

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



551

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name East Main - Cherry Street Historic District (2003 Boundary Increase)

other names/site number Luther Hill Park

2. Location

street & number Park Street not for publication

city or town Spencer vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Worcester code 027 zip code 01562

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.)

Betsy Friedberg for

5/1/03

Signature of certifying official/Title Cara Metz, 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

Patricia Andrews

Date of Action

8/18/2003

Name of Property East Main – Cherry Street HD (Boundary Increase)

County and State Worcester, Massachusetts

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

(Check only one box)

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

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

Number of Resources within Property

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

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>

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 in the National Register

138 East Main-Cherry Street and 50 Spencer To Center Historic District

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/outdoor recreation/park

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/outdoor recreation

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

NO STYLE

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls CONCRETE

roof ASPHALT

other _____

Narrative Description

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

East Main – Cherry Street Historic District
2003 Boundary Extension
Spencer (Worcester), MA

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Luther Hill Park, with entrances on Park Street and Rene Drive (1888) is a fourteen-acre park on Lake Whittemore (Photograph Nos. 1 and 2) in the northeast section of Spencer Center. It is located in an area of well-preserved 19th century farms, homes and institutional buildings that make up the Spencer Center Historic District. It is contiguous to the Historic District. The main entry to the park is from Park Street on its south side; a secondary entry is on Rene Drive, on its western edge. The Park Street entry is approximately one block north of Main Street and visible from Main Street. Park Street itself contains a mixture of 19th century buildings, notably a fine Italianate style schoolhouse, and several post-World War II houses. Carved granite piers mark the entry and lead to a curving, black-topped drive (Photograph Nos. 3 and 6) that makes a loop through the park. The Rene Drive entry is less formal and without piers, and is set in a neighborhood of tidy, later 20th century homes.

From both entries the land of the park slopes down from the south to the north and east where it meets the shore of the dammed lake at a manmade sandy beach. At the park's center is a rocky outcropping of boulders around which the drive circles to take visitors from the park's two entrances to the lake and back again. Dirt paths lead pedestrians from the drive to the interior where there are picnic spaces.

The park drive circumscribes a rocky interior section dense with a stand of cultivated red pine trees that give this area of the park a shady and ordered aspect. (Photograph no. 3) Elsewhere in the park are mature oak and maples, beech, and white pine that are randomly located. Low bushes and ground cover spread beneath the trees; native laurel and rhododendron bushes are located on the park edges and intermittently along the roadway. (Photograph No. 4) Other than the stand of red pine trees, there are no formal flowerbeds or discernible planting design schemes, so the park has an informal naturalism that is a departure from the ordered town outside its borders. At the edge of the lake the land is clear of trees in order to accommodate the drive, a grassy picnic area, a beach, a handicapped ramp to the lake and several buildings. The lake provides an expansive, open view of largely undeveloped shoreline lined with hardwood forest, and it forms one boundary to the park. (Photograph Nos. 1 and 2) The park's other limits are defined by fieldstone walls about three feet in height. The stone walls on the south appear to antedate the park as they incorporate several large and old oaks.

On the inside of the drive on the southeast side of the park, and part of its original design, is a fieldstone embankment set with iron rings on its top for tethering horses. (Photograph Nos. 4 and 5). Amenities that have been added to the park since its original layout are a sandy beach, a tennis court that has been adapted to skateboard use, a badminton court, a playground equipped for young children near the water, two toilet buildings and a concession stand. The buildings are strictly utilitarian in design. On the shore of the lake, south of the beach, are the foundations of a former brick pumping station.

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

East Main – Cherry Street Historic District
2003 Boundary Extension
Spencer (Worcester), MA

Archaeological Description

A moderate to high potential exists for locating ancient Native American resources within the boundary increase area of the East Main Street – Cherry Street Historic District. Four known ancient sites have been recorded in the general area (within one mile). Environmental characteristics of the Luther Hill Park locale, the boundary increase area, support the presence of ancient sites. Well-drained, level to moderately sloping terraces and other landforms exist within 1000 feet of Lake Whittemore, an impounded body of water created by damming the brook that flows from Cider Mill Pond. Given the above information, documented regional settlement patterns for Native Americans, the size of the boundary increase (14 acres), and impacts related to landscaping of the park and construction of recreational facilities, a moderate to high potential exists for locating ancient Native American resources.

A high potential exists for locating historic archaeological resources within the boundary increase area. Most potential historic sites are associated with late 19th and early 20th century recreational facilities constructed in the park. Municipal water supply resources are also present. Structural evidence may survive from a dance pavilion, boathouse and concession stand built in the park in 1889. Similar evidence might also survive from a boathouse and café built at the lakeshore in 1893. Foundations from a former brick pumping station, built in 1905, have also been identified on the shore of the lake south of the beach.

