

P#0355305

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED FEB 5 1976

DATE ENTERED OCT 8 1976

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

** Shrewsbury Historic District (Shrewsbury Town Common, Shrewsbury Center)

AND/OR COMMON

Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Multiple: Main Street, Church Road, Prospect Street, Boylston Street,
Grafton Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Shrewsbury

VICINITY OF

Third

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Massachusetts

025

Worcester

027

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

☒ DISTRICT☐ PUBLIC☒ OCCUPIED☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ BUILDING(S)☐ PRIVATE☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ COMMERCIAL☒ PARK☐ STRUCTURE☒ BOTH☐ WORK IN PROGRESS☒ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

☐ ENTERTAINMENT☒ RELIGIOUS☐ OBJECT☐ IN PROCESS☐ YES: RESTRICTED☒ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ BEING CONSIDERED☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ NO☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Multiple

STREET & NUMBER

Multiple

CITY, TOWN

Shrewsbury

VICINITY OF

STATE

Massachusetts 01545

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Worcester County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Worcester

STATE

Massachusetts

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth

DATE

1972

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Boston

STATE

Massachusetts 02108

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Shrewsbury Historic District is located near the center of Shrewsbury around the town common. The district is composed of ten buildings, both public and residential, most of which date from the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The relatively low density area, with its broad lawns and tree-shaded common, contrasts sharply with the nearby commercial section of town.

The focal point of the district is the First Congregational Church (#1) overlooking the common. Built in 1766, the church replaced an earlier meeting house of 1721 which had become too small for the town's needs. Planks and timbers from the original building were used in the construction of the present one. The First Congregational Church was designed by "Master Builder" Daniel Hemenway of Shrewsbury who also built several houses in the town as well as the Old South Church in Worcester. The clapboard church is painted white and has a ridge roof. In 1807 the bell and clock tower were added and the front vestibule and double entrances built below. These additions were designed by John Ames of Marlborough. In 1834 the church was remodeled and moved 50 feet north and turned one quarter way around in order to face south as it does today. A Palladian window was placed on the facade and the building was raised to provide room for a vestry. In 1923 a parish house and Sunday School rooms were added to the rear, and much of the interior of the original church was restored to its 1766 appearance. In 1956 another rear addition of three stories was built. The architect was Arling A. Dirlam of Boston. The interior has fine paneling throughout and retains its original pulpit.

Behind the church is a burying ground (#2), known as the Old Corner of the Mountain View Cemetery. It contains the graves of Shrewsbury citizens dating from 1721.

To the west of the church is the Brick School House (#3) of 1830. Originally intended to be only one floor, the school house was increased another story when citizens prevailed upon the building committee to add a hall upstairs. The lower floor was used for classrooms and the upstairs vaulted hall for local gatherings. The building was used as a school until 1883, and now houses the Historical Society upstairs and town offices on the main floor. The building is brick painted white and its gable end is divided into three bays by recessed arches.

In the southwest corner of the district is the Reverend Joseph Sumner House (#5), 1797, home of the second minister of the Congregational Church. The house is of clapboard construction and is painted white with green shutters. Irregular fenestration on the facade bears witness to the fact that the house was constructed during two periods. The roof, which is a ridge roof on one end and a hip roof at the other, also illustrates alterations made in the house. The interior retains most of its original features, including a fine over-mantel painting.

The Samuel Haven House (#6) was built in 1816 on a lot which was originally part of the common. This white clapboard Federal house is five bays wide with a hip roof and two brick chimneys. The central entrance has a fanlight and sidelights. Windows have six over six lights and green shutters.

(continued)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Shrewsbury Historic District is significant not only for its fine grouping of eighteenth and nineteenth century buildings, but also because of the association of the area with the history and development of the town.

The town of Shrewsbury was founded in 1716 when a group of thirty-one men headed by John Brigham petitioned the General Court of the Massachusetts Bay Colony to establish a town somewhere between Marlborough, Sutton and Lancaster. In 1717 the grant was given, "Provided they have at least 40 families settled there with an Orthodox minister within the space of 3 years, and that a lot and other accommodations . . . be laid out to the first settled minister, also another for the use of a school."

The town was laid out on the north side of the "Rocky Plain" (site of the Shrewsbury Historic District) and along the "strait road from Boston to Connecticut," later called the Boston Post Road. In 1721 a meeting house was built, and in 1723, in accordance with the grant, the first minister Reverend Job Cushing was called to serve. When the townspeople outgrew the first meetinghouse, they built the present church (#1), using boards from the first building in the construction of the new one. On the building committee of the church was Artemas Ward, son of Nathem Ward, and later Revolutionary war hero.

Also instrumental in the building of the church was the Reverend Joseph Sumner who was minister in Shrewsbury from 1762 to 1824. Reverend Sumner lived near the church in a house (#5) built on land purchased from Artemas Ward. The home has remained in the hands of Sumner's descendants and is now occupied by the fifth generation.

The fifth minister of the Congregational Church was Reverend George Allen who built his house (#11) nearby on Main Street. Allen's home is located on the site of an earlier house which had been built by the first minister, Reverend Job Cushing.

The Samuel Haven House (#6) was used during the Civil War as a station on the underground railroad. Runaway slaves were hidden in the house until they could safely be smuggled north into Canada. So many passed through the town that a town in Canada was given the name Shrewsbury in memory of the people in the Massachusetts town who had given assistance. The Canadian town is still known as Shrewsbury, Province Quebec. At the end of the nineteenth century the Samuel Haven House was used as a country inn and was known as Haven Inn.

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Harlow, Hiram. Notes of former historian of Shrewsbury.

Stone, Alden. History of Shrewsbury. Bicentennial Committee and Historical Society.

Ward, Elizabeth. Old Times in Shrewsbury. New York: McGeorge Printing Co., 1892.

Ward, Andrew H. and Drake, Samuel G. History of Shrewsbury.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 14

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,9 2,7,6 4,8,0 4,6 8,6 4,1,0

B 1,9 2,7,6 4,4,0 4,6 8,6 0,6,0

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 1,9 2,7,6 1,4,0 4,6 8,6 0,6,0

D 1,9 2,7,6 0,2,0 4,6 8,6 3,6,0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The district begins at the northwest corner at the Old Burying Ground, running along the northern boundary of the burying ground across Boylston Street, along the northern property line of the Samuel Haven House, across Prospect Street along the northern property line of the Slocum House, thence southerly along the eastern property lines of the Slocum House, Stone House, and Allen House, thence westerly along Main Street to the western boundary of the Sumner House and northerly along the western boundaries of the Sumner House, Fire Station, Brick School, and Old Burying Ground.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Judy D. Dobbs, National Register Editor and Darle A. Hand, Shrewsbury Historic District

ORGANIZATION

Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE

January 24, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

294 Washington Street

TELEPHONE

617-727-8470

CITY OR TOWN

Boston

STATE

Massachusetts 02108

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ☐

STATE ☐

LOCAL ☒

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Elizabeth Reed Amedon

TITLE Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE

1/28/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Attest:

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

10/18/76

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

9/27/76

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET 1

ITEM NUMBER 7 & 8 PAGE 1

#7:

In the northeast corner of the district is the Philo Slocum House (#7) which also stands on land which was formerly part of the common. Built in 1806, the house is constructed with clapboard painted white. The five-bay facade has windows with nine over nine lights and green shutters. The ridge roof has a lower section which falls north in a saltbox effect.

