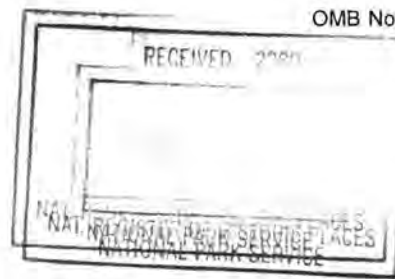


**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Harvard Center Historic District

other names/site number Harvard Common

2. Location

street & number Ayer, Still River, Littleton, Old Littleton, Bolton and Oak Hill Roads, Elm and Fairbank Streets, Lovers Lane, Massachusetts Ave., and Old Boston Turnpike N/A not for publication

city or town Harvard N/A vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Worcester code 027 zip code 01451

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Judith B. McDonough 7/29/97
Signature of certifying official/Title Judith B. McDonough, Executive Director Date

Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Patricia Andrews

9/22/97

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
93	17	buildings
4	0	sites
7	0	structures
2	2	objects
106	19	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

COMMERCE: store

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

COMMERCE: store

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Federal

Greek Revival

Italianate Queen Anne

Shingle Craftsman

Colonial Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone, brick

walls clapboard, shingle, brick

roof slate, asphalt shingle

other bronze

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- ARCHITECTURE
- ART
- SOCIAL HISTORY
- COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
- EDUCATION
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1732-1946

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Peabody & Stearns, Channing

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Harvard Center Historic District
Name of Property

Worcester, MA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property ca. 125 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 19 287540 4708700
Zone Easting Northing

3. 19 287900 4708700
Zone Easting Northing

2. 19 287680 4708700
Zone Easting Northing

4. 19 288020 4708280
Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Claire W. Dempsey, Preservation Consultant, with Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date June, 1997

street & number 220 Morrissey Boulevard telephone (617) 727-8470

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02125

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Multiple owners

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town Harvard state MA zip code 01451

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1Harvard Center Historic District
Harvard (Worcester County), Massachusetts**7. DESCRIPTION**

Harvard Center, the civic focus at the geographic center of the Town of Harvard, is a village of moderate size including a significant cluster of well-preserved residences and public buildings. The district is located on the central ridge of the town, in the northeastern section of Worcester County. The village includes elements common to the historic center-village complexes of central Massachusetts, as well as a significant number of resources dating to the late 19th and early 20th centuries, producing a comparatively large version of this landscape type. The cluster includes a large number of public buildings including three active and one former church, one active and one former town hall, one school, the public library, a former tavern and a former inn, a shop, and a store. Fifty-nine historic houses, constructed between the 18th and the 20th century, are also located within the district. These buildings are excellent examples of the common forms and ornaments of these periods within this region, including examples in the Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate, Victorian Eclectic, Queen Anne, Romanesque Revival, Craftsman, and Colonial Revival styles. The district contains 123 properties including 91 contributing and 17 noncontributing buildings, four contributing sites, seven contributing structures, two contributing objects, and two noncontributing objects. Harvard citizens have long recognized the importance of their center village, establishing a Harvard Common Local Historic District in 1975, consisting of properties facing the Common, and extending those boundaries to the south and east. The Harvard Center Historic District includes the entire local historic district within its boundaries and includes as well additional properties to the south and to the west. The edges of the nominated district are defined by significant changes in topography, new construction, or changes in density.

Landscape and Settlement Pattern

Harvard's center village is located in an elevated area near the geographic center of the town, the quintessential siting of this settlement form. A generally level area, the elevation of the district ranges between 120 and 130 meters. The Common itself forms the core of the village, generally triangular in shape, with its apex to the north, smaller now than its original thirty acres. South of the Common is the town cemetery and the large parcels occupied by the Bromfield Schools. The land continues to rise north of the Common, but in each other direction, slowly or abruptly, the land slopes off. Facing on the Common were the public and most of the commercial properties of the village and many of its most ambitious houses. The town's primary north-south arteries form the spine of the village, Ayer Road to the north of the Common, Massachusetts Avenue to the south. An important east-west roadway, Still River Road, begins at the Common and moves to the west. The remainder of the roads are secondary in nature, and move away from the Common like spokes: Littleton Road to the northeast, Old Littleton Road to the east, Oak Hill and Fairbank to the south east, and Bolton Road as the southern extension of Massachusetts Avenue; Lovers Lane runs parallel to Still River Road while Elm Street runs along the west side of the Common. Within the village, buildings are clustered together quite closely, most often on lots of under a quarter acre.

Harvard's **Common (# 900)** is located at the center of the village and dates to the town's founding in 1732. The original thirty-acre parcel has been much diminished over the passing two hundred and sixty-three years. Though it is the central triangular-shaped open space which most would identify as the Common, in fact this public land extends beyond that area along both its east and west sides. Indeed, the homeowners on each side are said to lease their front yards from the town, and several town buildings are located on the Common land. The park space lies between Ayer Road on the east side and Elm Street on the west, while Still River Road runs across the base of the triangle. Two small open spaces are located

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Harvard (Worcester County), Massachusetts

to the east of this main portion, between Ayer Road and Fairbank Street and crossed by the connector between Still River and Old Littleton roads. This open grassy lawn space includes stone outcroppings, occasional trees, and benches.

Three monuments and a water fountain are located on the Common. Harvard's **Civil War Monument (# 901)**, dedicated in 1880, sits in the eastern section, a draped female figure strewing flowers. Sitting atop a polished granite pedestal on a cut granite base, the statue faces to the south. The pedestal is inscribed on that face: "Harvard erects this monument in grateful remembrance of her soldiers who gave their lives to their country in the war for the defense of the Union." Below this are crossed swords, below them "1861-1865"; the three other faces of the pedestal are inscribed with the names of fifteen town citizens who died in the war. The **World War One Monument** is a large flagpole located near the corner of Elm Street and Still River Road. The base of the metal pole is formed by benches on all four sides, rising to a square pedestal with two fixed bronze plaques. These note the service of Harvard's citizens, and in particular Edward Enoch Thomas, who died. At the corner of Ayer Road is a rectangular granite slab with a bronze plaque dedicated to Harvard's service in World War II (1941-46), Korea (1950-55), and Vietnam (1964-75). The Women's Club constructed a water fountain in a rectangular granite case in 1980.

The north section of the Common is primarily paved and is the location of a cluster of town-owned buildings and structures. The Harvard **Town Pound (# 903)** and **Powder House (# 902)** are both here, sitting on a rise near the Town Hall. The pound is a square enclosure, constructed of dry-laid stone, measuring about 20 feet per side; the walls are about four feet in height and three feet in thickness. The entrance to the pound was located on the north wall of the enclosure, in the west corner; though the hardware for the door remains, the door does not. The small hip-roofed powder house is square in footprint, sits on a granite foundation, and is constructed of brick. A single opening is located on the facade, a doorway filled with a plain batten door. A small boulder with a plaque identifying the structure is located on the slope below it. On the east side of Ayer Road opposite the Town Hall is the town's **Water Trough**. The cast-stone bowl is set into a fieldstone wall where it rises in the center. A plaque on the trough marks it as constructed in 1915.

The **Harvard Center Cemetery (# 800)** lies to the south of the Town Common; its four acres are bounded by the rear lot lines of the Evangelical Congregational Church and Gage and Dickinson's Store to the north; Massachusetts Avenue to the east; the Harvard Middle School to the south; and 7 Still River Road to the west. A low, ashlar granite wall encircles the cemetery's perimeter; the entrances are marked by granite posts. The cemetery contains both burial plots (marked and unmarked graves) and vaults. Funerary sculpture ranges from 18th-century stone tablets to late 19th-century stone obelisks. Many markers originated in the slate quarry of nearby Pin Hill, and were designed by local stone cutters. Brick and frame gable-roofed caretaker outbuildings stand along Massachusetts Avenue.

Public Buildings

As the civic center of the new town, Harvard Center was the location of its first public building, the meetinghouse of the established church, in 1732. After that first meetinghouse, the parish constructed four subsequent buildings, in 1770, in 1840, in 1876, and the current building in 1967. The Colonial Revival **Congregational-Unitarian Church (# 1)** is sited on a small portion of Harvard's Common, marked out when the town meetinghouse became the property of this religious society. Its main block is a wide gable, a square tower above, and a lower gabled ell in the rear. The walls are clapboarded, the

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windows are treated with molded surrounds, the recessed entry screened by a gabled porch supported with Tuscan columns. The common regional pattern of schism between Trinitarians and Unitarians occurred in Harvard in 1820, leaving the latter in possession of the first parish building and leading to the construction of the second major public building in the area. The **Evangelical Congregational Church (#61)** is located at **5 Still River Road** facing the south end of the Common. Dating to 1821 the building takes the common late Federal period form of a large gabled nave fronted by a lower gabled vestibule and topped by a square tower. It was originally a single level in height and was raised to accommodate a lower vestry in 1882. The church suffered a severe fire in 1941, and the extent of rebuilding and redesign at that time requires investigation. Ornamentation is focused on the facade, with the entry centered on the vestibule and screened by a Doric hip-roofed porch. Above the porch a palladian-motif window is centered in the second level of the building, and a fanlight is centered in the tympanum. The tower straddles the main block and the vestibule, rising to a square belfry and culminating in an octagonal dome with weathervane. The two levels of the interior are indicated on the side elevations, with tall windows in the second level indicating the importance of that sanctuary space. A low, gable-roofed addition extends from the west side of the church, marked with even bays of double-hung sash, echoing the design of the main block's side elevations. A small gable-roofed garage is located at the end of this addition, sited toward the front of the lot.

In addition to these Congregationalists, the area also became the site of meetinghouses for other town religious groups. In 1840 the Methodists were given permission to build on a section of the burying ground. The house at **13 Massachusetts Avenue** was originally built as the **Methodist Meetinghouse (#8)**, and moved to this location. The 2 1/2-story block presents its gable end to the street and has a wide three-bay, center-entry facade. Along the lateral walls, two openings are located toward the street and two toward the rear. Remnants of the building's original ornament include the paneled corner pilasters, the wide cornice board, and cornice returns. The porch runs across the facade and along the right lateral wall, with a hip roof supported by turned posts, a pediment at the entry location, and at the corner forms a round projecting area. Universalists followed shortly thereafter, their meetinghouse sited behind the Town Hall for a congregation active between 1843 and 1852; the building was demolished in 1866. For the remainder of the century, no new churches were built here, but after meeting in borrowed buildings for two decades, town Roman Catholics constructed a church on Still River Road in 1926. Saint Theresa of the Little Flower is a small Roman Catholic church located on the south side of Still River Road, sited within an embankment which slopes to the rear. The Latin cross plan consists of a gable-fronted nave and a hipped roof transept. A Tuscan columned portico, surmounted with a fretwork balustrade, projects from the gable front. Colonial Revival elements are evident in the clapboard siding, fan light detail above the center entry, and the Palladian window in the tympanum. The roof silhouette is enlivened with a pinnacle-shaped cupola, situated at the juncture of the nave and transept.

Harvard was among the first towns in the region to specify a purpose-built secular building to replace its meetinghouse as the primary meeting place for the town. The house at **14 Ayer Road** was once the Harvard Town Hall or **Townhouse (#14)** as it was known at the time, constructed in 1828. Today the building is 2 1/2 stories in height and presents its gable end to the street. This five-bay facade has a center entry, with windows on either side and arranged symmetrically above, and a single window centered in the gable. On the right side, the building has a wing of 1 1/2 stories. The clapboarded house is treated with narrow Doric pilasters at the corners, and an Italianate hood supported by consoles. Historic descriptions of the building when it was a town hall suggest that it was reoriented when its use was changed, and its interior was certainly altered to accommodate one or two families. Perhaps to provide more space and a more elaborate structure, a new building was constructed in 1872. The

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Harvard Town Hall (# 2), 13 Ayer Road, sits on the Harvard Common, a parcel that includes the park areas to the south and southeast. The large, clapboarded, gable-front building faces to the south, treated with Italianate ornament, especially on its primary facade. The central entry is covered with an open porch, supported by square posts trimmed with arched braces. It is flanked on the first floor by paired, narrow windows, with thick molded window heads. In the second story the similarly narrow windows are round-headed, treated with thick labels. In the center of the tympanum a three-part, round-headed window is also treated with labels. The side elevations are divided into five wider bays, with wider windows, treated with thick lintels on the first floor, labels over segmental window-heads on the second. Elsewhere the Italianate treatment continues: a cornice of paired brackets, quoins at the corners, and a square platform on the front of the roof, with a square-posted balustrade. The rear, polygonal addition dates to 1899 and is trimmed to match the main block, adding more office space to the building. The interior plan includes an entry stair hall, with a single town clerk office to the right, and a hall behind with offices to either side. In the second story, offices were located in the front portion of the building and an auditorium in the rear.

Once the school system was well established enough to require purpose-built schoolhouses, Harvard Center was the site of the District One School. Through most of the 19th century, that building was positioned at the south end of the common on Still River Road, between the Evangelical Congregational Church and the sequence of stores at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue. Later in the 20th century a larger lot on Massachusetts Avenue was the site of the 1905 Brown School, a multi-classroom building formerly sited near the town Elementary School. As the result of an act of philanthropy from the heirs of Henry Bromfield, the town's funds were augmented, allowing the establishment of an exceptional secondary school. The Bromfield School (#11), 24 Massachusetts Avenue, was constructed in 1878, a fine Romanesque Revival school building by the Boston firm of Peabody and Stearns. Sited within an expanse of grassy lawn surrounded by a low, mortared-stone wall, the parcel was once ornamented by an alley of Elm trees, a remnant of the landscaping associated with the Bromfield House that formerly stood here. The brick school's main block consists of two intersecting masses, a high gable-roofed block sited parallel to the road, and a slightly higher hip-roofed block set across the south end of the building. This cross block is eight-sided rather than rectangular, with canted corners both front and rear creating an unusual roof form with extra slopes rising from these canted corners. This core of the building has several significant if secondary masses: a lower gabled ell in the rear and on the south side, extending from the north end of the rear wall of the gabled block. A large gable-roofed porch shields the main entry, while a smaller porch screens a secondary entry on the north wall. A belvedere sits on the center of the roof ridge, with arched openings and an ogee, eight-sided roof. As specified by the donor, the name of the school is carved in stone on the main entry porch. The fenestration of the exterior reflects the functions of the interior. Entry into the gabled block leads to a vestibule and a large open reception area, with the stairs running up the back wall. To the right in the shed and gabled wings, small rooms and a lavatory are located. To the left the large oblong space is divided in the center to form two large classrooms, while on the second floor, the oblong remains a single large room, each lit with banks of tall windows.

In most Massachusetts communities, educational and philanthropic interests converged in the construction of public libraries late in the 19th century. The **Harvard Public Library (# 4), 7 Fairbank Street** and at the corner of Old Littleton Road, sits on a lot that was originally the site of the Weatherbee Tavern. Built in 1886 from a design by Harvard-born William Channing Whitney, and expanded in 1902 and in the 1980s, the brick and sandstone building is an example of the Romanesque Revival style commonly used in Massachusetts rural communities for the construction of philanthropic

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libraries. The front portion of the library is the original portion, consisting of a 1 1/2- story, pyramidal-roofed main block with a central rear ell, subsequently altered by a later, hip-roofed addition placed perpendicular to the ell. The building has the complex massing and structural polychromy that defines this style. The primary facade has a central gabled dormer, flanked by turrets, with a central, three-part, round-headed window marking the earlier location of the wide, round-headed, central entry. To the right of the central bay are two round-headed windows, to the left, a round projecting bay lit by a band of rectangular sash. The addition of 1902 has re-configured the rear and right lateral walls. At present a flat-roofed projection on the right wall is an enclosed entryway, which is lit by segmental and round-headed windows and once open porch. Behind this, a hip-roofed addition was made to the earlier rear ell, with a faceted bay on its right end. The interior plan of the library includes a central check-out area, front reading rooms and stacks, and rear children's reading room; on the second floor additional stacks and reading areas are given over to the historical collections. The most recent addition was sited in the formerly open area on the left side of the building, between the original front block, its narrower ell, and the rear addition, enclosing elevators.

As the 19th century progressed, additional buildings were constructed for town services, which multiplied beyond the spaces provided in town halls and libraries, including the small caretakers' buildings at the cemetery, and a series of fire protection facilities. The building that now serves as the town's Ambulance Garage was constructed as Harvard's **Fire Station (# 3), 11 Elm Street**, in 1921. The small building is a rectangular, gable-roofed block, covered in clapboards and sitting on a stone and concrete foundation. A small hip-roofed wing is located along the south wall. The present facade has a doorway on the left or south, a single garage door, and another doorway centered in the wide right bay; it appears this was once a garage bay, closed to accommodate the town vault. Three gable-roofed dormers sit on the front roof slope, a shed-roofed dormer on the rear.

Commercial and manufacturing locations were important components in the historic district although few survive today. A rare exception is the small **Carpenter Shop (# 24) at 1 Littleton Road**, a two-level, gable-front frame structure. At the lower level, a center entry is flanked by 8/12 sash; the upper level is reached by a stair rising from the left side of the building to a deck stretching across the building. Here, smaller 6/6 sash flank a wider entry. Along the left and right walls, very large sash were reused from a 19th-century church building. An ell extends from behind this building, terminating in a perpendicular gabled addition; along the right side is a garage, a low shed-roofed addition. Two other buildings were formerly located here, a boot and shoe shop and a blacksmith's shop. Only the last in a long series of stores remains in the district. The **Gale & Dickson Store (# 60)** stands in a prominent position facing the Common and at the village's main intersection, **1 Still River Road** at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue. The large, nearly square, clapboarded building rises a full three stories under a flat roof, with four wide bays across the facade, three narrower bays in depth. Presently, a vestibule, lit by nine windows, covers the central doors. To the left of this vestibule the first floor is treated with large plate-glass windows, extending around to the lateral wall. To the right of this is a garage door opening, in an area once recessed and always used for deliveries. Along the lateral walls smaller sash are sited in regular bays. A simple frieze marks the break between the first and second floor, which is treated with brackets along the facade.

Residences

Harvard has an exceptionally high survival of its early, colonial period houses, but as is common in the towns of central Massachusetts, few are located in this center village. Indeed, the oldest survivals in the district are believed to be small sections of houses, otherwise dating to the Federal period. Although

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some of these may be remnants of the smallest one-room houses, most appear to be all or part of hall-and-parlor houses, in which two primary rooms are positioned on either side of a lobby entry, often the site of the chimney. One example is the **Symonds House (# 167), 15 Old Littleton Road**, which reached its present unusual form through a series of expansions and remodelings. It is a 2 1/2-story gabled block, with two lower ells to the rear giving it a U-shaped footprint. The front block takes the familiar five-bay, center-entry configuration, with an altered broad pediment and sidelights at the door, the late 19th-century entraporch having been removed; the stained glass windows came from the Universalist Church that stood on the Common until 1860. In the rear to the right, an ell extends in the same plane of the lateral wall; it includes a right-angled addition connecting the ell to the barn or carriage house, a two-level cross-gabled block. The left ell is offset, its lateral wall extending to allow a doorway to the rear rooms; a small shed-roofed garage is attached to its rear portion. The oldest section of the house appears to be the right side, where exposed gunstock posts suggest greater age than the remainder of the building; the rear right ell may also share this early date. The addition of the left front rooms, and perhaps some of the left ell as well, probably occurred during the early 19th century; most of the first floor of the house received new trim in the middle of the 19th century. The **Young House (#17), 1 Fairbank Street**, also known as Joy Cottage, also has an old core. It is at present basically L-shaped and 1 1/2 stories in size, with a carriage house extending from the rear ell. The front block of the house is now configured as two rooms on either side of a small lobby. The room to the left retains early 19th-century finish, suggesting use as a kitchen; its exterior is marked by a brick gable end and 8/4 windows in the second floor, 8/8s in the first floor. The room to the right was constructed later, probably during the second quarter of the 19th century, with more elaborate Italianate finish; its exterior is marked by larger windows on the first floor and smaller 4/4s in the second floor. The **Trufant House (#39), 12 Oak Hill Road**, also represents several stages of building and rebuilding. Today the house presents a 1 1/2-story front block to the street, measuring about 32' across and 24' in depth. The five-bay facade has 6/9 sash on the first floor, 3/6 in the second, and an entry bay treated with a classic Federal entablature door surround, supporting small paired columns on either side of the center window. On the interior, this portion of the house encloses a room on either side of a central bay that encloses both the entry, a stair, and a small room behind it. The house has two rear ells; that on the right is said to be the oldest part of the house, moved to this location; its interior proportions and construction evidence vary from the front pile. The offset left ell encloses the kitchen and connects the house to the barn, portions of which have been remodeled for domestic purposes; a small porch extends across much of its front.

The **Barnard House (# 56)** is related in form and plan to these 1 1/2-story examples. It sits on a large lot at **12 Old Boston Turnpike** at its intersection with Oak Hill Road, next to an open lot of conservation land watered by a channeled brook. The front portion of the house is arranged in five regular bays, with 6/6 sash on the first floor and 3/3 on the second; its central entry has a simple entablature treatment. The rear ell extends the right wall plane, but its ridge is higher than that in the front block, making it a full two stories in height. A further ell of 2 1/2 stories is a new addition, sited where a carriage house formerly stood; further behind the house is a large ruin of a barn foundation. The **Stetson House (#5) at 7 Massachusetts Avenue**, though now very altered, seems to have retained its small form for an exceptionally long period. From the earliest available photographs, it appears that the house began as a small, gable-roofed, hall-and-parlor house of a single story and attic, with a single-pile main block, a lower rear ell, and an enclosed porch covering the entry. A later photo shows the addition of a range of picturesque features, including a small cross gable in the front slope of the roof, adding space and light to the attic, a polygonal bay window on the left side of the facade, and a porch extending across the right side. During the mid 1980s, the present renovation included altering the gable to a gambrel roof, with the addition of the three gabled dormers, and the enclosing of the front porches, making a large office space.

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Although these houses received considerable remodelings, simpler methods of expanding hall-and-parlor houses were known as well. The increasing popularity of the rear lean-to was a particular regional custom and results in the type known colloquially as the saltbox. The **Patch House (# 50) at 20 Fairbank Street** is an unusual example of expanding an older building. On the right is a five-bay saltbox house, with a clapboarded, five-bay facade. Although the angle of the rear roof line is a single unbroken line, the treatment of that elevation suggests that the rear tier was an addition. The trim is simple, plain boards at the 6/9 sash and at the center door. Certainly the portion of the house to the left is an addition to this building, a three-bay gabled block set in a forward plane from the saltbox. It has a brick end wall and is screened by a porch of square columns and matching square-balustered rail. Behind this portion of the house, a full 2 1/2-story ell extends to the rear, joining the house to the large, clapboarded, cross-gabled barn/carriage house. The house at **7 Oak Hill Road (# 38)** has been altered over the years, but today has a saltbox profile, with its gabled, four-bay end along the street, its four-bay facade oriented away from the street to the right. A lower ell extends to the rear of the building, under a gabled roof, connecting the house to the perpendicular barn, a three-level, clapboarded structure converted to domestic use.

