

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Registration FormNATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name North Amherst Center Historic Districtother names/site number Same

2. Location

street & number 1184-1136 North Pleasant St., 1-39 Pine Street N/A not for publication
city, town 11-13 Meadow Street Amherst ☒ vicinity
state Massachusetts code 027 county Hampshire code 015 zip code 01002

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- ☒ private
☒ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>43</u>	<u>4</u> buildings
<u>1</u>	<u> </u> sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
<u>44</u>	<u>4</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/ANumber of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this
☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the
National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Judith B. McDonoughSignature of certifying official Judith B. McDonough, Executive Director,
Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation OfficerDate 10/31/91

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. 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:)Entered in the
National RegisterHugh M. Fawcett12/13/91

for Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
 Religion: Church, Social: Meeting Hall
 Commerce, Education: School, Library
 Domestic: Single family dwellings

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
 Religion: Church, Social: Meeting Hall
 Commerce, Education: Library
 Domestic: Single family dwellings

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone, Granite, Brick

walls Wooden Clapboard, Brick

roof Slate, Asphalt Shingle

other

Federal, Greek Revival, Queen Anne
 Craftsman, Colonial Revival

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

North Amherst Center is a 19th century nucleated village located at the major crossroad from Amherst to Sunderland, and from Amherst to Hadley. It is the historic civic, religious, and commercial center for North Amherst. The church, meeting hall, library, school, fire department, tavern, and general store have all been clustered in this area since 1821. Today, the built environment of North Amherst is much the same as it was in the early 19th century, with a minimal amount of new construction. Although the school and the Cowles House are constructed of brick, wood frame structures predominate. Buildings on the west side of North Pleasant Street are large scale residences with extant barns and those on the east side of the street are generally more modest in size and scale.

North Amherst is located at the primary junction of the north-south main road from Sunderland to Amherst (North Pleasant Street) and an east-west road from Amherst to Hadley (Meadow and Pine Street). The village is a mix of domestic, civic, and religious buildings dating from 1821 to the early 20th century. The houses range from a brick center-hall Federal residence, to a modest Greek Revival cottage, to 20th century contractor-built housing.

To the north of the junction are the civic and religious buildings. The church is sited on a knoll which dominates the area. Next to the church, sloping downhill to the north, is the Meeting Hall. On a triangle of land, at the fork in the road, is the library, and on the west leg of the triangle are the school and a store.

The immediate village center is a mix of commercial and civic structures, which lead to adjacent 19th and early 20th century residences extending the length of North Pleasant Street to the boundary of the district. They are consistent in scale, set back, and setting. From the junction, stretching south for one tenth of a mile, the road is wide, suggesting a possible village common, although there is none. However, mature deciduous trees line both sides of the road.

The domestic architecture of the area dates from 1821, to the early 20th century. A description of the houses follows, beginning at the junction of North Pleasant Street and Pine Street:

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NORTH PLEASANT STREET

All but one residence, the Cowles House, are frame construction with granite foundations, many of which retain their original slate roofs. All houses are sited back from the road, with grassy lawns leading up to them. On the west side of North Pleasant Street, the houses exhibit a common farmstead configuration, with attached carriage sheds and/or barns with a southern orientation, which extend to the rear (north). Civic and religious buildings are clustered on the northern side of the North Amherst crossroad junction. The church, meeting hall, library, and school form a crescent at the northern boundary of the district.

Cowles House, 1184 North Pleasant Street (MHC #A87), ca. 1825, is the largest domestic residence in North Amherst. Built in 1821, an earlier frame house, still visible to the rear of the brick house, retains some structural elements and wide board interior panels. The five-bay, painted brick Federal house features an intersecting pitch and hip roofline, an L-shape which follows the line of the corner lot. This type of roofline is most often found on taverns, although there is no recorded evidence of the Cowles House being used as a tavern on a regular basis.

Typical of the high Federal style are the elliptical leaded fanlight, granite foundation, sills, and flared lintels. Although wide double-leaf doors were popular in mid-18th century Connecticut River Valley architecture, the entrance to the Cowles House was not renovated until the turn of the century; the present double-leaf entrance was added at that time.

The five contiguous barns and sheds are later additions and contribute to the effect of this impressive residence. The 1833 map shows it was the property of J. Cowles, and in 1873, the property of C.J. Cowles. It was Clinton J. Cowles who built the barns in 1876.

1178 North Pleasant Street (MHC #A88), ca. 1920, is a side-gabled, gambrel-roofed structure. While a common type elsewhere in 1900-1930, this type was not a very popular house-type in Amherst. Dutch Colonial details include a long shed dormer, eyebrow attic window, palladian window, and porch with flared columns. Craftsman details are apparent in the deeply projecting front porch, columns, and window leading at the sidelights.

The Parsonage, 1170 North Pleasant Street (MHC #A89), was built ca. 1840 on land bought from William Kellogg for \$81.00. This front-gabled Greek Revival with sidehall plan is similar to a large number of standard houses from that period. Total building costs for the parsonage were \$1,409.99 and were paid by pledges from the parish. The closed pediment and standard fenestration pattern are common elements to this type of architecture. The wide cornice-board trim, small rectangular gable window, and oculus window on the

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north side are also typical period details. Local tradition holds that the oculus on the side elevation, which follows a direct line to the entrance of the church, was designed as a courtesy to Mr. Cooke, the pastor who helped design the house.

In Harold Cary's history of the North Amherst Church, How Firm a Foundation, he recounts the parsonage history. The first pastor, Mr. Hunt, had not felt he had adequate housing in North Amherst, so:

When first invited to preach here...Mr. Cooke (the next pastor) shrewdly let it be known that he would probably not accept a call unless something were done about it (housing), and promptly departed to deliver a candidate's sermon in New Hampshire. This produced action! He was visited, upon his return to North Amherst, by a parish committee that promised him a parsonage and requested his suggestions in the matter. In five or ten minutes, he says, he designed a house upon the back of an envelope.

Later he regretted the haste with which he had designed the house, but it served adequately as the North Amherst parsonage. Similar to the other houses on the west side of North Pleasant Street, this property has a two-section attached barn, hay barn, and vehicle storage.

The McCloud House 1162 North Pleasant Street (MHC #A90), is a ca. 1840, side-gabled Greek Revival house related to about ten similar examples in North Amherst and, on the south end of West Street, in South Amherst. The five-bay, symmetrical facade features a nicely detailed doorway with three pane sidelights and raised panels in the engaged pilasters. The large granite steps lead up to the house set upon a granite foundation. The roof, still with its original slate material, has an unusual full-width front dormer that provides additional head room to the second-story rooms. The interior of the main house features unusual convex fluted window trim in the front parlor.

