

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination FormSee instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic North Attleborough Town Center Historic District

and or common Downtown North Attleborough

2. Location

Properties on Bank, Bruce Avenue, Church, Grove, Mason
street & number Avenue, and North and South Washington Streets ~~NA~~ not for publicationcity, town North Attleborough ~~NA~~ vicinity of

state Massachusetts code 025 county Bristol code 005

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Owners

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state _____

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number 11 Court Street

city, town Taunton state Massachusetts

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Historic Assets of the Commonwealth
title of Massachusetts, Inventory #s: _____ has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no
62, 64, 68, 82-100, 113-127
date 1983 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town 80 Boylston Street, Boston state Massachusetts

7. Description

North Attleborough Town Center Historic District
North Attleborough, Massachusetts

Condition

☒ excellent
☒ good
☒ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The North Attleborough Town Center Historic District is a twenty-six-acre area located in the north central section of North Attleborough, Massachusetts, a town 31 miles southwest of Boston on the Rhode Island border. Providence, Rhode Island is located twelve miles to the south. The district extends linearly along North and South Washington Streets, and comprises the town's central business district. Fifty-two properties are included in the district: primarily commercial, they also include several residences, one church, and a number of municipal structures. Six properties are of late 20th-century construction and are considered intrusions, while three buildings have been altered substantially and no longer retain integrity.

The Town Center Historic District represents North Attleborough's business core, which developed hand in hand with the town's thriving industrial base. Dominating the district are conservative, well-designed late 19th- and early 20th-century business blocks and institutional buildings. A number of these large masonry nonresidential structures replaced mid to late 19th-century frame structures that burned in a series of early 20th-century fires. Since the mid 19th century, jewelry manufacturing facilities have been located to the north, east, and immediate south of the district. The northern portion of the district encompasses a greater variety of building types, including modestly scaled residences, a large apartment block, the public library, commercial properties and the district's only church. Open space in the district is limited to the modern Town Hall's well-landscaped park and the contiguous, tree-shaded grounds of the Grace Episcopal Church and Richards Memorial Library. Voids in the streetscape include the lot where the Guild Block once stood (built ca. 1875, burned 1983) at the southwest corner of North Washington and High Streets and the former site of the Universalist Church at the northwest corner of Church and North Washington Streets (presently used as a bank parking lot).

The district is located along North and South Washington Streets, a Federal-period thoroughfare running parallel to East Street, a major link between Boston and Bristol, Rhode Island. A short distance to the east runs the Tenmile River, a meandering waterway that eventually empties into Narragansett Bay. The district's terrain generally consists of gently sloping land, and soil is sandy to gravelly.

Architecturally, the district's greatest strength is its collection of red brick Georgian Revival and Classical Revival business blocks and institutional buildings. Several of these structures represent the work of Boston architectural firms. Local builder James A. Munroe was responsible for all but one store on the east side of North Washington Street between Elm Street

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and Mason Avenue and was the builder of the Masonic Building and the Library apartments, as well as his own residence on North Washington Street, now known as the Loeb Estate. Residential structures within the district exemplify well crafted frame vernacular interpretations of the Greek Revival, Italianate, and Queen Anne styles. Several of these buildings now serve commercial purposes, and a few have been substantially altered toward that end. Materials include wood, brick, and stone with trim composed of brownstone, granite, sandstone, and cast stone. Scale ranges from one to four stories. The concentration of relatively large scale, masonry nonresidential structures in the southern and central portions of the district contrasts with the modest frame dwellings of neighborhoods to the east and west. The district is further isolated by parking located to the rear of many of its commercial buildings. The district extends northward to include residential structures associated with North Attleborough's more prominent jewelry manufacturers.

In general the buildings of the district are in good to excellent condition and have seen continuous use. The application of aluminum siding, however, has obliterated salient historic architectural elements on the facades of several business blocks, most notably the Odd Fellows Hall at the southwest corner of Church and North Washington Streets. These elements may still be extant beneath synthetic coverings. The Telephone Building at 38 South Washington Street is a good example of an early 20th-century Georgian Revival building that has recently undergone a sensitive restoration. Within the borders of the district is a single manufacturing building at the corner of Bruce Avenue and East Street. Its brick nucleus, with bracketed gable roof, was built in 1877-1878 to house a machine shop and galvanic battery manufacturing facility. Light manufacturing is still conducted within its walls.

Below are descriptions of significant and representative buildings. Nonresidential structures are discussed first, followed by residential buildings and finally, by noncontributing structures and intrusions. In each category, buildings are discussed chronologically.

NONRESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

North Attleborough National Bank Building, 17 South Washington Street (ca. 1858 with ca. 1920 addition, map #7, MHC #95).

This structure is a handsome, three-story square-plan Italianate block built of yellow brick and enclosed by a very shallow hipped roof with deep overhanging eaves. The building is five bays wide on each side, and its regularly ordered windows exhibit heavy molded caps. Double-hung 2/1 sash is

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later replacement. Originally, the bank's entrance was set in the center of the South Washington Street facade under a heavy columned Italianate portico. During the 1920s, however, a one-story masonry storefront was added across the principal facade, obscuring the original entryway.

Bosworth Machine Company, 4 Bruce Avenue (1877-1878 with ca. 1891, 1940, and 1960 additions, map #5, MHC #118).

This Italianate-style industrial structure is the district's only manufacturing building. Its brick three-and-a-half-story nucleus was built in 1877-1878 to house a machine shop and facility for the manufacture of galvanic batteries. Possessing a rectangular plan, the original structure has symmetrically placed 6/6 wood sash windows set in thin segmental arches. A segmental-arched two-bay barn door, with a pair of six-paned windows, is centered in the third story; above is a blind round arch. A steeply pitched gable roof, supported by paired Italianate brackets, caps the building. The East Street entrance, also framed by a segmental arch, is located below grade. A corbelled brick chimney projects from the building's northwest corner. Later additions include a low, one-story frame structure abutting the north wall (post 1890), a two-story asbestos shingled west wing (ca. 1960) and a two-story brick and glass structure that projects from the southern, Bruce Avenue facade (ca. 1940).

Richards Memorial Library, 118 North Washington Street (1894, map #32, MHC #8).

The Richards Library is the most architecturally sophisticated of the district's late 19th-century buildings. It was built in 1894 from designs provided by the Boston architect William Herbert McLean. This highly eclectic edifice is constructed of brick with Warsaw Blue Stone and terra cotta trim and a red slate roof, and blends Renaissance Revival elements with a Chateausque roof and picturesque Colonial Revival copper dormers. Particularly noteworthy is the main facade's east-facing portico, which is supported by Ionic blue stone columns. The library's interior is lavishly appointed with mahogany doors, cypress bookcases, a glazed art tile fireplace, and multipanel wainscoting, all in a good state of preservation. The building has seen constant use as a library since it was first erected.

Hall Block, 54 North Washington Street (ca. 1895, map #18, MHC #100).

Despite the application of asbestos "brick" siding and the modernization of its ground-floor storefront, the Hall Block retains the form and massing

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characteristic of North Attleborough's late 19th-century commercial buildings. The block is two stories in height, and has a flat roof fronted by a parapet with a heavy, bracketed cornice. The second-story 2/2 sash is original.

Attleborough Savings Bank, 48 North Washington Street (1903, with 1920 addition, map #17, MHC #99).

The two-story, flat-roofed brick savings bank, essentially Georgian Revival in styling, was altered in 1922. At that time, the original red-brick facade was refaced with white limestone and adorned with cartouches. White granite stringcourses and splayed keystone lintels were retained on the side elevations. A heavily dentilated cornice with modillions caps the structure. The building's entrance no longer retains integrity: black granite and glass has recently replaced the original round-arched entryway.

Chronicle Building, Church Street (1906, map #15, MHC #98).

The three-story Chronicle Building, originally the home of North Attleborough's Evening Chronicle, is square in plan, built of brick, and displays both Georgian Revival and Renaissance Revival details. Splayed stone lintels cap the main facade's asymmetrical fenestration, and a keystone lintel surmounts a slightly off-center entryway. On the side elevation, brick segmental arches top the windows. A stone parapet crowns the front elevation. The building has recently undergone rehabilitation.

Telephone Building, 38 South Washington Street (ca. 1906, map #2, MHC #68).

The recently renovated Telephone Building is a well-maintained, finely-proportioned red brick Georgian Revival-style building, built ca. 1906. The small structure, set on a high basement, rises one-and-one-half stories to a slate shingle-covered hip roof. The entrance is set at the center of the three-bay facade; the double door is placed under a round arch with stone key and spring blocks. Flanking paired windows are set under round-head arches. The corners are articulated with brickwork quoins and the molded cornice is heavily dentilated. Projecting from the building's north wall is a late 1950s brick addition that is compatible with the main block.

Badarracco Building, 6 South Washington Street (ca. 1908, map #8, MHC #84).

This imposing business block was constructed of red brick ca. 1905-1910 and may represent the early work of the prolific North Attleborough builder James

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Munroe. The building is of rectangular plan and rises three stories to a low hipped roof with pedimented dormers. The ground floor contains five stores with modern commercial storefronts. A perimeter cornice divides the first and second story. Both the second and third floors of the principal facade have a symmetrical design of paired windows and matching marble sills and lintels. The second-floor windows exhibit keystone lintels. Third-floor windows are surmounted by round-arch limestone panels with high relief decorations. The cornice consists of a three-tiered frieze and a broad soffit. On the south side of the building is an octagonal stairway, probably a later addition, that is cantilevered out from the building's face and extends only between the second and fourth floors.

Central Building, 31 North Washington Street (1916, map #12, MHC #86).

This two-story yellow brick structure ranks among the least altered examples of early 20th-century commercial blocks in North Attleborough. Symmetrical and five bays wide, with extensive polychromatic trim, the Central Block is a fine example of the Classical Revival style. On the first floor, two storefronts flank a central entrance that is enframed by heavy pilasters and a classicized entablature made of brownstone. Courses of sandstone

separate the two stories and enclose patterned brick panels. The second floor exhibits four groups of three 1/1 windows, capped by transoms, flanking a pair of similarly topped windows. Above the second level is another sandstone course and a brick parapet with a heavily dentilated cornice. A date stone at the parapet center reads "1916."

North Attleborough Post Office, 30 South Washington Street (1916, map #3, MHC #83).

The post office is a good example of the work of James Wetmore, architectural supervisor of the U. S. Treasury Department from ca. 1895 to ca. 1935. Built in 1916, this chastely rendered example of early 20th century Georgian Revival post office architecture rises one story to a flat roof. Its five-bay main facade is symmetrically arranged, dominated by a trio of tall central entrance bays set within an arcade. Doric limestone pilasters culminating in round arches with limestone trim and console keystones delineate the arcade. The pilasters of the arcade support a wide cornice band, which is carried around the building. Flanking the entrances are oversized round-headed windows with heavy muntins, multipane sash, and spring blocks.

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Manufacturers' National Bank, 67 North Washington Street (1922, map #23, MHC #91).

Located on a corner lot, the present branch office of Bay Bank was designed in 1922 by the Boston architectural firm of Hutchins and French. Despite its small size, the building has a grand appearance and is a good example of the Georgian Revival style. The building is of red brick, is one story in height and is capped by a flat roof. Three bays by four bays in form, its central entrance is set between two small rectangular windows and is surmounted by a broken pediment, above which is a multipane round arched window with heavy muntins. The windows on the secondary facades are similarly round arched. Monumental Doric pilasters, supporting a broad projecting pediment, flank the entrance.

DeBlois Building, 145 North Washington Street (ca. 1925, map #40, MHC #94).

The Colonial Revival-style DeBlois Building is one of a number of commercial/residential structures erected in the district during the 1920s. The front elevation of the building is presently faced with brick, while the rest of the building retains its original clapboarding. It rises three stories to a flat roof supported by a wide cornice. Three first-floor storefronts are largely intact, with original display window arrangements and transoms. A broad molded cornice divides the commercial space from the two stories of residential space above. Five bays of fenestration consist of paired 3/1 sash. A concrete plaque bearing the building's name separates the two upper stories.

Ranieri Building, 53-59 North Washington Street (ca. 1926-1927, map #19, MHC #89).

Two stories tall and constructed of red brick and cast stone, the Ranieri Building shelters five storefronts under broad arches of cast-stone blocks on its first floor. All five retain their original materials and form: plate glass with small multi-paned windows above and exterior electrical fitting of copper lamps and overhead lights. The five-bay second floor features triply grouped windows, separated by concrete panels with cast foliate designs. A heavy molded cornice and a brick parapet broken at regular intervals by Classical Revival-style concrete urns crowns the main facade.

Hotel Hixon, 85 North Washington Street (1928, map #25, MHC #93).

One of the largest buildings in the district is the Hotel Hixon, built in 1928. It is a simply adorned four-story structure in the Colonial Revival

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style, slightly U-shaped in plan with a long rear ell and two projecting single-story additions on the main facade. Two enclosed pediments with centrally placed vents mark the gable roofs of the main block's two wings; two large chimneys pierce the roof. Constructed by local builder Howard Harris, the hotel presently shelters a nursing home.

Bristol Lodge, 36 South Washington Street (1926, map #1, MHC #82).

The Bristol Lodge Masonic Building is located at the far southern edge of the district facing the City Hall Park. It was designed in the Classical Revival style by Hutchins and French of Boston in 1927. The three-story building is large, massively scaled, and possesses a rectangular plan. It is constructed of red brick and is topped by a flat roof. Its main elevation features a pedestal-like ground floor crowned by a stringcourse and forming the base of the temple form that dominates the facade. Plain pilasters composed of cast stone frame the main facade's three bays of round-arch-framed 6/6 windows. They support a heavy continuous entablature and a wide pediment, enclosed in which is the Masonic compass set within a cartouche.

Dana Block, 35 North Washington Street (ca. 1927, map #14, MHC #87), and
Slotnick Building, 47 North Washington Street (ca. 1927, map #16, MHC #88).

On opposite corners of North Washington and Orne Streets, the Dana and Slotnick buildings are small, single-story flat-roofed commercial buildings. The former building, though recently reworked in an unsympathetic manner, retains a fine Classical Revival-style brick and concrete parapet with angled corners, plaques, and decorative stonework. The latter structure, less altered, retains flat, cast concrete columns separating intact storefronts and supporting a frieze with bas-relief fruit baskets.

Grace Episcopal Church, 104 North Washington Street (1931, map #28, MHC #6).

Set back from the west side of North Washington Street, facing well-landscaped grounds and a semicircular drive, is the late Gothic Revival Grace Episcopal Church. Built in 1931 to replace an 1859 Gothic Revival frame church and parish house that burned in 1928, the new church was designed by the Boston architectural firm of Smith & Walker. It is built of coursed ashlar and is dominated by a large square tower at its northern end. The church possesses a cruciform plan, and a large rose window is centered in the front-facing gable, above the entryway. The building also has fine lancet-shaped stained glass windows.

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RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

J. C. Albro House and Tailor Shop, 97-101 North Washington Street (ca. 1845 with early 19th-century wing, map #26, MHC #126). Together with the Capt. Abraham Hayward Store, discussed below, the Albro House is one of two early 19th-century houses in the district that also served commercial purposes. The house assumed its present L-shaped configuration by 1871, as evidenced by a Bristol County atlas. Its components include: the ca. 1845 main block; a one-and-one-half story attached cottage at the front (north) of the lot with front-facing gable and projecting enclosed single-story porch with flat, bracketed roof; a two-and-one-half story gable-roofed structure to the south with central entrance; and a single-story rear ell (ca. ??). Albro's tailor shop was located in the rear of the property.

Capt. Abraham Hayward's Store, 113 North Washington Street (ca. 1845, with ca. 1930 additions, map #30, MHC #122).

Although extensively altered by the addition of a single-story early 20th-century addition to its main facade, Capt. Hayward's store retains much of its original form and detail. When first constructed, this building--probably used initially both as a residence and a store--was a three-bay vernacular expression of the transition from Greek Revival to Italianate styling. Still in evidence are 6/6 sash, fascia boards set beneath the side walls' eaves, shallow cornice returns, and a pair of corbelled chimneys projecting from the gable roof.

Capt. Abraham Hayward House, 117 North Washington Street (ca. 1780, with mid and late 19th century alterations, map #31, MHC #64).

The Capt. Hayward House, the earliest structure in the district, has sustained numerous changes since it was first constructed in the late 18th century. Local tradition holds that this building was originally a single-pile Federal-period cottage. An ell was added some time in the 19th century. Later alterations include a Greek Revival-style elliptical lunette in the gable peak and a late 19th-century single-story Queen Anne-style wraparound porch with half timbering and starburst pattern on the porch gable. A large projecting bay on the second-story side elevation is also a later addition.

William W. Fisher House, 125-127 North Washington Street (ca. 1860, map #35, MHC #123).