Beyond these smaller housetypes, New England is best known for the dominance of the chimney heat source in house plans, where rooms cluster around a single stack of heat sources. In the most common of the center-chimney plans, the front pile is characterized by an entry into a lobby in the chimney bay, with a room on either side; in the rear there is usually a large central room, flanked by smaller unheated rooms. During the 18th and early 19th century, they were constructed primarily in the five-bay, center-entry variation, with a symmetrical end elevation. The number of ample center-chimney houses surviving in Harvard is exceptional, and in Harvard Center a number of large and ambitious versions of this house can be seen. **The Old Manse (#55), 28 Fairbank Street**, set high on a rise back from the road, is large and retains its chimney. Its regular five-bay facade has a center entry now covered in an enclosed, hip-roofed porch, with full-length side-lights and Tuscan pilasters supporting an entablature. The house has ells in the rear, lower than the main block, and there is a large, two-level barn/carriage house set into a bank, with an entry on the long wall from the ramp, and another into the short gable end. Another well-preserved example is the **Bridge-Stone House (#52) at 23 Fairbank Street**, which also has an attached barn. The house has a slightly irregular facade of three bays and is covered in clapboard with 6/9 sash and plain trim except at its central entry, which is covered by an enclosed, gable-roofed porch, lit on the side walls, and trimmed by Doric pilasters and entablature supporting a full pediment. A two-story wing of two bays extends to the right of the main block, and beyond the ell a shed-roofed woodshed connects the house to a large shingled English barn entered through a central barn door; a two-car garage extends from the end of the barn. Located at the intersection with Oak Hill Road, the property may also have an archaeological site associated with it, as map evidence suggests that a shop was formerly located on the north or Oak Hill Road side of the lot. Another, more altered house is the **Willard House (#43) at 30 Oak Hill Road**, which has lost its chimney. The facade of the gabled block is arranged into five regular bays, with plain surrounds, and no window over the central entry; the side elevations are also evenly divided into two bays. The house has a large two-story ell extending to the right rear and a small screened-in porch on the left.

Smaller examples, differing in height or width, can be found in this area as well. The **Holman-Dickson House (# 49) at 18 Fairbank Street** is a center-chimney house in the comparatively rare three-bay variation. The clapboarded main block has a wraparound porch, supported by turned posts, and a bowed bay window has been added along the right lateral wall; a series of three rear ells extends to the rear along the right side. The first ell is two stories high under a low gabled roof; a smaller and lower ell

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extends beyond it, with a flat-roofed addition to its right side. These ells connect the house to its angled carriage house, a single-story, clapboarded, gabled block with a small cupola. The **Bigelow-Willard House (# 12)** is another of the Common area's older buildings, located since 1868 at **18 Ayer Road**. Though the house has been altered several times since its initial construction, probably early in the 19th century, features of its age are still discernible. The main part of the house is the smaller portion on the right, now a small endhouse of 1 1/2 stories. Its original facade may have been oriented parallel to the gable in its original location at 8 Ayer Road. The attic story has been substantially expanded by the raising of full shed dormers to create a nearly flat roof. A low single-story wing extends from the right lateral wall; another extending to the left connects the building to the converted barn, now additional living space.

Among the best-known housetypes of the colonial period, but actually reaching popularity in the Federal period, is the Georgian house. The term is used to describe both an ornamental vocabulary of the 18th century and a plan and house type popularized at the same time. The hallmark of this type is the plan of a double pile of rooms opening off a center through passage, made possible through the substitution of paired chimneys for the single stack. During the 18th and early 19th century when these houses became popular, they were known as double houses. Houses of this type are rare in the center, but a handful of long Federal-period examples were constructed. The Wetherbee Tavern, constructed ca. 1800 and possibly earlier, was a two-story, seven-bay, hipped roof structure with quoins. The symmetrical facade appears as two units although built at the same time: a two-story, five-bay, center-chimney form, with an additional two bays. The tavern was later expanded with a mansard roof, probably at mid-century, but succumbed to fire in 1880. The **Whitcomb-Farwell House (# 45)**, **11 Fairbank Street**, retains the long hip-block form, and combined residential and commercial space within. Today the 2 1/2-story hip block has a wide facade of ten bays, with a hip-roofed porch with Tuscan supports screening the entry in the sixth bay. Three large chimneys are located along the ridge, three gabled dormers are centered in the front slope of the roof, and at the left end of the building is a polygonal bay of a full two stories.

The **Blood House (# 51)** at **22 Fairbank Street** is another long building, a brick-ended gable-block of seven bays, suggesting an early special purpose for the building or a phased construction history. The clapboarded facade is lit with 12/12 sash, evenly arranged. The entry has sidelights, but any ornamental treatment this building may have had has been removed. It now has additions to the rear, low single-story extensions that connect the house to its large, clapboarded New England barn, which bears the date 1877. The **Whitney House (# 46)** at **13 Fairbank Street** has been altered, but older photographs show a hip-roofed block stretching across eight bays, with Italianate hooded entries at bays three and six. Today, the leftmost position of the house rises only a single story in bays one and two; a hip-roofed dormer has also been added above bay five. The house is plainly trimmed at present, with a hip-roofed porch at the remaining sixth bay entry, supported by square posts. Behind the house, the property retains a New England barn of moderate size, covered in clapboard with a central barn door; a lower gabled structure offset to the right may have originally been a milk room.

Though few built the ambitious double-pile type, a far larger group built houses of three rooms in plan, known as ell houses after the shape of their footprint. They were exceedingly popular in New England, in rural and in urban contexts, in simple and elaborate variations, dominating the ambitious building of the early national period; Harvard Center is no exception to this rule. The area's most ambitious early house, the painted-brick **Luke Pollard House (#47)** at **14 Fairbank Street**, demonstrates how stylish this form could be, with its hip roof, balustrades, belvedere, and portico. The earliest part of the house, said to date to 1805, is a hip-roofed ell house, with its facade on Fairbank Street; a secondary facade

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faces the now-vacant lot formed when two houses that faced onto the Common were destroyed by fire in 1917. The facade is obscured by large evergreens, but takes the five-bay, center-entry form, with a portico topped by a balustrade; the secondary elevation is divided into four irregular bays and the secondary entry has a fanlight and three-quarter sidelights. The first addition to the house was apparently the wooden section added in the re-entrant angle of the brick house; its juncture with the brick house is quite complex, including a small tower to the roof. Later additions extend to the rear and the south of the main block: a shed-roofed addition to the rear of the brick ell; a gabled wing extending from the addition and the brick ell; and a low nearly flat-roofed addition on the front of the gabled wing. To the south of the house is a clapboarded carriage house of gable-block form, with a center facade gable, and a square cupola trimmed with pilasters.

The brick **Merriam Tavern (#20)** at **1 Elm Street** takes this form as well, but with simpler Federal ornament. Facing Elm Street, the house was apparently built as a tavern for the Union Turnpike, completed in 1808. The front block of the house has a five-bay, center-entry facade, with a hip roof; the full-height ell extends from the left side of the building, presenting a four-bay facade along Still River Road. The center entry has a common Paine-Benjamin-style door, with side pilasters rising to a pediment over a fanlight; an arched window is located above it in the second floor. Behind the house is a clapboarded carriage house, a gable-roofed block with a shed-roofed addition to the left side. A U.S. Geologic Survey marker at the corner of the parcel on Still River Road reads 420 feet above sea level. Though believed to be earlier in date than the other examples, the **Nourse-Farwell House (#22)** at **5 Elm Street** had a long life as an ell house. Across the facade, the house has five regular bays, lit by 6/6 double-hung sash, with a central entry surrounded by pilaster strips supporting a blind, half-round fan, and lit by three-quarter sidelights. The left lateral elevation is less regular, divided also into five bays, with a secondary entry between the paired windows. In the interior, the house has a center stair and entry hall, with formal rooms to either side, a narrow lobby behind the secondary, side entry, and a rear ell enclosing a room with small service spaces flanking. In addition to the house, the property includes a former carriage house, converted into a residence/office. The **Weatherbee House (#36)** at **3 Oak Hill Road** has had several phases of alterations, but appears to be an ell house to which additions have been made along the right lateral wall and which has had a porch and a bay window added to its facade. The house at **24 Fairbank Street (#53)** has been altered, but takes the overall ell-house shape, with a gabled main block and rear left ell; a screened-in porch has also been added to the rear. The **Fisher-Farwell House (HA-55)**, which once faced the Common, probably took this form as well.

Georgian houses provided builders with an effective plan that remained popular for large houses. As the stove came to replace the fireplace as the primary heating source, large chimney stacks gave way to stove flues allowing more flexibility in planning. The **Whitney House (#25)** at **2 Littleton Road** is a Greek Revival example of this type at the corner of Fairbank Street. The five-bay, center-entry facade has a pedimented Doric porch, and a broad shed dormer has been added along the front roof slope. The wall facing Fairbank Street also has a symmetrical five-bay elevation, with three windows centered in the tympanum; this was apparently, from historic photos, the original primary facade of the building. The house is treated with typical Greek Revival trim including a wide cornice all around the building and Doric pilasters. During early 20th century renovations, wall paintings were discovered in the house, removed and relocated at the Fruitlands Museums, and reinstalled at Prospect House. The **Blanchard House (#44)** at **35 Oak Hill Road** is a large version of the form, sitting on a lot of nearly ten acres at the outer edge of the clustered settlement of the village, one of the town's most elaborate Italianate mansions. The house itself sits on a platform terrace, with a broad three-bay facade and three regularly spaced openings along the side walls. It is treated with several elaborate and stylish elements including two

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facade gables above the window bays, deep eaves supported by brackets, round-headed windows in the gables, and central paired windows in the second floor, with thickly molded hoods over the openings. A rear ell is sited offset to the right; it is a lower two-story building with additions connecting the house to the shed-roofed woodhouse and the large gable-front, center-entry carriage house beyond. At the front, east corner of the lot, a small garage is sited. The **Fletcher-Hildreth House (#16) at 8 Ayer Road** demonstrates how this form can be adapted to the small Second Empire mode. Known at the turn of the century as Sunnyside, the house was constructed in about 1869. The main block is a two-story, mansard-roofed house, with a five-bay, center-entry facade suggesting a center-hall plan. To the left and to the rear is a similarly massed, mansard-roofed wing of only slightly smaller size. The house is said to have been altered during the late 19th century, and these changes probably include the construction of the two-story entry porch, open on the first floor with round-headed arches on three sides, rising with solid walls to a screened porch under a low-gabled roof.

A variation of the Greek Revival gable-block form is found in the Harvard Common area, in which the street-facing side of the house has no entry, but rather an even arrangement of windows, and a three-bay entry elevation is located on a perpendicular wall. The **Bull House (#32) at 9 Old Littleton Road** sits on a lot of nearly seven acres and includes a barn and garage, both attached to the house. The main house is a 2 1/2-story block, with a regular five-bay gable end facing the street. The entry is on the perpendicular west side of the house, a three-bay elevation with the entry in bay one. The east wall has a similar configuration of three bays, and the plane extends along the lower 1 1/2-story rear ell of the house. The clapboarded house has a porch across the facade supported by simple columns, screening an entry flanked by pilasters and sidelights. The **Davis House at 1 Oak Hill Road (#35)** has a regular four-bay gable end facing the street with the entry on the perpendicular east side of the house, a three-bay elevation with the entry in bay one. The east wall has a similar configuration of three bays, and the plane extends along the lower 1 1/2-story rear ell of the house. The house has a porch across the side entry wall supported by simple columns, and is clapboard on the walls of the first two floors and flushboard in the tympanum.

An important change in the outward appearance of houses in the region during the 1830s through the 1850s was the reorientation of the house to the street to produce the gable-front or end house. These houses most often employ side-passage plans or corner passage plans, with a side entry and stair hall, paired public rooms opposite, occasionally augmented by a room behind the hall. Most early examples are simple blocks with the common addition of a lower rear or lateral ells. The quintessential Greek Revival version of this can be seen in the **Unitarian Parsonage (#28) at 5 Littleton Road**. The 2 1/2-story example is augmented with a projecting, nearly flat-roofed bay that extends from the right lateral wall and a small rear ell. The house has been treated with familiar Greek Revival ornament, including deep eaves with returns, a wide cornice, and paneled Doric pilasters at the corners. At present a porch is located across the facade, with square corner posts rising to four brackets at the roof eaves, and square balusters between; it appears to date to the late 19th century. The house is connected to a small barn/carriage house, sited at a right angle from the right rear corner of the house; a low addition is located in this re-entrant angle, an irregular polygon with a large window and door across its angled front. The **Congregational Parsonage (#63) at 14 Still River Road** is a 2 1/2-story, clapboarded end house. A two-story gabled ell connects the house to the gable-fronted carriage house standing to the right. Its entry is now positioned on the right lateral wall, while the flat facade is austere with plain corner and fascia boards and a cornice return on the gable end. Ornament is confined to two turned supports and the balustrades of the structure's front porch, which skirts the main facade and wraps around the right lateral wall. The house at **5 Oak Hill Road (#37)** is an altered version of a small end house.

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The first-floor facade is screened by an enclosed, hip-roofed porch, tightly fitted with 6/6 sash; two 6/6 sash are centered in the tympanum. A small shed-roofed addition has been added to the right rear, and a shed-roofed dormer sits on the right roof slope. The house is covered in clapboards and trimmed with plain boards at the windows, eaves, and corners. In the rear, the clapboarded garage is a 1 1/2-story gabled block with a shed-roofed addition covered in vertical-board siding.

As is common in many Worcester County towns, Harvard has a significant number of houses that take the gable-front orientation, but employ a three-or five-bay, center-entry facade. The most ambitious of these is gone; the **Whitcomb-Farwell House (HA-54)** that once faced the Common was a classic temple-front version from which this type no doubt derives. The **Bateman-Nason House (#62)** at **7 Still River Road** is a surviving ambitious example facing the southwest corner of the Common. The main block is a five-bay, double-pile structure, covered in clapboards, with a cornice wrapping around the facade, and two centered windows topped by a lancet window in the tympanum. The broad facade plane is broken by a first-floor recess of the central entry bay and the two right bays, marked by Doric columns, and this area is treated with flushboard, the entry flanked by sidelights. Extending behind the house is a long ell, lower in overall height than the main block because of the slope of the land, but still 2 1/2 stories in height. Along the street side of this ell, a Colonial Revival Tuscan portico frames this elaborate but secondary door. The ell connects the house to a large New England barn, trimmed with dentils and paired brackets and topped by a large cupola. A nearly flat-roofed addition extends from the barn to the right, and may be the building that has served many purposes, including its early use as a law office on the Common. So, too, the **Gerry House (#67)** at **21 Still River Road** takes a related form, with a gable-front orientation but with columned recessed porches in each front corner of the facade and an array of Gothic trim, consistent with its construction date of 1851. The facade's first- and second-story corner bays are open voids, serving as entry porches and balconies, respectively. The facade's center bays are embellished with paneled-pilaster cornerboards, and a thick entablature supports the outer segments of the gable end. Several elements project from the right lateral wall, stepped as they follow the drop in grade: a shed-roofed ell, a gabled ell, and a gable-fronted carriage house. The clapboarded house and shed-roofed ell are trimmed with a decorative vergeboard, and the house's second-story balcony railings exhibit a delicate wrought-iron design.

Smaller and less elaborate examples of this form can be found as well. The **Willard-Gerry House (#40)** at **19 Oak Hill Road** is a 1 1/2-story version with a portico. The broad, single-pile front block rises to 2 1/2 stories. The recessed porch in the first floor is supported by square Tuscan columns, screening an entry flanked by sidelights. On either side, long windows reach nearly to floor level, three smaller double-hung sash are centered in the floor above, and a single double-hung sash is located in the gable above. The house has a shed-roofed dormer on the right roof slope lighting the second story, and a kitchen ell to the right rear extends to a partially finished woodhouse. The plan of this house includes both familiar and unusual features: it appears to resemble the popular ell-house plan, including two rooms on either side of an entry/stair hall, with a small room behind the stair, and a second room forming the rear ell. However, the chimney block, which has had its interior partition framing removed, does not line up correctly to make a lobby entry, but rather if extended would block rather than flank the doorway.

A substantial addition has been made to the left of the house, where the land slopes down to the west, and includes a two-story gabled block with a garage in the lower story, with living space above. The **Bigelow-Gale House (#30)** shared this form before it was altered after moving from 4 Elm Street to **5 Old Littleton Road**. Photographs reveal a similar broad-gabled building, but with a projecting porch across its facade. The form of the house represents a significant alteration to the original building, having "had its face lifted so it does not much resemble the steep-pitched roof little house that was

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moved across the Common" (Hersey 1966). Today the shingled house is a 2 1/2-story end house. Its facade arrangement is covered by a screened porch. In the second floor are two paired windows, a single window centered in the tympanum above them; the configuration of four bays along the right lateral wall suggests a double-pile plan. A sequence of two low gable-roofed ells extends from the left side of the house, joining it to a gable-block carriage house.

The **Willard-Slade House (#41)** at **25 Oak Hill Road** has no portico, but rises to 2 1/2 stories. Its facade is divided into three regular bays, and the center entry is treated with a Doric entablature characteristic of the Greek Revival, with molded fretwork on the pilaster of the type made popular by Asher Benjamin. The lateral walls are also divided into five bays, and their arrangement into groups of two, two, and a single window in the rear probably reflects the interior plan of three tiers of rooms. The rear of the house has two additions: a screened-in porch offset to the right, and a gabled ell with a doorway in the gable end offset to the left. The **Wood-Hartwell House (#33)** at **13 Old Littleton Road** is a plainer example set into a bank, revealing an exposed basement in the rear. The house has a five-bay, center-entry arrangement on the first floor, two windows centered in the second floor, a single window centered in the tympanum above; the sash are now 2/1. The house is clapboarded on the facade, with shingled walls on the side; the central entry surround is of the pilaster, sidelight, and entablature type, but the top portion has been altered and/or removed. Later in the 19th century this large version became a familiar variation, illustrated at the **Daby-Bigelow House (#19)**, **5 Fairbank Street**, next to the town library. This house was built after a fire in 1880 destroyed the Ethan and Asa Daby House that stood on this site and the Weatherbee tavern that stood on the site of the library. The large 2 1/2-story house has a five-bay, center-entry facade on its gable end facing the street. The entry is covered by a square-posted, hip-roofed porch; a similar porch stretches along the right lateral wall. On either side of the entry, there are polygonal bay windows. A lower rear ell, which may be an addition on a brick foundation, connects the main block to a still lower ell that may have been a carriage house.

The end house grew to preeminence in the second quarter of the 19th century, when important changes in design and technology altered many building practices. The importance of the picturesque, and its associated irregular massing, changed building preferences. With increased use of dimensioned timbers and balloon framing, the basic box was modified through the addition of bay windows, dormers, projecting bays, and porches. The form proved remarkably adaptable and popular throughout the 19th century, and several were constructed in the Common area. A comparatively simple and well-preserved example is the 1895 **Blanchard House (#13)** at **16 Ayer Road**. The 2 1/2-story end house has a projecting bay on the left lateral wall. On the first floor of the facade, a polygonal bay window is positioned next to the bay one entry, which is screened by a turned-spindle, hip-roofed porch that continues along the lateral wall. Attached to the house at the right rear is a 2 1/2-story carriage house. The **Eaton House (#70)**, **15 Lovers Lane**, is a 2 1/2-story, shingled end house oriented towards Still River Road. A polygonal bay window projects from the rear pile of the left lateral wall, and an ell projects from the rear elevation of the core gabled block. Victorian ornament is confined to the decorative brackets, spindlework post supports, and turned balustrades of the front wraparound porch. The well-preserved **Hosmer-Houghton House (#15)**, **12 Ayer Road**, is also in the 2 1/2-story size, with a wing extending from the right lateral wall to the carriage house, constructed in about 1880. A square-posted, spindle-balustered, hip-roofed porch covers the front entry, and a polygonal bay window is located in the first pile along the right lateral wall. Little other ornament is found on the clapboarded building. Attached to the house at the right is a 1 1/2-story wing with a clerestory monitor lighting the second floor; this may be the portion of the building said to have originally been part of the town's poor house and moved here when the house was built. The wing joins the house to a 1 1/2-story carriage

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house. The **Houghton House (# 18)**, **3 Fairbank Street**, facing onto the Common, is a large end house with a full wing extending from its left or north side. A shed-roofed porch with turned posts and balusters extends across the three-bay facade, with a pediment marking the door in bay one. The entablature on that pediment matches that on the building above it, employing brackets to support the deep cornice. The ell is arranged in three bays with a central door covered by a similar porch; the ell lacks cornice ornament. The small end house at **7 Old Littleton Road (# 31)** is located on the same large parcel as the Bull House at 9 Old Littleton Road, a small clapboarded house of a single story. A three-bay facade includes an off-center entry, and a screened-in porch wing has been added on the left or west.

More complex massing produced buildings closely following Queen Anne design ideals. Bent houses became popular because their crossed gables had the appropriate picturesque qualities. Bent houses resemble end houses with wings, but divide their public rooms between the two masses, on either side of a hall, rather than delegating only service to the wing. An elaborate example in excellent condition is the **Sawyer House (#23)** at **9 Elm Street**. The house is said to date to 1893, and takes the form of a gable-roofed, Queen Anne bent house, with a square, pyramidal-roofed tower in the re-entrant angle. The street-facing facade is three bays across, with entry into the tower bay. The clapboarded house has a wide porch across the front, with turned posts and balusters, and a bracketed cornice. Other ornamental details include ornamental shingles, flared eaves, bracketed cornice, and a molded belt-course marking the break between second and third story. A small two-story, gable-roofed garage is located to the right of the house. The **Hosmer House (#21)** at **3 Elm Street** suffered in a fire in 1995 but was a narrow gabled block with its gable end facing the street. A nearly flat-roofed section in the same facade plane formed an additional entry bay; comparison with the Sawyer House at 9 Elm Street suggests that this was formerly the location of a rising tower section that has been removed. On the left lateral wall, two projections added space to the building plan; toward the rear of the building, a full gabled bay was sited, while adjacent to it, toward the front of the building, a lower, shed-roofed bay was added. Across the facade and wrapping around to meet these projections was a porch, with turned spindle balusters and a screen at the cornice. In the rear of the house, a lower ell extended and connected to the large, 2 1/2-story carriage house. The **Sawyer House (# 68)** at **11 Lovers Lane** is a related elaborate example. This 2 1/2-story end house is sited on a grassy knoll, oriented towards Still River Road. The right lateral wall is distinguished by a 2 1/2-story, gable-topped square tower, and a bay window. The rear elevation is augmented with a gable-roofed ell. The front gable extends beyond the facade plane, supported by a row of brackets. A wraparound porch, supported by slender columns and ornamented with a fretwork railing, shelters the front and lateral elevations. Queen Anne elements are evident in the complex massing, patterned shingles, half-timbered gable detailing, and the diamond-paned windows. Formerly more elaborate due to its wraparound porches, but recently altered, is the **Hapgood-Kerley House (#26)** at **3 Littleton Road**. Its size is augmented with the parallel ell extending to the rear and the projecting gabled bay extending from the left lateral wall. At present a porch is located in the re-entrant angle along the left wall, but earlier a porch extended across the entire facade, forming a corner circle at the left front, which then followed the course of the present porch. Other ornament to the building include narrow corner pilasters, and molded window surrounds with entablature heads; the walls are clapboarded. Next to the building, on the right and to the rear, is another smaller end house, and altered outbuildings are located in the deep backyard.

