

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received JUN 21 1985

date entered JUL 18 1985

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

1. Name

historic Lincoln Center Historic District

and or common Lincoln Center

2. Location

Bedford, Lincoln, Old Lexington, Sandy Pond,
street & number Trapelo, and Weston Roads

N/A not for publication

city, town Lincoln N/A vicinity of

state Mass. code 025 county Middlesex code 017

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name multiple/see attached owner/property list

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number First and Cambridge Streets

city, town Cambridge state MA

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Inventory of the Historic Assets
of the Commonwealth

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1978 federal state county local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town 80 Boylston Street, Boston state Massachusetts

7. Description Lincoln Center Historic District, Lincoln, MA

| | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Condition | | Check one | Check one |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | | |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Lincoln Center Historic District is a 161-acre area located at the geographical center of Lincoln, 15 miles west of Boston. The district consists of six roads, spreading out from a central point marked by a watering trough. The 59 buildings in the district are almost entirely residential; the district also includes two churches, a library, two town halls, a school, and the former poorhouse (now a dwelling). Within the district boundaries, there are also the town common, two burying grounds, and four recent residences considered as noncontributing structures.

Dominating much of the center of the district is Lincoln Hill (also known as Bedford Hill), 375 feet high at its peak. The remainder of the district is a sloping plain containing a number of open fields and terminating near Iron Mill Brook and wetlands areas both to the east (175 feet above sea level) and west. At the southern boundary is Lincoln's second highest hill, Pierce Hill, 379 feet above sea level, while the north is a large field still under cultivation. There are several hay fields within the district.

Landscaping is for the most part informal, except for several formally sited stands of trees along Weston Road. Five of the district's main roads (Bedford, Lincoln, Old Lexington, Sandy Pond, and Weston Roads) date to the mid 18th century, while the sixth (Trapelo Road) is of early 19th century origins.

The stone walls built when the roads were laid out are in many cases still in good repair. Similar walls also mark property lines. A hemlock hedge separates the Town Hall from the Burying Ground, and a handsome arbor vitae hedge surrounds the 19th century cemetery on Trapelo Road at the edge of the district. Specimen trees grace the Common and Pierce Park, and the library lawn is studded with large shade trees and some flowering trees as well. Most house lots are at least an acre in size and many are larger, enabling residents to garden, keep animals, and even cut hay. There are several orchards in the area, and the privately owned fields here are all under cultivation (hay, corn, and pumpkins are grown). Public land includes the Common, Pierce Park, Center School playground, two cemeteries, the Town Reservoir, the Old Town Hall with its adjacent hay field, and the land around the district's public buildings. Open fields are a critical element of the district; small fields can be seen throughout and surrounding it. The largest field in the district--the Donaldson-owned field between Trapelo and Weston Roads--is farmed under agricultural use restriction. Much of the field between Lincoln Road and Sandy Pond Road is now owned by the Town as conservation land, providing a permanent backdrop to the roadside buildings. In addition to undeveloped parcels, a number of the houselots include small fields. Since Lincoln's zoning prevents any further subdivision of almost all such lots, small rural spaces should remain.

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The rural character of the district is also enhanced by surrounding land. To the north, much of the 17th century Wheeler farm is now conservation land. The district also borders the open fields of the Flint farm (north of Old Lexington Road), which is still owned by descendants of the original 17th century grantee. Open land is a significant component of the district, and the sense of a rural setting in Lincoln's center remains well preserved.

Until the early 20th century, the town center district was more extensively developed than the outskirts of Lincoln; this has gradually changed, however, and within the past fifty years, other areas of town have experienced development, subdivision, and the pressures of suburbanization.

The following description of key and representative buildings is arranged chronologically by style and function. Residences are discussed first, followed by nonresidential buildings.

Residences

Georgian Style

The Brown-Russell-Chapin House, 37 Lincoln Road (#27), is the oldest house in the district. Built between 1734 and 1754, the building is a simple, symmetrical, central-chimneyed structure, 2 1/2 stories in height, with five bays of 6/9 windows on its main facade and a central entryway. The flat entablature capping the full-length side lit door (probably a later addition) is the building's only adornment.

Federal Style (1775-1830)

Lincoln has a number of well-preserved Federal-style houses. Most are of frame construction, two stories in height, with highly symmetrical five-bay facades, low-pitched hipped roofs, slender chimneys, and graceful, shallow-fan door surrounds. They include the McPherson-Weston House, 29 Lincoln Road (ca. 1785-1821, #28), the Stearns-Cole-Smith House, 15 Sandy Pond Road (ca. 1782, #30), and the Elisha Hagar House, 24 Bedford Road (ca. 1828, #38).

At 7 Lincoln Road, the Adams-Tarbell House (ca. 1793-1796, #32), is the earliest surviving brick house in Lincoln. Located close to the heart of the district, the building is a stately Federal-style structure, five bays wide, with a dentilated cornice beneath a hipped roof with symmetrically placed end chimneys. A center entryway with dentilated cornice is flanked by a brick string course, the only adornment on an otherwise flat facade.

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Among the finest Federal-style buildings in the district is the Samuel Hoar House, 22 Weston Road (#40). Built in 1817-1818 by local housewright John Nelson, the Hoar House is a highly symmetrical five-bay clapboard structure capped by a low-pitched, double-hipped roof. The centrally placed entryway features a door surround composed of thin pilasters topped by a shallow fan and flat entablature. Narrow, symmetrically placed chimneys behind the ridge line add further balance to the facade. Colonial Revival-style side porches and porticoes are later additions, as was a roofline balustrade, since removed.

Greek Revival Style (1830-1860)

The early 19th century was a period of expansion for Lincoln Center, and new construction was widespread. Beginning in the 1830s, a number of examples of the Greek Revival style were built in the district. Most are gable-front side-hall plan two-story houses, three bays wide, their doorways flanked by sidelights and capped by a simple flat entablature. Examples of this style include the Wheeler-Farrar-Bemis-House, 2 Bedford Road (ca. 1833-1836, #34), which is fronted by a pedimented entry porch; the Rev. Ebenezer Newhall House, 9 Sandy Pond Road (1834, #31); the Pierce-Fay House, 23 Sandy Pond Road (1847, #72); and the First Parsonage, 12 Trapelo Road (1848-1849, #71).

At 67 Bedford Road, the Abel Wheeler House (1843, #77) differs from this typical Lincoln form. The work of housewright Reuben Smith of Stow, the house is a side-gable-plan building; its entry is centered on its long end and the symmetrical arrangement of its fenestration is similar to buildings of earlier periods. Corner pilasters frame the building and the sidelit entry is flanked by a broad, flat-roofed, single-story portico supported by Doric columns. The gable end, which faces the street, incorporates a triangular pediment.

The Asa White House, 29 Sandy Pond Road (ca. 1854-1856, #73), was the last Greek Revival-style residence constructed in Lincoln and the only one with a fully developed temple front. Four Doric columns support the triangular pediment, while simple corner pilasters frame the building. The center doorway includes a simple entablature capping 3/4 sidelights and a full transom. A contemporaneous barn with cupola is attached to the rear of the building.

Italianate and Second Empire Styles (1840-1885)

Construction in the district slowed by mid century, and only a few examples of the Italianate and Second Empire styles, popular elsewhere in the outskirts of Boston, exist within the town center boundaries. The Albert Hagar House, 37 Bedford Road

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(1850-1851, #76), has the deep cornice supported by paired brackets and flat lintels and sills typical of the Italianate style. A glass-enclosed entry porch with a triangular pediment is probably a later addition.

