

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received **AUG - 1 1983**  
date entered

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

**1. Name**

historic Garden Theater Block

and/or common same

**2. Location**

street & number 353-367 Main Street<sup>e</sup> n/anot for publication

city, town Greenfield n/avicinity of

state Massachusetts code 025 county Franklin code 011

**3. Classification**

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

**4. Owner of Property**

name Western Massachusetts Theaters, Inc.

street & number 359 Main Street

city, town Greenfield n/avicinity of state Massachusetts 01301

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Franklin County Registry of Deeds

street & number 425 Main Street

city, town Greenfield state Massachusetts

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth, #18 has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1979  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town 297 Washington Street; Boston state Massachusetts 02108

# 7. Description

Garden Theater Block, 353-367 Main Street, Greenfield, MA

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>n/a</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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

Located east of Bank Row on the south side of Main Street, the Garden Theater Block is part of a row of commercial buildings in Greenfield's central business district. The block consists of three sections, namely a two-storey front (north) building containing offices, stores and a lobby, a one-storey lobby (middle) and an auditorium (south). All sections are built of brick and concrete with steel supports; roofs are flat and covered with tar and gravel.

Of the block's three sections, only the north elevation of the front section contains a finished facade which is visible from the street. Built of red brick laid in Flemish bond and trimmed with cast-stone, this facade is symmetrical about a central pavilion. This pavilion is framed by paired pilasters which support a decorated cornice and pediment. At the pavilion's first storey are display cases flanking a deep lobby which is panelled with dressed stone (marble) and has three bronze doors (east, west and south) as well as three pairs of French doors leading to the theater lobby; this lobby has been altered only by the removal of its octagonal ticket kiosk(1960s). At the pavilion's second storey are three 6/1 windows set in arched surrounds with cast-stone fans. The pavilion's pediment is decorated with a central shield and swags executed in bas-relief in cast-stone. Extending out from the pavilion is a pressed metal marquee decorated with a variety of classical motifs and some opaque art glass. Above the marquee and set out from the facade on metal supports is an original electric sign bearing the name "GARDEN" on each side.

Flanking the central pavilion are two narrow bays and four wider bays divided by single pilasters which support a decorated cornice at the roofline. Each of the narrow bays contains a single storefront at the first storey and a single 8/1 window set in a rectangular frame with a keystone at the second storey. Wider bays each contain a single storefront at the first storey (except for the westernmost bay where it has been closed), and two 6/1 windows in rectangular frames with keystones at the second storey. Each storefront contains a recessed center entry in front of which plate-glass windows with copper trim are set on bases of polished green marble. Store entries are paved with orange, buff and black tiles; doors are of wood with single fixed lights.

East and West elevations of the block's front section are mostly concealed by neighboring structures; its rear (south) elevation is partially exposed at the first storey and fully exposed at the second. Rear elevations of all sections of the building are of un-decorated utilitarian design.

Retaining nearly all of its original Colonial Revival style fittings, the theater contributes to the historical significance of the building. Entered through a deep lobby at the facade's central pavilion, the theater contains an outer lobby with a panelled wainscot and moulded plaster cornice; moving south from this lobby is a two-level inner lobby. The upper level of the inner lobby is decorated with one wall of raised panelling (west) and a sham timber-frame ceiling. The lower level of the inner lobby contains three sets of raised-panel doors leading into the theater, a wainscot of feathered boards and three eared door frames with pediments.

The theater itself is a large, open hall with a shallow balcony and walls which curve inward to a stage. The proscenium arch is framed by fluted Corinthian pilasters which rise to support a decorated cornice and elliptical fan. Set on either side of the stage are oriels with lattice-filled arches and domed roofs. Side walls of the theater are decorated with imitation stone walls above which is a large painted mural of houses, churches

(Continued)



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National Park Service**

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date entered

Continuation sheet Greenfield: Garden Theater Item number 7

Page 1

Block

and other buildings meant to represent "Colonial Village"; windows of these buildings are backlit to give the appearance of being three-dimensional. Exits from the theater are treated as garden gates except at the lobby where the exits are flanked by sham facades of seventeenth-century houses with overhanging second stories and diamond-pane casements. The theater's ceiling is illuminated by many small lights set in star-shaped surrounds. Painted blue-black, the ceiling was originally partially illuminated by a "cloud machine" which cast a dim, varied light to give the appearance of clouds moving across the night sky. Behind the proscenium arch is a stage with equipment to house and move scenery; beneath the stage is an orchestra pit and dressing room.