Hip-block variations of this form can be seen in the **Weatherbee and Savage Houses (#s 86 and 87)** at **32 and 36 Massachusetts Avenue**, a pair of nearly identical houses built side-by-side near the intersection with Pond Road. Both are large 2 1/2-story, hip-block, Queen Anne-style houses, covered in shingles, with broad Tuscan porches across their facades, and similar projecting bays on each of their

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front and side elevations. Each facade is treated with a prominent gable-roofed polygonal bay window above the porch and the side entry, and a second polygonal bay window on the first floor behind the porch to the left of the entry. Along the left lateral wall, a gabled projecting bay is located in the second pile. Along the right lateral wall, a polygonal oriel is located in the third pile. In the second bay of the right elevation, the stair-hall bay is lit with a large Palladian window at 32 Massachusetts Avenue and paired windows at 36 Massachusetts Avenue.

A handful of houses reflect other currents in late 19th century design, in particular the trend known as the Shingle style. The **Hildreth House (# 71), 15 Elm Street**, is a 2 1/2-story Shingle estate standing in the midst of an expansive 5.66 acres. The house's gambrel-block form measures seven bays in width and two piles in depth. The wraparound porch is distinguished by post supports resting on a low shingled skirt. The roof's front slope is pierced by a central shed dormer flanked by polygonal tower dormers. Two massive ashlar granite block chimneys rise from either side of the center bay. The house at **13 Bolton Road (# 19)** is another smaller example of the Shingle-style gambrel block, among the most common popular expressions of this late 19th century design mode. Oriented with its ridge parallel to the street, the two-story building has an oriel window on the left side of the facade and three dormers lighting the second story. A recessed porch within the right three quarters of the facade screens the central entry, trimmed with paired Tuscan columns. A shed-roofed ell and deck have been added to the left rear wall; a broad shed-roofed garage was added along the left lateral wall. Sited at the right rear of the lot is a second small gambrel-block house, oriented perpendicular to the street. Its facade is divided into an entry and broad window bay, with a pair of shed dormers on each roof slope.

Though several area houses were occupied by two-family dwellings, and some were converted to use by two families, few were purpose-built to this form. The earliest may have been the Daby House that stood on Fairbank Street, a Federal-period house with a hip roof and paired fanlit windows in its eight-bay facade. A fairly elaborate example dating to the turn of the 19th century, and in a cross gable form, can be found at **14 Old Boston Turnpike (#57)**. The 2 1/2-story building has a central gabled block crossed by projecting gabled bays of equal height. Low hip-roof bays are sited in the re-entrant angles on the facade. The house appears to have been divided through the center of the main gabled block. A hip-roofed garage is located to the right rear of the property.

At **6 Littleton Road (#29)** is a version of the gable-roofed two-family, commonly seen in late 19th-century neighborhoods of larger cities but rarer in a rural village context. Originally built as an outbuilding, probably a barn, for the Whitney House at 2 Littleton Road, it was moved to this location toward the northeast of the same lot. The 2 1/2-story block presents its gable end to the street, and has a wide three-bay, side-entry facade. A two-level porch screens the opening and the polygonal bay windows located on each story. The first-floor supports are sturdy Tuscan columns, while above on the second floor of the porch, more attenuated Tuscan columns appear in pairs, with trelliswork between them. Along the left lateral wall, a second single-story porch covers the entry to the second-floor apartment. Along the right lateral wall, two-story polygonal bay windows add extra space to the second-pile rooms. On the right roof slope, two shed dormers add light and space to the attic story; on the left slope a single dormer serves a similar function. Besides the porch, the clapboarded building has plain cornerboards, cornice board, and boxed eaves with returns. The building's plan includes: a parlor and entry/stair area in the front pile; a dining room, behind the bay windows, and a bedroom in the center pile; and kitchen, bath, and perhaps another bedroom in the rear.

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The next wave of change to enter the region came with a second reorganization of the building trades and the rise of mail-order house plans and indeed mail-order houses. This national trend made itself felt in the region with the introduction of a group of distinctive associated housetypes, several with roots in the end house. The **Bigelow House (# 54)** at **25 Fairbank Street** is an excellent example of the "transitional" four square, retaining some of the picturesque features of its end-house antecedents. The main block of the house is nearly square, with a pyramidal roof, three bays across the front, and double pile in depth; a new chimney has been added to the left lateral wall. The clapboarded facade has recessed portions on the first floor, at the entry bay as a porch and on the side walls where the polygonal bay windows are canted under the upper wall planes. Brackets visually support the upper story and run along the cornice line as well. A third tier of rooms is enclosed in the gabled, two-story ell that extends from the rear of the house. The **Garage House (# 48)** at **16 Fairbank Street** takes a similar form. The wide gabled block presents its gable end to the street, and its facade is divided into three bays and an entry offset within the central bay. Across the facade, a hip-roofed porch is supported by square columns, with a square-balustered rail and screen of verticals, and a central pediment. These houses demonstrate changing and competing aesthetics of the late 19th century, as simpler forms of the Craftsman and Colonial Revival movement replaced the picturesque ideals of the Queen Anne. The appeal of the Craftsman bungalow was national and indeed international, associating an attractive way of life with a house best known for its small size. At **10 Bolton Road**, the **Moses House (# 90)** is among the best examples in the town of a bungalow cottage. The broad gable block reaches two stories because of the high rear post height and the wide front shed dormer. Across the front of the house, a sweeping roof overhang is supported by thick Tuscan columns. A plainer variation may be the **Barba House (X2)** at **23 Still River Road**, a gable block of 1 1/2 stories with an enclosed hip-roofed porch.

By the early 20th century, interest in historical revivals, and in New England the preference for local, Colonial models, brought a return to the edicts of symmetry and the construction of some of the most familiar housetypes. The gambrel-fronted house, popular at the turn of the century, shared the three-bay, side-entry form of the end house, adding shed-roofed dormers to light the second story, reflecting the rise of the Craftsman and the Colonial Revival aesthetic. An example of the gambrel-fronted house can be seen at the **Greenman House (#65)** at **16 Still River Road**. The house is a two-story structure elevated on a rough-faced concrete-block foundation. The core gambrel block measures three bays in width and two piles in depth, a gambrel bay projects from the left lateral wall, while a gambrel wall dormer graces the right lateral wall. The front porch is supported by slender Tuscan columns, each spanned by a low post railing. The **Bromfield House (# 88)**, **39 Massachusetts Avenue**, is a large and well-detailed example of a Colonial Revival hip-roofed double house. The center entry in the five-bay facade is flanked by three-quarter sidelights. Its primary ornament derives from the deep bracketed cornices of the main building and its front porch, and from the paneled pilasters at the building's corners. The broad porch is supported by thick Tuscan columns and runs across the facade, wrapping around its north lateral wall. Three dormers add space to the attic story, and a small single-story ell and Tuscan porch shelter the rear entry. The central hall plan follows a fairly standard form: the stair hall reaches about three quarters through the building, with a small bath and rear entry filling the remaining space; the hall is flanked on the left by a front room and rear kitchen, on the right by paired parlors separated by pocket doors. The **Edgerton House (# 89)** at **4 Bolton Road** is a well-preserved example of a Colonial Revival house, popular among Harvard house-builders early in the 20th century. The house takes the most common 2 1/2-story gable-roofed "colonial" form, augmented in this case with a rear ell from the left side. The house is covered in ornamental horizontal boards with a beveled joint, and each side is flanked by an open Tuscan-columned wing, a porte-cochere on the left and a screened porch on the right. The

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facade is composed of three broad bays with a central pedimented porch, supported by Tuscan columns and screening an entry ornamented by Corinthian pilasters and three-quarter sidelights; in the roof slope, two gabled dormers are centered. Behind the house on the left side is a matching gable-roofed two-car garage, topped by a cupola and a small gazebo. A slightly later version can be seen at the **Dickson House (#7) at 11 Massachusetts Avenue**. This example is three bays in width, with an enclosed entry porch. The house at **15 Massachusetts Avenue (#9)** is said to have originally been a barn converted into a house early in the 20th century, an adaptation that produced a plain gable block of Colonial Revival cast. The 2 1/2-story gable block has four evenly spaced bays across its facade, with an enclosed, gable-roof entry porch in the second bay. The simple building has plain, deep eaves and simple surrounds at its openings; it appears to be of double-pile plan. To the right rear of the house is a small gable-fronted garage.

Since the end of the period of significance in 1945, some alterations and additions have been made to the district, but none that compromise the historic character of the village. The replacement of the centerpiece Unitarian Church has already been noted, as well as the demolition of the Brown School for the construction of the present Elementary School. The Bromfield School could not keep pace with the expansion of high school-age children, and as the town chose not to follow the trend toward regional schools, a new secondary school building was constructed on the ample lot. A new post office building was the only other addition to the stock of public buildings. Residences were added in a handful of instances, following the same process established during the 19th century of subdividing ample lots or replacing lost buildings. The preservation effects of local historic district status helped maintain this historic landscape in the town in spite of the significant growth of the town's population and the subdivision of its former agricultural fields. Today the Harvard Center Historic District is a well-preserved example of one of New England's best-known settlement forms.

Archaeological Description

While no prehistoric sites are currently recorded in the Harvard Center Historic District, or in the general area (within one mile), it is possible that sites are present. The physical characteristics of the district include several well drained level to moderately sloping areas in close proximity (within 1000 feet/300 meters) to wetlands indicating the presence of locational criteria favorable for many Native American subsistence and settlement activities. A tributary stream of Bowers Brook transects the eastern portion of the district from north to south with several other wetlands related to Bowers Brook present around the district. Bowers Brook is part of the Nashua River drainage which in turn flows to the Merrimack River. Numerous prehistoric sites have been documented along the margins of the Nashua River floodplain west of the district. Given the above information, the size of the district, known prehistoric site densities and locations in the region and the availability of undeveloped land, a moderate to high potential exists for recovering significant prehistoric survivals.

There is also a high potential for significant historic archaeological resources in the district. Harvard Center represents the civic focus at the geographical center of Harvard with the common at the village core. This area contains numerous documented and potential historic site locations for civic, religious, commercial and residential structures. Harvard's first meetinghouse was built in 1732 in the vicinity of four subsequent buildings built in 1770, 1840, 1876 and the current Congregational-Unitarian Church at 9 Ayer Road in 1967. Structural remains and related archaeological features could survive from each of these buildings in that area. Similar remains may also survive from a Methodist meetinghouse originally built in ca. 1840 on a small plot near the burying ground then sold and moved across the street to 13 Massachusetts Avenue in

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1857. The cemetery was also divided from the town common and reportedly contains both marked and unmarked graves and vaults. Secular town building were also granted from the town common land. In ca. 1827 a town hall was built on what was the northeast part of the common at 14 Ayer Road. Some years later the hall was re-oriented and changed to a residence. Archaeological survivals may exist in the area of the original building footprint. Potential archaeological survivals for other town buildings originally located in the town common include the District One School positioned throughout the 19th century at the south end of the common on Still River Road between the Evangelical Church and a sequence of stores on Massachusetts Avenue, the 1905 Brown School formerly sited on a large lot on Massachusetts Avenue near the town's elementary school and a residence for the pound-keeper which later served as the town's early poor house. In ca. 1850 the then-dilapidated almshouse was replaced with a larger new building. Archaeological survivals may also exist from the town pound originally located at the south end of the common in the 18th century then moved to the north part of the common in ca. 1812 and a small engine house built in ca. 1831 in the burying ground near the hay scales to house a fire engine. Archaeological survivals from several commercial related structures should also be present in the district area. The Weatherbee Tavern was constructed in ca. 1800 or earlier in the area of Fairbanks Street and the corner of Old Littleton Road, now the site of the Harvard Public Library built in 1886. The Weatherbee Tavern, which burned in 1880, was sited across the common from the still extant Merriam Tavern (ca. 1807) on 13 Elm Street. Another tavern, owned by John and Phoebe Atherton, was also reported at the corner of the common and Still River Road. Stores or shops, many of which are no longer extant were also present in the common and district locale. Map evidence indicates that a shop was formerly located on the north or Oak Hill Road side of the lot occupied by the 18th century Bridge-Stone House at 23 Fairbanks Street at its intersection with Oak Hill Road. The Nathaniel Stacy Book binding store (1831) was located at the south end of the common at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue until it burned in 1850. Another commercial structure was rebuilt on the same site then moved to Massachusetts Avenue to the lot now occupied by the U.S. Post Office where it stood into the 1950's. At least three stores have also been present at the site of the still extant Gale and Dickson Store (1896) at 1 Still River Road at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue. Two shops, a boot and shoe, and blacksmith shop are reported in the vicinity of 1 Littleton Road now the site of a small Carpenter Shop. In general, early retail establishments were within existing homes and taverns. Purposely built stores were built in the early 19th century. Artist shops, the only one of which survives at 1 Littleton Road, were closely tied to residences. Settlement was initially sparse in Harvard Center with few residential examples surviving in the district locale until the 19th century. More examples of 18th century residences should exist in the district; however, they have yet to be identified. Important known residential sites in the district where potential survivals may exist include the Bromfield House and Colonial Period Second House which formerly stood on the site of the Bromfield School at 24 Massachusetts Avenue, the Whitecomb-Farwell House which once faced the common, the original site of the pre 1831 Bigelow-Gale House at 4 Elm Street, the Ethan and Ada Daby House, one of the earliest multi family houses, destroyed by fire in 1880 and now the site of the Daby-Bigelow House at 5 Fairbanks Street next to the Library and the original site of the 1831 Bigelow-Willard House at 8 Ayer Road. Portions of the Trufant House at 12 Oak Hill Road are believed to have been moved from the south side of the common after the remainder of that building burned in 1826 indicating a potential site in that area. Another residence which has been moved indicating potential archaeological survivals at its original location is the two family house at 6 Littleton Road moved to the northeast of the same lot. That structure was originally built as an outbuilding probably a barn for the ca. 1840 Whitney house at 2 Littleton Road. Structural remains from a carriage house, which formerly stood next to the main portion of the house and a barn which stood behind the house may also survive with the still extant Bernard House at 12 Old Boston Turnpike at its intersection with Oak Hill Road. Occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) should survive with most types of residential, commercial, civic and religious structures still extant and those which survive in an

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archaeological context. Outbuilding remains, many of which may be agriculturally related, should also survive in both contexts.

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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Harvard Center Historic District has long been important as a historic gathering place for the townspeople of Harvard. Chosen for the location of the meetinghouse in 1732, it became the institutional focus for frequent church services, town and selectman's meetings, and for the burial of the dead during the 18th century years. During the post-Revolutionary era, commercial and artisan activities became increasingly important elements in the local economy as well as more popular livelihoods in the changing community. Stores, shops and taverns, and the residences of their owners and operators were added steadily during the end of the 18th century and the first half of the 19th. From an unfocused hamlet, the area grew into a bustling village and continued as the focus of expansion through the rest of the 19th and 20th centuries. Through this long period of nearly continuous growth, the Center increased in size and density to become an elaborated village of well-preserved residences and exceptional public buildings, clustering around the focal Common and extending along the spokelike roadways surrounding. The excellent surviving resources have been preserved through the establishment of a local historic district covering the central core of the nominated district. The Harvard Center Historic District retains integrity of design, location, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. For these reasons the district is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, fulfilling criteria A and C at the local level.

Harvard, Massachusetts, is located in Worcester County, along its northeastern border with Middlesex County. It is positioned about thirty miles to the northwest of Boston and about twenty-five miles to the northeast of Worcester. From north to south the town measures just under six miles, from west to east just over five miles. With the exception of the south border's diagonal, the town's edges are irregular in profile, following the Nashua River along the west and taking several angles along its northern and eastern borders. Long an agricultural town, it is located primarily in the uplands east of the Nashua River valley, in one of the Commonwealth's most fruitful farming regions. Although crossed by the railroad, the town experienced little industrial development during the 19th century. Early in the 20th century, a portion of the town's northwest corner was incorporated into what would become Fort Devens, a large military installation forming a distinctive feature within the region's rural and suburban landscape. The Fort Devens land reverted to the town in 1995. The town is now crossed by the east-west regional artery Route 2, and located to the west of circumferential Route 495. These convenient roadways strongly contributed to the town's present character of suburban and exurban development.

Harvard lies on the east side of the Nashua River valley and is a continuation of the hill country to the west. The wide valley provides fine intervalle land along its edges, the western portions of the town. A north-south ridge, an extension of the high ground in Bolton, crosses the eastern end of the town at elevations of 400-600 feet above sea level. Along its slopes lie excellent agricultural land, well suited for pastures and orchards. Of glacial origin, the hills represent terraces and glacial till deposited along the shores of Glacial Lake Nashua, which covered the northwest corner of the town, roughly bounded on the east by the railroad tracks. The town's soils are dominated by the Gloucester group, sandy, loose, and stony soils important to agricultural uses in New England. Four hills are found within the town:

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Prospect Hill in the northwest, rising to about 560 feet; Pin Hill in the center rising to about 480 feet; Bare Hill in the southeast rising to about 600 feet; and the highest promontory, Oak Hill, located in the east central section of the town, rising to 630 feet. The central ridge of high ground divides town drainage between the east flowing into the Assabet, and those on the west into the Nashua. One large pond, Bare Hill, covers over 300 acres in the southern part of town. Bowers Brook flows into the pond from the south and flows out on the north; its northern reaches were known as Nonacoicus Brook, the primary location of the town's small-scaled historic milling operations.

Founding the Town of Harvard

At the time of English settlement in North America, most of Central Massachusetts was the stronghold of the Southern New England Algonquin group known as the Nipmuck. The area now the Town of Harvard was part of the Nashaway portion of Nipmuck Country, one of the most populous areas in the larger region. Centered in present Lancaster, it included portions of the surrounding towns of Bolton, Berlin, Clinton, Sterling, Leominster, Lunenburg, and Harvard. Important settlements or points of frequent visitation within the Nashaway area include the confluence of the Nashua, now within Lancaster, and Waushacum, located near the lakes of that name in the present town of Sterling. To the east of Harvard was the territory of the Massachusetts; the nature of the border between the two groups is unknown but the Nipmuck are believed to have been allied with their more powerful neighbors.

Located on the border of Middlesex and Worcester counties, the Harvard area was visited early and frequently by colonists from settlements to the east and south. Transportation routes to the west skirted this area, and the beaver lured hunters away from their home towns. The Massachusetts population within the area to the east of this purchase was the object of evangelism by John Eliot, and praying towns were established at Nashoba, in Littleton, and in Marlborough. These visitors made contact with the sachem Sholan, the Nashaway leader, and in 1643 persuaded him to sell a large eight-by-ten mile parcel of the Nashaway territory. To this new plantation came settlers from the eastern towns of Dorchester, Charlestown, Boston, and Watertown. A smaller section, along the present northern third of the town, was originally the plantation Petapawoge's southern sector, granted soon after in response to petitioners from Concord. A narrow, unincorporated strip of land ran between these two grants. The plantation's western and southern sections, covering what would become the southern portion of the town of Harvard, was incorporated as Lancaster in 1652. The northern portion was incorporated as the similarly large town of Groton in 1655. The first evidence of colonial settlement in the region was the establishment of a mill on Nonacoicus Brook by John Prescott after 1668. By 1675 the increase in English settlers in New England and their continued encroaching on Native American lands led to the outbreak of King Philip's War. The nascent Lancaster settlement to the west and that in Groton to the north were among the thirteen English settlements nearly destroyed during that war. Mary Rowlandson, perhaps New England's most famous captive, was taken away during the raid on Lancaster. Nashaway leaders were among those hanged in Boston after the close of the war, and the majority of the population is believed to have removed to the north and west at that time. As Harvard was resettled at the end of the 17th century, fear of attack by Native warriors incited by the French remained high. (Nourse 1894: passim, Anderson 1976: 1-6, Steinitz, et al. 1985: passim)

Permanent settlements began in Harvard when Lancaster citizens settled east of the Nashua on second-division lands they believed to be safer from Native attack. Lancaster's second-division lands stretched across the Nashua Valley to the western parts of the present town of Harvard. There they divided the sunny slopes of Wataquodock Range (Prospect Hill, Bare Hill, later Oak Hill) along the terracing that

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overlooks the valley and includes dramatic vistas to the west. The location of settlement can be tracked through the placement of houses designated as garrisons. First settlement focused in the southwest at Still River, where the high land overlooking the Nashua River valley provided a good lookout. The next area settled was on Bare Hill in the southeast. Settlement then moved to the north, to the east of Bare Hill Pond and to Prospect Hill. The Groton-based settlement moved down from the north to the south, into the "Old Mill area" in the north-central part of the town on Nonacoicus Brook. Soon population was sufficient to warrant a request for separation from the parent town of Lancaster, and the town of Harvard was incorporated in 1732. At this time, the Lancaster portion of the town held about 57 families, the Groton portion about 18, and the former unincorporated strip, assigned as Stow Leg in about 1720, about 10 families. (Anderson 1976: 7-36)

When granting permission to establish a new town, the General Court imposed a number of significant and expensive requirements on the current residents and the parent towns, setting the government and the landscape that would assure a godly community. Harvard's Common dates to this founding, establishing a central focus for town activities and buildings. The Lancaster proprietors turned over a thirty-acre parcel, "a Tract of common Land known by the name of Meeting House Plain," which they described as "lying at Pin hill or the northwest side of bare hill near where thy have built a hous for publick worship (which now Lyeth Common)." Here the new town could "set a meeting-hous on and for a training field and for a burying Place and other Publick uses." Sited in the center of the new town, the large parcel now survives as a remnant triangular park at the center of Harvard Center. Its chief landmark has always been the town's First Parish meetinghouse. A conjectural drawing of the first meetinghouse illustrates its conformation to the standard model: measuring 48' by 35', with 20' posts, it was a moderate-sized, 2 1/2-story gable block, regularly fenestrated across its five-bay facade and two-bay lateral elevations, with its primary entry on the long wall. On the interior, seating was a combination of box pews and benches. (Nourse 1894: 178-179, Anderson 1976: 31)

Soon thereafter, the town began the process of alienating portions of this large common for various uses, which has diminished its size over the years. The first portion was an acre given to the poundkeeper, which later served as the town's early poor house. The town's first minister was given over two acres for his house; the Seccomb house was later purchased by Henry Bromfield and is now the site of the Bromfield School. Two succeeding ministers were given houselots as well. The land was mapped in 1774, and by 1782 included only 16 1/2 acres. The town at that time required "trespassers" to pay for the land they had taken over, but continued to give lots away. The Harvard Center Cemetery (# 800) was originally part of the Common and became the earliest of the town's three public burial grounds. (Nourse 1894:477) Four school districts were organized in 1734, but no buildings were erected; the center district school was eventually built on Still River Road between the present Common and the Cemetery. The Common was also the location of stocks, hay scales, and the town pound. Town pounds were a key component in the agricultural landscape of early New England and helped townspeople to control and recover stray livestock. The town voted for its first pound in 1734, specifying that it be thirty-seven feet square, seven feet high, and seven rails in length; it was formerly located at the south end of the Common, on Still River Road. By 1831 when another map was made of the Common, it measured only 9 acres and 83 rods. (Nourse 1894: 130-132 and passim)

As their first minister, the town chose John Seccomb (1708-1792), a Harvard-educated (1728) Medford native. Seccomb was the son of a wealthy merchant, and after his marriage to Mercy Williams, the daughter of another wealthy merchant, the fathers set out to provide their children with an exceptionally genteel home and furnishings. Descriptions of the house constructed on a portion of the Common

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suggest a large gambrel-roofed double house, enriched on its interior with lush paneling and on its exterior by gardens and elm alleys. In 1740 a revival brought 100 into the church, a revival that, though it succeeded in achieving "a Great Shaking among the Dry Bones," preceded Whitfield's preaching and "had NOT been carried on *violently* nor by *Strangers*...." Although well-connected, Seccomb was eventually tinged by scandal. He was faulted for "the reputed luxury of his home life, his aristocratic affiliations and intellectual superiority," was apparently accused of infidelity, and was dismissed in 1757. He remained in town for a time before removing to Nova Scotia. (Nourse 1894: 190-191)

Seccomb was followed by two short-term pastors, and they resided in another of the Center's large colonial houses, one of which survives. The **Old Manse (# 55)**, as the house at **28 Fairbank Street** is known, was constructed in the middle of the 18th century for Harvard's second settled minister, Joseph Wheeler (1736-1793), who purchased land from his predecessor and received other land from the town's nearby Common. He served the town from 1759 to 1768 and remained in the town until 1781. The property was later owned by the town's fourth minister, Ebenezer Grosvenor (1739-1788), and by the town's fifth minister, William Emerson (1769-1811), father of Ralph Waldo Emerson, who served the town from 1791 to 1799, when he was called to a Boston church. A long-standing tradition of dissent within the town dates to its first decades of autonomy. Baptists were first mentioned here in 1742, forming a church of 14 men and women; in 1776 they built a meetinghouse at Still River. Seccomb was a New Light preacher; nevertheless a small group dissatisfied with the church met as Separatists beginning in 1751; they later attracted to their midst, in the northeast part of the town, a charismatic leader who claimed immortality. In 1769, Shadrach Ireland and his followers erected the "Square House" at 94 Shaker Road (#104). These two patterns established during the colonial period, of close connections to metropolitan culture in the Boston area and of enclaves of dissenters of various kinds within an otherwise typical town, became themes repeated throughout Harvard's history, continuing through the 19th and 20th century and creating a distinctive atmosphere within the town.

