

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED 5 SEP 1979  
NOV 14 1979  
DATE ENTERED

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Gardner News Building

AND/OR COMMON  
Same**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

309 Central Street

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Gardner

N/A VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2nd

STATE

Massachusetts

CODE

025

COUNTY

Worcester

CODE

027

**3 CLASSIFICATION****CATEGORY** DISTRICT BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT**OWNERSHIP** PUBLIC PRIVATE BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION** IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS** OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE** YES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICTED NO**PRESENT USE** AGRICULTURE COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Walter S. and C. Gordon Bell

STREET &amp; NUMBER

309 Central Street

CITY, TOWN

Gardner

VICINITY OF

STATE

Massachusetts

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Worcester County Registry of Deeds

STREET &amp; NUMBER

2 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Worcester

STATE

Massachusetts

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth #216

DATE

1977

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Boston

STATE

Massachusetts

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> _DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> _GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> _RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> _ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> _MOVED    DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> _FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> _UNEXPOSED		

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Gardner News Building stands at the corner of Central and Vernon Streets, a key intersection in downtown Gardner. It is trapezoidal in plan, with its main entrance located on the southern Central Street end. Because of a slightly sloping site, the rear elevation of this utilitarian brick building is two stories in height while the facade is three stories. It is surrounded by a mix of commercial and residential buildings but cannot be considered part of a district.

The seven bay facade is loosely divided into three parts both horizontally and vertically. The first floor (separated from a low basement by a row of soldiers) contains a tripartite window with a sandstone architecture in the westernmost two bays. A small window and the simple entrance occupy the two eastern bays. The entrance is headed by a transom and framed by brick pilasters which carry a sandstone architrave. Three slightly recessed windows linked by a single sandstone architrave are located in the center bay. The first floor is articulated by six horizontal brick bands. The second story is divided by brick pilasters with simple capitals which carry a stylized brick entablature. Copper oriels occupy the outer bays, while three windows occupy the center bays. Unframed windows occupy all seven bays of the third story. The building is capped by a decorative brick cornice and sandstone stringcourse and a parapet which appears to have been either repointed or rebuilt.

The western elevation is composed in two parts. The southern section continues the decorative brickwork of the facade and has a shaped parapet. Fenestration is irregular. The eight bay northern part has somewhat simpler brickwork and a regular fenestration pattern. The north and east elevations are without ornamentation and have irregular fenestration.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES      1906      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      Fox & Gale, Boston, Massachusetts

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Gardner News Building retains integrity of location, design, materials and workmanship and through its continuous role as the home of a major newspaper is strongly identified with the development of the city. The newspaper has been important to the community as its chronicler, educator, commentator, and voice.

The Gardner News started publication on July 3, 1869, under the ownership of A. G. Bushnell, a former resident of Templeton. The first issue was a four page edition with 350 subscribers. The paper was published as a weekly until 1897 when it merged with the Gardner Daily. At this time one paper was printed on a daily basis while another edition was printed on Saturday as a weekly. This process continued until 1904.

The present building was designed in 1906 by the Boston architectural firm of Cox and Gale. It has served as the home of the Gardner News ever since.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Moore, E., History of Gardner

Bell, C. Gordon, President, Gardner News

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3,906 sq. ft.

QUADRANGLE NAME Gardner

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 254150 4717910  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B           
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C         

D         

E         

F         

G         

H         

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundaries are delineated on the attached City Assessor's Map

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE  
Candace Jenkins, National Register Coordinator

with

Eric Engelson,  
Gardner Historical  
Commission

ORGANIZATION  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE  
June 1979

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 Victoria R. Weslowski 8/20/79

TITLE Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission DATE

### FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Carol D. Shull  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