The George Grosvenor Tarbell House, 34 Bedford Road (ca. 1869-1870, #75) is also unique in the town center--it is a fine example of the Second Empire style with many of the decorative details typical of high-style examples elsewhere. A center gable in the front facade of the deep mansard roof echoes that mansard silhouette and frames a pair of round-arched windows. The three-bay facade includes a heavy flat-roofed central portico supported by paired Doric columns and surmounted by urns. Single decorative brackets are present beneath the eaves.

Queen Anne, Georgian Revival and Colonial Revival Styles

The late Industrial (1870-1915) and Early Modern (1915-1940) periods found Lincoln citizens once again beginning to build fine homes. The town's proximity to Boston made it a desirable community for wealthy commuters. The Queen Anne style and, especially, the Georgian and Colonial Revival styles were popular in this period with the builders both of suburban houses and country estates and of more modest residences.

The Flint-Mossman-Norton House, 20 Trapelo Road (1892, #95), is a particularly fine example of the Queen Anne style. The building is cross-gable in plan and is sheathed in a mix of wavy shingles and clapboard. Decorative detailing includes a blind Palladian window centered on the second story of the main facade, a single diamond-pane window asymmetrically placed on the second story, and a single-story full verandah with dentilated central pediment, punchwork frieze, and delicate spindlework porch supports.

The elaborate Georgian Revival style was popular for several estates built on the fringes of the town center at the turn of the century. Representatives of the style include: the Riddle-Clark-Rogers House, 24 Sandy Pond Road (1898-1899, #82), a three-bay, hip-roofed, stained shingle structure whose center entrance is fronted by a paired column-supported portico with rooftop balustrade; the George F. Newton House, 29 Trapelo Road (1898, #106), an asymmetrical stucco-sheathed building with a gabled hip roof, projecting gables and dormers, entry pavilion, and a Palladian window surround; and, grandest of all, the John H. Pierce House, 17 Weston Road (1900, #113). Now a recreation facility, the Pierce House is based closely upon the 1759 Vassall-Craigie-Longfellow House in Cambridge (the work of John Vassall). Particularly notable are the slightly projecting centered gable framed by two-story pilasters and incorporating a lunette. A balustrade topped with urns delineates the hipped roof; two porches supported by Doric columns and adorned with roofline balustrades flank the building's main block.

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Examples of the Colonial Revival style, both modest and high style, are more prevalent. The Benjamin Carlson House, 3 Weston Road (1921, #98), is a well-detailed building with a modillioned cornice gracing a main facade that includes a basket-arched entry surround. The , the Donald P. Donaldson House, 16 Weston Road (1916-1917, #110), the Riley-Savage House, 26 Lincoln Road (1925, #115), and the Frederick Seeger House, 9 Trapelo Road (1928-1929, #100), while finely proportioned and featuring porticoed central entrances, are somewhat less sophisticated examples. And among the more modest vernacular expressions of the Colonial Revival style built during the first third of the 20th century are the William N. Page House, 32 Lincoln Road (1929, #117), the Charles Westman House, 7 Trapelo Road (ca. 1926, #99), and the Roland MacKenzie House, 53 Bradford Road (1926, #90). All three are relatively simple Colonial Revival-style buildings that nevertheless contribute to the district's present character as a prosperous semi-rural suburban enclave.

Nonresidential Buildings

Lincoln's nonresidential buildings--churches, taverns, schools, town offices--are primarily of 19th century origin. With one exception, none of the structures built in the 18th century survive. The nonresidential buildings are discussed in chronological order.

In 1785, the Poor House (later Hunt-Rice Tavern) was built at 7 Old Lexington Road (#58), adjacent to the town common. The original two-room structure measured only 30' x 25'. By 1809, the building was being used as a tavern and store. By the 1830s, it had been enlarged to its present two-story, nine-bay main block with single-story porch supported by slender columns and a single-story three-bay ell. During this latter period, it is believed, itinerant artist Rufus Porter may have painted the murals that remain on the upstairs ballroom wall. A two-story Colonial Revival-style rear ell was added in the early 20th century, by which time the building was used solely as a residence.

The White Church, 4 Bedford Road (1842, #35), is a fine example of the temple-front Colonial Revival style and is the work of Stow builder Reuben Smith (also responsible for the similarly styled Asa White House on Sandy Pond Road). Built by a group of liberals who left the Congregational Church to form a Unitarian congregation, this is the oldest ecclesiastical structure remaining in Lincoln. (The original meetinghouse, built ca. 1747, burned in 1860.) The clapboard building's imposing facade includes two Ionic columns, flanked by four pilasters, that support a fully enframed classical pediment. A three-part spire is centered on the ridge.

The Old Town Hall, built in 1848 (#29), is another outstanding example of the Greek Revival style. Originally sited on Lincoln Hill, opposite the meetinghouse, the

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building was moved to its present site at 25 Lincoln Road in 1892, at which time it became a store. The town hall is the work of Nathaniel Hosmer of Concord, who also built the nearby Greek Revival-style First Parsonage, #71. Its symmetrical clapboard exterior features a temple front with four two-story Ionic columns supporting a full-width pediment. Behind the porch, the three-bay-wide building is enframed by full corner pilasters.

The late 19th and early 20th centuries marked the height of the town center's public building program. In 1883-1884, the Lincoln Public Library was erected at 3 Bedford Road (#39), at the center's main intersection. A fine example of the Victorian Romanesque, the library was designed by Boston architect William G. Preston. The building is asymmetrical in plan, of brick construction on a rubblestone foundation, and has a complex roofline dominated by an S-curved clock tower extending from the roof. At first-story level, the tower rests on a round-arched entry porch. To the right of the tower, a shaped, parapeted gable with brownstone coping incorporates a chimney and bay windows.

The Stone Church, 14 Bedford Road (#37), was built in 1891 on the site of the first meetinghouse. (A second church on this site, built ca. 1860, was torn down to make way for the present structure.) Built of granite ashlar with brownstone trim by Fitchburg architect H. M. Francis, the church is another well-preserved example of the Victorian Romanesque style. It is an asymmetrically planned structure, its polychromatic exterior enlivened by quoins, round-arched windows, dormers, bays, column-supported porches, and a prominent multi-stage bell tower.

Lincoln's second Town Hall, at 15 Bedford Road, was built in 1892 (#41) from a design by H. Langdon Warren of Boston. It is a fine Georgian Revival-style building, highly symmetrical, its facade exhibiting such high-style elements as a Palladian window with balcony centered beneath a pedimented gable, round-arched and round windows, heavy dentilation, upper-story pilasters resting on a brick string course, and ornamental plaques. An open cupola surmounted by a thin spire sits atop the hip-roof ridge line.

The Center School (now used as additional town offices) at 16 Lincoln Road (#14) is, similarly, an example of the Georgian Revival style. It was built of brick in 1908, and its facade is dominated by a pedimented central entrance pavilion with side wings and applied Doric pilasters. In the gable above the fully articulated cornice, a clock is ornamented with a keystone and flanked by swags and garlands. On the ridge line of the open-hipped roof is a cupola with copper dome and bell finial.

Noncontributing Structures

The district contains several buildings that must be considered as intrusions.

One, the Stanley Heck House at 23 Bedford Road (#91), was originally a ca. 1860

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Second Empire-style building that in 1949 was completely altered by architect Henry B. Hoover and is now an example of the International Style. Only the foundation and a few other elements of the original building survive; however, the present house's parklike setting and its adjacent barn are remnants of the original estate.

