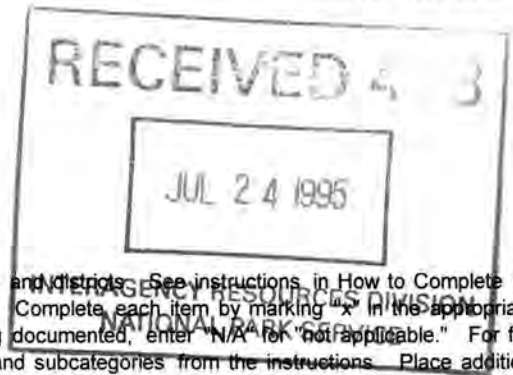


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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



1. Name of Property

historic name Farnum's Gate Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Main Street and Blackstone Street N/A not for publication

city or town Blackstone N/A vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Worcester code 027 zip code 01504

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Judith B. McDonough

7/13/95

Signature of certifying official/Title Judith B. McDonough, Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

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

Signature of certifying official/Title _____

Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

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

Signature of the Keeper Edson H. Beall

Date of Action 8/25/95

Entered in the
National Register

Farnum's Gate Historic District
Name of Property

Worcester County, MA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☒ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☐ building(s)
☒ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
27	4	buildings
		sites
1		structures
		objects
28	4	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single and multiple dwellings

EDUCATION: school

RELIGION: religious facility, church related residence

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single and multiple dwellings

COMMERCE/TRADE: professional

RELIGION: religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal

MID 19TH CENTURY: Greek Revival

EARLY 20TH CENTURY: Colonial Revival, Classical Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: granite, CONCRETE

walls WOOD: weatherboard, shingle

BRICK, ASPHALT, SYNTHETIC: vinyl

roof STONE: slate, ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

RECEIVED 413
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INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Farnum's Gate Historic District
Blackstone (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

7. DESCRIPTION

The Farnum's Gate Historic District, located at the most prominent intersection in Blackstone Village with the Town's only traffic light, includes twenty-seven contributing buildings and one contributing structure. Together these historic resources located next to the Blackstone River comprise a district of substantial residences, homes of some of Blackstone's mid-nineteenth century industrialists. Blackstone is located in the southern most part of Worcester County on the Rhode Island border and is one of twenty towns of the Blackstone Valley in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The Village of Blackstone is at the southern edge of the ten and one-half square mile town and the Farnum Gate Historic District which borders the Blackstone River is less than a half mile from the Rhode Island bordering towns of Woonsocket and Smithfield.

The small district of twenty-three lots within the Village of Blackstone is bounded by rocky ledge on the northern edge of the properties on the north side of Main Street, by the Blackstone River on the south, and by property boundaries on the east and west at which point there are changes in property style and integrity which are not consistent with the district.

The Farnum's Gate District is linear, along Main Street with one property having a Blackstone Street address on the corner of Blackstone and Main Streets. On the south side of Main Street, St. Paul's Street forms the eastern district boundary and is a crossing of the Blackstone River where Welcome Farnum crossed from his mills to his home at 61 Main Street, hence the name Farnum's Gate. The properties along the north side of Main Street, east of Blackstone Street, have a uniform setback which is deeper than other parts of Main Street. There are eight residences included in this streetscape between Blackstone Street and the east boundary of the district. All are located approximately thirty-five feet from the roadway while other properties in the district west of Blackstone Street and on the south side of Main Street maintain only a ten foot setback. District boundaries follow property lines including the 1.7 acre lot of the Blackstone High School which includes the 1920 building, 1938 wings, and mid-twentieth century rear ell as well as some parking and a playground.

All of the contributing residential properties date from the 1830s to the 1890s and are representative of the homes of prosperous industrialists. Several of the residences have associated outbuildings - sheds or barns - which appear to have been built in the 1800s. Those lots on the north side of Main Street display some substantial and picturesque trees while there is little or no vegetation on the lots south of Main Street which slope to and are bordered by the river.

Buildings in this district generally are two stories in height and of wood construction with clapboard sheathing. Six buildings have synthetic siding and three are covered with asphalt shingles. One residential and two non-residential contributing buildings, the Blackstone High School and the Federated Church, are constructed of brick and the single structure in the district is a stone arch bridge.

(continued)

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Blackstone (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

Most residences date from the late Federal to the early Industrial Period with Greek Revival as the most prevalent style. There are a few examples of late nineteenth century Italianate architecture and the two twentieth century institutional buildings display Colonial and Classical Revival detail.

The only intrusion in the small linear district is the one-story mini-mall at 63-65 Main Street built in 1982. This was the site of the 1865 Waterford School, demolished in 1968. There are three small garages which are non-contributing due to their construction date, however, they are consistent in massing and style with adjacent properties.

The area of this small district was part of the original 150 acre holdings of Welcome and Darius Farnum whose mills were on the opposite side of the Blackstone River in an area which was called Waterford by the 1850s. The Farnum family residences were built on the north side of the River. The rocky ledge area behind the properties on the north side of Main Street was the edge of Farnum's land and was bordered by Gaskill property which extended north along both sides of Blackstone Street. The contributing buildings, all north of the River, are described below.

Residential Buildings

One of the earliest extant buildings in the district is the Welcome Farnum House (ca. 1835, 61 Main Street, Map #8/01, Photograph # 1) which displays Federal Style architecture. The two and one-half story gable roof brick building has seven bays on the main facade and a distinguished elliptical fanlight over the main center entrance. The house, now used as office space, has two tall capped chimneys piercing the sloped roof and two pediment dormers.

On the opposite side of Main Street is the Moses Farnum House (ca. 1835, 60 Main Street, Map #7/39, Photograph # 2) built for Welcome Farnum's brother. The two and one-half story Greek Revival dwelling has clapboard sheathing, templar gable ends with full returns, and a center entrance door with full sidelights and a Greek Revival open portico which is evident on the 1879 Birds Eye View of Blackstone Village.

The Joseph Southwick House (ca. 1837, 58 Main Street, Map #7/40, Photograph # 3) is one of the best local examples of a Greek Revival house with a late nineteenth century Queen Anne wrap porch with projecting polygonal turret corner. Also sheathed in wood clapboards the five-bay dwelling has full returns in the gable ends, a center entrance with flanking wide Greek Revival pilasters and full side-lights, and a two-story rear ell integrated into the roof line of the main block.

