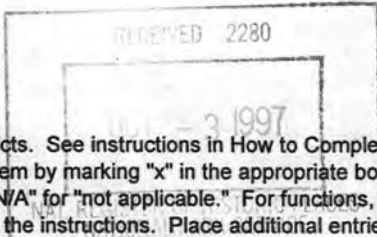


National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



1294

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 Bolton Center Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Main and Mechanic Streets, Wataquadoc Road N/A not for publication

city or town Bolton N/A vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Worcester code 027 zip code 01740

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Judith B. McDonough

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

9/23/97
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

Patrick Andrews

Date of Action

11/17/97

Bolton Center Historic District

Name of Property

Worcester, MA

County and State

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	
75	17	building
2		sites
10		structures
3	3	objects
90	20	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

- GOVERNMENT/town hall
- GOVERNMENT/fire station
- GOVERNMENT/post office
- COMMERCE/store
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/agricultural fields
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/agricultural outbuildings
- EDUCATION/school
- EDUCATION/library
- (see continuation sheet)

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

- GOVERNMENT/town hall
- GOVERNMENT/police station
- COMMERCE/store
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/agricultural fields
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/agricultural outbuildings
- EDUCATION/library
- RELIGION/religious facility
- RECREATION & CULTURE/monument (marker)
- (See continuation sheet)

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

- COLONIAL; Georgian
- FEDERAL
- MID-19TH CENTURY: Greek Revival
- LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate, Queen Anne
- LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial, Tudor Revival
- LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN: Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation STONE: granite, BRICK, CONCRETE
- walls WOOD: weatherboard, shingle
- STONE, BRICK, SYNTHETICS: vinyl,
- CONCRETE
- roof ASPHALT: STONE: slate, METAL
- other

Narrative Description

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

(See continuation sheet)

Worcester, MA

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts**

6 1

Section number _____ Page _____

6. FUNCTION OR USE (continued)

Historic Functions

RELIGION:Religious facility
RECREATION & CULTURE/monument (marker)
SOCIAL/meeting hall
DOMESTIC/single family
DOMESTIC/multi-family
TRANSPORTATION/road related

Current Functions

DOMESTIC/single family
DOMESTIC/multi-family
TRANSPORTATION/road related

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts**

7

1

Section number _____ Page _____

7. DESCRIPTION

The 73-acre Bolton Center Historic District, encompasses the historic, institutional, commercial, and residential core of the community. Situated in the approximate center of the residential/rural town of Bolton, Massachusetts, along the major colonial and early-nineteenth-century transportation route, the Lancaster Road,(today's Route 117/Main Street), the area retains the character of a traditional linear New England town center. Most of its buildings, which span all the town's historic periods, are aligned along the winding main road, silhouetted against a backdrop of hilly woods and fields to the north, and low-lying plain and wetlands to the south. Contributing resources here include the 1850s town hall, three nineteenth-century schoolhouses, the early-twentieth-century public library, and the town's first modern elementary school, built in the 1920's. Remaining from the pre-railroad stagecoach era are several buildings associated with a prominent regional inn, and one of its wings. In the western part of the district are two rare surviving commercial buildings--an early-nineteenth-century hip-roofed brick store, and a tall, narrow clapboarded Greek Revival building that was a tailor's shop, doctor's office, and post office. Most of the residences in the district are well-preserved examples of the late Colonial, Federal, and Greek Revival eras. Interspersed among them are a few later vernacular Italianate and Queen Anne houses, and several Craftsman cottages. The outer ends of the district still form a transition from the clustered town center to its rural surroundings. Leaving I-495 (built 1964) behind, one enters the east end of the district through the two-hundred-year-old Samuel Blood Farm, passing between its hip-roofed Federal mansion and turn-of-the-century barns on the hill to the north, and on the south, three employee houses built by one of the farm's early-twentieth-century owners. At the opposite end of the district are the farmstead and fields of another farm from the same era, which belonged to a succession of three ministers. Throughout the district, barns and outbuildings, many dating to the nineteenth century, provide reminders of the area's agrarian and small-manufacturing past. At the center of the district, the foundations, dam, and millpond of a mid-nineteenth-century sawmill remain, preserved as part of a small park. Scattered throughout the district and enhancing the character of the village as a whole are a considerable number of other structures and objects, including several historic roads and drives, a network of fieldstone walls, a fieldstone bridge, a stone marker that displayed the mileage to Boston in the days of the stagecoach, and a brick powderhouse . In all, the Bolton Center Historic District retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association as the town center for over two centuries.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetBolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

7

2

Section number _____ Page _____

Architectoral overview

As is typical in a small rural town center, most of the buildings in the Bolton Center district are wood-frame, domestic in scale, 1 1/2- to 2 1/2-stories in height, with one or two wings or ells. The predominant feeling is residential, with even the stores and manufacturing shops nearly indistinguishable from the houses and barns. The main exceptions are the 1923 Emerson School, a large, cupolaed brick building which was greatly expanded in 1952 and 1971 and the 1928 wood-frame First Parish Church, which dominates the slope on the north side of Main Street with its tall spire and extensive array of later wings and outbuildings. The 1853 brick Bolton Town House, replete with an early-twentieth-century two-story Doric portico, is an emphatic symbol of Bolton's identity as a community, as is the fieldstone and tile Tudor Revival Bolton Public Library of 1903.

Intrusions in the district are few. Only a few houses have been covered with synthetic siding, as have the Blood Farm barns and the front of the Bolton Garage. Most of the seventeen modern, non-contributing buildings within the district boundaries have been designed to be compatible in scale, form, and materials to the older resources. These include several one- and two-car garages, a clapboarded store/restaurant complex, and two other one-story clapboarded buildings, a house and a small office building.

Reflecting Bolton's prosperity as an early farming community and the importance of the town center as a transportation focus along a major east-west route in the pre-railroad era, most of the contributing buildings in the district date to the late-eighteenth and the first half of the nineteenth century. The result is a village center that is predominantly Federal and Greek Revival in character. Two buildings dating to the mid-eighteenth century, the Goss/Holman House of 1741 and the Joseph Sawyer House, built prior to 1760, were updated and enlarged during the Federal period, and another eighteenth-century house that apparently originally stood on the north side of the road on the site of the second meetinghouse, the Houghton House (674 Main Street), was changed to Greek Revival in about 1840. Several Federal house-types are represented, including both the lingering center-chimney and double-ridge-chimney forms, as well as a few examples with paired rear chimneys, and several of the hip-roofed, single end-wall-chimney type. The many Greek Revival houses include the 2 1/2-story, gable-end side-hall-entry house; its smaller relative, the 2-story gable-end cottage; three side-gabled 1 1/2-story cottages in which the main roof extends forward onto posts or columns, and two double-houses with projecting side-wall entries. Of the many barns that add an agricultural flavor to the district, some are free-standing in close proximity to the houses; several have become attached via an ell or wing to the main building to form true "extended farmhouses". Nearly all postdate 1830, and most, whether small or large, conform to the "New England" barn type with the main wagon door in the gable-end of the building.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

7

3

Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

Section number _____ Page _____

Property descriptions

The contributing properties of the district are described by type in roughly chronological order, from the mid-eighteenth-century houses built subsequent to the town's 1738 incorporation, to the houses, church, school, and early twentieth century garages.

Residential buildings

The **2 1/2-story, five-bay center-chimney house** was the dominant house form in the eastern part of Worcester County during the second half of the eighteenth century, continuing in diminished numbers through the early 1800's. The Bolton Center District has two well-preserved houses of the type, as well as at least two more where the chimney configuration was changed. The most intact center-chimney house, the 1798 Gen. Stephen Gardner House at 642 Main Street (Map #10), displays an elegantly-proportioned late Georgian entry with the tapered pilasters and triangular-pedimented entablature that is typical of designs in eighteenth-century builder's guides. 704 Main Street, the Dr. Amos Parker House, (Map #35), is a larger, two-room-deep house with 6-over-9-sash windows. Built about 1800, it retains its center chimney, and has the district's only example of an enclosed pedimented, projecting entry "porch". The Joseph Sawyer House at 698 Main Street (Map #32), which was standing by 1760, is another house of the same proportions that formerly had a center chimney. The chimney was removed in about 1870 to accommodate a new center hall, and the present paired ridge chimneys were installed. The doorway of the Sawyer House is another typical design of the late eighteenth century--with a four-pane transom and tapered, unfluted pilasters supporting a horizontal entablature. The interior of this house displays wall paintings attributed to muralist Rufus Porter. A double-house, the Jacob and Levi Houghton House at 8 Wataquadoc Road (Map #41), which has a pair of shallow rear side wings, also has a center chimney, though reduced in size. 674 Main Street (Map #23), which was apparently moved from the north side of the street in 1792 and radically changed to a side-hall-entry Greek Revival house ca.1840, also displays the remains of its center chimney on the interior.

One late Georgian house, the ca. 1785 house of Bolton's third minister, the Rev. Phineas Wright at 763 Main Street (Map #60), was built as a large gable-roofed "double-pile" **2 1/2-story, gable-roofed, double-ridge-chimney** house. In excellent condition, it has 12-over-12-sash windows and an entry with a high Georgian surround with a transom and fluted pilasters with bolection capitals. Another double-ridge-chimney house, the Holman Annex at 642 Main Street (Map #57), is a later example of this general house-type, probably built in the 1830's. Although it is 2 1/2 stories, it may have started out as a 1 1/2-story **Cape Cod cottage**. Its paneled corner pilasters and the tripartite surround of its four-paneled gable-end door are characteristic of early Greek Revivalhouses.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetBolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

7

4

Section number _____ Page _____

By the end of the eighteenth century, buildings with **interior end chimneys** were appearing in Bolton. The district has several examples-- all of them two stories, five bays wide-- with hipped roofs and a single pair of massive chimneys. The Samuel Blood House of ca. 1793 at 579 Main Street (Map #4) is the largest. It is a high-style Federal building, with corner pilasters and a pilastered entry with an elliptical fanlight and double-leaf, four-paneled door that is obscured somewhat by an early-twentieth-century Tuscan-columned portico. While the Blood House has 6-over-6-sash windows, many of the others of this type were built with 12-over-12-sash. The most lavish is the Goss/Holman House at 752 Main Street (Map #59), the home of Bolton's first minister. Its original section was built in 1741 as a typical 2 1/2-story five-bay house, which faced south toward the first meetinghouse. It was updated, probably about 1803, to a high-style, hip-roofed Federal house with 12-over-12-sash windows, with a new facade oriented north toward the Great Road (Main Street). It, too, has corner pilasters, along with a dentilated entablature. Its main, center entry has a six-paneled door, and a pilastered surround with a pediment, also embellished with dentils. As at the Blood House, an early twentieth-century porch adds to its elegance. This one is a side porch, supported on four massive, unfluted Doric columns. 702 Main Street (Map #33), a hybrid building that brought the pre-1810 store and house of Joseph Sawyer, Jr. under one wide hipped roof sometime after 1870, nonetheless conforms to this general building type. Here the windows are 6-over-9-sash, and the 6-paneled entry door is surrounded by bead-molded boards instead of classical pilasters. The fourth building of the type is one of the district's few brick buildings, the store originally built ca. 1820 by Woodbury & Holman at 718 Main Street (Map #43), called for generations the "Old Brick Store". (See Commercial Buildings)

The form of the latest hip-roofed building in the district, the William Chaplin House at 707 Main Street (Map #36), built between 1817 and 1822, is different from the other four. One room deep, with a long rear wing, it was apparently built with a pair of rear-wall chimneys, of which one remains. Although altered by synthetic siding, and by door and window replacement, it retains its general Federal-period appearance. There are two other **paired-rear-chimney houses** of the Federal period in the district, both with side-gabled roofs-- 694 and 714 Main Street. The former, the house of Joseph and Nathan Sawyer (Map #30), probably built during the 1820s, has 6-over-6-sash windows in the typical projecting surrounds of the Federal period. Its entry, which displays four-pane sidelights, has paneled-board pilasters. The entry of 714 Main Street, the Phineas Fairbanks House of ca. 1826 (Map #40), also has 4-pane sidelights; the aprons under these have recessed, beaded panels. Inside the Fairbanks House are stencils attributed to either Moses Eaton or his son, Moses Eaton, Jr.

One Federal-period building, 676 Main Street (Map #24), has an unusual form and configuration, due to its origin as a wing of the Holman Inn, probably added to the inn between 1800 and 1810.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

7

5

Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

Section number _____ Page _____

It was moved to its present site when the inn was demolished in 1874; hence it now presents its wide gable-end, with the district's only high-style Federal elliptical-fanlighted entry, to the street. (A two-bay section on the east is an addition of 1915.)

By the 1830s numerous central Massachusetts houses were beginning to appear with roofs oriented with the ridge perpendicular to the front wall, in the fully-developed **gable-end, side-hall entry form** that was to dominate residential building construction in the region through the end of the nineteenth century. There are three 2 1/2-story houses of this type in the district, all of them with Greek Revival details and 6-over-6-sash windows. The most intact, in spite of the addition of a 1980s side wing, is the converted Houghton House at 674 Main Street (Map #23). Concealing its earlier structure, and reoriented gable-end to the street, this became a typical 2 1/2-story, three-bay building with a pedimented front gable and a wide side-hall entry with an unusual 8-panel door and 4-pane sidelights over paneled aprons. Two similar houses stand at 713 and 715 Main Street. 713, the Towne/Bigelow/Everett House (Map #39) of 1839, also has an 8-panel door, but in a surround with 5-paned, full-length sidelights, tapered pilasters, and a high frieze. Although #715 (Map #44), is said to have been built by Caleb Wheeler as early as 1815, its similarity to #713 indicates that it is a replacement, or at least a radical renovation of the 1830's. Here, the entry also has a wide surround with tapered pilasters, but, like the Houghton House, continues the 4-paned sidelights above beaded-paneled aprons seen on the nearby houses of the Federal period.

The largest number of houses in the district with a gable-end, side-hall-entry form and plan appear in the smaller, 1-1/2- or two-story **gable-end cottage** configuration. All seven of these houses have attached ells; six have attached barns. Two houses, at 621 and 631 Main Street (Map #s 8 and 9), were built ca. 1851 with recessed entries with full-length, 5-pane sidelights, as was the pedimented house at 749 Main Street (Map #58), built in 1849. The ca. 1855 S.K. Sawyer House at 708 Main Street (Map #37), also has full-length sidelights, but the 1842 house of Horatio Newton at 683 Main Street (Map #26), still has a 6-panel door flanked by 4-pane sidelights with paneled aprons below. After 1855 houses were being built with 2-over-2-sash windows, and these appear at the two later gable-end cottages in the district--662 Main Street of 1869 (Map #18), and 725 (Map #49), built between 1870 and 1872. Both houses have details more characteristic of the vernacular Italianate style--662, the Warren Houghton House, has a door with two long glass lights over two panels, and 725, built for resale by William Robinson, has a polygonal bay window on the facade. Both display simple sawcut brackets at their overhanging entry canopies.