One of the best preserved and most finely detailed houses in the district is the William W. Fisher House. This commodious Italianate-style double house

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was built ca. 1860 for a well-to-do jewelry manufacturer. In general, windows are fully enframed and cornice-headed, with 6/6 wood sash. A pair of narrow round-arched windows above the entrance are united by a pediment. The low-pitched central gable displays a stained glass multipaned oculus window. The cornice exhibits a narrow continuous Greek Key motif. Projecting from the five-bay main facade is a pedimented, Tuscan-columned front porch, a early 20th-century Colonial Revival-style addition. The main block is crowned by a gable roof. A rear wing with low hipped roof may actually be an earlier structure.

Otis Bartlett House, 16 Grove Street (1871, map #34, MHC #116).

The Otis Bartlett House is a well-preserved example of an Italianate frame vernacular single-family dwelling. Sheathed in clapboard, the building is two-and-one-half stories in height, gable-roofed, with a side-hall plan and a two-story rear wing. Narrow corner boards frame the building. The three-bay facade features a pilastered entryway with enclosed pediment--probably a turn-of-the-century alteration--and windows are fully enframed, with shallow-headed lintels and bracketed sills. A broad cornice displays carved brackets, and the front-facing gable has shallow returns. A contemporaneous frame barn to the rear of the property has two large doors on the ground level, a hayloft door centered in the gable roof, and narrow corner boards.

Henry F. Barrows Cottage, 15 Bank Street (1878-1880, map #6, MHC #114).

This narrow, compact Queen Anne-style house was originally one of a compound of buildings that included the mansion of Attleborough's leading jewelry manufacturer, Henry F. Barrows, a greenhouse, and stables (no longer extant). It is characterized by an irregular plan, a variety of window shapes, a sweeping roof line, and pitched gables. The attic gables retain patterned shingling. Projecting from the main elevation's second floor is an oriel window supported by carved wooden brackets.

Charles P. Young House, 107 North Washington Street (1880, map #29, MHC #124).

Although it has lost its original wraparound porch and is now sheathed in asbestos shingles, the Charles P. Young House retains its Queen Anne-style plan and massing, with cross gables and a pyramidal corner tower. Projecting bays and oriels and cast-iron cresting remain as well. Bargeboards on the front and side gables display punchwork and sunburst decorations.

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Charles P. Young Barn/Stable, 103 North Washington Street (1880, map #27, MHC #125).

Now a residence, 103 North Washington Street originally served as a barn and stable for the Charles P. Young estate to the west. It was converted to residential use ca. 1900 and now is a good example of a Queen Anne-style cottage. Essentially L-shaped in plan, on its main facade the building features a wide gable over a projecting porch with sawcut brackets and turned posts. A smaller gable projects to the porch's south. Fenestration is irregular and includes a bank of single-pane fixed windows surrounded by small square panes.

W. H. Riley Houses, 11, 13-15, 17-19, 21-23, 25-27 Mason Avenue (1907, map #22, 23, 24, 25, 26; MHC #115).

This group of five Queen Anne-style vernacular multifamily houses was built in 1907 on speculation for jewelry manufacturer William H. Riley. The builder was probably James A. Munroe. The structures vary in height from one-and-one-half to three-and-one-half stories, and stand with their gable ends to the street. Number 11, the tallest in the group, is surmounted by a distinctive gambrel roof. Several of the buildings retain original two- or three-story porches; the houses are otherwise devoid of ornamentation.

Loeb Estate, 159 North Washington Street (1918, map #40A, MHC #183).

The Tudor Revival-style Loeb Estate, built by local builder James A. Munroe as his own residence, has a symmetrical facade with two front-facing steep-pitched gables linked by a three-bay-wide pavilion. The first story is brick, while the overhanging second story is stucco-clad. Colored glass is embedded in the stucco-sheathed gable peaks, and false half timbering adorns the second story and attic. Decorative exposed rafters divide the two stories and project from the building. There is a brick-columned open verandah crossing the front facade.

INTRUSIONS AND NONCONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS

It is unfortunate that the North Attleborough Town Center has lost a number of valuable assets in recent years; these buildings have been replaced with buildings or parking lots now considered as intrusions. Among these are one building and two parking lots that have replaced structures included in North Attleborough's 1982 inventory. These are the housing for the elderly building at 20 South Washington Street, which was built in 1984 in place of the Art

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Deco-style NETOCO Community Theater (1928); the parking lot at the corner of North Washington and Church Streets, where the Universalist Church (1882) formerly stood (demolished 1983); and another parking lot at 60-70 North Washington Street, where the Guild Block (ca. 1985), a fine, Italianate-style commercial block, stood until it burned in 1983 during a rehabilitation effort. Other recent structures include the Town Hall on South Washington Street, built ca. 1975 on the grounds of the now-demolished Henry Barrows Estate; the L'il Peach convenience store at the corner of North Washington and Elm Streets, which replaced the Second Empire-style Wamsutta-Emerson House (1874); the Durfee Attleboro Multibank Building, 6 North Washington Street; and several other small infill commercial structures. The construction of all these buildings reflects the continued commercialization of North Attleborough's town center.

Further reflecting the town center's growing commercialization during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, a number of buildings in the district have sustained some alterations, particularly early residences converted to commercial use by the addition of a later storefront. And "modernization" in the early years of this century also had an impact on some of the district's late 19th-century commercial buildings. Nonetheless, most retain much of their original form, massing, detail, and scale, and are considered as contributing structures. Several buildings in the district have been so altered, however, as to be unrecognizable. These noncontributing structures include the Odd Fellows Hall, 32 North Washington Street, a ca. 1875 building with corner tower that has been severely changed over time and is now sheathed completely in aluminum siding, and the Boyle Block, 8 North Washington Street, built in 1887, a building whose details are also obscured by synthetic siding and whose first floor is now dominated by a modern "colonial" storefront.

8. Significance North Attleborough Town Center Historic District

North Attleborough, Massachusetts

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

Specific dates 1670-1930

Builder Architect Multiple architects

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The North Attleborough Town Center Historic District retains integrity of location, design, setting, and association. Historically, the district is significant as the commercial and residential area that evolved linearly in direct relationship to North Attleborough's manufacturing and mercantile enterprises. From the mid 19th century (ca. 1865) to the mid 20th century (ca. 1930), North Attleborough was an internationally known center for jewelry manufacturing. Factories were located to the north, east, and west of the nominated district. Jewelry manufacturing, on a more limited scale, continues within a number of these factories today. Architecturally, the district is significant for its assemblage of late 19th- and early 20th-century commercial and domestic buildings--well-designed Georgian, Colonial, and Classical Revival office blocks and municipal structures, as well as Queen Anne-style and other late Victorian residences and businesses of those associated with the jewelry industry. The district also includes several pre-Civil War buildings associated with North Attleborough's earlier development. The North Attleborough Town Center Historic District thus meets Criteria A and C for listing to the National Register of Historic Places, with significance on the local level.

Located thirty miles to the south of Boston in Bristol County, North Attleborough is currently bounded by Plainville to the north, Mansfield to the northeast, Attleborough to the southeast and Cumberland, Rhode Island, to the west. The town was included in the Rehoboth North Purchase of 1666, along with Attleborough, parts of Mansfield and Norton, and Cumberland, Rhode Island; this large tract was granted to the inhabitants of Rehoboth by the Plymouth Government. The earliest English settlement in the Attleboroughs was established by John Woodcock in the vicinity of the Baptist Common, to the north of the district. Woodcock was licensed to operate an ordinary in 1670. His establishment was located on the Bay Road (now East Washington Street), a native trail providing the primary overland route between Boston and Rhode Island. Woodcock's ordinary was built in 1669, and demolished in 1806.

Named for a town in Norfolk County, England, Attleborough was incorporated as a town in 1694; at that time, its population stood at 180. Incentives for settlement in the northern section of Attleborough included an ample water supply provided by Whitings Pond to the west and the Tenmile River to the east. Saw and grist mills were the first industries to be located on the river's bank. During the 18th century the focus of North Attleborough community life was at Old Town, a village located a few miles to the south of

Continued

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Center Historic District

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the present town center along what is now Massachusetts Route 1. Until the mid 19th century, North Attleborough inhabitants were engaged primarily in agricultural pursuits.

The birth of the town's internationally important jewelry trade dates to 1780. In that year an anonymous fellow known only as "the Frenchman" (probably Le Fornier) established a brass hinge and jewelry-making enterprise at a forge near the junction of Chestnut and South Washington Streets (outside the nominated district). By 1804, George W. Robinson formed a company to manufacture buttons and jewelry on Commonwealth Avenue in North Attleborough (also outside the nominated district; no longer extant). Robinson specialized in ornamental coat and waistcoat buttons. By 1812, he was making metal buttons and by 1826, gilt buttons were being produced. In 1834, Robinson's firm, employing 65 hands, was said to be the most extensive producer of metal buttons in the United States.

Other button and jewelry firms were established on the periphery of what is now the town center of North Attleborough from the 1820s through the 1840s. Important early firms included Draper, Tifft and Co. (established 1821), H. M. and E. I. Richards (1833), and Stephen Richardson and Co. (1836). The Richardson firm was located on the south side of Elm Street on the Tenmile River and was the first to export products to Europe and, by 1854, to maintain an office in New York City. Only the Richards factory remains.

The prosperity of these manufacturing companies prompted the establishment of mercantile enterprises and institutions nearby the town center. By 1855, the northern portion of Attleborough had a population of nearly 3,000 and contained 24 jewelry manufacturing companies (producing almost \$1 million worth of jewelry annually) as well as enterprises devoted to the manufacture of carriages and the sale of hardware, dry goods, and furniture. During the Civil War, many of North Attleborough's firms received business from the United States Army, who ordered large quantities of gold, silver, and rolled plate badges and emblems. The first mercantile enterprise in the district was a company store (1848) that briefly occupied the site of the Italianate-style National Bank Building (ca. 1858, MHC #95) at the corner of Bank and South Washington Streets. Rare surviving examples of antebellum structures that housed commercial concerns include the J. G. Albro House and Tailor Shop, 97-101 North Washington Street (ca. 1845, with early 19th century rear wing, joined ca. 1871, MHC #126) and Captain Abraham Hayward's Store (MHC #122) at 113 North Washington Street, built ca. 1845 in the Greek Revival style with ca. 1930 additions.

Continued

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Although few buildings from the 1860s survive in the district, one of the best preserved is the William W. Fisher House, built ca. 1860 for a partner in the S. E. and W. W. Fisher Company, manufacturer of "rolled plated goods of the finest grades" and specialist in ladies' lace, pins, drops, bangles, bracelets, and lockets. Fisher's Italianate-style double house continues to serve a residential use at 125-127 North Washington Street (map #35, MHC #123).

The growth of North Attleborough's town center was further fueled by the completion in 1870 of four miles of railroad track for the Attleborough Branch Railroad, linking North Attleborough with Attleborough and thence, Boston and Providence. A Stick-Style railroad station stood for many years on South Washington Street, opposite Barrows Street, just outside the nominated district. In 1930, rail service through North Attleborough ceased, and the station was torn down at that time.

Following the Civil War, residential construction dominated the district. Several well-crafted frame residences were the homes of families associated with North Attleborough's jewelry trade. The centerpiece of the downtown was the Second Empire-style Wamsutta House (later the Emerson House Hotel), which was built in 1874 at the northeast corner of North Washington and Elm Streets. The building burned in 1918. Machinist Otis Bartlett built a fine Italianate-style house at 18 Grove Street in 1871 (MHC #116). Charles P. Young, a partner of the jewelry firm of Young and Bennett, manufacturers of "solid rolled gold plate chains and trimmings," owned the ca. 1880 Queen Anne-style house and stable at 103-107 North Washington Street (MHC #124). At the southern extremity of the district, all that remains of jewelry manufacturer Henry F. Barrows' estate is a ca. 1878-1880 Queen Anne-style cottage at 15 Bank Street (MHC #114) and the Municipal Park. The estate itself, which stood just south of the district boundaries, was destroyed in the early 20th century. Occupying some of its lands today is the mid 20th-century Town Hall on South Washington Street. The two-family residence at 12-14 Grove Street, the G. Herbert French House (ca. 1895, MHC #117), was the home of a partner in the jewelry manufacturing firm of Riley and French.

A linear cluster of buildings recognizable as a town center was gradually constructed along Washington Street between Bank and High Streets during the final decades of the 19th century. These include the Anawan Building, 16-28 North Washington Street (1881, with early 20th-century alterations, MHC #97), the Boyle Block, 8 North Washington Street (1887, with mid 20th-century alterations, MHC #96), and the Hall Block, 54 North Washington Street (ca. 1895, MHC #100).

Continued

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Center Historic District

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By the close of the 19th century, the town center also included space for social clubs and civic organizations. The aforementioned Hall Block housed the Knights of Columbus, and prominently sited at the southwest corner of Church and North Washington Streets is the Odd Fellows Hall (MHC #62). The latter housed shops and offices as well as meeting space for the Right Worthy Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. Its Second Empire-style nucleus (1875) retains its original form, and a late 1880s front tower also remains. However, the building is presently sheathed in synthetic siding, and none of its historic fabric is visible.

Dominating the town center's post-Civil War streetscape were the Gothic Revival steeples of Grace Episcopal Church (built 1859, burned 1928) and the Unitarian Universalist Church (built 1882, destroyed 1983). Currently the only church remaining in the district is the well-designed late Gothic Revival second Grace Episcopal Church dedicated in 1931. It represents the work of the Boston architectural firm of Smith & Walker and replaces the 1859 frame building that burned in 1928.

The Italianate-style Bosworth Machine Company (MHC #118), at 4 Bruce Avenue, is the only manufacturing plant standing within the historic district's boundaries. Its brick nucleus was built for Pliny Bosworth in 1877-1878 to house a machine shop for jewelry-making tools. By the close of the 19th century, the building was also a galvanic battery manufacturing facility.

North Attleborough separated from Attleborough and was incorporated as a town on July 30, 1887. The town expanded considerably during the late 19th century; by 1890 the population was greater than 6,000, and the town had an assessed value of \$3,708,678. The town's jewelry products and allied manufactures were exported worldwide and included sterling silver, plated and ten-carat jewelry, and rolled gold plate. Badges, medals, fraternity pins, chains, and belt buckles were among the specialty products manufactured by North Attleborough jewelers. Prosperity and growth prompted construction following incorporation, and North Attleborough's downtown assumed its present appearance in the first decades of the 20th century. Its brick and masonry commercial blocks exhibit surface treatments derived from classical tradition, reflecting an effort to emulate architectural trends in larger urban centers. Most are of modest architectural character, but are well-preserved, many with original fenestration and other details retained intact. A transportation revolution between 1890 and 1925--bringing with it the introduction of the electric trolley and the automobile--linked the town more closely with the outside world and played a key role in expanding the town center's commercial core.

Continued

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Center Historic District
North Attleborough, Mass.

Built in 1894-1895, the Richards Memorial Library (MHC #8) at 118 North Washington Street is the first municipal building erected in the town center following incorporation. The cost of its lot and construction were funded by the children of North Attleborough jewelry manufacturer E. Ira Richards. This architecturally eclectic and lavishly appointed structure was one of the first buildings in the town center designed by a Boston architect--William Herbert McLean (1870-1942)--and is significant both for its fine design and as a reflection of North Attleborough's increasing sophistication and associations with Boston.

Important early 20th-century buildings constructed in the town center include the Georgian Revival-style Telephone Building (1906, MHC #6) at 38 South Washington Street; the Chronicle Building, Church Street (1906, MHC #98), home of North Attleborough's first independent newspaper; the Post Office Building (MHC #83) on South Washington Street (1916); and the Attleborough Savings Bank (MHC #99) at 48 North Washington Street (1903). The new commercial blocks were given the names of prominent local businessmen: the Badarracco Block, named for fruit and confectionery store owner David Badarracco, 6 South Washington Street (MHC #84), a handsome ca. 1908 Georgian Revival-style building, and the Riley Building, 61-65 North Washington Street, built for jewelry manufacturer William H. Riley in 1913 (MHC #90). In 1907, Mr. Riley had also built five multifamily houses on Mason Avenue, just off Washington Street, for speculative purposes (MHC #115). For many years the town offices were housed in the ca. 1900 C. W. Ralston Building, a long, two-story commercial building now considerably altered by the application of new storefronts and aluminum siding (MHC #102).

The town's continued prosperity as a jewelry manufacturing center played an important role in the downtown's early 20th-century building boom. By 1915 North Attleborough, with a population in excess of 10,000, contained thirty steam power plants and sixty-one jewelry concerns and allied industries. The total value of all types of goods produced in the town was seven million dollars. The Loeb Estate, home of James Munroe, a local builder responsible for several early 20th-century commercial blocks (including the Badarracco Block), is the only residential structure of this period within the district. It marks the district's northernmost boundary at 159 North Washington Street. Continued commercial construction to serve the expanding motor trade reflects this 20th-century prosperity. Among the two-story brick and masonry blocks built in this period are two Classical Revival-style business blocks: the 1916 Central Building at 31 North Washington Street (MHC #86) and the 1925-1926 Ranieri Building (MHC #89) at 53-57 North Washington Street. The red brick Classical Revival-style DeBlois Block (MHC #94), 145 North Washington Street, the district's northernmost commercial/residential block,

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Center Historic District
North Attleborough, Mass.