Another handsome Federal house in the district is the Jonas Stone House (#8). Although it underwent a number of alterations since its construction in 1822, the house was restored to its original beauty by Dr. Fallon in 1936. Some of the interior paneling was brought from houses in Enfield, Massachusetts, (now part of Quabbin Reservoir when the Quabbin Reservoir flooded that area. The exterior of the house is clapboard painted yellow. Windows have twelve over twelve lights, and a fanlight tops the central entrance.

The Reverend George Allen House (#11), which marks the southeast corner of the district, resembles other Federal houses in the area with the exception of the later addition of a porch which stretches the width of the facade.

Twentieth century buildings in the district include the Public Library (1903), the Fire Station (1927), and the Prudential Office Building (1958). The most distinctive of these is the library which is Renaissance Revival in style and is built of light colored brick with grey stone trim on a granite foundation.

#8:

A later building, the Public Library (#9) was a gift to the town by Jubal Howe. A poor boy who later rose to prosperity, Howe had been apprenticed to Luther Goddard, a Shrewsbury man credited with making the first pocket watches in America.

Today buildings in the district remain in an excellent state of preservation and represent the most important grouping of buildings to reflect the origins of Shrewsbury. The district has been a local historic district since October 1972.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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FEB 5 1976

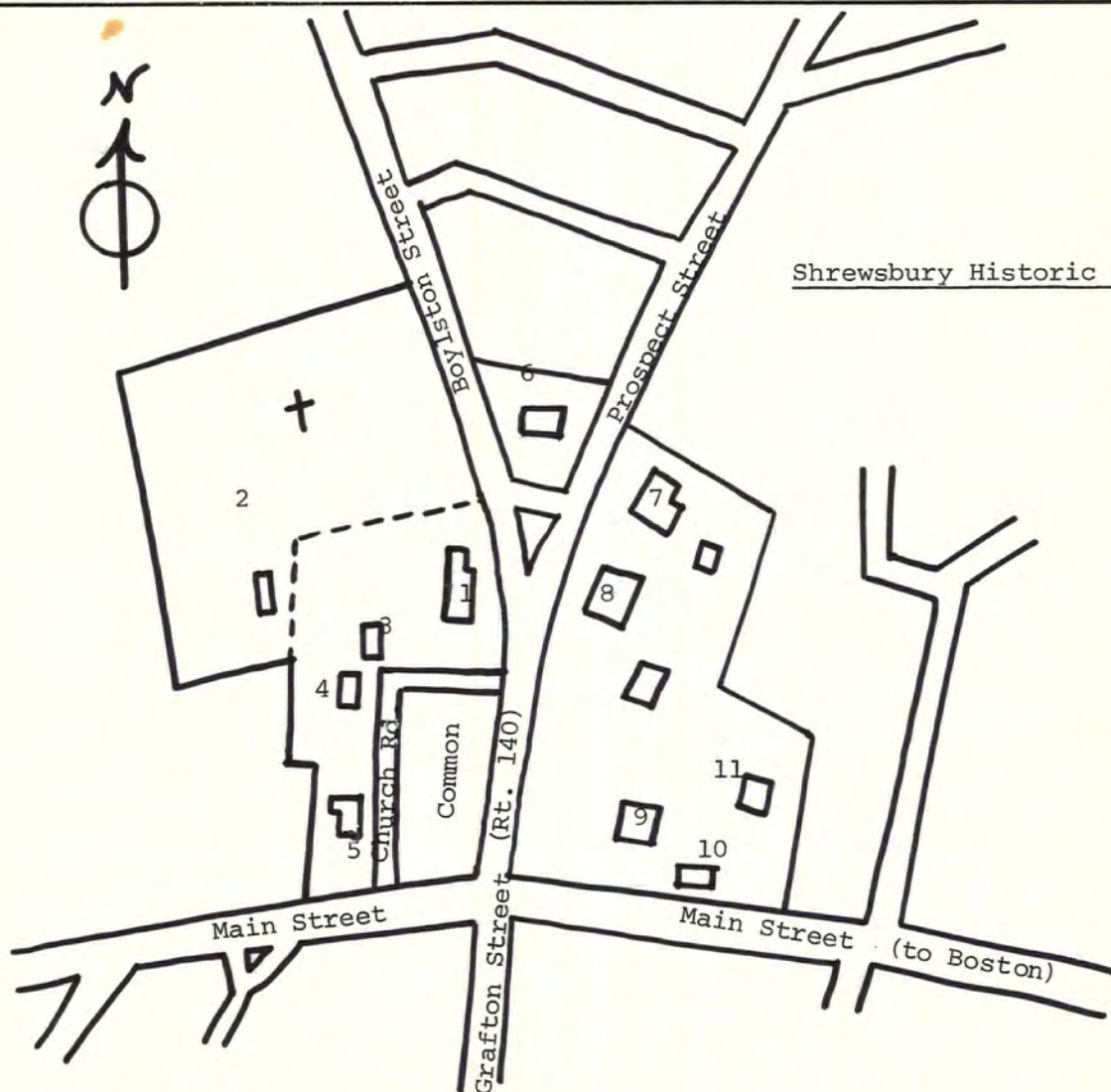
RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

OCT 8 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER Map PAGE 2



1. First Congregational Church
2. Burying Ground
3. Brick School
4. Fire Station
5. Sumner House
6. Samuel Haven House
7. Philo Slocum House

8. Jonas Stone House
 9. Public Library
 10. Prudential Office Building
 11. Rev. George Allen House
- ☒ Barns and out buildings

10.2.76
NPS Number _____
Title: Shrewsbury Historic District
Worcester Co., Mass.
Loc. Sketchmap of Shrewsbury
Historic District

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Property Shrewsbury Historic District (Shrewsbury Town
Common, Shrewsbury Center)

76000309

State *Mass.*

Working Number *2.5.76.2481*

Worcester

TECHNICAL

Photos *10*

Maps *1 Sketch*

CONTROL

OK pl
2.11.76

HISTORIAN

accept
B. Grosvenor
7/29/76

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

*NB: Prudential Bldg intrusion, but w/in local district
boundaries already established. Main St (where it
lies) is historic road.*

OK Lebowich

Accept 4/23/76

R Carol Huberman

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
W. R. Riney
9/15/76

BRANCH CHIEF

accept
Humphreys
9-20-76

KEEPER

Wm
9/27/76

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered *OCT 8 1976*

Federal Register Entry *12-7-76*

Re-submit _____

INT:2106-74



SHREWSBURY, MASS. 01545
Historic District - COMMON
1

NPS Number 10.2.76

Title: Shrewsbury Historic District
Worcester Co., Mass.

Loc. Main Street at intersection of Rt. 40
looking N at Church and Rich School,
and residences to right. Common
and bandstand in foreground.

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC Shrewsbury Historic District

AND/OR COMMON
Same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Shrewsbury

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Worcester

STATE

MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Leonard C. Stranieri

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Stranieri Studio, Shrewsbury, MA 01545

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

PHOTO NO. 1

Main Street at intersection of Rt. 140, looking north at church (#1) and Brick School (#3 to left of church), and residences to right. Common and bandstand in foreground.



SHREWSBURY- MASS.

DETAIL

HISTORIC DISTRICT #1

CENTER- OLD COMMON-

"MEETING HOUSE + BRICK School 1830
#(1) # (3)
(see DESCRIPTION)

NPS Number 10. P. 76

Title: Shrewsbury Historic District
Worcester Co., Mass.

Loc. looking N.W. at First
Cong. Church and
Brick School

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1 NAME

HISTORIC Shrewsbury Historic District

AND/OR COMMON
Same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Shrewsbury

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY Worcester

STATE MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Leonard C. Stranieri

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Stranieri Studio, Shrewsbury, MA 01545

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

PHOTO NO. 2

Looking northwest at First Congregational Church (#1) and Brick School (#3).



SHREWSBURY HISTORIC DISTRICT #1

DETAIL
1975

#4 the FIRE STATION-

#3 The BRICK School House

(see description)

NPS Number 10.2.76

Title: Shrewsbury, Historic District
Worcester Co., Mass.

Loc. Looking N-W at Brick
School + Fire Station

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1 NAME

HISTORIC Shrewsbury Historic District

AND/OR COMMON
Same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Shrewsbury VICINITY OF COUNTY Worcester STATE MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Leonard C. Stranieri

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Stranieri Studio, Shrewsbury, MA 01545

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

Looking northwest at Brick School (#3) and Fire Station (#4).

PHOTO NO. 3



SHREWSBURY MASS.
HISTORIC DISTRICT #1

DETAIL

REV. "SUMNER HOUSE 1797-" + COMMON
5 - (SEE DESCRIPTION)

NPS Number 10.2.76

Title: Shrewsbury Historic District
Worcester Co., Mass.

Loc. Looking W toward
Sumner House

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Same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Shrewsbury VICINITY OF COUNTY Worcester STATE MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Leonard C. Stranieri

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Stranieri Studio, Shrewsbury, MA 01545

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

Looking west at Sumner House (#5).

PHOTO NO. 4



SHREWSBURY, MASS. DETAIL
HISTORIC DISTRICT #1
CENTER + OLD COMMON

"^{CR} SAMUEL HAVEN HOUSE " 1816
#(6) (see DESCRIPTION)

NPS Number

10. P. 76

Title:

Shrewsbury Historic District

Worcester Co., Mass.

Loc:

Looking N at Samuel

Haven House

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Same

2 LOCATION

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____ VICINITY OF

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STATE MA

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PHOTO NO. 5

Looking north at Samuel Haven House (#6).



SHREWSBURY, MASS -
HISTORIC DISTRICT #1

DETAIL

"Philo Slocum House - 1806"
7 - (see DESCRIPTION)

NPS Number 10,876

Title: Shrewsbury Historic District
Worcester Co., Mass.

Loc. looking N.E. at Philo
Slocum House

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Looking northeast at Philo Slocum House (#7).

PHOTO NO. 6



SHREWSBURY - MASS -
HISTORIC DISTRICT #1

DETAIL

"JONAS STONE HOUSE" 1822. #8
(see DESCRIPTION)

NPS Number 10.8.76

Title: Shrewsbury Historic District
Worcester Co., Mass.

Loc. looking E at Jonas
Stone House

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DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET
Looking east at Jonas Stone House (#8).

PHOTO NO. 7



SHREWSBURY, MASS.

DETAIL

HISTORIC DISTRICT #1

"HOWE PUBLIC LIBRARY"

#9 SEE DESCRIPTION.

NPS Number 10.8.76

Title: Shrewsbury Historic District
Worcester Co., Mass.

Loc. looking N at Howe
Memorial Library

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PHOTO NO. 8

Looking north at Howe Memorial Library (#9).



Shrewsbury Historic District #1

DETAIL
1975

10 The PRUDENTIAL OFFICE BLDG.
(SEE DESCRIPTION)

NPS Number 10.P.76

Title: Shrewsbury Historic District
Worcester Co., Mass.

Loc. looking N at Prudential
Bldg

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

PHOTO NO. 9

Looking north at Prudential Office Building (#10).



SHREWSBURY, MASS.

DETAIL

HISTORIC DISTRICT #1

1975

"REV. GEORGE ALLEN'S HOUSE (1818)" 621 MAIN ST.
(11) See Description.

NPS Number 10.8.76

Title: Shrewsbury Historic District
Worcester Co., Mass.

Loc. looking N at Rev.
George Allen House

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PHOTO NO. 10

Looking north at Rev. George Allen House (#11).

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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RECEIVED FEB 5 1976

DATE ENTERED OCT 8 1976

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Shrewsbury Historic District

AND/OR COMMON
Same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Shrewsbury

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY Worcester

STATE MA

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE USGS, Shrewsbury Quadrangle

SCALE 1:24000

DATE 1969

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

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

Shrewsbury: Shrewsbury
Historic District

UTM Reference:

A 19/276480/4686410
B 19/276440/4686060
C 19/276140/4686060
D 19/276020/4686360

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USCGS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey

Topography by plane-table surveys 1941. Revised from aerial photographs
taken 1966. Field checked 1969

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown
Areas covered by dashed light-blue pattern are subject
to controlled inundation

UTM GRID AND 1969 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

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

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, all weather, hard surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface
Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Unimproved road, fair or dry weather
Interstate Route
U. S. Route
State Route

SHREWSBURY, MASS.
N4215—W7137.5/7.5

1969

AMS 6668 I SW—SERIES V814



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
FEB 5 1976	
RECEIVED	
DATE ENTERED	OCT 6 1976

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1 NAME

HISTORIC Shrewsbury Historic District

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Same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Shrewsbury

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY Worcester

STATE MA

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE Sketch Map

SCALE None

DATE 1975

4 REQUIREMENTS

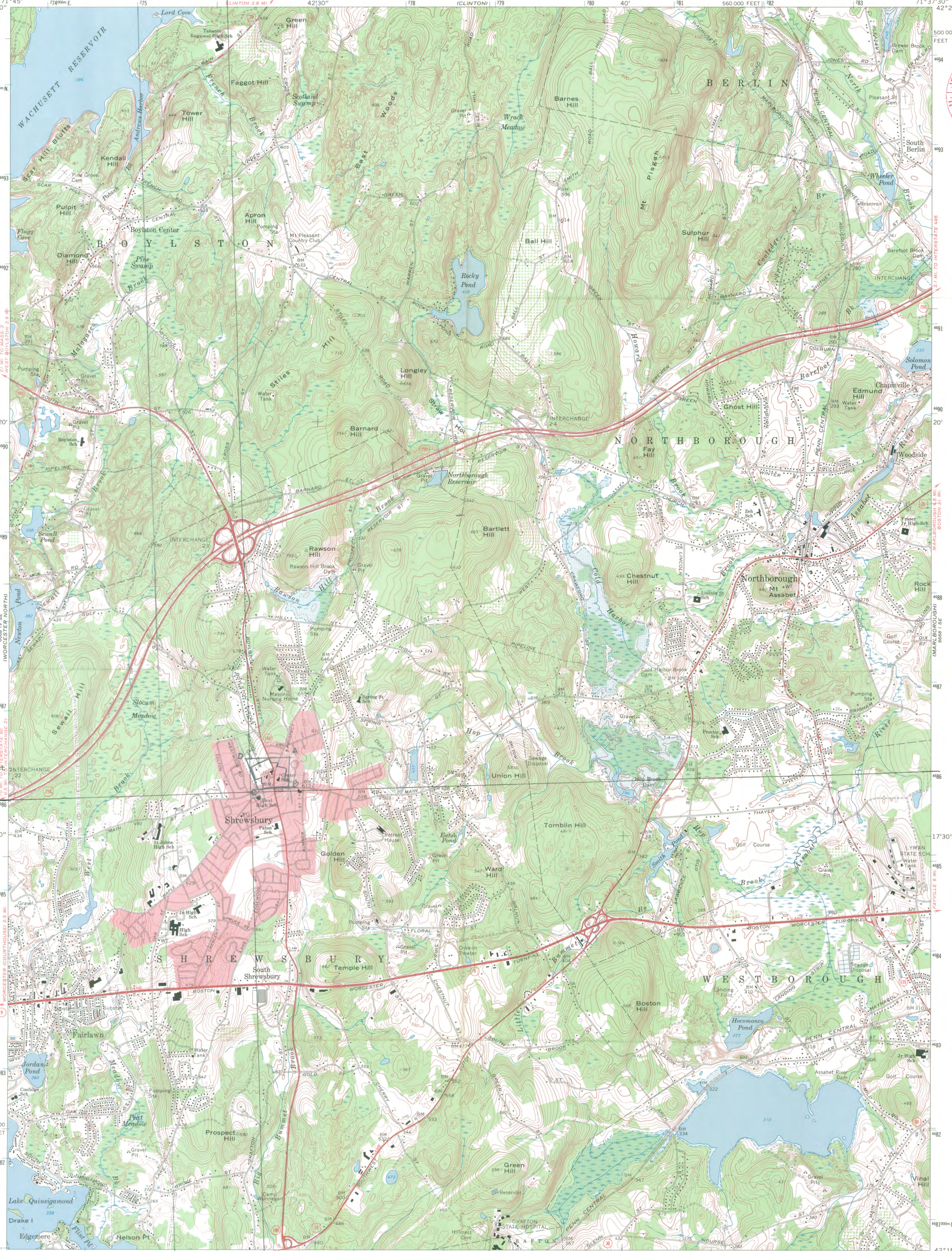
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

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

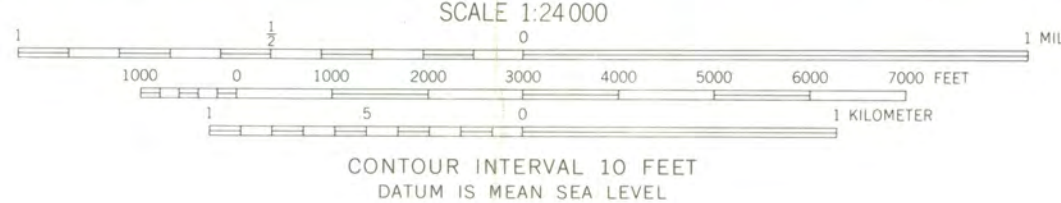


Shrewsbury Historic District
Shrewsbury, MA.

UTM References
A 19/276460/4686380
B 19/276440/4686030
C 19/276080/4686020
D 19/275940/4686380



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Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
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10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
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1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
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Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
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ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, all weather, Light-duty road, all weather,
hard surface, improved surface
Secondary highway, all weather, Unimproved road, fair or dry
hard surface, weather
Interstate Route U. S. Route State Route

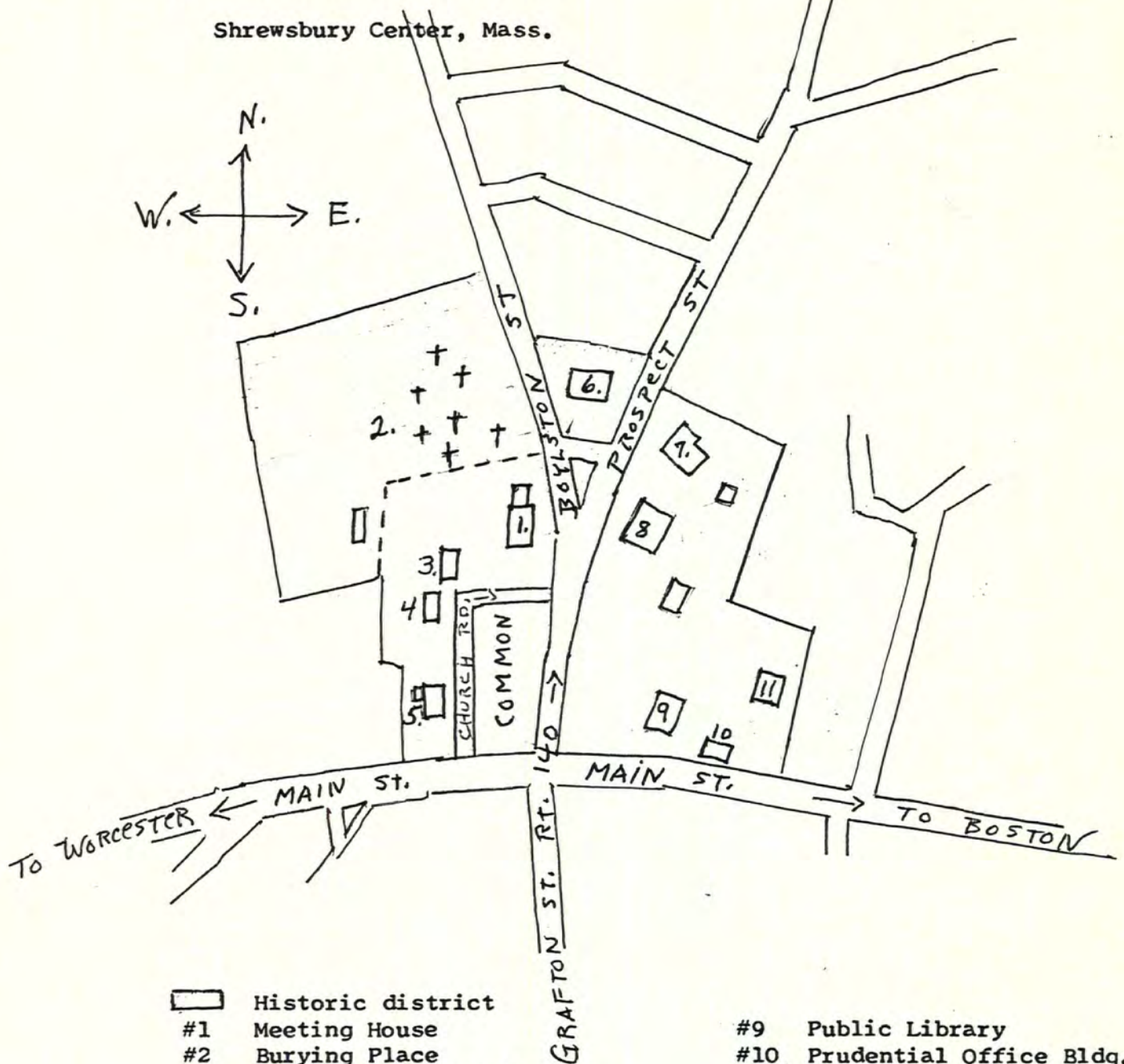
SHREWSBURY, MASS.
N4215—W7137.5/7.5

1969
AMS 6668 I SW—SERIES V814

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FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

SHREWSBURY HISTORIC DISTRICT

Shrewsbury Center, Mass.



- ☐ Historic district
- #1 Meeting House
- #2 Burying Place
- #3 The Brick School #1
- #4 The Fire Station
- #5 The Sumner House
- #6 Samuel Haven House
- #7 Philo Slocum House
- #8 Jonas Stone House

- #9 Public Library
- #10 Prudential Office Bldg.
- #11 Rev. George Allen House
- ☐ Barns & out buildings

Property Owners
Shrewsbury Historic District
Shrewsbury, Massachusetts

Sketch Map #	Property Owner
1 (Meeting House) 1 Church Road	Board of Directors, First Congregational Church 1 Church Road, Shrewsbury, MA. 01545
2 (The Burying Place) 1 Boylston St.	Board of Selectmen, Town of Shrewsbury Town Hall, Shrewsbury, MA. 01545
3 (The Brick School) 12 Church Road	" "
4 (The Fire Station) 11 Church Road	" "
5 (The Sumner House) 5 Church Road	Katherine S. Hill & Frances S. Lasell 5 Church Road, Shrewsbury, MA. 01545
6 (Samuel Haven House) 7 Prospect St.	Mr. & Mrs. Reginald W.W. Rives* 7 Prospect St., Shrewsbury, MA. 01545
7 (Philo Slocum House) 10 Prospect St.	Mr. & Mrs. Jay Montgomery 10 Prospect St., Shrewsbury, MA. 01545
8 (Jonas Stone House) 2 Prospect Street	Mr. & Mrs. John Connors 2 Prospect St., Shrewsbury, MA. 01545
9 (Public Library) 609 Main St.	Board of Selectmen, Town of Shrewsbury Town Hall, Shrewsbury, MA. 01545 and Board of Trustees, Shrewsbury Public Library 609 Main St., Shrewsbury, MA. 01545
10 (Prudential Office Building) 615 Main St.	R.M. Bradley & Company 250 Boylston St., Boston, MA. 02116
11 (Rev. George Allen House) 621 Main St.	Mr. & Mrs. E.B. Dean, Jr. 621 Main St., Shrewsbury, MA 01545

* The Town Clerk told me that Mr. Rives gets very upset if you omit the "W.W."

DATE

6/14/76

TIME OF CALL

11:30

AM
PM

TELEPHONE REPORT

1. CALL ☒ TO: ☐ FROM (Name)

Pat Weslowski

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

Mass. Historical Commission

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

1) Shrewsbury Historic District

~~Shrewsbury Historic District~~

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

The boundaries on the USGS map appear incorrect. Mass. will send a correct USGS map. They will also send a continuation sheet with info about Central School and any other buildings which may be included but were not discussed in the nomination form.

7/29/76 - Center School is no longer there.

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

Beth Grosvenor

TITLE

OFFICE



*Secretary of the
Commonwealth*

*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of the Secretary*

*Massachusetts Historical Commission
294 Washington Street Boston, Massachusetts 02108
(617) 727-8470*

21 June 1976

Ms. Bess Grosvennor
The National Register of Historic Places
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Ms. Grosvennor:

Enclosed is the new USGS map for the Shrewsbury Historic District application that you requested. I have redrawn the district boundaries and re-computed the UTM reference points. I hope this will suffice. If you have any further questions or should another problem arise, please call.

Sincerely,

Joseph R. Orfant
National Register Editor
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enc.
/jro



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered OCT 8 1976

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Shrewsbury Historic District	Shrewsbury Worcester County
Old City Hall	Malden Middlesex County
Lancaster Industrial School for Girls	Lancaster vicinity Worcester County
Woodward, Rev. Samuel, House	Weston Middlesex County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy	State Historic Preservation Officer
Hon. Edward W. Brooke	Mrs. Elizabeth R. Amadon
Hon. Joseph D. Early	Executive Director
Hon. Torbert H. MacDonald	Massachusetts Historical Commission
Hon. Robert F. Drinan	294 Washington Street
Regional Director, North Atlantic Region	Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Yankee Heritage in Shrewsbury



HISTORIC DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE

The Shrewsbury Selectmen voted in August 1971 to establish a "Study Committee" to investigate the possibilities of declaring an "Historic District" in the town. We of this "Study Committee" wish to acquaint you with our thoughts and findings.

