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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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 Sheffield Center Historic District
other names/site number _____

2. Location Approx. 1.2 miles of U.S. route 7; Cook & Miller Avenues;

street & number Railroad, Depot and Burtch Streets N/A not for publication
city, town sheffield N/A vicinity
state MA code 025 county Berkshire code 003 zip code 01257

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

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

Category of Property

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
109	19	buildings
7	0	sites
0	1	structures
4	4	objects
120	24	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.

Allen Ann Faenage
Signature of certifying official Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission;
State Historic Preservation Officer

10/27/89
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

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): _____

Allen Ann Faenage
Signature of the Keeper

12-1-89
Date of Action

[Signature]
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
 Domestic/Single Dwelling; Secondary Structure

 Commerce/Department Store; Specialty Store;
 Professional; Warehouse

 Social/Meeting Hall

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
 Domestic/Single Dwelling; Secondary Structure

 Commerce/Department Store; Specialty Store
 Social/Meeting Hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

No style

Colonial/Georgian

Early Republic/Federal

Mid-19th century/Greek Revival

Late Victorian/Queen Anne

Laate 19th & 20th Century Revivals/Colonial Revival

foundation Stone

walls Wood

Brick

roof Asphalt

other Marble, Glass, Concrete, Steel

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Sheffield Center Historic District, Sheffield, Massachusetts, is a concentrated settlement of approximately 117 acres located in the town's business district and institutional core in central Sheffield. Ranged along both sides of U.S. Route 7, the primary north-south artery which runs through the town, the district extends roughly 1.2 miles south from Schenob Brook. Schenob Brook physically separates the Center from Sheffield Plain, a rural residential village located approximately one mile to the north. The village of Ashley Falls, slightly more than three miles down Route 7, is the closest village to the south. The linear Center district is flanked by uplands bordering the Housatonic River to the east and Penn Central Railroad to the west. Two residential streets--Maple Avenue and Cook Avenue--and two original railroad service roads--Railroad and Depot Streets--are included in the district. Portions of Miller Avenue, Burtch Street, and Root Lane are included where they intersect Route 7 (known locally as Main Street).

Sheffield Center Historic District is comprised of 128 buildings, seven sites, one structure, and eight objects. Of these, 109 buildings, seven sites, and four objects contribute to its architectural and historical integrity. Most noncontributing resources were constructed after ca. 1938, the end of the period of significance. Few historic buildings have been rendered noncontributing as a result of alterations. Residential buildings at the Center display a full range of architectural styles and building types, from the high-style to the vernacular and from mansions to cottages. The 2 1/2-story house with clapboard siding predominates. Such houses are seen in the Georgian, Federal, and Greek Revival styles, as well as a late 19th-century vernacular adaptation. Three brick houses in the Georgian style are particularly noteworthy for their excellent state of preservation.

Institutional buildings include Sheffield's second (and oldest extant) meetinghouse, the town hall, four churches, a community hall, the town library, and the first high school in Berkshire County. These buildings, some of which are architect-designed, range from 18th-century Georgian to early 20th-century Georgian Revival, and comprise the largest collection of architecturally and historically significant buildings in Sheffield. Commercial buildings of wood or stone are generally simple structures concentrated in the northern half of the district. Industrial buildings

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Historic Function (cont'd)

- Government/Town Hall
- Education/School; Library
- Religion/Religious
 - Structure; Church-Related
 - Residence
- Funerary/Cemetery
- Recreation/Monument-Marker
- Agriculture/Processing
- Landscape/Plaza, Park Street
- Furniture-Object
- Transportation/Rail-Related
- Road Related

Current Function (cont'd)

- Government/Town Hall
- Education/Library
- Religion/Religious
 - Structure
- Funerary/Cemetery
- Recreation/Monument-Marker
- Landscape/Plaza, Park Street
- Furniture-Object, Garden
- Transportation/Road-Related

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associated with the railroad once stood at the district's western edge. Of these, a single utilitarian freight house remains.

Sheffield Center is more thickly settled than the town's other linear village on the Plain, although the Center maintains a balance of open and developed space. There are few openings in the street wall along Main Street, but the linear character of the district and the set back of buildings from the street prevent Sheffield Center from appearing crowded. While development of secondary roads in the heart of the district--Cook Avenue, Railroad Street, and Depot Street--has evenly distributed building density around Main Street, this concentration of short streets leading off the highway in the vicinity of the meetinghouse has led to the creation of a distinct focus for the district.

There are three major open spaces in the Center historic district. The Village Green, a narrow strip of land parallel to the west side of Route 7, is directly in front of the Old Parish Church, the town's second meetinghouse and the first institutional building at Sheffield Center. The Parish Church and most of the stores in the business district face a roadway separated from the highway by the Village Green. Also on the west side of Route 7 is Barnard Park, a 1.25-acre park donated to the town by a Barnard descendant in 1936. Barnard cemetery at the district's southeastern corner contains nearly three hundred gravestones ranging from 1756 to 1896.

Residential Buildings

The earliest extant resource in the Center district is the 1747 ell on the James Dewey House (ca. 1760, Map #64, MHC #22). Now located on the east side of the larger brick house, the original wood-frame ell of 1 1/2 stories was expanded with the addition of a second story in 1847. The practice of building large farmhouses onto one or 1 1/2-story capes, thereby converting the earlier home into an ell, was a common means of upgrading houses in Sheffield from the mid- 18th through the mid- 19th century. Other examples are extant on Sheffield Plain and at the Sedgwick House (1761, 1847) in the Center historic district.

A saltbox at the northernmost boundary of the Center district is the Elijah Noble House on Route 7, (Map #5, MHC #90, Photo #1). Built in 1750, this 2 1/2-story house with a center chimney is one of five 18th-century saltboxes in Sheffield. The three-bay facade has a center entry with a four-panel door framed by a pilastered surround and flanked by sidelights containing 6/4 double hung wood sash. Original 6/6 wood sash survives in other windows. A one-story woodshed ell is attached to the northeast corner of the house. The district includes an older, noncontributing saltbox (Postmedieval English), the Silas Deane House (Map #58, MHC #31). Built in 1727, the house was moved to the east side of Route 7 from Wethersfield, Connecticut by an antiques dealer in 1946. Similar to the Noble House in size

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and facade configuration, the Deane House has 12/12 wood sash in the first floor windows and 8/12 on the second floor. There is a 1950s three-car garage (Map #J) to the northeast.

One of the most prevalent building types in the district is the 2 1/2-story house single- or double-pile, with gable roof, five-bay facade, and center hall. This type was firmly established at Sheffield Center with the construction on Main Street of three brick houses in the Georgian style by the early 1770s. The James Dewey House referenced earlier was built ca. 1760 by Dan Raymond, a wealthy Sheffield merchant. Brick is laid in Flemish bond, and used in the belt course on the facade and jack arches over the windows. The entry is inset with deep reveals and has a narrow eight-light transom. A second house by Dan Raymond (Map #107, MHC #23), built in 1774 and now the headquarters of the Sheffield Historical Society, has a double-pile plan, a marble belt course, and marble window lintels. Another single-pile house, the Dr. Wakefield House (Map #36, MHC #47) of 1771, is also believed to be the work of Raymond. The use of brick in residential construction at the Center virtually ceases after these houses.

The center district exhibits a range of wood-frame Federal style houses, constructed as late as ca. 1825. Among the earliest, and the most high-style, is the General John Barnard House (Map #68, MHC #18) of 1786. Occupying a spacious lot at the northwest corner of the Route 7-Root Lane intersection, the house, known as Netherby Hall, was built by Major Aaron Root, Barnard's grandfather. The 2 1/2-story wood-frame structure has a hipped roof, tall interior end chimneys, and a five-bay facade distinguished by a slightly projecting pedimented central pavilion. The main entry, flanked by double-hung sidelights, is shielded by a pedimented portico with slender Doric columns and a full entablature. A Palladian window with tracery in the sidelights graces the second story of the pavilion. The pediment contains a fan window. The clapboard exterior is finished with thin corner boards. Both pediments and the main block display dentil cornices. A sun porch has been added to the north side of the house.

French's Villa (Map #94, MHC #148), built between 1804 and 1820, is another hipped roof Federal style house, with interior end chimneys, clapboard walls, a dentil cornice, and a double-pile, center hall plan. A simple fan window over the entrance has a hood mold with corbel stops. The house was modified with Italianate detailing in the second half of the 19th century and was moved back from Main Street to its present location ca. 1967. A one-story, five-bay porch with a central pedimented pavilion was removed at an unknown date and long first floor windows have been returned to their original configuration.

The pedimented end gable is first seen in Sheffield Center with the construction of the Rev. James Bradford House (Map #90, MHC #25) in 1821. Built on a marble foundation, this wood-frame double-pile, center-hall house with interior end chimneys has a plain frieze and a dentil cornice. The

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entrance is framed by engaged columns and a gable-roof hood. A fan window lights each pedimented end.

Forshadowing the arrival in Sheffield Center of the three-bay Greek Revival facade, the Eli Ensign House (Map #45, MHC #152) of 1822 displays a gable end turned toward the street. Built on a small lot at the center of the historic district, the Ensign House has the appearance of a five-bay, double-pile Federal house turned end-to-street to fit the narrow confines of the lot. Two and one-half stories high with interior end chimneys, the house has a three-bay street facade consisting of a center entry squeezed between two windows containing 12/12 wood sash.

The Greek Revival style was the most often employed for residential construction in Sheffield Center, where Greek Revival houses were constructed until ca. 1870. Generally these houses are 2 1/2 stories with broad pedimented gables turned end to the street, three-bay facades with side entries, and the Greek Revival ornament. The Train House (Map #88) of ca. 1820 is a typical example. The entry is recessed and framed by pilasters carrying a prominent entablature. Paneled corner pilasters carry a similar entablature beneath the roofline. Windows contain 6/6 double-hung sash but have no moldings. A double square window at the attic level is commonly seen in the pediments of other Greek Revival houses in Sheffield. The Train House has a 2 1/2-story lateral wing with one-story porch added on the south side. This lateral wing is a feature that would characterize the district's houses built after ca. 1850.

A smaller Greek Revival cottage is seen in the Ledlie House (Map #83) on Burtch Street, built between 1805 and 1815. The 1 1/2-story cottage is rectangular in massing with gable roof oriented toward the street. A one-story porch with a hipped roof and Tuscan columns grace the facade. Pilasters frame the side entrance of the three-bay front, and the attic has two double-hung windows and a ridge vent. A similar type of Greek Revival cottage is also seen in Sheffield Plain during the same period. Variations in the width of the porch, entrance location, and the number of attic windows distinguish the houses. The Center District also includes Greek Revival cottages in which the side gable is turned to the street with a central bay and rectangular frieze windows at the upper level (Barker House, Map #4, MHC #91, 1835).

The highest style Greek Revival house in the Center District is the Sedgwick House (Map #33, MHC #33), which consists of a wood-frame peripteral temple front added in 1847 to an earlier (1761) frame house, now the ell of the main block. The later main block is two stories high with a low-pitched ridge-hipped roof and wide entablature supported on three sides by eleven double-height square posts with inset panels. A veranda beneath the square posts wraps around the facade and sides of the house. The street (or west)

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elevation is two bays across with long triple hung (6/6/6) sash in the first floor windows and double-hung sash with sidelights on the second floor. The ell, which contains the house's main entrance on the south wall, is 1-1/2 stories with frieze windows at the roofline.