(end)

Name of Property East Main – Cherry Street HD (Boundary Increase)

County and State Worcester, Massachusetts

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)

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance

1888-1953

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository: _____

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

East Main – Cherry Street Historic District
2003 Boundary Extension
Spencer (Worcester), MA

Statement of Significance

Luther Hill Park makes a significant boundary increase to the East Main Street – Cherry Street Historic District (Boundary Increase) under criteria A and C. The park was created as a local expression of the City Beautiful Movement of the late 19th century, during one of the key eras in the Center's history. In the Late Industrial Period when immigration was changing the character of Spencer Center, the City Beautiful Movement was seen as a way to ameliorate conditions spawned by the population increase. The park was created in acknowledgment of the need for residents to have a nearby public park for contact with nature in a healthy and beautiful setting. It is significant as a representative example of the active recreational park that became popular at the turn-of-the-century and was made accessible to city dwellers via improved transportation of the streetcar and later the automobile.

It is significant as an example of the landscape design that was best expressed by Frederick Law Olmsted and filtered down from the urban setting of his models to the smaller cities and towns of the country. This was a landscape that was designed to have a beneficial impact on its users, brought about, in part, by the choice or retention of native vegetation, and the controlled access to the landscape from planned paths and roadways. The park has integrity of surroundings, vegetative materials, topography, natural systems, water features, spatial organization, views and circulation. It is of local significance.

The Spencer Town Center Historic District was placed on the National Register in 1986. Its boundaries were increased with the addition of the East Main Street – Cherry Street Historic District in 1996. The incorporation of Luther Hill Park into the Spencer Town Center Historic District is being treated as an increase to the East Main Street – Cherry Street Historic District (Boundary Increase). While the addition being proposed might technically be seen as an addition to a single expanded district, it is being treated as a separate district boundary increase to keep its chronology and geography clear. The park is a designed landscape that was omitted from the earlier boundary increase, but with research and description provided by an inventory form and National Register Criteria statement prepared in 1998, it makes an appropriate and strong addition. The boundaries of the 14-acre extension will follow the lot lines of the park and the shore of Lake Whittemore.

The Genesis of Luther Hill Park

During the 1840s citizens of many rural Massachusetts towns made organized efforts to improve the appearance of their public spaces, the buildings, and landscapes that abutted these spaces. Their efforts have come to be known as the Village Improvement Movement, one that was responsible for the enhancement of meetinghouse lots, militia training grounds, and the common land of linear street villages in towns across Massachusetts. Improvement societies were so successful that their ideas spread to larger towns and urban areas by the 1880s, and the Village Improvement Movement metamorphosed into the City Beautiful Movement. By this time, immigration into Massachusetts was in its full stride. In Spencer alone between 1870 and 1890

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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East Main – Cherry Street Historic District
2003 Boundary Extension
Spencer (Worcester), MA

the population rose from 3,953 to 8,747. City and town centers grew in density at a startling rate and the City Beautiful Movement came to have a sociological component missing from its predecessor movement. Many large towns and cities saw that it was important to set aside open space within the cities for the use of townspeople before there was none left, and in Massachusetts in 1882 a law was passed that enabled local towns to provide for public parks.

The open space was to be designed as parkland to offer people respite from the factories, the busy commercial life, and the tensions of close living, through contemplation of nature. The thinking was that the respite would raise their spirits, and in the process make them better workers and neighbors. The city was to be beautified and its citizens elevated through direct experience with nature.

Spencer Center took part in both movements having gone from a rural town of the 1840s, to a late 19th century factory town of tenements and boarding houses where immigrants from Canada, Ireland, Italy, Central and Eastern Europe lived in often close circumstances. The town's impulse to improve its appearance and its economy, and to provide modern amenities to its citizens was driven by a few people between 1878 and 1887. First the railroad was brought to town, then waters, sewers, gas and electricity were established and one man led each of the improvements: Luther Hill. Hill who lived in the Center at the Luther and Louisa Hill House, 29 High Street (ca. 1860) was a trial judge and although he did not hold a degree, practiced law. He was a public spirited person who seems to have had a strong interest in technology, so that bringing innovations to town was a much a personal challenge as a public obligation. He was joined in his mission by his neighbors. Joseph Temple who lived at Livermore Inn-Alonzo & Adeline Temple House, 1 High Street (ca. 1850, SPN 194) was a strong advocate with Hill for the railroad. E. E. Stone who lived at the E.E. and Eliza Stone House, 31 High Street (ca. 1880) helped finance both the water and electricity ventures and Richard Sugden who lived at Richard and Susan Sugden House, 7 High Street (ca. 1885) joined in establishing the public water system. Once the utilities were completed, Luther and these few people turned to beautification, and in a single year, 1888, they demonstrated that the City Beautiful movement had come to Spencer. Richard Sugden donated the Romanesque Revival library on Pleasant Street, Luther Hill created Spencer Public Park (now Luther Hill Park), and E. E. Stone donated ornamental fencing to surround Myrick Park.