The Bolton Center District is fortunate to have five examples of the side-gabled, 1 1/2-story cottage, four of which appear as late versions of the two-room-deep Cape Cod cottage house-type. Three five-bay examples were built in 1830 and 1831. The 1831 Simeon Cunningham House at 777 Main

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetBolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

7

6

Section number _____ Page _____

Street (Map #61) has a 6-panel door, 6-over-6-sash windows, and paired ridge chimneys. (Its shed-roofed facade dormer is a later addition.) An architectural highlight of the district is the pair of large, nearly identical houses that Gen. Stephen Gardner had built for his son and daughter in 1830-31, at 649 and 655 Main Street (Map #s 11 and 13). Both are deep, five-bay houses with a facade-width porch sheltered by the front overhang of the roof, which has three small pedimented facade dormers. Both retain their 6-over-6-sash windows and a gothic-inspired pointed-arched window under each side-gable peak, covered with louvered shutters. The facade of 649 Main Street, the Theodore Gardner House, has fluted Doric columns and 4-pane sidelights at the center entry; #655's columns are unfluted, and its entry also has short sidelights, but here they are divided into multiple, uneven panes. The facade of a little cottage at 607 Main Street (Map #6), another apparently built by Gen. Gardner in about 1830, is also recessed under the front plane of the roof, although its supporting columns have been replaced, and it now has a shed-roofed dormer over the facade. This house is four bays wide, with 6-over-6-sash windows. Just to its east at 601 Main Street (Map #5), is an earlier side-gabled, 1 1/2-story cottage, probably built in the late 1790s, which is now altered by changes in siding and windows, and by numerous additions.

Four houses known to have been built as **multi-family residences** stand in the district. The earliest was the Jacob and Levi Houghton House of 1811, mentioned above. The others, all built in the 1830s and 1840s, are clustered in the west part of the district opposite the former Holman Inn site. Two, #720 Main Street (Map #46), built by Woodbury & Holman, owners of the Brick Store, and #726/728 (Map #50), apparently put up for rental by Amory Holman, are 2 1/2-story double-houses oriented with their four-bay gable-ends to the street, and a vestibuled entry on each side, sheltered by an open porch. The former retains several Greek Revival details, including Ionic pilasters at the house corners and Doric porch columns. 730 Great Road (Map #52), located behind 726/728, is now altered by porch enclosures, but may originally have been similar in form and plan to the other two.

The small number of late-nineteenth-century houses in Bolton Center reflects the decline in settlement that took place here with the demise of stage-coach travel and the eclipse of local manufacturing concerns in the late-industrial period. Only two houses were built here in the 1880s and 1890s. One, the Ellen Winde House of 1880 at 733 Main Street (Map #53), which was built on the site of the Holman Inn (demolished in 1874), is a tall, upright gable-end house with a few vernacular Italianate features, including a two-story polygonal bay window on the facade, and a scroll-bracketed canopy at the main entry. The 1890s Proctor/Powers House at 651 Main Street (Map #12), is another building of the same general form, with a 2-story polygonal facade bay and an elaborately-bracketed door hood. It shows the Queen Anne influence, however, in its projecting side-bay with patterned-shingle gable, and open-bracketed side porch.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

7 7

Section number _____ Page _____

Very late Queen Anne forms are evident at the 1912 Thomas Wetherbee House at #670 Main Street (Map #20), where the second-story facade bay projects forward from a 2 1/2-story side-gabled house over a first-story polygonal bay. This house also has the rubble foundation, diamond gable window, multi-paned colored glass stair window, large-paned "picture" window in the bay, and a large-light glass-and panel door that were popular at the time. A simpler early-twentieth-century two-story house is the two-bay, gable-end Sutton House of ca. 1918 at 723 Main Street (Map #48), also on a rubble foundation. With the exception of a gambrel-roofed Cape Cod cottage at 615 Main Street (1942, Map #64), all the other pre-1950 houses in the district are small cottages and bungalows with Craftsman or subdued Colonial Revival accents. #550 Main Street (Map #1) is a 1 1/2-story side-gabled cottage of ca. 1919 with a center through-cornice wall dormer and pedimented entry portico; the gambrel-roofed 562 Main Street (Map #3) built about the same time, is an early example of a Dutch Colonial Revival cottage. The small side-gabled version of the popular **Craftsman bungalow** with a wide dormer located over the facade porch is represented by the Pardee House at 608 Main Street (Map #7), the John Smith House of 1932 at 703 Main Street (Map #34), and one of the ca. 1919 Atwood farm employees' houses at 556 Main Street (Map #2). The best-preserved of these houses is the Pardee House, which still has its original 2-over-1-sash windows, a square stair window, single-light glass-and-panel door, and decorative exposed rafter ends.

Commercial buildings

As mentioned above, early district buildings built for commercial purposes usually took the same forms as the houses. Thus, a building such as Woodbury & Holman's "Old Brick Store" of ca. 1820 at 718 Main Street (Map #43), is today distinguished from a residence largely by its details. This store, for instance, has an open facade "piazza" on Tuscan columns with a granite floor. Its rarest surviving features are the paneled shutters that remain on two of the facade windows. Complete with early iron latches and hinges, they still bear the words "West India Goods". The former Holman Inn Harness Shop at 727 Main Street (Map #51), a tall, narrow gable-end building, was converted to a residence in the latter part of the nineteenth century. At that time it acquired a polygonal bay window on the east side, and, probably several years later, a wraparound porch on Tuscan columns. Ebenezer Towne's Tailor Shop at 711 Main Street (Map #38), built in 1839, is even narrower than the harness shop. Characteristic of construction during the Greek Revival period, this building has a pedimented gable-end and 6-over-6-sash windows, some at the second floor, which contained living space. The first floor of the building was later the office of two doctors, and housed the Bolton Post Office beginning in 1893, after which it acquired its large, well-preserved two-pane display windows. The same type of windows grace the one-story "false-front" section that was added to the building's east side for the post office and a soda fountain in 1896.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetBolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

7

8

Section number _____ Page _____

The 2 1/2-story building at 664 Main Street (Map #19), part of which may pre-date 1829, was remodeled three times--first as the factory building of the Bolton Shoe Company in about 1837, and again just after the Civil War by William Robinson who converted it to a meeting hall, Robinson Hall, with an auditorium on the second floor and a dining hall and kitchen on the first. The distinctive square corner tower, shingle-arched entrance, and grouped 2/2 and 4/4 windows may date to the period of Robinson's ownership, or be part of extensive renovations by Thomas Wetherbee, who remodeled the building into a house in about 1913.

The form of John Smith's little grocery store at 703 Main Street (Map #34), was completely changed to a Craftsman cottage in about 1932. By contrast, Harry Sutton's Bolton Garage at 719 Main Street (Map #45), a small early automobile garage that was greatly enlarged by John Smith in about 1927, still retains the form of a long, deep early-modern commercial garage of rock-faced concrete block with shallow-pitched roof and exposed rafter ends, and large 12-pane windows along the sides.

Institutional buildings

Characteristic of a true small-town center, the Bolton Center district includes buildings and structures put up by the town at several periods in its history, and their presence reflects the changing needs, attitudes, and circumstances of the community. The earliest extant is a little square brick powderhouse (Map #15), with pyramidal wood-shingle roof, built high on the hill on the north side of Main Street in 1812. The Bolton Town House (Map #16), also brick, with a slate roof, was built in 1853. When pictured without its grand two-story Doric-like portico of 1910-1915, this is a plain, two-story building with few stylish accents. It stands gable-end to the street, with a one-bay facade that has a center entry with double-leaf four-panel door at the first story, a tripartite 6-over-6-sash window at the second, and a small Palladian window under the main gable. The original portion of the Town House has four bays of 12-over-12-sash over 8-over-8's along the sides; the building was extended to the rear by two bays in 1914.

Four public school buildings are located within the district. The earliest, Center School House #1, was originally built at the corner of Manor and Wataquadoc Roads in 1825 as a small one-story wood-frame schoolhouse. It was sold, moved to 689 Main Street (Map #27), in about 1865 and used for a general store. In the 1880's it was moved back a few feet on a new rubble and brick foundation, and about 1925 it was converted to a house. That early Center School House was replaced as a school by a recycled building, the Baptist Meetinghouse, built in about 1841 at 9 Wataquadoc Road (Map #42). A larger 1 1/2-story, pedimented gable-end building, the exterior of this second Schoolhouse #1 has high-style Greek Revival detailing in its paneled corner pilasters, and a full Greek revival entablature with frieze,

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

7

9

Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

Section number _____ Page _____

architrave, and echinus molding. Prominent alterations reflect the building's uses subsequent to 1900--the early-twentieth-century fire whistle over the front gable peak reveals that it was used for fire apparatus from ca. 1920 until 1964, while the large garage door on the facade indicates it stored both the fire apparatus and the town hearse. In 1849, Bolton built its first high school, the Houghton School at 697 Main Street (Map #31). Still well within the prolific Greek Revival era of school construction, this is a large, two-story, pedimented building. Its window and door configuration has been changed, and it has lost some of its detail over the years, but retains the 12-over-12- and 8-over-12-sash windows of its side walls, a louvered lunette in the pediment, and a tripartite facade window and a bracketed cornice similar to those at the Town House. The fourth school in the district is the two-story brick Colonial Revival Emerson School of 1923, at 692 Main Street (Map #29). Designed by architect Luther Greenleaf, this is a hip-roofed building with central lantern atop its slate roof, and a five-bay facade with round-arched openings and a full-height, Doric tetrastyle portico.

Both the Houghton and Emerson Schools were made possible through private donations. A third municipal building, the Bolton Public Library at 738 Main Street (Map #56), was also a gift, from the Whitney family. This little 1903 building, its English Tudor Revival style contrasting vividly with the native New England architecture around it, was designed by the architectural firm of Stone, Carpenter and Willson, and constructed of local Bolton fieldstone by mason Aden B. Allen. Little changed since it was built, the library is typical of the Tudor Revival style in its parapet end walls, massive chimneys, and its half-timbered, cross-gabled dormers and entry portico with pebble-dash stucco infill. Less typical is the red tile roof. The interior of the library is finished in oak, with considerable wall paneling and medieval-inspired mantelpieces at the two stone fireplaces.

One early-twentieth-century church is one of the main focal points of the district. The First Parish Church, since 1931 the Federated Church of Bolton, was constructed in 1928 at 673 Main Street (Map #21), on the foundations of the Second Meetinghouse of 1793, which had burned down in December, 1926. Designed by architect Edwin T. Chapin of Worcester, the building is a graceful Colonial Revival structure with a tall, three-stage steeple and, perhaps in homage to the Town House facade, a Palladian window above a tetrastyle portico. A large east wing was added in 1957.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetBolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

7 10

Section number _____ Page _____

Outbuildings

The rural atmosphere of the Bolton Center district is enhanced by a substantial number of surviving **barns** and other **agricultural outbuildings**. Commanding a view from a great distance, for instance, are the large connected, cupolaed dairy barns on the hillside at 579 Main Street. Most of those structures apparently date to ca. 1900 and slightly later. Behind them, a separate two-story wagon shed with pointed-arched windows probably dates to the latter part of the nineteenth century. The earliest outbuilding in the district may be the low-eaved barn behind 694 Main Street, which stands on a high fieldstone foundation with a wide opening for wagons to pass through. Many barns are small, and nearly all are of the post-1830 "New England" type, built with a vertical-board sliding wagon door either centered or off-center in the main gable end. Some of the barns, like the well-preserved attached barn at 749 Main Street, are "banked", with a wagon run ascending to the main door, and a lower-level storage area with its entry at the opposite end of the building. Several barns have vernacular details corresponding to a prevailing architectural style, such as the cornice brackets and the oculus or wheel window in the gable of the barn between 711 and 713 Main Street. The lowest level of the large mid-nineteenth-century banked barn at 683 Main Street has a wagon door in the side wall facing the road; its surround has the shallow pediment typical of the Greek Revival period. Few barns in the district have upper-level hay doors; an exception is the little attached barn at 662 Main Street, (now with modern garage doors), which has a shallow-arched, diagonal-board hay door in the gable.

Essentially the same gable-end building form was used for numerous **artisans shops**, such as Howard Atwood's early-twentieth-century board-and-batten blacksmith shop that was moved to Bolton Historical Society property behind 676 Main Street in 1976. It is speculated that the little gable-end barn/garage standing close to the road at 714 Main Street may have been one of the eighteenth-century potash shops, known to have been moved to the site shortly before the building of the house in 1826.

Several **automobile garages** were built adjacent to the houses in the district in the early part of this century. A few, undoubtedly because of fire-safety considerations, are of masonry, with the typical hipped roof of the 1910s and 1920s. The three-car garage at 579 Main Street is of fieldstone; the one-car garage at 664 Main Street is brick. Some later garages, such as the gabled 2-car garages at 670 and 733 Great Road, are clad in the novelty beveled or "drop" siding that became popular in the 1930s.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetBolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

7

11

Section number _____ Page _____

Other resources

One of the oldest small-manufacturing resources in the district survives only as a site, but its significance, at the heart of the district, continues as a town-owned park. This is Pond Park, (Map #28) established in 1905 to include the pond, dam, foundations and raceways of a mill site that was in use throughout most of the nineteenth century. At the beginning of the twentieth century, the remains of the Sawyer saw mill, along with two buildings that hung over the pond, Maloney's carriage-painting shop, and a wood-working shop, were all in deteriorating condition. A group of civic-minded citizens had the buildings torn down, and the new Village Improvement Society planted trees, shrubs and grass around the pond and on the impoundment of the raceways, with a wooden footbridge over the dam. (The bridge there today is a near-replica of that bridge). The fieldstone mill floor and foundations, dam abutments, and retaining walls of the raceways are broken down in some places, but they, the dam, and the pond remain as important reminders of the site's industrial significance in the heart of the village center. Even an overflow or secondary pond to the south of the dam still occasionally floods, and Great Road still crosses the north edge of the millpond on the old fieldstone causeway, which was raised on a rubble base early in this century, its curb capped with concrete and an iron-pipe railing.

The lines of two historic lanes and roads, perpendicular to Main Street, are still apparent. The path to the First Meetinghouse (Map #47), which can still be discerned just east of 720 Main Street, dates to as early as 1740; the nineteenth-century Old Townhouse Road (Map #14) is a stone-wall-lined path mounting the hill east of the Town House. The Townhouse Road may even have continued south of the Great Road (Main Street), as it aligns with a wide fieldstone bridge over the Great Brook (Map #25).

