

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0005894 DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED SEP 24 1975

DATE ENTERED SEP 26 1975

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Hancock Town Hall

AND/OR COMMON

Hancock Town Hall

2 LOCATIONSTREET & NUMBER ^{MA} Route 43

CITY, TOWN

Hancock

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Massachusetts

CODE

025

COUNTY

Berkshire

CODE

003

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC
☐ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED
☒ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☒ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Town of Hancock

STREET & NUMBER

Hancock Village

CITY, TOWN

Hancock

VICINITY OF

STATE

Massachusetts

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Berkshire County Registry of Deeds, North District

STREET & NUMBER

65 Park Street

CITY, TOWN

Adams

STATE

Massachusetts

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth

DATE

1971

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Boston

STATE

Massachusetts

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☐ ORIGINAL SITE
☒ MOVED DATE 1975

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Hancock Town Hall (c.1852) exemplifies the simplest and most prolific adaptation of the temple form of the Greek Revival style. Its short gable end faces west and contains the main entrance which is centered on the facade. A heavy entablature with boxed cornice encircles the clapboard-sided building directly above the second story windows and forms a pediment in the gable end. Segmental lintels top the first story windows, three on each of the long facades and one at each side of the entrance. Narrow cornerboards mark each corner of the building. A heavy, flat entablature rests over the door frame. The building is painted white with the door trimmed in green. Future plans include stripping the green paint and repainting the door white. The Hancock Town Hall is two stories and measures 26'6" by 36'6". The interior plan includes a large meeting room which comprises the entire second floor and a central hall with two rooms on either side on the first floor. The walls are white plaster and the floors are wide pine.

The original location of the Hancock Town Hall was on less than an acre of land in the middle of the Hancock town center. Facing onto Main Street, the building was bordered to the south by the tree-lined Kinderhook Creek, and on the remaining sides by village houses and public buildings typical of the 19th century. On August 29, 1975 the Hancock Town Hall was moved approximately ½ mile from its original location to a new site on Route 43. The move was necessary because Hancock does not have a central sewage system and there was no room for a proper disposal system in the town center area. The Town Hall now sits on two acres of flat land next to the town cemetery. High hills to the rear of the property provide a lovely setting. There are no other buildings within approximately one block in either direction. The town plans a park-like setting for the Hall, with the area landscaped with trees natural to western Massachusetts. Future work on the building includes the installation of heating, wiring and plumbing, as well as painting and repairs to window sashes.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
☐ PREHISTORIC	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION
☐ 1400-1499	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LAW	☐ SCIENCE
☐ 1500-1599	☐ AGRICULTURE	☐ ECONOMICS	☐ LITERATURE	☐ SCULPTURE
☐ 1600-1699	☒ ARCHITECTURE	☒ EDUCATION	☐ MILITARY	☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☐ 1700-1799	☐ ART	☐ ENGINEERING	☐ MUSIC	☐ THEATER
☒ 1800-1899	☐ COMMERCE	☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	☐ PHILOSOPHY	☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ 1900-	☐ COMMUNICATIONS	☐ INDUSTRY	☒ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)
		☐ INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1852

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Hancock Town Hall is one of only three town halls in Berkshire County built specifically for that purpose. Until the functions of church and state were officially separated in Massachusetts around 1830, meetinghouses served both as town meeting places and houses of worship. Thus, the building of the Hancock Town Hall specifically for town meetings symbolizes the tradition of local government as it grew in Massachusetts. Although smaller in scale, the basic shape and design of the Town Hall reflect the traditional style of the New England meetinghouse. In its form and in certain architectural features, the Town Hall also resembles the schoolhouses constructed during this same period. The simple and bold form and uncluttered lines of the Hancock Town Hall illustrate the classical revival style adapted to suit the needs and resources of a small, rural community.

In the early 1850's the town of Hancock voted to demolish a local church on the Captain William Hadsell Farm and use the materials for the construction of a town hall. Instrumental in this project were selectmen William Hadsell and Benjamin Whitman. Although there was some opposition to the plan, a lawsuit was initiated which allowed the completion of the town hall.

For a number of years, space was provided in the Town Hall for the Hancock Classical Institute, a private school which drew students from Hancock and the surrounding towns. This was considered a college preparatory school, and a separate public school was maintained for the town. The first teacher at the Hancock Classical Institute was Hiram La Motte Lewis, a student at Williams College. Succeeding student teachers were selected with the advice of Williams' president Mark Hopkins.

The Hancock Town Hall was used for town meetings until 1958 when the town functions were held in the local school and the Town Hall was used for storage. Recognizing the need for a building specifically for town meetings, residents of Hancock voted in 1972 to restore its lovely town hall for that purpose. The alternative was to demolish the building and replace it with a metal structure. It is significant that citizens of the town recognized the value in preserving a part of their past. The building is expected to figure prominently in the celebration of the town's bicentennial in July 1976.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Hancock Classical Institute." Berkshire Evening Eagle. September 17, 1924.

Pierson, William H., Jr. American Buildings and Their Architects, Vol. I: The Colonial and Neo-Classical Styles. New York: Doubleday & Co., Inc., 1970.

