Realty Corp. 119 Wells Street Greenfield, 01376
251	4075	92 Second Street	Ashley Webb 761 Leyden Road Greenfield 01301
252	4-76	94 Second Street	Mary F. Hanley 94 Second Street Turners Falls 01376
253	4-77	100 Second Street	Julia Tobey 100 Second Street Turners Falls 01376
254	4-79	104 Second Street	Vincent and Theresa Ferland 104 Second Street Turners Falls 01376
255	4-34	67 Second Street	Robert and Marguerite Bourbeau 67 Second Street Turners Falls 01376
256	4-33	75 Second Street	W.M. and J. Krol 75 Second Street Turners Falls 01376

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257	4-32	77 Second Street	Donald Skole Linda Lane Turners Falls 01376
258	4-30	79 Second Street	Warren and Sylvia Pervere 79 Second Street Turners Falls 01376
259	4-29	83 Second Street	Alfred Courtemanche 83 Second Street Turners Falls 01376
260	4-28	87 Second Street	Charles H. Emery 87 Second Street Turners Falls 01376
261	4-27	91 Second Street	Donald Skole Linda Lane Turners Falls 01376
262	4-26	97 Second Street	Anna M. Goehner 97 Second Street Turners Falls 01376
263	4-25	99 Second Street	Richard Griesback 99 Second Street Turners Falls 01376
264	4-23	103 Second Street	John F. Vasquez P.O. Box 301 Greenfield 01301
265	4-22	107 Second Street	Renaissance Church P.O. Box 281 Turners Falls 01376
266		B&M Railroad Right-of-Way	Boston and Maine Railroad 150 Causeway Street Boston, MA 02114
INTRUSIONS			
A	4-178,179	Canal Street(shop)	Richard and Ruth Dubois 62 Turnpike Road Turners Falls 01376
B	4-39,40	Escott's Service Station	Robert Escott 4 Avenue A Turners Falls 01376

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<u>Map No.</u>	<u>Assessor's Map No.</u>	<u>Building Address</u>	<u>Owner's Name and Address</u>
C	4-41	Cumberland Farms Store	V.S.H. Realty Inc. 777 Dedham Street Canton 02021
D	4-59	Carney's Restaurant	Carney's Restaurant, Inc. 66 Avenue A Turners Falls 01376
E	4-188	Fireside Restaurant	Louis and Susan Grader 13 West Street Greenfield 01301
F	3-37	St. Kazimierg's Hall	St. Kazimierg's Society, Inc. Avenue A Turners Falls 01376
G	3-36	Greenfield Savings Bank	Couture Bros. 187 Avenue A Turners Falls 01376
H	3-34, 35	187 Avenue A	Couture Bros. 187 Avenue A Turners Falls 01376
I	3-20	New England Telephone Company	New England Telephone and Tel. Company 85 Franklin Street Boston, 02107
J	4-66	Aubuchon Hardware	William E. Aubuchon Jr, Trust 95 Aubuchon Drive Westminster 01473
K	4-37	Shady Glen Restaurant	Samuel I. Couture Mountain Road Gill RFD Turners Falls 01376
L	4-82	Sunoco Station	Robert Beaubien Beaubien Sunoco Third Street Turners Falls 01376

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PROPERTY OWNERSHIPMap No.Assessor's Map No.Building AddressOwner's Name and Address

M

4-117

B.P. Station

Royal Greenfield, Inc.
229 Albany Street
Springfield

N

4-223,285

Polish Co-op

Polish Co-operative Stores, Inc.
96 Fourth Street
Turners Falls 01376

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Description #7 (cont.) Included is a handsome one-story, brick structure, three by eight bays with a gable roof. More elaborate than most of the industrial buildings in the district, it exhibits a corbelled pediment and cornices, as well as recessed window bays whose openings are trimmed with granite keystones and voussoirs.

As the factories grew and required additional labor to operate their machinery, tenement blocks were built by the mill owners to attract workers to Turners Falls. The Keith Block (#24) is a three-story tenement from the 1870's whose simple design features a corbelled cornice and frieze. Although the Keith Block now stands vacant and neglected, its original integrity is preserved.

The Cutlery Block (#243) was built by the John Russell Manufacturing Company on a swampy section of Third Street. The highly rhythmic facade features a slate mansard roof broken by dormers and brick party walls which extend above the roofline in a regular pattern every three bays.

The finest residential structures are two Victorian cottages on J. Street (#17,19) built by Bernard N. Farren and reportedly lived in by Farren and members of his family. Built of brick, each features intersecting gable roofs with a square, pyramid-roofed tower at the inner corner of the two masses. Stickwork decoration enriches the gables and open porches.

Second, Third and Fourth Streets are characteristic of the fine residential street-scapes which contribute to the unified appearance of the district. Single and multi-family dwellings line the streets, built close together and generally 2-½ to 3 stories in height and from three to six bays wide. Whether flat roofed or gable end to the street, the houses typically feature elaborate one or two-story wooden porches across the facades. Turned balusters and jig-saw bracing create a decorative pattern. As in the industrial and commercial structures, many of the brick tenements feature fine corbelled cornices. Segmental arched windows with two-over-two sash are capped by flat arches or corbelled window hoods.

The American House (#40) is a three-story brick hotel which dates from the 1870's. The facade is five bays wide and is capped by a wooden cornice with modillions. The first and second story trabeated openings have granite lintels, while the third story windows have round-arched heads and retain their original nine-over-one sash. The original one-story wooden porch is supported by six Doric columns and capped by a balustrade. A second story porch was added later. It follows the rhythm of the original and is supported by fluted square posts. A three-story brick ell and a one-story storefront are also later additions.

Hotel Vladish (#77) combines the commercial style appropriate to its Avenue A site with a residential function. The three-story, brick building is three bays wide. The bays are recessed slightly and each contains paired segmental arched windows with stone sills.

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Description #7 (cont) The arched center entrance is decorated with a terracotta archivolt. The wider bays and unusual terracotta detailing reflect the c. 1910 date of construction while still creating a strong sense of continuity with the earlier buildings surrounding it.

The historic character of Avenue A is defined by the three and four-story brick commercial blocks which line the village's main commercial street. These buildings, nearly all of which are free-standing, were built in the 1870's and 1880's, and feature strong similarities in massing, materials, cornice details and window trim. Many of the storefronts feature large plate-glass windows and cast-iron columns, and are well-scaled to the pedestrian streetscape. Among the earliest structures still extant are the Independent Organization of Foresters Block (#91), the Colle Opera House (#88) and the Clapp Block (F, south section).

The Colle Opera House of 1874 was designed by E.C. Gardner of Springfield for Fred Colle. The three-story brick structure has a fine stone storefront which has undergone minimal change. Upper story windows have pointed segmental-arched hoods which add a slightly Gothic flair. Recent polychrome painting of the facades detracts from the original design. Just north of the hall stands the Shea Theater, a two-story brick building completed in 1927 to house a more modern movie house and theater.

At the corner of Second Street and Avenue A is the Bank Block (#61), a three-story brick block with a handsome carved granite storefront. The facade is organized in three sections and originally had a pyramid-shaped roof atop the northeast corner. The storefronts feature granite columns with floral capitals and shafts, fancy wrought-iron grilles and carved stone steps. The storefront design is repeated on the side elevation.

The Carnegie Library (#75) of 1905 is built of Roman buff brick in the Georgian Revival style. The three-bay facade includes a pedimented pavillion in the center bay. A high-relief modillioned cornice and frieze surround the building, while the tall round-arched windows feature stained glass transoms and terracotta trim. The incompatible wooden entry vestibule is a later addition.

The district includes six church structures as well as numerous other buildings which have been associated with religious groups and fraternal organizations. The First Congregational Church (#128) was built in the Queen Anne Style and combines clapboards, patterned shingles and stickwork in a fanciful design.

Across Seventh Street stand St. Mary's Church and Rectory (#127). The church is a handsome Romanesque Revival design in brick. The adjacent rectory is a Second Empire residence with a decorative cornice and mansard roof.

(11/78)

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Description # 7 (cont) St. Anne's Church (#26) is a prominent corner structure which features lancet-arched windows and brick buttresses in a traditional Gothic Revival design. East of the church is a Queen Anne style Rectory (#27) of brick with a patterned shingle bay and half-timber dormer. To the north stands St. Anne's School (#28), and 1896 brick schoolhouse of 2½ stories with a steep hipped roof and a center pavillion. A projecting around-arched entry porch of later date frames the Richardsonian arched entrance.

The present Lodge of Elks Building (#146) is a Stick Style design with half-timber gables. It previously served as a Unitarian Church. The Turners Falls Athletic Club (#111) was formerly a church and combines short lancet arch panels above the windows with patterned shingles and a two-stage gabled entrance pavillion. This pavillion originally projected much higher above the roofline.