This Committee feels an "Historic District" offers a visual example of our historical and cultural heritage. To its inhabitants it affords prestige and economic protection from decrease of land values through deterioration of neighborhood blight.

Location: The Town Common, including the Congregational Church, 1830 Brick School, Fire Station, and the adjacent historic houses: Fallon House, 1822 (now Connors) — Rives, 1816 — Slocum House, 1806 (now Montgomery) — the Sumner House, 1797 (now Mrs. Hill and Mrs. Lasell) — the Public Library and the Dean House, 1818.

We feel each of these is of sufficient importance to be preserved.

Why a District: Once declared a structure in an "Historic District" the building will come under protective custody of a commission, appointed by the selectmen, which will insure that any changes will be compatible with the district thus preserving its real estate value and its historic beauty for the future generations of Shrewsbury residents.

Restrictions: There will be no restrictions on the use of the structures, (within keeping with the already designated regulations by the Zoning Laws).

There will be no restrictions on inside changes. Any external changes would be subject to review by a Historic District Commission, which would be appointed by the Shrewsbury Town Selectmen, in this way preserving the appearance of the area.

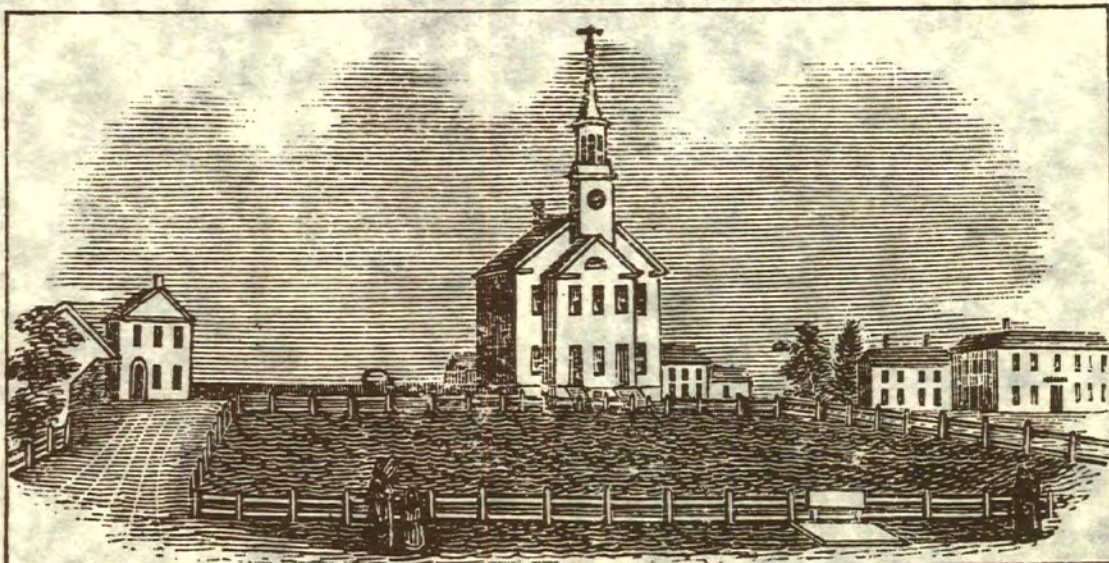
We feel it is of the utmost importance to act now to preserve what our forefathers left us from creeping erosion.

Your Study Committee

Mrs. Curtis M. Clark
Mrs. Dewey I. Clason
Mrs. Frederick W. Hand

Mr. Henry J. Harlow
Mr. Edward M. Healy
Mrs. John W. Lasell

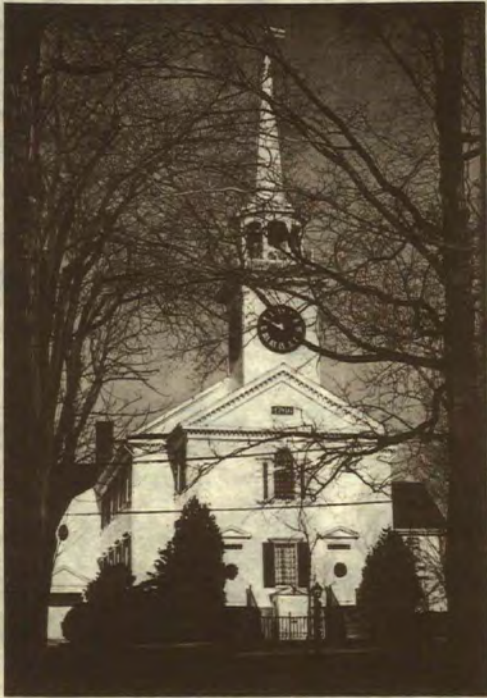
Rev. Paul B. Myers
Dr. Harold P. Parker
Mr. Arnold L. Rustay