Harvard's was predominantly an agricultural economy as recorded in the colony assessment of 1771. 72% of taxpayers engaged in farming, focusing on sheep, cattle, and grains. Farm households had each cleared an average of just under six acres for tillage, eight for pasture, and an ample dozen in meadow grasses, testament to the available Nashua River and Bower's Brook marshes. Sheep were the most numerous of the animals, providing wool and food from a flock of over 800 animals that provided an average of five per household. Most households could also claim a pig and averaged four cows. Draft and saddle animals were comparatively scarce, and some households owned neither a horse nor a pair of oxen. A small number of merchants and artisans served the town (three each). Mills were located on Bowers Brook near the intersection of Mill and Ayer roads, including a saw and grist mill, a forge, and a fulling mill; another saw and grist mill was located at Prescott's site in the Old Mill District. The town also had a tannery and a malt house. Harvard was a more egalitarian town than Lancaster to the west, with a smaller percentage of landless individuals (19%) and lower levels of concentrated wealth (28% owned by the wealthiest). There were signs of the economic difficulties of the 18th century, however, in haggling over the minister's salary, over appointment to the constable/tax collector post, in the mention of tenants in the seating of the meeting-house, and in providing the poor with cows. (Pruitt 1981)

Calculations of population show rapid growth during the colonial period, reflecting the town's proximity to the old and prosperous communities of Middlesex. Garrison assignments provide early figures: four families in 1692 and expanding to about fifteen early in the 18th century. By 1723, the area was inhabited by about 39 families. When school quadrants were outlined in 1738, there were 89 families; by 1746 there were over 100 families. Significant population losses came due to epidemics, as when 43,

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mostly children, died in the fall of 1756. Migration to bounty lands of Dorchester Canada (Ashburnham) took place between 1760 and 1779, by 21 men, many with families. The seating of the meetinghouse, wherein resident families were assigned to pews or benches according to local hierarchies, provides later population figures: 134 males in 1750, 155 in 1766, and 198 in 1772. Census figures place population 1,126 in 1765, and 1,315 in 1776. The town was at that time the second densest in the county, after Southborough. As population increased and settlers began to clear land and build homes, existing roads were improved and new ones laid out. School squadrons reflect the settlement pattern in their choice of names: Bare Hill, Still River, Old Mill, plus Oak Hill in the east. Augmentation of native paths allowed the townspeople to better communicate with neighboring settlements and dispersed farms: North-south routes include Bolton-Ayer roads running to Groton in the north and Bolton in the south; Depot-Sheridan road ran to the northwest and Shirley Bridge, while the northeast was crossed by Old Littleton Road, the southeast by the Stow Road, and an east-west path across the southern part of the town followed along West Bare Hill Road. (Steinitz *et al.* 1985)

As in most New England towns, settlement was initially sparse in Harvard Center. In response to population growth, the town built a second meetinghouse in the center in 1773. The building was similar in form to its predecessor but considerably larger, measuring sixty-five by forty-five feet, with twenty-seven foot posts; its entries were located on the long wall as well as in each gable end; they were enclosed within porches. The original meetinghouse was sold in 1776 to neighboring Boxborough, where it served as meetinghouse and town hall well into the 19th century. Additional buildings began to appear in the area, including taverns and stores. In the 1730s the parcel near the Common at the corner of Still River Road was owned by John and Phoebe Atherton, who kept an inn here in a building of unknown appearance. A house in the Center was allotted to the poor in 1753, though it was only occupied by one family, and later a widow. Although landholding in the area in the colonial period has not been closely studied, a handful of potential residents has been identified. The **Bigelow-Willard House (# 12)**, now located at **18 Ayer Road** was constructed by 1831 by Thomas Bigelow, Sr. on the lot at 8 Ayer Road, and was also occupied by his daughter and her husband, Milton Whitney. The **Patch House (# 50)**, **20 Fairbank Street**, appears to date to the 18th century, but its early owners are not known. The **Bridge-Stone House (# 52)**, **23 Fairbanks Street**, appears from external evidence to date to the 18th century. Jeremiah Bridge came to Harvard in the 1760s from Lexington and served the town during the Revolution, in the militia and the Continental Army. The **Trufant House (# 39)**, **12 Oak Hill Road**, has within it a single cell believed to have been moved from the south side of the Common in 1826, after the rest of the building was burned; this is the source of the date "1735" marked on its facade. The house at **15 Old Littleton Road (# 34)** is believed to have been constructed by Jonathan Symonds (1755-1830), a prominent public servant to the town during the Revolutionary and early national periods. Symonds served in the Revolution, acted at various times as assessor, selectman, deputy sheriff, representative to the General Court, and justice of the peace, and was briefly a Shaker. (Dempsey and FitzPatrick 1992-94, *passim*)

Prosperity in Harvard Center

While community-building was somewhat tentative in the colonial period, the return of economic growth after the Revolution brought significant changes in the historic landscape as durable buildings increased significantly in number. Throughout the Central Massachusetts region, across New England, and up and down the Atlantic coast, new attitudes and abilities produced a new built environment for a new and expanding nation. The hundred years after the Revolutionary War brought the prosperity and renewed

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building and rebuilding that created much of the historic landscape of Harvard today. On the town's farms, more cleared acreage, improved machinery and crops, and new and larger buildings on larger farmsteads transformed the small clearings in the woods to large stretches of cultivated fields, meadow, and pasture, gradually eliminating most of the town's woodland. Small villages and hamlets emerged and expanded within the dispersed landscape of farmsteads. Where several farmhouses clustered at a crossroad, rural hamlets and family neighborhoods emerged. Most distinctive of these were the Shaker families in Harvard's northeast section, where established farmsteads were transformed into exceptional communal enterprises with distinctive buildings, settlement, and land use patterns. At Still River, transportation and commerce combined with early settlement and rich agricultural fields to bring a multiplying of residences and farms, stores, shops, and a cluster of public meeting places. In the civic and municipal center village, a larger and more complex cluster included all the components of the earlier Still River settlement with the addition of more public buildings. During this century, Harvard's citizens shaped a community and environment that in its next century would make it a favorite bucolic resort.

Coincidental with its prosperity came population growth in Harvard. Population increased by nearly three hundred individuals over the period from 1776 (1,315) to 1830 (1,600). Although there were occasional fluctuations, the era's population hovered at about that level through the middle of the 19th century. Harvard's citizens participated in a full range of the reform activities of the day, with familiar and extreme expressions occurring side-by-side. Shadrach Ireland's community in the northwest part of the town attracted Mother Ann Lee and her earliest followers at the end of the 19th century. The Shaker colony in Harvard was active as three families throughout the 19th century, reaching its peak population during the middle of the century, but influencing town affairs and landscape through their land holdings, businesses, and community model. Far more short-lived but no less emblematic and influential was the Transcendentalist Fruitlands on Prospect Hill. Within the churches there were controversies over church music, reflecting conflicts between traditionalists and those seeking to refine the familiar service. The proliferation of Protestant denominations came at mid century. Harvard's Public Library has its roots in private libraries, operated first by the town's minister, Rev. Emerson, and after his departure in 1799 as a subscription Social Library. Finally, after 1856, the town formed a free public library, funded at first by dog license fees as libraries commonly were at that time. By the middle of the century Harvard had added as well a variety of public associations and institutions to its network of family and neighborhood ties, including the Odd Fellows, a Farmers and Mechanics Association, and an active temperance movement. Harvard attracted few foreign immigrants at this time, probably due in part to its lack of a significant industrial base. Its foreign-born made up 8% of the town population in 1865. (Steinitz *et al.* 1985)

Agriculture remained the major livelihood of town citizens. The fine farmland yielded excellent crops of hay, grains, and vegetables, and the hillsides were particularly well suited to apple and pear orchards. The town participated to a degree in the mid-19th century shift to dairy farming in rural Massachusetts and throughout New England. Its proximity to eastern cities and the presence of the railroad made its fertile lands an early object of interest for market gardening. An important crop during the 1840s and 1850s was hops, reaching 41,000 pounds in 1845. By 1865, 28,000 apple trees and 2,300 pear trees were cultivated for their fruit. Dairying and cattle, and swine-raising accounted for approximately 25% of the total value of agricultural goods, as 172,000 gallons of milk and more than 170,000 pounds of beef, pork, and veal were marketed in 1865. A range of manufacturing and processing activities was dispersed across the town. Boot and shoemaking increased into the 1850s when more than 30 people made 18,000 pairs, but by 1875 it had declined to one small shop. Palm-leaf hat making also had a brief period of

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popularity in the 1830s and 1840s before ceasing. Quarrying of slate and preparation of marble had begun by 1837, and by 1855 employed 15 men in the quarrying and working of \$17,000 worth of stone. A large brickyard was opened in 1852 along the east bank of the Nashua River by J.C. Richmond and employed 25 men. Forest industries and woodworking grew increasingly important with charcoal production, lumbering, and the cutting of firewood. By 1865, two sawmills prepared 760,000 feet of boards, 60,000 shingles and 70,000 stoves for market. Also, 3,930 cords of firewood and 1,600 bushels of charcoal were made to supply the local machine shop, blacksmiths, and nearby industrial centers. By 1875, manufactures were valued at only \$37,900, while agricultural goods yielded \$223,892. In 1846, Worcester-Nashua Railroad began north-south service through the Nashua River Valley, with stations at Still River and Harvard on Depot Road northwest of the Center. This early rail connection was no doubt partially responsible for Harvard's continued prosperity, linking town farmers to a range of eastern and urban markets and influencing their choice of crops and products. (Steinitz et al. 1985)

The effects of this growth and social and economic development can be seen in the Harvard Center area, where a significant grouping of resources dates to this long period of expansion. Although a handful of buildings clustered around the meetinghouse in the colonial period, their numbers increased significantly during the first half of the 19th century. During the turn of the century, growth was primarily associated with commercial expansion, as shops, stores, inns, and the homes of their operators were constructed in this area. As the town's population and density increased, several through-routes radiated from the Center Village. A north-south route passed through the Center connecting to the Great Road in Stow along Massachusetts Avenue and Stow Road, while the Union Turnpike (1805) joined the existing road system at Still River and increased east-west traffic through the town, connecting the two primary villages.

Of particular interest are the inns built and operated at this time. Though the lot at the corner of the Common and Still River Road has long been occupied, and for many years by a tavern, the present building, **Merriam Tavern (# 20), 1 Elm Street**, appears to date from about 1807 when the Union Turnpike came through Harvard. At that time, Jonas Merriam bought the parcel, and he is believed to have built the present building. Merriam hoped to take advantage of turnpike traffic and compete with the Wetherbee Tavern across the Common. He sold the property in 1816 to Seth Nason, a founder of the Evangelical Church and town treasurer from 1825-34, who operated a shop here for a time before opening one at the corner of Still River Road and Massachusetts Avenue, where a store remains today. Many later owners are known, including: Dr. Augustus Robbins, the Evangelical Church, using it as a parsonage in the middle of the 19th century; Dr. Jacob S. Eaton, Eaton's daughter and her husband Dr. H.B. Royal from the late 19th century through the 1930s; and Royal's granddaughter and her husband John P. Donaldson in the 1950s. Across the Common from this survivor, the better-known Weatherbee Tavern once stood, operated by the father and son Ezra and Zopher Weatherbee. The inn, located at the site of the library, was a large double house with the addition of two additional bays to accommodate the public spaces of an inn, including a large room for meetings and dances. The inn enjoyed a long prosperity as a temperance hotel in the 19th century. The Weatherbees sold the property in 1866; it would burn in 1880. (Nourse 1894: passim)

At first, retail establishments were primarily within existing houses and taverns, but early in the 19th century, purpose-built stores emerged in the area. From early in the 19th century, a series of individuals operated a store at the south end of the Common, at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue. The building was marked "Nathaniel Stacy Bookbinding Store" in 1831; it burned in 1850. Rebuilt on the site was a familiar commercial structure, a 2 1/2-story gable-front building with a central entry flanked by

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windows. That building was moved to Massachusetts Avenue, to the lot now occupied by the U.S. Post Office, when the latter was constructed, and stood there probably into the 1950s. Similarly, artisan shops were closely associated with residences until this time, when they grew in number and size. One survives today at the corner of Fairbank Street at **1 Littleton Road (# 24)**. Soon after 1831, small structures were constructed, serving a variety of artisan shops, a boot and shoe shop, a blacksmith's shop, and a carpenter's shop; only the last remains. A shop that once stood at the corner of Fairbanks and Oak Hill Road, near the **Bridge-Stone House (# 52) at 23 Fairbank Street**, may date to this period. Deacon Isaac N. Stone, who served the Evangelical Congregational Church from 1847 until 1863, was involved in Harvard's stone-cutting industry, operating a shop for sawing stone on Bowers Brook and living next door. A stone cutter's shop survived to be recorded on the 1870 map when the property was owned by Daniel Hartwell, and a similarly located outbuilding is noted in 1898 as well, when the property was owned by J. Farnsworth. (Nourse 1894: passim; Dempsey and FitzPatrick 1992-94)

A number of larger houses, bearing some relationship in size to the taverns, were constructed at this time as well. The large Seccomb House was purchased by Henry Bromfield, a Boston merchant, whose family owned the property until it burned in 1855. Asa Daby purchased land in 1797 from the town, where its "town house" had stood since 1753, apparently to shelter the poor. On this small lot Daby built, according to later 19th century photographs, a duplex of 2 1/2 stories under a hip roof, stretching eight bays across the facade, with fanlit entries at bays three and six. This house, and the Weatherbee Tavern next door, were burned in a fire on 25 and 26 August 1880. Asa Daby's sons Asa and Ethan owned the property at that time; Asa (1797-1889) was the better known of the two, serving as town selectman in 1837-42 and 1844-47, state representative in 1839 and 1841, town treasurer from 1847 to 1879, and as director for the Lancaster Savings Bank. The **Whitcomb-Farwell House (# 45), 11 Fairbank Street**, was constructed between 1823 and 1831 by Reuben Whitcomb, who continued the dual function here of dwelling and store. Whitcomb was also the owner of a saw and grist mill on the Assabet Branch, served the town as assessor in 1810-13 and as state representative in 1811-13, and was a founder, deacon, and benefactor of the Evangelical Congregational Church; he is believed to have been an abolitionist who helped fugitive slaves on the underground railroad. Another large Federal-period house was owned by John and Emeline Whipple Farwell, remaining in the family until early in the 20th century. Farwell was a prominent man in town, running a large meat and farm produce business, selling locally as well as shipping to Boston. He acted as well as a teamster, a lumber dealer, and a real estate dealer. He served the town as selectman in 1854 and as assessor between 1860 and 1863. The **Whitney House (# 46), 13 Fairbank Street**, was constructed in about 1800-10 by Cyrus Whitney (b.1771), one of the town's prominent citizens of the early national period. Whitney also owned the family farm in town, and combined agriculture with storekeeping. Whitney served as town selectman in 1803 and 1810 and was appointed deputy sheriff in 1813. In 1831 the property is labeled "Hinds and Perkins Store," suggesting at least a partial explanation for the large size of the building. The most elaborate house of this period in the village, and among the most ambitious in the town, is the house said to have been built by Luke Pollard (b. 1774) (**# 47**), **14 Fairbank Street**, in 1806. Pollard was a deacon of the first church before becoming a founder of the seceding Evangelical church; he later served as deacon of that church as well. (Nourse 1894: passim; Dempsey and FitzPatrick 1992-94)

Smaller houses survive as well, constructed by the "middling sort" in the town. The **Trufant House (# 39), 12 Oak Hill Road**, is believed to have been built on this site in the 1820s from the earlier fragment and new construction. In front of that a small ell house was constructed, taking a size and form known from other Common-area properties including the house at **12 Old Boston Road (# 56)**. The house has

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had many owners in its long life, apparently passing out of Trufant's hands in the 1830s, to Putnam, Willard, and Hartwell during the next thirty years, all well-known town families. The building at 7 **Massachusetts Avenue (# 5)** was constructed by 1831 and was the home of Sarah A. Stetson, known as Sally, who worked as a seamstress and kept the town's Social Library here. The **Young House (# 17), 1 Fairbank Street**, was constructed early in the 19th century, though its exact dates are not known at present. In 1825 John P. Whitcomb sold a lot and shop to cordwainer William Lewis, who in turn sold the property to James Young in 1836. Young then transferred the property to his probable uncle Dr. Samuel Young (1783-1845). Young was originally from Athol, and was educated at Williams College. He served as town librarian and on the School Committee in 1814. The house remained in the family, always descending through females, until it was sold in 1985. The **Holman-Dickson House (# 49), 18 Fairbank Street**, takes the center chimney form, suggesting construction in the 18th century. While its earliest owners are presently unknown, it was long occupied by Eliakim A. Holman and Lucinda Whitcomb Holman. Holman (1799-1869) was a physician, educated at Bowdoin, and a commissioned surgeon in the militia from 1830 to 1836. Holman served the town in a range of capacities, including: member of the school committee in 1829 and 1831; town clerk in 1830 and again between 1860 and 1865; author of a report on the importance of maintaining a library in the town, 1845; member of the library committee, 1856-58; selectman 1855-62; he also had a long interest in the temperance movement. (Nourse 1894: passim; Dempsey and FitzPatrick 1992-94)

As commercial and residential growth continued, public buildings were improved and town municipal services expanded, bringing new resources to the area. The meetinghouse of 1770 was expanded in 1806 with the addition of a tower and steeple. During the town's earliest years, its powder was stored in the attic of the meetinghouse, likely to be a dry if hot site. The town voted down a proposal to construct a powderhouse during the War for Independence, but did build one for the War of 1812. This **Powder House (# 902)** building takes the same form and material, fireproof brick, as other surviving examples of the form. The **Town Pound (903)** was relocated at this time, from the south to the north part of the Common. As early as 1831 Harvard began efforts to protect the town citizens and property from the danger of fire. That year the town voted \$100 toward the \$268 that was needed to purchase a fire engine, the rest to be raised by subscription. The town housed the engine in a small engine house located in the burying ground near the hay scales.

Within the established church, conflict between Trinitarians and Unitarians brought a split, when a portion of the membership of the First Church split off from its parent body. Growing differences in theology between two groups within the First Parish reflect the drifting apart of the liberal Unitarians from the more traditional Trinitarians within Massachusetts Congregationalism. After their withdrawal, the seceders formed a separate religious society, the Calvinistic Congregational Society. They applied to the town for a lot on the Common on which to build, and received this lot, from which the pound and hearse house would be removed. The surviving **Evangelical-Congregational Church (# 61), 5 Still River Road**, known historically as the Orthodox Church, dates to 1821. The society changed its name to its present name in 1855. In 1840, after the split within the membership, the large, old meetinghouse became burdensome to the First Parish, and a new smaller building was constructed. (Nourse 1894: passim; Dempsey and FitzPatrick 1992-94)

Harvard was one of the Commonwealth's first towns to separate the civic functions of town government from the religious activities of parish and church in the meetinghouse. The town meeting considered building a separate townhouse in 1807, but rejected the plan at that time. Twenty years later, and six

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years after the division of the First Church into Calvinist and Unitarian churches, the town meeting debated the town's right to use the building. Nourse is one of several 19th century historians who note a rise in sacramentalism in New England Congregationalism, suggesting "natural objections" by the Church "to submit their place of worship to the defilement and injury incident to its frequent use by mixed and sometimes disorderly assemblies." (Nourse 1894: 174) The issue was subjected to a legal inquiry by Samuel Hoar, who noted a Medford suit's determination that the building was the exclusive property of the parish, not the town. The town then adopted a plan to construct a thirty-four by forty-four foot building, and to locate it at what was then the northeast part of the Common. The building is said to have originally faced south and to have had four Tuscan columns across the front.