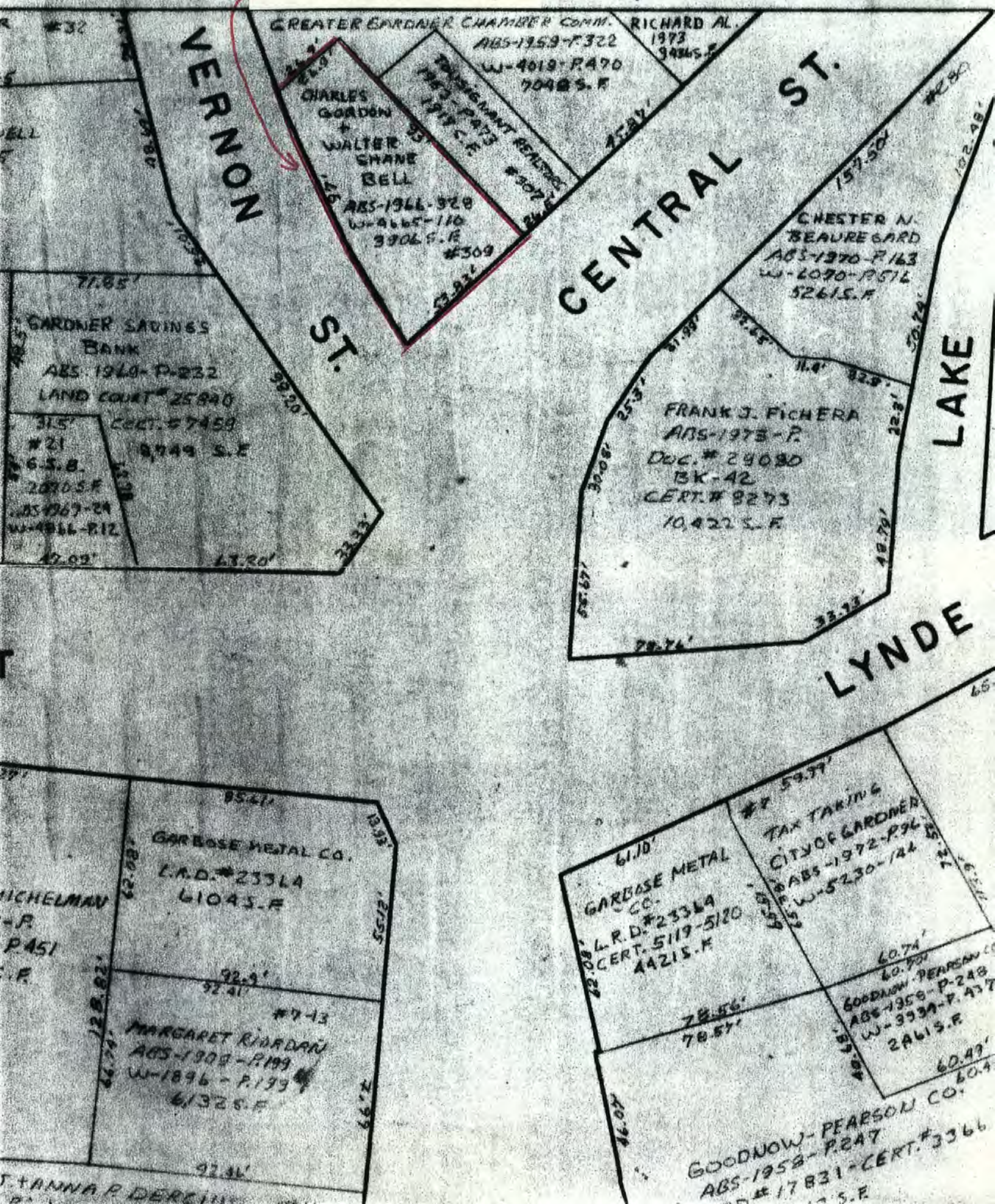
DATE 11-14-79

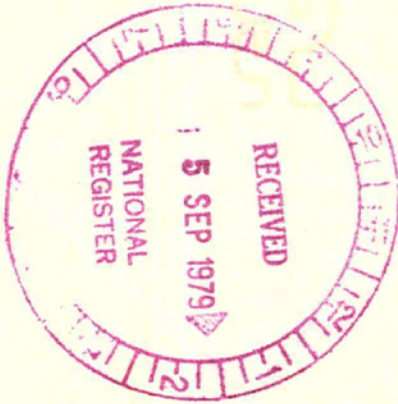
ATTEST: James M. Dwyer  
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 11/8/79