One other example of high style Greek Revival architecture is the Estus Lamb House (1843-1846, 52-54 Main Street, Map #7/41, Photograph #3) which has a templar gable front pediment supported by monumental fluted columns and a two-story side ell. The side hall entrance has leaded fanlight and sidelights, recessed panelled pilasters with a sunburst design and a wide entablature and projecting

(continued)

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molded lintel. There is an excellent Greek Revival barn with octagonal cupola which appears to be of the same period as the house.

Also on the north side of Main Street are two other five-bay Greek Revival dwellings of the 1840s to 1850. The Daniel Clapp House (ca. 1845, 62 Main Street, Map #8/02, Photograph # 2) is similar to the neighboring property of 60 Main Street. It displays a vernacular form of Greek Revival architecture with panelled pilasters on the five-bay facade. The full length porch supported by fluted columns is depicted on the Bird's Eye View referred to above also. The house has been somewhat altered with the application of synthetic siding. Of similar style and massing is the Ellis Albee House (ca. 1850, 48-50 Main Street, Map #7/42) which appears to have been built as a two-family due to the location of windows in the gable ends to accommodate the stairhall of the side hall entries in each end bay of the main facade. This house was on the same lot as 52-54 Main Street until well into the twentieth century.

Built in the mid 1800s and substantially altered is the Maxcy W. Burlingame House (ca. 1847, 64-66 Main Street, Map #7/37, Photographs # 2 and 4), better known as the Daniel Wheelock House for owner from 1860. It is one of the only examples of Second Empire architecture in Blackstone. The house is a three-story, six-bay, two-family dwelling with Italianate detail in the heavy bracketed cornice.

Also on the north side of Main Street are two modest gable front Greek Revival dwellings, the William Cass House (ca. 1845, 68 Main Street, Map #7/36, Photograph # 4) and the William Sturdy House (ca. 1845, 2 Blackstone Street, Map #7/34, Photograph # 4). The former is a simple three-bay side hall entry plan while the Sturdy House has a center entrance on the wide two-story gable front.

Other simple gable front dwellings, albeit substantially altered, include the two Gaskill Houses (ca. 1845, 76 and 78 Main Street, Map #9/02 and 9/03, Photograph #5), located between the Federated Church (formerly the Mendon Freewill Baptist Church of Christ) and Fox Brook.

Two of the earliest houses in the district are the Dan Hill House (ca. 1840, 73 Main Street, Map #8/04[a], Photograph # 6) and the Elbridge C. Cook House (ca. 1845, 75 Main Street, Map #8/04[c], Photograph # 6 - also known by the name of Elijah Newell-mid 1850s). The Cook House is one of only a few five-bay Greek Revival cottages in the Cape Cod tradition. A common building form in other towns Blackstone has very few except in East Blackstone Village. The house retains a center hall plan, twin chimneys and a well defined door surround with side lights and a deep entablature. The Dan Hill House underwent substantial Italianate changes in the late nineteenth century.

On the south side of Main Street are three large gable-front dwellings, similar to other properties farther west on Main Street. The H. Allen House (ca. 1845, 79 Main Street, Map #8/05, Photograph # 6) displays a five-bay center hall plan with articulated cornice and returns. The monumental portico of

(continued)

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Blackstone (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

the William Saunders House (ca. 1850, 81 Main Street, Map #8/06, Photograph # 7) is one of only a few highly developed Greek Revival gable front facades with monumental columns supporting the templar pediment. The tapered columns and pilasters are panelled and first-story windows are full length. Of a later date is the Bernard Hoyer House (ca. 1875, 83 Main Street, Map #8/07, Photograph # 7). The Italianate dwelling displays a bracketed cornice, panelled pilasters and a two-story square projecting side bay. According to deed and map research this was a one-story ca. 1845 dwelling which was substantially rebuilt and enlarged by 1879.

Remaining dwellings on the north side of Main Street include the plain Greek Revival gable roof James McKeon House (ca. 1864, 82 Main Street, Map #9/17, Photograph # 8), and three ca. 1890 gable front dwellings, the James Cooney House (90 Main Street, Map #9/28, Photograph # 8) and the James Maguire House (92 Main Street, Map #9/29), and the H. F. Sayles House (96 Main Street, Map # 9/30). The three late nineteenth century gable fronts retain integrity of design and display bracketed cornices, paired windows with projecting lintels, and wrap porches. The middle one, 92 Main Street has more detailed trim reminiscent of the Queen Anne style. The Maguire and Sayles Houses (92 and 96 Main Street) were part of the same lot until the late 1900s and display identical plans.

Institutional Buildings

The Farnum's Gate District has two important twentieth century institutional buildings. Built in 1920 is the Blackstone High School (86 Main Street, Map #9/18, Photographs # 7 and 8). The three-story brick building has a seven-bay central section with five-bay projecting flanking wings. The minimal detail is reminiscent of the Classical Revival Style. On the corner of Main and Blackstone Streets is the Federated Church (74 Main Street, Map #9/01, Photographs # 7) built in 1928 to replace the 1841 wood frame Baptist Church which burned in 1927. The present building is constructed of brick in a modified Gothic Revival Style. The pointed arched windows, the three side gables and the parapeted gable front are plain in detail.

Structure

The only contributing structure in the district is the Fox Brook Bridge (ca. 1829, Main Street, Map # 912, Photograph # 5) just west of Blackstone Street. The stone arch bridge is a single-span, dry-laid bridge of granite and has fieldstone spandrel walls and abutments.