Following the standard configuration found on the west side of North Pleasant Street, the attached outbuildings include a carriage shed and barn. To the rear is an attached side-gabled cottage, which was the former shoemaker's shop, as shown in its original location across the street on the map of 1860. Both the 1860 and 1873 maps indicate, this property belonged to Milton L. McCloud, a carpenter. The unusual interior and exterior detailing may date from that period.

1157 North Pleasant Street (MHC #A91), ca. 1863, is a front-gabled Greek Revival sidehall-plan house. The flushboarded gable and wide cornice bands are common elements of the style. This example features two two-story side blocks and a full veranda. The front-gabled barn has Italianate features such

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as paired round-top windows in the front gable and single ornamental roof brackets. This house does not appear on the 1860 map but does appear on the 1873 map as the property of John Russell. John Russell was listed in the 1869 and 1873 directories as a farmer with a house on North Street (North Pleasant Street).

1146 North Pleasant Street (MHC #A917), is a side-gabled, five-bay Greek Revival, center-hall-plan house. The wide cornice board trim is similar to that on 1156 North Pleasant; however, the articulated door surround, with an entablature and panelled sidelights, is related in quality of detail to the C. Smith House, at 1147 North Pleasant Street. Elements common to most of the houses in North Amherst are the granite foundations and slate roofs. The two sheds and the small side-gabled barn, plus attached front gabled hay and livestock barn, create a farmstead that faces the south side, as do the others in the area.

The Dr. Fish House, 1136 North Pleasant Street (MHC #A94), is a large front-gabled Greek Revival with a sidehall plan. It features a closed pediment and standard fenestration. With detailing such as the gable with two 2/2 windows, the wide cornice band trim, and reduced door surround are details found mainly on rural examples of the Greek Revival style. The elaborate veranda is a late 19th century addition. The attached front-gabled barn features a sliding track door and second-level hayloft door. As noted on the maps of 1833, 1860, and 1873, this was the home of Dr. Fish.

C. Smith House, 1147 North Pleasant Street (MHC #A93), ca. 1835 is a front gabled, one and a half story Greek Revival with sidehall plan. The recessed doorway with four pane sidelights and the corner boards with recessed panels indicate a high level of craftsmanship and concern for detail unusual on the exterior of buildings of this size in North Amherst. The directories of 1869 and 1873 list many Smiths with occupations of carpenter/joiner, broom manufacturing, and farmer; however, none has the first initial of C., so it is not possible to identify which Smith family owned this property, although the quality of craftsmanship would suggest the Smith who was a carpenter/joiner.

The Olivia Dickinson House, 1185 North Pleasant Street (MHC #A85), ca. 1820 is a side-gable, five-bay, center-hall-plan Federal house. Mapped as early as 1833, it follows the standard proportions and fenestration pattern of an early 19th century dwelling, including the granite foundation and exterior clapboards. At the time of the construction of the North Amherst Congregational Church (1826), this was the Oliver Dickinson Tavern. It continued to play a prominent role in the North Amherst community as the Bates Inn in the early and mid 20th century. Today, it is currently used as a restaurant and apartments.

The North Amherst Congregational Church (MHC #A66) was built in 1826. This

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Federal building was the property of a single individual, Oliver Dickinson, who was solely responsible for financing the \$2,900 for the construction of it. Related in design to the South Amherst Church, this example features a pedimented facade with triple-arched entrances set in recessed bays. Two-story engaged pilasters support the closed pediment with an elliptical fanlight. Rising from the front of the building, the steeple develops from a square base to octagonal spire.

The North Amherst Hall (MHC #A67), ca. 1845, was used as a singing school, for lectures, and other public gatherings. The large front-gabled Greek Revival building features a closed, flushboarded gable and wide cornice trim supported by four engaged pilasters. A flat-roofed ell with Greek Revival entrance is adjacent on the south elevation. The clapboarded, frame structure follows domestic architecture of the period. In scale, siting, and detail, it relates well to the church, uphill to the south.

North Amherst Library (MHC #A68) of 1893, is a charming Queen Anne-style library with a steeply pitched slate roof with intersecting gables. The stick style ornament in the gables and window surrounds was originally polychromed to enhance the details. The library was designed by Roswell F. Putnum (1841-1911), who was born in Leverett and had an office in Northampton. Putnum designed a total of twenty buildings in Amherst, only five of which are extant. Organized in 1869, this was the first public library in the Amherst area.

North Amherst School of the Arts (MHC #A69), was built ca. 1887. This side-gabled red brick school with a jerkinhead roofline features a secondary gable with round window above the raised entrance porch. Single Italianate-style brackets, granite lintels and sills, cupola, projecting watertable supporting engaged brick corner pilasters, and 6/6 and 8/8 windows are the decorative elements.

As early as 1833, the map indicates a school to the east of the North Amherst Church. In 1841 the parish allowed the school district to erect a two-story building north of the church. That building was completed in 1845. In 1860, the town voted to establish a high school in the village center. The present building, which was completed and in use by 1887, appears to have been used as a primary school only.

PINE STREET

Beginning at the junction of North Pleasant and Pine Street, and heading to the east, the following frame dwellings, dating from ca. 1835 to ca. 1920, are described:

10 Pine Street, Dr. Temple's House (MHC #A65), ca. 1835, is a front-gabled

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Greek Revival sidehall-plan building with four entrances. The multiple entries may relate to a prior dual use as Dr. Theron Temple's office and residence in the mid to late 19th century. The primary entrance, facing the Congregational Church, contains sidelights, entablature, and engaged pilasters. Other architectural details may be obscured by the present 20th century asphalt siding. Similar to 38 Pine Street, to the east, it is an example of a residence with linear attached outbuildings.

The Old Fire Station on Pine Street (MHC #A63), ca. 1920, is a modest front-gabled structure with minimal details. The three-story hose tower to the rear, the enclosed exterior two-story staircase, and the large facade entrance are all utilitarian elements on this clapboard frame structure. Although the fire truck was housed here and the town of Amherst paid for the firefighters, the company was strictly volunteer. The fire station was last used in 1971 and is currently vacant.

H. Kellogg House, 38 Pine Street (MHC #A61), ca. 1850, is a side-gabled Greek Revival residence with attached ell and barn related to about ten similar extant examples north of North Amherst Center. This example, with engaged pilasters and sidelights, is the one of two examples of residences with attached outbuildings extant on Pine Street, although this type of architecture was very prevalent in the area in the 19th century. In 1860 it was the home of H. Kellogg, who was listed as a farmer in the business directory and a blacksmith in the street listing of the same year, suggesting he had more than one career.