Two other contemporary structures in the district include the Third Parsonage, 16 Bedford Road (1958, #85) and the Talcott M. Banks House, 34A Bedford Road (1977-78, #87). Though decidedly modern in plan, shape, and scale, these two structures are set far back on their lots and do not intrude upon the visual integrity of the district as a pre-modern entity. In addition, a Colonial Revival house, the Martin Buerger House, 12 Weston Road, was built in 1942, and is of insufficient age to contribute to the district.

8. Significance

Lincoln Center Historic District, Lincoln, MA

| Period | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below | | | |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> social/ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | humanitarian |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1930 | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |
| | | | | community development |
| Specific dates | 1747-1930 | Builder Architect | multiple | |

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Lincoln Center Historic District retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Historically, the district holds significance as the fulcrum of Lincoln's development from the period of first settlement in the early 18th century to the present day. Though now essentially a well-to-do suburban enclave, the town center retains its village scale and rural character. The district includes a large number of well-preserved 18th and 19th century residential and civic structures, as well as a high proportion of open land. As an outstanding representation of 18th and 19th century New England village life, the Lincoln Center Historic District fulfills criteria A, B, and C of the National Register of Historic Places on the local level.

In April of 1754, after having been a separate precinct with its own meetinghouse since 1746, the town of Lincoln was incorporated. The new town was already a settled area, with its land area created from acreage carved from adjoining parts of Concord, Lexington, and Weston.

The largest section of the new town (including the National Register-nominated district) was originally part of the six-mile-square tract granted in 1635 to form the town of Concord, the first town to be established in the colonies above the fall line. The first European settlers of Concord were attracted to the grassy wetlands along the Musketaquid River (later Concord and Sudbury Rivers), long a principal settlement area of the Massachusetts Indians. Land grants to individuals were made in various sizes and shapes, following the contours of the land. The lands that would later become Lincoln, in the eastern part of Concord, were particularly notable for a number of very large grants: 1,000 acres to John Briggs, 750 acres to Reverend Peter Bulkeley, and 750 acres to Thomas Flint. The nominated district lies primarily within the bounds of Flint's early farm.

The Lincoln lands were gradually cleared, and land was bought, sold, and divided among heirs to create workable farms. Further settlement evolved as still more cleared farmland was needed to support the early settlers in their mixed planter/animal husbandry economy. Thomas Flint was one of the leaders of the earliest community; he was granted a 750-acre farm on the eastern border of Concord, next to the Watertown-Cambridge line. (Indeed, the eastern border of the district runs near the historical boundary between Concord and Watertown.) While Flint lived near Concord center and had a hired farmer working the farm, other early grantees in the area, such as the Wheelers, settled on their east Concord farms. With the passage of time, the 750-acre Flint farm was subdivided; parts were sold off, and it became a group of smaller owner-occupied farms and, eventually, simply residences.

Continued

9. Major Bibliographical References

See attached sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 161.36 acres

Quadrangle name Concord

Quadrangle scale 1:25,000

UTM References

A

| | | | | |
|------|---------|-------|----------|-----|
| 19 | 309 | 71810 | 4700 | 280 |
| Zone | Easting | | Northing | |

B

| | | | | |
|------|---------|-------|----------|------|
| 19 | 309 | 71810 | 46919 | 7110 |
| Zone | Easting | | Northing | |

C

| | | | | |
|------|---------|------|----------|------|
| 19 | 309 | 9150 | 4699 | 3210 |
| Zone | Easting | | Northing | |

D

| | | | | |
|------|---------|-------|----------|-------|
| 19 | 309 | 61410 | 46918 | 71710 |
| Zone | Easting | | Northing | |

E

| | | | | |
|------|---------|------|----------|-----|
| 19 | 309 | 1910 | 4699 | 010 |
| Zone | Easting | | Northing | |

F

| | | | | |
|------|---------|-------|----------|-------|
| 19 | 308 | 81910 | 46919 | 11510 |
| Zone | Easting | | Northing | |

G

| | | | | |
|------|---------|-------|----------|-------|
| 19 | 308 | 91710 | 46919 | 61410 |
| Zone | Easting | | Northing | |

H

| | | | | |
|------|---------|-------|----------|-------|
| 19 | 309 | 41210 | 46919 | 71210 |
| Zone | Easting | | Northing | |

Verbal boundary description and justification

See attached assessor's map

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Betsy Friedberg, Preservation Planner, Massachusetts Historical Commission, with John C. MacLean, Lincoln Historical Commission

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date March, 1985

street & number 80 Boylston Street telephone (617) 727-8470

city or town Boston state MA

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Valerie Talmage

Executive Director

title State Historic Preservation Officer date May 30, 1985

For NPS use only

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

for Allison Byers Keoper of the National Register Entered in the National Register date 7-18-85

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration _____

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By the mid 18th century, the area that would soon be Lincoln was a developing region of such farms. Its farmers felt isolated from the established villages and meetinghouses of Concord, Weston and Arlington, and poor roads added to their isolation. The efforts of a group of neighbors from the far reaches of the three adjoining towns resulted in the establishment, first, of a new precinct (the second precinct of Concord) and, then, of the town of Lincoln. Instrumental in that effort was Chambers Russell, who owned the largest farm in Lincoln, had served in the General Court, and was a justice of the Superior Court of Judicature. Judge Russell was given the honor of naming the town--heretofore known as "Niptown"--and he chose "Lincoln," after the English town of the same name.

During the years preceding the American Revolution, Lincoln began to develop a distinct town center at the foot of Lincoln Hill. From a point marked since the 19th century by a watering trough, five new main roadways leading from the adjoining towns of Concord, Lexington, Weston, Waltham, and Bedford intersected by the 18th century. The original farm in the area, that of the Flint family, which formed the base of the town nucleus, rose up behind the major juncture.

In 1747, shortly before incorporation, Edward Flint donated an acre of his farm for a meetinghouse. No longer extant, that structure stood on the south slope of Lincoln Hill, midway between Bedford Road and Old Lexington Road, within the present district boundaries. When Rev. William Lawrence arrived to serve as minister for the new congregation, Edward's nephew, Ephraim Flint, sold Lawrence a part of his farm and built a house at the top of the hill. The house, located on Lexington Road, lies just outside the nominated district. A school and tavern were also established in the first years following incorporation, and the axial roadways to the meetinghouse began to sustain some domestic development.

Despite the early presence of a village nucleus, however, Lincoln remained essentially an agricultural community through the revolutionary period; all houses within the district had adjacent farmland, typical of rural New England villages. And although all of the residents of the center in the first years after incorporation owned some farmland and many devoted all their working hours to farming, a few combined agriculture with a primary occupation. Nathan Brown, Sr., for example, had worked as a cordwainer and a miller. His house at 37 Lincoln Road (#27), southwest of the immediate center, is believed to be the oldest surviving residence in the nominated district, built ca. 1737. In 1747, with the formation of the new precinct, a road--now known as Lincoln Road--was laid out from Brown's house to the site of the soon to be erected meetinghouse. Brown's sawmill, located south of the district along Hop Brook, may have supplied the lumber for the meetinghouse.

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On the eve of the Revolution, there were 88 houses in Lincoln, 8 within the district, each with an average of about 78 acres of adjacent farmland. A 1776 population of 775 may have included temporary residents, dislocated from Boston and Charlestown. Many residents of the center were minutemen or militiamen at the North Bridge in Concord, where the Lincoln, Concord, and Acton Companies participated, and also served in later engagements. Among those serving in the war were cordwainer Abner Mathis, tanner Bulkeley Adams, and minuteman Samuel Hoar, each of whom later built a house in the district. Their homes remain. The Mathis House, a representative of the transition from the Georgian to the Federal style, was built in 1788 at 41 Bedford Road (#54) and is located to the east of the town center. Adams' house, later owned by the Tarbell family, stands at 7 Lincoln Road in the very center of town and is probably the first brick house built in Lincoln. The Georgian-style house was located on a very small lot with its barn across the road and its owner's farmland located elsewhere. Adams operated a tanyard on a lot adjacent to his home; while the tanyard ceased operation ca. 1843 and does not survive, archaeological material related to that industry may remain. Hoar's house, at 22 Weston Road, is a well-preserved five-bay, central entry Federal-style building constructed in 1817-1818 (#40). It was constructed ca. 1793-1796 (#32).

