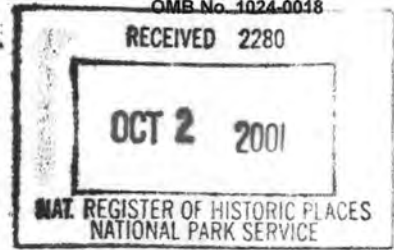


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



1236

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *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 an 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 listed in 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 Montague Center Historic District
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Center, Main, North, School, Union Streets & others not for publication
city or town Montague vicinity
state Massachusetts code MA county Franklin code 011 zip code 01351

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I 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.

Brona Simon 9/20/2001
Signature of certifying official/Title Brona Simon, Deputy SHPO, MHC Date

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

Entered in the
National Register

11-16-01

Montague Center Historic District

Name of Property

Franklin County, Massachusetts

County and State

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 | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| 152 | 34 | buildings |
| 21 | 0 | sites |
| 3 | 0 | structures |
| 2 | 1 | objects |
| 178 | 35 | 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**12 Alvah Stone Mill**6. Function or Use****Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling; secondary structure

COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store, warehouse

SOCIAL: meeting hall

GOVERNMENT: city hall, fire station, post office

EDUCATION: school, library

RELIGION: religious facility, church-related residence

FUNERARY: cemetery

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: agricultural field

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling, secondary structure

COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store, warehouse

SOCIAL: meeting hall

GOVERNMENT: city hall, fire station, post office

EDUCATION: school, library

RELIGION: religious facility

FUNERARY: cemetery

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: agricultural field

7. Description**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

COLONIAL

EARLY REPUBLIC

MID-19TH CENTURY: Greek Revival, Gothic Revival

19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival

LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH C. AMERICAN MOVEMENTS:
Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

walls WOOD: Weatherboard
BRICK

roof ASPHALT

other _____

Narrative Description

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

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 7 Page 1

DESCRIPTION

Location

Montague Center is one of five villages that make up the Town of Montague, a Connecticut River valley town in Franklin County, Massachusetts. Montague Center is an intact 19th century village, organized around intersection roads and a central green in the midst of an agricultural landscape. Located in an upland area occupying the southwestern portion of the town, Montague Center is one mile east of the Connecticut River at the southern edge of the Montague plain. The area is drained by a number of streams and contains extensive fertile lands, with a history of agriculture dating to prehistoric times. The Sawmill River wraps around the east and north sides of the village. Following a sinuous course, it flows from Lake Wyola in the eastern part of the county and empties into the Connecticut River about one mile west of Montague Center. On the north end of the village, the river plummets fifty feet into a ravine. It was in this location that one of the town's first mill sites were established, now known as the Alvah Stone Mill, and around which Montague Center developed as a rural commercial and industrial center.

Early land transportation routes originated south of Montague Center in Hadley, the plantation from which Montague was separated in 1714. The Old Sunderland Road extended north towards Turners Falls, crossing the Sawmill River at the falls in Montague Center. The mill site, an early tavern, and pioneer farmsteads on Taylor Hill linked to this road were the key landmarks in the formation of the village. Later, improved northerly routes to Greenfield, Turners Falls and Miller Falls passed through the settlement. An east-west road connecting them with a ferry landing on the Connecticut River created a cross-axis that demarcated the center of the village, and a green was laid out there by the time the precinct of Montague was established in 1753. A century later, two railroad lines passed within a mile of the village center at the northern and eastern ends of the agricultural community.

Plan of the district

Main Street is the primary north-south axis of Montague Center. The principal residences and commercial buildings of the village are concentrated on this road. On the south end of the village, Main Street originates at the intersection of the Old Sunderland Road, which skirts the east side of Taylor Hill on its way to Millers Falls, and a more recent road following the west side of the Sawmill River that is now part of a county road connecting Turners Falls with Sunderland and communities further south. South Street also emanates from this intersection and extends east across the Sawmill River to Federal Street (Rt. 63), which is now the principal state highway through the region. A wooden box with painted directional signs dating from the late eighteenth century is situated in the center of a small triangular island in the intersection. The concentrated pattern of lots and arrangement of buildings defining the southern gateway to the village appears at this intersection. South and east of this area, the landscape is characterized by the flood plain of the Sawmill River and the canals and impoundments created there to operate factories in the village. The village plan extends a short distance west of

(continued)



United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 7 Page 2

the intersection along Old Sunderland Road. Just past the old Root Tavern, the landscape opens up into farmland, which is now largely reforested.

The historic Main Street is approximately one-quarter mile long. On its north end, the axis terminates at another intersection where the village green is located. Center Street (known as Central Street until the 1990s when the street names and numbers were updated for the town's 911 emergency system) cuts across the north side of the triangular green. Main Street forms the west side, and North Street bounds the green on the east. The important civic, religious, and domestic buildings are located on these streets around the green. The monumental brick meeting house of the Congregational Church, built in 1834, anchors the east side of the green at the corner of North and Center Streets. The Unitarian Church (also 1834) and a school built at roughly the same time distinguish the west side on Main Street. The original meeting house, built ca.1750, occupied a site on Center Street on the north side of the green; a string of houses, shops and a town hall built in 1858 are now located there. The green has been reduced in size by the widening of roads and many of its characterizing features: trees, plantings, pathways, and objects have been removed. It is presently a grassy expanse with two features, an iron watering trough installed in 1915 and a small stone war memorial erected in 1954. Montague Center's principal Greek Revival-era houses and stores are concentrated in the section of Main Street between the southern gateway and the green. In the mid-19th century, small factories appeared in the southeast quadrant of this area as a channel was dug from the Sawmill River to power them. An 1889 fire that started in Rugg's rake factory near South Street consumed most of them as well as the residences facing Main Street, leaving only the Montague Boot and Shoe Company factory, which has been converted for use as a Masonic Lodge (59 Main St.). It is in this section where four houses dating from the late 19th and early 20th century are located, in a seemingly anomalous manner.

Main Street continues west and north from the green and terminates at a bridge crossing the Sawmill River where it joins Turner Falls and Greenfield Roads. (Addresses and street names were changed in this section to comply with the 911 emergency system. Prior to this, Main Street terminated at the green, Central Street extended farther west to where it met Bridge Street, which continued north to the Sawmill River crossing.) The westerly stretch of Main Street contains houses in a mix of architectural periods ranging from the elegant, federal-style brick residence built for the Rev. Aaron Gate ca.1805 at the west end of the street (18 Main St.) to an Italianate dwelling constructed over fifty years later near the green. As Main Street bends towards the north, School Street and Court Square (named East Taylor Hill Road outside the village) fork off to the south and west, respectively. School Street was added to the village plan in the late 1800's when a new school was built there. Court Square appeared earlier as a connecting road across the north side of Taylor Hill; it was named West Street on the map of Montague Center published in the 1871 Franklin County Atlas. North of the bend in Main Street, the landscape opens up. Large farm lots occupy the west side of the road, beginning with that associated with the Aaron Gate house. The Sawmill River creates a declivity on the east side of the road containing a broad expanse of meadow. The properties at the north end of Main Street, near the river and the bridge, have been long linked with the families associated with the mills there.

(continued)



United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 7 Page 3

Center Street extends east from the green, travels across the flats around the Sawmill River, and connects with Federal Street outside of the core of the village. Between the green and a canal dug to power the Dyke Mill is a concentration of small house lots, with the exception of the monumental house and connected buildings of the Ward house and farm on the north side of the street. The other dwellings are of a smaller-scale and a lower class than those on Main Street, although they are consistent in form, period, and design reflecting the village's taste for the Greek Revival style. North Street extends a short distance beyond the green. Buildings on that street as well as on lots behind the Chenery store and Town Hall add density to the central core of the village. Shortly after the Montague Boot & Shoe Company built its factory on Main Street in 1856, its owners constructed Union Street and five houses for employees. A few more houses have been built there since shifting more of the plan of the village to the east side of Main Street below the green.

Later in the 19th century, the creation of School Street west of Main Street, with a connector (Station Street) meeting Main Street close to Union Street, brought balance to the village plan. Commercial buildings appeared on Station Street; the school and its playground occupied much of the remaining space. After the school built there in ca. 1880 burned in the late 1940s, it was replaced in 1950 by the present building. It is compatible with the historic district in its one-story scale, form, setting and Colonial Revival design. In the 1960s a small six-lot subdivision was partitioned opposite the school on Newton Lane. While the buildings do not contribute to the significance of the district due to the recent period in which they were built, the concentration of lots in this section of the plan are not intrusive. New lots subdivided along North Street north of the green also do not compromise the plan of the village, although they have been excluded from the historic district.

The northern limits of the district occupy an area of the village that developed there around the falls on the Sawmill River. Milling activity has been documented in this location as early as 1716. The present mill complex there dates to the grist mill Alvah Stone erected there in the early 19th century. Its present appearance reflects the function it served from 1933 to the 1980s when specialized stamping machines and dies were manufactured there. A saw mill operated almost continuously on this site from the mid-1700s to the mid-1900s. This site functioned briefly as an electric generating plant for a regional trolley car system in the village. Both the grist mill and saw mill sites have been listed on the National Register (1997) prior to being included in the historic district described in this nomination. The remaining properties in this portion of the district have an association with the milling activity with the exception of the Locust Hill Cemetery, which is included as a component of the historic plan of the nineteenth-century village.

Architecture

The architecture of Montague Center reflects the dominating influence of the Greek Revival style in the organization and design of New England communities during the mid- and late-19th century. This was particularly the case in the small, rural industrial towns of western Massachusetts that were reaching economic and cultural maturity in this period. In villages like Montague Center with histories that extend back into the 18th century, scattered examples of earlier architectural styles from the Colonial and Federal periods can be found. In the years that followed the heyday of the Greek Revival, other architectural styles established a

(continued)



United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 7 Page 4

presence in these towns, including Gothic Revival, Italianate, Stick, Colonial Revival, and Craftsman styles, but it is Greek Revival that characterizes the district. This elegant style was applied to the traditional one- and two-story, side-gable, center-chimney house forms as well as more elaborate temple-like structures. The most common type is of the side hall, front-gabled plan.

The first Greek Revival structure in the district was the First Congregational Church built on Main Street in 1834 (Photo 1). Its construction was closely followed by the Unitarian Church across the common (Photo 2). The Town Hall, built in 1858, echoed the Greek Revival forms emanating from the Brick Church and indicates the persistence of the design taste a generation later (Photo 13). Most of the houses, stores, and factories built in this period consistently show this influence. An important component to the unity and cohesiveness of the architecture of Montague Center is the influence of architectural pattern books on the early 19th century buildings. The building guides of Asher Benjamin, who produced seven editions from 1797 to 1843, had the most profound impact on the vernacular architecture of Montague Center. Benjamin's books provided local builders with information on techniques and styles, which in many cases, the local builders modified to suit local conditions.

Brief descriptions of many of the more distinctive examples of the village's architecture follow.

The oldest building in the district, and one of the oldest in Montague, is the **Root Tavern** on North Sunderland Road (Photo 6). Constructed in ca.1735, this two-story, timber-framed building has a central chimney, 12-over-12 sash windows, and clapboard siding. A reproduction of an elaborate Connecticut River Valley doorway dominates the façade. This reproduction was designed by Boston architect, John E. Linnett in 1932. The design was based on the doorway from the Elihu White House in Hatfield, Massachusetts, on exhibit in the collection of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts.

The **Aaron Gate House** is an elegant two-story Federal-style building located at 18 Bridge Street (Photo 12). Constructed ca.1805, this five-by-three-bay brick structure has nine-over-nine sash windows on the first story and six-over-six on the second. The cornice on the front elevation has dentils and the central doorway features sidelights and an elliptical fanlight with delicate tracery. The structure has two narrow end chimneys.

The **Chenery House** on 2 North Street was constructed ca.1831 (Photo 11). This three bay-by-five bay Greek Revival structure is a two-story frame house with a garret. Four Doric columns support a one-story porch with wide, simple entablature. The front façade (west elevation) contains a pedimented gable with two four-over-four, side-by-side attic windows, corner pilasters supporting a narrow entablature, three six-over-six, second story windows, and two long lights and finely detailed pilasters. The side hall entranceway has sidelights flanked by finely detailed pilasters. A two-story, pedimented gable is located on the north side, while on the south side there is a Victorian era bay window. The house has a slate roof, clapboard walls, a stone foundation, and a large ell on the east elevation.

(continued)



United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 7 Page 5

A most impressive presence located at 49 Main Street is the **Delano House** (Photo 5). The two-story building, built ca. 1832, has an immense portico with four fluted Doric columns supporting a wide, simple entablature. The pedimented gable above contains flush-board siding, a 12-pane attic window, and louvered vent. Of side hall design, the west-facing front façade exhibits six-over-six windows with Grecian fretwork on the architraves, including corner blocks. The doorway is classic Greek—featuring a heavy, simple entablature with projecting cornice, pilasters, sidelights, and a paneled door. The entablature over the portico extends along the perimeter of the house and is supported by corner pilasters. A one-story porch is located on the south side of the house and has six Tuscan columns supporting the roof. Photographic evidence suggests the porch was constructed sometime between 1882 and 1907.

One of the most striking public buildings in Montague Center is the **First Congregational Church** (Photo 1). Known as the Brick Church, this Greek Revival building was constructed in 1834 of local brick, granite and wood. The Doric portico has four unfluted columns supporting a simple entablature. The front façade has a pedimented gable with a molded cornice and raking cornices surrounding a six-over-six attic window. This window, as well as those in the side bays, is capped with a semi-circular screen composed of wooden slats arranged in a fan-like design. Two doorways lie on each side of the front central bay and have semi-circular arches with fan-like designs above. The steeple has a rectangular stage followed by two octagonal stages. The first stage contains quoins, paired brackets, and arches. The first octagonal stage is decorated with a repeat of the arches, plus pilasters, paneling, and a simple frieze. The last stage has urns, simple panels, and a 20th century clock.

The **Unitarian Church** is located across green from the First Congregational Church and provides a visual contrast to the brick edifice that echoes the sharp differences in the two theologies (Photo 2). The 1834 structure combines elements of classical and medieval styles in a pleasing, cohesive manner. The front elevation displays classic pilasters supporting a simple entablature under a pedimented front gable. Flush board is used within the gable. The three bays contain a paneled double door in the central bay and 20-pane windows on each side. Three Gothic Revival windows with lancet arches lie above the doorway and windows. A delicate tracery in the arches reflects and echoes the style of the lancet arches. Along the side elevation, the three bays hold rectangular windows topped by screens shaped in Gothic arches. The arches are constructed by inlaying wooden slats into the clapboard walls that hold the screens in place. The two-tiered steeple consists of two rectangular stages, each with pilasters and Gothic arches. The second stage has a simple entablature above the pilasters and arch.

The **Ward House** on Center Street exhibits four Doric columns supporting a giant portico with a heavily pedimented front gable (Photo 14). A triangular attic window has diamond panes. This two-and-one-half-story dwelling has a broad entablature surrounding the structure below the cornice, which is supported by corner pilasters. The front façade consists of flush boards, instead of the more common clapboards, which appear on the sides and rear. The front façade additionally contains two long, slightly pedimented windows that extend to

(continued)



United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 7 Page 6

the floor and a doorway with transom, sidelights and a pedimented, "eared," and slightly flared architrave. This Greek Revival house was constructed in ca.1847. A Victorian-era bay window was added to the east side ca.1880; ells and sheds leading to the barn were subsequently added.

The Italianate style gained popularity after it was introduced to Montague Center in 1851. The style was first used for the **Senator Joseph H. Root House** located on Center Street (Photo 3). This house shows the typical asymmetrical Italian Villa L-shaped plan, but lacks the standard tower feature. The Root House has a gently pitched roof, wide eaves with bracketed cornices. The recessed entryway has sidelights and lies within an elaborate and ornate veranda. The windows are framed with a simple rectangular crown and brackets.

In 1858 the **Town Hall** was constructed of local brick on the site adjacent to the first meeting house on Center Street. The three-bay structure possesses a bold pedimented gable that surrounds an arched attic window (Photo 13). The pediment is intricately patterned with brickwork and lies above an entablature of banded brick. The building is pleasantly balanced and symmetrical. The granite in the foundation and stairs establishes a firm footing for the impressive feeling expressed by the building. The use of granite for the door and window lintels presents an especially fine accent to the façade and creates a striking contrast to the brick exterior walls. The front elevation has three entrances, each with double doors. However, only the primary central door has transom lights. This fine two-and-one-half-story public building remains a tangible expression of the period of Montague's greatest growth and development.