Shrewsbury Common in 1835



Samuel Haven
House
1816
R. Rives



Congregational
Church
(1723)
1766

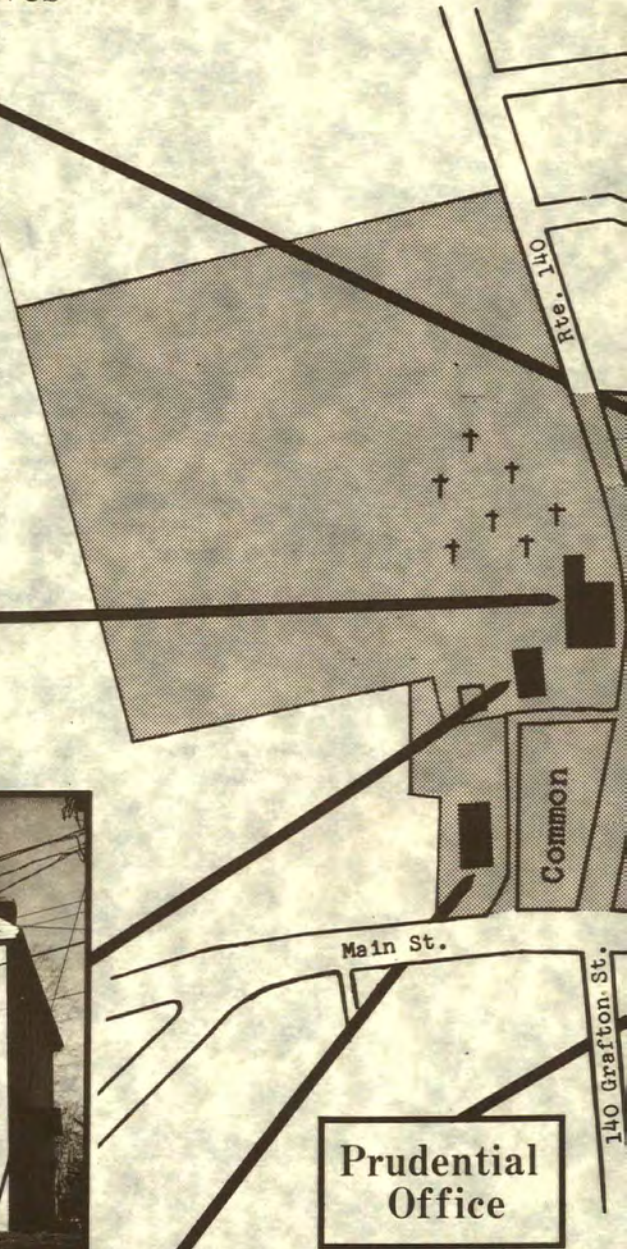


Brick
School
House
1830



1797
Rev. Joseph Sumner
(2nd minister in Shrewsbury)

Mrs. La
Mrs. H



Slocum
House
1806
Montgomery



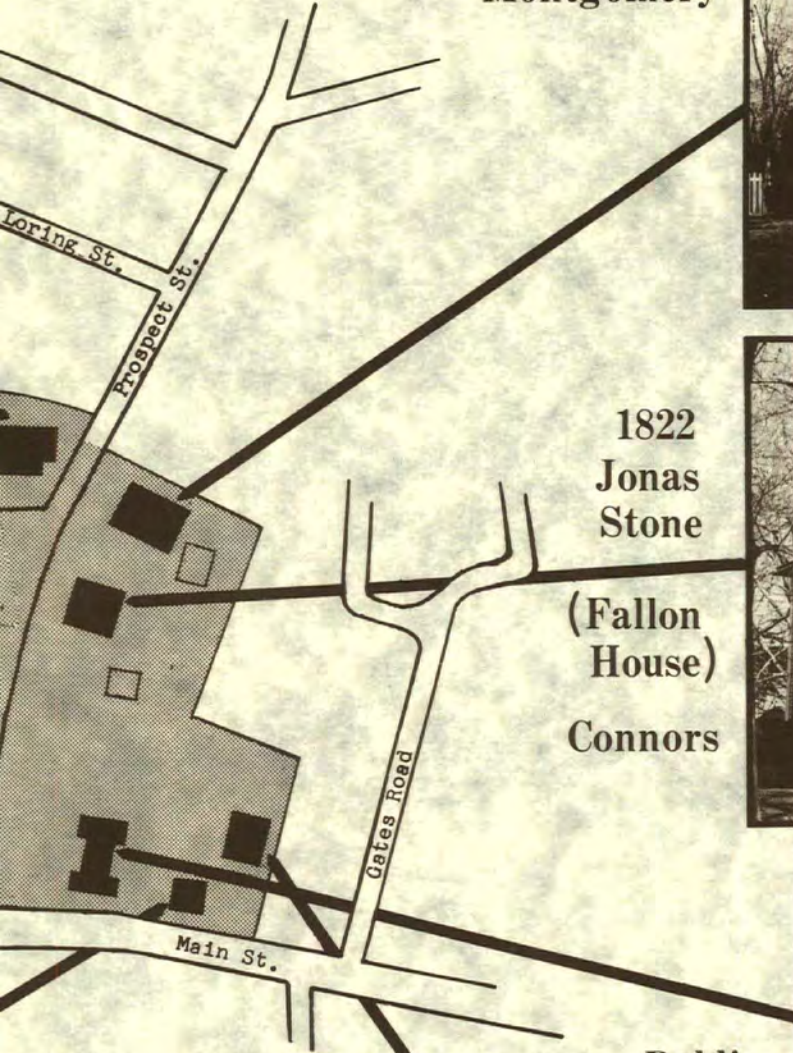
1822
Jonas
Stone
(Fallon
House)
Connors



Public
Library
1903

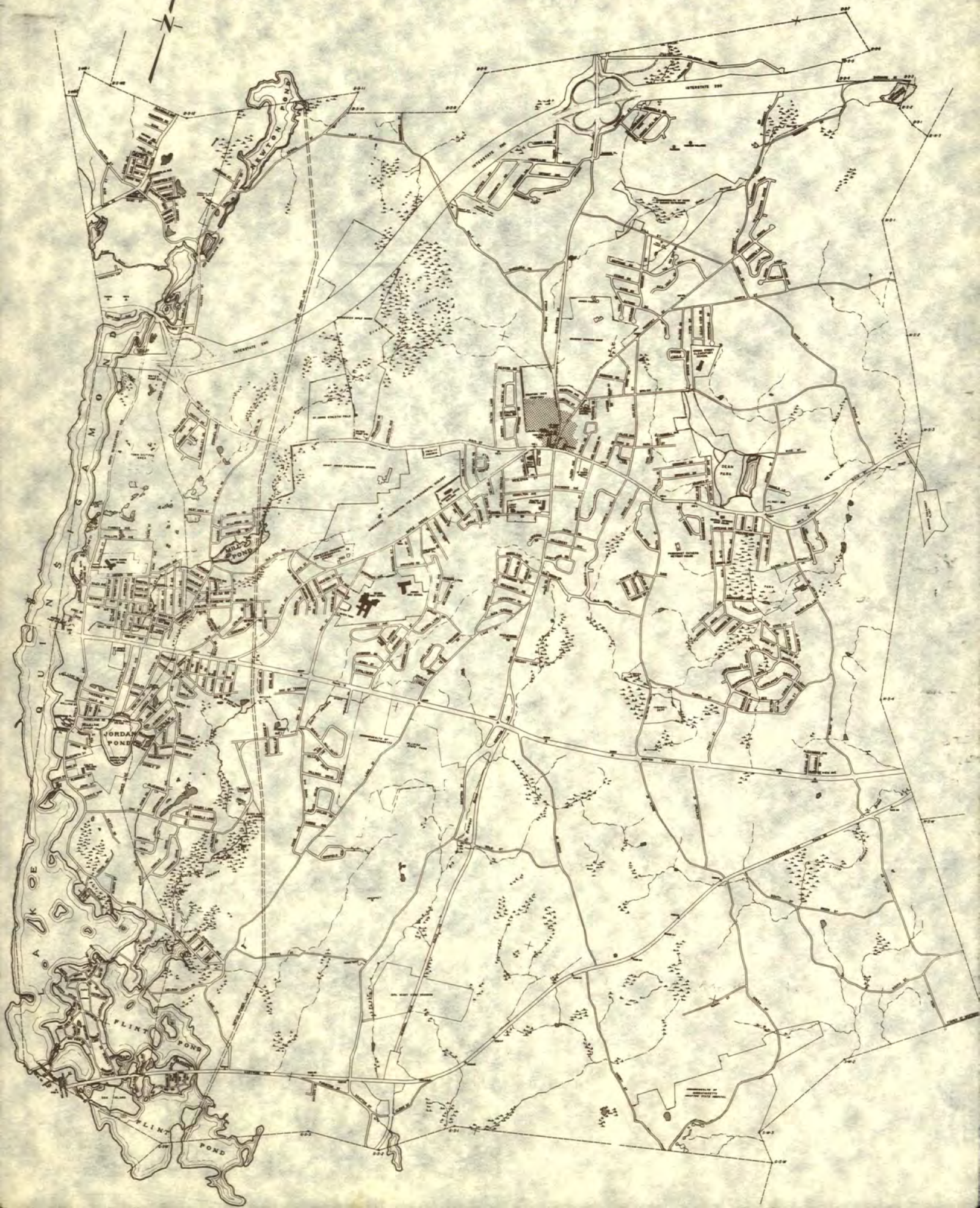


Bruce
Dean
House
1818



Proposed Historic District

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: *New England Colonial / Federal predominately*