Lincoln by 1785 had at its nucleus a common, burial ground, meetinghouse, schoolhouse, and 30-by-25-foot poorhouse. Today the Poor House (1785, #58), much enlarged around 1830, still stands facing the common and burial ground at 7 Old Lexington Road. It is one of the few buildings--and the only public building--left from that early period.

During the 1780s and 1790s, a major change occurred in the town center. As the original Flint farm continued to be subdivided, small lots in the center were sold and additional houses were built on them. By the mid 1790s, this area was clearly established as a village center, with 4 public buildings and 15 residences--the latter associated with smaller and smaller farms. The Flint farm breakup continued into the 19th century. Even today, however, descendants of Edward Flint continue to hold an open field of the original farm, north of Old Lexington Road and the nominated district. One of the new houses was that of Lincoln's second minister, Rev. Dr. Charles Stearns, at 15 Sandy Pond Road (ca. 1782, #30). Stearns' home, an elegant example of the transition from the Georgian to the Federal style, stood amidst a farm of only 19 acres. The minister operated a private coeducational academy, The Liberal School, on the property from 1792 to 1807.

Other houses built during this period of fairly intense development in the 1780s and 1790s include the Anna Child House, 49 Bedford Road (ca. 1792-1797, #55), the

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Continuation sheet Lincoln Center Historic District Item number 8 Page 3

McPherson-Weston House, 29 Lincoln Road (ca. 1785-1824, #28), and the aforementioned Abner Mathis House. This increase in housing stock resulted from Lincoln's growing artisan/professional population, which by this time included a doctor, tailor, tanner, and cordwainer.

The history of the house of cordwainer Abner Mathis reflects the dynamics of the town center. For the first decades of its existence after its construction in 1788, the building housed skilled craftsmen (three cordwainers, followed by a bricklayer); it next became the parsonage of Lincoln's third minister, Rev. Elijah Demond, and was probably the last residence of Rev. Dr. Charles Stearns. In 1847--three years after the railroad arrived in Lincoln--the house became the home of a bookkeeper employed in Boston, Samuel Huddleston. This early commuter to Boston was the forerunner of Lincoln's 20th century professional population. Subsequent owners of the Mathis House have continued to live in Lincoln while working in Boston.

The Mathis House also reflects early social patterns in Lincoln's center. Both Mathis and his wife grew up in Lincoln. Mrs. Mathis was a member of the Child family, and her unmarried sister, Anna Child, built the neighboring Federal vernacular house on Bedford Road (#55) in the 1790s. Their relations lived across the street in the Georgian-period Child-Simonds-Newhall House, 52 Bedford Road (third quarter of the 18th century, #56).

By 1800, the town center could not support additional farms, and as cheaper land became available in the north and west corners of Lincoln, the area was no longer as desirable to new farmers. The town as a whole grew very slowly throughout the 19th century and even declined in population during the first half of the century (from 756 in 1800 to 706 by 1820 to a low of 689 by 1840, increasing slightly on the eve of the Civil War to 718).

This stagnation did not encourage building; nevertheless, despite the scarcity of new construction during the early years of the 19th century, several pre-1754 houses in the center were replaced with larger and more stylish ones. An 1816 letter, for example, noted that "Hoar (is) pulling down the old Mead House (once a farmhouse and inn within the village) preparing to build large." (Wheeler Papers, Lincoln Historical Collection). The Federal-style Samuel Hoar House, built by Lincoln housewright John Nelson for a prominent local politician and judge, replaced the Mead House in 1817-1818 (#40). Indeed, the earliest houses in the center have been the only real victims of time in Lincoln, lost either to fire (which destroyed the first meetinghouse in 1860) or to the combined effects of age and the affluence of early 19th century property owners who desired larger and more

Continued

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|--------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|---|------|---|
| Continuation sheet | Lincoln Center Historic District | Item number | 8 | Page | 4 |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|---|------|---|

stylish homes. And while age and fire may certainly have been factors, the disappearance and replacement of six or seven pre-1754 houses in the district during the late 18th and early 19th centuries also demonstrates the attraction of living handsomely in the village.

The ca. 1828 Elisha Hagar House at 24 Bedford Road (#38) is another building that replaced an earlier farmhouse. Hagar came to the village as a cordwainer and purchased the Mathis House and tannery in 1807. (With a tanyard and a concentration of cordwainers, the leather industry, a byproduct of the dominant agricultural economy, was a small but prosperous activity in the village.) In 1816 Hagar bought a nearby farmhouse with 65 attached acres and then replaced the house with the present two-story, hip-roofed Federal-style house, the last house of this style to be built in the village center. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the house was enlarged by descendants of Samuel Hoar and Colonial Revival-style woodworking was added to the interior.

Several Greek Revival-style houses were constructed on lots in the village center, including those originally part of the Flint farm, for the town's craftsmen and professionals who continued to live in the center even as farmers began to move outside that area. The Abel Wheeler House, 67 Bedford Road (1843, #77), the Weston-Bemis House, 19 Bedford Road (1844, #53), the Pierce-Fay House, 23 Sandy Pond Road (1847, #72), and the First Parsonage, 12 Trapelo Road (1848-1849, #71), are all Greek Revival-style dwellings with front-facing gables, built by or for professional people in Lincoln. The Parsonage housed Rev. William Jackson, minister of Lincoln's first parish. Fay was a yeoman; Wheeler was town clerk and, later, selectman; Weston was a housewright; and Bemis an author, investor, inventor, and benefactor of Lincoln. One Greek Revival-style house that was built on land formerly part of the Flint farm was that of Horatio Wheeler, tanner, at 2 Bedford Road (ca. 1833, #34).

By mid century, prospering Lincoln citizens began to choose other styles for their homes. Across the street from the Elisha Hagar House, Hagar's farmer son, Albert, built his own house at 37 Bedford Road in 1850-1851 (#76). The house was moved a short distance from its original site during the late 19th century. With its gable end-to-the-road siting, the house harmonizes with the simple Greek Revival houses built during the previous two decades. But the building's low-pitched roofline and wide projecting cornices, supported by paired brackets, reflect an Italianate influence.

During the 1840s, a religious controversy felt across New England had its impact on Lincoln. Liberal Unitarians drew apart from more conservative

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Trinitarians to form their own church. In Lincoln, the result was the construction in 1842 of the Greek Revival-style White Church, 4 Bedford Road (#35), north of the Town Common.

During this period, the tavern-store complex located in the former Poor House (#58) was one of the village's most important meeting places. Townwide meetings were held there and the Lincoln Social Library for a time had its home here.

In 1848, however, Nathaniel Hosmer of Concord constructed a Greek Revival-style Town Hall on Lincoln Hill (#29). The building also served as Lincoln's high school, community center, library, and lyceum until being moved to its present location at 25 Lincoln Road in 1891. At that time, a new and larger Georgian Revival-style town hall was erected at the town center (#44), and the older building became a store and post office.