Archaeological Description

While no prehistoric sites are currently known in the Farnum's Gate Historic District or in the general area (within one mile), it is possible that site are present. Locational characteristics of the property including the area's close proximity to wetland resources, good soil drainage and level to moderately sloping land surfaces near wetlands indicate favorable conditions for Native American subsistence and settlement activities. Major wetlands abutting the district include the Blackstone River which would

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 5**Farnum's Gate Historic District
Blackstone (Worcester County)
Massachusetts**

have been an important transportation route. The district also include the lows portions of Fox Brook at its confluence with the Blackstone River, a factor which enhances the favorability of this area for prehistoric settlement. The Blackstone River and possibly Fox Brook would have also contained anadromous fish runs of salmon, shad and alewives which were important to Native American economies. Historic period development and the presence of ledge throughout the district have probably effected potential prehistoric resources to an unknown degree. Residential and civic construction have impacted most of the district. In addition, in areas where ledge is close to the surface, prehistoric deposits may be concentrated in shallow soils lying above the ledge. Given the above information and the size of the district (9.64 acres) a moderate potential exists for the recovery of significant prehistoric survivals.

There is a high potential for significant historic period resources on the property. Most historic period structures associated with the development of the district survive with two notable exceptions. Structural survivals may still remain from the 1841 Mendon Freewill Baptist Church of Christ constructed at the corner of Main and Blackstone Streets and destroyed by fire in 1928. A new brick church was constructed later that year at 74 Main Street. Structural survivals may also exist from the Waterford School built by Welcome Farnum in 1865 on Main Street opposite Blackstone Street. The school, possibly the most significant loss in the district, was demolished in 1968 structural remains may also survive from outbuilding (sheds, barns) associated with the homes along Main Street. Several residences in the district appear to include associated outbuildings which were reportedly built in the 1800s. In spite of this, numerous residences have no extant associated outbuildings or have garages which post date have construction indicating the potential for outbuildings. Archaeological features may also survive associated with the ca. 1829 Fox Creek Bridge or the 1770 cart path which preceded Main Street. Occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) may survive in the district, however, they are probably limited to trash deposits, sheet refuse pattern and possibly privies.

(end)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance

1829 - 1945

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Blackstone Historical Commission

Farnum's Gate Historic District
Name of Property

Worcester County, MA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 9.64 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 19 290330 4654770
Zone Easting Northing

3. 19 290180 4654840
Zone Easting Northing

2. 19 290200 4654860
Zone Easting Northing

4. 19 290170 4654850
Zone Easting Northing

X See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

Gretchen G. Schuler, Preservation Consultant for the Blackstone Historical Commission
name/title with Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date June 1995

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

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02125

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

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

Photographs

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

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

Property Owner

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

name multiple

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1Farnum's Gate Historic District
Blackstone (Worcester County)
Massachusetts**8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Farnum's Gate Historic District is a well preserved example of a small collection of substantial residences on Main Street and two institutional buildings articulating the development of this important mill town on the Blackstone River. The district is important for its association with the developers of the Waterford mills, Welcome and Darius Farnum. Residential properties range from the brick Federal style Welcome Farnum House to many Greek Revival buildings of wood construction to several Italianate dwellings. The two institutional buildings are twentieth century revivals in brick. The small collection of buildings represent the continuum of growth and development of this linear town village in the southern part of Blackstone. Only one intrusion is found on the site of the former Waterford School replaced by an 1982 one-story mini-mall of wood construction with a faux-brick facade. The Farnum's Gate District is a focal point when entering the village from the north on Blackstone Street and from the east on Main Street. The District retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and fulfills Criteria A and C, with local significance.

Incorporated as a town in 1845, Blackstone initially was a settlement of Mendon, a 1667 grant to Moses Payne and Peter Brackett of Braintree. By 1766 one-quarter of the original land grant separated from the First Precinct and was known as the South Parish or South Precinct of Mendon. In 1917 Millville separated from Blackstone forming the present town boundaries.

The topography and water resources of Mendon's South Parish drew early settlers to the good agricultural conditions which led to the early need of forges and grist mills, hence the beginning of the industrial development, primary to the evolution of Blackstone. Upland areas were suitable pasture lands and good for raising grain crops. Iron ore near Mill River led to the establishment of an early forge in 1716 and grist mill by 1753 in the area now known as East Blackstone.

Early cotton mills sprang up in four locations on East Blackstone's Mill River and Quick Stream and in several locations in Blackstone Village. Those in Blackstone Village grew at a faster rate in part due to the water source and amount of power which could be generated and in part due to the transportation routes, the Canal and later the railroads. In 1804 the Blackstone Manufacturing Company purchased its first land on both sides of the Blackstone River and built the first dam near the location of today's Rolling Dam at the west end of Blackstone Village. By 1809 the first carding and spinning mill was constructed and by 1820 there was a marked shift in the overall economy of Mendon's South Precinct with the population of South Mendon (Blackstone in 1845) increasing substantially due to the influx of mill workers.

The arrival of Welcome and Darius Farnum in 1825 was pivotal in the establishment of Waterford - the area of Blackstone south of the river, across the St. Paul's Bridge which is the former Farnum's Gate - and the Farnum's Gate Historic District. The Farnums, from Uxbridge, in 1825 built a satinet

(continued)

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mill, the Red Mill (Mill #3) on the site of Blackstone's Municipal Building. The second mill, the Green Mill (Mill #2), was constructed in 1828 on Mill Street at the Rhode Island border. By 1835 the Farnums had constructed their largest mill, the Mammoth Mill (Mill #1), across the border in North Smithfield, Rhode Island.

The catalyst for much of the growth was the construction of the Blackstone Canal which functioned from 1828 to 1848. Improved transportation provided by the Canal between Worcester and Providence and improved water power via power canals (head and tail races) led to this rapid growth and success of Blackstone's textile mills and the substantial investments of Welcome and Darius D. Farnum in the area.

The 1848 closing of the Canal was in part due to the advent of the railroad and in part due to the reduced reliability of water levels of the Canal caused by the power canals built to generate power at individual mill sites. The Providence-Worcester Railroad, laid in 1847, had a depot at the Blackstone Manufacturing Company. In 1849 the Norfolk Railroad (later the Boston and New York Central Railroad), with a financial commitment from Welcome Farnum, was constructed and by 1850 there was the Waterford Depot.

Welcome Farnum (1796-1874) and his brother, Darius (1798-1845) were sons of Moses and Rachel Farnum of Uxbridge. They had built a mill in South Uxbridge with their father and following the failure of that mill had moved to Rhode Island. Welcome was overseer at Slater's Mill and had attempted to establish a mill in Woonsocket prior to coming to Blackstone in 1825.