Archaeological Description

No prehistoric sites are located within the district or in the general area (within one mile), however, sites may be present. Several prehistoric sites have been identified along the floodplain of the Nashua River and its tributaries including the Still River. Prehistoric sites have also been identified on upland terraces bordering the eastern margins of the floodplain. This area borders the Assabet River drainage to the east and south, all of which form part of the Merrimack River drainage, a known regional corridor of Native American settlement. Environmental characteristics of the district also include several locational criteria which are favorable for many types of prehistoric sites. Numerous well drained, level to moderately sloping terraced locales are present within the district in close proximity to wetlands. Great Brook and several of its tributaries including ponded areas are present within or near most of the district. Given the above factors, the size of the district (approximately 73 acres) and the availability of open space, a high potential exists that prehistoric sites are present.

A high potential also exists for the recovery of significant historic archaeological resources within the

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester Co.)
Massachusetts**Section number 7 Page 12

district. Structural remains may survive from many of the district's residential, agricultural, institutional and industrial components dating from the 18th through 20th centuries. Of particular interest is the fact that over two-thirds of the buildings standing in the district in 1831 are still extant indicating that one-third of those structures may survive as archaeological resources. Many of the structures no longer extant likely date from the 18th century settlement of the district. Further documentary research combined with archaeological testing can identify the sites of 18th century residences located along the entire Main Street corridor. Original settlement was dispersed in a linear pattern throughout this area as a result of the allocation of 20 acre house lots to the original settlers. Since few structures remain from this period, the potential for archaeological survivals is high. The potential for archaeological survival of 19th century residences is also high, however, in addition to single family privately owned residences, rental homes, often built by mill owners and referred to as "Corporation Houses" are also now present. At least one "Corporation House" built by Amory Holman is known to have burned in the Main Street area. Other potential residential structures which may survive as archaeological resources include a structure which stood at the site of the present Pardee home at 608 Main Street and the original site of the William Woodbury house at 674 Main Street which was relocated to the south side of the road. Structural survivals from commercial structures should also be present in the district. Several inns dating to the 18th century were present in the Bolton area with two of the more notable inns, both of which are no longer extant, located within the district. The Holman Inn was located on the north side of the road between 711 and 715 Main Street. The Woodbury Inn originally stood on the site of 670 Main Street. The Gutterson Harness shop was present at 694 Main Street.

Archaeological survivals from industrial type sites should also survive in the Bolton Center Historic District. One of the more important areas includes the Pond Park locale which was a center of mill activity throughout most of the 19th century. As late as the beginning of the 20th century, the Sawyer Saw Mill along with two other buildings that hung over the pond were present but shortly thereafter were torn down. Surface evidence is present in this area including the fieldstone mill floor, foundations, dam abutments and retaining walls for raceways all of which are broken down in some places. These resources are located in the vicinity of a mill pond originally built by Joel Sawyer in the 1830s. A second pond or overflow pond is located immediately below the first. Other potential industrial/manufacturing sites which may survive in the district include the Blood Hat Shop located in the turn of the 18th/19th centuries at 579 Main Street at the east end of the district, the Cunningham Tannery originally located just north of the intersection of Main Street and Howard Road from 1806-1850s, the 3-story Holman Shoe Shop which originally stood behind 726/728 Great Road and, a relocated shoe shop which later burned at 725 Main Street. Structural remains from several institutional type buildings may also be present in the district. Survivals from an earlier town hall(1834) may be

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts**

7 13

Section number _____ Page _____

present at the site of the existing Bolton Town House built in 1853 at 633 Main Street. Structural survivals may also remain from the 1866 Baptist Meetinghouse which was destroyed by fire in 1938. Evidence of the district's first school may survive at the site of the extant Center District Schoolhouse built in 1825 at the corner of Wataquadoc and Manor Roads. The First School was built in the vicinity of the original meetinghouse which also may survive in that area.

Outbuildings and occupational related features are yet another type of historic archaeological resources which may survive in the district. Structural survivals from barns are probably the more common type of outbuilding which survive in the district. Few, if any, barns survive from the 18th century indicating survivals from this period as particularly important. One of the more important barns which may survive as an archaeological resource is the horse barn for the Holman Inn located near 730 Main Street. That barn was reportedly enormous in size containing up to 90 horses. The barn was likely also affiliated with the Bolton and Lancaster Stage Company which operated in 1827 and was also located at the inn. Additional types of outbuildings related to residences, agricultural uses and manufacturing should also be present. Smaller outbuildings including potash and blacksmith shops were used in the district as early as the 18th century. Occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) should also be present with all building types in the district locale. These features will also be present with structures still extant in the district.

(end)

Bolton Center Historic District

Name of Property

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.)

- XA** 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.
- XC** 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 # _____

Worcester, MA

County and State

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

RELIGION

EDUCATION

TRANSPORTATION

Period of Significance

1740-1947

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Chapin, Edwin T.: 1st Parish Church

Greenleaf, Luther: Emerson School

Stone, Carpenter & Stillson: Bolton Public Library

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government Library, Town Hall
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Bolton Center Historic District
Name of Property

Worcester, MA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property ca. 73 acres

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 19. Zone	284900 Easting	4701400 Northing	3. 19 Zone	285480 Easting	4701020 Northing
2. 19 Zone	285160 Easting	4701320 Northing	4. 19 Zone	285640 Easting	4701150 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 Linda Engelmann, Bolton Historical Commission; Pat Benseflet; Anne McCarthy Forbes, Preservation Consultant; with Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date September 1997

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

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02125

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name multiple owners

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts**Section number 8 Page 1**8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Bolton Center Historic District is a well-preserved, semi-rural linear town center, consisting of residential, institutional, and commercial resources dating primarily from the late-eighteenth through early twentieth centuries. This 73-acre area gradually developed as the main focus of Bolton's civic and professional life after the first meetinghouse was built just to the south in 1740, and over the years saw the construction of a series of schools, three more churches, two town halls, a public library, and several commercial and manufacturing enterprises. Situated at a crossroads on the Lancaster Road, the major eighteenth-century east/west transportation route through the northeast part of Worcester County, the area thrived as a major stagecoach and mail stop in the years between the Revolution and the coming of the railroads. A significant lodging and traveling trade developed in several early inns and taverns, stores, and other transportation-related services associated, including blacksmith and harness shops. Handsome high-style and vernacular residences belonging to the ministers, inn- and storekeepers, entrepreneurs and artisans, and, of course, farmers, grew up here over the course of the town's first century, and Bolton remained an area of mixed functions into the twentieth century. Over two-thirds of the thirty buildings in the district in 1831 are still standing. A dozen more houses were built before 1875; two more are residences of the last quarter of the nineteenth century, and only seven infill houses date to the first third of the twentieth century. Intrusions in the area are minimal, (consisting of only four modern houses and business buildings, plus several minor outbuildings), and alterations are generally confined to additions and door, window, and siding changes on a few of the older structures. The result is a district that retains the character and integrity it had acquired by the early twentieth century, and meets Criteria A and C of the National Register at the local level.

Residential and economic development

Bolton was set off from Lancaster, the largest and earliest community in central Massachusetts, as a separate town in 1738. Although its original thirty-five square miles were reduced over time by the formation of the district of Berlin in 1784, its meetinghouse center still occupies the geographical center of the town. (Bolton's boundaries were further altered in 1829 by the annexation of part of Marlborough, and the formation of the town of Hudson in 1868). The first meetinghouse stood from 1740 until 1793 just south of this district; the line of the lane that led to it can still be seen (Map #47). In contrast to the more nucleated settlements of earlier colonial communities, the first houselots in towns established in Bolton's era tended to be at least 20 acres in area, creating an open, dispersed pattern of settlement even in the town center, where farms intermingled with the meetinghouse, schoolhouse, and other non-residential buildings. The Bolton Center district still gives evidence of this type of early development in the survival of fields and woods adjacent to the road or visible behind the houses, as

(continued)

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

8

2

**Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts**

Section number _____ Page _____

well as in the presence of at least four eighteenth-century farmsteads. The farmhouses of the first and third town ministers, Thomas Goss (earliest section ca. 1741) and Phineas Wright (ca. 1785), face each other at 752 and 763 Main Street (Map #s 59 and 60), the latter still associated with forty acres of open land. Further east, the ca. 1793 farmhouse of Samuel Blood at 579 Main Street (Map #4) still stands on eighteen acres, and over thirty wooded and cultivated acres of the extensive holdings of the family of Gen. Stephen Gardner, who built his second house at 642 Main Street (Map #10) in 1798, remain on both sides of the road. (Many of the original lot configurations at the center, including the Blood and Gardner farms, are still evident in the very deep parcels extending far back from both sides of Main Street. The boundaries of this linear district have generally been drawn close to the road – see district maps, and Section 10: Boundary Description and Justification.)

Over the course of the town's first several decades, however, land fronting on the road in the center section of the district was gradually divided and sold off in smaller parcels, and by the 1830s a continuous line of seven buildings, the densest cluster in Bolton, stood close to the curving south side of Main Street near the crossing of the Great Brook. Most of these buildings, which today contribute greatly to the late-Georgian and Federal character of the district, stand on land originally belonging to the Sawyer family. This short section of the street was also the focus for much of the early commercial and cottage-industry activity at the town center. By 1831 Joel and his brother Nathan, Sawyer were making watches and jewelry in the house at 694 Main Street (Map #30), and Samuel and Rodney Gutterson made harnesses at #714 (Map #40), possibly in a former potash shop (one of two in the vicinity) that had been moved onto the property. Then in the early 1830s, Joel Sawyer established the first of a cluster of small "mechanics' shops" when he built a dam and sawmill on the Great Brook, just below the road. In 1820, Charles Woodbury and Abraham Holman opened the district's longest-lived commercial enterprise, a general store, in the building at 718 Main Street (Map #43), that has been called for generations the "Old Brick Store". Joseph Sawyer, Jr. operated another store next to his house (both now combined under one roof) at 702 Main Street (Map #33). Also in the early eighteenth century, two doctors were practicing here --Dr. Levi Sawyer in an older house on the site of 708 Main Street (Map #37), and Dr. Amos Parker at #704 (Map #35). Dr. Parker, who was appointed Bolton's first postmaster in 1808 and remained in the post for 42 years, also operated the post office from his house. Nearby on the north side of the street Haven Newton had a tailor shop, which was incorporated into his son's new Greek Revival house at 683 Main Street (Map #26), in 1842. By 1839 there was enough business to support another tailor, Ebenezer Towne, who built his house and tailor shop (with living space above), both pedimented, gable-end buildings, at 713 and 711 Main Street (Map #s 38 and 39). (That combined property was later occupied in direct succession by two more doctors, Dr. Windsor Howe Bigelow, and Dr. Oliver Everett, both of whom lived at the latter and used the former as their medical office. In 1893 Dr. Everett became the Bolton postmaster, and the shop was used for the post office; later it was the town's first telephone office, as well.)

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetBolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

8 3

Section number _____ Page _____

Part of the clientele for Bolton center's early-nineteenth-century merchants, artisans, and professionals, as well as employment for other Bolton residents, was generated by the presence of at least three inns and taverns within the district, all long-since demolished--the Holman Inn, located at about 737-739 Main Street, Col. Caleb Wheeler's inn on the north side of the road between #711 and 715, and the Woodbury Inn, which stood on the site of 670 Main Street. Although there were several other inns operating in Bolton in the eighteenth century, these on the Lancaster Road, which by 1800 had become part of the Post Road from Boston to Lancaster and into New Hampshire, were in a prime location to take advantage of the increase in travel that took place after the Revolution. Several Bolton Center businessmen had even invested in the most significant road improvement of the period, the 1805 Lancaster & Bolton Turnpike, which followed the Lancaster Road beginning just west of the district. Also contributing to the thriving local business was the fact that Silas Holman and his son, Gen. Amory Holman, who in 1818 succeeded his father as owner of the most well-known establishment, the Holman Inn, had controlling interests in some of the regional stagecoach lines. This arrangement ensured not only that stagecoaches would stop here, but that the Holmans' other enterprises, including a blacksmith shop and harness shop, would have plenty of work servicing the coaches and horses. Then, in 1827, Amory Holman founded the large Bolton & Lancaster Stage Company, with headquarters at the inn. Business again increased when, in 1832, Gen. Holman received contracts to carry the mail from Boston to Albany and to Brattleboro, Vermont. He eventually sublet twelve subsidiary lines to his coach drivers.

As the Holman Inn grew and its business expanded, it employed a sizeable staff, some of whom boarded or rented space in other buildings that the Holmans constructed. The earliest of the Holman rental houses is the Holman Annex at 746 Main Street (Map #57), believed to have been built at the beginning of the nineteenth century while Silas Holman was still owner of the inn, and possibly later raised to two stories and updated with early Greek Revival detailing. The double-house at 720 Main Street (Map #46), probably put up in the 1830s by the owners of the brick store, was apparently the prototype for two others that Amory Holman built a few years afterward at 726/728 (Map #50), and 730 Main Street (Map #52) out of material from an enormous horse shed for the inn that had stood nearby on the south side of the road. (As many as ninety horses were kept on the grounds at one time). The two-story horse shed was torn down, however, as the railroad era dawned and the business of both the stagecoach and the inn went into a sharp decline. The two new double-houses, along with another that burned down, were called the "Corporation Houses" for the joint stock company formed by Amory Holman and twenty-one investors around 1837. The business of "the corporation" was the production of boots and shoes, and the tenants of these houses were apparently shoe-workers and their families.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

8

4

Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

Section number _____ Page _____

The Bolton Shoe Company, although it was never a large company, and was relatively short-lived, (by 1858 it had succumbed to regional competition and the absence of any nearby railroad), was Bolton center's main industrial enterprise of the mid-nineteenth century. Most of its stockholders were local Bolton men, including Amory Holman, Sherman Houghton, and brick-store-owner George Rice. Earlier attempts at Bolton center to manufacture goods for more than a local market had included a sizable turn-of-the-nineteenth-century hat shop run by Capt. Samuel Blood (579 Main Street) and his son, Edmund, at the east end of the district, a tannery operated by Simeon Cunningham (777 Main Street) and others just north of the intersection of Harvard Road from ca. 1806 through the 1850's, and significant home-production for the regional industry of tortoise-shell comb-making. The industrial production of those enterprises was relatively minor, however, and the lack of substantial water power had prevented other major industrial development in town. By contrast, the shoe company, formed at the end of the 1830s, was poised to take advantage of the advances in technology and production methods of the industrial revolution. The Bolton Shoe Company factory building still stands at #664 Main Street (Map #19). In addition, Amory Holman also built a three-story, 60-by-18-foot shoe-shop of his own, which stood behind #726/728 Great Road, and, like the "corporation houses," was constructed out of material from the Holman Inn horse shed. In 1837, the value of Bolton's shoe production in an aggregation of small shops amounted to \$6,000; by 1856, due largely to the output of the Bolton Shoe Company, it had grown to over \$48,000. No railroad was ever built through the center of Bolton, however, and, just as the initial building of a railroad through Fitchburg led to the demise of the inn and stagecoach business, competition from larger mid-century regional mills that had the benefit of railroad access put an early end to Bolton's shoe industry.

