

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received OCT 13 1983  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Dalton Grange Hall <sup>No.</sup> #23 (~~preferred~~)  
and/or common Bartonville Grange Hall

2. Location

street & number South Street <sup>and</sup> & Grange Hall Road, N/A not for publication  
city, town Dalton N/A vicinity of  
state Massachusetts code 025 county Berkshire code 003

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: quasi public fraternal

4. Owner of Property

name Dalton Grange No. 23 c/o Mr. Sidney Bancroft, Master  
street & number 83 Lake Street  
city, town Dalton N/A vicinity of state Massachusetts 01226

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Middle Berkshire Registry of Deeds  
street & number Bank Row  
city, town Pittsfield state Massachusetts 01201

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Historical Assests of the Commonwealth  
title of Massachusetts # 2 has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no  
date September 12, 1980  federal  state  county  local  
depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission  
city, town Boston state Massachusetts

## 7. Description Dalton Grange Hall #23, Dalton, MA

**Condition**  
 excellent     deteriorated     unaltered     original site  
 good     ruins     altered     moved    date \_\_\_\_\_ N/A  
 fair     unexposed

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Dalton Grange Hall No. 23, also known as the Bartonville Grange Hall, is located on a triangular  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre lot formed by the intersection of South Street and Grange Hall Road in western Dalton. Constructed in 1879, the Hall is a wood frame (clapboarded),  $1\frac{1}{2}$  story gable roof building distinguished by the asymmetry of its T-plan and spare simplicity of its vernacular Victorian design.

Architectural interest is focussed on the three-bay gable end facade of the main hall which faces South Street (west) and is set close to the road. It retains all its original features: double door, center entry with two-light transom and gable hood; flanking narrow  $\frac{4}{4}$  windows with heavy projecting lintels; and small arched attic vent window in the gable field. Narrow undecorated corner boards and cornice complete the building's trim. Fenestration elsewhere is composed of  $\frac{6}{6}$  double hung sash with plain surrounds, with one to three windows on each elevation. Those on the north, east, and south elevations of the main hall have been boarded over

A secondary stagedoor entry is located on the north elevation in a lateral addition to the main hall constructed ca. 1900. Also added ca. 1900 and no longer standing was a single lane bowling alley shed entered through a door at the west corner of the north elevation. The decay and removal of this addition has caused sill damage to this area of the building (photo 1). A small one-story kitchen ell tucked at the rear (east) intersection of the two major wings dates from the original build or soon thereafter.

The building sits on a low mortared fieldstone foundation enclosing a crawl space. Two interior brick chimneys are located at the rear (east) of the main hall and south end of the dining hall. Roof covering is currently asphalt shingle.

The interior retains all significant features including stage, molded flat arch with sliding doors connecting the main and dining halls as well as matched board wainscoting and plaster walls throughout.

Although the Grange Hall has suffered from neglect in recent years its original fabric remains basically intact.

## 8. Significance

Dalton Grange Hall #23, Dalton, MA

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
				<input type="checkbox"/> Fraternal
<b>Specific dates</b>	1879	<b>Builder/Architect</b>	Building Committee: John S. Barton	

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)** Robert A. Rice; Henry A. Barton, Sr.; W.M. Hathaway—sawed lumber; C.R. Lawrence & Brother Plastering; M. Shaw of Pittsfield - Lathing

The Dalton Grange Hall #23 retains integrity of setting, location, design, materials, workmanship, and association. It is historically significant as an early and continuous representation of the Grange movement from the late 19th century to the present; it was the first Grange Hall in Massachusetts to have been constructed and owned by its members. In its simple and well-proportioned vernacular architectural design, it reflects both the efforts and aspiration of the rural community. The Dalton Grange Hall #23 thus meets criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

Founded in the last quarter of the 19th century by Oliver Kelley of Washington State, The National Grange movement grew out of earlier localized agricultural clubs. Its primary distinctive characteristics were emphasis on rural living as well as agriculture, secrecy, and lack of gender limitation. The organization of the Dalton Grange on December 23, 1873 occurred only two years after the first local grange in New England was founded (St. Johnsbury, Vermont 1871), one year after the first State Grange (Vermont 1872), and the same year the Massachusetts, Maine, and New Hampshire State Granges were formed. These early organizing steps occurred concurrently with the economic depression of 1873 and represent the agricultural community's urgent need for a powerful organization to protect their interests. Dalton Grange Hall #23 was among the earliest, and perhaps the pioneer, local grange association in the state.