"Town Considers Historic Values," Transcript. North Adams, November 18, 1971.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY two

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 638700 4711800
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Judy D. Dobbs, National Register Editor

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Massachusetts Historical Commission

September 18, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

294 Washington Street

617-727-8470

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Boston

Massachusetts 02108

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

Elizabeth Reed Amason

TITLE

Executive Director, Mass. Historical Commission

DATE Sept. 18, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

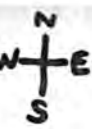
DATE 9/26/75

ATTEST:

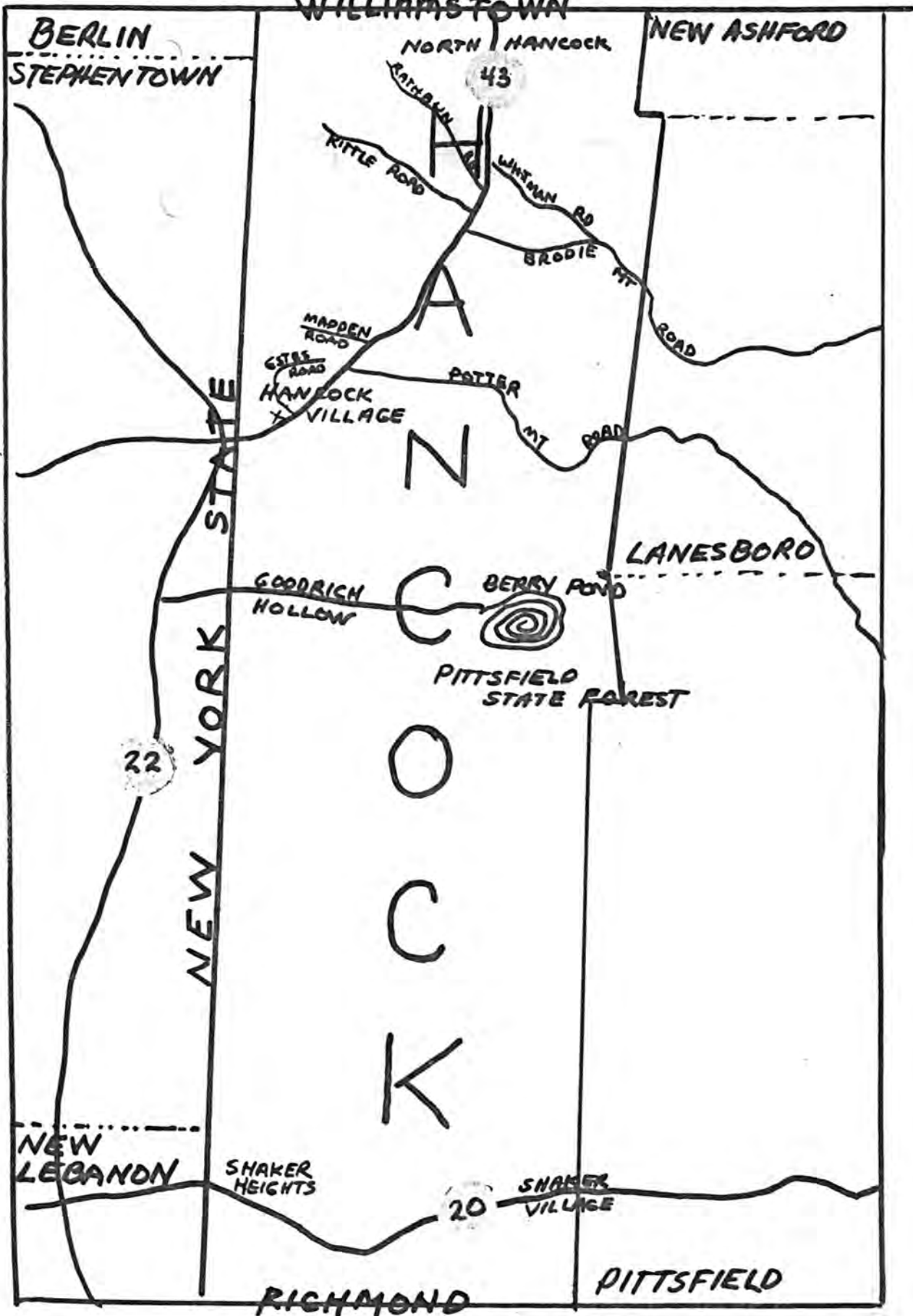
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE Sept 26, 1975

Longitude - $42^{\circ} 32' 30''$
Latitude - $73^{\circ} 19'$



The village of Hancock does not have an official map since it is primarily located on one main road.



Property Hancock Town Hall

Berkshire

State Mass.

Working Number 9.24.75.1726

TECHNICAL

Photos 1

Maps 1

CONTROL

CM

9.25.75

OK

HISTORIAN

Accept
E. Smith
9-25-75

Moved from center of town but is one of few surviving original town halls in the county.

Moved from town center to a more remote site. Arch. integrity appears intact, but integrity of location is questionable. No longer in a position to be the center of community activity.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Accept, I guess Aug 24/75

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory

Review

Obviously Mass feels this is a worthy example.

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
Cole
9-25-75

BRANCH CHIEF

Sad to move

Accept
C. Shull
Sor Herring
9-26-75

KEEPER

See P. 56, E.I Policies and Procedures

There is no evidence from the nomination that the site where it is now located was investigated or studied to determine if there might be other historical resources affected by the move. No archeological investigation was conducted, apparently.

Don't know
for
Wm J. Montague 9/24/75

National Register Write-up

Send-back

Entered SEP 26 1975

Federal Register Entry 11-4-75

Re-submit

INT:2106-74



HANCOCK TOWN HALL

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

SEP 24 1975

DATE ENTERED

SEP 26 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC Hancock Town Hall

AND/OR COMMON

Hancock Town Hall

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Hancock

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY Berkshire

STATE MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Evangeline Prince

DATE OF PHOTO August 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Route 43, Williamstown, Massachusetts

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Looking at main facade and side elevation of Town Hall.

