

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received JAN 28 1986

date entered FEB 27 1986

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

1. Name

historic Hudson High School

and or common Felton Street School (preferred)

2. Location

street & number 20 Felton Street

n/a not for publication

city, town Hudson

n/a vicinity of

state Massachusetts

code 025

county Worcester

code 027

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	n/a in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name The Fafard Companies

street & number 290 Elliot Street

city, town Ashland

n/a vicinity of

state Massachusetts

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number 2 Main Street

city, town Worcester

state Massachusetts

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Cultural Resource Inventory of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1978, Inventory #25  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission, 80 Boylston Street

city, town Boston

state Massachusetts

## 7. Description Felton Street School, Hudson, 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 Felton Street School in Hudson, Massachusetts, occupies an irregularly shaped lot on the west side of Felton Street, south of its junction with Russell Street. The building stands in a residential area slightly to the north of Hudson's commercial district. It is a free-standing structure 2 1/2 stories high, with brick bearing walls, wooden internal supports and a complex hip-on-hip roof. Elevations are faced with red brick laid up in common bond and trimmed with rock-faced brownstone; the roof is covered with tar and gravel on its upper slope (not visible from ground level), while the lower slopes are covered with slate. Sash throughout the school is wood-frame, consisting of 3/3 at the basement, 6/6 on the north, east and south elevations, and 8/8 on the west elevation. The schoolhouse was built in two stages; the eastern half of the present structure was built as a four-room school in 1882, the western (rear) half was added in 1901 in the same style as the original building.

The main facade (east elevation) is symmetrical about a central gabled pavilion that contains the main entry at ground level and an interior staircase above. The entry contains a metal door with fifteen glass lights flanked by five-pane sidelights (1984) set in a rectangular brick opening and surmounted by a decorative slate roof set on brackets. Above the entry are tripartite windows which are surmounted by a date panel of decorated terracotta tiles (made by the Boston Terra Cotta Works - 1882). At the attic, the gable contains paired windows set in an ornate brownstone surround with carved volutes. Flanking the central pavillion are two single windows and two sets of tripartite windows per story. Decorative details include a brownstone plinth, a corbelled brick cornice and wooden brackets at the eaves of the gable.

The south elevation is asymmetrical, consisting of a wall possessing a single window (6/6, 1984) at the first and second stories on the 1901 addition (west end) and a central ventilator/chimney flanked by single and tripartite windows on the 1882 section of the building. Both sections contain asymmetrically placed basement windows; there are dormers with hip roofs on both sections. Decorative details match those of the facade.

The north elevation is a mirror image of the south elevation, with the exception that there is a blank brick wall above the basement in the 1901 addition.

The west elevation dates entirely from 1901 and consists of a central entry (metal door with fifteen glass lights and a five-pane sidelight, 1984) with a bracketed hood asymmetrically flanked by windows of varying sizes that reflect the interior locations of stairwells and former teachers' offices (south of the stairwells). Flanking the entry are seven asymmetrically arranged windows each at the first and second stories. At the roof are three dormers with hip roofs; each dormer has paired windows that contain 6/6 sash. Details of the rear addition match those of the facade, north and south elevations, except that windows of the west elevation are set in surrounds with arched heads rather than rectangular sandstone lintels, as is the case elsewhere on the building.

Continued

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

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date entered

Continuation sheet Felton Street School,  
Hudson, Massachusetts

Item number 7

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Alterations to the Felton Street School have been minor. On the south elevation, two new windows have been cut at the first and second stories in a section of wall that was originally blank (1984). The appearances of the original main entry and rear entry are unknown; the present metal and glass doors (1984) replaced aluminum and glass doors dating from the mid twentieth century.

Prior to its 1984 renovation into residential use, the school's interior consisted of four classrooms at each story laid out around a central hallway connecting a main staircase (east) and a smaller rear staircase (west). Decorative finishes in the two staircases consist of solid railings and wainscots of tongue-and-groove boarding (1882), ceilings and walls of pressed metal (1901). Finishes at the classrooms in both sections of the building consisted originally of hardwood floors, wainscots of tongue-and-groove boarding, pressed metal ceilings (added throughout in 1901), plaster walls and four-panel doors. Following the renovation, the building contains twelve apartments arranged along a narrowed central hallway, with original finishes retained or re-set on new partitions.