The initial membership of the Dalton Grange #23 was 22 Charter members including: Henry A. Barton, Sr., Master; Sylvester L. Young, Secretary and John S. Barton, Treasurer. Meetings were first held in the Town Hall and later in the Baronville School House. Within six years membership numbers and local enthusiasm levels had risen sufficiently to warrant construction of a permanent home for the Grange; from conception to dedication, completion of the new hall took less than a year. A petition for building a Grange Hall was circulated by Robert A. Rice on January 28, 1879; by February 4, 1879, \$210 of the necessary \$300 had been raised both from within and without the Grange membership. A building committee, composed of John A. Barton, Robert A. Rice, Sylvester L. Young, and Henry A. Barton, Sr., was appointed to collect the funds and undertake the construction. In exchange for membership, William M. Hathaway offered to provide 2,000 feet of sawn lumber for the building which the building committee authorized to be erected on land near Henry A. Barton's house. By April, work was well underway and Robert A. Rice and Mr. H.C. Hale were instructed to contact Mr. Shaw of Pittsfield about lathing the hall at his lowest terms.

By May 20, 1879, the Grange was able to meet in its yet unfinished hall. Through a combination of gifts, low construction charges and fund raising events -- a strawberry festival on June 25 raised \$67.42 -- the new Grange Hall was completed and dedicated by the Worthy State Master, Benjamin L. Ware, on December 10, 1879. The following year on February 24, 1880, the Grange was presented a deed for the ½ acre on which it stands, thus becoming the first locally organized Grange in Massachusetts to own its building

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

The 150th Anniversary of Dalton, Massachusetts, 1784-1934  
Eagle Printing and Binding Co., Pittsfield, MA 1934  
Dalton Grange #23, Meeting Minutes, Vol. 1 and Vol. 2  
Russel Howard S., A Long Deep Furrow: Three Centuries of Farming in New England.  
University Press, 1987

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property .25 acre

Quadrangle name Pittsfield East, MA

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UTM References

A 

1	8	6	4	9	4	2	0	4	7	0	2	3	0	0
Zone		Easting						Northing						

B 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

C 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

D 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

E 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

F 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

G 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

H 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification Dalton Assessors Plot Map No. 28, 1969, Lot #4 Deed. Henry A. Barton to trustees Dalton Grange #23 Book 243 pages 29-30.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Virginia A. Fitch, Preservation Planner with James N. Parrish, Historic Preservation Officer, Berkshire County Regional Planning Commission

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date July 1983

street & number 294 Washington Street telephone 617-727-8470

city or town Boston state MA 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 Patricia L. Weslowki date 9/30/83

title State Historic Preservation Officer date  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

For NPS use only

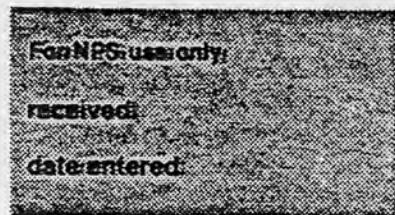
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

for Patricia L. Weslowki Entered in the National Register date 11/10/83  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet: Dalton Grange Hall #23

Item number 8

Page 1

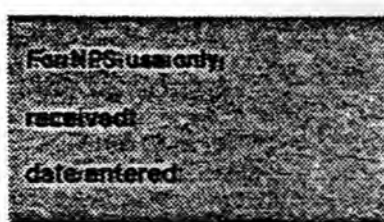
and land.

The Dalton Grange #23 played an important role both locally and regionally in furthering agriculture, as well as being a center of social activity in the community. The Berkshire County Pomona Grange was organized here with Wesley B. Barton as its first Master. Annual social events included Easter Sunday Balls, Sugar Eats, Strawberry Festivals and Harvest Suppers. In the early 20th century the Grange was active in the County Extension Service, Youth Groups, amateur theatrical productions, and Red Cross (during WW I) and sponsored a Camp Fire group. Dalton Grange #23 is the oldest town civic organization in existence in Dalton today.

The change of the Dalton area from a rural community to a suburban extension of Pittsfield during and after World War II reduced Grange memberships and increased the average age of its members. Presently, only 11 Granges remain in Berkshire County and their future vitality is uneven.

On June 3, 1980, Dalton Grange #23 voted to attempt to repair their 10 year old Hall and stave off effort by the Town of Dalton to have the building demolished. Appeals to the State Grange, State, and Local Preservation Agencies are being made to find funds for its preservation.

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet Dalton Grange Hall #23

Item number 10

Page 1

Verbal boundary description:

Book 243, Page 29-30

Reff. Deed Henry A. Barton to Trustees of Dalton Grange #23. Sylvester L. Young, John S. Barton, Robert A. Rice; all my right, title, interest, and estate in and to the following described land situated in said Dalton, bounded and described as follows, to wit on the North by highway leading from Dalton to Hinsdale. On the East and South by highway leading from Pittsfield to Hinsdale. On the West by the highway leading from Pittsfield to Dalton, meaning the land now occupied by the Dalton Grange Hall #23 to be used and occupied by the organization known as the Dalton Grange #23.

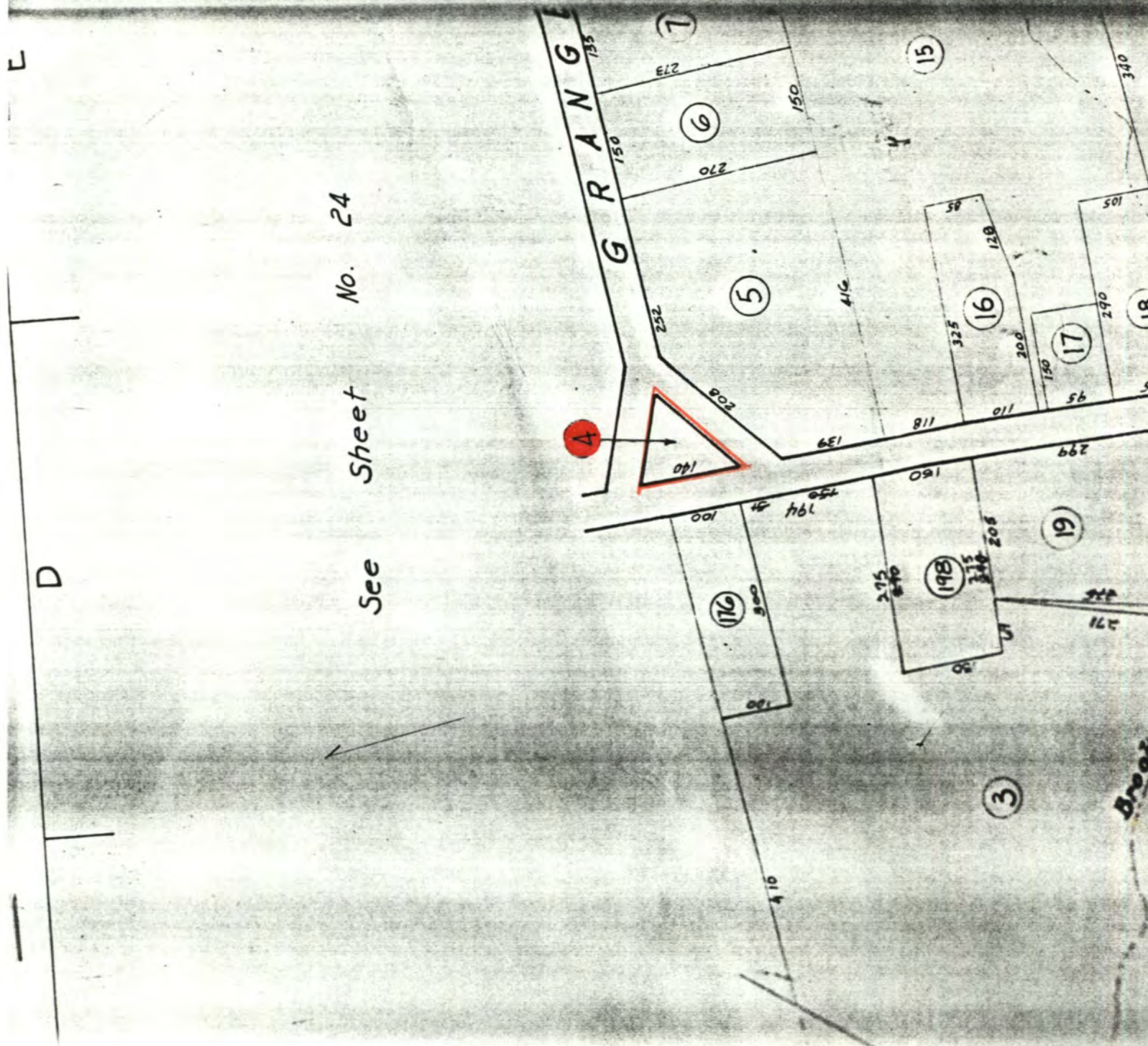
1880 - March 5, 1880

January 16, 1930. Rec. Feb. 23

This constitutes the  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre originally deeded to the Grange in 1880.

Dalton Assessors Map No. 28, 1969  
Lot NO. 4 .25 acre 1" = 200'

DALTON GRANGE HALL #23  
Dalton, Massachusetts



See Sheet No. 24

Dallin. Assessor Map. No. 28. Date, 1964.

.25. Acre.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Dalton Grange Hall No. 23  
Berkshire County  
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. OCT 13 1983  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2-5-85  
Date Due: 11/10/83 - 4/27/83  
Action:  ACCEPT 11/10/83  
 RETURN  
 REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Entered in the  
National Register

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
Discipline \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: \_\_\_\_\_ technical corrections cited below  
\_\_\_\_\_ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

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

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

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**8. Significance**

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

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

Dutton Branch Hall No. 22  
Fairfax County  
Virginia

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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**12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_\_ state      \_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

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**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

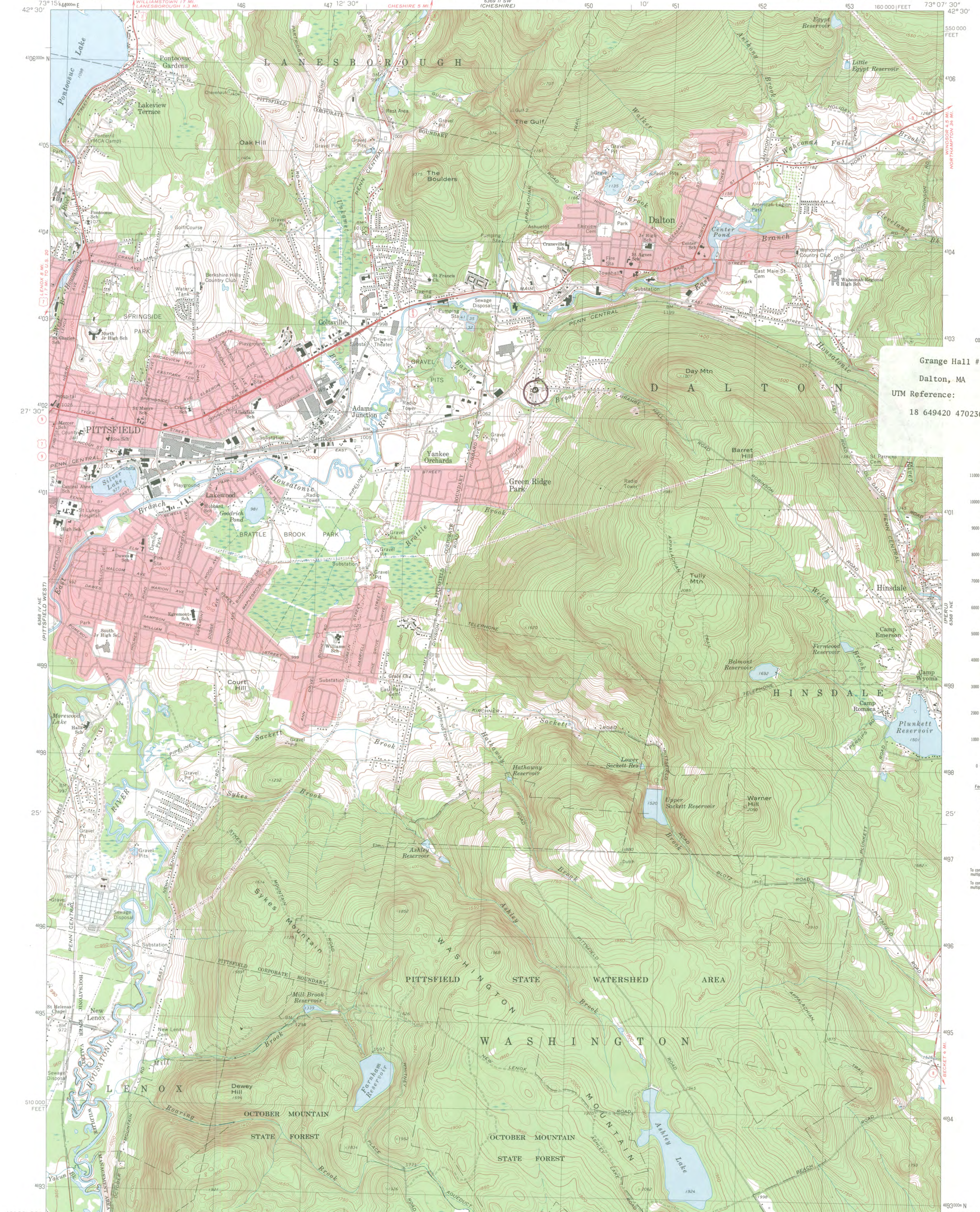
Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