PHOTO NO. 1 of 1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

SEP 24 1975

DATE ENTERED

SEP 26 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC Hancock Town Hall

AND/OR COMMON

Hancock Town Hall

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Hancock

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Berkshire

STATE

MA

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE USGS, Hancock Quadrangle

SCALE 1:24,000

DATE 1960

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES

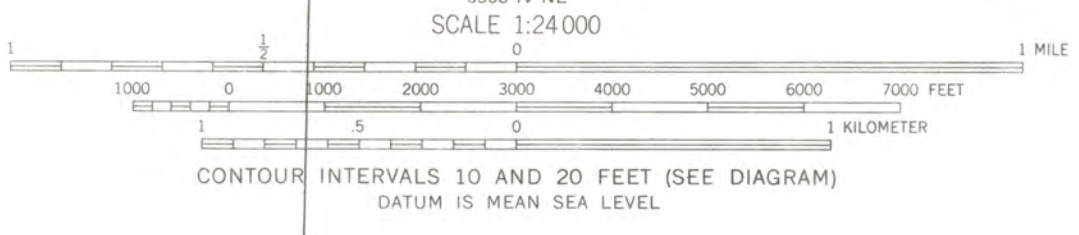
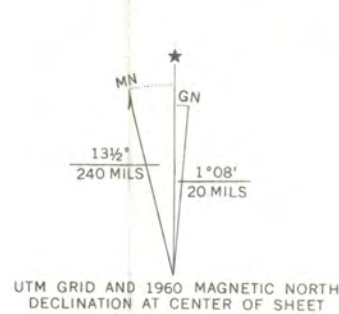
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

HANCOCK QUADRANGLE
MASSACHUSETTS-NEW YORK
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Harbor
and Land Commission
Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods
Aerial photographs taken 1942. Field check 1944. Revised 1960
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone, and New York coordinate system, east zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt

U.S. Route State Route

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

HANCOCK, MASS.-N.Y.
N4230-W7315/7.5
1960
AMS 6369 III SE-SERIES V814

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

SITE OF HANCOCK TOWN HALL - CIRCLED



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Secretary

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Paul Guzzi

40 Beacon Street Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Secretary of the Commonwealth

727-8470

18 September 1975



Mr. Charles Herrington, Chief
Registration
National Register of Historic Places
US Department of the Interior
18th and C Streets, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Charles:

Enclosed is the National Register nomination form for the Hancock Town Hall, Route 43, Hancock, Massachusetts. The property was accepted in the National Register on February 6, 1973. On August 29, 1975 the Town Hall was moved from its original location on Main Street to a new site on Route 43. The enclosed form is our resubmission of the property in its new location. Pending approval of its reinstatement in the National Register, the Massachusetts Historical Commission will be funding the Hancock Town Hall with matching grant-in-aid assistance.

The resubmission of the Hancock Town Hall has been voted eligible by the Massachusetts Historical Commission (State Review Board) and the form has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer, Elizabeth Reed Amadon.

Sincerely yours,

Patricia L. Weslowski
Survey Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

PLW/jd
enclosure

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Massachusetts
COUNTY:	Berkshire
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	

1. NAME

COMMON:

Hancock Town Hall

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Hancock

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

STATE

CODE

COUNTY:

CODE

Massachusetts

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☐ Building ☐ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object	☐ Public ☐ Private ☐ Both	Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered	☐ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
☐ Agricultural ☐ Commercial ☐ Educational ☐ Entertainment	☐ Government ☐ Industrial ☐ Military ☐ Museum	☐ Park ☐ Private Residence ☐ Religious ☐ Scientific	☐ Transportation ☒ Other (Specify) none
☐ Comments			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

Town of Hancock

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Hancock

STATE:

Massachusetts

CODE

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE

CODE

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:

☐ Federal☐ State☐ County☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

☐ Excellent☒ Good☐ Fair☐ Deteriorated☐ Ruins☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☐ Altered☒ Unaltered

(Check One)

☒ Moved☐ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Hancock Town Hall exemplifies the simplest and most prolific adaptation of the temple form of the Greek Revival style. Its short gable end contains the main entrance which is centered on the facade. A simple and heavy entablature with boxed cornice encircles the clapboard sided building directly above the second story windows and forms a pediment in the gable end. Segmental lintels top the first story windows, three in each of the long elevations and one at each side of the entrance. Narrow cornerboards mark each corner of the building. Over the door a heavy flat entablature rests on the door frame.

Plans exist for the Hall to be moved from the center of the small community where it is located on less than an acre of open land, bordered to the rear by a tree-lined brook. The new location will be 9/10 of a mile away at the edge of Hancock and next to the town cemetery. Here the land is flat and open and bordered with trees to the rear and sides. While the local residents do not wish to move the building, the present site prevents the building from being used as a town hall or residence because of its inadequate leaching field. Commercial use of the building is unfeasible because of the small size of the town (c.900 people) and its rural location. If the building is not moved, neglect, decay and destruction will surely follow.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. 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)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| ☐ Aboriginal | ☐ Education | ☒ Political | ☐ Urban Planning |
| ☐ Prehistoric | ☐ Engineering | ☐ Religion/Phi- | ☐ Other (Specify) |
| ☐ Historic | ☐ Industry | losophy | |
| ☐ Agriculture | ☐ Invention | ☐ Science | |
| ☒ Architecture | ☐ Landscape | ☐ Sculpture | |
| ☐ Art | Architecture | ☐ Social/Human- | |
| ☐ Commerce | ☐ Literature | itarian | |
| ☐ Communications | ☐ Military | ☐ Theater | |
| ☐ Conservation | ☐ Music | ☐ Transportation | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Hancock Town Hall is significant: 1) as a typical example of the simple rural Greek Revival style and 2) as one of a very few town halls in Berkshire County which, at the time of its construction, had been built specifically for the purpose of housing town offices. It served the community in this capacity until recent building codes prevented its use and necessitated its being moved. The new site of the hall will satisfy the need for an adequate leaching field and assure the continued original use of the structure, an action much desired by the town residents.

