

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

JAN 17 1989

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Orange Center Historic District
other names/site number _____

2. Location Portions of North, South, East and West Main Streets; West River Street;

street & number Prospect Street; Water Street; Depot Street. N/A not for publication
city, town Orange N/A vicinity
state Massachusetts code 025 county Franklin code 011 zip code 01364

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>37</u>	<u>5</u> buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>39</u>	<u>5</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.

Valerie Talmage Jan. 3, 1989
Signature of certifying official Date
Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau State Historic Preservation Officer

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. 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): _____

Betty R. Savage 4-27-89

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use Orange Center Historic District, Orange, Massachusetts

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

See Continuation Sheet

See Continuation Sheet

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Mid-19th Century: Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Italian Villa

foundation brick

Late Victorian: Victorian, Second Empire, Victorian Gothic, Italianate, Second Renaissance Revival, Richardsonian Romanesque, Romanesque Revival

walls brick

wood: weatherboard

Late 19th & 20th Century American Movements: Commercial

roof asphalt

other stone; sandstone/brownstone

Other: Mid-19th Century Utilitarian, Late 19th Century Industrial

glass

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

7 Summary Description

Located in the center of Orange, the northeasternmost town in Franklin County, the Orange Center Historic District is composed of commercial, industrial, and institutional buildings that are evidence the town's rapid growth from the late 1830s to ca. 1935. Containing the intersection of North, South, East, and West Main Streets, the district boundaries also include a portion of Millers River, which bisects the lower portion of the district. The district encompasses nearly twelve acres and contains thirty-nine contributing elements, including the Town Hall, a former meeting hall, two churches (one now a lodge), a bank, a former school, several commercial blocks, a railroad freight house, remnants of the New Home Sewing Machine Company, the Chase Turbine Manufacturing Company, one fountain, and one statue in a public park. Five buildings are considered noncontributing, one due to extensive exterior alteration, and the others due to their more recent dates of construction. Most of the contributing buildings were constructed during a peak period in Orange's commercial and industrial development, touched off by the opening of a Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad station in 1846, and sustained by the growth of the town's manufacturing industries until the mid-1930s.

Physical Development

The street grid of Orange Center is based on early transportation routes and predates significant development. A colonial-period east-west route along Millers River, also known as the old Mohawk Indian trail, is now Route 2A or East and West Main Streets through the historic district. The north-south highway to New Salem, which included the bridge over Millers River, is now Route 122 or North and South Main Streets through the district. These two axes organized the physical growth of Orange Center.

The town of Orange was a secondary settlement with a primarily agricultural economy in the early 19th century. The Center began to develop as the town's civic focus in the late 1830s, with the 1837 completion of the first Town Hall

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Function or Use (continued)

Historic Functions (continued)

commerce/trade: department store
industry: manufacturing facility
commerce/trade: financial institution
social: meeting hall
religion: religious structure
government: city hall
transportation: rail-related
education: school
landscape: street furniture/object
landscape: park

Current Functions (continued)

commerce/trade: department store
industry: manufacturing facility
industry: storage
work in progress
recreation and culture: museum
commerce/trade; business
government: city hall
religion: religious structure
landscape: street furniture/object
landscape: park

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facing North Main Street in the northern end of the historic district. The street grid expanded accordingly to include creation of Prospect Street. Early development in general occurred primarily in the north end of the district.

Expansion continued in the 1840s with the opening in 1846 of regional connections to Fitchburg and Boston via the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad. This action established Orange Center as a component in the rapidly developing east-west industrial corridor along Millers River and encouraged greater commercial development of the downtown area. Ensuing commercial and residential development occurred along East Main Street, South Main Street, and the original Depot Street (now Water Street). Depot Street connected the other two streets via the new railroad depot (now gone) southeast of the main intersection. Commercial development at Orange Center was also directly related to the successes of the town's furniture and machine manufacturing industries located in the district's southwest quarter; these brought people, capital, and greater opportunity to Orange for nearly ninety years.

The earliest extant buildings in the Orange Center Historic District mark the advent of this period of intense industrial and commercial development. Of the Greek Revival style, the district's best representative is the Goddard Block at 10 North Main Street (ca. 1844, Map #8, Photo #1), a 2 1/2-story wood-frame building that contained residential and commercial space in the north and west portions, respectively, of the L-plan. This building originally had a projecting portico of Doric columns, removed in a ca. 1880s remodeling and enlargement, although the pilasters of the original front are still visible. Despite an addition to the commercial facade ca. 1915, the Goddard Block retains its Greek Revival spirit with its wide pilaster cornerboards and guttae-trimmed architraves, and pedimented dormers.

The Whipple Block (ca. 1848, Map #37, Photo #2), the sister Greek Revival building to the Goddard Block, is located at 2 West Main Street, directly across the street. Once the town's general store and post office, the Whipple Block was remodeled ca. 1875, at which time the original south-facing projecting portico and corner pilasters were removed, the present main facade extended, and the entire building bracketed in the Italianate style.

Simpler versions of the Greek Revival style are 24 North Main Street (ca. 1850, Map #7) and 26-28 North Main Street (ca. 1849, Map #6), similar to the Goddard Block in their wood-frame construction and orientation of gable-end to street. Both buildings have provided Orange Center with commercial space continuously since ca. 1870. Finally, a

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vernacular Greek Revival double house remains at 28-30 South Main Street (ca. 1860, Map #30, Photo #3). Like its North Main Street counterparts, this broad gabled wood-frame 2 1/2-story building housed commercial ventures on the first floor, including a drugstore, a jewelry store, and a Chinese laundry among others through the second half of the 19th century.

The only Gothic Revival building in Orange Center is the Universalist Church (ca. 1833, Map #3, Photo #4) on North Main Street. Moved from its original location across the street in ca. 1857, this three bay, wood-frame church retains its original entrance/tower configuration, complete with pointed arch windows, trefoil inset panels, wood buttresses, and embattlements. A ca. 1889 addition extended the front facade by one bay to either side of the tower. Universalist Church, the first church constructed in Orange Center, is the only institutional building of its period extant in the historic district.

Non-industrial development in the 1860s continued to focus on North Main Street. The former Stephen French (1823-1905) house, now the Orange Historical Society, 41 North Main Street, (Map #4, Photo #5), was the home of one of Orange's wholesale and retail furniture dealers in the 1870s. The Italianate-style house is a conglomeration of rectangular blocks, the earliest portion constructed ca. 1867 and fronting North Main Street. A barn topped with a cupola--an Italian villa in and of itself--was added to the High Street (west) side of the building between 1871 and 1884. A continuous run of brackets beneath the eaves ties together the two portions of this sequentially designed Italianate building. A Colonial Revival wraparound veranda was added after 1905.

The present town hall stands on the North Main Street site of the first town hall, built in 1837 and removed thirty years later. A new building was constructed by Lewis Howe in 1868 at the cost of approximately \$25,000. The new Orange Town Hall, 6 Prospect Street (Map #2, Photo #4), is an imposing 2 1/2-story brick building of a slightly different design than originally built. Constructed with a mansard roof--apparently the earliest mansard roof in Orange Center--the building underwent a modernization ca. 1900, at which time the mansard roof was removed and a parapet added; a brick armory was constructed on the rear (west side); and an elaborate brick and stone arcaded frontspiece with grand stone staircase was added to the main facade. Once modified, the building housed town offices on the north side and a public library on the south side, as well as the town's first armory in the rear. The monumentality of the updated town hall is indicative of the economic prosperity that had come to Orange by the turn of the 20th century.