With this development and expansion came diversity as well. The Methodists first appear in the records of Harvard in 1799, when four townspeople ask to be dismissed from the established church. Methodist societies were first formed in Massachusetts during the post-Revolutionary years when itinerants first took on the New England region, and, like this one, many such societies were short-lived. A new society, of Harvard and Boxborough, was formed in 1823, and a meetinghouse was built on the border of the two towns. By 1840 some members wanted to relocate to the Harvard Common area, and offered to raise the townhouse with the addition of a upper hall. That offer the town refused, but the alternative of allowing construction elsewhere was permitted. The Methodist Society was given a small plot near the burying ground and they built on subscription a thirty-by-forty-foot meetinghouse at a cost of \$800. By 1857 the society's numbers had diminished and the building was sold and moved across the street to **13 Massachusetts Avenue (# 8)**. Universalists soon joined the Common area as well. Believers in universal salvation were found among the Baptists early in the 19th century, but by 1830 their numbers had grown sufficiently for the formation of a society, which described itself as Harvard's second Universalist Society. A dozen years later, the group began negotiations for a lot of public land for a meetinghouse, and they eventually received permission to build in the area behind the present Town Hall. The society formed a church in 1845, but about ten years later the church records end abruptly. In 1866 the building was sold, moved to Ayer for use as a dwelling, and was burned in 1872. (Nourse 1894: *passim*; Dempsey and FitzPatrick 1992-94)

A second significant wave of residential building occurred during the third quarter of the 19th century. The houses include some of the Center's most ambitious buildings, while their owners reflect the continuing social and economic development of the town, as occupations became more diverse and at the same time more middle class. Town officers were often residents of the Center, and in addition to the familiar merchants and ministers came new professionals including librarian, lawyer, and the like. A handful of examples of individuals who built or expanded houses in the area may stand for the larger population of the growing Center. Enoch Perkins (1797-1880) was a successful trader in the town, a justice of the peace, a planter of trees on the Common, and donator of an organ to the Unitarian Church in 1871. Benjamin Franklin Whitney was the son of Cyrus Whitney, and served as town librarian from 1863-66. Margaret Bromfield Pearson Blanchard, who lived at **35 Oak Hill Road (# 44)**, was later the benefactor of the Bromfield School; she was the granddaughter of Henry Bromfield, the Boston merchant who made Harvard's Seccomb Mansion his seasonal home. Mrs. Blanchard was the only daughter of Eliphalet Pearson and his second wife Sarah Bromfield; in 1825 she married Ira Henry Thomas Blanchard (1797-1845), who was serving as eighth minister of the First Church, Unitarian. Trumbull Bull, who lived at **9 Old Littleton Road (# 32)**, was one of several mid-century storekeepers, operating with his partner in several of the stores that stood on the Common. Bull was a founder of the Odd Fellows in 1845, served as selectman in 1855, as town clerk in 1857-59, on the library committee in 1865-69, and as justice of the peace after 1872. Jonas Bateman, who lived at **7 Still River Road (# 62)**,

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operated a saddle and harness shop, joined an early temperance society in town, and served as town librarian. Caleb Strong Gerry (d. 1885), who lived at **19 Oak Hill Road (# 40)** and later at **21 Still River Road (# 67)**, held numerous town offices: town moderator, selectman (1852 and 1863-75), justice of the peace (1880), and a trustee of the Bromfield School. (Nourse 1894: passim; Anderson 1976: passim; Dempsey and FitzPatrick 1992-94)

Not surprisingly this round of expansion was accompanied by an elaboration of town services and amenities as well. Debate raged on retaining or rejecting the district school system, but no decision was made. The dilapidated almshouse was replaced with a large new building. By the late 1860s, the Town Hall was over thirty years old, aging and too small, but town meeting discussions about replacement were divided and lengthy. The town included many residents who objected to the replacement, but even once they had been defeated, the location and design debates continued. After considering the location of the former Town Hall and the site of the District One Schoolhouse, between the store and the Evangelical Church on Still River Road at the south end of the Common, the former site of the Universalist Meetinghouse was selected, **13 Ayer Road (# 2)**. After considering many town halls in the area, first the Acton Town Hall and finally the Westford Town Hall was selected as a model. The building was dedicated in 1872. The old building was then moved slightly to the north and remodeled by George L. Sawyer into a residence at **14 Ayer Road (#14)**, which he sold to his father Arad. (Nourse 1894: passim; Dempsey and FitzPatrick 1992-94)

Agricultural Equilibrium, Rural Retreat

When Harvard celebrated its sesquicentennial in 1882, it was a mature agricultural community of 1,200 citizens. Fields were cleared of stones and trees, and over 10,000 acres of improved land yielded an income of over \$500,000. After 150 years of steady growth, Harvard's population had already entered a sustained period of population stability and loss. Farm families and their interests dominated town politics and culture, assisted by professionals and small manufacturers who shared their middle-class goals and values. Many aspects of this rural culture would be sustained well into the 20th century, as the town attracted new farmers to its fertile lands. But it enjoyed new influences as well, as the town's rural character and natural beauty made it a popular resort, for both former town families who had moved away from the region or into the cities, and for members of the regional elite who found Harvard an attractive location for a rural retreat. As had been the case since its founding, Harvard continued to attract groups and individuals whose unusual and occasionally influential views and habits added texture to daily life there.

While located significantly to the east and south of New England's classic hill towns, Harvard's population experienced much of the stasis and consolidation now known to characterize rural communities late in the 19th century. Population continued to decline from 1870 (1,341) to 1885 (1,184), then stabilized, fluctuating around 1,100 to 1915. Population totals fluctuated thereafter according to troop concentrations at Camp/Fort Devens, but non-military population appeared to be stable at just below 1,000. Seventy-nine Irish, 22 Canadians, 12 English, and 5 Swedes were noted in the state census of 1875. Eighty-eight Irish, 9 French Canadians, 9 Nova Scotians, 8 Germans, 8 English, 7 Scots, were noted in 1885. Fifty Irish, 38 Nova Scotians, 24 Italians, 23 English, 23 French Canadians, and small numbers of other groups were present in 1905. The small size of these groups of new immigrants to the town, measuring about ten to twelve percent of the total population, is typical of a small rural town where ethnic enclaves were rare. Many of the newcomers were Roman Catholics, who

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at first attended church services in Ayer or Fitchburg. In 1915, when a parish was established in Lancaster, Harvard was made a mission church and services were held at the Town Hall. Reverend Edmund Murphy guided the establishment of Harvard's Roman Catholic parish during the early 20th century. **St. Teresa's Roman Catholic Church (# 66), 17 Still River Road**, opened to serve this diverse group in 1926. This church occupies a portion of the former Henry F. Whitney estate, which was leased to the church by Fiske Warren until his death and the dismantling of his estate. (Nourse 1894: passim; Anderson 1976: passim; Dempsey and FitzPatrick 1992-94)

Manufacturing continued to play a minor role in Harvard's economy, reduced even further by the cessation of manufacturing by the Shakers and many of the remaining shops. Harvard was one of the few rural towns in northeastern Worcester County to experience an increase in the value of goods manufactured during the early part of the period. Between 1875 and 1885, an increase of 116% occurred, largely the result of the introduction of a second machinery shop and a shoddy and wool knitting mill in 1881, a second brickyard in the 1870s, and a cutlery manufactory in 1884. Although small in scale, most survived to the turn of the century before closing. By 1905, only seven establishments remained, producing goods valued at \$39,000, only slightly higher than the 1875 level. Growth centered around Still River and consisted of the New England Brick Company, Union Brick Company, Union Paving Company, and Haskell's Vinegar Works. While large-scale factory-based manufacturing never thrived here, the town's contribution to technological innovation was considerable. Between 1851 and 1930, 141 patents were issued to Harvard inventors, including the Shakers, Hildreths, George Wright, George Burt, and Norman Marshall, for items including a broom corn sorter, a circular saw, a wood splitter, a light socket, and a paper cup. (Nourse 1894: passim; Anderson 1976: passim; Dempsey and FitzPatrick 1992-94)

Dairying and hay growing remained the most valuable agricultural activities early in the period. Harvard's agriculture maintained its growth through the period, with the value of its more than 200 farms' products increased to \$286,000 in 1905. That year, more than 2.5 million gallons of milk were produced, a seven-fold increase over the 1875 figure. Its chief agricultural development, however, came with the rise of apple culture in the town and region, leading to its position as the Commonwealth's chief producer by 1940. Orchard landscapes are still visible throughout town, with significant concentration of thriving businesses on Oak Hill Road. Harvard came to be increasingly known as one of the two or three best apple towns in the state during this period. By 1905, Harvard led the state in the number of pear trees cultivated and the quantity of cider apples harvested. Poultry and eggs also gained in importance during the latter decades of the period, as did grape-growing. As early as 1885, 32,000 dozen eggs were sold and 127,879 pounds of grapes were harvested. (Nourse 1894: passim; Anderson 1976: passim; Dempsey and FitzPatrick 1992-94)

The town's natural beauty made it increasingly attractive to visitors, and summer homes became a popular feature in the town. Kinfolk returned to homesteads or to the hotels and boardinghouses, like the Shaker-owned Rural Home, that emerged in the middle of the 19th century. Clara Endicott Sears bought the Alcott farm, built a home she called The Pergolas, and surrounded it with relocated historic structures, the core of the Fruitlands Museums. Fiske Warren developed a Single Tax Enclave in the town, Tahanto, and to it came his similarly minded associates, purchasing significant acreage in the town along Bolton Road, and West Bare Hill Road, as well as the Shaker Village when it was abandoned by that dwindling group in the 1910s. Not all of Harvard's summer visitors were wealthy or required large homes. Along the shores of Bare Hill Pond, small cottages or cabins were constructed. While the year-

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round population stabilized, these seasonal visitors added a distinctive elements to the town's social life and landscape, building and renovating properties and organizing cultural and recreational activities that entertained the native Harvard population as well as their own.

Established and wealthy older families occasionally followed the lead of the newcomers in constructing new and fashionable houses. Probably the most ambitious late house in the Common area is the **Hildreth House (# 71)** at **15 Elm Street**, a large gambrel-roofed house in the Shingle style, while nearby at **27 Ayer Road (#92)** a large Colonial Revival house was built by another member of the extensive clan. These properties were locally renowned for their landscape and gardens. An array of Queen Anne houses, with elaborate towers and bays, were added, on small lots within the existing village, occasionally replacing a burned building but also increasing the density there as some of the larger parcels were subdivided. The **Hosmer House (# 21)** at **3 Elm Street** and the **Sawyer House (# 23)** at **9 Elm Street** fall into this category. Most significant, however, was the new construction along the roadways in areas to the west and the south of the village, along Still River Road, including the **Sawyer House (# 68)**, **11 Lovers Lane**, and along Massachusetts Avenue, including the **Weatherbee (# 86)** and **Savage (# 87) Houses at 32 and 36 Massachusetts Avenue**. Development in this area dates primarily to the decades of the 1890s through the 1930s, while the district's small amount of modern construction can also be found along these streets. While the scale of buildings remained the same, with 2 1/2 stories the highest and five bays the widest, the number of multifamily residences in the area increased. Although the Dabys had built a two-family double house, which subsequently burned, there were a handful of two-families in the village, and a number that were later converted to single-family use. Two buildings were purpose-built two-families, while the remainder represent conversions of residences, outbuildings, and public buildings.

The town's struggle to improve its school system was given a boost during this period with a bequest in 1878 from Margaret Bromfield Pearson Blanchard. After Seccomb House burned in 1855, Mrs. Blanchard re-purchased the property with the intention of founding a secondary school. In her will she established a board of trustees and set forth certain specifications for the school. The school building itself was to be "substantial, well-proportioned and convenient," constructed of brick to accommodate sixty to one hundred students. In addition it was to be "simple and harmonious in style, free from useless or expensive decorations, inside or out." She hoped the cost would not exceed \$20,000, but trusted her designees to use their best judgment; she was right in doing so as they choose to spend just that sum. She requested that the balance of her bequest, which would be \$71,000, be invested to fund apparatus for the school and to fund attendance for "students of talent and promise" whose parents could not afford the fees. The **Old Bromfield School (# 11)**, **24 Massachusetts Avenue**, was especially outfitted with scientific equipment and laboratories. It was hoped at the time that "with its pleasant situation, substantial equipment, and considerable endowment, this new school is able to offer superior advantages...Pupils will be fitted for the best colleges and a specialty will be made for preparing young ladies for entrance to them." The school was free for students from Harvard but had hoped to attract a broader student body. Unfortunately the school did not attract many students "from beyond its neighborhood," a disappointment to many.

Library services here also benefited from the philanthropy of Harvard citizens and former citizens. The first gift came from Edward Lawrence, who would give \$5000 for books if the town would provide a building for them. The gift of Hannah W.C. Sawyer of \$5000 guaranteed a lot, the site of the Inn that burned in 1880, and a building, the **Harvard Public Library (# 4)**, **7 Fairbank Street**. The architect of

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the building was Harvard-born William Channing Whitney (b. 1851), nephew of Lawrence, who was trained in Boston and practicing in Minneapolis MN; Whitney donated his plans. Subsequently a gift of Warren Hapgood funded the east addition to the library of 1902.

A range of other improvements and rebuildings further embellished the Center area. The Unitarian Church burned in 1875 and was replaced by a Queen Anne-style building, modeled after a church in Hyde Park, of broad gable-front and nave-plan form with a high side tower and steeple. In response to the church fire, the town purchased a number of hand pumps, which were stored at the Town Hall and at the Poor Farm. Four years later the town purchased two carriages fully equipped with the necessary apparatus, one for the center and one for Still River. In 1892 the town purchased its first chemical extinguishers. These and other machinery owned by the town were stored in horse sheds located behind the town hall until 1930; the first special-purpose Fire Station dates to 1921. The building of the Evangelical Congregational Church was renovated in 1882, with the addition of a lower story for meeting rooms, kitchens, offices, and the remodeling of the sanctuary interior at the same time. In 1886 a gift from Edward Lawrence funded a stone wall around the Center Cemetery. In 1864, the Harvard Town Meeting had voted \$300 to erect a monument to commemorate the service of town citizens in the war between the states. The monument that was erected sixteen years later included the names of the town's war dead. The **Civil War Monument (# 901)** cost \$1208.19 and was dedicated by Post 48 of the Grand Army of the Republic on Memorial Day of 1880. The Town Hall was expanded to the rear in 1899 with the addition of more office space.

A third major public building added to the Center dates to this period as well, when the Brown Building was constructed in 1904. Since 1878 when the town consolidated its school districts, outlying district schools were slowly abandoned and their students transported to other schools, often District #1 in the center. But by the end of the century, this building was aging and too small, and plans turned to the construction of a modern elementary school in its place. The Hildreth family stepped forward to assist the town in this effort, providing funds for both the purchase of land, for the Common was now quite full, and for the construction of a new building. The Savage estate, surrounding the building known as the Old Manse, had for sale two adjacent parcels on Massachusetts Avenue. The school was constructed there, opposite the Bromfield School. As originally constructed, the school was a 2 1/2-story frame hipped block. Subsequent alterations have brought demolition to all of the original and obscured the remainder. Later, when the Bromfield Trustees built a residence for the school's principal, it was constructed next door where Massachusetts Avenue turns to the east, **39 Massachusetts Avenue (# 88)**. Other Colonial Revival houses built in the district include **4 Bolton Road (# 89)**, **11 Massachusetts Avenue (# 7)**, and **16 Still River Road (# 65)**. Craftsman houses were also added, including bungalows added at **23 Still River Road** and **10 Bolton Road (# 90)**, a foursquare at **16 Fairbank Street (# 48)**, and a two-family at **6 Littleton Road (# 29)**. (Dempsey and FitzPatrick 1992-94)

The Hildreth family achieved prominence here in Harvard late in the 19th century. Edwin Hildreth, an 1864 graduate of the Lawrence Scientific School, joined the local agricultural machinery firm of George E. Burt. Burt, Hildreth and Company produced horse-powered machines. In 1881, Edwin and his brother, Stanley, founded Hildreth Brothers, a manufacturing enterprise that gained prominence for its saw tables and wood-splitter. Both brothers held various elected town offices and Edwin served as state representative in 1883. Emily E. Hildreth made her home at **Sunnyside, 8 Ayer Road (# 16)**, the site of a series of eponymous lectures held from 1888 to 1910. Miss Hildreth invited interested townspeople to a lecture series held weekly during the summers of those years. Subjects covered over the years include France, England, India, Japan, nineteen centuries of Christianity, as well as occasional lectures on the

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town. Miss Hildreth's sister Mrs. F. E. Farwell was the next occupant of the house, and among the town's early historians. In addition to their generous donation for the school, the Hildreths constructed the water system that served the schools and buildings close to the Common.

The Center maintained its role as a commercial focus for the town, and a large new school was constructed as part of the general improvements of the late 19th century. The **Gale & Dickson Store (# 60), 1 Still River Road**, built in 1896, is at least the third store building to stand in this important location within the village at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Still River Road. This new store took a new commercial form, more common to denser town centers, main streets, and even cities. In these the uniform street wall, represented here by the large square front elevation, was an important design consideration where buildings normally lined up next to one another along the road. The large size of this store testifies to the town's lively economy late in the 19th century. Smaller stores remained in business, as the former store was moved to Massachusetts Avenue, and the shop behind the Farwell House. The cluster of shops at **1 Littleton Road (# 24)** gradually lost their artisan function, one portion moved to Ayer Road to become part of the Hillside Garage, another converted to serve a number of purposes, including the Mary Jane Tea Room, run by Molly Nowell and Jane Blood. Auto touring was at least partially responsible for the success of tearooms in the town, here and at Fruitlands, and road improvements came to Routes 111 in 1895 and to Route 110 in the 1930s. Electricity and phone service came to the Center, with their attendant wires overhead, in 1912.

As in many Massachusetts towns, many of the same families who were behind the 19th century's philanthropic efforts were among its first preservationists. In 1891, Warren Hapgood contacted Henry S. Nourse about his "ardent desire" to see a history of Harvard written. Although he might have taken on the project himself, Hapgood was aging and turned instead to the author of multiple works on the neighboring town of Lancaster. He was confident that by leaving the responsibility in Nourse's hands "no record will be left unsearched, no tradition unscanned, to make this one of the most complete of the many excellent town histories in our Commonwealth." Nourse was reluctant, not being Harvard-born and therefore lacking the "family traditions of two centuries," and memories that would "throw clear light upon the personality and doings of generations long turned to dust." But he agreed and by early 1894, his *History of the Town of Harvard Massachusetts, 1732-1893* was complete and Hapgood's plan was to distribute it to libraries and the town's "deserving families." Nourse's *History* is best known for its romantic and evocative descriptions of early farm life. Three years later, perhaps inspired by the publication of Nourse's *History*, Harvard established a historical society. Operating out of rooms in the public library, the society began to collect documents and artifacts about the town's history, eventually taking over the Still River Baptist Church in 1970.

During World War I, the U.S. government developed plans for an Army installation in this region. In the northwest corner of Harvard, in the area known as Shabaiken, 5,000 acres north of Still River west of the railroad were purchased for Camp Devens, one of 16 cantonments established by the War Department for training and housing draftees. The Camp was inactive after the war, but the U.S. Government began purchasing large tracts of land and in 1936 the camp was designated as a permanent installation, Fort Devens. Although it displaced a number of farms, the fort provided opportunities for employment and new markets for Harvard's farmers, merchants, and service establishments. Major facilities were constructed by late 1930s, including barracks and administration buildings. Since its planned closing was made known, resources within the camp have been studied and a portion are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Planning for this area, which reverted to the town in 1995, is among the greatest challenges Harvard will face in coming years.

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During the 1920s, a second entry in Harvard's bibliography of local history was completed, *Memoirs of Old Harvard Days, from 1863 to 1924*, by Frederick S. Savage. Originally published as a series of letters to *Ayer's Turner's Public Spirit* (which published the local edition *Harvard Hillside*), Savage detailed his memories of town life during that period of over sixty years, providing key information on property transfers and personalities in the town in the decades on either side of the turn of the century, as well as a variety of letters on issues of the day ranging from the Ku Klux Klan to Prohibition. Savage's *Memoirs* have recently been indexed by Dianne Newton, vastly increasing their utility to modern researchers. During the 20th century, Harvard Center in particular was the subject of research and writing by members of the Historical Society. In 1939, recognizing the need to update Nourse's history, Ida Louise Harris headed a committee to update his work for the intervening 50 years, soliciting essays on a broad range of the town's voluntary associations, themes in its history, economic trends, and added significantly to the records of vital statistics. Until her death in 1994, Elvira Scourgie served in the role of town historian, conducting extensive research on the town's historic properties, now on deposit at the Harvard Historical Society.

Harvard's convenience to Boston and later to expanding industries on Route 128 has brought significant suburban growth in the recent past. Route 2 opened in 1950, following a path across the north of the town rather than along Route 111 as originally planned, and late in the next decade Route 495 crossed the town's northeast corner. In the period after World War Two, Harvard's population began to increase significantly, tripling between 1945 and 1975 to reach 3,500. By 1940, the Bromfield Trust was struggling to cover school expenses and so was shifted from private to public status; it still serves the town's school system as a center for its arts programs. As the town population grew, the small Bromfield and Brown buildings within Harvard Center proved inadequate. A series of expansions was made to the Brown Building, with three additions to the elementary school (in 1940-42, 1951, and 1957). Later the schools' plant was augmented through construction of a new high school and separate middle school, and most recently with another expansion to the elementary school.

Concern about planning for growth in the town was met with the passing of the town's first zoning bylaw in 1951 and the formation of a planning board. Ten years later the Conservation Commission was established, and with the creation of the Conservation Fund six years later, the town began to accumulate significant acreage. In 1965 the town retained planner Charles Eliot to assist them in identifying town concerns and to draw up plans, presented in "Planning for Harvard Massachusetts" in 1970. He characterized the town as "rurban," "in transition from an agricultural to a suburban residential town," and recommended clustering administrative and commercial development to specific areas in the town. Town bylaws were continually adjusted to changing attitudes and conditions, with notable laws prohibiting commercial and industrial firms from employing more than a dozen employees and establishing acre-and-a-half building lots. Harvard's planning efforts have created a landscape that retains some of its rural character through the established conservation lands, but with much of the remaining former farm lands divided into large lots with houses of the affluent, and with commercial development along Ayer Road to the north of the Center. New houses have been constructed along older roads as well as in subdivisions off the historic road network. Still, the town retains a significant portion of open space in the form of orchards and other agricultural landscapes and large acreage in protected conservation land.

At the same time, the town began its efforts to establish local historic districts, hoping at first to establish one in each of the historic villages. The newly established Historical Commission and District Study Committee conducted the town's first systematic survey in these areas. The Shaker Village Local

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Historic District was established in 1972, the Harvard Common District in the next year; each was later expanded. In 1976, presumably in recognition of the national bicentennial and possibly because of the presence of the local Harvard Common Press, the town commissioned a second town history from Robert C. Anderson, *Directions of a Town; A History of Harvard Massachusetts*. Recognizing the essential topical organization of Nourse's history, Anderson wrote a narrative, chronological history of the town from its beginnings in the 17th century and extending into the 1970s. Anderson is a genealogist by profession, currently at work on the monumental Great Migration Project to reconstruct and identify emigrants to Massachusetts during the critical early mass migration of 1620-1633. Efforts at preservation in the town have been rejuvenated during the 1990s. In 1991, through the efforts of Nancy Reifenstein, the town's Historical Commission became a Certified Local Government. With a committed board of selectmen, the CLG has received matching funds from town meeting for three consecutive years, and with Massachusetts Historical Commission survey and planning grants has undertaken a program of inventory and registration. With these foundations, the Harvard Historical Commission has a strong base with which to plan for the future in the town, in the face of increasing development pressures and to contribute significantly to the redevelopment of Fort Devens.

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of prehistoric occupation in Harvard are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Prehistoric sites in this area could provide valuable information on the relationships between Native American upland settlement along tributary streams, upland wetlands and larger riverine drainages such as the Nashua River to the west. Several prehistoric sites have been located along the latter drainage in the vicinity of the Fort Devens Military Reservations, approximately three to four miles to the northwest.