As to its architectural merits, the simple and bold form and uncluttered lines of the Hancock Town Hall illustrate the classical revival style, adapted to suit the needs and resources of a small rural community. Although smaller in scale, the basic shape and design of the Town Hall reflect the traditional style of the New England meetinghouse. Until the functions of church and state were officially separated in Massachusetts in 1830, and sometimes thereafter, meetinghouses served as town meeting places as well as houses of worship. Thus, in its architecture the Hancock Town Hall symbolizes the tradition of local government in Massachusetts. In its form and in certain architectural features, the Town Hall also resembles the schoolhouses constructed during the same period. For a number of years, space was provided in the town hall for a private school, known as the Hancock Classical Institute, which drew students from Hancock and the surrounding towns. This was considered a college preparatory school and a separate public school was maintained in the town. The first teacher at the Hancock Classical Institute was Hirwm La Motte Lewis, a student at Williams College. Succeeding student teachers were selected with the advice of Williams' president Mark Hopkins.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds 0 0 0	Degrees Minutes Seconds 0 0 0		Degrees Minutes Seconds 0 0 0	Degrees Minutes Seconds 0 0 0	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0		0 0 0	0 0 0	
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0		0 0 0	0 0 0	
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0		0 0 0	0 0 0	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Mindy Arbo, National Register Editor	
ORGANIZATION: Massachusetts Historical Commission	DATE: 11/11/83
STREET AND NUMBER: 40 Beacon Street	
CITY OR TOWN: Boston 617-727-8470	STATE: Massachusetts 02108

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 _____

Title _____

Date _____

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

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

HB F637790
2418 N 4711180

STATE: Massachusetts	
COUNTY: Berkshire	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 6 1973

1. NAME	
COMMON: Hancock Town Hall	
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION	
Congressional District 1; Hon. Silvio Conte	
STREET AND NUMBER: Main Street	
CITY OR TOWN: Hancock	
STATE Massachusetts	CODE COUNTY: 025 Berkshire



3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☐ Site ☐ Object ☒ Building ☐ Structure	☒ Public ☐ Private ☐ Both Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered	☐ Occupied ☒ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress	Yes: ☒ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☐ No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
☐ Agricultural ☐ Commercial ☒ Educational ☐ Entertainment	☒ Government ☐ Industrial ☐ Military ☐ Museum	☐ Park ☐ Private Residence ☐ Religious ☐ Scientific	☐ Transportation ☐ Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY	
OWNER'S NAME: Town of Hancock	
STREET AND NUMBER:	
CITY OR TOWN: Hancock	STATE: CODE Massachusetts 025

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION	
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Berkshire County Registry of Deeds, North District	
STREET AND NUMBER:	
CITY OR TOWN: Adams	STATE: CODE Massachusetts 025

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS	
TITLE OF SURVEY: Inventory of Historic Assets, Commonwealth of Massachusetts	
DATE OF SURVEY: 1971 ☐ Federal ☒ State ☐ County ☐ Local	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Massachusetts Historical Commission,	
STREET AND NUMBER: 3 Joy Street	
CITY OR TOWN: Boston	STATE: CODE Massachusetts 025

STATE: Mass.	COUNTY: Berkshire	ENTRY NUMBER FEB 6 1973	DATE
-----------------	----------------------	----------------------------	------

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ Excellent☐ Good☒ Fair

(Check One)

☐ Deteriorated☐ Ruins☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☐ Altered☒ Unaltered

(Check One)

☐ Moved☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Hancock Town Hall exemplifies the simplest and most prolific adaption of the temple form of the Greek Revival style. Its short gable end faces the street to the north and contains the main entrance which is centered on the facade. A simple and heavy entablature with boxed cornice encircles the clapboard sided building directly above the second story windows and forms a pediment in the gable end. Segmental lintels top the first story windows, three on each of the long facades and one at each side of the entrance. Narrow cornerboards mark each corner of the building. Over the door a heavy flat entablature rests on the door frame.

The Hall is located in the middle of the town center of Hancock on less than an acre of open land, bordered to the south by the tree lined Kinderhook Creek. It faces north directly onto the main street and is surrounded by village houses and public buildings typical of the 19th century.

The building is basically sound. Requirements for continued use include the installation of heating, wiring and plumbing (including a septic tank), as well as repairs to window sashes and painting.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. 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) c. 1852

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Aboriginal☒ Education☐ Political☐ Urban Planning☐ Prehistoric☐ Engineering☐ Religion/Phi-☒ Other (Specify)☐ Historic☐ Industry☐ losophylocal government☐ Agriculture☐ Invention☐ Science☒ Architecture☐ Landscape☐ Sculpture☐ Art☐ Architecture☐ Social/Human-☐ Commerce☐ Literature☐ itarian☐ Communications☐ Military☐ Theater☐ Conservation☐ Music☐ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Hancock Town Hall is one of only three town halls in Berkshire County built specifically for that purpose. In the early 1850's, the town of Hancock voted to demolish a local church and use the materials from it to erect a town hall. There was some opposition to this plan and a lawsuit was initiated which allowed completion of the town hall project.

For a number of years, space was provided in the town hall for a private school, known as the Hancock Classical Institute, which drew students from Hancock and the surrounding towns. This was considered a college preparatory school and a separate public school was maintained for the town. The first teacher at the Hancock Classical Institute was Hiram La Motte Lewis, a student at Williams College. Succeeding student teachers were selected with the advice of Williams' president Mark Hopkins.

The simple and bold form and uncluttered lines of the Hancock Town Hall illustrate the classical revival style, adapted to suit the needs and resources of a small, rural community. Although smaller in scale, the basic shape and design of the Town Hall reflect the traditional style of New England meetinghouse. Until the functions of church and state were officially separated in Massachusetts in 1830, and sometimes thereafter, meetinghouses served as town meeting places as well as houses of worship. Thus, in its architecture the Hancock Town Hall symbolizes the tradition of local government in Massachusetts. In its form and in certain architectural features, the Town Hall also resembles the schoolhouses constructed during this same period.