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was built ca. 1925. The Dane Block and the Slotnick Block (both built ca. 1927, located at 35 and 47 North Washington Street, respectively, MHC #87 and #88), are more modest single-story storefronts that nevertheless display finely detailed Classical Revival parapets and decorative stonework.

Built on the eve of the Depression, the Classical Revival-style Masonic Temple (MHC #82) at 36 South Washington Street, with its monumental temple form, reflects the height of North Attleborough's early 20th-century prosperity. It was designed by the Boston architectural firm of Hutchins & French, specialists in the design of bank buildings. They were also responsible for the ca. 1922 Georgian Revival-style Manufacturers National Bank at 67 North Washington Street (MHC #91). The Hotel Hixon, a large Georgian Revival-style building at 69 North Washington Street (MHC #93) was built in 1928 to provide the town with guest accommodations and function rooms. It is currently used as a nursing home. North Attleborough's first movie theater, a fine Art Deco-style theater run by the New England Theatre Operating Corporation, was built in 1929 at 17-26 South Washington Street. The building also housed live stage shows and served as the site for town meetings. The building was demolished in 1983 and replaced by housing for the elderly.

In 1930, the Attleborough Branch Railroad ceased operation and all rail service to North Attleborough came to an end. Coupled with the Depression and the construction of the East Washington Street bypass in the 1930s, diverting traffic from the business district, North Attleborough's town center entered a lengthy period of decline. Over the past ten years, however, the town center has revived. The result in part is the construction of several infill structures in the district, as well as alteration or loss of other significant older buildings. Accompanying the revitalization of the town center, however, is a new awareness of the community's resources, and at least one sensitive rehabilitation project (the Chronicle Building) has been the result.

ARCHAEOLOGY

While archaeological considerations are not a major component of the significance of the district, there is potential for archaeological resources in the district. No prehistoric sites are currently recorded within, or in close proximity to, the district. However, the high density of sites reported further down the Tenmile River in Attleborough suggests that prehistoric sites may survive within the district. Historic archaeological potential centers on the likelihood of occupation-related features (wells, pits, privies, etc.) around residential buildings as well as the potential for documenting buildings and structures no longer extant. The significance of these features would relate to the social and economic evolution of a community dominated by a single industry, jewelry manufacturing.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 26

Quadrangle name Attleboro

Quadrangle scale 1:25,000

UTM References

A

1	9
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3	0	6	8	5	0
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4	6	5	0	6	6	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

1	9
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3	0	6	7	3	0
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4	6	4	9	9	7	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C

1	9
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3	0	6	5	0	0
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4	6	5	0	1	4	0
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D

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4	6	5	0	6	2	0
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Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet.

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

state NA code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Betsy Friedberg, Preservation Planner, with Edward Gordon, Preservation Consultant

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date July, 1985

street & number 80 Boylston Street telephone 617-727-8470

city or town Boston state Massachusetts

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Valerie A. Talmage

State Historic Preservation Officer

title Executive Director

date August 13, 1985

For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

**National Register of Historic Places
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North Attleborough Town Center

Historic District

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Item number

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North Attleborough, Mass.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Daggett, John. A Sketch of the History of Attleborough From Its Settlement to Its Division. S. Usher, Boston, 1894.

Massachusetts Historical Commission. "Reconnaissance Survey Report: North Attleborough." Boston, 1981.

North Attleborough Board of Trade. The North Attleborough Book. North Attleborough, 1913.

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Sherman, Richard L. North Attleborough: An Affectionate History. North Attleborough, 1976.

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Center Historic District,
North Attleborough, Mass.

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10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

See attached assessors', sketch, and U.S.G.S. maps for an exact delineation of district boundaries. The selection of boundaries has been based on a consideration of historical development patterns and integrity, as well as the presence of modern construction and noncontributing structures in the immediately surrounding area. In general, the bounds encompass the late 19th-early 20th century commercial and institutional core of the town. Several residential properties at the northern edge of the district have developmental and historical ties to North Attleborough's commercial evolution.

Specifically, the bounds have been drawn to delineate an essentially linear district along North and South Washington Streets, the main thoroughfare of North Attleborough. The southern boundaries of the district include several early 20th century buildings—the Masonic lodge, the telephone company, and the post office—and a park, formerly part of the estate of North Attleborough's leading 19th century jewelry manufacture, Henry Barrows. North Attleborough's recently erected Town Hall now occupies part of the Barrows Estate grounds. Boundaries proceed northward along rear lot lines on the west and east sides of South and North Washington Streets. The western edge is extended to include the Barrows Cottage on Bank Street and the Chronicle Building on Church Street; both are buildings with ties to the town's commercial development. Eastern bounds are extended to include the late 19th century Bosworth Machine Company on Bruce Avenue and a row of multifamily housing on Mason Street, built on speculation for a local jewelry manufacturer in the early 20th century. At its northern end, the district includes a small residential enclave built at the height of North Attleborough's early 20th century prosperity.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

sk
- 50 yrs

Substantive Review

North Attleborough Town Center Historic
District
Bristol County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. AUG 23 1985
Fed. Reg. Date:
Date Due: 9/19/85 — 10/7/85
Action: ACCEPT
RETURN 9-27-85
REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

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

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

Reviewer's comments:

RETURN IS PRIMARILY FOR TECHNICAL CLASSIFICATION
REASONS BUT ONE BUILDING NEEDS
TO BE RECONSIDERED DUE TO THE LESS THAN
50 CRITERION CONSIDERATION

Recom./Criteria RETURN
Reviewer MAC DONALD
Discipline ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY
Date 9-27-85
_____ 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

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ☐ excellent | ☐ deteriorated |
| ☐ good | ☐ ruins |
| ☐ fair | ☐ unexposed |

Check one

- ☐ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

- ☐ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

☒ 8. Significance

☒ Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

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

THE MACKRETH BUILDING, 1939-40, ~~IS~~ WAS CONSTRUCTED OUTSIDE OF THE PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE ESTABLISHED BY THE NOMINATION. EITHER THE BUILDING NEEDS TO BE SHOWN AS INDIVIDUALLY EXCEPTIONALLY SIGNIFICANT OR THE PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE ^{OF THE DISTRICT} NEEDS TO BE DEMONSTRATED TO GO UP TO OR BEYOND 1940 IN ORDER TO QUALIFY THE BUILDING AS CONTRIBUTING. IF THE CATEGORIZATION OF THE BUILDING WAS IN ERROR, PLEASE AMEND THE INVENTORY ~~AND~~ AND OTHER SECTIONS OF THE NOMINATION ACCORDINGLY.

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM 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

Has U.S. Postal Service representative in Wash. DC had a chance to comment on listing?

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to BRUCE MAE DOUGAL / DEBORAH BYERS.

Signed [Signature] Date 9/27/81 Phone: _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination FormSee instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

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date entered

DEC 20 1985

1. Name

historic North Attleborough Town Center Historic District

and or common Downtown North Attleborough

2. Location

Properties on Bank, Bruce Avenue, Church, Grove, Mason
street & number Avenue, and North and South Washington Streets ~~NA~~ not for publicationcity, town North Attleborough ~~NA~~ vicinity of

state Massachusetts code 025 county Bristol code 005

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Owners

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state _____

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number 11 Court Street

city, town Taunton state Massachusetts

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Historic Assets of the Commonwealth
title of Massachusetts, Inventory #s: 62, 64, 68, 82-100, 113-127
date 1983
has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no
☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town 80 Boylston Street, Boston state Massachusetts

7. Description

North Attleborough Town Center Historic District

North Attleborough, Massachusetts

Condition

☒ excellent

☒ good

☒ fair

☐ deteriorated

☐ ruins

☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered

☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

DEC 5 1983

The North Attleborough Town Center Historic District is a twenty-six-acre area located in the north central section of North Attleborough, Massachusetts, a town 31 miles southwest of Boston on the Rhode Island border. Providence, Rhode Island is located twelve miles to the south. The district extends linearly along North and South Washington Streets, and comprises the town's central business district. Fifty-two properties are included in the district: primarily commercial, they also include several residences, one church, and a number of municipal structures. Seven properties are of post-1935 construction and are considered intrusions, while three buildings have been altered substantially and no longer retain integrity.

The Town Center Historic District represents North Attleborough's business core, which developed hand in hand with the town's thriving industrial base. Dominating the district are conservative, well-designed late 19th- and early 20th-century business blocks and institutional buildings. A number of these large masonry nonresidential structures replaced mid to late 19th-century frame structures that burned in a series of early 20th-century fires. Since the mid 19th century, jewelry manufacturing facilities have been located to the north, east, and immediate south of the district. The northern portion of the district encompasses a greater variety of building types, including modestly scaled residences, a large apartment block, the public library, commercial properties and the district's only church. Open space in the district is limited to the modern Town Hall's well-landscaped park and the contiguous, tree-shaded grounds of the Grace Episcopal Church and Richards Memorial Library. Voids in the streetscape include the lot where the Guild Block once stood (built ca. 1875, burned 1983) at the southwest corner of North Washington and High Streets and the former site of the Universalist Church at the northwest corner of Church and North Washington Streets (presently used as a bank parking lot).

The district is located along North and South Washington Streets, a Federal-period thoroughfare running parallel to East Street, a major link between Boston and Bristol, Rhode Island. A short distance to the east runs the Tenmile River, a meandering waterway that eventually empties into Narragansett Bay. The district's terrain generally consists of gently sloping land, and soil is sandy to gravelly.

Architecturally, the district's greatest strength is its collection of red brick Georgian Revival and Classical Revival business blocks and institutional buildings. Several of these structures represent the work of Boston architectural firms. Local builder James A. Munroe was responsible for all but one store on the east side of North Washington Street between Elm Street

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Continuation sheet North Attleborough Town Center Historic District
North Attleborough, Mass. Item number 7

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and Mason Avenue and was the builder of the Masonic Building and the Library apartments, as well as his own residence on North Washington Street, now known as the Loeb Estate. Residential structures within the district exemplify well crafted frame vernacular interpretations of the Greek Revival, Italianate, and Queen Anne styles. Several of these buildings now serve commercial purposes, and a few have been substantially altered toward that end. Materials include wood, brick, and stone with trim composed of brownstone, granite, sandstone, and cast stone. Scale ranges from one to four stories. The concentration of relatively large scale, masonry nonresidential structures in the southern and central portions of the district contrasts with the modest frame dwellings of neighborhoods to the east and west. The district is further isolated by parking located to the rear of many of its commercial buildings. The district extends northward to include residential structures associated with North Attleborough's more prominent jewelry manufacturers.

In general the buildings of the district are in good to excellent condition and have seen continuous use. The application of aluminum siding, however, has obliterated salient historic architectural elements on the facades of several business blocks, most notably the Odd Fellows Hall at the southwest corner of Church and North Washington Streets. These elements may still be extant beneath synthetic coverings. The Telephone Building at 38 South Washington Street is a good example of an early 20th-century Georgian Revival building that has recently undergone a sensitive restoration. Within the borders of the district is a single manufacturing building at the corner of Bruce Avenue and East Street. Its brick nucleus, with bracketed gable roof, was built in 1877-1878 to house a machine shop and galvanic battery manufacturing facility. Light manufacturing is still conducted within its walls.

Below are descriptions of significant and representative buildings. Nonresidential structures are discussed first, followed by residential buildings and finally, by noncontributing structures and intrusions. In each category, buildings are discussed chronologically.

NONRESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

North Attleborough National Bank Building, 17 South Washington Street (ca. 1858 with ca. 1920 addition, map #7, MHC #95).

This structure is a handsome, three-story square-plan Italianate block built of yellow brick and enclosed by a very shallow hipped roof with deep overhanging eaves. The building is five bays wide on each side, and its regularly ordered windows exhibit heavy molded caps. Double-hung 2/1 sash is

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a later replacement. Originally, the bank's entrance was set in the center of the South Washington Street facade under a heavy columned Italianate portico. During the 1920s, however, a one-story masonry storefront was added across the principal facade, obscuring the original entryway.

Bosworth Machine Company, 4 Bruce Avenue (1877-1878 with ca. 1891, 1940, and 1960 additions, map #5, MHC #118).

This Italianate-style industrial structure is the district's only manufacturing building. Its brick three-and-a-half-story nucleus was built in 1877-1878 to house a machine shop and facility for the manufacture of galvanic batteries. Possessing a rectangular plan, the original structure has symmetrically placed 6/6 wood sash windows set in thin segmental arches. A segmental-arched two-bay barn door, with a pair of six-paned windows, is centered in the third story; above is a blind round arch. A steeply pitched gable roof, supported by paired Italianate brackets, caps the building. The East Street entrance, also framed by a segmental arch, is located below grade. A corbelled brick chimney projects from the building's northwest corner. Later additions include a low, one-story frame structure abutting the north wall (post 1890), a two-story asbestos shingled west wing (ca. 1960) and a two-story brick and glass structure that projects from the southern, Bruce Avenue facade (ca. 1940).

Richards Memorial Library, 118 North Washington Street (1894, map #32, MHC #8).

The Richards Library is the most architecturally sophisticated of the district's late 19th-century buildings. It was built in 1894 from designs provided by the Boston architect William Herbert McLean. This highly eclectic edifice is constructed of brick with Warsaw Blue Stone and terra cotta trim and a red slate roof, and blends Renaissance Revival elements with a Chateausque roof and picturesque Colonial Revival copper dormers. Particularly noteworthy is the main facade's east-facing portico, which is supported by Ionic blue stone columns. The library's interior is lavishly appointed with mahogany doors, cypress bookcases, a glazed art tile fireplace, and multipanel wainscoting, all in a good state of preservation. The building has seen constant use as a library since it was first erected.

Hall Block, 54 North Washington Street (ca. 1895, map #18, MHC #100).

Despite the application of asbestos "brick" siding and the modernization of its ground-floor storefront, the Hall Block retains the form and massing

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characteristic of North Attleborough's late 19th-century commercial buildings. The block is two stories in height, and has a flat roof fronted by a parapet with a heavy, bracketed cornice. The second-story 2/2 sash is original.

Attleborough Savings Bank, 48 North Washington Street (1903, with 1920 addition, map #17, MHC #99).

The two-story, flat-roofed brick savings bank, essentially Georgian Revival in styling, was altered in 1922. At that time, the original red-brick facade was refaced with white limestone and adorned with cartouches. White granite stringcourses and splayed keystone lintels were retained on the side elevations. A heavily dentilated cornice with modillions caps the structure. The building's entrance no longer retains integrity: black granite and glass has recently replaced the original round-arched entryway.

Chronicle Building, Church Street (1906, map #15, MHC #98).

The three-story Chronicle Building, originally the home of North Attleborough's Evening Chronicle, is square in plan, built of brick, and displays both Georgian Revival and Renaissance Revival details. Splayed stone lintels cap the main facade's asymmetrical fenestration, and a keystone lintel surmounts a slightly off-center entryway. On the side elevation, brick segmental arches top the windows. A stone parapet crowns the front elevation. The building has recently undergone rehabilitation.

Telephone Building, 38 South Washington Street (ca. 1906, map #2, MHC #68).

The recently renovated Telephone Building is a well-maintained, finely-proportioned red brick Georgian Revival-style building, built ca. 1906. The small structure, set on a high basement, rises one-and-one-half stories to a slate shingle-covered hip roof. The entrance is set at the center of the three-bay facade; the double door is placed under a round arch with stone key and spring blocks. Flanking paired windows are set under round-head arches. The corners are articulated with brickwork quoins and the molded cornice is heavily dentilated. Projecting from the building's north wall is a late 1950s brick addition that is compatible with the main block.

Badarracco Building, 6 South Washington Street (ca. 1908, map #8, MHC #84).

This imposing business block was constructed of red brick ca. 1905-1910 and may represent the early work of the prolific North Attleborough builder James

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Munroe. The building is of rectangular plan and rises three stories to a low hipped roof with pedimented dormers. The ground floor contains five stores with modern commercial storefronts. A perimeter cornice divides the first and second story. Both the second and third floors of the principal facade have a symmetrical design of paired windows and matching marble sills and lintels. The second-floor windows exhibit keystone lintels. Third-floor windows are surmounted by round-arch limestone panels with high relief decorations. The cornice consists of a three-tiered frieze and a broad soffit. On the south side of the building is an octagonal stairway, probably a later addition, that is cantilevered out from the building's face and extends only between the second and fourth floors.

Central Building, 31 North Washington Street (1916, map #12, MHC #86).

This two-story yellow brick structure ranks among the least altered examples of early 20th-century commercial blocks in North Attleborough. Symmetrical and five bays wide, with extensive polychromatic trim, the Central Block is a fine example of the Classical Revival style. On the first floor, two storefronts flank a central entrance that is enframed by heavy pilasters and a classicized entablature made of brownstone. Courses of sandstone

separate the two stories and enclose patterned brick panels. The second floor exhibits four groups of three 1/1 windows, capped by transoms, flanking a pair of similarly topped windows. Above the second level is another sandstone course and a brick parapet with a heavily dentilated cornice. A date stone at the parapet center reads "1916."