39 Pine Street (MHC #A60), ca. 1920, is a two-story, hip-roofed Four-Square typical of early 20th century architecture clustered in North Amherst. This example features clapboard and shingle exterior finishes, on a large frame construction, with a pitch-roofed dormer piercing the hip roof. The facade has a full-width porch with standard block columns, and asymmetrical fenestration and axuality. The side elevation features a balanced window pattern with a diamond-leaded, full-sized stair-window located half way between the first and second floors. Although it is a standard Four-Square, it contains Queen Anne-style elements, in the complexity of window size and arrangement.

33 Pine Street (MHC #A62), ca. 1900, is a vernacular Victorian, with a front-gabled sidehall plan. Detailed elements are a high foundation, asymmetrical fenestration, wraparound porch, and oval fixed pane in the entry door. Although this one is limited to simple detailing, other, more elaborate examples of this house can be found in North and South Amherst.

25 Pine Street (MHC #A64), ca. 1890, is another vernacular Victorian residence similar in scale and detail to the four examples adjacent to the east. It is typical of comfortable housing built throughout Amherst at the end of the 19th

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century. This example, like 39 Pine Street, features asymmetrical fenestration and axiality and a full-width porch. Differences include the front-gable, pitched single-ridge roofline and clapboard exterior siding.

MEADOW STREET

Meadow Street is the road leading from the center of North Amherst, west to Hadley. On the corner of North Pleasant and Meadow Streets, opposite the David Cowles House, was the Reverend Hunt's House, demolished ca. 1833. By 1873, civic and commercial growth had replaced the house with the North Amherst School, ca. 1887, and Watroba's store, ca. 1930.

Watroba's store (noncontributing) on the corner is a Greek Revival, front-gabled, sidehall-plan structure, formerly used as a residence. This building has experienced several stages of alterations in its lifetime, the most recent being in 1960. Alterations to the building include modified fenestration, wing additions, and exterior siding.

11 Meadow Street (MHC #917) is a large side-gabled, five-bay, center-hall-plan dwelling. It is one of the few remaining wood-frame Federal houses in North Amherst. Sited end gable to the street, the three-bay end elevation is unusually wide for the period. This house is not indicated on the 1833 map; however, architectural features suggest a construction date compatible with the Cowles House, ca. 1825. This suggests the house may have been moved to its present site prior to 1860, when it first appears to have been mapped as an unidentified residence. By 1873, it was the property of W. W. Cowles, who was listed as a farmer in the 1869 business directory. The large, front gabled barn, ca. 1875, located to the rear of the house is similar in scale and architectural detail to the Cowles' barn across the street.

33 Meadow Street (MHC #A70), is a large, front-gabled Queen Anne sidehall-plan house built ca. 1900. This elaborate, two and a half story residence features cutaway bays, a variety of window styles, and a full-width front porch with Doric columns. It is related to about six other examples of contractor-built interpretations of the style in Amherst, popularized through magazines and patternbooks about the turn of the century.

Suburban and commercial development since 1920, has taken over most of the farmland surrounding North Amherst, but the proposed district retains the character of a 19th century crossroad village. Of the forty-eight buildings and structures in the district, only four are noncontributing. The Fisher Nursing Home is the only building that falls outside the period of significance. The other noncontributing resources are buildings that have been remodeled recently.

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Archaeological Description

While no prehistoric sites are currently recorded in the district, it is possible that sites are present. Three sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile). The physical characteristics of the property, level land surfaces and well drained soils in close proximity to the Mill River and one of its tributary streams indicate favorable locational criteria for native settlement and subsistence activities. Given the above information and the size of the proposed district (15 acres) a moderate potential exists for locating significant prehistoric remains.

There is a high potential for significant historical archaeological remains within the district. Controlled testing and excavation can determine the locations of any late 18th century structures which may have been located in the North Pleasant Street and Meadow/Pine Street crossroads area. Several large farms are reported north and south of the crossroads during the second half of the 18th century, although little documentation exists for the district/crossroad locale. A few houses and a store are reported in the immediate vicinity of the North Amherst in 1800. Most archaeological remains within the district should date from the early 19th to 20th centuries, the period when the district developed as the civic, religious and commercial center for North Amherst. By ca. 1820 only ten buildings were mapped in the Parish. A later 1833 map lists twenty buildings in North Amherst, eleven of which are located in North Amherst Center. Among these structures only the church and three residences are still extant indicating several potential archaeological survivals. Structural survivals likely exist for several residences whose exact locations are unknown. Structural survivals also likely exist for the Bond Tavern (ca. 1803) mapped as Week's Inn in 1833, located just south of the district junction on North Pleasant Street. Structural survivals may also exist for the district's first school (1833) originally located on Pine Street east of the church. Later 19th century historic period survivals may include the remains of the Matthews Store, Smith's Tavern possibly located to the north of the North Amherst Church on Montague Road, an 1834 Post Office at the corner of north Pleasant and Pine Streets and the Thayer Blacksmith shop at the site of the present library between the North Amherst church and school. Occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) also likely survive in association with structures still standing as well as those no longer extant. These types of features can be associated with domestic activities as well as commercial activities including house/cottage industries.

(end)

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locallyApplicable National Register Criteria ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ DCriteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☒ A ☒ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture
Architecture
Commerce
Community Planning and Development

Period of Significance

1820-1920

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Putnum, Roswell: LibraryClapp, Winthrop: Congregational Church

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

North Amherst Center is a largely intact nucleated secondary village center, located on the north-south transportation route between the Bay Road and Sunderland, and the east-west route from Hadley to Cushman along Meadow and Pine Streets. Between 1820-1920, the village grew from the North Parish of ten mapped dwellings to an active and self-supporting town center. For more than 100 years it was the religious, educational, commercial and cultural center of North Amherst. The village structures retain quality of design, location, workmanship, setting, materials, association, and feeling and meets National Register criteria A and C on the local level. The district also meets criteria considerations A and B, for religious and moved buildings.