By the third quarter of the 19th century, much of the district's residential architecture constituted some variation of the L-plan. These 2- or 2 1/2-story houses--some with gable end, side-entry facades and some with entrances on the long elevation--have 2-story gable--roofed lateral or rear wings. A combination of bay windows, bracketed cornices, molded window hoods, and porches distinguishes these vernacular houses of the Victorian era.

The preponderance of the Greek Revival style in Sheffield Center precluded much Italianate residential construction, although the Italianate style appeared in institutional (and railroad) construction in the district at this time. Elaborate Italianate houses appear south of the Center and the historic district. There are no Second Empire style dwellings or mansard roofs in the district. The vernacular Victorian farmhouse was firmly established as a building type at Sheffield Center with examples constructed as late as the 1890s. Houses of this type include the Cowen House (ca. 1875-1895, Map #49) on Main Street and the Elizabeth Brahier House (ca. 1870-1885, Map #95) on Depot Street.

One exception to the typical Sheffield Center house of this period, however, is the John Mortiz House (Map #39, ca. 1860-1873) on Cook Avenue. Exhibiting characteristics of the Greek Revival and Italianate styles, the Moritz house is two stories high with square massing, a low-pitched hipped roof, and a three-bay facade with a central entry. A one-story, three-bay porch with turned posts and jigsaw capital ornaments the exterior. Long first floor windows flank the entrance, which is topped with a narrow rectangular transom. Window heads are molded on the first floor and flat on the second, where they meet a plain frieze beneath the cornice.

From ca. 1880 until the end of the 19th century the vernacular houses with L-plans continued to be built, although porch infill began to appear in the right angle created by the two wings, in addition to or in place of a porch across the facade. The Colonial Revival style surfaces in the last decade of the 19th century. Less rigid in its symmetry than the district's Greek Revival houses, the Helen Macy House (ca. 1890-1900, Map #10) has the board-gabled facade reminiscent of houses built fifty years earlier. A one-story enclosed sun porch with a hipped roof and an end-bay entry wraps around the west (main) and south (side) elevations of the main block. Bays in the porch contain six- or nine-pane glass panels. Detailing on the clapboarded house is confined to a plain cornice with returns and Doric columns on the porch. Windows contain either 1/1 or 2/2 double-hung wood sash.

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Slightly later, the home on Maple Avenue, now used as Catholic Church Rectory (Map #21, ca. 1895-1910), was built. This classical Revival building, like many others in the district, is 2-1/2 stories high with a three-bay, central-entry facade and pedimented end gables. Simple brackets ornament the cornice line, and the one-story wrap-around porch with a central pedimented entry has a wide frieze and dentil cornice. In the gable is a pair of square windows, a feature seen on the Helen Macy House as well as Greek Revival houses in the district.

Four Square (Colonial Revival) houses were also built in Sheffield Center about the turn of the 20th century. Among them are the James Graney House (Map #78, ca. 1890-1915) and Oak Lodge (Map #66, ca. 1900-1915) on Main Street. These houses are 2-1/2 stories with hipped roofs, shingled exteriors, and hipped-roof central dormers containing diamond-pane casement or 2/2 double-hung sash. The houses vary in the number of bays on the facade (three- and four-bay examples are extant), the position of the entrances (side in a three-bay example and off-center in the four-bay example), the number of dormers on side elevations, and the treatment of the one-story porches. The Graney House, which is rectangular in massing rather than square, has a raised three-bay porch with a side entry, while the three-bay porch of Oak Lodge has been enclosed and has a center entry.

There was no new residential construction in Sheffield Center between World War I and the 1930s. The intervening period saw the town's lowest population since its founding and the discontinuation of the street railway that connected Sheffield Center with Pittsfield and Canaan, Connecticut. Contributing 1930s residential construction includes the George Stenner House (Map #12) Maple Ave, a variation of the Four Square (Colonial Revival) house with a lateral wing, and the Kronig House (Map #25) Maple Ave, 1 1/2-story cape.

Institutional Buildings

Integral to the development of the village at Sheffield Center was construction of the Old Parish Church (Map #99, MHC #20), the oldest institutional building in the historic district. Built as the town's second meetinghouse in 1760, the Parish Church is located at the center of the village on the west side of Main Street. The 2 1/2-story clapboard-sheathed meetinghouse has a pedimented three-bay frontispiece with attenuated corner pilasters carrying a plain entablature. On the second story over the three entrances is a Palladian window flanked by a pair of double-hung windows containing 12/12 wood sash. The pediment contains a blind lunette. The frontispiece steps back to larger but similarly articulated pedimented block that yields an additional window bay to either side of the frontispiece and twelve-bay side elevations. In 1819 the meetinghouse was moved back from the

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highway and the square clock tower and steeple were added. The two-level octagonal steeple consists of plain pilasters, keyed arch louvered openings, a dentil cornice, and a balustrade with urn finials at each level. Jonathan Graham, a blacksmith who lived on Sheffield Plain, created the massive wrought iron weathervane.

The Greek Revival style Town Hall (Map #101, MHC #93) was built by the Ensign brothers of Sheffield between 1825 and 1840. Two and one-half stories with a ridge-hipped roof and a marble foundation, the rectangular brick building is laid in seven-course American bond with iron tie-rods exposed above the second story. The building has a five-bay facade with a central entry, a wide wood entablature, and a square, hipped roof wood cupola with round-arched louvered openings. Windows on the first and second story have stone sills and lintels; first floor windows contain 6/6 double-hung sash and the long second floor windows contain 9/9 sash. Rectangular attic windows are set into the frieze. The entrance is marked by a pedimented portico with plain wood posts.

A Greek Revival building with Romanesque Revival detailing is the Methodist Church (Map #85, MHC #29), built in 1842 at the northwest corner of Main and Burtch Streets. The frame church is 2-1/2 stories high with a gable roof and projecting frontispiece framed by corner pilasters carrying a plain frieze and bracketed cornice. The bracketed tower contains paired round-arched louvered openings. The church was sold in 1971 to an artist and art conservator, and now serves as a residence and studio. Currently in excellent repair, the former church displays no changes to the exterior which would indicate a change in the building's use.

Sheffield Center's First High School (Map #105, MHC #34) is a 1 1/2-story frame Italianate building with a three-bay end gable facade and paired brackets on all four elevations. The side entry is lit with a rectangular three-pane transom. A round-arched window lights the gable end. Originally constructed on the site of the present Center School in 1871, the schoolhouse was relocated to a lot near Town Hall ca. 1909. A large door on a side elevation recalls the building's use in the early decades of the 20th century as a car repair shop and a garage. Currently in fair condition, the First High School building was donated to the Town of Sheffield in 1975.

Dewey Memorial Hall (Map #92, MHC #38), Sheffield's community center, was designed in 1887 by William R. Emerson. The district's most elaborate example of late 19th-century architecture, Dewey Hall displays elements of the Queen Anne and Shingle style. Rectangular in massing, the 1 1/2-story building has a 2-story square tower with gable roof at the southeast corner and a gable porte-cochere on the east elevation (facade). The uncoursed rubble stone posts, rough marble quoins, and shingled gable infill of the porte-cochere constitute a scheme that is carried throughout the exterior. The south wall of the tower is comprised of finer stones than the facade. All gables are

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infilled with shingles, including a gabled dormer on the south elevation. The building exhibits a variety of window sizes and shapes. Fixed or double-hung multi-pane wood sash is the rule, although sidelights containing diamond panes frame the double-door entrance. A bronze tablet to the left of the entrance is inscribed "To Keep the Memory of Orville Dewey 1794 SFU 1882." The "SFU" refers to the Sheffield Friendly Union founded by Dr. Dewey, a Sheffield Center resident, in 1871.

In the early decades of the 20th century, two churches, a school, and a public library were built in the historic district at Sheffield Center. Of these buildings, two are particularly notable. Christ Church (Map #28, MHC #211) was designed in 1910-1911 by Henry Vaughan and completed by 1912. The rural Episcopal church--just one story with rectangular massing and gable roof--is built of seam faced stone from Hewins Quarry in Sheffield. A stone belfry caps the west elevation (facade), which is distinguished by a single basket-arched stained glass window. Stained glass windows were executed by Tiffany and Co. of New York and J. Wippell and Co., Ltd. of Exeter, England. Vaughan, a prominent figure in American ecclesiastical architecture in the late 19th and 20th centuries, came to the United States from England ca. 1882. He was a draftsman for George Frederick Bodley, a key figure in the late Gothic Revival in England. Vaughan and Bodley later collaborated on the National Cathedral in Washington, DC. The Lich Gate (Map #E Photo #9) southwest of Christ Church was built on hand-hewn beams and Hewins Quarry stone in 1970.

The Bushnell-Sage Memorial Library (Map #82) was built in 1929 of Harvard brick with cast-stone detailing. Designed by J. McArthur Vance of Pittsfield, the library cost \$33,000 to build. The symmetrical one-story brick structure has a gable roof, parapeted end walls with chimneys, and a five-bay facade. Brick quoins and a dentil cornice ornament the rectangular block. A double-door center entry is lit by a fan transom and articulated by a gable-roofed door hood supported by a pair of thin columns. Cast-stone is used in the flat lintels over the double-hung windows of the facade and in the keystones on the round-arched windows of the side elevations. A rear wing, providing additional stack space on the main floor, a fireproof vault, and a basement were constructed in 1952. The brick addition, barely discernible from Main Street, incorporates quoins, dentil work, and window lintels in a design similar to that of the original building.

Commercial Construction

The Center district retains a number of wood-frame and stone Greek Revival commercial buildings. These are generally 1-1/2 or 2-1/2 stories with gable roofs facing the street and modest one-story porches. The Old Stone Store (Map #100, MHC #39) on the west side of Main Street was built between 1830 and 1836 by the Ensign brothers, also builders of the Town Hall. Now a stylistic combination of the Greek Revival and the Colonial Revival due to a rebuilding

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of the roof following a fire in 1901, the store is of coursed local stone set in mortar with marble quoins and smooth stone window sills and lintels. Three bays across the facade and three bays deep, the original stone store had a pedimented portico with two giant fluted columns supporting a wide entablature. These columns burned in 1901 and the present pedimented gabled and pitched roof storefront date to that time. A frame extension to the west (rear) of the building likely dates to ca. 1901. At the time of the fire, the Old Stone Store housed a barber, milliner, dressmaker, shoemaker, and butcher, as well as a billiard hall.

Another Greek Revival commercial building altered in the early 20th century is Little's Store (Maps #34 and #35, MHC #46), built ca. 1845 to 1865. Originally 2-1/2 stories with a three-bay facade, projecting portico, and four giant Ionic columns, the store was joined with a neighboring 2 1/2-story building ca. 1925, at which time the four Ionic columns were evenly distributed across the new seven-bay facade. The resulting double Greek Revival building has a dentil cornice and a secondary dentil cornice around the storefronts.

Two commercial buildings have been moved to Sheffield Center from the Sheffield Plain. The former Sheffield Academy Building (Map #93, MCH #94), constructed ca. 1839, was moved to the Center and converted to commercial use in 1871. The 2 1/2-story frame building is clad with clapboards and has a marble foundation. The three-bay facade with center entrance (now incorporating a one-story boxed storefront) is contained beneath a broad end gable with returns. A round-arched window with a gable-shaped hood lights the attic. Now a variety store, the former Academy building served as a general merchandise store upon its conversion in 1871, and housed the town library for a short time later in the 1870s.