The construction of the Boston/Concord/Fitchburg railroad extension through South Lincoln in 1844 determined that that area would become the town's commercial center, supplanting the nominated district. The railroad's arrival contributed to an increase, albeit a slight one, in Lincoln's population on the eve of the Civil War; and by the latter half of the 19th century, Boston workers and summer residents were also moving into the town. But the greatest impact of the railroad--as the means by which Lincoln would evolve from farm community to a wealthy Boston bedroom suburb--was not felt for several decades. Throughout much of the 19th century, Lincoln and its town center remained primarily a rural agricultural community. The last Greek Revival-style house erected in the district was the temple-front house and attached barn of yeoman Asa White at 29 Sandy Pond Road (#73), built in 1854-1856. Construction in the district came to a halt during the Civil War, with only one building, the Hoar-Gray House, 5 Lincoln Road (1860-1861, #70), erected during the war years.

By the late 19th century, Lincoln, and particularly the village center, was increasingly influenced by its closeness to Boston, and that influence is a vital part of the district's history. Lincoln during this period sustained substantial domestic building, as the "Boston money" of Lincoln businessmen built comfortable estates and summer homes around the town center. The retirement mansion of Lincoln native and Boston businessman George Grosvenor Tarbell at 34 Bedford Road (1869, #75) was the first such estate. Tarbell's mansard-roofed estate on top of Lincoln Hall is an elegant, high-style building that blends effectively with its surroundings as it sits among open fields and orchards behind a fieldstone wall.

The shingled 1898 Riddle-Clark-Rogers House, 24 Sandy Pond Road (#82), is a fine Georgian Revival-style building erected by a Boston cotton buyer and subsequently

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Continuation sheet Lincoln Center Historic District Item number 8 Page 6

owned by a Boston salesman/carpenter, a summer resident from Cambridge, and a Boston lawyer. And the Flint-Mossman-Norton House, 20 Trapelo Road (#95), Lincoln's finest Queen Anne-style residence, was built as an investment property in 1892 and housed a number of Boston professionals.

Grand estates like the 1898 Georgian Revival-style stucco home of Boston architect George F. Newton, 29 Trapelo Road (1898, #106), and the high-style Georgian Revival mansion of stockbroker John H. Pierce (modelled on the Vassal-Craigie-Longfellow House in Cambridge) at 17 Weston Road (1900, #113) also reflect Lincoln's proximity to Boston. Like Tarbell, Pierce was descendant of Samuel Hoar, grew up in the village, worked in Boston, and retired to Lincoln.

Much of the district's fine public architecture is in large measure due to the largesse of these Lincoln businessmen who worked in Boston. Tarbell, for example, donated and constructed for the town the 1883-1884 Lincoln Public Library, 3 Bedford Road (#39), a fine Victorian Romanesque public building. Contributions by other Lincoln-Boston commuters likewise had a significant impact on the village. George F. Bemis, a Boston businessman already mentioned for his fine Greek Revival-style house on Bedford Road, donated much of the cost for building both the Victorian Romanesque Stone Church, 14 Bedford Road (1891, #37), and the Georgian Revival Town Hall/Bemis Hall, 15 Bedford Road (1892, #41). Stockbroker John H. Pierce left his Georgian Revival mansion on Weston Road and more than 25 acres of land to the town of Lincoln. The land is now open to the public and is known as Pierce Park. And in 1907, philanthropist Charles S. Smith gave the town land on which to build the Georgian Revival-style Center School (16 Lincoln Road, 1908, #114). The school, used today as town offices was the work of Boston architect J. Charleston Parker. Together, the adjoining Pierce and Smith donations total 30 acres of public land, all included within the district boundaries.

The most recent period of significant development for the district was in the early 20th century. Major construction activity occurred on the former Samuel Hoar farm between Trapelo and Weston Roads. New construction during this period revealed the increasingly close ties to Boston and included farmhouses for hired workers and some speculative construction (for instance, the two houses built by William and Florence Hilliard on Bedford Road in 1924-1925 [#88, #89]), in addition to the large estates discussed above. An important figure in Lincoln's early 20th century development was Robert J. Donaldson. As a builder, Donaldson put up many of the houses, but he also acquired much of the former Hoar farm and continued to farm it. While the Samuel Hoar House no longer presides over a working farm, the open hay fields that remain, together with the surviving outbuildings that formerly housed hired hands and the unifying stone walls, still retain their historic ties to an earlier way of life.

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Continuation sheet Lincoln Center Historic District number 8

Page 7

Donaldson's residence was the former Poor House/Hunt-Rice Tavern (#58). The two-story symmetrical Donald P. Donaldson House, 16 Weston Road (1916-1917, #110), of clapboard construction, is an excellent example of a Colonial Revival-style farmhouse, and was originally used by the foreman of the adjoining Robert Donaldson farm. Likewise, the home of Hector J. MacLean, 21 Trapelo Road, who worked as a farmer/caretaker on another Lincoln estate, is a two-story house, asymmetrical in plan, with a gable end-to-road design (1914-1915, #104).

Thus the early 20th century saw a mixed population of businessmen, professionals, artisans, some mechanics, and farmers in the center. Some worked in Lincoln and others in Boston. Even more recently (increasingly since World War II), the town and village typically includes businessmen, educators, engineers, lawyers, architects, ministers, and doctors, with most working outside Lincoln, either in Boston or the high-tech belt of Route 128.

Planning, zoning, and a nationally recognized land conservation effort have helped Lincoln retain its semi-rural character and scale. The town center's well-preserved stone walls, open fields, orchards and original fences --all remnants of an earlier way of life--are particularly noteworthy. Lincoln today is a wealthy, semi-rural, commuters' community, with a center composed of many fine and well-maintained residences and a few well-preserved public buildings.

Archaeological Significance

Because of its low density and rural character, there is a high potential for significant archaeological remains within the district. While no prehistoric sites are currently recorded in the district, it is probable that sites are present. Historical archaeological potential contributes to the district's significance in three ways. By documenting buildings no longer extant especially the original set of institutional buildings, a much clearer understanding of how the community was structured emerges. Second is the potential for documenting the physical evolution of houses and houselots over time. Third, and closely related, is the potential for documenting the changing social, cultural, and economic patterns and functional features of the households and specialty crafts of the district through examination of sheet refuse, trash pits, privies, wells, and other features. In contrast to many other Massachusetts communities where radical transformations occurred between 1750 and 1850, Lincoln remained stable, prosperous, and agriculturally oriented. As such, Lincoln's historical archaeological resources provide an important control in understanding the issues of continuity and change during the last half of the 18th and early 19th centuries.

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Continuation sheet Lincoln Center Historic Item number 9 Page 1
District

Lincoln Historical Collection, Architectural files.
Route to Tomorrow: Challenges and Choices. Lincoln: Lincoln Land
Use Conference Committee, 1983.
The Town of Lincoln, 1754-1904. Lincoln: Town of Lincoln, 1905.
John Nelson Account Book, manuscript volume, Lincoln Historical
Collection.
Lincoln Assessors' Records, manuscript volumes.
Lincoln Town Meeting Records, manuscript volumes.
Middlesex County South District Registry of Deeds, records
Middlesex County Probate Court, records.
Family papers, Lincoln Historical Collection
Middlesex Gazette & Advertiser (Concord, Massachusetts)
Middlesex County Sessions, Manuscript volumes.