Historic archaeological remains described above have the potential for providing detailed information on the changing social, cultural and economic patterns that characterized life in a rural Central Massachusetts community that grew from an unfocused agricultural hamlet into a thriving village that maintained its focus of municipal expansion from the late 18th through 20th centuries. Archaeological survey and testing can document the form and locations of the town's first four meetinghouses which no longer survive in the common area. This information can be important in reconstructing the Center and changing common area through time as the focal point for town development. Archaeological data can also be used to document the extent to which religious and civic structures were altered as a result of fire or changes in use. For example, the Evangelical Church (1821) was originally a single level but raised in 1882. A severe fire also damaged the church in 1941 after which the extent of rebuilding and redesign were not well documented or clear. Other structures including the Methodist meetinghouse (1840) and the Harvard Town Hall (1828) was converted to residences and moved or re-oriented. Archaeological testing can document the changes which occurred to the form of these buildings and their locations.

Archaeological resources can also document economic growth and its diversity in Harvard Center. Structured remains from inns and residences combined with a detailed analysis of occupational related features from archaeological contexts and structures still extant can document the extent to which retail establishments were conducted in homes and taverns during the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Similar archaeological remains and analysis can also be used to identify the scale of purposely built stores beginning in the early 19th century and smaller commercial structures including a variety of artisan shops, boot and shoe shops, blacksmith's shops and carpenter's shops. Archaeological resources can also be important in identifying the extent to which the town's increase in seasonal population during the mid to late

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19th century effected local agricultural and commercial markets. Did increased seasonal population result in increased local markets for locally grown and manufactured goods? Did local stores market local goods? To what extent were regional agricultural and dry goods markets important? Detailed analysis of occupational related features can contribute information towards these questions.

One of the more important potential contributions of archaeological resources in the Harvard Center Historic District can be a reconstruction of the land use history for the common area from the town's founding in 1732 to the present. This area has been the core of the village throughout its history. Archaeological survey and testing can document the continually shrinking land mass of the common as mostly civic and religious structures were divided from its original extent. Similar testing in the area around the changing limits of the common can contribute valuable information on residential and commercial structures built in the village core area. In this way, archaeological data can be used to reconstruct the geographical growth of the Center and, changes which occurred through time in the village center during its growth.

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Harvard Center Historic District
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10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM References (cont.)

E	288320	4708160
F	288220	4708040
G	287900	4708040
H	287860	4707880
I	287820	4707560
J	287700	4707560
K	287700	4707900
L	287600	4707900
M	287600	4708260
N	287200	4708260
O	287300	4708400
P	287500	4708500

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of this district are marked on the attached assessors maps. They correspond primarily to the property lines of the nominated properties, but occasionally eliminate sections of the largest lots.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Harvard Center Historic District were drawn to include the clustered village of Harvard, including properties which surround the Harvard Common Local Historic District. The Harvard Center Historic District extends along the roadways radiating from Harvard's Common to the visual and functional edges of the village, where new buildings have been constructed or where open fields begin.

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8 x 10 photographs, taken by Claire Dempsey, 1994
Negatives with Claire Dempsey

- 1 of 5 1,3 Fairbank Street, 4,2 Littleton Road (looking NE)
- 2 of 5 2 Littleton Road, 5,7 (Harvard Public Library) Fairbank Street (looking SE)
- 3 of 5 7 Still River Road, Bateman-Nason House (looking W)
- 4 of 5 Looking W across town common, 7 Still River Road, 1,3,5 Elm Street
- 5 of 5 Gale & Dickson Store, Evangelical Congregational Church, WW I Monument (looking SE)

4 x 6 photographs, taken by Philip Bergen (MHC), October 1997
Negatives at MHC

- 1. Whitcomb-Farwell House, 11 Fairbank Street; Pollard House, 14 Fairbank Street (facing SE)
- 2. Whitney House, 2 Littleton Road; Daby-Bigelow House, 5 Fairbank Street; Harvard Public Library, 7 Fairbank Street (facing N)
- 3. Houghton House, 3 Fairbank Street; shop, 1 Littleton Road; Hapgood-Kerley House, 3 Littleton Road (facing NE)
- 4. Congregational-Unitarian Church, 9 Ayer Road; Town Hall, 13 Ayer Road (facing N)
- 5. Fletcher-Hildreth House, 8 Ayer Road (facing E)
- 6. Blanchard House, 16 Ayer Road; former Town Hall, 14 Ayer Road; Hosmer-Houghton House, 12 Ayer Road (facing NE)
- 7. Nourse-Farwell House, 5 Elm Street (facing W)
- 8. Evangelical Congregational Church, 5 Still River Road (facing S)
- 9. Merriam Tavern, 1 Elm Street (facing W)
- 10. Congregational Church Parsonage, 14 Still River Road (facing NW)
- 11. Bateman-Nason House, 7 Still River Road (facing S)
- 12. Gale & Dickson Store, 1 Still River Road (facing SE)
- 13. Gale & Dickson Store front, 1 Still River Road (facing S)
- 14. Stetson House, 7 Massachusetts Avenue; Post Office, 9 Massachusetts Avenue; 15 Massachusetts Avenue (facing S)
- 15. Davis House, 1 Oak Hill Road; Wetherbee House, 3 Oak Hill Road (facing NE)
- 16. Bridge-Stone House, 23 Fairbank Street (facing SE)
- 17. Patch House, 20 Fairbank Street (facing SW)
- 18. 5 Oak Hill Road; 7 Oak Hill Road (facing E)
- 19. Old Bromfield School, 24 Massachusetts Avenue (facing W)
- 20. Bromfield House, 39 Massachusetts Avenue (facing NE)
- 21. Bull House, 9 Old Littleton Road (facing E)
- 22. Willard House, 30 Oak Hill Road (facing SE)
- 23. Blanchard House, 35 Oak Hill Road (facing N)
- 24. Truffant House, 12 Oak Hill Road (facing S)

(end)



5 MHC numbers
 - - - property lines
 ——— Local Historic District Boundaries



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MHC #	Name	Address	Style	Date	Status
900	Harvard Common	Elm & Ayer Rds.	N/A	1732	CSi
901	Civil War Monument World War One Monument Other Wars Monument Water Fountain		N/A	1880	CO CO NCO NCO
016	Fletcher-Hildreth House Barn attached	008 Ayer Road	Italianate	1869	CB
A1	Congregational-Unitarian Church	009 Ayer Road	Colonial Revival	1967	NCB
015	Hosmer-Houghton House Carriage House attached	012 Ayer Road	Italianate	ca. 1880	CB
02	Town Hall	013 Ayer Road	Italianate	1872	CB
014	former Town Hall	014 Ayer Road	Greek/Italianate	1828	CB
13	Blanchard House Carriage House attached	016 Ayer Road	Victorian Ectetic	1895	CB
X 1	Town Water Trough	[20] Ayer Road	N/A	1915	CSt
012	Bigelow-Willard House Barn attached	018 Ayer Road	Federal	pre-1831	CB
092	Edwin Hildreth House Outbuilding	027 Ayer Road	Colonial Revival	ca. 1881 19 th century	CB CB
089	Edgerton House Garage	004 Bolton Road	Colonial Revival	1915	CB CB
090	Moses House	010 Bolton Road	Craftsman	1915	CB

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MHC #	Name	Address	Style	Date	Status
091	house house	013 Bolton Road	Shingle Colonial Revival	ca. 1915 ca. 1920	CB CB
B 58	house	04 Cross Street	modern	1960	NCB
020	Merriam Tavern Carriage House	01 Elm Street	Federal	ca. 1807 19th century	CB CB
022	Nourse-Farwell House Carriage House/House	05 Elm Street	Federal	ca. 1800 19th century	CB CB
023	Sawyer House Garage	09 Elm Street	Queen Anne	1893 ca. 1920	CB CB
C 72	Harvard Fire Station	11 Elm Street	Colonial Revival	1921	CB
902	Powder House		N/A	1812	CSt
003	Ambulance Garage		Colonial Revival	1921	CB
903	Town Pound		N/A	by 1870	CSt
071	Hildreth House Stone Walls	15 Elm Street	Shingle	ca. 1900	CB CSt
17	Young House Carriage House attached	01 Fairbank Street	Federal	pre 1825 19th century	CB
018	Houghton House	03 Fairbank Street	Victorian Eclectic	1892	CB

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District Data Sheet**

MHC #	Name	Address	Style	Date	Status
019	Daby-Bigelow House Carriage House attached	05 Fairbank Street	Victorian Ecdetic	ca. 1880 19th century	CB
004	Harvard Public Library	07 Fairbank Street	Romanesque Revival	1886	CB
045	Whitcomb-Farwell House Barn	11 Fairbank Street	Federal/altered	ca. 1825 19th century	CB CB
046	Whitney House Barn	13 Fairbank Street	Federal	1800-10 19th century	CB CB
047	Pollard House Carriagehouse	14 Fairbank Street	Federal	1805 19th century	CB CB
048	Gamage House	16 Fairbank Street	Craftsman	1892	CB
049	Holman-Dickson House Carriage House attached	18 Fairbank Street	Victorian Eclectic	ca. 1800 19th century	CB
050	Patch House Barn attached	20 Fairbank Street	Colonial	18th century 19th century	CB
051	Blood House Barn attached	22 Fairbank Street	Federal	ca. 1800 19th century	CB
052	Bridge-Stone House Barn attached Garage attached	23 Fairbank Street	Colonial	18th century 19th century ca. 1920	CB
053	House Garage	24 Fairbank Street	Federal modern	ca. 1800	CB NCB

**Harvard Center Historic District
Harvard, (Worcester County) Massachusetts
District Data Sheet**

MHC #	Name	Address	Style	Date	Status
054	Bigelow House	25 Fairbank Street	Victorian Eclectic	ca. 1900	CB
055	The Old Manse Barn	28 Fairbank Street	Colonial	18th century 19th century	CB CB
024	Shop Garage	01 Littleton Road	N/A modern	ca. 1850	CB NCB
025	Whitney House	02 Littleton Road	Greek Revival	ca. 1840	CB
026	Hapgood-Kerley House Barn/house Altered outbuildings	03 Littleton Road	Victorian Eclectic	by 1898 19th century 19th century	CB CB 2NCB
027	New England Telephone Building	04 Littleton Road	Colonial Revival	1954	NCB
028	Unitarian Parsonage Barn attached	05 Littleton Road	Greek Revival.	ca. 1850 19th century	CB
029	Two-family House	06 Littleton Road	Craftsman	1923	CB
068	Sawyer House	11 Lovers Lane	Queen Anne	1894	CB
D 69	House Garage	13 Lovers Lane	Colonial Revival modern	1949	NCB NCB
070	Eaton House Garage	15 Lovers Lane	Victorian Eclectic	1890 ca. 1920	CB CB
800	Cemetery Brick Caretakers Shed Frame Caretakers Shed Stone Walls	00 Massachusetts	N/A N/A N/A N/A	1733- 19th century 19th century 19th century	CSi CB CB CSt

**Harvard Center Historic District
Harvard, (Worcester County) Massachusetts
District Data Sheet**

MHC #	Name	Address	Style	Date	Status
HA-54	Whitcomb House	[5] Massachusetts	N/A	pre 1831	CSi
HA-55	Fisher-Farwell House	[5] Massachusetts	N/A	pre 1831	CSi
005	Stetson House	07 Massachusetts	Colonial Revival	pre 1831	CB
E 6	Harvard Post Office	09 Massachusetts	Colonial Revival	1957	NCB
007	Dickson House Garage	11 Massachusetts	Colonial Revival	1939 1939	CB CB
008	Former Methodist Church	13 Massachusetts	Victorian Eclectic	1842	CB
009	Former barn/house Garage	15 Massachusetts	altered	unk. early 20th C.	CB CB
F 10	House Garage	21 Massachusetts	Colonial Revival	1993	NCB NCB
011	(Old) Bromfield School Stone Walls	24 Massachusetts	Romanesque Revival	1878 19th century	CB CSt
G	Elementary School	31 Massachusetts	modern	modern	NCB
086	Weatherbee House Garage attached	32 Massachusetts	Queen Anne modern	1907	CB
087	Savage House Garage	36 Massachusetts	Queen Anne	ca. 1907 ca. 1920	CB CB
088	Bromfield House	39 Massachusetts	Colonial Revival	ca. 1900	CB
H	House	40 Massachusetts	modern	ca. 1960	NCB

**Harvard Center Historic District
Harvard, (Worcester County) Massachusetts
District Data Sheet**

MHC #	Name	Address	Style	Date	Status
035	Davis House Barn	001 Oak Hill Road	Greek Revival	ca. 1840 19th century	CB CB
036	Wetherbee House	003 Oak Hill Road	Federal	ca. 1800	CB
037	House Garage	005 Oak Hill Road	altered	ca.1850 ca. 1920	CB CB
038	House Barn attached	007 Oak Hill Road	Federal	18th century 19th century	CB
039	Truffant House Barn attached	012 Oak Hill Road	Federal	ca. 1830 19th century	CB
040	Willard-Genry House Barn attached	019 Oak Hill Road	Greek/Gothic	pre 1832 19th century	CB
041	Willard-Slade House Garage	025 Oak Hill Road	Greek Revival	pre-1831 ca. 1920	CB CB
142	house	027 Oak Hill Road	Colonial Revival	1973-74	NCB
043	Willard House	030 Oak Hill Road	Colonial	ca.1800	CB
044	Blanchard House Barn attached Garage	035 Oak Hill Road	Italianate	ca. 1850 ca. 1850 ca. 1920	CB CB CB
056	Bamard House Garage Barn Ruin	12 Old Boston	Federal modern	ca. 1800 19th century	CB NCB CSt

**Harvard Center Historic District
Harvard, (Worcester County) Massachusetts
District Data Sheet**

MHC #	Name	Address	Style	Date	Status
057	Two family House Garage	14 Old Boston	Craftsman	by 1898 ca. 1920	CB CB
030	Bigelow-Gale House Carriage House attached	005 Old Littleton	Classical Revival	pre-1831 19th century	CB
031	house	007 Old Littleton	Craftsman	ca. 1900	CB
032	Bull House Barn attached Garage attached	009 Old Littleton	Greek Revival	ca.1840 19th century ca. 1920	CB
033	Wood-Hartwell House Barn attached	013 Old Littleton	Greek Revival	ca. 1840	CB
034	Symmonds House Barn attached Garage attached	015 Old Littleton	Federal	ca. 1800 19th century ca. 1920	CB
060	Gale & Dickson Store	001 Still River Road	Classical Revival	1896	CB
061	Evangelical Congregational Church Garage	005 Still River Road	Federal	1821 ca. 1920	CB CB
062	Bateman-Nason House Barn attached Office attached	007 Still River Road	Greek Revival	pre 1843 19th century 19th century	CB
063	Congregational Parsonage Carriage House attached	014 Still River Road	Victorian Ectetic	1869 19th century	CB
064	St. Theresa's Rectory	015 Still River Road	Colonial Revival	1966	NCB

**Harvard Center Historic District
Harvard, (Worcester County) Massachusetts
District Data Sheet**

MHC #	Name	Address	Style	Date	Status
065	Greenman House	016 Still River Road	Colonial Revival	1895	CB
066	St. Theresa's Roman Catholic Church	017 Still River Road	Colonial Revival	1926	CB
067	Gerry House Carriage House attached	021 Still River Road	Greek/Gothic	1851 19th century	CB
X 2	Barba House	023 Still River Road	Craftsman	ca. 1920	CB

TOTAL # OF RESOURCES

	<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Non-contributing</u>
Buildings	93	17
Structures	7	0
Sites	4	0
Objects	2	2
	<hr/> 106	<hr/> 19

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 97001091 Date Listed: 9/22/97

Harvard Center Historic District Worcester MA
Property Name: County: State:

Multiple Name _____

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Patrick Andrus
Signature of the Keeper

9/24/97
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

This district is nominated under the Areas of Significance of Architecture, Art, Social History, Community Planning and Development, Education, and Landscape Architecture. Art, Education, and Landscape Architecture are not addressed or justified in the nomination form and are deleted.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Harvard Center Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester

DATE RECEIVED: 8/08/97 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/18/97
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/03/97 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/22/97
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 97001091

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

 ACCEPT RETURN REJECT _____ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A,C

REVIEWER Patrick Anderson DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE _____ DATE 9/22/97

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached

SLR Y/N
470



1 & 3 Fairbank St, 2 & 4 Littleton Rd
Harvard Center Historic District
Harvard MA (Worcester County)

photo 1015

Clare Dempsey 1994



2 Littleton Rd, 5 Fairbank St,
& 7 Fairbank St - Harvard Public Library
Harvard Center Historic District

Harvard MA (Worcester County)

photo 2015

Claire Dempsey 1994



7 Still River Road
Harvard Center Historic District
Harvard MA (Worcester County)

photo 3015

Claire Dempsey 1994



Gale & Dickson Store, Evangelical Congregational
Church, World War One Monument on Common
Harvard Center Historic District-
Harvard MA (Worcester County)

photo 4015

Claire Dempsey 1994



7 Still River Road; 1, 3 & 5 Elm Street
Harvard Center Historic District
Harvard MA (Worcester County)

photo 3 of 5

Claire Dempsey 1994



#1 Harvard, MA, Middlesex County
Harvard Center Historic District
looking south-east on Fairbank Street
left: (45) Whitcomb-Farewell House/Barn
11 Fairbank St.

right: (47) Pollard House/Carriagehouse
14 Fairbank St.

October 1997



#2 Harvard, MA, Middlesex County

Harvard Center Historic District

looking north on Fairbank Street.

Right (4) Harvard Public Library

7 Fairbank Street

Center (19) Daby-Bigelow House

5 Fairbank Street

Left (25) Whitney House

2 Littleton Road

October 1997



Photo #3 Harvard, MA
Harvard Center Historic District
Looking North east at corner of
Fairbank & Littleton Streets

(left) MHC # 18: Houghton House
3 Fairbank St.

^{center}
(Right) MHC # 24: Shop
1 Littleton Road.

^{far}
(Right) MHC # 26: Hapgood-Kerley House
3 Littleton Road

Middlesex County

October 1997



Photo #4

Harvard, MA, Middlesex County
Harvard Center Historic District

Looking North-west

(left
center) MHC # A1: Congregational-Unitarian Church
9 Ayer Road.

(back
right) MHC #2: Town Hall
13 Ayer Road

October 1997



#Photo #5

Harvard, MA, Middlesex County
Harvard Center Historic District

Looking East

MHC #16: Fletcher-Hildreth House
8 Ayer Road

October 1997



photo #6

Harvard, MA, Middlesex County
Harvard Center Historic District

Looking Northeast on Ayer Road.

(left front) MHC #15: Hosmer-Houghton House
12 Ayer Road

(center) MHC #14: Former Town Hall
14 Ayer Road

(right back) MHC #13: Blanchard House
16 Ayer Road

October 1997



Photo #7

Harvard, MA, Middlesex County

Harvard Center Historic District

October 1997

Looking West

MHC #22: Nurse-Farwell House
5 Elm Street



photo # 8

Harvard, MA, Middlesex County
Harvard Center Historic District

Looking South

October 1997

MHC # 61: Evangelical Congregational
Church

5 Still River Road



Photo #9

Harvard, MA, Middlesex County
Harvard Center Historic District

October 1997

Looking Southwest

MHC #20: Merriam Tavern
1 Elm Street



Photo #10

Harvard, MA Middlesex County
Harvard Center Historic District

October 1997

Looking Northwest down
Still River Road,

(front right) MHC #63: Congregational Parsonage
14 Still River Rd.

(center) MHC #65: Greenman House
116 Still River Rd.

(far left) MHC #68: Sawyer House
11 Lovers Lane



photo # 11

Harvard, MA, Middlesex County

Harvard Center Historic District

October 1997

Looking Southeast

MHC # 62: Bateman-Nason House

7 Still River Road



Photo #12

Harvard, MA Middlesex County
Harvard Center Historic District

October 1997

Looking Southeast

MHC # 60 : Gale & Dickson Store
1 Still River Road



Photo #13

Harvard, MA Middlesex County

Harvard Center Historic District

October 1997

Looking Southeast

MHC # 60: Gale & Dickson Store

1 Still River Road



Photo #14

Harvard, MA Middlesex County

Harvard Center Historic District

October, 1997

Looking South on Massachusetts
Avenue

(left front) ^{MHC} #5: Stetson House
7 Massachusetts Ave

(center) ^{MHC} #6: Harvard Post Office
9 Massachusetts Ave.



Photo #15

Harvard, MA, Middlesex County

Harvard Center Historic District

October, 1997

Looking Northeast

(Right) MHC #36: Wetherbee House
3 Oak Hill Road

(Left) MHC #35: Davis House
1 Oak Hill Road



Photo #16

Harvard, MA. Middlesex County

Harvard Center Historic District

October 1997

Looking South East

MHC #52: Bridge-Stone House
23 Fairbank St.



Photo #17

Harvard, MA, Middlesex County
Harvard Center Historic District
October 1997

Looking Southwest

MHC # 50: Patch House
20 Fairbank Street



Photo #18

Harvard, MA, Middlesex County

Harvard Center Historic District

October, 1997

Looking East

MHC #37: 5 Oak Hill Rd.



Photo # 19

Harvard, MA, Middlesex County

Harvard Center Historic District

October 1997

Looking Northwest

MHC # 11: (Old) Bromfield School
24 Massachusetts Ave.



Photo #20

Harvard, MA, middlesex County
Harvard Center Historic District

October 1997

Looking Northeast

MHC # 88: Bromfield House
39 Massachusetts Ave.



#photo #21

Harvard, MA, Middlesex County

Harvard Center Historic District

October, 1997

Looking East

MHC #32: Bull House

9 Old Littleton Rd.



Photo #22

Harvard, MA . Middlesex county

Harvard Center Historic District

October 1997

Looking Southeast

MHC #43 : Willard House
30 Oak Hill Rd.