A second building constructed on Sheffield Plain and moved to the Center is the Parker Hall Law Office (#109, MHC #11) of 1820. The simple two-room structure is 1 1/2-stories with a pedimented end gable and center chimney. The center entry is flanked by windows containing 9/6 double-hung wood sash, and a four-pane window lights the attic. Corner boards, a narrow frieze, and a simple entablature over the entrance ornament the clapboarded building. Used in the early 20th century as a small shop, the Law Office, which was recorded by HABS, was in derelict condition before it was moved to the Center in 1974 and restored by the Sheffield Historical Society.

A collection of railroad buildings at the western edge of the district near Railroad and Depot Streets has been broken up due to demolition or relocation. In 1970, the ca. 1870 Italianate style Passenger Depot (MHC #50) was relocated to private property off Route 7A south of Sheffield Center. The ticket station has board and batten siding, overhanging eaves supported by large brackets on four sides, and a side entry with round-arched double

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doors. Today the ticket station is a private residence. The one-story brick Freight House (Map #104) of ca. 1910 survives on Railroad Street, but the Freight Station was demolished at an unknown date.

Later contributing commercial buildings include the Bartholomew Block (Map #98) on the east side of Main Street, a two-story stone-faced block in the Colonial Revival Style, built in 1912 immediately south of the Old Parish Church. Two utilitarian garages were built in the 1920s: Ford's Garage (Map #32) at the commercial core of the historic district and Macy's Garage (Map #2, 1926) at the northern end. Macy's Garage is a one-story building incorporating concrete block pilasters, steel trusses, and a concrete floor. A brick utilitarian gas station (Map #106) was constructed in 1936 near the site of the Taconic Inn at the corner of Main and Railroad Streets.

Other Contributing Resources

Approximately one-third of the district's contributing buildings are secondary structures such as barns and garages. Located at the rear of house lots, these buildings are generally one-story, utilitarian wood structures with gable or shed roofs. A small brick smokehouse (Map #27, 1810-1820) accompanies the house known as the Christ Church Rectory (Map #26, MHC #32, 1750-1770) on the east side of Main Street.

Of seven contributing sites in the Center historic district, one is a cemetery and three are landscapes. Barnard Cemetery (Map #63, MHC #807) occupies the southernmost lot on the east side of Main Street, directly opposite Netherby Hall (#68, MHC #18, Photo #3). The approximately three hundred gravestones in the cemetery date to the period between 1756 and 1896. The site known as Seven Pines (Map #84), a triangular lot at the intersection of Main and Burtch Streets, was planted by Dr. Orville Dewey and his friend William Cullen Bryant in the 1850s. Of seven original pine trees, two remain. The Sheffield Garden Club maintains a flower bed on the site. Created on the west side of Main Street at an unknown date was the Village Green (Map #118), a narrow strip parallel to Main Street at the center of the business district, extending from the Old Stone Store to the Sheffield Lumber Company. The Green may have come into existence following the 1819 moving of the Old Parish Church back from Main Street. Marked at either end by watering troughs (Map #120, ca. 1870 and Map #121, ca. 1880), the Green includes a World War I stone marker (Map #119, ca. 1920) and two park benches (Maps #V and #W, ca. 1945). Finally, Barnard Park (Map #116) was created at the southwestern corner of Main Street and Miller Avenue in 1936, when a Barnard descendant donated the 1.25 acres to the town. Among the trees and shrubs bordering the park are six trees planted in memory of Sheffield men who died in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. The park includes a monument to General John G. and Dr. Frederick A. P. Barnard (Map #117, 1937), a flagpole (Map #T, 1986), and a Veterans Monument (Map #U, 1970s).

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Three sites once supported historically significant buildings, two near the railroad tracks and one at the northern end of the district. The railroad Passenger Depot (Map #97, MHC #50) was moved out of the Center in 1971, and the brick Freight Station (Map #103) was demolished at an unknown date. Both buildings were integral to the economic vitality of the Center from ca. 1850 through the end of the period of significance. The Macy House stood at the third site (Map #3) until its removal to Connecticut in 1986. A two-story wood-frame building with a gable roof, six-bay facade, and two entrances, the ca. 1743 house once served as an ordinary at Sheffield Center. The building was removed to expand the parking area for the commercial Macy's Garage in the building next door (Map #2).

Contributing buildings are generally in an excellent state of preservation, with minimal alteration to exteriors. Changes are confined to the addition of porches or ells, and attached garages in some instances. These additions do not impair the architectural integrity of the district or the individual buildings.

Intrusions

Intrusions in the Center district are minimal. Few historic buildings have been altered enough to compromise their integrity. Two contemporary houses (Maps #C and #K) are set back from Main Street. A gas station, antique shop, telephone transfer station, and a Neo-Colonial commercial block (Map #Q, 1966) housing the post office and a savings bank are among the buildings constructed since ca. 1938 that blend harmoniously with adjacent historic structures. Other intrusions are one- or two-car garages built next to or behind contributing buildings. These garages are compatible in size and scale with the architectural and historic character of the district.

Building Relocation and Demolition

Relocation of buildings at Sheffield Center has occurred since the Old Parish Church was moved back from the highway in 1819. Other buildings moved from their original locations within the district include the First High School (moved to Railroad Street ca. 1909), and French's Villa (moved back from the highway ca. 1967). Buildings moved into the district from outlying areas are the former Sheffield Academy building (from Sheffield Plain in 1871), the Silas Deane House (from Wethersfield, Connecticut, ca. 1946), and the Parker Hall Law Office (from the Plain in 1974). Finally, two buildings are known to have been moved out of the district, the railroad Passenger Depot (to Route 7A, 1971), and the Macy House (to Connecticut, ca. 1986).

The most recent demolition of a major building in the historic district occurred in 1965, when the Elmhurst Hotel on the east side of Main Street was razed to create a car lot for Macy's Garage. The 3 1/2-story frame building

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had a gable roof, L-massing, and a one-story wrap-around porch. Other demolitions include the wood-frame Sheffield Center Grammar School (by 1909), the first Christ Church building (by 1912) and the Freight Depot (date unknown). Fires in the historic district destroyed a drugstore at the northwest corner of Main and Depot Streets (1904) and the Taconic Inn--now the location of a gas station--ca. 1936. The Taconic was a grand hotel in the tradition of the Elmhurst: 3 1/2-stories with a hipped roof, pedimented dormers, and a two-story wrap-around veranda.

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Sheffield, MASection number 7 Page 12Archaeological Description

While no prehistoric sites are currently recorded in the district, it is highly likely that sites are present. Four prehistoric sites have been recorded in the general area (within one mile). The physical characteristics of the district, a well-drained terrace overlooking the Housatonic River, Schenob Brook, and large wetlands immediately to the west, would have made this an attractive area for native settlement and subsistence activities. Given the large size of the district and controlled historic development, it is highly probable that sites are present.

A high potential exists for historic archaeological sites within the district. Most mid 18th through 19th century residences built in the district survive as well as civic and religious structures. The Old Parish Church was constructed in 1760 in response to a population shift to the district area by that time. Earlier settlements exist to the north and south of the district. By 1785 several buildings were noted by travelers in the district area, some of which likely exist as archaeological survivals. No industry has been located within the district. Construction in the district accelerated during the 19th century during which additional churches, schools, stores, taverns and residences were built. Most structures, however, remained residential. Most 18th and 19th century historic archaeological survivals in the district probably exist in the form of occupation-related features (trash pits, privies, wells, etc.) around the structures noted above. Structural survivals also likely exist though most have yet to be identified. In addition to potential 18th century residential survivals, structural survivals of 19th century residences also probably survive. Archaeological survivals also probably exist from the original location of the Old Parish Church which was moved back from the highway during remodeling in 1819. Archaeological survivals related to transportation are probably present at the site of the old 19th Century railroad station on Depot Street and freight station on Railroad Street. Archaeological remains of an "immense" ice house are also probably present near the railroad depot.

(end)

8. Statement of Significance

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)

- Architecture
- Commerce
- Community Planning & Development
- Social History
- Transportation

Period of Significance
ca 1760-ca. 1938

Significant Dates
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
Raymond, Dan; Vaughan Henry,
Emerson, William R; Vance, J. McArthur;
Ensign, Edward F. & Richard

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

The Sheffield Center Historic District, Sheffield, Massachusetts is a well-preserved and visually cohesive group of residential, institutional, and commercial buildings associated with the growth of the village from a small pre-Revolutionary War settlement to the town's institutional and commercial core. Containing approximately 117 acres in the geographical and population center of Sheffield, the linear district constitutes the largest collection of architecturally significant buildings in the town. Between 1760 and the turn of the 20th century, Sheffield Center evolved from a meetinghouse location into the town's commercial, transportation, religious, and cultural center, as well as a destination for seasonal travelers. The Sheffield Center Historic District contains a number of Sheffield's most historically significant buildings, including the earliest extant meetinghouse, the town hall building, the first public high school, and the homes of local leading families. One hundred nine buildings, seven sites, and four objects contribute to the district's architectural and historical integrity. A number of buildings have been moved within the district and into the district from other areas. The moving of the building took place within the district's period of significance and contribute to the architectural significance of the district. Retaining integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and association, the Sheffield Center Historic District meets Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places, exception B of the National Register of Historic Places and is significant at the Local level.

The town of Sheffield is located in the southwestern corner of Massachusetts and with a land area of 31,150 acres is the second largest town in Berkshire County. Generally level in terrain, Sheffield lies in the Housatonic River Valley between the steep hills of the Taconic Range to the west and the rough hilly land and low hills of the Berkshire Barrier to the east. Settlement of the town lagged behind its neighbors to the east until 1724, when a fertile tract of land eighteen miles long and twelve miles wide was purchased from the Mohican Indians. The purchase, which comprised the entire southwestern corner of Massachusetts from four miles east of the Housatonic River westward to the

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colony of New York, included all of the present towns of Sheffield, Great Barrington, Egremont, and Mount Washington to the south and much of Alford, Stockbridge, West Stockbridge, and Lee to the north. The price paid was "Four Hundred and Sixty Pounds, three Barrels of Cider and thirty quarters of Rum."

Two townships were carved from the Indian purchase, the Upper Housatonic Township to the north and the Lower Housatonic Township, contiguous with the Massachusetts-Connecticut boundary line, to the south. The lower township included the present town of Sheffield. For the purpose of land allocation, the Lower Housatonic Township was partitioned into five divisions, three of which fell within the present boundary of Sheffield. The remaining two, known at one point as the North Parish of Sheffield, were incorporated as the Town of Great Barrington in 1761. The General Court of the Province of Massachusetts Bay appointed a committee to allocate lots to those petitioners who were deemed most likely to establish a permanent settlement. Shares in the Lower Township were sold to thirty-nine prospective settlers, with care taken to ensure that each proprietor received a fair share of both meadow and upland. A strip-like arrangement of lots gave each settler narrow frontage along the road (now U.S. Route 7) that passed north to south through the township.