North Attleborough Post Office, 30 South Washington Street (1916, map #3, MHC #83).

The post office is a good example of the work of James Wetmore, architectural supervisor of the U. S. Treasury Department from ca. 1895 to ca. 1935. Built in 1916, this chastely rendered example of early 20th century Georgian Revival post office architecture rises one story to a flat roof. Its five-bay main facade is symmetrically arranged, dominated by a trio of tall central entrance bays set within an arcade. Doric limestone pilasters culminating in round arches with limestone trim and console keystones delineate the arcade. The pilasters of the arcade support a wide cornice band, which is carried around the building. Flanking the entrances are oversized round-headed windows with heavy muntins, multipane sash, and spring blocks.

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Manufacturers' National Bank, 67 North Washington Street (1922, map #23, MHC #91).

Located on a corner lot, the present branch office of Bay Bank was designed in 1922 by the Boston architectural firm of Hutchins and French. Despite its small size, the building has a grand appearance and is a good example of the Georgian Revival style. The building is of red brick, is one story in height and is capped by a flat roof. Three bays by four bays in form, its central entrance is set between two small rectangular windows and is surmounted by a broken pediment, above which is a multipane round arched window with heavy muntins. The windows on the secondary facades are similarly round arched. Monumental Doric pilasters, supporting a broad projecting pediment, flank the entrance.

DeBlois Building, 145 North Washington Street (ca. 1925, map #40, MHC #94).

The Colonial Revival-style DeBlois Building is one of a number of commercial/residential structures erected in the district during the 1920s. The front elevation of the building is presently faced with brick, while the rest of the building retains its original clapboarding. It rises three stories to a flat roof supported by a wide cornice. Three first-floor storefronts are largely intact, with original display window arrangements and transoms. A broad molded cornice divides the commercial space from the two stories of residential space above. Five bays of fenestration consist of paired 3/1 sash. A concrete plaque bearing the building's name separates the two upper stories.

Ranieri Building, 53-59 North Washington Street (ca. 1926-1927, map #19, MHC #89).

Two stories tall and constructed of red brick and cast stone, the Ranieri Building shelters five storefronts under broad arches of cast-stone blocks on its first floor. All five retain their original materials and form: plate glass with small multi-paned windows above and exterior electrical fitting of copper lamps and overhead lights. The five-bay second floor features triply grouped windows, separated by concrete panels with cast foliate designs. A heavy molded cornice and a brick parapet broken at regular intervals by Classical Revival-style concrete urns crowns the main facade.

Hotel Hixon, 85 North Washington Street (1928, map #25, MHC #93).

One of the largest buildings in the district is the Hotel Hixon, built in 1928. It is a simply adorned four-story structure in the Colonial Revival

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style, slightly U-shaped in plan with a long rear ell and two projecting single-story additions on the main facade. Two enclosed pediments with centrally placed vents mark the gable roofs of the main block's two wings; two large chimneys pierce the roof. Constructed by local builder Howard Harris, the hotel presently shelters a nursing home.

Bristol Lodge, 36 South Washington Street (1926, map #1, MHC #82).

The Bristol Lodge Masonic Building is located at the far southern edge of the district facing the City Hall Park. It was designed in the Classical Revival style by Hutchins and French of Boston in 1927. The three-story building is large, massively scaled, and possesses a rectangular plan. It is constructed of red brick and is topped by a flat roof. Its main elevation features a pedestal-like ground floor crowned by a stringcourse and forming the base of the temple form that dominates the facade. Plain pilasters composed of cast stone frame the main facade's three bays of round-arch-framed 6/6 windows. They support a heavy continuous entablature and a wide pediment, enclosed in which is the Masonic compass set within a cartouche.

Dana Block, 35 North Washington Street (ca. 1927, map #14, MHC #87), and
Slotnick Building, 47 North Washington Street (ca. 1927, map #16, MHC #88).

On opposite corners of North Washington and Orne Streets, the Dana and Slotnick buildings are small, single-story flat-roofed commercial buildings. The former building, though recently reworked in an unsympathetic manner, retains a fine Classical Revival-style brick and concrete parapet with angled corners, plaques, and decorative stonework. The latter structure, less altered, retains flat, cast concrete columns separating intact storefronts and supporting a frieze with bas-relief fruit baskets.

Grace Episcopal Church, 104 North Washington Street (1931, map #28, MHC #6).

Set back from the west side of North Washington Street, facing well-landscaped grounds and a semicircular drive, is the late Gothic Revival Grace Episcopal Church. Built in 1931 to replace an 1859 Gothic Revival frame church and parish house that burned in 1928, the new church was designed by the Boston architectural firm of Smith & Walker. It is built of coursed ashlar and is dominated by a large square tower at its northern end. The church possesses a cruciform plan, and a large rose window is centered in the front-facing gable, above the entryway. The building also has fine lancet-shaped stained glass windows.

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RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

J. C. Albro House and Tailor Shop, 97-101 North Washington Street (ca. 1845 with early 19th-century wing, map #26, MHC #126). Together with the Capt. Abraham Hayward Store, discussed below, the Albro House is one of two early 19th-century houses in the district that also served commercial purposes. The house assumed its present L-shaped configuration by 1871, as evidenced by a Bristol County atlas. Its components include: the ca. 1845 main block; a one-and-one-half story attached cottage at the front (north) of the lot with front-facing gable and projecting enclosed single-story porch with flat, bracketed roof; a two-and-one-half story gable-roofed structure to the south with central entrance; and a single-story rear ell (ca. ??). Albro's tailor shop was located in the rear of the property.

Capt. Abraham Hayward's Store, 113 North Washington Street (ca. 1845, with ca. 1930 additions, map #30, MHC #122).

Although extensively altered by the addition of a single-story early 20th-century addition to its main facade, Capt. Hayward's store retains much of its original form and detail. When first constructed, this building--probably used initially both as a residence and a store--was a three-bay vernacular expression of the transition from Greek Revival to Italianate styling. Still in evidence are 6/6 sash, fascia boards set beneath the side walls' eaves, shallow cornice returns, and a pair of corbelled chimneys projecting from the gable roof.

Capt. Abraham Hayward House, 117 North Washington Street (ca. 1780, with mid and late 19th century alterations, map #31, MHC #64).

The Capt. Hayward House, the earliest structure in the district, has sustained numerous changes since it was first constructed in the late 18th century. Local tradition holds that this building was originally a single-pile Federal-period cottage. An ell was added some time in the 19th century. Later alterations include a Greek Revival-style elliptical lunette in the gable peak and a late 19th-century single-story Queen Anne-style wraparound porch with half timbering and starburst pattern on the porch gable. A large projecting bay on the second-story side elevation is also a later addition.

William W. Fisher House, 125-127 North Washington Street (ca. 1860, map #35, MHC #123).

One of the best preserved and most finely detailed houses in the district is the William W. Fisher House. This commodious Italianate-style double house

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was built ca. 1860 for a well-to-do jewelry manufacturer. In general, windows are fully enframed and cornice-headed, with 6/6 wood sash. A pair of narrow round-arched windows above the entrance are united by a pediment. The low-pitched central gable displays a stained glass multipaned oculus window. The cornice exhibits a narrow continuous Greek Key motif. Projecting from the five-bay main facade is a pedimented, Tuscan-columned front porch, a early 20th-century Colonial Revival-style addition. The main block is crowned by a gable roof. A rear wing with low hipped roof may actually be an earlier structure.

Otis Bartlett House, 16 Grove Street (1871, map #34, MHC #116).

The Otis Bartlett House is a well-preserved example of an Italianate frame vernacular single-family dwelling. Sheathed in clapboard, the building is two-and-one-half stories in height, gable-roofed, with a side-hall plan and a two-story rear wing. Narrow corner boards frame the building. The three-bay facade features a pilastered entryway with enclosed pediment--probably a turn-of-the-century alteration--and windows are fully enframed, with shallow-headed lintels and bracketed sills. A broad cornice displays carved brackets, and the front-facing gable has shallow returns. A contemporaneous frame barn to the rear of the property has two large doors on the ground level, a hayloft door centered in the gable roof, and narrow corner boards.

Henry F. Barrows Cottage, 15 Bank Street (1878-1880, map #6, MHC #114).

This narrow, compact Queen Anne-style house was originally one of a compound of buildings that included the mansion of Attleborough's leading jewelry manufacturer, Henry F. Barrows, a greenhouse, and stables (no longer extant). It is characterized by an irregular plan, a variety of window shapes, a sweeping roof line, and pitched gables. The attic gables retain patterned shingling. Projecting from the main elevation's second floor is an oriel window supported by carved wooden brackets.

Charles P. Young House, 107 North Washington Street (1880, map #29, MHC #124).

Although it has lost its original wraparound porch and is now sheathed in asbestos shingles, the Charles P. Young House retains its Queen Anne-style plan and massing, with cross gables and a pyramidal corner tower. Projecting bays and oriels and cast-iron cresting remain as well. Bargeboards on the front and side gables display punchwork and sunburst decorations.

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Charles P. Young Barn/Stable, 103 North Washington Street (1880, map #27, MHC #125).

Now a residence, 103 North Washington Street originally served as a barn and stable for the Charles P. Young estate to the west. It was converted to residential use ca. 1900 and now is a good example of a Queen Anne-style cottage. Essentially L-shaped in plan, on its main facade the building features a wide gable over a projecting porch with sawcut brackets and turned posts. A smaller gable projects to the porch's south. Fenestration is irregular and includes a bank of single-pane fixed windows surrounded by small square panes.

W. H. Riley Houses, 11, 13-15, 17-19, 21-23, 25-27 Mason Avenue (1907, map #22, 23, 24, 25, 26; MHC #115).

This group of five Queen Anne-style vernacular multifamily houses was built in 1907 on speculation for jewelry manufacturer William H. Riley. The builder was probably James A. Munroe. The structures vary in height from one-and-one-half to three-and-one-half stories, and stand with their gable ends to the street. Number 11, the tallest in the group, is surmounted by a distinctive gambrel roof. Several of the buildings retain original two- or three-story porches; the houses are otherwise devoid of ornamentation.

Loeb Estate, 159 North Washington Street (1918, map #40A, MHC #183).

The Tudor Revival-style Loeb Estate, built by local builder James A. Munroe as his own residence, has a symmetrical facade with two front-facing steep-pitched gables linked by a three-bay-wide pavilion. The first story is brick, while the overhanging second story is stucco-clad. Colored glass is embedded in the stucco-sheathed gable peaks, and false half timbering adorns the second story and attic. Decorative exposed rafters divide the two stories and project from the building. There is a brick-columned open verandah crossing the front facade.

INTRUSIONS AND NONCONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS

It is unfortunate that the North Attleborough Town Center has lost a number of valuable assets in recent years; these buildings have been replaced with buildings or parking lots now considered as intrusions. Among these are one building and two parking lots that have replaced structures included in North Attleborough's 1982 inventory. These are the housing for the elderly building at 20 South Washington Street, which was built in 1984 in place of the Art

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Deco-style NETOCO Community Theater (1928); the parking lot at the corner of North Washington and Church Streets, where the Universalist Church (1882) formerly stood (demolished 1983); and another parking lot at 60-70 North Washington Street, where the Guild Block (ca. 1985), a fine, Italianate-style commercial block, stood until it burned in 1983 during a rehabilitation effort. Other recent structures include the Town Hall on South Washington Street, built ca. 1975 on the grounds of the now-demolished Henry Barrows Estate; the L'il Peach convenience store at the corner of North Washington and Elm Streets, which replaced the Second Empire-style Wamsutta-Emerson House (1874); the Durfee Attleboro Multibank Building, 6 North Washington Street; and several other small infill commercial structures. The construction of all these buildings reflects the continued commercialization of North Attleborough's town center.

Further reflecting the town center's growing commercialization during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, a number of buildings in the district have sustained some alterations, particularly early residences converted to commercial use by the addition of a later storefront. And "modernization" in the early years of this century also had an impact on some of the district's late 19th-century commercial buildings. Nonetheless, most retain much of their original form, massing, detail, and scale, and are considered as contributing structures. Several buildings in the district have been so altered, however, as to be unrecognizable. These noncontributing structures include the Odd Fellows Hall, 32 North Washington Street, a ca. 1875 building with corner tower that has been severely changed over time and is now sheathed completely in aluminum siding, and the Boyle Block, 8 North Washington Street, built in 1887, a building whose details are also obscured by synthetic siding and whose first floor is now dominated by a modern "colonial" storefront.

While the MacKreth Memorial Building (1939-1940) is a fine late Colonial Revival structure, its age does not allow its significance to be evaluated by National Register criteria, and it must be counted as a non-contributing building.

8. Significance North Attleborough Town Center Historic District

North Attleborough, Massachusetts

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) Community Development

Specific dates 1670–1930

Builder/Architect Multiple architects

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The North Attleborough Town Center Historic District retains integrity of location, design, setting, and association. Historically, the district is significant as the commercial and residential area that evolved linearly in direct relationship to North Attleborough's manufacturing and mercantile enterprises. From the mid 19th century (ca. 1865) to the mid 20th century (ca. 1930), North Attleborough was an internationally known center for jewelry manufacturing. Factories were located to the north, east, and west of the nominated district. Jewelry manufacturing, on a more limited scale, continues within a number of these factories today. Architecturally, the district is significant for its assemblage of late 19th- and early 20th-century commercial and domestic buildings--well-designed Georgian, Colonial, and Classical Revival office blocks and municipal structures, as well as Queen Anne-style and other late Victorian residences and businesses of those associated with the jewelry industry. The district also includes several pre-Civil War buildings associated with North Attleborough's earlier development. The North Attleborough Town Center Historic District thus meets Criteria A and C for listing to the National Register of Historic Places, with significance on the local level.

Located thirty miles to the south of Boston in Bristol County, North Attleborough is currently bounded by Plainville to the north, Mansfield to the northeast, Attleborough to the southeast and Cumberland, Rhode Island, to the west. The town was included in the Rehoboth North Purchase of 1666, along with Attleborough, parts of Mansfield and Norton, and Cumberland, Rhode Island; this large tract was granted to the inhabitants of Rehoboth by the Plymouth Government. The earliest English settlement in the Attleboroughs was established by John Woodcock in the vicinity of the Baptist Common, to the north of the district. Woodcock was licensed to operate an ordinary in 1670. His establishment was located on the Bay Road (now East Washington Street), a native trail providing the primary overland route between Boston and Rhode Island. Woodcock's ordinary was built in 1669, and demolished in 1806.

Named for a town in Norfolk County, England, Attleborough was incorporated as a town in 1694; at that time, its population stood at 180. Incentives for settlement in the northern section of Attleborough included an ample water supply provided by Whittings Pond to the west and the Tenmile River to the east. Saw and grist mills were the first industries to be located on the river's bank. During the 18th century the focus of North Attleborough community life was at Old Town, a village located a few miles to the south of

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 26

Quadrangle name Attleboro

Quadrangle scale 1:25,000

UTM References

A

1	9
3	0
6	8
5	0

4	6
5	0
6	6
0	

Zone Easting Northing

B

1	9
3	0
6	7
3	0

4	6
4	9
9	7
0	

Zone Easting Northing

C

1	9
3	0
6	5
0	0

4	6
5	0
1	4
0	

D

1	9
3	0
6	7
0	0

4	6
5	0
6	2
0	

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet.

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

state NA code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Betsy Friedberg, Preservation Planner, with Edward Gordon, Preservation Consultant

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission

date July, 1985

street & number 80 Boylston Street

telephone 617-727-8470

city or town Boston

state Massachusetts

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Valerie A. Talmage

State Historic Preservation Officer

title Executive Director

date August 13, 1985

For NPS use only

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

Carol D. Shull

date 12-20-85

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

Beth L. Savage

date 12-20-85

Chief of Registration

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the present town center along what is now Massachusetts Route 1. Until the mid 19th century, North Attleborough inhabitants were engaged primarily in agricultural pursuits.

The birth of the town's internationally important jewelry trade dates to 1780. In that year an anonymous fellow known only as "the Frenchman" (probably Le Fornier) established a brass hinge and jewelry-making enterprise at a forge near the junction of Chestnut and South Washington Streets (outside the nominated district). By 1804, George W. Robinson formed a company to manufacture buttons and jewelry on Commonwealth Avenue in North Attleborough (also outside the nominated district; no longer extant). Robinson specialized in ornamental coat and waistcoat buttons. By 1812, he was making metal buttons and by 1826, gilt buttons were being produced. In 1834, Robinson's firm, employing 65 hands, was said to be the most extensive producer of metal buttons in the United States.

Other button and jewelry firms were established on the periphery of what is now the town center of North Attleborough from the 1820s through the 1840s. Important early firms included Draper, Tifft and Co. (established 1821), H. M. and E. I. Richards (1833), and Stephen Richardson and Co. (1836). The Richardson firm was located on the south side of Elm Street on the Tenmile River and was the first to export products to Europe and, by 1854, to maintain an office in New York City. Only the Richards factory remains.