Gardner, Mass.  
Gardner News Building  
City Engineer's Map

VS





NOV 14 1979

Property

*Hunter News Building*

State

*Mass. (Worcester)*

Working Number

*9-5-79 2097*

**TECHNICAL**

Photos 1

Maps 1

*acreage not specified  
in acres*

**CONTROL**

**HISTORIAN**

*1906 office building. Home since 1906 of influential local paper. Although the parpet and perhaps other areas (east corner) may have been repointed or*

*Accept  
Orluf  
11/2/79*

**ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN**

*rebuilt, the original design + most original fabric + workmanship is intact.*

**ARCHEOLOGIST**

**OTHER**

**HAER**

Inventory \_\_\_\_\_

Review \_\_\_\_\_

**REVIEW UNIT CHIEF**

*Accept  
Mac Dougan  
11/8/79*

**BRANCH CHIEF**

**KEEPER**

National Register Write-up \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Register Entry \_\_\_\_\_

*12.9.79*

Send-back \_\_\_\_\_

Re-submit \_\_\_\_\_

Entered

*NOV 14 1979*



*The Gardner News*



101  
↗

REA

Gardner News Building  
Gardner, Mass. *Worcester County*  
Eric Engelson 1978  
Gardner Historical Commission

Photo #1 *of 1*  
Facade (south)