Given the school's hilltop location adjacent to the Assabet River, and the relatively large size of the lot, there is a potential for prehistoric sites. Since few sites have been recovered in Hudson, any survivors would be significant in helping to reconstruct the patterns of prehistoric occupation in the town.

## 8. Significance Felton Street School, Hudson, Massachusetts

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

**Specific dates** 1882, 1901 **Builder Architect** Fuller & Delano

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Felton Street School possesses integrity of design, materials, workmanship, location and historical associations with the civic development of the town of Hudson, Massachusetts. As the first high school in Hudson, and as a well-preserved example of school architecture with elements of the High Victorian Gothic and Queen Anne styles, the Felton School meets criteria A and C for listing to the National Register of Historic Places, with significance at the local level.

The town of Hudson was originally an agricultural section of the town of Marlborough. Rapid population growth in the 1850s, spurred by the introduction of the railroad and the subsequent arrival of several new firms related to the regional shoe industry, led to the town's incorporation of 1866. With continued industrial growth and the establishment of nine major factories by 1870, Hudson's immigrant population increased. Most of these new residents were Irish and French Canadian. Large shoe factories and several textile companies were the major elements in Hudson's industrial expansion of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, spurred by the aggressive recruitment of new businesses by the Hudson Board of Trade.

Constructed in 1882, the Felton Street School was Hudson's first high school building. It was built at the time of Hudson's conversion to a graded school system, and was one of four schools built in a fifteen year period. The Felton Street School was one of the largest and most substantially built public buildings in the town during the nineteenth century; the school's establishment and its enlargement in 1901 reflect the increase in local population that accompanied the development of Hudson's shoe industry in the 1870s and 1880s and the development of the town's rubberized cloth industry in the 1890s and early twentieth century. The school served as a high school until 1957. After this the building was used as a grammar school until its closing in the mid-1970s.

A well-preserved example of Victorian school architecture, the Felton Street School remains nearly unaltered since its enlargement in 1901. Designed in 1882 by the prominent architectural firm of Fuller & Delano of Worcester, the building possess decorative details of both the Victorian Gothic and Queen Anne styles. The original section of the school preserves carved and rock-faced brownstone trimmings, decorative terracotta tiles, corbelled brick cornices and an ornate hood over the main entry. Characteristic of Victorian school design, each end of the building has a chimney that originally provided ventilation to classrooms (before the building was enlarged and internal ventilation stacks constructed in 1901). The rear wing of the school, added in 1901, was designed to duplicate most details of the original building

Continued

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Annual Report of the Selectmen of Hudson, 1883, 1884.  
Hudson Historic Properties Survey, 1978. On file at the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property approx, 15,500 sq. feet

Quadrangle name Hudson, MA

Quadrangle scale 1:25,000

UTM References

A 

1	9	2	8	8	4	6	0	4	6	9	6	3	6	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

C 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

D 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

E 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

F 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

G 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

H 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

**Verbal boundary description and justification** The nominated property includes only the lot on which the building stands. The lot is five-sided, at the east running approximately 131.25' along Felton Street, at the south approximately 118.75' along the property at 16 Felton Street, at the southwest approximately 162.5' along the property at 16 Felton Street,

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**(see continuation sheet)

state N/A code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kim Withers Brengle with Mary Kate Sampson, Preservation Planner, Massachusetts Historical Commission

organization ACT for Massachusetts

date February 1985, December 1985

street & number 45 School Street

telephone 617-523-8678

city or town Boston

state Massachusetts 02108

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Valerie A. Talmage

title Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission  
State Historic Preservation Officer

date Jan. 22, 1986

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

Sharon Byers  
Keeper of the National Register

Sharon Byers  
Keeper of the National Register

date 2/27/86

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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including corbelled cornices, a slate-covered hip roof, dormers with hip roofs and brownstone window trimmings. Much of the brownstone trim seems to have been taken as salvage from the original rear elevation and re-set in its present location.

