

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE: Rhode Island
COUNTY: Washington
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE MAY 2 1974

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON: Wyoming Village Historic District
AND/OR HISTORIC: Wyoming, Brand's Iron Works

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: See continuation sheet #1 <i>Roughly bounded by R.I. 138, R.I. 3, Old Notse neck Hill Rd, Bridge and Prospect Sts.</i>			
CITY OR TOWN: Hopkinton & Richmond <i>Wyoming</i>		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: #2: Robert O. Tiernan	
STATE Rhode Island	CODE 44	COUNTY: Washington	CODE 009

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Multiple ownership		
STREET AND NUMBER: --		
CITY OR TOWN: Hopkinton & Richmond	STATE: Rhode Island	CODE: 44

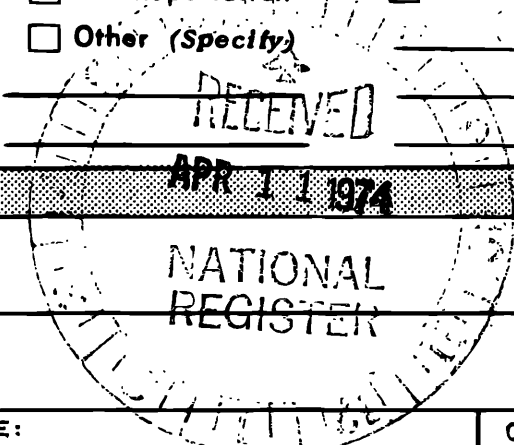
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Hopkinton Town Hall		
STREET AND NUMBER: Route 3 & Burdickville Road		
CITY OR TOWN: Hopkinton	STATE: Rhode Island	CODE: 44

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Rhode Island Inventory		
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local		
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission		
STREET AND NUMBER: 52 Power Street		
CITY OR TOWN: Providence	STATE: Rhode Island	CODE: 44

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER: MAY 2 1974
DATE:

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Wyoming Village Historic District spans the Wood River in the towns of Hopkinton and Richmond (see site plan). The 59 buildings and sites within the district are almost evenly divided between the two towns. Because of its siting, the district has three distinct sub-areas: "Prospect Square" -- Prospect Street, Aldrich Street and Bridge Street in Hopkinton; the river, mill ruins, bridge and reservoir; the village center along routes 138 and 3 in Richmond.

The Prospect Street area is residential. Most of the houses are grouped in or around a roughly rectangular plot of land occupying an elevated plateau overlooking the reservoir and dam. Of the eighteen houses here, thirteen are in the Greek Revival style so pervasive between 1830 and 1860. One building may be somewhat earlier in date, and one house and one barn date from the late nineteenth century. The rest are more recent structures.

The Niles House (#12 on the site plan) typifies the vernacular Greek Revival dwellings in "Prospect Square." It is a 1½ story house with 1 story ell. Its pitched roof is set flank to the Street. The house has characteristic Greek Revival trim, simple but large scale. No two houses in this area are alike, and several are rather unusual -- the Aldrich House (#15), for example, with its Doric porch, or the A. Kenyon House (#20) with its rusticated corner boards and door casing. Some of these houses are almost unaltered, others have late nineteenth century additions in the form of verandas and enlarged ells (e.g., #5, #14).

The Wood River at Wyoming has been dammed to create a large reservoir (#29). Below the dam is the Bridge Street bridge. Water from the reservoir has been channeled into trenches which once brought power to mills on both sides of the river. None of the mills are intact, but a dilapidated ruin exists on the Hopkinton side (#28). The mill seat on the Richmond shore southeast of the bridge is now the Wyoming Fishing Area maintained by the state. It includes a series of masonry foundations, arches and power trenches.

Wyoming's old business district is located at the intersection of Route 138 and Route 3 in Richmond. The principal building here is the Dawley Tavern (#32), a much enlarged clapboard structure dating back to the eighteenth century. Opposite are three buildings which once contained stores (#44, 35, 46). The Segar Store (#46) was also the Wyoming Post Office. This 2½ story Greek Revival building is situated with its pedimented gable end to the street. A two story late nineteenth century porch has been added across its front. The building stands directly on the highway with no front yard or sidewalk space whatsoever. It is built into a bank and the basement where Segar had his store is above grade in front. The former Dawley-Jordan livery stable (#48) occupies the head of the "Y" intersection of routes 138 and 3. It is a 1½ and 2 story frame building, now used as a gas station.

See continuation sheet 1

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1814, 1815

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning <i>struble 8/83</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Wyoming developed as an industrial village, a turnpike waystop, and a commercial center. In the late eighteenth century what is now Wyoming was the farm of Samuel Brand. Brand was not solely a farmer, however. He dammed the river, established an iron works on the Hopkinton shore, and began the settlement first known as "Brand's Iron Works." How the name was changed to "Wyoming" is not clear, but how Brand's fledgling village became a thriving community is well documented.

In 1814, Nathan Lillibridge, in partnership with Exekiel, Stephen, Samuel and Nathan Tefft, built the Brothers' Cotton Mill opposite Brand's establishment. The following year the New London Turnpike, part of the principal overland route from Boston to New York, was opened. It passed directly through the village and is now Route 3. The turnpike improved transportation to and from the Wyoming factories and thus aided their business. More significantly, it brought stage coaches, mail riders and individual travelers to the village and the tavern (#32) enjoyed a lucrative trade. First operated by Francis Brown, Samuel Brand's son-in-law, the tavern's most famous proprietor was A. J. Dawley who kept the house for forty-five years in the mid-nineteenth century. Ownership of the livery stable (#48) was a natural outgrowth of Dawley's enterprise.

In the late 1830's the iron works was displaced by a second cotton mill. When the mill burned in 1844, the site was ~~taken~~ over by J. T. Sheldon, who erected a new textile mill and continued in business through the late 1870's. His mill was probably the most successful industrial venture at Wyoming and his prosperity, and the work available in his mill, prompted the development of "Prospect Square."

Wyoming's first store was opened in 1837. By 1870 there were three general stores in the village, two blacksmith shops, a hardware store, tailor, paint shop, druggist, photographer's studio, furniture store, and a bank. Wyoming's "downtown" was the primary commercial district for an extensive area.

Today the mills are gone and business has almost ceased in the village of Wyoming. Only a gas station, an insurance office and a barroom hint of the once extensive commercial activity. A late twentieth century turnpike-oriented business district has grown up half a mile southeast

See continuation sheet 4

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cole, J. R.; History of Washington & Kent Counties;
 W. W. Preston, New York, 1889; pp.718-720.
 Irish, James; Historical Sketch of the Town of Richmond;
 L. W. A. Cole, Hope Valley, Rhode Island, 1877; pp. 46-52.
 -----; History of Rhode Island;
 Hoag, Wade & Company, Philadelphia, 1878; p.88.

Maps

Walling, Map of Rhode Island; Boston, 1855.
 D. G. Beers; Rhode Island Atlas; Philadelphia, 1870.

Everts & Richards; Topographical Atlas of Southern Rhode Island; Philadelphia, 1895.

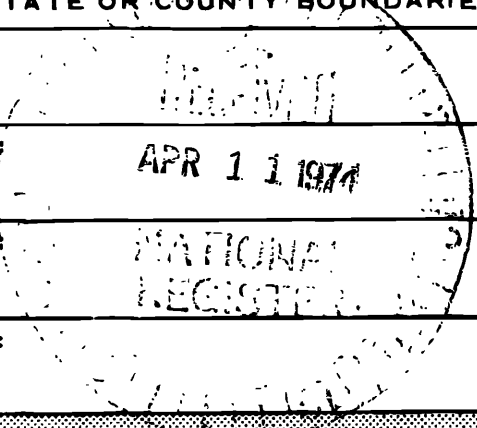
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	41° 31' 02"	71° 42' 31"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	41° 31' 12"	71° 42' 08"				
SE	41° 30' 55"	71° 41' 54"				
SW	41° 30' 45"	71° 42' 17"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 57 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 David W. Chase

ORGANIZATION: Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission

DATE: March, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:
 52 Power Street

CITY OR TOWN: Providence

STATE: Rhode Island

CODE: 44

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Frederick Williams

Title: State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: APR. 1, 1974

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

AR Mortensen
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

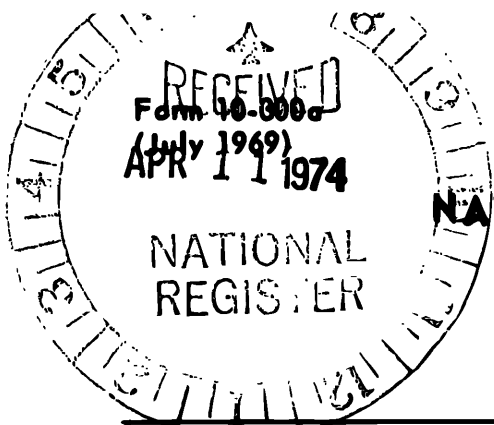
Date: 5/2/74

ATTEST:

Con Smyth
 Keeper of the National Register

Date: 5.1.74

SEE INSTRUCTIONS
 CD
 X NE 19/274 530 / 0874274
 SE 19/274 220 / 4579240
 SW 19/274 280 / 1198960
 NW 19/274 220 / 4579240
 4579240
 4579240



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) - 1

STATE Rhode Island	
COUNTY Washington	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 2 1974

(Number all entries)

2. Location

For the purposes of this National Register nomination, the bounds of the district are as follows: The district includes all property on both sides of Prospect Street, Aldrich Street, and Bridge Street to a distance of 200' back from these thoroughfares; all property on both sides of Route 3 from its intersection with Canob Lane west to and including the Wyoming Bridge, and back from the highway 200' on both sides; all property on both sides of Route 138 from the Wyoming Bridge to a point .1 mile east of the Route 138 - Route 3 intersection, and back from the highway on both sides for a distance of 200', the Wood River from the Wyoming Dam to the Wyoming Bridge and back from its banks 50' on both sides, the Wyoming Reservoir east from the dam to a point opposite the intersection of Route 3 and Canob Lane, and back from the banks of the reservoir to a distance of 50'.

5.

Richmond Town House
Richmond Town House Road
Richmond, Rhode Island Code: 44

7. Description cont.

Southeast of this node of business buildings, rows of simple Greek Revival cottages flank both sides of Route 138. The best preserved Greek Revival house on the Richmond side, the D. Kenyon House (#40), stands on routes 138 and 3 at the western end of the district. This 1½ story cottage is enhanced by a "carpenter gothic" trellis, interesting outbuildings, and a picket fence which differentiates between the public space of the road and the private yard surrounding the house.

Buildings in the Wyoming Village Historic District are generally in good condition and fairly well preserved.

Inventory

Numbers are taken from the site plan
names of buildings are taken from 1855,
the 1870 and the 1895 maps.

Style/Period Code: 18C = Eighteenth Century
ER = Early Republican/Federal
GR = Greek Revival
MV = Mid-Victorian
LV = Late Victorian
E20 = Early Twentieth Century
M20 = Mid-Twentieth Century

See continuation sheet 2

APR 11 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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NATIONAL
REGISTER

(Continuation Sheet) - 2

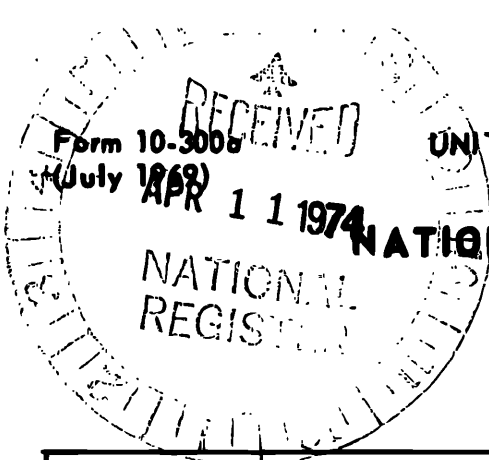
STATE		Rhode Island
COUNTY		Washington
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
	2	1974

(Number all entries)

7. Description cont.

1. Olney House; appears, 1855
ER 1 story house with central chimney.
2. GR altered 1 story house with high stone basement
property of mill owners in 1870, 1895.
3. M20 house trailer.
4. M20 1 story house.
5. GR 1½ story house with LV porch; appears, 1885
property of mill owners in 1870, 1895.
6. Fenner House; appears 1855
GR 1½ story house.
7. Sheldon House; appears, 1855
GR 1½ story house.
8. Matteson House; appears, 1870
late GR 1½ story house.
9. Smith House; appears, 1895
LV 2 story house.
10. M20 1 story house.
11. LV Barn; appears, 1895.
12. Niles House; appears, 1855.
GR 1½ story house.
13. Almond House; appears, 1855
GR 1 story house.
14. GR 1½ story house with LV porch; appears, 1870
property of mill owners in 1870.
15. Dr. Aldrich House; appears 1855
GR 1½ story house with fine porch across front;
identified as home of Dr. Aldrich in 1870.
16. Gardner House; appears, 1870
GR 1½ story house.
17. GR 1-1½ story house; appears, 1855
excellent porch on ell.
18. Tillinghast House; appears, 1870
GR 1½ story house.
19. G. & I. Kenyon House; appears, 1855
GR 2 story double house with 1 story wings.
20. A. Kenyon House; appears, 1870
GR 1½ story house with rusticated corner pilasters.
21. Barber House; appears, 1870
GR 2 story house.
22. ER/GR 1 story house; appears, 1855
property of mill owners in 1870.
23. M20 house trailer.
24. MV 2 story bracketed house with 1 story ell; appears, 1870
property of mill owners in 1870.
25. MV 1½ story house; appears, 1870
property of mill owners in 1870.
26. GR 1½ story house; appears, 1870
property of mill owners in 1870.

See continuation sheet 3



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet) - 3

STATE		Rhode Island
COUNTY		Washington
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
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	MAY 2 1974	

(Number all entries)

7. Description cont.

- 27. E20 garage.
- 28. Ruins of textile mill complex; 18C, GR, LV;
site of Brand's Iron Works.
- 29. Wyoming Dam & Reservoir
first dam here built in the 18th century
present reservoir, dam, and picturesque mill ruins;
on southeast side of dam part of Wyoming Fishing Area,
site of 1814 Brothers Mill and later mills.
- 30. MV 1 story store; appears, 1870
in 1870, Potter & James Store.
- 31. Three LV-E20 1 story brick and frame
industrial buildings;
in 1895 site of Batting Mill.
- 32. Dawley Tavern; appears, 1855
1½-2 story frame building
once one of Rhode Island's most famous highway taverns;
northeast end of present building may date from the 18C;
rest is ER; ballroom with coved ceiling,
second floor, southeast end;
in mid-nineteenth century operated by A. J. Dawley.
- 33. MV 1½ story, two family house; appears, 1870;
in 1870, property of A. J. Dawley.
- 34. MV Richmond Historic Cemetery #22; fair condition.
- 35. MV Richmond Historic Cemetery #21; poor condition.
- 36. E20 1 story house.
- 37. E20 1½ story house.
- 38. E20 1 story garage.
- 39. J. L. Kenyon House; appears, 1895
LV 2 story house.
- 40. D. Kenyon House; appears, 1855
fine GR 1½ story house; interesting out buildings
good trellis and picket fence.
- 41. Excellent MV (?) drywall.
- 42. M20 1 story house.
- 43. Palmer-Segar House; appears, 1855.
GR 2 story house; pedimented gable to
street has triangular window; 1½ story ell.
- 44. LV 1½ story building, now a credit union.
- 45. LV 2½ story building
store in basement level, living quarters above.
- 46. W. F. Segar Store; 1850
GR 2½ story house built into bank
creating a full basement story which was store;
fine GR detail; LV 2 story porch across front.
- 47. Pierce-Cook House; appears, 1870
MV 2 story bracketed building.
- 48. Dawley-Jordan Livery Stable
1½-2 story wood frame structure
now a gas station;

See continuation sheet 4

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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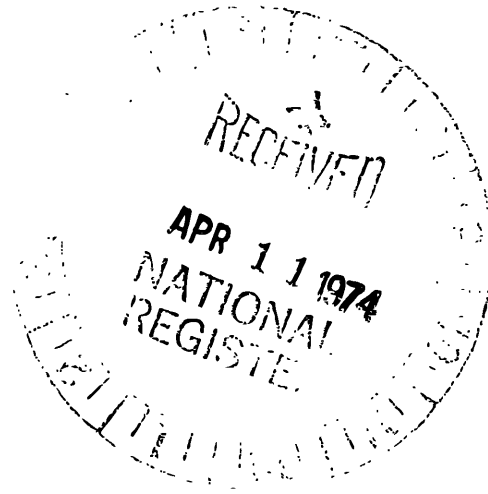
(Continuation Sheet) - 5

STATE Rhode Island	
COUNTY Washington	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 2 1974

(Number all entries)

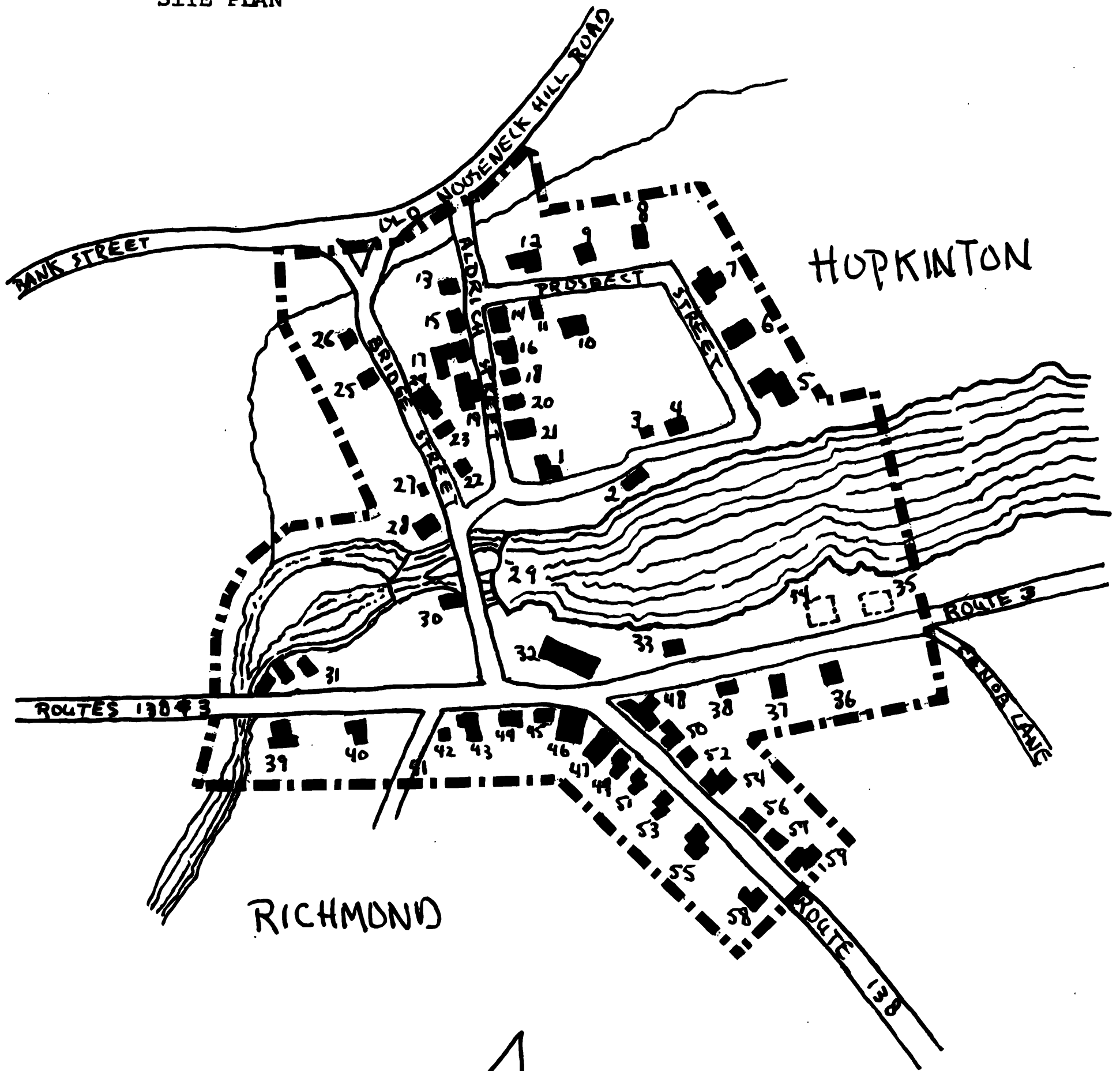
8. Significance cont.

mills, Wyoming looks much as it did a century ago. It is a well preserved village district retaining both architectural and historic interest.



WYOMING VILLAGE HISTORIC DISTRICT

SITE PLAN



BOUNDARY OF DISTRICT: - - - - -

not to scale