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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form**



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

**1. Name of Property**

historic name Hanover Center Historic District

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Location**

street & number Hanover, Silver, Main and Center Streets N/A not for publication

city or town Hanover N/A vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Plymouth code 023 zip code 02339

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Judith B. McDonough 3/15/96  
Signature of certifying official/Title Judith B. McDonough, Executive Director Date  
Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper Patricia Andrews Date of Action 5/9/96

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
7	4	buildings
1	0	sites
0	0	structures
7	1	objects
15	5	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

2 (Stetson House and Barn)

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT: Town Hall

EDUCATION: library, school

RELIGION: religious facility, church-related residence

FUNERARY: cemetery

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

RECREATION AND CULTURE: monument

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT: Town Hall

EDUCATION: Library, School

RELIGION: religious facility, church-related residence

FUNERARY: cemetery

RECREATION AND CULTURE: monument, museum

SOCIAL: civic

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

COLONIAL: Postmedieval English

COLONIAL: Georgian

MID-19TH CENTURY: Greek Revival

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate

LATE-19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVAL: Colonial Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE; BRICK

walls WOOD; SHINGLE; BRICK; SYNTHETICS; VINYL; CONCRETE BLOCK

roof ASPHALT; STONE; SLATE

other WOOD; SHINGLE

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

(See Continuation Sheet)

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Hanover (Plymouth County)  
Massachusetts

## 7. DESCRIPTION

The Hanover Center Historic District is located in the approximate center of the town of Hanover, Plymouth County, Massachusetts. The 42+-acre district, which encompasses all the buildings and sites of the historical and institutional core of the community, contains a widely-spaced, well-preserved assemblage of First Period/Georgian colonial, vernacular Greek Revival, Italianate, and Colonial Revival architecture in an open, rural, crossroads setting. An unusually complete concentration of important associations with the founding and development of the community is represented here by the district's seven contributing buildings and one site. Those resources include one of Hanover's earliest houses with its eighteenth-century barn, the original town cemetery, the late-nineteenth-century Town Hall, library, First Congregational Church (on the site of the original meetinghouse) and Parsonage, and a 1927 high school. Seven contributing objects from the mid-nineteenth century through early modern periods also add both historical and stylistic perspective to the district setting.

In contrast to many more densely-developed town centers, from the time of its inception in 1727 the Hanover Center District has remained distinctly rural in character, with widely-spaced buildings set back from the street, tall shade trees, and, to the north, south, and west, a backdrop of woods and pastures. Although Hanover has no true town common, both the 1863 church and 1878 granite Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument (MHC #900) occupy a large triangular green at the west end of the area. Four of Hanover's longest streets, Hanover Street (Route 139), Silver, Main, and Center Streets, converge at the green, where three small landscaped traffic islands in the intersections, presently maintained by the Hanover Garden Club, soften the visual impact of both vehicles and asphalt. The district is a spread-out, open area of institutional and residential buildings of ca. 1700 through the early twentieth century, with the 31+-acre Hanover Cemetery at the northwest edge, and several historic markers and other commemorative objects scattered throughout. Intrusions exist largely as additions to the institutional buildings. There are also four modern, non-contributing buildings located near the periphery of the district--the Congregational Parish Hall, (1965, 17 Silver Street, Map #F), the Hanover Boys' Club (Map #C, nineteenth-/mid-twentieth-century, moved, mid-twentieth century), which was converted from the frames of the former Congregational Church horse/carriage sheds, and, at the rear of the Stetson House at 514 Hanover Street, a new board-and-batten carriage shed (Map #B) and re-constructed cobbler's shop of ca. 1860 (Map #A).

Much of the western portion of the district remains from the ca. eleven acres acquired in 1727 for a meetinghouse, training field, and burial ground when Hanover separated from Scituate and Abington. Most of the training field was eventually traded away or absorbed by cemetery expansions, although its powderhouse, (or "gun house") stood for many years near the intersection

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of Silver and Main Streets. The first meetinghouse was replaced by a second (1765), and later a third (1827) church, which burned down in 1862. That fire also consumed an 1829 Town Hall which stood only six feet away from the church. Both buildings were replaced in 1863 by the present First Congregational Church (547 Hanover Street, MHC #143) and Town Hall (550 Hanover Street, MHC #231). The latter was built on a new site across Hanover Street from the church, where it was joined, four decades later, by the John Curtis Library, (1907, 534 Hanover Street, MHC #230). A succession of schoolhouses, the earliest dating from 1729, culminated in 1927 in the town's first high school building, the Sylvester School (495 Hanover Street, Map #14).

The oldest extant resources here, representing the early settlement and founding of the town, are the Stetson House and Barn at 514 Hanover Street (ca. 1700, MHC #142 and Map #s 1 and 2; NR: 1979) and the first section of the Hanover Cemetery (1727, Main and Silver Streets, MHC #801). The 2 1/2-story, center-chimney, five-bay Stetson House, the earliest, southeast section of which dates to about 1700, is a shingled, largely First-Period building of planked construction with an exposed, chamfered frame. Updated at least twice during the eighteenth century, the house combines Georgian proportions with early Federal details, including 12-over-12 and 12-over-8-sash windows with flared lintels, and a tall, elaborate entry with fluted Doric pilasters, rusticated paneling, and dentilated cornice. A one-story rear ell, later altered to two stories, was added to the house in about 1900. The shingled Stetson barn is of the "English" type, with the entry centered in the long side of the building, and may also date to the early eighteenth century. A well (Map #14) just west of the Stetson House may also be of early date, although its above-ground rubble-stone section apparently dates to ca. 1920.

The Hanover Cemetery, (1727, Main and Silver Streets, MHC #801) located on rolling ground extending north/northwest of the church and green, is a comprehensive representation of New England gravestone art from the second quarter of the eighteenth through the twentieth centuries. The cemetery was first laid out at the incorporation of the town as 2 1/2 acres of the 10-acre plot that was also to include a training field. The original section lies in the center of the angle of Main and Silver Streets. Many early markers are made from a local, high-quality slate, some are apparently the red slate quarried in Wrentham, and a few others may be made of the especially hard, durable slate that was imported from Wales for a brief time in the early part of the eighteenth century. These stones display the full range of designs popular through the mid-1700's--wheels, whorls, winged and non-winged skulls, cherubs, etc. Later eighteenth-century slates display the typical effigies and architectural motifs of the times, and there are also many early-nineteenth-century markers with incised patterns and the ubiquitous urn-and-willow imagery. Intermixed in the southern section of the cemetery are a large number of mid-nineteenth-century marble markers, including a few obelisks and a well-preserved sculpture of a dog (ca. 1861), as

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well as many later rectangular granite monuments. The old maples and oaks in the cemetery contribute to the rural aspect of the district, and the white picket fence along Main and Silver Streets helps to define the curves of the streets and the contours of the land. Abutting the west end of the fence is a long granite-block retaining wall that is punctuated with a series of mid-nineteenth-century vaults with high granite lintels and pediments and doors of iron and slate.

Hanover's first meetinghouse, which was also mandated as part of the 1727 incorporation of the town, was built a year later on a one-acre lot just south of the cemetery. It was replaced on the same site by a larger building in 1765. The second meetinghouse, like the first, was the site of town meetings as well as church services until 1827, when a third church replaced it, and, as part of the process of separating church from town government, a Town Hall was erected six feet away in 1829. The church members built a parsonage for their minister in about 1855; a short distance to the east at 515 Hanover Street. (MHC #306). This building, a 2 1/2-story, three-bay, side-hall-entry house, is the only building in the district in the Greek Revival style. Although its windows and main door have been replaced, and it is now sheathed in a combination of wood shingles and synthetic siding. It retains a typical unfluted Doric-pilastered entry surround and the boxed, echinus-molded cornices and wide corner pilasters that are typical of the Greek Revival. A rear ell was added in about 1900 and extended in 1965 to abut a small late-nineteenth-century gable-end barn, which now has modern overhead garage doors.

Both the 1827 church and 1829 Town Hall burned down in 1862, and were replaced the next year by new buildings in the Italianate style. Together, these handsome buildings recall both the district's origins as a meetinghouse center and Hanover's period of prosperity during the 1860's.