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Transcript. "Town Considers Historic Values." North Adams, November 18, 1971.

Berkshire Evening Eagle. "Hancock Classical Institute." September 17, 1924.

Pierson, William H. Jr. American Buildings and Their Architects. Vol. I: The Colonial and Neo-Classical Styles. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday and Company, Inc., 1970.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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	0 0 0	0 0 0		42° 32' 33½"	73° 19' 20"	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Richard W. Hale, Jr. Acting Chairman

ORGANIZATION: Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE: 5/24/72

STREET AND NUMBER:
3 Joy Street

CITY OR TOWN: Boston

STATE: Massachusetts

CODE: 025

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

John F. X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth,
Chairman, Massachusetts
Historical Commission

Date 8/3/72

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

Robert K. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

2/6/73

ATTEST:

Wm. M. M. M.
Keeper of The National Register

Date

1.29.73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

PROPERTY

Hancock Town Hall

STATE

Mass

Working number

8.30.72.1372

TECH REVIEW

Photos

1

Maps

2

Berkshire

REVIEW

~~Longitude & latitude can't be checked on map~~
~~at reference points.~~

corrected map was sent 1-16-73.

OK

HISTORIAN

P. Shul.
O.K.

ARCHEOLOGIST

ARCHITECT

OK
means
1/5/73

BRANCH CHIEF

OK
1/29/73

EDITORIAL REVIEW

KEEPER

OK
1/29

National Register write-up

Acknowledge

8/31/72

Federal Register entry

3/6

Send-back

Re-submit

Register no.

FEB 6 1973



NPS Number 2/6/73

Title: HANCOCK T.

Loc.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE

Massachusetts

COUNTY

Berkshire

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FEB 6 1973

1. NAME

COMMON: Hancock Town Hall

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Hancock

STATE:

Massachusetts

CODE

025

COUNTY:

Berkshire

CODE

003

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Randy Trabold, Transcript staff

DATE OF PHOTO: 1/72

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

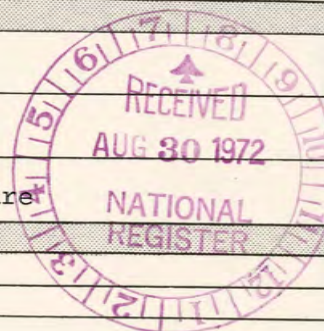
Transcript office, North Adams, Massachusetts

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

View facing west, side and front facades of Town Hall

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



HANCOCK TOWN HALL
PHOTO
JANUARY
TRABOLD
FACADE



#1.

AUG 28 1974

HANCOCK TOWN
HALL

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

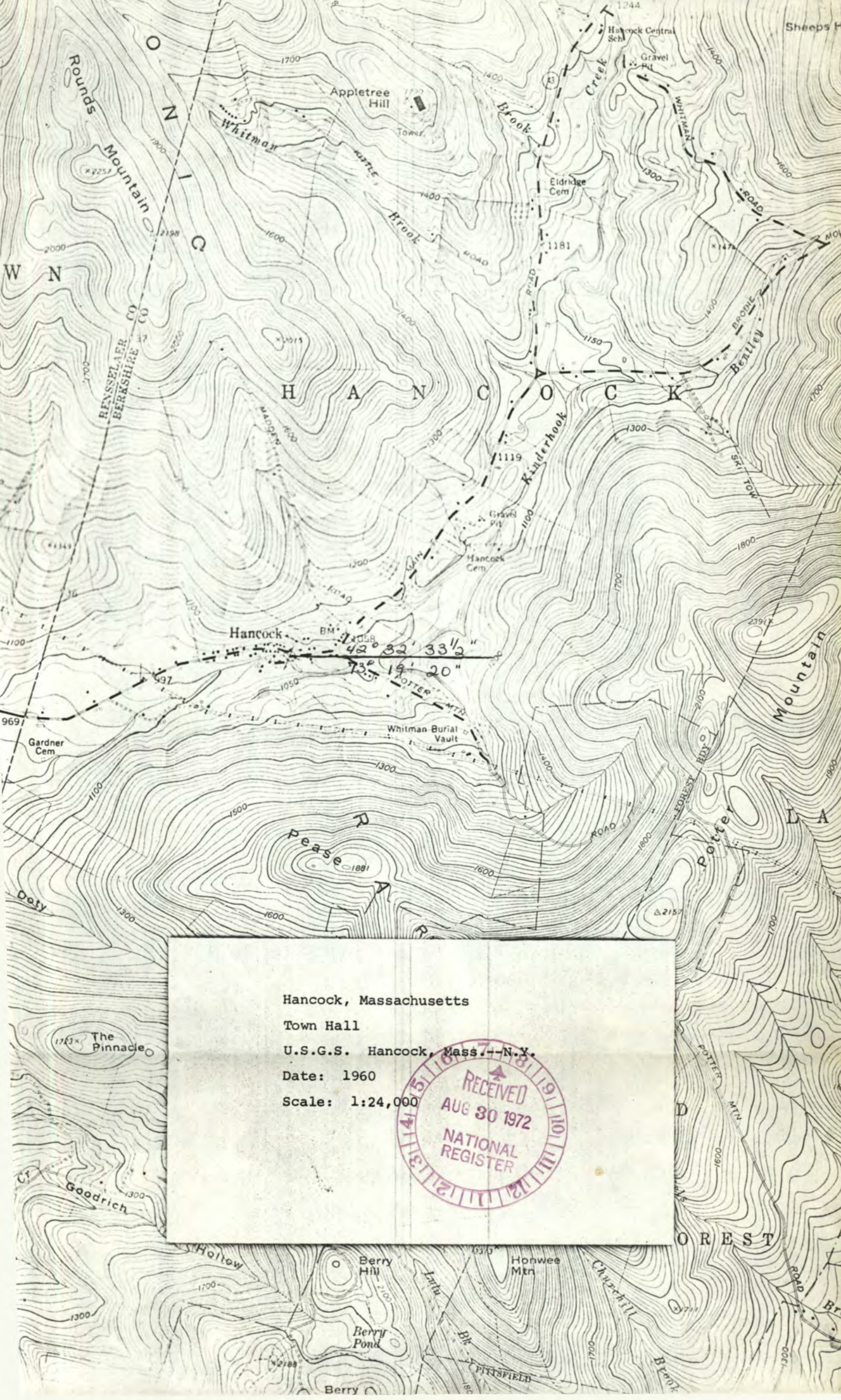
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
Massachusetts	
COUNTY	
Berkshire	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
FEB 6	1972

1. NAME			
COMMON: Hancock Town Hall			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
Main Street			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Hancock			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Massachusetts	025	Berkshire	003
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE:			
U.S.G.S. Hancock, Mass.--N.Y.			
SCALE: 1:24,000			
DATE: 1960			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS





Hancock, Massachusetts

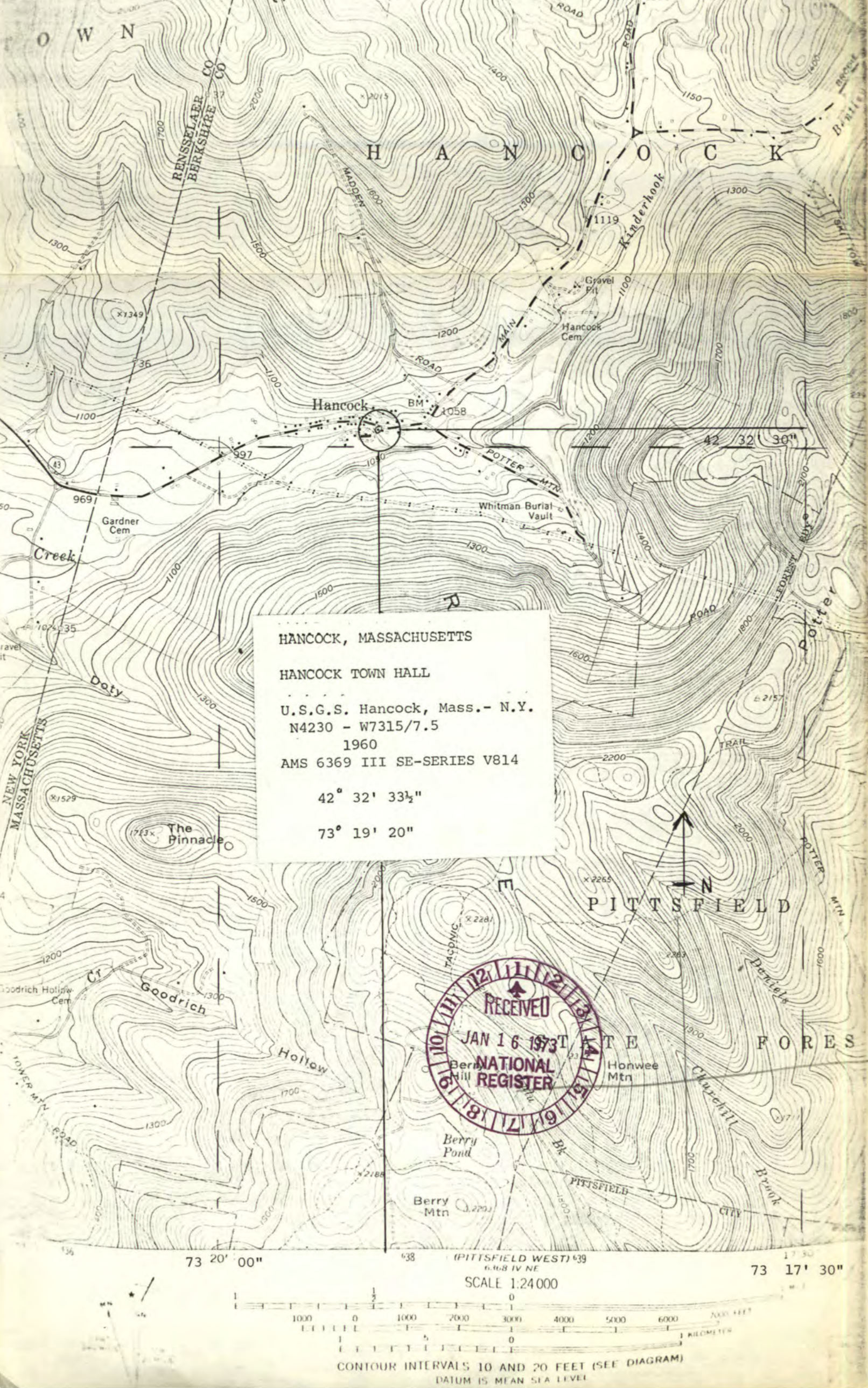
Town Hall

U.S.G.S. Hancock, Mass. -- N.Y.

Date: 1960

Scale: 1:24,000





HANCOCK, MASSACHUSETTS

HANCOCK TOWN HALL

U.S.G.S. Hancock, Mass.- N.Y.

N4230 - W7315/7.5

1960

AMS 6369 III SE-SERIES V814

42° 32' 33½"

73° 19' 20"

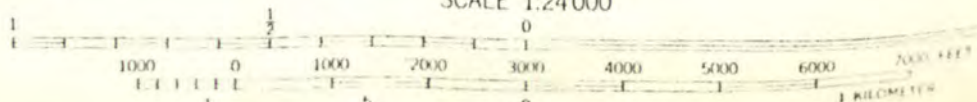


73 20' 00"

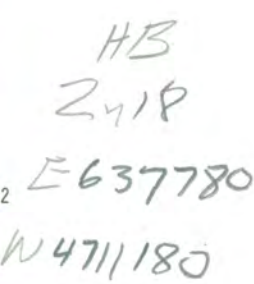
(PITTSFIELD WEST) 639

73 17' 30"

SCALE 1:24000



CONTOUR INTERVALS 10 AND 20 FEET (SEE DIAGRAM)
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

1960
AMS 6369 III SE-SERIES V814

Hancock MA-NY
7 1/2'

Hancock Town Hall



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of the Secretary
Massachusetts Historical Commission

John F. X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth

3 Joy Street

Boston, Mass. 02108

August 25, 1972

National Register of Historic Places
Registration and Nominations Branch
Room 3207-A
1100 L Street, N. W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Attention: Miss Mary Means

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed are National Register nominations for:

1. Worcester County, Worcester, Mechanics Hall
2. Berkshire County, Hancock, Town Hall

These have been declared eligible for submission by the Massachusetts Historical Commission, the State Review Board, and have been signed by Secretary of the Commonwealth, John F. X. Davoren, Chairman, Massachusetts Historical Commission, and State Liaison Officer.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Richard W. Hale, Jr.", written in dark ink.

Richard W. Hale, Jr.
Acting Chairman,
Massachusetts Historical Commission

RWH:pm
Enclosures



January 10, 1973
Star Rt., Hancock Rd.
Williamstown, Mass. 01267

Mr. Jerry Rodgers
Director, National Register
National Park Service, Department of Interior
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Rodgers:

I received a letter from Congressman, Silvio O. Conte, stating the status of the Hancock Town Hall historic designation application.

2/6/73

He said that in a preliminary review undertaken during a conversation with you that our application might be deficient in regards to a map.

I'm sending you a copy of this U.S.G.S. map with the Town Hall pinpointed and this hand drawn one. The village of Hancock does not have an official map since it is primarily located on one main road.

If any other information is necessary I will be glad to be of assistance. ,

Sincerely yours,

Pauline B. Guntlow

Pauline B. Guntlow

Chairman of Town Hall Committee

(21)15

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered FEB 6 1973

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Blackstone Canal	Northbridge, Uxbridge Worcester County
Hancock Town Hall	Hancock Berkshire County
Old Harvard Yard	Cambridge Middlesex County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Hon. Robert Drinan
Hon. Silvio O. Conte
Hon. Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.

Director, Northeast Region

State Liaison Officer
Hon. John F. X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth
Chairman, Massachusetts Historical
Commission
40 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02133

PHR NHowland:mm 2/8/73



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Secretary

Massachusetts Historical Commission

John F. X. Davoren

40 Beacon Street Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Secretary of the Commonwealth

727-8470

November 14, 1974

Ms. Kate Cole
National Register
National Park Service
18th and C Streets
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Ms. Cole:

The Massachusetts Historical Commission is preparing to extend grant-in-aid assistance for the moving and restoration of the Hancock Town Hall. Before the Commission commits itself to this project we wish to make sure it will get back onto the National Register so we can receive the 50% matching grant from the National Park Service's Grants Division. On November 12, 1974, the Massachusetts Review Board met and formally voted to approve the resubmission of the Hancock Town Hall to the Register after it is moved. Could you please have the enclosed material reviewed by the appropriate body in Washington and indicate to us whether or not a resubmission for the building after the move will place it back onto the Register?

The enclosed National Register form gives all the information required to assess the situation. Along with that are taped photographs. Photograph #1 shows the structure as it sits on its present site; photograph #2 shows the cemetery to the right of which the Town Hall will be located; and photograph #3 shows the new site next to the cemetery. The exact location is next to the tractor. I apologize for the quality of the pictures but the Commission will not authorize the purchase of a decent camera for me to use during field inspections.

We should appreciate a response as soon as possible since the Town is getting impatient and we still have all the lengthy grants bureaucracy to struggle through.

I believe Charles Herrington spoke to you about this matter before he left for Mexico. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call me at (617) 727-8470. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen H. Snell".

Stephen H. Snell
Grants Manager
Massachusetts Historical Commission, Grants Division

SHS:cb

H34-PR

NOV 25 1974

Berkshire County,
Mass.Hwy
11/21/74
Cole
11/25/74
Rogers 11/24/74

Mr. Stephen H. Snell
Grants Manager
Massachusetts Historical
Commission
40 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Dear Mr. Snell:

Thank you for your recent letter to Katherine Cole concerning the moving and restoration of the Hancock Town Hall in Hancock, Massachusetts. The written and photographic documentation indicates that the building would probably meet National Register criteria after its move, but we must reserve final decision on the building's eligibility until the actual move has been made and a new nomination has been received.

We understand your concern in keeping the Hancock Town Hall listed in the National Register throughout the moving process so that it may remain eligible for matching grants-in-aid from the National Park Service. If the project is already listed on the apportionment warrant for 1975, it is essential that you write the Division of Grants requesting retroactive funding for the project. The Grants Division will not allocate money until after the move has been completed and until after the property has been relisted in the National Register. Once this has occurred, a letter initiating a request for payment should be sent to the Grants Division.

If you have any ^{further} questions concerning moving National Register structures and retroactive funding, we suggest you contact either the Grants Division, Preservation Projects, or the Review Unit of the National Register.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) George F. Emery

for

William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register

cc: Hon. John F. X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth
Chairman, Massachusetts Historical
Commission
40 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108
) w/c inc.

FNP:W Jandl:bsh 11/21/74
bcc: Regional Director, North-Atlantic
Region)
Director's Reading File
DI
PG) PR)

Orig + 1 retyped: Cam: 11/28/74

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE **MASSACHUSETTS**

Date Entered **SEP 26 1975**

Name

Location

Hancock Town Hall

**Hancock vicinity
Berkshire County**

Also Notified

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mrs. Elizabeth R. Amadon
Massachusetts Historical Commission
40 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

PR

MMott 9/29/75

NOTIFICATION OF GRANT-IN-AID ACTION

1. STATE APPLICATION IDENTIFIER

73070340

2. (Reserved for use by State central information reception agency)

3. GRANTOR: a. Federal agency

Department of the Interior

b. Organizational unit

National Park Service

c. Administering office—(1) Name

Division of Grants

(2) Address—Street or P.O. Box

18th and C Streets NW.

City

Washington

State

D. C.

Zip Code

20240

4. FEDERAL AGENCY GRANT IDENTIFIER:

a. Code

25-74-00085-00

b. Title

Hancock Town Hall Development, Phase I

c. Purpose The Hancock Town Hall, erected ca. 1852, exemplifies the simplest and most prolific adaptation of the Greek Revival temple form to the needs of a small rural community. The structure will be moved to a town-owned site 9/10 of a mile away to insure its preservation.

5. GRANTEE: a. Name

Massachusetts Mrs. Elizabeth R. Amadon, Exec. Dir., Mass. Historical Commission

b. Address—Street or P.O. Box

40 Beacon Street

City

Boston

State

MA

Zip Code

02108

6. GRANTEE TYPE (Check only the single most applicable box)

a. State

☒

b. Inter-state

☐

c. County

☐

d. City

☐

e. School district

☐

f. Special unit

☐

g. Community action

☐

h. Sponsored organization

☐

i. Other

☐

7. APPLICATION RECEIPT DATE

Year Month Day

75 06 05

8. ACTION DATE

Year Month Day

75 06 24

9. EFFECTIVE STARTING DATE

Year Month Day

75 06 24

10. ENDING DATE

Year Month Day

78 06 23

11. TYPE OF ACTION (Check as many boxes as apply to this action)

a. New grant

☒

b. Continuation grant

☐

c. Supplemental grant

☐

d. Change in existing grant

☐

(identify agency in item 16)

(1) Increase in duration

☐

(2) Decrease in duration

☐

(3) Cancellation

☐

(4) Increase(\$)

☐

(5) Decrease(\$)

☐

12. AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTION

a. Federal—(1) basic

(2) Supplemental

\$7,000

\$

b. State

\$7,000*

c. Local

\$

d. Other

\$

13. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (if none, clarify in item 16)

a. Program Number

15.904

b. Supplemental Program Number

14. AUTHORIZATION

a. Federal Budget Accounts

10-58-1040-0-1-405

b. Public Laws

PL

Title

Sec.

89

665

PL

Title

Sec.

PL

Title

Sec.

c. U.S. Code

16 U.S.C. 470

15. FACILITY LOCATION: (For facility grant actions only)

a. City Main Street, Hancock

b. County

Berkshire

16. REMARKS

*Town of Hancock

NR Data Sheet

DATE: 3/17/77
 Reviewer INITIALS: *geoff*
 NR DOE Sept. 26, 1975
 (9-26-75)

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Hancock Town Hall

OTHER NAMES:

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER MA Rte. 43

CITY, TOWN Hancock

STATE Massachusetts

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 1st

COUNTY Berkshire code 003

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER *GO*

ADMINISTRATOR (underline)

FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST

SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

INTERIOR EXTERIOR ENVIRONS
 - Substantially intact-1 - Substantially intact-2 - Substantially intact-3
 - unknown - 4 - unknown - 5 - unknown - 6
 - not applicable - 7 - not applicable - 8 - Not applicable-9

- Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION - EXCELLENT GOOD FAIR DETERIORATED RUINS UNEXPOSED Unexcavated UNALTERED ALTERED Reconstructed Excavated ORIGINAL SITE MOVED Unknown

ACCESS - Yes-restricted Yes-unrestricted No access Unknown

historic district? YES NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO
 IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO
 IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO Saved? YES NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- *government*
 now- *government*

SIGNIFICANCE:

4 - ARCHAEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGY-HISTORIC AGRICULTURE ARCHITECTURE ART COMMERCE COMMUNICATIONS CONSERVATION ECONOMICS EDUCATION ENGINEERING EXPLORATION INDUSTRY INVENTION LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE LAW/Gov't/politics LITERATURE MILITARY MUSIC PHILOSOPHY POLITICS/GOVERNMENT RELIGION SCIENCE SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN TRANSPORTATION OTHER (SPECIFY) entertainment health recreation settlement socio/cultural urban & commun planning

Claims

"first" YES NO "oldest" YES NO "only" YES NO

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: GREEK REVIVAL

architect/m.builder:

engineer:

landscape/garden designer:

artist/artisan:

interior decorator:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

personal

(label role

&

appropriate date)

events

institutional

✓ DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century):

✓ 1852

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

1975 MOVED

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

~~1830, 1858~~

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre)

2

✓ COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

FRAME, CLAPBOARDING, 2 STORIES,
RECTANGULAR, GABLED ROOF, INTERIOR CHIMNEY, ^{gable end} FRONT CENTER
PANELED ENTRANCE WITH ARCHITRAVE, FULL END PEDIMENT,
SIMPLE FRIEZE AND BOXED CORNICE; MOVED. GREEK REVIVAL.
ONE OF ONLY 3 BUILDINGS IN ^{the} BERKSHIRE COUNTY BUILT TO FUNCTION
AS TOWN HALLS.

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)