In 1984 the Felton Street School underwent a certified historic rehabilitation in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation; it presently contains twelve residential apartments.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

and 7-9 Lincoln Street, and the northwest approximately 37.5' along the property at 11-15 Russell Street, and at the north approximately 206.25'. See attached Sanborn Map for exact boundaries.

Felton Street School  
Hudson, Massachusetts  
Insurance Atlas of Hudson. Sanborn Map Co.  
1929, up-dated to 1950  
1" = 50' building indicated by cross-hatch

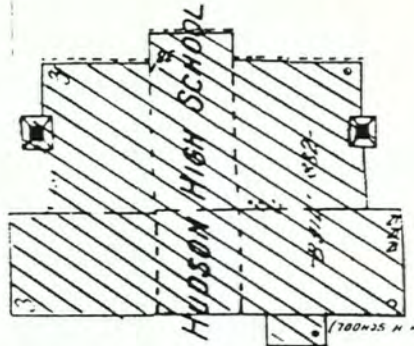
3

FELTON STREET

131.25'



MAR. 1929  
**HUDSON**  
MASS.



52.25'

118.75'

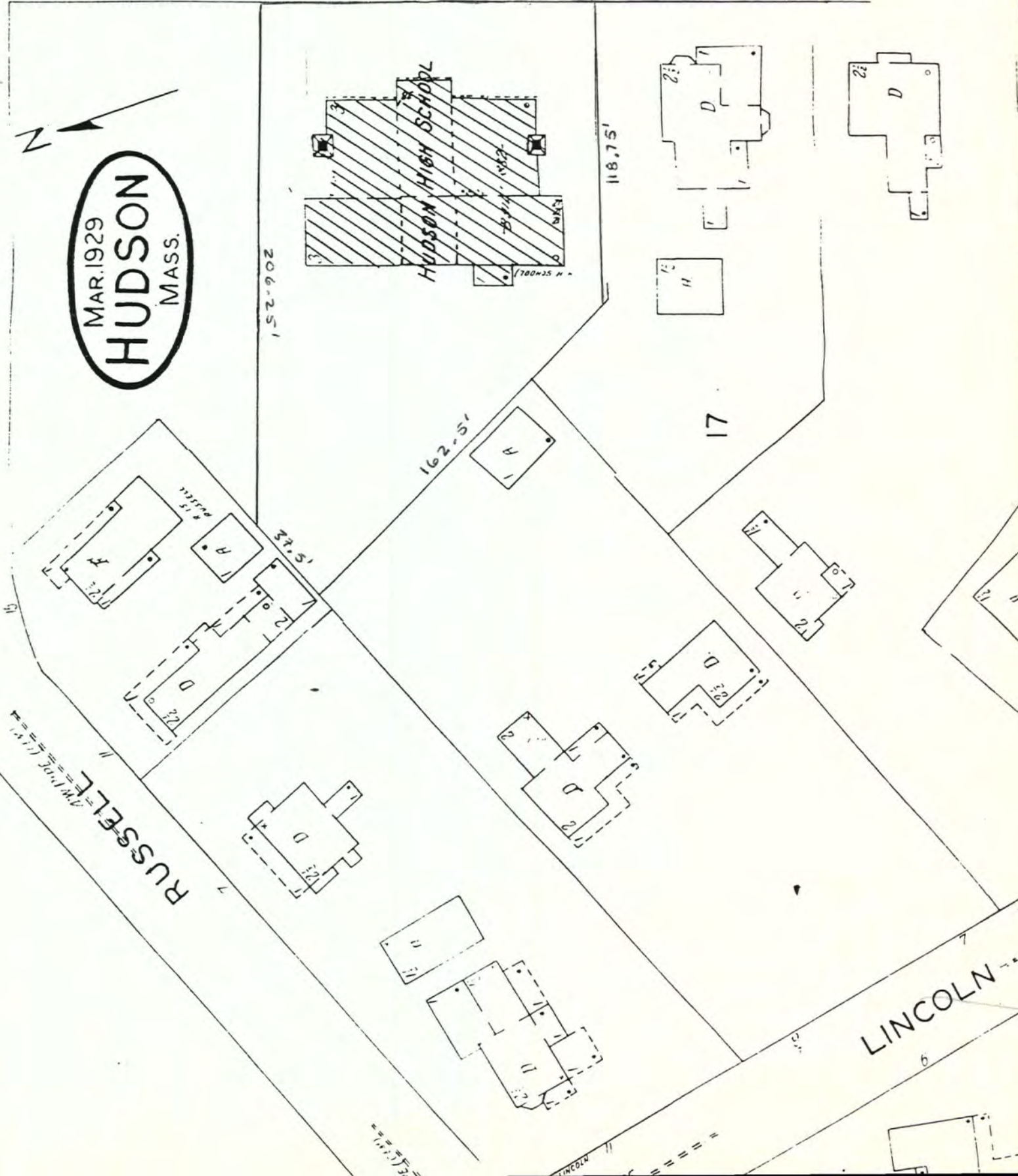
162.5'

17

15.75'

RUSSELL

LINCOLN



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Felton Street School  
Worcester County  
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/3/87  
Date Due: 2/27/86 - 3/14/86  
Action: ACCEPT 2-27-86  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RETURN  
\_\_\_\_\_  
REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Entered in the  
National Register

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

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
Discipline \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ 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
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

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**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

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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**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 \_\_\_\_\_

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**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



DO NOT  
ENTER

4720JD

Felton Street School  
20 Felton Street  
Hudson, Massachusetts

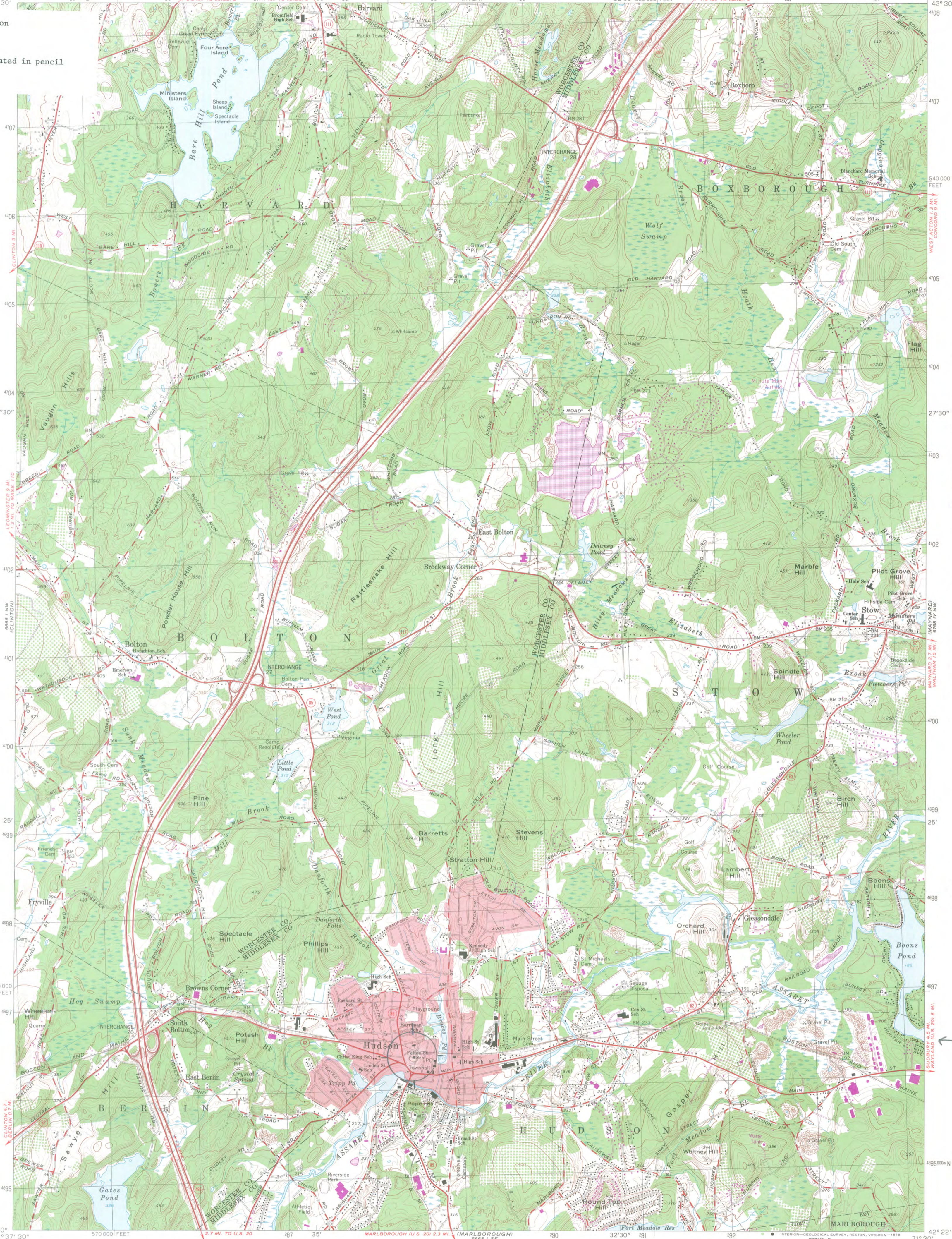
Photographer: B. R. Pfeiffer  
November, 1984  
Negative on file at:

A.C.T. for Massachusetts  
45 School Street  
Boston, MA 02108

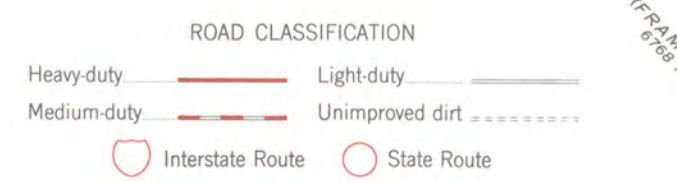
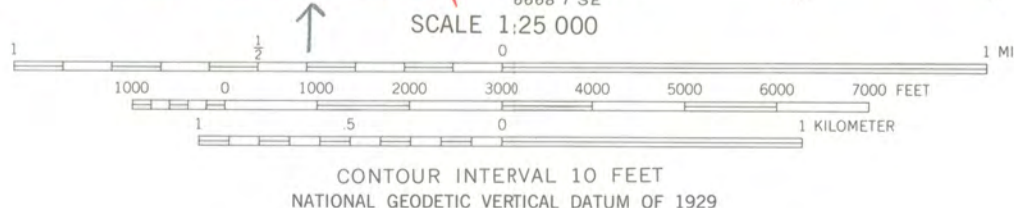
Photo Number 1 of 1

Facade (east) and south elevations taken with  
photographer facing NW.

National Register Nomination  
Felton Street School  
Hudson, Massachusetts  
Felton Street School indicated in pencil



Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, Massachusetts Geodetic Survey, and Massachusetts Harbor and Land Commission  
Topography by plane-table surveys 1923 and 1941. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1965. Field checked 1966  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone  
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



HUDSON, MASS.  
N4222.5—W7130.7/5  
1966  
PHOTOREVISED 1979  
AMS 6668 I NE—SERIES V814

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



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P 284 880 972

## 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

January 21, 1986

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

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the following nomination forms:


Hudson, FELTON STREET SCHOOL, 20 Felton Street, HPCA completed  
# 0449-83-MA-83-0445, NPS preliminary determination that building is a  
certified historic structure: 11/3/83.

Pittsfield, BERKSHIRE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY BUILDING, 5--7 North Street,  
HPCA pending #0619-84-MA-84-0625, NPS preliminary determination that  
building is a certified historic structure: 9/28/84.

Templeton, BALDWINVILLE VILLAGE HISTORIC DISTRICT, Elm, Pleasant,  
Memorial, South Main and Circle Streets.

All have been voted eligible by the State Review Board and have been  
signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. Owners were notified  
of pending State Review Board consideration 30-75 days before the meeting  
and were afforded the opportunity to comment. Comments received to date  
are attached to the nomination forms.

Sincerely,

  
Sarah J. Zimmerman  
Director, Preservation Planner  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

SJZ/lis  
enclosure