COLONIAL AND FEDERAL PERIODS (pre 1775-1830)

The North Amherst area was mapped as early as ca. 1739 when thirty-seven lots of the second division of Hadley land was received by Daniel Marsh, Thomas Dickinson, Samuel Boltwood, Moses Cooke, Samuel Cooke, Westwood Cooke, Thomas Hovey, Aaron Cooke Esq., and John Goodman. These men from Hadley were drawn to North Amherst for its available water power and good farm land. By 1790, Major Nathaniel Peck and Levi Dickinson were grinding corn and operating a grist mill, and Marsh's sawmill was in operation on Montague Road, on the Mill River, slightly north of North Amherst Center. Simultaneously, large farms were established to both the north and south of the crossroads. Harold Cary, referring to the end of the 18th century, wrote in The Church in North Amherst, 1826-1976, that except "...for the export of rye grain the village existed pretty much on its own, with trading done at the Matthews store." (demolished, date unknown)

Although local histories recalled North Amherst, at the beginning of the 19th century, as a town with only a few houses and a single store in the immediate vicinity of the church. A pastor in 1839 was reported to have said that North Amherst is a very lonely place; early mapping suggests a more dense settlement.

On the 1833 map, there are a total of twenty buildings in North Amherst,

☒ See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Amherst Town Directories, 1869-1930
 Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Northampton, MA.
 Barker, William J., Map of Hampshire County, MA. Philadelphia: Scott & MacLeran; 1854.
 Beers, F.W., County Atlas of Hampshire, MA. New York; F.W. Beers; 1873.
 Map of Amherst, 1771, manuscript at the Jones Library, Boltwood Room.
 Map of Amherst. 1833 Alonzo Gray and Charles Adams. May 1833. Boston.
 Birdseyes View of Amherst. Lithograph. 1886. Burleigh. Troy, N.Y. JLSC. Jones Library.
 Sanborn Insurance Maps 1887, 1892, 1910, 1930. JLSC, Jones Library.
 Amherst Record, 1845-present. JLSC. Jones Library.
 Amherst Historical Commission. Lost Amherst, Amherst, MA. 1980.
 Barnes Photograph Collection of Amherst. 1925-1966. JLSC. Jones Library.
 Carpenter and Morehouse. The History of the Town of Amherst, MA. Amherst, 1896.
 Cary, Howard W. North Amherst Church Pamphlet. 1826-1897. JLSC, Jones Library.
 Lombardo, Daniel. Tales of Amherst; A Look Back. Jones Library Inc. 1986.
 Lovell Photograph Collection. 1859-1900. JLSC. Jones Library.

☒ See continuation sheet**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

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

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State historic preservation office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical DataAcreage of property 15 acres**UTM References**

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

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

☐ See continuation sheet**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundary of the North Amherst Center District extends east on Pine Street to Harris Street and the Greek Revival farmstead across from Harris Street; to the south along North Pleasant Street to Fisher Street and where the road narrows; to the west to #33 Meadow Street; and to the north to include the school, library, meeting hall and church.

☐ See continuation sheet**Boundary Justification**☒ See continuation sheet**11. Form Prepared By** Pioneer Valley Planning Commission with MHC National Register Directorname/title Betsy Friedberg and Assistant Doug Kelleherorganization Massachusetts Historical Commissiondate October 1991street & number 80 Boylston Streettelephone (617) 727-8470city or town Bostonstate Massachusetts zip code 02116

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eleven of which are in North Amherst center. The church (MHC #A66), and three residences (MHC#s A87, A85, and A94), are extant. The buildings mapped include the meeting house, the school, the parsonage, an inn, and the homes of both the minister and the physician. Eight unidentified residences are also mapped.

The earliest licensed innkeeper was Solomon Bond, who in 1803 kept a tavern "at the Howard Place in North Amherst." Bond sold the inn to Stephen Weeks, who was an innkeeper between 1828-1832, and again in the 1840s. On the 1833 map, Weeks' inn was indicated three "doors" south of the junction on North Pleasant Street. Oliver Dickinson's tavern (MHC #A85) was located on the southeast corner of the junction. Another house, known in early times as Smith's Tavern belonged to James Cowles by 1890 and may have been north on Montague Road (North Pleasant Street).

Topographically, the land in the northeast quarter of the village center is a raised knoll. It is on this knoll that the North Amherst Church (MHC #A66) rises above the village. In 1826, Oliver Dickinson, called "Land'd Oliver," had the North Amherst Parish Church built by Winthrop Clapp of Montague. A debate had been sparked between people who wanted the church built farther east toward North Amherst City those that wanted it built west toward Russellville, and those who wanted it built in North Amherst Center. Dickinson concluded the quarrel by saying that the church would be built on its present site even if he had to pay for it himself. And he did. Dickinson paid \$2,900 for the construction of the Church and became the sole owner and proprietor of the building whose steeple soars over the village center. Not surprisingly, this site was across the street from his tavern.

The Trinitarian-Unitarian controversy does not seem to have escaped this group of Congregationalists. Oliver Dickinson, as reported by Carpenter and Morehouse, "...provided in no uncertain manner against the danger of heretical infiltration." According to Cary, "The worship service in this church was rigorous in the thirties (1830s). The society demanded of its minister strict adherence to the shorter Westminster catechism on penalty of losing his pulpit, which had been deeded to him for one dollar by proprietor Dickinson." This was a defense against the spread of Unitarianism. Records indicate "...in North Amherst there were at least five of the voting members of the parish who were openly sympathetic to the new faith. In-as-much as there were only thirteen voters of the fifty-nine parish members, five was a sizeable number." Unfortunately, there is no record of who those members were. In spite of the controversy, membership in the church increased by 131 in the decade after its establishment.

Until the formal separation of Church and State, the Parish collected a Parish Tax, which was also a village tax, for both church members and non-members.

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Amherst Center Historic District,
Amherst, Massachusetts

Section number 8 Page 2

The Parish Committee (1826-1840) consisted of highly respected North Amherst men: Selectmen Cowls, Chester, Oliver, and Dickinson; the assessor, Ransom Dickinson; and the Representative to the General Court, Reuben Roberts. These men held parish committee posts for lengthy terms. Jonathan Cowls was treasurer for thirty-one years and Daniel Dickinson was the clerk for fifty-five years. Since there was overlap between the governing of the parish and the village of North Amherst, and parish taxes were in effect local taxes, the parish committee, in effect, determined local politics.

After the construction of the church, North Amherst underwent some expansion. The predominantly agricultural economy of the area was supplemented by Cushman's paper mill to the northeast of the center and Peter Ingram's woolen mill along the Mill River. By 1834, North Amherst required its own post office, which was located just south of Oliver Dickinson's tavern, on the corner of North Pleasant and Pine Streets. The Olivia Dickinson House (MHC #A85), the Cowles House (MHC #A87), and the Dr. Fish's House (MHC #A94) are residences that date from 1820-1830.