The prosperity of these manufacturing companies prompted the establishment of mercantile enterprises and institutions nearby the town center. By 1855, the northern portion of Attleborough had a population of nearly 3,000 and contained 24 jewelry manufacturing companies (producing almost \$1 million worth of jewelry annually) as well as enterprises devoted to the manufacture of carriages and the sale of hardware, dry goods, and furniture. During the Civil War, many of North Attleborough's firms received business from the United States Army, who ordered large quantities of gold, silver, and rolled plate badges and emblems. The first mercantile enterprise in the district was a company store (1848) that briefly occupied the site of the Italianate-style National Bank Building (ca. 1858, MHC #95) at the corner of Bank and South Washington Streets. Rare surviving examples of antebellum structures that housed commercial concerns include the J. G. Albro House and Tailor Shop, 97-101 North Washington Street (ca. 1845, with early 19th century rear wing, joined ca. 1871, MHC #126) and Captain Abraham Hayward's Store (MHC #122) at 113 North Washington Street, built ca. 1845 in the Greek Revival style with ca. 1930 additions.

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Although few buildings from the 1860s survive in the district, one of the best preserved is the William W. Fisher House, built ca. 1860 for a partner in the S. E. and W. W. Fisher Company, manufacturer of "rolled plated goods of the finest grades" and specialist in ladies' lace, pins, drops, bangles, bracelets, and lockets. Fisher's Italianate-style double house continues to serve a residential use at 125-127 North Washington Street (map #35, MHC #123).

The growth of North Attleborough's town center was further fueled by the completion in 1870 of four miles of railroad track for the Attleborough Branch Railroad, linking North Attleborough with Attleborough and thence, Boston and Providence. A Stick-Style railroad station stood for many years on South Washington Street, opposite Barrows Street, just outside the nominated district. In 1930, rail service through North Attleborough ceased, and the station was torn down at that time.

Following the Civil War, residential construction dominated the district. Several well-crafted frame residences were the homes of families associated with North Attleborough's jewelry trade. The centerpiece of the downtown was the Second Empire-style Wamsutta House (later the Emerson House Hotel), which was built in 1874 at the northeast corner of North Washington and Elm Streets. The building burned in 1918. Machinist Otis Bartlett built a fine Italianate-style house at 18 Grove Street in 1871 (MHC #116). Charles P. Young, a partner of the jewelry firm of Young and Bennett, manufacturers of "solid rolled gold plate chains and trimmings," owned the ca. 1880 Queen Anne-style house and stable at 103-107 North Washington Street (MHC #124). At the southern extremity of the district, all that remains of jewelry manufacturer Henry F. Barrows' estate is a ca. 1878-1880 Queen Anne-style cottage at 15 Bank Street (MHC #114) and the Municipal Park. The estate itself, which stood just south of the district boundaries, was destroyed in the early 20th century. Occupying some of its lands today is the mid 20th-century Town Hall on South Washington Street. The two-family residence at 12-14 Grove Street, the G. Herbert French House (ca. 1895, MHC #117), was the home of a partner in the jewelry manufacturing firm of Riley and French.

A linear cluster of buildings recognizable as a town center was gradually constructed along Washington Street between Bank and High Streets during the final decades of the 19th century. These include the Anawan Building, 16-28 North Washington Street (1881, with early 20th-century alterations, MHC #97), the Boyle Block, 8 North Washington Street (1887, with mid 20th-century alterations, MHC #96), and the Hall Block, 54 North Washington Street (ca. 1895, MHC #100).

Continued

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

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

North Attleborough Town
Center Historic District

Continuation sheet North Attleborough, Mass. Item number 8

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By the close of the 19th century, the town center also included space for social clubs and civic organizations. The aforementioned Hall Block housed the Knights of Columbus, and prominently sited at the southwest corner of Church and North Washington Streets is the Odd Fellows Hall (MHC #62). The latter housed shops and offices as well as meeting space for the Right Worthy Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. Its Second Empire-style nucleus (1875) retains its original form, and a late 1880s front tower also remains. However, the building is presently sheathed in synthetic siding, and none of its historic fabric is visible.

Dominating the town center's post-Civil War streetscape were the Gothic Revival steeples of Grace Episcopal Church (built 1859, burned 1928) and the Unitarian Universalist Church (built 1882, destroyed 1983). Currently the only church remaining in the district is the well-designed late Gothic Revival second Grace Episcopal Church dedicated in 1931. It represents the work of the Boston architectural firm of Smith & Walker and replaces the 1859 frame building that burned in 1928.

The Italianate-style Bosworth Machine Company (MHC #118), at 4 Bruce Avenue, is the only manufacturing plant standing within the historic district's boundaries. Its brick nucleus was built for Pliny Bosworth in 1877-1878 to house a machine shop for jewelry-making tools. By the close of the 19th century, the building was also a galvanic battery manufacturing facility.

North Attleborough separated from Attleborough and was incorporated as a town on July 30, 1887. The town expanded considerably during the late 19th century; by 1890 the population was greater than 6,000, and the town had an assessed value of \$3,708,678. The town's jewelry products and allied manufactures were exported worldwide and included sterling silver, plated and ten-carat jewelry, and rolled gold plate. Badges, medals, fraternity pins, chains, and belt buckles were among the specialty products manufactured by North Attleborough jewelers. Prosperity and growth prompted construction following incorporation, and North Attleborough's downtown assumed its present appearance in the first decades of the 20th century. Its brick and masonry commercial blocks exhibit surface treatments derived from classical tradition, reflecting an effort to emulate architectural trends in larger urban centers. Most are of modest architectural character, but are well-preserved, many with original fenestration and other details retained intact. A transportation revolution between 1890 and 1925--bringing with it the introduction of the electric trolley and the automobile--linked the town more closely with the outside world and played a key role in expanding the town center's commercial core.

Continued

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

**National Register of Historic Places
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North Attleborough Town
Center Historic District

North Attleborough, Mass.

Item number 8

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Continuation sheet

Page 4

Built in 1894-1895, the Richards Memorial Library (MHC #8) at 118 North Washington Street is the first municipal building erected in the town center following incorporation. The cost of its lot and construction were funded by the children of North Attleborough jewelry manufacturer E. Ira Richards. This architecturally eclectic and lavishly appointed structure was one of the first buildings in the town center designed by a Boston architect--William Herbert McLean (1870-1942)--and is significant both for its fine design and as a reflection of North Attleborough's increasing sophistication and associations with Boston.

Important early 20th-century buildings constructed in the town center include the Georgian Revival-style Telephone Building (1906, MHC #6) at 38 South Washington Street; the Chronicle Building, Church Street (1906, MHC #98), home of North Attleborough's first independent newspaper; the Post Office Building (MHC #83) on South Washington Street (1916); and the Attleborough Savings Bank (MHC #99) at 48 North Washington Street (1903). The new commercial blocks were given the names of prominent local businessmen: the Badarracco Block, named for fruit and confectionery store owner David Badarracco, 6 South Washington Street (MHC #84), a handsome ca. 1908 Georgian Revival-style building, and the Riley Building, 61-65 North Washington Street, built for jewelry manufacturer William H. Riley in 1913 (MHC #90). In 1907, Mr. Riley had also built five multifamily houses on Mason Avenue, just off Washington Street, for speculative purposes (MHC #115). For many years the town offices were housed in the ca. 1900 C. W. Ralston Building, a long, two-story commercial building now considerably altered by the application of new storefronts and aluminum siding (MHC #102).

The town's continued prosperity as a jewelry manufacturing center played an important role in the downtown's early 20th-century building boom. By 1915 North Attleborough, with a population in excess of 10,000, contained thirty steam power plants and sixty-one jewelry concerns and allied industries. The total value of all types of goods produced in the town was seven million dollars. The Loeb Estate, home of James Munroe, a local builder responsible for several early 20th-century commercial blocks (including the Badarracco Block), is the only residential structure of this period within the district. It marks the district's northernmost boundary at 159 North Washington Street. Continued commercial construction to serve the expanding motor trade reflects this 20th-century prosperity. Among the two-story brick and masonry blocks built in this period are two Classical Revival-style business blocks: the 1916 Central Building at 31 North Washington Street (MHC #86) and the 1925-1926 Ranieri Building (MHC #89) at 53-57 North Washington Street. The red brick Classical Revival-style DeBlois Block (MHC #94), 145 North Washington Street, the district's northernmost commercial/residential block,

Continued

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was built ca. 1925. The Dane Block and the Slotnick Block (both built ca. 1927, located at 35 and 47 North Washington Street, respectively, MHC #87 and #88), are more modest single-story storefronts that nevertheless display finely detailed Classical Revival parapets and decorative stonework.

Built on the eve of the Depression, the Classical Revival-style Masonic Temple (MHC #82) at 36 South Washington Street, with its monumental temple form, reflects the height of North Attleborough's early 20th-century prosperity. It was designed by the Boston architectural firm of Hutchins & French, specialists in the design of bank buildings. They were also responsible for the ca. 1922 Georgian Revival-style Manufacturers National Bank at 67 North Washington Street (MHC #91). The Hotel Hixon, a large Georgian Revival-style building at 69 North Washington Street (MHC #93) was built in 1928 to provide the town with guest accommodations and function rooms. It is currently used as a nursing home. North Attleborough's first movie theater, a fine Art Deco-style theater run by the New England Theatre Operating Corporation, was built in 1929 at 17-26 South Washington Street. The building also housed live stage shows and served as the site for town meetings. The building was demolished in 1983 and replaced by housing for the elderly.

In 1930, the Attleborough Branch Railroad ceased operation and all rail service to North Attleborough came to an end. Coupled with the Depression and the construction of the East Washington Street bypass in the 1930s, diverting traffic from the business district, North Attleborough's town center entered a lengthy period of decline. Over the past ten years, however, the town center has revived. The result in part is the construction of several infill structures in the district, as well as alteration or loss of other significant older buildings. Accompanying the revitalization of the town center, however, is a new awareness of the community's resources, and at least one sensitive rehabilitation project (the Chronicle Building) has been the result.

ARCHAEOLOGY

While archaeological considerations are not a major component of the significance of the district, there is potential for archaeological resources in the district. No prehistoric sites are currently recorded within, or in close proximity to, the district. However, the high density of sites reported further down the Tenmile River in Attleborough suggests that prehistoric sites may survive within the district. Historic archaeological potential centers on the likelihood of occupation-related features (wells, pits, privies, etc.) around residential buildings as well as the potential for documenting buildings and structures no longer extant. The significance of these features would relate to the social and economic evolution of a community dominated by a single industry, jewelry manufacturing.

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

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Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Historic District Item number 9 Page 1
North Attleborough, Mass.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

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North Attleborough Town
Center Historic District,
North Attleborough, Mass.

Continuation sheet

Item number 10

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10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

See attached assessors', sketch, and U.S.G.S. maps for an exact delineation of district boundaries. The selection of boundaries has been based on a consideration of historical development patterns and integrity, as well as the presence of modern construction and noncontributing structures in the immediately surrounding area. In general, the bounds encompass the late 19th-early 20th century commercial and institutional core of the town. Several residential properties at the northern edge of the district have developmental and historical ties to North Attleborough's commercial evolution.

Specifically, the bounds have been drawn to delineate an essentially linear district along North and South Washington Streets, the main thoroughfare of North Attleborough. The southern boundaries of the district include several early 20th century buildings--the Masonic lodge, the telephone company, and the post office--and a park, formerly part of the estate of North Attleborough's leading 19th century jewelry manufacture, Henry Barrows. North Attleborough's recently erected Town Hall now occupies part of the Barrows Estate grounds. Boundaries proceed northward along rear lot lines on the west and east sides of South and North Washington Streets. The western edge is extended to include the Barrows Cottage on Bank Street and the Chronicle Building on Church Street; both are buildings with ties to the town's commercial development. Eastern bounds are extended to include the late 19th century Bosworth Machine Company on Bruce Avenue and a row of multifamily housing on Mason Street, built on speculation for a local jewelry manufacturer in the early 20th century. At its northern end, the district includes a small residential enclave built at the height of North Attleborough's early 20th century prosperity.

North Attleborough Historic District
North Attleborough, Massachusetts
DISTRICT DATA SHEET

<u>MAP NO.</u>	<u>MHC #</u>	<u>HISTORIC NAME</u>	<u>STREET ADDRESS</u>	<u>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION</u>	<u>STYLE</u>
G	na	Crowell Interiors	1 Bank Street	mid 20th c.	Non-contributing
6	114	Henry F. Barrows Cottage	15 Bank Street	1878-1880	Queen Anne
4	113	na	2 Bruce Avenue	ca. 1850	Italianate
5	118	Bosworth Machine Company	4 Bruce Avenue	1877-1878 with ca. 1940 and ca. 1960 additions	Italianate/ Industrial
15	98	Chronicle Building	12 Church Street	1906	Neo-Georgian
37	117	G. H. French property	12-14 Grove Street	ca. 1895	Queen Anne
38	116	Otis Bartlett House	16 Grove Street	1871 with early 20th century alterations	Italianate
B	na	L'il Peach Store	2 Elm Street	mid 20th c.	Non-contributing
21	92	MacKreth Memorial Building	Mason Avenue	1939-1940	Colonial Revival Non-contributing
22	115	W. H. Riley Properties	11 Mason Avenue	1907	Queen Anne Vernacular
23	115	W. H. Riley Properties	13-15 Mason Avenue	1907	Queen Anne Vernacular
24	115	W. H. Riley Properties	17-19 Mason Avenue	1907	Queen Anne Vernacular
25	115	W. H. Riley Properties	21-23 Mason Avenue	1907	Queen Anne Vernacular
26	115	W. H. Riley Properties	25-27 Mason Avenue	1907	Queen Anne Vernacular

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North Attleborough Historic District
North Attleborough, Massachusetts
DISTRICT DATA SHEET

2

<u>MAP NO.</u>	<u>MHC #</u>	<u>HISTORIC NAME</u>	<u>STREET ADDRESS</u>	<u>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION</u>	<u>STYLE</u>
E	na	Durfee Attleboro Multibank	6 N. Washington Street	20th century	Non-contributing
9	96	Boyle Block	8 N. Washington Street	1887 with mid 20th c. alterations	altered late 19th commercial Noncontributing
C	na	Sneakers 'n' Stuff	13 N. Washington Street	mid 20th c.	Non-contributing
D	na	Baldwin's Stationery	17 N. Washington Street	ca. 1930, 1984 alterations	Non-contributing
10	97	Anawan Building	16-28 N. Washington Street	1881 with ca. 1925 alterations	late 19th c. commercial
11	85	Starkey Building	21-23 N. Washington Street	ca. 1915 with mid 20th c. alteration	early 20th c. commercial
12	86	Central Building	31 N. Washington Street	1916	Classical Revival
13	62	Odd Fellows Hall	32 N. Washington Street	1874-1875, with ca. 1885 alterations	Second Empire Noncontributing
14	87	Dana Block	35 N. Washington Street	ca. 1927	Classical Revival
16	88	Slotnick Building	47 N. Washington Street	ca. 1927	Classical Revival
17	99	Attleborough Savings Bank	48 N. Washington Street	ca. 1903	Georgian Revival
19	89	Ranieri Building	53-55 N. Washington Street	ca. 1926	Classical Revival

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North Attleborough Historic District
North Attleborough, Massachusetts
DISTRICT DATA SHEET

4

<u>MAP NO.</u>	<u>MHC #</u>	<u>HISTORIC NAME</u>	<u>STREET ADDRESS</u>	<u>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION</u>	<u>STYLE</u>
36	8	Richards Memorial Library	118 N. Washington Street	1894	Renaissance Revival/Queen Anne/Colonial Revival
39	123	William W. Fisher House	125-127 N. Washington Street	ca. 1860 with ca. 1900 additions	Italianate/Colonial Revival
40	119	Library Apartments	130 N. Washington Street	ca. 1928	Federal Revival
41	121	Blackinton House	132 N. Washington Street	ca. 1850 with late 19th c. and ca. 1972 additions	Italianate/Queen Anne/early 20th c. commercial
42	120	B. L. Cleaners	135 N. Washington Street	ca. 1928	early 20th c. commercial
43	127	na	142 N. Washington Street	ca. 1880-1891	Late Italianate/Queen Anne frame vernacular
44	127	na	146 N. Washington Street	ca. 1880-1881	Late Italianate/Queen Anne frame vernacular
45	94	DeBlois Building	145 N. Washington Street	ca. 1925	Colonial Revival
46	183	Loeb Estate	159 N. Washington Street	1918	Tudor Revival
8	84	Badarracco Building	6 S. Washington Street	ca. 1908	Georgian Revival
F	na	Lock and Key Service	7 S. Washington Street	mid 20th c.	Non-contributing

AUG 23 1985

North Attleborough Historic District
North Attleborough, Massachusetts
DISTRICT DATA SHEET