In 1726 Matthew Noble, who had come from Westfield the previous autumn, brought his 16-year-old daughter Hannah to take up residence in the frontier territory. Noble built a house on Sheffield Plain, an early settlement core and the location of the town's first meetinghouse a decade later. Preeminent in the affairs of the Lower Housatonic Township, Noble issued the warrant for the first town meeting, held on the Plain in January 1733. The Town of Sheffield, the oldest in Berkshire County, was incorporated on June 22, 1733. Sheffield was reduced to its present size by annexations to New Marlborough [1795, 1798, 1871] to the east and Egremont [1790, 1824] to the northwest.

The earliest concentrated settlements in Sheffield were along the present Route 7, on Sheffield Plain in the northern end of town and at Ashley Falls at the southern end. This route, known as Main Street through Sheffield Center, is a major byway that connects the Center with the Plain and Ashley Falls and defines the town's three villages. The 12th Massachusetts Turnpike constructed in 1801 incorporated the segment of Route 7 that passes through the Sheffield Center Historic District.

Sheffield's first meetinghouse (1735) was located on the Plain, the town's first institutional core. While the Plain thrived in the town's early decades, the area now known as Sheffield Center was sparsely settled. The single large house there was a saltbox (Map #5, MHC #90) built ca. 1750 by Elijah Noble, son of Matthew Noble, Sheffield's first white settler. The earliest burial in the Barnard Cemetery at the Center occurred in 1756.

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By 1760 Sheffield residents saw the need for a more central location for their meetinghouse, and built a second edifice approximately one mile south of the Plain. Construction of this meetinghouse, the Parish (Congregational) Church (Map #99, MHC #20), spurred development of the surrounding area. Craftsmen, small businessmen, doctors and farmers settled in the vicinity of the new meetinghouse. Brick farmhouses in the Georgian style such as the James Dewey House (Map #64, MHC #22) replaced smaller frame capes, and the village at Sheffield Center began to take form.

The Parish Church was the scene of a 1773 meeting of local citizens, at which the Sheffield Declaration was adopted without dissent. The Declaration, a statement of grievances against Great Britain, resolved that "Mankind in a State of Nature are equal, free, and independent of each other, and have a right to the undisturbed Enjoyment of there [sic] Lives, there [sic] Liberty, and Property." A complete text of the Declaration was published in the February 18, 1773 edition of The Massachusetts Spy, a popular Whig weekly widely read throughout the colonies.

Another local event with statewide implications involved Theodore Sedgwick, an attorney whose house (Map #33, MHC #33) is in the Sheffield Center Historic District. Sedgwick prosecuted a landmark case for the freedom of two Sheffield slaves. Brom and Bett v. Ashley was heard in the Berkshire County Court of Common Pleas in Great Barrington in 1781. The first female slave to achieve emancipation in Massachusetts, Bett was awarded compensation for her services from the time she was 21. The case was one in a series which led to the abolition of slavery in Massachusetts.

Until 1825, town government and the Congregational church operated as a single unit, with the Parish Church supported by local taxes. The Parish Church served not only as a place of worship but also as a town hall, a courthouse, and a jail as the occasion demanded. The town financed an addition to the meetinghouse in 1819-1820 for \$4,000. Following the 1825 separation of the Congregational church and local government, the town fathers secured a three-story brick building near the meetinghouse for use as the Town Hall (Map #101, MHC #93, ca. 1825-1840). In 1878 the town purchased the brick building for \$3,650 at a public auction to settle an estate. The builders, Edward F. and Richard Ensign, were postmasters and merchants who also operated a brick kiln in Sheffield. Rooms in the building have been used at various times for a town library, grocery store, shoe shop, "coffin ware room", G.A.R. meeting place, Grange meeting place, entertainment and sports practices. The Town Hall is stylistically similar to the Return E. Jones House (ca. 1829-1835, MHC #6), a wood-frame residence of the same period of Sheffield Plain.

The Center rapidly supplanted the Plain as the institutional and commercial focus of Sheffield. Beginning with the construction of the second meetinghouse at the Center, ca. 1760, the transition was complete by ca.

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1850. A community of subsistence farming well into the 19th century, Sheffield also had several small businesses, most located at the Center. Situated on both sides of Main Street in the vicinity of the Parish Church and Town Hall is the commercial center of the town and the historic district. Commercial uses began to infiltrate the largely residential Center in the 1830s, and spacious house lots such as that belonging to French's Villa (Map #94, MHC #148, ca. 1804-1820) were subdivided and sold.

The Stone Store (Map #100, MHC #148) was built immediately north of the meetinghouse in 1836. Owned and constructed by Edward F. and Richard Ensign, the store carried dry goods groceries, and hardware. A fire in the building in 1901 affected a barber, milliner, dressmaker, shoemaker, butcher, and billiard hall.

The former Sheffield Academy building (Map #93, MHC #94), constructed in 1839 on the public square in Sheffield Plain, was moved in 1871 to the corner of Depot and Main Streets by the merchant Cyrus French, who filled it with a large stock of general merchandise. A millinery department also operated there in 1875, and Doctors Smith and Beebe rented office space in the building until they moved to French's Villa next door. The building housed a library and the Sheffield Center post office (1934-1955) as well as a pharmacy from 1929 to 1986, when it became a variety store.

Other commercial buildings at the center of the district include Little's Store (Maps #34 and 35, MHC #46), twin Greek Revival buildings joined with a common porch ca. 1925, and the Bartholomew Block (Map #98), built in 1912 between the Parish Church and the converted Sheffield Academy building. The Bartholomew Block replaced a drug store that burned in 1904.

The tracks of the Housatonic Railroad were laid west of Sheffield's budding civic and commercial core at the Center ca. 1842. The railroad operated independently until it was absorbed by the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad in 1892. A cluster of railroad buildings sprung up east of the tracks in the vicinity of Town Hall, although Railroad and Depot Streets, two short lanes from Main Street to the tracks, were not cut through until ca. 1895. The freight house (Map #104, ca. 1910) is the only building of the group extant in its original location. Passenger service on the railroad continued until 1971, when the Sheffield depot was closed. The Passenger Depot was moved out of the Center that year and the Freight Depot and other buildings were demolished. One freight train still passes through town each day.

In the second half of the 19th century the railroad depot at Sheffield Center was a beehive of activity, due mainly to the town's booming agricultural and quarrying industries. Sheffield farmers were affected only minimally by the Panic of 1873 and ensuing depression. The amount of milk shipped from the Sheffield station in 1880 totaled 36,310 forty-quart cans and 4,967 cases. In

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addition to supplying the local demand, the Sheffield Creamery sent 1,000 pounds of butter to New York each week. An ice house (appearance and precise location unknown) was built near the depot for the accommodation of the area's milk dealers. Farming was the principal business in Sheffield in 1885, with 325 farms in operation. At that time Sheffield Center comprised three churches, four stores, one hotel, and one high school building, all located on or near Main Street.

The three churches had been established at Sheffield Center in the second and third quarters of the 19th century. The Methodist Society organized in 1842 and built a wood-frame church (Map #85, MHC #29) that year on the west side of Main Street. Following the 1963 combination of Methodist churches at Sheffield Center and Ashley Falls, the society sold the church to a private interest in 1971. The building now serves as a private residence and an artist's studio. An Episcopal Society incorporated in Sheffield as early as 1819, but the Christ Church congregation at Sheffield Center did not organize until 1866. At that time, services were held in a former law office on the west side of Main Street. This small frame building (now demolished) was moved across the street and converted into a chapel in 1868. The present Christ Church (Map #28, MHC #211) was constructed in 1911-1912. Catholic masses had been celebrated in Sheffield by visiting priests since 1845. By the 1870s masses were held twice monthly in a room at Town Hall. In 1884 the Mission Church of the Assumption was built on Maple Street in the north end of the historic district. The church burned in 1904, and its replacement, Our Lady of the Valley Church (Map #22), was dedicated the following year.

Culture also flourished in Sheffield Center. The Rev. Orville Dewey's House (Map #73, MHC #26) was a gathering place for leading figures of the 19th-century literary field. Born in Sheffield in 1794, Dr. Dewey preached from Unitarian pulpits in Boston, New Bedford, and New York. At home he entertained such literary figures as William Cullen Bryant, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Ralph Waldo Emerson. It was Dewey who donated the clock tower (1819) on the Old Parish Church, and who issued a call to the "enlightened and liberal public spirit" of the people of Sheffield to form an association which would "increase good and kindly feelings and promote intelligence and cheerfulness." The Sheffield Friendly Union, organized in 1871, still meets regularly in Dewey Memorial Hall (Map #92, MHC #38, 1887), Sheffield's community center.

Early development of a public school system in Sheffield reflected the steady growth of the town, which had three common schools established as early as 1740. There were thirteen school districts by 1829. Sheffield Center was District #6 in the 1850s, boasting both a grammar school and primary school on the east side on Main Street. Post-grammar students seeking further education attended the town's private academies, among them Sheffield Academy, founded in 1839 on the Plain.

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Sheffield's first public High School (Map #105, MHC #34) was built after years of vacillation in 1871. Students were admitted by competitive examination and received a diploma generally after completing a two-year course of study. The Ashley Falls School (ca. 1875, MHC #63) in Sheffield's southernmost village is stylistically very similar to the Italianate high school building. When the Center grammar and high schools at the eastern edge of the historic district were replaced in 1909 with the Sheffield Center School (Map #48) the old high school was moved to a lot on Railroad Street across from Town Hall and remodeled to accommodate Italian laborers brought in to build a new regional trolley line. Since then, the building has been used in turn as a repair shop for a Ford car dealership, a garage, an insurance agency office, and a furniture repair shop. A strain on school facilities prompted the addition of a two-story frame wing to the west side of the Center School by ca. 1925. The addition is compatible in design and scale with the original two-story wood and stone building. In 1975 the building was donated to the Town of Sheffield.

Sheffield's population steadily increased during the first half of the 19th century, and reached a peak of 2,769 in 1850. As industries developed in towns north of Sheffield, however, the population in the country shifted dramatically. Pittsfield and North Adams, which had water power available for the growing industries, tallied the largest number of residents in the second half of the century. Population in the predominantly agricultural Sheffield steadily declined, reaching a low of 1,435 persons in 1920. No manufacturing industry appears to have been in operation in the historic district. In areas of less concentrated population east and south of the Center, sawmills, lime kilns, marble quarries and gristmill were in evidence throughout the 19th century.

As the town's institutional core, Sheffield Center was the focus for a series of landscape and civic improvements in the 19th century. The earliest of these was the 1846 planting of a row of elm trees (1000 in all) down each side of Main Street from Schenob Brook at the northern edge of the historic district to the Big Elm beyond the district to the south. The Big Elm, under which Matthew Noble camped when he arrived in the area in 1726, was cut down in 1926 due to Dutch Elm disease at an approximate age of 400 years. A marker (MHC #902) memorializing the local landmark was dedicated in June 1946. Some of the 1846 elm trees remain.

In the 1850s, Dr. Orville Dewey and his friend William Cullen Bryant planted seven pine trees at the intersection of Main and Burtch Streets. Only two trees survive on the site, known as Seven Pines (Map #84). In 1884, the Pine Knoll Association organized to purchase three acres of land east of the historic district and equip the property as a park. The association ceded Pine Knoll (MHC #H-209) to the Trustees of Reservations in 1903. After six years as the smallest reservation in the Commonwealth, Pine Knoll reverted to the town of Sheffield. The playground for Center School (Map #48, 1909)

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comprises a portion of the original tract, grass-covered but devoid of trees. Finally, a Village Improvement Association was formed in 1894 for the purpose of making Sheffield Center "more attractive and pleasant." One of its first activities was to sponsor a celebration commemorating the planting of elm trees along Main Street fifty years earlier.