Luther Hill did not act unilaterally, rather he bought the land that had been selected by elected park commissioners Henry Green, Hugh Kelly and Leander Sibley. Following the 1882 state mandate that enabled towns to acquire public park land, the town had voted in 1886 to create a park commission that was charged with finding a park site. Commissioners settled on part of the David and Caroline Bemis farm known as Bemis Grove. It was a pine forest on the shore of Lake Whittemore and was already in use as a picnic spot. Bemis was a farmer, lumberman and was active in town affairs. He was a selectman for two years and assessor for 36 years.

At town meeting in 1887 the commissioners made their recommendation to purchase this fourteen-acre property whose price was set at \$2,100. Luther Hill addressed town meeting saying that this parcel was not his choice, but since the town had decided to purchase it, he offered

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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East Main – Cherry Street Historic District
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\$2,000; David Bemis contributed the remaining sum of \$100 by accepting the Hill offer. Hill in modesty did not want the park to be named for him, so a sign was put up calling it Spencer Public Park, although in town reports it was always called Luther Hill Park. In 1904 it was officially renamed in his honor.

The town report for 1888 shows that the park commission had \$1,000 authorized for its construction and that Henry R. Green, Spencer resident and grandson of bootmaker Josiah Green, was paid \$905.93 to lay out and make a 180 rods of road, erect buildings, clear away brush, provide accessible drinking water and "otherwise add(ing) to the appearance of the Park". To the extent that there was a planned design, therefore, it was the work of Green. The remaining \$94.07 from the \$1,000 was unexpended.

There was, however, thought and planning that went into creating an experience in nature for visitors, in other words, a designed landscape. Luther Hill Park possessed many of the features that landscape designer Frederick Law Olmsted sought out or created when he set out to design a picturesque park on rocky, sloping land. Olmsted designated the approach to these park conditions as "picturesque," and he recommended they be treated as mysterious landscapes with an abundance of native bushes, vines, and ground covers. He intended visitors to have an emotional experience when they came into the park shaped by the lush vegetation and diverse areas they could traverse and occupy. Henry R. Green who laid out Luther Hill Park was, at the very least, aware of the concept of a picturesque park and an appreciation of the features of the landscape. The meandering loop road guided carriages on a ride through a series of landscape vignettes in the grove itself with boulders and paths leading visitors's attention into the interior, culminating in their emergence into the open space and view across Whittemore Pond. (Photograph Nos. 1-6) Horses could be tethered at a stone embankment that was blended into its setting. (Photograph Nos. 4 and 5) It is a simple park design making the most of the natural features of the landscape.

The History of Luther Hill Park

As Susan Ceccacci points out in her inventory form, Spencer's park commissioners within a year saw the park as an opportunity to provide for public entertainment. In 1889, less committed to simple use of the park as a continuing picnic spot, they added a dance pavilion and a boathouse, and a second entrance to the park – fun was to be added to contemplation of nature. With these amenities, focus in the park shifted from a passive recreational area to an active one centering at the waterfront and the entertainment to be found there. An excursion steamboat was put on the lake and a private boat operator rented out rowboats from the floating boathouse at the water's edge. Beer and ice cream were available at a concession stand and soon picnics and dances were held in the park. Advent of the trolley line down Main Street from Worcester increased the park's use by people on weekend outings. By 1893 a second boathouse was added, a floating raft with diving board and a second steamboat. To improve on concessions, a café with an awning-shaded deck over the water opened at the edge of the lake. None of these remain.

Within a few years, the entertainment proved such a draw that up to 5,000 people would be in the park at a single time. It became a popular place for public meetings such as those held by the Women's Christian Temperance Union and encampments of the Luther Hill branch of the sons of

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East Main – Cherry Street Historic District
2003 Boundary Extension
Spencer (Worcester), MA

Civil War Volunteers. At these meetings there were often dances, fireworks, and other social activities that drew people to the park.

In 1890 Henry Green, sounding disgruntled, reported that 350 loads of material were taken from the Park and the work was still not paid for. The budget was reduced to \$200 from \$350 in 1891 and in 1895 commissioners stated that the town was not appropriating enough money to keep up with maintenance. For neighbors the Sundays of summer were an assault. Clearly, the park was overcrowded and although the town voted not to, park commissioners in 1896 decided to close concessions on Sundays. A dissatisfied Luther Hill withdrew his Volunteers to encamp at another site where concessions were available. The park concessionaire moved to East Brookfield and developed a waterfront park that became a more popular destination. Commissioners had effectively stifled the park's entertainment value, and many fewer people were interested in it as a nature experience. Use decreased significantly and by 1902 there were complaints of vandalism.

Luther Hill Park provided public access to the water of Lake Whittemore, and when more water was needed in the town's water system in 1905, a brick pumping station was added at its southeast corner. Although system leakage was found to be responsible for the shortage of town water, the pumping station was kept as a backup into the 1950s.

The park's waterside location continued to be seen as its most important asset, and from the 1920s park use emphasized swimming. A group of young people put a new raft in the water, and not long after a new dock was built from which the American Red Cross offered a course in life saving. After the town hall burned down in 1926 granite posts from its site were brought to the Park Street entrance to replace an earlier entrance sign.