With the advent of the Civil War and the decline of the shoe company, development at the center, as elsewhere in town, came nearly to a standstill. The population had increased from 1255 in 1855 to 1802 in 1865, then dropped by nearly 500 by 1870, due largely to the loss of part of the town to Hudson in 1868. Only one house was constructed in the center district between 1855 and 1870, the vernacular Italianate gable-end cottage of the town's first dentist, Dr. Warren Houghton, built about 1869 at 662 Main Street (Map #18), on part of the former Bolton Shoe Co. property that had been acquired by his father-in-law, Sherman Houghton of 674 Main Street. In 1870-71, another of Sherman Houghton's sons-in-law, carpenter William W. Robinson, built a similar gable-end cottage for resale at 725 Main Street (Map #49), moving and converting one of the relocated shoe shops to a store and dwelling (later burned) just to its east. In 1874 the Holman Inn itself was torn down, and Civil-War veteran Charles Rich moved its ballroom wing east to become the house at 676 Main Street (Map #24). The Holman Inn harness shop was also converted to a dwelling (727 Main Street; Map #51). In 1880, a vernacular Italianate 2 1/2-story gable-end house, #733 Main Street, was built on the site of the inn.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

8

5

Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

Section number _____ Page _____

No other residence was built in the center until the 1890's, when in about 1898 a transitional Italianate/Queen Anne house was constructed at 651 Main Street (Map #12). By the 1890s, several of Bolton's large agricultural properties had become true "gentleman's farms." Some had made the transition in mid-century from mixed husbandry to dairy farming; others had shifted from growing apples for cider production to large orchards for apples and peaches for "winter fruit" (eating). Both trends were in evidence at the old Blood Farm at 579 Main Street, which, under the name of Orchard View Farm, was operated through the turn of the century by a series of owners as an apple-orchard, vegetable, and dairy farm. In 1915 the farm was purchased by Howard Atwood, a Boston wool merchant, who raised horses and pedigreed cattle, and added to the vast array of connected barns on the hill. True to the large "gentleman's farm" concept, he also had three modest houses built across the street from the farmstead for his farm manager and other employees (#s 550, 556, and 562 Main Street; Map #s 1, 2, 3). (Just as the "corporation houses" had been built of material from the Holman Inn horse shed, the lumber for these three Colonial Revival houses came from a three-story carriage-painting shop, on Hudson Road).

Other farms at Bolton Center, some of which were established by later generations of a family on land divided out from an earlier, larger farm, also continued in agricultural use through the early part of this century; a few are still farmed today. At the west end of the district, three generations of the family of Rev. Richard Edes, Bolton's fifth minister, continued to operate the farm at 763 Main Street (Map #60), and Harvard Road until 1950, and four generations of the Carpenter/Powers family farmed the large acreage at #649 Main Street that Stephen Gardner had divided out of his own land for his son, Theodore, in 1830-31 (Map #11).

Over the years, several farmers sold off small houselots along the street, which became the homes of people in other professions. Among them were several single and widowed women. By the 1830's Nancy Townsend, a mantua-maker, owned the little 1790s cottage built by hatter John Hyde on part of the Blood Farm at 601 Main Street (Map #5), and from 1909 to 1933, Helen Brigham owned the little house put up by Stephen Gardner in 1831 at 607 Main Street (Map #6). In 1851, widow Eunice Burgess bought a small lot that had been part of David Carpenter's farm at #649, and apparently had the gable-end Greek Revival cottage at 631 Main Street (Map #9) constructed that same year. Further west, another, extremely well-preserved Greek Revival gable-end cottage at 749 Main Street (Map #58) was built for Miss Elizabeth Osborne in about 1849; it was later the home of Mrs. Achsah Sawyer and her daughter Lucy; the latter owned it until her death in 1937.

Along with the Atwood farm employees' houses of 1918-19, the last significant early-modern development at Bolton Center was the construction of four other vernacular houses – carpenter Thomas

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

8

6

Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

Section number _____ Page _____

Wetherbee's late Queen Anne-style residence of 1912 at 670 Main Street (Map #20), on the site of the old Woodbury Tavern; the 1916 craftsman bungalow of Edwin Pardee at 608 Main Street (Map #7), which stands on the foundation of an earlier house; another Craftsman cottage/bungalow of ca. 1932 built by John Smith around his former grocery store at 703 Main (Map #34); and the largest of the group, garage-owner Harry Sutton's two-story gable-end house of ca. 1918 at 723 Main Street (Map #48). (The latter house stands next to the district's most significant early-twentieth-century transportation-related building, Harry Sutton's ca. 1920 Bolton Garage at 719 Main Street (Map #45), expanded by John Smith after 1927). The latest house in the district, built in 1942, is the residence of John Powers, an historical gambrel-roofed "Cape Cod Cottage" at 615 Main Street (Map #64).

Institutional development

Once the town of Bolton was established in 1738, its citizens embarked on a continuing process that involved the spiritual, intellectual, and social lives of the townspeople. The construction of the meetinghouse in 1740 was the first major step. In 1793 the meetinghouse was replaced by a larger structure at what was determined to be the new geographical center of town, a quarter-mile northeast of the original center, at today's 673 Main Street. (To clear the site, the Houghton House, then belonging to William Woodbury, was apparently relocated to 674 Main, on the south side of the road). The second meetinghouse, surrounded by a small public common, stood for over 130 years. It burned down in 1926, and was replaced in 1928 by the present Colonial Revival clapboard church. Today, this church, the Federated Church of Bolton/First Parish of Bolton (Map #21), is a rare example of a consolidation of the various religious trends that developed over time in so many New England communities. Truly interdenominational, in 1931 it united the church of Bolton's First Parish (Unitarian; the descendant of the original town church), the Baptist Church (established 1832), and the Monthly Meeting of Friends, (Quakers, who had formed a society in South Bolton in the eighteenth century). In 1947 the church charter was further expanded to accommodate local Methodist, Episcopalian, and Presbyterian groups, and the United Church of Christ. Although the earliest public structures built at Bolton center are gone, as is evidenced by the Federated Church, their later successors provide a vivid illustration of the evolution of the town, its needs, beliefs, and concerns. One singular development took place in 1812, when, as a result of a new law of the Commonwealth, the town built a brick powderhouse high on the hill northeast of the second meetinghouse (Map #15). Its function was to store the ammunition that had hitherto been kept first under the pulpit, then in the garret, of the meetinghouse itself. (Early in this century, gifts of land around the powderhouse from the Newton family created a continuous park down the hillside to the former meetinghouse common).

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

8

7

Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

Section number _____ Page _____

Bolton's first schoolhouse had been built near the original meetinghouse at the corner of today's Wataquadoc and Manor Roads in 1744. In the early 1790s, as part of a townwide school-building program, a new center school was apparently constructed near the new meetinghouse location. Although both these schoolhouses have disappeared, two of their nineteenth-century successors remain. 689 Main Street (Map #27), a typical one-story gable-end building, is the second Center District Schoolhouse, built in 1825 on the site of the very first town school at the intersection of Wataquadoc and Manor Roads. It was moved to Main Street in about 1865 and converted by George and Henry Newton (later owners of the brick store), to a small general store; some years afterward it was moved back on the property, and converted to a house in about 1925. The replacement for this school is also still standing, at 9 Wataquadoc Road (Map #42). Built in 1841, that slightly larger gable-end building, with Greek Revival detail, began as the first Baptist Meetinghouse. Baptists had been gathering in Bolton since 1828, and when their numbers grew large enough to construct a bigger church on Main Street in 1866 (destroyed in 1938), the town purchased their first "neat, cozy house of prayer" to be the new District #1 (Center) School (Whitcomb, 133). (After a few years in the late 1890s, during which the building was used as an intermediate school, all the lower grades in Bolton were consolidated in old schoolhouses relocated to land south of the millpond, and this building was discontinued for school use. It then took on a new life for the storage of town vehicles--first for the town hearse, and later for the center fire engine.) Bolton's first high school is also still standing in the district, at 697 Main Street (Map #31). Called the Houghton School, in honor of the property's donor, Joseph Houghton, this building, an even larger, two-story version of Greek Revival gable-end schoolhouse design, was constructed by the town in 1849. Today it functions as the Bolton Police Station. Only the most recent school building at the center still serves its original function. The Emerson School, which stands at 50 Mechanic Street, (Map #29), was built in 1923 as the town's first modern elementary school. Like the Houghton School, this brick, Colonial Revival school was also the result of a significant donation, from Edward D. Emerson, in memory of his wife and daughter.

The present Bolton Town House at 633 Main Street (Map #16), was built in 1853, replacing an 1834 town hall on the same site that had burned down. As was typical of a town hall in a small community, the building was used for all manner of gatherings in addition to town meetings--balls, lectures, concerts, and a place for the local "singing school". In 1878, the local Farmers' and Mechanics' Association even erected a dining hall behind the building (since demolished.) In spite of the presence of this public space in the center of town, with the proliferation of local organizations and societies in the middle of the nineteenth century, there was still a need for an additional meeting hall. In the mid-1860's, carpenter William Robinson met the challenge, when he converted the former Bolton Shoe

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

8

8

Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

Section number _____ Page _____

Company factory, directly across the street from the Town House at 664 Main Street (Map #19), for a second meeting space. Called "Robinson Hall", this building served two generations as the regular gathering place for temperance meetings (Mr. Robinson was the first president of the Bolton Centennial Temperance Union), the Bolton Grange, and for church suppers, and over the years many performances were given on its small stage. (The building was remodeled to a duplex by another carpenter, Thomas Wetherbee, about 1913).

One early renovation to the Town House was the creation of a room on the first floor (now the Selectmen's room) for the Bolton Public Library, which was established in 1859. Its initial collection incorporated books from four of the school districts and from several local organizations, including an early Historical Association. In 1903 the library acquired its own building, when the daughters of Capt. Joseph Whitney donated the little English Revival building at 738 Main Street (Map #54), in his memory.

As mentioned above, twentieth-century change to the Bolton Center Historic District has been minimal since the 1930's. The properties have been well-maintained, and the area thus retains the character of a linear institutional/commercial/residential town center that evolved over nearly two centuries from the time the first meetinghouse was built in 1740. Development pressures in rural towns close to Route 495 have been tremendous in the past decade, however. Several of the larger properties in the district are either owned by developers or may be in the near future, and there is concern for two buildings that presently stand vacant. Nomination of the Center Village to the National Register will strengthen the town's many current preservation efforts, and raise the level of public awareness and pride that is crucially needed at this time.

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of prehistoric settlement and subsistence in Bolton are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Prehistoric sites in this area can contribute important information on the local and regional importance of Native American settlement in the Nashua River drainage and its relationship to more recognized Native settlement loci in the Assabet and Sudbury drainages to the east and south. This information can be used to further understand the regional importance of Native American settlement in the overall Merrimack River system. Prehistoric sites in the district locale can also help to establish the nature of Native settlement in upland areas beyond the floodplains of major area drainages stated above. Interior upland areas are underreported in the Bolton locale, indicating an important part of the Native American subsistence and settlement system may be missing in our current data base. Prehistoric sites in this area can help more fully define the local and regional subsistence and settlement models by contributing examples of site variability and resource use within the district area.

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts**Section number 8 Page 9

Historic archaeological resources described above have the potential to provide several types of information relating to the social, cultural and economic characteristics which were responsible for the successful development of a semi-rural linear town center during the 18th and first half of the 19th centuries. While over two-thirds of the districts buildings present in 1831 are still extant, archaeological resources can contribute examples of the remaining one-third of the buildings, many of which probably date to the 18th century including residential, institutional and industrial types. Structural remains can help reconstruct the 18th century linear village pattern and the changes it went through as it developed from its agricultural beginnings to include manufacturing and transportation importance related to stage travel in the 19th century. Structural remains from residences and related outbuildings can help establish land use patterns within larger than normal 20 acre home sites characteristic of the early linear settlement. Structural survivals can also contribute examples of commercial buildings important but no longer extant in the district. In particular, survivals of inns or taverns can be especially important since they played an important role in the district's growth as part of a regional transportation network prior to the start of the railroad. Archaeological survivals of the district's shoe shops, hat shops, harness shops, watch and jewelry manufacturers and stores can also contribute to the district's significance by providing examples of commercial enterprises responsible for the districts economic and cultural growth. As many of these ventures grew, they contributed to the growth and importance of transportation networks and less reliance on agriculture. Business growth in the district was also responsible for population growth, resulting in rental housing, company owned housing and ethnic/social diversity. The study of structural survivals combined with the detailed analysis of occupational related features can contribute valuable information in each of the topical areas. Archaeological survivals can also contribute valuable information relating to the birth and growth of industry in the district and the role it played in the local economy. Documentary research combined with archaeological testing can identify the full range of industrial activities which occurred in the Pond Park/Sawyer Mill Complex area throughout the 19th century. Similar research can also identify the levels of technology employed at the mill(s) and how it compared to similar activities on a regional/national level. Archaeological research can identify the range of goods/products produced at the mill(s) and the extent to which they were consumed locally or traded within regional markets. Archaeological research in the Pond Park area can also contribute information relating to the technologies and construction techniques related to water power systems used at the mill(s) and how they may have changed through time. Evidence may be present relating to the change over from water power to power generating.

Archaeological studies can also help reconstruct the locations and form for many of the institutional buildings which helped develop the district as a village center. Structural survivals of buildings no

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts**Section number 8 Page 10

longer extant and extant buildings combined with analysis of outbuildings and occupational related features can contribute information to the growth of public education in the district, town government and religion. The analysis of occupational related features can also contribute information relating to the lives of village inhabitants at the family or residence level. This information can be used to study social stratification in the district/village and the specific ways in which it occurred. Occupational related features can also contribute information on the extent to which manufacturing occurred at the residential level and its importance to the overall village and family economy.

(end)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetBolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

9 1

Section number _____ Page _____

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Darby, M., et al. Guide to Nashaway, North Central Massachusetts. Harvard: New Guide Group, 1994.
- Hurd, D.H. History of Worcester County, Mass. Philadelphia: J.W. Lewis & Co., 1889.
- Marvin, Abijah. History of Worcester County, Massachusetts. Boston: C.F. Jewett, 1879.
- Towns of the Nashaway Plantation. Lancaster, MA: Lancaster League of Historical Societies, 1976.
- Whitcomb, Esther. About Bolton. Bowie, MD: Heritage Books, 1988.
- Whitcomb, Esther, et al. History of Bolton: 1738-1938. Bolton, MA: Town of Bolton, 1938.

