

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Rhode Island</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Bristol</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	<b>FEB 28 1974</b>

1. NAME

COMMON:  
**Warren Waterfront Historic District**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**See Continuation Sheet 1** *bounded roughly by the Warren*

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Warren** *Nearby, Bishop Area, and the total brown line (includes Warren Rd to Comstock St)*

STATE: **Rhode Island, 02885** CODE: **44** COUNTY: **Bristol** CODE: **001**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
**multiple**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Warren Town Hall**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Main Street**

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:  
**Warren Rhode Island, 02885 44**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Statewide Survey--Phase 1**

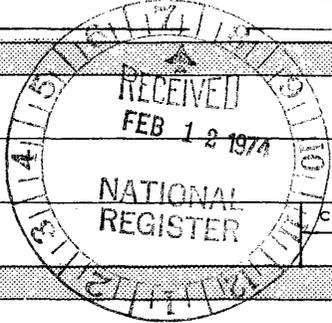
DATE OF SURVEY: **1972-1973**     Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**John Brown House, 52 Fower Street**

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:  
**Providence Rhode Island, 02906 44**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER: DATE: FOR NPS USE ONLY

**FEB 28 1974**

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Warren Waterfront Historic District comprises, with the exception of a few scattered outlying farms, the very earliest sections of the settlement which was eventually incorporated as the town of Warren in 1746. Within the District's boundaries lie western riverfront portions of land purchased from the Wampanoag Indians in 1653. This "purchase" was apportioned in two drawings: that of 1682 which divided into farm and building lots all the land extending north from the old Bristol line--roughly, Franklin Street--to present-day Liberty and Wood Streets; and that of 1725 which divided the land in the northern section of town.

Warren's history and development have been largely determined by the town's strategic and accessible location halfway between the early settlements of Providence and Newport and fronting on a deep river channel. Long before Governor Bradford sent envoys to the Wampanoags in Pokanoket in 1621, Massasoit and his tribe had recognized the advantageous position of what they called "Sowams" (Warren) and made it their camping-ground. Massasoit's spring is still commemorated by a plaque at the foot of Baker Street in the heart of the Warren Waterfront Historic District. The Dutch had traded along the Warren River in the early 1600's, and the English had established a trading-post on the western bank of the Kickemuit as early as 1632. But it was not until after King Philip's War of 1675 that the "Sowams Purchase" of 1653 was effectively platted and that settlers came to Warren in any large numbers.

Shipwrights, carpenters, coopers, and merchants were early attracted by Warren's deep river waterfront. They settled first along the old Indian trail to "Poppasquash" (now Bristol) and then along the "ways" they cut from this "Main Street" westward to the water. Among the earliest of these streets were Miller and Church Streets, before 1750; Lyndon, Manning, Broad, Wheaton and Queen (now School) Streets, between 1756 and 1765; and the western end of Baker Street, opened in 1767. Activities along the waterfront at this time included Sylvester Child's shipyard, in operation prior to 1764 on the riverfront between Miller and Baker Streets; Caleb Carr's ferry to Barrington, operating as early as 1760 from the end of "Ferry Lane" (now Washington Street); and nearby Carr's Tavern, providing "entertainment for man and beast" as early as 1756. Various industries allied to shipping and shipbuilding--sailmaking, coopering, ropemaking, iron moulding, and oil refining (particularly in the whaling-boom days of the early and mid-1800's)--all prospered along or near present-day Water Street.

Among Warren's earliest homes, the James Maxwell birthplace at 59 Church Street is a fine example of a vanishing colonial architectural type. Built of brick in 1743 or before, the house has extremely narrow windows, a massive central chimney, a steep gable, hand-made brick, drip-moulding detail, and a southern orientation: all of which substantiate its claim to be the oldest house in the Waterfront Historic

(See Continuation Sheet 1.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry    | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                        | <u>Indian history</u>                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                      | _____   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian            | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                        | _____   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                 | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |   | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |   | _____   |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

As the site of human habitation for well over 350 years, the Warren Waterfront Historic District has considerable social, historic, and architectural significance. Originally inhabited by the Wampanoag Indians, Warren or "Sowams" was the scene of one of the earliest contacts between the English at Plymouth, Massachusetts, and the sachem Massasoit, when Governor Bradford sent Edward Winslow and Stephen Hopkins as his envoys in 1621. This was the beginning of a long friendship between Indian and Englishman, which was strengthened when the men who came to settle bought their land in 1653 instead of just taking it, and which was reaffirmed as late as 1675, even as "King Philip's War" threatened and ultimately destroyed the early settlement of Warren. Massasoit's son King Philip so highly valued his friendship with one of the early settlers, Hugh Cole, that he warned Cole an hour before the Indian attack to save himself and his family by fleeing to the island of Rhode Island.

The earliest roads in the town followed the Wampanoag tribe's winding footpaths. Outside the District, old "Back Road" (now Metacom Avenue) was the trail from Mount Hope. Within the District, Market Street followed the trail past the Wampanoags' grinding-mill, and Main Street traced the trail to "Poppasquash."

By the time of the Revolutionary War Warren had become a great shipbuilding center, contributing to the American cause a number of her vessels, not to mention many of her men, among whom General Nathan Miller was outstanding. British forces under Colonel Campbell in their raid of May 25, 1778, destroyed 70 flat-bottomed boats which had been built in the Child shipyards and were hidden at the Kickemuit bridge in preparation for an American attack on the British-held island of Rhode Island. In the town proper the British burned a number of buildings, including the Baptist Meeting House and its parsonage, which latter had housed, for a number of years after its founding in 1764, the first college in Rhode Island, later known as Brown University. The British blew up the powder magazine on Main Street, ransacked private homes, and wreaked havoc in the shipyards, seriously damaging the General Stark which was ready for launching, before they were routed by American forces commanded by General William Barton. Burr's Tavern, once a prominent feature on the corner of Main and Washington Streets, played

(See Continuation Sheet 4.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ackley, W. N.: Historical Discourse Delivered in St. Mark's Church, Warren R. I. (Providence, Rhode Island, 1879).  
 Clark, F. C.: ... Clipping Book, 1880-1890, in the Rhode Island Historical Society Library, Providence, Rhode Island.  
 Baker, Virginia: The History of Warren, Rhode Island, in the War of the Revolution, 1776-1783 (Warren, Rhode Island, 1901).  
 Downing, Antoinette Forrester: Early Homes of Rhode Island (Richmond, Virginia, 1937).