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Also by the end of the 1860s, industrial/utilitarian buildings were constructed primarily south of the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad tracks and along Millers River. Orange Furniture Company, Chase Turbine Manufacturing Company, and Gold Medal (later New Home) Sewing Machine Company among others built mostly wood-frame storehouses and mills in this area of the historic district. The oldest extant building is off Water Street, the Railroad Freight House (ca. 1855-1870, Map #16, Photo #6), with a symmetrical plan and broad gable roof. Brick pilaster-like elements divide the walls into bays, adding rhythm as well as architectural interest to the side elevations. The manipulation of wall planes in this early industrial building foreshadows the elaborate brick ornamental wall surfaces that became so popular on Orange Center's industrial buildings and commercial facades of the 1880s and 1890s.

Finally, the 1860s brought considerable development along the East Main Street/West Main Street commercial axis. Four wood-frame commercial buildings--5-11 East Main Street (Map #9, Photo #7), 13 East Main Street (Map #10, Photo #7), 15-17 East Main Street (Map #11) and 18-20 East Main Street (Map #13)--were all constructed by 1870. The first three were updated with brick facades at a later time (see below). The building at 15-17 East Main Street is a three bay, two-story commercial block with a mansard roof. A ca. 1883 remodeling extended the main facade beyond the line of the mansard roof and toward the street. The present double-bracketed cornice and scallop-trimmed classical window heads on the storefront were probably added at that time.

Next to this East Main Street commercial area is the second church in the district, the Baptist Church, 19 East Main Street, constructed ca. 1873 (Map #12). Considerably plainer than the district's other buildings, the 2 1/2-story wood-frame church has an arched entrance and a square tower at the center. The steeple was removed in 1923. No longer used as a church, the building is now a Masonic lodge.

Two brick buildings constructed along West Main Street in the 1870s introduced new ornamental schemes to Orange Center. Putnam Opera House (also known as the Odd Fellows Block) stands at 7-9 West Main Street (Map #34, Photo #8). This four-story, seven-bay commercial block built ca. 1877 has a low roof and a fenestration pattern similar to those of an industrial building, plus brick "pilasters" rising the full four stories. What distinguishes Putnam Opera House from other brick buildings in the historic district, however, is its bold, bracketed wood cornice on the main facade. The building underwent interior remodeling after a fire ca. 1905. Victorian Gothic came to Orange Center with the construction in 1874 of the Orange Savings Bank, now the

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Workers Credit Union at 11-13 East Main Street (Map #35, Photo #8). The (now painted) stone pointed-arch windows with incised carvings on the second story contrast with the brick wall surfaces in a typically Victorian Gothic manner, and the bank's brick corbelled frieze has a Moorish flavor as well. A wood mansard roof with heavy dentillated cornice was removed ca. 1968 due to severe deterioration.

A second bank built about seven years later was a more vernacular version of the Victorian Gothic. Orange National Bank (ca. 1881, Map #A, Photo #20) at 12 North Main Street once had a polychromatic gabled entrance, tall chimneys, and a steep hipped roof. Unfortunately, the architectural integrity of the original building has been lost due to repeated alterations, the most extensive of which took place in the 1960s.

The last of the district's vernacular Victorian brick buildings is Memorial Hall (ca. 1892, Map #1), constructed at 14 Prospect Street by the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic. Originally a meeting hall and now a museum of local industry, this modest brick building has a side entrance tower with the only turret roof in the district. The entrance hood is supported by two large fanlike brackets.

The Romanesque style made a brief appearance in Orange Center after 1890 with the construction of two institutional buildings, Central School and the Masonic Block. Central School (1894, Map #5, Photo #9) on North Main Street features a Richardsonian arched entryway and Palladian window on the main facade. A lighter interpretation of the Romanesque is the Masonic Block (1892, Map #15, Photo #10) at 9-13 South Main Street. Occupying the site of the former Congregational Church, the Masonic Block is one of the buildings constructed at the Main Streets intersection after a fire destroyed several buildings along South and East Main Streets in November 1891. The facade includes an arcaded third story, recessed brick panels, and stylized brick pilasters.

The block at 12-16 East Main Street (ca. 1892, map #14, Photo #11) is the earliest in an extant group of commercial and industrial buildings constructed in Orange Center between ca. 1892 and ca. 1902. The ornamental schemes displayed in these brick buildings sharply contrast with the plainer, more utilitarian features of earlier brick buildings such as the railroad freight house. A souvenir book of Orange published by a local businessman in 1891 predicted a revitalized interest in ornament: "As the town grows in size and wealth and culture, increased attention will be given to the ornamental, and

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the place become [sic] still more attractive than it is now." (Souvenir Book, Compliments of Jay B. Reynolds, Orange, MA. May 1st, 1891, no page numbers). The three-story commercial block on East Main Street retains its original off-center entryway topped with brick corbelled shoulders. Corbelling is also applied for decorative emphasis along the cornice of the main facade, as well as beneath the chimney stack on the building's east elevation.

The Chase Turbine Manufacturing Company buildings (Map #26 through 29, Photo #12) constructed in the late 1880s reflect early attempts to add visual interest to the plain brick wall surfaces of the district's industrial buildings. Sawtooth ornament is used beneath the cornice and above the windows of some elevations. The later group of New Home Sewing Machine Company buildings (Map #18 through 25, Photo #13) shows a fully developed brick ornamental scheme. The five buildings on the south side of Millers River (four ca. 1892, one ca. 1898) and two on the north side (ca. 1898, ca. 1902)--all strictly industrial/utilitarian in function--are distinguished for their elaborate ornament, from dentils and multilayered cornices with inset panels to patterned stringcourses. Single round-arched windows and double segmental-arched windows constitute a predominant fenestration scheme that unifies the seven buildings, but an occasional departure, such as the lancet windows of one building, reinforces their individual characters as well. An iron bridge that once spanned South Main Street, erected sometime between 1892 and 1895, facilitated the movement of equipment and materials between two of the buildings; bricked-in patches on those two facades are a reminder of the former bridge, which was dismantled in 1936.

In addition to factories, a building design seen at both the New Home Sewing and the Chase Turbine Manufacturing complexes is the iron foundry with a clerestory monitor roof. The former Orange Foundry (ca. 1883, Map #25), later part of New Home Sewing Machine Company, is constructed on a T-plan. The Chase Turbine Foundry (ca. 1889, Map #28), a smaller version of the earlier foundry, is similar in profile but has a square plan.

The commercial strip adjacent to the New Home buildings in the southern portion of the district includes 20-22 South Main Street (ca. 1884, Map #32), a two-story brick store block with a one-story wood-frame porch. One-story brick commercial buildings were constructed at 26 South Main Street (Map #31, Photo #3) and 14-14 1/2 South Main Street (Map #33) between ca. 1895 and 1905. The storefronts of the buildings, as with other commercial buildings in the district, have been modified, but not to such an extent as to significantly damage the buildings' original architectural integrity.