For the second quarter of the nineteenth century Welcome Farnum's investments in the community were substantial and varied. Farnum owned most of the land included in the present Farnum's Gate District and the area known as Waterford, south of the river and accessed by the St. Paul's Street bridge which marks the former cow crossing known as Farnum's Gate. One of the most influential persons in the development of the textile town, Welcome Farnum, in addition to construction of mills and workers housing, helped to finance the Canal (1828), the Norfolk Railroad (1849), the Waterford Dam (1856 - later called the Saranac Dam), the Blackstone Block (1849), the Freewill Baptist Church (1841), St. Paul's Church (1850), and the Waterford School (1865).

When Farnum subdivided and sold house lots along Main Street he maintained rights and easements over the properties to repair and use pipes, to maintain access to and use the water, and to take ledge stones. Each deed also had a "spirits" restriction which stated that one could not "sell or keep for purposes of sale ardent spirits or fermented liquors" on the property subject to forfeiting the property to the grantor.

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
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At the cow crossing, known as Farnum's Gate, the Welcome Farnum House (ca. 1835, 61 Main Street, Map #8/01) was constructed. Main Street, which had been laid out in 1770 as a simple cart path connecting the early village area with Woonsocket Rhode Island led to Blackstone Street to the north. In 1829 Main Street had been extended over Fox Brook via the ca. 1829 bridge west to Mendon Street and the New City development of the Blackstone Manufacturing Company. Welcome Farnum's holdings extended on both sides of Main Street from the River to the ledge north of Main Street bordering Gaskill property. The west boundary of Farnum's land on the north side of Main was Blackstone Street and on the south side extended westerly to Monument Square where he built the Blackstone Block (1849) and the Saranac Dam (1856).

The ca. 1835 dates for construction of the first houses along Main Street coincide with the development of the cotton warp mill (1828) and the Mammoth Mill (1835) a prosperous time for Welcome and Darius D. Farnum. Welcome and Darius Farnum's brother, Moses Farnum, built his house at 60 Main Street (Map #7/39) by 1837 according the Joseph Southwick's deed for his house lot at 58 Main Street (Map #7/40). Although Welcome Farnum did not transfer 60 Main Street - one acre with buildings - until 1846, the 1837 deed of Joseph Southwick states that the adjacent land is occupied by Moses Farnum. Each of these deeds also allowed the new owners, Moses Farnum and Joseph Southwick to use the water from the fountain near to and connected to the Waterford Hotel, farther west on Main Street, as long as Welcome Farnum's house and the hotel were supplied first.

Moses Farnum (1802-1871) was cashier for the Worcester County Bank incorporated in 1849 and partially owned by his brother, Welcome Farnum, Silas Kimball, the Blackstone Manufacturing Company agent, and Dan Hill, a lawyer who lived at 73 Main Street (Map #8/04A) in the district. Moses Farnum also served as Town Treasurer for twelve years between 1854 and 1871. Farnum's widow, Lucy, sold the family house to Dr. George E. Bullard who was a local physician as well as Town Clerk and Selectman in the 1860s.

The Estus Lamb House at 52-54 Main Street (Map #7/41) was built between 1843 and 1845 by the brother-in-law of Welcome Farnum. Estus Lamb, who was a machinist, had married the Farnums' sister, Lucy, in 1842 and purchased the house lot from Welcome Farnum in 1843. The same rights and restrictions regarding use of water and repair of pipes and sale of ardent spirits were included in the deed.

Also living in the Farnum's Gate District and mentioned above was Dan Hill, a lawyer who was a close associate of Welcome Farnum in many of his real estate transactions including properties in Monument Square. Hill also served in several local posts such as Selectman (1847-1849), Overseer of the Poor (1847-1848), State Representative and State Senator.

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 4**Farnum's Gate Historic District
Blackstone (Worcester County)
Massachusetts**

At least two residences appear to be substantially changed from the time of construction. At 66 Main Street (Map #7/37) the Maxcy W. Burlingame House was the home of the Freewill Baptist minister from before 1847 to 1860 when it was purchased by Daniel Wheelock, a local resident of high profile who served in the House of Representatives in 1885 and was involved in many local businesses. In all likelihood the Second Empire changes occurred during Wheelock's ownership which continued throughout the nineteenth century.

Deed research indicates that there was a one-story dwelling at 83 Main Street (Map #8/07) from before 1847 when it was the residence of Daniel Gunn, shoemaker. The first time that the property is described in a deed as a two and one-half story dwelling house is in 1892 when the property transferred from Sarah Hoyer (wife of Bernard) to James E. McCabe. However the 1879 Birdseye View shows a two and one-half story dwelling with side projecting bays as it exists today, thus the Italianate changes or rebuilding did occur when owned by Bernard and Sarah Hoyer before 1879.

Several houses in the district were owned and occupied by local merchants in the late nineteenth century. Lawrence Boylan who lived in the Dan Hill House at 73 Main Street (Map #8/04) had a grocery and hardware store on Canal Street near Monument Square. James McCabe lived at 83 Main Street (Map #8/07) and was proprietor of the small market on the corner of Main Street and First Avenue.

Modest development on the north side of Main Street west of Blackstone Street is attributed to mid nineteenth century resident Albert Gaskill who probably built the two modest (altered) gable front buildings next to the church in the early 1850s, perhaps to lease to local mill workers. Later they were owned by George Crosland (1859) and Thomas Cambell (1867). On the west side of the High School are three later dwellings. At 90 Main Street (Map #9/28) is a dwelling built ca. 1890 and owned by James Cooney who with his wife, Mary, had come from Ireland and owned the Cooney Farm at 55 Blackstone Street where their son Dan Cooney built his home in ca. 1910 in front of barns and icehouses. The other two gable front dwellings at 92 Main Street (Map #9/29) and 96 Main Street (Map # 9/30) were owned by James Maguire, and H.F. Sayles respectively. In the early twentieth century 96 Main Street was the home of James S. McCooey, dentist.