Photo #23

Harvard, MA, Middlesex County

Harvard Center Historic District

October, 1997

Looking North

MHC #44: Blanchard House
35 Oak Hill Road



Photo #24

Harvard, MA, Middlesex County
Harvard Center Historic District

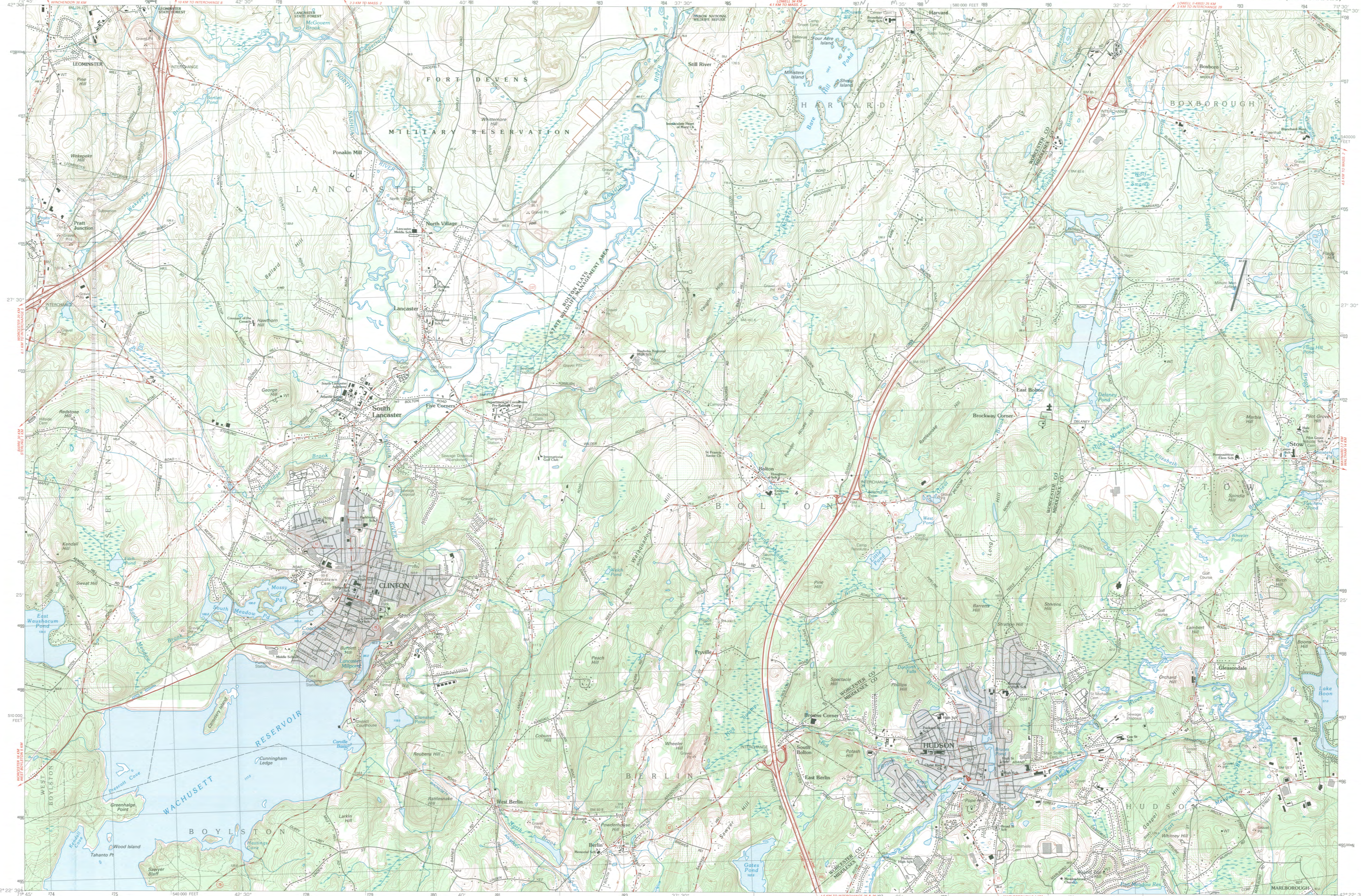
October, 1997

Looking Southwest

MHC #39: Truffant House
12 Oak Hill Rd.

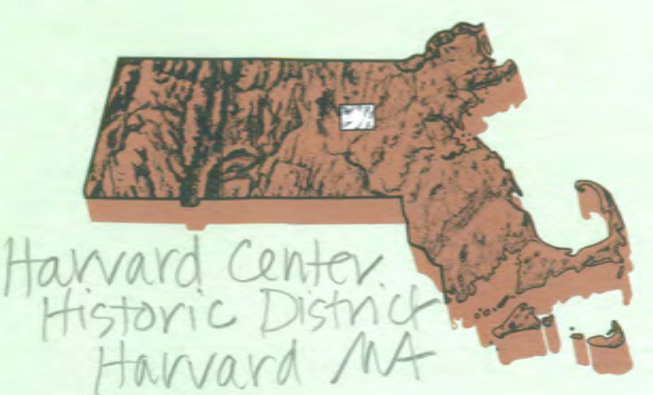
HUDSON, MASSACHUSETTS

7.5 X 15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Hudson MASSACHUSETTS

1:25 000-scale metric topographic map



7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE SHOWING

- Contours and elevations in meters
- Highways, roads and other manmade structures
- Water features
- Woodland areas
- Geographic names



Produced by the United States Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts agencies

Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1960. Field checked 1981. Map edited 1988
Supersedes Clinton 1965 and Hudson 1966
1:25,000-scale maps

Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 19
Universal Transverse Mercator
10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone. 1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983, move the projection lines 6 meters south and 40 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map

CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
CONTOUR ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

Meters	Feet
1	3.2808
2	6.5617
3	9.8425
4	13.1234
5	16.4042
6	19.6850
7	22.9659
8	26.2467
9	29.5275
10	32.8084

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808
To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

DECLINATION DIAGRAM	ADJOINING MAPS
	1 2 3
	4 5
	6 7 8

1 Fitchburg
2 Ayer
3 Billerica
4 Sterling
5 Mansfield
6 Worcester North
7 Marlborough
8 Frammingham

FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

Topographic Map Symbols

- Primary highway, hard surface
- Secondary highway, hard surface
- Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
- Unimproved road, soil
- Route marker: Interstate, U.S., State
- Railroad: standard gage; narrow gage
- Bridge: drawbridge
- Footbridge, overpass, underpass
- Built-up areas: only selected landmark buildings shown
- House: barn; church; school; large structure
- Boundary: National, with monument; State; County, parish; Civil township, precinct, district; Incorporated city, village, town; National or State reservation; small park
- Land grant with monument; found section corner
- U.S. public lands survey: range, township, section
- Range, township; section line: location approximate
- Fence or field line
- Power transmission line, located tower
- Dam; dam with lock
- Cemetery; grave
- Campground; picnic area; U.S. forest management
- Windmill; water well; spring
- Mine shaft; prospect; adit or cave
- Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation
- Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression
- Disturbed surface: strip mine; lava; sand
- Sounding; depth curve
- Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream
- Rapids; large and small falls; large and small dam
- Swamp; marsh
- Submerged marsh; land subject to controlled inundation
- Woodland; scattered trees
- Sand; mangrove
- Orchard; vineyard

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request

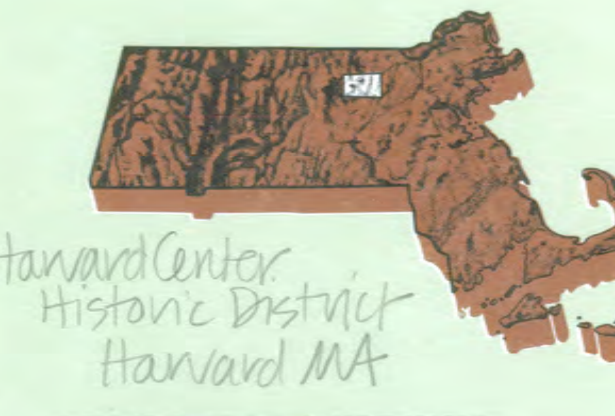
AYER, MASSACHUSETTS

7.5 X 15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Ayer MASSACHUSETTS

1:25 000-scale metric topographic map



7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE SHOWING

- Contours and elevations in meters
- Highways, roads and other manmade structures
- Water features
- Woodland areas
- Geographic names



Produced by the United States Geological Survey
 Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts agencies
 Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1980-1981. Field checked 1981. Map edited 1988
 Supersedes Shirley 1965 and Ayer 1966 1:25,000-scale maps
 Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 19
 Universal Transverse Mercator
 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone. 1927 North American Datum
 To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983, move the projection lines 6 meters south and 40 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks
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CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS
 NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
 CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
 OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

CONVERSION TABLE		DECLINATION DIAGRAM		ADJOINING MAPS		
Meters	Feet	MAGNETIC DECLINATION		1	2	3
1	3.2808	151°		4	5	6
2	6.5616	152°		7	8	
3	9.8424	153°				
4	13.1232	154°				
5	16.4040	155°				
6	19.6848	156°				
7	22.9656	157°				
8	26.2464	158°				
9	29.5272	159°				
10	32.8080	160°				

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808
 To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

UTM grid convergence (GCM) and magnetic declination (MDM) at center of map
 Diagram is approximate

1	2	3
1 Ashburnham	2 Townsend	3 Lowell
4 Fitchburg	5 Billerica	6 Sterling
7 Haverhill	8 Maynard	

FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
 DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

Topographic Map Symbols

- Primary highway, hard surface
- Secondary highway, hard surface
- Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
- Unimproved road, trail
- Railroad: standard gauge, narrow gauge
- Bridge: trestlebridge, narrow gauge
- Footbridge; overpass; underpass
- Build-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown
- House; barn; church; school; large structure
- Boundary
- National, with monument
- State
- County, parish
- City, town, village, town
- National or State reservation; small park
- Land grant with monument; found section corner
- U.S. public lands: acre; range, township, section
- Range, township, section line: location approximate
- Fence or field line
- Power transmission line, located tower
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- Swamp; marsh
- Submerged marsh; land subject to wave, controlled foundation
- Woodland: scattered trees
- Scrub; mangrove
- Orchard; vineyard

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request

Harvard Center Historic District



THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES. IT IS NOT VALID FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION OR CONVEYANCE.

THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASS. STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM.

PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: APRIL 23, 1983

COMPLETION DATE: FEBRUARY 15, 1985

REVISED & REPRINTED BY
JALBERT ENGINEERING, INC.
 STURBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 01566 347-5136
 PRODUCED BY
GORDON E. AINSWORTH & ASSOCIATES, INC.

LEGEND SYMBOLS

AREA CALCULATED AcC
 AREA SURVEYED Ac
 BLOCK LIMIT
 BLOCK NUMBER 02
 COMMON OWNERSHIP / OR Z
 EXEMPT PROPERTY (E)
 DISTRICT BOUNDARY

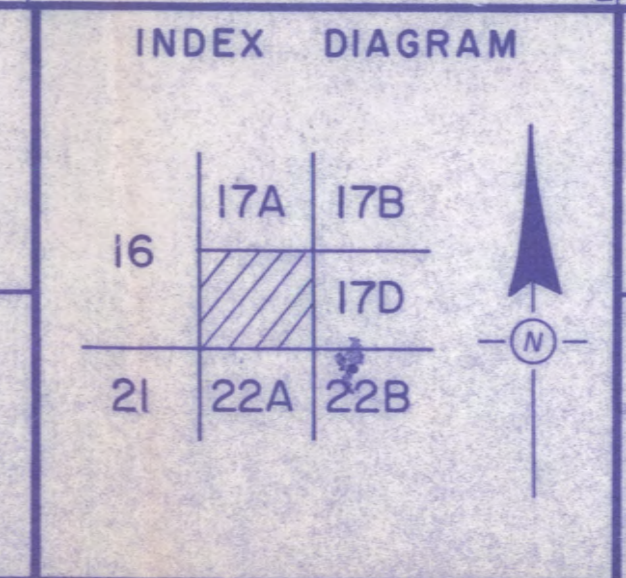
SUBDIVISION LOT NO. (2)
 MATCH LINE ← M.L. →
 RIGHT OF WAY R/W
 RECORD DIMENSION 100'
 SCALED DIMENSION 100'S
 WETLANDS

SCALE

1 INCH = 100 FEET

FEET

METERS

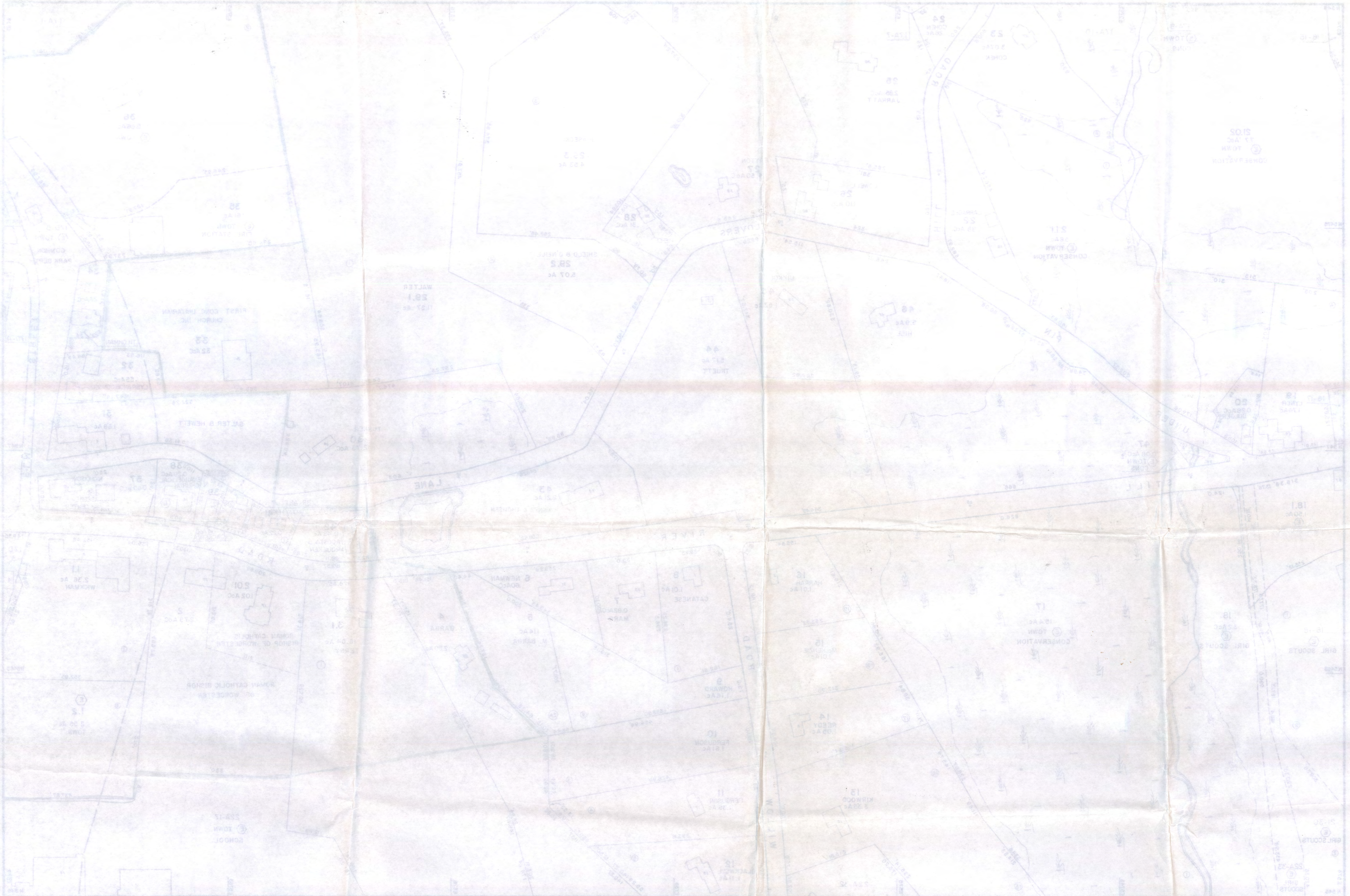


ASSESSORS MAP

HARVARD

REVISED THROUGH 1-1-94

MAP NO. 17C



<p>HARVARD</p> <p>ASSESSORS MAP</p>		<p>INDEX DIAGRAM</p>		<p>SCALE</p> <p>1 INCH = 100 FEET</p>		<p>LEGEND</p> <p>SYMBOLS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EXEMPT PROPERTY DISTRICT BOUNDARY COMMON OWNERSHIP BLOCK NUMBER RECORD DIMENSION 100' RIGHT OF WAY R/W WATCH LINE AREA CALCULATED AREA SURVEYED BLOCK LIMIT COMMON OWNERSHIP EXEMPT PROPERTY DISTRICT BOUNDARY 		<p>REVISIONS</p> <p>REVISED THROUGH</p> <p>MAP NO.</p> <p>17C</p>	
<p>COMPLETION DATE FEBRUARY, 1988</p> <p>PHOTOGRAPHY DATE APRIL 23, 1982</p> <p>THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASS. STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM.</p> <p>IT IS NOT VALID FOR LEGAL PURPOSES OR CONVEYANCE.</p>		<p>PRODUCED BY</p> <p>GORDON E. WINSTON & ASSOCIATES, INC.</p> <p>STURBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 01566</p> <p>ALBERT ENGINEERING, INC.</p> <p>REVISED & REPRINTED BY</p>		<p>REVISIONS</p> <p>REVISED THROUGH</p> <p>MAP NO.</p> <p>17C</p>		<p>REVISIONS</p> <p>REVISED THROUGH</p> <p>MAP NO.</p> <p>17C</p>		<p>REVISIONS</p> <p>REVISED THROUGH</p> <p>MAP NO.</p> <p>17C</p>	

HARVARD CTR HD
MIDDLESEX CO., MA.
-boundaries marked



THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES. IT IS NOT VALID FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION OR CONVEYANCE.

THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASS. STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM.

PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: APRIL 23, 1983

COMPLETION DATE: FEBRUARY 15, 1985

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 PRODUCED BY
 GORDON E. AINSWORTH & ASSOCIATES, INC.

LEGEND SYMBOLS

AREA CALCULATED AcC
 AREA SURVEYED Ac
 BLOCK LIMIT ———
 BLOCK NUMBER 02
 COMMON OWNERSHIP / OR Z
 EXEMPT PROPERTY (E)

SUBDIVISION LOT NO. ②
 MATCH LINE ← M.L. →
 RIGHT OF WAY R/W
 RECORD DIMENSION 100'
 SCALED DIMENSION 100'S
 WETLANDS

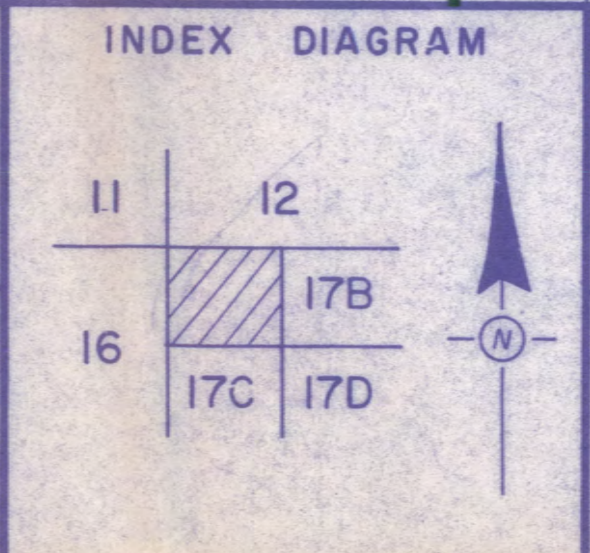
SCALE

1 INCH = 100 FEET

FEET

METERS

100 50 0 100 200
 30.488 15.244 0 30.488 60.976

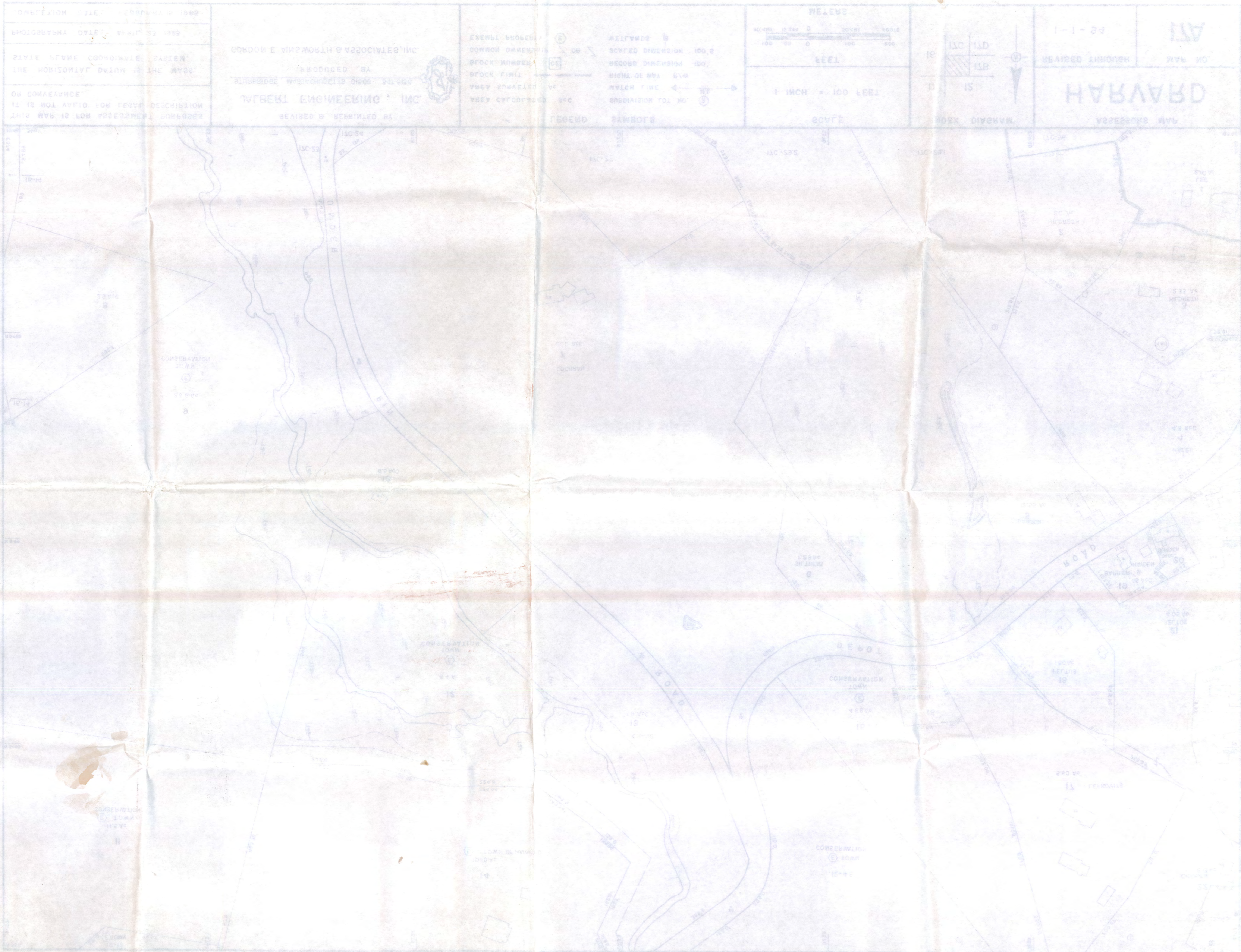


ASSESSORS MAP

HARVARD

REVISED THROUGH
 1-1-94

MAP NO.
17A



Harvard Ctr. HD
 Middlesex Co., MA
 boundaries marked.

17A



THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES. IT IS NOT VALID FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION OR CONVEYANCE.

THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASS. STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM.

PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: APRIL 23, 1983

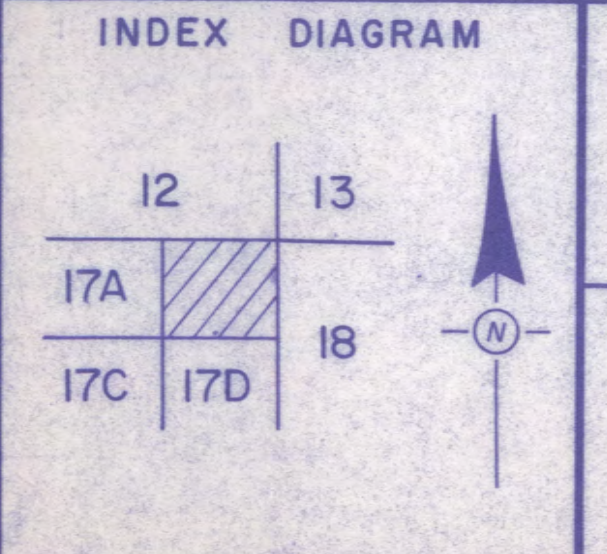
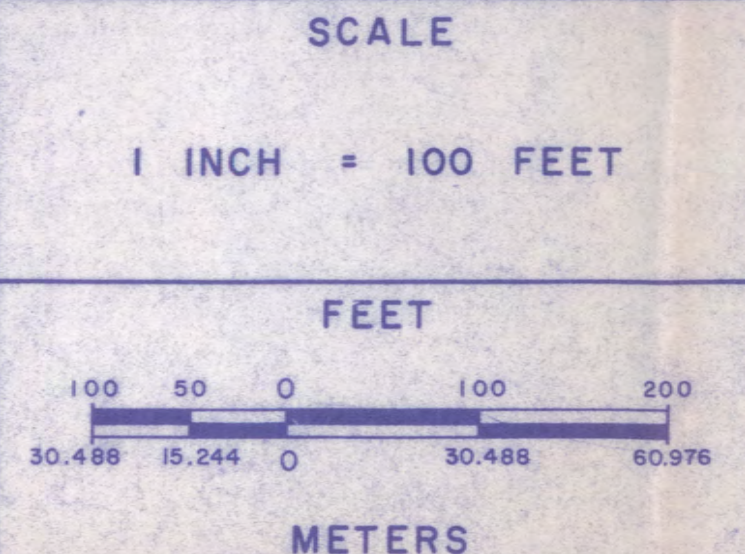
COMPLETION DATE: FEBRUARY 15, 1985

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 STURBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 01566 347-5136
 PRODUCED BY
 GORDON E. AINSWORTH & ASSOCIATES, INC.

LEGEND SYMBOLS

AREA CALCULATED AcC
 AREA SURVEYED Ac
 BLOCK LIMIT
 BLOCK NUMBER 02
 COMMON OWNERSHIP OR Z
 EXEMPT PROPERTY E

SUBDIVISION LOT NO. ②
 MATCH LINE ← M.L. →
 RIGHT OF WAY R/W
 RECORD DIMENSION 100'
 SCALED DIMENSION 100'S
 WETLANDS



ASSESSORS MAP

HARVARD

REVISED THROUGH 1-1-94

MAP NO. **17B**

COMPLETION DATE: FEBRUARY 12, 1962
PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: APRIL 22, 1962
STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM
THE HORIZONTAL SCALE IS THE BASIS
OF DIMENSIONS
IT IS NOT VALID FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS
THIS MAP IS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES

PRODUCED BY
JACOB ENGINEERING, INC.
REGISTERED & REPLICATED BY

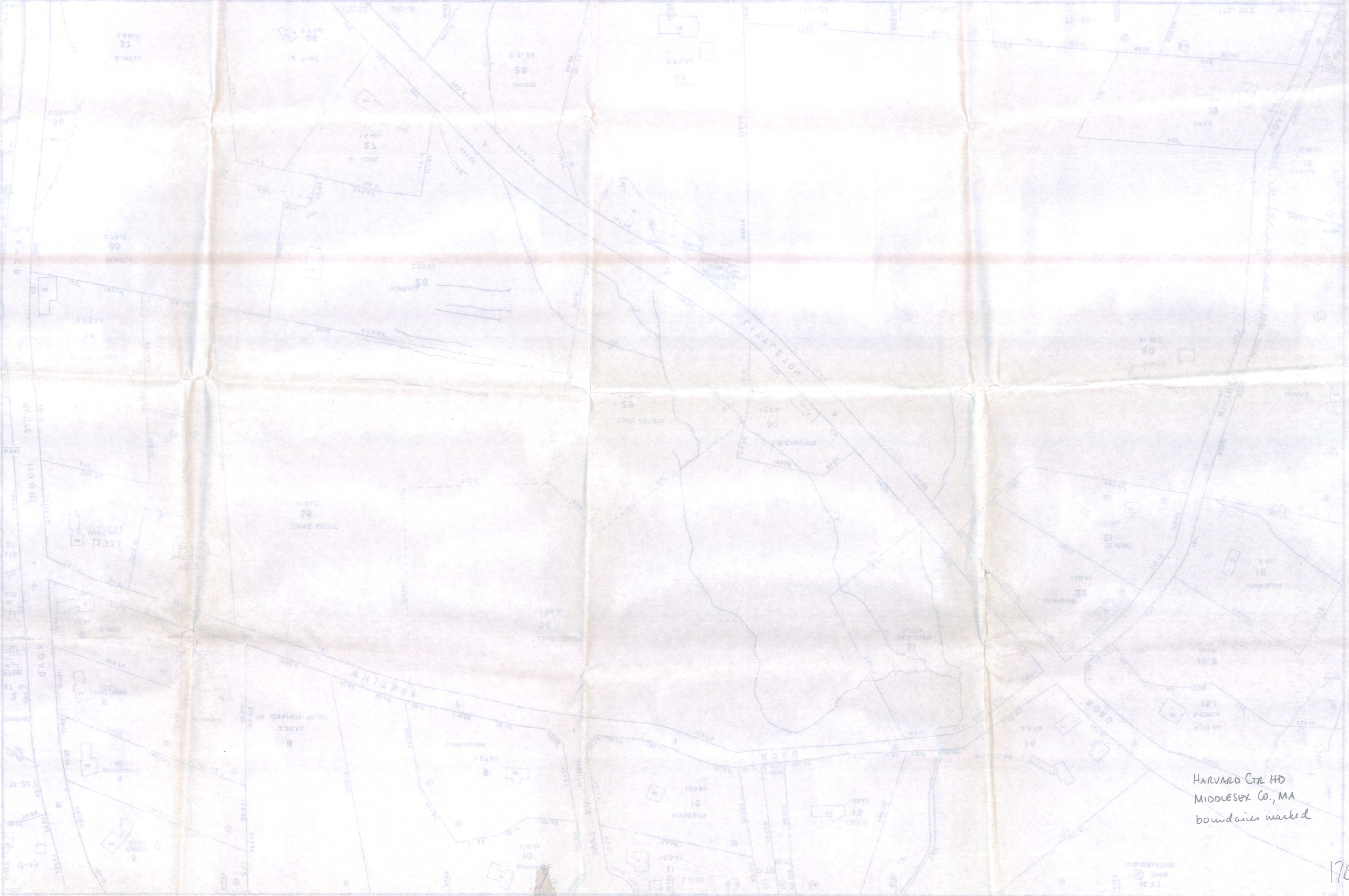
EXEMPT FROM
COMMON OWNERSHIP
BLOCK NUMBER
BLOCK LIMIT
AREAS SHOWN IN
THIS MAP
SCALING DIMENSION 100
RECORD DIMENSION 100
RIGHT OF WAY
MATCH LINE
DIMENSION FOR NO

SCALE
1 INCH = 100 FEET

INDEX MAP

1-1-62

HARVARD



HARVARD CTR HD
MIDDLESEX CO., MA
boundaries marked



THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES. IT IS NOT VALID FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION OR CONVEYANCE.

THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASS. STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM.

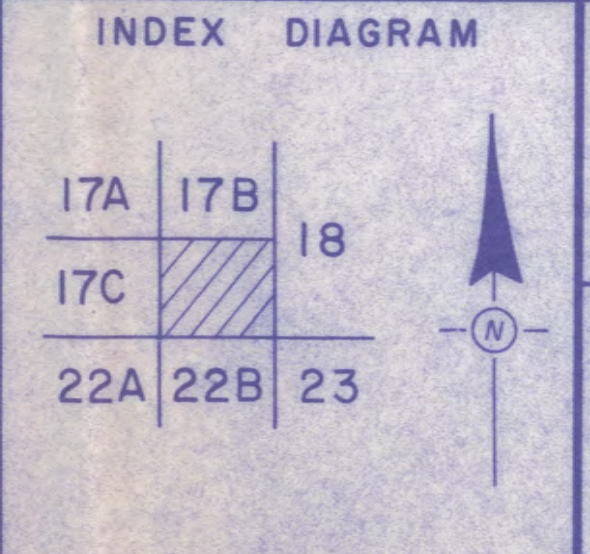
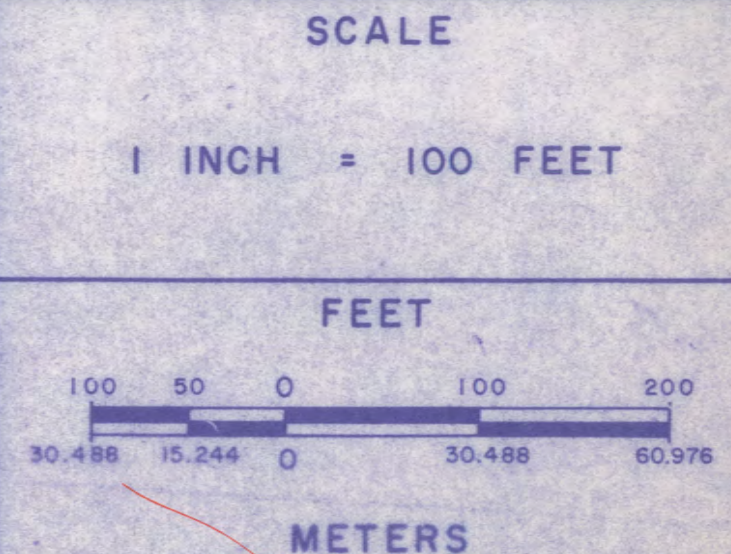
PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: APRIL 23, 1983

COMPLETION DATE: FEBRUARY 15, 1985

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LEGEND		SYMBOLS	
AREA CALCULATED	AcC	SUBDIVISION LOT NO.	②
AREA SURVEYED	Ac	MATCH LINE	← M.L. →
BLOCK LIMIT	—	RIGHT OF WAY	R/W
BLOCK NUMBER	02	RECORD DIMENSION	100'
COMMON OWNERSHIP	OR /	SCALED DIMENSION	100'S
EXEMPT PROPERTY	(E)	WETLANDS	W
DISTRICT BOUNDARY	---		



ASSESSORS MAP

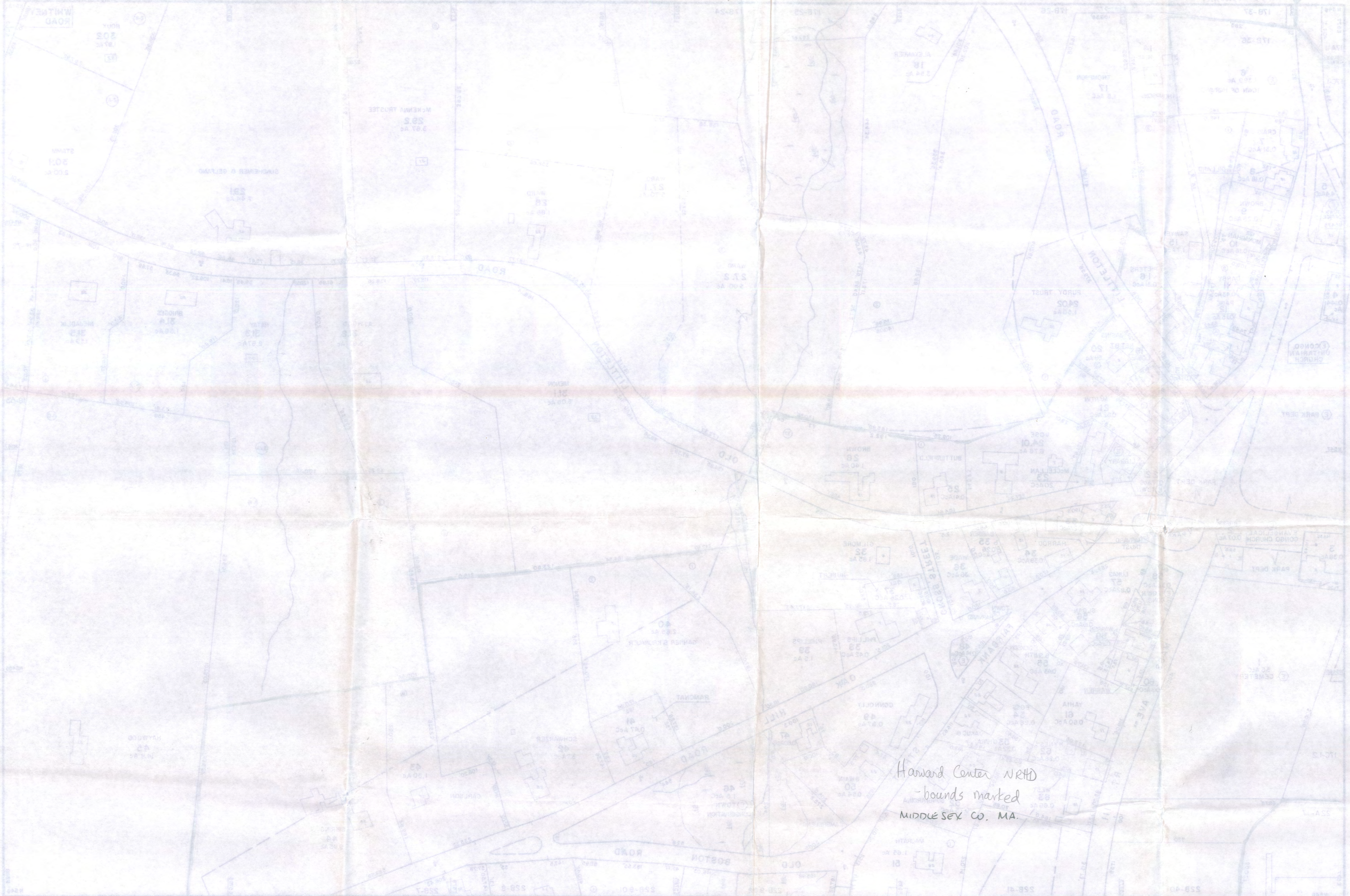
HARVARD

REVISED THROUGH

1-1-94

MAP NO.

17D



Harvard Center NR4D
 - bounds marked
 MIDDLESEX CO. MA.

COMPLETION DATE: FEBRUARY, 1980
 PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: APRIL 23, 1979
 STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM
 THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASS.
 OR CONVEYANCE.
 THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES
 IT IS NOT VALID FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION

GORDON E. ANSWORTH & ASSOCIATES, INC.
 PRODUCED BY
 STURBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS DIGITAL PLOTTING
 JALBERT ENGINEERING, INC.
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DISTRICT BOUNDARY
 EMENT PROPERTY
 COMMON OWNERSHIP OR
 SCALED DIMENSION 100'S
 RECORD DIMENSION 100'S
 RIGHT OF WAY PLW
 MATCH LINE
 SUBDIVISION LOT NO.
 LEGEND SYMBOLS

1 INCH = 100 FEET
 SCALE
 INDEX DIAGRAM
 17D 17B
 25A 25B 25

HARVARD
 1-1-84
 17D
 REVISED THROUGH
 MAP NO.



THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES. IT IS NOT VALID FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION OR CONVEYANCE.

THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASS. STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM.

PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: APRIL 23, 1983

COMPLETION DATE: FEBRUARY 15, 1985

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LEGEND SYMBOLS

AREA CALCULATED AcC
 AREA SURVEYED Ac
 BLOCK LIMIT
 BLOCK NUMBER 02
 COMMON OWNERSHIP OR Z
 EXEMPT PROPERTY E
 DISTRICT BOUNDARY

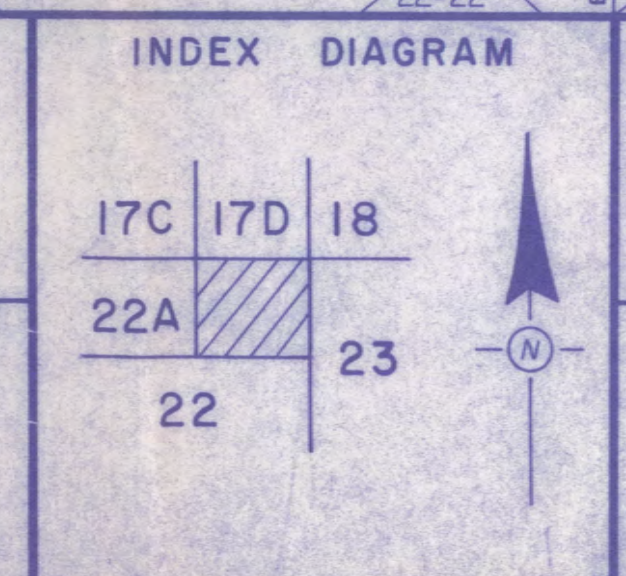
SUBDIVISION LOT NO. 2
 MATCH LINE M.L.
 RIGHT OF WAY R/W
 RECORD DIMENSION 100'
 SCALED DIMENSION 100'S
 WETLANDS

SCALE

1 INCH = 100 FEET

FEET

METERS

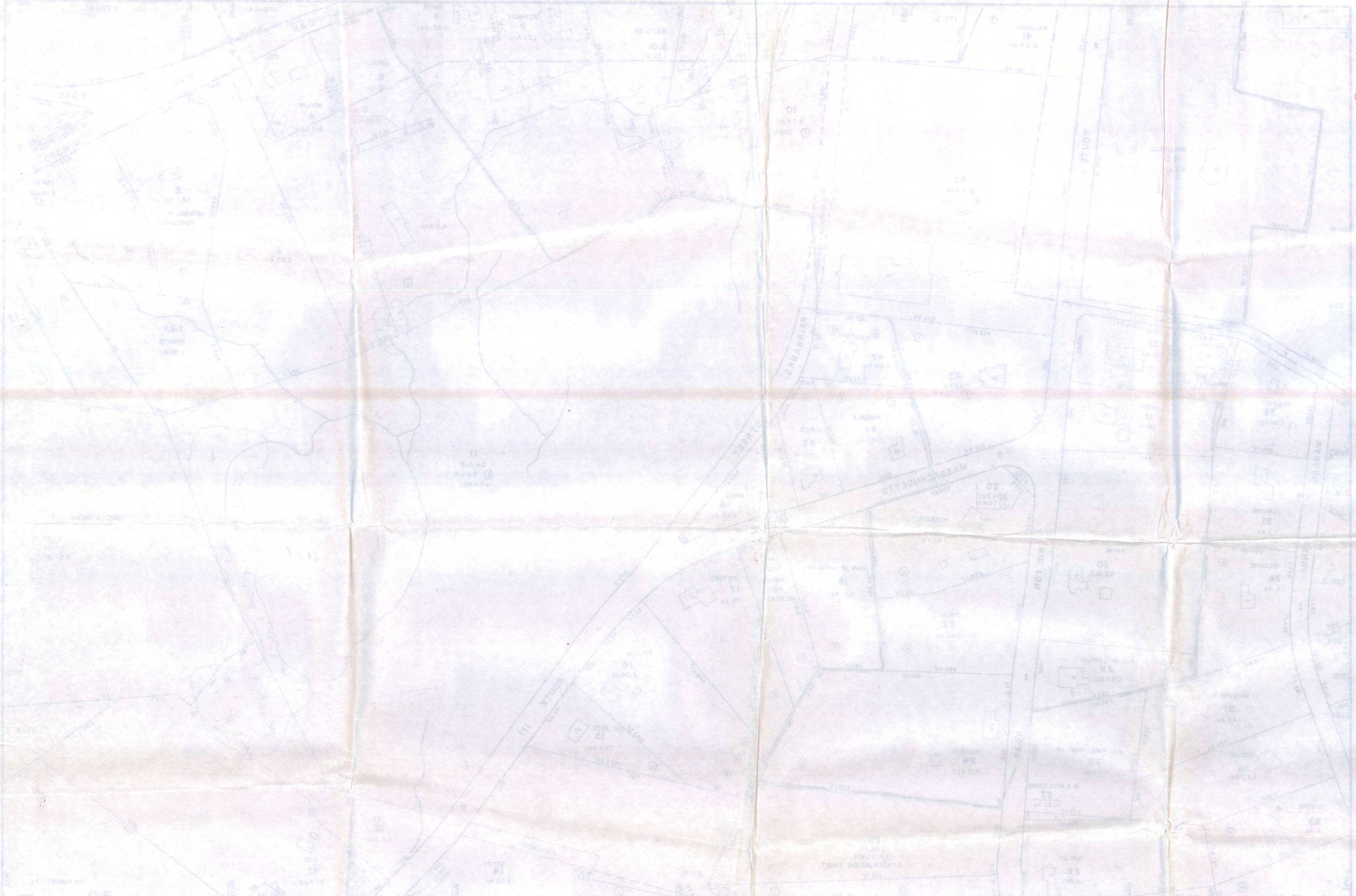


ASSESSORS MAP

HARVARD

REVISED THROUGH
 1-1-94

MAP NO.
22B



<p>HARVARD ASSESSORS MAP REVISED THROUGH MAP NO. 52B 1-1-94</p>	<p>INDEX DIAGRAM 52A 52B 52C 52D 52E 52F 52G 52H 52I 52J 52K 52L 52M 52N 52O 52P 52Q 52R 52S 52T 52U 52V 52W 52X 52Y 52Z</p>	<p>SCALE 1 INCH = 100 FEET FEET METERS</p>	<p>LEGEND SYMBOLS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WETLANDS ENEMY PROPERTY COMMON OWNERSHIP BLOCK NUMBER BLOCK LIMIT AREA SURVEY AREA CALCULATED DISTRICT BOUNDARY RECORD DIRECTION RIGHT OF WAY MATCH LINE SUBDIVISION LOT NO. 	<p>JALBERT ENGINEERING, INC. GORDON E. AINSWORTH & ASSOCIATES, INC. PRODUCED BY STURBIDGE MASSACHUSETTS ONE SEVEN REVISOR & REPRINTED BY</p>	<p>COMPLETION DATE: FEBRUARY 6, 1988 PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: APRIL 23, 1988 THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASS STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM. THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES. IT IS NOT VALID FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION OR CONVEYANCE.</p>
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Harvard Center HD
Middlesex, CO. MA.
boundaries marked



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

July 30, 1997

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

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination for:

Harvard Center Historic District, Harvard (Worcester Co.), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of property in the Certified Local Government community of Harvard were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 60-120 days before the meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betsy Friedberg".

Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

cc: John Martin, Chair, Harvard Historical Commission
Virginia Thurston, Chair, Board of Selectmen, Harvard, MA
Nancy Reifenstein, CLG Coordinator, Town of Harvard
Claire Dempsey, Preservation Consultant



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

December 12, 1997 William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service, Cultural Resources
Mail Stop 2280, Suite 400
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find additional photographic documentation of the following historic district, previous listed on the National Register:

Harvard Center Historic District, Harvard (Worcester Co.), MA
Listed 9/22/97 #97001091

Please add the additional material to the established district file. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions in this matter.

Sincerely,

Philip Bergen
National Register Assistant
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosures: 24 black and white photographs, list of locations, annotated district map