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The Hope Street Historic District, on the East Side of Providence, extends south-to-north along $h^{\frac{1}{2}}$ blocks of Hope Street, beginning at its intersection with Benevolent Street and continuing to its intersection with Angell Street. All structures along this stretch of Hope Street or bordering on it at intersections (though having address numbers on the intersecting streets) are included in the district and are noted on a map and list accompanying this nomination.

Hope Street was at first little more than a boundary path at the east of the long, narrow lots that extended up and over College Hill in the XVIII Century. Known as Ferry Lane, it provided access to the ferry landing at India Point near its southerly beginning. It was 1806 before Hope Street was officially so named, and the middle of the XIX Century before it began to resemble a neighbourhood. During the latter half of the XIX Century the street developed towards the north, and the houses became progressively larger and more impressive as this part of the street became a desired section for the wealthy citizens of Providence to live in. This burst of construction produced houses of various styles throughout a period of some seventy years, from the Italianate forms of the 1850's to Georgian adaptations built around the time of World War I.

Certain of the buildings deserve special note here, being both important "cornerstones" to the Historic District and conspicuous landmarks in it, as well as landmarks in the XIX-Century architectural history of the entire city and state:

On a corner, at 151 Hope Street and running east (numbered 105 and 107 Benevolent Street) are three low, rectangular gable- and hip-roofed brick structures--now in part connected--which date from c. 1845-1850 and were stable and other service buildings for the now-de-molished Sprague-Hidden house. Reminiscent of the architecture of Thomas A. Tefft, they are simple yet handsome, displaying Italianate trim consisting of heavy brackets below projecting cornices; wide and heavy moulded window architraves; some round-headed windows and blind panels.

The Robert W. Taft house at 15h Hope Street was designed in 1895 by the local firm of Stone, Carpenter and Willson and is a fine example of the then-emerging Colonial Revival style. A tall two-and-one-half storey house of brick with light-coloured trim of stone and wood carefully placed, it features end gables of ogee form (and adaptation from the Joseph Brown house of 177h in Providence) and an ogee gable on its entrance porch.

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(See Continuation Sheets.)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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7. Description.

At 169 Hope Street is a massive, three-storey, asymmetrically-planned Italian villa of brick with marble and wood trim, making a play of large projecting and receding rectangular masses, but employing little surface decoration. The south-west has an arcaded porch, and a large arcaded porte-cochère is on the northern side of the house. According to documentation brought to light by Mrs. Gilbert Glass when working upon an M. A. thesis for Brown University, this house was designed for Amos Smith by Richard Upjohn, c. 1860.

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At 179 Hope Street stands the Esther Baker house, designed in 1882 by Stone and Carpenter. This is a three-storey, cross-gabled "Queen Anne style" residence of lively outline, with an especially interesting ground plan that takes advantage of its corner site; it is covered and ornamented with a variety of materials (brick, wood, slate, stucco, stone) worked in a variety of ways. It is laid out around a "living-hall," of which the stairway forms an important feature, and interior woodwork is inventive and varied. (See sketch-plan on Continuation Sheet 3.)

The John A. Mitchell house of 1865-1867, 190 Hope Street, is a two-storey-clapboarded residence surmounted by an angular mansard roof. It is formally composed and, with its restrained classical detail, is an excellent example of the correct academicism often characteristic of mansard buildings of the 1860's. A small mansarded stable repeats the detail of the main house.

Beyond the Baker house, opposite the Mitchell house, and numbered lul Waterman Street, the Horatio Campbell house of 1877 occupies an elevated corner location. An ostentatious, large residence of high Second Empire mansard style and château derivation, it carries out an elaborate decorative scheme in sawn wood, slate, copper, metal cresting. Although in its main part it is essentially a simple central-hall square, a general sense of asymmetrical arrangement is achieved by a projecting turreted tower on the Hope Street side and a lower tower over the entrance on the Waterman Street front. The forced verticality, busy decoration and general aggressiveness are typical of the building style of the late 1870's.

Across Waterman Street, on both sides of the next block of Hope Street, stand three very important houses all built by members of the Lippitt family in the 1850's and 1860's. Number 193, the Robert Lippitt house, c. 1850-1855, was designed by Thomas A. Tefft and is one of his few surviving buildings. This sedate three-storey brick cube, hip-roofed, depends for its dignity and quality upon the spacing of the window openings and their pared-down classical trim and on the simple Tuscan entrance porch. To date, it has been very well cared for as a private residence.