It is important to note the number of people of Irish descent owning and/or living in these properties along Main Street. The influx of Irish immigrants was in the mid 1850s to work in the textile mills. Farnum's mills were in the area known as Waterford named after the homeland of many of these immigrants. By the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries many descendants of the early mill workers had risen to positions of local power and established their own businesses as merchants and professionals.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 5Farnum's Gate Historic District
Blackstone (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

The north side of Main Street had nearly no development west of Main Street with the exception of the Mendon Freewill Baptist Church of Christ's first meetinghouse constructed in 1841 and destroyed by fire in 1928. The church had been organized in 1822 when enough people lived in Blackstone Village to form their own congregation separate from the Mendon Center church. The congregation met in members' homes until 1836 at which time they used the newly constructed Blackstone Congregational Church built by the Blackstone Manufacturing Company on the Common at Mendon and School Streets. In 1841 the Baptist congregation moved to their own wood gable front meetinghouse built on this corner lot of Main and Blackstone Streets. In 1845 when Blackstone separated from Mendon it was renamed Freewill Baptist Church of Waterford. The first pastor was Maxcy W. Burlingame who lived at 66 Main Street (Map #7/37) also within the district. In 1927 the 1841 building was destroyed by fire and the new brick church (74 Main Street, Map #9/01) was constructed in 1928. It has served as a meeting place for many local civic groups including the Women's Missionary Society, the Ladies Aid Society and the Guild for Men's and Boys' Clubs. Presently it is the Federated Church of Blackstone. It should be noted that Welcome Farnum was a substantial financial supporter of the church in its early years.

Throughout the nineteenth century the Blackstone schools were divided into district village schools which slowly faded as large schools were built by the manufacturing companies. Farnum had built the Waterford School in 1865 which was located on Main Street opposite Blackstone Street until its demolition in 1968. The Blackstone Manufacturing Company had built the New City School on Butler Street in 1855 and the High School on Mendon Street in 1868. These three schools accommodated students of Blackstone in addition to some remaining village schools. In 1920 a new High School was built at 86 Main Street (Map #9/18) at which time the Mendon Street High School was renamed the Grammar School. This marked the centralization of education, the adoption of a graded classroom plan, and the closing of many of the district schools although not all until 1941. In 1938 the two-story brick High School on Main Street was expanded by the additions of flanking projecting wings to accommodate 300 students. The building functioned as a high school until 1970 and as an elementary school until 1992. Presently it is owned by the Town and used by public groups including a non-profit daycare.

Change in this small district has been minimal. The most significant loss was the Waterford School, the site of which is the location of the only non-contributing property, except three garages, in the Farnum Gate Historic District.

Today this small district at Blackstone's main intersection retains strong architectural integrity which conveys the mid-nineteenth century success of local industrialists. It is the best preserved residential section of Blackstone with slightly more elaborately designed properties than found in other areas of Blackstone with the exception of three contiguous properties on Mendon Street. Although bordered by the river the once strong connection with the river is no longer a prevalent theme and one is only peripherally aware of the river behind properties on the south side of Main Street.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 6Farnum's Gate Historic District
Blackstone (Worcester County)
MassachusettsArchaeological Significance

Since patterns of prehistoric occupation in Blackstone are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Prehistoric sites in this area can contribute to a greater understanding of Native American settlement and subsistence within the Blackstone River drainage, particularly in a transitional zone between the coastal lowlands and Worcester Plateau uplands. Potential sites in the district may contain valuable information on the importance of upland sites along tributaries of that drainage system. Native American settlement in this area may focus on larger sites along the Blackstone River, possibly at the confluence of tributary rivers/streams or at fall lines. These sites in town may be related to larger sites and/or core areas along lower portions of the Blackstone River towards Nanagansett Bay to the south or towards the lower reaches of the Charles or Neponset Rivers to the northeast. Prehistoric sites in this area may contain information which indicates the local and regional socio/political impact of native social groups in these drainages and possibly how these relationships changed through time. This data could test commonly held beliefs pertaining to riverine drainage settlement hypotheses.

Historic archaeological remains described above have the potential for providing detailed information on the social, cultural, and economic patterns that characterized 19th and 20th century life in a neighborhood which included the homes of Blackstone's more prominent mid-nineteenth century industrialists. Archaeological testing can determine if survivals remain from the 1865 Waterford School and 1841 Mendon Freewill Baptist Church of Christ, both important civic and religious components in the community. Detailed analysis of archaeological features related to these structures can document land use patterns around the structures and provide details on the community members who used them. This analysis could possibly contribute information on the extent to which the presence of children of prosperous industrialists at the Waterford School may have influenced educational methods or schools activities as compared to more working class neighborhood schools. At the Mendon freewill Baptist Church of Christ, an analysis of structural remains and related archaeological features could provide specific details on the church parishoners and the extant to which they compared with other similar religions faiths in the region. Evidence may also exist which indicates the extent to which the church was influenced by the districts prosperous economic standing. Structural remains of outbuildings related to the districts extant residential buildings can further document activities which occurred on the properties and how these activities may have varied within the community based on economic status. Detailed analysis of any occupational related features at around residential structures can provide direct insights into the lives of Blackstone's prominent industrial. Careful excavation and recording of archaeological features around the Fox Creek Bridge abatements can contribute to our knowledge of engineering techniques related to early 19th century bridge construction. Similar studies of cross-section samples of the early Main Street cart path can indicate the extent to which these early roadways were modified, if at all, from the natural landscape.

(end)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

Farnum's Gate Historic District
Blackstone (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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(end)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 10 Page 1Farnum's Gate Historic District
Blackstone (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM References: (cont.)