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A common building practice in early 20th-century Orange Center was the application of new brick facades to some of the district's pre-1870 wood-frame buildings along East Main Street. The new facades undoubtedly had an updated look and a greater air of permanence than their wood-frame predecessors. The earliest example of such a conversion actually dates from 1893, when a brick facade with double bracketed cornice was added to 13 East Main Street (Map #10, Photo #7). By ca. 1910, however, the entire north side of East Main Street within the district consisted of brick facades. In addition to 13 East Main, there was a commercial addition to the Goddard Block at 1-3 East Main Street (Map #8, Photo #15) and 5-11 East Main Street (Map #9, Photo #7). The two later brick commercial facades are distinguished by their elaborate wood cornices with modillions and corner consoles. This same type of cornice appears on Mattawa Block at 17-21 West Main Street (Map #36, Photo #8), a commercial block clad in brick with the present facade probably added by ca. 1910. Improvements to commercial buildings along the town's primary east-west axis in the early 20th century were likely due at least in part to the presence of an electric trolley line that ran from Athol through Orange Center (via East and West Main Streets) from ca. 1895 to ca. 1933. The latest instance of facade updating along the commercial corridor was the addition of a brick facade to the wood-frame commercial block at 18-20 East Main Street in 1926 (Map #13).

The railroad crossing and river account for most of the gaps in the continuity of the district's streetscape. A brick office and apartment building built by Abe Putnam in 1890 and known locally as "Abraham's Temple" burned in a 1978 fire; the site across Prospect Street from Town Hall is now a parking lot.

The land off South Main Street near the present Depot and Water Streets has always been a transitional point between commercial buildings to the north and industrial buildings to the south. A ca. 1920s wood-frame Railroad Crossing Gate House (Map #39) on Depot Street is extant and now serves as a taxi stand. The wood-frame buildings fronting South Main Street were razed and the land cleared and planted in 1934. Now the town common or Memorial Park (Photo #14) contains a bronze statue of a soldier and a young boy (1934, Map #17) sculpted by Joseph Pollia of New York City. Finally, a granite-columned fountain (Map #38) has marked the town center--at the Main Streets intersection--since 1904.

Most buildings in the district are occupied and are currently in good to fair condition. Economic decline from the late 1930s to the 1970s resulted in reuse of many 19th and early 20th-century commercial buildings. Alteration to historic fabric has been confined primarily to ground-floor storefronts of the

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commercial buildings. Three buildings--the Mattawa Block Cook Court (5-11 East Main Street), and the Goddard Block and its brick addition--were rehabilitated ca. 1979. Three more rehabilitation projects are planned, and more rehabilitation is expected if the center is declared a historic district.

As the commercial, institutional, and industrial core of the town of Orange, the Orange Center Historic District is visually and functionally distinct from the surrounding residential areas. Physically, the district reflects the largely commercial and industrial developments that caused the town to prosper in the second half of the 19th century and early decades of the 20th century. The Orange Center district has changed little since the latest historically significant construction occurred ca. 1915.

Intrusions

Of the forty-two buildings in the proposed district, five are intrusions by virtue of their late dates of construction. A ca. 1940s tunnel roof diner (Map #E, Photo #8) on West Main Street was constructed between Putnam Opera House and Lamb's Block, a wood-frame building demolished in 1966 after 116 years on the southwest corner of the Main Streets intersection. The site is now occupied by a ca. 1966 gas station 2 South Main Street (Map #D). A three-store commercial block at 1-7 South Main Street (ca. 1955, Map #B, Photo #2,10) occupies the site of the Mann Block, destroyed by fire in December 1954. A ca. 1960s bar at 24 South Main Street (Map #C, Photo #3) occupies a lot that stood vacant at least until ca. 1910. Two other ca. 1960s buildings,, a restaurant at 17 Water Street (Map #G) and a galvanized steel pub at 39 Water Street (Map #F), are located behind the Masonic Block.

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Archaeological Description

No prehistoric sites are currently recorded within the district or in the general area (within one mile). Low native settlement density in this area and extensive industrial development indicates a low potential for prehistoric site survival.

There is a high potential for significant historical archaeological remains on the property. The Millers River area was a known locus of mill development from the late 18th through 19th centuries. A 1790s mill may exist in the New Home Sewing Machine Company area. However, most mills and associated commercial/institutional structures were built from the 1830s through 19th century. Areas on both banks of the Millers River west of South Main Street probably contain the most industrial archaeological potential, especially the north bank where industry was started in the 1830s and 1840s. Numerous commercial and institutional buildings are still extant in the district. Controlled testing and excavation can determine whether or not physical remains of mills and other commercial/institutional structures no longer extant survive as well as occupation-related features such as trash pits, privies and wells. Similar features may also survive associated with structures still standing.

8. Statement of Significance Orange Center Historic District, Orange, Massachusetts

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Industry
Commerce
Architecture

Period of Significance

1830-ca. 1935

Significant Dates

ca. 1830-1870
ca. 1870-1915
1915-ca. 1935

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Lewis Howe (2nd Town Hall)

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Statement of Significance

The Orange Center Historic District represents the prosperity that accompanied Orange's thriving machine shop industry in the mid- to late 19th century. As the town's commercial and institutional core, as well as the focus of its industrial activities since the 1830s and 1840s, this downtown district has played a significant role in the development of modern Orange. The buildings comprising Orange Center display a variety of 19th-century architectural styles, and the evolution of building types--civic, religious, commercial, educational, transportation-related, and industrial--reflects the area's rise from small a crossroads community to a booming manufacturing center. Orange Center largely retains its early 20th-century appearance, due in part to economic decline after the 1930s that discouraged new development in the downtown area. The Orange Center Historic District possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and association, and meets Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places on the local level.

Historical Context

The town of Orange was incorporated in 1810 with adjustments along the Athol (east), New Salem (south), and West Orange/Erving (west) boundaries in 1816 and 1837. First settlement of (South) Orange occurred relatively late in the 19th century, and then only as an outgrowth of earlier and much larger colonial settlements in Athol and North Orange. What is now Orange Center was wilderness until about 1785, when the first dam and bridge on Millers River were built.¹ Millers River became a prime location for mills, and at least one--dating to ca. 1790--occupied a site on the south side of the river where

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New Home Sewing Machine Company buildings were later constructed. Among those wood-frame mills, of which no trace remains, was the wooden pail mill built by Robert Carpenter in the early 1830s.² Carpenter's Mills and others probably still existed by the time development began in the northern end of the historic district.

Well on its way to becoming a manufacturing center, the crossroads community that was to become Orange Center first acquired its identity as the town's institutional core with the construction of the first Town Hall and Universalist Church by the late 1830s. The historic district at Orange Center is also significant as a barometer of the town's economic condition throughout its history. The growth generated by Orange's various manufacturing industries, regardless of whether those industries actually operated out of the Center, was always apparent in the historic district. Commercial buildings such as the Goddard Block, Whipple Block, 24 North Main Street and 26-28 North Main Street were constructed to meet the requirements of the Center's expanding business community by the third quarter of the 19th century.