The First Congregational Church, (547 Hanover Street, MHC #143), is a two-story, pedimented, gable-front building with a three-stage tower consisting of a tall, slender octagonal spire atop a belfry with louvered openings, on a square base. The distinctive round-arched windows of the sanctuary are paired, and have lavender-tinted glass in 4-over-4-sash. The rectangular windows of the lower story are also paired 4-over-4-sash. An eight-light oculus adorns the center of the facade pediment, pilasters with round-arched panels trim the building corners, and large horizontal brackets line the cornice. Although the building is now vinyl-sided and the facade windows have synthetic shutters, nearly all the wood trim detail remains: a wooden water table rings the building just above the granite foundation, and heavy, keystone wood moldings remain at the windows. The main, center entry, which is recessed in a paneled surround, has a four-light transom over replacement double doors, and is sheltered by a narrow pedimented ca. 1920's hood supported on a pair of Tuscan columns. A two-story rear wing was added to the church in 1927; its east side entry also has a pedimented hood on a pair of Tuscan columns. A long handicapped access ramp with steel railing has recently been added at the southeast facade corner.

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The 1863 Hanover Town Hall, (550 Hanover Street, MHC #231) was built on a new site across from the church, on the south side of Hanover Street on land purchased from Charles Tower. Like the church, it has a facade pediment and a heavy, bracketed cornice. The building was designed by Luther Briggs, II. It was originally three bays wide, and had a square, louvered cupola and a broad-arched entry porch on chamfered posts. The windows are 6-over-6-sash with high molded crowns and wooden shutters. A three-part window with a molded, peaked crown is located in the center of the second story. A cartouche with the year "1863" is located above it in the center of the pediment. In 1893 the building acquired a T-plan, when the front section of the building was widened by the addition of a two-bay, cross-gabled wing on either side. The designer of the renovations was the prolific local architect, J. Williams Beal (1855-1919). He continued the main cornice and molding details of the Briggs building, adding Ionic corner pilasters and finishing the end of each wing with a pediment and lunette. At the same time, the first-story windows were enlarged to their present tall proportions by the addition of a transom across the top.

Beal replaced the cupola with an octagonal belltower with arched openings and turned balustrade, and altered or replaced the entry porch with the triple-columned configuration seen today. In spite of the present vinyl siding, all trim details except the triple columns at the entry porch (which have been replaced) remain intact. In 1977 the building was lengthened to the rear, and a pair of 1 1/2-story side wings were added. The architects for the additions were the firm of Donham & Sweeney.

In 1878, in a patriotic effort echoed in towns across Massachusetts, Hanover citizens erected a Civil War monument, the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument (MHC #900), on the green just east of the church. A 25-foot-tall obelisk of brown/gray Concord (N.H.) granite on a square, four-stage Quincy granite base, it is one of the earliest works by J. Williams Beal. True to the popular academic Greek Revival approach to commemorative sculpture of the times, each side of both the top and base of the shaft terminates in a pediment. The faces of the top pediments are hung with carved memorial wreaths, and two of those at the base display a relief of the shield of the United States on a palm branch. A band of raised stars rings the lower section of the shaft. The green at the base of the monument is landscaped with a low, two-tier octagonal grassed terrace, each tier ringed with rusticated granite curbing. Two Civil War era cannons (Map #s 8 and 9), their iron wheels now replaced by a steel framework, flank the monument on the lower tier, and a pyramid of cannonballs (Map #10) stands in front of it on the Hanover Street side.

The town library was first housed in the Town Hall. In 1907 a new public library, the John Curtis Free Library (534 Hanover Street, MHC #230), was built between the Town Hall and the Stetson House. The most high-style building in the district, it was designed by local architect

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Edmund Q. Sylvester. The library is a compact, one-story Federal Revival building of red brick, constructed in Flemish bond, with a hipped slate roof. Its three-bay facade is composed of a pair of tall, round-arched, multi-light windows in blind arches and an oversized center entry with 6-panel door and leaded elliptical fanlight and sidelights. A note of the Classical Revival is contributed by the pedimented, tetrastyle portico at the main entrance. A wide, flat-roofed brick addition designed by Kilham, Hopkins, & Greeley was built across the rear of the building in 1968, and a wooden handicapped ramp was recently installed along the northwest facade.

Nearly a generation after the library was built, Edmund Sylvester himself contributed \$50,000 toward Hanover's first high school building. The architect, however, was John Woodbridge Beal, the son of Sylvester's old colleague J. Williams Beal. He designed the 1927 Edmund G. Sylvester School (495 Hanover Street, Map #14) to harmonize with the library. Typical of the 1920's Colonial Revival, the school is a long, rectangular two-story, flat-roofed brick building with bands of large 12-over-12-sash windows. The modillioned wooden cornice, however, and the wide Ionic/Corinthian-pilastered entry with semi-circular leaded fanlight hark back to the Federal/Classical Revival spirit of Sylvester's library. Except for the 1950 addition of a long two-story side wing which continues the same general vocabulary and materials as the older section, and the replacement of its paired entrance doors, the school has undergone very little alteration.

Linking the Sylvester School with its predecessor on the site, a mid-nineteenth-century schoolhouse, is a line of twenty-one granite Fence Posts (Map #13) along the property's western boundary. They remain from a fence around the former schoolhouse lot, a small parcel that has been incorporated into the present 20-acre school property. In front of the Sylvester School is the earlier of two memorial flagpoles that stand in the district. The square base of this one (Map #15), supporting a bronze and concrete footing for the flagpole, is a simple, ca. 5-foot-high smooth granite block. Mounted on its sides are four bronze plaques commemorating Hanover residents who fought in World War I. The memorial was installed in 1927 when the school was built.

The other, modern memorial flagpole (Map #D), which is non-contributing to the district, stands in front of the Town Hall. It is similar in design, with two bronze plaques honoring Hanover veterans of the Vietnam, Korean, and Second World Wars. The other non-contributing elements in the district are four non-contributing buildings. The long one-story, gable-roofed Hanover Boys' Club (Map #C) is actually adapted from the frame of the former horse/carriage-shed complex of the Congregational Church. In the middle of this century the sheds were moved from the northeast corner of Silver and Hanover Streets to the present position behind the Town Hall. Their former site is occupied by the astylistic, gable-roofed concrete-block 1965 Parish House

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of the Congregational Church (Map #E) and a long asphalt parking lot stretching south to Hanover Street. Two other non-contributing buildings are located to the rear of the Stetson House. A new board-and-batten carriage house (Map #B) with wood-shingle roof was built there in 1995 to house the antique carriage collection of the Hanover Historical Society. Also on the Stetson lot is a small 12 x 16-foot non-contributing cobbler's shop (Map #A) of ca. 1860, that was moved in 1990 from the former Benjamin Church property at 596 Washington Street. Altered by the removal of its chimney and the installation of new wood shingles for roof and siding, it is nevertheless representative of the many tiny shoe shops where farmers and other Hanover residents performed piece-work for the local shoe factories in the 1860's and 1870's. Adjacent to the district are small clusters and linear residential areas of vernacular eighteenth- and nineteenth-century houses that may, in the future, comprise an additional or expanded district.

Archaeological Description

While no prehistoric sites are currently recorded in the district, it is possible that sites are present. One prehistoric site is recorded in the general area (within one mile). The physical characteristics of the district--a well-drained, level to moderately sloping plain within 1,000 feet of wetlands, including Mollys Brook and other unnamed brooks/wetlands that drain into the Indian Head/North Rivers-- indicate favorable locational criteria for Native American subsistence and settlement activities. Open space is also available in the district between the Stetson House and the library, behind the Stetson House, behind the Parish House, in the playground areas of the school, and in the nearby wooded recreational land. Given the above information, the size of the district (approximately 42 acres), the rural character of the area, and known regional site densities, a high potential exists for recovering significant prehistoric resources.

There is also a high potential for locating significant historic archaeological resources on the property. Structural remains could survive from the Congregational Church/Meeting House, which burned in 1862. Similar remains may also survive from two earlier churches that were built on the same site, the earliest in 1728. Structural remains may survive from the Town Hall, which stood next door and burned with the church in 1862. Structural remains or contributing features from the church's carriage sheds, which were moved behind the Town Hall, may survive in the vicinity of the Congregational Church Parish Hall, which was built at their original location. The remains of an early 1850 schoolhouse may survive at the site of the Sylvester School built in 1927. Occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) should be present in the district, particularly in the vicinity of the ca. 1716 Stetson House on Drinkwater Road. Privies should be present in the general locale of earlier church structures and the 1850 schoolhouse. Unmarked graves, the result of missing stones, pauper burials, and the burials of

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

- ARCHITECTURE
- COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
- EDUCATION
- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
- RELIGION

**Period of Significance**

ca. 1700 - 1946

**Significant Dates**

1727  
1863

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

BEAL, J. WILLIAMS; BEAL, JOHN WOODBRIDGE  
BRIGGS, LUTHER, II; SYLVESTER, EDMUND Q.