Point	Zone	Easting	Northing
E	19	290080	4654840
G	19	290000	4654860
H	19	290000	4654820
I	19	289950	4654810
J	19	289960	4654770
K	19	290020	4654780
L	19	290040	4654710
M	19	290230	4654730
N	19	290250	4654740
O	19	290290	4654720

Verbal Boundary Description

The Farnum's Gate Historic District boundaries follow property lines and are included on Blackstone Assessors Plats 7, 8 and 9. Beginning at the northeast corner of the district (Plat 7) the district boundaries follows the northern boundaries for lots 42 to 37, part of the west boundary of lot 37, the north boundary of lots 36 and 34 and the northwest boundary of lot 34 to Blackstone Street. The District boundary crosses Blackstone Street and on Plat 9 it includes the north boundaries of lots 1, 2, and 3 at which point it crosses Fox Brook and turning northerly parallels the Brook to the north boundary of Lot 18, to the west boundary of the same lot. The District boundary continues along Austin Street turning west at the north boundary for lots 28, 29, and 30 and turns south to parallel the west boundary of Lot 30 to Main Street at which point the district boundary turns east along Main Street. On Plat 8 the District boundary continues to the northwest corner of Lot 7 (83 Main Street) opposite Austin Street at which point it turns south and runs along the west side of Lot 7 to the Blackstone River. The District boundary then turns east and parallels the River and the southern boundaries of the Lots 7 to 1. At St. Paul's Street the District Boundary turns northeast to Main Street and east along Main Street and the southern edge of Lots 40 to 42 on Plat 7. The eastern most edge of the District is the eastern lot line of Lot 42 (50 Main Street) extending from Main Street to the northeast corner of the District which is the same as the northeast corner of Lot 42.

See attached Town of Blackstone assessor's plat maps #7, 8 & 9.

(continued)

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 **Page** 2

**Farnum's Gate Historic District
Blackstone (Worcester County)
Massachusetts**

Boundary Justification

The District boundaries clearly follow lot lines of properties which together are representative of the nineteenth century residential area which articulates the development of the mill town along the Blackstone River. The northern lot lines for the most part are lined with ledge and obvious visual boundaries and the southern district boundary parallels the Blackstone River, another obvious visual boundary. There is a definite change in property styles and integrity on the east and west District boundaries. Thus the small Farnum's Gate Historic District of twenty-three lots is visually cohesive and architecturally and historically connected.

(end)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number Photos **Page** 1

**Farnum's Gate Historic District
Blackstone (Worcester County)
Massachusetts**

FARNUM'S GATE HISTORIC DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPH DESCRIPTION SHEET

1. Welcome Farnum House, 61 Main Street, looking south, southeast.
2. 64-66, 62, 60, 58 Main Street, looking north, northeast.
3. 52-54, 58, 60 Main Street, looking west, northwest.
4. 2 Blackstone Street, 68, 64-66, 62 Main Street, looking north, northeast.
5. Main Street Stone Arch Bridge over Fox Brook, looking north.
6. 73R, 73, 75, 79, 81, 83 Main Street, looking south, southwest.
7. North and south sides of Main Street, looking east - North Side - 86 (High School), 82, 87, 76, 74 (Federated Church) Main Street and 2 Blackstone Street. South Side - 83, 81, 79, 73 Main Street.
8. 82, 86 (High School), 90 Main Street, looking north, northwest.

(end)

**FARNUM'S GATE HISTORIC DISTRICT
BLACKSTONE (WORCESTER COUNTY)
MASSACHUSETTS**

ADDRESS	MHC #	MAP #	HISTORIC NAME	DATE	STYLE	STATUS	TYPE
BLACKSTONE STREET							
2 Blackstone St.	F-03	7/34	William Sturdy	ca. 1845	Greek Revival	C	B
MAIN STREET							
48-50 Main St.	F-235	7/42	Ellis Albee	ca. 1850	Greek Revival	C	B
52-54 Main St.	F-236	7/41	Estus Lamb	1843-1846	Greek Revival	C	B
barn	F-236	7/41	Estus Lamb	ca. 1850	Greek Revival	C	B
58 Main St.	F-237	7/40	Joseph Southwick	ca. 1837	Greek Revival	C	B
barn	F-237	7/40	Southwick	ca. 1850	Greek revival	C	B
60 Main St.	F-35	7/39	Moses Farnum	ca. 1835	Greek Revival	C	B
barn	F-35	7/39	Farnum	ca. 1850	Greek Revival	C	B
61 Main St.	F-34	8/01	Welcome Farnum	ca. 1835	Federal	C	B
62 Main St.	F-36	7/38	Oliver Clapp	ca. 1845	Greek Revival	C	B
63-65 Main St.	-	8/02	n/a	1982	none	NC	B
64-66 Main St.	F-37	7/37	Maxcy Burlingame	ca. 1850	Second Empire	C	B
68 Main St.	F-38	7/36	William Cass	ca. 1845	Greek Revival	C	B
73 Main St.	39	8/04[a]	Dan Hill	ca. 1840	Gothic Revival	C	B
73R Main St.		8/04[b]		ca. 1850	Greek Revival	C	B
74 Main St.	30	9/01	Federated Church	1928	Georgian Revival	C	B
75 Main St.	40	8/04[c]	Cook-Newell	ca. 1845	Greek Revival	C	B
76 Main St.	41	9/02	Albert Gaskill	ca. 1840	Greek Revival	C	B
78 Main St.	42	9/03	Albert Gaskill	ca. 1845	Greek Revival	C	B
garage				ca. 1940	none	NC	B
79 Main St.	43	8/05	H. Allen	ca. 1845	Greek Revival	C	B
81 Main St.	44	8/06	Wm. Saunders	ca. 1850	Greek Revival	C	B
82 Main St.	45	9/17	James McKeon	ca. 1864	Greek Revival	C	B
garage				ca. 1950	none	NC	B
83 Main St.	46	8/07	Hoye-McCabe	ca. 1875	Italianate	C	B
86 Main St.	412	9/18	High School	1920	Classical Revival	C	B
90 Main St.	47	9/28	James Cooney	ca. 1890	Italianate	C	B
garage				ca. 1950	none	NC	B
92 Main St.	48	9/29	James Maquire	ca. 1890	QA/Stick	C	B
attch. barn	48	9/29		ca. 1890	QA	C	B
96 Main St.		9/30	H.F. Sayles	ca. 1890	Italianate	C	B
Main Street		912	Bridge at Fox Br.	ca. 1829	stone arch	C	St