LINCOLN CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
DISTRICT DATA SHEET

CRITERIA = A, B and C
NC= Noncontributing
na= Not Applicable

| MHC # | MAP # | HISTORIC NAME | STREET ADDRESS | DATE OF CONSTRUCTION | STYLE |
|---------------------------------|-------|--|------------------|----------------------------|--|
| BEDFORD ROAD, left (west) side | | | | | |
| 34 | 1 | Wheeler-Farrar-Bemis House | 2 Bedford Road | 1833-1834 | Greek Revival |
| 35 | 2 | The White Church | 4 Bedford Road | 1842 | Greek Revival |
| 37 | 3 | The Stone Church | 14 Bedford Road | 1891 | Victorian Romanesque |
| 85 | 4 | Third Parsonage | 16 Bedford Road | 1958 | Contemporary (NC) |
| 38 | 5 | Elisha Hagar House | 24 Bedford Road | 1828 | Federal |
| 75 | 6 | George G. Tarbell House | 34 Bedford Road | 1868 | Second Empire |
| 86 | 7 | Tarbell-Kellogg House | 34A Bedford Road | 1868/wing; 1969/house | Gambrel |
| 87 | 8 | Talcott M. Banks House | 42 Bedford Road | 1977/1978 | NC |
| 88 | 9 | Hilliard House #1 | 46 Bedford Road | ca. 1924-1925 | Cape Cod |
| 89 | 10 | Hilliard House #2 | 48 Bedford Road | ca. 1924-1925 | Modified Cape Cod |
| 56 | 11 | Child-Simonds-Newhall | 52 Bedford Road | Third Quarter, 18th C. | Georgian Vernacular |
| BEDFORD ROAD, right (east) side | | | | | |
| 39 | 12 | Lincoln Public Library | 3 Bedford Road | 1883-1884 | Victorian Romanesque |
| 41 | 13 | Town Hall/Bemis Hall | 15 Bedford Road | 1892 | Georgian Revival |
| 53 | 14 | Weston-Bemis House | 19 Bedford Road | 1844 | Greek Revival |
| 91 | 15 | Stanley Heck (Pierce-Ropes-Heck) House | 23 Bedford Road | 1949 (former 1860-1861) | International (NC) (Formerly Second Empire) |
| 76 | 16 | Albert Hagar House | 37 Bedford Road | 1850-1851 | Vernacular (Greek Revival/Italianate) |
| 78/54 | 17 | Abner Mathis House | 41 Bedford Road | 1788 | Georgian/Federal |
| 55 | 18 | Anna Child House | 49 Bedford Road | ca. 1792-1797 | Federal/Vernacular |
| 90 | 19 | Roland Mackenzie House | 53 Bedford Road | 1926 | Dutch Colonial Revival |
| NA | 20 | (Charles) Wheeler House | 61 Bedford Road | ca. 1806 | Federal/Vernacular |
| 77 | 21 | Abel Wheeler House | 67 Bedford Road | 1843 | Greek Revival |

| MHC # | MAP # | HISTORIC NAME | STREET ADDRESS | CONSTRUCTION | STYLE |
|--|-------|--|---------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| LINCOLN ROAD, left (east) side | | | | | |
| 114 | 41 | Center School/ Town Office Building | 16 Lincoln Road | 1908 | Georgian Revival |
| 115 | 42 | Riley-Savage House | 26 Lincoln Road | 1925 | Vernacular Colonial Revival |
| 116 | 43 | Wilson-Henry House | 28 Lincoln Road | 1929 | Colonial Revival |
| 117 | 44 | William N. Page House | 32 Lincoln Road | 1929 | Vernacular |
| na | 45 | Barnes-Robus House | 36 Lincoln Road | 1909 | Vernacular |
| na | 46 | James T. Laird House | 38 Lincoln Road | 1888 | Vernacular |
| LINCOLN ROAD, right (west) side | | | | | |
| 32, 79 | 48 | Adams-Tarbell House | 7 Lincoln Road | c. 1793-6 | Federal |
| 70 | 49 | Hoar-Gray House | 15 Lincoln Road | 1860-1 | Vernacular |
| 29 | 50 | Old Town Hall | 25 Lincoln Road | 1848 | Greek Revival |
| 28 | 51 | McPherson-Weston House | 29 Lincoln Road | c. 1785-1824 | Federal |
| 27 | 52 | Brown-Russell-Chapin House | 37 Lincoln Road | pre-1754 | Colonial |
| OLD LEXINGTON ROAD, right (south) side | | | | | |
| 93 | 22 | Sawin-Chapin House | 1 Old Lexington Rd. | 1893-1894 | Queen Anne |
| 58 | 23 | Poor House/Hunt-Rice Tavern | 7 Old Lexington Rd. | 1785 | Colonial |
| 94 | 24 | Issac & Nellie MacRae House | 17 Old Lexington Rd | 1902 | Vernacular Colonial Reviv. |
| SANDY POND ROAD, left (south) side | | | | | |
| 33 | 37 | Edmund Wheeler House | 2 Sandy Pond Road | c. 1799-1811 | Colonial |
| 81 | 53 | Samuel H. Pierce Stable | Sandy Pond Road | 1900 | Colonial Revival |
| 82 | 54 | Riddle-Clark-Rogers House | 24 Sandy Pond Road | 1898-1899 | Colonial Revival |
| SANDY POND ROAD, right (north) side | | | | | |
| 31 | 55 | Rev. Ebenezer Newhall House | 9 Sandy Pond Road | 1834 | Greek Revival |
| 30 | 56 | Stearns-Cole-Smith House | 15 Sandy Pond Road | ca. 1782 | Georgian-Federal Transitional |
| 83 | 57 | Tarbell-Smith Barn | 15 Sandy Pond Road | 1849 | Transverse Barn |
| 72 | 58 | Pierce-Fay House | 23 Sandy Pond Road | 1847 | Greek Revival |
| 73 | 59 | Asa White House | 29 Sandy Pond Road | 1854-1856 | Greek Revival |

| MHC # | MAP # | HISTORIC NAME | STREET ADDRESS | CONSTRUCTION | STYLE |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|---|
| TRAPELO ROAD, left (north) side | | | | | |
| 97 | 25 | Anna Eliza Weston House | 8 Trapelo Road | 1884 | Vernacular (Colonial Revivalized Victorian) |
| 71 | 26 | First Parsonage | 12 Trapelo Road | 1848-1849 | Greek Revival |
| 96 | 27 | Second Parsonage | 16 Trapelo Road | 1893 | Vernacular Colonial Revival |
| 95 | 28 | Flint-Mossman-Norton House | 20 Trapelo Road | 1892 | Queen Anne |
| TRAPELO ROAD, right (south) side | | | | | |
| 99 | 29 | Charles L. Westman House | 7 Trapelo Road | 1926-1927 | Colonial Revival |
| 100 | 30 | Frederick Seeger House | 9 Trapelo Road | 1928-1929 | Colonial Revival |
| 101 | 31 | Wentworth Blodgett House | 11 Trapelo Road | 1921/Barn ca. 1929-1930/House | Colonial Revival |
| 102 | 32 | Schuyler-Donaldson House | 13 Trapelo Road | Early 19th c., altered 1913-4 | Federal with Colonial Revival Additions |
| 103 | 33 | Pope-Schuyler-Donaldson House | 15 Trapelo Road | 1897-1898 | Colonial Revival |
| 104 | 34 | Hector J. MacLean House | 21 Trapelo Road | 1914-1915 | Colonial Revival |
| 106 | 35 | George F. Newton House | 29 Trapelo Road | 1898 | Georgian Revival |
| WESTON ROAD, left (north) side | | | | | |
| 98 | 36 | Benjamin Carlson House | 3 Weston Road | 1921 | Colonial Revival |
| 112 | 37 | Martin Buerger House | 12 Weston Road | 1942 | Colonial Revival (NC) |
| 110 | 38 | Donald P. Donaldson House | 16 Weston Road | 1916-1917 | Colonial Revival |
| 40 | 39 | Samuel Hoar House | 22 Weston Road | 1817-1818 | Federal |
| WESTON ROAD, right (south) side | | | | | |
| 113 | 40 | John H. Pierce House | 17 Weston Road | 1900 | Georgian Revival |