FRESH  
PRODUCE  
CORN  
TOMATOES

MENARD

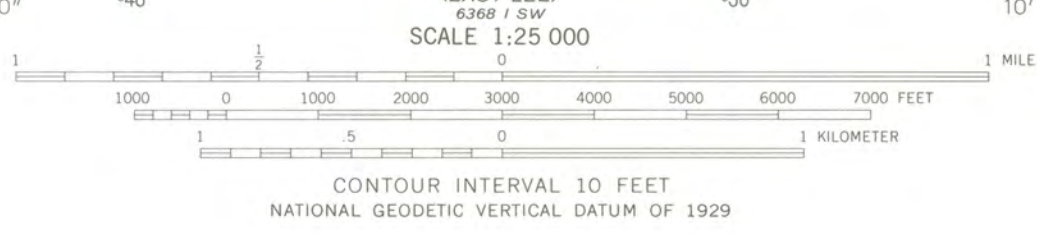
Dalton Grange Hall #23  
South Street & Grange Hall Road  
Dalton, MA 01226  
James N. Parrish 9/12/80  
View N.E. of South ell, Dinning Hall



Grange Hall #23  
Dalton, MA  
UTM Reference:  
18 649420 4702300



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey  
Topography by planimeter surveys 1943-1944. Revised from  
aerial photographs taken 1971. Field checked 1973  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,  
mainland zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid,  
zone 18  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked  
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



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

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

PITTSFIELD EAST, MASS.  
N4222.5—W7307.5/7.5  
1973  
AMS 6368 I NW—SERIES V814



SEN. PETER C. WEBBER  
 BERKSHIRE DISTRICT  
 TEL. 442-5039

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
 MASSACHUSETTS SENATE  
 STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133  
 TEL. 722-1625

RECEIVED <sup>13</sup> 6F

AUG 15 1983

MASS. HIST. COMM.

COMMITTEES:  
 SENATE WAYS AND MEANS  
 SENATE RULES  
 BANKS AND BANKING  
 COMMERCE AND LABOR  
 HEALTH CARE  
 NATURAL RESOURCES AND  
 AGRICULTURE

August 9, 1983

Ms Valerie Talmage  
 Executive Director  
 Massachusetts Historical Commission  
 294 Washington Street  
 Boston, MA 02108

Dear Ms. Talmage:

I am writing in support of the Dalton Grange Hall #23 application for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

The Dalton Grange is the oldest grange hall in the state. It is in need of immediate structural repair, and all efforts to secure funding through the state and the state Grange for the repairs have failed. Nomination to the National Register would permit the Dalton Grange to apply for the necessary funding through federal sources.

The Dalton Grange is of immeasurable historic value. Nomination to the National Register may be the only way to save this building before it deteriorates beyond the point of repair.

I would very much appreciate it if you would nominate the Dalton Grange Hall #23 to the National Register when the Commission reviews the Grange application on September 14.

Thank you for your attention.

Very truly yours,

Peter C. Webber  
 State Senator  
 Berkshire District

PCW/ns