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Hanover Center Historic District  
Name of Property

Plymouth County, MA  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property ca. 42 acres

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 19	347550	4664700	3. 19	347590	4664330
Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
2. 19	347680	4664660	4. 19	347800	4664130
Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing

X See continuation sheet

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

## 11. Form Prepared By

Barbara Barker, Hanover Historical Commission, Anne McCarthy Forbes, NR Edit. Consultant,  
name/title with Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date February 1996

street & number 220 Morrissey Boulevard telephone 617-727-8470

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02125

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

### Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name (multiple owners)

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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unknown persons may survive in the cemetery, where the earliest burial dates to approximately 1727.

(end)

### 8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Hanover Center Historic District meets criteria A and C of the National Register at the local level, and retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association as the town center for over two centuries. Together, the entire group meets Criterion A at the local level as a civic/institutional/residential town center representative of the evolution of one New England community. The district is characterized by the well-preserved architecture and design of its fifteen contributing resources representing a continuum of styles from the First Period through the later Colonial, Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate, and Colonial Revival, also qualifying it under Criterion C. Criteria Considerations A, D, and F apply to the First Congregational Church, the Hanover Cemetery (1727, Main and Silver Streets, MHC #801) and the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument (1878, MHC #900), respectively. The church, cemetery, and monument are all integral and indispensable parts of the district which, because of distinction of architecture and design, age, and historical and developmental association, contribute greatly to its meaning. Even among the four non-contributing buildings and one non-contributing object, two of which--the converted Congregational Church carriage sheds (Hanover Boys' Club, Map #C), and the mid-twentieth-century memorial flagpole (Map #D)--bear a strong connection to other resources which contribute to the district. Another non-contributing building, the Benjamin Church Cobbler's Shop (ca. 1860, Map #A), moved in 1990 from Washington Street to the Stetson House lot, provides a link with Hanover's nineteenth-century period of shoe manufacture, when local residents performed piece-work for the local shoe factories around the time of the Civil War.

The Hanover Center Historic District, located in the center of the town of Hanover in Plymouth County, Massachusetts, encompasses all the buildings and sites of the developmental and institutional core of the community. Even before the founding of the town in 1727, this well-preserved area was the locus of Hanover's civic activities. For over two and a half centuries it served as the town's main educational center, and for the first century of Hanover's existence, it was the site of nearly all religious activity, as well. The district's period of significance, from ca. 1700 through 1946, begins with the first settlement in the area and the construction of its earliest dwelling, the Stetson House (514 Hanover Street, MHC #142, NR: 1979). The founding, planning, development and governing of the town of Hanover followed, as represented by the presence of the First Congregational Church (547 Hanover Street, MHC #143) on the site of the

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original meetinghouse of 1728; and the 1727 town cemetery, the Town Hall, library, Civil War memorial, and, finally, the town's first high school building on the site of the community's first schoolhouse. The significance of important individuals in the town's development, such as members of many generations of the powerful Stetson family, is represented by the only two houses in the district, including the Congregational Parsonage (ca. 1855, 515 Hanover Street, MHC #306), where a succession of influential ministers lived.

Hanover was originally an outlying part of the town of Scituate, which was incorporated in 1642. Much of the land in today's Hanover was specified as Scituate "commonland". A large section, however, stretching east from the south part of this district to the North River and part of Herring Brook, was included in a 1634 grant awarded to "Cornet" Robert Stetson for his role in acquiring land for the Plymouth Colony from the Namasakeesett Indians. Abington broke off from Scituate in 1712; then, in 1727 a group of Scituate and Abington settlers successfully petitioned the General Court to be incorporated as the Town of Hanover. The original town bounds included the Third Herring Brook on the east, the Indian Head and North Rivers on the south, part of the old westerly bound of Scituate on the west, and on the north, an irregular line back to a saw mill on Third Herring Brook. The area encompassed by the Hanover Center District was determined to be the approximate geographical center of the town, and it was here that ten acres of former common land were laid out for a cemetery and training field, and a one-acre site was acquired for a meetinghouse.

By 1727, there was already a substantial village along a major transportation route, the Bay Path (today's Washington/Old Washington Streets, Route 53), which passed north/south near the town's eastern border. The place chosen for the new town center was a sparsely-settled area where several local roads, laid out by the town of Scituate by 1699, came together--the old road toward Bridgewater (Drinkwater Road/Hanover Street), Silver Street, and Center Street, as well as a former Indian trail which became Curtis Street (later Main Street). In an initial burst of settlement after the establishment of the town, buildings spread out along the roads throughout the community. The population climbed from about 300 in 1727 to 1105 by 1765, but growth had slowed by the end of the eighteenth century. Hanover remained essentially a farming community, although over the course of the Colonial period, through the establishment of a significant shipbuilding industry near the base of the Indian Head River and along the North River, it also became one of the major early manufacturing centers in southeastern Massachusetts. During the same period, Hanover was the site of grist, fulling, and a number of sawmills that supported the shipbuilding operations, as well as a location for a forge and a briefly flourishing bog-iron industry. Still, the center district itself remained rural, occupied only by the Stetson farm, the meeting house, cemetery, and, by 1729, a schoolhouse. By the early nineteenth century the town's densest residential development was clustered at the industrial centers at South

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Hanover (Plymouth County)  
Massachusetts

Hanover and at the old "Four Corners" on Washington Street in the east part of town, which also became the community's main commercial center. A secondary village was also developing in West Hanover, two miles west of the center. Nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century development followed the same peripheral pattern of concentrating in the outer villages, while generally bypassing the center.

In the late 1820's both a Town Hall and a new Congregational Church (the third on the site) were built six feet apart on the site of the present church. In about 1855 another building was added to the district, when church members built the Congregational Parsonage (515 Hanover Street, MHC #306).

Shipbuilding and its ancillary industries had peaked in Hanover during the Federal period, then sharply declined with the embargo of the War of 1812, followed by a shift in demand to ships too large for the depth of the North River. Although shoe and boot manufacture was employing a significant number of residents by the 1830's, Hanover never experienced the explosive growth common to many Massachusetts communities in the mid- to late nineteenth century. The local shoe industry reached its peak in the 1860's and 1870's, when, spurred by demand for footwear during and shortly after the Civil War. Three quarters of Hanover's population is said to have been employed to some extent in the manufacture of shoes and boots, and two shoe factories were built in the town. Other industries included three small tanneries and three tack factories that operated here through the mid-1800's. The Hanover Branch Railroad was completed through the south part of town in 1868-70, inspiring the development of a box mill and rubber reclamation facility. Later, between World Wars I and II a significant industrial center grew up near the tracks around the late-nineteenth-century National Fireworks Company, which became one of the largest producers of munitions in the country. All these industries sparked some residential development. Nevertheless, the pace of population growth in Hanover remained relatively slow, and the majority of the town, including Hanover center, remained rural until World War II. Then, in the post-war era, and augmented after 1960 by the extension of the Southeast Expressway (Route 3) through the northeast corner of the town, subdivision and tract housing divided and developed much of the town's former farmland, a process of suburbanization which continues today. Again, however, the core of Hanover Center has been largely spared, and remains a well-preserved example of a rural civic and institutional town center.

The oldest representative of the center's role in the civic and religious development of the community is the Stetson House (ca. 1700, MHC #142, 514 Hanover Street, NR: 1979). Its earliest section, which may date to as early as the 1690's, was apparently enlarged before 1716. It served as both the gathering place for the founding of the town and the site of Hanover's first religious services until the first meetinghouse was built in 1728. It is one of the town's most

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MassachusettsSection number 8 Page 4

prominent survivals of the scattered early farms that were established in the outlying parts of Scituate before the founding of Hanover, and stands on 3.34 acres of the extensive parcel of land that was granted to "Cornet" Robert Stetson in 1634. Its small shingled barn (Map #2), a rare extant example of an eighteenth-century, post-and-beam "English Barn" type, is another reminder of the district's agricultural origins.