The railroad brought increased tourist activity to Sheffield in the last quarter of the 19th century and the early decades of the 20th century, and seasonal visitors helped to sustain the local economy. About seven new houses--Classical or Colonial Revival style as well as Four Square houses--were built in the historic district. During the same period, several older homes were converted into boarding houses and inns. Orchard Shade (Map #23, MHC #123) on Maple Avenue was established by Mrs. Eliza Smith in 1888. Built as a farmhouse ca. 1847-1854, the building was converted into a boarding house, and remains an inn today. French's Villa and L. B. Matthews's The Willows (Map #76 MHC #155, ca. 1860) were also converted to boarding house use.

There was enough tourist traffic at Sheffield Center to support two grand wood-frame hotels with spacious verandas in the northern end of the historic district. Construction dates for the Elmhurst Hotel and the Taconic Inn are unknown, although both buildings are shown in a 1904 atlas of Sheffield. The Taconic Inn burned ca. 1936 and a gas station now occupies the site at the northwest corner of Main and Railroad Streets. The Elmhurst Hotel, known in its later years as the Sheffield Inn, was closed in 1960 and razed in 1965 to create a car lot for Macy's Garage.

A rail-related development during this period of increased tourism through Sheffield was the formation of the Berkshire Street Railway in 1901, which ultimately ran from Pittsfield to Canaan, Connecticut. Regular two-hour service was established when the railway reached Sheffield in 1911. The line was discontinued in 1922. By that time, Miles Dunham had built a garage on the site of the present Macy's Garage (Map #3, 1926) and purchased the necessary equipment to open an automobile plant that serviced steam, gasoline, and electric automobiles.

With the exception of garages on residential property, little new development occurred in the historic district from World War I to the 1930s. The only town building constructed during the period is the Bushnell-Sage Memorial Library (Map #82, 1929). The previous location of the public library--founded as the Sheffield Free Town Library in 1892--was Dewey Memorial Hall. In 1936, a descendant of Sheffield's Barnard family donated 1.25 acres of land for a park in memory of the Barnards at the northern end of the historic district. The creation of Barnard Park (Map #116) was the last major development in the historic district during the period of significance.

A steady increase in Sheffield's population since 1920 is due to the town's

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attraction as a retreat from city life, and, more recently, to the establishment of two plastics companies that employ a large number of local residents. The town's current population approaches its mid 19th-century peak. Sheffield Center continues to be the town's institutional and commercial focus, and most of the historic houses remain in residential use.

The last fifty years have left an imprint on the Center historic district without significantly compromising its architectural or historical integrity. Alteration to historic buildings has been minimal if at all, with changes largely confined to the addition of porches or rear ells. The appearance of resources illustrated in the accompanying photographs has not changed since the photographs were taken, some in the late 1970s. Newer buildings are, for the most part, concentrated at the district's commercial core but harmonize with their neighbors in size, scale, and materials. One prominent noncontributing structure is the Lich Gate (Map #E, 1970, Photo #9) outside Christ Church, designed by Roger W. Drury. The gate is noteworthy for its compatibility with both the design of the church and the size and scale of adjacent historic buildings. The most distracting intrusion is automobile traffic on Route 7, a major artery from Danbury, Connecticut to the Canadian border. This traffic has detracted from the previous calm of the Center's Main Street.

Community pride and the active efforts of local historical groups account for the good to excellent condition of the district's resources. Headquartered in the Dan Raymond House (Map #107, MHC #23, 1774) on Main Street, the Sheffield Historical Society directed the relocation of the Parker Hall Law Office (Map #109, MHC #11, 1820) and a small shop to the rear of the Raymond House lot in 1974, a move which saved the buildings from demolition. The Society has restored both buildings as well as the Raymond House. Today Sheffield is widely known as an antiques center, and the Sheffield Center Historic District reflects the town's rural and historic charm.

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Sheffield, MASection number 8 Page 8Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of prehistoric occupation in Sheffield are poorly documented, any surviving sites would be significant. Sites in this area may contribute to our knowledge of Pre-Colonial land use of the Sheffield Center area, particularly toward our understanding of prehistoric settlement and subsistence along the interior Housatonic drainage, and the relationship of people in that area to native populations to the west in New York or to the east in the Connecticut River Valley.

Historic archaeological resources described above have the potential for providing detailed information on the changing social, cultural, and economic patterns that characterized rural life in the oldest town of Berkshire County. Careful sampling of occupational-related features, probably the most common archaeological survivals in the district, offer the potential of providing extremely detailed information of Sheffield's inhabitants from the mid-18th through 20th centuries. Although few structures in the district have been demolished, archaeological survivals can also provide detailed information on locations and structural features of buildings no longer extant or for those moved from their original locations. Survivals in this category may be particularly important for the 18th century for which more buildings no longer exist and for which the least number of records survive. Archaeological survivals of occupational-related features and structures provide data into the nature and extent of subsistence farming in Sheffield reported to exist well into the 19th century. Information regarding subsistence farming would be particularly important in contrast to data obtained from homes along Main Street where the most affluent inhabitants were reported to live.

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10. Geographical Data

UTM References (Ashley Falls Quad, Scale 1:25000)

	Zone	Northing	Easting
A	18	636430	4663490
B	18	636410	4663320
C	18	636640	4663190
D	18	636580	4663080
E	18	636240	4663210
F	18	636250	4662920
G	18	636010	4662780
H	18	636060	4662040
I	18	636130	4661880
J	18	636050	4661840
K	18	635960	4662080
L	18	635860	4662080
M	18	636020	4663250
N	18	636160	4663360
O	18	636270	4663500

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Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Sheffield Center Historic District is outlined on the enclosed composite assessor's map prepared for the Sheffield Historical Commission. The district extends roughly 1.2 miles along U.S. Route 7 from Schnob Brook to just past the intersection of Route 7 (Main Street) and Root Lane. The boundary generally follows rear lot lines or a line of convenience drawn approximately 250 feet from either side of Route 7.

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the historic district includes the greatest concentration of architecturally and historically significant buildings in the town of Sheffield. Bounded by the Penn Central Railroad on the west and Schnob Brook to the north-northwest, the district is distinguished from a self-contained residential area on Sheffield Plain to the north, undeveloped upland bordering the Housatonic River to the east, and buildings of lesser architectural integrity to the south.

Sheffield Center Historic District, Sheffield, Massachusetts

Resource#	Lot#	MHC#	Historic Name	Address	Date of Construction	Style	Status	Resource
A	31/1	---	Sheffield Pub	U.S. Route 7 (Main Street)	1840-1860	Greek Revival	NC	B
1	31/2	---	---	Route 7	1840-1860	Greek Revival	C	B
2	31/3	---	Macy's Garage	Route 7	1926	utilitarian	C	B
3	31/3	---	Site of Macy House	Route 7	---	---	C	Si
4	31/4	91	E. Barker House	Route 7	1835	Greek Revival	C	B
5	23/10	90	Elijah Noble House	Route 7	1750	saltbox	C	B
6	23/11		garage/barn		1790-1810	utilitarian	C	B
7	23/12	92	Bartholomew House	Route 7	1870	Italianate	C	B
8			garage		1880-1900	utilitarian	C	B
9	23/13	102	Rev. Mercien House	Route 7	1869-1870	Classical Revival	C	B
10	23/15	---	Helen Macy House	Route 7	1890-1900	Colonial Revival	C	B
11			office	Maple Avenue	1912	utilitarian	C	B
12	23/16	---	G. Stenner House	Maple Avenue	1930's	modified 4-square	C	B
B			garage		1950's	utilitarian	NC	B
13	23/19	55	J.H. Field House	Maple Avenue	ca. 1869	Greek Revival	C	B
14			barn		1870-1890	utilitarian	C	B
15	23/17	---	Bennett House	Maple Avenue	1840's	Georgian	C	B
16			barn		1870's	utilitarian	C	B

17	23/18	---	Murray House	Maple Avenue	1850-1870	Greek Revival	C	B
18			garage/barn		1830-1835	utilitarian	C	B
19	23/20	---	Sadera House	Maple Avenue	1870-1880	vernac. Victorian	C	B
20			garage		1935	utilitarian	C	B
21	23/21	---	Our Lady of the Valley Church Rectory	Maple Avenue	1895-1910	Classical Revival	C	B
22	23/22	---	Our Lady of the Valley Church	Maple Avenue	1905	Colonial Revival	C	B
23	23/12	123	Orchard Shade Inn	Maple Avenue	ca.1847-1854	Greek Revival	C	B
C			residence		early 1950's	---	NC	B
24			barn		1857-1850	utilitarian	C	B
D			shop		1950's	utilitarian	NC	B
25	24/14	---	Kronig House	Maple Avenue	1930's	Cape	C	B
26	24/15	32	Christ Church Rectory	Route 7	1750-1770	Georgian	C	B
27			smokehouse		1810-1820	---	C	B
28	24/15	211	Christ Church	Route 7	1911-1912	Gothic Revival	C	B
E			Lich gate		1970	---	NC	B
29			apartments		1880-1890	vernac. Victorian	C	St
30	24/16	---	R. Brigham House	Route 7	1910-1925	vernacular	C	B
31			garage		1910-1925	utilitarian	C	B
32	24/17	---	Ford Garage	Route 7	1920-1930	utilitarian	C	B
33	24/18	33	Sedgwick House	Route 7	1761,1847	Greek Revival	C	B
34,35	24/19	46	Little's Store	Route 7	1845-1865	Greek Revival	2C	2B
36	24/20	47	Dr. Wakefield	Route 7	1771	Georgian	C	B

37	24/21	---	Smith Homestead	Cook Avenue	1895-1910	Colonial Revival	C	B
38			garage		1895-1910	utilitarian	C	B
39	24/22	---	J. Moritz House	Cook Avenue	1860-1873	Grk. Rev./Italian.	C	B
40		---	garage		1915	utilitarian	C	B
41	24/25	---	Hayes-Ferron House	Cook Avenue	1800-1820	Federal	C	B
42	24/26	---	Charles Reed House	Cook Avenue	1860-1880	Greek Revival	C	B
F	24/27	---	Career Education Bldg.	Cook Avenue	1946	---	NC	B
43	24/19	149	Wheeler & Taylor Insurance Co.	Route 7	1872	Italianate	C	B
44	24/19	150	Methodist Episcopal Parsonage	Route 7	1874	Italianate	C	B
45	24/30	152	Eli Ensign House	Route 7	1822	Federal	C	B
46	24/31	153	M. Canfield House	Route 7	1845	Greek Revival	C	B
47			garage		1900	utilitarian	C	B
48	24/32	---	Center School	Route 7	1909	Colonial Revival	C	B
49	24/33	---	Cowen House	Route 7	1875-1895	vernac. Victorian	C	B
50			garage		1920-1930	utilitarian	C	B
51	24/35	49	Austin Benjamin Hse	Route 7	1780-1800	Federal	C	B
52			garage		1920's	---	C	B
G			barn		1840's	---	NC	B
53	24/38	154	Shepard House	Route 7	1824-1829	Greek Revival	C	B
54			garage		1930-1935	utilitarian	C	B
H	24/39	---	Batacchi Gas Station	Route 7	1940-1950	utilitarian	NC	B
55	24/40	157	Swift House	Route 7	1828	Greek Revival	C	B
I			garage/antiques		1910	---	NC	B