EARLY INDUSTRIAL PERIOD (1830-1870)

In the 1830s, social concerns of church members (and the village population) were temperance and abolition. Both Daniel and Chester Dickinson were officers of the temperance association. The society's pledge was: "No brother shall make, buy, sell, or use as a beverage any spiritous or malt liquors, wine or cider." Members included both men and women and the organization was still viable in 1860, with fifty-four members.

By 1830, North Amherst residents were also very concerned with national political issues. The Anti-Slavery Society was formed in the late 1830s, and four of its five officers were members of the North Amherst Church. Oliver Dickinson deleted the clause in the North Parish Church deed that denied Blacks access to the pews in the church. In 1843, slavery was condemned from the North Amherst pulpit as an enormous sin against the Lord.

The Young Men's Lyceum was organized ca. 1833 with the object of improving "Declamation, Composition and Extemporaneous Debate." The forty-nine original members grew to fifty-four by 1837. They discussed the major issues of abolition, emancipation, the benefits of corporations, and philosophical concerns such as which elements are stronger, Water or Fire?

Social awareness, and the ensuing debates and discussions, brought about a need for a suitable hall in which to meet. In 1841, the parish voted to allow the school district to erect a two-story building on its land that would be available to the singing school, and for lectures and other town gatherings. The present meeting hall (MHC #A67), erected in 1845, was the result.

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Amherst Center Historic District,
Amherst, Massachusetts

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By the early 1840s, a new group of village leaders joined with the Dickinsons, Cowles and Russells. Austin Loomis (a farmer), Levi Russell, Lyman Smith (a broom manufacturer), and Samuel White, the teacher who ran a private school in the village, were all members of the North Amherst Church and became prominent in the North Amherst Parish.

Church membership swelled to over 200 and the parish was confronted with the problem of building a parsonage. A quick sketch by the new minister resulted in the construction of the parsonage (MHC #A89). Also built during this decade were the McCloud House (MHC #A90), and the C. Smith House (MHC #A94).

In the 1860s, the parish committee, in the course of normal evolution, included: Baxter Eastman, a representative in the General Court; Hezekiah Dickinson, Anton C. Marshall, a farmer; Eleazer Kellogg, a farmer and selectman; Daniel Dickinson and Jonathan Cowls. It was during this period that the pastor, Mr. Fisher, was asked to resign, primarily for "gossip concerning his attention to the daughter of a prominent farmer in North Amherst."

The economic base of North Amherst held firm, with large farms anchoring the business community through the 19th century. North Amherst was always primarily a farming village and of the 105 homeowners listed in the 1869 directory by occupation, fifty-four were farmers.

Prior to the establishment of the neighboring Massachusetts Agricultural College (UMass), in 1863, many North Amherst farmers were actively involved in applying scientific farming methods to their acreage. In the 1853 Transactions of the Hampshire County Agricultural Society, there were 386 life members listed as Amherst residents; of the total, at least 18% were from North Amherst. Among the group were the members of the following families: Cowls, Dickinson, Eastman, Ingram, and Kellogg plus Forrester Ainsworth and the Reverend George Fisher. Premiums were awarded in 1853 for:

Plowing with oxen: Levi D. Cowls
Corn: R.T. Wheelock
Peach Orchard: W.E. & S.S. Dickinson
Apples: Austin Eastman
Pears and Peaches: Ansel C. Marshall
Vegetables and Grains: Ransom Cowles
Three year old steers: Daniel Dickinson

The large barns, ca. 1876, of the Cowles House (MHC #A85) suggest that Almon Cowles was aware of, and involved in, creating an expanded and efficient farm modeled on the scientific farming standard. Further north, beyond the district, on Montague Road (North Pleasant Street), the farm of J. Cowles (MHC #A19) is another example of the "improved farmstead" promoted by the scientific agricultural community.

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North Amherst Center Historic District,
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Water power from mill ponds and the Mill River provided a secondary economy for the North Amherst area. North Amherst peaked commercially by the 1850s, as mills slightly to the north in Factory Village expanded. There was also a paper mill at the end of Meadow Street, in the area called Westville. However, by 1857, due to fires and general industrial decline, this manufacturing boom was over.

The abundant water power continued to supply mills, although on a more modest scale throughout the period. In the 1860s, North Amherst supported Stephen Puffer's grist mill, Levi Dickinson's saw mill (both are north of the center), and the woodworking mill of Graves, Kellogg, and Bangs, to the northeast of the center in Factory Hollow. Several small enterprises such as broom manufacturing, harness making, coffin making, and a carriage shop were also active in North Amherst at this time. In addition, in 1869 there were goods and services available through the livery stable, two blacksmiths, a feed and grain dealer, two groceries, a shoe dealer, a dry goods dealer, a miller, a postmaster, and a station agent. The shoe shop was moved across the street and exists as an apartment to the rear of 1162 North Pleasant Street (MHC #A90). The post office/library/dry goods store is currently a restaurant at 1177 North Pleasant Street (noncontributing). A wagon shop was located on Pine Street, near the North Pleasant Street junction. Further local needs were satisfied by a meat pedder, a tin pedder, and a spice dealer. Medical services were supplied by two physicians. A mason, carpenters, painters, and glaziers were also listed in the North Amherst business directory of this period.

LATE INDUSTRIAL PERIOD (1870-1915)

During the next two decades, the church and parish selected Edmund Hobart, a farmer, Samuel Harrington, owner of a planning mill on Mill Street in Westville (the western end of Meadow Street), Adams, and George Cooley as the new officers. Forester Ainsworth was selected as clerk.

Ainsworth, a lawyer by training, was incredibly active in town. He was a justice of the peace, North Amherst's postmaster for many years, as well as the librarian, and he ran a dry goods store, all in the same building just south of the Olivia Dickinson House, 1185 North Pleasant Street (MHC #A85), at the junction of Pine, Meadow, and North Pleasant streets.

The church was changing with the times and women were now extended the right to vote on business matters. In 1872, there was a regional movement known as the "great revival of 1872," during which all the churches in Amherst reported strong increases in memberships as a result of a concerted revival effort. The "great revival of 1872" added fifty-two new members and was the occasion for a redraft of the articles of faith and covenant. Cary records: "Now devotion to the Westminster catechism was relaxed."

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Amherst Center Historic District,
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An interesting note in the development of the North Amherst Church occurred at the end of the 19th century, when George Fisher returned to North Amherst with his wife, the woman to whom his attention had been turned in 1860, when he was asked to resign. Ellen Fisher became the major church benefactor after Oliver Dickinson; most noteworthy was her donation of the pipe organ. Interested in community-wide improvements, Mrs. Fisher was instrumental in donating seed money for the new library building. She also established a fund for the creation of the Amherst Home for Aged Women. This one-story brick building is now known as the Fisher Nursing Home (noncontributing).