The Stetson family, from Robert through his sons, including Captain Benjamin Stetson, a shipbuilder on the North River who probably constructed this house (where ship-carpentry is evident in several self-closing "ships' doors"), and numerous members of succeeding generations, were among the most influential citizens of Hanover. Several Stetsons later built homes on the radiating streets of the center. Capt. Benjamin's son "Drummer" Samuel Stetson (1663-1760), who inherited the house, was one of the prominent founders of the town, and was running a tavern here in the building as early as 1716. A place "most convenient for public accommodation" (Barry), the building was again briefly used for town meetings and church services after the burning of the Town Hall and Congregational Church in 1862. Although on the interior, the oldest sections of the building still display First Period characteristics in their chamfered frame and visible planked construction, by 1862, the building had long since taken on its present appearance as a 2 1/2-story, five-bay, center-chimney Colonial farmhouse updated with sophisticated Federal-period detailing, including 12-over-12 and 12-over-8-sash windows with flared lintels, and a tall, elaborate entry with fluted Doric pilasters, rusticated paneling, and dentilated cornice.

The Hanover Cemetery (MHC #801) was laid out at the 1727 incorporation of the town as 2 1/2 acres of the ten-acre plot that was also to include a training field. For many years after local military exercises had ceased, a powder-house or "gun-house" stood at the southeast corner of the property at the intersection of Main and Silver Streets. The slate and marble markers of the cemetery's earliest, southernmost section, dating from as early as 1730, give a panorama of most types of gravestone folk-art of the Colonial through early Greek Revival periods, and their inscriptions provide an invaluable insight into the lives, beliefs, and values of the people of Hanover through the mid-nineteenth century. Incorporated into the granite-block retaining wall along Main Street, several mid-nineteenth-century earthen vaults with massive arched or rectangular granite lintels and pediments add a solemn backdrop that contributes greatly to the character of this district, as do the white marble and darker granite grave markers on the hills of the later sections of the cemetery behind them.

The First Congregational Church of 1863 (MHC #143, 547 Hanover Street) is the fourth church on its site. The original meetinghouse which, along with the cemetery and training field was mandated at the incorporation of the town in 1727, was a small building, 48' x 38' x 19', built

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Hanover (Plymouth County)  
Massachusetts

on land said to have been given by Thomas Buck. In 1765 it was replaced by a larger (62' x 43' x 22') gambrel-roofed meetinghouse with double porches and a two-stage steeple with an open belfry and spire. The third church, which replaced the second in 1827, burned down in 1862, and the present pedimented, Italianate building took its place.

In about 1855 church members built a Parsonage for its minister at 515 Hanover Street (MHC #306) just east of a cluster of open horse- and carriage sheds that stood on church property at the northeast corner of Hanover and Silver Streets. In this century the carriage sheds were moved behind the Town Hall and highly altered, first for the Hanover Department of Public Works, and later for the Hanover Boys' Club (Map #C). The parsonage, however, whose first tenant was the Rev. Joseph Freeman, is still a good representative of the Greek Revival, the only building in that style in the district.

In 1829, following the official separation of church and state in Massachusetts' communities, a Town Hall was built on the west part of the green between Central, Main, Silver, and Hanover Streets. When it burned down along with the church in 1862, a new Italianate Town Hall (1863, 550 Hanover Street, MHC #231) designed by architect Luther Briggs, II, who had designed several houses in the Italianate style, both in Boston and the Hanover area, was built on the south side of Hanover Street, on land purchased from Charles Tower. The original building, which mirrored the church in its rectangular proportions, three-bay, pedimented facade, and central cupola, was altered in 1893 by the addition of two side wings, a new octagonal belltower, and columned portico. The renovations were designed by Hanover resident, J. Williams Beal (1855-1919), who had established a considerable reputation as an architect of residences and public buildings throughout Plymouth and Norfolk counties. Among his better-known works are the Plymouth County Courthouse (1891) and Central Methodist Church (1900) in Brockton, the Norwood First Universalist Church (1885), and the Island Grove Park Memorial Bridge in Abington of 1912. An important perspective on Beal's work is contributed by the presence, on the green across from the Town Hall, of one his earliest commissions, the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument of 1878 (MHC #900), which he designed at the age of twenty-three, shortly after graduating from the Massachusetts Technological Institute. The 25-foot-high granite monument, still the only large, free-standing memorial in Hanover, is a prominent example of the type of academic Greek Revival obelisk that was popular for Civil War memorials in Massachusetts' communities in the late 1860's and 1870's.

The Hanover High School, founded in 1868, occupied a room in the Town Hall until 1928, as did the library, from the time of its founding in 1887 until 1907. In due course each of these important community institutions received its own building, both located here in the center district. The public library, named the John Curtis Free Library for the benefactor who donated

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MassachusettsSection number 8 Page 6

both his collection of books for its establishment in 1887 and funds for its construction in his will of 1900, was built in 1907. It stands on land purchased by the town from a later member of the Stetson family, Henry Stetson, and was designed by prominent local architect, Edmund Q. Sylvester. His one-story, hip-roofed Federal/Classical Revival brick building is an outstanding example of early-twentieth-century, small-scale library design, and is one of Hanover center's most stylish and best-preserved structures. Edmund Sylvester later became a town benefactor, as well. At the 1926 town meeting, when an urgent plea was made for a high-school building, he pledged \$50,000 toward its construction. In 1927 the new high school, named the Edmund Q. Sylvester School, was built at 495 Hanover Street (Map #14) on the former schoolhouse lot, increased to twenty acres by a donation from a longtime library supporter, Lot Phillips. This time the architect was J. Williams Beal's son, John Woodbridge Beal, who in his two-story Federal Revival building, with its rich red brick and Federal/Classical architectural detailing, paid homage to Sylvester's library across the street. John W. Beal (1887-1971) had succeeded his father as principal architect of the firm of J. Williams Beal & Sons, which, in the time since its founder's death in 1919, had designed several more public buildings, including the Elks Building (1924) and Bethany Congregational Church (1927) in nearby Quincy, and as far away as the Lowell Cooperative Bank in Lowell (1924). John W. Beal and his partners went on to design many more houses, as well as churches, banks, schools and other institutional buildings into the middle of this century, most of them located in southeastern Massachusetts. The Sylvester School served as the town's high school until 1959, and is now an intermediate school.

The civic-mindedness and appreciation of Hanover's architecture, culture, and character as evidenced by the care and support which brought the Curtis Library and Sylvester School into being have been shown by others in this century, as well. In 1916 Dr. L. Vernon Briggs, who had a summer residence in Hanover, purchased the Stetson House for the purpose of preserving it for future generations, dedicating it as a memorial to his parents. He restored much of the interior in a conjectural representation of styles from various periods in the history of the house, and filled it with his own collection of antique furniture. In 1927 he offered the house to the newly-founded Hanover Historical Society. When they regretfully refused it for lack of funds, Dr. Briggs donated the house and contents to the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, which opened it by appointment to visitors for the next fifty years. In 1978 strong support at town meeting enabled the town to buy back the property, which was placed on the National Register of Historic Places the following year. The private, non-profit Friends of the Stetson House, an adjunct to the Hanover Historical Society, was formed in 1979 to maintain the building. Over the years, donations and wide-spread support from the Hanover community have enabled the Friends and the Hanover Historical Society, (which has had its headquarters in the house since 1991), not only to maintain the house and barn, but to make the property a center for the documentation and interpretation of the town's past. With the support, manpower, and

(continued)

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Hanover (Plymouth County)  
MassachusettsSection number 8 Page 7

expertise of the Hanover Garden Club, the Friends and the Society have created a picket-fenced herb garden in the front yard, and are presently landscaping the area behind the house for handicapped accessibility. In 1990-91 the Historical Society and Friends of the Stetson House joined with the Hanover Historical Commission (formed 1985) and other boards and departments of the town to move the ca. 1860 Benjamin Church Cobbler's Shop (Map #A) to the property and restore it as an important tool in the documentation and interpretation of Hanover's industrial past. In 1995, with the help of funding from businesses and individuals, a three-bay carriage house was erected at the rear of the property to house part of the Society's significant collection of historic carriages and wagons. In the future, these active organizations, along with the Town of Hanover and private citizens, plan to pursue funding to further restore and improve the properties of the center for the benefit and education of the public, and it is hoped that the nomination of the Hanover Center District to the National Register will aid in those efforts.

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of prehistoric occupation in Hanover are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Prehistoric sites in this area may contribute information relating to Native American subsistence and settlement use of the interior South Shore drainage, which in this area includes the North River. Prehistoric sites in this area may be part of a larger settlement system focusing on a major Native core area on the coast at the mouth of the North River, in the Plymouth area, or to the north in the Boston Harbor locale. Prehistoric sites in the Hanover area may also represent a specialized adaptation to more inland resources focusing on extensive wetlands in the general area.