56 57	24/42	---	Walbridge House garage	Route 7	1880-1900 1915	vernac. Victorian utilitarian	C C	B B
58 J	24/43	31	Silas Deane House garage	Route 7	1727 1952-1953	saltbox utilitarian	NC NC	B B
59 60	24/44	159	Kellogg-Butts House garage	Route 7	1837 1900-1910	Greek Revival utilitarian	C C	B B
61 62	24/46	160	J. Canfield House garage	Route 7	ca.1825 1910-1920	Cape utilitarian	C C	B B
63	24/47	807	Barnard Cemetery	Route 7	1756-1896	---	C	Si
64 65	20/5	22	James Dewey House barn	Route 7	1747,ca.1760 1920's	Georgian utilitarian	C C	B B
66 67	20/6	---	Oak Lodge barn	Route 7	1900-1915 1915-1920	Four Square utilitarian	C C	B B
68 69	19/1	18	Gen. Barnard House barn	Route 7	1786 1805-1815	Federal utilitarian	C C	B B
70	19/2	19	Geo. Root Birthplace	Route 7	1819	Greek Revival	C	B
K	19/3	---	---	Route 7	1950	Bungalow	NC	B
71 72	19/4	158	Geo. Swift House shop	Route 7	1824-1831 1830-1835	Greek Revival utilitarian	C C	B B
73 74	19/5	26	Dewey Homestead garage	Route 7	ca.1762-1800 ca.1930	Georg./Federal utilitarian	C C	B B
75	19/6	156	Jesse Shepard House	Route 7	1828-1835	Greek Revival	C	B
76	19/7	155	The Willows	Route 7	1802/ca.1860	Fed./Italianate	C	B

77 L	19/8	---	Alex. Simpson House garage	Route 7	1830-1850 1940	Victor. vernacular utilitarian	C NC	B B
78 79	19/9	---	Jason Graney House barn	Route 7	ca.1890-1910 1850-1865	Four Sqaure utilitarian	C C	B B
80 81	19/10	---	Collins House garage	Route 7	1880-1890 ca.1900	Four Square utilitarian	C C	B B
82	19/10A	---	Bushnell-Sage Memorial Library	Route 7	1929	Georgian Revival	C	B
83	19/11	---	Robert Ledlie House	Burtch Street	1805-1815	Greek Revival	C	B
84	---		Seven Pines	Rte.7/Burtch St.	1850's	---	C	Si
85	25/1	29	Methodist Church	Route 7	1842	Romanesque Rev.	C	B
86 87	25/2	48	Congregational Church Parsonage garage	Route 7	1835-1850 ca. 1900	Greek Revival utilitarian	C C	B B
88	25/3.1	---	Dr. H. Train House	Route 7	ca. 1820	Greek Revival	C	B
89	25/3.2	151	Elm Place	Route 7	1820	Federal	C	B
90	25/4	25	Rev.J. Bradford House	Route 7	1821	Fed./Georg. infl.	C	B
M	25/5	---	Telephone Transfer	Route 7	1960's	---	NC	B
N 91 O P	25/6	---	Sheffield Lumber Co. barn shed carpenter's shop	Route 7	1945-1950 1840-1855 1945-1950 1965-1970	--- utilitarian --- ---	NC C NC NC	B B B B
92	25/7	38	Dewey Memorial Hall	Route 7	1887	Queen Anne	C	B

Q	25/9	---	Post Office Block	Route 7	1966	Neo-Colonial	NC	B
93	25/10	94	Sheffield Academy	Route 7	ca.1839,1871	Greek Revival	C	B
94	25/11	148	French's Villa	Route 7	ca.1804-1820	Federal	C	B
95	25/12	---	Eliz. Brahler House	Depot Street	1870-1885	Vict.vernacular	C	B
96			garage		1910-1925	utilitarian	C	B
97	25/13	---	Site of railroad	Depot Street	---	---	C	B
98	25/14	---	Bartholomew Block	Route 7	1912	Colonial Revival	C	B
99	25/15	20	Old Parish Church	Route 7	1760,1819	Georgian/Federal	C	B
100	25/16	39	Old Stone Store	Route 7	1830's,1901	Greek Revival	C	B
101	25/17	93	Town Hall	Railroad Street	1825-1840	Greek Revival	C	B
102	25/15	---	Fire Station	off Railroad St.	ca. 1925.		C	B
103	25/18	---	Site of Freight Station	Railroad Street	---	---	C	Si
104	25/20	---	Freight House	Railroad St.	ca. 1910	utilitarian	C	B
105	25/21	34	First High School	Railroad St.	1871	Italianate	C	B
106	25/22	---	Gulotta's Gas Station	Route 7	1936		C	B
107	25/23	23	2nd D. Raymond House	Route 7	1774	Georgian	C	B
108			carriage house		1870-1880	Victorian	C	B
109	25/23A	11	Parker Hall Law Office	Route 7	1820	Greek Revival	C	B
110			workshop		1876	utilitarian	C	B

111	25/24	122	Mark Dewey Hat Store	Route 7	1816	Greek Revival	C	B
112	25/25	121	Mark Dewey House	Route 7	1828	Federal	C	B
113			garage		1930-1935	utilitarian	C	B
114	25/26	30	Dr. Wm. Buell Hse.	Route 7	1800	Federal	C	B
R			garage		1973	---	NC	B
S	25/27	---	O'Connor Apartments	Route 7	1830-1850	Vict. vernacular	NC	B
115			barn		1830-1850	utilitarian	C	B
116	25/28	---	Barnard Park	Route 7	1936	---	C	Si
117			Barnard Monument		1937	---	C	O
T			Flagpole		1986	---	NC	O
U			Veteran's Monument		1970's	---	NC	O
118	---	---	Village Green	W.Side Route 7	ca. 1819	---	C	Si
119			WWI Stone Marker		ca. 1920	---	C	O
120			Stone watering trough		ca. 1870	---	C	O
121			Cast iron watering trough		ca. 1880	---	C	O
V,W			2 Park benches		ca. 1945	---	2NC	20

Key: C= contributing, NC= noncontributing, B= building, Si= site, St=structure, O=object

Vacant Lots:

23/14 (parking lot), 24/13, 24/34, 24/37, two unmarked lots between 24/39 and 24/40, 25/8, 25/19

	Contributing	Noncontributing
Buildings	109	19
Sites	7	0
Structures	0	1
Objects	4	4
<u>Total</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>24</u>

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Sheffield Center Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, ~~Suffolk~~ Berkshire

DATE RECEIVED: 11/02/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/14/89
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/30/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/17/89
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89002060

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 12/1/89 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

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 _____



Sheffield National Register Historic
Districts

Main Street, Route 7
Sheffield, MA 01257

Photographer: James N. Parrish, 150 Egremont Rd., Gt. Barrington, MA 01230

Date: Fall 1978

Location of negative: As above

Photograph # 9 of 25, Neg. # 4/16

View to East of Elijah Noble House from
Route 7
Sheffield Center District

ELIJAH NOBLE HOUSE, VIEW E
SHEFFIELD CENTER H. D.,
SHEFFIELD, MA

PHOTO: JAMES PARRISH
FALL 1978

NEGATIVE: JAS. PARRISH
150 EGREMONT RD
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA
01230

PHOTO #1



Sheffield National Register Historic
Districts

Main Street, Route 7
Sheffield, MA 01257

Photographer: James N. Parrish, 150 Egremont Rd., Gt. Barrington, MA 01230

Date 1979

Location of negative: As above

Photograph # 24 of 25, Neg. # 30/22
View to Northwest of James Dewey House
from Route 7
Sheffield Center District

JAMES DEWEY HOUSE, VIEW NW
SHEFFIELD CENTER H. D.
SHEFFIELD, MA

PHOTO: JAMES PARRISH
1979

NEGATIVE: J. PARRISH
150 EGREMONT RD.
GREAT BARRINGTON,
MA 01230

PHOTO #2



Sheffield National Register Historic
Districts

Main Street, Route 7
Sheffield, MA 01257

Photographer: James N. Parrish, 150 Egremont Rd., Gt. Barrington, MA 01230

Date: 1979

Location of negative: As above

Photograph # 23 of 25, Neg. # 30/20
View to Southwest of General John Barnard's
House from Route 7
Sheffield Center District

GEN. JOHN BARNARD HOUSE,
VIEW SW

SHEFFIELD CENTER H.D.
SHEFFIELD, MA

PHOTO: JAMES PARRISH
1979

NEGATIVE: J. PARRISH

150 EGREMONT RD
GREAT BARRINGTON,
MA 01230

PHOTO # 3



Sheffield National Register Historic
Districts

Main Street, Route 7
Sheffield, MA 01257

Photographer: James N. Parrish, 150 Egremont Rd., Gt. Barrington, MA 01230

Date: 1979

Location of negative: As above

Photograph # 19 of 25, Neg. # 30/3

View to Northwest of Rev. James Bradford House from Route 7
Sheffield Center District