The original plan of the village is still in place today and results in the visually coherent streetscapes which remain largely intact. Later development is concentrated along portions of Avenue A. These intrusions include Aubuchon's Hardware, (J) New England Telephone, (I) Greenfield Savings Bank, (G) St. Kazimierg's Hall, (F) Carney's Restaurant, (D) Fireside (E) and Cumberland Farms (C). Several gas stations of incompatible design are scattered throughout the district. The majority of structures, however, retain their original appearance with only minor alterations. Collectively, they contribute to the cohesive character and architectural integrity of this late nineteenth century New England industrial village.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1867-1895 **Builder/Architect** Plan by William P. Crocker, C.W. Hazelton

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Turners Falls Historic District possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials and workmanship. The district is associated with events that have made a direct contribution to the industrial development of the nation; it is associated with the lives of persons significant in the development of the area and embodies distinctive characteristics of the type, period and methods of construction typical of late nineteenth century industrial communities of Massachusetts, and particularly of the Connecticut River Valley.

The Turner Falls Historic District gains its significance as a rare surviving example of a planned industrial community of the 1860's. It was laid out and developed with the express purpose of capitalizing on the abundant water supply and the technological developments which made it possible to harness the river's energy to power the mills. The town reached the peak of its economic prosperity in the first quarter of the twentieth century and gained the nickname "Home of the White Coal." The town is associated with several prominent businessmen, including Colonel Alvah Crocker and Bernard N. Farren, whose contributions to the town's development were substantial. The historic district is an architecturally cohesive grouping of industrial, commercial and residential structures which date from the 1870's and 1880's and retain their original integrity, with very few exceptions.

Turners Falls gains its name from the historic "Falls Fight" of 1676, when Captain William Turner attacked a group of Patumket and other Indians who were camped at the falls. More than 300 Indians died in the battle, while Turner reportedly lost only a single man. Despite the victory, Captain Turner and his men were retreating from battle when a surprise Indian counter-attack resulted in the death of 40 men, including Turner. The name for the village was selected to commemorate the early history of the general area.

The earliest settlement of Turners Falls did not occur until 1792, when a canal and dam were proposed by the Proprietors of the Upper Locks and Canals of the Connecticut River. The locks and canals, when completed in 1798, formed a vital link in the 300 miles of uninterrupted waterways from Wells River, Vermont to Hartford, Connecticut. The canal remained in active use through the 1840's. The introduction of rail service into the region in 1846 quickly led to the decline of the less-efficient river transportation, and by 1856 the canal had been abandoned.

The history of the present Turners Falls settlement dates from 1866, the year that Colonel Alvah Crocker of Fitchburg first visited the area and determined that he would create a planned industrial community, modelled after the successful development of cities like Lowell and Holyoke. Crocker and his associates bought the entire stock of the defunct Proprietors of the Upper Locks and Canals, and eventually acquired 700 acres of land in the Turners Falls area.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Greenfield Gazette, Centennial Edition, February 1, 1892.

Hazelton, Charles W., Early Days of Turners Falls, Historical Paper, February 23, 1926.

Merriam, Brown, Davis and Buerger, The History of the John Russell Cutlery Company, Greenfield: Bete Press, 1976.

Montague, 1754-1954, Bicentennial Celebration, 1954.

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property 130

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle name Greenfield

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	8
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7	0	0	7	2	0
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4	7	2	0	7	0	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

1	8
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7	0	1	1	0	0
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4	7	2	0	3	7	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C

1	8
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7	0	0	3	1	0
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4	7	1	9	3	3	0
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D

1	8
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6	9	9	7	3	0
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4	7	1	9	8	0	0
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E

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Verbal boundary description and justification- Beginning at the southeast corner of the district at the corner of L and 9th Streets, the southern edge follows the rear property lines of the southern side of School Street to K Street; then south on K Street to the edge of #94 and west along the edge of the Town Park to the west side of Avenue A; then north on Avenue A to 7th Street,

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

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Candace Jenkins with Margo Webber

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission

date May 1980

street & number 294 Washington Street

telephone 617-727-8470

city or town Boston,

state Massachusetts 02108

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national

☐ state

☒ local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Patricia K. Weslowski

7/14/80

title Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission date

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

Bruce MacDougall
Keeper of the National Register

date 5/2/82

Attest: *Patrick Ardino*
Chief of Registration

date 4/27/82

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#8 Significance (cont) The name was changed to the Turners Falls Company, and the company was relieved by the State Legislature of its obligation to maintain the abandoned canal for navigation. The company was then empowered to build a dam and a new canal, and a new canal, and to lease or sell water for power purposes. The new power canal was built along the route of the earlier canal. A wood and stone crib dam was completed on March 20, 1867. It had a 30-foot fall and power equal to 30,000 horse-power. In 1867, the first water rights were purchased by the Turners Falls Lumber Company which stood on the Gill shore of the Connecticut River.

Crocker's plan for Turners Falls was to attract a number of industries to settle the new town and to purchase water rights from the Turners Falls Company. His development concept was to sell mill sites along the river to these companies and to sell individual building lots in the town to the mill workers who would come to work in the mills. The lots along Avenue A were designated for commercial development by individual businessmen and would provide all of the services to accommodate the new residential community. The plan for the town was laid out by William P. Crocker, the Colonel's brother, who was a civil engineer, and by his young assistant, Charles W. Hazelton. Col. Crocker had recently been involved in construction of the Hoosac Tunnel, serving as a State Commissioner, and attracted Bernard N. Farren, an engineer for the Hoosac Tunnel, to come to Turners Falls to design and build the new canal. Farren remained in Turners Falls, became a prominent businessman in the community, built the Farren House and later founded the Farren Memorial Hospital in Montague City.

The development of Turners Falls was slow to occur, due largely to the national economic recession in the years following the Civil War. The financial crisis in 1874 also hampered the rapid industrial development Col. Crocker had hoped to attract.

Crocker's efforts to attract industry to the Turners Falls site were successfully realized in 1868 when the John Russell Manufacturing Company (site #9) of Greenfield acquired the first mill site and water rights. The company was founded in Greenfield in 1826 and was famous for its fine quality cutlery. Its Green River knives were in great demand by pioneers and trappers settling the West. The company's move to Turners Falls earned it recognition as the single largest cutlery factory in the world at the time. The factory contained 200,000 square feet of floor space and was designed to eventually house 1200 employees. The two and four-story brick buildings, with a running length of 2,000 feet, were arranged in a rectangle with a machine shop running through the center of the courtyard. The shops were arranged so that one operation followed another in a circuit route.

The Cutlery was at its peak when it moved to Turners Falls, but the move marked a downturn in the company's profits. Yet the Cutlery provided jobs for over one third of the village's residents and was a mainstay of its economy. The company was reorganized in 1873 under the name of the John Russell Cutlery Company with a

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

capital investment of \$450,000. By 1892 it was producing 2500 dozen pieces of cutlery daily, including 150 varieties of pocket knives. The company continued in business until 1938 when it was acquired by the American Optical Company. The Cutlery works were moved to Southbridge. The buildings housed a gasmask manufacturer and cabinet maker prior to being demolished.

The next major mill site to be developed was the Montague Paper Company (site #9, #59) built in 1871 on a site just below the dam bulkhead. The company was started by Alvah Crocker and Edwin Bulkley. It was one of the largest and best equipped for the manufacture of paper. Its first manager, George E. Marshall, was largely responsible for its successful start. The mill buildings eventually grew to over 900 feet of river frontage. The company's first product was newsprint, and book-paper was added later. The company manufactured its own supply of ground wood pulp and produced over 45 tons a day at its peak and a daily output of 50 tons of paper. The company was acquired in 1898 by the International Paper Company and continued in operation until the late 1920's. The structure is no longer extant.

The Keith Paper Company (#10) was founded in 1871 by John Keith, who had been associated with paper mills in Holyoke and South Hadley Falls. The mill was completed under Keith's direction in 1873. It was destroyed by fire in 1877 but was immediately rebuilt. The mill became famous for its fine grade writing, ledger and card papers. Pure spring water needed for the making of fine papers, was brought to the mill via a twelve-inch pipe from a spring two miles upriver. The company has continued in operation as a maker of fine papers to the present day. It was acquired in 1953 by Strathmore Paper Company, and in 1963, it became a subsidiary of Hammermill Massachusetts Paper Company.

The Turners Falls Cotton Mill (#13) was established at the southern end of the power canal in 1874 by Joseph Griswold of Colrain and his sons. Griswold had owned cotton mills in Colrain since 1832. By 1865, he had exhausted the power capacity of the Colrain River and began to look for a new site. The Turners Falls mill was built in 1874-79 on a 7-½ acre site and was considered one of the most modern mills in the state. It specialized in the manufacture of cotton bandages. The property was sold to the Ames Manufacturing Company in the early 1940's and has undergone several changes in ownership since that time.

Other industries which figured prominently in the village's early development include the Turner Falls Paper Company (#12) founded in 1897 below the lower suspension bridge. This large mill produced over 16,000 pounds of newspaper per day. Just above the suspension bridge is the site of the Marshall Paper Company, founded by George W. Marshall of the Montague Paper Company in 1895. After four years of operation, the company declared bankruptcy. The buildings were acquired in 1900 by the Esleeck Manufacturing Company (#11). This company produces manifold typewriter

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ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3

papers and onion skin papers of high quality. By 1912, the company was recognized as the largest manufacturer in the world of high-grade onion skin and light weight papers for manifold uses.

The Turner Falls Company has played a major role in the development of Turners Falls since its founding in 1866. It grew from a small land-holding company to a major hydro-electric power company supplying power to a large portion of the Connecticut River Valley. During the early years of the village, the Turners Falls Company built and maintained the canal, dam and bridges across the canal to provide access to the mills. Its headquarters were in the present Town Office Building at the head of Avenue A. In 1904 the company extended the canal 1,000 feet and built a new power house to expand its power capacity by converting to hydro-electric power. This expansion was carried out under the direction of Charles W. Hazelton, treasurer of the company. Ten years later, construction was completed on a new concrete dam. In 1914, the company consolidated with the Amherst Power Company under the name of the Turners Falls Power and Electric Company. By 1927, the new company had acquired over seven other power companies and by 1954, under the name of the Western Massachusetts Electric Company, it had developed into one of the largest public utilities in the region.

The village's rapid settlement attracted many immigrants whose trades were needed to build and operate the new mills. According to an account by Charles W. Hazelton, first to come were men from Fairfield, Maine, who were skilled lumbermen and dam builders. Next came the French, from Canada, as rock-drillers for digging the canal. The Irish, from Troy and Greenfield, followed as stonemasons and bricklayers for the building of the mills. Next came Yankees and then Germans who were skilled cutlery workers. Then came the English as expert paper makers to work in the paper mills, followed by Bohemian cutlery workers and later by Polish and Lithuanian farmers.

The first auction sale of residential building lots was held in 1868 for lots on Third Street between Avenue A and L Streets. Nearly all of the residential properties in the district were built by individual immigrant workers. Many of the brick homes were built by the masons and bricklayers who also built the mills. Both single homes and tenement blocks were erected side by side to meet the housing shortage created by the influx of workers. Among the houses are many fine examples of mill worker's housing of the late nineteenth century. Many buildings feature fancy brick corbelling at the cornice line and open wooden porches across the facade. The characteristics cut-out work of the porches is a particularly fine example of its type.

In the 1870's, several of the mills reluctantly constructed their own tenement blocks to attract the labor which was necessary to operate the mills. These tenements included the Cutlery Block (#243) on Third Street, the Keith Block (#124)

(11/78)

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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ITEM NUMBER

8 PAGE

4

on Canal Street, and the Griswold Block (#15) at J and Seventh Streets. Another tenement block, the Montague Paper Block stood on First Street. Several hotels and boarding houses also helped to meet the fierce housing demand. Most handsome and prominent of these was the Farren House, built by Bernard N. Farren in 1872 at the corner of Avenue A and Second Street. Other hotels included the American House (#40) and Hotel Vladish (#77). The hotels frequently housed travelling troupes who played at the Colle Opera House, and also served as boarding houses for local laborers.

The original Crocker plan called for commercial development along Avenue A. The street was designed to be a 100 foot wide avenue lined by large shade trees. The buildings were erected by individual investors and businessman during the 1870's and 1880's and consisted largely of three and four story brick blocks with store-front entrances at grade and professional offices and tradesmen housed on the upper floors. From 1895 to 1934, an electric trolley ran up Avenue A on its route from Greenfield to Montague and Millers Falls. There were local taverns, as well as the Colle Opera House (#88), which was the chief entertainment center of the village. The Opera House, now the Renaissance Church, was built in 1874 by Fred Colle and served as a vaudeville theater seating 1000 people. Designed by E.C. Gardner of Springfield, the Opera House was later used for movies, amateur performances and for a time as the Turners Falls Athletic Club.

Notable commercial buildings include the Bank Block at the corner of Second Street which was built in 1880 to house the Crocker Institution for Savings and the Crocker National Bank. Alvah Crocker served as the first president of both these banks. The banks were instrumental in providing the economic stability necessary to successfully develop the village.

Other blocks which add to the character of Avenue A include the Allen Block, Bartlett Block, Clapp Block and Gunn Block (#82). The Allen Block stands next to the Bank Block and housed Allen Brothers Clothiers. The Bartlett Block, at the corner of Fifth Street, was home of J.P. Bartlett Company, dealers in wallpaper and paint. The Clapp Block, now owned by the St. Kazimier Society, at different times housed the Turners Falls branch library, the Jewish synagogue, Congregational church and the store of Clapp and Co. The Gunn Block, built by local businessman, James A. Gunn, has housed the Equi's Candy Store since c. 1904.

The Carnegie Library (#75) was built in 1905 and was partially funded with a gift of \$12,500 from Andrew Carnegie. The Turners Falls branch library was previously housed in Colle Hall and the Clapp Block. Upstairs in the library was the meeting room of the Turners Falls Women's Club.

The first school was located on Second Street in the present Hermann Sons Lodge until the 1870's. By 1874, the Oakham School, a prominent brick schoolhouse, was

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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constructed near K and Eighth Streets. A wooden bandstand stood on Avenue A near the present Aubuchon Hardward. Here public concerts and speeches were frequently held. Behind the Farren House site on Second Street stood a livery stable.

The role of religious institutions and fraternal organizations was important in maintaining ethnic ties among the workers. These institutions were started soon after the mills were founded. The German Methodist Church formed a parish in 1871 and built the present Grace Methodist Church on K Street in 1874. The Congregational Church (#128) was organized in 1875 and moved into its present quarters in 1881. St. Mary's Church (#127) was the first Catholic church. The parish was established in 1872 and the Seventh Street building and rectory were constructed from 1878-1902. The English Methodist Church (#112) was built c.1880 on Fifth Street. It later became St. Mary's Temperance Society and in 1950 was acquired by the Turners Falls Athletic Club (#111). In 1884, a French church was founded as an offshoot of St. Mary's. St. Anne's Church and Rectory (#26 & 27) were completed in 1885. St. Anne's was founded by members of the St. Jean the Baptist Society which held its meetings in the Lyric Theater on Third Street. St. Anne's School (#28), the only Catholic school in Franklin County, was established by the church in 1986 to provide bilingual training. The former Unitarian Church on L Street is now the Lodge of Elks.

Other fraternal organizations included the Forester, Hibernian Society, Hermann Sons, Masons, Odd Fellows, St. Joseph's Union and St. Kazimier Society. Many groups built their own blocks, while others rented space in existing commercial buildings. Most notable and architecturally prominent of the fraternal buildings are the Hibernian Block (#69) and 100F Block (#91) both on Avenue A, and the Fraternal Order of Eagles, now Thomas and Thomas Rodmakers.

The architectural quality and excellence of vernacular design throughout the district reflect the importance of the original "planned community" concept and its implementation within a short 20 years, despite national economic conditions which precluded the full-scale development originally perceived by Crocker. The district retains its original integrity and is nearly intact, with relatively few intrusions from this century. The combination of industrial, residential and commercial structures form a strong and cohesive area. Its distinctive sense of time and place is representative of its late nineteenth century history and development.

An industrial feature of primary importance as well as two industrial archaeological sites of potential significance lie within the Turners Falls Historic District. The power canal, both the initial feature and energy source of the planned industrial community was constructed in 1867 and remains today. The sites of the now demolished John Russell Manufacturing Company and Montague Paper Company may contain information on the 19th century large scale production of cutlery and paper and probably do contain remnants of the water power systems which powered the mills.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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#9 Continued

Personal interviews with Mr. Lionel Girard, Mr. Albert Saulnier, Montague, September 26, 1979; Western New England Magazine, 1912 editions.

#10 continued

west on 7th street to J Street, and south on J Street to the property line of #14; then south across the Power Canal and along the rear property line of the Turners Falls Cotton Mills, #13. The western boundary follows the property line of #13 to the 6th Street Bridge, crosses the bridge and follows the eastern edge of the Connecticut River as it wraps around the northern section of the district to the Turners Falls-Gill Bridge, #6. Here the boundary juts out to the northeast to include the bridge, returning along the western edge of the Western Massachusetts Electric Company dam, and gatehouse. The eastern boundary then crosses the Town Office property, #93, and follows the northern edge of 1st Street to L Street; then proceeds south along the rear property lines on the east side of L Street to 2nd Street; then east to the edge of #185, and south to Prospect Street. From here, the boundary follows the west side of Prospect Street to L Street, then east to the rear property lines of L Street, south to the edge of #149, including this property and then proceeding south along the rear property lines on the east side of L Street to 9th Street.

Boundaries were selected to include as much of the intact planned community as possible. The western and northern boundaries reflect the course of the river and were drawn to include mill buildings, bridges and the canal while excluding vacant lots and new construction at the northeast corner. The southeastern boundary reflects an abrupt change in elevation and the original extent of the plan. The southwestern boundary marks the end of dense construction and specifically excludes a large shopping center between Avenue A and J Street.

NAME OF PROPERTY Turner Falls Historic Dist. STATE MA

The attached National Register Inventory-Nomination form is being returned to your office for clarification of the information indicated below. PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WHEN THE NOMINATION IS RESUBMITTED.

7 Description: From photographic and written documentation presented by the Northeast Utilities Co., it appears that the Gatehouse has retained a high degree of architectural integrity from its 1904-1913 appearance. The fenestration, door trim (over)

8 Statement of Significance: _____

9 Bibliography: _____

10 Geographical Data -- Acreage: _____

UTM Reference(s): _____

NOT ADDED

Verbal Boundary Description: If the gatehouse is included in the district when returned to N.R., please alter the V.B.D. to reflect its inclusion.

12 Certification: _____

Photographic Coverage: _____

Map Coverage: Please alter the district map to reflect inclusion of gatehouse if added to district. **NOT ADDED**

Other: _____

Renotification/80 Amendments

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to Patrick Andrews on the National Register staff, telephone 202-343-6401

Thank you for your attention to the above items.

Sally G. Oldham

Date:

1/27/81

2.13.81

stepped parapet, brick pilasters, and roof all have survived and clearly convey the building's early 20th century form. Due to the significance of the role that this building played in the operation of the industrial canal, it is suggested that the Mass. Historical Commission consider including this building within the district.

Turner's Falls Historic District
Montague, MA

Owners were originally notified of MHC's intent to nominate on 5/30/80 by individual notice. Two responded in favor, four requested information, and Northeast Utilities objected.

The State Review Board considered the nomination on 7/9/80 and voted unanimously in favor, excluding the dam and gatehouse owned by Northeast Utilities.

The nomination was submitted to the National Register on 7/14/80; it was returned to the Massachusetts Historical Commission on 2/13/81.

Owner information was updated between 11/17/81 and 12/1/81 by the Montague Board of Selectmen. Owners were renotified of Massachusetts Historical Commission's intent to nominate on 12/8/81 through legal notice published in the Greenfield Recorder. This legal notice was amplified by a news story published on 12/18/81. One notarized objection was received.

Property Turner Falls Historic District

State MA, Franklin Working Number 7.28.84/957

TECHNICAL

Photos 14

Maps 4

CONTROL

owners must be notified in accordance with 1980 amendments

there is a problem w/VBP & question of including Headgate building (see return sheet).

HISTORIAN

Return
Patrick Andrews
12/18/80

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

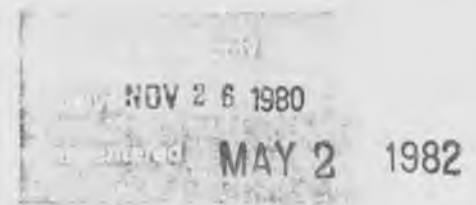
Entered _____

Federal Register Entry _____

Re-submit _____

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

10

Page 2

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the southeast corner of the district at the corner of L and 9th Streets, the southern edge follows the rear property lines of the southern corner of School Street to K Street excluding the modern structure at the edge of School and K Street; then south on K Street to the edge of #94 and west along the edge of the Town Park to the west side of Avenue A; then north on Avenue A to 7th Street, west on 7th street to J Street, and south on J Street to the property line of #14; then south across the Power Canal and along the rear property line of the Turner Falls Cotton Mills, #13. The western boundary follows the eastern edge of the Connecticut River as it wraps around the northern section of the district to the Turners Fall-Gill Bridge, #6. Here the boundary juts out to the northeast to include the bridge, then returns to shore, then extends out over the river again to include the dam and gate house (#7 and #8) of the Western Massachusetts Electric Company. The eastern boundary then crosses the Town Office property, #93, and follows the northern edge of 1st Street to L Street; then proceeds south along the rear property lines on the east side of L Street to 2nd Street; then east to the edge of #185, and south to Prospect Street. From here, the boundary follows the west side of Propsect Street to L Street, then east to the rear property lines of L Street, south to the edge of #149, including this property and then proceeding south along the rear property lines on the east side of L Street to 9th Street.

Boundaries were selected to include as much of the intact planned community as possible. The western and northern boundaries reflect the course of the river and were drawn to include mill buildings, bridges, and the canal while excluding vacant lots and new construction at the northeast corner. The southeastern boundary reflects an abrupt change in elevation and the original extent of the plant. The southwestern boundary marks the end of dense construction and specifically excludes a large shopping center between Avenue A and J Street.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

82004966

Property: Turner Falls Historic District
 State, County: MA, Franklin
 Federal Agency: _____

Working No. 7-28-80/1957
 Fed. Reg. Date: 2-7-83
 Date Due: 5/2/82
 Action: ☒ ACCEPT 5/2/82
☐ RETURN
☐ REJECT

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

photos ☒
 maps ☒

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

resubmitted after owners notified in light of 1980 Amendments

Recom./Criteria accept A&C
 Reviewer Patrick Andrews
 Discipline Historian
 Date 4/27/82
☐ see continuation sheet

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

✓ 1. Name✓ 2. Location✓ 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

✓ 4. Owner of Property✓ 5. Location of Legal Description✓ 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ unaltered	☐ original site
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ altered	☐ moved
☐ fair	☐ unexposed		date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

8. Significance

Period _____ Area of Significance—Check and justify below _____

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

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

☒ 9. Major Bibliographical References

☒ 10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

USIT References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

☒ 11. Form Prepared By

☒ 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

Title _____

Date _____

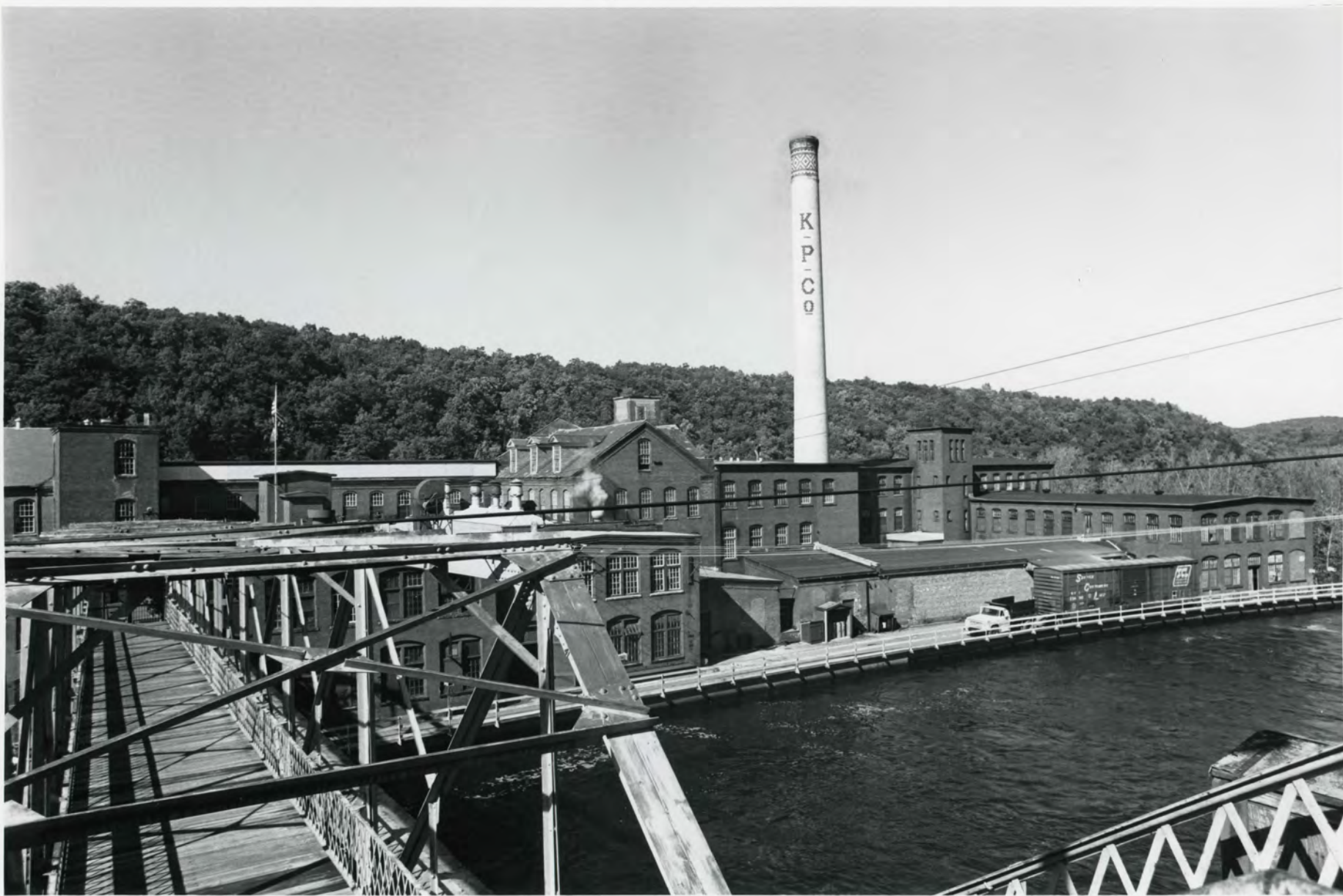
13. Other

- ____ Maps
- ____ Photographs
- ____ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



Turners Falls Historic District
Montague, MA

Franklin Co.

Margo Webber - 1979

Anderson Notter Finegold, Inc. **JUL 28 1980**

Neg. at: 77 North Washington St.
Boston, MA 02114

Photo #1 of 14

View northeast across Power Canal to Keith
Mills



JUL 28 1980

Turners Falls Historic District
Montague, MA

Franklin Co.

Margo Webber - 1979
Anderson Notter Finegold, Inc.

Neg. at: 77 North Washington St.
Boston, MA 02114

Photo #2 of 14

View east from Connecticut River towards
Esleeck Manufacturing Co. Mills.



Turners Falls Historic District
Montague, MA

Franklin Co.

Margo Webber - 1979

JUL 28 1980

Anderson Notter Finegold, Inc.

Neg. at: 77 North Washington St.
Boston, MA 02114

Photo #3 of 14

View west across Power Canal towards Sixth
Street Bridge and Turners Falls Cotton Mill.



Turners Falls Historic District
Montague, MA

Franklin Co.

Margo Webber - 1979
Anderson Notter Finegold, Inc.

Neg. at: 77 North Washington St.
Boston, MA 02114

Photo #4 of 14

JUL 28 1980

View west from J Street towards 48 J Street



Turners Falls Historic District
Montague, MA

Franklin Co.

Margo Webber - 1979
Anderson Notter Finegold, Inc.

Neg. at: 77 North Washington St.
Boston, MA 02114

JUL 28 1980

Photo #5 of 14

View north towards #15, 13, 11 Fourth Street



Turners Falls Historic District
Montague, MA

Franklin Co.

Margo Webber - 1979
Anderson Notter Finegold, Inc.

Neg. at: 77 North Washington St.
Boston, MA 02114

Photo # 6 of 14

View east towards #91, 97 Second Street

JUL 28 1980



Turners Falls Historic District
Montague, MA

Franklin Co.

Margo Webber - 1979
Anderson Notter Finegold, Inc.

Neg. at: 77 North Washington St.
Boston, MA 02114

JUL 28 1980

Photo #7 of 14

View north from Fourth Street towards American
House



Turners Falls Historic District
Montague, MA

Franklin Co.

Margo Webber - 1979
Anderson Notter Finegold, Inc.

Neg. at: 77 North Washington St.
Boston, MA 02114

Photo #8 of 14

JUL 28 1980

View south west from Avenue A towards Bank
Block



Turners Falls Historic District
Montague, MA

Franklin Co.

Margo Webber - 1979

Anderson Notter Finegold, Inc.

Neg. at: 77 North Washington St.
Boston, MA 02114

Photo #9 of 14

JUL 28 1980

View southeast towards 118 Avenue A



Turners Falls Historic District
Montague, MA

Franklin Co.

Margo Webber - 1979

Anderson Notter Finegold, Inc.

Neg. at: 77 North Washington St.
Boston, MA 02114

Photo #10 of 14

JUL 28 1980

St. Anne's School, looking southeast from J
Street



Turners Falls Historic District
Montague, MA

Franklin Co.

Margo Webber - 1979
Anderson Notter Finegold, Inc.

Neg. at: 77 North Washington St.
Boston, MA 02114

JUL 28 1980

Photo #11 of 14

View east from Avenue A towards Carnegie
Library



Turners Falls Historic District
Montague, MA

JUL 28 1980

Margo Webber - 1979

Anderson Notter Finegold, Inc.

Franklin co.

Neg. at: 77 North Washington St.
Boston, MA 02114

Photo # 12 of 14

View southeast at intrusions: New England
Telephone Building and 187 Avenue A



Turners Falls Historic District
Montague, MA

JUL 28 1980

Franklin Co.

Margo Webber - 1979
Anderson Notter Finegold, Inc.

Neg. at: 77 North Washington St.
Boston, MA 02114

Photo #13 of 14

View southwest from corner of L and Third
Street towards BP Gas Station



Turners Falls Historic District
Montague, MA

Margo Webber - 1979

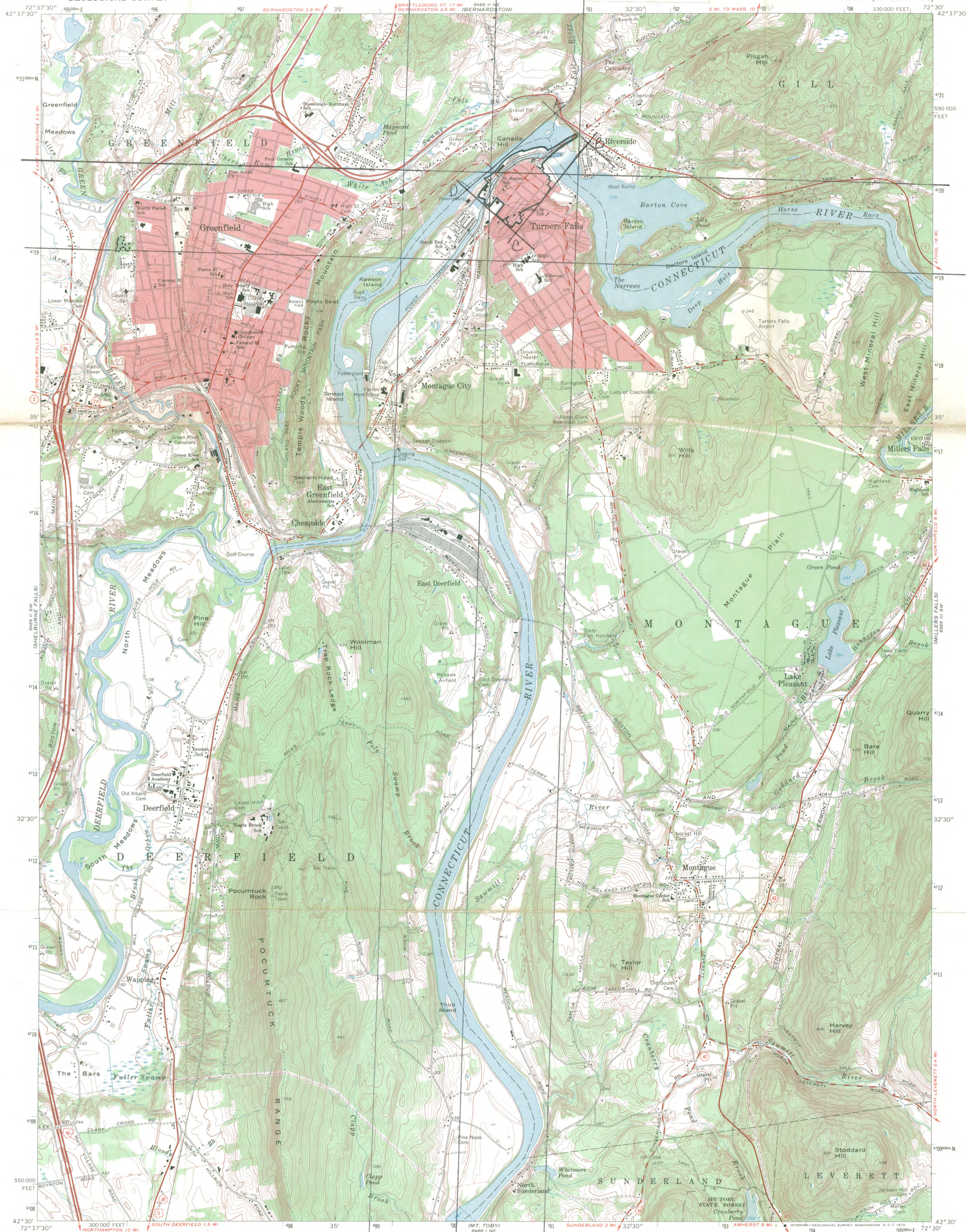
Anderson Notter Finegold, Inc. *Franklin Co.*

JUL 28 1980

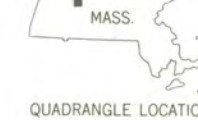
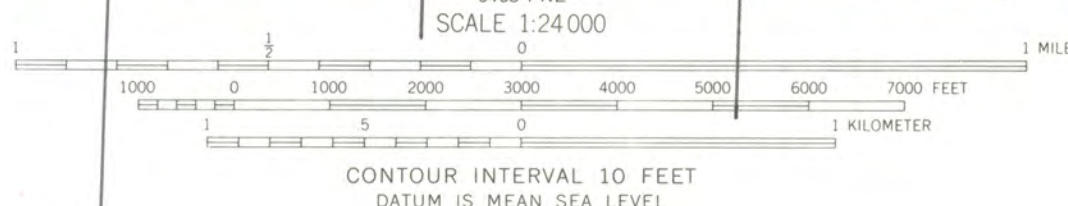
Neg. at: 77 North Washington St.
Boston, MA 02114

Photo #14 of 14

View west from Avenue A towards Escott's
Service Station



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable survey 1936. Revised from aerial
photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1968
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, all weather, hard surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface
Unimproved road, fair or dry weather
Interstate Route
U. S. Route
State Route