Ref # 85001604

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Lincoln Center Historic District
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

JUN 21 1985

Working No. _____

Fed. Reg. Date: 2/4/86

Date Due: 7/18/85 - 8/5/85

Action: ACCEPT 7-18-85

Entered in the _____ RETURN

National Register _____ REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

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

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____

Reviewer _____

Discipline _____

Date _____

_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use |
|----------|--------------------|------------|-------------|
| | Public Acquisition | Accessible | |

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition

- excellent
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- ruins
- unexposed

Check one

- unaltered
- altered

Check one

- original site
- moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title date

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____



Lincoln Center Village Landslides,
Five road intersection Dec. 1983
Lincoln, Mass. 77 Conant Rd.
No. 1 of 15 Lincoln, Mass.
Aerial view of Village, intersection L of
center, Lincoln Rd. to L bottom, Sandy
Pond Rd. L, Bedford Rd. to L top, Trapelo
Rd. to R through wooded area, Weston Rd.
to R along edge of open park area



Wheeler-Farrar-Bemis House R. Williams
2 Bedford Rd. Dec. 1983
Lincoln, Mass. Rockwood Lane
No. 2 of 15 Lincoln, Mass.
Center with watering trough, 5 roads visible
at their intersection, looking from
Trapelo Rd. down Lincoln Rd. c 1799-1811
E. Wheeler House behind fence at L and
1833-6 Wheeler-Farrar-Bemis House (1) on
R

772-31

PHOTOGRAPHS
BY
RUTH WILLIAMS



White Church, Public Library R. Williams
3, 4 Bedford Rd. Dec. 1983
Lincoln, Mass. Rockwood La
No. 3 of 15 Lincoln, MA
Center with watering trough; Trapelo Rd.
in foreground, looking up Bedford Rd.
Wheeler-Farrar Bemis House on L, 1842
White Church (2) in center, 1883-4 Lin-
coln Public Library (12), with war memo-
rial eagle, on R

772-34

PHOTOGRAPHS
BY
RUTH WILLIAMS



G.G. Tarbell House
34 Bedford Rd.
Lincoln, Mass.
No. 4 of 15
Bedford Rd., top of Lincoln Hill, looking north. 1868 G.G. Tarbell House (6)
behind stone wall on L, 1850-1 Albert Hagar House (16) on R

R. Williams
Dec. 1983
Rockwood Lane
Lincoln, Mass.

772-35

PHOTOGRAPHS
BY
RUTH WILLIAMS



T.M. Banks House
42 Bedford Rd.
Lincoln, Mass.
No. 5 of 15

Bedford Rd., looking north. 1977-8
T.M. Banks House (8) behind orchard at
L

R. Williams
Dec. 1983
Rockwood Lane
Lincoln, Mass.

1c-69L

PHOTOGRAPHS
BY
RUTH WILLIAMS



A. Wheeler House
67 Bedford Rd.
Lincoln, Mass.
No. 6 of 15

R. Williams
Dec. 1983
Rockwood Lane
Lincoln, Mass.

Wheeler Farm in northernmost part of
District, seen from Bedford Rd. 1843

A. Wheeler House (21) with c 1850 barn
at L, 1806 C. Wheeler House (21) on R

769-25

PHOTOGRAPHS
BY
RUTH WILLIAMS



Town/Bemis Hall
15 Bedford Rd.
Lincoln, Mass.
No. 7 of 15

R. Williams
Dec. 1983
Rockwood Lane
Lincoln, Mass.

Looking up Old Lexington Rd. towards
Center at 1892 Town/Bemis Hall (13) and
18th century cemetery; outbuildings of
Hunt-Rice Tavern at L

8-896

PHOTOGRAPHS
BY
RUTH WILLIAMS



Flint-Mossman-Norton House R. Williams
20 Trapelo Rd. Dec. 1983
Lincoln, Mass. Rockwood Lane
No. 8 of 15 Lincoln, Mass.
Trapelo Rd. looking towards Center. On L
1914 MacLean (34), 1897 Pope-Schuyler-
Donaldson (33), and 1913 Schuyler-Donald-
son Houses; on R 1892 Flint-Mossman-Nor-
ton House (28) and part of 1893 Second
Parsonage

772-24

PHOTOGRAPHS
BY
RUTH WILLIAMS



S. Hoar House
22 Weston Rd.
Lincoln, Mass.
No. 9 of 15

R. Williams
Dec. 1983
Rockwood Lane
Lincoln, Mass.

Farm complex, north side of Weston Rd.
1817-8 S. Hoar House (39) with out-
buildings in center and associated 1916-
7 D.P. Donaldson House (38) at L

2-266

PHOTOGRAPHS
BY
RUTH WILLIAMS



S. Hoar environs
22 Weston Rd.

Lincoln, Mass.

No. 10 of 15

North side of Weston Rd., looking towards

Center. Behind stone wall and trees is

S. Hoar House and outbuildings; across

the open field can be seen the rear and

outbuildings of three houses on L side

of Trapelo Rd. in photo 8.

R. Williams

Dec. 1983

Rockwood Lane

Lincoln, Mass.

772-6

PHOTOGRAPHS
BY
RUTH WILLIAMS



J.H. Pierce House
17 Weston Rd.
Lincoln, Mass.
No. 11 of 15
South side of Weston Rd.
Pierce House (40) and landscaped Park

R. Williams
Dec. 1983
Rockwood La
Lincoln, MA

768-28

PHOTOGRAPHS
BY
RUTH WILLIAMS



Old Town Hall
25 Lincoln Rd.
Lincoln, Mass.
No. 12 of 15

R. Williams
Dec. 1983
Rockwood Lane
Lincoln, Mass.

Lincoln Rd. looking towards Center, columns of 1848 Old Town Hall (50) and open field on L, 1908 Center School (41) in center, and 1925 Riley-Savage House (42) on R

772-12

PHOTOGRAPHS
BY
RUTH WILLIAMS



Brown-Russell-Chapin House R. Williams
37 Lincoln Rd. Dec. 1983
Lincoln, Mass. Rockwood Lane
No. 13 of 15 Lincoln, Mass
Lincoln Rd. at southernmost end of Dis-
trict, looking north. Pre-1754 Brown-
Russell-Chapin House (52) behind fence
on L, 1909 Barnes-Robus House (45) at
far R

1c-ell

PHOTOGRAPHS
BY
RUTH WILLIAMS



Stearns-Cole-Smith House R. Williams
15 Sandy Pond Rd. Dec. 1983
Lincoln, Mass. Rockwood Lane
No. 14 of 15 Lincoln, Mass.
Sandy Pond Rd. looking towards the Cen-
ter. 1782 Stearns-Cole-Smith House (56)
behind stone wall at L, Town-owned open
field at R

772-18

**PHOTOGRAPHS
BY
RUTH WILLIAMS**



Asa White House
29 Sandy Pond Rd.
Lincoln, Mass.

No. 15 of 15

Sandy Pond Rd. from westernmost part of
District, looking towards the Center.

1854-6 Asa White House (59) behind
fence at L

R. Williams

Dec. 1983

Rockwood Lane

Lincoln, Mass.