REV. JAMES BRADFORD HOUSE,
VIEW NW

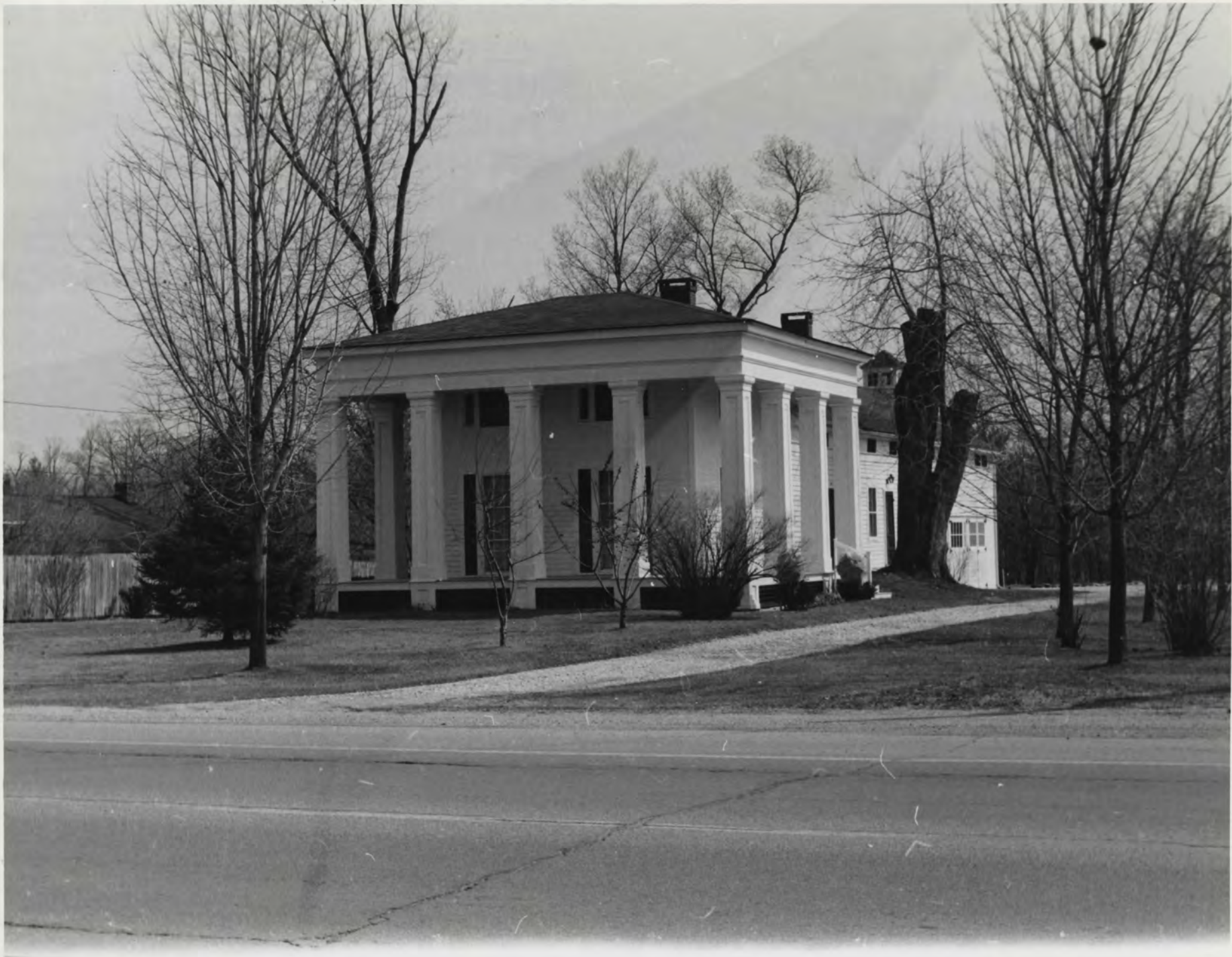
SHEFFIELD CENTER H. D.
SHEFFIELD, MA

PHOTO: JAMES PARRISH

150 EGREMONT ROAD
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA
01230

1979

NEG: SAME AS ABOVE
PHOTO # 4



Sheffield National Register Historic
Districts

Main Street, Route 7
Sheffield, MA 01257

Photographer: James N. Parrish, 150 Egremont Rd., Gt. Barrington, MA 01230

Date: 1979

Location of negative: Same as above

Photograph # 14 of 25, Neg. 29/28a
View to East of Theodore Sedgwick House
Sheffield Center District

THEO. SEDGWICK HOUSE, VIEW NE
SHEFFIELD CENTER H.D.
SHEFFIELD, MA

PHOTO: JAMES PARRISH

1979

NEGATIVE: J. PARRISH

150 EGREMONT RD
GREAT BARRINGTON,
MA 01230

PHOTO#5



Sheffield National Register Historic
Districts

Main Street, Route 7
Sheffield, MA 01257

Photographer: James N. Parrish, 150 Egremont Rd., Gt. Barrington, MA 01230

Date: 1985

Location of negative: As above

Photograph # 17 of 25, Neg. # RC85
View to West of Old Parish Church from
Route 7
Sheffield Center District

OLD PARISH CHURCH,
VIEW W

SHEFFIELD CENTER H.D.,
SHEFFIELD, MA

PHOTO: JAMES PARRISH
1985

NEG: J. PARRISH
150 EGREMONT RD,
GREAT BARRINGTON,
MA 01230

PHOTO # 6



TOWN HALL

Sheffield National Register Historic
Districts

Main Street, Route 7
Sheffield, MA 01257

Photographer: James N. Parrish, 150 Egremont Rd., Gt. Barrington, MA 01230

Date: 1979

Location of negative: As above

Photograph # 15 of 25, Neg. 29/26a

View to West of Town Hall from Depot St.
off Route 7

Sheffield Center District

TOWN HALL, VIEW NW
SHEFFIELD CENTER H.D.
SHEFFIELD, MA

PHOTO: JAMES PARRISH
1979

NEG: J. PARRISH

150 EGREMONT ROAD
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA
01230

PHOTO#7



Sheffield National Register Historic
Districts

Main Street, Route 7
Sheffield, MA 01257

Photographer: James N. Parrish, 150 Egremont Rd., Gt. Barrington, MA 01230

Date: 1979

Location of negative: As above

Photograph # 18 of 25, Neg. # 29/35

View to Northwest of Dewey Memorial Hall
from Route 7
Sheffield Center District

DEWEY MEMORIAL HALL, VIEW NW
SHEFFIELD CENTER H.D.
SHEFFIELD, MA

PHOTO: JAMES PARRISH
1979

NEG: J. PARRISH

150 EGREMONT ROAD
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA
01230

PHOTO # 8



Sheffield National Register Historic
Districts

Main Street, Route 7
Sheffield, MA 01257

Photographer: James N. Parrish, 150 Egremont Rd., Gt. Barrington, MA 01230

Date: 1985

Location of negative: As above

Photograph # 12 of 25, Neg. # RC 85

View to East of Christ Church from Route 7
Sheffield Center District

CHRIST CHURCH AND LICH GATE,
VIEW ~~SE~~ NE
SHEFFIELD CENTER H. D.
SHEFFIELD, MA

PHOTO: JAMES PARRISH
150 EGREMONT ROAD
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA
01230

1985
NEG: SAME AS ABOVE
PHOTO # 9



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Sheffield Package Store

CHEESE SHOP

CHEESE SHOP

Sheffield National Register Historic
Districts

Main Street, Route 7
Sheffield, MA 01257

Photographer: James N. Parrish, 150 Egremont Rd., Gt. Barrington, MA 01230

Date: 1979

Location of negative: As above

Photograph # 16 of 25, Neg. # 29/27a
View to Southwest of Old Stone Store
from Route 7
Sheffield Center District

OLD STONE STORE, VIEW SW
SHEFFIELD CENTER H.D.
SHEFFIELD, MA

PHOTO: JAMES PARRISH
1979

NEGATIVE : J. PARRISH

150 EGREMONT ROAD
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA

PHOTO # 10 01230



PARKER L. HALL
ATTORNEY AT LAW

Sheffield National Register Historic
Districts

Main Street, Route 7
Sheffield, MA 01257

Photographer: James N. Parrish, 150 Egremont Rd., Gt. Barrington, MA 01230

Date: Fall 1978

Location of negative: As above

Photograph #13 of 25, Neg. #4/18

View to Northwest of Parker L. Hall Law
Office on grounds of Dan Raymond House
Sheffield Center District

PARKER HALL LAW OFFICE, VIEW NW
SHEFFIELD CENTER H.D.

SHEFFIELD, MA

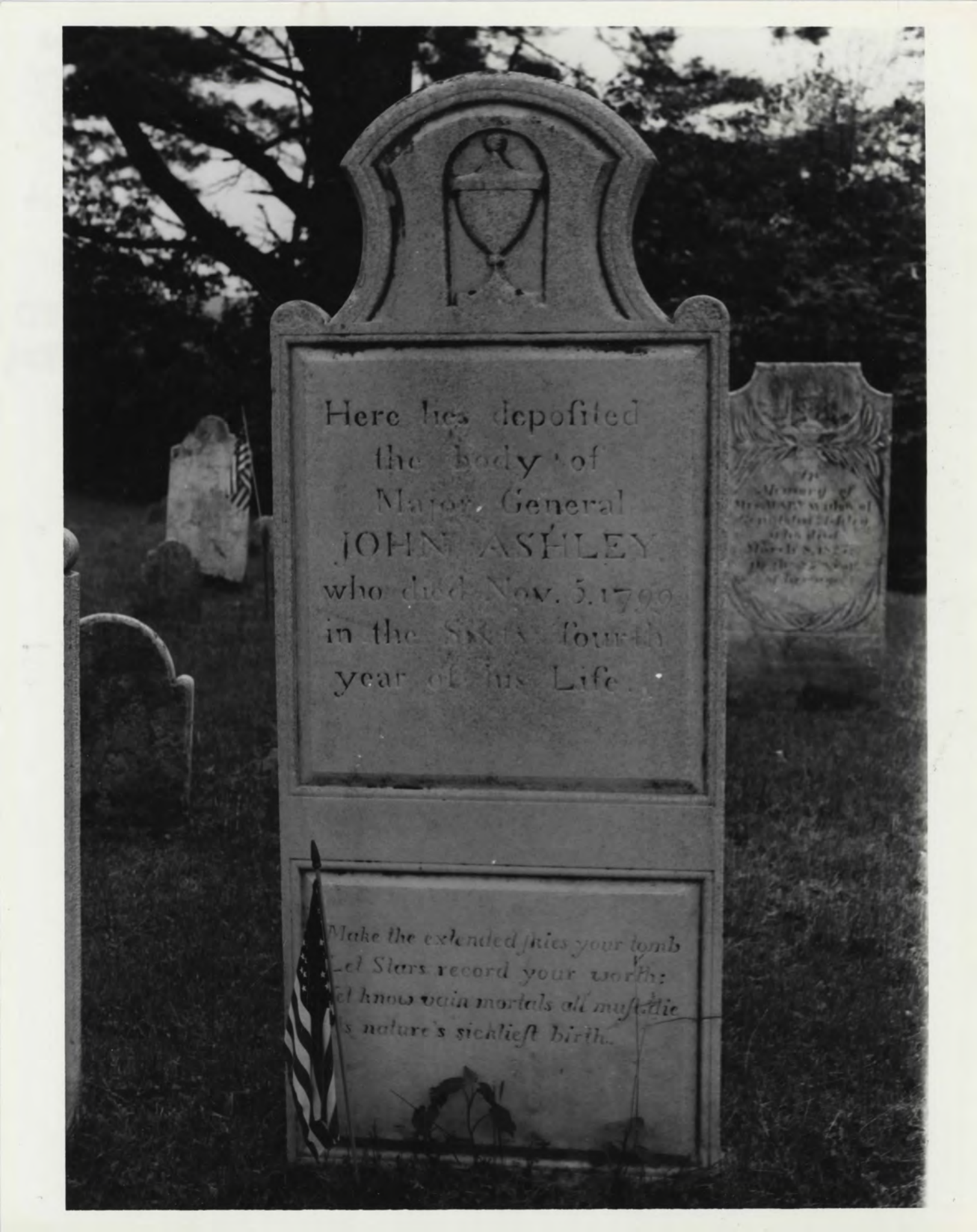
PHOTO: JAMES PARRISH

FALL 1978

NEGATIVE: JAMES PARRISH

150 EGREMONT RD
GREAT BARRINGTON,
MA 01230

PHOTO #11



Here lies deposited
the body of
Major General
JOHN ASHLEY
who died Nov. 5, 1799
in the 86th fourth
year of his Life.