**FARNUM'S GATE HISTORIC DISTRICT
BLACKSTONE (WORCESTER COUNTY)
MASSACHUSETTS**

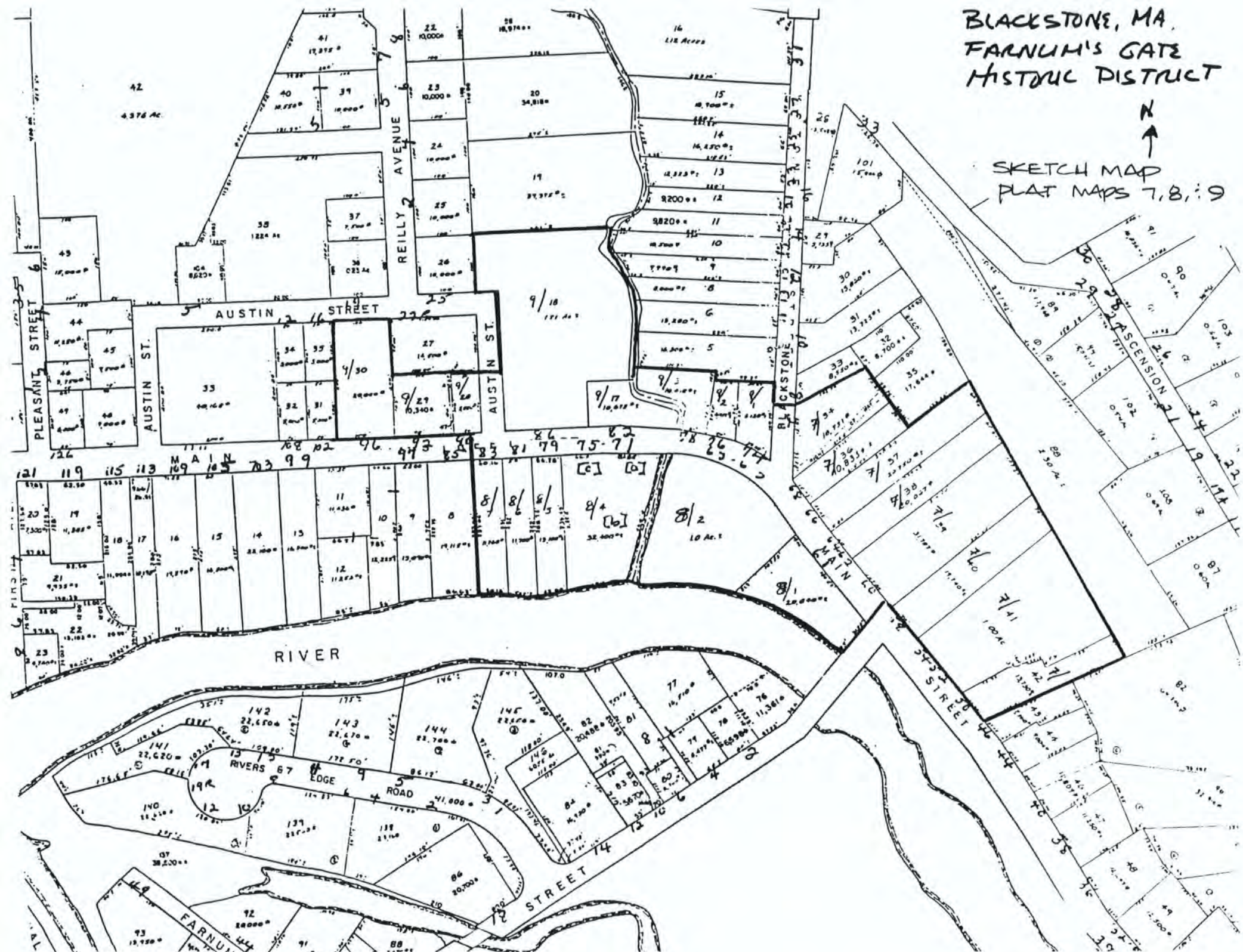
ADDRESS	MHC #	MAP #	HISTORIC NAME	DATE	STYLE	STATUS	TYPE
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TOTAL RESOURCES:	28		Contributing	4		Noncontributing	
	27		Contributing Buildings	4		Noncontributing Buildings	
	1		Contributing Structure				



BLACKSTONE, MA.
FARNUM'S GATE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

N
↑
SKETCH MAP
PLAT MAPS 7, 8, & 9



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Farnum's Gate Historic District
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester

DATE RECEIVED: 7/24/95 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/09/95
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/25/95 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/07/95
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 95001039

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 8/25/95 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS: Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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



BLACKSTONE, MA

Welcome Forum House - 41 Plain St - Faenun's GAT DISTRICT

WORCESTER COUNTY, MA

GRETCHEN SCHULER

April 1994

Blackstone Historical Commission

Main facade + East Gable end looking south southwest

Photo #1



BLACKSTONE, MA

⁴⁴⁻⁴⁶
62. 40. 58. ~~52-54~~ Main St. - FARNUM'S GATE DISTRICT

WORCESTER COUNTY, MA

GRETCHEN G. SCHULLEN

April 1994

Blackstone Historical Commission

Streetscape Northside of Main Looking north northeast

Photo #2



BLACKSTONE. MA

52-54, 58, 60 Main St. - FARNUM'S GATE DISTRICT

Worcester County

GASTHER G. SCHULSE

April 1994

Blackstone Historical Commission

North side of Main St. STREETSCAPE - looking W. NW.

Photo # 3



BLACKSTONE, MA

2 Blackstone St. 68, 64-66, 62 Main St.

FARMER'S GATE DISTRICT

WORCESTER COUNTY

GRATEFUL G. SCHULLER

April 1994

Blackstone Historical Commission

Main St. Streetscape at Blackstone St. Looking n.e.

Photo #4



BLACKSTONE, MA

FOX BROOK STONE ARCH BRIDGE w/ 78, 76 Main St.
FARNUM'S GATE DISTRICT

WORCESTER, MA

BRETTAN G. SCHULLER

April 1994

Blackstone Historical Commission

Stone arch bridge over Fox Brook - looking north

Photo #5



BLACKSTONE, MA

73R, 73, 75, 79, 81, 83 Main St. FARNUM'S GATE
DISTRICT

WORCESTER COUNTY

GRETTEN G. SCHULLER

April 1994

Blackstone Historical Commission

Main St. Streetscape Southside - looking S. SW

Photo # 6



BLACKSTONE, MA

North side Main St. # 86, 82, 78, 76, 74 + 2 Blackstone
St.

South side Main St # 83, 81, 79, 73

FARNUMS GATE DISTRICT

WORCESTER COUNTY

GRETHER G. SCHULER

April 1994

Blackstone Historical Commission

Main St Streetscape Looking East

Photo # 7



BLACKSTONE, MA
Main St. Streetscape #82, 86 (High School) + 90
FARNUM'S GATE DISTRICT

Worcester County
GRETCHEN G. SCHULLER

April 1994

Blackstone Historical Commission

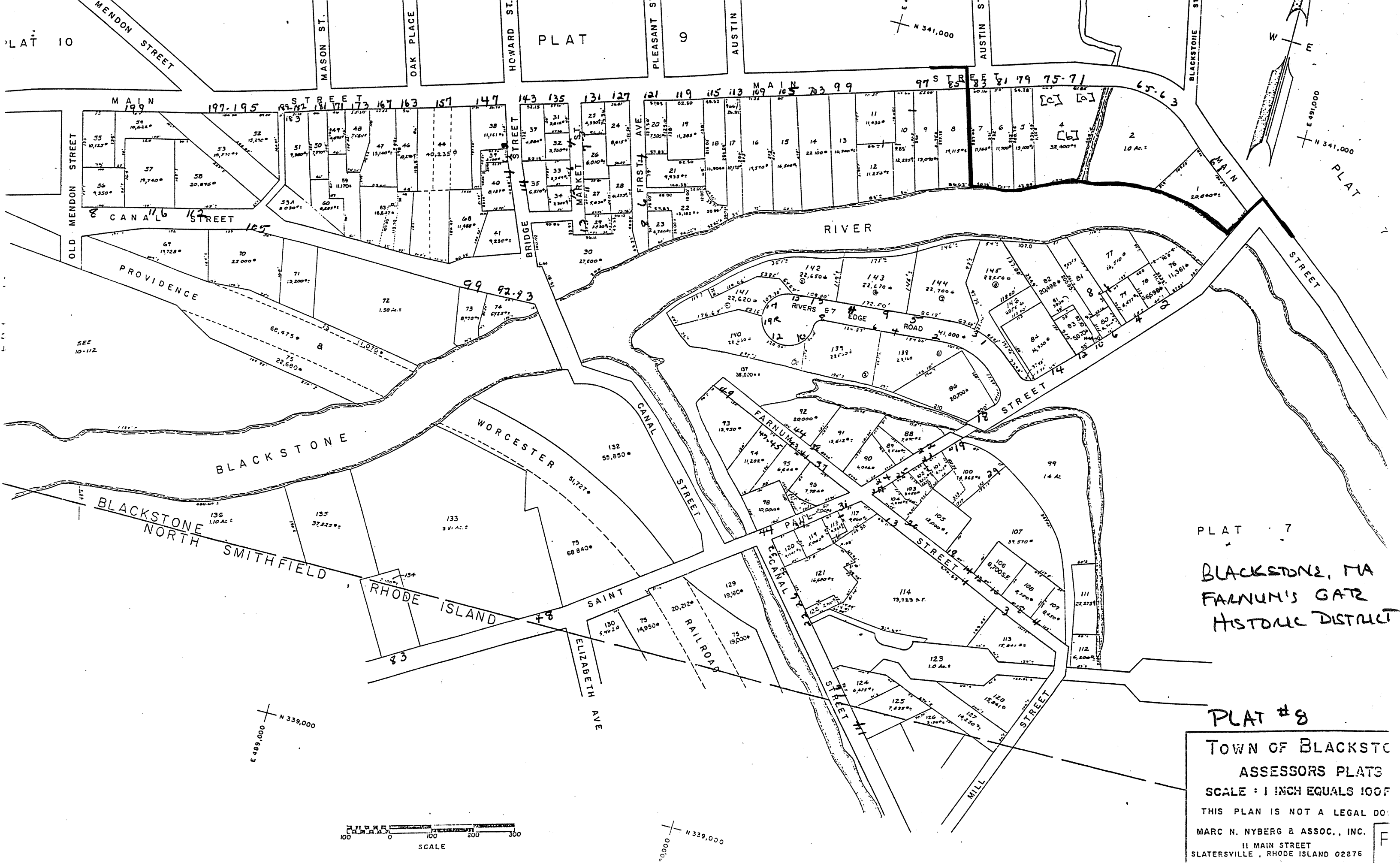
View of north side of Main St. at west end of district
looking n. nw

Photo #8



BLACKSTONE, MA
FARNUM'S GATE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

TOWN OF BLACKSTONE
ASSESSORS PLATS
SCALE: 1 INCH EQUALS 100 FEET
THIS PLAN IS NOT A LEGAL DOCUMENT
MARC N. NYBERG & ASSOC., INC.
11 MAIN STREET
SLATERSVILLE, RHODE ISLAND 02976



PLAT 7
BLACKSTONE, MA
FARNUM'S GATE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

PLAT #8
TOWN OF BLACKSTONE
ASSESSORS PLATS
SCALE : 1 INCH EQUALS 100 FT
THIS PLAN IS NOT A LEGAL DOCUMENT
MARC N. NYBERG & ASSOC., INC.
11 MAIN STREET
SLATERSVILLE, RHODE ISLAND 02876



BLACKSTONE, MA
FARNUM'S GATE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

PLAT 6

PLAT #7

TOWN OF BLACKSTONE
ASSESSORS PLATS
SCALE : 1 INCH EQUALS 100 FEET
THIS PLAN IS NOT A LEGAL DOCUMENT
MARC N. NYBERG & ASSOC., INC.
11 MAIN STREET
SLATERSVILLE, RHODE ISLAND 02876

PL 7



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

July 13, 1995

Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127

RECEIVED 413

JUL 24 1995

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Farnum's Gate Historic District, Blackstone (Worcester County), Massachusetts, 01504.

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. Owners were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30-75 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment. Of a total of 25 owners, the MHC has received one letter of objection to the National Register designation.

Sincerely,

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

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Thomas Bik, Chairman, Blackstone Historical Commission
Robert DuBois, Chairman, Blackstone Board of Selectmen
Gretchen Schuler, Preservation Consultant
James Pepper, BRVNHCC