(See Continuation Sheet 2.)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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7. Description.

Tefft's carefully designed statte buildings at the rear also serve 199 Hope Street.

Across Hope Street, and numbered 198-200, is the house Governor Henry Lippitt built in the late 1850's. It is a formal three-storey double house of brick with wood and brownstone trim, designed on a "T" plan (with extensive service and stable quarters behind). The entrances are in the arms of the "T"--one through a small colonnaded porch, the other through a long arcaded one. The cornice has heavy bracketting, and the window openings are variously treated: surmounted by heavy cornices, arched, paired, sheltered by projecting concave hoods. The house demonstrates evolvement from the formal Italianate style into a more freely-adorned Victorian one.

Most important in this enclave is the second house built by Governor Henry Lippitt, set impressively on an embanked site at 199 Hope Street. It dates from 1863 and is attributed to Henry Childs. In the main, it is a large, three-storey, hip-roofed cubical palazzo, but it has a southerly bay, a northern bow, a tucked-in side sitting-porch: it displays a Victorian taste for formality, but also for elaboration and for variation of form where possible. Its front elevation presents an eclectic and impressive composition comprising a semi-elliptical entrance porch with thin Corinthian columns; an aedicular three-part window above the porch; false balusters in panels under windows; quoins on the ground floor; panelled walls above; a prominent central pediment; a bracketed and dentilled entablature of imposing scale. A large porte-cochère with panelled wooden piers extends from the north side of the house. Internally, the house is designed on a central-hall plan with a side stair-hall at the rear left. The whole house has magnificent, intact decoration in which are employed many woods; many types of marble; important chandeliers and hardware of metals; painting and graining of ceilings and panels; stencilling of walls, gilding etc. -- all either in perfect original state of else meticulously restored. Furniture, ornaments and paintings are all very much "in period" and most are part of the original contents. The owners hope this house will in time be a house-museum, and there perhaps is not another of its period, size, state of preservation and quality of furnishing in the New England states.

As well as the buildings given special note above, there are many more houses, less monumental but of individual quality, that have an important place in the visual context of the whole District.

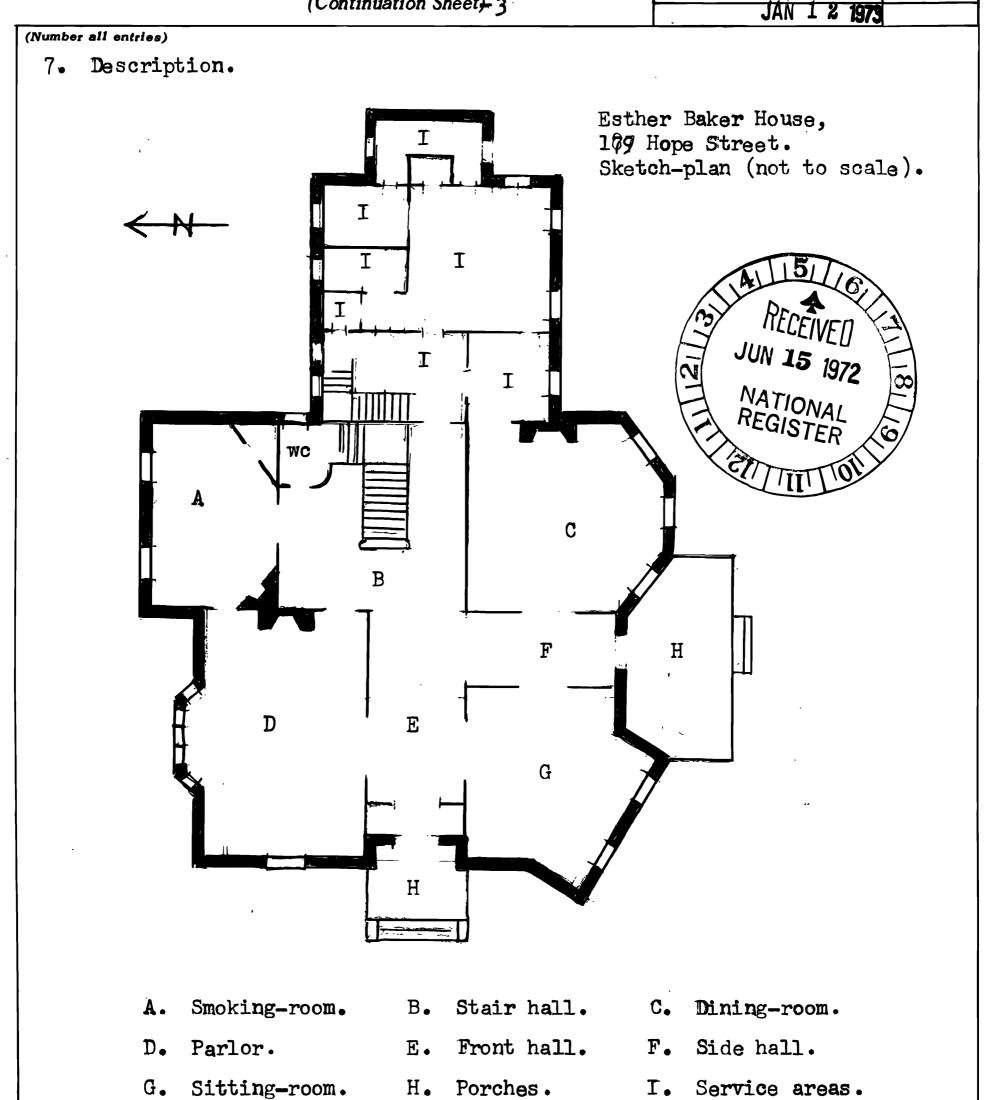
(See Continuation Sheet 3.)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			CITITIS