*Make the extended skies your tomb
Let Stars record your worth:
Let know vain mortals all must die
As nature's sickliest birth.*

Sheffield National Register Historic
Districts

Main Street, Route 7
Sheffield, MA 01257

Photographer: James N. Parrish, 150 Egremont Rd., Gt. Barrington, MA 01230

Date: 1979

Location of negative: As above

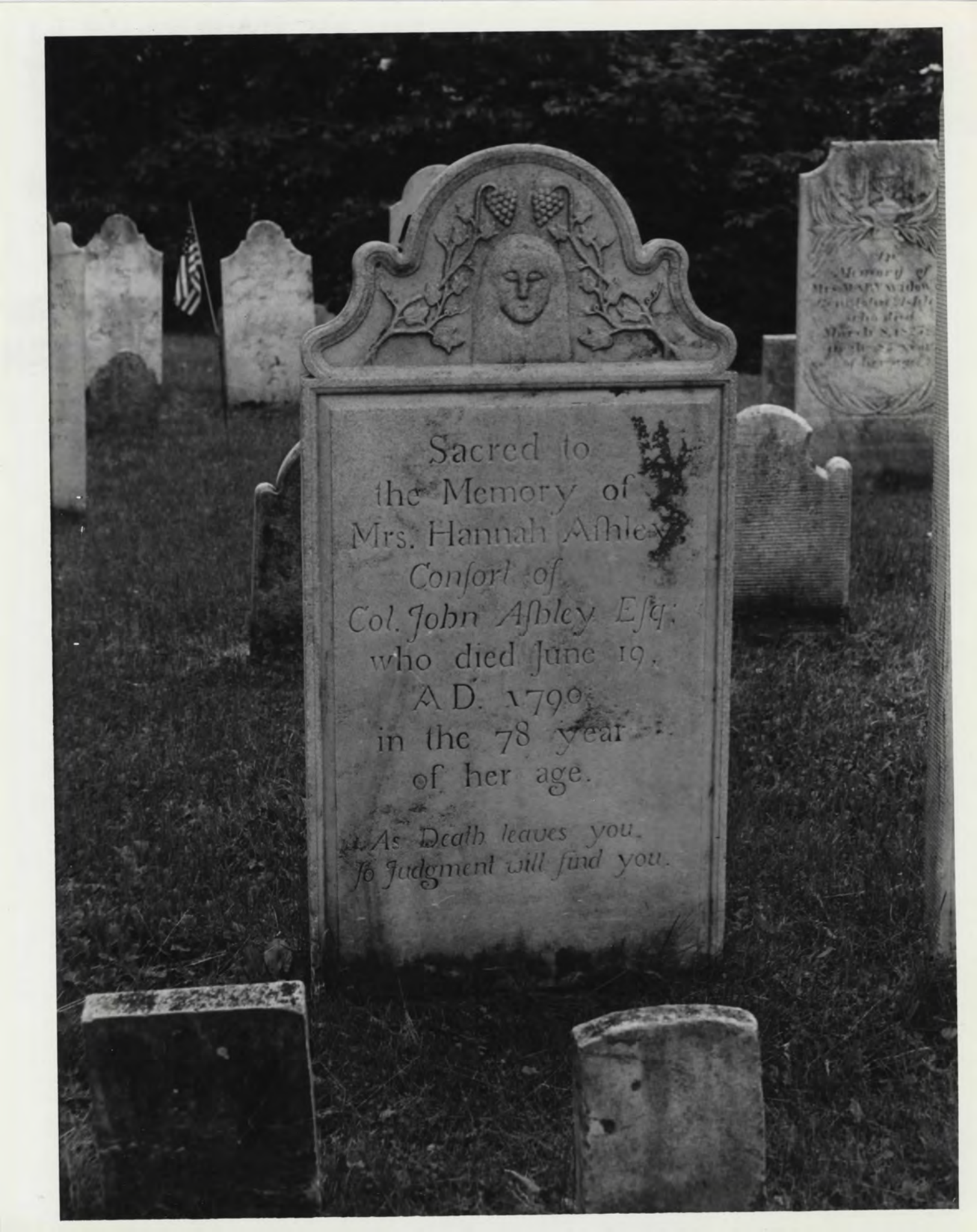
Photograph # 21 of 25, Neg. # 38a/13a
View of Major General John Ashley's tombstone in Barnard Cemetery, east side of Main Street
Sheffield Center District

ASHLEY TOMBSTONE IN
BARNARD CEMETERY
SHEFFIELD CENTER H.D.
SHEFFIELD, MA

PHOTO: JAMES PARRISH
1979

NEG: J. PARRISH
150 EGREMONT RD
GREAT BARRINGTON,
MA 01230

PHOTO # 12



Sacred to
the Memory of
Mrs. Hannah Ashley
Consort of
Col. John Ashley Esq;
who died June 19,
A.D. 1790
in the 78 year
of her age.

As Death leaves you,
So Judgment will find you.

In
Memory of
Mrs. Mary A. [unclear]
who died
March 21, 1852
at the age of [unclear]

Sheffield National Register Historic
Districts

Main Street, Route 7
Sheffield, MA 01257

Photographer: James N. Parrish, 150 Egremont Rd., Gt. Barrington, MA 01230

Date: 1979

Location of negative: As above

Photograph # 20 of 25, Neg. # 38a/14a
View of Mrs. Hannah Ashley's tombstone in
Barnard Cemetery, east side of Main
St.

Sheffield Center District

ASHLEY TOMBSTONE IN
BARNARD CEMETERY
SHEFFIELD CENTER H.D.
SHEFFIELD, MA
PHOTO: JAMES PARRISH
1979
NEG: J. PARRISH
150 EGBREMONT RD
GREAT BARRINGTON
MA 01230
PHOTO #13

SHEFFIELD CENTER H.D.
SHEFFIELD, MASS.
ASHLEY FALLS QUAD
SCALE 1:25000

A	18	636420	4663490
B	18	636410	4663320
C	18	636640	4662190
D	18	636580	4662080
E	18	636240	4663210
F	18	636250	4662920
G	18	636010	4662780
H	18	636060	4662640
I	18	636130	4661880
J	18	636050	4661840
K	18	635960	4662080
L	18	635860	4662080
M	18	636020	4663250
N	18	636160	4663360
O	18	636270	4663500



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by U.S.G.S, USC&GS, Massachusetts Harbor and Land Commission, Massachusetts Geodetic Survey, and Connecticut Geodetic Survey
Topography in Connecticut by planetable surveys 1944
Topography in Massachusetts by photogrammetric methods and by planetable surveys 1946. Aerial photographs taken 1942.
Revised 1958

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone, and Connecticut coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 18

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines visible on aerial photographs. This information is un-checked

Scale: 1:25000
Scale bar: 0 to 7000 FEET / 0 to 7 KILOMETERS
Contour Interval: 10 FEET
Datum: MEAN SEA LEVEL

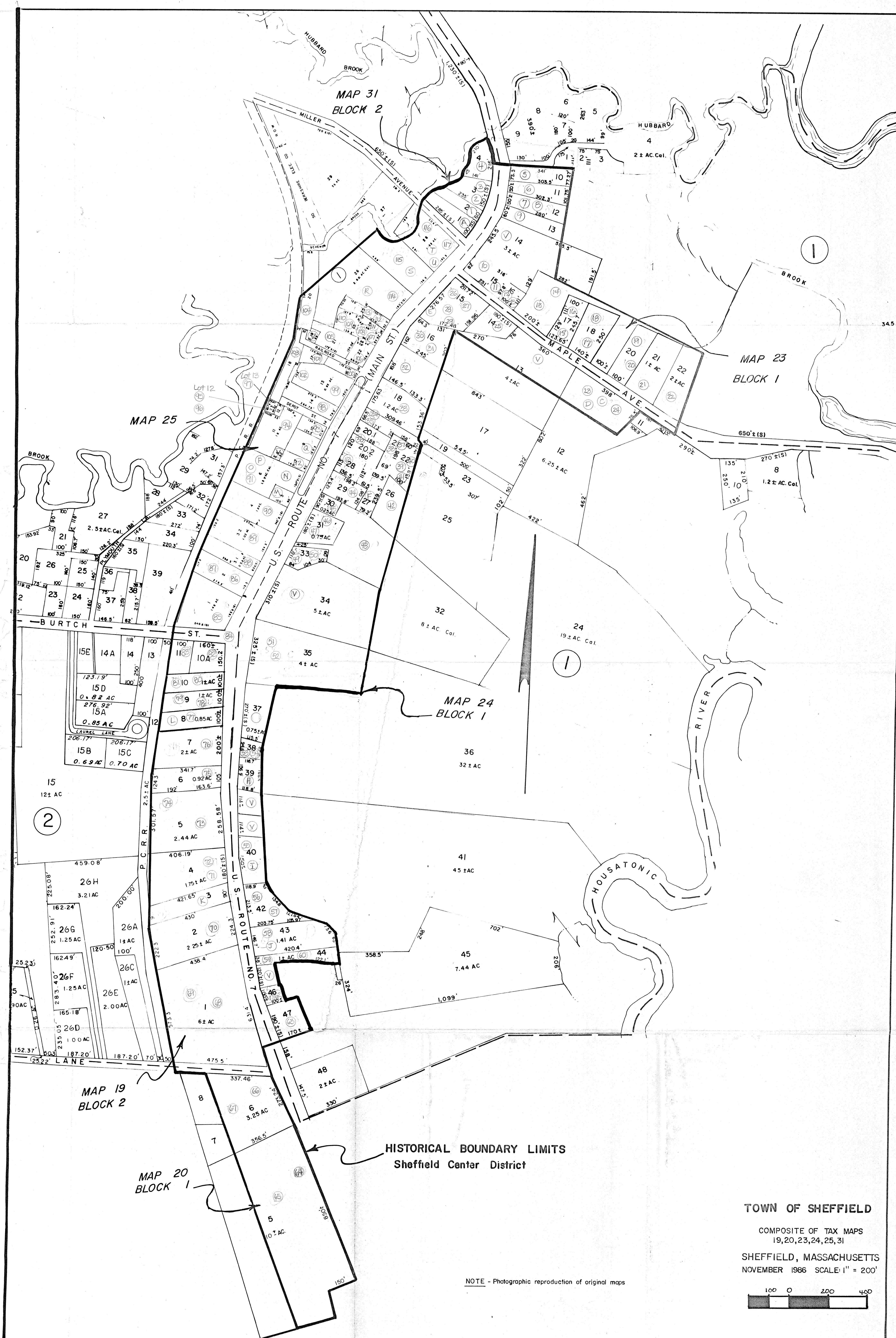
ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty (thick red line) Light-duty (thin red line)
Medium-duty (dashed red line) Unimproved dirt (dotted red line)
U.S. Route (red line with shield) State Route (red line with circle)

UTM GRID AND 1969 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET
13° 23' N
1° 08' W
20 MILES

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

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with Connecticut Highway Department from aerial photographs taken 1969. This information not field checked

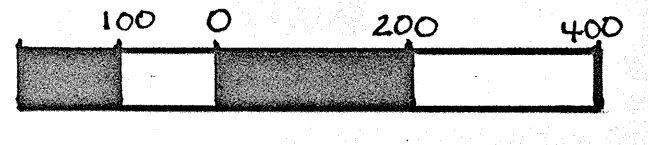
1958
PHOTOREVISED 1969
AMS 6368 III SE-SERIES V814



HISTORICAL BOUNDARY LIMITS
Sheffield Center District

TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
COMPOSITE OF TAX MAPS
19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 31
SHEFFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
NOVEMBER 1986 SCALE: 1" = 200'

NOTE - Photographic reproduction of original maps





NOV 6 1989

October 24, 1989

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

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination:

Sheffield Center Historic District, U.S. Route 7; Cook and Miller Avenues, and Railroad, Depot, and Burtch Streets, Sheffield, (Berkshire County), Massachusetts 01257

There has been no owner objection for the above mentioned property.

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has 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 form.

Sincerely,

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Enclosure: