

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



1385

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 Phillipston Center Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number roughly Baldwinville Rd., The Common, Petersham, Templeton Rds. not for publication

city or town Phillipston vicinity _____

state Massachusetts code MA county Worcester code 027 zip code 01331

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/BGS

10/6/99

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

Date

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

Edson H. Beall

Date of Action

11/22/99

Phillipston Center HD
Name of Property

Worcester, MA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
 public-local
 public-State
 public-Federal

(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	
24	10	building
6	1	sites
		structures
1		objects
31	11	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

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwellings
COMMERCE/TRADE/general store
GOVERNMENT/town hall
EDUCATION/school
FUNERARY/cemetery
RELIGION/church

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwellings
GOVERNMENT/town hall
EDUCATION/school
RELIGION/church
FUNERARY/cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

EARLY REPUBLIC/Federal
MID 19th CENTURY/Greek Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE/granite
walls WOOD/weatherboard
VINYL/weatherboard
roof ASPHALT; STONE/slate
other

Narrative Description

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 7 Page 1**DESCRIPTION****EXTENT AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE AREA**

The Phillipston Center Historic District, about 44 acres in size, encompasses a major portion of the center village of the town of Phillipston. Phillipston is a town of a population of about 1,485 located in the northern part of Worcester County, Massachusetts. The focal point of the area is the town's historic institutional center, which is concentrated about the town common. The district also includes portions of Baldwinville Road, Templeton Road, and Petersham Road, which radiate out from the common to the north, east, and west respectively. Short segments of Lincoln Road, which branch westward off of Petersham Road, and Athol Road, which cuts northwest off of Baldwinville Road are also included. Properties contained within the area are both civic and residential.

Sparsely settled and little disturbed by 20th century construction, the Phillipston Center Historic District has the feeling of a 19th century rural New England village. This is so, even though a few significant buildings that once stood on the town common have been lost over time and a few new buildings have been built within the historic area. A sense of age is lent to the area by the presence of large, old trees along the roads of the district and on the Common and by the granite fences, walls, foundations, steps, and posts that are widely used here. The architecture, predominant spatial arrangement, and landscaping features of the area are representative of the town's late-18th-through-mid-19th century period of major growth and prosperity.

TOPOGRAPHY

The central portion of the district consists of mostly level terrain. The common and the southern portion of Baldwinville Road are situated on flat land at the top of a hill. Only at the edges of the district does the ground fall off and then only gradually. The descent from the level hilltop occurs on Templeton Road east of the District # 1 School/Phillips Memorial Library (MAP # 4) and on Barre Road south of the intersection with The Common Road. Petersham Road descends gradually from its intersection with The Common Road and flattens out near the Barnum-White-Farr House, 60 Petersham Road (MAP # 12). Beginning from its intersection with Petersham Road, Lincoln Road slopes downward in front of the Gardner Maynard House, 10 Lincoln Road (MAP # 11). On Baldwinville Road north of the intersection with Athol Road there is a gradual decline in the terrain until just past the I. & C. Bassett House and Store, 10 Athol Road (corner Baldwinville Road (MAP # 20). This descent is followed by an upward climb after the Baker-Whitney House, 55 Baldwinville Road (MAP #22).

TYPES OF PROPERTIES IN THE DISTRICT

Thirty-four buildings are included in the district. Of these twenty-four are considered contributing and ten non-contributing to the historic character of the district. There are seven sites, six of which are contributing and one non-contributing. There is one object, which is considered contributing.

Seven of the historic properties, including the Common, Center Cemetery, town pound, town pump, town hall, school, and library are civic properties. The remainder of the properties in the area are residential. Three are of mid- or late-20th century date. These modern dwellings can be considered non-contributing to the historic

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Phillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 7 Page 2

character of the area. However, some very substantial, free-standing, granite foundations (possibly also including a granite animal pen) surviving from earlier barns next to a late 20th century house at 10 The Common (Map # 14) are an exception. These well-preserved structures are associated with an early 19th century tavern/residence that formerly occupied this site.

ARCHITECTURAL STYLES

Stylistically, buildings in the district are mostly limited to late 18th and early 19th century architectural styles -- specifically, Federal and Greek Revival. While many residential buildings have Federal style features or detailing, the town's major institutional buildings are Greek Revival in style. The Congregational Meeting House (65 The Common; MAP #2; **Photo # 1**; 1786, 1837) and School House # 1 (25 Templeton Road; MAP # 4; **Photo # 4**; 1790, ca. 1850) are Federal period buildings that were converted to the Greek Revival style during the early 19th century.

Even though the Town Hall (50 The Common, MAP # 7, **Photo # 3**) was built in 1891 and has some minor Italianate and Victorian Gothic detailing, its form and major elements are Greek Revival in inspiration. The larger, two-story residences found in the district are Federal or Greek Revival in style. These two-story dwellings are also among the most high style buildings in the district. Most of the smaller dwellings are comparatively unadorned examples of the timber frame vernacular, bearing only a few Federal or Greek Revival period ornamental details. The only example of the Georgian style is seen in the Rev. Ezekiel Lysander Bascom House (70 The Common, MAP # 1, **Photos # 6, 12**, 1770?-1800). However, it is unclear whether the heavy Georgian style quoins and voussoir/keystone window caps are original or not. Because of their unusual elaborateness, in comparison with the scarce ornament found on other similar early houses in Phillipston, it is possible that these details are Colonial Revival additions made around the turn of the 20th century.

BUILDING ORIENTATION

Most buildings in the area are oriented with their main entrances facing the road. The only exception is the Phillipston Memorial School (listed above).

BUILDING FORM**Institutional****Gable Front**

Several institutional buildings (the Greek Revival style Congregational Meeting House, the Greek Revival style School House # 1, and the partially Greek Revival style Town Hall) all have their main entrances in a pedimented gable end that faces the street.

Form Follows Function

One major building in the area, the Phillipston Memorial School (1948) does not adhere to 18th and 19th century building form traditions. The formal entrance, if there can be said to be one, is on the side, not the street front, of this flat-roofed building. One entrance on the far west end of the main facade of the 1971 addition has a casual appearance and does not resemble a main entrance to the building.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 7 Page 3ResidentialGable End Type

Most of the residential buildings in the Phillipston Center Historic District have their main facades located on the long side. The gable is located on the end, rather than on the front of this house type. Two main forms of this type are seen in the district, a one-story version and a two-story version.

One-Story

One-and-a-half-story, five-bay, center-entry, gable-end houses (most with center chimneys) are well represented here. Examples of this form are the Rev. Ezekiel Lysander Bascom House, the Gould-Miller-Pike House (30 The Common, MAP # 9, **Photo # 14**, c1760), the George Bowker House (10 Templeton Road, MAP # 6, **Photo # 13**, 1790-1830), and the wing of 75 Baldwinville Road (MAP # 24, 1790-1830). The Andrew S. Chubb House (20 Baldwinville Road, MAP # 18, **Photo # 15**, 1790-1830) and 65 Baldwinville Road, (MAP # 23, 1790-1830) have knee-wall construction, suggesting a possible later date of construction than the above-mentioned houses of this type that have shorter corner posts.

Two-Story

Two-and-a-half-story, five-bay, center-entry, gable-end dwellings (most with paired chimneys, mostly set on the rear wall) are also widely represented in Phillipston Center (for a listing of houses of this type, see "19th Century Dwellings in Phillipston", Section 8).

Five-Bay, Hip-Roof Type

One house of this type exists in the district, the 1800-1844 Barnum-White-Farr House (30 Petersham Road, MAP #12, **Photo # 10**). It is of the five-bay, center-entry, foursquare type with paired interior chimneys.

Gable Front Type

Only one residence in the district is built on the gable-front, sidehall-entry plan that was characteristic of the mid-19th century Greek Revival style. It is the Sanderson House-Congregational Parsonage (35 Templeton Road, MAP # 5, **Photo # 5**, ca. 1850).

ROOF TYPE

Roofs are gabled, with only a few exceptions. Exceptions are the hip-roofed, Federal style, Barnum-White-Farr House, the flat-roofed Phillipston Memorial School (20 The Common, MAP # 10, **Photo # 22**, 1948, 1971, 1995), and the gambrel-roofed, non-contributing, late 20th century house at 15 Baldwinville Road (MAP # 15).

MATERIALSWood

Buildings in the district are all of wood construction.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 7 Page 4**Granite**

Foundations of buildings built before the 20th century are largely of granite, some of brick. 20th century foundations are largely of cement.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DISTRICT**THE COMMON**

The Phillipston Common consists of a grassy area of moderate size, planted with mature trees and encircled by The Common Road. Roads radiate outward from The Common Road, in an asymmetrical arrangement, to the east, west, north, and south.

A small additional grassy triangle to the west of the main area of the common is visually in the "spirit" of the common, although it is unclear whether historically or legally it is actually part of it. This triangle appears to have been created at some time during the 20th century when a previously more open and undefined roadway was divided to better channel traffic at the three-way intersection of The Common, Baldwinville, and Petersham roads.

BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES AROUND THE COMMON

No buildings stand directly on the park-like common proper. Instead, they are scattered along the outside perimeter of The Common Road. The major focal axes on the Common are the Congregational Meeting House (MAP #2), on the north side, and the Town Hall (MAP # 7), on the south side. Also ranged around this central place are several one-and-a-half-story houses; the Town Barn (60 The Common, MAP #3, **Illustration #8**, c1890's); and the Phillipston Memorial School (MAP # 10). Other buildings that are visually an integral part of the common are actually located on Templeton Road. They are the one-and-a-half-story George Bowker House (10 Templeton Road, MAP # 6, 1790-1830) and the District #1 School/Phillips Memorial Library (MAP # 4).

The most significant of the buildings set around Phillipston Common are the:

Congregational Meeting House, 65 The Common (MAP # 2, **Photo # 1**; 1786, 1837; Greek Revival; "masterworkman" for 1786 building, Isaac Bellows, Hubbardston, Ma.; possible designer-builder for 1837 remodeling, Daniel Thompson)

This gable-roofed, Greek Revival style church is built on a rectangular plan, five bays wide and six bays long. The building rests on a foundation of random, split granite blocks with mortar joints. The basement, set half above grade, is lighted by windows on three sides.

The main facade of the building is expressed as a five-bay, Greek temple front with frieze and full pediment. While the outer bay on either side of the facade is enclosed and trimmed with paneled pilasters, the three central bays are treated as a recessed porch, distyle in antis, distinguished by a pair of fine reeded Doric columns. The two main entrances, located in the second and fourth bays, are reached through this central porch. Above the temple front rises a two-stage rectangular belfry set on a rectangular podium and capped with an octagonal spire with a flag weather

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 7 Page 5

vane on top.

Window and doorframes on the main body of the church are fluted with plain clock corners. Sash are 12/12 in the main body of the building and 8/8 in the basement. Doors are eight-panel.

Of note is the basement-level entrance on the south end of the west side of the building. The prominent character and ornamental features of this pilaster/architrave/cornice doorframe with 5/6 length sidelights proclaim it as a major entrance. Details worthy of mention are the paneled pilasters treated with acanthus ornament in relief, a tripartite architrave, smooth frieze, subdivided sidelight panes, and a panel trimmed with a low-relief pyramidal block at the base of each sidelight.

Town Barn, 60 The Common (MAP # 3, **Illustration # 8**, c1890's, elements of Greek Revival)

This long, low building faces gable-end to the road. Its side walls are low and its roof is massive, broad, and sheltering. The entrance is at the center of the gable-front facade. Simple in design, it has Greek Revival style frieze, cornice, and gable returns as its only claim to style.

District # 1 School/Phillips Memorial Library, 25 Templeton Road (MAP # 4, **Photo # 4**), 1790, ca. 1840-1850, Greek Revival

This rectangular, gable-roofed building is four bays long and three bays wide and rests on a granite foundation. The main facade is articulated as a blind tetrastyle Greek temple, with paneled pilasters across the front, a frieze, and a full pediment. The main facade is of match boards, while the remainder of the exterior is of clapboard. The single opening on the main facade is the central entrance with a plank doorframe, which surrounds a four-panel door. Still intact and in use is a 19th century wooden flagpole mounted in the facade pediment and rising above the peak of the facade gable. Window sash are 2/2. The interior retains its schoolhouse plan with entrance vestibule and a single large classroom. 19th century tongue and groove wainscoted walls also survive on the interior.

Town Pound, 25 Templeton Road (MAP # 27), 1806

The pound, intended for the temporary holding of stray livestock, is made of long, dry-laid slabs of split granite which form a fence about four feet high. This fence encloses a spacious lot immediately east of the District # 1 School/Library building. A narrow entrance, on the west side of the enclosure behind the school, is marked by a pair of tall split granite posts. Although the structure currently serves no particular purpose, it is in good condition. The lot enclosed by this pound is larger than many that still survive in other Central Massachusetts towns.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 7 Page 6

George Bowker House, 10 Templeton Road, (MAP #6, **Photo # 13**), 1790-1830, timber frame vernacular with Federal and Greek Revival details

This one-and-a-half-story, five-bay, center-entry, center-chimney, double-pile, gable-end dwelling has a one-story wing on either end of the main body and a long one-and-a-half-story ell extending behind the eastern wing. Chimney placement and changes in the foundation at the back of the main body suggest that the main body was originally a single room deep. The date of this change is unclear. The eastern wing appears to have been added after 1898, possibly during the early years of the 20th century. The date of the other wing and ell is earlier, but yet undocumented. 12/6 sash in the ell suggest a possible early 19th century date.

A conversion from the Federal to the Greek Revival style is seen in a combination of the two moulding styles and a makeshift frieze across the main facade. Also Greek Revival is the extension of the eaves on the end gables, the use of 6/6 sash, and the paneled treatment of the door frame at the main entrance with recessed corner blocks. However, the narrow front door opening with a two-pane transom above are probably survivors from the earlier period.

A one-and-a-half-story, gable-roofed outbuilding fronting on Barre Road has the appearance of a small barn with an attached one-story shed addition along the south side. It may be a somewhat altered wheelwrights's shop that is seen at this location on 19th century maps of the property.

Town Hall, 20 The Common (MAP # 7, **Photo # 3**), 1891, Victorian Gothic/Italianate/Greek Revival

The two-and-a-half-story, three-bay, center-entry, gable-front Town Hall is five bays deep. It is rectangular in plan, measuring 55' x 35', and rests on a granite foundation. Local stone from the property of S. W. Baker was used for the foundation. The building is roofed with slate. Trim includes a Greek Revival style frieze and roof cornice with gable returns, Italianate window caps and eave brackets, and a Victorian Gothic style gable apron with lace-like spindle and jigsaw ornament surrounding the date "1891". Also Victorian is the main entry porch with turned posts and spindle frieze. Window sash are 6/6 and 4/4.

Gould-Miller-Pike House, 30 The Common (MAP # 9, **Photo # 14**), 1760?-1830, timber frame vernacular

This one-and-a-half-story, five-bay, center-entry, double-pile, gable-end house has one remaining chimney of a pair of interior chimneys in the main body and a rear ell. The ell is said to have been the original house. Window and doorframes are plain. Window sash are 6/9. A one-and-a-half-story barn stands at the rear.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 7 Page 7

Phillipston Memorial School, 20 The Common (MAP # 10, **Photo # 22**); 1948 (architect Adolph Johnson, Worcester, Ma.), 1971 (architect, Forrest Jones, Charlton, Ma.), Modern

This one-story, flat-roofed, school building consists of an original rectangular four-classroom section with basement, on the eastern end, and a three-classroom addition on a concrete slab, built in 1971 on the west end. A two-story rectangular tower, which was added (after 1971) at the junction of the two sections, acts as a visual focus for the main facade. It is an important feature, since there is no other central focal point on the main facade. The only entrance of the front of the building is located at the far west end and has the appearance of a secondary entrance.

Rev. Ezekiel Lysander Bascom House, 70 The Common (MAP # 1, **Photos # 6, 12**), 1770?-1800, timber frame vernacular with Georgian (Georgian Revival?) details

This one-and-a-half-story, five-bay, center-entry, center-chimney, double pile, gable-end dwelling rests on a granite foundation. At the rear is an ell with a wing attached to its east side that contains a garage and sheds. Study of maps of 1857, 1870, and 1898 suggests that the house had no ell until sometime between 1870 and 1898. A series of 20th century photographs shows that the wing attached to the ell began as a small barn and was gradually increased in length in several installments during the early and mid-20th century.

Compared to other houses of its type and approximate period of construction in Phillipston, this house is unusually elaborate in its ornament. Like others of its kind, it has close eaves and gable returns, but, unlike them, it also has quoins at the corners, moulded window frames with haunches and voussoir/keystone caps. The doorframe of the main entrance is composed of pilasters with entasis and a cornice. Like other details seen here, the doorframe is strongly projecting -- suggestive of the Georgian style. Window sash are 9/6. Further research is necessary to determine the evolution of this building and whether the Georgian detailing is of 18th century date or whether it is a Colonial Revival addition made in the late 19th century.

A small outbuilding to the east of the house now serves as a shop. It was originally part of the horse sheds that stood behind the Congregational meeting house and was moved here and converted to an artist's studio at the time they were replaced by the present Town Barn.

BALDWINVILLE AND ATHOL ROADS

The Common area and an adjoining section of Baldwinville Road that extends as far north as its intersection with Athol Road form the most visually prominent part of Phillipston Center. If Phillipston had continued to grow during the mid and late 19th century, this area would likely have become equally as important as the Common. Baldwinville Road would then have become the town's equivalent of "Main Street." In this area are located several of the town's larger and more high style 19th century dwellings, several smaller 18th or early 19th century dwellings, an early 19th century former store, and the town's 1803 Center Cemetery. The most significant properties in this section are the:

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 7 Page 8

Dr. James Stone, Jr. House, 10 Baldwinville Road (MAP # 17, **Photos #16, 17**) 1811?-1840s, Federal/Greek Revival

This two-and-a-half-story, five-bay, center-entry, single-pile, gable-end house has a pair of interior chimneys positioned at the rear of the main body of the house. A one-and-a-half-story ell with attached shed extends behind the south end.

The slim proportions, low roof pitch, the five-bay, gable-end form of this house and details such as moulded window frames and the transomed side entrance are characteristic of the Federal period. Applied to the Federal style body are Greek Revival features. The include a full pediment on the gable ends; a broad, weighty, and very fine Greek Revival style pilaster/architrave/cornice door frame (with fluted pilaster, a fillet in the architrave, a dentil range in the cornice, and $\frac{3}{4}$ length sidelights); and 6/6 window sash. It is possible that this house was built during the early years of the 19th century and updated with Greek Revival features during the 1830s or 1840s.

Andrew S. Chubb House, 20 Baldwinville Road (MAP # 18, **Photo # 15**) ca. 1800-1830?, Federal vernacular

This one-and-a-half-story, five-bay, center-entry, center-chimney, knee-wall, gable-end house rests on a granite slab foundation. A small "Beverly Jog" addition extends from the south end, to provide a secondary entrance. Trim is plain for windows and doors. The only ornament is Federal style eave moulding and gable returns. Window sash are mostly 6/6, with some 1/1. 20th century changes that have altered the original appearance of the house include dormers extending across the front and rear (early 20th century), enlarged windows on the ends, and the application of synthetic siding. Despite these alterations, the house retains some of its historic flavor.

Center Cemetery, Baldwinville Road at Athol Road (Map # 16, **Photo # 7**), established 1803

This well maintained cemetery is enclosed by an uncoursed, dry laid, random, split-granite and fieldstone retaining wall and has tall split-granite posts and low wrought iron gates at the entrance (see **photo # 25**). The perimeter near the roads is planted with large maple trees.

Here are buried many of Phillipston's early settlers, including Charles Baker, Ithamar Ward, James Carruth, Pierson Richardson, and others. The largest number of graves date from the early and mid 19th century. The earliest gravestone is dated 1803 and the most recent 1986. Stones are mostly of slate and marble. A few 20th century markers are of granite. The earlier gravestones are of slate and have semicircular tops. They are carved with the willow and/or urn motifs characteristic of the Federal period. Stones from about 1830 and later are mostly of marble and are of simple rectangular form with little or no ornamental carving.

Although the major number of stones in the cemetery are tablets, there are a few obelisks and monumental stones. There is one table marker: that of Ignatius Goulding (d.1814) and his wife, Elizabeth (d.1817). The tabletop is of slate

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 7 Page 9

and rests on granite bases that support it at either end. The table tablet is carved with a willow and urn motif, vital statistics, and a verse. Also seen in the cemetery is Phillipston's Civil War monument, which stands near the entrance and is visible from Baldwinville Road. Apparently dating from the 1870s, it is of granite, polished and unpolished, and takes the form of a truncated obelisque supporting a hip-roof element with a ball on top.

Isaac and C. C. Bassett House and Store, 10 Athol Road (MAP # 20, **Photo # 8**),
ca. 1800-1830, Federal/Greek Revival

Resting on a granite foundation, this two-and-a-half-story, five-bay, center-entry, single-pile house has a pair of interior chimneys at the rear of its main body. Attached behind the east end is a long ell, the result of two or more additions, apparently made during the early 19th century for the purpose of housing a store there. Other additions, of presently unknown date, have been made to the western section of the rear of the house.

The five-bay, center-entry, gable-end form of the main body of the house with its close eaves and Federal style eave moulding suggest a Federal period date of construction. Also Federal in style are the two tall entrances with five-light transoms along the Baldwinville Road side of the ell. Characteristic are the door caps composed of a low-relief architrave and a slim cornice above a more deeply moulded doorframe (see Plate 11, Asher Benjamin, *The Country Builder's Assistant*, 1797). Also typical are the four-panel, raised-panel doors with cast and wrought iron door latches.

The fine Greek Revival style main entrance seems to have been added at a later date, possibly in the 1840s. It is composed of a pair of reeded-panel pilasters supporting an architrave with fillet, and topped with a cornice. At either side of the four-panel door are reeded stiles and $\frac{3}{4}$ length sidelights.

Charles H. Baker House, 45 Baldwinville Road, MAP # 21, **Photos # 18, 19**, 1790 (or earlier)-1830?, Federal

This Federal style two-and-a-half-story, five-bay, center-entry, single-pile, gable-end house rests on a granite foundation and has a pair of interior chimneys at the back wall of the original section of its main body. This house may have been added in front of an earlier one-story, center-chimney, south-facing, Cape Cod type dwelling that is the present rear ell. The single-pile plan, close eaves, low roof line, and fine, low-relief door frame with $\frac{3}{4}$ sidelights are all Federal style characteristics.

Baker-Whitney House, 55 Baldwinville Road, Map # 22, **Photos # 9, 21**, 1790-1830, Federal

This two-and-a-half-story, five-bay, center-entry, single-pile, gable-end house rests on a granite foundation and has a pair of interior chimneys at the back wall of its main body. Extending from the north side is a kitchen wing with attached English barn. Of note are Federal details including a fine door frame at the main entrance (pilaster/architrave/cornice form with $\frac{2}{3}$ length sidelights and a blind fanlight); a moulded-frame door frame in the

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Phillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 7 Page 10

wing that encloses a transom light; moulded window frames; eave moulding with gable returns; and 12/12 window sash.

65 Baldwinville Road, MAP # 23, 1800-1830, Federal vernacular

This one-and-a-half-story, five-bay, center-entry, center-chimney, knee-wall house rests on a granite foundation. It is presently somewhat disguised by the gable-front enclosed front porch that extends across the central three bays. Yet, the house still retains its distinctive slim Federal period form and Federal details, such as close eaves, Federal eave moulding, and gable returns. Window and door trim is plain. Sash are 2/2.

75 Baldwinville Road, MAP #24, 18th century-1830?, timber frame vernacular

Although much altered, this house appears to have been built as a one-and-a-half-story, five-bay, center-entry, center-chimney house. This section is now the wing of an also much altered mid-19th century house with its gable to the street. The likely 18th century date of construction of the wing is suggested by its ground-hugging appearance, broad roof, central chimney, and five-bay front. Windows appear to have been enlarged. If any center entry existed, it has been removed. The eaves are broad in the mid-19th century style and the window sash are 6/6.

PETERSHAM ROAD**Barnum-White-Farr House**, 30 Petersham Road (MAP # 12, **Photo # 10**) ca.1800-1844, Federal

This two-story, five-bay, center-entry, hip-roofed, foursquare house rests on a granite foundation and has a plank frame. It has paired interior chimneys and a one-story rear ell with attached shed and barn. Federal features are the low hip roof, paired chimneys, moulded window frames, Federal eave cornice, pilaster/architrave/cornice door frame with 2/3 length sidelights and a narrow, blind fan above the door opening, 6-panel door, and 12/12 sash. The largest house in the Phillipston Center Historic District, it is also notable for its extensive attached outbuildings (sheds and barn) at the rear.

LINCOLN ROAD**Gardner Maynard House**, 10 Lincoln Road (MAP # 11, **Photos # 11, 20**), ca.1800, Federal

The two-and-a-half-story, five-bay, center-entry, center-chimney, double-pile, gable-end house rests on a granite foundation and has a one-story rear ell and attached English barn. Federal style features include close eaves, gable

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 7 Page 11

returns, moulded window frames, and a fine doorframe at the main entrance. The doorframe is composed of pilasters with entasis, impost clocks treated as an architrave with fillet, and a gabled cornice with returns which includes a transom above the door. The initials of the original owner, Gardner Maynard, are carved in low relief on the impost clocks of the doorframe.

Outbuildings include several small sheds and what appears to be a guest house east of the main house. The one-and-a-half-story, gable-end guest house is unusual in the arrangement of its five-bay facade. A door occupies the outer bay on either end, while windows occupy the three center bays. An exterior brick chimney rises to the left of the center window. At the rear is a one-story, shed-roofed addition. Window and door frames are plain and window sash are 4/4. Standing on a stone-rubble foundation, this small building, with its overhanging eaves and gable friezes (somewhat in the Greek Revival style), may date from the late 19th century or earlier. It may have been converted from an existing structure during the early part of the 20th century. A building in this approximate location is shown on the 1898 map of Phillipston as an outbuilding, apparently a barn or shed. It is possible that this building might even be the small, earlier Gardner Maynard house (18th century) (first converted as an outbuilding and later remodeled as a guest house?). Further physical investigation and documentary research will be necessary to make such a determination.

TEMPLETON ROAD

S.R. Sanderson House/Congregational Parsonage, 35 Templeton Road (MAP # 5, Photo # 5),
ca. 1840s-1850s, Greek Revival

This one-and-a-half-story, three-bay, sidehall-entry, gable-front house has a one-and-a-half-story wing on the west side. To the rear of the wing is attached a small workroom and a small gable-front barn. Resting on a granite foundation, the house has a slate roof. Of note is the high quality and substantial character of the Greek Revival style ornamental features seen here. On both the main body and the ell are paneled corner pilasters, a wide frieze at the eaves, a frieze in the gables, and gable returns. The recessed main entrance is surrounded by a pilaster/architrave/cornice door frame with paneled pilasters. Of Gothic Revival influence is the drop moulding motif used as caps for the window frames and for the door frame of the secondary entrance in the wing. Window sash are 6/6. The only addition to this well-preserved dwelling is a plain, shed-roofed, early-20th century porch extending across the main facade of the wing.

GRANITE: A SIGNIFICANT BUILDING AND LANDSCAPE ELEMENT

A significant element of the landscape within the district is the extensive use of granite, not only for the foundations of buildings but also for retaining walls, fences, steps, and posts. Some is in the form of fieldstone, as in stone fences and retaining walls. Some is split, as in the Town Pound enclosure, the foundation of the Congregational Meeting House, the fence around the Center Cemetery, and in the surviving foundations of former barns at 10 The Common. Other is carefully dressed, as in steps at main entrances of two of the larger, more high style, houses, the Dr James Stone House and the Barnum-White-Farr House.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 7 Page 12

Of particular interest are the dressed granite thresholds of three large houses in the area (the Dr. James Stone House, Photo # 17; the Baker-Whitney House and the Barnum-White-Farr House). They extend the full width of the door frame and are carved to form the bases of the pilasters of the wood door frame above

TREES

A major characteristic of Phillipston Center is its tree-lined roads. Many of the trees are large, old maples, which lend an air of antiquity to the area. In many places it is clear that a row of trees has been planted in front of an individual property. Yet, in general, the line of trees is not continuous. In some places there are open areas where there are no trees or only a tree here and there. For example, although the Common itself is planted with trees at its perimeter, there are fewer trees in front of the buildings that encircle the Common. In other places, such as Petersham Road, individually-planted, large trees are interspersed with newer trees that have come up spontaneously to make a more continuous line of trees.

Archaeological Description

While no prehistoric sites are currently recorded in the district or in the general area (within one mile), it is possible that sites are present. Site distributions are low in many upland areas of Central Massachusetts, probably the result of underreporting from limited collector activity and the lack of development. Actual site densities in the region are also low when compared to coastal locales and lakeside/riverine locations. Environmental characteristics of the district do not generally represent locational criteria (slope, soil drainage, distance to wetlands) that are favorable for most types of prehistoric sites. Well drained, level to moderately sloping landforms are present throughout much of the district. However, most of the district is well over 1000 feet from the nearest wetlands. Only the eastern and western sides of the district lie about 1000 feet from wetlands. The Phillipston Center Historic District occupies a hilltop location between the Millers River drainage to the north and the Chicopee River drainage to the south. Dunn Brook drains northerly west of the district and Chickering Brook drains northerly to the east. Both brooks drain northerly to Beaver Brook and the Miller's River. The lack of wetlands or their location over 1000 feet from a particular location can often result in a lower sensitivity rating for that area. Given the above information, the general lack of recent historic development and the availability of open space a moderate potential exists for locating prehistoric resources in the proposed district.

There is a high potential for locating historic archaeological resources in the Phillipston Center Historic District. Documentary studies together with archaeological survey and testing can be used to identify the locations of structural remains and occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) associated with many of the residential, commercial, institutional and religious buildings lost since the settlement of the district locale in the late 18th century. Clustered settlement at the town center did not occur until construction had begun on the West Templeton Meeting House (Phillipston Center) in 1784 and following the incorporation of the town in 1786 (Gerry later Phillipston). Most early settlement prior to these dates was in the southern part of town, represented by a few scattered farmsteads. No settlement prior to the 1780's has been identified in the Phillipston Center District, however, construction dates for

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Phillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 7 Page 13

many of the town's buildings, including those around the Common are unclear. Documentary studies together with archaeological testing can help locate structural remains and related features from buildings no longer extant as well as similar remains from outbuildings and features associated with existing structures. Potential historic archaeological sites in the Phillipston Center District are located around the Town Common on the Common Road and along the roads that radiate out from the common. The integrity of many of the district's sites is likely high since the district is still sparsely settled and little disturbed by 20th century development. Structural remains may survive from the Congregational Meeting House originally constructed at the First Meeting House Site located one-quarter mile east of the exact center of town on the north side of the Templeton-Athol County Road. In 1837, a parish meeting voted to move the meeting house to a spot northeast of where it then stood. Archaeological evidence of the original meeting house foundation may survive as well as structural remains from related horse sheds and privies. Structural evidence may also survive from the 1833 Universalist Meeting House, originally located on the site of the modern house at 15 Baldwinville Road immediately south of the cemetery. The Universalist Meeting House was dismantled sometime between 1857-1870 and the property remained a vacant lot until recently. Archaeological evidence from stores should also survive in the proposed district although neither the date nor the location of the first store in Phillipston is known. Structural evidence from one and possibly two stores may survive in the district. Archaeological evidence from a store and potash works operated in 1798 by Elijah Gould may survive near his house at 30 The Common. Archaeological evidence might also survive from the Frances C. Champney store located west of the Town Hall in 1828. That store was destroyed by fire in 1936. It is unknown whether the Champney store and the Gould Store are the same building. Structural evidence may also survive from the Elijah Gould Tavern built soon after 1800 at 10 The Common and destroyed by fire in 1957. Evidence of residential homes may also survive in the district. Structural remains may survive from the Goulding House, possibly built shortly after 1790 facing the common immediately east of 10 Templeton Road. Archaeological evidence from barns and an animal pen may also be indicated by free standing granite foundations next to a late 20th century house at 10 The Common. Archaeological evidence from industrial and manufacturing activities may also be present in the district area. Blacksmith and wheelwright shops are reported in the Town Center area by the early 19th century, however, their locations are unknown. By the mid-19th century, a blacksmith shop is reported on Baldwinville Road and a wheelwright shop on Templeton Road. Cottage industries were also important to families as a means of generating extra income in addition to farming. The manufacture of palm leaf hats became popular in the late 1820's and early 1830's. Chairmaking, the braiding of straw and the manufacture of boots and shoes also became popular cottage industries. Archaeological evidence of cottage industries may be present in the structural remains from residential homes, outbuildings and the contents from occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells). Unmarked graves may be present at the Center Cemetery located on Baldwinville Road and smaller unidentified family cemeteries in the district. Structural remains may also survive from a hearse house originally located at the northern end of the cemetery, probably in the vicinity of the house now at 30 Baldwinville Road. Occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells), briefly mentioned above, should survive with existing structures and those no longer extant.

(end)

Phillipston Center HD

Name of Property

Worcester, MA

County and State

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

Period of Significance

C. 1760-1949

Significant Dates

1784 – incorporation, meeting hall built

1891 – town hall built

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Phillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 8 Page 1**8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Phillipston Center Historic District is a well preserved example of the settlement patterns, spatial relationships, and architectural types and styles characteristic of a 19th century rural New England village. The arrested growth of the town after the mid-19th century has preserved here evidence of the early development of the center village as a clustered settlement.

The district possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. It meets Criteria A and C for listing on the National Register. Under Criterion A it is significant for its associations with the early history, growth, and development of the town. Under Criterion C it is significant for its well preserved architecture and cultural artifacts that are representative of its period of significance, from the mid 18th century through the turn of the 20th century.

HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF PHILLIPSTON**Establishment of the Town**

Phillipston was one of many new Massachusetts towns that were created from parts of existing towns during the late 18th century. Formed from parts of Templeton and Athol, it was incorporated as the town of Gerry in 1786. Because the meeting house in Templeton was located a good distance east of the geographical center of the town, those who lived in the western portion, now Phillipston, had to travel a long distance to attend Sunday religious meetings. This inconvenience encouraged the inhabitants of the western portion of the town to agitate for a separate jurisdiction. By 1774 the population of the western part of Templeton had grown large enough to be made a separate precinct. Incorporated in the same precinct was also a section of Athol to the north. It was this so-called West Templeton Precinct that several years later became the town of Gerry.

The name of the town was changed from Gerry to Phillipston in 1814. Parts were annexed to Athol in 1806 and to Templeton in 1892.

Early Settlement of Phillipston

The territory that is now Phillipston was originally part of the "Narragansett No. 6" grant of 1730 and the "Payquage" grant of 1732. These grants were made by the Massachusetts General Court to soldiers who had served in the wars against the Narragansett Indians and in King Philip's War.

Settlement of the area included in these grants was delayed for many years by intratribal and intracolony conflicts. It was not until 1751 that Charles Baker became the first settler in what is now Phillipston. He claimed land and settled in the southern part of town. Other early settlers were Abner and Abraham Sawyer and James Carruth.

The Development of Phillipston Center Compared to Other Early Settled Clusters in Town

Three major areas of clustered development in Phillipston grew up during the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Two are mill sites and the third is the center village. The remainder of the town was more sparsely settled -- dotted with scattered farms.

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Phillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 8 Page 2**South and East Phillipston**

The earliest settlement of Phillipston occurred mostly in the southern section of town, in the vicinity of the road from Templeton to Petersham (now Massachusetts Route 101). It was in this area that the town's first settler, Charles Baker, settled in 1751, later also opening a tavern there. Magnets for settlement in this part of town were mill sites along the Burnshirt River. In 1754 Thomas Sawyer began operating Templeton's first grist mill there, off of the present Route 101, near the present Templeton line. By 1786, when the town of Gerry was incorporated, at least two mills were operating in the same area. Another industrial site was developed north of this early site along the same waterway during the early 19th century. This second area became known as Goulding's Village after the establishment of a textile mill there in 1811 by Ignatius Goulding and Samuel Damon. The settled cluster that grew about these several sites became known as East Phillipston by the mid 19th century.

Powers Mills

Some early settlement also seems to have occurred around another 18th century mill site, northeast of Phillipston Center. This area also grew into an industrial village during the early 19th century. Beginning as the site of an original 18th century sawmill, this area grew up in the 19th century around shingle and chair factories and came to be known as Powers Mills.

Phillipston Center

While waterpower sites contributed to the early settlement of the above-mentioned parts of Phillipston, it was the incorporation of the town itself that spurred the growth of the area that was to become the town center. Although a few scattered farms may have been established at an early date in this area, the clustered development at the town center did not occur until after construction was begun on the meeting house for the West Templeton Precinct in 1784 and following the establishment of the town in 1786.

Siting of the Meeting House

The site for the location of the meeting house in a newly established Massachusetts town was typically determined by the centrality of its location. Only a short time after Templeton's West Precinct was created in 1774, the exact center of the jurisdiction was located. Yet, the selection of a site for a meeting house was delayed for ten years. The vicissitudes of the Revolutionary War may have been part of the cause of delay, but another part of the problem seems to have been indecision over where to place the new meeting house. Precinct records report years of on-going discussion regarding the "spot" for the meeting house. In the meantime, early religious meetings were held alternately in the homes of Charles Baker, who lived in the southern section of town, and of Berzeliel Maynard, who lived in the central section.

Finally, on May 24, 1784, the site known as the "College Spot" was approved by precinct vote as the location of the meeting house. One hundred pounds for construction of the building were also approved at the same meeting.

Land for the meeting house was deeded to the precinct by Dr. John Williams of Barre, Massachusetts, who, only eleven days earlier, had bought Lot 63, which included the site. This site, on the north side of the Templeton-Athol County Road was about a quarter of a mile east of the exact center of the town. If a map drawn by the late Phillipston historian, Loring Chandler, is correct, pieces of land for the meeting house lot and common were acquired, apparently at different dates, from several persons. These parcels include land on which the meeting house, the minister's house

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Phillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 8 Page 3

(the Rev. Bascom House), and school were built from Dr. Williams; land for the western edge of the common from Gardner Maynard; another piece of land (for the southern portion of the common?) from a Mr. Wheeler; and land for stables behind the meeting house from a Mr. Green.

Construction of the Original Meeting House

Once the decision had been made on where to site the meeting house, construction began with lightening speed. On May 28th, four days after the precinct vote, a resident of the town, Nahum Jones, recorded in his diary that timber was being brought to the site and that framing had begun. In that same diary entry he named Isaac Bellows of nearby Hubbardston as the "masterworkman" for the project. The raising of the frame took place less than a month later, on June 23. Jones wrote: "This day the frame of the Meeting House was executed -- began about 8 o'clock in the morning & finished about sunset."

In July, Jones reported how the progress of the meeting house had affected the community:

"A few days after setting up the Meeting House frame, a parish meeting was held at the frame to see whether it be the mind of the precinct to be incorporated into a town. They voted to be incorporated into a town."

After the first rush of enthusiasm, things went much more slowly, however. Over two years later, on October 6, 1786, the meeting house was apparently far from ready for use. At a precinct meeting on that date, it was voted to finish the outside of the meeting house and to lay the floor. Present research does not show the date of actual completion of the building.

The Establishment of Phillipston Center and New Roads

With the start of the meeting house and the establishment of the West Precinct as a separate town in 1786, new roads began to be opened up to serve the new center. When the West Templeton Precinct was established in 1774, only one major road ran through the area that was to become Phillipston Center. It was the Templeton-Athol County Road (following the course of the present Templeton, Petersham, and Lincoln roads.) An east-west road, it was first opened in 1751. Because the western section of Templeton was still sparsely settled in 1774, the earliest major roads in the West Templeton Precinct were largely east-west routes, such as this, leading from locations in the mother town of Templeton to adjoining towns. But with the incorporation of the new town, north-south routes were also established here. Barre Road (south), Baldwinville Road, (north) and the southern arm of Petersham Road were opened during this period. Subsequently, the opening of Athol and Royalston roads also extended travel from Phillipston center northwest and north of Baldwinville Road.

The Growth of the Center Village

The location of the meeting house near the exact geographical center of the precinct not only fixed this area as the physical center of the community, but also as its spiritual and political center, as well. The presence of the meeting house encouraged the gradual location of a cluster of other town institutions, residences, and a few businesses in the area.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 8 Page 4

During the first three quarters of the 18th century in New England, the location of a meeting house at a particular site did not insure the immediate clustering of houses, schools, or businesses around it or in its vicinity. During that period, even well established towns were made up of scattered farmsteads with relatively little clustered settlement. In Phillipston, during its early years as a town, settlement around the meeting house probably occurred only gradually. Professionals, like the first minister, Rev. Ebenezer Tucker (served 1788-1798), and the first physician, Dr. Jason Ayres (served ca.1790-ca.1820), did not live near the meeting house as their later counterparts would. Both lived on farms some distance away.

It is unclear when the houses that now stand about the common were first built. Present research has not documented satisfactorily the dates of construction of these several Cape Cod type, one-and-a-half-story houses. Their small size and their short corner posts suggest that they may date earlier than 1790. Dates ascribed to two of them predate the existence of the town (1760 and 1770). Although it is possible, it seems unlikely that they would have stood so near one another at such an early date. Further research is necessary to document their dates and sequence of construction.

As was true in other New England communities, clustered growth around the meeting house in Phillipston increased after 1790. Another Cape Cod type house, the Goulding House (no longer standing on a now vacant lot, MAP # 28) seems to have been built during this period facing the Common, immediately east of 10 Templeton Road. A center school building, the District # 1 School House/Phillips Memorial Library, 25 Templeton Road, was built on town-owned land near the meeting house in 1790. Commercial activities soon began nearby. A store and potash works were operating as early as 1798, and perhaps earlier, on the grounds of the home of Elijah Gould, the Gould-Miller-Pike House at 30 The Common. Neither still survives. Soon after 1800, Gould built a tavern (**Illustration # 7**), destroyed by fire in 1957, which stood at 10 The Common (MAP # 14). In 1803, the Town Pound, 25 The Common was built on town-owned land behind the school. In 1821, the town's first post office opened in a store building (destroyed by fire in 1936, see **Illustrations #4, 5, 6**), which stood on a site in what is now the front yard of a modern residence at 40 The Common (MAP # 8).

The institutional-commercial center that was forming around the common soon began to extend northward along Baldwinville Road. In 1803, the town's Center Cemetery was inaugurated at the southwest corner of Baldwinville and Athol roads. By the 1830's or earlier, a very successful general store was operating at 10 Athol Road (MAP # 20, **Photo # 8**), the I. and C. Bassett House and Store. A Universalist meeting house (no longer standing) was built in 1833 on the site of a present modern house at 15 Baldwinville Road (MAP # 15), immediately south of the cemetery. It was removed between 1857 and 1870, leaving a vacant lot in its place until recently.

By the mid 1830's, Baldwinville Road may have seemed destined to become the town's "Main Street." As if purposeful town planning were at work, the town's two major commercial establishments formed the northern and southern axes of this road, along which also stood a church, the town burying ground, and probably several houses.

Population Decline in Phillipston, 1840-1920

It must have seemed to the citizens of Phillipston in the 1830s that their town would continue to grow and prosper. Over its early history, its population had grown constantly but never overwhelmingly. During that time the town

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Phillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 8 Page 5

center had gradually been built up with institutional buildings, houses and businesses. The population had climbed from 740 in 1790 to 932 by 1830. But, as it happened, Phillipston was not destined to grow the way so many other Massachusetts towns did during the mid and late 19th century. Although some business and industry was successful in Phillipston during the early and mid 19th century, the town's major economic base was always agriculture. This continued to be so, even into the 20th century.

During a period of phenomenal population growth in New England's industrial cities and towns, Phillipston, with a chiefly agricultural economy, did not grow. Conversely, the 1840 census recorded a decline to 916. From that time on, a steady decline in population set in that was not to be reversed until a hundred years later. A low of 354 was reached in 1920. Then, only very gradually, would it begin to rise again. Phillipston did not exceed its 1830 peak population until 150 years later, in 1980, with a total of 953 inhabitants.

Late 20th Century

Today the town's 19th century "rural village" character is threatened by a rate of growth unknown in the past. The town's population is growing faster than it ever has before in its history. The 1990 population was 1,485. The projected population for the year 2000 is 1,789. For 2010 it is 2,065. Gradually, formerly vacant lots are being filled with houses. Parcels of land that have remained undeveloped for 200 years are now ripe for development. This is true, not only of former agricultural land in outlying areas but also of lots in the heart of the center village.

THE ROLE OF PHILLIPSTON CENTER IN THE LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY**Public Spaces****Town Common**

The Phillipston Common was important during the town's early history as a training field for the town militia. Until about the mid 19th century, Massachusetts town militias held regular training musters, typically on the local town common. Phillipston's militia is said to have been one of the largest and best trained in the state. 'Musters of the militia were held here regularly throughout the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

Musters not only kept the local militia in military readiness, but they also provided a festive occasion for the townspeople. Ethan Allen Greenwood, a portrait painter, who came to Phillipston to paint the likenesses of Rev. E. L. Bascom and his family in 1807, described in his memorandum his arrival in town on October 8th: "When I arrived common was covered with people at dinner for it was a muster day with them; spent PM as spectator among them."

New England commons during the 18th and early 19th centuries were most often not the ornamental feature that they are considered to be today. Some were rutted and grassless lots. Yet, some towns during that period did carry out improvements to their commons. In Phillipston that was the case. The diary of Nahum Jones of Phillipston records his own participation in a community effort to improve the common over a period of several days in September of 1803:

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 8 Page 6

This day the inhabitants of this town turn out to level the meeting house common, by digging and blowing the rocks, leveling the ground etc....Work on the common. A heavy & laborious job....This day finish working on the common. It is computed that 400 dols. Or upwards will be the expense of the present common jobb (sic). However the common looks much the better for it.

Although reasons for this improvement effort, other than beauty, are not mentioned, it is likely that the leveling of the ground and removal of stones was done in part to make the common more suitable for military training days.

Improvements to the common were made again toward the end of the 19th century, apparently about 1892, by the Village Improvement Society. It is likely that the construction of the new Town Hall in 1891 inspired this effort of civic pride. The group was led by Robert D. Perry, who owned the Rev. Bascom House at 70 The Common. Turn of the century photographs show the common after improvements, with a white-painted rail fence around its perimeter, a flagpole at the eastern end, and newly planted trees (**Illustrations # 1,3,4,5**).

The common was probably used for community gatherings of a variety of sorts throughout the history of the town. The celebration of the one-hundredth anniversary of the founding of the town in 1886 was held on the common. Photographs of the event show crowds of people, horses, and vehicles on the common. (**Illustration # 2**) Similar use of the common is shown in photographs of the town's 200th anniversary in 1986.

Center Cemetery

Center Cemetery (1803), Baldwinville Road, is both the earliest and largest of the two town-owned cemeteries. It contains 170 lots. The later, town-owned Valley Cemetery (1853) is not located in the town center.

Seven burying places in Phillipston were identified in William G. Lord's 1936 Historical Address. His listing includes several private burying grounds as well as the two town-owned cemeteries. According to Lord, the oldest cemetery in Phillipston is probably the so-called South Yard in the southern section of town (not in the historic district), which contains about 100 graves. Its earliest identified burial is 1777. The other graveyards he mentions appear to be family lots, with the possible exception of a neglected burying ground of about 40 graves on the west slope of Baldwin Hill, where only a few stones were remaining in 1936. Its oldest remaining stone was dated 1776.

At the time of the purchase of the land for Center Cemetery, the town also acquired a burying cloth and a hearse. It also owned a bier for short-distance transfer of the dead. A hearse house at the north end of the cemetery is shown on the 1870 map of Phillipston. The 1898 map shows a lot at 30 Baldwinville Road (MAP # 19) belonging to the town, which seems to have been the location of the hearse house at that time. The present house at that site is said to incorporate the old hearse house. By 1936, because modern undertakers apparently already supplied a hearse with their services, the town hearse was in little use. The date at which it no longer maintained a hearse or bier is not known.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 8 Page 7**RELIGION****Meeting House and Church Before 1837**

The Phillipston Meeting House was the veritable heart of the life of the town for more than a century. The Meeting House was the center of both the temporal and religious life of the community. From the time of the completion of the original meeting house on the Common in the 1780s until 1837, when it was remodeled, the same space that housed religious meetings was also used for town meetings and town business. In 1837, a separate space for the town was provided in the lower level of the building. That space served the town for town meetings and town business until the present Town Hall was built in 1891.

From the earliest days of the colony until 1833, Congregational societies and the governments of Massachusetts towns were permitted to be one and the same. To the Puritan fathers of Massachusetts religious freedom had meant freedom to practice Congregationalism rather than Anglicanism. Town government and the local Congregational Society functioned as one. All members of the community were expected to participate in and to support both. Taxes collected by each town were used for the support of its Congregational Society and minister, as well as for other town expenses. The land on which meeting houses stood belonged to the town. Town taxes helped pay for the construction and maintenance of meeting houses.

In 1833, following much objection by members of other (non-Congregational) religious groups, the separation of church and state was decreed. Even after the legal division between church and state was in effect, town meetings and church meetings in Massachusetts towns still often continued to be held in meeting houses for lack of another appropriate meeting place. In some towns hard feelings were created by the sustained use of the same space by both the town and the church. This does not seem to have been the case in Phillipston, however, even though a separate town hall was not immediately provided. Nonetheless, Phillipston, like towns all over the commonwealth during the 1830s and 1840s, did take action to provide separate meeting places for town business and church services. In Phillipston it was decided to make space for town meetings within a remodeled meeting house. This was one solution chosen by many other Massachusetts towns, although others decided to build entirely new buildings to separate the two entities. In some, new town halls were built -- leaving the old meeting house to the church. In others, new churches were built.

The Original Meeting House

No illustrations exist of the meeting house as it appeared before it underwent major alterations in 1837. Fortunately, parish records supply information that allows us to have a general idea of its form and size. At a parish meeting held March 26, 1784, it was voted to build a meeting house, not to exceed 55' x 40', with a covered porch at each end. 1837 descriptions of changes to be made to the building indicate that, as was typical of 18th century New England meeting houses, the original main entrance was on the long side, facing the road. The pulpit was on the opposite wall. Old style box pews occupied the main floor. Although no descriptions exist of the galleries, it may be assumed that they were similar to those found in other meeting houses of the period. They probably extended around three sides of the house and had simple benches instead of pews.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 8 Page 8

The form of the original church, with its entrance on the long side and an enclosed porch on either end, was a popular form used widely from the mid 1770s through about 1805 in central Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire. The "porches" served as secondary entrances and as stair towers to the upper galleries.

The Remodeled Meeting House, 1837

According to the minutes of a parish meeting held February 20, 1837, Phillipston's Congregational Society decided to make space for town meetings in a remodeled meeting house after considerable study. The decision was made following visits by a building committee to view meeting houses that had been similarly converted in the towns of Paxton and Shrewsbury. The committee had also visited Holden and Worcester, where separate town halls had been built. In addition to approving of the buildings in Paxton and Shrewsbury, the committee had learned that these two congregations felt that it was not necessary to build a separate town hall because:

...by building a vestry in this manner and by giving the use of it to the town for town business thus far it has tended very much to soften the feelings and harmonize the minds of those [citizens of the town] who were not members of the Parish.

The minutes also report:

The main reason for coming to this conclusion is that we are all aware that if we do not take this [course] a town [house] must be built and when built will cost the residents belonging to the Parish much more than this will, furthermore think it will be more satisfactory to the [persons] who do not belong to the Parish.

The need to separate the meeting places of the town and the church was not the only factor that called for the remodeling of the meeting house. During the 1830s the town was a prosperous rural community. The town's mills and stores were flourishing. During this time, towns all over New England were abandoning their old-style, boxy meeting houses for buildings that looked like churches. In Phillipston, prosperity, changes in taste, and the need for separate meeting places all made the remodeling of the meeting house a priority.

With its main entrance on the long side (a form that had been preferred by Congregational societies in New England since the 17th century), the existing meeting house must have seemed very out of date (even though it was not quite fifty years old). The gable-front-with-facade-belltower form, introduced to New England by Anglican churches, had become the standard form for congregational meeting houses by the 1820s.

A building committee report accepted at a parish meeting on January 30, 1837, recommended that to modernize the meeting house according to the new standards of taste:

the Parish move the meeting house on a spot somewhat northeasterly from where it now stands keeping it at a proper distance from the shed & placing one end towards the south,

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 8 Page 9

that they add 12 to 15 feet (as the building committee may deem expedient) to the south end for an entryway and other purposes that may be expedient and also that they build a belfry over the new part at the south end of such form and style as may be thought by the building committee to be suitable for the house, that the galleries and all the inside of the house be taken out and the lower floor be filled with slips in the modern style, that a desk be built at the north end, that the seats for the singers be over the entry way at the south end & that narrow light galleries be erected on each side sufficient for one row of slips & aisle, that the windows & outside of the house undergo such repairs as the committee which may be appointed for that purpose may deem necessary.

A bell for the new belfry was donated by a native son, Loammi Baldwin (b. 1819), then living in Savannah, Georgia.

To provide a vestry that doubled as a meeting hall for town meetings underneath the sanctuary, the building committee recommended at a Parish meeting on February 20, 1837, that:

We should raise the floor of the present house about 2 feet...then the sills on the outside of the present house would be raised about 4 feet above ground when leveled about the house, then should dig about 4 or 5 feet on the east side and enough on the west side to make it level, as large as the present house, if practicable...

On the whole, the recommendations of the building committee for the remodeling of the meeting house and the creation of a vestry seem to have been followed closely. The paneled ends of the old pews, the old pulpit, and other material from the earlier meeting house were reused in finishing the vestry.

The builder or architect for the remodeling of the meeting house has not been identified. It is possible that it was Daniel Thompson, the head of the building committee. Thompson's involvement in the actual process of building is suggested by a record in the minutes of the parish of a payment of \$20.00 to "Mr. Thompson for 5 eight pannel doores (sic)." Others named in the accounting were "Mr. Dunn", \$21.00 "for making 84 pew doores"; "Moving meeting house including Mr. Sherman's bill for transport of apparatus etc.", \$47.19; Mr Sikes", \$35.00"for building pulpit & platform", and "Mr. Willard's bill for painting", \$125.06. Present research has not learned more about any of these craftsmen or of any further extent of their roles in the remodeling.

Other Churches in Phillipston

As happened in many other Massachusetts towns during the early 19th century, factionalism occurred in the Congregational Society in Phillipston. During this period in communities all over the commonwealth, new liberal and evangelical religious societies were breaking away from the established Congregational Society.

Methodists

Evangelical religion was the first to shake the tranquillity of the Congregational Society in Phillipston. A Methodist Society was established here about 1830. Since at that time there was only one established church, the Congregational

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 8 Page 10

church, all citizens of the town were expected to be members and were taxed the same ministerial tax. Upon its founding, the new Methodist congregation claimed its part of the funds held by the Congregational Society. To the great consternation of the Congregationalists, the new group occupied the Congregational Meeting House for some time, banishing the Congregationalists to meet in a hall in the former tavern (no longer standing) that then occupied the site of the present house at 10 The Common. After the disagreement was settled, Methodist meetings were held in the hall above the store (no longer standing) that then stood on the Common, immediately west of the present Town Hall. The Methodists abandoned the town center when they built themselves a church north of town about 1849.

Universalists

As a result of conflicting liberal and conservative religious views within the Congregational Society in Phillipston, a liberal group broke away and formed a Universalist Society in 1833. A Universalist meeting house (no longer standing) was built in Phillipston Center, immediately south of Center Cemetery, on the site of the present modern house at 15 Baldwinville Road (MAP # 15). As the result of high feelings regarding this separation, the new church was the victim of arson in 1838. The Universalist congregation later disbanded and the church building was taken down sometime between 1857 and 1870 and rebuilt as a Methodist church nearby in East Templeton, Massachusetts, where it still stands today.

GOVERNMENTTown Hall, 50 The Common

Joint accommodations continued to serve the town and the church for many years. The vestry of the Congregational Meeting House was the site of town meetings from 1837 until the present Town Hall was built in 1891. The new Town Hall was built not only to house town meetings and other public meetings but also to provide space for town offices and for the public library. Land was given by Simon E. Pike, who owned the store building (no longer standing) and house (30 The Common) that stood immediately to the west.

As originally planned, the ground floor had rooms for the public library, selectmen's rooms, a dining room, and a kitchen. The upstairs was devoted to the meeting hall and a cloak room. A town pump, still in place, was located west of the building.

From 1891 until 1952 the town hall housed the public library. It has also provided classroom space when crowding problems have existed in the school. The building still serves as Phillipston's town office building and public meeting hall, although town meetings are no longer held here.

SCHOOLS

Little is known about the schools in Phillipston during the period that it was the West Precinct of Templeton (1774-1786). Some of the earliest schools were held in private homes. The diaries of Nahum Jones mention his attending school in April of 1779 in a private home, Mr. Joseph White's. In December of that same year he went to school at a "school house near Deacon Taylor's". Present research has not discovered the date of construction of the earliest school building in the precinct. It appears that at least one school house was standing as early as the late 1770's.

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Phillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 8 Page 11

Notations in Jones' diary suggest that during the 1780s, before the incorporation of the town, there were at least two other school houses in use as well. They were one near Mr. Thomas White's and one near Mr. (Thomas?) Drury's. Because of the lack of early maps of Phillipston, the actual location of these early school houses are not presently known.

Phillipston (Gerry) was divided into six school districts in 1788, a short time after its incorporation as a town. The construction of three schools in 1790 was probably a result of that action. It is not clear whether there was any school in the town center before the construction of the present District # 1 School building in 1790.

District # 1 School, 25 Templeton Road

This one-room is said to have been one of three schools built by the town in 1790. Its original appearance may have been similar to that of an unidentified Phillipston school seen in a late 19th century photograph -- extremely plain with a single entrance on the gable end and Federal style gable returns. The present Greek Revival detailing appears to be the result of a mid-19th century remodeling of the earlier building.

The District #1 School and another one-room school, School # 5, were still in use at the close of World War II. At that time, they were the town's only schools. Even at that late date, they each still housed several grades under the tutelage of a single teacher. Grades one through four were held at # 5 and five through eight at # 1. Only after the Phillipston Memorial School was opened in 1948 did the District # 1 School cease to be used as a school.

Phillipston Memorial School, 20 The Common

This four-room school, was built in 1947 at a cost of \$60,000 to replace these two outdated schools. Until a three-room, \$102,000 addition was made to it in 1971, the new school housed two classes, rather than one, per room.

LIBRARIES

Public libraries were widely established in Massachusetts towns during the mid and late 19th century. Phillipston's public library, the Phillips Memorial Library, first opened in 1862, was an early one. Although it was the town's first public library, it had been preceded many years earlier by a local private library society.

The diaries of Nahum Jones show that a private library society existed in Phillipston as early as 1801. The directors of the organization included Jones; the minister of the church; the town physician; the original settler, Charles Baker; and other leading citizens of the town. This group purchased books which it made available to its members. Neither the size nor description of its membership, the extent of its collection, nor the length of its activity are known.

Phillips Memorial Library

The stimulus for the establishment of a public library for the use of all of the town's citizens came in 1860 with a gift of \$5,000 from Jonathan Phillips, Esq., of Cohasset, Massachusetts, nephew of Lieutenant Governor William Phillips, for whom the town was named. The text of the bequest includes the following explanation for the gift:

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 8 Page 12

The twelfth annual report of the Board of Education shows that the town of Phillipston takes special interest in the cause of Education, and has taken a prominent, if not the first rank among the towns of Mass., in the care and support of public schools.

I therefore give five thousand dollars to said town as a trust fund, the income and produce of which shall annually be expended in procuring books for a town library.

The town's public library began operation in 1862 in the home of Pliny P. Gould, the former Gould's Tavern (no longer standing at 10 The Common, MAP # 14). The first librarian was Harriet Richardson. The second was Mary Mann, who held the position until 1868. In that year the library was moved to the home of the third librarian, Tina Chaffin (the former Dr. James Stone, Jr. House, MAP # 17) at 10 Baldwinville Road. When the Town Hall was completed in 1891, the library was transferred there. Miss Chaffin continued as librarian until 1906. (continued)

After the construction of the Phillipston Memorial School in 1948, the old District # 1 School was converted to house the library. The library was moved to that building in 1952 and has remained there ever since.

STORES

Neither the date nor the location of the earliest store in Phillipston Center are presently known. The earliest mention of a store is found in the Federal Direct Tax Census of 1798, which lists a store (30' x 16') and potash works (28' x 24') operated by Elijah Gould near his one-story house at 30 The Common (MAP # 9). Gould, described as a "trader", may have opened a store there soon after he acquired the property in 1792. In 1802 he sold his "home farm" at 30 The Common and in 1804 bought land across the road at 10 The Common where he is said to have operated a tavern, perhaps only for a short time. The 1814 tax record makes no mention of a tavern but list his "dwelling house", a separate store building, a shed, and a barn. He apparently had continued, or resumed, his occupation as a "trader" after the move.

Store Next to Present Town Hall

According to Phillipston historian, William G. Lord, a general store on the The Common was operated by Frances C. Champney in 1821 in a building built for that purpose (no longer standing, see Illustrations # 4,5,6) on a site immediately west of the present Town Hall. This was the site of the town's first post office when it was opened in that year. That two-and-a-half-story, gable-front store building also contained a meeting hall on the second floor (known during the late 19th century as "Pike's Hall". It is not known whether this store building and that listed as Gould's store in 1798 were the same.

30 The Common (MAP # 9, **Photo # 14**) 1760-1830, appears to have been the home of a storekeeper during a large part of the history of the town. Only some storekeepers have been identified who operated this store on the common. However, the following storekeepers are known to have owned the property, which included the store building, the house, and its accompanying 45 acres. They presumably lived in the house while operating the store. They are Jason

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 8 Page 13

Goulding, from about 1846 to about 1855; J. and Theodore T. Miller, from about 1855 to about 1862; and Simon E. Pike, from about 1867 until probably some time in the 1890's. For an unspecified period during the early 20th century, it was run by M. P. Estey, who appears to have lived at 20 Baldwinville Road (MAP # 18). A store continued to be operated at this location on the common until the building was destroyed by fire in 1936.

No details are known of the size or quality of the business of this store over time. At several different times in its history, it also housed the Phillipston post office. The post office was located there when the building burned in 1936. After the fire, the post office and the store were both transferred to the house next door at 30 The Common, where the post office remained until the it was closed down in 1954.

Bassett's Store at 10 Athol Road

Although the store on the common must have had a steady and constant clientele, the most highly successful store in town during the 1830's and 1840's seems to have been the one at 10 Athol Road, Photo # 8, operated by Isaac and Charles C. Bassett (b. 1805). The date at which the Bassett's business was founded is not known. A store is shown at this location on an 1830 map. It is assumed that the Bassetts were operating the store at that time. Their business appears to have remained at this site until Charles C. Bassett moved his enterprise to the nearby town of Athol in 1856.

During the 1830s, this store attracted customers from as far away as Northfield, Massachusetts and places in southern New Hampshire. It was operated under the firm names of Isaac Bassett & Son; C. C. Bassett & Company; Lee, Boynton & Company; and Lee & Bassett. A partner in some of these firms was Artemas Lee of Templeton, who operated a thriving mercantile business in that town as well.

According to a biographical sketch of Charles Bassett:

More business was done by this firm than by any other in this part of the state. They were pioneers in the palm leaf hat business in this vicinity, and the second firm in the state to put out palm leaf to braid, their sales in this branch alone amounting to one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars in one year.

Little else is presently known of the Bassett's business. However, stores, and storekeepers typically played a key role in the economic life of early 19th century rural New England communities. They offered goods of all kinds, from staples, such as flour, sugar, and molasses, to rum, hardware, dry goods, and household goods. General stores brought to country towns items from all over the world; the West Indies, Europe, England, China, and Ceylon. In this way they brought the outside world to those who had never been outside their towns.

The role of the storekeeper was particularly important because during the early 19th century there was little cash and the economic dealings of most people were through barter and exchange. During this period, most families in towns like Phillipston gained their livelihoods from farming. Their ability to make purchases in stores depended on the sale of excess produce of the sale of their own handiwork. Some provided for extra income through boot and shoemaking,

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Phillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 8 Page 14

chairmaking, the braiding of straw, or the making of palm leaf hats. The store was the conduit through which excess agricultural produce or the products of cottage industry could be exchanged for American-made goods that were unavailable locally and for goods imported from across the globe.

It is possible that, before dealing in palm leaf hats, Charles Bassett may have put out the manufacture of boots and shoes. His father and partner, Isaac Bassett, owned a tannery on the site of 30 Barre Road, just south of the common (but not in the historic district) as early as 1814 and as late as 1830 or later. Boot and shoe making was a popular cottage industry in Phillipston.

The manufacture of palm leaf hats became popular in the late 1820s or the early 1830s. In such an arrangement, storekeepers like Bassett provided the palm straw, imported from Cuba, for a fee to women who braided the hats in return for credit at the store. Manufacturing statistics show that in 1837 65,000 palm leaf hats were braided in Phillipston. It is not know how many of those were made for Bassett, since there was also another store in town that might also have dealt in palm leaf hats.

The Role of Stores in the Community

The two stores in Phillipston Center would not only have played an important role in the town's economy, they would have also been hubs of community activity. 19th century stores were community gathering places and places for the exchange of news and information. The storekeeper was in constant touch with the outside world and was an important source of information to rural communities. His store was a meeting place for all.

After the mid-19th century, when improved roads and the railroad made it easier for individuals to travel and to send goods to the city for sale, the role of the storekeeper began to change. Individuals were no longer quite so dependent on him to buy the goods they desired or to market their goods. It was at that time that Bassett, an aggressive businessman, moved his enterprise to Athol, apparently to be closer to the railroad and closer to a larger community.

ARTISANRY

The earliest locations of shops of artisans such as blacksmiths and wheelwrights in Phillipston are not known. It is likely that during the early years of the 19th century such shops were already located in the town center, not far from the meeting house. Mid-19th century maps show a blacksmith shop on the east side of Baldwinville Road, opposite the Baldwinville Road side of 10 Athol Road. A wheelwright's shop occupied a building, possibly the same shop that now stands at 10 Templeton Road (MAP # 6). Two tanneries are believed to have operated a short distance outside the Phillipston Center Historic District. West of the center, on Templeton Road, one operated as early as the late 18th century. Another operated a short distance from the common in the vicinity of 30 Barre Road from as early as 1814 until at least 1830.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Phillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.

Section number 8 Page 15

Shoe making and chair making were important artisanal activities in Phillipston during the early 19th century. However, little specific information has yet been found about precise locations where they were carried out.

AGRICULTURE

During the 18th and 19th centuries, in particular, farming was a way of life participated in by most of the population of the town. Throughout the 18th, 19th, and early 20th centuries, Phillipston's economy remained strongly agricultural. This is so, even though a variety of industries prospered here at various times throughout its history (sawmills, cotton and woolen mills, a wire mill, and a chair factory).

Because Phillipston never became densely settled, it was possible for small farms to exist even in the town center. This was true not only in the 18th century, but through the 19th and early 20th centuries as well. The Gould-Miller-Pike House at 30 The Common was accompanied by 45 acres and was considered a farm in 1802. In 1814 other houses on the common had acreage ranging from about 18 acres to 75 or more acres and were described as farms in the tax records of that year.

The advent of the railroad, near the northern boundary of the town in 1847, provided western competition to local farms. Phillipston's farmers are said to have introduced methods of scientific agriculture in their effort to compete.

Also, according to Jewetts' 1879 History of Worcester County, the town's farmers:

have introduced upon their farms herds of thoroughbred stock, their farm buildings present a neat and attractive appearance, labor-saving machinery and new and improved varieties of plants and seeds are used, while the strong, rich soil brings forth good crops of all kinds of produce, which find ready market in the manufacturing villages of surrounding towns. They contribute largely to the annual exhibitions of the Worcester North-west Agricultural and Mechanical Society, and carry away man of the prizes offered by that society.

Nelson Stone, a successful Phillipston farmer listed in Jewett's history, farmed the land accompanying the Gardner Maynard House, 10 Lincoln Road (MAP # 11, Photos # 11, 20) included in the Phillipston Center Historic District. Only a short distance from the Gardner Maynard House and only a little more than a half a mile from the common, but just outside the historic district, was a highly successful market-gardening farm and greenhouses. Also mentioned by Jewett, it was in operation between about 1876 and the late 1930's.

The 1875 state census reported 126 farms valued at \$240,075 with an agricultural production of \$90,246. Cattle raising and dairying became important during this time. Domestic animals were valued at \$46,003. Butter production was 32,036 pounds valued at \$11,591. 1,830 tons of hay were produced.

The town's chief agricultural activities in 1937 were lumbering, farming, dairying, market-gardening, poultry-raising, and fruit-growing.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 8 Page 16**PHILLIPSTON'S ARCHITECTURE AS AN INDEX OF GROWTH**

The size, style and quality of the 18th and 19th century buildings that survive today in Phillipston Center tell a tale of the growth of the town's center village as a clustered settlement. The increasing size and refined appearance of the town's buildings between about 1790 and 1850 reflects not only the pride and prosperity of the community but also the tastes and the confidence of the new nation. Houses were larger as communal living and multi-purpose rooms gave way to greater privacy and to rooms designated for special uses. Ornamental features, once omitted, became more common on the exteriors of larger houses during this period. Classical door frames at main entrances, elegant but never lavish, were an expression of a new gentility and a more ordered life that were American goals following the Revolution.

Phillipston looked to the future in 1837 as it converted its old-fashioned, boxy, meeting house to a dignified, church-like building with Greek columns, a belfry, and a soaring spire. By choosing the newly popular Greek Revival style in the 1830s, the community showed that it was in step with the times. Yet, despite this forward looking approach, what is impressive in Phillipston Center is the great lack of new buildings representing the periods that followed. This lack and the survival of a high proportion of 18th and early 19th century buildings in the town center today testify to the hiatus in growth that occurred here after about 1840. The modern world of industry passed Phillipston by during the second half of the 19th century, and there was little new building here.

From the mid-19th century until recent years, most of the buildings built in the town center were built by the Town itself: the Town Hall (1891), the Town Barn (early 20th century), and Phillipston Memorial School (1948). Today, as the town's population has again climbed above its previous 1830s high, a new period of growth can be seen in the growing number of late 20th century dwellings in Phillipston Center.

Residential Construction in Phillipston Center**18th CENTURY**

Houses standing in Phillipston Center in the 18th century appear to have been small in size and only one or one-and-a-half stories in height. Statistics recorded in the Federal Direct Tax Census of 1798, which survives for Phillipston, confirms this fact. Houses having a total square footage of little more than 500 feet (e.g., 25' x 20') were not unusual. In 1798 even community leader Gardner Maynard occupied a house (no longer extant) that was valued at less than \$100 and that was one story in height, containing only 720 square feet of space. Of the 75 highest valued houses in the town (listed as having a value greater than \$100), only 14 were two stories in height. These housing characteristics were common for other Massachusetts communities during the 18th century.

Surviving houses that may date from this early period are one-and-a-half stories in height and have short corner posts. They take the five-bay, center-entry form. Two have center chimneys. All but one, the Bascom House, are extremely simple and unadorned. All have had later additions made to them to provide for more space. These early houses are all located around the common: the Rev. Ezekiel Lysander Bascom House, 70 The Common (MAP # 1, **Photos #6, 12**), 1770-1800; the Gould-Miller-Pike House, 30 The Common (MAP # 9, **Photo #14**), 1760?-1830; and the George Bowker House, 10 Templeton Road (MAP # 6, **Photo # 13**), 1790-1830.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 8 Page 17

None of these houses could be identified on the 1798 Direct Tax Census, partly because the identities of most of the earliest owners are presently unknown. Nevertheless, despite their unassuming appearance, some of them are known to have been occupied by important members of the community during the early and mid 19th century. The Bascom House was the home of the town's second minister (served 1800-1820). The Gould-Miller-Pike House was owned by a succession of storekeepers during both the 19th and early 20th centuries. The Bowker House was the home of a wheelwright. The similar Goulding House, which no longer stands east of it on Templeton Road (MAP #28, see **Illustration #1**), belonged to the owner of a mill in Goulding village.

19th CENTURY

The one-and-a-half-story, gable-end type house continued to be popular in Phillipston during the early 19th century, as it was in other rural communities in Massachusetts. Yet, in the growing town center, two-story houses were more commonly built after 1800.

Between about 1800 and the 1840s, several two-story houses were built within about a half a mile of the meeting house. They belonged to important members of the community and were the town center's largest and most impressive houses. Although other two-story houses were built in outlying parts of town, these houses in the center were among the finest and most high style in Phillipston.

These houses were mostly two-and-a-half-stories in height, of the five-bay, center-entry type, with the entry on the long side and a gable at either end -- some single pile, others double pile. Most have paired chimneys, which suggest a center-hall interior plan. Unlike the others, the Gardner Maynard House has a central chimney.

Houses of this type include: the Gardner Maynard House, 10 Lincoln Road (MAP # 11, **Photos # 11, 20**), ca. 1800, home of a Revolutionary War veteran and man of local influence. Along Baldwinville Road were four two-story houses which stood near one another: the Dr James Stone, Jr. House, 10 Baldwinville Road (MAP # 17, **Photos #16, 17**), 1812?-1840?, home of the town's physician; the Isaac and Charles C. Bassett House and Store, 10 Athol Road (corner of Baldwinville Road) (MAP # 20, **Photo # 8**), 1800?-1830?; the Charles H. Baker House, 45 Baldwinville Road (MAP # 21, **Photos #18, 19**), ca.1790-1830; and the Baker-Whitney House, 55 Baldwinville Road (MAP # 22, **Photos # 9, 21**), ca.1800-1830)

Two two-story, four-square Federal style houses were built in the center. They were both of the five-bay, center-entry type, with two sets of paired chimneys and a secondary five-bay, center-entry facade on the side. Because of their larger size and because they were ornamented with a Classical style doorframe at each entrance they were more imposing than the others. One of these was the gable-roofed Elijah Gould Tavern (no longer standing), ca.1800, 10 The Common, MAP # 14, **Illustration # 8**). The other, the Barnum/White/Farr House, 1800, 1844 (MAP #12, **Photo #10**) is still standing at 30 Petersham Road. Unlike the tavern, it has a hip roof, a feature that adds to its distinctiveness and elegance. It is the only building in the district with a hip roof.

As was true of other houses of this size, type, and period in small towns and rural areas, in New England, the most important and most ornamental feature of all of these two-story buildings is the door frame and treatment of the main

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 8 Page 18

entrance. Classical pilaster/architrave/cornice frames with short sidelights are the norm (see, for example, **Photos #17, 19**). The door frame of the Gardner Maynard House is slightly different. Instead of having a simple horizontal cornice for a cap, it is topped with a raking cornice with returns (**Photo # 20**). In general, the component parts of these door frames are similar, although no two are alike. Also, some are expressed in the lighter proportions of the Federal style while others are weightier and more three-dimensional in the Greek Revival manner. Several of the Federal style door frames have fanlights or rectangular lintel lights incorporated into the design.

1850-1950

As a result of population decline, hardly any new residential construction took place in the town center during the mid and late 19th century. Within the historic district the only new dwelling built during that period was the Greek Revival style S. R. Sanderson House/Congregational Parsonage, 35 Templeton Road (MAP # 5, **Photo # 5**) ca. 1850. On the fringes of the center, but not included in the historic district, only one other house built during this period, dating from the 1880's, has been identified. Another house, at 30 Baldwinville Road (MAP #19), is believed to be a mid-to-late-19th century hearse house converted to use as a residence in the early 20th century.

The easternmost in a row of three Greek Revival style buildings on the town common, the Sanderson House reinforces the Classical dignity offered to the center by its neighbors, the District # 1 School/Phillips Memorial Library, 1790, ca. 1850, and the Congregational Meeting House, 1785, 1837. Although it is not the only Greek Revival style dwelling in the district, it is the only one built on the gable-front, sidehall-entry plan that was most characteristic of that style. The Dr. James Stone, Jr. House and the I. and C. C. Bassett House are both two-story, five-bay, center-entry versions with the entrance on the long side. Still traditional in their form, they are trimmed with Greek Revival details.

The Sanderson House was by no means out of date when it was built in the Greek Revival style in the 1850's, even though the Congregational Meeting House was built in the same style thirteen years earlier, in 1837. Greek Revival was highly popular and widely used all during the 1850's throughout Massachusetts and New England.

The Town Hall (1891), the Town Barn (early 20th century), and Phillipston Memorial School (1948) represent development in Phillipston Center after the mid 19th century. Built in a vernacular idiom, these buildings reflect the community's small population, lack of money, and isolation from the major tides of the times. Except for the application of Victorian Gothic ornament to its facade gable, the appearance of the Town Hall is that of a building built in the mid-19th century. Likewise, the Town Barn's Greek Revival style eave trim would suggest a much earlier date if it weren't for its strongly horizontal lines. In both the Town Hall and the Town Barn, the builder was using a mid-19th century vocabulary that, by the turn of the 20th century, had entered the common builder's vernacular.

By the time the town's new school was built after World War II, the International Style was all the rage in this country. Hundreds of new schools were being built of glass and steel, with clean, sleek horizontal lines, no ornament, and flat roofs. Their plans were irregular and the building materials themselves became their chief decorative features. The flat-roofed Phillipston Memorial School is a highly diluted, vernacular, expression of this style.

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Phillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 8 Page 19

Despite International Style traits, such as no ornament, emphasis on functionality, and irregularity of design, the modern origins of the Memorial School are barely discernible behind its artless exterior of wood shingle siding and standard sash windows.

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of prehistoric occupation in Phillipston are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Prehistoric sites in this area can be important by providing information on upland/interior sites in general and the role sites along tributary streams of the Connecticut River played in a local/regional Native American subsistence and settlement systems. Prehistoric sites in this area could be part of a large, possibly seasonal settlement network based along the Connecticut River or part of a specialized adaptation to local environments in the uplands. Many current theories indicate prehistoric socio/political/economic boundaries are based along riverine basins. Although sites in this area are ultimately part of the Connecticut River drainage, the district area is located between the headwaters of two major tributaries of that drainage, the Millers River to the north and the Chicopee River to the south. Prehistoric sites in this area may enable a test of theories relating to riverine adaptations and the importance of sites and settlement/subsistence patterns which are geographically close but in different secondary drainages within the same overall drainage system.

Historic archaeological remains described above have the potential to provide detailed information on the social, cultural and economic patterns of a 19th century rural New England village that developed as a clustered center village in the first half of the 19th century then changed little until the 20th century. Documentary research combined with archaeological survey and testing can help locate buildings originally located in the vicinity of the common that have been lost over time. Similar research can also contribute information about existing structures and the role they played in the development of the only area of 18th/19th century residential/institutional clustered settlement in the town. Two additional areas of 18th/19th century clustered settlement were present in the town, however, they were associated with industrial development. Archaeological research in the vicinity of the Common may locate structural evidence and related features from the First Congregational Meeting House built in 1786. In 1837, the meeting house was moved northeast of its original location at which time it was revovated and enlarged. Archaeological research may also contribute information relating to the architectural characteristics of the original meeting house. Few details of the town's meeting house survive prior to it's rebuilding in 1837. Structural remains may also survive from horse barns originally located behind the Congregational Meeting House then later moved, possibly at the same time the meeting house was moved. Structural evidence might also survive from the Universalist Meeting House built in 1833 on the site of the modern house at 15 Baldwinville Road immediately south of the cemetery. The meeting house was moved to East Templeton between 1857-1870 leaving a vacant lot in its place until recently. Any information relating to either the Congregational or Universalist Meeting Houses can be significant to the nomination since it was these structures and the Common that encouraged growth of the area as a center village. Structural remains may survive from each structure that documents their locations and changes which occurred during their occupancy. Detailed

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Phillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 8 Page 20

analysis of the contents of occupational related features associated with the extant meeting house and previous sites can also contribute important information about religious society members and by extrapolation the Phillipston community. Archaeological evidence may also survive from 18th and 19th century school buildings in the district although it is questionable whether there was a school in the town center before the construction of the present District #1 school building in 1790. It is unclear when the first schools were built in the district. Local sources indicate there may have been a school building in the 1770's. Two additional schools may have been present before incorporation of the town but their locations are unknown. Neither the date nor the location of the first store in Phillipston is known with one or possibly two stores reported in the district. Structural remains and related features may survive from the store and potash works (1798) operated by Elijah Gould near his house at 30 The Common. Similar remains might also survive from the Frances C. Champney store located west of the town hall in 1828. The Champney store was destroyed by fire in 1936. Archaeological testing may contribute information that helps settle any debate over whether the Champney Store and the Gould Store are the same building. Further documentary research combined with archaeological testing in the district can also contribute important information relating to patterns of residential development in the district. Dates of construction are poorly documented for many homes in the vicinity of the common. Archaeological testing may contribute information that helps determine these dates and the overall settlement history for the district locale. Information produced through archaeological and documentary sources can help determine if the ell at the Gould – Miller – Pike House (1760-1830), 30 The Common, is the original house or a later addition. Similar research can also help determine whether the small guest house associated with the Gardner Maynard House (ca. 1800), 10 Lincoln Road, was built in the 19th century or the earlier 18th century Gardner Maynard House remodeled as an outbuilding then later guest house. While several 18th and 19th century residential sites may be present in the district, only one site has thus far been identified. Identification of these sites can contribute important information on the growth of the district and it's inhabitants. Structural remains from the Goulding House may survive in the vacant lot facing the common immediately east of 10 Templeton Road. Structural remains from the Elijah Gould Tavern, built shortly after 1800 then destroyed by fire in 1957, may survive at 10 The Common. Detailed analysis of the contents from occupational related features and the identification of outbuilding locations and their functions can also provide important information relating to agricultural production that characterized the town's economic base into the 20th century. These sources can also contribute information on cottage industries or manufacturing that was widespread at the local level to generate extra income or as a medium of exchange for the inhabitants of farms to purchase goods needed for their survival. Information relating to technologies and manufactured products may be available for boot and shoe manufacture, chair making, the braiding of straw and the making of palm leaf hats. Unmarked graves may also be present in the district at the Center Cemetery or at potential family burial grounds in the district. Unmarked and known graves in the district can contribute important information on different socio/economic groups that lived in the district ranging from the district's more affluent inhabitants to the unmarked graves of paupers and indigents. Detailed analysis of burial contents including material goods and osteological specimens can provide important information relating to the general health of the village population, it's sub-groups, pathologies effecting the population and burial practices. Structural remains, features and artifact distributions may also survive from activities conducted on Phillipston Common during the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. However, improvements to the common including digging, blowing rocks and leveling during the 19th century have probably had an adverse effect on any potential resources that were present.

(end)

Phillipston Center HD

Name of Property

Worcester, MA

County, State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property c. 44 acres

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Table with 6 columns: Zone, Easting, Northing for zones 1, 2, 3, and 4.

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

name/title Susan McD. Ceccacci, consultant, with Betsy Friedberg, NR director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date October 1999

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

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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Phillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.

Section number 9 Page 1

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Maps and Plans

1790

Baker, Charles & Maynard, Gardner. "Town of Gerry", March 1795, Massachusetts Archives #1258

1830

Lamb, Jason. "Plan of Phillipston in Worcester County Taken in Oct. and Nov. 1830", Massachusetts Archives #2133.

1857

Map of Worcester County Massachusetts.

1870

Beers, F. W. Atlas of Worcester County Massachusetts. New York: Fe. W. Beers & Co., 1870 (reprint Rutland, Vt.: Charles E. Tuttle Co., 1971).

1898

Richards, L. J. Atlas of Worcester County, Massachusetts. Philadelphia: L. J. Richards Co., 1898.

Chandler, Loring. Set of three hand drawn plans showing derivation of property for Meeting House Lot and Common, Estate of Louise Chandler, Phillipston.

Parkhurst, M. P., Esq. "1735 Proprietor's Plan of Narragansett No. 6 (Templeton), Copied from the Original", 1880 (photocopy updated with ownership researched from Proprietors' Records by Col. E. L. Tucker of Templeton, ca. 1970's), Estate of Charles Davis, Phillipston.

Unpublished Works and Manuscript Documents

Chandler, Loring. Research Notes. Estate of Charles Davis, Phillipston, Ma..

Davis, Charles, Research Notes. Estate of Charles Davis, Phillipston, Ma.

Greenwood, Ethan Allen. Memoranda. American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Ma..