Construction of the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad through Orange in 1846 further expanded the Center's potential for industrial and commercial development. Connecting Orange with other towns along the Millers River industrial corridor, the railroad also facilitated shipment of materials and manufactured products in a manner that was cheaper and faster than had been previously possible over roads. Warehouses and other storage buildings were constructed near the railroad depot east of South Main Street. Although the original railroad depot was removed ca. 1860,³ a single Railroad Freight House, constructed before 1870 and currently used for storage by Rodney Hunt Co., is extant. The railroad was known as the Fitchburg Railroad in the 1890s,⁴ and was still later leased to the Boston & Maine Company for 99 years.⁴ Offering passenger service for 113 years, the railroad now operates only as a freight line.⁵

One industry that had a "ware room" next to the railroad tracks was French Brothers & Co., a furniture manufacturer. The manufacture of chairs and cabinetware was the largest industry in Orange in terms of numbers of employees in the mid-1850s,⁶ but unfortunately no evidence of these furniture factories remains in the historic district. Production of woodenware in general dominated the town's economy in the mid-19th century, especially before 1865; an abundance of raw materials and lumber mills in the immediate vicinity best explains this phenomenon. French Bros. were advertised in an 1871 Franklin County atlas as "Wholesale and Retail Dealers

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in Chamber Suites, parlor, Dining Room and Kitchen Furniture and House Furnishing Goods."⁷ The president of the company, Stephen French, built his house (now the Orange Historical Society building) on the hill in the north end of the historic district. French not only excelled in the furniture industry, but was involved with the production of the first sewing machine in Orange as well.

It was the machine shop rather than the furniture industry, however, which had the most lasting impact on the architectural and historical significance of the Orange Center Historic District. The oldest of the town's manufacturing companies, Rodney Hunt Machine Co., has operated continuously in Orange since about 1840.⁸ Originally a producer of water wheels, Hunt, Waite & Flint (as the company was called in the 19th century) also manufactured woolen mill machinery and upright and circular saws. The Rodney Hunt Co. complex lies outside the boundaries of the historic district, but the aforementioned Railroad Freight House is likely the same one marked in the 1871 Franklin County atlas as belonging to Hunt, Waite & Flint.

A manufacturing company complex located entirely within the boundaries of the historic district is that of the Chase Turbine Manufacturing Company. A major presence in the Center since its establishment in Orange in the 1860s,⁹ Chase Turbine (or Chase Machinery and Supply Co. as it is now known) has operated from the same location off South Main Street for more than a century. From its complex on the north bank of Millers River next to the Orange Furniture Company (now gone), Chase Turbine produced water wheels, then lumber-working machines, circular saw mills, and power feed saw machines, and still later shafting, gearing, and general machinery.¹⁰ The first machine shop, built ca. 1866, burned in a fire in 1883, at which time the present brick machine shop was constructed.¹¹ Other extant buildings in the complex include two storehouses (ca. 1885) and a brick iron foundry.

The growth of Orange Center and town in general in the second half of the 19th century can be largely attributed to the success of a single industry: the production of sewing machines. The sewing machine industry was the largest to be established in Orange before the Civil War. Newspapers of the period note that Stephen French and Thomas H. White made the first sewing machines in Orange in the spring of 1862, after moving their business to Orange Center from East Templeton, Massachusetts.¹² French and White operated out of a wood-frame shop on the north bank of the river, employing up to forty men before White sold his share of the partnership to French and moved to Cleveland in 1865.

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In a parallel development, Andrew J. Clark and William P. Barker, a gentleman formerly involved with the aforementioned East Templeton sewing machine business, began manufacturing Home Shuttle and New England Single Thread sewing machines in Orange Center in the 1860s. Their business eventually operated from the same South Main Street shop vacated by French and White. After a series of ownership transfers and management changes, the original business reorganized in 1869 as the Gold Medal Sewing Machine Company, a name which reflects the company's recent acquisition of the patent to produce the Gold Medal Sewing Machine.¹³ Clark was president, John W. Wheeler (later the president of New Home Sewing Machine Co.) was secretary/treasurer, and Stephen French (later of the furniture brothers firm) was first superintendent. The corporation, which employed at least forty men,¹⁴ produced sewing machines in a complex of primarily wood frame buildings located on both banks of Millers River. All of these buildings were replaced with brick buildings beginning in the last decade of the 19th century, by which time the company was known as the New Home Sewing Machine Co. (see below).

The new industrial development in Orange Center touched off concomitant commercial and institutional growth by the late 1860s. Construction of a new Town Hall (1868) and expansion of the East Main Street/South Main Street commercial area are directly related to steady activity in the town's machine shops. This activity appears to have continued throughout the Civil War years. By the mid-1870s the total value of the town's manufactured products was \$782,149, the second highest in Franklin County after Montague/Turners Falls. Nearly half of this amount was from sewing machines. Next largest was the output of the Rodney Hunt and Chase Turbine companies, and third was the output of the town's four furniture shops.¹⁵

Further evidence of greater prosperity and economic activity in Orange was the organization of two banks within three years in Orange Center: the Orange Savings Bank (1872) and the Orange National Bank (1875).¹⁶ The two banks shared quarters in the Whipple Block¹⁷ until ca. 1874, when the Savings Bank moved into its new building at 11-13 West Main Street. By 1881, the National Bank occupied its new building across the street at 12 North Main Street.

Two new buildings reflected the increase in population--from 2,497 persons in 1875 to 3,169 by 1880¹⁸--that accompanied the town's continuing expansion in the 1870s. Abraham Putnam operated a hotel (now gone) on West Main Street, known as Franklin House in the 1870s and the Putnam House still later, in conjunction with the Putnam Opera House across the street. The influence of Abe Putnam in Orange Center was felt into the 20th century, for he constructed

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Continuation SheetOrange Center Historic District,
Orange, MassachusettsSection number 8 Page 4

yet another building, a brick office and apartment block, which occupied the southwest corner of Prospect and North Main Streets until the late 1970s. Also in the early 1870s, the Baptist Church congregation built a new church on East Main Street. That building is now a Masonic lodge.

The 1880s was a decade of industry in Orange Center, with construction occurring at the mill complexes on both banks of Millers River. In 1882 the New Home Sewing Machine Company was formed from the Gold Medal corporation, and remained the major industry in the town of Orange until its departure ca. 1930. The largest employer in Franklin County by 1890,¹⁹ the New Home company's growth contributed to a doubling of the town's population from 1870 to 1890.²⁰ By 1890, the company employed more than 600 employees and occupied a complex of buildings with a total floor area in excess of 450,000 square feet.²¹ It was in the 1890s that New Home began construction of brick factory buildings to replace its wood frame buildings along South Main and West River Streets.

A fire in 1891 destroyed several wood-frame commercial blocks at the Center's Main Streets intersection, primarily around the southeast corner. The buildings destroyed included the Congregational Church on South Main Street. In 1892, three brick blocks were built on the site of those burned: 12-16 East Main Street, Mann Block (fronting South Main Street, and the Masonic Block) at 9-13 South Main Street on the former site of the Congregational Church. The Mann Block with its massive clocktower in turn burned in December 1954. Shortly thereafter, the present one-story brick block at 1-7 South Main was constructed to replace some of the commercial space lost to the fire.