Historic archaeological remains described above have the potential to provide information on important civic and religious structures in the Center that no longer survive and on the social, cultural, and economic lives of the town's inhabitants, including one of the earliest families to settle in the Center, the Stetson family. Archaeological survey and testing can help recover information on the location and form of three structures for the Congregational Church/Meeting House, two of which were torn down and one of which burned in 1862. Similar information might also be obtained for the Town Hall, which burned with the church in 1862, and for the 1850 schoolhouse which was torn down prior to construction of the Sylvester School. Detailed analysis of occupational related features that may survive with the church structures, Town Hall and school can provide information on the town's overall population since the Center and these structures represented the civil and religious focus for the town throughout most of the 18th through 20th centuries. The analysis of occupational related features associated with the Stetson House can also provide social, cultural, and economic information on a specific family, in this instance one of the earlier settlers in the Center and town. Archaeological survey and testing in

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National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

Hanover Center Historic District  
Hanover (Plymouth County)  
Massachusetts

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the vicinity of the Stetson House can determine the extent to which restoration work on the Stetson House and barn are consistent with the archaeological data and its effect on the integrity of archaeological resources in the area. As a group, potential archaeological resources associated with the Stetson House, church, town hall and school may contain information that would facilitate better understanding of the evolution of a town center which has changed little while growing from a rural agricultural community to a small suburban town.

(end)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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(end)

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Continuation Sheet

Hanover Center Historic District  
Hanover (Plymouth County)  
Massachusetts

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10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM References

Zone	Easting	Northing
19	347660	4664140
19	347660	4664020
19	347460	4664000
19	347340	4664280
19	347400	4664650

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the easternmost corner of the district, at a point on the north side of Hanover Street 450 feet east of the western boundary of the Town of Hanover school property (Parcel 47-5), the district boundary runs west/northwest to the northeast corner of the Congregational Parsonage lot (Parcel 47-6). It then follows the rear property line of Parcel 47-6, and crosses Silver Street to include the entire southern section of the Hanover Cemetery (Parcel 47-1), running north along Silver Street and generally west, southwest, and south along the parcel's outer bounds to Main Street. The boundary then runs east along Main Street to Center Street, then south along the east side of Center and continuing across Hanover Street, then south along the west bound of the Town of Hanover lot (Parcel 47-8). It then turns east along the rear boundary of Parcel 47-8, continuing in the same direction along a line of convenience east/northeast parallel to Hanover Street until it reaches the eastern bound of Town of Hanover Parcel 55-12 at the southwest corner of Parcel 47-10, at which point it turns north along the bound to Hanover Street. From there it crosses Hanover and runs east along the north side of the street to the point first described.

Boundary Justification

The district boundaries include the entire historic meetinghouse- and municipal core of the town of Hanover. This is an unusually complete assemblage of all the built elements that make up the traditional New England town center--the Town Hall, original cemetery, the church of the first religious society and parsonage, public library, first high school, Civil War monument, and even the house where the planning was done for the founding of the town. Because of the long extension to the rear of the properties on the south side of Hanover Street, the southern bound of the district follows a line of convenience from the rear boundary of the Town Hall lot across the south part of the Stetson House property. Public facilities excluded from the district include

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

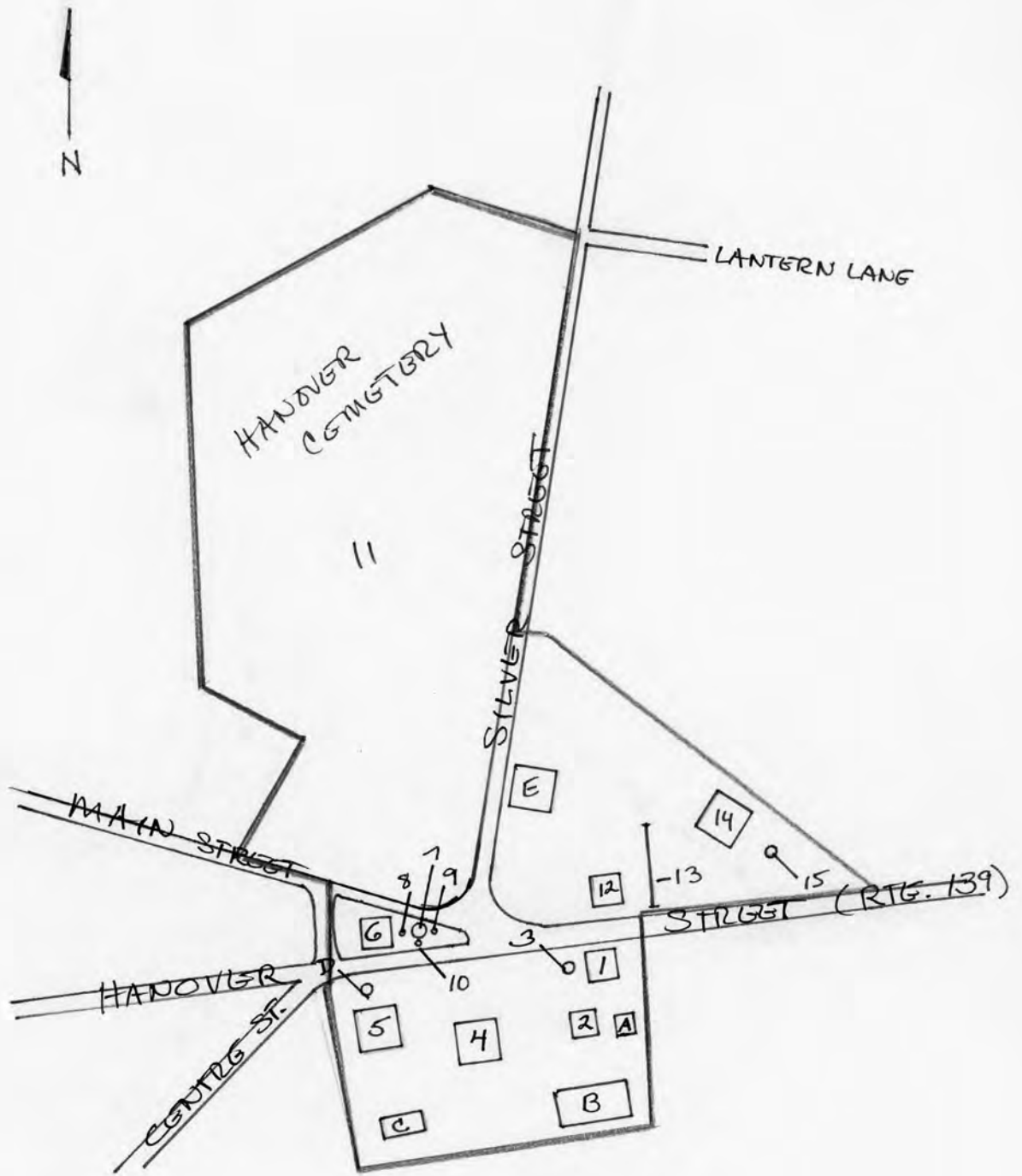
Section number 10 Page 2

Hanover Center Historic District  
Hanover (Plymouth County)  
Massachusetts

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a new firehouse just west of the Town Hall, and newer sections of the cemetery. It is possible that the district could be expanded in the future to include parts of the surrounding residential area, especially the linear clusters of modest eighteenth- and nineteenth-century houses nearby on Center and Hanover Streets.