91-266

PHOTOGRAPHS
BY
RUTH WILLIAMS



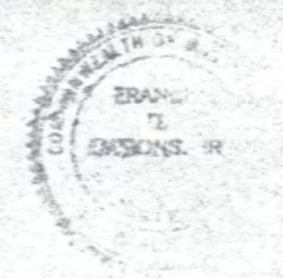
LINCOLN CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

LEGEND
 53-11 DENOTES TOWN OF LINCOLN ASSESSORS MAP & PARCEL NUMBER
 (Circled number) DENOTES MAP # KEYED TO DISTRICT DATA SHEET
 NC DENOTES NONCONTRIBUTING PROPERTY
 SEE NOTE OF TOWN OF LINCOLN ANNUAL MEETING, ARTICLE 31, MARCH, 1981.
 PLANNING BOARD APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED

DATE _____

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAN HAS BEEN PREPARED IN CONFORMITY WITH THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE REGISTERS OF DEEDS OF THE COMM. OF MASSACHUSETTS.

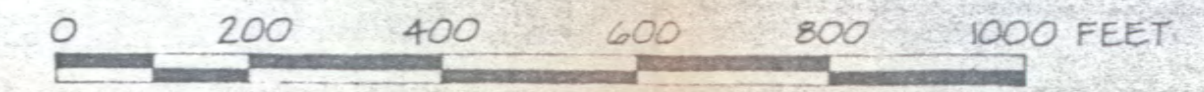
Francis Dumanoir
 Registered Ld. Surveyor

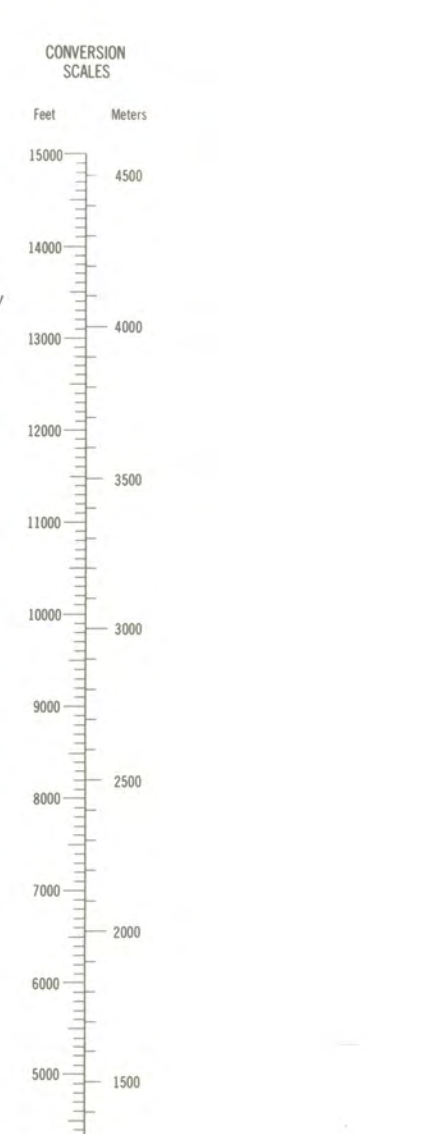


PLAN SHOWING
 HISTORIC DISTRICT
 IN
 LINCOLN, MASSACHUSETTS

DATE: AUGUST 10, 1981 SCALE: 1"=200'

TOWN OF LINCOLN
 ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
 LINCOLN, MASSACHUSETTS





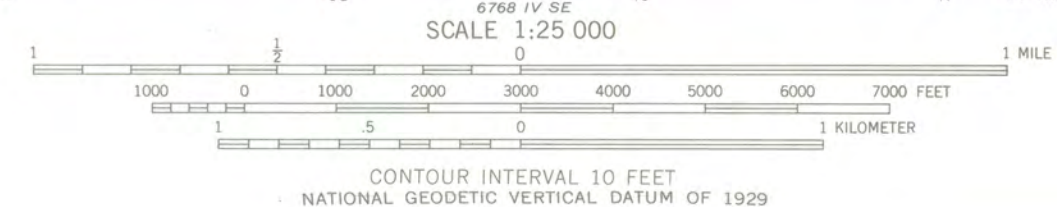
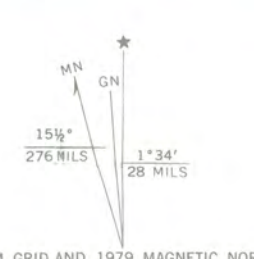
Lincoln Center Historic District
Lincoln, MA

- UTM References:
- A: 19/309780/4700280
 - B: 19/309780/4699710
 - C: 19/309950/4699320
 - D: 19/309640/4698770
 - E: 19/309190/4699000
 - F: 19/308890/4699150
 - G: 19/308970/4699640
 - H: 19/309420/4699720

6 1.8288
7 2.1336
8 2.4384
9 2.7432
10 3.0480

To convert feet to meters
multiply by 3.048
To convert meters to feet
multiply by 3.2808

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1940. Revised from
aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1970
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid,
zone 19
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries
of the National or State reservations shown on this map
Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperation with State of
Massachusetts agencies from aerial photographs taken 1977 and
other source data. This information not field checked. Map edited 1979



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929



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

CONCORD, MASS.
N422.5—W715.7.5

1970
PHOTOREVISED 1979
AMS 6768 IV NE—SERIES V814

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



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Secretary of State
Michael Joseph Connolly, Secretary

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Valerie A. Talmage
Executive Director
State Historic Preservation Officer

May 31, 1985

Ms. Carol Shull, Chief
National Park Service
Department of Interior
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the following nomination forms:

Attleboro, Makepeace Building, 46 Pine Street.
HPCA completed, #0445-83-MA-83-0440.

Brookline, Richmond Court, 1209-1217 Beacon Street.
Notification waived. HPCA pending, #0405-83-0394.

✓ Lincoln, Lincoln Center Historic District,
roughly bounded by Bedford, Lincoln, Old Lexington,
Sandy Pond, Trapelo and Weston Roads. 59 properties.

Lynn, Lucian Newhall House, 281 Ocean Street.
HPCA pending, number not yet assigned.

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

Sincerely,

Sarah J. Zimmerman

Sarah J. Zimmerman
Director, Preservation Planning
Massachusetts Historical Commission

SJZ/lis
enclosures

S2V
BF

48 Bedford Road
Lincoln, MA 01773
March 14, 1985

RECEIVED

MAR 14 1985

MASS. HIST. COMM.

Ms. Valerie A. Talmage
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Re: Hilliard House #2
48 Bedford Road
Center Historical District

Dear Ms. Talmage:

We have received your notification that our property will be considered for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Apart from the mortgage holder, Leader Federal Savings and Loan Association, we, the undersigned, are the sole owners of the property. We wish to object to the listing of this property as an Historic Place.

The house was built in the 1920's with major structural changes made in 1979. The house does not meet any of the criteria for listing. We recognize that there are some truly historic houses and public buildings in our neighborhood and do not wish to object to their listing.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

Robert P. Hopkins, M.D.

Robert P. Hopkins, M.D.

Mary W. Hopkins

Mary W. Hopkins

Commonwealth of Massachusetts:
County of Middlesex :

Subscribed and sworn to before me this Fourteenth day
of March, 1985.

Mary J. Norton
Notary Public


My commission expires
December 10, 1987

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Suffolk, SS.

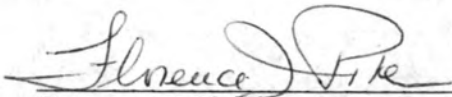
April 9, 1985

The undersigned, as an owner of lots 36.12 and 36.1207 located on Bedford Road in Lincoln, Middlesex County, Massachusetts (held in the name of Robert M. Gargill and Marion Lynn Gargill, husband and wife, as joint tenants) hereby objects to the inclusion of said property in any application for listing on the National Register.



Robert M. Gargill

Subscribed and sworn to on this 9th day of April, 1985.



Notary Public

My commission expires: 11/17/89