Between 1860 and 1870, North Amherst's vitality was reflected in its educational and cultural awareness. The library was created and education was supported in the form of several schools. In 1869, the first library in Amherst was opened in the North Amherst post office, "with one case of books and Postmaster Forester Ainsworth as librarian." (Amherst Record, 12/13/1856). Each member paid \$1.00 for the use of the books. In 1873, they voted to make the library free to the public. In 1883, the library was housed in the unoccupied schoolhouse, which was destroyed by fire sometime around 1890. The present building (MHC #A68) was designed by Roswell Putnam of Northampton, and dedicated in 1893. The library occupies a small triangle of land between the North Amherst Church and the North Amherst School, the site of the former blacksmith shop of Joseph Thayer.

The first school in North Amherst is indicated on the map of 1833 on Pine Street, to the east of the church. The private school that Samuel White conducted in North Amherst prior to 1845 may have been held at the Pine Street location. After the construction of the new meeting hall, White's school was held there for a few years. By 1862, there were two primary schools, an intermediate school, and a new grammar school in North Amherst. The present schoolhouse (MHC #A69) was built in 1887.

Although there was a deed reference, in 1827, to "the common land acquisition," and the 1833 map indicates a widening of the road at North Amherst Center, it does not seem that there was ever a Common similar to that in Amherst, East Amherst, or South Amherst. That did not stop the residents from forming a North Amherst Village Improvement Association, in 1888. The object was "...to secure the improvement in appearance of our public grounds, including: the highways, the grounds about public grounds, the grounds about the schoolhouse, and those about the church. To increase, as far as possible, their convenience to the public, and in general to foster and promote such public spirit in matters pertaining to neatness about our houses and considerations for one another as a place of residence..." Members of the village gathered as a group and had community wide improvement days. The "Old Man's Tree Association," an offshoot of the larger group, planted over 100 trees, many of them around the church. In 1889, as part of the village improvement program, Walter Cowles and Mendel Howard, a merchant, supplied

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Amherst Center Historic District,
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poles (no longer extant) for gas street lamps. In the 1890s, town wide water was provided.

Small home industries were continually active in North Amherst; many households supplemented their income by braiding straw palm hats. Broom corn was raised for broom production. Broom manufacturing was an active practice in the 19th and into the 20th century, as seen in the account book of A.H. Brown, Pine Street, North Amherst. Between 1915 and 1923, Brown produced parlor brooms, barn brooms, bamboo brooms, wisk brooms, and in 1924, velvet brushes.

At the end of the century, businesses in North Amherst continued to supply local needs. Listed in the directory of that period were: Ainsworth, dry goods store; Thayer, blacksmith; Brown, broom manufacturer; Haskins, carpenter and builder; Hall, carriage maker and painter; Fisher, clergyman; Cogswell, grocer; Harrington, dressmaker; Cloud, dry goods; Stearns, harnessmaker; Dwight, physician; Graves, lumber and saw mill; Atkins, mason; Harrington, sawmill; Guertin, meat market; Hobart, milk dealer; and Ashley, wagon maker.

The ability of North Amherst to support at least two dry goods stores, plus a meat market and grocer, indicates the continued vitality of its economy at the end of the 19th century.

Although the economy of North Amherst was a local one, by the end of the 19th century increased mobility was having an impact on the area. The Amherst and Sunderland Electric Railway was completed in 1898, through the efforts of W.D. Cows, a State Representative living in North Amherst. He was able to help direct construction of the trolley from Amherst Center, through North Amherst along North Pleasant Street, to Sunderland. Riverside Park, slightly north of the Meeting House, was developed into a park and picnic area by the trolley company to encourage weekend trolley travel out of Amherst to North Amherst.

EARLY MODERN (1915-1920)

By the beginning of the 20th century, the North Amherst Parish Committee was comprised of the second generation of active village leaders. Fred S. Cooley, Frank W. Harrington (possibly related to the Harrington Mill on Meadow Street), and Charles H. Kellogg, a farmer, replaced the previous Deacons. During this period, the Women's Missionary Society was organized for raising funds for benevolences in cities throughout the country. Organizations appealing to a wider membership were the Current Events Club (1909) the Boy Scouts (1910), and the Girl Scouts (1912). The church developed a more liberal admissions policy in the 1920s and membership increased to include many students of the Agricultural College (UMass), some of whom boarded in North Amherst.

(continued)

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North Amherst Center Historic District,
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The former Oliver Dickinson Tavern, on the southeast corner of North Pleasant and Pine Streets, was owned by the Bates family and operated as an inn through 1930. Today, it continues to serve a prominent role in the community as a restaurant and apartment building.

With an influx of Irish and Polish immigrants, the population of North Amherst gained an ethnic diversity at the end of the 19th century. Westward migrations made acreage available as a number of North Amherst sons chose new lands to farm rather than work the family land.

The immigrants worked as farm laborers and in local mills, they constructed modest housing around the periphery of the village center, and slowly became integrated into the fabric of the community. Recalling the early 20th century, Clara Stetson Clark, a North Amherst resident from 1905-1935, wrote of the changes occurring in the village:

When is this going to stop? Soon there will be none of our old families left...Is there a bright side? If there is it is this: In the past the old has made room for the new and the new has proved to be better than the old. At the present time our agricultural products that find a market are greater than ever before. It is the labor of the "Polish" that has produced them. We have manufactures in our town of no mean value. Many "Polish" work in the shops. We have Amherst College and Massachusetts Agricultural College with talk of a State University. And the paths of all the world lead to our doorstep.

North Amherst Center has been the commercial, civic, and religious hub of the village since 1820. As the village center, it has been the preferred residential location. The 19th century houses were constructed to the north and south of the center, and surrounding the church, meeting hall, library, school, post office, and stores. In the early 20th century, infill housing was built along the east-west artery, Pine and Meadow Streets. The earlier domestic architecture, with attached barns and sheds, reflected the community emphasis on agriculture, while 20th century houses in North Amherst Center are of a more modest scale and urban character. The expansion of the nearby Massachusetts Agricultural School (UMass), and the increased mobility offered by automobiles in the 1920s, contributed to the decline of North Amherst as an agricultural village. Since 1920, much of surrounding farmland has been developed for commercial and residential uses (including student housing), and a number of modern capes and ranch houses have been built on the edge of the proposed district. Neglect and vacancy have helped to keep the village center intact.