There are a few 19th century buildings in the district that are not associated with Neo-Classical styles. One of them is the **Anson Cobb House** at 71 Main Street—the only Stick style structure in Montague Center (Photo 10). The most obvious characteristic of the house, constructed in 1890, is the decorative trusses along the gable ends of the steeply pitched roof, including the front gable and the intersecting gables on the north and south sides. The two-and-one-half-story structure has clapboard siding with a number of raised horizontal bands that emphasize the texture of the wall and the framing of the building. This emphasis is furthered by the exaggeration of the corner posts and window trim. Decorated brackets extend for the corner posts to the cornice and support the decorative trusses. A fancy, one-story porch on the front elevation features turned columns, vergeboards along the gable and frieze, and brackets. The Anson Cobb House was one of row of houses on the east side of Main Street that were built following a devastating fire that wiped out the earlier buildings there. One of the few Queen Anne-style houses in the district, 63 Main Street, was erected in this area in 1889.

A new school was built on farmland west of Main Street in the 1880s. School Street was constructed to service the school and an extension was made to connect School and Main Streets in the vicinity of the Union Street intersection. This extension is now known as Station Street. Between the 1890s and 1910s, a number of buildings appeared on Station Street including a blacksmithy and an work-related building that now functions as the town fire station. Montague Center's first and only automobile dealership and repair shop was erected on

(continued)



United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 7 Page 7

the south side of the street around 1920. Many houses were enlarged and improved during the last quarter of the nineteenth century, and a few new houses appeared on empty lots within the village core and in fringe areas were at the same time. However, with few exceptions, they generally conformed with the Greek Revival or Italianate styles of their predecessors, which reinforced Montague Center's remarkable uniformity.

Boston theologian and social reformer Edward Pearson Pressey attempted to establish a Utopian craft community in Montague Center in 1901. New Clairvaux was conceived as a return to a pre-industrial craft society in response to the economic inequities and moral dilemma of urban society. All evidence of this community has disappeared except the changes made to the Dyke Mill at 44 Center Street and the Arts & Crafts-style home which printer Carl Purington Rollins built behind it (42 Center Street). Both buildings are important surviving landmarks of this unique period of Montague Center's history.

More conspicuous in the district are the dwellings and garages that were introduced to the village in the early twentieth century. These buildings are dramatically different in their scale and design. Bungalows appeared on Union, School, North, and Main Streets, mostly at the outside of the plan. The house erected at 8 School Street was a pre-fabricated Sears & Roebuck catalog house that came into town on the railroad and was assembled on the site. Distinctive examples of Four-Square and Dutch Revival houses were built at 67 and 69 Main Street, respectively, in the area destroyed by fire in the 1880s. Most of these new buildings have detached garages associated with them, often in similar designs. In addition, a number of garages were built on properties containing older houses in response to the introduction of the automobile. Many garage doors are apparent in the connected back buildings and barns appended to Montague Center's historic homes indicating the accommodations that have been made for motorized vehicles in the 20th century.

Most of the development that took place in the 1930s took place in and around the Alvah Stone Mill complex. Frank Martin had bought the old mill and converted it to the manufacture of stamping machinery. In 1933, Martin built a house opposite the mill at 555 Turners Falls Road. The Fiske family revived the old saw mill and built a new Tudor style house on the property at 432 Greenfield Road. A new cape was built on the neighboring property at about the same time. With its connected garage, it reflected the form and design of the 19th century architecture in the village. In the late 1940s, the Montague Public School burned to the ground. In 1950, the present Colonial revival-style school was built.

Open sections of the village plan were subdivided and developed in the 1960s and later as the demand for homes continued after the Second World War. Some existing vacant lots were built upon, such as 54 Main Street on the southwest corner of Main and Station Streets. The only concentration of non-historic houses within the district are within a six-lot subdivision created on Newton Lane in ca.1960. Small capes with attached garages are visible from School Street and have little impact on the visual integrity of the district. Later Ranch and Colonial types were built on lots within the cul-de-sac. With the exception of the ca.1960 post office building built on the site of an old hotel on the northeast corner of Main and Union Streets, there are no glaring modern intrusions in the streetscapes of the Montague Center Historic District.

(continued)



United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 7 Page 8

Montague Center presents a rare catalog of the range of building types, house forms, and elaboration in which the Greek Revival-style found expression in western Massachusetts from its introduction in the 1830s to houses designed and built over a century later. The historic district encapsulates the core of the village where the most distinctive houses predominate in the midst of later buildings that were designed in a way that complemented these architectural landmarks and provide a sense of Montague Center's long and diverse history.

Archaeological Description

At least one prehistoric site is located within the boundaries of the Montague Center Historic District and a high potential exists that additional sites will be found. Three prehistoric sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile). Site 19-FR-210 is located on the opposite side of Greenfield Road across from the Alvah Mill. That site was located in 1983 during archaeological testing for the proposed Greenfield Road Reconstruction Project. Cultural material recovered from the site includes chert, rhyolite and quartz chipping debris, calcined bone, and Middle Woodland ceramic fragments. The site was reported to extend lengthwise for at least 15.0 meters along Greenfield Road, however, its width is unknown indicating it may extend across the road onto the Alvah Stone Mill property. The Frankus Site, 19-FR-211, also parallels Greenfield Road immediately north of the district. That site may also be located on both sides of the road, possibly extending into the district. Environmental characteristics of the district represent locational criteria (slope, soil drainage, proximity to wetlands) that are favorable indicators for many types of prehistoric sites. Well-drained, level to moderately sloping riverine terraces and the southern border of the Montague Plain are located in close proximity to wetlands throughout much of the district. Some steeply sloped areas are also present. The Sawmill River flows northerly along the district's eastern boundary then westward through the district north of Center Street. This tributary drains westward to the Connecticut River located approximately 1.5 miles to the west. Two fall lines are present along the Sawmill River within the district. These formations may further enhance the site potential of this area, especially as a site location focused on fishery activities. Smaller streams are also present immediately beyond the district boundaries in several areas. Given the above information, known patterns of prehistoric settlement in the region, the size of the district, and the presence of a known site within the district, prehistoric site potential is demonstrated and a high potential exists that additional sites will be found.

A high potential also exists for locating historic archaeological resources in the district although much of it remains to be documented. Colonial settlement of the area began in the early 18th century after most hostilities with Native American groups had ended. By the mid-18th century, Montague Center was a focal point of settlement in the area. Based on interpolations of available population and housing data, it has been estimated that by ca. 1754, twenty to forty houses were located in Montague Center Village (Tanner 2001:43). While this estimate includes residential, commercial and industrial structures and areas beyond the district boundaries, available evidence accounts for at least 21 dwellings (Tanner 2001:Figure 3.4) within the district. Since only one building dating to 1754 or earlier is listed on the district data sheet, the data presented above clearly

(continued)



**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Montague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MA**Section number 7 Page 9

illustrates archaeological potential for sites dating to this period in the district. Additional historical research combined with archaeological survey and testing may help locate evidence of the wide variety of historic sites present in the district. Two palisaded dwellings have been identified in Montague Center by 1754, however, both structures are believed to be located outside the district on the periphery of the village. Additional research may identify similar fortified areas in the district area of the Center. Structural evidence may exist from mills reported to exist at fall lines along the Sawmill River at the northern limits of the district after 1716. Archaeological evidence associated with residential dwellings, probably parts of farmsteads should also exist. Structural evidence of the town's first meetinghouse, built in 1750, may also survive on Center Street on the northern side of the green. Evidence from occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) represent another potentially important resource category associated with archaeological sites from the district's early settlement period. Occupational related features should also survive with the Root Tavern (1735) on North Sunderland Road, the oldest building in the district. Archaeological potential increases after 1750 as Montague Center developed into the focal point of settlement and principal mill seat of the region. Much of the settlement and industrial growth during this period occurred around and as a result of the Alvah Stone Mill Site located at the northern end of the village. The 1764 Elisha Root map illustrates two gristmills at the Alvah Stone Mill site between Greenwich Road and the Sawmill River. The second mill site is probably the site of the later Lawrence Mill, located approximately 200 feet downstream from the Alvah Stone Mill. Both the Alvah Stone Mill and the Lawrence Mill Site are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Alvah Stone Mill has been associated with the earlier Joseph Root and Root's Mill. That relationship is based on an 1835 conveyance record for what became the Stone Mill by referring to it as "Root's Mill". This association and cartographic evidence date the two gristmills to 1764 or earlier. Foundation remains can exist from these early mills, possibly incorporated into later mills. Structural evidence from related waterpower resources including headraces, tailraces, canals and wheelpits may also exist. Stonework from dams may also survive from this period. It is unclear whether or not a second dam was present at this early date or whether the second mill somehow functioned with water power from the first dam. If a second dam did exist, it was probably located at the lower falls where a later dam was constructed. If a second dam was present at this location, archaeological survivals from many of the waterpower related structures listed above and dam abutments or footings may exist. Industrial and residential growth during the late 18th and 19th centuries together with a fire in 1889 combine to increase the potential for locating sites throughout that period. In spite of this potential during the district's greatest period of growth in the 19th century, potential sites are underreported. Most residences and commercial buildings were concentrated along the Main Street corridor, the primary axis of Montague Center. Settlement also occurred along side Streets leading from this corridor. Potential sites in the area may include structural evidence of residences, farmsteads, outbuildings, and occupational related features dating to the 18th and possibly early 19th century period when agriculture was still important. As commercial and industrial development increased, the potential increases for locating those sites as well as sites with more exclusively residential functions. Residences appeared throughout the district. Small mills, manufactories and shops also appeared throughout Montague Center, especially on the east side of the village, where the Sawmill River

(continued)



**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Montague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MA**Section number 7 Page 10

flowed through the rear of the Main Street lots. The east side of Main Street should contain the greatest concentration of potential sites in the district. In 1889, a fire, that reportedly started in Rugg's Rake factory near South Street, consumed most of the small factories, shops and residences along the east side of Main Street. While much of this area was redeveloped by residential construction by 1920, structural evidence of these sites and occupational related features may survive in the area. A reduced potential for similar sites may also exist in other areas of the district. Documented potential sites from this period may include the S.S. Holton House Site (c. 1850) on Turners Falls Road, a shoe shop Site (1842) at the N. C. Brewer House at 66 Main Street, a carriage shop site (c. 1850) at the Dr. F.A. Deane House on 45 Main Street, a blacksmith shop site (c. 1837) at the J.H. Morse House at 44 Main Street and the Richardson Furniture factory on Main Street. The potential for recovering industrial related archaeological resources continues in the vicinity of the Alvah and Lawrence Mill sites well into the 20th century. Additional historical research combined with archaeological survey and testing may also help locate and map the canal system that delivered water power from the Sawmill River to mills and factories along the Main Street corridor. Archaeological evidence may also be present that documents how the functions of water power related resources changed as power systems in the district evolved and as industrial needs changed. Archaeological resources may also exist in the vicinity of the Locust Hill Cemetery (c. 1760) on Turners Falls Road. Unmarked graves, funerary related artifacts and evidence of fence lines and cemetery related structures may exist within and around the cemetery border.

(end)



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 a 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.)

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- ARCHITECTURE
- COMMERCE
- COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
- INDUSTRY

Period of Significance

ca. 1750 - 1951

Significant Dates

1751
1830-1850
1889

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Horatio Clapp
Luke O. Leach
Alpheus Moore
Henry & Zubina Taylor

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(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 # N/A
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # N/A

Primary location of additional data

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

Name of repository: _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 8 Page 1

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Montague Center Historic District is significant as a distinctive example of a small rural New England village center surviving essentially intact from its peak period of development in the 19th century. It contains a wide range of historic resource types, such as a community burial ground, saw and grist mills, manufactories, churches, a school, shops and stores, and a town hall. Montague Center is particularly distinguished by a remarkable collection of houses designed in the Greek Revival style, many quite elaborately, built during its heyday from 1830 to 1850. In addition to their distinctive Classical facades, most of the large houses of this period were erected at the front of a string of connected back buildings that terminated with substantial barns. The village was laid out with long lots with narrow frontages that had agricultural functions in the back. As the location of early industrial sites on the Sawmill River and the nexus of transportation routes, Montague Center became a hub of commercial activity in central Franklin County in the mid-1700's. Surrounded by productive farmland, the village was ideally sited for settlement. As the Connecticut River became more industrialized in nearby Turners Falls, Greenfield, and Hadley in the mid-19th century, small manufactories appeared in Montague Center, along with factory housing, which increased the size and density of the small rural community. As a result, it acquired a diversity of type and scale in its architecture that was unusual for a village its size. As the industrial economy of western Massachusetts declined in the 20th century, Montague Center gradually returned to its earlier pastoral incarnation. Factories no longer exist, the mills have been put to other uses, and only one store remains in business. New houses replaced dwellings lost in an 1889 fire that swept along the east side of Main Street and consumed many small factories and shops along a power canal from the Sawmill River. The latest of these houses dates to the 1920's. A new school was built in 1950 after a fire destroyed its predecessor a few years earlier. An older school still exists on Main Street; it was converted to a factory in the late 1800's and later to housing. A small number of houses have appeared in Montague Center since World War II; however, their impact on the historic appearance of the district is negligible. As it did 100 years ago, Montague Center's distinctive plan, a crossroads village organized around a green, vividly conveys the image of a mid-19th century rural New England town with an unusual concentration of Greek Revival-period architecture.

Background

Given its proximity to Deerfield, it is likely that the Pocumtuck Indians inhabited what is now the Town of Montague during the Contact Period (1500-1620). The Norwottuck tribe, centered in Northampton and Hadley, would have also occupied parts of Montague as well. Although no documented Contact Period sites have been identified, there is evidence that Native Americans were active in the area. Native groups probably occupied several sites in the town including Turners Falls, Millers Falls, the flood plains of the Connecticut River, and the Montague Plain. The falls are said to have attracted significant numbers of natives during the spring spawning

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 8 Page 2

runs of salmon and shad. The Montague Plain and areas watered by the Connecticut and Sawmill Rivers would have supported early agriculture. Montague was traditionally known as an excellent area for hunting. Trails established by the Pocumtucks and Norwottucks formed the basis for a network of roads and were a determining factor in the later settlement of the town. The major north-south trail followed Taylor Hill Road and Old Sunderland Road to the Sawmill River. The trail forded the river, then followed the route of Montague Road to Old Northfield Road. An alternative north-south trail was reported along the Sawmill River valley along Chestnut Hill Road to Federal Street.

An attack on the Pocumtuck territory by Mohawk forces from New York and Canada in ca.1664 resulted in the destruction of several Pocumtuck villages including Peskesmskut in Turners Falls, Carroheagan in Montague City, and Mattampash in Montague Center. These attacks were among a series of many setbacks that eventually ended in the disappearance of Native Americans from the area. During the Plantation Period (1620-1675), land divisions were begun that ultimately led to the creation of Montague Center as a distinct community. The land was first part of the vast Hadley Plantation that was established in 1661. Then it was a part of Swampfield, which the General Court of the Colony of Massachusetts granted to a group of petitioners from Hadley in 1673. But the continuing conflict among the Native Americans made it too dangerous for settlers to venture into the Montague area until the turn of the 18th century. With the spread of King Philip's War to western Massachusetts in 1675, Native American groups clustered in the Montague and Deerfield area driving out the few Europeans settled there to the palisaded towns in Hatfield and Hadley. A large encampment of natives at Turners Falls was decimated in the Spring of 1678 by a militia troop from Springfield led by Captain William Turner. The native King Philip was killed during this engagement, and survivors were driven from the region.

Confrontations between Native Americans and European settlers continued into the Colonial Period (1675-1775). There were a series of encounters known collectively as King William's War from 1688 to 1698 and as Queen Anne's War from 1703 to 1713. Skirmishes continued in the region until 1725 when a treaty was signed in Boston. Colonists began to return to Swampfield by 1714. In 1718 Swampfield was incorporated as Sunderland. The proprietors partitioned the grant into lots in 1729-30; the area north of the Sawmill River, known as Hunting Hills, remained undivided and held in common. This northern part was divided from Sunderland and incorporated as a separate parish in 1751. On December 22, 1753, the General Court of the colony passed an act authorizing the erection of the north Parish of Swampfield into a separate district by the name of Montague.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 8 Page 3**The Settlement of Montague Center**

Local historians date the first settlement of Hunting Hills as either 1715-16 when Edward Alling, his son Edward Alling, Jr. and Benjamin Munn erected a sawmill on the Sawmill River (Fiske), or 1726-27 when Ebenezer Marsh built a small cabin and the first farm was established on Taylor Hill (Pressey). This dispute reflects the two aspects of the town that were beneficial to settlement: abundant water for industrial power and productive agricultural land. Early economic activity in the town was centered in agriculture. Local crops were distributed as far south as Hartford, Connecticut via the Connecticut River. Livestock production and lumbering were important occupations. By the 1750's, Montague Center had developed as the hub of the settlement. It was located at the principal mill seat of the region, which supported grist and saw mills, now known as the Alvah Stone Mill and the Lawrence saw mill, respectively (NR-listed as Alvah Stone Mill, 1997). It was also sited at a river crossing and at the intersection of early trails, including the north-south routes to Turners Falls, Millers Falls, Sunderland, and Greenfield and the east-west road to the ferry. Root's Tavern on the Sunderland Road (Photo #6) was supplying to the needs of travelers and local residents by 1751. The two-story, center-chimney house is a distinguished example of Colonial Period architecture in Massachusetts and is the only building dating to the 18th century remaining in the historic district. The classic Connecticut Valley doorway in the center of the façade is a reproduction. Root's Tavern was where the town government was organized, and the Congregational Church held its first meetings. The Congregational Church's first meeting house was constructed in Montague Center in 1753 and began the definition of the green. The town's first schoolhouse and animal pound were built nearby in 1757 and 1766, respectively. None of these early buildings are extant.