The Depression brought federal attention to Spencer, some of which was directed towards the park. The Civil Works Administration and the Works Progress Administration paid local people to repair the stone walls around the park, lay down gravel on the loop road, clear out overgrown areas and haul in sand to make a 300' swimming beach. Along with the beach they financed a parking lot, concession stand and two bathhouses. In addition, the WPA funded swimming lessons and life saving classes, and hired a lifeguard, all of which brought continuing activity.

In 1934 the park played a role in the town's political history. When union organizers began soliciting interest in their movement by passing out information and speaking to Spencer's mill workers in front of the factories, they were moved off the streets by local police who charged them with blocking access to the mills. To avoid further interruption by the law, organizers hired boats on Lake Whittemore, called for rallies in Luther Hill Park, and spoke to workers from the water where they were exempt from arrest. The organizers were ultimately unsuccessful in their bid to unionize, but their clever solution was long remembered by townspeople.

In 1938 the hurricane that devastated much of Massachusetts leveled the pine trees in Luther Hill Park that was already in need of refurbishing. The WPA together with the Spencer Parent-Teacher Association in the early 1940s planted new trees, and bought new picnic tables, set up a new raft, hired a lifeguard, and provided swimming lessons. As the park continued to be a swimming center for the town, a new bathhouse/concession stand was added in the 1950s. The

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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East Main – Cherry Street Historic District
2003 Boundary Extension
Spencer (Worcester), MA

tennis courts date from this period (1954) as well and were laid out near the Rene Drive entrance. The latter were converted to skateboard use in recent years.

Current Conditions of and Preservation Concerns for Luther Hill Park

Today the park is primarily used for its waterfront and a large ramp makes it handicapped accessible from the loop road; young people use the skateboard facility. The park is also used for more passive recreation. Walkers, cyclists and runners use its drive and paths and groups come for summer picnics in the center grove. The park serves its users well without straining its capacity.

The major preservation concern of the park is lack of a long-term maintenance and replacement plan to preserve its most prominent historic features, its land forms and vegetation. The park has sustained considerable alteration at the waterfront in the form of incompatible buildings, playground and an unsympathetic ramp design. A long-term restoration plan would outline a means of reversing or improving these alterations, better to balance the needs of contemporary use and preservation of this 19th century public park.

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of ancient Native American settlement in Spencer are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Ancient sites in this area may contribute important information relating to interior upland sites and Native use of the Worcester Plateau/Central Massachusetts uplands in general. Native sites in this area may contain information that documents patterns of subsistence and settlement in the Central Massachusetts uplands and how these patterns compared or were influenced by regional patterns in the coastal lowlands to the east and Connecticut River Valley to the west. Ancient sites in the district locale may also contribute information that indicates the importance of river drainage boundaries in the development of social, cultural and economic systems of Native peoples who inhabited the area. The East Main Street – Cherry Street Historic District area lies near the headwaters of the Chicopee River drainage that drains westerly to the Connecticut River and the Thames River that flows southerly to Long Island Sound. Both areas may have influenced the cultural evolution of Native people in the Spencer locale.

Historic archaeological resources described above have the potential to contribute detailed information on recreational facilities in Spencer during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Archaeological resources may also contribute important information on the town's municipal water system during the early 20th century. Additional documentary research together with archaeological survey and testing may locate the sites and potential structural evidence for the dance pavilion, boathouse, concession stand and café demolished sometime in the 20th century. Structural remains, features and artifacts may survive that contribute information relating to the architectural details of the buildings, their related facilities and the activities of patrons. Detailed analysis of structures and the contents of related features may contribute information on diets and other aspects of recreational activities. Historical and archaeological research that focuses on

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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East Main – Cherry Street Historic District
2003 Boundary Extension
Spencer (Worcester), MA

the site of the former brick pumping station may also contribute important information relating to the town's municipal water supply system including its infrastructure, technology, and the role Lake Whittemore played in that system. The presence of stone walls in the boundary increase area may indicate potential agricultural or husbandry related sites and information in the nominated area.

(end)

FOX RIVER BOND

237 COTTON

Name of Property East Main - Cherry Street HD (Boundary Increase)

County, State Worcester, Massachusetts

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 14 acres

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

A. 19	253750	4681980	C. 19	253580	4681500
Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
B. 19	253800	4681740	D. 19	253520	4681980
Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing

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 Bonnie Parsons, Principal Planner, PVPC, with Betsy Friedberg, NR director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date April 2003

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

city or town Boston state Massachusetts 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.

Photograph

Representative **black and white Photograph** 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 Town of Spencer

street & number 157 Main Street telephone 508-885-7518

city or town Spencer state MA zip code 01562

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.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

East Main – Cherry Street Historic District
2003 Boundary Extension
Spencer (Worcester), MA

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Maps and Atlases

O. H. Bailey Bird's Eye View of 1892
Atlases of 1856, 1870, 1877, 1884 and 1898

Primary Sources

Directories of Spencer for 1880, 1882, 1884-1885, 1888, 1891, 1895-1896
Spencer Town Reports, 1885-1910.