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS

Massachusetts Government Documents:

- Massachusetts Historical Commission. Historic and Archaeological Resources of Central Massachusetts. Boston: MHC, 1985.
- _____. Survey and Inventory of Historic, Architectural, and Cultural Resources of Bolton. Boston: MHC, 1980.
- _____. "Reconnaissance Survey Report for Bolton". 1983.
- Worcester County Registry of Deeds. Worcester, MA.
- Town of Bolton documents:
- Bolton Annual Reports. Varying dates and publishers.
- Bolton Assessors Records.
- Bolton Historical Society. Building Files, Photograph Collections.
- Bolton Vital Records.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

Section number 9 Page 2
10 1

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES, continued

MAPS AND ATLASES

Beers, F.W. Atlas of Worcester County. New York: F.W. Beers, 1870.

Holman, Silas. Map of the Town of Bolton. Boston: Pendleton's Lithography, 1831.

Holman, Silas and Longley, Nathaniel, Jr.. Plan of the Town of Bolton. 1794.

Richards, L.J. New Topographical Atlas of Worcester County. Philadelphia: L.J. Richards, 1898.

Walling, Henry. Map of Worcester County, Massachusetts. Boston: William Baker, 1857.

(end)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM References (Cont.)

5. 19 286300 4700750

8. 19 285280 4700710

6. 19 286470 4700600

9. 19 285000 4701080

7. 19 285620 4700780

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the intersection of Main Street and the curving east and northeast side property line of Parcel 4C-37 (550 Main), the district boundary runs west along Main Street to the east property line of Parcel 4C-27 (579 Main); thence running northerly along that property line to the point where the lot line turns west; thence running generally west and parallel to Main Street along a line of convenience to the back property line of Parcel CBD2-17 (601 Main Street). The north boundary of the district then runs along the back property lines of Parcels CBD2-17 and CBD2-16 (601/603 and 607 Main Street); thence follows a line of convenience across Parcel CBD2-15 (615 Main Street) from the rear northwest corner

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts**Section number 10 Page 2**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA, continued**

of Parcel CBD2-16 to the rear northeast corner of Parcel CBD2-14 (621 Main Street); thence running westerly along the back property line of Parcel CBD2-14. From the rear northwest corner of Parcel CBD2-14, the boundary follows a northwesterly line of convenience across a portion of Parcel CBD2-15 to the rear northeast corner of Parcel CBD2-13 (631 Main Street.) It follows the rear lot line of Parcel CBD2-13, then from the rear northwest corner of the lot, it follows a line of convenience roughly parallel to Main Street across Parcel CBD2-12 (649 Main Street) to the rear northeast corner of Parcel CBD2-11 (651 Main Street); thence along the rear property line of Parcel CBD2-11 to the southeast side property line of Parcel CBD2-10 (655 Main Street;) thence turning northeasterly along the southeast property line of Parcel CBD2-10, then follows the rear property line of that parcel to the "Old Town House Road".

The district boundary crosses "Old Town House Road" and runs north along the east sideline of the Town House lot, (Parcel CBD2-9), thence follows its rear property line, then south along its west property line and west along the rear property line of Parcel CBD1-8 (673 Main Street). From the northwest corner of Parcel CBD1-8, the boundary then follows a line of convenience southwest to the northeast rear corner of Parcel CBD1-6. It then follows the rear property line of that parcel; thence follows a line of convenience west-northwest to the rear northeast corner of Parcel CBD1-04 (711 and 713 Main Street). It follows the rear lot line of Parcel CBD1-04 extended across lots CBD1-42 and CBD 1-03 to the northeast rear corner of Parcel CBD1-02 (725 Main Street). It then follows the rear property line of Parcel CBD1-02 to the southeast side property line of Parcel CBD1-01 (727 Main Street). From that point the district boundary follows a line of convenience across Parcels CBD1-01, 4C-29A and 4C-29 to the northeast angle of Parcel 4C-30 (749 Main Street); thence following the rear property line of Parcel 4C-30 to the southeast side property line of Parcel 5C-5 (763 Main Street). It then turns northeast, and follow the southeast and northern boundaries of Parcel 5C-5 to Harvard Road; thence runs north along Harvard Road to the rear northeast corner of Parcel 5C-1 (777 Main Street); thence following the rear and westerly side property lines of Parcel 5C-1 to Main Street. From this point the southern district boundary runs east-southeast along Main Street, thence south-southeast along Manor Road to the southwest rear corner of Parcel 4C-22 (752 Main Street). It then runs northeast along the southeast side property line of Parcel 4C-22 to the rear northwest corner of the Town Library lot, Parcel CBD1-40, and turns southeast along that parcel's rear property line. From the point where the line intersects the northwest corner of lot 4C-13, the boundary follows a line of convenience contiguous with the rear boundary of Parcel CBD1-39, and running southeast across Wataquadoc Road to the southwest corner of Parcel CBD1-36A. It then follows the southeast side property line of Parcel CBD1-36A to the rear southwest corner of Parcel CBD1-33:

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts**Section number 10 Page 3**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA, continued**

thence running along the rear property lines of the parcels fronting on the south side of Main Street to the west side lot line of Parcel CBD1-43 (Emerson School lot).

The district boundary then turns southwest and south along Parcel CBD1-43 to the east-west intermediate line shown on Map CBD1 directly behind the Emerson School building, then runs east along that line to the sideline of the school lot as shown on Assessor's Map #CBD1. (See Assessor's map). It then follows a line of convenience north across lot CBD1-29 to the southwest corner of Parcel CBD1-28 (620 Main Street). The boundary then continues east along the rear boundary of the lot to the west sideline of Parcel CBD1-27 (676 Main Street). It then runs first southeast, then northeast and northwest along the back property lines of Parcel CBD1-27 to the southwest corner of Parcel CBD2-25 (670 Main Street). The boundary then follows the rear property lines of Parcels CBD2-25, -24, and -23 to the southeast rear corner of Parcel CBD2-23 (662 Main Street). From that point the boundary runs south along a line of convenience to the rear southwest corner of parcel CBD2-26; thence along the rear property lines to the rear southeast corner of Parcel CBD2-20 (642 Main Street). The southern district boundary then follows a line of convenience to the southwest corner of Parcel CBD2-18 (608 Main Street). It runs along the rear property of the lot; thence follows a line of convenience across Parcels 4C-38 and 4C-24 to the rear southwest corner of Parcel 4C-25 (562 Main Street); thence runs east along the rear property lines of Parcels 4C-25, -36, and -37; then northerly and northwesterly along the side property line of Parcel 4C-37 to the point of origin on Main Street.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Bolton Center Historic District encompass the historic institutional, civic, and commercial core of the town of Bolton, along with the town's earliest clustered residential neighborhood. The district includes nearly all the institutional resources that make up the traditional New England town center--the town hall, church of the first religious society, several parsonages, two district schoolhouses, the first high school, and the public library. The domestic and commercial buildings in the district are representative of all the major historic periods, building types, and styles in the development of the town, including many survivals from Bolton's agrarian past. Several lots in Bolton Center are very large, including up to twenty acres or more, and many smaller ones also extend far back from the street. Thus, in several places, both the north and south district boundaries follow a line of convenience. It is possible that the district could be expanded in the future to include parts of the surrounding residential and agricultural areas. Because of the intruding presence of a divided highway, I- 495, just outside the east end of the Bolton center district, however, separate National Register district designation would be more appropriate for the historic corridor located the east of Route 495 along Main Street/Route 117.

(end)

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts**

Section number _____ Page _____

PHOTOGRAPHS (8 x 10) ALL TAKEN APRIL, 1997

1. 655, 651, 649 Main Street, looking east
2. Pond Park, with 689, 683 Main Street, looking north
3. 673 and 663 Main Street (First Parish Church and Town Hall), looking northwest
4. 698, 792, 704 Main Street, looking west
5. 704, 708 Main Street, looking west
6. 727, 725, 723, 719, 715, 713 Main Street, looking east

PHOTOGRAPHS (3 x 5), APRIL 1997

7. 550, 556, 562 Main Street, looking southeast
8. 550 Main Street, looking south
9. 579 Main Street, looking northeast
10. 642 Main Street, looking southwest
11. 642 Main Street, looking northwest
12. 601, 607 Main Street, looking northeast
13. 621 Main Street, looking northeast
14. Same as #1
15. 649 Main Street, looking northeast
16. 655 Main Street, looking north

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

**Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester Co.)
Massachusetts**

17. See photo #3
18. 662, 664 Main Street, looking south
19. 664, 670, 674, 676 Main Street, looking west
20. 674, 676 Main Street, looking west
21. 676 Main Street, looking south
22. 676 Main Street rear, looking south
23. 694 Main Street, looking south
24. See photo #4
25. 702, 704, 708 Main Street, looking northwest
26. See photo #5
27. 714, 718 Main Street, looking west
28. Pond Park between 680 and 694 Main Street, looking south
29. Emerson School, 50 Mechanic Street, looking south
30. See photo #2
31. 683 Main Street, looking north
32. 697 Main Street, Houghton Building, looking northeast
33. 703 Main Street, looking northwest
34. 707, 711, 713 Main Street, looking east

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**Bolton Center Historic District
Bolton (Worcester Co.,)
Massachusetts**

Section number _____ Page _____

- 35. 711, 713 Main Street, looking northeast
- 36. 715, 719 Main Street, looking east
- 37. 719, 723, 725 Main Street, looking northwest
- 38. 9 Wataquadoc Street, 714, 715, 718 Main Street, 8 Wataquadoc Street, looking north
- 39. 8 and (12) Wataquadoc Street, looking south
- 40. 9 Wataquadoc Street, looking north
- 41. 738 Main Street, Bolton Public Library, looking west
- 42. 727, 725 Main Street, looking north
- 43. See photo #6
- 44. 720 Main Street, looking southwest
- 45. 746 Main Street, looking southwest
- 46. 752 Main Street, looking west
- 47. 763 Main Street, looking northeast
- 48. 749 Main Street, looking north
- 49. 749 Main Street, looking northwest
- 50. 777 Main Street, looking north
- 51. Mile marker, 730 Main Street, looking south (Map #54)
- 52. Powder House, behind 663 Main Street

(end)

**BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts
DISTRICT DATA SHEET**

C = contributing; NC = non-contributing
B = building; O = object; Si = site;
St = structure

MAP#	MHC#	MAP & PARCEL	ADDRESS	HISTORIC NAME	DATE	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	TYPE
1		4C/37	550 Main Street garage shed	Atwood Farm Cottage	1918-19	Colonial Revival	C	B
					1918-19	utilitarian	C	B
					early-20th C.	utilitarian	C	B
2		4C/36	556 Main Street	Atwood Farm Cottage	1918-19	Craftsman Cottage	C	B
3		4C/25	562 Main Street garage	Atwood Farm Cottage	1918-19	Dutch Col. Revival	C	B
					late-20th C.	utilitarian	NC	B
		4C-38	open lot					
4	69	4C/27	579 Main Street Barn Wagon House Cottage/summer house garage	Samuel Blood House	ca. 1793	Federal	C	B
					ca. 1890's	utilitarian	C	B
					late 19th C.	utilitarian	C	B
					late 19th C.	Greek Revival	C	B
					early 20th C.	fieldstone, 3-car garage	C	B
		4C/24	580 Main Street			front lot and drive for late-20th C. office building		
5	70	CBD2/17	601 Main Street cottage (603 Main)	Hyde/Townsend Cottage	ca. 1790's	astylestic	C	B
					ca. 1900	converted barn; astylestic	NC	B

**BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts
DISTRICT DATA SHEET**

C = contributing; NC = non-contributing
B = building; O = object; Si = site
St = structure

MAP#	MHC#	MAP & PARCEL	ADDRESS	HISTORIC NAME	DATE	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	TYPE
<u>MAIN STREET</u> , cont.								
6	71	CBD2/16	607 Main Street	Gardner Cottage	ca. 1831	Greek Revival	C	B
7		CBD2/18	608 Main Street	Edwin Pardee House	1916	Craftsman Bungalow	C	B
		CBD2-28		open lot				
64		CBD2/15	615 Main Street garage shed	John Powers House	1942 1980 ca. 1980	Colonial Revival	C NC NC	B B B
8	73	CBD2/14	621 Main Street garage	Otis Pollard House	1850-1852 late-20th C.	Greek Revival utilitarian	C NC	B B
		CBD2/19	626 Main Street	"The Salt Box"	ca. 1972		NC	B
9	74	CBD2/13	631 Main Street	Burgess/Howe House	ca. 1851	Greek Revival	C	B
		CBD2/27		open lot				
10	25	CBD2/20	642 Great Road shed/barn garage	Gen. Stephen Gardner House	1798 19th C. mid-20th C.	late Georgian utilitarian utilitarian	C C NC	B B B
		CBD2/26		open lot				

**BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts
DISTRICT DATA SHEET**

C = contributing; NC = non-contributing
B = building; O = object; Si = site
St = structure

MAP#	MHC#	MAP & PARCEL cont.	ADDRESS	HISTORIC NAME	DATE	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	TYPE
11	75	CBD2/12	649 Great Road barn shed/chicken coop	Theodore Gardner House	1830-1831 19th C. ca. 1920	Greek Revival Greek Revival utilitarian	C C C	B B B
12	76	CBD2/11 CBD2/21	651 Great Road	A. Proctor/Powers House open lot	1890's	Victorian vernacular	C	B
13	77	CBD2/10	655 Main Street barn/garage	Withington House	1831 ca. 1900	Greek Revival utilitarian	C C	B B
18	24	CBD2/22; 23	662 Main Street	Warren Houghton House	ca. 1869	Italianate vernacular	C	B
16	88	CBD2/9	663 Main Street	Bolton Town House	1853	Greco-Italianate	C	B
15	913			Powder House	1812	utilitarian; brick	C	St
14				Old Town House Road	19th C.	dirt foot- and wagon path	C	St
17				semi-circular drive (town house)	19th C.	paved driveway	C	St
63				fence	19th-early 20th C.	granite posts/ iron-pipe rails	C	O
19	23	CBD2/24	664 Main Street garage	Robinson Hall	ca. 1829/ ca. 1918	Greek Revival/late brick; utilitarian	C C	B B

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts
DISTRICT DATA SHEET

C = contributing; NC = non-contributing
 B = building; O = object; Si = site
 St = structure