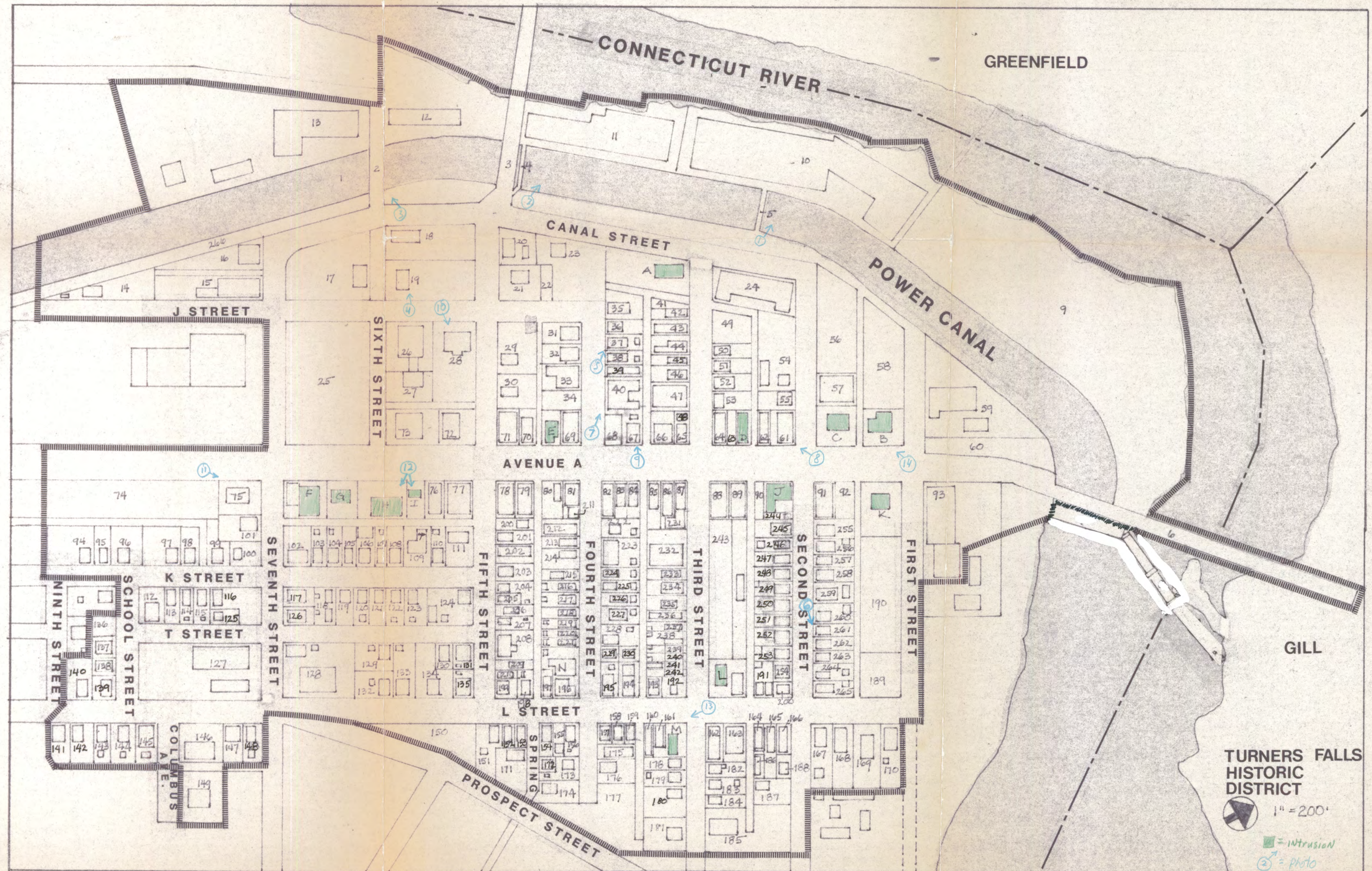
GREENFIELD, MASS.
N4230-W7230/7.5

1968

AMS 6469 II SE-SERIES V814

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





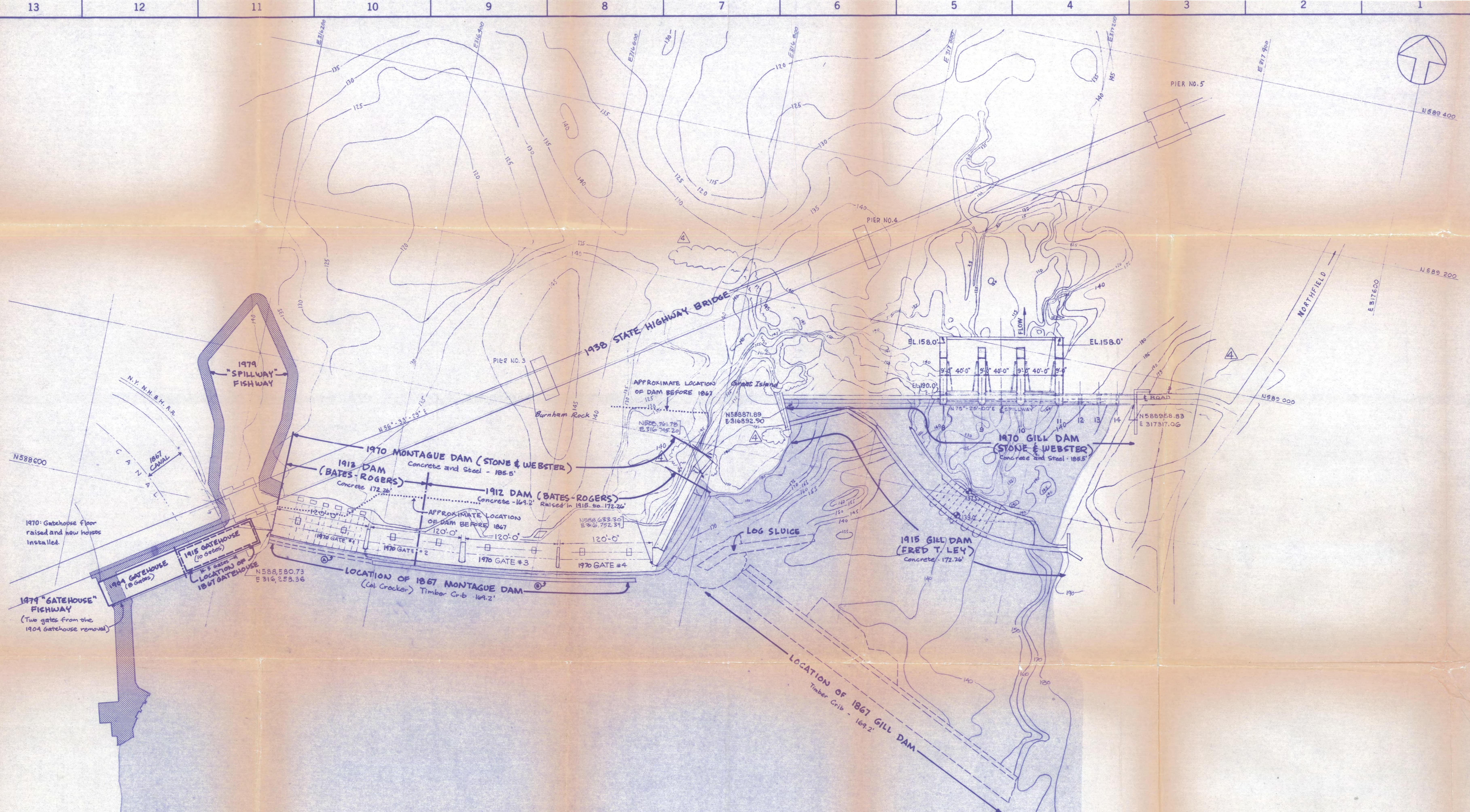
TURNERS FALLS
HISTORIC
DISTRICT



1" = 200'

■ = intrusion
② = photo

JUL 28 1990



REVIEWS DURING CONSTRUCTION		P. A. NO.	
		NORTHEAST UTILITIES SERVICE CO.	
FOR			
TITLE			
SKETCH 1 LOCATION OF DAMS AND GATEHOUSE AT TURNERS FALLS, MASSACHUSETTS			
BY RUTHOMAS	CHKD	APP	APP
DATE 8-12-50	DATE	DATE	DATE
SCALE		DWG. NO.	
P. A. #			



DATE 9/23/80

TELEPHONE REPORT

TIME OF CALL

AM
PM

1. CALL ☒ TO: ☐ FROM (Name)

Candy Jenkins

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

MA. SHPO

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

Turners Falls Historic District - Franklin Co.

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

I asked her why the 1915 dam is not included in the nomination. She said that originally they planned to include it, but that at the Review Board meeting the owners convinced the board with oral evidence that the dam has been altered extensively and has loss integrity. The owners were supposed to provide the state with written evidence. This has not yet arrived, so Candy asked me to hold the nomination until she can contact the dam owners.

new info. arrived 11/26/80 - it is clear that the dam is not historic, however the situation is not so clear with the gatehouse.

Dec. 2, 1980 Raul De Brigand with Northeast Utilities (203) 634-5714 will send additional photos of the gatehouse.

Dec. 16 - photos arrived and it appears that the gatehouse has a retained a high degree of integrity from its turn of the century appearance.

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

TITLE

OFFICE

Patrick Andrews



**MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

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

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

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY
Secretary of State

November 21, 1980

Mr. Jerry Rogers, Acting Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
Heritage, Conservation, and Recreation Services
United States Department of the Interior
440 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20043

Attn: Patrick Andrus

Dear Mr. Rogers:

Enclosed you will find additional information concerning the dam and gatehouse at Turner's Falls, Montague, Massachusetts (Franklin County). It consists of information submitted by the Western Massachusetts Electric Company documenting the alterations to these structures and the reasons why they should not be included in the district.

If you feel this is sufficient, please process the nomination as submitted. If you do not, I have also enclosed a new Verbal Boundary Description and map which can be included to revise the nomination form.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Candace Jenkins

Candace Jenkins
Registration Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

CJ:pmb



TURNERS FALLS

THE DAM

Information concerning the history of the dams at Turners Falls is summarized on the attached drawing, labeled sketch plan 1, which shows dates, builders, and locations for various structures at the Falls.

The present dam at Turners Falls is a 1970 Stone and Webster dam. As with other dams at the falls, it is composed of two sections, separated by Great Island, which sits in the middle of the river. One of these sections is referred to as the Gill dam, while the other is the Montague dam.

On the Gill side of the river, the Stone and Webster dam was built downstream of the previous Fred T. Ley 1915 Gill dam, the latter serving as a cofferdam during the period of its construction. The Stone and Webster dam is entirely new and built of steel and concrete imbedded directly into rock. Once this new dam was finished, the earlier 1915 dam was breached and partially removed so as not to interfere with the operation of its replacement. On the Montague side of the river, the Stone and Webster dam was built as a set of gates perched on top of the earlier concrete structure. That earlier concrete structure was built by Bates-Rogers Construction Company in several stages. The first stage, in 1912, consisted of a 310-foot-long supporting dam downstream of and having the same height as the then-existing timber crib dam. This was followed in 1913 by the construction of another 200 feet of dam with floodgates, extending the earlier dam to the Montague shore. However, this 1913 section was built three feet higher than the earlier one, so that another contract section was let out, also in 1913, for the purpose of raising the 1912 section by another three feet. The entire 1912-1913 dam rests directly on the rock that forms the riverbed there and some of it had to be carved out for that purpose. The timber crib dam was used as a cofferdam while the new 1912-1913 dam was being constructed immediately downstream of it.

On the Montague side, once the concrete dam had been completed, an entire section of the older timber crib dam had to be removed to permit the operation of the new floodgates. The same situation prevailed on the Gill side of the river, where the Gill timber crib dam interfered with the operation of the floodgates in the new 1915 concrete dam. The Beverly Lighting and Wrecking Company was given the contract for removing the upper portion of the entire old timber dam, and the blast that was used for this purpose was recorded in an extraordinary photo (see attachment).

The portion of the 1867 dam that might still remain is that portion immediately upstream of the 1912 dam. After the concrete dam was constructed, rockfill and planking were inserted between it and the back of the timber crib dam. Those who were involved in the construction of the 1970 superstructure recall the presence of some rubble immediately in front of the concrete dam. On the other hand, whatever may exist there has been underwater for over half a century.

6 1980

List of Attachments

DAM

Sketch Plan 1

Location of Dams and Gatehouse at Turners Falls, Massachusetts

Blasting of Gill timber crib dam
December 12, 1915

Construction of 1867 dam
(Published in Abercrombie's history of Turners Falls Company)

GATEHOUSE

Photograph 1 - 1867 Gatehouse from Great Island

Photograph 2 - Rebuilding of headgate substructure - 1914

Photograph 3 - Fairchild Aerial of Turners Falls - 1929

Photograph 4 - Oblique Aerial of Turners Falls - 1947

Photograph 5 - Panorama of Turners Falls Canal - July 1980

Photograph 6 - Completed Fishway at Turners Falls - May 1980

All available documentation we have been able to come across on the location of dams preceding Colonel Crocker's 1867 dam suggests that dams preceding that one were located not upstream but downstream of it, at least on the Montague side. The retouched photograph that documents the construction of the 1867 dam (published in Abercrombie's history of Turners Falls Company) shows no remains of such previous dams, so that it seems **reasonable to suppose** that these had been washed out, even by that time.

NOV 26 1980

THE GATEHOUSE

The present gatehouse of Turners Falls is a twentieth century facility. The 1867 gatehouse, as it existed at the time of Colonel Crocker's nineteenth century industrial community can be seen in Photograph I, taken around the turn of the century. For the location of this 1867 gatehouse in relation to subsequent improvements, see the accompanying Sketch Plan 1.

As can be seen from Photo 1, the gatehouse at that time was a two-story structure, quite different from the one-story building that exists today. Its upper-structure was constructed in brick, with a substructure of granite blocks. The canal was then only fifty feet wide and the gatehouse had only five gates located on the side of the building nearest the shore. The outside appearance of the building was nevertheless fairly symmetrical, and because there was no bridge at that time over the Falls, the overall height of the gatehouse made it an imposing element on the river landscape.

The gatehouse was a multipurpose structure and its second story served for manufacturing purposes: Shawmut Manufacturing Company, a leatherable manufacturer, is known to have vacated the second floor in 1891. Also, unlike the situation that exists today, the 1867 gatehouse was closely associated with a cluster of other industrial buildings at the head of the canal. In the space between it and the Montague Paper Company stood the old dynamo room, which was interconnected with the gatehouse by a tunnel. This structure may be seen in Photograph 1 immediately to the right of the gatehouse, with a vertical pole on its facade.

Starting in June, 1886, A. S. Clarke of Clarke and Chapman Machine Company used the dynamo room to generate electricity. Even so, it was not until much later, after the turn of the century, and after a village of 6,000 inhabitants had sprung up on land of the Turner Falls Company, that generation of electricity began to replace industrial water power as the dominant force in shaping the actual development of the canal. The gatehouse that exists today dates back to this second period in the history of Turner Falls. It was built in several stages. Its construction started under the presidency of William Crocker, Col. Crocker's son.

Its oldest portions date back to 1904, at which time a major widening and lengthening took place of Col. Crocker's original fifty-foot wide canal. Eight more gates were needed on the landmark side of the 1867 building, and an addition was, therefore, constructed consisting of a granite block substructure capped by a one-story brick building. Unlike the gatehouse of 1867, the 1904 gatehouse addition was a single-purpose building whose upper-structure served only to house the machinery to operate the gates. In constructing this 1904 extension, the southwest wall of the 1867 building was removed, so that the symmetry of the original construction was lost. Other than this, the exterior of the 1867 portion remained the same.

NOV 26 1992

The removal of the remaining portion of the 1867 gatehouse took place much later, in 1913, in conjunction with the construction of the new concrete dam by Bates Rogers Construction Company. The two-story brick building was demolished. All five gates and the entire granite substructure were removed. The rock was further excavated and a new concrete substructure was then installed, incorporating not five, but eight gates, plus an additional one for logs. This was then capped by an entirely new one-story brick superstructure, built by James H. Thomas, matching the style of the 1904 extension. The result of these two twentieth century improvements, in 1904 and 1913, was to replace the original two-story 1867 gatehouse with a more modern single-story building, about twice as long as its predecessor and incorporating more than three times as many gates. The extent of the rock cut and the thoroughness of the 1913-1915 reconstruction is evident from Photograph 2, dated 1914, and which shows the rebuilding of the headgate substructure, in concrete, from the ground up.

Along with these structural changes, the mechanisms for operating the gates were also changed. The new installation consisted of two stem rack and pinion gates operated by belts and pulleys on a drive shaft running the entire length of the 210-foot long building. A new 15" "C" Hercules water wheel was installed in the approximate location of the dynamo room to supply power to operate the gates. Later, an electric motor was added to operate the gates and the water wheel was used when the electricity was shut off.

The setting of the gatehouse was periodically altered in the years that followed, principally in the 1930's. Up until 1929, as can be seen in the aerial photography of Turner Falls taken that year by Fairchild (Photo 3), the situation near the headgates still retained much of the nineteenth century flavor seen in the earlier exhibits. The gatehouse, although no longer the same multipurpose building of Col. Crocker's days, was, nevertheless, still situated in a cluster of industrial buildings at the head of the canal. The overall plan of the town near the entrance of the canal was very much the same as in the nineteenth century, and as conceived by Col. Crocker, with Avenue A ending at First Street near the Turner Falls Company building. All of this was changed in the 1930's, particularly when, after the 1936 flood, the state highway bridge was constructed over the falls, occupying acres that had been earlier devoted to industrial buildings, and extending Avenue A across the river into Gill. To support this bridge, a large pier had to be constructed over what was once the location of the old dynamo room. The new situation can be seen in the oblique aerial photograph of Turner Falls taken in 1947 (Photo 4).

The effect of extending Avenue A in this manner was to visually segregate the 1904-1913 gatehouse from the rest of the canal, and to require it to have its own separate access. To this day, the large truss passing so close overhead totally overshadows the one-story gatehouse building. As a result of such changes, the site of the gatehouse no longer retains its nineteenth century quality, and the building, besides having been rebuilt, is also cut off from that portion of the canal whose factories still preserve some of the flavor of Col. Crocker's nineteenth century community. (See panorama of the canal, Photo 5,)

NOV 26 1980

In 1970, when Stone and Webster reconstructed the dam, further changes were made to the gatehouse. The gates were replaced by single stem gates individually operated. The earlier belt and pulley's power system was removed. The floor was raised four feet for a width of eighteen feet along the upstream side of the gatehouse and concrete added to the substructure.

In 1979, as part of the Connecticut River, Anadromous Fisheries Restoration Program, the gateway had to be modified again to accomodate a new fishway. A gallery was constructed along the entire rear of the building, as can be seen from the drawing of the fishway's location on Sketch Plan 1. Two of the gates in the 1904 portion of the building were removed so as to allow passage of the fishway under the building. Thus, the gatehouse facility that exists today is the result of numerous adaptations, starting in 1904 and ending in 1979. A photograph of the completed fishway (Photo 6) is included.