↑ The Hope Street Historic District -- this long, straight street, fairly wide and lined by large trees -- with its succession of substantial houses (many on embanked sites above retaining-walls), presents an excellent and intact picture of the quiet, well-maintained urban residential areas which were developed in the second half of the XIX Century to house this country's growing prosperous upper and upper-middle classes. For such persons, free-standing and commodious houses were planned, lawn or garden spaces left around them, the necessary carriage houses placed at one side or to the rear; and there were usually plantings of trees and shrubbery on the sizeable lots, besides shade trees spaced along the sidewalks. The result of the above was generally (and certainly along Hope Street) a serene and handsome visual continuum, interestingly punctuated by the various styles of domestic architecture which succeeded each other in America over a period of about _ seven decades. • • • •

This succession of styles is well illustrated in the District, starting with the Italianate palazzo and villa styles of the 1845-1865 period and showing their academic formality gradually dissolved by Victorian innovations of ornament and appendage. Following, come the mansarded houses of the 1860's and 1870's: some sedate under their angular or curved cappings, others ofnormate, pretentious—and sometimes explosive—form. With the 1880's came the Richardsonian, "Shingle" and "Queen Anne" styles—frequently emphasising picturesque silhouette or mass, irregular plans and varied exterior facings, to be succeeded in the mid-1890's by a return to rectangular quietude in the Colonial Revival style. By and after 1900, some of the largest and most expensive houses were adaptations of English country houses or French châteaux of the Renaissance.

All of these style trends can be seen in the houses of Hope Street, well executed originally and well preserved now; and their number is impressive. The grouping of houses at and between Waterman and Angell Streets is a particularly important one both visually and from the point of view of architectural history. The area is enhanced by the well-cared-for landscaping on private lots and by the old trees which nearly form an arch over the street.

(See Continuation Sheet 1.)

Cady, John Hutchins: The Civic and Architectural Development of Providence, 1636-1950 (Providence, Rhode Island, 1957), pp. 73, 111, 140, 152, 187, 188, 200, 211, 251, 276. Glass, Anita: Early Victorian Domestic Architecture on College Hill (Unpublished this) for M. A. degree, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, 1960). Little, Margaret Ruth: The Architecture of a Lamented Genius, Thomas Alexander Tefft (Unpublished thesis for M. A. degree, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, 1971), pp. 38, 50. 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES						
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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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8. Significance.

To-day, although the District is no longer entirely residential, it appears so, for those houses (perhaps one-third to one-half of them) which have been taken over for institutional use have so far suffered little external alteration.