(See Continuation Sheet 6.)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds
NW	41° 44' 15.16"	71° 17' 23.86"	°	' "	° ' "
NE	41° 44' 15.16"	71° 16' 45.27"	°	' "	° ' "
SE	41° 43' 27.69"	71° 16' 45.27"	°	' "	° ' "
SW	41° 43' 27.69"	71° 17' 23.86"	°	' "	° ' "

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 157 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Ancelin V. Lynch, Surveyor-Researcher**

ORGANIZATION: **Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission**      DATE: **August 12, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**John Brown House, 52 Power Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Providence**      STATE: **Rhode Island, 02906**      CODE: **14**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: *Daniel Williams*  
 Title: State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: February 6, 1974

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

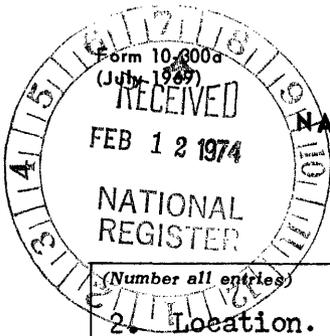
*A. A. Montross*  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 2/28/74

ATTEST:  
*Wm. Henry*  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 2-27-74

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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

(Continuation Sheet) -1

STATE	
Rhode Island	
COUNTY	
Bristol	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
FEB 28 1974	

2. Location.

Beginning north at the east end of the bridge leading to Barrington, then southeasterly along the center line of Main Street to Brown Street, then northeast along Brown Street to the railroad right-of-way, then southeast along the arc of the tracks to the northwest corner of the lot containing 36 Wood Street, then east along its north boundary to meet Martin Street, then south on Martin Street to meet Wood Street, then east along Wood Street to the east side of the lots fronting on Federal Street; south on the east side of these lots to a point the depth of the lot fronting on Market Street, then west to the railroad right-of-way, south on this right-of-way to Market Street; then west on Market Street to its intersection with Main Street. The District boundary continues south on Main Street to its corner with Church Street, then west on Church Street the depth of the lots fronting on Main Street, then south on the westerly boundaries of these lots zoned "General Business" to the northwest corner of the lot containing 543 Main Street, then east along its north boundary to the center line of Main Street, north along Main Street to the northwest corner of the lot containing the Warren Town Hall, then east along the north side of the Town Hall lot to its corner, then south along its boundary and continuing to meet Croade Street, then along Croade Street to the railroad right-of-way; south along the railroad tracks to the lot containing the depot building and continuing south along its east boundary to meet Franklin Street, then west along Franklin Street to the northeast corner of the lot containing 6 Cherry Street, then south along its east boundary to the southeast corner of the lot containing 1 Cherry Street, then west along its south boundary to Main Street, south to meet Campbell Street, The southern limit of the District is formed at this point. The southern boundary continues west along Campbell Street to the depth of the lots fronting on Main Street, then north along their west boundary to the property of St. Mary's Church, then east along its south boundary to meet Main Street, then north to the southeast corner of 613 Main Street, then west along the south side of the lots fronting on Wheaton Street to the Warren River; then north along the line of low mean tide of the Warren River to the point of beginning.

7. Description.

District. Other early colonial houses include the gambrel-roofed cottages at 95 Union Street, 7 and 12 School Street, and 23 Broad Street; and the two-and-a-half-story gambrel-roofed houses at 592 Main Street and 15 Lyndon Street--the latter the home of Rhode Island Governor Josias Lyndon between 1775 and 1781.

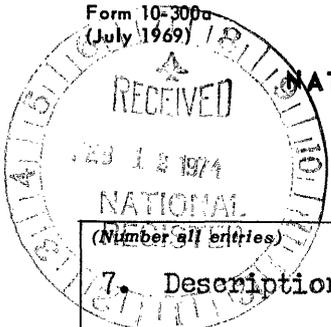
Finer homes, reflecting growing prosperity and the skill of native shipwrights and carpenters, were built in the 1760's and early 1770's.

(See Continuation Sheet 2.)

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

(Continuation Sheet) -2

STATE Rhode Island	
COUNTY Bristol	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
<b>FEB 28 1974</b>	



(Number all entries)

**7. Description.**

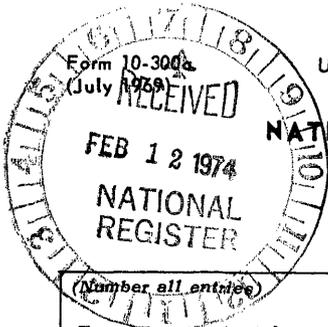
These houses display great richness of detail in entrances, window treatments, cornices, quoins, and interior woodwork. Exceptional among many fine and individual doorway treatments are the elaborate twin doors of the Caleb Carr house (c. 1770) at 317 Water Street and the whimsically-carved entrance of the Reverend Sidney Dean house at 23 Greene Street (c. 1760). Other fine Georgian homes are the Eddy house (c. 1770) at 582 Main Street, the Davol house at 43 State Street (c. 1760), and a number of sea captains' houses on Water Street.

Warren's rapid mercantile growth was seriously interrupted by events of the American Revolutionary War. A British raid in May of 1778 did much damage to shipyards and buildings. The citizens of Warren suffered near-starvation in the course of the war and by 1778 had been reduced in numbers from 1,000 in 1776 to 789. Businesses were destroyed; loss of shipping totalled 1,090 tons; shipyards stood empty and farms, neglected. Nevertheless, Warren recovered quickly after the Revolution. Shipbuilding again assumed leadership among the town's industries. The merchant service, West India trade, and coastal trade also flourished. Whaling, which had begun before the Revolution, was revived in 1821, to peak in 1844, when twenty-six whalers called Warren home port. Shopkeepers on Main Street advertised goods brought from all parts of the world by Warren vessels. The store which Paschal Allen erected in 1809 still stands on the northeast corner of Main and Market Streets.

New streets were laid out. Many new homes and public buildings were constructed, displaying again the fine vernacular architectural detail typically found in Warren. The Miller-Abbott house at 33 Miller Street was begun by Revolutionary War hero Nathan Miller in 1789 and has exceptional woodwork. The Bliss-Ruisden house (c. 1820) at 600-606 Main Street is similar to the Miller-Abbott house, with its central-hall plan, gable roof, and pedimented dormers. The Rebecca Maxwell Phillips house (1803) at 24 State Street and the Eddy-Cutler house (c. 1800) at 30 State Street are elegant and well-proportioned mansions of the three-story, hipped-roof type. The Masonic Temple (1796) on Baker Street has fine Georgian detailing in its pedimented entrance, elaborate cornice, and corner quoins. Similar cornice detail and quoining appear on the hip-roofed house at 43 Miller Street, which also displays an unusual wooden fan above the door.

Numerous Greek Revival buildings remain in the Waterfront Historic District, among which two churches are outstanding. St. Mark's Episcopal Church, built in 1829 on Lyndon Street, was designed by the architect Russell Warren and is distinguished by its massive Ionic portico and the canted enframements of its double doors. The First Methodist Church (1844) at 24 Church Street is a landmark for the town, the bay and all of New England. Its three-level tower and spire, still typically Georgian

(See Continuation Sheet 3.)



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)-3

STATE	
Rhode Island	
COUNTY	
Bristol	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 28 1974

7. Description.

in scheme but decorated with vernacular Greek Revival detail, rise to a height of 130 feet over a handsome temple portico.

South of Church Street, along Manning, Lyndon, Broad, and Wheaton Streets, are numerous small-scale wooden houses set with gable-end to the street and detailed with Greek Revival corner pilasters, doorways and mouldings, which reflect the architectural influence of the two churches. The Hoar house at 50 Washington Street is an excellent representative of these small dwellings. Larger houses in the style are ranged along parts of Church and northern Water Streets. The two noteworthy Greek Revival mansions are the John Wheaton house (1833) at 90 Union Street and the Bosworth house (c. 1840) at 21 Federal Street. Three fine stone warehouses stand on Water Street as evidence of Greek Revival commercial buildings: 329, built for the storage of whale oil; 383, built in 1842 and known as "Gladding's Sail Loft;" and 405, "F. Marble's Blacksmith Shop."

As whaling and shipping declined in Warren prior to the Civil War, moneyed interests turned to textile manufacturing. The pioneer firm of Warren Manufacturing Company built its first stone cotton-mill in 1847 at the north end of Water Street. Two other brick mills followed; but all three burned in the fire of 1895. The Warren Manufacturing Company rebuilt in 1896 a brick mill which features a handsome Italianate tower with open belfry and drip-mouldings, and the building shows a repeated pattern of pier-spandrel-and-arch construction (this structure now houses the American Tourister Company). The Manufacturing Company built many houses for its workers in the northern section of this Historic District. Westminster, Company, Sisson, Davis, Bowen, Brown, Park, and Nohert Streets, as well as Warren Avenue and nearby portions of Main Street, are lined with variations on the theme of the simple, rectangular multiple dwelling. Early mill houses, such as the one at 62-66 Union Street (1868) are very plain, clapboarded, two-story, gable-roofed buildings. Later houses display such variations as single or double cross-gables, ornamental porches, and fish-scale shingling. The latest mill houses, from the turn of the century or after, are often three-story flat-roofed tenements redeemed from boxy ugliness only by their porches and meagre sawn ornamentation.

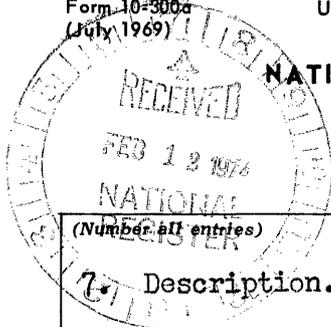
When commercial interests changed their focus in the middle of the nineteenth century, so also did architectural tastes. Gothic was the earliest of the new styles and eclectic combinations to appear in Warren buildings of 1840 or later. The Baptist Church on Main Street, designed by Russell Warren and built in 1844, reflects the interest in mediaeval themes which was then emerging in American architecture. While the massing and layout of the church are basically Georgian, the details and trim are Gothic. A slightly later experiment in the Gothic style, this time com-

(See Continuation Sheet 4.)

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

(Continuation Sheet)-4

STATE Rhode Island	
COUNTY Bristol	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 28 1974



7. Description.

bined with Italian elements, is the Dow-Starr house of 1860.

This last combination of styles is significant, for the "Italianate" style succeeded the Gothic one. Strictly speaking, the Italianate style involved primarily a change in massing from regularity and balance to asymmetry and taller proportions; but the "bracketted style" of ornamentation became popular at the same time and is often confused with, and spoken of as part of, the Italianate style although there is nothing specifically Italian about brackets. At any rate, Italianate and/or bracketted architectural treatments remained dominant for most of the Victorian period in Warren. Many older houses were given new Italianate porches or new cornice brackets. New buildings sometimes used the Italianate style for both massing and detail (such as the house at 27 Church Street and the Liberty Street School). More often, details of this style--usually the cornice overhang and brackets--were used on a more conservative plan, such as rectangular houses with low hipped roofs or those with simple gable or cross-gable roofs. Many such houses still retained their corner pilasters and other Greek Revival details. The Smith-Winslow mansion (1850) at 642 Main Street uses Italianate massing and high proportions with a roof monitor, English baroque window surrounds, and Egyptian portico and porch details. Of note also are the house at 4 Cherry Street, which uses Italianate proportions and highly imaginative scrolled cornice brackets, and the small, steeply-gabled, asymmetrically-massed houses at 16 and 18 Hope Street.

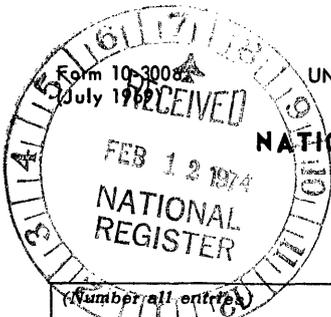
By the late 1890's Warren was a solid manufacturing community not distinguished by exceptional wealth or prosperous merchant families. Consequently, the Warren Waterfront Historic District contains few private homes designed in either the Queen Anne or Colonial Revival styles. Some public buildings of the period display academic detail, either Italianate or Colonial Revival; but the two most noteworthy public buildings, the George Hail Free Library (1889) and the Warren Town Hall (1890-1894), both designed by William R. Walker & Son of Providence, reflect the heavy influence of Richardsonian design. The twentieth century has brought economic depression to Warren and, with it, commercial eyesores. A few "modern" buildings have been erected but do not merit inclusion in the Warren Waterfront Historic District.

8. Significance.

host to Revolutionary heroes George Washington and Lafayette.

Warren's prosperity following the Revolutionary War was reflected in her social and architectural development. By 1792 Warren had her first newspaper, the Herald of the United States. The Masonic Temple on Baker

(See Continuation Sheet 5.)



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

(Continuation Sheet) -5

STATE Rhode Island	
COUNTY Bristol	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
<b>FEB 28 1974</b>	

**8. Significance.**

Street, timbered with oak beams from British frigates sunk in Newport Harbor during the war, was built in 1796 and chartered in 1798. In 1829 St. Mark's Episcopal Church was built, and in 1844, the First Methodist Church in Rhode Island (the second in New England) was erected. 1844 also saw the rebuilding of the Baptist Church on the site of the original Meeting House. In 1842 the Warren Artillery built its squat, turretted "Gothic" Armory Hall which for years was the center of social activity in the town. In 1847 Warren built its first public high school, a fine brick building designed by Thomas A. Tafft. Liberty Street School was the third public high school in Rhode Island, built only four years after Providence and Newport erected theirs, and is still in use today.

As mercantile activities declined prior to the Civil War and textile manufacturing took commercial precedence, local social and architectural growth changed direction. Warren, once glorious in her shipbuilding and whaling days and resplendent with fine houses built by sea-made fortunes, gradually became a mill town. Mills and millworkers' housing soon comprised the majority of new buildings. Civic development slowed somewhat until a surge at the turn of the century produced a new town hall and Warren's first public library.

The twentieth century has seen further economic depression and depreciation of the Warren Waterfront Historic District. Commercial eyesores have taken over much of Main Street. Many of the fine sea captains' houses on Water Street have been shamelessly desecrated, subdivided and stripped by slum landlords unaware of either the historic or true economic value of their properties.

Within the District stand close to 300 buildings which reflect the town's social and architectural development from its earliest days onward. The many wooden and brick colonial and federal houses testify to Warren shipwrights' and carpenters' skill in the fine execution and originality of their architectural detail. Mansions in the federal, Greek Revival, and Victorian styles reflect the sea-gotten wealth of shipbuilders, sea captains, merchants, and ship- and wharf-owners. Commercial buildings from all periods are extant within the District: stone quays dating from the Revolution; the old stone pier built in 1830 at the height of the coastal trade and of whaling; stone "mills" used for various purposes connected with the whaling industry; two turn-of-the-century oyster houses; brick textile mills; and a vast number of mill houses built from the 1860's through the early 1900's. Architects and architect-builders represented include James Maxwell, a local leading citizen whose architectural achievements counted mansions for his nine daughters, five of which buildings still stand; Russell Warren, who designed St. Mark's Episcopal Church, the Baptist Church, and probably the Bosworth mansion; Thomas A.

(See Continuation Sheet 6.)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)-6

STATE Rhode Island	
COUNTY Bristol	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
FEB 28 1974	

(Number all entries)

8. Significance.

Tefft, responsible for the Liberty Street School; and the turn-of-the-century Providence firm of William R. Walker & Son, which designed both the Town Hall and the George Hail Free Library.

Despite modern encroachments, the Warren Waterfront Historic District still presents a telling image of a typically dense-built wooden seaport town, made all the more interesting by the late architectural and social influences of the mills. The District is an architectural treasure and an unique social and hisoric record worthy of commendation and of preservation from the depredations of present-day commerce, industry and slum-landlordism.

9. Major Bibliographical References.

Peck, Henry J.: 200th Anniversary of Warren, Rhode Island. Historical Sketch (Warren, Rhode Island, 1947).

Tustin, Josiah P.: A Discourse Delivered at the Dedication of ... the Baptist Church ... in Warren, R. I., May 8, 1845 (Providence, Rhode

Warren, Elizabeth W.: Statewide Preservation Report, B-W-1, Warren, Rhode Island, Draft revision, May, 1973 (Unpublished, Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, Providence, Rhode Island, 1973).

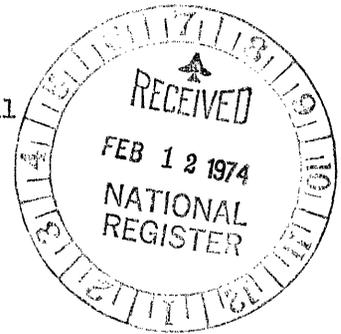
Warren, Rhode Island. Chamber of Commerce: About the Hub of Bristol County, Warren, Rhode Island (N. p., c. 1950).

Warren, Rhode Island. Tourist Committee: This is Warren in Rhode Island (Warren, Rhode Island, 1965).



WARREN WATERFRONT HISTORIC DISTRICT  
WARREN, RHODE ISLAND

Selective Inventory of 156 Structures of Special  
Historical and Architectural Significance



<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>STREET, NAME, DATE, DESCRIPTION</u>
15	<u>BAKER STREET</u> "W. Turner House", c.1798 (Georgian, wood clapboard)
--	"Masonic Hall", 1796 (Georgian, wood clapboard)
31	"Judge Randall House", c.1810 (Federal, aluminum clapboard)
42	"Narragansett Fire Engine #3 Station, 1846 (Early Victorian, wood clapboard)
--	"Massasoit's Spring", before 1621 (Indian Site, Memorial Plaque)
15	<u>BARNEY STREET</u> "James Gardner House", c.1836 (Greek Revival, wood clapboard)
33	"N. P. Cole House", c.1840 (Greek Revival, wood shingle)
14	<u>BROAD STREET</u> "J. Cole House", c.1780 (Colonial, wood shingle)
23	"Nicholas Campbell House", c.1750 (Colonial, wood shingle)
24	"Stockford House", c.1840 (Greek Revival, wood clapboard)
28	"Old Classical Institute", c.1820 (Greek Revival, wood clapboard)
32	"N. P. Smith House", c.1860 (Early Victorian - bracketed; clapboard)
46	"House", c.1800 (Federal, wood shingle; moved)
47	"T. Carr House", c.1760 (Colonial, composition shingle)
57	"Vance House", c.1760 (Colonial, wood shingle)
22	<u>BROWN STREET</u> "Williamine Lafrance House", c.1880 (Late Victorian - bracketed; brick and wood shingle)
1	<u>CHERRY STREET</u> "H. Child House", c.1850 (Early Victorian - bracketed, aluminum clapboards)
6	"W. Hall House", c.1880 (Late Victorian - eclectic, wood clapboard)

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>STREET, NAME, DATE, DESCRIPTION</u>
17	<u>CHURCH STREET</u> "Easterbrooks House", c.1760 (Colonial, wood clapboard; altered)
--	"First Methodist Church", 1844 (Greek Revival with Georgian tower, wood board and wood clapboard)
26	"Dr. G. Clark House", c.1870 (Early Victorian, wood clapboard)
27	"First Methodist Church Parsonage", 1858 (Early Victorian - bracketed, wood clapboard)
36	"G. Thurber House", c.1780, c.1840 (Colonial with Greek Revival alterations; wood clapboard)
40	"C. Harding House", c.1840 (Greek Revival, wood shingles)
44	"P. Brayton House", c.1840 (Greek Revival, wood clapboard)
49	"D. K. Bowen House", c.1795 (Late Georgian, wood clapboard and wood shingle)
59	"James Maxwell Birthplace", 1743 (Colonial, brick and wood shingle)
11	<u>FEDERAL STREET</u> "Capt. C. R. Cutler House", c.1860 (Early Victorian, asphalt brick)
21	"Bosworth-Maxwell House", by Russell Warren (?), c.1840 (Greek Revival, wood board and wood clapboard)
31	"A. M. Brown House", c.1860 (Early Victorian, wood clapboard)
--	<u>FRANKLIN STREET</u> "Old Freight Depot", 1887 (Late Victorian, wood clapboard)
23	<u>GREENE STREET</u> "Rev. Sidney Dean House", c.1760 (Georgian, wood shingle; moved)
24	"Thomas C. Williams House", c.1780 (Colonial, enlarged c.1880, wood clapboard)
5	"William L. Collamore House", 1897 (Late Victorian - Queen Anne, imitation brick and wood shingle)
12	<u>HOPE STREET</u> "Brochu House", c.1880 (Late Victorian - Italianate, wood clapboard)
16	"Hubbard-Parker House", c.1876 (Late Victorian - Italianate, wood shingle)
18	"Hubbard-Speakman House", c.1876 (Late Victorian-Italianate, wood clapboard)

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>STREET, NAME, DATE, DESCRIPTION</u>
	<u>HOPE STREET (Cont'd.)</u>
22	"James H. Maxwell House", c.1850 (Greek Revival, wood clapboard)
27	"Joseph Sawtelle House", c.1880 (Early Victorian, wood clapboard)
32	"B. Bowen House", c.1860 (Early Victorian transitional from Greek Revival, wood clapboard)
8	<u>JEFFERSON STREET</u>
	"Joanna Maxwell Simonds House", c.1820 (Federal, wood clapboard; moved)
10	"Armory", 1842 (Early Victorian-Gothic, stone; altered)
15	<u>LIBERTY STREET</u>
	"G. G. Hazard House", c.1800 (Federal, brick and wood clapboard)
--	"Liberty Street School", 1847, by Thomas A. Tefft (Early Victorian, brick and sandstone)
33	"Charles Wheaton House", 1809 (Federal, wood shingle)
37	"James W. Barton House", c.1848 (Early Victorian, wood clapboard)
4	<u>LYNDON STREET</u>
	"Lewis Hoar House", c.1845 (Early Victorian transitional from Federal, wood clapboard)
7	"Gotjen House", 1945 (Early 20th Century - Colonial Revival, wood clapboard and brick)
15	"Governor Lyndon House", 1751 (Colonial, wood clapboard)
--	"St. Mark's Church", by Russell Warren, 1829 (Greek Revival, wood board and wood clapboard)
20	"Old Cooper Shop", c.1800 (Colonial with Greek Revival alterations, wood board, wood shingle and wood clapboard)
28	"J. J. Bickner House", c.1850 (Early Victorian, wood clapboard)
39	"N. W. Sanders House", c.1850 (Early Victorian, composition shingle)
47	"W. H. Crawley House", 1881 (Late Victorian, wood shingle)
48	"J. Sanders House", c.1840 (Greek Revival, wood shingle)
53	"S. Maxwell House", c.1850 (Greek Revival, wood boards)

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>STREET, NAME, DATE, DESCRIPTION</u>
229	<u>MAIN STREET</u> "W. L. Brown House", c.1750 (Colonial, wood clapboard and wood shingle)
--	"St. John-Baptiste Church", 1881 (Late Victorian, wood clapboard)
329	"C.H. Handy House", c. 1870 (Early Victorian - bracketed, wood shingle)
347	"N. Drown House", c.1845, c.1880 (Early Victorian transitional from Federal with Late Victorian wing, aluminum clapboard)
366	"Dow-Starr House", c.1860 (Early Victorian - Gothic, stone)
382	"Cromwell-Child House", 1803 (Federal, brick; altered)
390	"Polly Saunders House", 1802 (Federal, wood clapboard)
402	"Pashal Allen's Store", 1809 (Federal, brick; altered)
--	"Warren Baptist Church", 1844 (Early Victorian - Gothic, stone)
421	"DeWolf House", 1753, c.1860 (Colonial with Early Victorian additions, wood clapboard)
--	"Warren Town Hall", 1890, by William R. Walker & Son (of Providence) (Late Victorian - Academic, brick and sandstone)
--	"George Hail Free Library", by William R. Walker & Son, 1888-1889 (Late Victorian - Romanesque, stone)
542	"Hannah B. Thompson House", c.1760, c.1860 (Georgian with Early Victorian additions, asbestos brick and wood shingle)
560	"William Carr House", c.1840 (Greek Revival, wood clapboard and wood shingle; altered)
577	"Mary E. Pierce House", c.1880 (Late Victorian, wood clapboard)
582	"Eddy House", c.1770 (Georgian, wood shingle)
592	"Martin-Bowen House", 1760, c.1820 (Colonial with Greek Revival alterations, wood shingle and wood clapboard)
606	"Bliss-Ruisden House", c.1825 (Federal, wood clapboard)
605	"M. Ingraham House", c.1790 (Federal, asphalt shingle)
624	"Smith-Winslow House", c.1850 (Early Victorian - eclectic, stone)

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>STREET, NAME, DATE, DESCRIPTION</u>
	<u>MAIN STREET (Cont'd.)</u>
673	"Hezekiah Munro House", 1793 (Georgian, aluminum clapboard)
701	"General Nathan Goff House", c.1770, c.1860 (Colonial with Early Victorian addition, wood clapboard)
49	<u>MANNING STREET</u>
	"Benjamin Cranston House", 1845 (Early Victorian, wood clapboard)
52	"W. H. Bowen House", c.1840 (Greek Revival, wood clapboard)
42	<u>MARKET STREET</u>
	"Chace House", c.1840 (Greek Revival, asbestos shingle)
48	"Bullock House", c.1780 (Colonial, wood clapboard)
7	<u>MILLER STREET</u>
	"Burt House", c.1870 (Early Victorian - bracketed Italianate, wood clapboard)
15	"James Batcheler House", c.1850 (Early Victorian -bracketed, wood clapboard)
21	"Luther-Turner House", c.1790 (Federal, altered; wood shingle)
22	"Henry F. Champlin House", 1883 (Late Victorian-Queen Anne, wood clapboard, wood shingle, fish-scale shingle)
33	"Miller-Abbott House", 1789, 1802 (Late Georgian, wood clapboard and wood shingle)
43	"R. B. Johnson House", before 1823 (Federal with Early Victorian additions, wood clapboard)
51	"W. T. Wheaton House", c.1790 (Late Georgian, wood clapboard and wood shingle, raised 1 story and altered)
18	<u>NOBERT STREET</u>
	"House", c.1790, c.1840 (Colonial with Greek Revival alterations, wood clapboard; moved)
7	<u>SCHOOL STREET</u>
	"Sherman House", 1784 (Colonial, wood shingle)
12	"S. Hoar House", c.1770, c.1860 (Colonial with Early Victorian alterations, wood clapboard)
15	"Moore-Cushing House", c.1750 (Colonial, wood clapboard; moved)
--	"St. Mark's Chapel", 1858 (Early Victorian, wood board)

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>STREET, NAME, DATE, DESCRIPTION</u>
17	<u>STATE STREET</u> "E. E. Martin House", c.1800 (Federal, wood clapboard)
24	"Rebecca Maxwell Phillips House", 1804 (Federal, wood clapboard)
27	"Luther House", c.1780 (Colonial, wood clapboard)
30	"Eddy-Cutler House", c.1800 (Federal, brick and wood clapboard)
35	"Jason Coffin House", c.1825 (Federal, wood clapboard)
41	"S. Davol House", 1752 (Colonial, wood clapboard)
44	"G. Clarke House", c.1780 (Georgian, wood clapboard)
53	"C. Richmond House", c.1800 (Federal, composition shingle; altered)
62-66	<u>UNION STREET</u> "Warren Manufacturing Company mill housing", 1868 (Early Victorian, wood clapboard)
81	"Thomas Cole House", c.1850 (Early Victorian - Gothic bracketed, wood clapboard)
90	"John R. Wheaton House", 1833 (Greek Revival, wood board and wood clapboard)
95	"Luther House", c.1750 (Colonial, wood clapboard and wood shingle)
14	<u>WASHINGTON STREET</u> "Dora Swift House", 1902 (Late Victorian - Colonial Revival, wood clapboard and wood shingle)
18	"Betsy Burr House", c.1789 (Colonial, wood clapboard)
19	"G. T. Gardner House", c.1840 (Early Victorian - bracketed, wood clapboard)
35	"Buckingham House", c.1900 (Late Victorian - Shingle, wood shingle)
40	"F. Marble House", c.1840 (Early Victorian - bracketed, wood clapboard)
46	"S. Peck House", c.1770 (Georgian, wood clapboard)
47	"H. Champlin House", c.1810, c.1860 (Federal with Early Victorian alterations, wood clapboard)
50	"J. R. Hoar House, 1841 (Greek Revival, wood board)
55	"J. Hailes House", c.1750 (Colonial, composition shingle)
58	"Baptist Society House", c.1750 (Colonial, wood shingle)

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>STREET, NAME, DATE, DESCRIPTION</u>
23	<u>WATER STREET</u> "G. Lawless House", c.1760, c.1830 (Georgian with Greek Revival trim, wood shingle)
48	"Collamore House", c.1854 (Greek Revival, composition shingle; altered)
64	"Capt. J. C. Joyce House", c.1850 (Greek Revival, aluminum clapboard)
67	"Humphrey House", c.1830 (Federal, aluminum clapboard)
77	"S. Mason House", c.1770 (Georgian, asphalt shingle over wood clapboard)
82	"D. Foster House", c.1790 (Georgian, wood shingle; altered)
92	"J. E. Bowen House", c.1770 (Georgian, wood clapboard)
101	"Stillwell House", c.1800 (Georgian, wood shingle)
110	"Drown House", c.1840 (Greek Revival, wood clapboard)
125	"Driscoll House", c.1800 (Late Georgian, wood clapboard)
--	"Drown House", c.1780 (Georgian, wood shingle; altered)
146	"Chocolate Shop", c.1890 (Late Victorian, wood board and wood clapboard)
154	"J. C. Hall House", c.1830 (Greek Revival, wood clapboard)
160	"D. B. Wheaton House", c.1760 (Colonial, brick and wood clapboard; altered)
165	"G. R. Kinnicutt House", c.1780 (Late Georgian, asphalt shingle)
172	"Hoar-Hall House", c.1770 (Georgian, asphalt brick)
184	"H. Child House", c.1800 (Federal, brick, wood shingle and wood clapboard)
193	"Mercier's Hardware Store", c.1870 (Late Victorian, wood clapboard)
203	"Gilbert Church House", c.1880 (Late Victorian - Queen Anne, aluminum clapboards)
211	"Barton House", c.1760 (Georgian, asbestos shingle)
228	"J. N. Tibbetts House", c.1840 (Greek Revival, wood clapboard)
236	"N. Wheaton House", c.1775 (Georgian, wood clapboard)

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>STREET, NAME, DATE, DESCRIPTION</u>
	<u>WATER STREET</u> (Cont'd.)
242	"Haile Collins House", c.1760 (Georgian, asbestos shingle)
252	"Driscoll-Allen House", c.1800 (Federal, wood shingle and wood clapboard)
259	"Hope Bank Building", 1858 (Early Victorian, wood clapboard)
262	"William Maxwell House", c.1800 (Federal, asbestos siding)
277	"Old Carriage Shop", c.1790 (Colonial, wood clapboard and asphalt shingle)
296	"William Collins House", c.1780 (Georgian, wood shingle)
317	"Caleb Carr House", c.1770 (Georgian, aluminum clapboards)
321	"Carr's and Stubb's Wharf and Oyster House", c.1898 (Late Victorian, wood clapboard)
325	"Old Dye House", c.1870 (Late Victorian, brick)
329	"J. J. Smith's Oil Works", c.1840 (Greek Revival, stone)
350	"John Emery House", 1876 (Late Victorian - Tuscan, brick and wood clapboard)
353	"Greenwood-Carr House", c.1830, c.1860 (Late Georgian with Early Victorian additions, asbestos shingle)
383	"Gardner-Brown Mill", 1848 (also known as Gladding's Sail-Loft) (Greek Revival, stone)
405	"Marble's Hall", c.1840 (Greek Revival, stone)
11	<u>WHEATON STREET</u>
	"N. Kent House", c.1845 (Early Victorian transitional from Federal, wood clapboard)
15	<u>WOOD STREET</u>
	"Richmond House", c.1780 (Georgian, wood clapboard; moved)
18	"Brown-Hall House", 1858 (Early Victorian - bracketed, wood clapboard)
19	"Drown House", c.1850 (Early Victorian - Gothic, wood clapboard)

**United States Department of the Interior  
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Continuation sheet 7

Item number 7 & 8

Page

The expansion of Warren's industrial capacity in the late 19th century was paralleled by the town's growing population. As in many Rhode Island towns, such growth resulted from an influx of European and Canadian immigrants. Drawn by the opportunity to work in the town's mills--the Warren Manufacturing Company, the Cutler Manufacturing Company, the Inman Company, and the Parker Mill--large communities of Irish, Canadians, Italians, and Poles settled in Warren in the last half of the 19th century, where their presence in substantial numbers altered the town's social and political fabric.

Architecturally and historically, the significant legacy of these ethnic immigrant communities is best documented by the Catholic churches they built. For these immigrants, the parish church was the institutional center of neighborhood life since social and educational functions as well as religious functions took place there. For an immigrant community, at least temporarily isolated from the larger town by barriers of language and culture, the parish church was the social and cultural center of its civic life.

The addition of such auxilliary buildings as schools, convents, rectories, and parish halls, to the areas near these churches produced the characteristic church complex--the large church became the center-piece of a collection of buildings representing the several roles of a Catholic parish in the lives of the ethnic community it served.

Warren's Irish population built their church, Saint Mary's, in 1851; this early structure has since been replaced by a modern (1972) church. In 1881, Saint Jean-Baptiste, a Victorian structure with Gothic details was constructed to serve the town's French Canadian populace; an 1891 fire necessitated a remodelling of its entrance. Saint Casimir's Church, which serves the Polish community, dates from 1908 and was partially rebuilt after 1913. Saint Alexander's Church, constructed c. 1920, was built by Warren's Italian Catholic community.

Inventory (Addenda); Contributing Structures

MAIN STREET

- 328 Saint Jean-Baptiste Church (1881, 1912): 1-story, gable-roofed, Late Victorian church with Gothic windows; built for the French Canadian parish organized by Rev. E.E. Nobert of Somerset, MA, in 1877; partially destroyed by fire in 1891; the triple portico was added to the original facade in 1912, and remodelled in 1978; now sided with vinyl.

(See Continuation Sheet #8)

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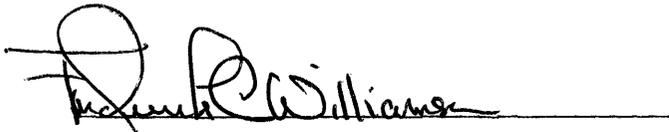
Continuation sheet 8

Item number 7 & 8

Page

Main Street (cont.)

- 366 Dow-Starr House; Later, Saint Jean-Baptiste Convent (c. 1850?):  
2-story, Early Victorian/Gothic Revival stone house, with Italianate  
detailing and vergeboard in front gable; original wrap-around  
porch removed; may have been designed by Russell Warren.
- 366 Saint Jean-Baptiste School (c. 1920): Simple 3-story, flat-roofed  
brick school building; set behind the Dow-Starr House.

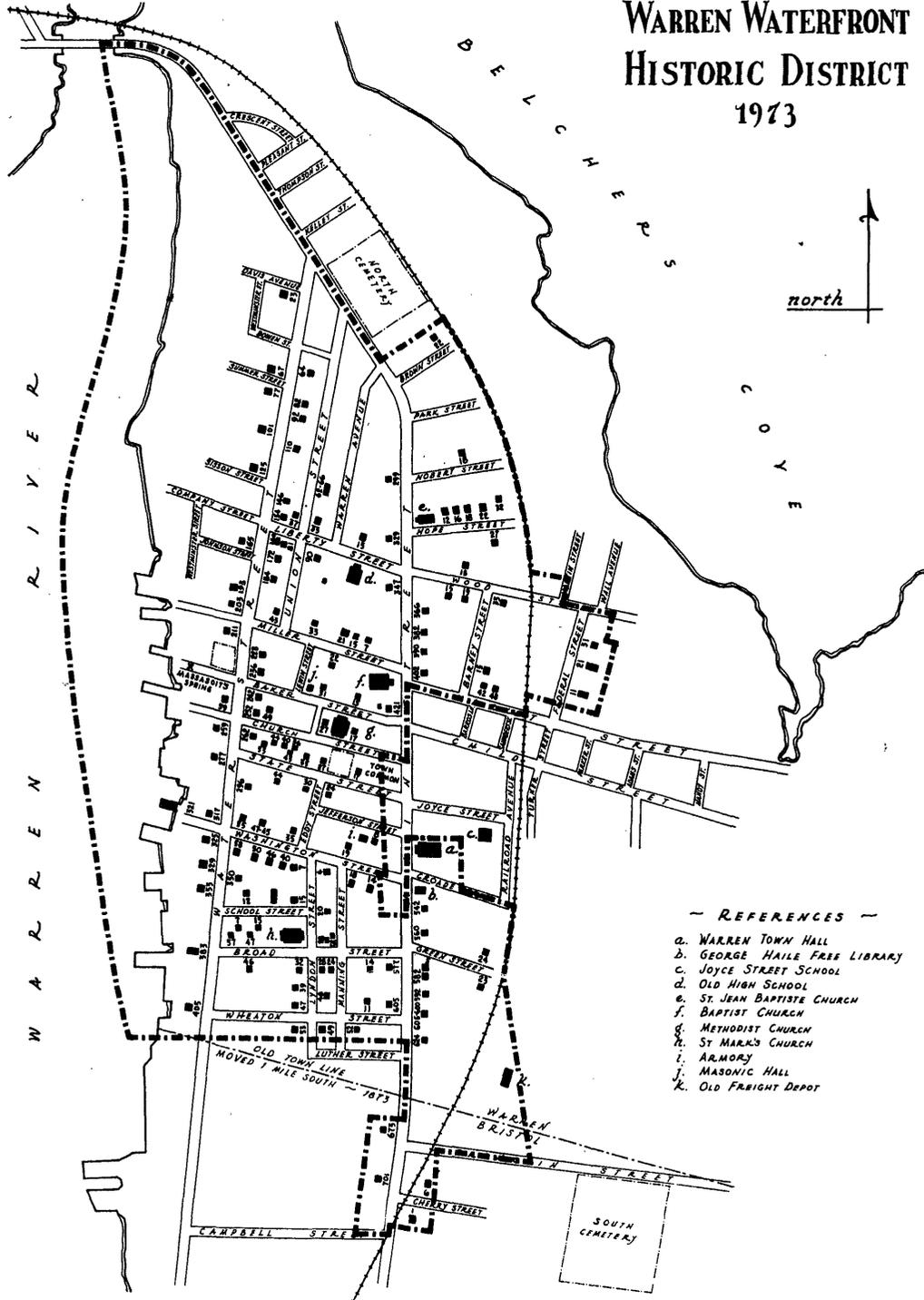


Frederick C. Williamson  
State Historic Preservation Officer

7 June 1984

Date

# NATIONAL REGISTER WARREN WATERFRONT HISTORIC DISTRICT 1973



- REFERENCES —
- a. WARREN TOWN HALL
  - b. GEORGE HAILE FREE LIBRARY
  - c. JOYCE STREET SCHOOL
  - d. OLD HIGH SCHOOL
  - e. ST. JEAN BAPTISTE CHURCH
  - f. BAPTIST CHURCH
  - g. METHODIST CHURCH
  - h. ST. MARK'S CHURCH
  - i. ARMORY
  - j. MASONIC HALL
  - k. OLD FREIGHT DEPOT

L. J. Pozzi, Del.