3

<u>MAP NO.</u>	<u>MHC #</u>	<u>HISTORIC NAME</u>	<u>STREET ADDRESS</u>	<u>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION</u>	<u>STYLE</u>
18	100	Hall Block	54 N. Washington Street	ca. 1895	Classical Revival
20	90	Riley Building	61-65 N. Washington Street	1913	Classical Revival
27	91	Manufacturers' National Bank	67 N. Washington Street	1922	Georgian Revival
28	102	C. W. Ralston Building	78-102 N. Washington Street	ca. 1900	Queen Anne (altered)
29	93	Hotel Hixon	85 N. Washington Street.	1928	Colonial Revival
30	126	J. G. Albro House	97-101 N. Washington Street	ca. 1845 main block, early 19th c. south ell; possibly joined ca. 1871	Italianate vernacular
31	125	Charles P. Young Barn/Stable	103 N. Washington Street	1880	Queen Anne
32	6	Grace Episocopal Church	104 N. Washington Street	1931	Late Gothic Revival
33	124	Charles P. Young House	107 N. Washington Street	1880	Queen Anne
34	122	Capt. A. Hayward's Store	113 N. Washington Street	ca. 1845 with ca. 1930 additions	Greek Revival/ Italianate transitional
35	64	Capt. A. Hayward House	117 N. Washington Street.	ca. 1780; ca. 1845, ca. 1880 additions	Federal/ Greek Revival

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North Attleborough Historic District
North Attleborough, Massachusetts
DISTRICT DATA SHEET

5

<u>MAP NO.</u>	<u>MHC #</u>	<u>HISTORIC NAME</u>	<u>STREET ADDRESS</u>	<u>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION</u>	<u>STYLE</u>
7	95	North Attleborough National Bank Building	17 S. Washington Street	ca. 1858 with ca. 1920 addition	Italianate Commercial
A	na	Housing for the Elderly	20 S. Washington Street	mid 20th c.	Non-contributing
3	83	North Attleborough Post Office	30 S. Washington Street	1916	Georgian Revival
1	82	Bristol Lodge	36 S. Washington Street	1926	Classical Revival
2	68	Telephone Building	38 S. Washington Street	ca. 1906	Georgian Revival
H	na	Town Hall	43 S. Washington Street	1975	Non-contributing
47	903	Women's Christian Temperance Union Fountain	S. Washington Street (in front of Town Hall)	1911	Neo-Classical

AUG 23 1985

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

North Attleborough Town Center Historic District
Bristol County
MASSACHUSETTS

Substantive Review

Working No. 8/23/85
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/3/87
Date Due: 12/22/85
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 12-20-85
☐ RETURN
☐ REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

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

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

Reviewer's comments: *The district is significant historically as the commercial and residential area that evolved linearly in direct relationship to the community of manufacturing and mercantile enterprises. Architecturally the district contains a good collection of Victorian residential and commercial structures associated with the jewelry industry for which the town was an internationally known center. Pre-Civil War bldgs. represent earliest stages of development while early 20th-century Revival styles flourished through c. 1920 when the jewelry industry began to decline.*
Recom./Criteria Accept, A+C
Reviewer Savage
Discipline Architectural History
Date 12-20-85
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	☐ original site
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ moved date _____
☐ fair	☐ unexposed	
	☐ unaltered	
	☐ altered	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*) _____

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM 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: _____



PROPERTY NAMES: (Right to Left)

BRISTOL LODGE MASONIC BLDG.

TELEPHONE BLDG, U.S. POST OFFICE

STREET ADDRESSES: 40, 38, 30 South
WASHINGTON ST.

COMMUNITY: North ATTLEBOROUGH, MA.

PHOTOGRAPHER AND DATE: ED GORDON,
MARCH, 1984

LOCATION of NEGATIVE: N.A. DEPT.
OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

PHOTO # 1 of 8

DESCRIPTION OF VIEW: Looking
NORTHEAST at Southern most
BUILDINGS IN THE N.A.T.C.I.T.D.,
FACING MUNICIPAL PARK

AUG 23 1985



AUG 23 1985

PROPERTY NAMES (RIGHT, CENTER, LEFT)

ELDERLY HOUSING (1983), BADARRACCO
BLDG, and N.A. NATIONAL BANK BLDG.

STREET ADDRESSES: 22, 6, 17 S. WASHINGTON
ST.

COMMUNITY: NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH, MA.

NEGATIVES - N.A. DEPT. OF COMM. DEVELOP.

PHOTOGRAPHER AND DATE: ED GORDON,
MARCH, 1984

PHOTO: #2 of 8

DESCRIPTION OF VIEW: Northeast
CORNER OF MUNICIPAL PARK,
BANK and S. WASHINGTON STS. -
Southern portion of N. A. T. C. H. D.



AUG 23 1985

PROPERTY NAME: BADARRACCO BLDG
(c.1908)

STREET ADDRESS: 6 S. WASHINGTON ST.,
7 ELM ST.

COMMUNITY: North Attleborough, MA.

NEGATIVES: N. A. DEPT of COMM. DEVELOP.

PHOTOGRAPHER AND DATE: ED GORDON,
MARCH, 1984

PHOTO: # 3 of 8

DESCRIPTION OF VIEW: south east

corner of ELM and S. WASHINGTON STS,
center piece of commercial district.



AUG 23 1985

PROPERTY NAME: (Right
to Left): CHRONICLE BLDG
ODD FELLOWS HALL.

STREET ADDRESSES:

CHURCH ST, 32 N. WASH-
INGTON ST.

COMMUNITY: North
ATTLEBOROUGH, MA.

NEGATIVES - N.A. DEPT,
of COMM. DEVELOP.

PHOTOGRAPHER AND

DATE: Edgerton, MARCH 84

PHOTO: 4 of 8

DESCRIPTION OF VIEW:

Looking Southwest
towards Church St.
and N. WASHINGTON ST.



PROPERTY NAMES:

(RIGHT, CENTER, LEFT)
HALL BLOCK, ATTLEBOROUGH
SAVINGS BANK, ODD
FELLOWS HALL

STREET ADDRESSES:

54, 48, 32 N. WASHINGTON
TON ST.

COMMUNITY NORTH
ATTLEBOROUGH

NEGATIVES: N.A. DEPT.
OF COMMUNITY DEVELOP.

PHOTO & DATE:

ED GORDON, MARCH 84
PHOTO #5 OF 8

DESCRIPTION:

WEST SIDE OF
N. WASHINGTON ST.
Looking south west
toward CHURCH ST.



PROPERTY NAMES:

RANIERI BLDG.
RILEY BLDG.

STREET ADDRESSES:

53-55, 61-65 N. WASHINGTON
ST.

COMMUNITY: NORTH

ATTLEBOROUGH

NEGATIVES: NORTH

ATTLEBOROUGH DEPT.
OF COMM. DEVELOP.

PHOTOGRAPHER AND

DATE: ED GORDON,
MARCH '84.

PHOTO: # 6 of 8

DESCRIPTION: Looking S.E.
ON N. WASHINGTON ST.

AUG 23 1986



AUG 23 1986

PROPERTY NAMES:

RIGHT TO LEFT
LIBRARY NAMES.
RICHARDSON PUBLIC
LIBRARY

STREET ADDRESSES:

130, 118 N. WASHINGTON
STREET.
COMMUNITY-NORTH
ATTLEBOROUGH

NEGATIVES: N.A. DEPT
OF COMM. DEVELOP.

PHOTOGRAPHER AND

DATE: ED GORDON,
MARCH, 1984

PHOTO: # 7 OF 8

DESCRIPTION:

LOOKING NORTHWEST
ON N. WASHINGTON
ST. at GROVE ST.
INTERSECTION.



PROPERTY NAMES:

CAPT ABRAHAM
HAYWARD HOUSE,
WILLIAM N. FISHER
HOUSE

STREET ADDRESSES:

117 and 125+127 NORTH
WASHINGTON ST.
COMMUNITY: NORTH
ATTLEBOROUGH

NEGATIVES: N.A.

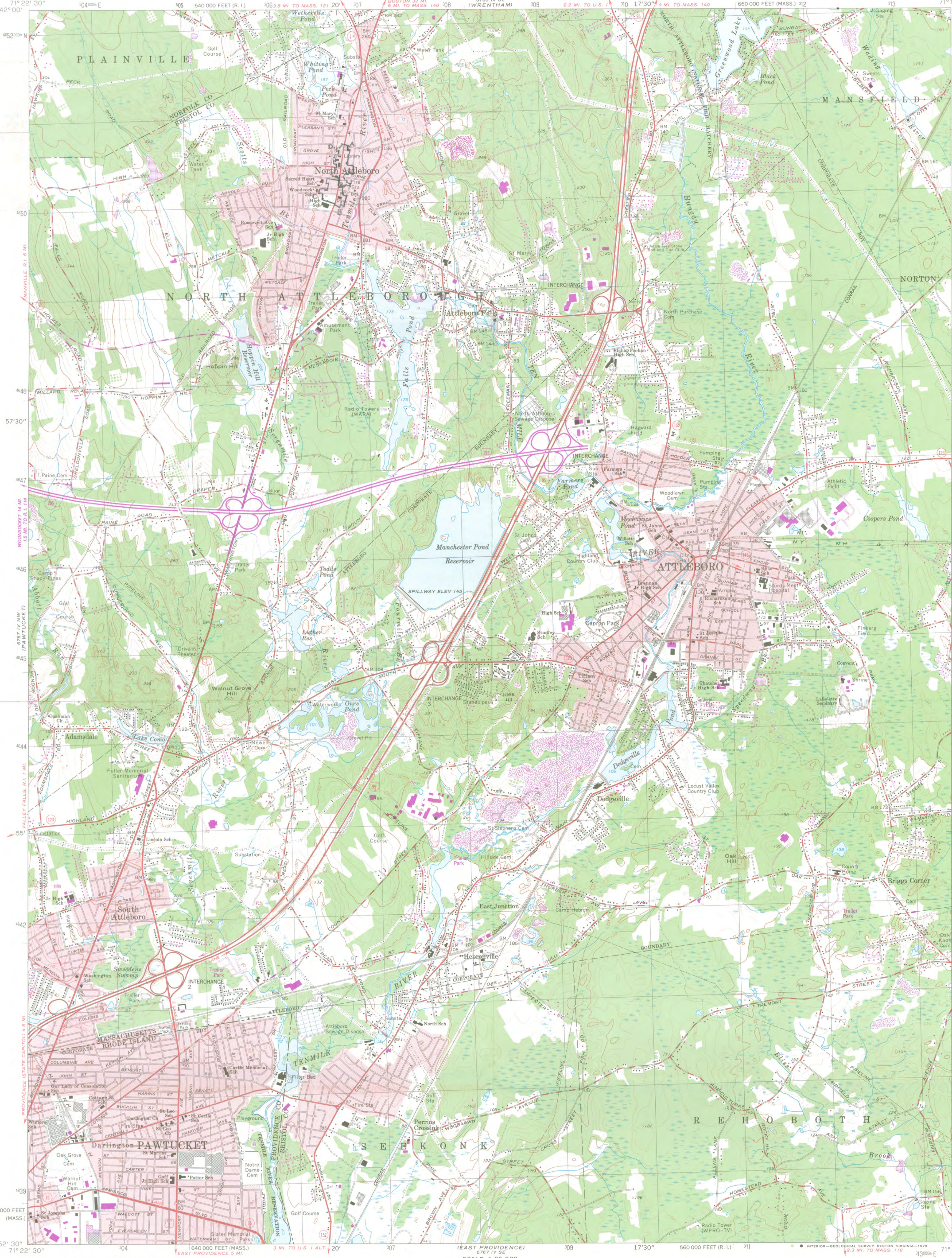
DEPT. OF COMM.
DEVELOPMENT
PHOTOGRAPHER AND
DATE: ED GORDON,
MARCH, 1984

PHOTO # 8 of 8

DESCRIPTION:

LOOKING EAST
ACROSS N. WASHINGTON
ST. FROM THE RICHARDS
MEMORIAL LIBRARY

North Attleborough Town
Center Historic District
North Attleborough, MA
Attleboro Quadrangle
UTM References:
A. 19/306850/4650660
B. 19/306730/4649970
C. 19/306500/4650140
D. 19/306700/4650620



CONVERSION
SCALES

Feet Meters

15000 4500
14000 4200
13000 3900
12000 3600
11000 3300
10000 3000
9000 2700
8000 2400
7000 2100
6000 1800
5000 1500
4000 1200
3000 900
2000 600
1000 300
0 0

Feet Meters

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

To convert feet to meters
multiply by .3048

To convert meters to feet
multiply by 3.2808

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1935 and 1938-1939
Revised 1964

Polyconic projection, 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone, and Rhode Island coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid,
zone 19

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with State of
Massachusetts agencies from aerial photographs taken 1977 and other
source data. This information not field checked. Map edited 1979

SCALE 1:25 000

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

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

ATTLEBORO, MASS.—R. I.
N4152.5—W7115/7.5

1964
PHOTOREVISED 1979
AMS 6767 IV NE—SERIES V814

Aug 23 1985

RECEIVED
AUG 13 1984
MASS. HIST. COMM.

North Attleborough
Town Center Historic District
for nomination to National Register

RECEIVED
AUG 12 1984
MASS. HIST. COMM.

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
TOWN CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

DISTRICT BOUNDARIES AND
BUILDING LOCATIONS

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH, MASS.



SKETCH MAP
NOT DRAWN TO SCALE

SEE ATTACHED ASSESSORS' MAPS
AND DISTRICT DATA SHEETS

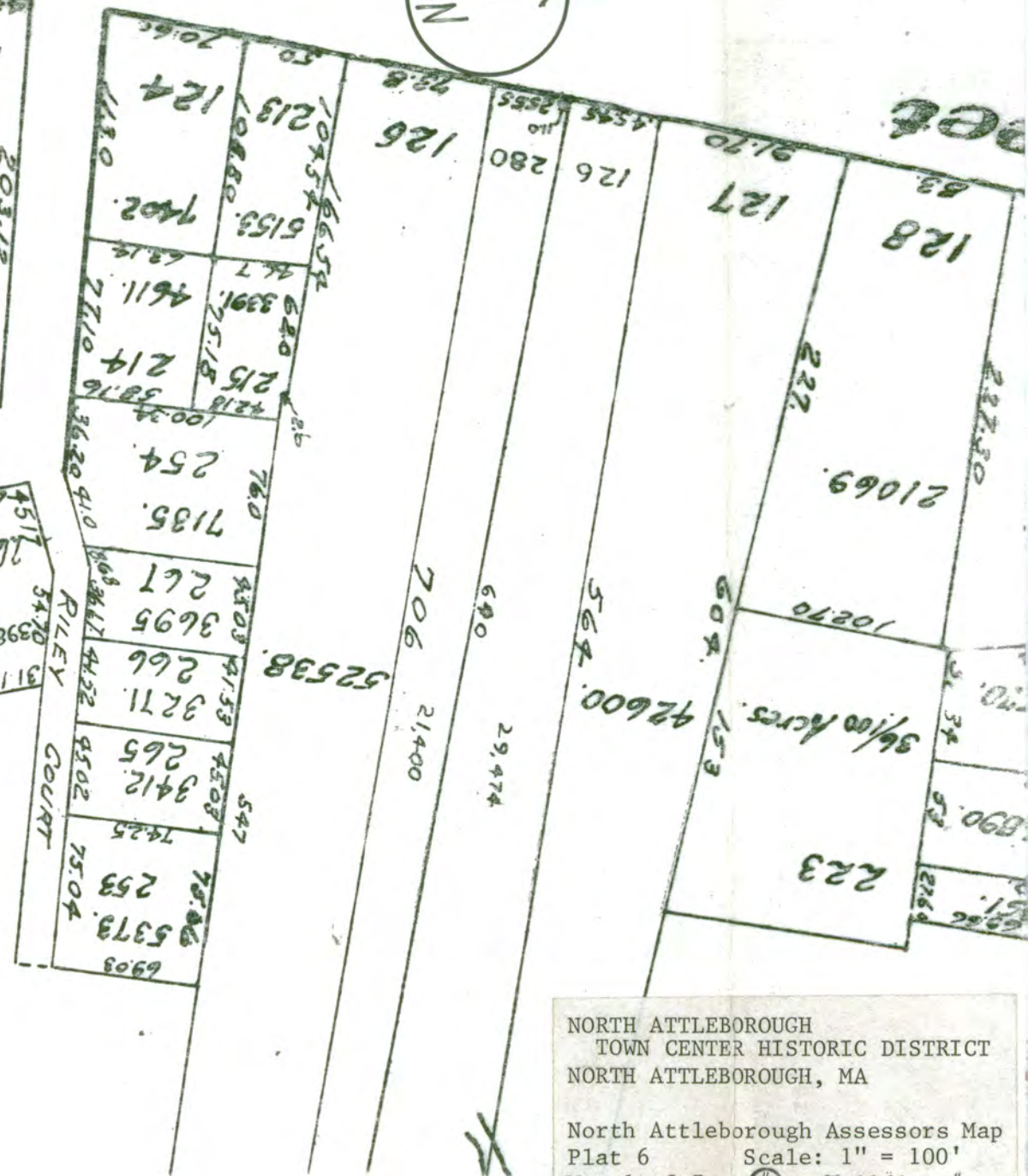
KEY:

- = DISTRICT BOUNDARY
- = PROPERTY LINE
- 1/A = PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION
(SEE DISTRICT DATA SHEETS)
- V = VACANT

BETSY FRIEDBERG
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL
COMMISSION
JULY 1985



AUG 23 1985



North Attleborough Assessors Map
Plat 6 Scale: 1" = 100'
Map 1 of 7 (#) = Building #
 letter = intrusion





44

AUG 23 1965



Fisher

NORTH

Washington

Mason Ave.