The Hope Street Historic District is nominated to the National Register in the hope that its listing thereon will help in the future preservation of the area and of its particular and very apparent character.



HOPE STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

Hope Street, from its intersection with Benevolent Street at the south to its intersection with Angell Street at the north.

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INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS

Buildings with odd numbers are on the east side of Hope Street; those with even numbers are on its west side. Some buildings on corner sites are numbered on other streets, as noted.

Below their addresses, buildings are rated as follows: A--Architecturally important, and conspicuous landmarks in the District. B--Not outstanding pieces of architecture, but helping to define the area and contributing to the visual entity. C--Modern or remodelled structures not in keeping with the original character of the District.

151 Hope Street, 105-107 Benevolent Street. Stable buildings of Sprague-Hidden house, c. 1845-1850. Rectangular, hip-roofed and gable-roofed; brick with stone, brick and wooden trim in Italianate style reminiscent of work of Thomas A. Tefft; handsome grouping.

152 Hope Street.

Kilcup Hall, c. 1950-1960. Angular modern classroom building of brick.

154 Hope Street.

Robert W. Taft house, by Stone, Carpenter & Willson, 1895. Two-and-one-half storeys, brick with stone and wood trim; ogee gable-ends and ogee pediment to entrance porch; notable early example of Colonial Revival adaptation and eclecticism, well handled.

156 Hope Street.

House, c. 1925-1935. Two-and-one-half storeys, brick with wood trim; careful and expensive "Georgian" type; segmental-pedimented doorway; on raised site of earlier house with mid-XIX-Century stone retaining-wall and iron fencing remaining.

195 George Street. B House (now St. Joseph's Convent), c. 1920-1930. Two-and-one-half storeys, brick with high slate roof, stone and wood trim; quiet adaptation of Norman "manoir" type.

165 Hope Street.

Edward D. Pearce house, c. 1890. Two storeys of brick and clapboarding below long gambrel roof; projecting bays, extinguisher-capped tower; free planning of Shingle Style with applied academic Colonial Revival details.

169 Hope Street. A

Amos Smith-Rollin Matteson house, c. 1860, by Richard Upjohn. Three storeys under hip roof; brick with marble and wood trim; large, asymmetrical example of Italian villa or palazzo style with arcaded porch and porte-cochere; important.

177 Hope Street.

House, c. 1940-1950. Small, two-storey modern brick house; modest design behind iron fence and green planting.

179 Hope Street.

Esther Baker house, by Stone & Carpenter, 1882. Two-and-one-half storeys, cross-gabled roof; Queen Anne style, with free planning, irregular outline; variety of exterior surface materials and ornament inventively handled; notable for interior "living-hall" and woodwork; important.

39 Manning Street.

Barus & Holley Hall, c. 1960. Tall, modern office, laboratory and classroom building of brick and concrete with lower wing to north.

185 Hope Street.

Stable of the Campbell house on Waterman Street, 1877, now remodelled as apartments.

190 Hope Street.

John A. Mitchell house (now Marston Hall, Brown University), 1865-1867. Two storeys under mansard roof, clapboarded; restrained classical detailing—quoining, Tuscan entrance porch, aedicular centre window in roof; mansarded stable in rear.

141 Waterman Street. A Horatio Campbell house, 1877. Two storeys, clapboarded, beneath high, angular mansard roof; towers, elaborate trim, porches and dormers, bays, iron cresting; high Second Empire style.

193 Hope Street.

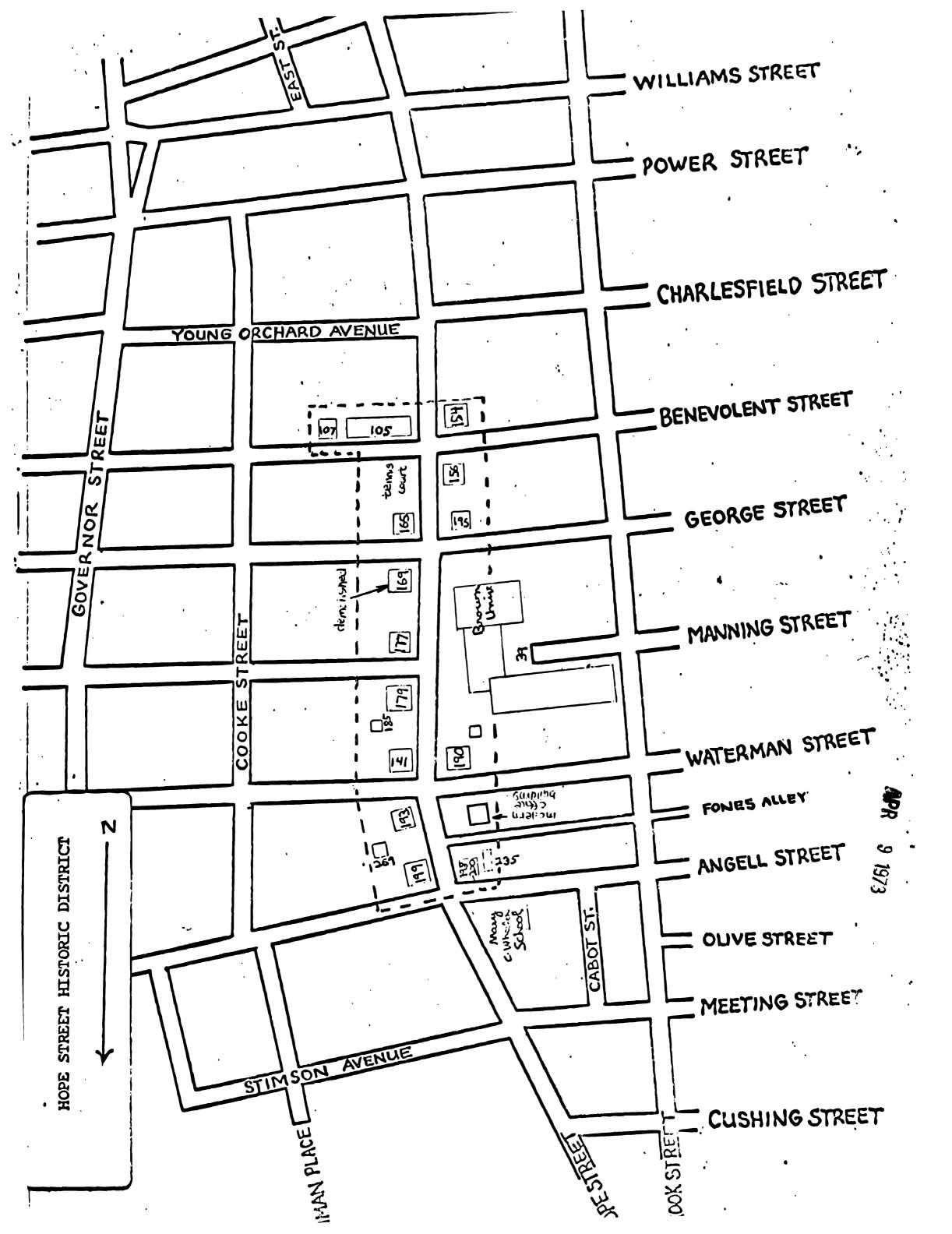
Robert Lippitt house, by Thomas A. Tefft, 1854. Three storeys, hip-roofed; brick with wood trim; quiet, correct Italianate detailing in palazzo style; stable building by Tefft to the east; important.

198-200 Hope Street. A First Governor Henry Lippitt house, c. 1855-1857. Threestorey hip-roofed double house of "T" plan; brick with wood trim in the Victorian Italianate bracketed style; deep cornice, arcaded and columned porches, hoods over windows; extensive stables etc. to the west.

199 Hope Street. A

Second Governor Henry Lippitt house, by Henry Childs, c. 1863. Three storeys, hip-roofed; brick with wood and brownstone trim of Victorian Italianate style, elaborated; central front pediment, bays on sides, quoining, wall panelling, elliptical columned entrance porch, aedicular window over porch; highly-decorated, intact interior; very important.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

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3. MAP REFERENCE

Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission 52 Power Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02906

scale: not to scale

DATE: May, 1972

REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

- 1. Property broundaries where required.
- 2. North arrow.
- 3. Latitude and longitude reference.

PROVIDENCE QUADRANGLE RHODE ISLAND 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