There were 64 families totaling 392 people living in 49 households in the precinct of Montague in 1765. Most of the inhabitants were former residents of Deerfield and Sunderland, with a small number coming from Greenfield and Hadley. The 1771 tax list identified 74 houses in Montague; in 1776 the population was recorded at 575. Residents raised pigs, cows and sheep, and produced cider, hay and grain for market. Lumber continued to be a principal part of the local economy. Beginning in the 1770's, many of Montague's farmers expanded their mixed crop agriculture to include stall-feeding cattle to diversify their income. The town's fertile intervale lands were well-suited to fattening cattle, which required productive fields and meadows and abundant pasture. Smaller farms raised four head of cattle on the average; larger farms raised as many as twenty. They were driven to the Brighton stock yards outside Boston for slaughter. Agricultural prosperity together with the intensive industrialization of the Connecticut River and its major tributaries led to a rapid increase in population in Montague, particularly as the eastern regions of New England became overpopulated and pioneers gradually pushed farther west.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 8 Page 4**Montague Center in the 19th Century**

Industrial development intensified in the Town of Montague in the early 19th century. The Fifth Massachusetts Turnpike was constructed through the town, and in 1800 a canal was opened that bypassed Turners Falls and improved transportation along the Connecticut River. A dam and power system was created along with the canal, which attracted new industry to the region. At Montague Center, agriculture, commerce, milling and small industries proliferated. Water-powered industry along the Sawmill River expanded with eight mills identified on a 1794 map of the town. Two of these were in Montague Center, the Alvah Stone Mill (NR 1997) and the nearby Lawrence Saw Mill. Cloth mills provided carding and fulling functions for area wool producers. Elihu Root constructed a saw mill on a canal off the Sawmill River on the edge of the village in ca.1815. This site is now occupied by the Dyke Mill, which has served various industrial and manufacturing functions in years since (Photo #14).

Aaron Gates was installed as the second minister of the Montague Congregational Church in 1807. A new brick dwelling was constructed for him just east of the meeting house (Photo #12). The two-story house with five-bay façade is a distinctive example of the Federal period architecture of western Massachusetts. With the boom of Greek Revival houses that followed, the Gates House is now a rare specimen of Neoclassical design in Montague Center.

By 1830, Montague Center had grown and matured into an established rural village serving a productive agricultural region. The village boasted a prosperous group of merchants, lawyers, and doctors as well as craftsmen, mill workers, and laborers. Many of the successful businessmen and professionals built fashionable new houses taking advantage of the variety of building materials being produced locally: granite blocks and slabs, bricks and lumber. The construction of two churches facing the village green in the 1830's reflect the exceptional interest in architectural design in Montague Center and its identification with the Greek Revival style. The churches replaced the original Congregational meeting house, which had been ripped apart in a riot in January 1834, the culmination of an angry dispute among religious factions within the congregation. This schism was prompted, in part, by social upheavals in the growing village and its diversifying population where differences of class, wealth, and occupation divided the citizenry. The new Congregational Church, erected by the more established, orthodox members of the church, was a substantial brick edifice with a monumental wooden Doric portico and tower (Photo #1). Local builders Henry and Zubina Taylor constructed the church in 1834, and based the design on plates from Asher Benjamin's *American Builder's Companion*. Winthrop Clapp, a more experienced builder in Montague Center, likely advised the Taylors on the job. Clapp was the town's master builder and a prominent member of the church, but was unable to undertake the job due to illness. He died before the building was completed. The Congregational Church dwarfed the new Unitarian Church built by the defectors in both scale

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 8 Page 5

and style (Photo #2). The smaller and plainer Unitarian Church, reflected both the modest means and defiant posture of its congregation. It was built of wood and without a portico, but it still was designed with a distinctive façade with a Greek pediment supported by pilasters and pointed arch openings in the *avant garde* Gothic Revival style.¹

Numerous buildings were built over the next decade around Montague Center's triangular commons that continued to emphasize the Greek Revival style and provided a sense of visual unity to the space. The village school, built at the south end of the green in 1837, was a large, rectangular two-story academy building (Photo #7). Its long elevation was oriented to the street with a pedimented entrance pavilion in the center. The roof cornice returned across the gable ends to enclose full pediments on those elevations. Although altered in years since to function as a factory and more recently a multiple dwelling, the school retains the form, proportions and many of the architectural elements of the Greek Revival style in which it was originally designed. Edward W. Chenery's store was centered on the north side of the green, just east of the original meeting house site (Photo #15). Built in 1838, its two-story, gable end faced the street and was supported by four slender, unfluted wood columns that echoed the verticality of the churches. Winthrop Clapp's son, Horatio Clapp, built a new house for Edward W. Chenery on the the green next to the new Congregational Church in 1838 (Photo #11). In addition to his occupation as a merchant, Chenery also served as town clerk (1837-42) and selectman (1841). The house is a two-story, front-gable house with a prominent pediment and Doric porch across the first story. It is a distinctive example of the domestic application of the Greek Revival style with a three-bay façade, side-passage plan, front porch, and a garret window piercing the pediment. Like most other houses of its scale in the village, it was constructed with attached outbuildings and barn in the rear.

The influence of Asher Benjamin's popular pattern books is also evident in the house that merchant Edward L. Delano built ca. 1838 just south of Edward W. Chenery's house on Main Street (Photo #5). Delano also served terms as town clerk and selectman from 1835 to 1837. The two-story, front-gable house was more elaborate than its neighbor, with a fully developed Doric porch projecting from the façade. A heavy, trabeated doorway into the side-passage house was modeled after the frontispiece in Benjamin's *The Practical House Carpenter*. This house was also built with the characteristic attached outbuildings and barn in the rear. Across Main Street, the miller Alvah Stone had built a more traditional two-story, side-gable house with a five-bay façade and center passage plan updated with Greek Revival-style decoration a few years earlier. Stone's neighbor to the north, J. Learned, built a house of similar scale and design, but employed brick rather than wood as the wall material. A store was located in this house for

(continued)

¹ The information about buildings and builders in this and subsequent paragraphs relies heavily on the research and essay of Linda Flint McClelland, "The Greek revival Architecture of Montague," 1979.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 8 Page 6

~~many years. Numerous smaller and less ornamented Greek Revival-style dwellings were built on~~ Main and Center Streets during the period (Photo #17). There were examples of the ubiquitous one-story center-chimney form embellished with pronounced fascias and trabeated doorways. There were also smaller versions of the front-gable, three-bay façade house reduced to one and one-half stories in height and with plainer Greek Revival ornament. In both cases, connected outbuildings were the norm, but proportionally smaller than their more elite counterparts.

This period of growth culminated with the largest and most extravagant Greek Revival temple-form house in the village. Merchant John Sanderson Ward's substantial residence on Center Street was built for him by his father, Henry Ward, as a wedding present in 1848. Known as "Squire Ward," Henry Ward was Montague Center's wealthiest citizen, and the house with its huge attached barn convincingly conveyed that fact. The building was built by Luke O. Leach of Wendell, Massachusetts. Rather than using Asher Benjamin's pattern books, Leach relied on Minard Lefever's more florid Greek Revival design models illustrated in his books *The Modern Builder's Guide* (1833) and *The Beauties of Modern Architecture* (1835). The Ward House had a huge Doric porch capped by a pediment with wide raking cornices enclosing a triangular window. The door and window surrounds on the flush-board façade were delicate by comparison. An unusually tall entablature extended around the sides of the building.

Montague Center experienced its period of greatest growth from 1830 to 1860. By mid-century, the village boasted a significant number of manufacturers producing candy, rakes, scythes, palm-leaf hats, boots, carriages and furniture. Small mills, manufactories, and shops appeared throughout the town, particularly on the east side of the village where the Sawmill River flowed through the rear of Main Street lots. Small power canals were dug to bring water power even closer to the core of the community. This development was given a boost in the construction of the Massachusetts and Vermont Railroad in 1851 and the New London and Northern Railroad in 1855. Both lines came within a mile of the village green and established stations for Montague Center. G.B. Richardson opened a chair factory in the old saw mill on Center Street in 1854. Later, this business was moved upstream towards the south side of the village where it continued to operate for many years. Augustus Dyke moved into the old factory and operated a planing mill, and the building was known as Dyke's Mill ever since (Photo #14). The Montague Boot and Shoe Company was created by Richard Clapp, S.C. Wells and John Ward in 1856. It occupied a building owned by George A. Clapp, which later became the home of the Montague Masonic Lodge (Photo #8). This enterprise grew to be the largest industry in Montague Center and employed a sufficient number of people to warrant the construction of new housing. To accomplish this, Union Street was cut behind the house lots on the east side of Main Street south of Center Street. The company built seven small cottages at the south end of the street and more filled in on vacant lots plotted there (Photo #16). These pattern book houses were uniformly designed in a front-gable and wing form popular in the period. Amos Rugg operated a rake

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 8 Page 7

~~factory at the south end of Main Street. The Clapp family operated a number of other businesses in Montague Center, including a carriage shop, a tin shop, a blacksmith shop, and a store.~~

Remarkably, the new industrial, commercial, and domestic buildings in Montague Center maintained the Greek Revival-style design of their predecessors, although a lightening of cornice and porch elements occurred. Picturesque Gothic and Italianate elements were also introduced but were far more restrained than the Greek Revival architecture. One exception was Joseph H. Root's house on Center Street, built for him by Alpheus Moore in 1851 (Photo #3). While repeating the front-gable and wing form of a number of Greek Revival-style houses in the village, it was devoid of any Classical ornament. Instead, the house was decorated with much lighter and attenuated Renaissance-inspired details and contained the compelling feature of deep overhanging eaves at the roofline supported by widely spaced, scrolled brackets. The void between the front gable and the recessed wing was filled with a piazza with pierced posts and frieze. Joseph H. Root was a partner in the Chenery Store. He served as a selectman from 1866 to 1877 and town clerk from 1867 to 1884. Root was also a state senator. He seems to have followed in his builder's footsteps. Alpheus Moore was a selectman in 1851 and 1852 and acted as the moderator of town meetings from 1848 to 1883. Furthermore, he was elected to the state legislature in 1850 and 1851 as a representative of the Free Soil Party.

A powerful manifestation of Montague Center's growth and influence was the construction of the Town Hall in 1858 (Photograph #13). The two-story brick building was designed in a Greek Revival style with a cornice and bold pediment formed of brick in the front gable. This prominence was short-lived, however. The administrative offices for the Town of Montague were moved to Turners Falls in 1870, reflecting how Montague Center had been eclipsed by its industrial rival to the north. Several factors contributed to the village's decline during the 1860's. Given the impetus for industrial expansion and growth, Montague Center could not satisfy the demand for greater power and improved transportation. Accordingly, businesses migrated from Montague Center to other locations in the town or to other towns entirely. Turners Falls and Millers Falls were better equipped to supply the needs of businesses competing in the expanding and evolving New England industrial economy. While initially successful in supporting an agricultural community with mills, small cottage industries and craft shops, Montague Center could not keep up with the times.

The population of the entire Town of Montague grew steadily from 1,518 individuals in 1830 to 2,224 in 1870. Most of this growth took place in Turners Falls. Montague Center experienced little growth in this period, and its population gradually declined through the rest of the 1800s and into the early 20th century. George A. Clapp's house and store on the west side of Main Street burned to the ground in 1885 along the house of his southern neighbor G.B. Richardson's house. Henry Root bought the property and built the store building that is presently there (Photograph #9). Consistent in its two-story, front-gable form with its older context, the building

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 8 Page 8

had none of the ponderous roof decoration and trim of its Greek Revival-style predecessors. The eaves projected substantially from the roof's edge, and the front gable was ornamented with a modest verge board. Door and window heads were pointed in a Picturesque Gothic fashion, and the porch structure was devoid of columns and other Classical elements. A barn that had survived the fire was moved to the back of the large double-width lot and converted into a residence. It is likely that Station Street (aka School Street Extension) was cut through from Main to the new School Street where a new school was built on the site of the present school building. After the school moved, Emil Weisbrod established a factory in the old school building to produce pocketbooks and wallets (Photo #7). Weisbrod moved this business to Greenfield in 1887.

After fire destroyed the Rugg Rake Factory in 1889, Amos Rugg also moved to Greenfield. The fire that destroyed the rake factory devastated the east side of Main Street taking Richardson's furniture factory along with it. It spared the Montague Boot and Shoe Factory, but the fire was considered the final blow to Montague Center's business economy.² The inevitable rebuilding after the fire introduced new architectural forms and designs to the old Greek Revival-style streetscape. A new house was erected on the Main Street frontage of the site of Richardson's furniture factory, designed in the squarish form and decoration of the Queen Anne period of architecture. It was modest, but its informal Romantic aesthetic was quite a departure from the Classical context in which it appeared. Dr. Anson Cobb's home on the east side of Main Street was destroyed by the fire. It was one of the village's older houses that was moved to the location from the site of the Dyke Mill when it was built on Center Street. In 1892, Dr. Cobb built a new house that had the same two-story, front-gable form and side-passage plan as many of Montague Center's older buildings, but it was embellished with dramatically new ornamentation in the Stick Style (Photograph # 10). Decorative trusses and verge boards were applied to the raking edge of the wide eaves on the front gable, and the front porch was detailed with turned posts, pierced frieze and arcaded balustrade. New construction did not occur on the remaining two lots until the 20th century, which added popular pattern book designs to the historic village plan: a Four-Square house with detached garage in ca.1910 and a gambrel-roof Colonial with detached garage about a decade later.

The Stone family continued to operate the grist mill at the north end of Montague Center until 1856, after which it was owned and operated by a succession of millers through to the end of the century. The aging facility continued to serve a dwindling agricultural community. Production at the Lawrence's saw mill had evolved to where it was used to make fig boxes and clean carpets. T.F. Harrington purchased the mill, and it was converted to an electric plant to provide power to a streetcar line constructed in village. With the economy and population in decline,

(continued)

² Pressey, p. 210.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 8 Page 9

Montague Center returned to a quieter, pastoral state. This condition prompted a phenomenon that has associated the village with the international Arts & Crafts Movement. Boston theologian and social reformer Edward Pearson Pressey brought his ideas for a Utopian craft community to Montague Center in 1901. New Clairvaux was conceived as a return to a pre-industrial, craft society in response to the economic inequities and moral dilemma of urban society. Pressey endeavored to foster the production of hand-crafted domestic products and create a more ethical and spiritual community through manual work. When he failed to attract a sufficient number of craftsmen to participate in New Clairvaux, Pressey created a school to educate children in the crafts and the value of work. This effort also proved unsuccessful. To promote his ideas and the virtues of life at New Clairvaux, Pressey published a journal entitled *Country Time and Tide* (named for John Ruskin's book *Time and Tide*) on a press in Montague Center operated by Carl Purington Rollins. When Pressey finally gave up on the colony and moved to Vermont in 1911, Rollins stayed on and continued to operate a print shop out of the old Dyke Mill. He built a house behind the mill in a simple, Colonial style decidedly influenced by his Arts & Crafts sensibility. Both buildings are important surviving landmarks of this unique period of Montague Center's history. Rollins and his family left the village in 1920 to work as the university printer at Yale University where he established a renown as a master of the printer's craft.³

The 1930's witnessed a rebirth of Montague Center's mills. In 1933, Frank Martin purchased the idle Alvah Stone Mill to manufacture stamping dies and marking machines. His machines enjoyed wide success because they could make precise markings on curved surfaces. They were designed to make impressions on a wide variety of objects including shovel handles, scissors, golf clubs, hammers, musical instruments, Oneida sterling silver tableware, Louisville Slugger bats, and artillery shell casings. Edward E. Whitney had rebuilt the dam in 1901 for then-owner George Stratton, and Martin had the water wheel replaced with a turbine to power the factory. The Martin Machine Company operated until 1987. About the same that Frank Martin was modernizing the old grist mill, the Fiske family had recovered the Lawrence site and put it back into production as a saw mill. Fiske built a large house north of the Martin factory in 1941.