Secondary Sources

Ceccacci, Susan McDaniel. National Register Nomination for East Main Street – Cherry Street
Historic District Boundary Extension, typescript, 1994.

_____. Cultural Resource Inventory Form H, Luther Hill Park, 1999.

Draper, James. History of Spencer, Massachusetts, from its Earliest Settlement to the Year
1860, Worcester, n.d.

Fiske, Jeffrey. History of Spencer, Massachusetts: 1875-1975, Spencer, 1990.

Hurd, D. Hamilton. History of Worcester County, Vol. I, Philadelphia, 1889.

Leading Business Men of Spencer, Brookfield and Vicinity, Boston, 1889.

Massachusetts Historical Commission. Historic and Archaeological Resources of Central
Massachusetts, Boston, 1985.

_____. Reconnaissance Survey Reports, "Spencer", typescript,
1983.

Nason, Rev. Elias. A Gazetteer of the State of Massachusetts, Boston, 1874.

Small, Nora Pat and Betsy Friedberg. National Register Nomination for Spencer Town Center
Historic District, typescript, 1984.

(continued)

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East Main – Cherry Street Historic District
2003 Boundary Extension
Spencer (Worcester), MA

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Spencer Bicentennial Committee. Spencer Bicentennial 1753-1953 Souvenir Program, Spencer, 1953.

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Tower, Henry M. Historical Sketches Relating to Spencer, Massachusetts, vols. 1-4, Spencer, 1901-1909.

 History of Worcester County, Boston, 1879.

Photograph

Spencer Historical Society. Photograph Collection.

(end)

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The lot lines of Luther Hill Park were followed for this boundary increase which are contiguous with the East Main – Cherry Street Historic District (Boundary Increase) yet exclude dwellings on Park Street that are not part of the significance of the park nor contributing to the existing historic district. The park's lot lines were followed as well as the shoreline of Lake Whittemore to maintain the boundary increase as town-owned park only.

(end)

1 X RIVER BOND

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number photos Page _____

East Main – Cherry Street Historic District
2003 Boundary Extension
Spencer (Worcester), MA

List of Photographs

Luther Hill Park, Lake Whittemore
East Main Street-Cherry Street (Boundary Increase Number 2)
Worcester, Massachusetts
William Scanlan
June, 2002
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
View to north east
Photograph No. 1*

Luther Hill Park, Lake Whittemore
View to south east
Photograph No. 2

Luther Hill Park, Loop Road
View to east
Photograph No. 3

Luther Hill Park, Tethering Wall
View to west
Photograph No. 4

Luther Hill Park, Tethering Wall
View to east
Photograph No. 5

Luther Hill Park, Loop Road
View to south west
Photograph No. 6

* Underlined information is common to all Photograph

FOX RIVER BOND
25% COTTON

Map #	MHC #	Historic Name	Address	Date	Style	Resource	Status
			Park Street				
U-15-30	SPN 916	Luther Hill Park	Park Street	1888	N/A	Si	C
U-15-30		bath house/concessions	Park Street	ca. 1950	no style	B	NC
U-15-30		public restroom	Park Street	ca. 1950	no style	B	NC
U-15-30		public restroom	Park Street	ca. 1970	no style	B	NC
U-15-30		pump house foundations	Park Street	ca. 1888	N/A	Si	C
U-15-30		Children's play area	Park Street	ca. 1950	N/A	Str	NC
U-15-30		tennis/skateboard crt.	Park Street	ca. 1950	N/A	Str	NC
U-15-30		badminton green	Park Street	ca. 1990	N/A	Si	C
U-15-30		shuffleboard court	Park Street	ca. 1950	N/A	Str	NC
U-15-30		horse tie-up wall	Park Street	ca. 1888	N/A	Str	C
U-15-30		granite entry posts	Park Street	1926	N/A	Str	C
U-15-30		stone walls	Park Street	19th c.	N/A	Str	C
U-15-30		pine & boulder grove	Park Street	1888-	N/A	Si	C
U-15-30		park roadway	Park Street	1888	N/A	Str	C

	<i>Contributing</i>	<i>Non-contributing</i>
<i>Buildings</i>	0	3
<i>Structures</i>	4	3
<i>Sites</i>	4	0
<i>Landscapes</i>		0
<i>Total</i>	8	6

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY NAME: East Main--Cherry Street Historic District (Boundary Increase)

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester

DATE RECEIVED: 7/15/03 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/29/03
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 03000551

DETAILED EVALUATION:

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT _____ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

On resubmission State has provided black and white photos and a new map. This boundary increase adds a municipal park that is adjacent to the historic district

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept

REVIEWER Patricia Andrews

DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 8/18/2003

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



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Property Name: East Main-Cherry Street Historic District (Boundary Increase)
Worcester County, MA

Reference Number: 03000551

Reason for Return:

This nomination is being returned for technical deficiencies.

Photographs: The photographs do not meet the National Register documentation standards because they were processed on color paper. When black and white negatives are processed on color paper, the resulting prints are essentially color photographs and have a limited long-term stability. Because the stability of color paper is uncertain, the National Register continues to require that photographs be processed on black and white paper using black and white film processing. Fiber-based paper is preferred, but resin coated (RC) papers also are acceptable. Please have the photographs reprinted on black and white paper using black and white film processing.

Site Map - Please indicate on the site map where the boundary increase connects to the East Main - Cherry Street Historic District.

Patrick Andrus

Patrick Andrus
Historian
National Register of Historic Places
6/17/2003



Luther Hill Park
Spencer, Massachusetts
Photograph No. 1



LB Whes... No. 7917881
0162 07+1 102 N-30 GR08 2111/100



Luther Hill Park
Spencer, Massachusetts
Photograph No. 2



LB Wheaton (No. 1) V002
0160 07+1 N+2 N-29 GR00 Z111/10





Luther Hill Park
Spencer, Massachusetts
Photograph No. 3



LB Wheaton (No. 6A) 806 B
8160 07+1 N+2-1 04 GR08 Z111 100





④ Luther Hill Park
Spencer, Massachusetts
Photograph No. 4



LB Invention No. 5A7-885 BN
©166741142 N 11 GR08 2111/100



Luther Hill Park
Spencer, Massachusetts
Photograph No. 5



LB White, KNO. 4A789N G
0160 07+1 P 2 N 12 6R03 2111/100



Luther Hill Park
Spencer, Massachusetts
Photograph No. 6



LB No. 291083
0168 07/11/22-23 GR08 Z111/100



Luther Hill Park, Lake Whittamore
East Main Street - Cherry Street (Boundary Increase Number 2)
Worcester, Massachusetts
William Scalan

June, 2002
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
View to NE
Photograph No. 1

047 03 N N N-1 NN2 (03B)



Luther Hill Park, Lake Whittemore
View to SE.

Photograph Number 2

947 93 N N N-1 892 (038)



Sutter Hill Park, Loop Road

View to East

Photograph Number 3

947 03 N N N N N (838)



Luther Hill Park, Tethering Wall

View to West

Photograph Number 4

047 03 N N N-1 192 (038)



Luther Hill Park, Tethering Wall

View to East

Photograph Number 5

047 03 N N N N N N N N N N (838)



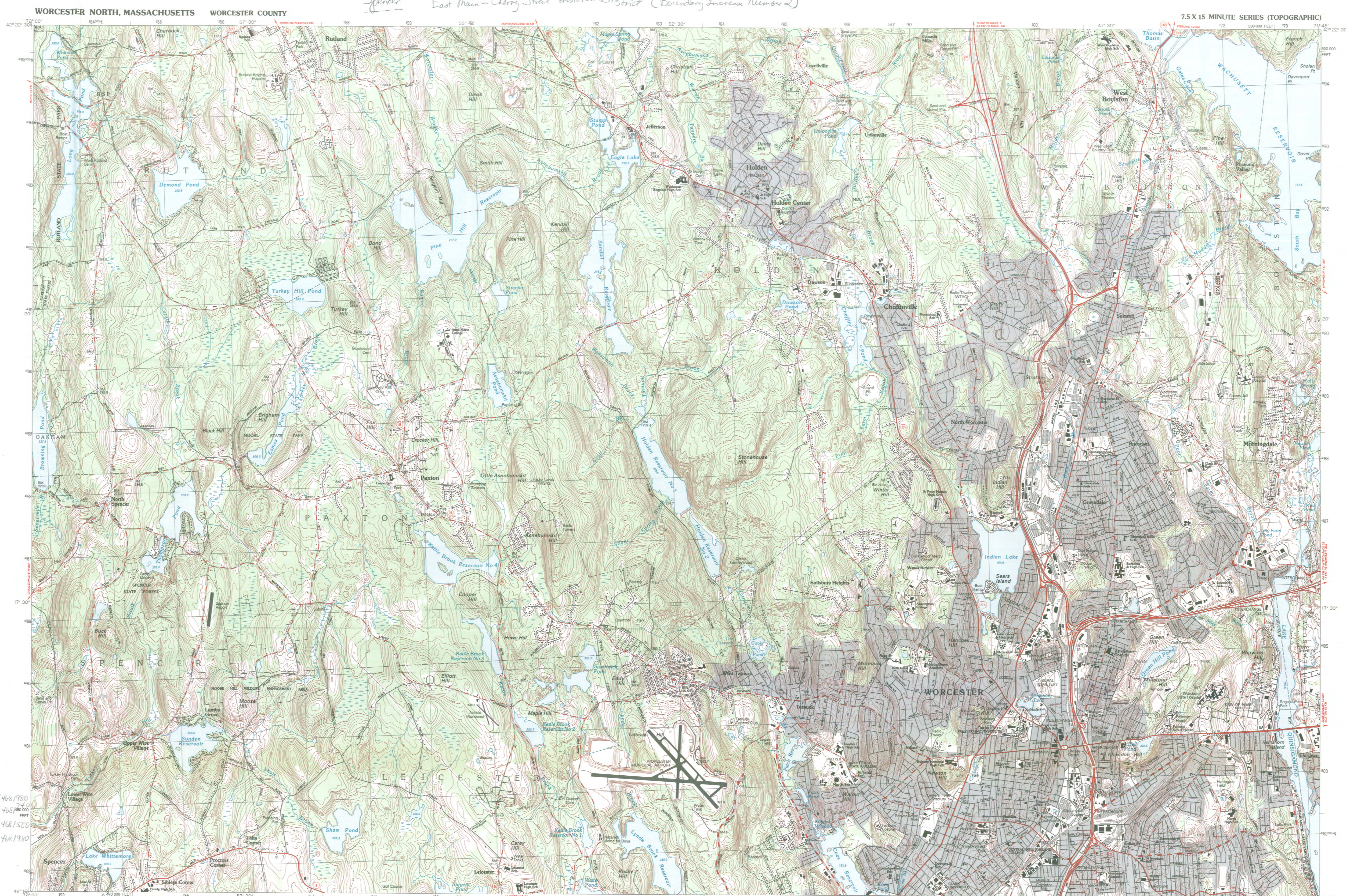
Luther Hill Park, Hoop Road

U; ew to SW

Photograph Number 6

047 03

NNN-1 102 (038)



Worcester North
MASSACHUSETTS
 1:25 000-scale metric
 topographic map
See also Worcester South of

7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE SHOWING

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

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
 1983

Produced by the United States Geological Survey in cooperation with Massachusetts Department of Public Works
 Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
 Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1980. Field checked 1982. Map edited 1983
 Supersedes Paxton and Worcester North 1:25,000-scale maps dated 1965 and 1974

Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 19: 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 6 meters south and 40 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 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

CONVERSION TABLE		DECLINATION DIAGRAM		ADJOINING MAPS		
Meters	Feet	Diagram showing magnetic declination		1	2	3
1	3.2808			4	5	
2	6.5617			6	7	8
3	9.8425					
4	13.1234					
5	16.4042					
6	19.6850					
7	22.9659					
8	26.2467					
9	29.5275					
10	32.8084					

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

UTM grid convergence (GK) at center of map
 Magnetic declination (MD) at center of map
 Diagram is approximate

1. Name
 2. Boundary
 3. Railroad
 4. Waterbody
 5. Marsh/lowland
 6. Wetland
 7. Worcester South
 8. Holdfast

FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
 DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

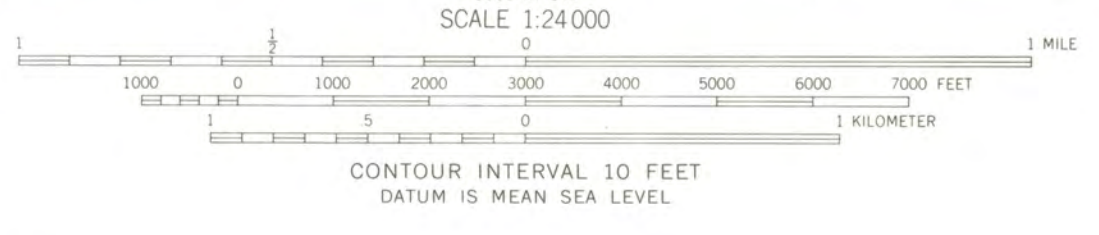
Topographic Map Symbols

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 gage; narrow gage	.....
Bridge: drawbridge	.....
Footbridge, overpass; underpass; viaduct	.....
Built-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; wild game refuge	.....
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	.....
Compass rose; picnic area; U.S. location monument	.....
Windmill; water well; spring	.....
Mine shaft; prospect; adit or cave	.....
Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation	.....
Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression	.....
Distorted surface: strip mine, levee, sand	.....
Bathymetric contours: index; intermediate	.....
Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream	.....
Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small	.....
Submerged marsh; marsh, swamp	.....
Land subject to controlled inundation; woodland	.....
Scrub; mangrove	.....
Orchard; vineyard	.....

- ZONE 19
- A. 253 750 / 468 1950
 - B. 253 800 / 468 1950
 - C. 253 580 / 468 1500
 - D. 253 520 / 468 1950



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
Topography by planetable surveys 1937. Revised from aerial
photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1969
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
Areas covered by dashed light-blue pattern are subject to
controlled inundation to 501 feet by Hodges Village Dam and
524 feet in Buffumville Reservoir



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, all weather, hard surface	Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface	Unimproved road, fair or dry weather

