

JAN 21 1980

Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED AUG 13 1980

DEC 3 1980

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Exeter Waterfront Commercial-Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Water St., Franklin St., Pleasant St., High St. ^{and} Chestnut Sts, Chestnut

CITY, TOWN

Exeter

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

first

STATE

New Hampshire

CODE

33

COUNTY

Rockingham

CODE

015

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

Multiple Ownership

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Rockingham County Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Rockingham County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Exeter

STATE

New Hampshire 03833

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

(See Continuation Sheet 6-1)

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input 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		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Exeter Waterfront Commercial Historic District can be logically divided into three areas: 1) The area of Water Street locally known as the "Lower Block", which lies west of the intersection of Water Street and Front Street; 2) The "Upper Block" which is east of this intersection, also including the section of Franklin Street which falls within the District boundaries; and 3) the "Residential Area," which includes sections of High Street, Chestnut Street, Pleasant Street, and Chestnut Hill Avenue.

1) The Lower Block. This section contains the major brick commercial buildings found within the District. The streetscape is rich with buildings in a variety of styles, heights and textures. Dominating this block are six High Victorian Italianate buildings (Sites numbered 10, 18, 19, 20, 22 and 23), the most impressive being the Merrill Building (#10), which exhibits a three-dimensional facade, a variety of window treatments, a bracketed projecting cornice, and two intact cast iron storefronts. Adding even greater variety are Style's Drugstore (#21)(Sullivan-esque), Lopardo's Jewelers (#25), an 1865 wooden Italianate building, and the Art Deco Smith Building (#9), c. 1935.

2) The Upper Block. This area is predominantly composed of nineteenth century wooden buildings. (This is due to the fact that the area escaped the fire which destroyed a great deal of the Lower Block, and therefore the scale is smaller and more intimate.) Again, variety is the keynote. There are three brick buildings: the Folsom Building (#29), the Mayer Building (#30) and the Fire House (#33). Two particularly unusual buildings for this area are the Millworkers' House (#44) and the Gilman Garrison (#42) (National Register of Historic Places, 1976). The backs of the buildings on both these blocks face the Exeter River.

3) Residential Area. This area contains primarily residential dwellings, the majority of which date from the Federal period. Excellent examples of this style are the Theophilus Smith House (#52), c. 1776, the Josiah Smith House (#53), 1789, and the Josiah Gilman Smith House (#55), 1830. Two Federal style brick buildings, both known as the Simeon Folsom House, are located at the corner of High Street and Pleasant Street. 8 High Street (#61), built in 1816, has a curved facade and 7-9-11 High Street (#62) has a granite pier and lintel facade. At the crest of a hill on Chestnut Street are three intact houses overlooking the river. The brick Mill Agent's House (#72), the Bell House (#71), and a small Italianate house (#69) built as Judge Bell's law office behind which is a small Victorian era gazebo (#70), now in a state of disrepair. At the bottom of this hill following Chestnut Hill Avenue is the String Bridge which crosses to Kimball's Island on which is located an early eighteenth century mill (#26) and a re-creation of an eighteenth century mill (#27). Upriver from Kimball's Island is the dam at Great Falls over which (See Continuation Sheet 7-1)

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 type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The settlement of Exeter was begun in 1638 by the Reverend John Wheelwright and a small group of followers escaping religious persecution. They settled at the falls of the Squamscott River which today is enclosed by the District area.

The town developed gradually during its first 150 years, expanding from the river's edge. At this time Exeter's growth depended largely on the development of two industries: the shipbuilding and lumber trades. The riverfront was ideally suited for shipbuilding, and sailing ships of 200 to 500 tons burden weight were built here. Exeter's landing became a major trading area where inland lumber supplies could be sold, milled, and loaded onto ships for delivery up and down the coast. The channel was much deeper than it is today and trade was conducted as far away as the West Indies. By the time of the Revolution a series of wharves lined the river behind Water Street (the area now occupied by the McReel, Smith and Merrill Buildings), with numerous saw and grist mills clustered around the upper and lower dams on the Exeter and Squamscott Rivers.

By 1776, the town center was well established in its present location. A town house, church and tavern were interspersed with dwelling houses. (These form the nucleus of the Exeter Historic District on Front Street which is already included on the National Register). Exeter served as the state capital during the Revolution and this influence generated considerable activity in the waterfront area.

Commercial activity along Water Street continued to develop during the early nineteenth century, particularly with infill construction. High and Pleasant Streets were well established as residential areas; they remain intact today.

Establishment of the Exeter Manufacturing Company in 1827 stimulated building activity within the district. Mill housing was constructed along what is today Pleasant Street. The growth of this large company forced the decline and eventual demise of the smaller mills along the river.

By 1863, gas lights had been installed and the general character

(See Continuation Sheet 8-1)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See Continuation Sheet 9-1).

UTM NOT VERIFIED
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 28 acres approx.
UTM REFERENCES

A	1,9	34,14,4,0	4,76,05,8,0	B	1,9	34,16,7,0	4,76,03,0,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1,9	34,13,0,0	4,76,03,5,0	D	1,9	34,09,4,0	4,76,04,0,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(See Continuation Sheet 10-1)

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Lance Bennett and Jack Beard, Preservation Advisers

ORGANIZATION
Strafford Rockingham Regional Council

STREET & NUMBER
1 Water Street

CITY OR TOWN
Exeter,

DATE
New Hampshire

TELEPHONE
(603) 778-0885

STATE
New Hampshire

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

TITLE Commissioner, Dept. of Resources & Economic Development
NH State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE March 7, 1980

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 12/3/80
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
DATE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Owners of Properties in Exeter Historic Commercial District:

(See Sketch Map)

<u>Name and Address</u>	<u>Tax Assessor's Map #-Block #-Parcel #</u>
1. Freedman, George 239 Water Street Exeter, NH. 03833	09-09; 04; 010
2. Phillips Exeter Academy Gorham Hall Exeter, NH. 03833	09-09; 04; 008
3. Phillips Exeter Academy Gorham Hall Exeter, NH. 03833	09-09; 04; 008
4. Dav-Ex Realty Inc 1306 A Elm Street Manchester, NH. 03000	09-09; 04; 011
5. Phillips Exeter Academy Gorham Hall Exeter, NH. 03833	09-09; 04; 012
6. Phillips Exeter Academy Gorham Hall Exeter, NH. 03833	09-09; 04; 012
7. Phillips Exeter Academy Gorham Hall Exeter, NH. 03833	09-09; 04; 012
8. Mantegani, Peter A. 45 Winter Street Exeter, NH. 03833	09-09; 04; 013
9. Freedman, George 239 Water Street Exeter, NH. 03833	09-09; 04; 014

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- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 10. Wexler, Murray & Gussie
125 Water Street
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-09; 04; 015 |
| 11. Wexler, Murray & Gussie
125 Water Street
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-09; 04; 015 |
| 12. Wexler, Murray & Gussie
125 Water Street
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-09; 04; 015 |
| 13. Holland, Everett,
Robert Donovan,
William Beckett, &
Thomas D. Welch Jr.
151 Water Street
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-09; 04; 016 |
| 14. Tennebaum, Abbott & Irena
141-147 Water Street
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-09; 04; 016.001 |
| 15. Seavey, Fredrick C. & Jean H.
Dover Point Road
Dover, NH. 03820 | 09-09; 04; 017 |
| 16. Roberge Photo Shop
129 Water Street
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-09; 04; 017.001 |
| 17. 127 Water Street Corp.
125 Water Street
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-09; 04; 018 |
| 18. Lumb, Inc.
236 Main Street
Biddeford, Me. 04005 | 09-09; 04; 019 |

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- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 19. Rowe, Chester R. & Anne S.
8 Warren Avenue
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-09; 04; 019.001 |
| 20. Odd Fellows Bld. Assoc.
c/o Lyman Kenison
Box 255
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-10; 14; 001 |
| 21. Styles, Frank E. & June C.
105-107 Water Street
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-10; 14; 002 |
| 22. Kimball, John P. ($\frac{1}{2}$ interest)
& Robert Kimball ($\frac{1}{2}$ interest)
99-101 Water Street
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-10; 14; 003 |
| 23. Indian Head Bank of Exeter
97 Water Street
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-10; -14; 004 |
| 24. Haley Inc., Charles J.
85 Water Street
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-10; 14; 006 &
09-10; 14; 005 |
| 25. Shaw, Selma M.
6 Folsom Street
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-10; 14; 007 |
| 26. Exeter Investment Co., Inc.
String Bridge
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-10; 14; 008 |
| 27. Exeter Investment Co., Inc.
String Bridge
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-10; 14; 008 |

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- | | | |
|-----|--|--------------------------------|
| 28. | Jerkins, Jay P. & Mary Lynn
69 Water Street
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-10;13;003 |
| 29. | Exeter Masmic Assoc.
c/o G. Scammon
28 Front Street
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-10;13;004 |
| 30. | Barn Realty Inc,
c/o Fred Schaake
P.O. Box 232
Hampton, NH. 03842 | 09-10;13;005 |
| 31. | Hartmann Construction Corp.
45 Water Street
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-10;13;006 |
| 32. | Field, C. Curtis
735 Exeter Road
Hampton, NH. 03842 | 09-10;13;007 |
| 33. | Exeter Investment Co., Inc.
String Bridge
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-10;13;008 &
09-10;13;009 |
| 34. | Catsoules, Anastasios & Mary
23 Water Street
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-10;13;010 |
| 35. | Stacy Heirs, Lynden J. & Ila M.
19-21 Water Street
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-10;13;011 |
| 36. | Robie, Donald
83 Exeter Road
North Hampton, NH. 03862 | 09-10;13;012 |

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- | | | |
|-----|--|--------------------------------|
| 37. | Exeter Investment Co., Inc.
String Bridge
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-10;13;013 |
| 38. | Exeter Restaurant Inc,
42 Water Street
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-10;15;001 |
| 39. | Bouchard, Carl E. & Pauline M.
Epping Road
Exeter, NH, 03833 | 09-10-15;018 |
| 40. | Bukowski, J. Joseph
Kingston Road
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-10;15;017 |
| 41. | Society for the Preservation
of New England Antiquities
141 Cambridge Street
Boston, Ma. 02114 | 09-10;15;016 |
| 42. | Society for the Preservation
of New England Antiquities.
141 Cambridge Street
Boston, Ma. 02114 | 09-10;15;015 |
| 43. | Car-Go Home
& Auto Centers Inc.
Elm Street
Manchester, NH. 03100 | 09-10;20;001 |
| 44. | Lapert, Harold & Frances,
Trustees Lapert Realty Trust
20 Franklin Street
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-10;21;010 |
| 45. | Lampert, Harold & Frances
Trustees Lampret Realty Trust
20 Franklin Street
Exeter, NH. 03833 | 09-10;21;011 &
09-10;21;012 |