(end)



**HANOVER CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT**  
**Hanover, MA**

**HANOVER CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT  
Hanover (Plymouth County), Massachusetts  
DISTRICT DATA SHEET**

C = contributing; NC = non-contributing  
B = building; O = object; Si = site

<b>NR MAP#</b>	<b>MHC#</b>	<b>ASSESS. MAP#</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>HISTORIC NAME</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>TYPE</b>
<u>Sylvester School property:</u>							
14		47-5	495 Hanover St.	Sylvester School	1927	C	B
13		47-5	495 Hanover St.	Granite fence posts(21)	19th century	C	O
15		47-5	495 Hanover St.	Memorial Flagpole	1927	C	O
<u>Stetson House property:</u>							
1	142	47-9	514 Hanover St.	Stetson House	ca. 1700	C	B
2		55-12	514 Hanover St.	Stetson Barn	early 18th C.	C	B
A		55-12	514 Hanover St.	Church Cobbler's Shop	ca. 1860/1990	NC	B
B		55-12	514 Hanover St.	Carriage shed	1995	NC	B
3		47-9	514 Hanover St.	Rubble stone well	unknown	C	O
12	306	47-6	515 Hanover St.	Congregational Parsonage	ca. 1855	C	B
4	230	47-8	534 Hanover St.	Curtis Library	1907	C	B

**HANOVER CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT**  
**Hanover (Plymouth County), Massachusetts**  
**DISTRICT DATA SHEET**

<u>NR MAP#</u>	<u>MHC#</u>	<u>ASSESS. MAP#</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>HISTORIC NAME</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>TYPE</u>
<u>Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument:</u>							
7	900	47-7	Hanover/Silver St.s	Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument	1878	C	O
8, 9		47-7	Hanover/Silver St.s	Civil War Cannons (2)	mid-19th century	C (2)	O
10		47-7	Hanover/Silver St.s	Cannon Balls	mid-19th century	C	O
6	143	47-7	547 Hanover St.	First Congregational Church	1863	C	B
<u>Town Hall property:</u>							
5	231	47-8	550 Hanover St.	Hanover Town Hall	1863	C	B
C		47-8	550R Hanover St.	Boys' Club (former horse sheds)	19th/late 20th century	NC	B
D		47-8	550 Hanover St.	Memorial Flagpole	late 20th century	NC	O
11	801	47-1	Silver/Main St.s	Hanover Cemetery	1727	C	Si
E		47-6	17 Silver St.	Congregational Church Parish Hall	1965	NC	B

TOTAL RESOURCES: 15 contributing

5 non-contributing

7 Contributing Buildings  
 7 Contributing Objects  
 1 Contributing Site

4 Noncontributing Buildings  
 1 Noncontributing Objects

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Hanover Center Historic District

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Plymouth

DATE RECEIVED: 3/28/96      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/09/96  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 4/25/96      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/12/96  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 96000476

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: Y PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT       RETURN       REJECT      \_\_\_\_\_ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*This district is historically & architecturally significant  
as the civic and institutional core of the village of Hanover*

RECOM./CRITERIA accept A & C

REVIEWER Patrick Andrus

DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE 5/9/96

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



Photo # 1

Stetson House and Barn  
514 Hanover Street  
Hanover, Massachusetts

Diane J. Haigh, Photographer 11/89  
Schoolhouse Graphics, 142 Whiting  
Street, Hanover, MA

Photo # 1

Photograph 1 of 12.

View of Stetson House and Barn  
taken from Hanover Street looking  
south.

#1

STETSON HOUSE + BARN  
514 HANOVER ST

HANOVER CENTER DISTRICT  
PLYMOUTH CO., MA

DIANE HAIGH 11/89  
SCHOOLHOUSE GRAPHICS  
142 WHITING ST  
HANOVER

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Photo # 2

John Curtis Free Library  
534 Hanover Street  
Hanover, Massachusetts

Diane J. Haigh, Photographer, 11/89  
Schoolhouse Graphics, 142 Whiting  
Street, Hanover, MA

Photo # 2

Photograph 2 of 12.

View taken from Hanover Street  
looking south, 1968 addition is  
visible to the rear.

# 2 = JOHN CURTIS FREE LIBRARY  
534 HANOVER ST  
HANOVER, PLYMOUTH CO., MA

DIANE HAIGH 11/89  
SCHOOLHOUSE GRAPHICS  
142 WHITING ST.  
HANOVER, MA

HANOVER CENTER DISTRICT

see  
14  
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D-9  
4-2



Photo # 3

Hanover Town Hall  
550 Hanover Street  
Hanover, Massachusetts

Diane J. Haigh, Photographer  
Schoolhouse Graphics, 142 Whitting Street, Hanover, MA

11/89

Photo # 3

Photograph number 3 of 12.

View of Hanover Town Hall with  
1893 and 1977 additions. View  
taken from Hanover Street, looking  
southeast.

#3

HANOVER TOWN HALL  
550 HANOVER ST.

HANOVER CENTER DISTRICT  
PLYMOUTH CO., MA

DIANE HAIGH  
SCHOOLHOUSE GRAPHICS  
142 WHITTING ST.  
HANOVER, MA

11/89

*Handwritten:*  
Diane Haigh  
Schoolhouse Graphics  
142 Whitting St.  
Hanover, MA



Photo # 4

First Congregational Church  
547 Hanover Street  
Hanover, Massachusetts

Diane J. Haigh, Photographer 11/89  
Schoolhouse Graphics, 142 Whiting  
Street, Hanover, MA

Photo # 4

Photograph number 4 of 12.

View of First Congregational  
Church and Civil War Monument  
taken from Hanover Street  
looking northwest.

#4

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
and 547 HANOVER ST.

SOLDIERS' + SAILORS' MONUMENT

HANOVER CENTER DISTRICT  
PLYMOUTH CO., MA

DIANE HAIGH 11/89  
SCHOOLHOUSE GRAPHICS  
142 WHITING ST.  
HANOVER, MA

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Photo # 5

Parsonage of the First Congre-  
gational Church  
515 Hanover St.

Hanover, Massachusetts 11/89

Diane J. Haigh, Photographer  
Schoolhouse Graphics, 142 Whit-  
ing Street, Hanover, MA

Photo # 5

Photograph number 5 of 12.

View taken from Hanover Street  
looking north.

#5

CONGREGATIONAL PARSONAGE  
515 HANOVER ST.

HANOVER CENTER DISTRICT  
PLYMOUTH CO., MA

DIANE HAIGH 11/89  
SCHOOLHOUSE GRAPHICS  
142 WHITING ST  
HANOVER, MA

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Photo # 6

Edmund Q. Sylvester School  
495 Hanover Street  
Hanover, Massachusetts

Diane J. Haigh, Photographer<sup>11/89</sup>  
Schoolhouse Graphics, 142 Whit-  
ing Street, Hanover, MA

#6

SYLVESTER SCHOOL and MEMORIAL FLAGPOLE  
495 HANOVER ST.

HANOVER CENTER DISTRICT  
PLYMOUTH CO., MA

DIANE HAIGH<sup>11/89</sup>  
SCHOOLHOUSE GRAPHICS  
142 WHITING ST.  
HANOVER, MA

Photo # 6

Photograph number 6 of 12.

View of Sylvester School with  
addition, showing Memorial  
Flagpole to W.W.1 Veterans.

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Photo # 7

Hanover Cemetery  
Bounded by Main Street and  
Center Street.

Hanover, Massachusetts

Diane J. Haigh, Photographer 11/89  
Schoolhouse Graphics, 142 Whit-  
ing Street, Hanover, MA

Photo # 7

Photograph number 7 of 12.

View taken from the rise of  
hill looking south toward the  
Congregational Church.

#7

HANOVER CEMETERY

HANOVER CENTER DISTRICT  
PLYMOUTH CO., MA

DIANE HAIGH, 11/89  
SCHOOLHOUSE GRAPHICS  
142 WHITING ST  
HANOVER, MA

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Photo # 8

Civil War Monument  
Intersection of Hanover Street  
and Silver Street  
Hanover, Massachusetts

Diane J. Haigh, Photographer 11/89  
Schoolhouse Graphics, 142 Whit-  
ing Street, Hanover, MA

Photo # 8

Photograph number 8 of 12.

View taken from second floor  
window of First Congregational  
Church looking east at the inter-  
section of Hanover and Silver  
Streets.

#8

SOLDIERS' + SAILORS' MONUMENT  
HANOVER + SILVER STS

HANOVER CENTER DISTRICT  
PLYMOUTH CO., MA

DIANE HAIGH  
SCHOOLHOUSE GRAPHICS  
142 WHITING ST.  
HANOVER, MA

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Photo # 9

Streetscape

Congregational Parish Hall (non-conforming), Civil War Monument and fence bounded cemetery.

Hanover and Silver Street  
Hanover, Massachusetts

Diane J. Haigh, Photographer 11/89  
Schoolhouse Graphics, 142 Whiting Street, Hanover, MA

# 9

CONGREGATIONAL PARISH HALL,  
SOLDIERS + SAILORS' MONUMENT,  
HANOVER CEMETERY

HANOVER + SILVER STS

HANOVER CENTER DISTRICT  
PLYMOUTH CO., MA

DIANE HAIGH, 11/89  
SCHOOLHOUSE GRAPHICS  
142 WHITING ST.  
HANOVER, MA

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Photo # 9

Photograph number 9 of 12.

View taken from Hanover Street  
looking north showing Silver  
Street between cemetery and  
Parish Hall.



1863

HANOVER TOWN HALL

DO NOT PASS



Photo #10 Streetscape  
John Curtis Free Library  
Hanover Town Hall  
534 and 550 Hanover Street  
Hanover, Massachusetts

Diane J. Haigh, Photographer 11/89  
Schoolhouse Graphics, 142 Whiting  
Street, Hanover, MA

Photo # 10  
Photograph 10 of 12.