The village today is an almost intact grouping of 19th and early 20th century structures. It reflects the period of North Amherst's greatest economic prosperity, which coincides with the civic and religious activity of 1826-1920.

(continued)

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North Amherst Center Historic District,
Amherst, Massachusetts

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Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of prehistoric occupation in Amherst are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Surviving sites in this area can provide important examples of prehistoric settlement in upland/interior locales and along tributary streams of the Connecticut River. These sites may include smaller low density type site which may contrast larger sites located along the Connecticut River.

Historic period remains described above have the potential to provide detailed information on a small agricultural community, which developed from scattered large farmsteads to a secondary village center based on agriculture and limited industrial activity. Archaeological survivals can reconstruct the 18th century character of the district for which no examples survive. Similar survivals can also document 19th century structures which are no longer extant, and for which imprecise locations are available. Occupational related features (trash pits, privies and wells) can provide valuable information in a number of areas. Artifactual evidence from these features can help solve such problems as whether or not and to what extent the Cowles House (1825), on North Pleasant Street, was used as a tavern and when the building located at 11 Meadow Street was built, or moved to that location. Information from trash pits can also provide data on the extent to which small house or cottage industries were important to the local and family economy. Information may also be present detailing the level of technology used in those industries.

(end)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Amherst Center Historic District,
Amherst, Massachusetts

Section number 9 Page 1

Major Bibliographical References (continued)

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Amherst, MA

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

North Amherst Center Historic District
Amherst, Massachusetts

Section number 10 Page 1

Boundary Justification

The boundaries were drawn to include the civic, religious, and commercial buildings historically related to the North Amherst community. The boundaries to the south and west include residential properties that date from the period of greatest growth in North Amherst, 1820-1920. The eastern boundary, along Pine Street, was determined to include 19th and early 20th century domestic buildings that exhibited architectural integrity and were part of the fabric of life in North Amherst during the period of significance.

The boundaries were further defined as follows: to the north of the North Amherst National Register District is contemporary commercial development with a small shopping mall, ca. 1970, and a gas station. Outside the western boundary is a dense concentration of apartments and noncontributing single-family homes. To the south and east are scattered Federal and Greek Revival buildings interspersed with significant infill considered noncontributing through age and/or alteration.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES - DISTRICT DATA SHEET
NORTH AMHERST DISTRICT - AMHERST, MA (4/91)

MAP CODE	INV. #	ADDRESS	HISTORIC NAME	STYLE	DATE	TYPE	STATUS
5A-002	918	11 MEADOW ST.	W.W. COWLES HOUSE	FEDERAL	1825	BLDG.	C
5A-002	918	11 MEADOW ST.	COWLES BARN	VERNACULAR	1875	BLDG.	C
5A-002	918	11 MEADOW ST.	COWLES BARN	VERNACULAR	1890	BLDG.	C
5A-002	918	11 MEADOW ST.	COWLES SHED	VERNACULAR	1900	BLDG.	C
5A-002	918	11 MEADOW ST.	COWLES SHED	VERNACULAR	1900	BLDG.	C
5A-020	70	33 MEADOW ST.	HOUSE	QUEEN ANNE	1900	BLDG.	C
5A-020	70	33 MEADOW ST.	BARN	VERNACULAR	1900	BLDG.	C
5A-020	70	33 MEADOW ST.	CHICKEN COOP	VERNACULAR	1900	STR.	C
5A-021		N. PLEASANT ST.	WATROBA'S STORE	CRAFTSMAN	1930	BLDG.	C
5A-022	69	N. PLEASANT ST.	NORTH AMH. SCHOOL	CRAFTSMAN	1887	BLDG.	C
5A-038	68	N. PLEASANT ST.	N. AMH. LIBRARY	QUEEN ANNE	1893	BLDG.	C
5A-078		PINE ST.	VACANT PARCEL			VACANT	VAC
5A-079	66	N. PLEASANT ST.	CONG. CHURCH	FEDERAL	1826	BLDG.	C
5A-079	67	N. PLEASANT ST.	VILLAGE HALL	GREEK REVIVAL	1845	BLDG.	C
5A-080	65	10 PINE ST.	DR. TEMPLE HOUSE	GREEK REV./ITAL.		1835	BLDG.
5A-080	65	10 PINE ST.	TEMPLE BARN	VERNACULAR	1880	BLDG.	C
5A-081	63	PINE ST.	OLD FIREHOUSE	VERNACULAR	1920	BLDG.	C
5A-082	61	38 PINE ST.	H. KELLOGG HOUSE	GREEK REVIVAL	1850	BLDG.	C
5A-082	61	38 PINE ST.	KELLOGG BARN	VERNACULAR	1880	BLDG.	C
5A-087	87	1185 N. PLEASANT ST.	O. DICKINSON HS.	FEDERAL	1820	BLDG.	C
5A-088		N. PLEASANT ST.	COMMERCIAL BLDG.	(REMODELED)	1890	BLDG.	NC
5A-089		PINE ST.	PARKING LOT			VACANT	VAC
5A-090		PINE ST.	HOUSE	COL. REVIVAL	1920	BLDG.	C
5A-091	64	25 PINE ST.	HOUSE	VICTORIAN	1890	BLDG.	C
5A-091	64	25 PINE ST.	GARAGE	VERNACULAR	1920	BLDG.	C
5A-092	62	33 PINE ST.	HOUSE	VICTORIAN	1900	BLDG.	C
5A-092	62	33 PINE ST.	GARAGE	VERNACULAR	1920	BLDG.	C
5A-93	60	39 PINE ST.	HOUSE	COL. REVIVAL	1920	BLDG.	C
5A-93	60	39 PINE ST.	GARAGE	VERNACULAR	1920	BLDG.	C
5C-001	87	1184 N. PLEASANT ST.	J. COWLES HS.	FEDERAL	1821	BLDG.	C
5C-001	87	1184 N. PLEASANT ST.	COWLES BARN	VICT. GOTHIC	1876	BLDG.	C
5C-002	88	1178 N. PLEASANT ST.	HOUSE	COL. REVIVAL	1920	BLDG.	C
5C-003	89	1170 N. PLEASANT ST.	PARSONAGE	GREEK REVIVAL	1840	BLDG.	C
5C-003	89	1170 N. PLEASANT ST.	BARN	VERNACULAR	1870	BLDG.	C
5C-004	90	1162 N. PLEASANT ST.	MCCLOUD HOUSE	GREEK REVIVAL	1840	BLDG.	C

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES - DISTRICT DATA SHEET
NORTH AMHERST DISTRICT - AMHERST, MA (4/91)

MAP CODE	INV. #	ADDRESS	HISTORIC NAME	STYLE	DATE	TYPE	STATUS
5C-004	90	1162 N. PLEASANT ST.	MCCLOUD BARN	VERNACULAR	1870	BLDG.	C
5C-004	90	1162 N. PLEASANT ST.	SHOE SHOP	VERNACULAR	1830	BLDG.	C
5C-005	92	1156 N. PLEASANT ST.	RUSSELL HOUSE	GREEK REVIVAL	1865	BLDG.	C
5C-006	917	1146 N. PLEASANT ST.	HOUSE	GREEK REVIVAL	1835	BLDG.	C
5C-006	917	1146 N. PLEASANT ST.	BARN	VERNACULAR	1870	BLDG.	C
5C-006	917	1146 N. PLEASANT ST.	BARN	VERNACULAR	1900	BLDG.	C
5C-006	92	1156 N. PLEASANT ST.	RUSSELL BARN	ITALIANATE	1870	BLDG.	C
5C-007	94	1136 N. PLEASANT ST.	DR. FISH HOUSE	GREEK REVIVAL	1830	BLDG.	C
5C-007	94	1136 N. PLEASANT ST.	DR. FISH BARN	VERNACULAR	1890	BLDG.	C
5C-033		1135 N. PLEASANT ST.	REMODELED HOUSE	COL. REVIVAL	1920	BLDG.	NC
5C-034		1139 N. PLEASANT ST.	HOUSE	CAPE	1950	BLDG.	NC
5C-035	93	1147 N. PLEASANT ST.	SMITH BARN	VERNACULAR	1890	BLDG.	C
5C-036	91	1157 N. PLEASANT ST.	KELLOGG HOUSE	GREEK REVIVAL	1860	BLDG.	C
5C-037		N. PLEASANT ST.	FISHER NURSING HOME	COL. REVIVAL	1960	BLDG.	NC

TOTAL RESOURCES

43 contributing buildings	4 noncontributing buildings
1 contributing structure	2 vacant parcels

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY North Amherst Center Historic District
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Hampshire

DATE RECEIVED: 11/08/91 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/25/91
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/11/91 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/23/91
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 91001824

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 12/13/91 DATE entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

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

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

___summary paragraph
___completeness
___clarity
___applicable criteria
___justification of areas checked
___relating significance to the resource
___context
___relationship of integrity to significance
___justification of exception
___other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Signed _____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



(left to right)

Amherst Co

NORTH AMHERST HALL
MONTAGUE ROAD

NORTH AMHERST CONGREGATION CHURCH
MONTAGUE ROAD

NORTH AMHERST CENTER
HISTORIC DISTRICT

AMHERST, MA.



(left to right)

NORTH AMHERST LIBRARY
MONTAGUE ROAD

Amherst Co

NORTH AMHERST HALL
MONTAGUE ROAD

NORTH AMHERST CENTER
HISTORIC DISTRICT

AMHERST, MA.



(left to right) North Pleasant St.

M. McCloud House
1164 N. Pleasant St.

Harpsburg Co

The Parsonage
1170 N. Pleasant St.

1178 N. Pleasant St.

North Amherst Center
Historic District

Amherst, MA.



COWLES HOUSE
1184 N. PLEASANT ST.

Hampshire Co

NORTH AMHERST CENTER
HISTORIC DISTRICT

AMHERST, MA

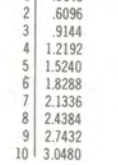


CONVERSION
SCALES

Feet Meters



Feet Meters



To convert feet to meters
multiply by .3048

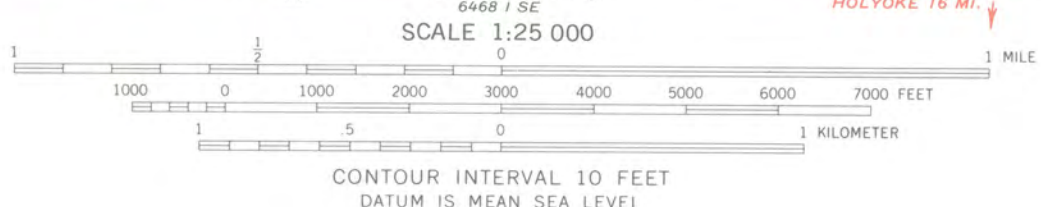
To convert meters to feet
multiply by 3.2808

**NORTH
AMHERST
CENTED
HISTORIC
DISTRICT**

UTM REF.

A: 187030204698010
B: 187031204698130
C: 18703204698080
D: 187032004697780
E: 187031004697740

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USCGS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1935. Revised from aerial
photographs taken 1970. Field checked 1971
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
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown



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

MT. TOBY, MASS.
N4222.5—W7230/7.5

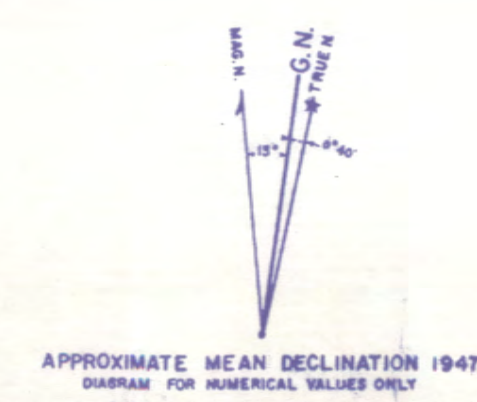
1971

AMS 6468 1 NE—SERIES V814

FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



MAP PREPARED FROM AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY DATED APRIL - 1956.
PROPERTY DATA PREPARED FROM HAMPSHIRE COUNTY REGISTRY
OF DEEDS RECORDS AS OF JANUARY-1957.



TOWN OF
AMHERST
MASSACHUSETTS

**NORTH
AMHERST
CENTER
DISTRICT**

5-A



October 22, 1991

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

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the enclosed nomination:

North Amherst Center Historic District, Amherst (Hampshire County),
Massachusetts.

There have been no owner objections for the properties listed above.

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by myself, as the Massachusetts State Historic Preservation Officer. Owners were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30-75 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment. No comments have been received to date.

Sincerely,

Judith B. McDonough
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
State Historic Preservation Officer

enclosure

cc: Greg Farmer, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
Kathleen Masalski, Chairperson, Amherst Historical Commission
Edith Wilkinson, Chairperson, Amherst Board of Selectmen

Massachusetts Historical Commission, Judith B. McDonough, *Executive Director, State Historic Preservation Officer*
80 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02116 (617) 727-8470

Office of the Secretary of State, Michael J. Connolly, *Secretary*