Jones, Nahum. Diaries 1772-1807. American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Ma.

Massachusetts Historical Commission. "Phillipston: Reconnaissance Survey Report", 1984.

Minutes of Town and Parish Meetings, Town of Phillipston and Phillipston Congregational Church, photocopies, Town of Phillipston, Ma.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 9 Page 2

1798 Federal Direct Tax Census manuscript for Phillipston, microfilm Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, Ma.

Manuscript Tax Record, Town of Phillipston, Massachusetts, 1814. American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Ma.

Published Works

Adams, Edwin G. An Historical Discourse in Commemoration of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Formation of the First Congregational Church in Templeton, Massachusetts. Boston: Crosby, Nichols, and Company, 1857.

Andrews, Rev. S. B. Historical Address with a Short Account of the Celebration of the Centennial Anniversary of the Organization of the Congregational Church of Phillipston, Mass., Delivered Nov. 18, 1885. Athol, Ma.: Athol Transcript Co., 1886.

Chandler, Loring O. The Congregational Church of Phillipston, Massachusetts United Church of Christ, 1785-1985. Phillipston: 1985.

Crane, E. B. History of Worcester County, vol II. New York and Chicago: Lewis Historical Publishing Co., Inc., 1924.

Lord, William G. Historical Address at the Celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Town of Phillipston, Massachusetts, Tuesday August 18th, 1936. Athol, Ma.: Athol Printing Co., 1936.

Massachusetts Historical Commission State Survey Team. Historic and Archaeological Resources of Central Massachusetts. Boston: Massachusetts Historical Commission, 1985.

History of Worcester County, Vol. II. Boston: C.G. Jewett & Co., 1879.

Phillipston, Massachusetts Bicentennial. Phillipston, Ma.: Phillipston Historical Committee, 1984.

Valuation and Taxes, Town of Phillipston. 1878, 1886, 1890.

Clippings

Clipping File Phillips Memorial Library: Churches, Congregational Church, Descriptions, Farms, Library, Memorial School, Post Office, Town Hall

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetPhillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.Section number 9/10 Page 3/1**Interviews**

S. Ceccacci with Charles Davis, 12/16/1994, 2/20/1995
S. Ceccacci with Louise Chandler, 12/16/1994
S. Ceccacci with Edna Haley, 2/11/1998

(end)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**UTM references (continued)**

5. 18 734910 4714820 6. 18 735160 4714650

Boundary Description

The boundaries of Phillipston Center Historic District are shown on the attached Town of Phillipston Assessor's Maps # 24 and 27.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Phillipston Center Historic District encompass the best preserved portion of the 19th century town center of Phillipston. These areas were included because of their association with the history of the town and because they are visually an integral part of the town center today.

The boundaries selected in this section follow the boundaries of streets and existing property lines with only a single exception. The southern boundary of the property shown as Map # 8 on the sketch map, the site of a former store, is an arbitrary boundary made for convenience. The remainder of the lot to which it belongs accompanies a modern house which makes no contribution to the historic character of the district. For this reason, it has not been included.

(end)

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Phillipston Center HD
Phillipston (Worcester Co.), Mass.

Section number visuals Page _____

- Photographer: Susan Ceccacci, 1994
 - Negative with Phillipston Historical Commission
 - Photos 1-11 (8 x 10"), photos 12-21 (4 x 6")
1. Congregational Meeting House, 65 The Common (view looking NE)
 2. Congregational Meeting House (left), Town Common (right) (view looking E)
 3. 10 Templeton Rd. (left), Town Hall, 50 The Common (right) (view looking E)
 4. Public Library, 25 Templeton Rd. (left), 35 Templeton Rd. (right) (view looking NE)
 5. 35 Templeton Rd. (view looking NE)
 6. 10 Baldwinville Rd. (left), 70 The Common (right) (view looking NE)
 7. Center Cemetery, Baldwinville Rd. (view looking NW)
 8. 10 Athol Rd. (view looking NW)
 9. 55 Baldwinville Rd. (view looking W)
 10. 30 Petersham Rd. (view looking NW – front of house on left)
 11. 10 Lincoln Rd. (view looking NW)
 12. 70 The Common (view looking N)
 13. 10 Templeton Rd. (view looking SE)
 14. 30 The Common (view looking S)
 15. 20 Baldwinville Rd. (view looking N)
 16. 10 Baldwinville Rd. (view looking NE)
 17. 10 Baldwinville Rd., detail of front door (view looking E)
 18. 45 Baldwinville Rd. (view looking NW)
 19. 45 Baldwinville Rd., detail of front door (view looking W)
 20. 10 Lincoln Rd., detail of front door (view looking N)
 21. 55 Baldwinville Rd., detail of front door (view looking W)
 22. Phillipston School, 20 The Common (view looking S)

Illustrations

1. Newly improved Common, 1890s -- Meeting House (L), Town Hall (right)
2. 1890s view of Common and Meeting House
3. 70 The Common (left), Meeting House (center), town barn (right)
4. Town Hall (left), store (no longer standing, right) early 20th century view
5. Town Hall (left), store (no longer standing, right) 1890s view
6. 10 Templeton Rd. (left), Town Hall (center), store (no longer standing, right)
early 20th century view
7. Gould's Tavern, 10 The Common (no longer standing) 1905 view
7. Town Barn early 20th century view

(end)

NEWLY IMPROVED COMMON, CIRCA 1890'S (FOREGROUND)
MEETING HOUSE (LEFT) HOUSE (NO LONGER STANDING) (CENTER LEFT) 10 TEMPLETON ROAD (CENTER RIGHT) TOWN HALL (RIGHT)



ILLUSTRATION #1



1880'S VIEW OF COMMON AND MEETING HOUSE

ILLUSTRATION # 2

ILLUSTRATION # 3



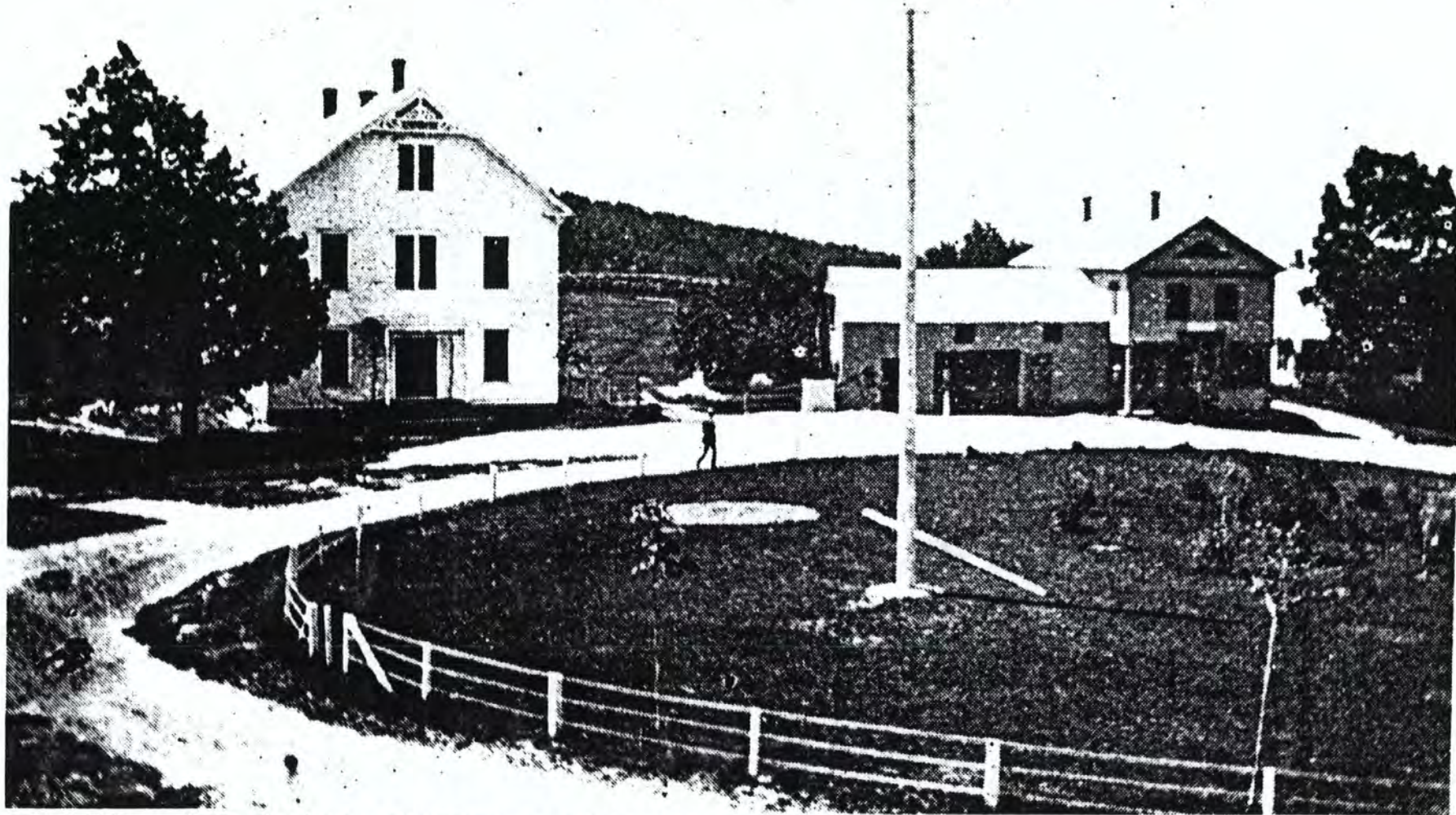
TOWNECOMMON (LEFT), CONGREGATIONAL MEETING HOUSE (CENTER),
TOWN BARN (RIGHT), NEWLY IMPROVED COMMON (FOREGROUND)
CIRCA 1890'S VIEW



ILLUSTRATION #4

NEWLY IMPROVED COMMON (FOREGROUND), TOWN HALL (LEFT),
STORE (NO LONGER STANDING) (RIGHT)

EARLY 20TH CENTURY VIEW



TOWN HALL (LEFT), NEWLY IMPROVED COMMON (CENTER), STORE (NO LONGER STANDING) (RIGHT)
CIRCA 1890'S VIEW

ILLUSTRATION #5



10 TEMPLETON ROAD (LEFT), TOWN HALL (CENTER), STORE (NO LONGER STANDING) (RIGHT)
EARLY 20TH CENTURY VIEW

ILLUSTRATION # 6

ILLUSTRATION #7



GOULD'S TAVERN (NO LONGER STANDING) 10 THE COMMON
MAIN FACADE (CENTER), END FACADE (LEFT), BARN (RIGHT)
1905 VIEW

ILLUSTRATION #8



TOWN BARN, EARLY 20TH CENTURY VIEW

District Data Sheet

Phillipston Center National Register Historic District

Athol Road

Map #	Assessor #	MHC #	Historic Name	Address	Date	Style	Status	Resource
20	27/21	18	I. & C. C. Bassett Hse & Store	10 Athol Rd	c. 1800-1830	Federal/Greek Rev'l	C	B

Baldwinville Road

Map #	Assessor #	MHC #	Historic Name	Address	Date	Style	Status	Resource
17	24/25	15	Dr. James Stone, Jr. House shed	10 Baldwinville " "	1811-1840's mid-late 20 th c	Federal/Greek Rev	C NC	B B
15	24/20,19	17	house	15 Baldwinville	ca. 1980's	Colonial Revival	NC	B
16	24/21	25	Center Cemetery	Baldwinville Rd	1803		C	SI
18	24/24,23	16	Andrew S. Chubb House two-car garage	20 Baldwinville " "	c 1800-1830 late 20 th c	Federal Vernacular	C NC	B B
19	27/30,31	19	house	30 Baldwinville	19 th c. ?		C	B
21	27/22,20	21	Charles H. Baker House	45 Baldwinville	1790-1830	Federal	C	B
22	27/23	22	Baker-Whitney House small barn small shed	55 Baldwinville " " " "	1790-1830 19 th c? " " "	Federal	C C C	B B B

Baldwinville Road (continued)

Map #	Assessor #	MHC #	Historic Name	Address	Date	Style	Status	Resource
25	27/24		Town Fire Pond (modern)	Baldwinville Road	mid-late 20thc		NC	SI
23	27/25	23	house	65 Baldwinville	1790-1830	timberframe vernac	C	B
24	27/26	24	house	75 Baldwinville	1790-1830	timberframe vernac	C	B

Lincoln Road

Map #	Assessor #	MHC #	Historic Name	Address	Date	Style	Status	Resource
11	27/6	28	Gardner Maynard House	10 Lincoln Road	1800	Federal	C	B
			attached barn	" " "	"		C	B
			guest house	" " "	e 20 th c?	astylistic	NC	B
			shed	" " "	" " " "		NC	B

Petersham Road

Map #	Assessor #	MHC #	Historic Name	Address	Date	Style	Status	Resource
13	24/17	26	house	10 Petersham Rd	mid-late 20 th c	ranch	NC	B
			stall barn	" "	" " " "		NC	B
12	27/7,7A	30	Barnum-White-Farr House	30 Petersham Rd	1800?, 1844	Federal	C	B

Templeton Road

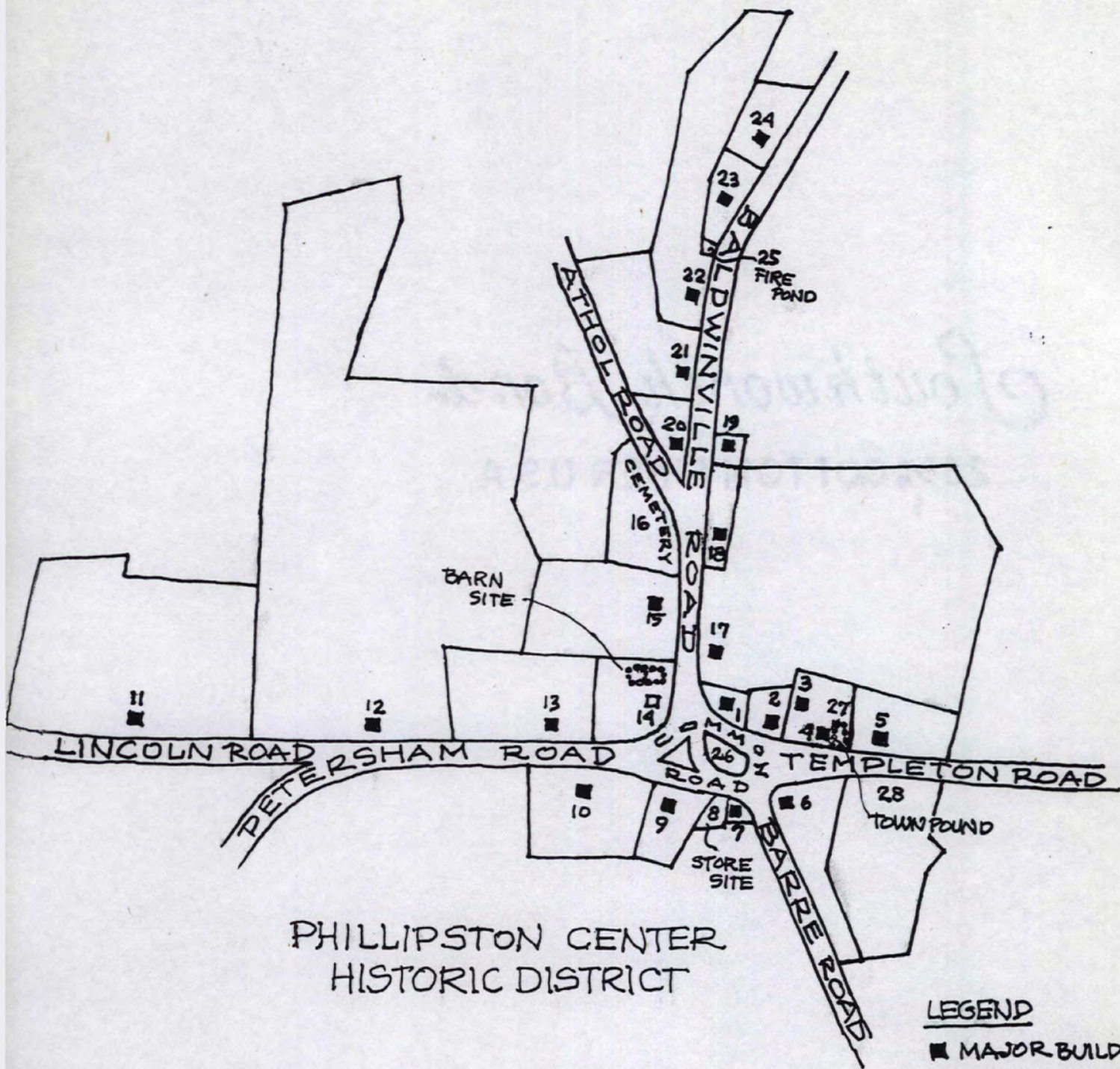
Map #	Assessor #	MHC #	Historic Name	Address	Date	Style	Status	Resource
6	24/42	25	George Bowker House shop	10 Templeton Rd " " "	1790-1830 19thc	Federal/Greek Rev	C C	B B
28	24/42A		former house site	Templeton Road			C	SI
4	24/32	4	School House # 1/Phillips Lib	25 Templeton Rd	1790, c.1850	Greek Revival	C	B
27	24/32		Town Pound	" " "	1803		C	SI
5	24/33,33A	11	S.R.Sanderson House/ Congregational Parsonage	35 Templeton Rd	c.1850	Greek Revival	C	B

The Common Road

Map #	Assessor #	MHC #	Historic Name	Address	Date	Style	Status	Resource
26	24/14,15		Town Common	The Common Rd			C	SI
14	24/18	10	house granite barn foundations	10 The Common " " "	ca. 1990 e. 19th c?	Colonial Revival	NC C	B SI
10	24/4	9	Phillipston Memorial School	20 The Common	1948	astylistic	C	B
9	24/3	8	Gould-Miller-Pike House barn	30 The Common " " "	1760? late 20th c?	timberframe vernac	C NC	B B
8	24/2	7	site of former store	40 The Common			C	SI

The Common Road (continued)

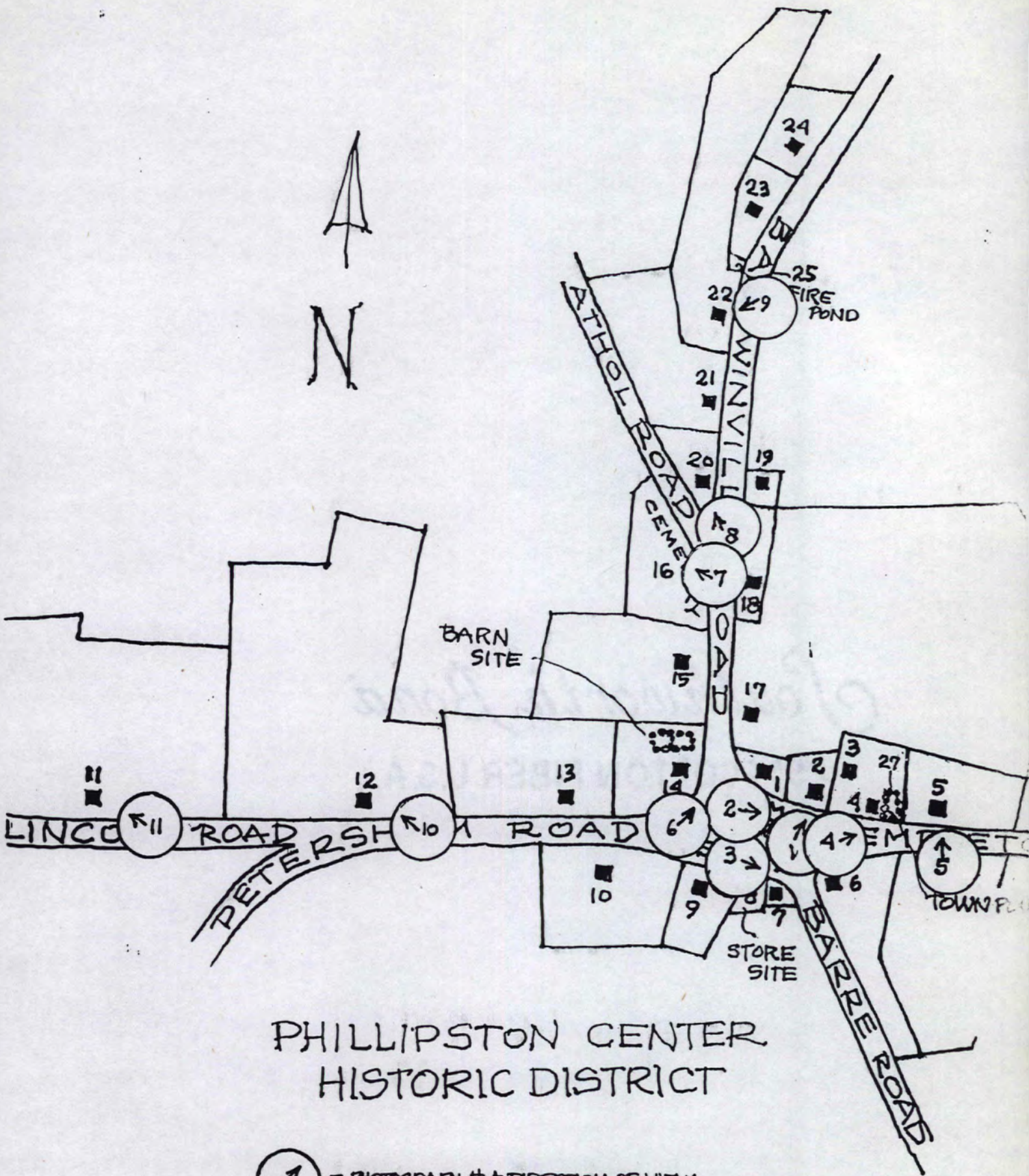
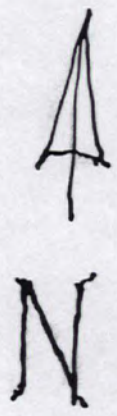
Map #	Assessor #	MHC #	Historic Name	Address	Date	Style	Status	Resource
7	24/1	6	Town Hall	50 The Common	1891	GkRev/Ital/Gothic	C	B
			Town Pump	" " "	"		C	O
			shed	" " "	mid-late 20 th c	astylistic	NC	B
3	24/31	3	Town Barn	60 The Common		elements Gk Revival	C	B
2	24/28,30	2	Congregational Meetinghouse	65 The Common	1785, 1837	Greek Revival	C	B
1	24/26,27,29	1	Congregational Parsonage	70 The Common	1770-1800, 1890's?	Georgian vernac	C	B
			horse shed/studio/shop	" " "	19 th c, 20 th c		C	B




PHILLIPSTON CENTER
HISTORIC DISTRICT

LEGEND

- MAJOR BUILDING
- ⊞ STONE STRUCTURE
- NUMBER = MAP #



PHILLIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

 = PHOTOGRAPH # & DIRECTION OF VIEW

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Phillipston Center Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester

DATE RECEIVED: 10/21/99 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/02/99
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/18/99 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/05/99
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 99001385

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 11/22/99 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

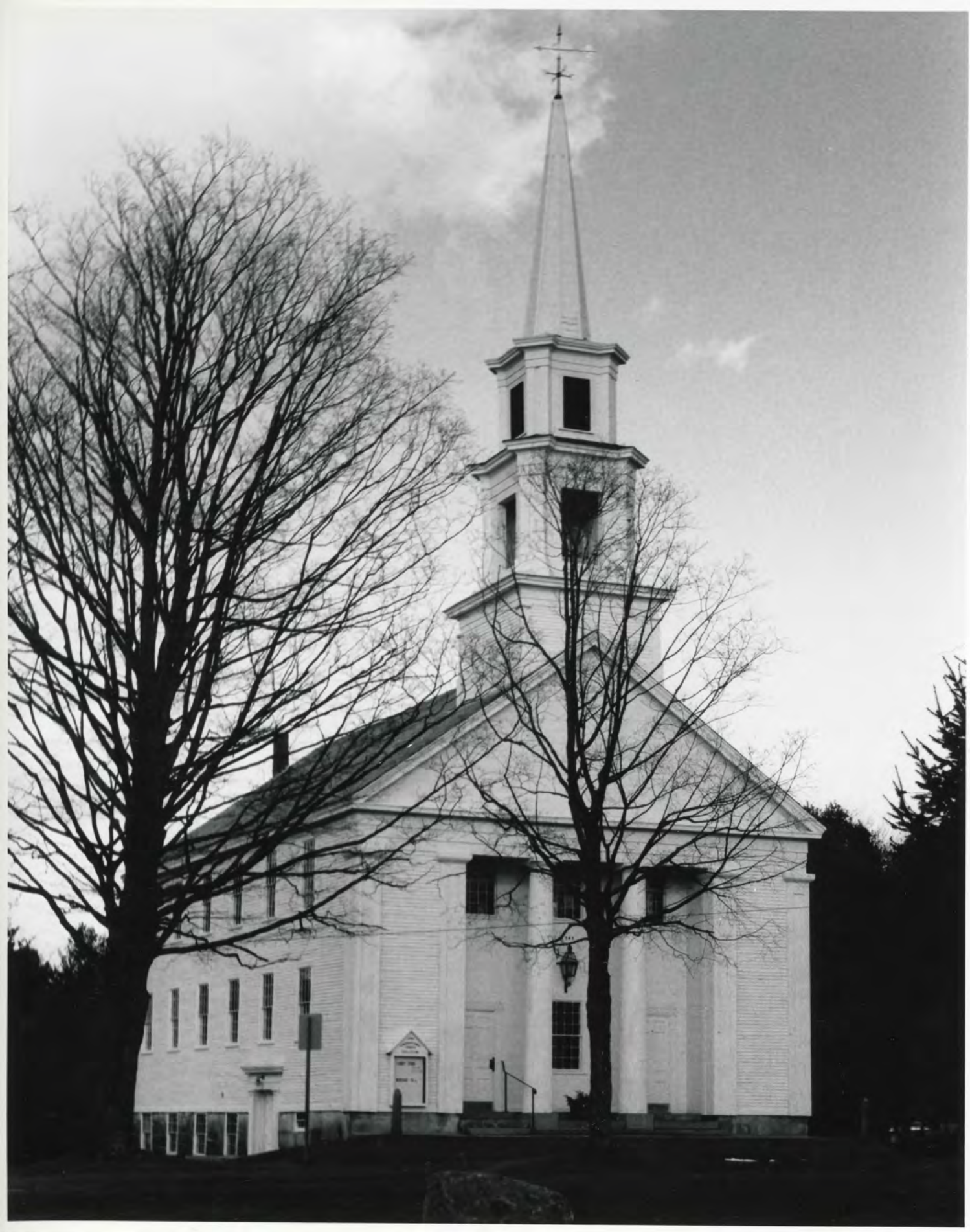
Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING HOUSE
(65 THE COMMON)

PHILIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILIPSTON, WORCESTER COUNTY, MA.

PHOTO: S. CECCACCI, 1994

NEGATIVE: PHILIPSTON HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING NE FROM TOWN COMMON

PHOTO # 1



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING HOUSE (LEFT)
TOWN COMMON (RIGHT)

PHILLIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILLIPSTON, WORCESTER COUNTY, MA.

PHOTO: S. CECCACCI, 1994

NEGATIVE: PHILLIPSTON HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING EAST FROM TOWN COMMON

PHOTO # 2



TOWNHALL (50 THE COMMON) (RIGHT)
10 TEMPLETON ROAD (LEFT)
PHILIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILIPSTON, WORCESTER COUNTY, MA.

PHOTO: S. CECCACCI, 1994
NEGATIVE: PHILIPSTON HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING EAST FROM THE COMMON RD.

PHOTO # 3



PHILLIPS FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Phillips
Free
Public
Library

25 TEMPLETON ROAD (LEFT)

35 TEMPLETON ROAD (RIGHT)

PHILIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

PHILIPSTON, WORCESTER COUNTY, MA.

PHOTO: S. CECCACCI, 1994

NEGATIVE: PHILIPSTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING NE FROM TEMPLETON ROAD

PHOTO # 4



35 TEMPLETON ROAD
PHILLIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILLIPSTON, WORCESTER COUNTY, MA,

PHOTO: S. CECCACCI, 1994

NEGATIVE: PHILLIPSTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING NE FROM TEMPLETON ROAD

PHOTO # 5



10 BALDWINVILLE ROAD (LEFT)
70 THE COMMON (RIGHT)

PHILIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILIPSTON, WORCESTER COUNTY, MA,

PHOTO: S. CECCACCI, 1994

NEGATIVE: PHILIPSTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING NE FROM THE COMMON ROAD

PHOTO # 6



CENTER CEMETERY, BALDWINVILLE RD
PHILIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILIPSTON, WORCESTER COUNTY, MA

PHOTO: S. CECCACCI, 1994
NEGATIVE: PHILIPSTON HISTORIC ML
COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING NW FROM
BALDWINVILLE RD.

PHOTO # 7



10 ATTOL ROAD
PHILIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILIPSTON, WORCESTER COUNTY, MA.

PHOTO: S. CECCACCI, 1994

NEGATIVE: PHILIPSTON HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING NW FROM BALDWINVILLE
ROAD

PHOTO # 3



55 BALDWINVILLE ROAD
PHILLIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILLIPSTON, WORCESTER COUNTY, MA.

PHOTO: S. CECCACCI, 1994

NEGATIVE: PHILLIPSTON HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING WEST FROM
BALDWINVILLE ROAD

PHOTO # 9



30 PETERSHAM ROAD
PHILLIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILLIPSTON, WORCESTER COUNTY, MA.

PHOTO: S. CECCACCI, 1994
NEGATIVE: PHILLIPSTON HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING NW FROM
PETERSHAM ROAD
(FRONT OF HOUSE ON LEFT)

PHOTO # 10



10 LINCOLN ROAD
PHILLIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILLIPSTON, WORCESTER COUNTY, MA

PHOTO: S. CECCACCI, 1994

NEGATIVE: PHILLIPSTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING NW FROM LINCOLN ROAD

PHOTO # 11



TO THE COMMON
PHILLIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILLIPSTON (WORCESTER CO.) MA

PHOTO: S. CECCACCI, 1994
NEGATIVE: PHILLIPSTON HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING NORTH

PHOTO # 12

666 01 1 4

#1-9



10 TEMPLETON ROAD
PHILLIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILLIPSTON (WORCESTER CO.) MA

PHOTO: S. CECCACCI, 1994

NEGATIVE: PHILLIPSTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING SE

PHOTO # 13

8620111

#1-2



30 THE COMMON
PHILLIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILLIPSTON (WORCESTER CO.) MA

PHOTO: S. CECCACCI, 1994

NEGATIVE: PHILLIPSTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING SOUTH

PHOTO # 14

1-7

Series 011 111



20 BALDWINVILLE ROAD
PHILLIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILLIPSTON (WORCESTER CO.) MA

PHOTO: S. CECCACCI, 1994

NEGATIVE: PHILLIPSTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING ← NORTH

PHOTO # 15

6420111

#1-11



10 BALDWINVILLE ROAD
PHILLIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILLIPSTON (WORCESTER CO.) MA

PHOTO: S. CECCACCI, 1994

NEGATIVE: PHILLIPSTON HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING NE

PHOTO# 16

862011414

#1-10



10

#2-27

10 BALDWINVILLE ROAD
PHILLIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC
DISTRICT

PHILLIPSTON (WORCESTER CO.,)
MA

PHOTO: S. CECACCIO, 1994

NEGATIVE: PHILLIPSTON HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING EAST

1 1 1110 698

PHOTO # 17



#2-9

45 BALDWINVILLE ROAD
PHILLIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILLIPSTON (WORCESTER COUNTY), MA.

PHOTO: SICECCACCI, 1994
NEGATIVE: PHILLIPSTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION
VIEW LOOKING NW

PHOTO # 18



2-25

45 BALDWINVILLE ROAD
PHILLIPSTON CENTER
HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILLIPSTON (WORCESTER CO)
661 0117 11 MA.