architect/m.builder: *Sam'l Hemenway (Church)*

engineer:

landscape/garden designer:

artist/artisan:

interior decorator:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

(label role
&
appropriate date)

personal

events

*#1 Artemas Ward, Revolutionary War hero, citizen of
Shrewsbury - on church-bldg committee, 1720-21*

institutional

DATES:

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

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

1721, 1797, 1806, 1822, 1830

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre)

14

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

Collection of 18th and early-19th C

Shrewsbury Historic District includes a fine group of buildings situated informally about the town common; The First Congregational Church, focal point of the district, facing common, burial ground behind; white clapboard, gable roof w/ bell & clock tower near front end, Palladian window in second story of facade; denticulated pediment & cornice at gable; incorporates building materials from original 1721 meetinghouse. Adjacent Dutch School House: 2 story, rectangular, painted brick w/ gabled roof & interior chimney. Five frame houses ranging from 1797-1822 w/ 2 outbuildings. Also, 18th C district: Simple Renaissance Revival public library (1903), a vaguely Col. Rev. fire station (1927), & an essentially new conforming insurance office bldg (1958).

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

Shrewsbury Historic District includes the original town common and a fine grouping of eighteenth and early nineteenth century buildings which relate both intrinsically & by association to the history & development of Shrewsbury which was founded in 1716.

R NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

① NAME as it appears on federal register: **SHREWSBURY Historic District** ② OTHER NAMES: **SHREWSBURY TOWN COMMON / SHREWSBURY CENTER** ③ date of entry: **10.08.76** ④ county code: **027**
 ⑤ LOCATION street & number: *** see reverse** city / town: **SHREWSBURY** vicinity of: **MA WORCESTER** county: **N. ATLANTIC**

⑥ OWNER ☐ PRIVATE ☐ STATE ☐ MUNICIPAL ☐ COUNTY ☒ MULTIPLE ☐ FEDERAL (Agency name): **SHPO** ⑦ ADMINISTRATOR: **SHPO**
 ⑧ EXISTING SURVEYS ☐ NABS ☐ HALR ☐ NHL ⑨ FUNDED? ☐ YES ☐ NO ⑩ CONGRESS DISTRICT: **3RD** ⑪ SOURCE of NOMINATION ☒ STATE ☐ FEDERAL
 ⑫ WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? ☒ YES NAME: **X** ⑬ WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? ☒ YES NAME: **X** ⑭ ACRES: **14 ACRES** ⑮ LOCAL ☐ PRIVATE ORGANIZATION ☐

⑯ CONDITION ☐ deteriorated ☒ altered ☒ original site ⑰ features: ☐ SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 ☒ SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 ☒ SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3
☐ excellent ☐ ruins ☐ unaltered ☐ moved ☐ NOT INTACT-0 ☐ NOT INTACT-0
☒ good ☐ unexposed ☐ reconstructed ☐ unknown ☒ UNKNOWN-4 ☐ UNKNOWN-5 ☐ UNKNOWN-6
☐ fair ☐ unexcavated ☐ excavated ☐ NOT APPLICABLE-7 ☐ NOT APPLICABLE-8 ☐ NOT APPLICABLE-9

⑱ ACCESS ☐ YES-Restricted ☒ YES-Unrestricted ☐ No Access ☐ Unknown ⑲ ADAPTIVE USE ☐ YES ☒ NO ⑳ SAVED? ☐ YES ㉑ IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? ☒ YES ☐ NO

㉒ AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: ☐ ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2 ☐ COMMERCE-6 ☐ ENGINEERING-11 ☐ LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15 ☐ POLITICS/GOVT.-21 ☐ RECREATION-28
☐ ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1 ☐ COMMUNICATIONS-7 ☐ ENTERTAINMENT-26 ☐ LAW-16 ☐ RELIGION-22 ☒ SETTLEMENT-29
☐ AGRICULTURE-3 ☐ CONSERVATION-8 ☐ EXPLORATION-12 ☐ LITERATURE-17 ☐ SCIENCE-23 ☒ URBAN PLANNING-31
☒ ARCHITECTURE-4 ☐ ECONOMICS-9 ☐ HEALTH-27 ☐ MILITARY-18 ☒ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24 ☒ OTHER (SPECIFY) **Black History**
☐ ART-5 ☐ EDUCATION-10 ☐ INVENTION-14 ☐ PHILOSOPHY-20 ☐ SOCIAL/CULTURAL-30 ☐ TRANSPORTATION-25

㉓ functions WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: **residential** ㉔ dates of initial construction: **1777 -- 1900** ㉕ ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION: **Black**
 CURRENTLY: **Ditto** major alterations: historic events:

㉖ architectural style(s): **Adam / Renaissance Revival** ㉗ architect: ㉘ master builder: ㉙ engineer:
Georgian & Federal elements

㉚ landscape architect / garden designer: ㉛ interior decorator: ㉜ artist: ㉝ artisan: ㉞ builder/contractor:

㉟ NAMES give role & date PERSONAL:

EVENTS: **Underground Railroad - (Civil War period, c. 1861--66): So many runaway slaves were smuggled through Shrewsbury, during this period that a town in Canada was named after it in memory of residents who had assisted slaves.**
 INSTITUTIONAL:

㊱ NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP **District of some 11 masonry or frame, clapboarded, 1 1/2 story structures; notable around original town common include the ^{Georgian style} Samuel Haven House, the Adam style First Congregational Church, the Federal style Rev. George Allen House, and the Renaissance Revival Howe Memorial Library. Established under terms of 1717 grant from General Court of MA Bay Colony; Haven House an important probable stop on the Underground Railroad during Civil War.**

* ⑤ CHURCH RD., MAIN, PROSPECT, BOYLSTON, and GRAFTON STS.