MAP#	MHC#	MAP & PARCEL	ADDRESS	HISTORIC NAME	DATE	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	TYPE
20		CBD2/25	670 Main Street garage	Thomas Wetherbee House	1912-13 ca. 1940	late Q. Anne/vernacular utilitarian	C C	B B
21	79	CBD1/8	673 Main Street	First Parish Church/ Federated Church	1928	Colonial Revival	C	B
			shed marker		mid-20th C. 1976	granite marker	NC NC	B O
22			driveway	semi-circular drive (Meetinghouse)	19th C.	paved driveway	C	St
23	21	CBD1/26	674 Main Street	Jacob/Benjamin Houghton House	18th C./ ca. 1840	Greek Revival	C	B
24	20	CBD1/27	676 Main Street	Rich/Sawyer House (Holman Inn wing)	1810-1819	Federal	C	B
			barn blacksmith shop	Atwood Blacksmith Shop	ca. 1876 early-20th C.	Greek Revival utilitarian gable-end	C C	B B
25				bridge over Great Brook	pre-1800	fieldstone bridge	C	St
		CBD1/28	680 Main Street	Whitcomb House	ca. 1970		NC	B
26	80	CBD1/07	683 Main Street	Horatio Newton House	1842	Greek Revival	C	B
			barn/workshop		ell: early 19th C. ca. 1840's	Greek Revival	C	B

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts
DISTRICT DATA SHEET

C = contributing; NC = non-contributing
 B = building; O = object; Si = site
 St = structure

MAP#	MHC#	MAP & PARCEL	ADDRESS	HISTORIC NAME	DATE	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	TYPE
<u>MAIN STREET</u> , cont.								
27	81	CBD1/07 CBD1/29	689 Main Street	Center School open lot	1825	astylistic	C	B
28		CBD1/30	Main Street millpond dam and foundations	Pond Park Sawyer's dam and mill	1905 ca. 1831.	open park pond dam, fieldstone abutments	C C C	Si Si St
			mill race marker	mill race	mid-19th C. 1993	fieldstone retaining walls granite boulder	C NC	St O
30	16	CBD1/31	694 Main Street barn	Joseph & Nathan Sawyer Hse.	ca. 1830 early/mid-19th C.	late Federal utilitarian	C C	B B
31	82	CBD1/6	697 Main Street	Houghton School	1849	Greek Revival	C	B
32	15	CBD1/32	698 Main Street	Joseph Sawyer House	ca. 1760	Georgian	C	B
33	14	CBD1/33	702 Main Street barn	Joseph Sawyer Hse. and Store	1810 and earlier early 20th C.	Federal utilitarian	C C	B B
34		CBD1/05	703 Main Street	John Smith House	ca. 1932	Craftsman Cottage	C	B
35	13	CBD1/34 garage	704 Main Street	Dr. Amos Parker House late-20th C.	ca. 1800	center-chimney Federal	C NC	B B

**BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts
DISTRICT DATA SHEET**

C = contributing; NC = non-contributing
B = building; O = object; Si = site
St = structure

MAP#	MHC#	MAP & PARCEL	ADDRESS	HISTORIC NAME	DATE	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	TYPE
<u>MAIN STREET, cont.</u>								
36	84	CBD1/03-A	707 Main Street	William Chaplin House	1817-1822	Federal	C	B
37	12	CBD1/35-A	708 Main Street barn/garage	S.K. Sawyer House	ca. 1855 late-19th C.	Greek Revival tin-roofed; utilitarian	C C	B B
38	85	CBD1/04	711 Main Street barn	Towne Tailor Shop/ "Old Post Office"	1839 mid-19th C.	Greek Revival vernacular Greek Revival/Italianate	C C	B B
39	86	CBD1/04	713 Main Street	Towne/Bigelow/Everett House	1839	Greek Revival	C	B
40	11	CBD1/35	714 Main Street barn	Phineas Fairbanks House	1826-27 and earlier late-19th C. or earlier	Federal utilitarian	C C	B B
44	87	CBD1/42	715 Main Street	C. Houghton House	ca. 1830's	Greek Revival	C	B
43	9	CBD1/36	718 Main Street	"Old Brick Store"	ca. 1820	Federal	C	B
45		CBD1/03	719 Main Street	Bolton Garage	ca. 1919/1927	utilitarian	C	B
46	8	CBD1/37	720 Main Street marker	Woodbury & Holman Rental Hse. 1st meetinghouse marker	1830's 1969	Greek Revival granite marker	C NC	B O
47			line of path	path to first meetinghouse	18th C.	foot and wagon path	C	St

**BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts
DISTRICT DATA SHEET**

C = contributing; NC = non-contributing
B = building; O = object; Si = site
St = structure

MAP#	MHC#	MAP & PARCEL	ADDRESS	HISTORIC NAME	DATE	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	TYPE
<u>MAIN STREET, cont.</u>								
48		CBD1/03	723 Main Street	Harry Sutton House	ca. 1918-20	Astylistic gable-end	C	B
49	90	CBD1/02	725 Main Street	W.W. Robinson House	ca.1872	gable-end cottage	C	B
50	6	CBD1/38	726/728 Main Street garage	"Corporation House"	1840's late-20th C.	Greek Revival	C NC	B B
51	91	CBD1/01	727 Main Street garage	Holman Harness Shop	ca. 1800 ca. 1900	Greco-Italianate "false-front" garage	C C	B B
52	4	CBD1/39	730 Main Street garage	"Corporation House"	1840's early 20th C.	Grk. Rev. vernacular utilitarian	C C	B B
53	92	4C/29A	733 Main Street garage	Ellen Winde House	1880 ca. 1940's	Italianate vernacular	C NC	B B
	93	4C/29	737 Main Street	Murphy Office Building	1964		NC	B
54	911		marker	Mile marker	ca. 18th C.	inscribed boulder	C	O
56	3	CBD1/40	738 Main Street	Bolton Public Library	1903	English Revival	C	B
55	908		marker	World War I marker	1920	granite and bronze	C	O
57	2	4C/31	746 Main Street shed	Holman Inn Annex	1830's ca. late-19th C.	Greek Revival utilitarian	C C	B B

**BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts
DISTRICT DATA SHEET**

C = contributing; NC = non-contributing
B = building; O = object; Si = site
St = structure

MAP#	MHC#	MAP & PARCEL	ADDRESS	HISTORIC NAME	DATE	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	TYPE
<u>MAIN STREET, cont.</u>								
58	94	4C/30	749 Main Street	Elizabeth Osborne House	1849	Greek Revival	C	B
59	2	4C/22	752 Main Street workshop	Thomas Goss-Silas Holman Hse.	1741/ca. 1790 late-20th C	Georgian/Federal	C NC	B B
60	95	5C/5	763 Main Street barn	Wright/Allen/Edes House	ca. 1785 late-19th C.	Late Georgian large wood-frame barn	C C	B B
61	96	5C/1	777 Main Street	Simeon Cunningham House	1831	Federal/Greek Revival	C	B
<u>MECHANIC STREET</u>								
29	17	CBD1/43	50 Mechanic Street	Emerson School	1923 and later	Colonial Revival	C	B
			auxiliary building		late-20th C.	utilitarian	NC	B
<u>WATAQUADOC ROAD</u>								
41	125	CBD1/36A	8 Wataquadoc Rd.	Jacob & Levi Houghton House	1811	Federal	C	B
42		4C/13	9 Wataquadoc Rd.	Baptist Church/District #1 Schoolhouse	1841	Greek Revival	C	B
<u>THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT</u>								
			System of fieldstone walls		varying dates		C	St
62			Route 117/Great Road	approx. line of the Lancaster Road	17th-19th C.	C	St	

**BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Bolton (Worcester County)
Massachusetts
DISTRICT DATA SHEET**

TOTAL DISTRICT RESOURCE COUNT:

	<u>Contributing</u>		<u>Non-contributing</u>
BUILDINGS:	77		15
STRUCTURES:	10		
OBJECTS:	3		3
SITES:	2		
TOTAL CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES:	92	TOTAL NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES:	18

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Bolton Center Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester

DATE RECEIVED: 10/03/97 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/14/97
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 10/30/97 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/17/97
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 97001296

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

 ACCEPT RETURN REJECT DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA accept A&C

REVIEWER Patrick Andrews DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE _____ DATE 11/17/97

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



BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA
BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

655, 651 and 649 MAIN ST.

4/97
A. FORBES
BHC
PHOTO # 1

NEGATIVES WITH BOLTON HISTORICAL COMM

neg. 8-IV



BOLTON, WORCESTER CO, MA
BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

FOND PARK and opposite:
689 and 682 MAIN ST.

4/97
A FORBES
BHC

PHOTO #2
NEGATIVES WITH BOLTON H. T.

neg. 20 - IV



29
BOSTON, WORCESTER CO., MA
BOSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

673 + 663 MAIN ST.

497
E ENGELMANN
BHC

PHOTO # 3
NEGATIVES WITH BOLTON H.C.



(4)
BOSTON, WORCESTER CO., MA
BOSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

698, 702, 704 MAIN ST.

4197
E ENGELMANN
BHC

PHOTO # 4
NEGATIVES WITH BOLTON H.C.

neg. 3-II



5

BOSTON, WORCESTER CO, MA
BOSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

704 and 708 MAIN ST.

4/97
A. FORBES
BHO

PHOTO # 5
NEGS WITH BOLTON H.C.

neg. 14-IV



6

BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA
BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

727, 725, 723, 719, 715 and 713 MAIN ST

4/97
A. FORBES
BHC

PHOTO # 6

NEGS WITH BOLTON H.C.



7

BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA
BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
550, 556, 562 MAIN

1111111111

4/97

E. ENGELMANN

BHC

neg.

4-II



⑧

BOSTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

550 MAIN

4/97

E. ENGELMANN
BHC



9

BOSTON, WORCESTER CO., MA
BOSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

PROFESSIONAL PAPER
MAR<NO. 158> 32 873 0111 N N N N N N 2

579 MAIN ST.

PROFESSIONAL PAPER
4/97

E. ENGELMANN

BAC

neg. 14-±



(10)

BOSTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

642 MAIN ST.

11 11 11 11

4/97

E. ENGELMANN

BHC

neg. 17-II



NO
PARKING

STOP

(11) BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

642 MAIN ST.
going west

5490111111

4/97

A. FORBES

BHC

neg. 19-III



(12) BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA
BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

607 and 601 MAIN ST.

4/97
A. FORBES
BHC

neg. 21-III



(13)

BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

621 MAIN ST.

THIS PAPER
MANUFACTURED
BY KODAK

THIS PAPER
MANUFACTURED
BY KODAK

THIS PAPER
MANUFACTURED
BY KODAK

11 1110451

4/97

E. ENGELMANN

BHC

Aug. 13 - II



14 BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA
BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

655, 651, 649 MAIN

4/97
A. FORBES
BHC

BOLTON

8X10



(15)

BOSTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

649 MAIN ST

SEP 01 11 11

4/97

A. FORBES

B#C

neg. 18 v III



16

BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

655 MAIN ST.

1111041111

4/97

E. ENGELMANN

BHC

reg. 2 1-II





(18) BOSTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

1110311

662, 664 MAIN ST.

A. FORBES

497

BHC

neg. 6-IV



(19)

BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

664, 670, 674, 676 MAIN

4/97

A. FORBES

BHC

neg. 5-10



(2)

BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

548011111

674 and 676 MAIN ST.

4/97

A FORBES

BHC

neg-11-IV



(21)

BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

676 MAIN ST.

4/97

E. ENGELMAN N

BHC

HPK No. 05 873 0111 N N N N N N N N 2



THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH SHOP

(22) BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

1110816

676 MAIN ST.

4/97

A. FORBES

BHC

neg. 13-IV



23

BOSTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

694 MAIN ST

548011111

4/97

A. FORBES

BHC

neg. 22-TV



(24)

BOXTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOXTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

698, 702, 704 MAIN ST.

4/97

E. ENGELMANN

BHC

MARK No. 3 > 10 875 0111 N N N N N N N N 2



(25)

BOXTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOXTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

702, 704, 708 MAIN ST.

4/97

E. ENGELMANN
BHC

Reg. 4-T

MAP No. 4 > 11 873 8111 N N N N N N 2



BOSTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

(26)

BOSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

5480111

704 and 708 MAIN ST.

4/97

A. FORBES

BHC

8x10

25-IV



(27)

BOLTON, WORCESTER CO MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

714 and 718 MAIN ST.

4/97

E ENGELMANN

BHC

neg. 5-I

MAP No. 065 15 873 811 N N N N N N 2



BOXTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

(28)

BOXTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

5460111

POND PARK, bfw.

680 and 694 MAIN

4/97

A. FORBES

BHC

114.14 - IV



(29)

BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA
BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

50 MECHANIC ST.
(formerly 692 MAIN)

75401111

4/97
E. ENGELMANN
BHC

Aug. 25 - IV



(30)

BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

Pond Park and opposite:
689 and 683 MAIN ST.

4/97

A. FORBES

BHO

8X10

neg. 20-TU



BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

(31) BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

683 MAIN ST.

4/97

A. FORBES

BHC



BOSTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

32 BOSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

697 MAIN ST.

4/97

A. FORBES

BAC



(33) BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

703 MAIN ST.

4/97

A. FORBES

BHC

recy. 24 - TU



(34)

BOSTON, WORCESTER CO;
BOSTON CENTER HISTORIC

MA

DISTRICT

MAP No. 11 > 26 873 0111 N N N N N 2

713,711,707 MAIN ST.

4/97

E ENGELMANN
BHC

Fig. 11-I



(35)

BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

713 and 711 MAIN ST.

4/97
A. FORBES
BHC



Mobil Service

Mobil

BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

(36) BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

719 and 715 MAIN ST.

75401112

4/97
E. ENGELMANN
BHC

map. 34-II



Mobil

7-11

OPEN

OPEN

(37)

BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

5490111

725, 723, 719 MAIN ST.

497

A FORBES

BHC

neg. 4 - III





(39)

BOSTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

8 and (12) Wataguedoc

4/97

A. FORBES

BHC

Reg. 5 - II



40

BOSTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

9 WATAQUADOC

5190111 1 2 1110616

4/97

A. FORBES

BHC



BOSTON, WORCESTER CO., MA
BOSTON CENTER HISTORIC

DISTRICT

(41)

1738 MAIN ST.

4/97

E. ENGELMANN
BHC

MARK No. 10 > 23 873 0111 N N N N N N 2



42

BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA
BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

727 and 725 MAIN ST.

4/97

E. ENGELMANN
BHC

neg-33-#



(43)

BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

11111106M5

727, 725, 723, 719, 715, 713
MAIN ST.

4197

A. FORBES

BHC

neg. 12 - III



44

BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

BOLTON

720 MAIN ST.

754 0111-1-2

4/97

E. ENGELMANN

BHC

neg. 36-II



BOSTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

(45)

746 MAIN ST.

5490111 1 2

4/97

A. FORBES

BHC

log. 9 - III



(46)

BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

752 MAIN

4/97

A. FORBES

BHC

map. 11-III



(47)

BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

763 MAIN

7540111-1-2

4/97

E. ENGELMANN

BHC

May. 30-II



(48)

BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA
BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

749 MAIN

549011111

4/97

A. FORBES

BHC

Reg. 10-III



(49) BOLTON, ~~MA~~ WORCESTER CO, MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

749 MAIN ST

4/97

E. ENGELMANN

BHC

Req. 9-I

MAP No. 9 > 21 873 0111 N N N N N N 2



BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC

DISTRICT

(50)

777 MAIN ST

4/97

E. ENGEL MANN

BHC

MARK No. 77 18 875 8111 N N N N N N 2

neg. 7I



(51) BOSTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOSTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

730 MAIN ST.

519 0111 1-1

4/97
A. FORBES
BHC

neg. 13 - III



(S2)

BOLTON, WORCESTER CO., MA

BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

behind 663 MAIN ST.