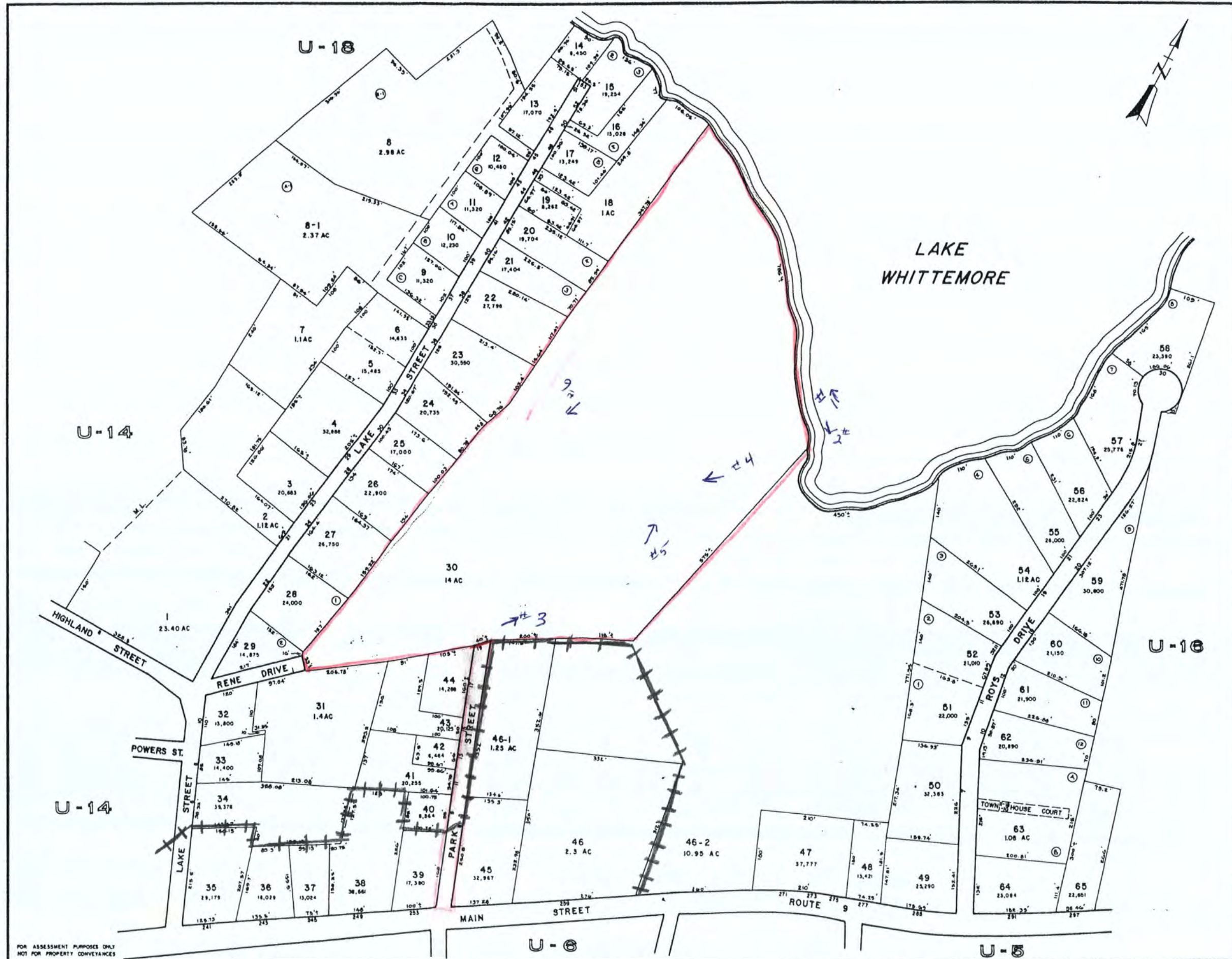
Interstate Route U.S. Route State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

LEICESTER, MASS.
N4207.5—W7152.5/7.5
1969
AMS 6668 III NW—SERIES W814

— 2003 BOUNDARY ADDITION.

++ EXISTING EAST MAIN - CHERRY ST. DISTRICT.



FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY
NOT FOR PROPERTY CONVEYANCES

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

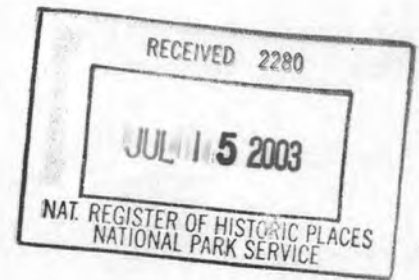
LEGEND
ADJACENT SHEET NO.
COMMON OWNERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT LOT NO.

12
OR
8

PROPERTY MAP
SPENCER
MASSACHUSETTS

SCALE IN FEET
0 100 200

U-15



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

July 7, 2003

Mr. Patrick Andrus
Historian
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye Street, NW, 8th floor
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Spencer, MA: East Main-Cherry Street HD Boundary Increase
Reference No. 03000551

Dear Patrick:

Enclosed is a re-submission of the East Main Street district's boundary increase, as requested by your letter of June 17, 2003.

The district's assessor map now reflects the relationship of the boundary extension to the existing historic district.

Black and white processed photographs are now included. Although smaller than the original photographs previously submitted, they adequately depict the features of Luther Hill Park, the location of the area included in the extension.

We request an expedited review of this re-submitted nomination.

Betsy Friedberg

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Enclosures – NR nomination