Feast

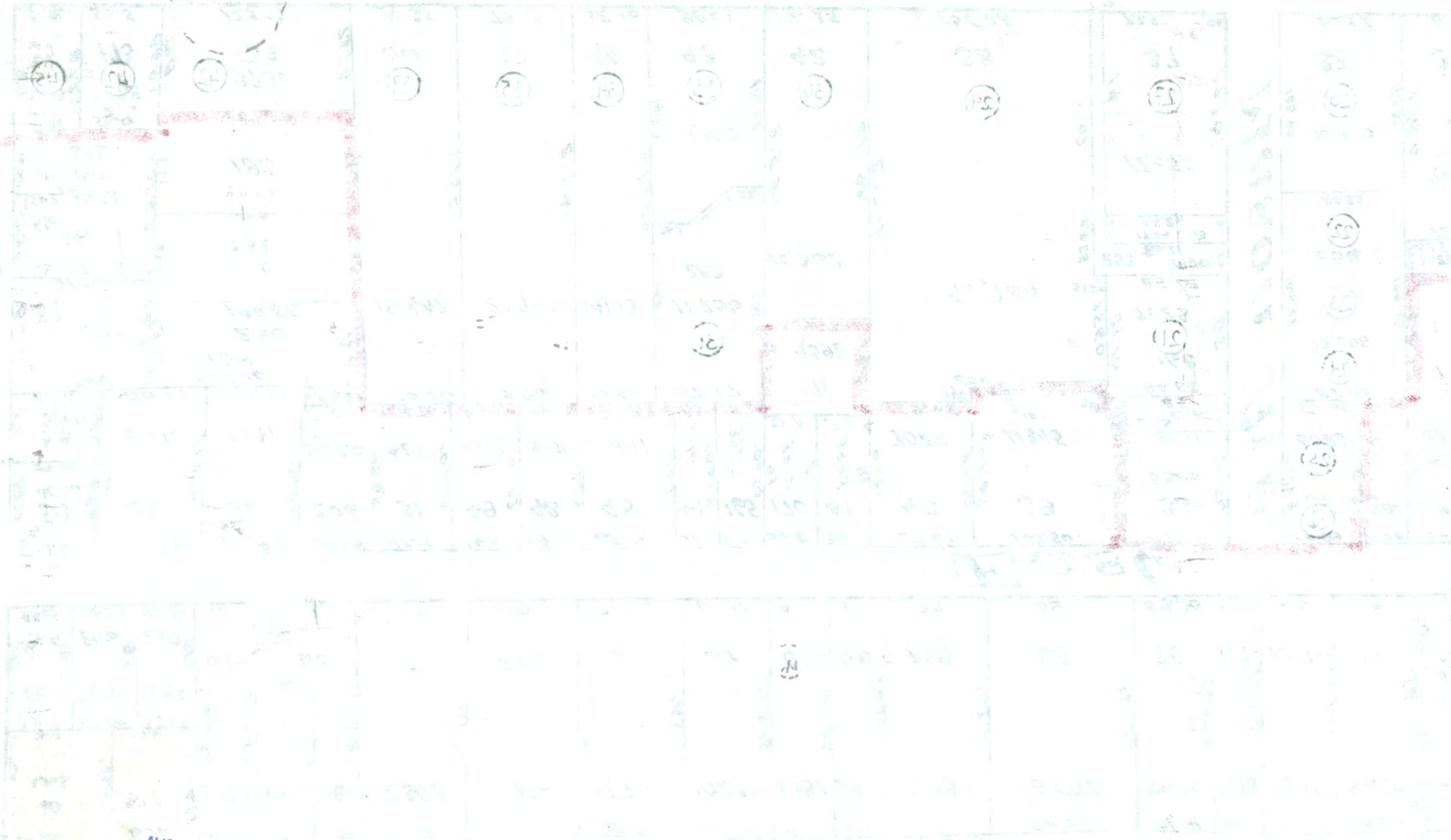
NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
TOWN CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH, MA

North Attleborough Assessors Map
Plat 5 Scale: 1" = 100'
Map 2 of 7  = Building #

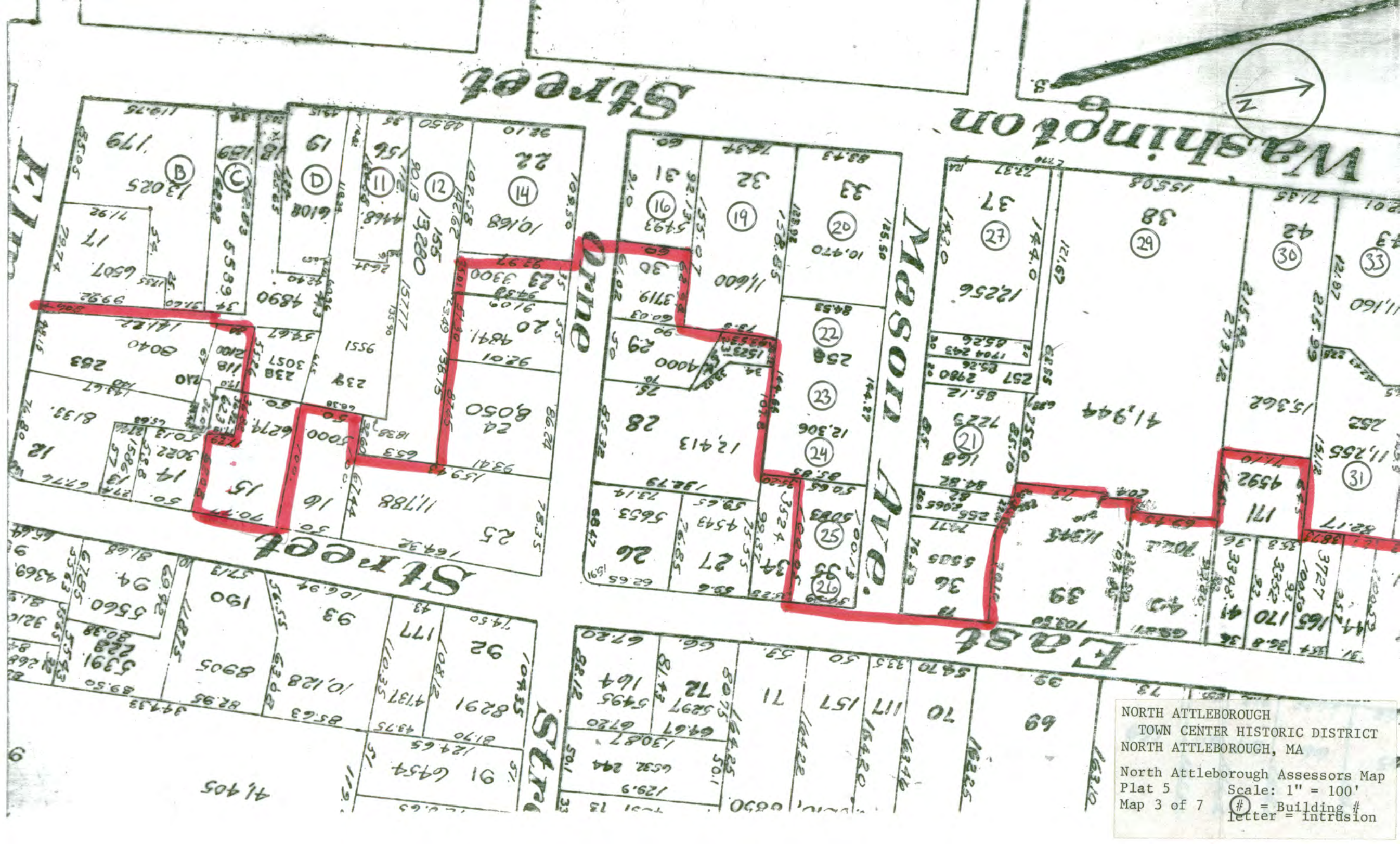


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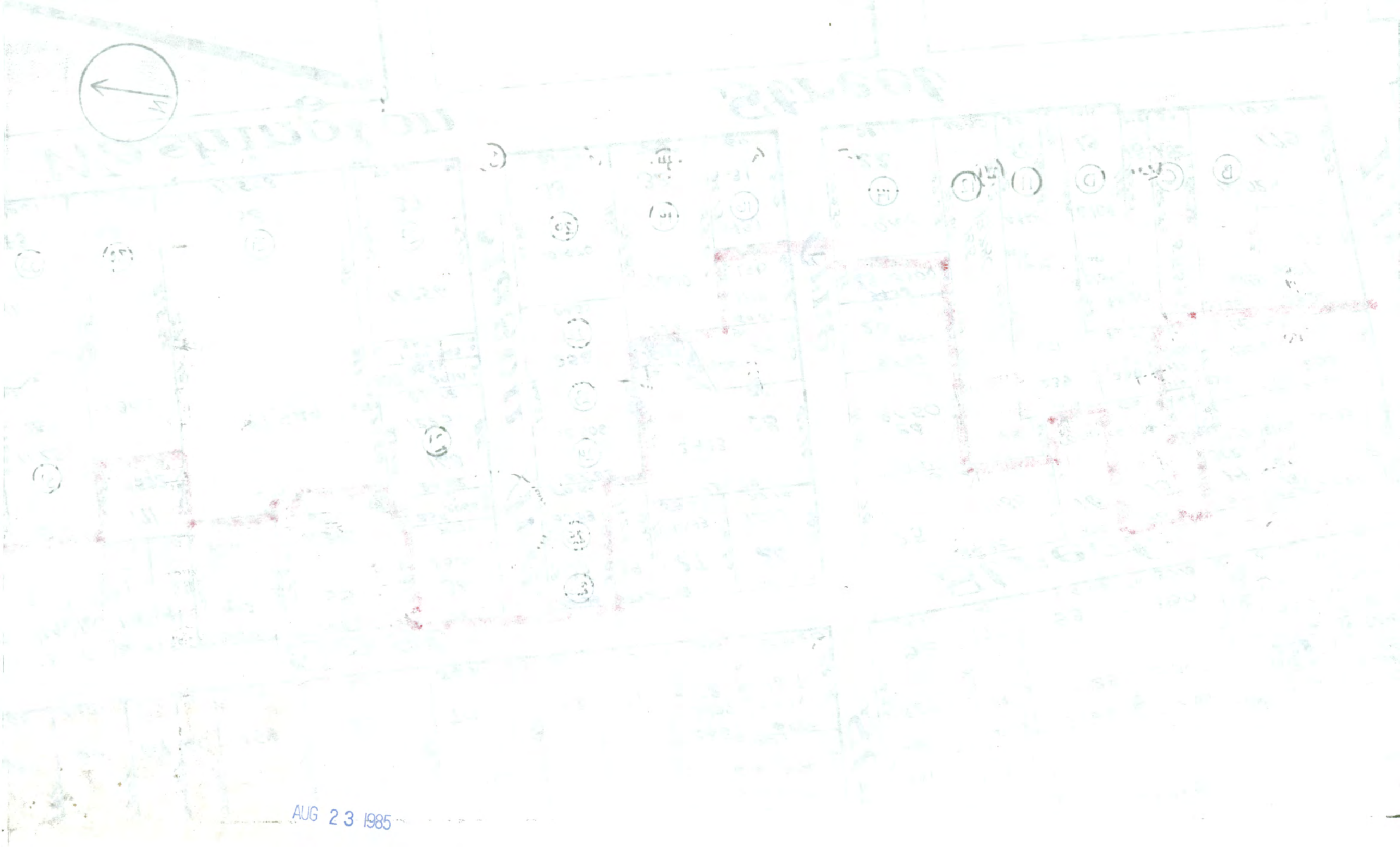
NO 30114 RM



AUG 23 1985



NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
TOWN CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH, MA
North Attleborough Assessors Map
Plat 5 Scale: 1" = 100'
Map 3 of 7 (#) = Building #
letter = intrusion



AUG 23 1985



PLAT NO. 5.

SOUTH

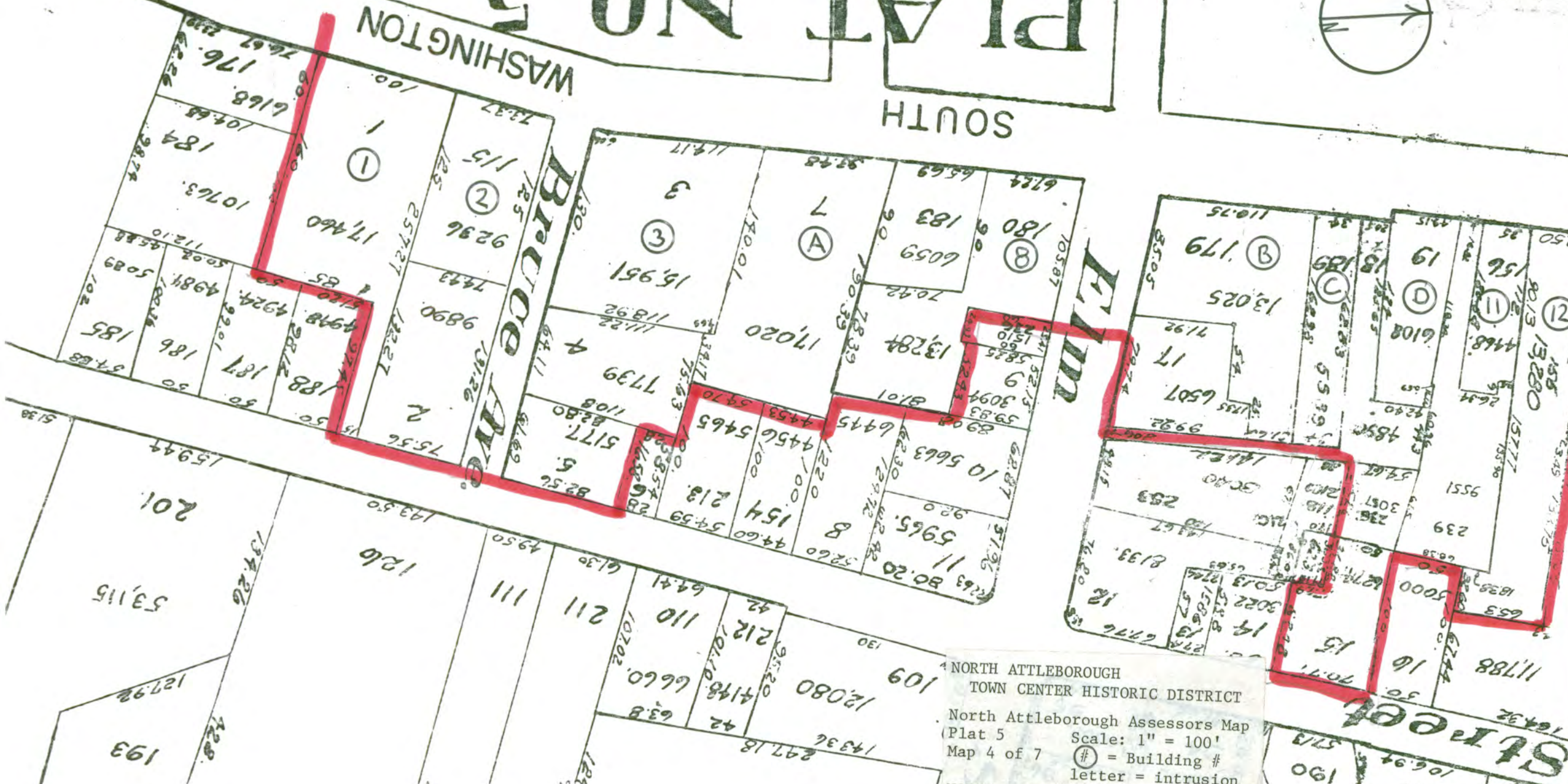
STREET

WASHINGTON

Bruce Ave.

Elm

Street



NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
TOWN CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

North Attleborough Assessors Map
Plat 5
Map 4 of 7
Scale: 1" = 100'
= Building #
letter = intrusion

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH, MA



BY 1402

WASHING LON

21 DEC 1



AUG 23 1963

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
TOWN CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
North Attleborough Assessors Map
Plat 2 Scale: 1" = 100'
Map 5 of 7 (#) = Building #
letter = intrusion
NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH, MA

5	120	60	30	81.48	223
35	224	52	2	2	223

OWS

St.

Baron

416.14

Vacant



77.79	12	10289	85.5
78.75	13	10185	89.85
49.50	195	6110	49.30
41.60	208	5256	44.12
57.50	14	6858	54.68
38.50	198	4705	38.5
82.50	15	10072	82.5
82.50	16	10073	83

403.31

230
23427

126.58

185.36

409,828

(H)

BANK STREET

237.56

(47)

152.80

279.37

WASHINGTON ST

SOUTH

237.04

Street

852.83

24718

218551

(H)

2001 04112101 H 1002

AUG 23 1985

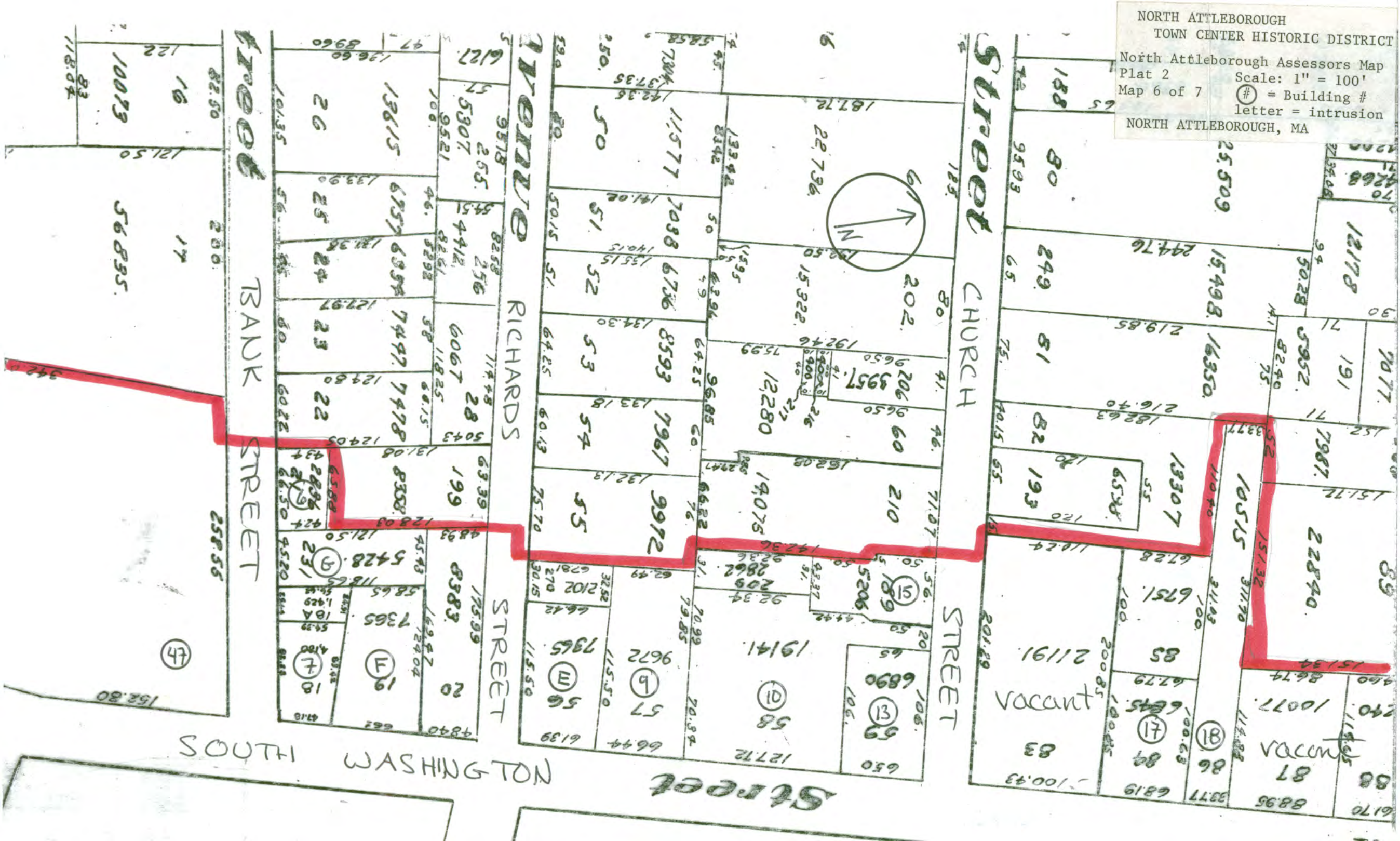


Account

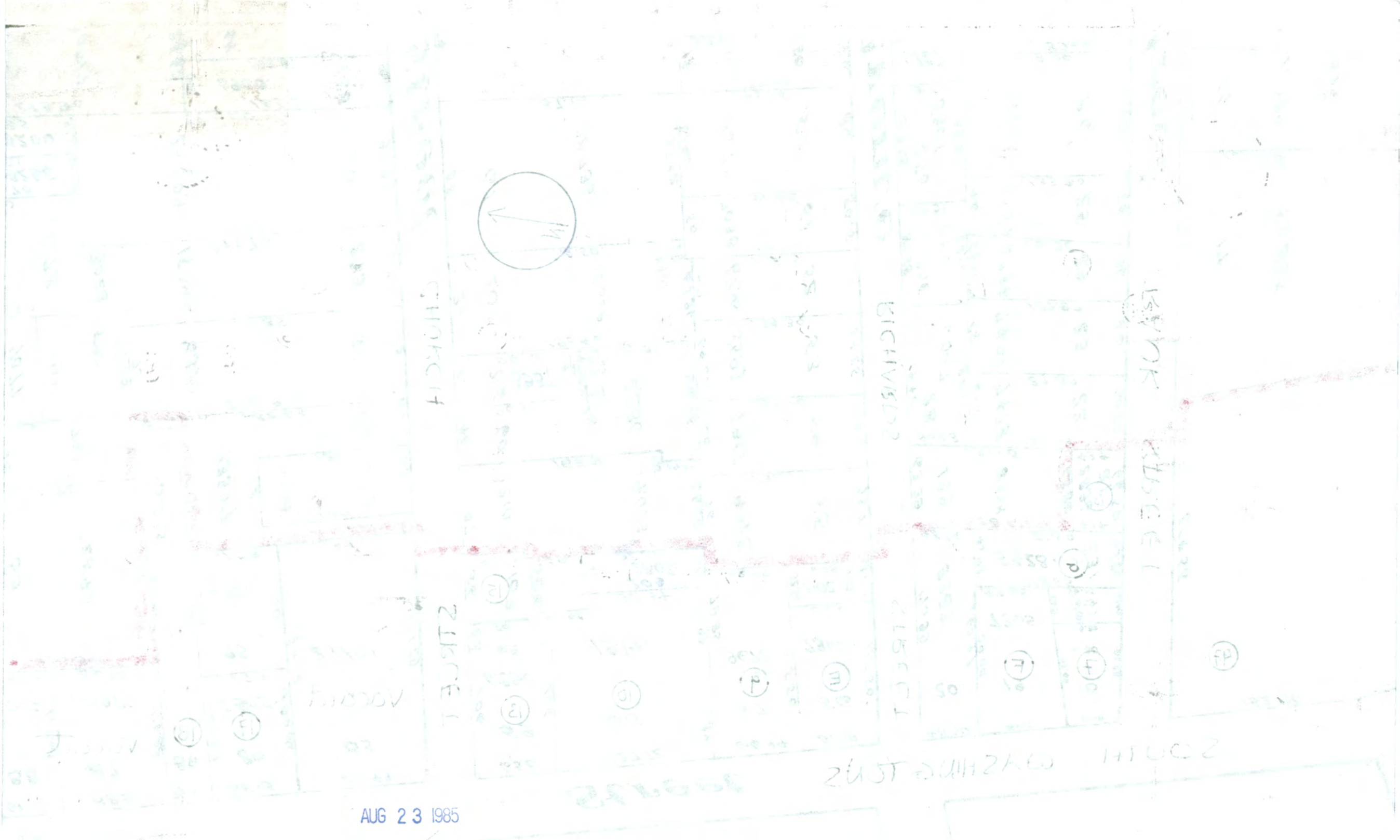
(H)

2001 04112101 H 1002

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
TOWN CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
North Attleborough Assessors Map
Plat 2
Map 6 of 7
Scale: 1" = 100'
Ⓢ = Building #
letter = intrusion
NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH, MA



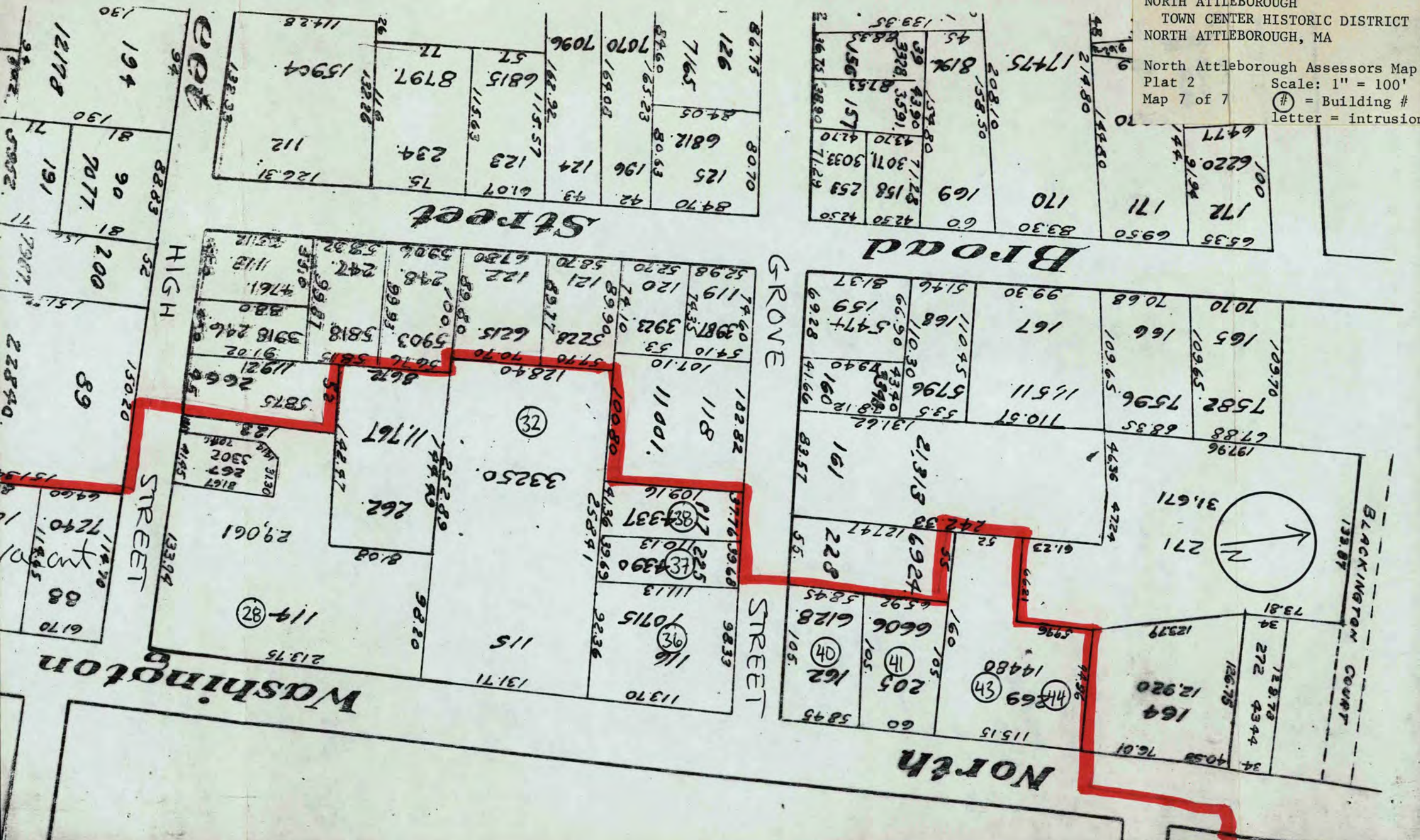
AUG 23 1985



NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
 TOWN CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
 NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH, MA

North Attleborough Assessors Map
 Plat 2
 Map 7 of 7

Scale: 1" = 100'
 # = Building #
 letter = intruder





AUG 23 1985



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Secretary of State
Michael Joseph Connolly, Secretary

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Valerie A. Talmage

Executive Director

State Historic Preservation Officer

May 13, 1985

Mr. Dave W. Dogan
Director, Officer of Real Estate
U.S. Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20260

RE: North Attleborough Historic District
North Attleborough, Massachusetts

Dear Property Owner:

We are pleased to inform you that your property, The North Attleborough Post Office, 30 S. Washington Street, North Attleborough, Massachusetts, located within the North Attleborough Historic District, North Attleborough, Massachusetts will be considered by the State Review Board for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is the Federal Government's official list of historic properties worthy of preservation. Listing in the National Register provides recognition and assists in preserving our Nation's heritage. Enclosed is a copy of the criteria under which properties are evaluated.

EFFECT OF LISTING

Listing in the National Register provides the following benefits to historic properties:

*Consideration in the planning for federally assisted projects. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 provides that the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation be given an opportunity to comment on projects affecting such properties.

*Eligibility for Federal tax benefits. If a property is listed in the National Register, certain tax provisions may apply. The Tax Reform Act of 1976, as amended by the Revenue Act of 1978 and the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980, and the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981 as amended by the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982, contain provisions intended to encourage the

preservation of depreciable historic structures by allowing favorable tax treatments for rehabilitation, and to discourage destruction of historic buildings by eliminating certain Federal tax provisions for demolition of historic structures. Beginning January 1, 1982, the Economic Recovery Tax Act replaces the rehabilitation tax incentives available under prior law with a 25% investment tax credit for rehabilitations of certain historic commercial, industrial and residential rental buildings. This can be combined with a 15-year cost recovery period for the adjusted basis of the historic building. Historic buildings with certified rehabilitations receive additional tax savings because they are only required to reduce the basis of the building by one half the amount of credit. The Tax Extension Act of 1980 includes provisions regarding charitable contributions for conservation purposes of partial interests in historically important land areas or structures.

*Consideration of historic values in the decision to issue a surface coal mining permit where coal is located, in accord with the Surface Mining and Control Act of 1977.

*Qualification for Federal grants for historic preservation when funds are available.

RIGHT TO OBJECT TO LISTING

Owners of private properties nominated to the National Register of Historic Places must be given an opportunity to concur in or object to listing in accord with the National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980 and Federal regulations 36CFR Part 60. Any owner or partial owner of private property who chooses to object to listing is required to submit to the State Historic Preservation Officer a notarized statement certifying that the party is the sole or partial owner of the private property, as appropriate, and objects to the listing. If a majority of the owners objects to listing, the district will not be listed. Each owner or partial owner of private property in a district has one vote regardless of how many properties or what part of one property that party owns. If the district cannot be listed because a majority of owners objects prior to the submission of a nomination by the State, the State Historic Preservation Officer shall submit the nomination to the Keeper of the National Register for a determination of the eligibility of the district for inclusion in the National Register. If the property is then determined eligible for listing, although not formally listed, Federal agencies will be required to allow the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation an opportunity to comment before the agency may fund, license, or assist a project which will affect the property.

CONSIDERATION BY THE STATE REVIEW BOARD

If you wish to comment on whether the property should be nominated to the National Register, please send your comments to this office. Comments and notarized objections may be submitted up to the date of the meeting; following the meeting they may be submitted directly to the Keeper of the National Register.

The Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 10, 1985, at 1:00 p.m. at the Codman Estate Carriage House, Lincoln, Massachusetts. A copy of the nomination is on file in our office and will be made available to you upon request. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the National Register staff of the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

Sincerely,

Valerie A. Talmage

Valerie A. Talmage

Executive Director

State Historic Preservation Officer

Massachusetts Historical Commission

VAT/sac

Enclosures

file w/NR ✓ 5, 2

Grace Episcopal Church of North Attleborough

(INCORPORATED 1978)

104 NORTH WASHINGTON STREET
NORTH ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS 02760

THE REV. SINCLAIR D. HART, RECTOR
TEL. 695-5471

RECEIVED
JUL 11 1985
MASS. HIST. COMM.

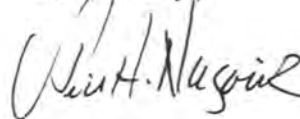
July 5, 1985

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Attention: Valerie A. Talmage
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Dear Ms. Talmage:

Grace Episcopal Church of North Attleborough is delighted to have been considered for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. If we can provide you with any information to this end, please don't hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,



Jill H. Nagorniak
Clerk of the Vestry



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Secretary of State
Michael Joseph Connolly, Secretary

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Valerie A. Talmage

Executive Director

State Historic Preservation Officer

October 28, 1985

Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of Interior
National Park Service
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20012-7127

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the revised nomination form for:

North Attleborough, North Attleborough Town Center Historic District; Bank, Bruce Avenue, Church, Grove Mason Avenue, and North and South Washington Streets, 52 properties.

The nomination has been revised to show the MacKreth Building on Mason Avenue as a non-contributing building, due to its age of less than 50 years. You will also find a letter notifying the Federal Preservation Officer for the U.S. Postal Service of the listing.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sarah J. Zimmerman".

Sarah J. Zimmerman
Director, Preservation Planning
Massachusetts Historical Commission

SJZ/lis