View taken from Hanover Street  
looking southeast showing Hanover  
Town Hall, Memorial Flagpole, and  
John Curtis Library.

#10

CURTIS FREE LIBRARY  
534 HANOVER ST

HANOVER TOWN HALL  
550 HANOVER ST

HANOVER CENTRAL DISTRICT  
PLYMOUTH CO, MA

DIANE HAIGH 11/89  
SCHOOLHOUSE GRAPHICS  
142 WHITING ST  
HANOVER, MA

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JPhoto # 11 Streetscape  
550 Hanover St., Town Hall  
547 Hanover St., First Congrega-  
tional Church  
534 Hanover St., John Curtis Free  
Library  
Hanover, Massachusetts

Diane J. Haigh, Photographer 11/89  
Schoolhouse Graphics, 142 Whiting  
Street, Hanover, MA

Photo # 11  
Photograph number 11 of 12.  
View taken from Hanover St.  
looking east showing Town Hall,  
Memorial Flagpole, First Congre-  
gational Church and John Curtis  
Free Library in the distance.

# 11

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
HANOVER TOWN HALL  
CURTIS LIBRARY

HANOVER CENTER DISTRICT  
PLYMOUTH CO., MA

DIANE HAIGH 11/89  
SCHOOLHOUSE GRAPHICS  
142 WHITING ST.  
HANOVER, MA

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Photo # 12 Streetscape  
550 Hanover St., Town Hall  
547 Hanover St., First Congrega-  
tional Church  
Hanover, Massachusetts

Diane J. Haigh, Photographer 11/89  
Schoolhouse Graphics, 142 Whiting  
Street, Hanover, MA

Photo # 12

Photograph 12 of 12.

View from Main St., looking south  
showing stonewall edge of cemeter-  
y, rear and side of First Congre-  
gational Church and Town Hall.

#12

HANOVER TOWN HALL  
550 HANOVER ST

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
HANOVER, MA

HANOVER CENTER DISTRICT  
PLYMOUTH CO, MA

DIANE HAIGH  
SCHOOLHOUSE GRAPHICS  
142 WHITING ST  
HANOVER, MA

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11/89



STETSON BARN  
514 HANOVER ST

HANOVER CENTER DISTRICT  
PLYMOUTH CO., MA

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

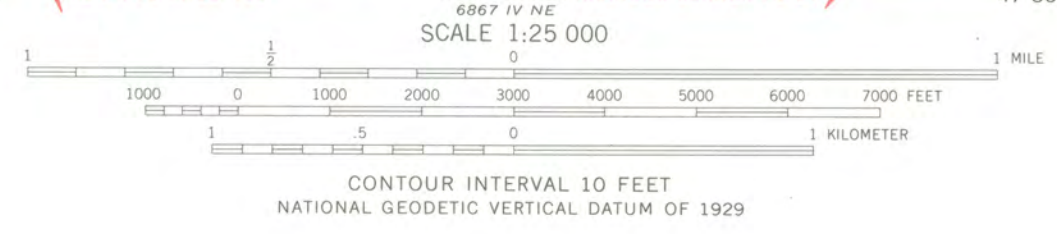
HANOVER CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT  
PLYMOUTH CO., MA

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

HANOVER QUADRANGLE  
MASSACHUSETTS-PLYMOUTH CO.  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



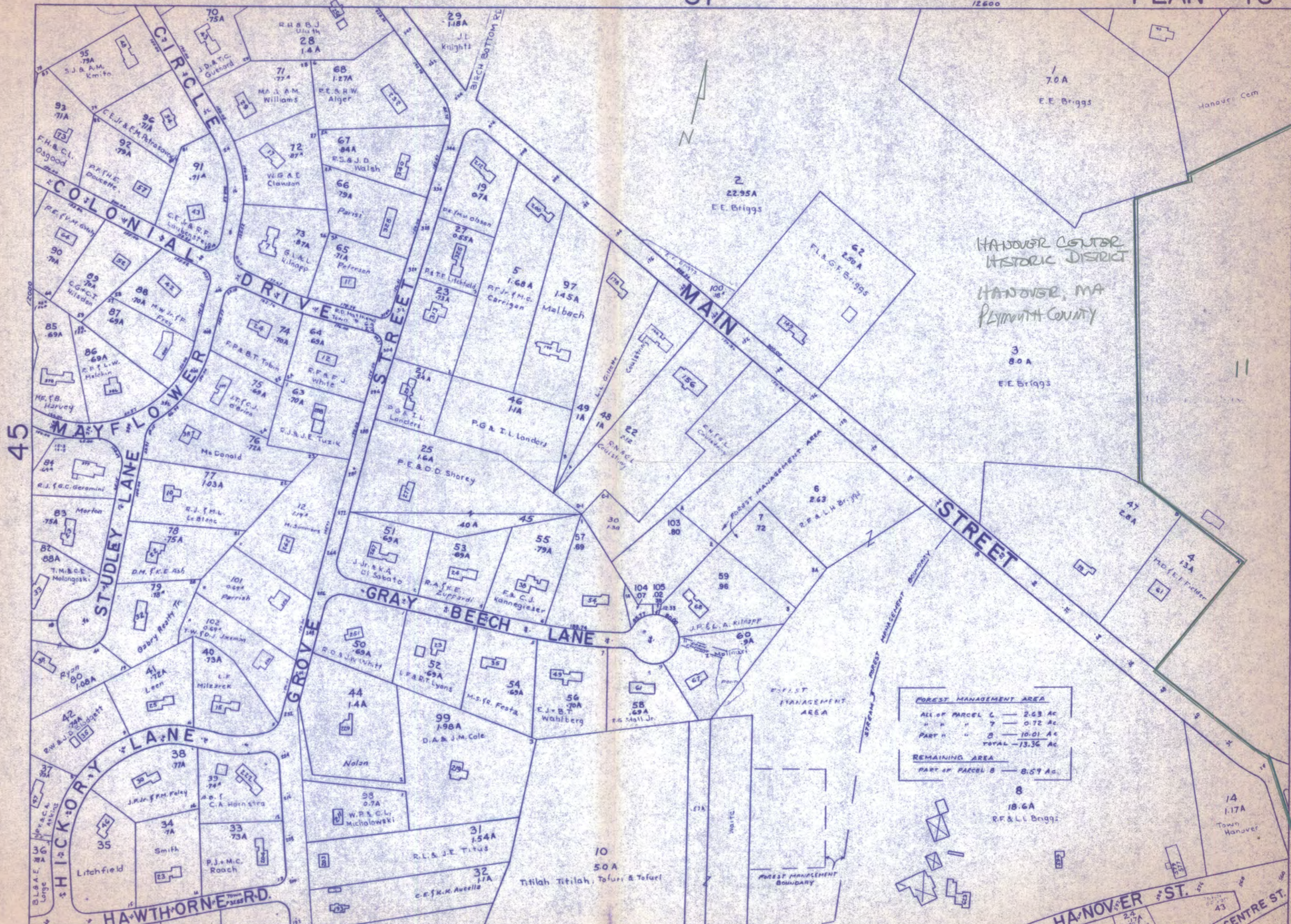
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey  
Topography by planetree survey 1935. Revised from aerial  
photographs taken 1974. Field checked 1975. Map edited 1978  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system,  
mainland zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 19



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

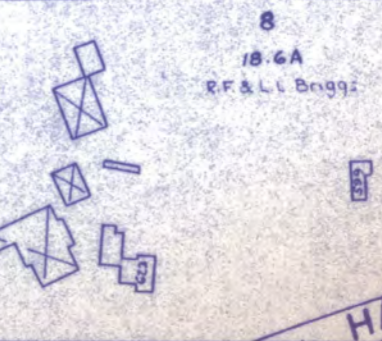
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