In December 1893, no doubt prompted by the steady increase in population at the town center, Orange residents voted at a town meeting to erect a new school on the corner of North Main Street and School Street in the northern end of the historic district. The spacious new school, appropriately called Central School, replaced an earlier and much smaller wood-frame school building located on the same corner. Completed in March 1894, Central School was vacated in 1957 with the consolidation of Orange student bodies at the newly opened Mahar Regional School (serving Orange and Erving), located further south on Route 122.²² The former Central School has since been remodeled inside to provide space for apartments and the state District Law Court.

The most recent New Home buildings were constructed at the turn of the 20th century. Completion of the South Main Street commercial strip, the even-numbered side of the street, occurred about the same time. Continued

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Orange Center Historic District,
Orange, MassachusettsSection number 8 Page 5

expansion of the New Home company precipitated its boom years, 1904-1910, when as many as 743 employees turned out 400 to 500 sewing machines daily.²³

The six extant brick New Home buildings along South Main and West River Streets were all constructed during these expansion years, providing wash rooms, assembling rooms, inspecting rooms, tool rooms, machine rooms, needlemaking facilities, storage space, and offices for the company, whose real estate holdings by that time totaled nearly fourteen acres. Three of the buildings replaced wood-frame structures; the others were constructed on empty spaces within the New Home complex. The complex also includes the Orange Foundry, built in 1883.

The town of Orange reached its peak population during the New Home boom, with 5,578 persons in 1905.²⁴ Also in those years, the Athol and Orange Electric Railroad ran trolleys from Athol through Orange Center down East and West Main Streets. The trolley continued operations until ca. 1933.²⁵ There was also a corresponding emphasis placed on upgrading the buildings along the Center's commercial axes in the early years of the 20th century. In the 1910s, new brick fronts were added to wood-frame buildings along East and West Main Street, including the Mattawa Block and the Goddard Block. The Town Hall also underwent a facelift ca. 1913, at which time the Renaissance Revival front was added.

There was little new development at Orange Center in the 1920s, although some building activity occurred at the east end of the historic district on the initiative of Louis Plotkin of the Plotkin Furniture Company. A highly visible personality in Orange Center in the 1920s and 1930s, Plotkin updated the facade of his store in the Washburn Block at 18-20 East Main (ca. 1926), and later was instrumental in rebuilding on the southeast corner of the Main Streets intersection after the Mann Block fire of 1954.²⁶

Economic decline had begun in Orange Center by the early 1930s. The New Home Sewing Machine Co., a major source of employment and income for the town since the 19th century, had been purchased by Free Sewing Machine Company of Rockford, Illinois, and the Orange factory was abandoned in the move to new corporate headquarters. Since then, the buildings have been parceled out to various manufacturing companies still operating in Orange, among them Erving Paper Corporation and Chase Machinery and Supply Company. The Chase Turbine buildings are still owned by Chase Machinery and Supply Company.

**United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation Sheet**Orange Center Historic District,
Orange, MassachusettsSection number 8 Page 6

The last major development of historical significance to occur within the historic district boundaries was the completion of Memorial Park, or the town common. Once pasture, and later the location of shops and bars in the late 19th to early 20th centuries, the land on this site bound by South Main and Water Streets was cleared and planted in 1933-1934. At the center of the park stands a bronze statue of a boy and soldier, designed by Joseph P. Pollia of New York City. The statue, dedicated in 1934 to those residents of Orange who died in World War I, drew nationwide attention for its controversial subject matter: its inscription, "It Shall Not Be Again," was widely regarded as an expression of pacifism in the pre-World War II days.

The Orange Center Historic District is an excellent example of the institutional, Commercial, and industrial growth and subsequent decline experienced by a typical Massachusetts mill town over the course of almost two centuries. Looking along the two Main Street axes in the historic district, today's visitor sees Orange Center largely as it appeared by the 1930s; later intrusions are few and are of insufficient scale and importance to compromise the district's overall architectural and historical integrity. The building functions and architectural styles recall the days of the town's manufacturing glory. Completed and proposed rehabilitations of several of the district's buildings will maintain those historical associations for future generations.

CHIEFTAIN BRAND
30% COTTON FIBER

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

Orange Center Historic District,
Orange, Massachusetts

Section number 8 Page 7

Notes

¹Orange Historical Commission, Historical Buildings of Orange, Massachusetts (1981), no page numbers.

²Beatrice Miner, History of Orange (Orange Historical Society, 1976), p.54.

³Orange Enterprise and Journal. Orange Illustrated (Orange: J.S. Whitman, Publishers, no date), no page numbers.

⁴Miner, p.72.

⁵Miner, p.72.

⁶Mass. Historical Commission, Reconnaissance Survey Report for Orange, MA (1982), p.8.

⁷Atlas of Franklin County, Massachusetts (F.W. Beers, 1871).

⁸Orra L. Stone, History of Massachusetts Industries, Vol. 1 (Boston-Chicago: The S.J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1930), p.471.

⁹MHC, p.8.

¹⁰Souvenir Book. Compliments of Jay B. Reynolds (Orange, MA, 1891), no page numbers.

¹¹Souvenir Book.

¹²Notes on the manufacture of sewing machines in Orange, compiled by Mr. Woodward from period newspaper clippings. Available from Orange Historical Commission.

¹³Mr. Woodward (see Footnote 12).

¹⁴Stone, p.471.

¹⁵M.H.C., p.10.

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Continuation Sheet

Orange Center Historic District,
Orange, Massachusetts

Section number 8 Page 8

16 Souvenir Book.

17 Miner, p.76.

18 Souvenir Book.

19 M.H.C.

20 Stone, p.471.

21 Stone, p.471.

22 Miner, p.26.

23 Commemorative booklet published on the occasion of the 125th anniversary of the New Home Sewing Machine Co. (Orange, MA, 1985).

24 MHC, p.10.

25 Miner, p.86.

26 Miner.

27 Orange Historical Commission.

CHIEFTAIN BOND
50% COTTON FIBER

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Orange Center Historic District,
Orange, Massachusetts

Section number 9 Page 1

Major Biographic References

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Maps

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Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Orange, MA: 1884, 1889, 1895, 1905.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Orange Center Historic District
Orange, Massachusetts

Section number 9 Page 2

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

12-16 East Main Street, HPCA # 10924MA

Masonic Block, 9-13 South Main Street, HPCA # 11092MA

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Orange Center Historic District,
Orange, Massachusetts

Section number 10 Page 1

Geographical Data (continued)

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the Orange Center Historic District are outlined on the attached assessor's map of the district.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries were chosen to include the greatest concentration of 19th- and early 20th-century institutional, commercial, and industrial buildings comprising the town center. The district is architecturally and historically cohesive and distinct in character from surrounding areas. The boundaries were drawn to include portions of the railroad tracks and Millers River, but to exclude adjacent residential neighborhoods to the north, east, and south, as well as peripheral noncontributing properties in Orange Center.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Orange Center Historic District
Orange, Massachusetts