There was modest growth in the historic district during first half of the 20th century. Two new houses built on lots cleared by the fire of 1889 have already been discussed above, and there are a few others of note. A distinctive Colonial Revival house replete with connected outbuildings and huge gambrel-roof barn, was erected on the north end of Main Street in the early 1900's. A Bungalow-style house was built on Union Street amid the older worker housing. Two Craftsman cottages were built at the upper end of Main Street associated with the mills located there. A Sears & Roebuck Co. prefab house was brought into Montague Center by railroad and erected on

(continued)

³ See Jeanine Falino, "The Monastic Ideal in Rural Massachusetts; Edward Pearson Pressey and New Clairvaux."

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 8 Page 10

a lot on School Street. The Montague Center School burned in the late 1940s and was replaced with a new Colonial Revival style school in 1950. The playgrounds across School Street had been donated to the school district by the village's school children in ca.1910. Two new subdivisions occurred within the old village plan after 1950 and are considered non contributing. One string of five houses on the east side of North Street has been excluded from the historic district although most of the houses were designed as Cape Cod-style houses typical of earlier forms in the community. The second subdivision on Newton Lane off School Street has been captured within the historic district. Two of the post-1960 houses are capes with garages connected by breezeways that have the effect although not the orientation of connected buildings in the 19th century houses in the village.

Montague Center is an important surviving example of a small, 19th century New England village with its characteristic mix of domestic, agricultural, commercial, religious, civic and industrial buildings. Prospering and building up quickly in the 1830-1850 period, the village has an exceptional collection of Greek Revival architecture of all types, many with distinguished design features and some with well-documented building histories where owners, architects and builders are identified. The density and quality of the Greek Revival period architecture influenced later development so as to create a remarkable unity to the built environment.

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of prehistoric settlement and subsistence in the Montague area are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Prehistoric sites in this area may provide important information documenting Native American subsistence and settlement adaptations to a riverine environment, a unique opportunity within the state of Massachusetts. The Connecticut Valley temperate forest riverine environment differs from more eastern parts of the state that contain extensive coastal and lake resources. Prehistoric sites in this area offer an opportunity to study Native American adaptations in a riverine area not influenced by the presence of these resources. The analysis of human adaptation to a riverine environment may contribute important information in a variety of topical areas. The location of two fall lines in the Sawmill River may indicate the potential for recovering information related to Native fishery activities. Fall lines were favored sites for the exploitation of anadromous fish resources during different seasons of the year. This analysis may contribute important information relating to the seasonal aspects of Native settlement and subsistence patterns used in the area. The presence of a known prehistoric site on Greenfield Road, opposite the Alvah Mill Complex, also indicates the potential for research into several important areas based on cultural material recovered from that site and their extension into the nominated area. Prehistoric materials recovered in the district indicate the potential for the study of ceramic technology and style, especially during the Middle Woodland

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 8 Page 11

period. Analysis in these areas may contribute significant information relating to Native American social organization during different periods of prehistory. Sites in this area may also contribute information on local/regional patterns of prehistoric exchange. The location of prehistoric sites in the district within the larger Connecticut River Valley riverine system may have enabled Native Americans in the area to participate within a regionally important north/south communication and exchange corridor during the prehistoric period. Tributary streams of the Connecticut River including the Sawmill River may have served as east/west corridors within that larger system. These networks may have facilitated the exchange of goods, people, and ideas indicated in cultural material such as ceramics, lithics, features, and the internal configuration of sites in the area.

Historic archaeological resources described above have the potential to document the social, cultural, and economic characteristics that enabled Montague Center to quickly evolve from a rural agricultural community to the hub of commercial activity in Central Franklin County during the first half of the 18th century. Archaeological resources can help document the growth of the Center through its peak period of development in the mid-19th century and decline thereafter. Historical research combined with archaeological survey and testing may help locate examples of early settlement in the district that no longer survive. Structural evidence of residences and outbuildings associated with early farmsteads can help document the role of agriculture in the early settlement and its relationship with industry that developed early at the northern end of the village. Archaeological resources may help document the point at which industry ceased to simply support local agricultural interests and became a primary focus in the community. Montague Center developed around the site of the Alvah Stone Mill as a rural commercial and industrial center. Archaeological testing around the Alvah Stone Mill and the Lawrence Mill site has the potential to document the full range of occupation for both mills, and their earliest period of construction and use, an unknown factor today. Analysis of archaeological information and the architectural details of existing structures can document the sequence of construction for each mill and which portions, if any, were incorporated into later buildings. These studies can also document alterations to the mills as their functions changed or as new functions were added. Archaeological research at the Alvah and Lawrence mill sites can also document the evolution of waterpower systems at the mill complex and the waterpower relationship between the two mills. Archaeological testing in the vicinity of waterpower related structures and later detailed analysis of the layout of these components has the potential to determine the construction dates for the two dams and which portions of earlier dams may survive within the present structures. Archaeological testing can also be used to determine whether a dam at the lower falls was constructed at the same time the dam for the Alvah Stone Mill was built. The absence of a second dam in the 18th century may indicate the potential for locating evidence of headraces, tailraces and other canals that directed water flow between each mill and the river and between the mills. The methods of construction and locations for these

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 8 Page 12

resources are significant information through which the evolution and division of waterpower at the mill complex can be studied. Wooden as well as masonry dam and waterpower canal structures are present throughout the mill complex related to both mill sites; however, these resources have not been mapped or described in detail. Wheel pits should also exist for both mill structures. Excavations around the Alvah Stone Mill and inside the existing wheel pit can provide important information relating to water wheel technology as well as the possible location of the ca. 1764 wheel pit. Similar excavations at the Lawrence Mill site can also document the location of that mill's wheel pit and modifications that were made as the mill evolved between functions as a gristmill, sawmill, and utility power house. Structural evidence from outbuildings and occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) may also survive at each mill. Detailed analysis of these archaeological survivals may also produce important information relating to each mill's industrial functions, technologies employed, products produced and worker's at the mills. This information can be used to trace the sawmill and gristmill technologies over a 200-plus year development of industrial history in New England. Detailed analysis of occupational related features can also provide valuable insights into the lives of workers at the mills and by extrapolation the community, including information on such areas as overall working conditions and the socioeconomic status of workers. During the latter 18th and 19th centuries, the Montague Center village continued to grow around the mill complex described above and the growth of waterpower facilities. Structural evidence of water canals extending from the Sawmill River to the Main Street corridor enabled industries to expand into other areas of the district where waterpower was needed but was previously non-existent. Archaeological evidence of the power canals can help document their extent in the district, construction, and the method for distributing water between different mills. Archaeological resources associated with many of the 19th century commercial and industrial sites in the district may contribute detailed examples of the industries and support facilities responsible for the success of a 19th century rural industrial village. Archaeological resources may contribute information on carriage and blacksmith shop technologies and the extent to which these trades might be different in an industrial/commercial community as opposed to a more agriculturally focused community. Technological information may also be present for furniture, rake and shoe manufacturing industries. Structural evidence of residences, outbuildings and occupational related features from the 19th century may also contribute important information on village life, especially as agriculture ceased to be of primary importance. Residential sites during this period can include worker's housing and other multi-family units. Information may be present relating to the ethnicity of workers, family structure, and overall living conditions. Archaeological resources recovered in the vicinity of the Locust Hill Cemetery may also contribute important information on life in the Montague Center community from the 18th to 20th centuries. Unmarked graves can help reconstruct overall cemetery boundaries through time and smaller family, ethnic or other socio/political areas within the cemetery. Post molds or other evidence of fence posts can also help reconstruct cemetery boundaries. Unmarked graves may also contribute information on the

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 8/9 Page 13/1

treatment of the poor, unknown, and other less fortunate members of the village. The latter graves were often made in peripheral areas of the cemetery, often without markers or with wooden markers.

(end)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Atlas Map of Franklin County, Massachusetts*. New York: F.W. Beers and Company, 1871 & 1891.
- Boston, MA. Massachusetts Historical Commission. "Reconnaissance Survey Report: Montague." 1982.
- Deerfield, MA. Historic Deerfield, Inc. Photograph Collection of Howe Brothers of Ashfield, Massachusetts.
- Everts, Louis H. *History of the Connecticut Valley in Massachusetts*. Vol. 2. Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott and Co., 1879.
- Falino, Jeannine. "The Monastic Ideal in Rural Massachusetts; Edward Pearson Pressey and New Clairvaux." in *The Substance of Style: Perspectives on the American Arts and Crafts Movement*. Bert Denker, ed. Hanover, NH: University Press of New England, 1996.
- Fiske, Harry. *Recollections as told to Robert Ripley*. Montague, 1991.
- Garrison, J. Ritchie. *Landscape and Material Life in Franklin County, Massachusetts, 1770-1860*. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1991.
- Girard, Lionel T., ed. *A Pictorial History of the Town of Montague, 1754-1976*. Turners Falls, MA: Triple Oaks Services, 1976.
- Gould, Josiah. *Plan of Montague, Franklin County, [MA]*. 1830.
- Greenfield, MA. Franklin County Registry of Deeds. Deeds, Mortgages and Maps.
- Holland, Josiah Gilbert. *History of Western Massachusetts*. Vol. II, Part III. Springfield, MA, 1855.
- McClelland, Linda Flint. "The Greek Revival Architecture of Montague Center." Thesis. University of Massachusetts, 1978.
- Pressey, Edward Pearson. *History of Montague*. Montague, 1910.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Montague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MA

Section number 9 Page 2

Root, Elisha. *Map of Montague*. 1794.

Stevens, G. *Map of Montague Village*. 1855.

Walling, H.F. *Map of Franklin County, Massachusetts*. [1860].

(end)

WILSON
BOX BLACK BOND

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property ca. 170

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

Table with 4 columns: Zone, Easting, Northing. Rows 1-4 showing UTM coordinates.

[x] 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 Neil Larson, preservation consultant with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC
organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date September 2001
street & number 220 Morrissey Blvd. telephone 617-727-5128
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
street & number telephone
city or town state zip code

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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetMontague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MASection number 10 Page 1

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the historic district encompass all Main Street properties extending from the parcels on the south side of the intersection of main with Old Sunderland and South Roads through to the bridge across the Sawmill River at the northern end of the nominated area. On the southern limit, there is a leg of the district that encloses properties on Old Sunderland Road. The middle part of the district widens to include properties on Union Street and Center Street on the east side of the village, all within the compass of the Sawmill River it wraps around that side of Montague Center. On the west side of Main Street, the district boundaries contain the school and its playground as well as the properties captured in between on School and Station Streets and Newton Lane. North of the school, the boundary extends across Court Square to connect with the rear lot line of large properties on the east side of Main Street. Three properties on Court Square are contained in the district, which are the effective limit of contributing properties before the village plan disintegrates along East Taylor Hill Road. The district boundary north of Center Street and on the east side of Main Street north of the School Street/Court Square intersection encompasses the flood plains and meadows along the Sawmill River it bends in close to the village there. This land is now part of a state preserve and contributes to the visual character of the village setting and its relationship to the waterway. A portion of this area which has been developed with houses has been ruled out of the district along North Street. The mill sites already listed on the National Register north of the bridge across the Sawmill River along Turners Falls and Greenfield Roads have been incorporated into the historic district. Additional properties associated with the history of the mills and community cemetery complete the district at its northern end. See the attached district map for a more detailed description.

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the historic district was drawn to include the extent to which Montague Center developed a rural commercial and industrial center in the nineteenth century and continued to evolve into the twentieth century. Its period of significance continues up to 1950 and the boundary is drawn to accommodate growth in this later period, particularly the school and later construction in that vicinity. Non-contributing properties and undifferentiated open space determined the extent of the district, particularly at the south, east and west side of the district. The cemetery was considered an important resource and strong anchor for the northern end of the district.

(end)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Montague Center HD
Montague (Franklin), MA**

Section number _____ Page _____

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs by Sharon C. Harper, Middlebury VT. Photos taken June 1988.

1. First Congregational Church, 4 North Street
2. Unitarian Church / Montague Grange Hall, 34 Main Street
3. Senator Joseph H. Root House, 21 Center Street
4. W.H. Ward House, 27 Center Street
5. Edward L. Delano House, 49 Main Street
6. The Root Tavern, 17 Old Sunderland Road
7. Schoolhouse / Pocket Book Factory, 38 Main Street
8. Montague Boot & Shoe Company / Montague Center Masonic Lodge, 59 Main Street
9. Henry Root General Store, 58-60 Main Street
10. Anson Cobb House, 71 Main Street
11. Edward W. Chenery House, 2 North Street
12. Aaron Gate House, 18 Main Street
13. Old Town Hall, 15-17 Center Street
14. Dyke Mill, 44 Center Street

Photographs by Pamela Paspalis, Massachusetts Historical Comm., Boston MA. Photos taken August 1988.

15. View, north side of Center Street, north of Common.

Photographs by Neil Larson, Massachusetts Historical Comm., Boston MA. Photos taken November 2000.

16. View, west side of Main Street, north of Court Square
17. View, east side of Turners Falls Road from north end of district
18. View, west side of Main Street, north of Station Street
19. View, east side of Main Street, south of Station Street
20. View, south of intersection of Main Street and Old Sunderland Road
21. View, Center Street, south side, east of North Street
22. View, Union Street, north of no. 19
23. Montague Center School, 15 School Street
24. Playground, School Street, east side, south of Station Street
25. 6 & 8 School Street
26. View, Station Street, east from School Street
27. 5 & 7 Court Square

(end)

MONTAGUE CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
 Town of Montague, Franklin County, Massachusetts

DISTRICT DATA LIST

| Parcel Number | MHC No. | STREET ADDRESS | HISTORIC NAME (if known; otherwise building type) | DESCRIPTION (all buildings frame construction unless otherwise noted) | DATE | STYLE | RESOURCE TYPE | STATUS contributing or non-contributing |
|---------------|---------|------------------|--|---|-------|-------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 43-016 | 25 | 1 Center St. | Bangs & Ball Co. shop, offices & garage | 2 story front gable roof; detached garage | c1850 | Classical Revival | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 43-017 | 6 | 5 Center St. | house; formerly a harness shop & garage | 2 story front gable roof; detached garage | c1830 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 43-018 | | 7 Center St. | house | 2 story gable roof; section removed | c1825 | Federal | Building | C |
| 43-019 | | 9 Center St. | house & barn; formerly Palmer, Phillips & Co. | 2 story, gable roof; converted pocket book manufactory; detached barn or shop | c1830 | Federal | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 43-020 | 5 | 11 Center St. | Chenery Store; site of first meetinghouse | 2 story, front gable roof, restored storefront with porch under pediment | 1838 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-022 | 4 | 15-17 Center St. | Town Hall | 2 story, brick, front gable slate roof; ceased as town hall in 1870; also post office and library | 1858 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-033 | 26 | 21 Center St. | J.H. Root House | 2 story, front gable roof with wing, bracketed cornice, ornate porch; detached garage (non-contributing) | 1851 | Italianate | Building Outbuilding | C NC |
| 43-077 | 34 | 24 Center St. | Chenery Tenant House | 1½ story, front gable roof with wing; detached garage | c1831 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding | C NC |
| 43-034 | | 25 Center St. | house & garage | 2 story, side gable roof with front gable dormer, Classical detail, porch across façade, converted from 1889 carriage house; detached garage (non-contributing) | 1910 | Classical Revival | Building Outbuilding | C NC |
| 43-076 | | 26 Center St. | utility building | 1 story, brick, side gable roof; telephone switching station | c1960 | utilitarian | Building | NC |
| 43-035 | 27 | 27 Center St. | W.H. Ward House | 2 story, front gable roof with Doric portico; back houses, detached barn (once attached) and shed; large parcel of farmland | c1847 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding Site | C C C |
| 43-056 | | 28 Center St. | house & barn | 2 story, gable roof; detached barn | c1840 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding | C C |

MONTAGUE CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Town of Montague, Franklin County, Massachusetts