HANOVER, MASS.  
N4200-W7045/7.5  
1978  
AMS 6868 III SE-SERIES Y814



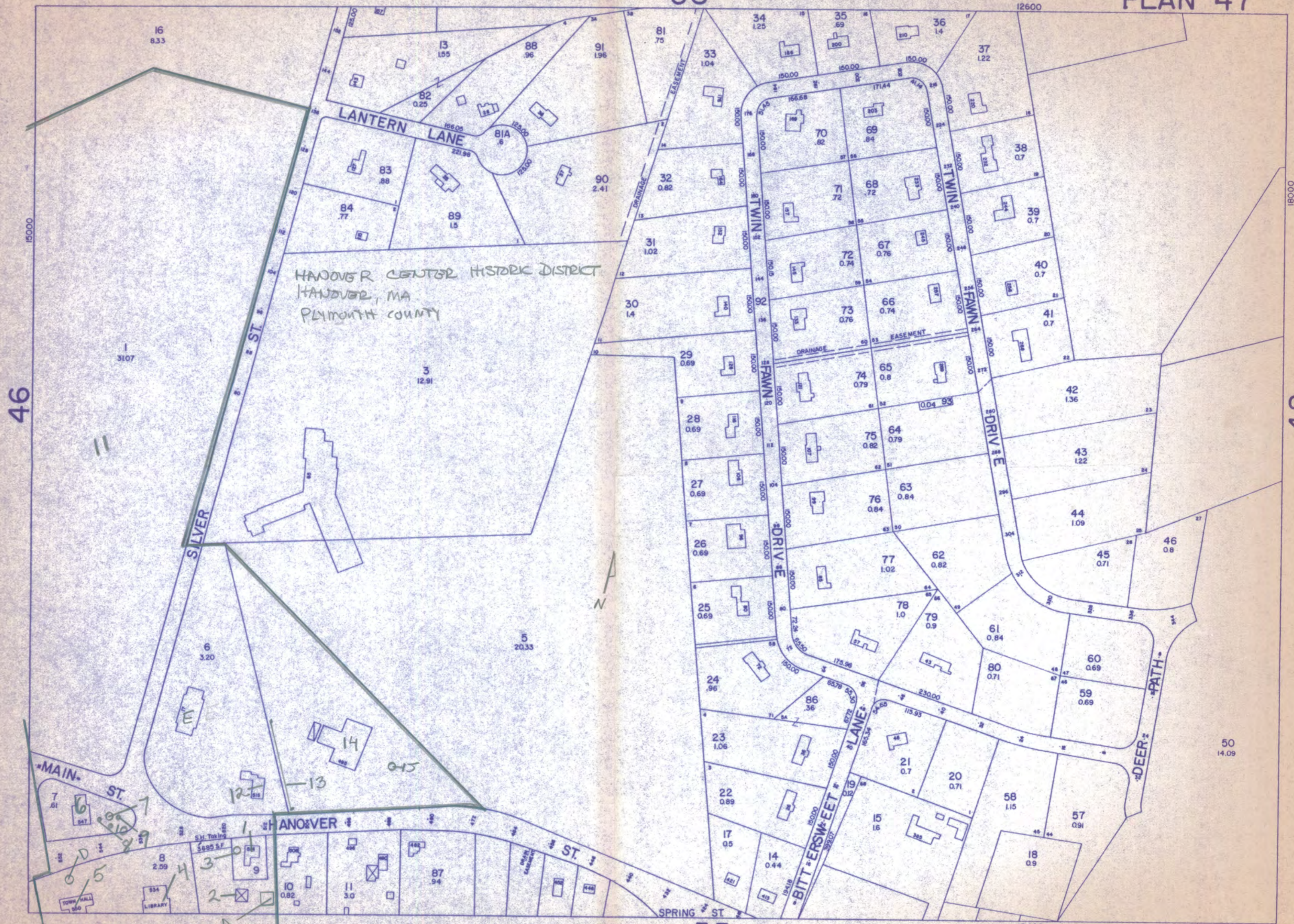
HANOVER CENTER  
HISTORIC DISTRICT  
HANOVER, MA  
PLYMOUTH COUNTY

FOREST MANAGEMENT AREA	
ALL OF PARCEL 6	2.63 Ac
" " " 7	0.72 Ac
PART " " 8	10.01 Ac
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13.36 Ac</b>
REMAINING AREA	
PART OF PARCEL 8	8.59 Ac



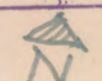
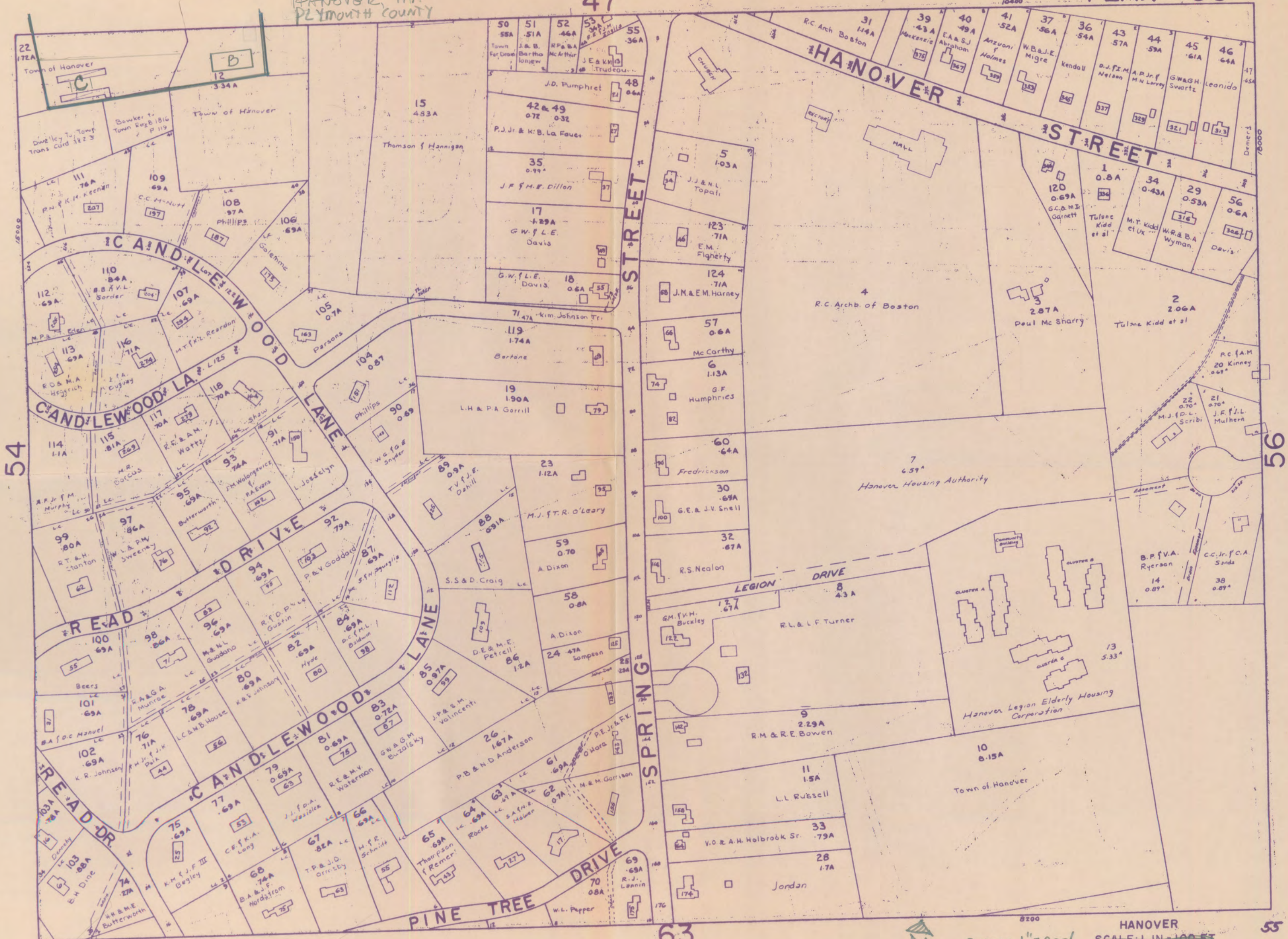
45

47



46

48



SCALE 1"=200'

HANOVER SCALE 1"=100 FT

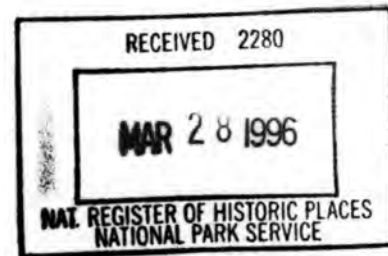


## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

March 15, 1996

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



Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Hanover Center Historic District, Hanover, Silver, Main and Center Streets, Hanover  
(Plymouth County), Massachusetts, 02339

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has 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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betsy Friedberg".

Betsy Friedberg  
National Register Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Barbara Barker, Chairperson, Hanover Historical Commission  
Robert J. Nyman, Hanover Board of Selectmen  
Lorraine Welsh, Library Director, The John Curtis Free Library