PHOTO: S. CECCACCI 1994

NEGATIVE: PHILLIPSTON
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING WEST

PHOTO # 19



1800

10

2-28

10 LINCOLN ROAD
PHILLIPSTON CENTER
HISTORIC DISTRICT

PHILLIPSTON (WORCESTER CO)
MA

PHOTO: S. CECCACCI, 1994

NEGATIVE: PHILLIPSTON
HISTORICAL COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING NORTH

8690111 N

PHOTO # 20



#2-26

55 BALDWINVILLE ROAD
PHILLIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC
DISTRICT

PHILLIPSTON (WORCESTER CO.)
MA

PHOTO: S. CECCACCI, 1994

NEGATIVE: PHILLIPSTON
HISTORICAL COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING WEST

101 1110628

PHOTO # 21



PELPTON MEMORIAL SCHOOL

20 THE COMMON
PHILLIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILLIPSTON (WORCESTER CO.,) MA

PHOTO: S. CECCACCI, 1994

NEGATIVE: PHILLIPSTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

VIEW LOOKING SOUTH

PHOTO # 22

863011 1 1

#1-12

PHILLIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILLIPSTON (WORCESTER COUNTY) MA

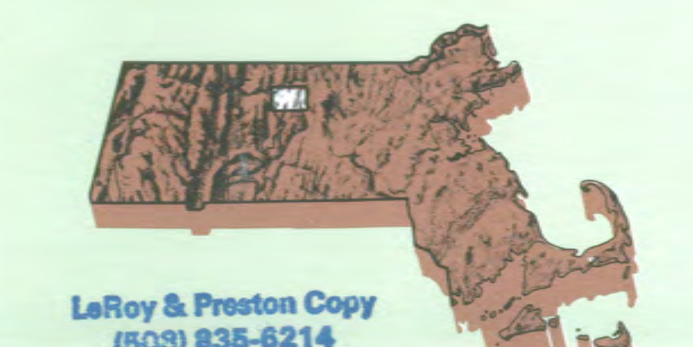
ATHOL, MASSACHUSETTS

7.5 X 15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

42072-E1-TM-025
PHILLIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILLIPSTON (WORCESTER CO.) MA

Athol MASSACHUSETTS

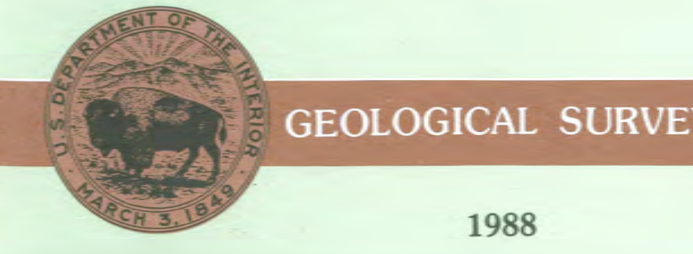
1:25 000-scale metric
topographic map



LaRoy & Preston Copy
(603) 838-6214

7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE SHOWING

- Contours and elevations in meters
- Highways, roads and other manmade structures
- Water features
- Woodland areas
- Geographic names



Produced by the United States Geological Survey in cooperation with Massachusetts Department of Public Works
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts agencies
Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1980. Field checked 1981. Map edited 1988.
Supersedes Athol and Templeton 1:25,000-scale maps dated 1970
Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 18 Universal Transverse Mercator
10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone
1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983, move the projection lines 5 meters south and 39 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map

CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
P.O. BOX 23286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225

CONVERSION TABLE		DECLINATION DIAGRAM		ADJOINING MAPS		
Meters	Feet	MAGNETIC		1	2	3
1	3.2808	10° 15' N		1	2	3
2	6.5617	10° 15' N		4	5	6
3	9.8425	10° 15' N		7	8	9
4	13.1234	10° 15' N		10	11	12
5	16.4042	10° 15' N		13	14	15
6	19.6850	10° 15' N		16	17	18
7	22.9659	10° 15' N		19	20	21
8	26.2467	10° 15' N		22	23	24
9	29.5275	10° 15' N		25	26	27
10	32.8084	10° 15' N		28	29	30

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808
To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

UTM grid convergence (GN and 1983 magnetic declination (MD) at center of map. Diagram is approximate.

1 Northfield
2 Winchendon
3 Ashburnham
4 Orange
5 Fitchburg
6 Shrewsbury
7 Barre
8 Sterling



Topographic Map Symbols

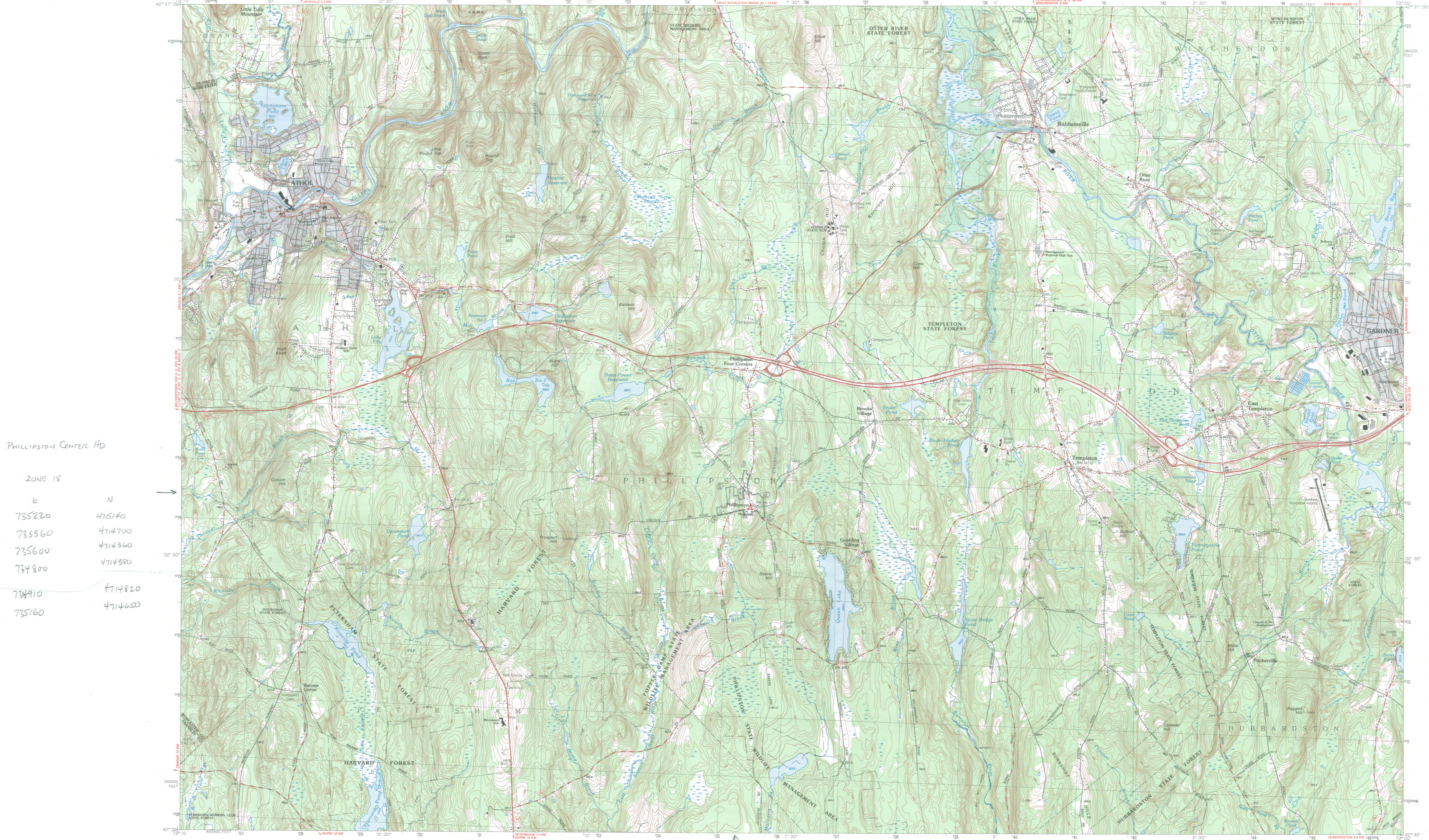
- Primary highway, hard surface
- Secondary highway, hard surface
- Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
- Unimproved road, trail
- Route marker: Interstate, U.S., State
- Railroad: standard gauge, narrow gauge
- Bridge, drawbridge
- Footbridge, covered, underpass
- Build-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown
- House: barn, church, school, large structure
- Boundary: National, with monument; State; County, parish; Civil township, precinct, district; Incorporated city, village, town; National or State reservation; small park; Land grant with monument; found section corner; U.S. public lands survey; range, township, section; Range, township, section line; location approximate; Fence or field line; Power transmission line, located tower; Dam; dam with lock; Cemetery, grave; Comprographic picnic area; U.S. location monument; Wellhead; water well, spring; Mine shaft; prospect, adit or cave; Control: national station, vertical station, spot elevation; Contour: index, intermediate, supplementary; depression; Distorted surface: strip mine, lava, sand; Bathymetric contour: index, intermediate; Potential lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream; Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small; Swamp; marsh; Submerged marsh; land subject to controlled inundation; Woodland: scattered trees; Orchard; vineyard

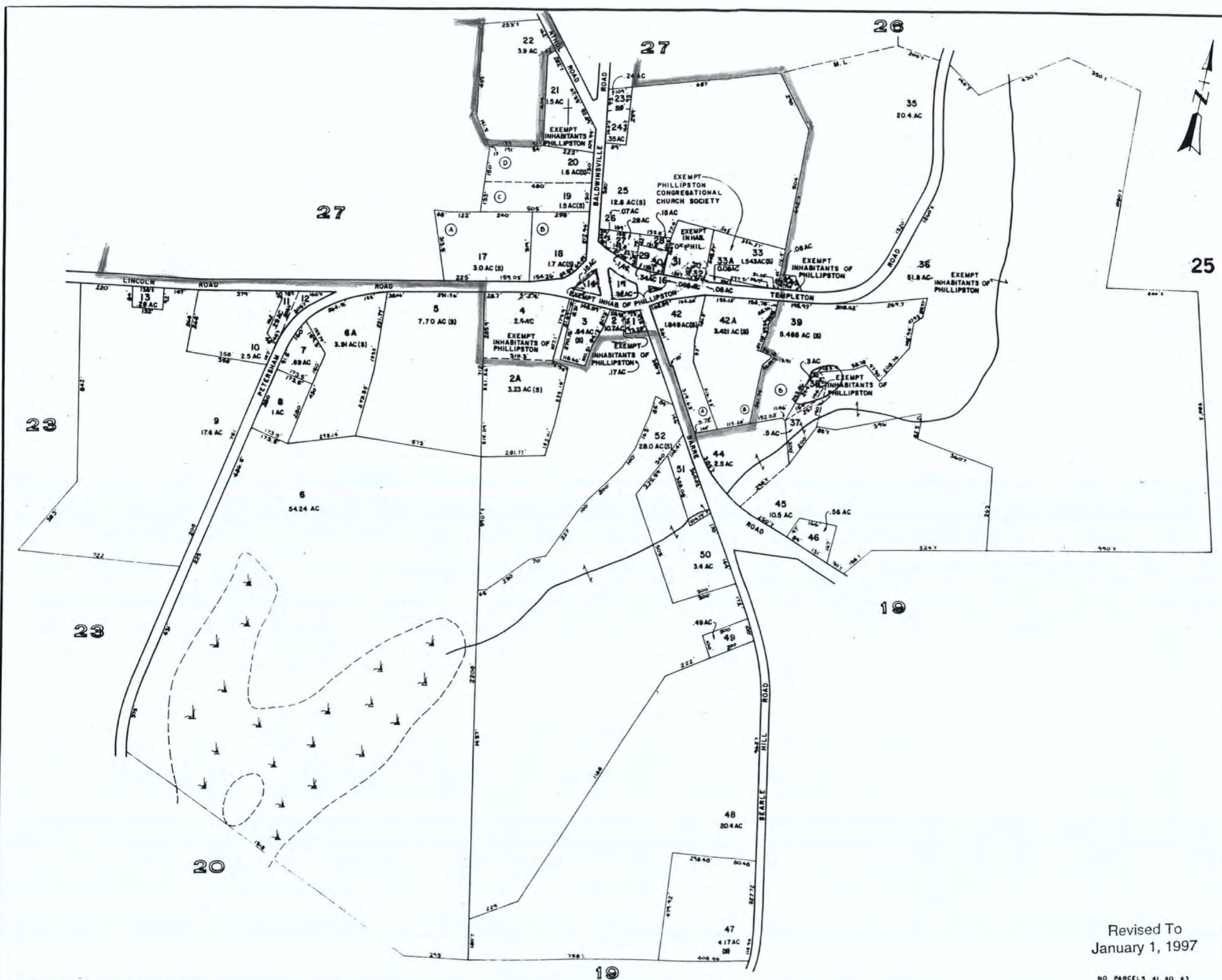
A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request

PHILLIPSTON CENTER HD

ZONE 18
E N

- | | | |
|----|--------|---------|
| 1. | 735220 | 4715140 |
| 2. | 735560 | 4714700 |
| 3. | 735600 | 4714360 |
| 4. | 734800 | 4714380 |
| 5. | 734910 | 4714820 |
| 6. | 735160 | 4714650 |





Revised To
January 1, 1997

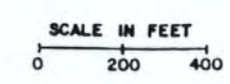
NO PARCELS 41, 40, 43

PREPARED BY PHOTOGRAMMETRIC METHODS BY
JOHN E. O'DONNELL & ASSOCIATES
AUBURN, MAINE
1978

LEGEND
ADJACENT SHEET NO. 12
COMMON OWNERSHIP 10
DEVELOPMENT LOT NO. 10
SCALED DIMENSION +

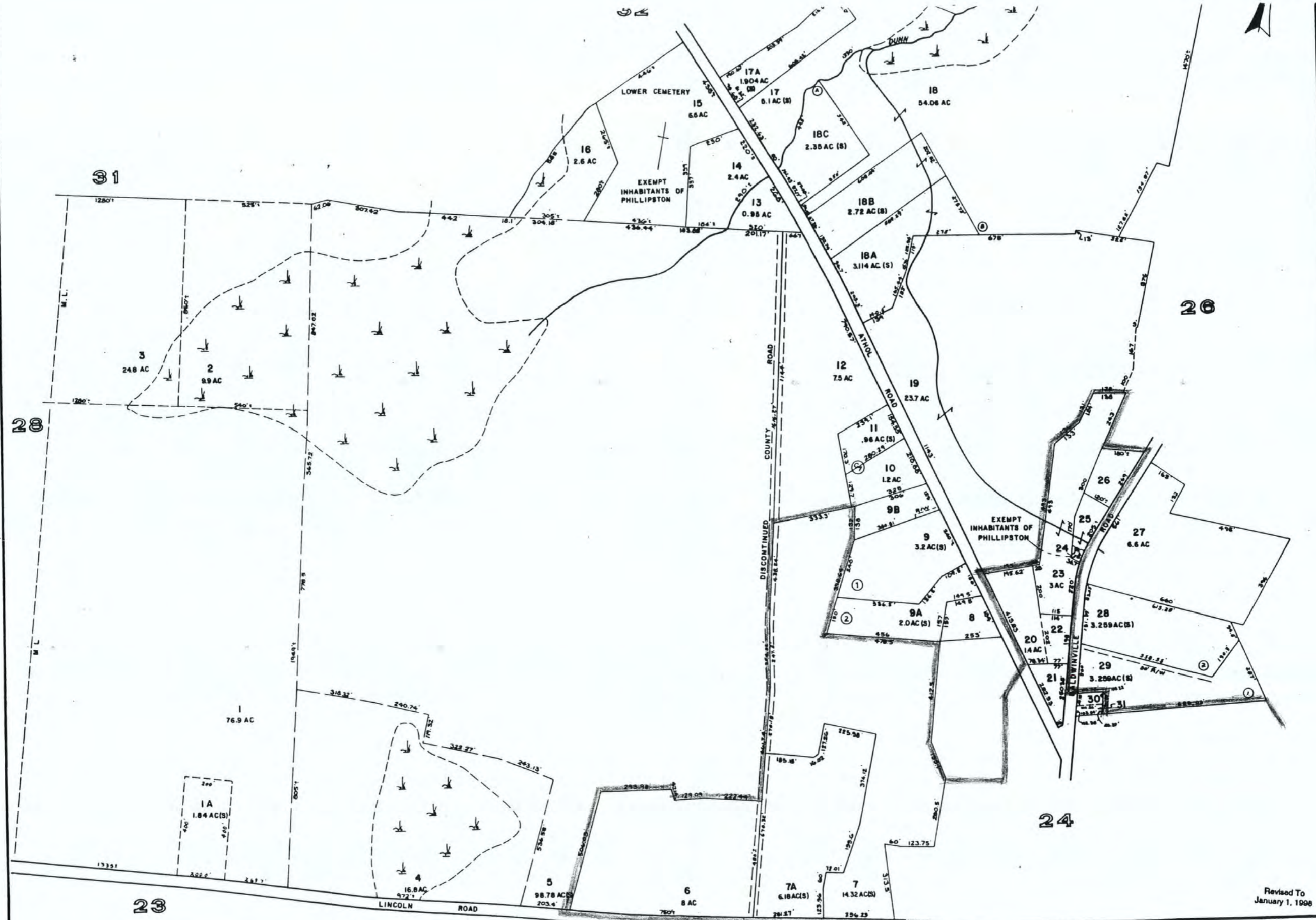
PROPERTY MAP
PHILLIPSTON

REVISED AND REPRINTED BY
CARTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATES, INC.
LITTLETON, NEW HAMPSHIRE



24

PHILLIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILLIPSTON (WORCESTER COUNTY), MA

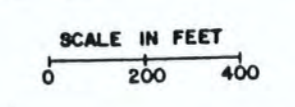


PREPARED BY PHOTOGRAMMETRIC METHODS BY
 JOHN E. O'DONNELL & ASSOCIATES
 AUBURN, MAINE
 1978

LEGEND
 ADJACENT SHEET NO.
 COMMON OWNERSHIP
 DEVELOPMENT LOT NO.
 SCALED DIMENSION

PROPERTY MAP
PHILLIPSTON
 MASSACHUSETTS

REVISED AND REPRINTED BY
 CARTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATES, INC.
 LITTLETON, NEW HAMPSHIRE



Revised To
 January 1, 1998

27

PHILLIPSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
 PHILLIPSTON (WORCESTER COUNTY), MA

MAPSHEET P-1093



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

October 6, 1999

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Mail Stop 2280, Suite 400
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Phillipston Center Historic District, Phillipston (Worcester Co.), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of properties in the district were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 45 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: Ann Chandler Barden, Chair, Phillipston Historical Commission
Susan Ceccacci, Preservation Consultant
John Seamon, Chair, Phillipston Board of Selectmen
Vernon Charland, Town Planner