DISTRICT DATA LIST

| Parcel Number | MHC No. | STREET ADDRESS | HISTORIC NAME (if known, otherwise building type) | DESCRIPTION (all buildings frame construction unless otherwise noted) | DATE | STYLE | RESOURCE TYPE | STATUS contributing or non-contributing |
|------------------|---------|----------------|--|--|---------------|------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 43-055 | | 30 Center St. | house | 1½ story, gable roof, center chimney, with attached back houses | c1860 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-054 | | 32 Center St. | house | 2 story, front gable roof, ell and attached garage; siding altered | c1850 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-053 | 33 | 34 Center St. | J. Dugan House | 2 story, gable roof, center chimney; two detached sheds | c1850 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding-2 | C C(2) |
| 43-036 | 28 | 35 Center St. | house | 1½ story, gable roof, center chimney, with attached back houses; side porch added | c1850 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-051 | | 36 Center St. | J.W. Dugan House | 2 story, gable roof | c1860 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-037 | 29 | 37 Center St. | house & shed | 1½ story, gable roof, center chimney; detached shed | c1850 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 43-050 | 32 | 38 Center St. | Elihu Root House | 2 story, gable roof, attached garage | c1805 | Federal | Building | C |
| 43-150 | 30 | 39 Center St. | Dyke House | 2 story, front gable roof; detached shed (n/c) | c1850 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding | C NC |
| 43-049 | | 40 Center St. | house | 2 story, gable roof, altered siding | c1860 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-040 | | 42 Center St. | Carl Rollins House | 2 story, gable roof; associated with Dyke Mill (44-054) | 1912 | Colonial Revival | Building | C |
| 44-054 | 31 | 44 Center St. | Dyke Mill | 2 story, frame and brick, gable roof; impoundment and hydraulic power system | c1840 1912 | industrial | Building Structure | C C |
| 43-009 43-153 | 12 | 5 Court Sq. | Dr. D. Bradford House | 2 story front gable, porches; back houses and attached barn | c1860 | Gothic Revival | Building | C |
| 43-008 | 43 | 7 Court Sq. | house | 1 story, front gable; location of barn for 5 Court Sq. (43-009); reputedly site of early court house | c1890 | Queen Anne | Building | C |
| 43-116 43-115 | | 8 Court Sq. | Merriam King House | 1½ story, front gable roof, center chimney, attached ell, porch; detached barn; designed landscape | c1870 | Italian Villa | Building Outbuilding Site | C C C |

DISTRICT DATA LIST

| Parcel Number | MHC No. | STREET ADDRESS | HISTORIC NAME (if known; otherwise building type) | DESCRIPTION (all buildings frame construction unless otherwise noted) | DATE | STYLE | RESOURCE TYPE | STATUS contributing or non-contributing |
|------------------|---------|--------------------|--|---|------------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| 42-022 42-019 | NR | 400 Greenfield Rd | Alvah Stone Mill | 2 story stone mill with four related outbuildings, hydraulic system and machinery; archeological sites (see NR Nomination Form) | 1764 – 1934 | Industrial | Building Outbuilding-5 Structure Site | C C(5) C C |
| 42-018 | | 428 Greenfield Rd. | house | 1 story, gambrel roof, center chimney, attached garage | c1940 | Colonial Revival | Building | C |
| 42-024 | | 431 Greenfield Rd. | house | 1 story, slate gable roof, center chimney, moved to site in 1901 by Edward Whitney from site on east side of Greenfield Road; studio attached to rear c1980 | c1830 1901 c1980 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 42-020 | | 432 Greenfield Rd. | Fiske House | 2 story, gable roof, altered siding | 1941 | Tudor Revival | Building | C |
| 43-004 | | 2 Main St. | house & garage | 2 story, gable roof; detached garage | c1870 c1920 | Classical Revival | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 43-160 | | 3 Main St. | water pollution control station | 1 story, brick, flat roof | c1980 | none | Building | NC |
| 43-005 | | 4 Main St. | house | 1 story gable roof | c1920 | Bungalow | Building | C |
| 43-162 | | 6 Main St. | house | 1 story, gable roof | c1920 | Bungalow | Building | C |
| 43-011 | | 7 Main St. | Edward W. Fox House | 2 story, gable roof with back houses and attached barn; large parcel of farmland | 1859 | Italian Villa | Building Site | C C |
| 43-006 | | 8 Main St. | house & barn | 2 story gable roof with back houses; detached barn; large parcel of farmland | c1900 | Classical Revival | Building Outbuilding Site | C C C |
| 43-092 | | 10 Main St. | vacant land | building lot (see 43-006) | n/a | n/a | Site | C |
| 43-007 | | 12 Main St. | house & garage | 2 story gable roof; detached garage, 3 sheds | c1900 | Classical Revival | Building Outbuilding-4 | C C(4) |
| 43-010 | | 17 Main St. | store, gas station | 2 story, gable roof; large parcel of farmland | c1850 | Greek Revival | Building Site | C C |
| 43-003 43-163 | 42 | 18 Main St. | Aaron Gate House | 2 story, brick, slate gable roof; frame back houses and attached barn; large parcel of farmland | c1805 | Federal | Building Site | C C |

DISTRICT DATA LIST

| Parcel Number | MHC No. | STREET ADDRESS | HISTORIC NAME (if known, otherwise building type) | DESCRIPTION (all buildings frame construction unless otherwise noted) | DATE | STYLE | RESOURCE TYPE | STATUS contributing or non-contributing |
|-----------------------------|---------|----------------|--|---|------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|--|
| 43-012 | | 21 Main St. | vacant land | large meadow in flood plain of Sawmill River | n.d. | N/A | Site | C |
| 43-102 | | 22 Main St. | K. Bancroft House | 2 story, front gable roof, bracketed cornice, with attached back houses; detached garage, shed | 1835 | Italian Villa | Building Outbuilding-2 | C C(2) |
| 43-101 | | 24 Main St. | R. Brown House | 2 story, gable roof; altered siding, additions | c1870 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-013 | | 25 Main St. | house | 2 story, gable roof | c1830 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-152 | | 26 Main St. | house | 2 story, front gable roof, 2 story front porch with attached back houses and barn | c1880 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-014 | | 27 Main St. | house | 2 story gable roof | c1800 | Georgian | Building | C |
| 43-099 43-099A 43-100 | | 28 Main St. | house | 1 story, gable roof | c1960 | Ranch | Building | NC |
| 43-015 | | 29 Main St. | house & garage | 2 story front gable roof | c1850 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-097 43-098 | | 30 Main St. | house & garage | 2 story, front gable roof, porch; detached garage | c1880 | Italianate | Building | C |
| 43-079 | | 33 Main St. | Village Common | Small triangular park, grass with ornamental trees; Watering trough (1915), War Memorial (1954) | 18 th cent. | n/a | Site Object Object | C C NC |
| 43-080 | 7 | 34 Main St. | Unitarian Church / Grange Hall | Rectangular rural church form, lancet windows, 2-stage tower | 1834 1887 | Gothic Revival | Building | C |
| 43-081 43-082 43-083 | 8 | 38 Main St. | School / Pocket Book Factory / apartments | 2 story academic building, gable roof, central portico, altered siding; detached shed (n/c) | 1837 1873 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding | C NC |
| 43-074 | 9 | 39 Main St. | First Congregational Church Parsonage | 2 story, front gable roof with attached backhouses and barn | c1852 | Greek Revival | Building | C |

DISTRICT DATA LIST

| Parcel Number | MHC No. | STREET ADDRESS | HISTORIC NAME (if known, otherwise building type) | DESCRIPTION (all buildings frame construction unless otherwise noted) | DATE | STYLE | RESOURCE TYPE | STATUS contributing or non-contributing |
|----------------------------|---------|----------------|--|--|--------|----------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 43-084 | 24 | 40-42 Main St. | Avery Clapp House | 1½ story, gable roof, end chimneys; detached shop in rear; blacksmith shop site in front | 1837 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding Site | C C C |
| 43-073 | | 41 Main St. | Rev. E. Moody House | 2 Story, front gable roof with shop added; altered siding; detached garage (n/c) | c1850 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding | C NC |
| 43-085 | 23 | 44 Main St. | J.H. Morse House | 1½ story, gable roof, front porch, attached back houses; detached shed (n/c); blacksmith shop site | c 1837 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding Site | C NC C |
| 43-070 43-071 43-072 | | 45 Main St. | Dr. F.A. Deane House | 2 story front gable roof with wing; attached back houses and detached barn; also lot with site of carriage shop (43-070) | c1850 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding Site | C C C |
| 43-086 43-088 | | 46 Main St. | J. Learned House & Store | 2 story, brick, gable roof, entrance altered; detached barn in rear (originally associated with house at 43-087) | 1837 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 43-068 | | 49 Main St. | Edward L. Delano House | 2 story, front gable roof, side porch, attached back houses and barn | 1838 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-087 | 21 | 50 Main St. | Alva Stone House | 2 story, gable roof, attached back houses and garage | c1835 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-066 43-067 | | 51 Main St. | Vacant land | Building lot and R.O.W. | n/a | n/a | Site | C |
| 43-155 | | 53 Main St. | Post Office | 1 story, masonry, gable roof | c1960 | none | Building | NC |
| 43-134 | | 54 Main St. | house & garage | 1 story, gable roof; detached garage | c1960 | Cape | Building Outbuilding | NC NC |
| 43-135 | 11 | 55 Main St. | R.N. Clapp Tin Store | 2 story, front gable roof, 2-story porch on street and side elevations, attached back houses and barn, passageway under back house on Union St. | c1860 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-132 | 20 | 58-60 Main St. | Henry Root Store | 2 story, front gable roof; store space on ground floor, dwelling above; barn moved to rear of property and converted to apartment dwelling in 1969 | 1885 | Gothic Revival | Building Outbuilding | C NC |

DISTRICT DATA LIST

| Parcel Number | MHC No. | STREET ADDRESS | HISTORIC NAME (if known; otherwise building type) | DESCRIPTION (all buildings frame construction unless otherwise noted) | DATE | STYLE | RESOURCE TYPE | STATUS contributing or non-contributing |
|----------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|--|---|----------------|------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 43-136 | 12 | 59 Main St. | Montague Boot & Shoe Co.; Montague Masonic Lodge | 2 story, front gable roof with large central porch over entrance, pilasters and pediment | 1856 1884 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-137 | | 63 Main St. | house & garage | 2 story, gable roof, front porch; detached garage | 1889 | Queen Anne | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 43-131 | 19 | 64 Main St. | Kellogg House | 2 story, front gable roof, attached back houses and barn | 1847 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-130 | 18 | 66 Main St. | N.C. Brewer House | 2 story, front gable roof, side entrance; attached back houses; detached barn; shoe shop site | 1842 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding Site | C C C |
| 43-138 | | 67 Main St. | house & garage | 2 story, front gable roof, front porch; detached garage | c1910 | Four-Square | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 43-124 | 17 | 68 Main St. | Nettleton House | 1½ story, gable roof with heavy Classical cornice; attached barn | 1857 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-139 | | 69 Main St. | house & garage | 2 story, gambrel roof; detached garage | 1933 | Colonial Revival | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 43-129 | 16 | 70 Main St. | Chandler House | 2 story, brick, front gable roof; attached wood back houses; detached barn | c1850 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 43-140 | 13 | 71 Main St. | Anson Cobb House | 2 story, front gable roof, ornamented roof line; detached barn (reputedly incorporates portion of 1766 school building) | 1892 | Stick Style | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 43-141 43-149 43-156 | | 75 Main St. | house | 2 story, front gable roof; attached barn | c1900 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-xxx | | [76] Main St. & Old Sunderland Rd. | highway directional marker | triangular wood box, hipped roof, names of towns and distances painted on sides; restored | c1770 | n/a | Object | C |
| 42-021 | NR | 4 Meadow Rd. | Lawrence Saw Mill Site | Two 1 story mill buildings converted to a dwelling; visible remains of hydraulic power system; archeological site | c1760 c1830 | Industrial | Buildings-2 Structure Site | C(2) C C |

MONTAGUE CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
 Town of Montague, Franklin County, Massachusetts

DISTRICT DATA LIST

| Parcel Number | MHC No. | STREET ADDRESS | HISTORIC NAME (if known, otherwise building type) | DESCRIPTION (all buildings frame construction unless otherwise noted) | DATE | STYLE | RESOURCE TYPE | STATUS contributing or non-contributing |
|----------------------------|---------|-----------------------|--|---|----------------|----------------|-------------------------|---|
| 43-107 43-109 | | 2 Newton Ln. | house | 1 story, side gable; attached garage | c1960 | Cape | Building | NC |
| 43-108 | | 4 Newton Ln. | house | 1 story, side gable; attached garage | c1960 | Cape | Building | NC |
| 43-095 | | 5 Newton Ln. | house | 1 story, gable roof; attached garage | c1960 | Cape | Building | NC |
| 43-093 | | 6 Newton Ln. | house | 1 story, gable roof | c1980 | Ranch | Building | NC |
| 43-096 43-161 | | 7 Newton Ln. | house | 1 story, gable roof | c1980 | Ranch | Building | NC |
| 43-075 | 2 | 2 North St. | Edward W. Chenery House | 2 story, front gable slate roof, Doric porch, with attached back houses; detached barn | c1831 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 43-078 | 3 | 4 North St. | First Congregational Church | Brick, front gable roof, doric portico, 3-stage wood tower; shed (n/c) | 1834 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding | C NC |
| 43-023 | | 7 North St. | Edward Benton House | 2 story, gable roof, back houses and attached barn | 1865 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-024 43-23A | | 11 North St. | house | 2 story, gable roof; formerly associated with #43-023 together with vacant lot | 1888 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-025 43-026 43-027 | | 15 North St. | house & shed; formerly a school house moved from across street | 2 story, front gable cottage with ells; detached shed; formerly associated with #43-023 | c1800 c1900 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 42-030 | | 19 North St. | house & barn | 1 story gambrel roof with detached mid-19 th century barn | c1920 c1870 | Bungalow | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 48-018 | 15 | 2 Old Sunderland Rd. | Mrs. Chandler House | 2 story, front gable roof, attached back houses; detached shed (non-contributing) | c1840 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding | C NC |
| 48-017 | | 4 Old Sunderland Rd. | | 1½ story, front gable roof, with attached back houses; detached garage (n/c) | c1850 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding | C NC |
| 48-069 | 46 | 10 Old Sunderland Rd. | house & garage | 1½ story, front gable roof with wing, Gothic roof trim, attached back houses and barn; detached garage (non-contributing) | c1870 | Gothic Revival | Building Outbuilding | C NC |
| 48-020 | | 16 Old Sunderland Rd. | house | 2 story, front gable roof, side porch, with attached back buildings and barn; detached barn (n/c) | c1850 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding | C NC |

DISTRICT DATA LIST

| Parcel Number | MHC No. | STREET ADDRESS | HISTORIC NAME (if known, otherwise building type) | DESCRIPTION (all buildings frame construction unless otherwise noted) | DATE | STYLE | RESOURCE TYPE | STATUS contributing or non-contributing |
|--------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|--|--|-------|------------------|-------------------------|--|
| 48-015 48-014 | 45 | 17 Old Sunderland Rd. | Root Tavern | 2 story, gable roof, center chimney, Deerfield doorway (added); detached barn | c1739 | Colonial | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 48-013 | | 23 Old Sunderland Rd. | house | 2 story, front gable roof, attached backhouses and barn | c1850 | Greek revival | Building | C |
| 43-114 | | 3 School St. | T.B. Searle House | 2 story, front gable roof, with attached back houses reputedly dating to 1755 | 1902 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-103 43-104 | | 6 School St. | house | 1½ story, front gable roof, porch; altered siding and roofing | c1890 | Gothic Revival | Building | C |
| 43-105 | | 8 School St. | house & garage | 1 story, gambrel roof cottage; prefab house constructed on site; detached garage | c1920 | Bungalow | Building Outbuilding | C NC |
| 43-113 | | 9 School St. | house | 1 story, gable roof, attached garage | c1960 | Ranch | Building | NC |
| 43-112 | | 11 School St. | house | 2 story, front gable roof, ornamented roofline, attached back buildings and barn; addition | c1890 | Gothic Revival | Building | C |
| 43-111 | | 15 School St. | school | 1 story, brick, gable roof, radiating classroom plan | 1950 | Colonial Revival | Building | C |
| 43-118 43-121 43-122 43-123 | | School St. | playground | Open space; dedicated by children of town to school as playground; non-historic playground equipment | c1910 | n/a | Site | C |
| 48-035 | | 2 South St. | Dr. Wright House | 2 story, front gable roof, entrance on front and side; attached back houses | c1830 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-133 | | 6 Station St. | house & garage | 2 story, gable roof; altered siding; detached garage | c1890 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 43-089 43-159 | | 9 Station St. | Montague Fire Dept. Engine House | 1 story, gable roof, overhead vehicle doors, utilitarian building adapted for present use | c1900 | none | Building | C |
| 43-120 | | 10 Station St. | automobile repair shop | 1 story, front gable roof with tall parapet wall on facade | c1920 | commerce | Building | C |
| 43-090 | | 11 Station St. | house & garage | 1 story gable roof; detached garage | c1970 | Ranch | Building Outbuilding | NC NC |

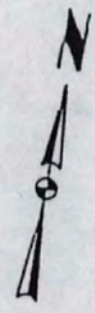
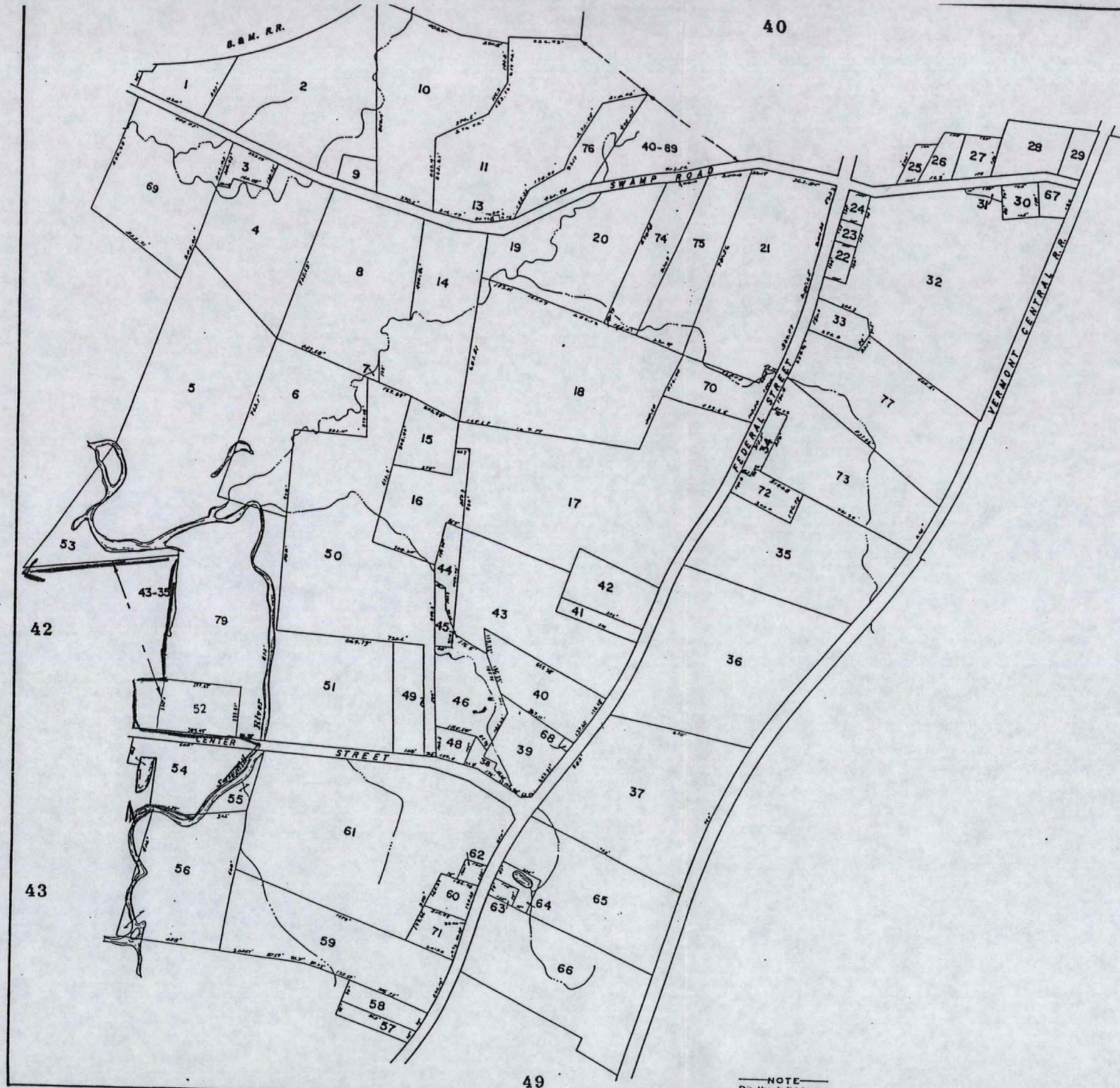
DISTRICT DATA LIST

| Parcel Number | MHC No. | STREET ADDRESS | HISTORIC NAME (if known; otherwise building type) | DESCRIPTION (all buildings frame construction unless otherwise noted) | DATE | STYLE | RESOURCE TYPE | STATUS contributing or non-contributing |
|------------------|---------|---------------------------|--|--|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|--|
| 43-119 | | 12 Station St. | blacksmith shop | 1 story, front gable roof, metal siding; part of playground property, used for storage | c1900 | industrial | Building | C |
| 43-091 | | 13-15 Station St. | double house | 2 story, gable roof, porches over entrances at ends of façade | c1900 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-110 | | 17 Station St. | house & garage | 1 story, gable roof; detached garage | c1970 | Ranch | Building Outbuilding | NC NC |
| 42-032 | | Turners Falls Rd. | Locust Hill Cemetery | Community cemetery with stones dating to the 18 th century | c1760 | N/A | Site | C |
| 42-033 | 49 | 547 Turners Falls Rd. | C. Lawrence House | 2 story brick I-house with frame back houses; barn removed | c1830 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 42-034 | | 551 Turners Falls Rd. | Z. Taylor House | 2 story front gable with wing, slate roof; detached garage added | c1870 c1930 | Gothic Revival | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 42-023 | | Turners Falls Road | S.S.Holton House site | wooded lot with parking lot | c1850 | N/A | Site | C |
| 42-089 | | 555-557 Turners Falls Rd. | Frank Martin House | 2 story, gable roof, porches | c1933 | Colonial Revival | Building | C |
| 43-144 | | 7 Union St. | commercial bus garage | 1 story, gable roof, overhead vehicle doors; parked busses | c1940 | industrial | Building | NC |
| 43-145 43-146 | | 11 Union St. | A.C. Stone House | 1½ story, front gable roof; detached garage | c1860 | Italianate | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 43-065 | | 14 Union St. | house | 1½ story, front gable; altered siding, replacement windows; attached three-car garage, in-ground swimming pool | c1856 c1900 c1990 | Colonial Revival | Building | NC |
| 43-043 | 41 | 19 Union St. | A. Clapp, Jr. House | 2 story, front gable roof and wing, porch, bracketed cornice | 1856 | Italian Villa | Building | C |
| 43-064 | 39 | 20 Union St. | W.W. Thayer House | 1½ story, front gable roof; attached garage | c1856 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-044 | 40 | 21 Union St. | Mrs. Gunn House | 1½ story, front gable roof, attached barn; detached shed | 1856 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 43-063 | 37 | 22 Union St. | house | 1½ story, front gable roof; attached garage | c1856 | Greek Revival | Building | C |

DISTRICT DATA LIST

| Parcel Number | MHC No. | STREET ADDRESS | HISTORIC NAME (if known, otherwise building type) | DESCRIPTION (all buildings frame construction unless otherwise noted) | DATE | STYLE | RESOURCE TYPE | STATUS contributing or non-contributing |
|---|---------|----------------|--|---|-------|---------------|-------------------------|--|
| 43-045 | 38 | 23 Union St. | Mrs. Green House | 1½ story, front gable roof, porch across front | 1856 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-062 | | 24 Union St. | house | 1½ story, front gable roof | c1856 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-046 | 36 | 25 Union St. | Mrs. Clapp House | 1½ story, front gable roof; detached shed | c1856 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 43-061 | | 26 Union St. | house | 1½ story, front gable roof, altered siding and replacement windows | c1856 | Greek Revival | Building | NC |
| 43-047 43-047A | | 27 Union St. | house & garage | 1½ story, gable roof, side chimney, front porch; detached garage | c1925 | Bungalow | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 43-060 | | 30 Union St. | D. Clapp House | 1½ story, front gable roof; attached garage | c1856 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-048 | | 33 Union St. | M.H. Clapp House | 1½ story, front gable roof, attached back houses and barn | c1856 | Greek Revival | Building | C |
| 43-059 43-057 43-058 | 35 | 34 Union St. | E. Ingram House | 1½ story, front gable roof, front porch; detached shop | c1860 | Greek Revival | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 43-052 | | 37 Union St. | house & garage | 1½ story, gable roof, front porch; detached garage (non-contributing) | c1920 | Bungalow | Building Outbuilding | C NC |
| 43-142 43-154 | | 5 Welch Ln. | house; formerly Clapp Scyth-Snath Factory | 1 story, front gable; factory converted into dwelling; detached shed | c1900 | industrial | Building Outbuilding | C C |
| 43-147 43-148 | | Welch Ln. | vacant land (state land) | two building lots remaining from industrial development prior to fire of 1889 | n/a | n/a | Sites - 2 | C(2) |
| 43-143 | | 9 Welch Ln. | commercial laundry | 1 story, gable roof, masonry, metal windows | c1900 | industrial | Building | C |
| TOTALS: Contributing Buildings.....152 Contributing Sites21 Contributing Structures3 Contributing Objects ...2 Non-contributing Buildings ...34 Non-contributing Sites ...0 Non-contributing Structures ..0 Non-contributing Obj ... 1 | | | | | | | | |



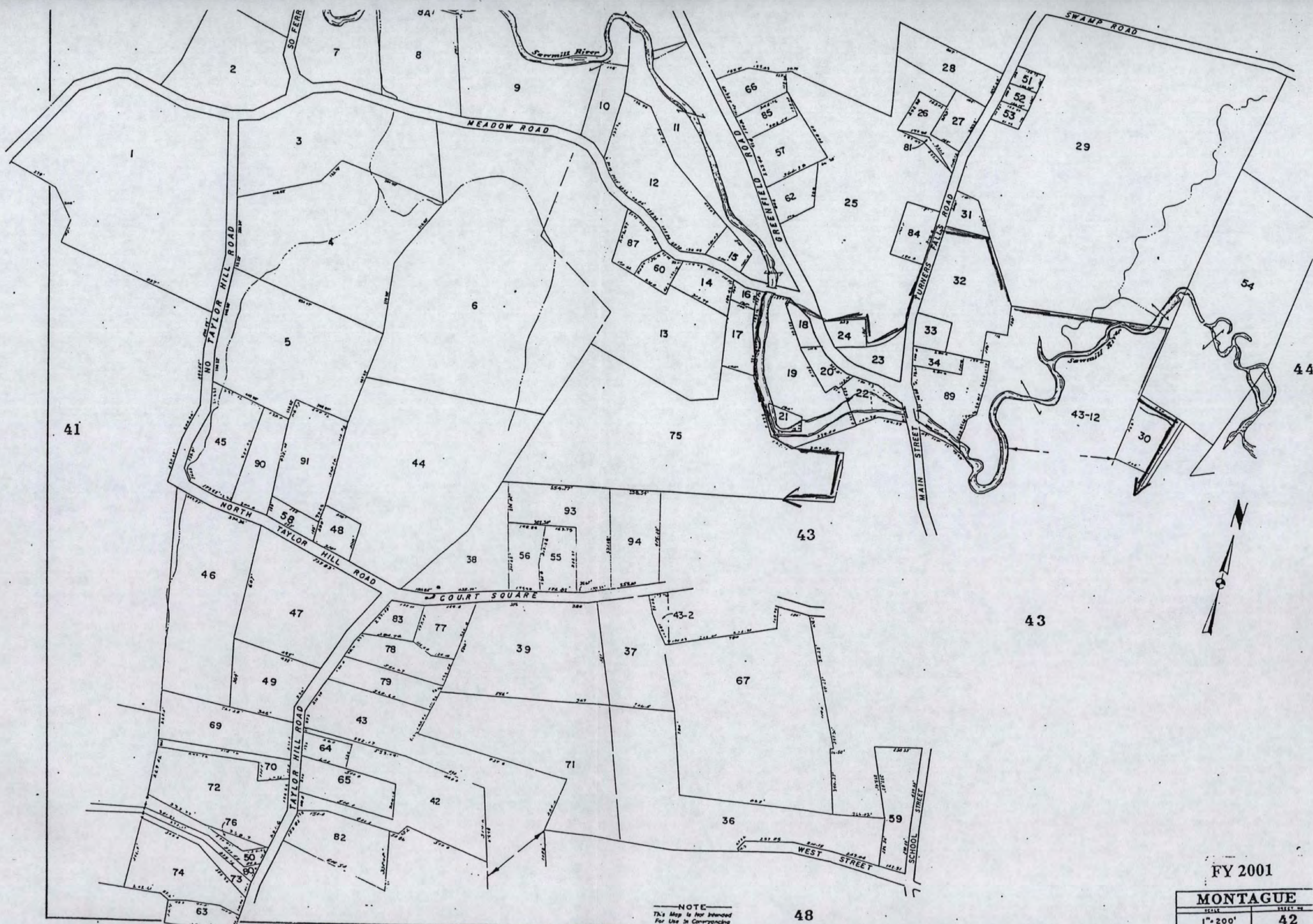


NOTE
This Map is Not Intended
For Use in Conveyance

FY 2001

MONTAGUE

SCALE SHEET 44
1"=200'



NOTE
This Map is Not Intended
For Use in Conveyancing

FY 2001

MONTAGUE

SCALE 1" = 200' SHEET NO. 42

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Montague Center Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Franklin

DATE RECEIVED: 10/02/01 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/05/01
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/21/01 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/16/01
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 01001236

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 11-16-01 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

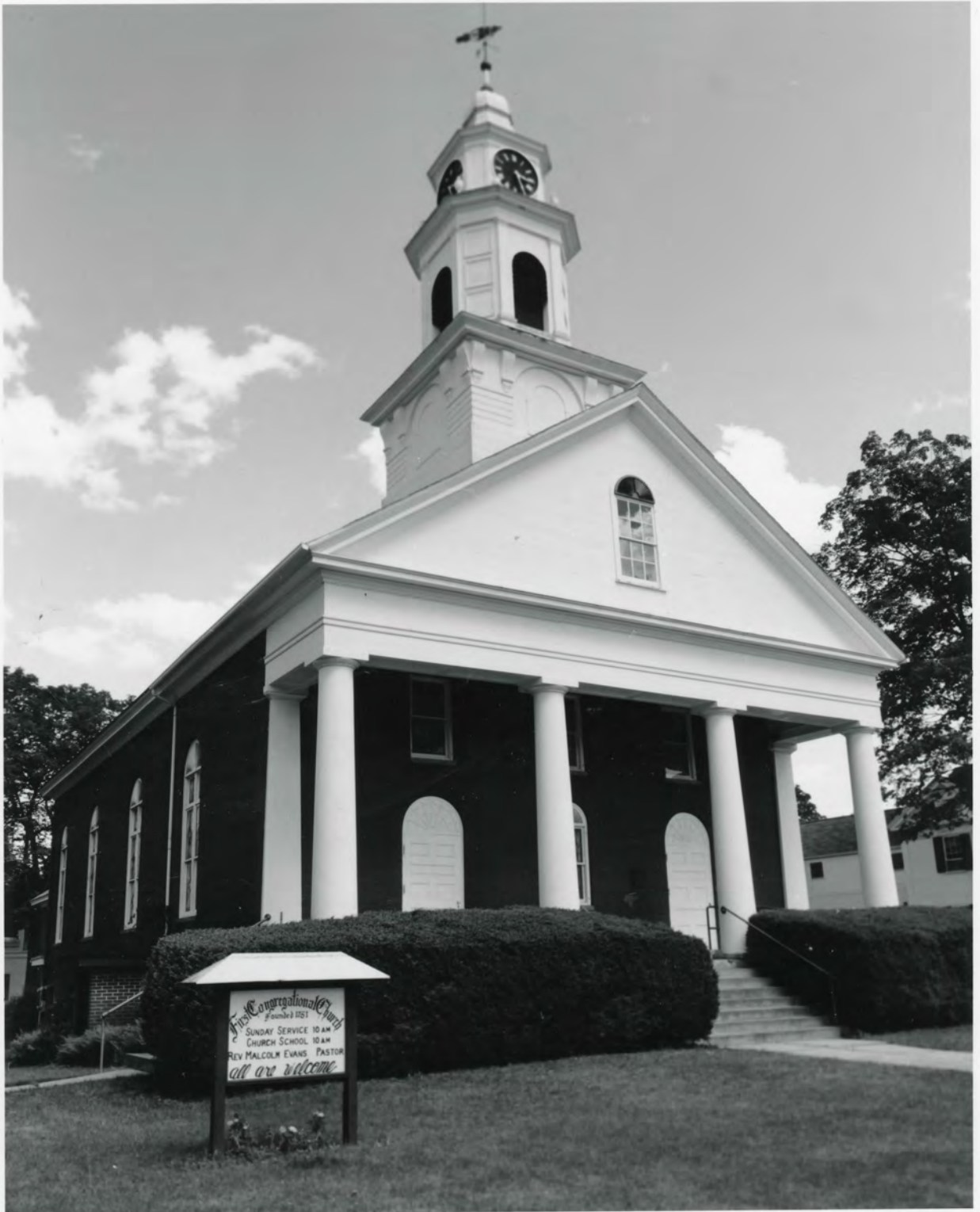
Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____


REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



First Congregational Church
Founded 1851
SUNDAY SERVICE 10 AM
CHURCH SCHOOL 10 AM
REV MALCOLM EVANS PASTOR
all are welcome



First Congregational Church
4 North Street
Montague Center Historic District
Franklin County, Massachusetts
Photo by: Sharon Harper, June 1988
Middlebury VT

PHOTO 1: Church, NW perspective





Montague Unitarian Church / Grange Hall

34 Main Street

Montague Center Historic District


Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Sharon Harper June 1988

Middlebury, VT

PHOTO 2: church, east elevation





Sen. Joseph H. Root House

21 Center Street

Montague Center Historic District
Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Sharon Harper, June 1988
Middlebury VT

PHOTO 3 : house, south elevation



of 17

Ward House
27 Center Street
Montague Center Historic District
Franklin County, Massachusetts
Photo by Sharon Harper, June 1988
Middlebury VT

PHOTO 4: house, SE perspective



Delano House

49 Main Street

Montague Center Historic District


Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by Sharon Harper, June 1988

Middlebury VT

PHOTO 5: house, NW perspective





Root Tavern

17 Old Sunderland Road

Montague Center Historic District

Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Sharon Harper, June 1988

Middlebury VT

PHOTO 6: house, south elevation



1915

School / Pocket Book Factory
38 Main Street
Montague Center Historic District
Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Sharon Harper, June 1988
Middlebury VT

PHOTO 7: East elevation of building





Montague Boot & Shoe Company / Masonic Lodge

59 Main Street

Montague Center Historic District

Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Sharon Harper, June 1988

Middlebury VT

PHOTO 8: NW perspective






Henry Root General Store
58-60 Main Street
Montague Center Historic District
Franklin County, Massachusetts
Photo by: Sharon Harper, June 1988
Middlebury VT

Photo 9: store, SE perspective





Anson Cobb House

71 Main Street

Montague Center Historic District

Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Sharon Harper, June 1998
Middlebury VT

PHOTO 10: house, SW perspective




112
nt

Edward W. Cheney House
2 North Street
Montague Center Historic District
Franklin County, Massachusetts
Photo by: Sharon Harper, June 1988
Middlebury VT

PHOTO 11: house, west elevation





Aaron Gate House

18 Main Street

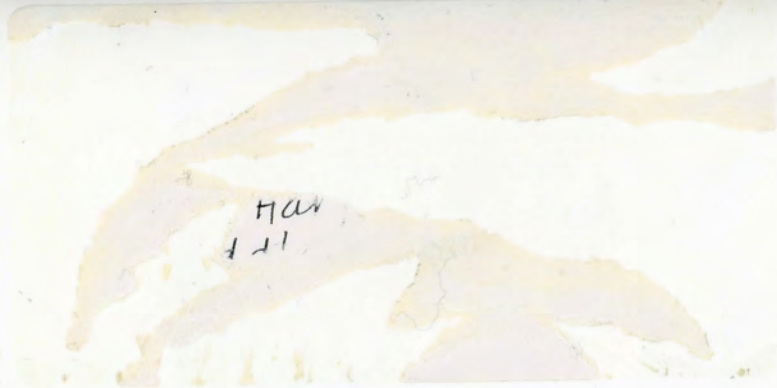
Montague Center Historic District

Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Sharon Harper, June 1988
Middlebury VT

Photo 12: house, east elevation





HAW
11

Old Town Hall

19 Center Street

Montague Center Historic District


Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Sharon Harper, June 1988

Middlebury VT

Photo 13: town hall, south elevation





Dyke Mill

44 Central Street

Montague Center Historic District

Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Sharon Harper, June 1988
Middlebury VT

PHOTO 14: mill, SW perspective



1858
TOWN
HALL

Public Library

MIRIAM COBBLEMAN



Center
Montague Historic District
Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Pamela Paspalis, Aug. 1988
MHC, Boston MA

VIEW 15: view, north side Center St. west of North St.

photo 15



Union St.
Montague
Pan. 1. D - 4
ON O. ...
#16 of

Montague Center HD
Franklin Co. MA.

Union St. looking N

photo Pamela Paspalis, Aug 1988
MHC . Boston

photo 16



REAL ESTATE
CALL 1-800-230-2000

Montague
Paspalis

Montague Ctr. (H)
Franklin Co. MA

photo by Pamela Paspalis Aug 1988
MITC

Central St. looking N

photo 17



Montague Center Historic District
Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by Neil Larson, Nov 2000
MHC, Boston MA

VIEW 16 : VIEW west side Main St. north
of Court Square.



Montague Center Historic District
Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Neil Larsen, Nov 2000
MITZ, Boston MA

PHOTO 17: view east side Turners Falls Rd.
from north end of district



Montague Center Historic District
Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Neil Larsen, Nov 2000
MHC, Boston MA

Photo 18: View west side Main St.
North of Station St.



Montague Center Historic District
Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Neil Larsen, Nov 2000
MHC, Boston MA

Photo 19: View, east side Main St. south
of Station St.



Montague Center Historic District
Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Neil Larson, Nov 2000
MHC, Boston MA

Photo 20: View south at intersection
of Main St. & Old Sunderland Rd.



Montague Center Historic District
Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Neil Larson, Nov. 2000
MLTz, Boston MA

PHOTO 21: Center Street, south side, east
of North Street.



Montague Center Historic District
Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Neil Larson Nov. 2000
MHC, Boston MA

Photo 22: Union Street, north of no. 19



Montague Center Historic District
Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Neil Larson Nov. 2000
MITZ, Boston MA

PHOTO 23: Montague Center School
15 School Street



Montague Center Historic District
Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Neil Larson Nov. 2000
MITC, Boston MA

PHOTO 24: Playground. School Street,
east side, south of Station St.



Montague Center Historic District
Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Neil Larson Nov. 2000
MHC, Boston MA

Photo 25: 6 & 8 School St.



Montague Center Historic District
Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Neil Larsen Nov. 2000
MHC, Boston MA

PHOTO 26: Station Street, east from
School Street.



Montague Center Historic District
Franklin County, Massachusetts

Photo by: Neil Larson Nov. 2000
MHC, Boston MA

PHOTO 27: 5 & 7 Court Square

MONTAGUE CENTRE

TOWN OF MONTAGUE

Scale 25 Rods to the inch.



Montague Business Notices.

Merchants & Dealers.

- Bangs & Ball...Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Clothing, Hats, Caps, Boots and Shoes, Montague Centre
- Caper H. D. & Co...Dealers in Flour, Grain and Feed
- Conant E. E...Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots, Shoes, Paints, Oils, Varnishes, Drugs, Patent Medicines, Hard-ware, Crockery, Stationery, and Notions Generally, "Miller's Falls"
- Creagh G. H...Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots, Shoes and every article usually found in a first-class country store, "Miller's Falls"
- Goss R. L...Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, &c, Montague City and "Turner's Falls"
- Payne S. B...Dealer in Harness, Trunks, Valises, Travelling Bags, Blankets, Robes, Whips, &c, Montague Centre
- Puffer D...Dealer in Fish and Oysters, Montague Centre
- Whitney J. M...Merchant Tailor, Montague Centre

Manufacturers.

- Goss D. W...Brick Manufacturer and Builder, Montague City
- Goss H. L...Brick Manufr, Montague City
- Palmer, Phillips & Co...Manufr of every variety of Calf, Sheep and Morocco Pocket Books and Wallets, Montague Centre
- Pond B. F...Tanner and Manufr of Upper Leather
- Richardson G. F. & Co...Manufr of Furniture, Montague Centre
- Ripley E. & Co...Manufr of Lumber and Shingles, South part of Town

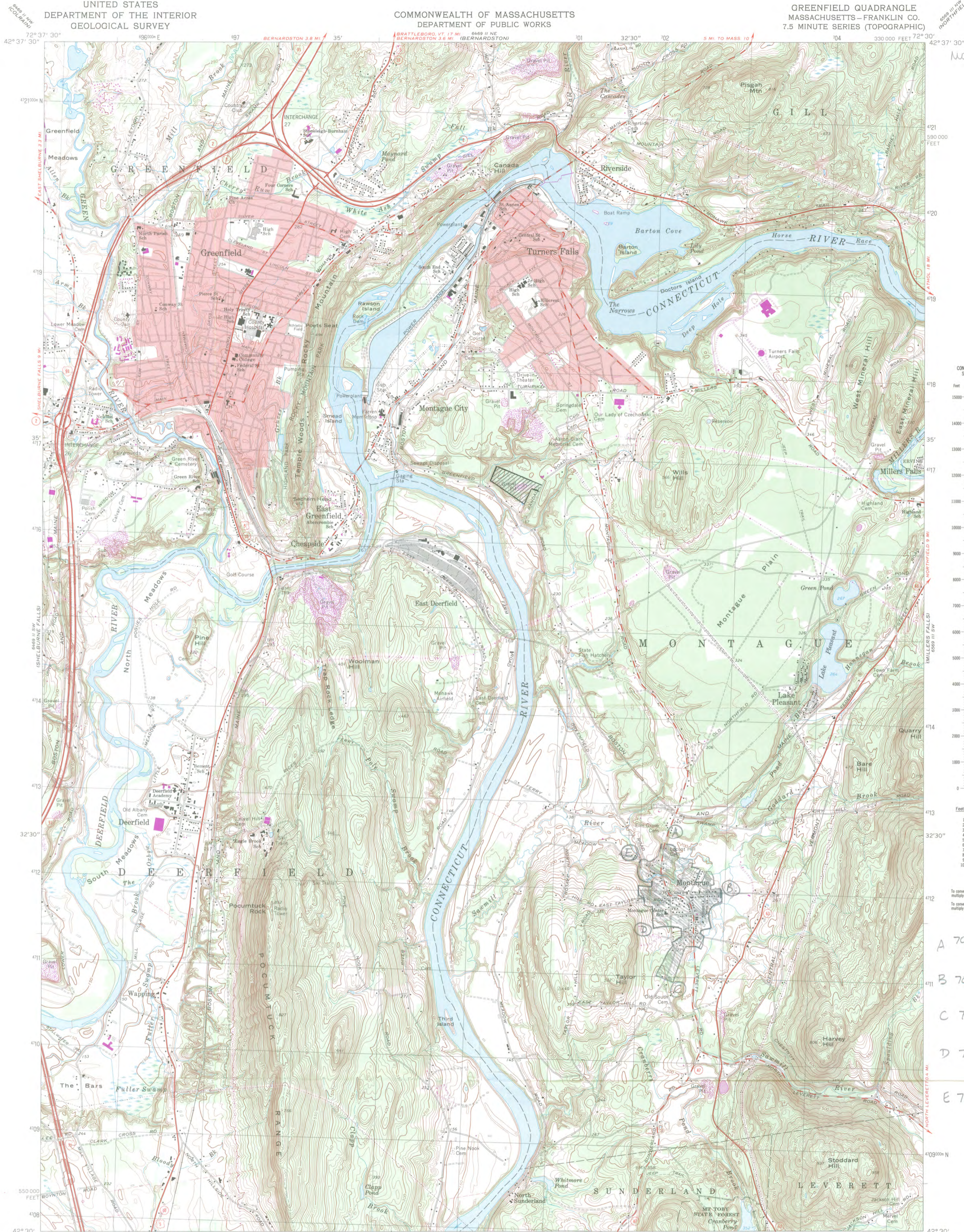
Hotels & Livery.

- Clapp C. A...Propt of "Wilds Hotel"
- Wilds A. F...Propt of Livery Stable

Physicians.

- Coy E. C...Physician and Surgeon, Montague City
- Deane E. A...Physician, Montague Centre
- Wilson C. A...Physician and Druggist. Office, cor of L. and 3rd sts, "Turner's Falls." Res Montague City

MONTEAGUE



NONTAGUE CTL
HD

CONVERSION SCALES

| Feet | Meters |
|-------|--------|
| 15000 | 4500 |
| 14000 | 4200 |
| 13000 | 3900 |
| 12000 | 3600 |
| 11000 | 3300 |
| 10000 | 3000 |
| 9000 | 2700 |
| 8000 | 2400 |
| 7000 | 2100 |
| 6000 | 1800 |
| 5000 | 1500 |
| 4000 | 1200 |
| 3000 | 900 |
| 2000 | 600 |
| 1000 | 300 |
| 0 | 0 |

Feet | Meters

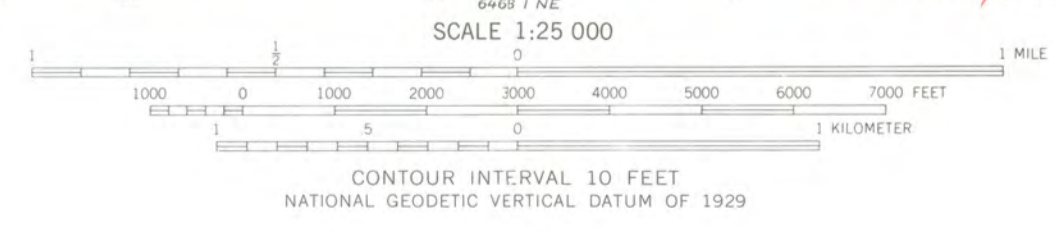
| | |
|----|-------|
| 1 | 3048 |
| 2 | 6096 |
| 3 | 9144 |
| 4 | 12192 |
| 5 | 15240 |
| 6 | 18288 |
| 7 | 21336 |
| 8 | 24384 |
| 9 | 27432 |
| 10 | 30480 |

To convert feet to meters multiply by 3048
To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808

ZONE 18

- A 702360/4712600
- B 702980/4712040
- C 702460/4710960
- D 702200/4711620
- E 702000/4712420

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planimeter survey 1936. Revised from aerial
photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1968
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid,
zone 18
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
the National or State reservations shown on this map



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

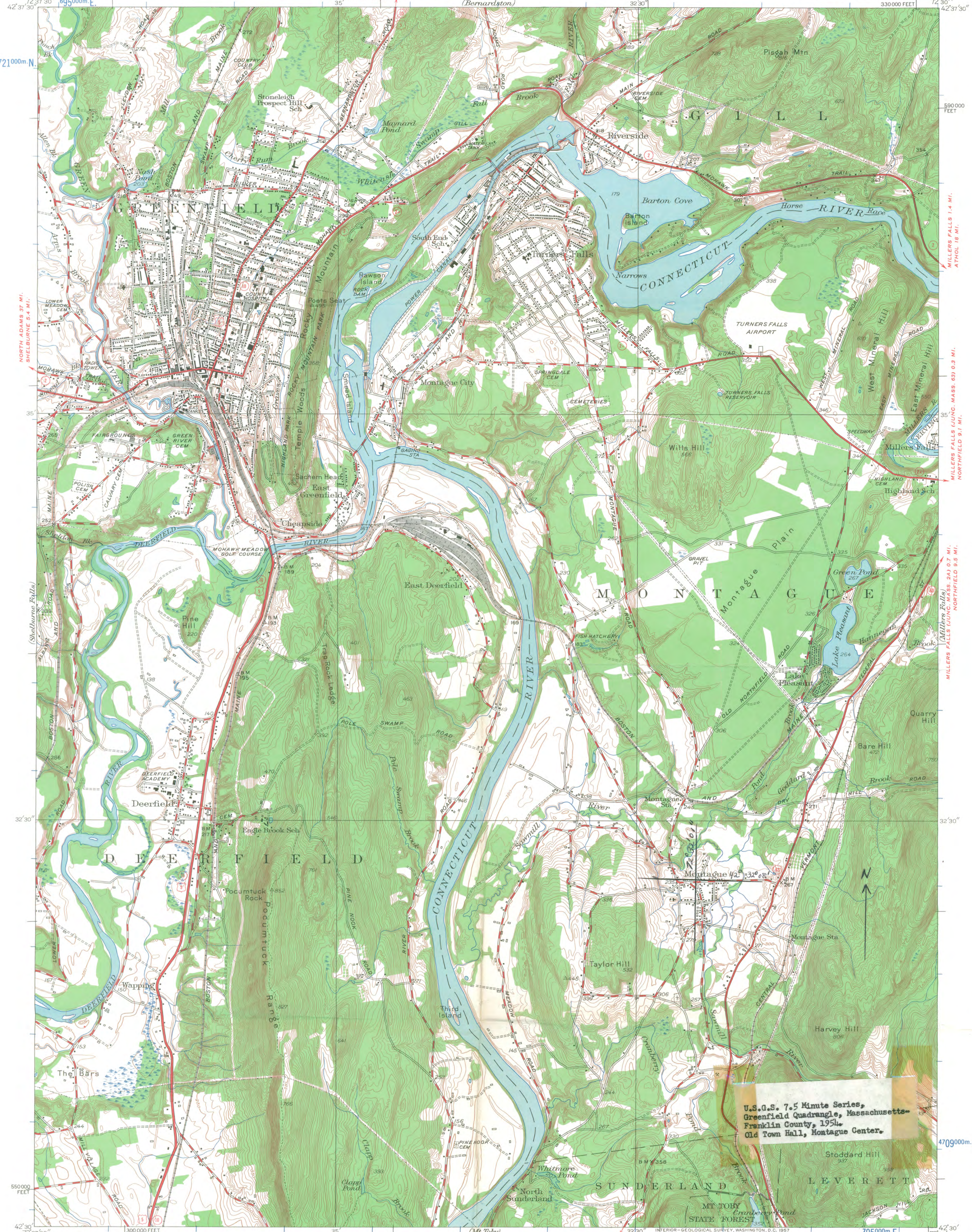
| | |
|--|--|
| Primary highway, all weather, hard surface | Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface |
| Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface | Unimproved road, fair or dry weather |

Interstate Route U.S. Route State Route

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

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with the State of
Massachusetts agencies from aerial photographs taken 1975 and other
source data. This information not field checked. Map edited 1979

GREENFIELD, MASS.
N4230—W7230/7.5
1968
PHOTOREVISED 1979
AMS 6469 II SE—SERIES V814



U.S.G.S. 7.5 Minute Series,
Greenfield Quadrangle, Massachusetts -
Franklin County, 1954.
Old Town Hall, Montague Center.

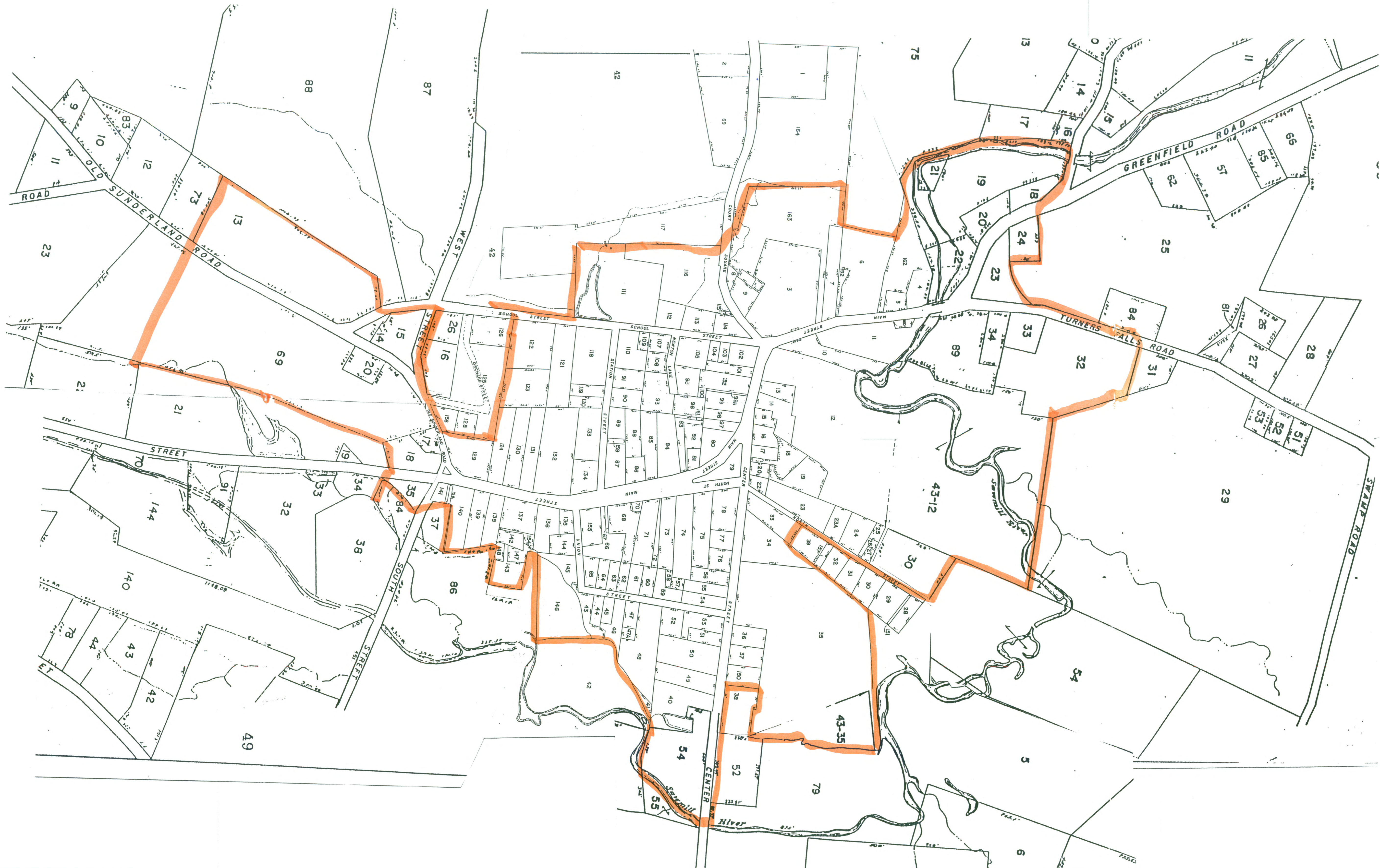
ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
U.S. Route ——— State Route ———

GREENFIELD, MASS.
N4230-W7230/7.5

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by plane-table surveys 1936. Revised 1954
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts (Mainland)
coordinate system
1000 meter Universal Transverse Mercator Grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue
APPROXIMATE MEAN
DECLINATION 1954
SCALE 1:24,000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL
MILE
KILOMETER
QUADRANGLE LOCATION
1954

old
DEERfield

old
Town
Hall





The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

September 20, 2001

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

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Montague Center HD, Montague (Franklin), 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 the properties included in the district were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 45 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

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

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Neil Larson, Consultant
Lillian Fiske, Montague Historical Commission
Edward Vaudren, Board of Selectmen
Robin Sherman, Planning Director

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| STATE: Massachusetts | |
| COUNTY: Franklin | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
| | |

1. NAME

COMMON:
Old Town Hall

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
on Avenue A, at Northeast corner of the Common

CITY OR TOWN:
Montague Center

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|------|----------------------------|------|
| STATE <u>Massachusetts</u> | CODE | COUNTY: <u>Franklin</u> | CODE |
|-------------------------------|------|----------------------------|------|

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered | Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Library</u> <u>Post Office</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Comments |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Town of Montague

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Montague Center

| | |
|--------------------------------|------|
| STATE: <u>Massachusetts</u> | CODE |
|--------------------------------|------|

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Massachusetts

| | |
|-------|------|
| STATE | CODE |
|-------|------|

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Massachusetts

| | |
|--------|------|
| STATE: | CODE |
|--------|------|

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
| | (Check One) | | | (Check One) | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Altered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site | |
| DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE | | | | | | |
| <p>The Old Town Hall is an oblong-shaped two-story brick building, three-bays wide and three-bays deep, with a gable roof. The architectural front is the narrow south end which faces upon the Common. Treated as a temple front, this elevation is pedimented, has a round arch window in its center, and the pediment's corbelled cornice is also carried around the eaves of the building. The windows, arranged in two tiers, are large, rectangular, contain 24 panes of glass, and have stone lintels and sills. Four brick chimneys, two on either side, rise above the roof. A broad flight of three stone steps lead up to the three doors in the first story of the main (south) facade. The entranceways are topped by stone lintels, and above them, in the second story, are three tall windows.</p> <p>The first floor is divided into two sections: The left-hand or west portion is used as a public library and the eastern half as a post office. The second floor still serves as the town hall. The Old Town Hall is in good condition and is open to visitors.</p> | | | | | | |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1858

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Erected in 1858, the Old Town Hall is a rectangular two-story brick structure with its narrow gable end pedimented and treated generally in the Greek Revival style. Similar brick buildings of approximately equal architectural distinction were erected on the mining frontiers of California and southern Oregon as early as 1852-53.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Massachusetts, A Guide to Its Places and People (American Guide Series)
(Boston, 1937), 453.

Edward Pearson Pressey, History of Montague, A Typical Puritan Town
(New Clairvaux Press, Montague, Mass., 1910.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | O R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|---|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | |
| | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | |
| NW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | 42 ° 32 ' 08 " | 72 ° 32 ' 01 " | |
| NE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |
| SE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |
| SW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 acre ?

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

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|--------|------|---------|------|
| | | | |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| | | | |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| | | | |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| | | | |

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Charles W. Snell, Survey Historian

ORGANIZATION: Division of History, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, National Park Service

DATE: 6/23/70

STREET AND NUMBER:
801 - 19th Street, N.W.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington 20006

STATE: D. C.

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



Old Town Hall, Montague Center, Massachusetts.

NPS Photo 1967

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1. STATE Massachusetts | | 2. THEME(S). IF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE, WRITE "ARCH" BEFORE THEME NO. 11-1103-1000 | |
| 3. NAME(S) OF SITE Old Town Hall | | | 4. APPROX. ACREAGE .1 acre |
| 5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet) Avenue A., at the north end of the Village Green, Montague Center, Franklin County. | | | |
| 6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner) Town of Montague. | | | |
| 7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant) | | | |

The Old Town Hall was erected in 1858 and its age appears to be its chief claim to architectural distinction. Similar structures were being erected in California's mining towns during this same period. The Old Town Hall is a rectangular two-story brick structure that is designed in the Greek Revival style. The main facade is a narrow end that faces south upon the village green. Four steps lead up to the three double doors which provide access to the building. Over these doors are three large rectangular windows, each of which contains 24 panes of glass. Windows and doors are topped by flat stone lintels. There is a round arch window in the third story of the pedimented gable end, which is framed by an elaborate cornice that is also carried around the eaves of the building. The long sides contain two tiers of 3 windows, similar to the rectangular windows in the main facade.

The first floor is divided into two sections: the left-hand portion is used as a public library and the right as a post office. The second floor still serves as the town hall. The building is in good condition.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works)

Massachusetts: A Guide to its Places and People (American Guide Series) (Boston, 1937), 453; Edward Pearson Pressey, History of Montague--A Typical Puritan Town (New Clairvaux Press, Montague, Mass., 1910).

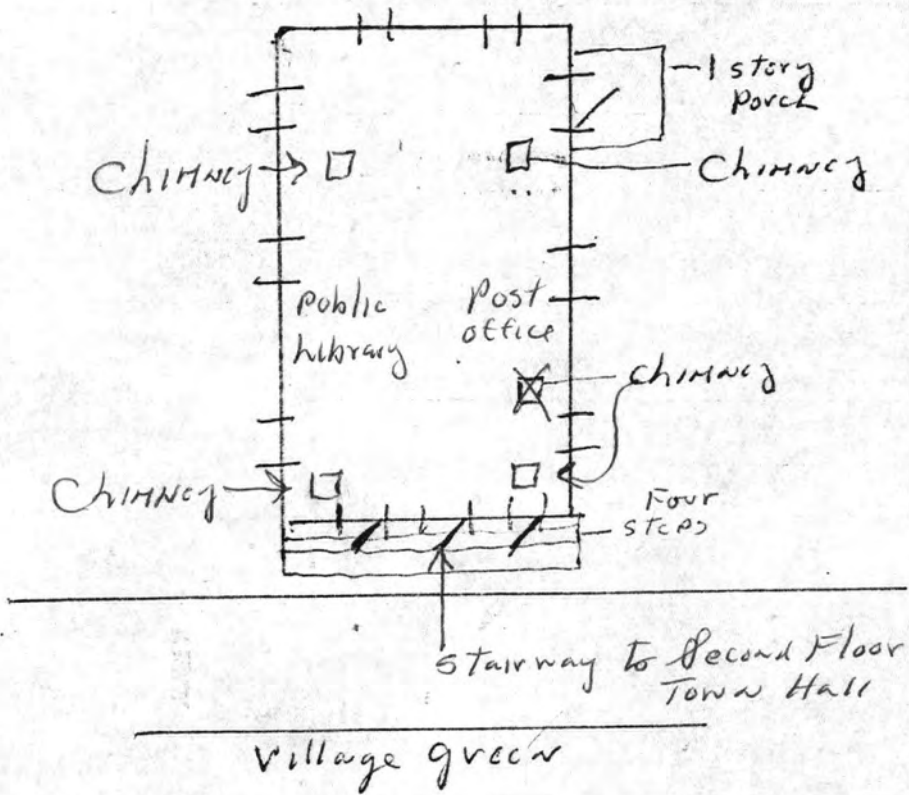
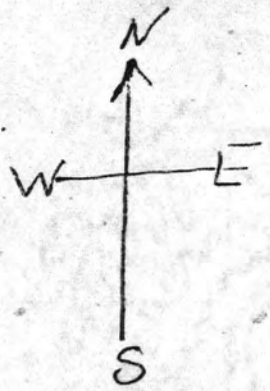
9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies, as, NPS study, IIABS, etc.)

Historic American Building Survey: None.

| | | | |
|---|------------------------------|--|--|
| 10. PHOTOGRAPHS • 4420-22 ATTACHED: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> | 11. CONDITION Good | 12. PRESENT USE (Museum, farm, etc.) Post Office | 13. DATE OF VISIT Sept. 14, 1967 |
| 14. NAME OF RECORDER (Signature) Charles W. Snell | | 15. TITLE Historian | 16. DATE Jan. 18, 1968 |

* DRY MOUNT ON AN 8 X 10 1/2 SHEET OF FAIRLY HEAVY PAPER. IDENTIFY BY VIEW AND NAME OF THE SITE, DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH, AND NAME OF PHOTOGRAPHER. GIVE LOCATION OF NEGATIVE. IF ATTACHED, ENCLOSE IN PROPER NEGATIVE ENVELOPES.

(IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS NEEDED USE SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET, 10-317a, AND REFER TO ITEM NUMBER)



Sketch plan of
Old Town Hall (1858)
Montague Center, Mass

C. W. Snell - 11/29/67





Old Town Hall, 1858
West side (left) and South (Front)
Elevation

Montague Center, Mass.

Sept. 14, 1967

Charles W. Snell

Western Reg. Neg. 4421



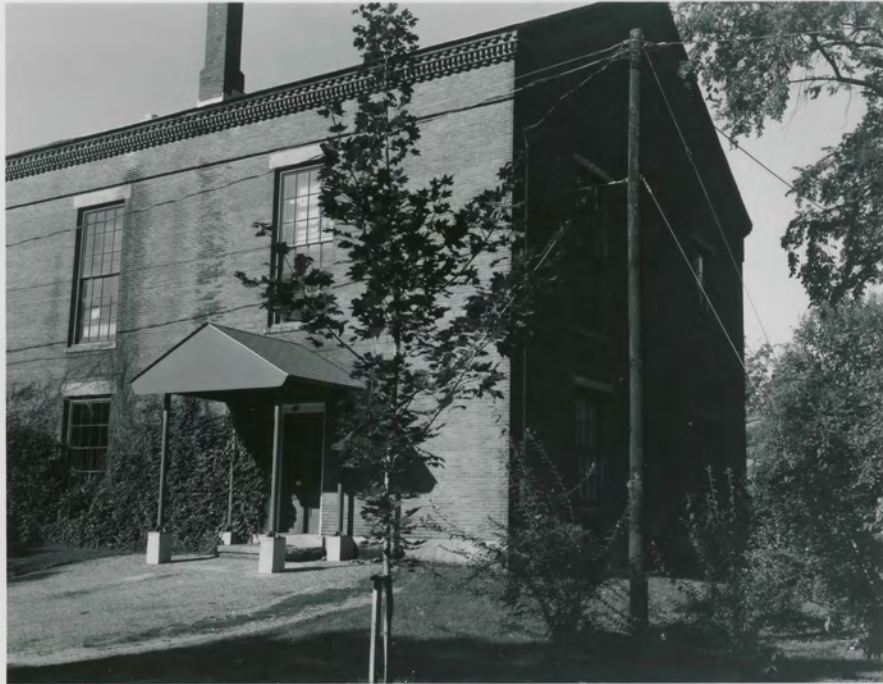
Old Town Hall, 1358 South (Front)
Elevation and East Side

Montague Center, Mass.

Sept. 14, 1967

Charles W. Snell

Western Neg. Neg. 4422



Old Town Hall, 1858
East Side and North (Rear)
Elevation (Right)

Montague Center, Massachusetts

Sept. 14, 1967

Charles W. Snell

Western Reg. Neg. 4420