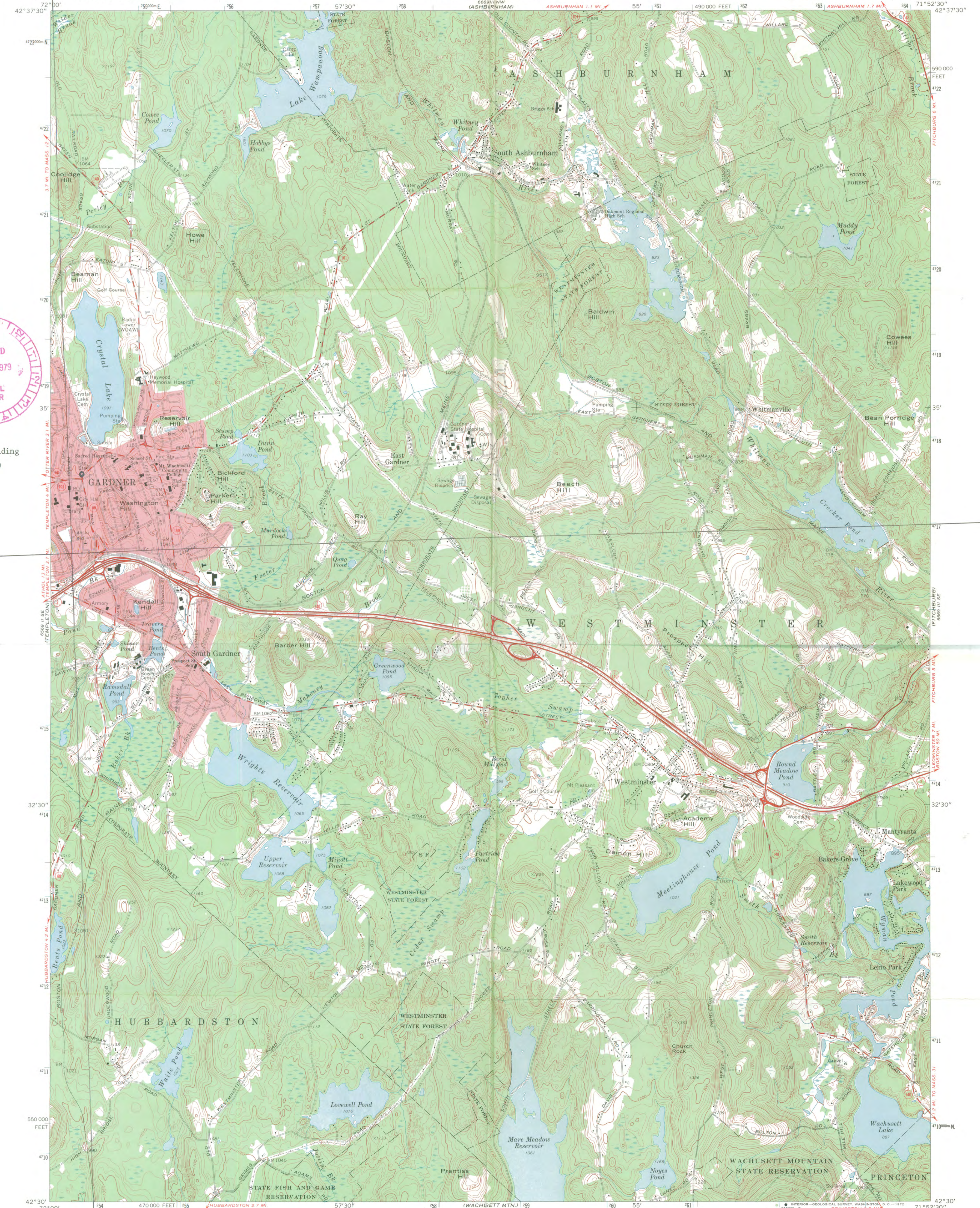
5 SEP 1979

*DOE*  
NOV 14 1979

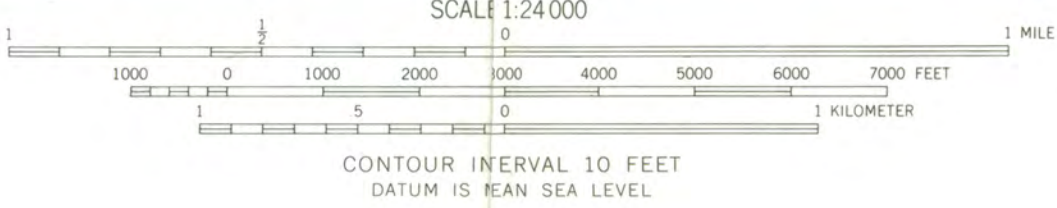
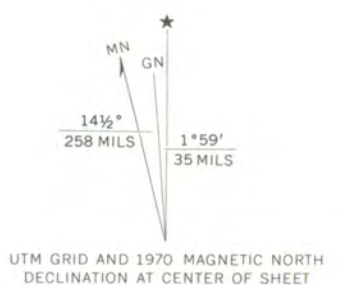
THIS PAPER  
MANUFACTURED  
BY KODAK



Gardner  
Gardner News Building  
JIM REFERENCES:  
19/254150/4717910



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey  
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
taken 1939. Topography by plane-table surveys 1943 and 1944  
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1968. Field checked 1970  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,  
mainland zone  
100-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 19, shown in blue  
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings  
are shown



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

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

GARDNER, MASS. *GARDNER NEWS BUILDING*  
N4230—W7152.5/7.5  
37d

1970  
AMS 6669 III SW—SERIES V814

NOV. 14 1979



**MASSACHUSETTS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
Office of the Secretary of State**

294 Washington Street  
Boston, Massachusetts  
02108  
617-727-8470

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY  
Secretary of State

August 20, 1979

Mr. Ronald Greenberg, Acting Chief  
Registration Branch  
OAHF, Heritage, Conservation &  
Recreation Service  
440 G Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20243



Dear Mr. Greenberg,

Enclosed you will find the following nomination forms:

Gardner - First Minister's House  
Gardner - Gardner News Building  
Gardner - F.W. Smith Silver Co.

The above have been voted eligible by the State Review Board and have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Sincerely,

Christine Boulding  
Survey Director

CB/pm

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered NOV 14 1979

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Gardner News Building	Gardner Worcester County
First Minister's House	Gardner Worcester County
Smith, F. W., Silver Company	Gardner Worcester County

Also Notified

Honorable Paul Tsongas

Honorable Edward M. Kennedy  
Honorable Robert F. Drinan

State Historic Preservation Officer  
Mrs. Patricia L. Weslowski  
Executive Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
294 Washington Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

NR Byers/bjr 11/16/79

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.