Section number 10 Page 2

UTM References

	<u>Zone</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>
A.	18	720700	4718830
B.	18	720790	4718800
C.	18	720860	4718600
D.	18	720860	4718550
E.	18	720750	4718510
F.	18	720760	4718410
G.	18	720540	4718400
H.	18	720420	4718470
I.	18	720490	4718570
J.	18	720580	4718560
K.	18	720570	4718680
L.	18	720660	4718660
M.	18	720630	4718760
N.	18	720660	4718850

District Data Sheet
Orange Center Historic District, Orange Massachusetts

<u>MAP#</u>	<u>MHC#</u>	<u>HISTORIC NAME</u>	<u>STREET ADDRESS</u>	<u>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION</u>	<u>STYLE</u>	<u>RESOURCE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
1	109	Memorial Hall	14 Prospect Street	1892	vernac. Vict.	B	C
2	108	Town Hall	6 Prospect Street	ca. 1868/ca. 1913	Second Empire/ Second Renaiss. Rev.	B	C
3	107	Universalist Church	31 North Main Street	1833	Gothic Revival	B	C
4	106	Orange Historical Society	41 North Main Street	ca. 1867	Italian Villa	B	C
5	102	Central School	32 North Main Street	1894	Richards. Romanesque	B	C
6	103	-----	26-28 North Main Street	ca. 1849	Greek Revival	B	C
7	---	-----	24 North Main Street	ca. 1850	Greek Revival	B	C
A	---	Orange Nat'l Bank	12 North Main Street	1881/ca. 1960s	altered Vict. Gothic	B	NC
8	104	Goddard Block	10 North Main Street, 2-4 East Main Street and 1-3 East Main Street	ca. 1844, ca. 1880s, ca. 1915,	Greek Revival/early 20C commercial	B	C
9	132	-----	5-11 East Main Street	ca. 1865/ca. 1910	early 20C commercial	B	C
10	133	-----	13 East Main Street	ca. 1865/ca. 1893	late 19C commercial	B	C
11	134	-----	15-17 East Main Street	ca. 1865/ca. 1883	commercial Second Emp.	B	C
12	135	Baptist Church	19 East Main Street	ca. 1873	vernacular Italianate	B	C
13	156	-----	18-20 East Main Street	ca. 1865/ ca. 1926 (facade)	late 19c commercial	B	C
14	157	-----	12-16 East Main Street	1892		B	C
B	---	-----	1-7 South Main Street	ca. 1955	-----	B	NC
15	113	Masonic Block	9-13 South Main Street	ca. 1892	Romanesque Revival	B	C
16	158	Railroad Freight Hse.	off Water Street	ca. 1850-1870	mid-19C utilitarian	B	C
17	901	WWI statue	Memorial Park	1934	-----	O	C

<u>MAP#</u>	<u>MHC#</u>	<u>HISTORIC NAME</u>	<u>STREET ADDRESS</u>	<u>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION</u>	<u>STYLE</u>	<u>RESOURCE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
		<u>New Home Sewing Machine Co. buildings:</u>					
18	114	storehouse	South Main Street	ca. 1892	late 19thC industrial	B	C
19	115	washrooms	South Main Street	ca. 1892	late 19thC industrial	B	C
20	116	tool/machine rooms	South Main Street	ca. 1892	late 19thC industrial	B	C
21	117	offices	South Main Street	ca. 1898	late 19thC industrial	B	C
22	118	needlemaking rooms	South Main Street	ca. 1902	late 19thC industrial	B	C
23	---	storehouse	West River Street	ca. 1892	late 19thC industrial	B	C
24	---	tumblers building	West River Street	ca. 1898	late 19thC industrial	B	C
25	---	Orange Foundry	off West River Street	ca. 1883	late 19thC industrial	B	C
		<u>Chase Turbine Mfg. Company buildings</u>					
26	119	machine shop	Chase Court off South Main	ca. 1889	late 19thC industrial	B	C
27	119	wood-frame storehse.	Chase Court off South Main	ca. 1885	late 19thC industrial	B	C
28	119	foundry	Chase Court off South Main	ca. 1889	late 19thC industrial	B	C
29	119	brick storehouse	Chase Court off South Main	ca. 1885	late 19thC industrial	B	C
30	---	-----	28-30 South Main Street	ca. 1860	Greek Revival	B	C
31	---	-----	26 South Main Street	ca. 1895-1905	late 19thC commercial	B	C
C	---	-----	24 South Main Street	ca. 1950s/1960s	-----	B	NC
32	---	-----	20-22 South Main Street	ca. 1884	late 19thC commercial	B	C
33	---	-----	14-14 1/2 South Main St.	ca. 1895-1905	late 19thC commercial	B	C
D	---	-----	2 South Main Street	ca. 1966	-----	B	NC
E	---	-----	West Main Street	ca. 1940s	-----	B	NC
34	131	Putnam Opera House	7-9 West Main Street	ca. 1877	Italianate	B	C
35	130	Orange Savings Bank	11-13 West Main Street	ca. 1874	Second Emp./Vict. Gothic	B	C
36	129	Mattawa Block	17-21 West Main Street	ca. 1888	late 19thC industrial	B	C

<u>MAP#</u>	<u>MHC#</u>	<u>HISTORIC NAME</u>	<u>STREET ADDRESS</u>	<u>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION</u>	<u>STYLE</u>	<u>RESOURCE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
37	120	Whipple Block	2 West Main Street	ca. 1844/1875	Italianate	B	C
38	902	Women's Christian Temperance Union fountain	NW corner North Main/West Main Streets	1904	-----	O	C
39		Railroad Crossing Gate House	Depot Street	ca. 1920s		B	C

	<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Non-contributing</u>
Buildings	37	5
Objects	02	0
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	39	5

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Orange Center Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Franklin

DATE RECEIVED: 1/17/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/01/89
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/17/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/03/89
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89000057

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 3/2/89 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Return
REVIEWER Swase
DISCIPLINE Architectural History
DATE 3/2/89

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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY Orange Center Historic District
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Franklin

DATE RECEIVED: 3/14/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/28/89
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89000057

NOMINATOR: STATE

DETAILED EVALUATION: Y

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 4/27/89 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Locally significant commercial
and institutional core of Orange's
historical community development
from the early 19th - early 20th
centuries.

Initial return issue has been
rectified.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept AAC
REVIEWER Savage
DISCIPLINE Architectural History
DATE 4/27/89

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

CLASSIFICATION

count resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

historic current

DESCRIPTION

architectural classification
 materials
 descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

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

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage verbal boundary description
 UTM's boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____

Date _____



ORANGE CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC.

Goddard Block and brick addition (10 North
Main Street, 2-4 N. Main St., and 1-3 East
Main Street), from NW.

Photo # 1

Orange Center Historic District
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: American Landmarks, Inc., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: American Landmarks, Inc.

Goddard Block and brick addition (10 North
Main Street, 2-4 N. Main St., and 1-3 East
Main Street), from NW.

Photo #1



AUBUCHON
HARDWARE

ORANGE TRADING CO., INC.
1913-1917

AUBUCHON HARDWARE

STANDARD OIL CO.
Shell

Large Cash Payable
10-00 GOLD
MONEY MARKET

ORANGE CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC.

View N from South Main St. Visible are (left
to right): Whipple Block, Town Hall, Univer-
salist Church, Historical Society, Goddard
Block addition, 1-7 S. Main St., Masonic Blk.
Photo # 2

Orange Center Historic District
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: American Landmarks, Inc., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: American Landmarks, Inc.

View N from South Main St. Visible are
(left to right): ^(2 West Main St.) Whipple Block, Town Hall,
Universalist Church, Historical Society,
Goddard Block addition, 1-7 S. Main St.,
Masonic Blk.

Photo #2



THE BOTTLE BARN
MICHELOB
BEER

1980

ORANGE CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC.

View of South Main Street looking south,
showing commercial strip and five brick New
Home Sewing Machine Co. buildings.

Photo # 3

Orange Center Historic District
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: American Landmarks, Inc., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: American Landmarks, Inc.

View of South Main Street looking south,
showing commercial strip and five brick New
Home Sewing Machine Co. buildings.

Photo #3



ORANGE CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC.

Town Hall (6 Prospect Street) and Univer-
salist Church (31 N. Main Street), from SE.

Photo # 4

Orange Center Historic District
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: American Landmarks, Inc., Dec. 1986
Negative Filed: American Landmarks, Inc.

Town Hall (6 Prospect Street) and Universalist
Church (31 N. Main Street), from SE.

Photo #4



ORANGE CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC.

Orange Historical Society building (41 North
Main Street), from SE.

Photo # 5

Orange Center Historic District
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: American Landmarks, Inc., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: American Landmarks, Inc.

Orange Historical Society building (41 North
Main Street), from SE.

Photo #5



ORANGE CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC.

Railroad Freight House, off Water Street,
from SW.

Photo # 6

Orange Center Historic District
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: American Landmarks, Inc., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: American Landmarks, Inc.

Railroad Freight House, Off Water Street,
from SW.

Photo # 6



Copy Center of Orange

COOK COURT

Older Liberty Bell Shoppe

AR Sandoz, Inc.

ATTORNEY

COPY CENTER of ORANGE
STATIONARY SUPPLIES
WORD PROCESSING
BLUEPRINTS
PUBLISHING LABELS
COPYING
FILING
RESUMES

ROUTINES -
USED LAPTOPS
LAP PARTS
& DISKS



ORANGE CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC.

Cook Court (5-11 East Main St.), 13 East
Main St., from SW.

Photo # 7

Orange Center Historic District
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: American Landmarks, Inc., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: American Landmarks, Inc.

Cook Court (5-11 East Main St.), 13 East
Main St., from SW.

Photo # 7

SOUTH
122-

2-202



SPORTSPLEX

MUSIC FORUM



ORANGE CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC.

View W on W. Main St. (left to right): non-
contributing gas station, non-contributing
diner, Putnam Opera House, former Orange
Savings Bank, Mattawa Block.

Photo #8

Orange Center Historic District
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: American Landmarks, Inc., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: American Landmarks, Inc.

View W on W. Main St. (left to right): non-
contributing gas station, non-contributing
diner, Putnam Opera House, former Orange
Savings Bank, Mattawa Block.

Photo #8



DANGER

ORANGE CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC.

Central School (32 N. Main Street), from NW.

Photo # 9

Orange Center Historic District
Orange, Franklin County, MA.

Credit: American Landmarks, Inc., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: American Landmarks, Inc.

Central School (32 N. Main Street), from NW.

Photo #9



BELANGERS PACKAGE STORE
Budweiser
KING OF BEERS

PEPSI
Belangers Package Store
IMPORTED BEERS
WINES - FINE LIQUEURS
GREAT GIFTS FOR ANY OCCASION
PEPSI

AUBUCHON
HARDWARE

AUBUCHON HARDWARE



ORANGE CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC.

1-7 South Main St. (typical non-contributing
building) and Masonic Block (9-13 South
Main Street), from NW.

Photo # 10

Orange Center Historic District
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: American Landmarks, Inc., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: American Landmarks, Inc.

1-7 South Main St. (typical non-contributing
building) and Masonic Block (9-13 South Main
Street), from NW.

Photo # 10



DLOKIN
FRESH PANTS
JACKETS

DLOKIN
MEN'S SHOP

NOW RENTING
249-3701

TOU
SHAWNEE CO.

ORANGE CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC.

12-16 East Main Street, from NE.

Photo # 11

Orange Center Historic District
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: American Landmarks, Inc., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: American Landmarks, Inc.

12-16 East Main Street, from NE

Photo # 11



ORANGE CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC.

Chase Turbine Mfg. Company buildings from W.
Left to right in foreground: brick storehouse,
foundry, wood frame storehouse, machine shop.

Photo # 12

Orange Center Historic District
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: American Landmarks, Inc., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: American Landmarks Inc.

Chase Turbine Mfg. Company buildings from W.
Left to right in foreground: brick storehouse, foundry,
wood frame storehouse, machine shop.

Photo # 12



ORANGE CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC.

Four New Home Sewing Machine Co. buildings
on West River Street (extreme left) and
South Main Street, from SE.

Photo # 13

Orange Center Historic District
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: American Landmarks, Inc., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: American Landmarks, Inc.

Four New Home Sewing Machine Co. buildings
on West River Street (extreme left) and South
Main Street, from SE.

Photo #13



ORANGE CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC.

View NW across Memorial Park/Town Common
showing World War I statue and South Main
Street commercial buildings.

Photo # 14

Orange Center Historic District
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: American Landmarks, Inc., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: American Landmarks, Inc.

View NW across Memorial Park / Town Common
showing World War I statue and South Main
Street commercial buildings.

Photo # 14



NO
TURN
ON RED

Café

PIZZA

The. Robt.

654 306

ORANGE CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Orange, Franklin County, MA

Credit: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: AMERICAN LANDMARKS, INC.

Former Orange National bank (12 E. Main),
Goddard Block and addition (10 N. Main, 2-4
N. Main, 1-3 E. Main Streets), and Cook Court
(5-11 E. Main Street), from SW.

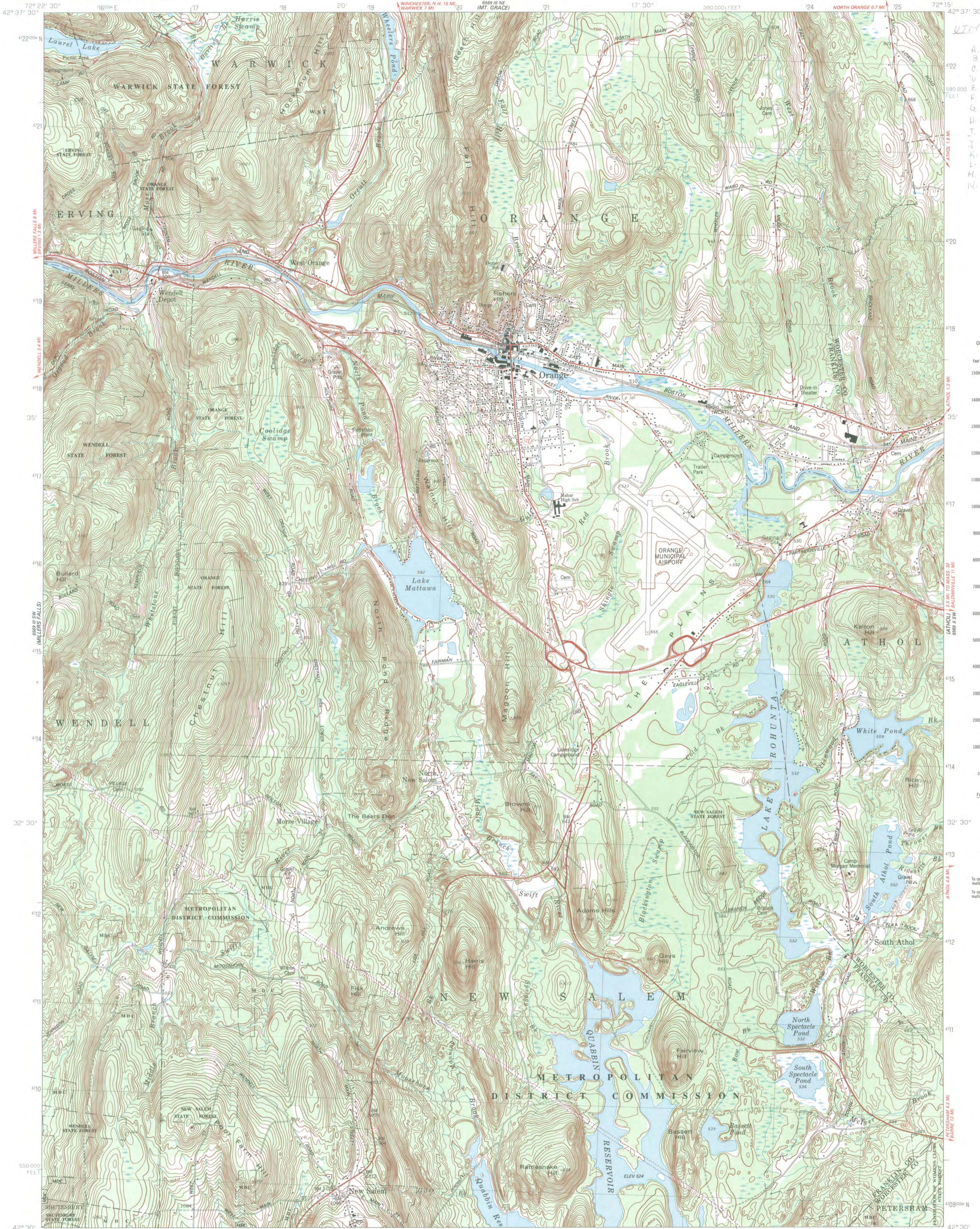
Photo # 15

*Orange Center Historic District
Orange, Franklin County, MA*

*Credit: American Landmarks, Inc., Dec. 1986
Negative filed: American Landmarks, Inc.*

*Former Orange National Bank (12 E. Main),
Goddard Block and addition (10 N. Main, 2-4
N. Main, 1-3 E. Main Streets), and Cook Court
(5-11 E. Main Street), from SW.*

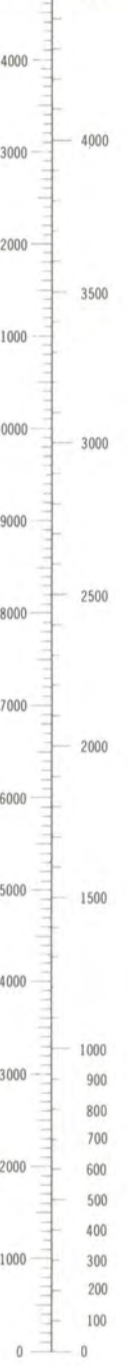
Photo # 15



UTM Coordinates

Zone	Easting	Northing
A. 18	720700	4718530
B. 18	720770	4718300
C. 18	720860	4718600
D. 18	720950	4718550
E. 18	720750	4718510
F. 18	720760	4718410
G. 18	720540	4718400
H. 18	720480	4718470
I. 18	720490	4718570
J. 18	720580	4718560
K. 18	720570	4718680
L. 18	720660	4718660
M. 18	720630	4718760
N. 18	720660	4718850

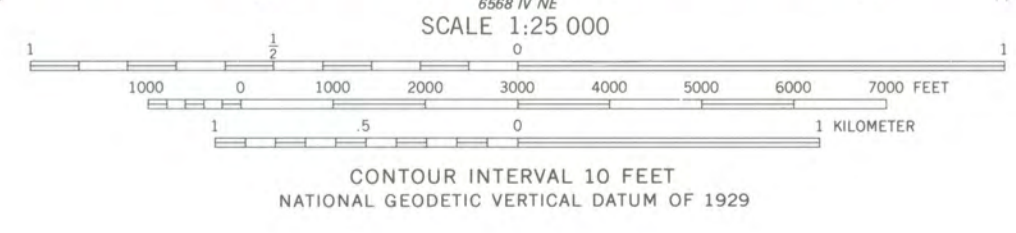
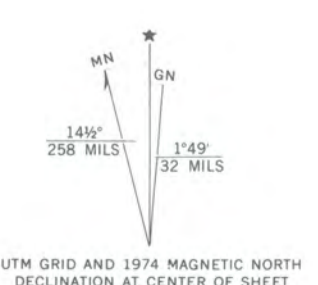
CONVERSION
SCALES



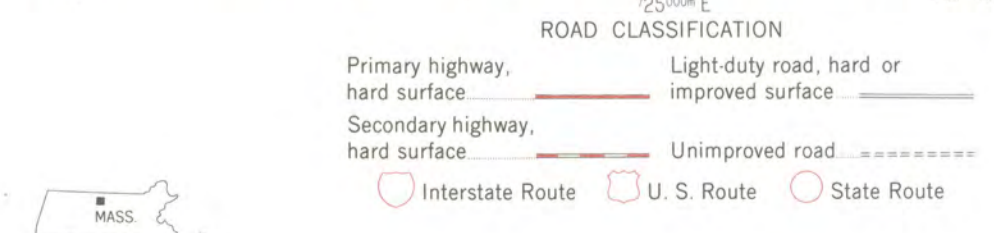
Feet	Meters
1	3048
2	6096
3	9144
4	12192
5	15240
6	18288
7	21336
8	24384
9	27432
10	30480

To convert feet to meters multiply by 3048
To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1937. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1972. Field checked 1974
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid,
zone 18



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929



ORANGE, MASS.
N4230-W7215/7.5

1974

AMS 6569 III SE-SERIES V814

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

January 12, 1989



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

JAN 17 1989
NATIONAL
REGISTER

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the following nomination forms:

Springfield, Belle and Franklin Streets Historic District
The Grant, 77 Belle Street, HPCA #11053MA
The Johnson, 790 Belle Street, HPCA #11054MA
The Lincoln, 87 Belle Street, HPCA #11055MA
The Buchanan, 91 Belle Street, HPCA #11056MA
The Pierce, 97 Belle Street, HPCA #11057MA
The Fillmore, 103 Belle Street, HPCA #11058MA

Orange, Orange Center Historic District
12-16 East Main Street, HPCA #10924MA
Masonic Block, 9-13 South Main Street, HPCA #11092MA

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

Sincerely,

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Enclosure:

BF/di