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46. Hall, Leslie Hedding Road Epping, NH. 03042	4	6
47. Flynn, Michole F., John W. Flynn 3rd., & Patricia A. Flynn, Irrevocable Trust, co-Trustees, John A. Bell, & Ervin & Kathleen Fazehas Stratham, NH. 03885		
48. Thomas, Wesley L. & Sarah B. 35 Pine Street Exeter, NH. 03833		
49. Thomas, Sarah 35 Pine Street Exeter, NH. 03833		
50. Finn, John J. Newfields, NH. 03856		
51. Grossman, Arthur B. 21 High Street Exeter, NH. 03833		
52. Donnell, John R. & Lynn 25 High Street Exeter, NH. 03833		
53. Barry, Helen C. 27 High Street Exeter, NH. 03833		
54. Phillips Exeter Academy Gorham Hall Exeter, NH. 03833		

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55. Tri-County Realty Inc. 35 Rutland Street Dover, NH. 03820	4	7
56. Harris, Barbara W. 181 High Street Exeter, NH. 03833		
57. Harris, Barbara W. 181 High Street Exeter, NH. 03833		
58. Hunt, Thomas C. & Louis P. Lavaller, Jr. 3 Coebleigh Drive Teucksbury, Ma. 01876		
59. Hamani, Sabruddin B. & Virginia L. 73 High Street Newburyport, Ma. 01950		
60. Ekstron, James V. Box 1093 Phillips Exeter Academy Exeter, NH. 03833		
61. Gagne, George E. & Yvonne B. 8 High Street Exeter, NH. 03833		
62. McGowan, Fred G. & Alice G. & Ann T. 7 Pleasant Street Exeter, NH. 03833		
63. Gowen, Edward & Thomas 324 Great Bay Road Greenland, NH. 03840		
64. L & L Enterprises, Inc. 23 Drinkwater Road Exeter, NH. 03833		

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65. Hawes, Stephen W. & Barbara F. 23 Pleasant Street Exeter, NH. 03833		09-10;12;010
66. Kacharski, Ladra M. & Margaret 1 Chestnut Street Exeter, NH. 03833		09-10;12;009
67. Kacharski, Margaret & Ladra M. 1 Chestnut Street Exeter, NH. 03833		09-10;12;008
68. Roberts, William H. & Roberta F. Stratham, NH. 03885		09-10;12;007
69. Balerviey, John P. & Beatrice R. 7 Chestnut Street Exeter, NH. 03833		09-10;05;013
70. Balerviey, John P. & Beatrice R. 7 Chestnut Street Exeter, NH. 03833		09-10;05;013
71. Bowler, T. Downing & Janet F. & Donald E. & Louellen R. Tatro North Main Street Plaistow, NH. 03865		09-10;05;012
72. Chase, Robert L. & Ann B. 11-13 Chestnut Street Exeter, NH. 03833		09-10;05;011
73. Clemson Fabrics, Inc. Chestnut Street Exeter, NH. 03833		09-10;13;001
74. Clemson Fabrics, Inc. Chestnut Street Exeter, NH. 03833		09-10;13;002
75. Clemson Fabrics, Inc. Chestnut Street Exeter, NH. 03833		09-10;13;018

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76. Clemson Fabrics, Inc. Chestnut Street Exeter, NH. 03833		09-10;13;017
77. Clemson Fabrics, Inc. Chestnut Street Exeter, NH. 03833		09-10;13;016
78. Clemson Fabrics, Inc. Chestnut Street Exeter, NH. 03833		09-10;13;015
79. Clemson Fabrics, Inc. Chestnut Street Exeter, NH. 03833		09-10;13;014

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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

Historic American Building Survey
Library of Congress
10 First Street S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20540/II

#42 - Gilman Garrison House, Tax Map Ref. No. (09-10;I5;015)
#61 - Simeon Folsom House, Tax Map Ref. No. (09-10;II;006.001)
#62 - Simeon Folsom House, Tax Map Ref. No. (09-10;II;006)

New Hampshire's Historic Preservation Plan
1970 /x state
State of New Hampshire
Department of Resources and Economic Development
State House Annex
P.O. Box 856/25 Capitol Street
Concord, New Hampshire 03301/33

#42 Gilman - Clifford Garrison Tax Map Ref. No. (09-10;I5;015)
(Habs - N.H. - I8)

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CONTINUATION SHEET Description ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

the Exeter River flows. Located between Pleasant Street and the river is an open area where early mills and, later, mill workers' housing once stood.

Building types found in the District: Most structures in the Exeter Commercial-Historic District retain their original uses, either as commercial buildings or residences. Several of the residential structures are also income-producing, usually as apartments. Sixteen High Street (#59) contains a doctor's office, and the Josiah Gilman Smith House (#55) is occupied by the offices of Foster's Daily Democrat, a local newspaper. The Gilman Garrison (#42), originally a garrison and residence, is now owned by the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities and is operated as a museum.

General Conditions of Buildings: The majority of the structures in the Exeter Commercial-Historic District are in good to excellent physical condition. Several of the commercial structures have had their street-level facades altered. Those remaining basically intact are the Merrill Building (#10), Carlisle Building (#18), Styles' Drug Store (#21), Moore Building (#19), Kimball's Hardware (#22), Folsom Building (#29), and the Mayer Building (#30). A later alteration interesting in its own right and unique to the district is the polychrome storefront tile on the Burlingame Building (#20). Also of special interest are the two neon signs on Styles' Drug Store (#21). Several Georgian and Federal period houses on High Street and Pleasant Street (#49, 56, 58, 60, 65) were remodeled during the Victorian era. Remodeling included the addition of polygonal bay windows on the ground floor facades and the modernization of some entries.

Qualities that make the District distinct from its Surroundings: The Exeter Commercial-Historic District flanks the Squamscott and Exeter Rivers, which are important to Exeter both historically and visually. The rivers were instrumental in Exeter's early development, providing power for the mills, commercial transportation, and an early ship-building industry.

Visually, the Squamscott River is an asset, and plans for the revitalization of downtown Exeter provide for commercial and residential use of the waterfront area. The southern shoreline of the Squamscott contains several types of retaining walls. At the easterly edge behind Lopardo's Jewelers (#25) is a granite retaining wall which is in good condition except for a few spots where erosion and tree roots have caused small breaks. West of Merrill's Block (#10) is a low stone embankment, and beyond it is a wooden bulkhead which frames the Exeter Boathouse inlet. The bulkhead appears to be substantially damaged and is in need of major repairs. A cut-granite retaining wall surrounds Kimball's Island on all four sides. The shores of the Exeter River are also lined with granite retaining walls which are generally in good repair.

The District also includes a block of brick commercial buildings which are different in scale and style from any in the surrounding area. The Gilman Garrison (#42) is a unique building, the only garrison still standing in the immediate area (National Register of Historic Places, 9-12-76; HABS).

Efforts have been made to upgrade the appearance of both the upper and lower block, including the maintenance of sidewalks and recent tree plantings.
(See Continuation Sheet 7-2)

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District Map &
Survey Number

Description

1. Wooden building, 239 Water Street: 2-story, flat roofed, 4 x 3-bay house with a rear addition. The street level facade has plate glass storefront windows with a recessed entry and a door in the west bay containing an elliptical window. Between the first and second floor is an old sign: "George and Phillips, Inc." The second floor facade has two paired one-over-one windows with molded backbands, cornerboards, a large projecting cornice, and clapboards. The foundation is cut granite and brick. Victorian/Vernacular, 1875 (09-09;04;010)
2. Wooden building, 235 Water Street: 2 1/2 story, 5 x 1 bay, hip roof with a denticulated cornice. The recessed central entry is flanked by fluted pilasters supporting a full entablature with a denticulated soffit. A single gable window dormer is centered above the entry. A 3 x 5 bay, 2 1/2 story wing with its gable end facing the street is attached to the south elevation. Its paired door entry is flanked by two single-hung two-over-one windows. Federal, c. 1786 (wing, c. 1890) (09-09;04;008)
3. Commercial/Residential, 231 Water Street, 2-story, 3 x 3 bay, gable end facing the street. The center bay contains three revealed doorways, the flanking bays having display windows. The facade has brick shingle siding. Vernacular, c. 1920 (09-09;04;008).

(See Continuation Sheet 7-3)

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

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5. Phillips Exeter Academy Boathouse: a central 2 story gable roofed block with sheds attached to both lateral elevations. The boathouse is 3x10 bays, sided with wooden shingles, with one gable wall near the water. In this wall are three modern garage doors, each with a ramp leading to the floats. Other features include an interior brick chimney on each end, a belt course between the first and second story, corner-boards, and six over six windows with plain boards for surrounds. The lateral eaves project and raking boards are on the gable ends. The front gable has a 32 pane window. Shingle Style, 1945 (09-09;04;012)
7. The McReel Building, 191-195 Water Street: a 2 story, flat roofed brick structure with a curving yellow brick facade, 9 bays wide. The facade contains a slight two bay projection (the westernmost bays) and a slight one bay projection (third bay from the east), a stone belt course between floors, and stone quoins on the corners of the building and outside edges of the projecting bays. At street level there are brick piers between the windows and doors. A simple metal column has replaced one of the piers. A stone entablature with dentil frieze is above the main door on the single bay projection. Window treatment consists of stone sills and radiating voussoir brickwork with keystones. Across the top of the building is a corbeled cornice and a paneled stone parapet. Neo-Classical, c. 1930 (09-09;04;012)
8. Louise's Sport Shop, 183 Water Street: an early, gable roofed, free standing brick structure, 2½ stories, 3x2 bays, with a brick and stone foundation, oriented gable end toward the street. A recent gable front addition has been added to the facade. Greek Revival c. 1825 (09-09;04;013)
9. The Smith Building, 173-179 Water Street: a 2 story, 6x6 bay, brick structure with a flat roof. The street level facade is recent, consisting of grey bricks running in straight courses, two windows have been bricked in. The second story is of yellow brick arranged in rectangular patterns. Square white tiles with a cross design are located in the corners of the rectangular patterns and upper corners of the windows. A brick parapet with white coping has a rounded central motif containing a white ornamental plaque. Below the plaque is a white inscription stone, "Smith Building." Art Deco c. 1935 (09-09;04;014)
10. Merrill Building, 163 Water Street: a 3 story Italianate commercial block, the brick facade highlighted by three projecting sections topped by pediments, the central section is one bay wide, the flanking sections are 3 bays wide. Each pediment has a projecting cornice with returns. Connecting the three pediments is a prominent bracketed cornice, with a corbeled architrave below.

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The window treatment adds a three dimensional character to the facade. On the two upper stories each bay contains a paired one over one peaked window.. On the top they are set beneath stilted segmental-arched window caps, on the second story the caps are peaked. All the lintels have keystones.

In the central bay are paired round headed windows with a circular window between, set beneath half round stilted-arched caps with keystones. All the windows have stone sills.

Two original cast iron storefront remains at the north end of the facade. High Victorian Italianate, 1873 (09-09;04;015)

11. Wooden shed/garage, 163 Water Street, 1 story, 1x8 bay, clapboarded, with its gable end facing the river. c. 1900 (09-09;04;015).
12. Brick Boathouse, 163 Water Street: 1½ stories 1x4 bay with its gable end facing the river. Windows and doors have semi-elliptical surrounds. Two shed dormers span the northern half of the building and contain casement type windows. Italianate, c. 1875. (09-09;04;015)
13. 149-153 Water Street: 1 story, flat roofed, 10 bay, brick structure with a corbeled brick parapet and metal coping. Commercial Vernacular, c. 1910 (09-09;04;016).
14. Brick Commercial Building, 141-147 Water Street: a 2½ story, 4 bay, brick building oriented gable end toward the street with closed pediment. A corbeled three-part entablature is present on the east and west elevations, supported by brick pilasters with corbeled caps. There are two windows on the gable wall and four on the second floor all of which have one over one sash with granite lintels and sills.

The store front of Moana's Lunch consists of a recessed entry flanked by plate glass windows with wooden trim and paired transom lights. A metal belt course spans the store front. The second floor entry is located in the east bay and includes a glass wood framed door with a single transom light. Abbot's recessed door is flanked by plate glass windows with aluminum trim. Aluminum letters on a vinyl background encased with aluminum trim with painted corner blocks constitutes the storefront sign. Greek Revival, c. 1865 (09-09;04;016.001)

15. Early 20th Century Commercial, 135 Water Street: a 1 story, 6 bay, brick building

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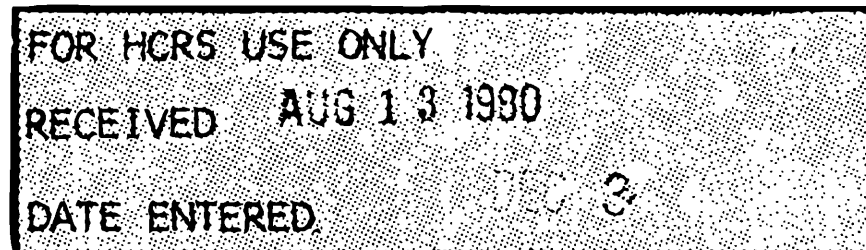
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- with plate glass storefront windows, recessed doors, a heavy wooden cornice supported by four large scrolled brackets and two smaller brackets, and a stepped parapet with tin coping. The interior of Moody's still has a pressed tin ceiling. 20th Century Commercial, c. 1895 (09-09;04;017)
17. Wooden Building, 127 Water Street: clapboarded, 2½ stories, with gable oriented to the street. The boxed cornice has a pronounced return. Between the first and second floor across the front of the building is a partial entablature with a denticulated frieze. Windows are two over one. The street level facade is undergoing alterations but the second floor entry is in the west bay beneath a two light transom. Greek Revival, 1860 (09-09;04;018)
18. The Carlisle Building, 119-123 Water Street: 2 story brick building, 7 bays, and hip roofed. The central bay of the facade is articulated by projecting brickwork and a central peak with the date "1875" attached. The brick-denticulated wooden cornice is supported by four small brackets, and two large console brackets at the ends. Above the second floor windows is a corbeled table. Triangular headed second floor windows have stone sills and stilted straight sided segmental-arches with keystones and connecting imposts. Doors and windows at the street level are beneath similar arches which are considerably hidden mostly by signage. A sawtooth course separates the first and second floors. High Victorian Italianate, 1875. (09-09;04;019)
19. The Moore Building, 115 Water Street: 2 story, 4 bay, flat roofed brick commercial building. Above the storefront is a stained glass window lettered "Moore & Seekins" above which is a metal cornice decorated with geometric designs and supported by brick pilasters. The recessed western bay is treated separately, containing the entry to the second floor which lies beneath a Gothic arch supported by brick pilasters with corbeled imposts. A brick sawtooth course spans the entire length of the facade dividing the first and second floors. In the west bay a single paired two over two window with a recessed segmented brick arch, rests below a corbel table which appears to be a continuation from the Carlisle building. The remaining three bays contain recessed, paired two-over-two windows beneath stilted segmented arches. Large console brackets at the ends support a full entablature composed of a brick denticulated wooden cornice with a wide paneled frieze and a denticulated architrave. High Victorian Italianate, 1875 (09-09;04;019.001)
20. The Burlingame Building, 109-113 Water Street: brick structure, 3 stories, 6 bays, low pitched gable roof. The facade contains three recessed entries, plate glass



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windows; and decorative tile. Above the tile facade is a fluted aluminum belt course. The end bays of the second and third floors contain single windows; all other bays contain paired windows. Second-floor windows are two-over-two, with semi-elliptical heads. The end windows are set beneath stilted semi-elliptical arches with keystones; paired windows are set beneath stilted segmental archivolt which contain a central motif resembling a keystone. Stone pilasters are set between the paired windows. The third-floor windows are round-headed and are set beneath horseshoe arches with keystones and a circular motif between the window head and arches. The wooden entablature includes a denticulated frieze, boxed cornice, large console end brackets, and smaller, evenly-spaced brackets. High Victorian Italianate, 1874. (09-10;14;001).

21. Styles' Drugstore, 105-107 Water Street: 2-story, 3 bays, flat roofed, brick structure. The recessed main entry is flanked by plate glass windows surrounded by marbeleized glass with bronze grillwork at the ground level. A metal sign conceals most of the intact store facade, which includes a stained glass window. Above this flat sign, projecting from the facade between the two second-floor windows, is an illuminated neon "Rexall" store sign which probably dates from the 1940s and is one of the last surviving examples of this once-common type of advertising in the New Hampshire seacoast area. The corners of the building are articulated with staggered tan pressed-brick quoins. Two large, three-sided projecting Sullivanesque windows make up the second-floor facade. These windows are crowned with semi-elliptical sandstone archivolt with a guilloche moulding and a keystone in the form of a console. Below the arches are windows with radiating tracery. A heavy bronze denticulated cornice is supported at the ends by bronze consoles decorated with acanthus leaves. A corbelled parapet contains a central panel which supports a bronze mortar and pestle. The coping is granite. Sullivanesque, c. 1880 (09-10;14;002).
22. Kimball's Hardware, 99-101 Water Street; two-story, six bay, flat-roofed, brick commercial building. The recessed main entry is flanked by single plate-glass windows with transom lights. Two chamfered wooden columns resting on paneled pedestals, and two outside brick pilasters support a chamfered lintel which spans the five-bay store front. Between each pilaster and column are single-paned windows with paired transom sashes. Second-floor windows have segmental voussoir Gothic arches with stone voussoirs and keystones. Small inset "cross" panels are placed in the brickwork between the arches, and above them is an elaborate corbeled belt course. A plain parapet is topped by a corbelled cornice with a granite coping.

At the right is a recessed bay with a round stilted keystone archway over the glass entry door to the second floor. A narrow sawtooth course above the main entry extends the chamfered lintel beam into this bay. Above the doorway is a single second-floor window with a two-over-two sash, wooden sill, and granite lintel. The elaborate belt course on the five-bay portion of the facade to the left is not continued in this bay, although a corbeled course is suggested.

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- The corbeled cornice and granite coping does continue onto this bay. High Victorian Italianate, 1872 (09-10;14;003)
23. Indian Head Bank, 93-97 Water Street: 7 bays, 3 stories, flat roofed, brick building with a heavy wooden scroll-bracketed entablature. Between the brackets are wooden panels. the central panel bears the date 1860. Beneath the entablature is a double corbeled string course. The seven bays of the second and third floors are recessed between plain brick pilasters. The third story windows, four over four, are beneath stilted segmental arches while the second story windows, also four over four, are beneath semi-circular arches. The new street level facade consists of three large semi-elliptical arches, the center one larger, which form an arcade. High Victorian Italianate, 1860 (09-10;14;004)
24. The Janvrin Block, 91 Water Street: a gable roofed, 2½ story brick building. At street level a series of brick arches are covered by a shingled awning over the door and windows. One arch is still completely visible on the east wall. A granite sill course underlines the second floor windows which are clustered in threes. Beneath the corbeled cornice is an inscription stone. An elevated addition with novelty siding is attached to the rear of the building and continues onto the back of the Indian Head Bank. 19th century Commercial Building/Federal Survival, 1860 (09-10;14;006 & 005)
25. Wooden Building, 83 Water Street; 2 story, clapboarded, wood framed, hip-roofed, 3x7 bay commercial building. A boxed cornice with a denticulated frieze is supported by large drop scroll brackets. A wooden belt course with a water table separates the first and second floors. Two single-paned windows on the second floor facade have simple surrounds. The glass storefront facade is trimmed with aluminum and imitation Carrera glass above. The second floor east elevation contains one large picture window flanked by single windows with four-over-four sash. The five remaining windows have two-over-two sash and plain surrounds. The first floor east elevation has five bays with a glass entry flanked by two side lights with a transom light above. Two paired windows with two-over two sash are to the north of this side entry. A two story, two by three, flat-roofed ell is present. Italianate, c. 1865. (09-10;14;007)
26. The Exeter Investment Co., String Bridge: 1½ story, 8x2 bays, gable roofed, clapboarded, post and beam structure. The building is framed with massive timbers. Architectural details include: brick and stone foundation, two interior end chimneys

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just behind the ridge; one chimney with a pot near the front wall, raking boards in the eaves, plain cornerboards, windows with plain boards for surrounds, and a bay window with small panes of glass. Attached to the north gable is a brick structure, 4x2 bays, with braced framing, and large windows with 12 panes of glass. Georgian, c. 1710 (09-10;14;008)

27. Wooden structure, String Bridge: A reproduction of an earlier structure on the Island and similar in form to the Exeter Investment Co. building, also on the Island. Clapboarded, six-over-six windows, two bay windows, and 1½ stories in height. Georgian Reproduction, 1978 (09-10;14;008)
28. Water Street Gallery 69 Water Street: 2½ story, 3x4 bay, clapboarded, granite and brick foundation, gable to road oriented commercial building. The multi-paneled storefront entry on the facade is flanked by simple door surrounds supporting a semi-circular door head. Two nine-paned display windows flank this entry. The second floor entry, a six panel door with plain surrounds and a transom, is located at the east bay of the facade. Wide corner boards support a boxed cornice and returns. Second floor windows have six over six sash, plain surrounds, and architrave trim. Greek Revival c. 1840 (09-10;13;003)
29. The Folsom Building, 59-65 Water Street: 9 bays, 2 stories, flat roofed. The use of arches and brown stone columns, on the second floor, gives the Folsom Building its Romanesque flavor. The second story facade is divided into three units. The central unit contains a Palladian style window, a wide one-over-one window flanked by round engaged Ionic columns and narrow one-over-one windows flanked by Ionic pilasters, beneath an entablature which is recessed over the central window and a central semi-circular window beneath a brick arch with a volute acanthus leaf keystone and a recessed panel on either side of the arch. Above the Palladian motif window is a title and date stone, now covered by a Masonic Temple sign. Each outside unit of the facade is composed of three tall one over one round headed windows on brownstone sills, and brownstone round engaged columns with foliate caps which flank the middle window. Over the windows are stilted semi-circular arches and above each is a diamond design in the architrave of the brick entablature. The entablature with sawtooth course, egg molding frieze, and copper cornice runs across the front of the building. The street level facade contains three slopes and an entrance to the second floor. Romanesque, 1896 (09-10;13;004)
30. Mayer Building 55 Water Street: 2 story, 6 bay, pressed tan brick movie house. The

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3 bay entry contains paired doors above which are splayed keystone arches. Above these entries are 3 round arch second floor windows with six over six sash. The arches are filled in with concrete and a square brick motif is at the center of each. The projecting "Ioka" marquee is positioned between the entry and the second floor windows. An inscription stone lettered "Mayer Building A.D. 1915" sits above the arched windows and is flanked by two square concrete panels. A three-part concrete entablature lies below the monitor roof which contains three raised brick header panels. Colonial Revival, 1915. (09-10;13;005)

31. Wooden Building, 45 Water Street: 2½ story, 4 bay, clapboarded commercial building, with a Chalet style facade. The recessed store entry is flanked by display windows. A second story entry is located on the west bay of the facade. A shingled shed roof awning spans the entire storefront. Second story windows have eight over eight sash. The boxed cornice returns and a wide frieze board is present. Colonial Revival, c. 1900 (09-10;13;006)
32. Wooden Building, 39-43 Water Street: 2½ story, 4 bay, clapboarded commercial building. The recessed store entry is flanked by display windows with imitation Carrera glass below. The present day store front sign covers an earlier paneled sign. Second story windows have two-over-one sash with Greek Revival surrounds and corner blocks with a patera motif. Wide paneled cornerboards support a boxed cornice which returns. A wide frieze board is present. Two narrow windows with one over one sash, Greek Revival surrounds with corner blocks containing a patera motif, and connected by a long sill, are located on the gable wall. A flat roof single story wing containing an entry and display window is located off the west elevation. Greek Revival, c. 1833 (09-10;13;007)
33. Fire House, 27-37 Water Street: 2½ story, 4x3 bay, gable orientated brick fire house with a slate roof. the storefront entry is set on the west bay with display windows spanning the remaining portion of the facade. All windows have two over two sash, granite sills, and arched window heads. Wide corbeled corner pilasters support a complete entablature with a denticulated architrave. A round, four-paned window, with header surrounds sits in the gable wall, A four sided cupola straddles the ridge line at the north elevation. A 3x4 bay, 2½ story, gable roofed ell projects from the north gable with a flat roof one story 3 bay ell projecting from its east elevation. There is a small courtyard in front recently landscaped. The facade has 3 bays., The arched entry is in the east bay. Two paired display doors with arched windows above and arched surrounds complete this facade. Victorian Vernacular, 1873 (09-10;13;008 & 9)

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34. Wooden Building, 23-25 Water Street: 2½ stories, 5x5 bays, post and beam structure, with the gable oriented toward the street. The front wall is rusticated with staggered quoins, a projecting cornice with returns, and evenly spaced shallow scroll brackets. Window surrounds are two-over-two and consist of a plain wooden lintel supported by paneled pilasters and a plain sill with two wooden corbels beneath the pilasters. At street level are plate glass windows, a recessed central entry, six fluted pilasters and a projecting cornice supported by evenly spaced simple brackets. Italianate, c. 1860 (09-10;13;010)
35. Wooden Commercial Building, 19-21 Water Street: 2½ story, 6x6 bay, low pitched gable roof concealed by a wooden parapet. The west storefront consisting of paired plate glass windows, a recessed entry, and a bracketed entablature over the storefront. The second floor contains six-over-one window sash. The east facade, contains plate glass windows, a shingled shed projection over the first floor facade, two-over-one window sash on the second floor, and six-over-six smaller attic windows. All windows have simple surrounds. Two doors are located in the center of the building, one with a six light transom. The entire building is sided with asphalt shingles. A simple wooden entablature runs across the front of the building beneath the parapet. Multiple additions have been attached to the rear of the building. Italianate Vernacular, c. 1870 (09-10;13;011)
36. Wooden Building, 9-11 Water Street: 2½ story, 3x5 bay, gable oriented, clapboarded, commercial building. The center facade entry is flanked by two large display windows, each having a transom with two lights above. All windows have two over two sash with plain surrounds and architrave trim. The boxed cornice returns. A 2x2 bay flat roof single story projects off the rear. The entry to this ell is covered by a shed roof porch supported by a square column which also supports an elliptical archway between it and the main block. Vernacular, c. 1870 (09-10;13;012)
37. Wooden Building, 1-9 Water Street: 2½ story, 3x5 bay, structure with stone foundation, clapboards, plain cornerboards, and a pedimented gable oriented toward the street. A gable-roofed, 2:1/2 story wing extends from the southwest corner of the building and a one story addition is attached to the wing. Windows are two-over-two with plain surrounds containing cornerblocks. The 2½ story wing and 1 story addition contains plate glass windows at street level. The addition has a plain parapet. Greek Revival, c. 1840 (09-10;13;013)

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38. Restaurant, 42 Water Street: 1 story, 9x6 bay, clapboarded with projecting cornice, a wide architrave, single corner pilasters, hip roof with central peak over door and a vented cupola. A one story, flat roofed, brick rear addition. Colonial Revival, c. 1918 (09-10;15;001)
40. Exeter Supply Co., 24 Water Street: 2½ story, 3x8 bay, stone foundation. clapboarded, gable to the street, metal roof. Other features include a boxed cornice with returns, plain cornerboards, two-over-two windows with molded backbands, a central entry flanked by two large bay windows with plate glass windows and a boxed cornice, two bay windows on the second floor with a cornice supported by scroll brackets, and rear ells. Italianate c. 1870 (09-10;15;017)
41. Wooden Bldg., 20 Water Street: 2½ story, 3x3 bay, gable to the street, pedimented gable, side hall entry, stone foundation. Windows are six over six with simple surrounds. The small attic window has a triangular window head. Across the front is a hip roofed porch, enclosed across two bays and open in front of the door with a square column. There is a shed addition on the rear. Greek Revival, c. 1830 (09-10;15;016)
42. Gilman Garrison, 12 Water Street: Georgian/Garrison Style c. 1700: National Register of Historic Places, (9-12-76) HABS.
43. Kost Tire Sales, 1 Franklin Street: 1 story, 3x3 bay, gable roof commercial building with coursed ashlar siding. An overhead multi-light door with a transom is located in the middle bay above which is a monitor roof. A display window sits to the west of the door. A four bay shed roof wing projects from the southwest corner of the west elevation with a brick facade and a corbeled brick monitor roof. c. 1910 (09-10;20;001)
44. Mill Housing "The Long House": 4-10 Franklin Street: 2½ story, 12x2 bays, clapboarded, brick foundation, wooden framed mill housing with 6 interior offset corbeled cap chimneys. Two double multi-light center entries are present on the facade. The west entry is flanked by plain pilasters supporting a full entablature with triglyph blocks. The east entry is also flanked by plain pilasters supporting a full entablature with an inscription plate on the frieze. The symmetrically placed windows have six-over-four sash with simple surrounds. The cornice is boxed with a molding between the fascia and soffit. Federal, 1826 (09-10;21;010)

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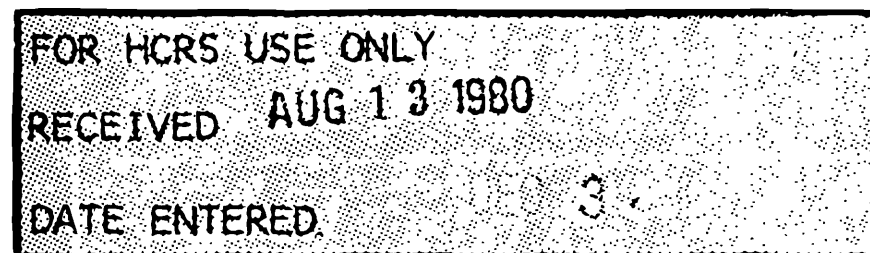
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46. House, 1 High Street: 1½ story, gable to road, 5x1 bay, wood shingled house. A veranda supported by four columns, between which is a balustrade with turned balusters, spans the facade (west elevation). Facade windows have two over one sash with plain surrounds and architrave trim. A four bay shed roof wall dormer is located on the west elevation above the veranda. A simple bay shed roof ell is located off the south gable. The basement is exposed containing five windows with two over two sash below the porch. C. 1860-1870. (09-10;21;009)
47. Apartment House, 5 High Street: 2½ story, 3x2 bay, gable oriented to road, vinyl siding and a brick foundation. The entry to the ground floor apt. is located on the corner of the east elevation. A stairsade to the second floor apt. is located on the west elevation. Ground floor windows have six-over-six sash, second story windows are longer but retain the six over six sash. A full basement is present. c. 1880 (09-10;21;008)
48. House, 11 High Street: 2 story, shingled, wood frame, 3x2 bay, gable oriented to the road. The sidehall entry is enclosed in a shed roof pavilion. Facade windows have two over two sash, simple surrounds, and window hoods supported by simple brackets. The foundation is cut granite and a full basement is present. An interior stove chimney with a corbeled cap lies west of the ridge line. Federal, c. 1789 (09-10; 21;006)
49. Capt. James Hackett House, Apartment House, 13 & 15 High Street: 2½ story, granite foundation, clapboarded house with two interior offset chimneys rising from the rear wall. The facade is dominated by a paired door with plain surrounds surmounted by a flat roof door hood supported by two curvilinear console brackets. Flanking this entry are two flat roofed three-sided bay windows. The middle bay of each contains a pair of round headed windows supported by raised, paneled, pilasters. The side contains single round headed windows. Second story windows have nine over six sash, simple surrounds, and architrave trim. The entry on the west elevation is covered by a shed roof porch supported by tapering square columns. A 3x2 bay projects off the southeast corner of the south elevation. The boxed cornice returns. Georgian, c. 1786 (09-10;21;005)
50. Jewett Hoyt House, 17 High Street: 2 story, 4x2 bay, post-and-beam house with a granite foundation. The entire first floor and the gable ends have clapboard siding, the second story has staggered shingle siding. The facade entry is flanked by fluted pilasters supporting a hip-roofed entablature. Two broad windows with



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- one-over-one sash, simple surrounds, and molded window heads flank this entry. A single interior chimney rises from the rear wall. A 2x2 bay, 2 story ell projects from the southeast corner of the south elevation. Georgian, c. 1765 (09-10;21;004)
51. House, 21 High Street: 2½ story, 2x3 bay, asbestos-cement shingled house with the gable facade oriented toward the road. The multi-paneled door of the main entry is topped by a flat roof door hood supported by two drop scroll Stick Style(cape) console brackets. A hip-roofed 3 sided bay projection lies to the west of the facade entry. All windows have two over two sash and simple surrounds. A 2x1 bay projects from the south elevation and a single bay, 1 story projection with a car-port lies off the east elevation. Vernacular c. 1878 (09-10;21;003)
52. Theophilus Smith House, 25 High Street: 2 story, 5x2 bay, hip roofed house with feather edge clapboards, a granite foundation, and two interior offset chimneys. Below a Federal fan, with a sun motif at the focal point, lies the multi-paneled facade entry flanked by ¾ sidelights which are flanked by tapering plain pilasters supporting a full entablature. All windows have plain surrounds and architrave trim. Second story windows have molded heads. The east elevation is dominated by a narrow, pedimented entry pavilion containing a six paneled door above which is a four light transom. A 5x2 bay, 2 story, gable roof wing projects from the southwest corner of the south elevation containing a multi-paneled center entry. A small, single story, gable roof, 4x1 bay ell projects off the gable end of the wing. Federal, c. 1780 (09-10;21;002)
53. Josiah Smith House, west side Gilman Lane: 2½ story, 5x2 bay, gable roofed house with a granite foundation, and a massive interior chimney located east of the ridge line. The facade is dominated by a gable roof 2 story single bay pavilion containing a 6 paneled door flanked by ¾ sidelights and topped by a Federal fan with a sun motif at the focal point. The full entablature over the fan is supported by tapering plain pilasters. Above the entry is a round headed window with eight over eight sash and Federal tracery above, the surrounds are simple with architrave trim. Period windows with nine over six sash and all windows have plain surrounds, large sills, and architrave trim. The boxed cornice returns. A soffit molding is present on the facade. A 3x2 bay, 2 story ell projects from the gable of this ell. A 4x1 bay, 1 story, multi-light, flat roofed enclosed porch lies off the south gable. Federal, 1789 (09-10;21;001)

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54. Gardner-Gilman House, 29 High Street: 2½ story, 6x2 bay, gable roof, wood-framed house with clapboard siding and a cut granite foundation. The four-paneled facade entry is flanked by ¾ sidelights and narrow pilasters, covered by a gable roof porch supported by turned columns. Above this entry is a long window with six over six over six sash. All period windows have six over six sash, simple surrounds, and architrave trim. Wide cornerboards support a two-part entablature with molding between the soffit and frieze. There are 2 large chimneys with beautifully corbeled caps. Federal, c. 1799 (09-10;22;005)
55. Josiah Gilman Smith House, 35 High Street: 2½ story, 5x2 bay, gable roof, granite foundation recently covered with aluminum siding. The six paneled door of the main entry is flanked by ¾ sidelights and plain pilasters; and covered by a lattice work/pedimented entry hood which is supported by two chamfered columns. Windows have blinds, six over six sash, simple surrounds, and architrave trim. A 2 story, 2x2 bay, ell with a corbeled capped chimney projects from the north elevation connecting to a 3 bay gable roof garage. Originally a residence now used as a newspaper office. Federal, c. 1830 (09-10;22;004)
56. Capt. J. Thurston House, 30 High Street: 2½ story, 5x2 bay, wooden framed, clapboarded house with two interior (offset) chimneys and a cut granite foundation. The six paneled door of the main entry is flanked by ¾ sidelights and narrow pilasters supporting a narrow door hood. Two 3-sided projecting bays have been added to the facade, each with paired arched windows. All other windows have six over six sash, plain surrounds, and architrave trim. Wide cornerboards support a boxed cornice and a wide frieze board. A 2 story, 3x2 bay gable roofed ell projects from the northwest corner of the north elevation. Georgian, c. 1760 (09-10;07;026)
57. Apartment house, 24-26 High Street: 2½ story, 4x3 bay, gable roof, clapboarded house with a granite and brick foundation. The sidehall entry contains a multi-paneled door with dog ear surrounds and is capped by a pedimented door hood supported by two scroll brackets. Facade windows have blinds, six over six sash with Greek Revival surrounds and corner blocks. Wide paneled cornerboards support the boxed cornice and returns. The east elevation contains a 1x3

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- bay, 1 story hip roofed projection recessed with a side entry consisting of a 6 paneled door flanked by 3/4 sidelights and covered by a hip roof porch supported by two tapering square columns. A flat roof 1 story 3x4 bay ell projects from the northwest corner of the north elevation. Greek Revival, c. 1834 (09-10;07;025)
58. Col. Boardman Tavern, 20-22 High Street: 2½ story, 4x2 bay, gable roof, twin inset chimneys, and a cut granite foundation. The facade is dominated by two, 3 sided, 2 story projecting bays. Each of the two center hall entries contain a paired door with round headed window panels. This entry is covered by a flat roof porch, with a boxed cornice and a denticulated soffit, supported by scrolled console brackets resting on 3 square chamfered columns and two chamfered pilasters. The entire facade wall has coursed ashlar siding while the remaining elevations are clapboarded. Wide cornerboards support a complete entablature. A 2 story 4x2 bay gable roof ell projects from the north elevation. Federal, c. 1805 (09-10;11;009)
59. House, 16 High Street: originally a 2½ story, 5x2 bay salt box with a granite foundation it has been enlarged with a 2½ story 1x2 bay gable roof addition off the west gable giving the house its present 6 bay facade. The center hall entry has a 6 paneled door flanked by 3/4 sidelights with a louvered Federal fan above and tapering pilasters which support a full entablature. The first story facade and gable windows have nine over six sash; second story facade windows have six-over-six sash and all windows have plain surrounds with architrave trim. The massive center chimney has been replaced by twin stove chimneys which rise from the interior wall of the rear elevation. Georgian, c. 1756 (09-10;11;008)
60. House, 10 High Street: 2½ story, 5x2 bay, gable-roof, with twin inset chimneys. The center hall main entry is flanked by 3/4 sidelights which are flanked by plain pilasters and covered by a flat porch which is supported by scroll brackets on square columns and Stick Style curvilinear brackets running along the frieze. Two projecting 3-sided bays with hipped roofs supported by 6 curve brackets on narrow paneled pilasters flank the main entry. All other windows have two over two sash, simple surrounds, and architrave trim. A 2 story, 2x2 bay ell connects the north elevation with a gable roof garage. Federal, c. 1816 (09-10;11; 007)

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61. Simeon Folsom House, 8 High Street: 3 story, 3x2 bay, gable roof, round-front brick structure. The facade entry contains a plain door with a round header archway above. Windows are two over two with plain surrounds. A round inset plaque with header surrounds details the center of the facade. The cornice is boxed, mutules with guttae holes adorn the soffit, a rope molding is present between soffit and frieze, and sawtooth guttae adorn the frieze. There are two chimneys, one interior with a corbeled cap on the west elevation, and one massive chimney with two vaults rising from the rear wall of the north elevation. Federal, c. 1816 (09-10;11;006.001)
62. Simeon Folsom House, 7-9-11 High Street: 3½ story, 7x3 bay gable roof brick commercial/residential building. Each of the three facade entries are topped by a transom with four lights, and enclosed with painted granite surrounds and a granite belt course above. The symmetrically placed windows on the second and third stories of the facade have two-over-two sash with wood sills and granite lintels. There are two interior end chimneys with corbeled caps on the west elevation. An arched brick basement entry is on the northwest corner of the west corner of the west elevation. Federal, c. 1830 (09-10;11;006)
63. Apartment House, 15-17 Pleasant Street: 2½ story, 5x4 bay, 9 pedimented gables to road orientation structure. The four paneled door of the main entry is flanked by sealed up full sidelights which are flanked by simple tapering pilasters supporting a 2-part entablature. First floor windows have two-over-two sash, second floor windows and gable wall windows have six-over-six sash, all windows have simple surrounds and architrave trim. There are two large interior chimneys with corbeled caps, and two interior offset stove chimneys. Greek Revival, c. 1837 (09-10;12;005)
64. House, 2 Hall Place: 2½ story, 5x2 bay, granite foundation, twin inset chimneys with the pedimented gable roof. A hipped-roof 11x2 bay porch encloses the front entry. Second floor windows have two-over-two sash, and flat bracketed window hoods. The gable wall contains 2 windows, each has six-over-six sash and bracketed hoods. A gable roof, 2 story, 2x7 bay ell projects from the north elevation. Federal c. 1820 (09-10;12;001)

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65. House, 23 Pleasant Street: 2 story, 5x2 bay, gable roofed house with a granite foundation and aluminum siding. The facade is dominated by two three sided projecting bays. A 6 paneled center hall entry is topped by a transom with 3 lights above which rests a flat door hood supported by two curvilinear console brackets. A wide frieze board with a soffit/frieze molding is evident on the facade and the box cornice returns. Federal, c. 1820 (09-10;12;010)
66. Mill Housing, 25-27-29 Pleasant Street: 2½ story, 2x10 bay, gable to road orientated mill house with staggered asphalt shingling. The two center hall entries on the east elevation are covered by a shed roof 2x3 bay enclosed porches. Three chimneys remain; a massive center chimney straddles the ridge line between the two units, and two stove chimneys, one at the southwest corner and the other at the northeast corners of the main block. A shed roof garage abuts the facade at the basement level. Federal, c. 1826 (09-10;12;009)
67. Apartment house, 1-3 Chestnut Street: 2½ story, 5x3 bay, granite and brick foundation with gable to road orientation. The main entry has plain surrounds and is topped by a denticulated door hood supported by two curvilinear console brackets. Windows have six-over-six sash, simple surrounds, molded trim, second floor and gable wall windows have flat hoods. Wide cornerboards support a denticulated frieze with a boxed cornice and returns. A 2 bay, 1½ story, gable roof ell projects from the north elevation and contains a denticulated flat roof side (east) entry. Greek Revival, c. 1844 (09-10;12;008)
68. Apartment House, 5 Chestnut Street: 3 story, 3x2 bay, granite foundation, gable to road orientated. The paired center hall entry has molded surrounds and is covered by a flat roof porch with square columns supporting a full entablature. The long windows have two-over-two sash, simple surrounds, and architrave trim. Wide paneled cornerboards support a full entablature and a boxed cornice and returns. This unit was added onto a Georgian saltbox (c. 1770) whose features include: windows with six-over-six sash, simple surrounds, and architrave trim; a center hall entry covered by a pedimented door hood supported by two square columns. Colonial Revival, c. 1910 (09-10;12;007)

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69. Judge Bell's Law Office, 7 Chestnut Street: 1½ story, 3x2 bays. clapboarded, central entry, slate roof, gable roof. The central door has fluted door surrounds, with a gable roofed portico with a balustrade with turned posts. The door in the south gable has a slightly pedimented door hood on drop scroll brackets. The boxed cornice has returns and is supported by paired scroll brackets. Italianate c. 1880 (09-10;05;013)
70. Gazebo, 7 Chestnut Street: a small gazebo with multiple gables, decorative barge board, vertical siding, a wooden shingled roof, and a spire in the center of the roof. Victorian Era Gazebo, c. 1885 (09-10;05;013)
71. The Bell House, 9 Chestnut Street: 2½ stories, 4x3 bays, slate roof, cut granite foundation, water table, and tall interior chimneys. The pedimented gable is oriented toward the road, with a boxed cornice and dentil frieze. The attic window is beneath a louvered Gothic arch. All windows are two-over-two, with molded surrounds, corner blocks, and a central geometric motif in the window heads. The corner pilasters are paneled with a trefoil near the top. A bay window is attached to the west wall. Porches on the east and west walls have heavy fluted Doric columns. A wing of similar massing to the main block angles off towards the east. A two-story and one-story gable roofed ell is attached to the rear of the house with a pedimented entry with dentils and a scroll-supported entablature. Greek Revival/Gothic Revival, c. 1845 (09-10;05;012)
72. Mill Agents House, 11-13 Chestnut Street: 2½ story, 5x2 bay, brick structure with a slate roof. Windows are two-over-two with granite lintels. Other features include four end chimneys, a parapet on the gable wall between the chimneys, a balustrade on the lateral wall, and a projecting lateral cornice with a dentil frieze. The center entry is beneath a transom light with portico supported by four free standing and two engaged Tuscan columns, the columns are paneled and chamfered. A one story hip roofed addition is attached to the south gable. Attached to the rear is a 1½ story gable roofed brick ell. Federal, c. 1825 (09-10;05;011)

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General description of the rear portion of the "lower block:"

The target area for the proposed Exeter waterfront revitalization project encompasses the rear portions of the buildings on the "lower block" of Water Street (sites #7-25), and the narrow strip of land between these buildings and the Squamscott River. This area is currently underutilized, mostly accommodating haphazard parking and storage, and has been neglected for some years.

Redevelopment of this waterfront space calls for utilization of basements, subbasements, and upper floor levels of the existing buildings, as well as for the provision of a continuous pedestrian route through the area.

The rear elevations of these waterfront buildings express a variety of styles, heights, and textures. In general those buildings that have remained largely intact or have had minor in-filling of window and door openings are sites # 22, 20, 20, 29, 28, 15, 14, and 10. Improvised additions to some buildings (sites #24, 23, 21 and 13) consist of multi-bayed sheds projecting from the storefront levels and supported on piers.

Major additions which detract from the character of the area project from some of the buildings (sites #7, 9, and 16) at the western end of the "lower block."

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Non-conforming intrusions detracting from the integrity of the district:

4. Exeter and Hampton Electric Company, 225 Water Street: a two-story brick structure with a marble facade and plate glass windows. The flat roof projects over the sidewalk, supported by concrete posts. Built c. 1959, the structure is a non-contributor to the historic district. c. 1967 (09-09;04;011)
6. Sears Automotive Center: a gable-roofed, one-story, concrete block and concrete structure. c. 1969 (09-09;04;012)
16. Roberge Photo Shop, 129 Water Street: a small shop, one story in height with flat roof, recessed entry, and large signage. Built c. 1955, Roberge Photo Shop is a non-contributing structure to the historic district. c. 1930-40 (09-09;04;017.001)
39. Gulf Station: one-story, flat-roofed, with projecting eaves. This service station has two overhung doors and a recent concrete block addition. c. 1955 (09-10;15;018)
45. Al's Muffler Town, 20-22 Franklin Street: one-story, 6 bay, concrete block commercial structure. Two overhead doors are present at both the east and west bays. A display window is located to the east of the west overhead doors. A shingled Mansard roof spans the entire facade. c. 1940 (09-10;21;011&012)

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of Water Street consisted mostly of small Greek Revival style homes and businesses. (This is still the character of the "Upper Block.") The use of the river as a major transportation route declines with the arrival of the railroad in the 1850's.

A series of fires in the 1860s and 1870s destroyed many of the earlier buildings and acted as a catalyst for a period of major rebuilding, which entirely altered the character of the street to reflect the new prosperity and growth of the mercantile community. This rebuilding established a new commercial block along the lower block of Water Street, predominantly brick buildings which share common facade lines and elevations ranging from two to four stories. Merchants still depended on the river for transportation and the design of their buildings, basements, sub-basements, and large doorways reflected this dependency. Yet as the river became more polluted and silted in, it was abandoned. Activity concentrated on developing the Water Street frontage.

Several buildings have been added to the district in the twentieth century. Those which are contributors to the district are the Smith Building (#9), the McReel Building (#7) and the Ioka Theatre (#45).

(See Continuation Sheet 8-2).

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Preservation and/or Restoration Activities within the District:

Exeter has recently sought the services of Anderson Notter & Feingold Inc. Architects and Preservation Planners to explore the possibilities of utilizing the backs of existing buildings and re-opening the historic connection with the river. The primary area of concentration is the "Lower Block" of Water Street. There is an active waterfront revitalization committee, and the town as a whole is deeply committed to this project.

Other preservation activities include painting, repointing foundations, and minor repairs. A major restoration project has been undertaken by the Exeter Investment Company on Kimball's Island with the rehabilitation of an early 18th century mill and related structures for re-use as office, commercial and restaurant space.

Architecture:

Contained within the District are a large number of outstanding buildings representative of the major styles in American vernacular architecture. The exterior facades of the commercial blocks have retained their integrity, especially on the upper floors. Typical features of period storefronts include: large display windows, paneled bases, glass transoms, cast iron elements, and leaded glass signage. Many storefronts have been altered to reflect popular 20th century commercial styles incorporating such "modern" materials as Carrera glass, Art Deco lettering, and aluminum facades. Most of the dwellings within the primarily residential area have retained their exterior integrity; however there is some Victorian era remodeling with the addition of bay windows, porches, and verandas all of which reflected the popular trends of the time. This exciting mix of architectural styles in both residential and commercial buildings reflects the social, economic, and cultural patterns of Exeter's development.

The earliest structure in the district, and perhaps the foremost remaining example of the regionally distinctive vertically sawn log garrison type house, is the Gilman Garrison c. 1700 (National Register of Historic Places) (9-12-76) HABS.

The Georgian style is best represented in (#59) at 16 High Street, exhibiting a saltbox plan with the later addition of a Federal entry.

The prosperity during the Federal period is classically represented in the Theophilus Smith house (#52), 25 High Street c. 1780. Other buildings representative of this style are:

- site #2 - 235 Water Street c. 1786
- site #44 - The Long House/Mill Housing 4-10 Franklin Street c. 1826
- site #54 - Gardner-Gilman House 29 High Street c. 1799
- site #55 - Josiah Gilman Smith House, 35 High Street c. 1830
- site #58 - Col. Boardman Tavern 20-22 High Street c. 1805
- site #62 - Simeon Folsom House, 7-9-II High Street, c. 1830
- site #72 - Mill Agents House, II-13 Chestnut Street c. 1825

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An interesting example of this style is the round brick front of the Simeon Folsom House (#61), 8 High Street, c. 1816.

Representative of the Greek Revival style are:

- site #32 - 39-43 Water Street, c. 1835.
- site #14 - brick commercial building at 141-147 Water Street, c. 1865.
- site #57 - apartment house, 24-26 High Street, c. 1834.
- site #63 - apartment house, 15-17 Pleasant Street, c. 1837.
- site #8 - Louise's Sport Shop, 183 Water Street, c. 1825.
- site #71 - Bell House, 9 Chestnut Street, c. 1845.

The Italianate style is fully expressed in #25, 83 Water Street, c. 1865, which displays a low-pitched hip roof, large drop-scroll corner brackets, and a denticulated frieze. A second significant example is #34, at 23-25 Water Street, c. 1860.

The High Victorian Italianate style is represented by six brick commercial buildings which also constitute a major and significant portion of Exeter's commercial waterfront property. The most prominent is #10, the Merrill Building, at 163 Water Street. Its tall proportions, stilted-segmental arches, and variety of surface textures express the essence of this style. Other significant examples are:

- site #18 - Carlisle Building, 119-123 Water Street, c. 1875.
- site #19 - Moore Building, 115 Water Street, 1875.
- site #20 - Burlingame Building, 109-113 Water Street, c. 1874.
- site #22 - Kimball's Hardware, 99-101 Water Street, c. 1872.
- site #23 - Indian Head Bank, 93-97 Water Street, c. 1860.

The sole example of the Romanesque style is:

- site #29 - Folsom Building, 59-65 Water Street, c. 1896.

Representing the Sullivanesque style is:

- site #21 - Styles' Drugstore, 105-107 Water Street, c. 1880.

The most recent Colonial Revival style is expressed in:

- site #30 - Mayer Building, 55 Water Street, 1915.

Commerce:

The commercial waterfront area has been continuously involved in trade and commerce since its settlement in 1638, when it was the center of trading in salted fish, lumber, and shipbuilding, with its related industries. The only surviving example from this early

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period is the c. 1710 Gilman grist mill on Kimball's Island site (#26). Regionally, commerce declined during the Revolutionary period, picking up again at the end of the 18th century. Exeter continued to prosper until the latter half of the 19th century when changed uses and technology brought about the decline of the waterfront. Significant surviving structures from this period include:

- site #37 - Wooden Building, 1 Water Street, c. 1840
- site #32 - 39-43 Water Street, c. 1833
- site #14 - 141-147 Water Street, c. 1865
- site #8 - Louise's Sport Shop, c. 1825
- site #25 - Lopardo's c. 1865

Fire destroyed many of the waterfront properties. Reconstruction entirely altered the character of the streetscape with the establishment of several impressive late 19th and 20th century commercial blocks. Today, Exeter retains this late 19th century scale from which its significance is derived, commercial buildings of outstanding architectural merit includes:

- site #10 - Merrill building, c. 1873
- site #18 - Carlisle building, c. 1875
- site #19 - Moore building, c. 1875
- site #20 - Burlingame building, c. 1874
- site #21 - Styles Drugstore, c. 1880
- site #22 - Kimballs Hardware c. 1872
- site #23 - Indian Head Bank, c. 1860
- site #24 - The Janvrin Block, c. 1860
- site #29 - The Folsom Block, c. 1896
- site #30 - The Mayer building, c. 1915

Industry:

Exeter's industry centered around the falls in the Exeter and Squamscott Rivers, where two dams were built. At the lower dam, which is now gone, Kimball's Island divides the river into two channels. Thomas Wilson built Exeter's first grist mill here c. 1640.

Regionally, lumber was the most important industry for over 100 years. Edward Gilman built the first two sawmills at the upper falls in 1647 and 1650, increasing the value of the abundant timber.

During the latter part of the 18th century there were a number of mills filling a variety of needs. In 1789 George Washington recorded in his diary that "in the town are considerable falls which supply several grist-mills, two oil-mills, a slitting mill and snuff mill." Six years later it was recorded that the falls "afforded seats for four double geared corn-mills, four saw-mills, two oil-mills, and one fulling mill".

The only mill standing today is John Gilman's grist mill site (#26) built c. 1710. It has recently undergone rehabilitation and currently is used for office and commercial

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space. A mill foundation behind site (#34) as well as several reinforced granite walls along the river recall mill activity along the waterfront area.

Shipbuilding became a vital industry, and flourished up to the Revolution. The waterfront was once lined with blacksmiths, carpenters, and caulkers all working on ships, the largest reported to be five hundred tons burden weight. No evidence of this industry remains today.

The carriage, saddlery, and harness making businesses were very active, the centers being located on Franklin and High Street.

In 1827 two companies, the Exeter mill and Water Power Co. and the Exeter Manufacturing Co. were formed to utilize the water power of the upper falls which was owned by several individuals and used for a variety of purposes. The former bought the water rights and conveyed it to the Manufacturing Co. which built a brick mill in 1830. An 1876 addition doubled the mill's capacity. Although the mill sits immediately outside the district, located between Chestnut St. and the river, it is an important visual contributor to the character of the surrounding area. Individual structures related to the Exeter Manufacturing Co. are:

- site #72 - Mill agent's house II-13 Chestnut Street c. 1830
- site #66 - Mill housing 25-27-29 Pleasant Street c. 1830
- site #44 - Mill housing 4-10 Franklin Street c. 1826

Invention:

In 1824 Dr. William Perry established a mill on the east side of the Exeter River for the manufacturing of starch from potatoes. During this time the manufacturers of cotton were importing British gum to use for sizing cloth and thickening dyes. Dr. Perry developed a process which provided a low-cost substitute for the British gum. It was merely a charred starch, which was sold and used primarily at the mills at Lowell. His mill no longer exists, but a related structure sits on site (#62) where the basement was used to store a portion of the 30-40,000 bushels of potatoes used annually in this process. Locally, this was a significant mill providing a cash income to farmers who sold their potatoes.

From 1788-1821 Ebenezer Clifford and his family resided in the Gilman Garrison site (#42). Clifford was an accomplished joiner, and an ingenious mechanic who was one

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1. Charles H. Bell History of the Town of Exeter, NH. Boston: J.E. Farwell and Co. 1888 pp. 331.
 2. Ibid., pp. 331.

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of the first men to attempt to retrieve sunken property from the local rivers with the use of a diving bell. Clifford's diving bell was primitive. Shaped like a pork barrel, it measured 5'9³/₄" high x 5' wide, contained two seats and had weights attached to the rim of the base.³ It could stay under water for an hour or more. It is reported that Clifford recovered a quantity of silver money from the wreck of a foreign vessel off the Isles of Shoals. Between 1806-1808 he salvaged some twenty tons of iron bar from a sunken gundalow under seventy-two feet of water in the Piscataqua River.⁴ All that is left of the diving bell is a wooden sawn which was used as a float to mark its position and communicate with the surface crew. It is now a part of the collection on exhibit at the Gilman Garrison.

Military:

During the 17th and 18th century Indian wars, privately owned garrison houses were an important form of protection utilized by the New England colonists, but few of these fortified dwellings remain. The Gilman Garrison is possibly the only remaining sawn log garrison house in the region still on its original site. The Garrison house, now a museum, is open to the public on a limited basis and owned by the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities.

Exeter served as the state capital (1775-1782) during the Revolutionary War. The militia was drilled in an area within the district called "Hemlock Square," (hemlock boughs were placed on the muddy ground) located on the east bank of the Exeter River in the Pleasant Street area.

Transportation:

During the 17th and 18th century Exeter's growth depended largely on the development of the shipbuilding and lumber trades, and the water system which transported these goods to the marketplace. Exeter's landing became a major trading post where inland lumber supplies could be sold and loaded onto ships for delivery up and down the coast. The channel was much deeper than it is today and trade was conducted as far away as the West Indies. Merchants still depended on the river for transportation of their goods in the 19th century, and the design of their shops reflected this dependency. Most buildings in the "lower block" of Water Street have basements and sub-basements below grade. Goods were loaded from the river into the lower basements through large doorways, then hoisted up two floors to street level.

3. James L. Garvin, Ebenezer Clifford, Architect & Inventor Old Time New England pp. 33

4. Ibid., pp 33

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The Exeter Waterfront Commercial Historic District is significant as an extremely well-preserved 19th century commercial center. The district is comprised of a variety of commercial, institutional, engineering, and residential structures in a range of styles -- Georgian, Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate, Queen Anne, High Victorian Italianate, and Neoclassical. In addition, the district includes an extraordinary collection of early 20th century storefronts. This dense, well-integrated commercial center represents a microcosm of Exeter's development from earliest settlement to the present.

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A Plan of the Compact Part of the Town of Exeter, at the head of the Southernly Branch Piscataque River 1802, Artist P. Merrill publisher A. Peasley

Plan of Exeter Village N.H. 1845 Artist Joseph Dow, Engraver J.H. Buford & Lithography Co. Boston, Mass.

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Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the midpoint of the intersection of Water Street and Main Street, the boundary of the Exeter Commercial Historic District runs eastward down the center of Water Street to a point just beyond the intersection of Water Street, Front Street, and Chestnut Hill Avenue; thence southward along the property line between the Mobil gas station and Kurt's Restaurant, 42 Water Street (#38), southeasterly along the property line, thence eastward across an alley and northerly to the southwest corner of the Gulf service station property (#39); thence in a southeasterly direction following the southern property lines of the buildings which line the south side of Water Street, crossing Clifford street and following the property lines of Kost Tire Sales (#43) which is located on the corner of Clifford Street and Franklin Street; thence running in a southeasterly direction down the center of Franklin Street, turning and running along the property between Al's Muffler Town (#45) and 26-28 Franklin Street; thence crossing the river in a northeasterly direction to the southwest corner of the property of II High Street (#48); thence eastward along the southern property lines of the houses along the south side of High Street; along the southern line of the Josiah Smith House Property (#53), crossing Gilman Lane, cutting across the property of the Gardner-Gilman house (#54) and Josiah Gilman Smith House (#55) to a midpoint of the intersection of High Street and Portsmouth Avenue; thence westward down the center of High Street, turning and running northerly along the east property line of the Capt. J. Thuston House (#56) and 24-26 High Street; thence to the center of Hall Place Avenue, turning and running westerly along the northern

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Acreage of nominated property approx. 6 acres

Quadrangle name Gilmanton, NH

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UTM References

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	19	311750	4797450
B	19	311650	4796700
C	19	311100	4796800
D	19	310800	4797350

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UTM REFERENCES

UTM ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	UTM ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
E 19	- 3-41-000	47-60-570	F 19	- 3-41-150	47-60-720

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property lines of the Col. Boardman Tavern; 20-22 High Street, (#58) and 16 High Street, cutting across the property of 11 Hall Place and containing along the northern property line of 10 High Street (#60); thence running northerly along the rear property lines of 7-9-11 High Street (#62) and 15-17 Pleasant Street (#63); thence crossing Hall Place, turning and running in an easterly direction along the southern boundary of 2 Hall Place (#64); thence in a northerly direction following the east boundary of 2 Hall Place (#64); 23 Pleasant Street (#65), 25-27-29 Pleasant Street (#66), and 1-3 Chestnut Street (#67); thence along the southern border of 5 Chestnut Street (#68); thence turning and running in a northwesterly direction, in a line 200 ft. from the center line of Chestnut Street cutting across the rear property of 5 Chestnut Street (#68), crossing Woodlawn Circle, and cutting across the property of 9 Chestnut Street (#71), and 11-13 Chestnut Street (#72) until reaching the northern boundary of 11-13 Chestnut Street; (#73); thence following the boundary in a southwesterly direction to the center of Chestnut Street; thence south-erly along the center of Chestnut Street for 500 yards; thence turning and running in a southwesterly direction across the front of the Clemson Favrics Corp. until reaching the river; thence following the shore of the river in a northwesterly direction; thence turn-ing and crossing the river in a southwesterly direction meeting the southern shore just west of the Phillips Exeter Academy Boathouse (#5); thence crossing the Swayzey Parkway and following the northern boundary line of Hampton Exeter Electric Company (#4) and 235-237 Water Street (#3); thence following the western boundary of 235-237 Water Street (#2) to the midpoint of the intersection of Water and Main Street.

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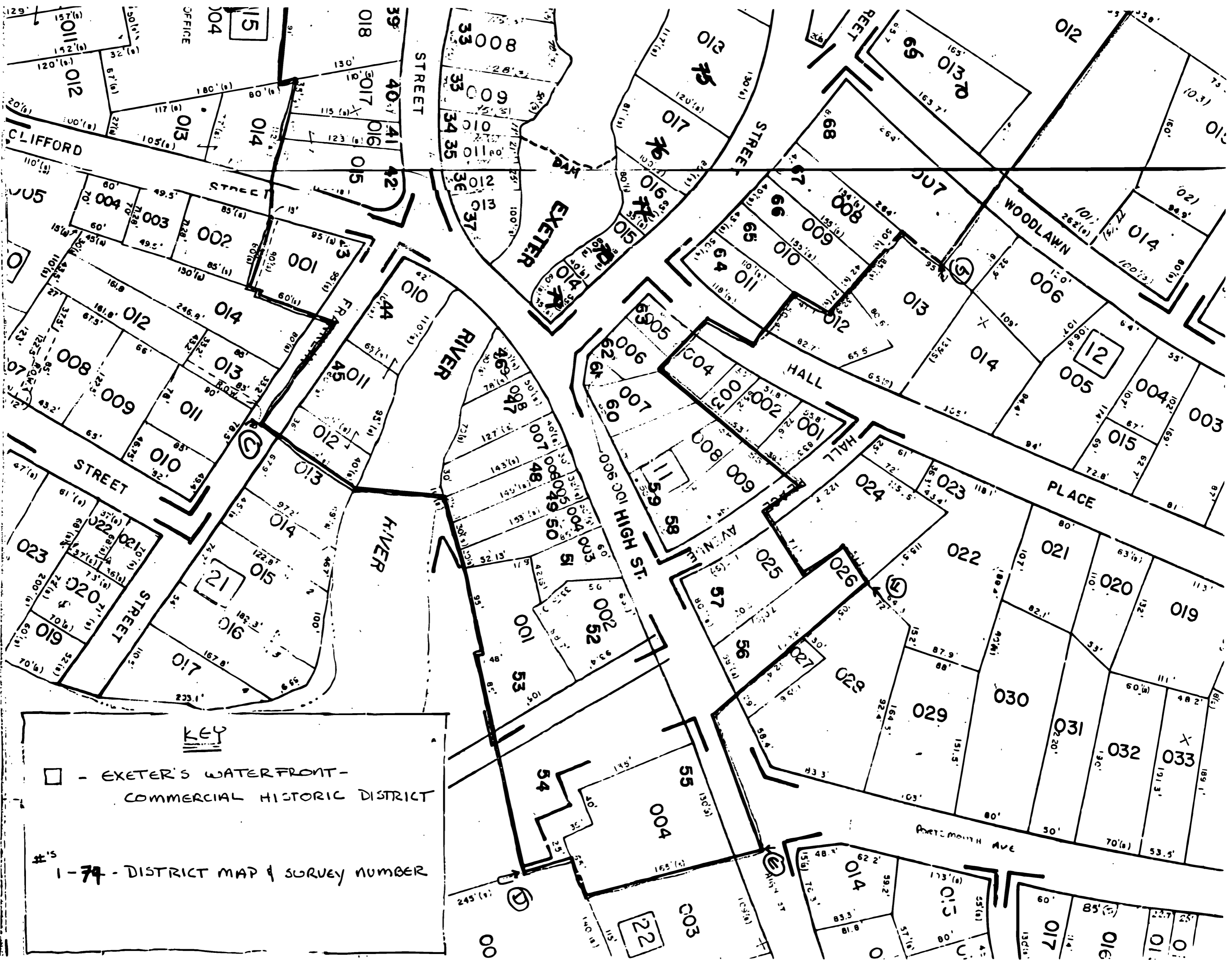
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BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION (continued)

The eastern boundary of the district terminates at the intersections of High Street and Portsmouth Avenue. At this point the character of High Street changes. Since the mid 20th century, Portsmouth Avenue has become increasingly commercialized by extensive strip development.

The westernmost extent of the district has its boundary at the intersection of Main and Water Streets. At this end of the district the commercial character of Water Street becomes less dense, though distinct in contrast with the Phillips Exeter Academy buildings facing it, and the residential blocks which abut on both Main and Water.

The district's Franklin Street boundary on the southeast represents the visual terminus of the commercial area.



KEY

□ - EXETER'S WATERFRONT -
COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

#'s
1-74 - DISTRICT MAP & SURVEY NUMBER

SEE MAP
09-01
1" = 200'

CLEMON FABRIC INC.

CHESTNUT

HILL AVENUE

SQUAMSCOTT

PLEASANT STREET

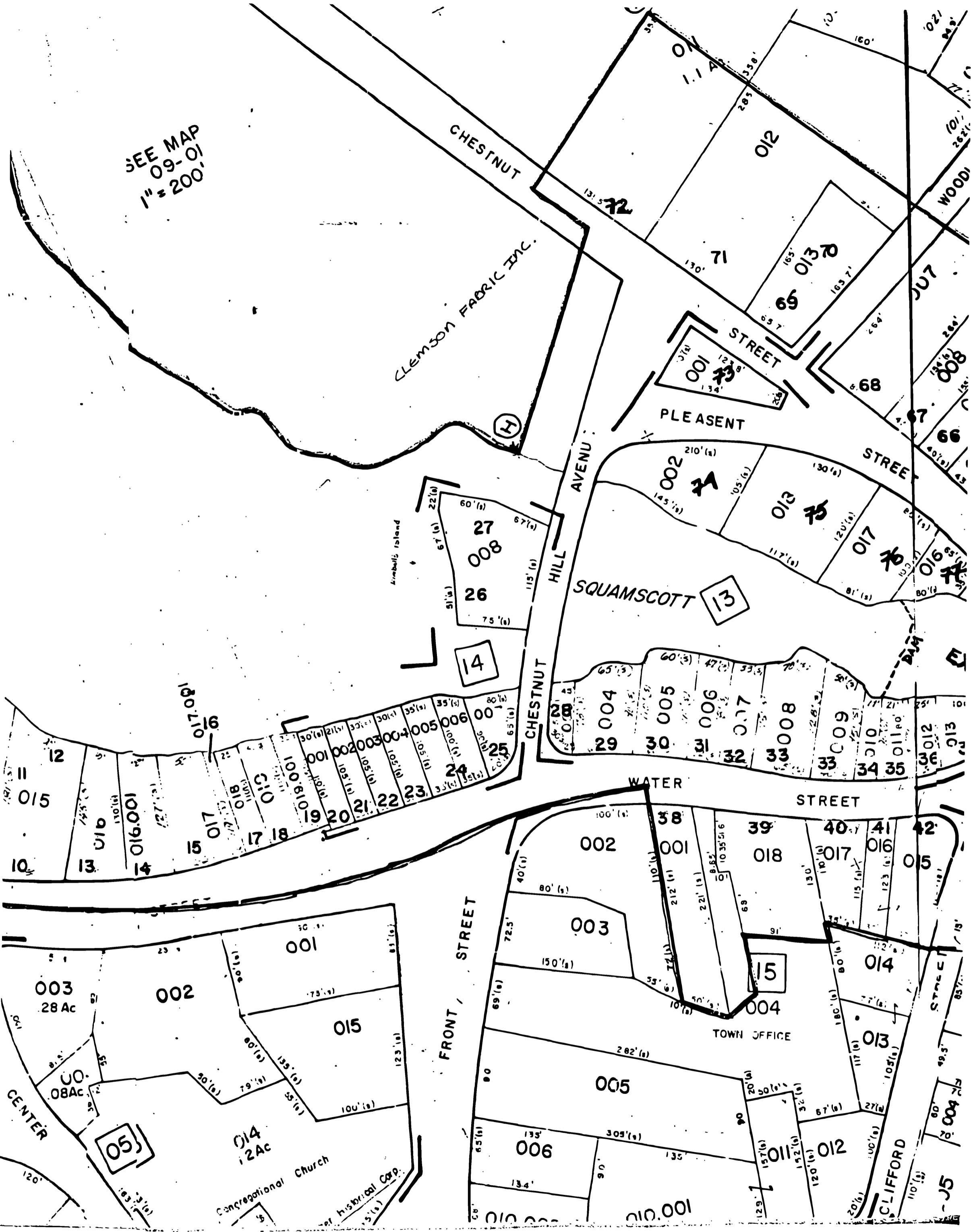
WATER STREET

FRONT STREET

CENTER

CLIFFORD

WOOD



(H)

Kimbull's Island

(15)

(05)

TOWN OFFICE

Congregational Church

Historical Corp.

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005

006

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SEE MAP 09-01
1" = 200'

SEE MAP 09-01
1" = 200'

QUAMSCOTT

SQUAMSCOTT

RIVER

SWAZEY

PARKWAY

6 012
1.9 Ac.(c)

008

5 Ac.(c)
Phillips Exeter Academy

011

WATER ST.

SPRING ST

CENTER

006
2 Ac.(c)

003
28 Ac

002

05

014
1.2 Ac