7540111 1-2

4/97

E. ENGELMANN

BAC

119.29

HUDSON, MASSACHUSETTS

7.5 X 15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Hudson
MASSACHUSETTS
 BOLTON CENTER HD
 BOLTON, WORCESTER COUNTY, MA

1:25 000-scale metric
 topographic map

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
 1988

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
 Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts agencies

Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1980. Field checked 1981. Map edited 1988
 Supersedes Clinton 1965 and Hudson 1966
 1:25,000-scale maps

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 VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
 CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
 OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER

THIS MAP COMPLES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
 FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
 DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

Meters	Feet	ADJOINING MAPS	
1	3.2808	1	2
2	6.5617	3	5
3	9.8425	4	7
4	13.1234	6	8
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 (GM) and 1983 magnetic declination (MD) at center of map
 Diagram is approximate

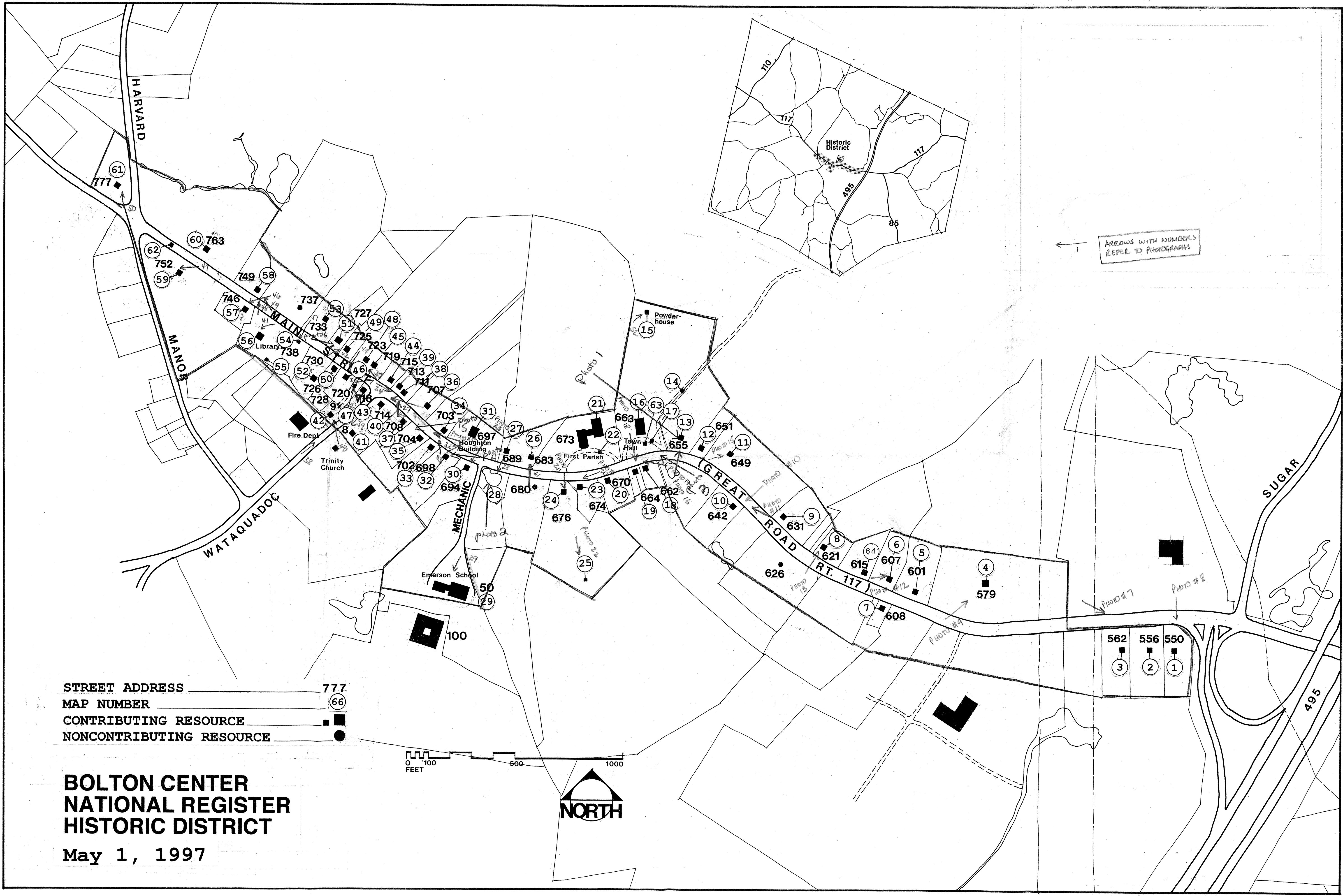
ADJOINING MAPS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Fitchburg							
2	Andover							
3	Billerica							
4	Stirling							
5	Mansfield							
6	Worcester North							
7	Marblehead							
8	Framingham							

ISBN 0-607-23479-2
 9 780607 234794

Topographic Map Symbols

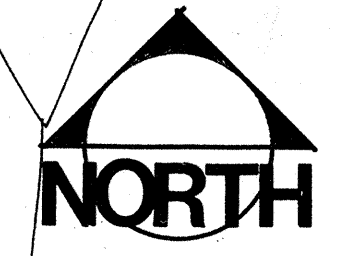
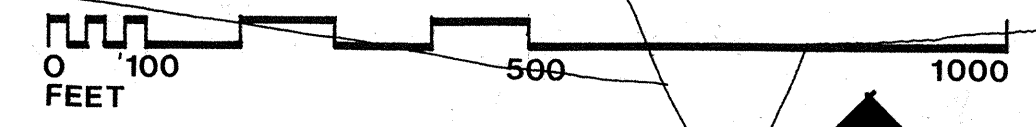
Primary highway, hard surface
 Secondary highway, hard surface
 Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
 Unimproved road, trail
 Route marker: interstate, U. S. State
 Railroad: standard gauge, narrow gauge
 Bridge, drawbridge
 Footbridge, overpass, underpass
 Built-up area: only selected landmark 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, small park
 Land grant with monument, found section corner
 U. S. public lands survey: range, township, section
 Range, township, section line: location approximate
 Fence or field line
 Power transmission line, natural gas
 Dam, dam with lock
 Cemetery, grave
 Campground, picnic area, U. S. location monument
 Windmill, water well, spring
 Mine shaft, prospect, shaft or cave
 Control: horizontal station, vertical station, spot elevation
 Contours: index, intermediate, supplementary, depression
 Distorted surface: strip mine, lava, sand
 Sounding, depth curve
 Parental lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream
 Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small
 Swamp, marsh
 Submerged marsh; land subject to controlled inundation
 Woodland; scattered trees
 Scrub; mangrove
 Orchard; vineyard

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request
 HUDSON, MASSACHUSETTS
 42071-D5-TM-025
 1988



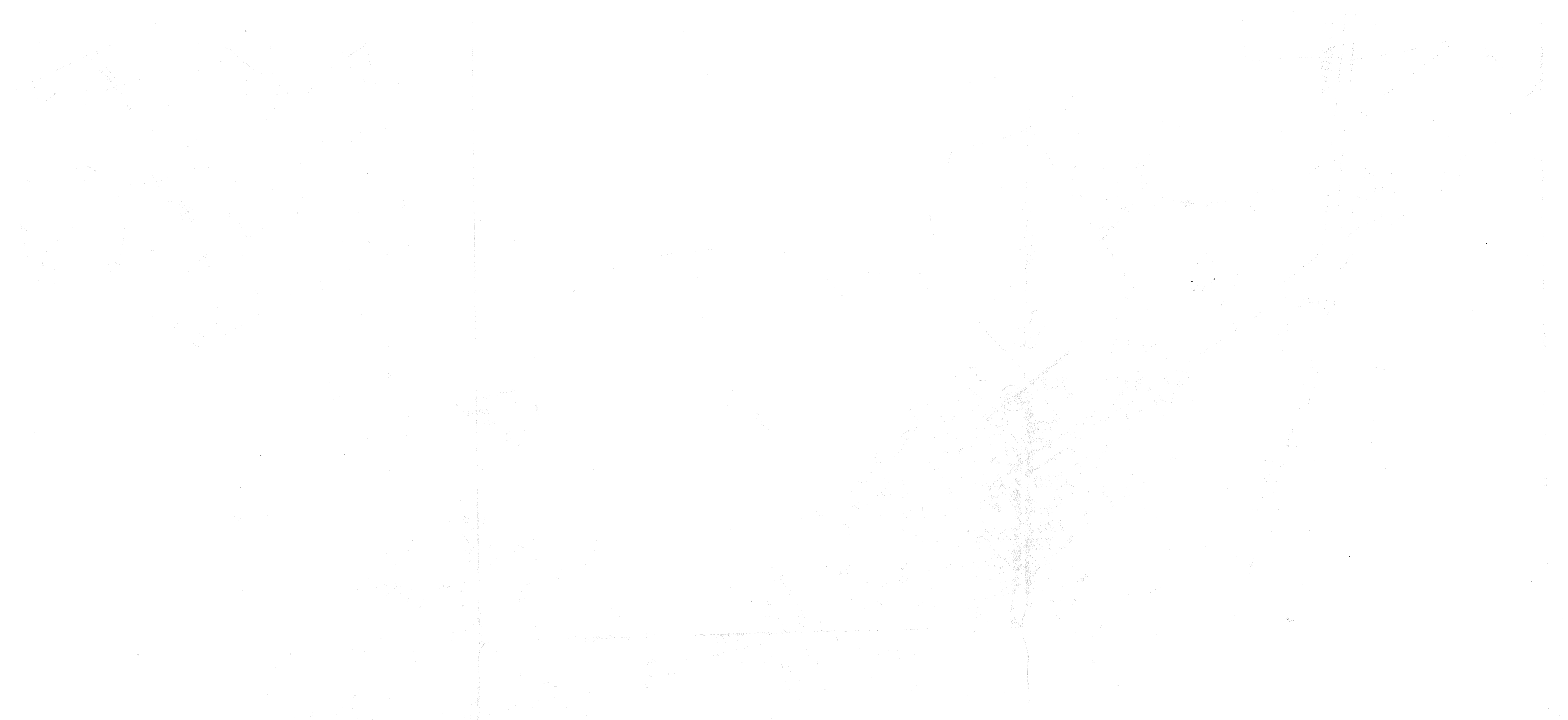
STREET ADDRESS 777
 MAP NUMBER (66)
 CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE ■
 NONCONTRIBUTING RESOURCE ●

**BOLTON CENTER
 NATIONAL REGISTER
 HISTORIC DISTRICT**
 May 1, 1997



ARROWS WITH NUMBERS REFER TO PHOTOGRAPHS

562
3
556
2
550
1



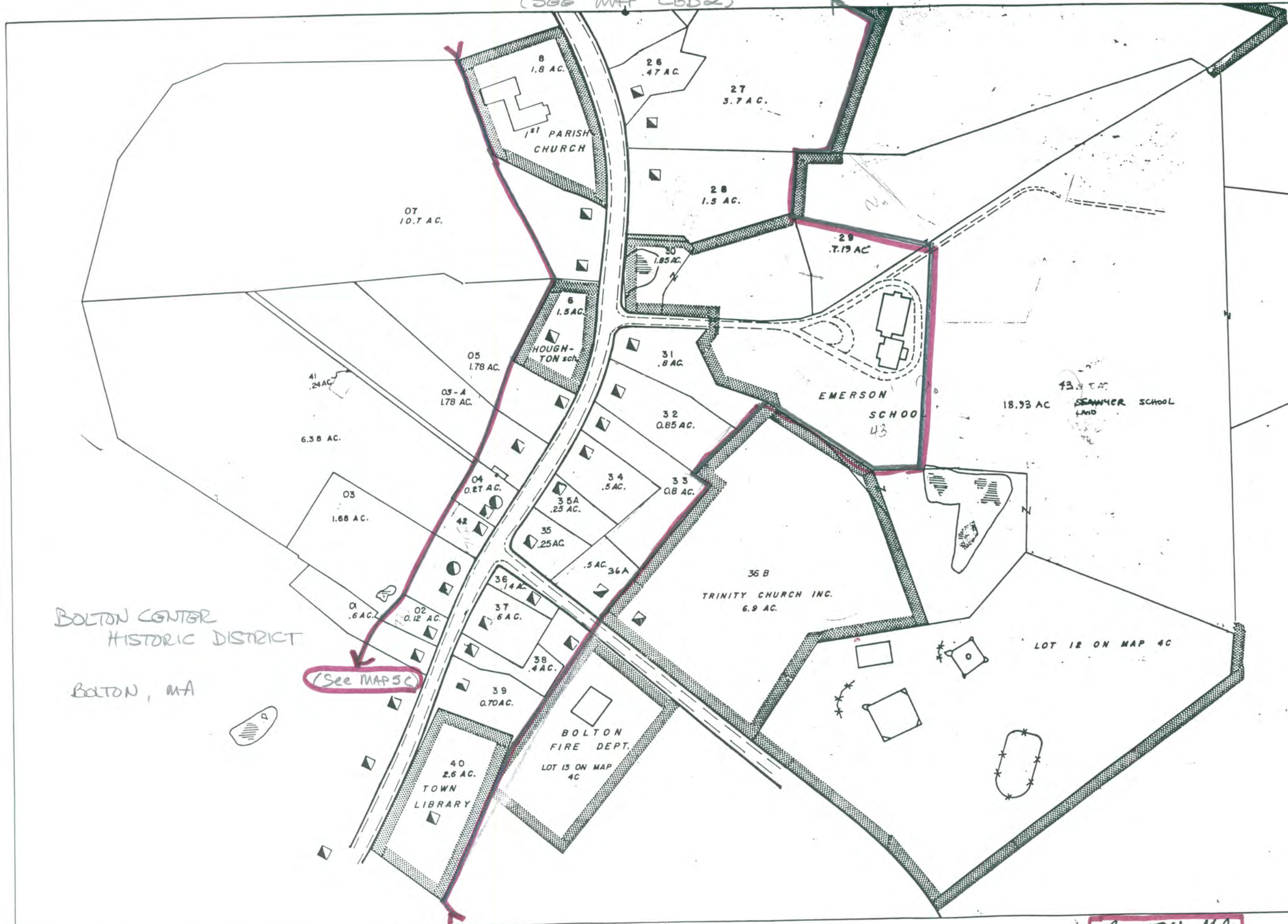
ASSESSOR'S MAPS :

BOLTON
CENTER
HISTORIC
DISTRICT

1920

1920

(SEE MAP CBD2)



BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

BOLTON, MA

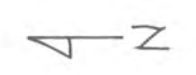
(See MAP 5C)

BOLTON, MA
MAP CBD1

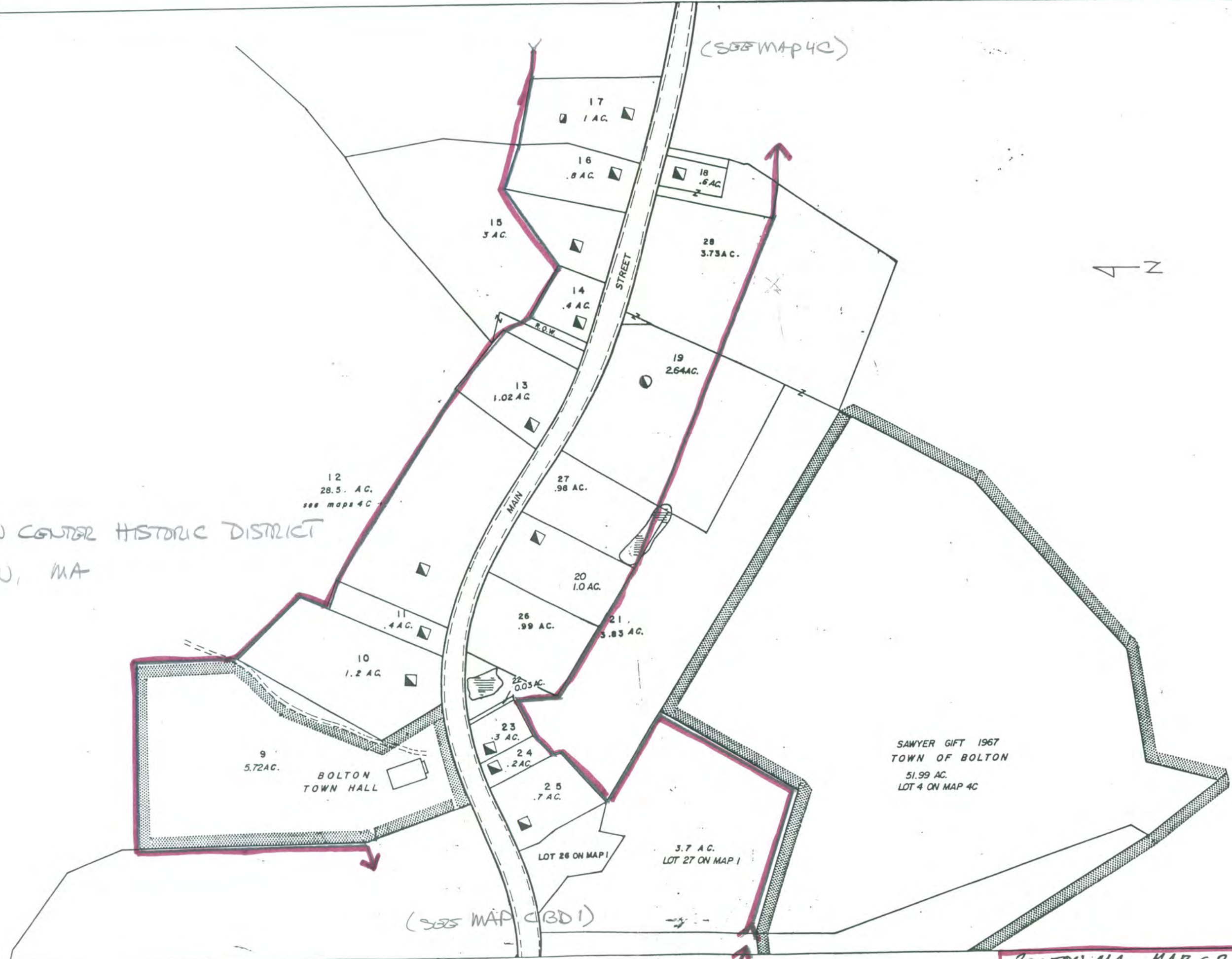
REV BY
ORIGINAL



(SEE MAP 4C)



BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
BOLTON, MA



SAWYER GIFT 1967
TOWN OF BOLTON
51.99 AC.
LOT 4 ON MAP 4C

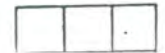
(SEE MAP CBD 1)

SCALE: 1:1200

1" = 200'

BOLTON, MA MAP CBD 2

REV. BY	AVIS	1968
ORIGINAL ISSUE:	1967	



SEE MAP 3C

SEE 5C

SEE MAPS
CBD 1
CBD 2

NOTE: FOR THIS AREA SEE - MAPS CBD 1, 2.

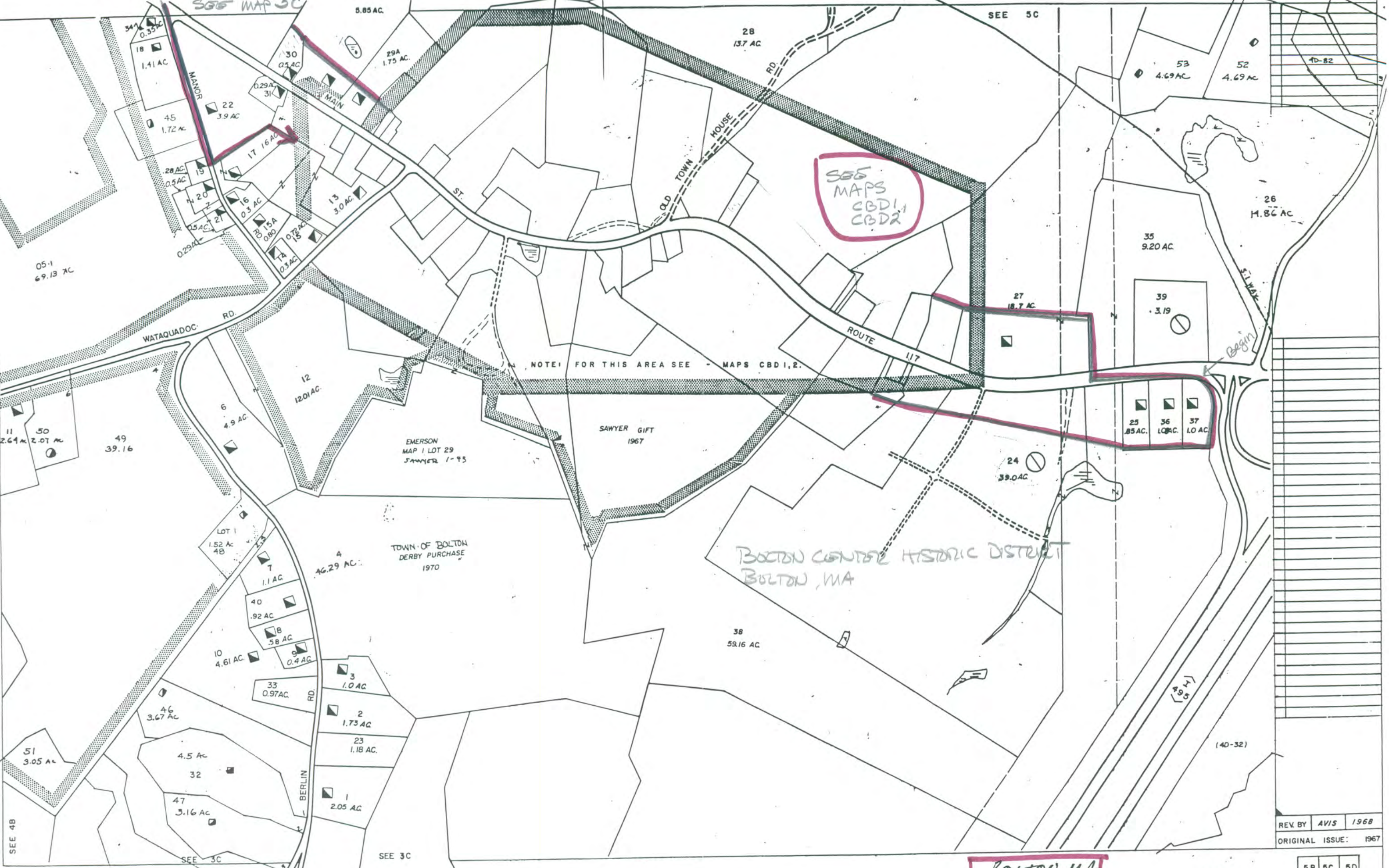
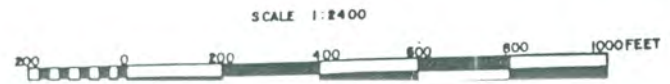
BOLTON CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
BOLTON, MA

REV BY AVIS 1968
ORIGINAL ISSUE: 1967

BOLTON, MA
MAP 4C

5B	5C	5D
4B	4C	4D

PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
THE BOLTON BOARD OF ASSESSORS.



BF

WILLIAM W. COTTING
COUNSELLOR AT LAW

276 WEST MAIN STREET
NORTHBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS 01532
TELEPHONE: (508) 393-8000
TELECOPIER: (508) 393-9916

RECEIVED

AUG 22 1997

MASS. HIST. COMM

August 20, 1997

State Historic Preservation Officer
Massachusetts Historical Commission
Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth
William Francis Galvin, Secretary
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125

Re: Estate of Dorothy F. Dewhurst
579 Great Road, Bolton
Assessor's Map 4C, Parcel 27
Bolton Center Historical District

Dear Sir/Madam:

Please be advised that I am the Executor of the Estate of Dorothy F. Dewhurst, sole property owner of 579 Main Street, Bolton.

I am in receipt of a letter dated August 9, 1997 from the Massachusetts Historical Commission informing me that property owned by the Estate of Dorothy F. Dewhurst is within boundaries of the proposed Bolton Center National Registry Historic District, Bolton, will be considered for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

It is my understanding there is a meeting on September 4, 1997 in Bolton to discuss the nomination of the Bolton Center National Register Historic District and a meeting to be held on September 10, 1997 at the Massachusetts National Guard Military Museum, 44 Salisbury St., Worcester, Massachusetts to consider the nomination to the National Registry of Historic Places.

WILLIAM W. COTTING
COUNSELLOR AT LAW

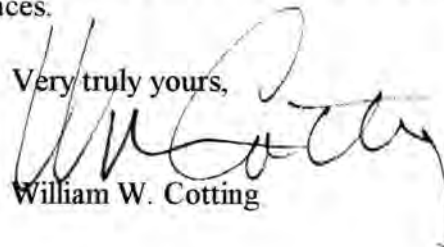
State Historic Preservation Officer
Massachusetts Historical Commission
Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth
William Francis Galvin, Secretary
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125

Page 2

August 20, 1997

As Executor of the Estate of Dorothy F. Dewhurst, sole property owner of private property at 579 Main Street, Bolton, I wish to object to this property being listed as part of the Bolton Center National Register Historic District and I object to this property being listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Very truly yours,



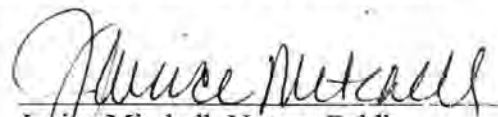
William W. Cotting

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Worcester, ss.

August 20, 1997

Before me personally appeared William W. Cotting, Executor of the Estate of Dorothy F. Dewhurst, to me known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he executed the same as his free act and deed.



Janice Mitchell, Notary Public
My Commission Expires: 3/13/03



THE FLATLEY COMPANY

Fifty Braintree Hill Office Park • Braintree, Massachusetts 02184-8754 • (617) 848-2000

September 10, 1997

Ms. Judith McDonough
Massachusetts Historical Commission
Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth
Mass. Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125

Dear Ms. McDonough:

This letter is in response to the nomination of a portion of The Flatley Company's office campus in Bolton to the National Register of Historic Places.

The National Register of Historic Places is a very fitting designation for many of the properties in Bolton along Main Street. The rural flavor and older nature of many of the buildings, especially near the Town Center, certainly lend themselves to this prestigious designation.

Of the 39 acres that The Flatley Company owns at 580 Main Street, a certain portion of the front of the property is mapped to be included in the Historical Register. The Flatley Company respectfully requests that its property not to be included in the designation.

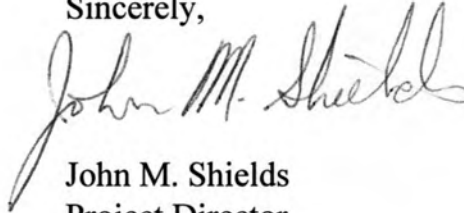
As you know, the office campus itself does not fit the criteria for inclusion in the National Historic Register. It was built in the late 20th century (1988). There are no buildings on the entire site built before 1947, and there has been no significant historical event on the site that would warrant special consideration.

Recently the Town approved the addition of over 60 units of elderly housing to our abutting property. This may result in the application by the Town to Mass. Highway to make traffic improvements which would include the property at 580 Main Street. It is possible that, to improve or add to the septic capacity on our property, it would require Mass. Department of Environmental Protection

Ms. Judith McDonough
Massachusetts Historical Commission
September 10, 1997
Page Two

approval. Since the nature of your approval has the potential to complicate these modern improvements, The Flatley Company respectfully requests that the southeasterly designation line be laid out to coincide with the State's "Right of Way" line along Route 117 at 580 Main Street. This compromise would serve the fair interests of both parties. Although we support the nature of the historic designation, it is clear that the subject property (580 Main Street) will not benefit in any manner under the proposed nomination and will more likely be burdened by unnecessary bureaucracy and red tape.

Sincerely,



John M. Shields
Project Director

JMS/kl

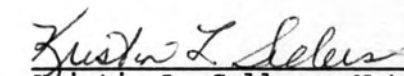
cc: Charles Cummings

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Norfolk, ss.

September 10, 1997

Then personally appeared the above-named John M. Shields and acknowledged the foregoing to be his free act and deed, before me


Kristin L. Sellers, Notary Public
My Commission Expires: 9/4/98



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

September 19, 1997

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
P. O. Box 37127
Washington, D. C. 20013-7127

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Bolton Center Historic District, Main and Mechanic Streets, Wataquadoc Road,
Bolton (Worcester County), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of the property within the district were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 75 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment. To date the Commission has received two notarized letters of objection.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betsy Friedberg".

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

cc: Linda Engelmann, Chair, Bolton Historical Commission
Kenneth Troup, Chair, Bolton Board of Selectmen
Anne McCarthy Forbes, Preservation Planner

Enclosure

220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125 · (617) 727-8470
Fax: (617) 727-5128 TDD: 1-800-392-6090
Website: www.magnet.state.ma.us/sec/mhc