

OMB NO. 1024-0018
EXP. 10/31/84

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

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

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

For NPS use only

received AUG - 1 1983

date entered

1. Name

historic Valentine School (preferred)

and/or common same (also known as the Grape Street School)

2. Location

street & number Grape and Elm Streets N/A not for publication

city, town Chicopee N/A vicinity of ~~Congressional district~~

state Massachusetts code 025 county Hampden code 013

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	N/A in process	☒ yes: restricted	☐ government
	☐ being considered	☐ yes: unrestricted	☐ industrial
		☐ no	☐ military
			☒ other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name City of Chicopee

street & number City Hall

city, town Chicopee N/A vicinity of state Massachusetts

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number 50 State Street

city, town Springfield state Massachusetts

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Inventory of the Historic
title Assets of the Commonwealth, #302 has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date 1983 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town Boston state Massachusetts

7. Description

Valentine School, Chicopee, Massachusetts

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Valentine School (1898-1899) is a two-story, flat-roofed Renaissance Revival style building of red brick and sandstone, capped by a metal entablature. Set well back from the street in a wide, shallow lot now largely covered with asphalt paving, the building remains in excellent structural condition, virtually unaltered since its construction just before the turn of the century. Its neighborhood remains a handsome one, with tree-lined streets and well maintained houses in styles ranging from Greek Revival to Queen Anne.

The Valentine School's well proportioned facade is symmetrical in design. The entrance block at the center projects from the wider block immediately behind it, which in turn is narrower than the rectangular main block of the building stretching across the rear. The main entrance, its double doors divided by narrow wooden Tuscan pilasters, is recessed in a rusticated arch with a console keystone. Directly above is a Palladian window with sandstone trim.

The strong differentiation between stories, characteristic of the Renaissance Revival style, is carried out in the treatment of the building's front and side elevations. The raised basement and first floor are distinguished by regular recessed courses of brick, which create a rusticated effect in contrast to the smoothness of the wall above. The first floor windows are rectilinear, with square-off stone lintels, while those of the second floor are round-headed, with sandstone-framed arches and sandstone impost blocks and sills. The two levels are also marked by horizontal dividing lines: a strip of sandstone between basement and first floor, and a course of brick dentils between first and second stories. A broad red metal entablature, rising to a projecting cornice on scroll modillions, runs around the building on three sides.

The rear of the building is less elaborate but also symmetrical. While most of its 36 windows are capped by simple brick segmental arches, a group of four at either end of the second floor has semicircular heads.

The building's interior retains its original oak woodwork throughout. The hallways are finished with horizontal boarding, the staircases with narrow vertical paneling. Halls on both main floors are lined with freestanding glass-fronted oak cabinets.

8. Significance Valentine School, Chicopee, 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)

Specific dates 1898–99 **Builder/Architect** George P.D. Alderman, Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Valentine School retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. As an outstanding local example of Renaissance Revival style architecture designed by a prominent area architect and as an embodiment of a proud era in Chicopee's history, it meets criteria A, B and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

The Valentine School was originally known as the Grape Street School; its name was changed in 1908 to honor a former principal, William Valentine. Designed by George P.D. Alderman, a highly successful Holyoke architect who was responsible for numerous churches, mills, commercial, and civic buildings in western New England, including the main Holyoke Post Office, the school is a sophisticated Renaissance Revival design, the city's finest representative of that style. Both the elegance of its design and the superb craftsmanship of its construction testify to the expansive civic spirit that characterized the last two decades of the 19th century in Chicopee. It was a period that saw the near doubling of the population, the incorporation of Chicopee as a city, and the institution of municipal water and electrical power systems.

The Valentine School was located in a residential neighborhood close to the river, but east of the most densely built-up industrial area. At the time of the Valentine School's construction, there was already a school on the block - the Robinson, built in 1842 and later named for a former principal who went on to become Governor of Massachusetts, the only Chicopee native to serve in that office. The Valentine School was connected to the older building by underground passage until the demolition of the Robinson School in the 1950s.

The Valentine School remained in use until 1980, continuing a tradition of public education on the site dating back to the early 19th century and the beginning of Chicopee's growth as an industrial center.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Municipal records in archives at Chicopee Public Library

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property 2

Quadrangle name Springfield North

Quadrangle scale 1:25,000

UMT References

A 1 8 6 98 0 40 4 6 6 8 5 7 5
Zone Easting Northing

B
Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification Beginning at the intersection of Grape and Elm Sts., the boundary of the Valentine School lot runs east along the southern edge of Elm St. for 206 ft., thence south 300.10 ft. along the western boundary of Maple Grove Cemetery, thence west 209 ft. to the eastern side of Grape St., thence north 206 ft. to the point of origin.

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

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Virginia A. Fitch, Preservation Planner, with Kristin O'Connell

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission

date May 1983

street & number 294 Washington St.

telephone (617) 727-8470

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

Patricia L. Weslowski

State Historic Preservation Officer
title Massachusetts Historical Commission

date 7/20/83

For NPS use only

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

for *Alfred Byers*
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 9/16/83

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Valentine School
Hampden County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. AUG 1 1983

Fed. Reg. Date: _____

Date Due: 9/1/83 - 9/15/83

Action: ACCEPT

☒ RETURN 8/22/83

REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

- ☐ 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

- ☐ 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

- ☐ 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

X 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

Please provide "Level of Significance"

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____

date _____

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed *Melvin Byers* Date *8/22/83* Phone: *202-343-9553*

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Valentine School
Hampden County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 8/1/83

Fed. Reg. Date: 2.7.84

Date Due: 10/30/83

Action: ☒ ACCEPT 9/16/83

~~Entered in the~~ RETURN

~~National Register~~ REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

- ☒ 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 _____

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Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

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☐ good	☐ altered	☐ moved date _____
☐ fair		
☐ deteriorated		
☐ ruins		
☐ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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☐ dates
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8. Significance

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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: _____

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



Valentine School

Chicopee, MA

Photo Credit: Robert Bator

November, 1977

Negatives filed at: Office of Community
Development, Chicopee, MA

Photo #1 of 6

Facade view from northwest



Valentine School

Chicopee, MA

Photo Credit: Robert Bator

November, 1977

Negatives filed at: Office of Community
Development, Chicopee, MA

Photo #2 of 6

Rear of building; Maple Grove Cemetery in
foreground.



Valentine School

Chicopee, MA

Photo Credit: Robert Bator

November, 1977

Negatives filed at: Office of Community
Development, Chicopee, MA

Photo #3 of 6

Main entrance



Valentine School
Chicopee, MA

Photo Credit: Robert Bator
November, 1977

Negatives filed at: Office of Community
Development, Chicopee, MA

Photo #4 of 6
Window and cornice detail, south side



Valentine School
Chicopee, MA

Photo Credit: Robert Bator
November, 1977

Negatives filed at: Office of Community
Development, Chicopee, MA

Photo #5 of 6

Interior detail: second floor windows



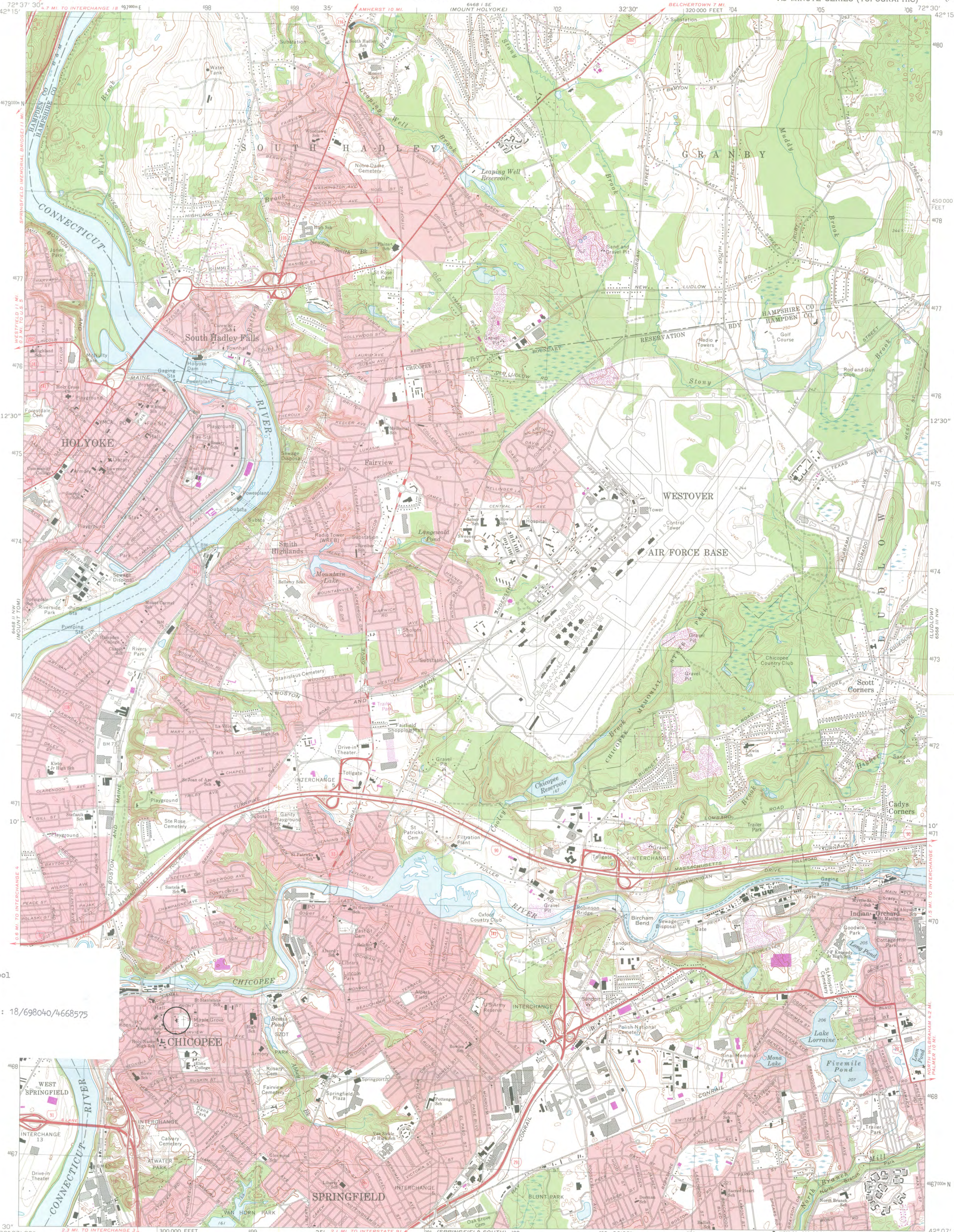
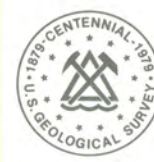
Valentine School
Chicopee, MA

Photo Credit: Robert Bator
November, 1977

Negatives filed at: Office of Community
DEvelopment, Chicopee, MA

Photo #6 of 6

Interior detail: cabinet in hallway,
second floor. These cabinets line the
first and second floor hallways.



CONVERSION
SCALES

Feet Meters



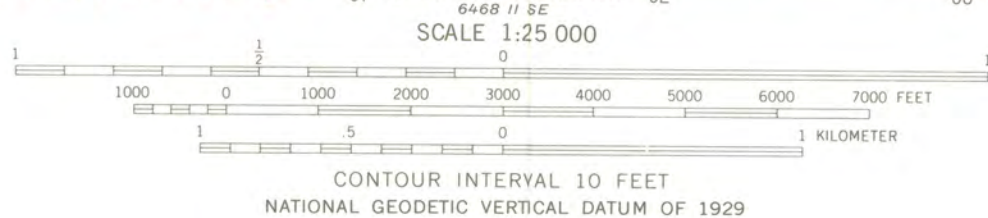
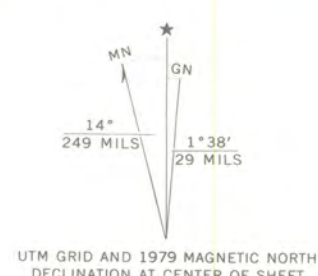
Feet	Meters
1	3048
2	6096
3	9144
4	12192
5	15240
6	18288
7	21336
8	24384
9	27432
10	30480

To convert feet to meters
multiply by 0.305

To convert meters to feet
multiply by 3.2808

Valentine School
Chicopee, MA
UTM references: 18/698040/4668575

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1933. Revised from
aerial photographs taken 1971. Field checked 1972
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid,
zone 18
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries
of the National or State reservations shown on this map
Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with the State of
Massachusetts agencies from aerial photographs taken 1975 and other
source data. This information not field checked. Map edited 1979



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface
Secondary highway, hard surface
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Unimproved road
Interstate Route
U.S. Route
State Route

SPRINGFIELD NORTH, MASS.
N4207.5—W7230.7.5

1972
PHOTOREVISED 1979
AMS 6468 II NE—SERIES V814



670

SEE SHEET 098

FRONT ST.

PEARL ST.

ST.

ST.

WINTWORTH ST.

ST.

MYRTLE

ST.

ELM

ST.

CITY OF CHICOPEE
VALENTINE
SCHOOL

CITY OF CHICOPEE
MAPLE GROVE CEMETERY

LECLAIR TERR.

BELL

PROPERTY LINE



SCALE: 1 IN.=40 FT.

079



**MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Office of the Secretary of State**

294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts
02108
617-727-8470

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY
Secretary of State

July 20, 1983

Ms. Carol Shull, Chief
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
18th and C Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the following nomination forms:

Boston - Charles Street African Methodist Episcopal Church (local)

Boston - Harrison Loring House (local)

Chicopee - Valentine School (local)

Gardner - Heywood-Wakefield Complex (local)

Greenfield - Garden Theater Block (local)

Monterey - Rock Ridge (local)

Pittsfield - Allen Hotel (local)

Williamstown - Col. Benjamin Simond House (local)

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,

Candace Jenkins

Candace Jenkins
Registration Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

CJ/hi
Enclosure

rec'd

AUG -1 1983