NOV 2 8 1980

NORTHEAST UTILITIES



THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
THE HARTFORD ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY
WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS ELECTRIC COMPANY
HOLYOKE WATER POWER COMPANY
NORTHEAST UTILITIES SERVICE COMPANY
NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

P.O. BOX 270
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06101
(203) 666-6911

December 11, 1980

Mr. Patrick Andrus
National Register of Historic Places
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
440 G Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20243

Dear Mr. Andrus:

Re: Turners Falls Historic District
Boundary at Gatehouse

In response to your telephone request of December 2, I am sending with this letter recent photography of the present gatehouse at Turners Falls. Also included are sharper versions of two older photographs already sent to you, via the Massachusetts Historical Preservation Office. A plan, also attached, shows you the relative orientation of each of the photographs. The photographic enclosures are as follows:

- Photo 1 - Turn of the century view of the original two-story, 19th century Turners Falls gatehouse, built by Col. Crocker in 1867, as seen by someone standing at the Western end of the 1867 Gill Dam.
- Photo 2 - 1914 removal of that 19th century gatehouse, to enable the reconstruction from ground up, of the entire head-gate section, with concrete substituting for the earlier granite infrastructure.
- Photo 3 - 1978 view of the rear of the gatehouse, facing the canal, the canal having been drained to permit the construction of a fish ladder required as part of the Connecticut River Anadromous Fisheries Restoration Program.
- Photo 4 - 1978 close-up view of the same facade as in photo 3, a view that gives a good indication of the building's external brickwork. The portion of the gatehouse nearest the camera, being that built in 1915, has a concrete foundation. Half-way down the building the foundation shifts to granite, marking the place where the 1904 section of the gatehouse starts. In this picture the State Highway Bridge is overhead, and the viewing axis follows a newly constructed gallery to the fishladder.

Mr. Patrick Andrus

December 11, 1980

Photo 5 - 1978 interior view of western corner of gatehouse, looking toward the canal side, at the time the first two gates of the 1904 section of the headgates were being removed to allow for passage of the fish ladder. This view is included because it gives a good interior view of the gatehouse brickwork.

Photos 6 and 6A - 1976 view of the 20th century gatehouse from the upstream side and close-up of the landward corner taken the same day.

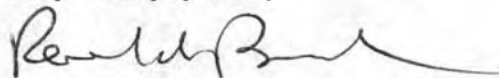
Photo 7 - Roughly the same view as in Photo 6, but taken in April, 1979, during fishladder construction.

We do not happen to have on file an adequate 1980 photograph taken from the ground, of the upstream side of the gatehouse, showing the gatehouse with the completed fishladder. This is because the completed fishladder stands in the way of such a view, except as seen from much further away. Even so, as can be seen from Photo 8 (an aerial) the facade that you see in Photo 6 is the same as what you see today, other than the elimination of a landward portion of the granite substructure, more or less to the point which is indicated by a pencil line on Photo 6. Photo 8 was taken in September, 1979.

As you can see, the gatehouse is not noteworthy from an architectural standpoint. It has undergone numerous changes. It also belongs to a different period, and the bridge now visually separates it, from the nineteenth century industrial development that still remains along the canal. For these reasons it is not apparent to us why the gatehouse would be included in the district. But if you have some other reasons for including it and would like to do so, I would only request that you let us know what these reasons are. This information would be especially helpful in future reviews of this federally licensed facility.

For further assistance, do not hesitate to contact me at the above address or at (203) 634-5714.

Very truly yours,



Raul de Brigard
Supervisor, Land Planning Unit
Transmission, Engineering & Construction

RDB/sd

cc: Candice Jenkins
Massachusetts Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02108

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE DEC 16 1980

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

1964 JAN 20 PM 5 00

THE NE CALL (ATTACHED)

DATE ACTION TAKEN

INITIALS



Photograph 1
1867 Gatenhouse

12/50

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BY KODAK

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12/50

Photograph 2
Rebuilding of headgate substructure
1914





Letter of 12/11

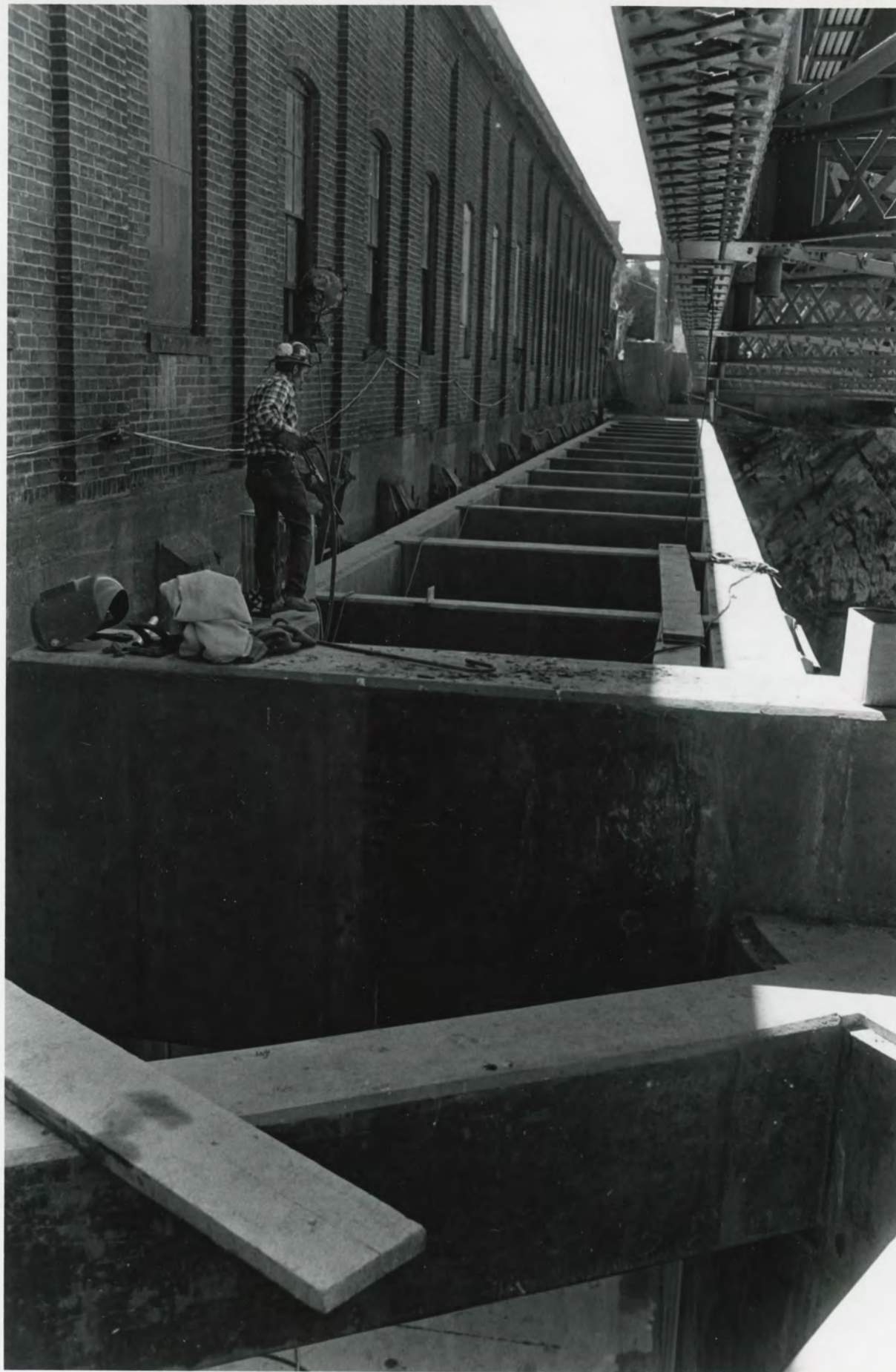
Photo 3

Turners Fall Fish Ladder Construction
Sept. 21, 1978 -- 27761

Photo by George Betancourt

27761

Photo 4



letter of 12/11

2776

Turners Fall Fish Ladder Construction
Sept. 21, 1978 -- 27761

Photo by George Betancourt

12/80

Letter of 10/11

Photo 5



8/2/78



Photo 6
letter of 12/11

Photo 6A.



1/12 1/12/11



PROJECT - TURNERS FALLS FISH PASSAGE
FACILITY

VIEW - GATEHOUSE - EXIT CHANNEL &
ATTRACTION WATER ENTRANCE

DATE - APRIL 17, 1979

ENGINEER - MINGES ASSOCIATES

CONTRACTOR - DANIEL O'CONNELL'S SONS, INC.

PHOTOGRAPHER - THOMAS P. MONAHAN
16G479

Letter of 12/11.

Photo 7



Letter of 12/11

Photo 8

AERIAL

Turners Fall

00265 -- Sept. 27, '79

Photo by: George Betancourt

als

00265-1

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

TELEPHONE REPORT

DATE

4/27/82

TIME OF CALL

AM
PM

1. CALL ☒ TO: ☐ FROM (Name)

Candy Jenkins

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

MA. SHPO

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

Re: Turner Falls Historic District - Subject: inclusion of Gatehouse in district

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

In light of the vehement objection from the owner of the Gatehouse (Northeast Utilities) against inclusion of this building in the district, the State Review Board voted not to include it. MA. Hist. Commission has resubmitted the nomination - V.B.D. excludes Gatehouse

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

TITLE

OFFICE

Patrick Andrews

National Register