## 8. Significance Garden Theater Block, 353-367 Main Street, Greenfield, Mass.

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1928-1929      **Builder/Architect** Mowll & Rand of Boston, Architects

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Garden Theater Block possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials and workmanship, in addition to historical associations as the location of Greenfield's largest and most ornate theater.

Designed by Mowll & Rand of Boston, and constructed at a cost of \$500,000 by the contracting firm of George H. Reed of Greenfield, the Garden Theater Block was built in 1928-1929 for Nathan and Samuel Goldstein of Springfield, then the owners of twenty-two theaters throughout Western Massachusetts. Nearly unaltered from its original design, the block preserves one of Greenfield's finer examples of Colonial Revival style architecture in its Main Street facade (north). The block's major significance, however, is derived from the theater around which it was planned. Thus, the theater block meets criterion C of the National Register of Historic Places.

Opened on March 3, 1929, the Colonial Garden Theater, as it was then called, was an "atmospheric" theater, designed to create on its interior the effect of being outside in a "colonial garden". To this end, the lower portions of the theater's walls are covered with rough-cast plaster, scored to give the appearance of a stone garden wall. Above the rough-cast are painted murals depicting a Greek Revival style church, a brick house with a gambrel roof, a "saltbox" house and other buildings and plants which are characteristic of New England. These murals were painted by Frederick Marshall, a theatrical mural painter living in California, and were designed to have cut-out windows, a steeple clock, and other features which are back-lighted to simulate the appearance of real buildings. The theater's ceiling is equipped with lights set in star-shaped frames, some of which "twinkled"; two cloud machines are set in the orchestra pit to create the illusion of clouds moving across the ceiling. At present, all of these features remain in addition to a large variety of Colonial Revival style details in the theater's lobbies.

The theater's opening in 1929 was greeted with scepticism that Greenfield could support a third theater. Previous local theaters, however, had been built at a smaller scale to accommodate silent movies and vaudeville performances. Typical of these other theaters were the Bijou that was built into a pre-existing commercial block in 1911-1913 and that closed shortly thereafter. More successful were the Lawler and Victoria Theaters, both of which were built in 1913 within commercial blocks at a much smaller scale than the Garden Theater. Of these earlier theaters, only one remains in altered condition. Local enthusiasm for the newly completed Garden Theater was manifested in the parade that preceded the opening and in the sellout audience of 1,900 which attended the opening night. In a program which was characteristic of the type of entertainment for which the theater was planned, the opening night included several newsreels, "three vitaphone specialty vaudeville acts", a film comedy entitled "The Newly-weds" and "George M. Cohan's 'The Home Towners'", an all-talking film". In addition, the theater was equipped with an organ and employed Mary Hallinan of Greenfield as its regular organist. Despite the inclusion of a stage, dressing rooms and storage space for theatrical backdrops, the Garden Theater was rarely, if ever, used for live entertainment and, within a few years of its opening, was used exclusively as a movie theater.

(Continued)

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Greenfield Daily Recorder. March 12, 1929. pp. 1-2.  
Greenfield Recorder Gazette. 200th Anniversary Edition. June 9, 1953. p. F-19.  
Blair & Ketchum's Country Journal. Vol, II, no. 11. December 1975. pp. 48-51.  
Severance, Charles S. History of Greenfield, 1930-1935. Greenfield: Town of Greenfield, 1954.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .630 acres

Quadrangle name Greenfield Quadrangle

Quadrangle scale 1:25,000

### UTM References

A 

1	8	6	9	6	9	1	0	4	7	1	7	5	8	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property includes only the lot on which the theater building stands; its boundaries are shown and described at Lot #10 on Greenfield Assessors' Map #U-51.

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

state n/a code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Candace Jenkins, Preservation Planning Director, with Brian R. Pfeiffer, Architectural Historian, ACT for Massachusetts

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date May, 1983

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

city or town Boston state Massachusetts 02108

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Patricia Z Weslowki*

State Historic Preservation Officer title Massachusetts Historical Commission date 7/20/83

For NPS use only  
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register  
*for* *Alfred Byers* Entered in the National Register date 9/1/83  
Keeper of the National Register  
Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief of Registration



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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Greenfield: Garden Theater Item number 8

Page 1

Block

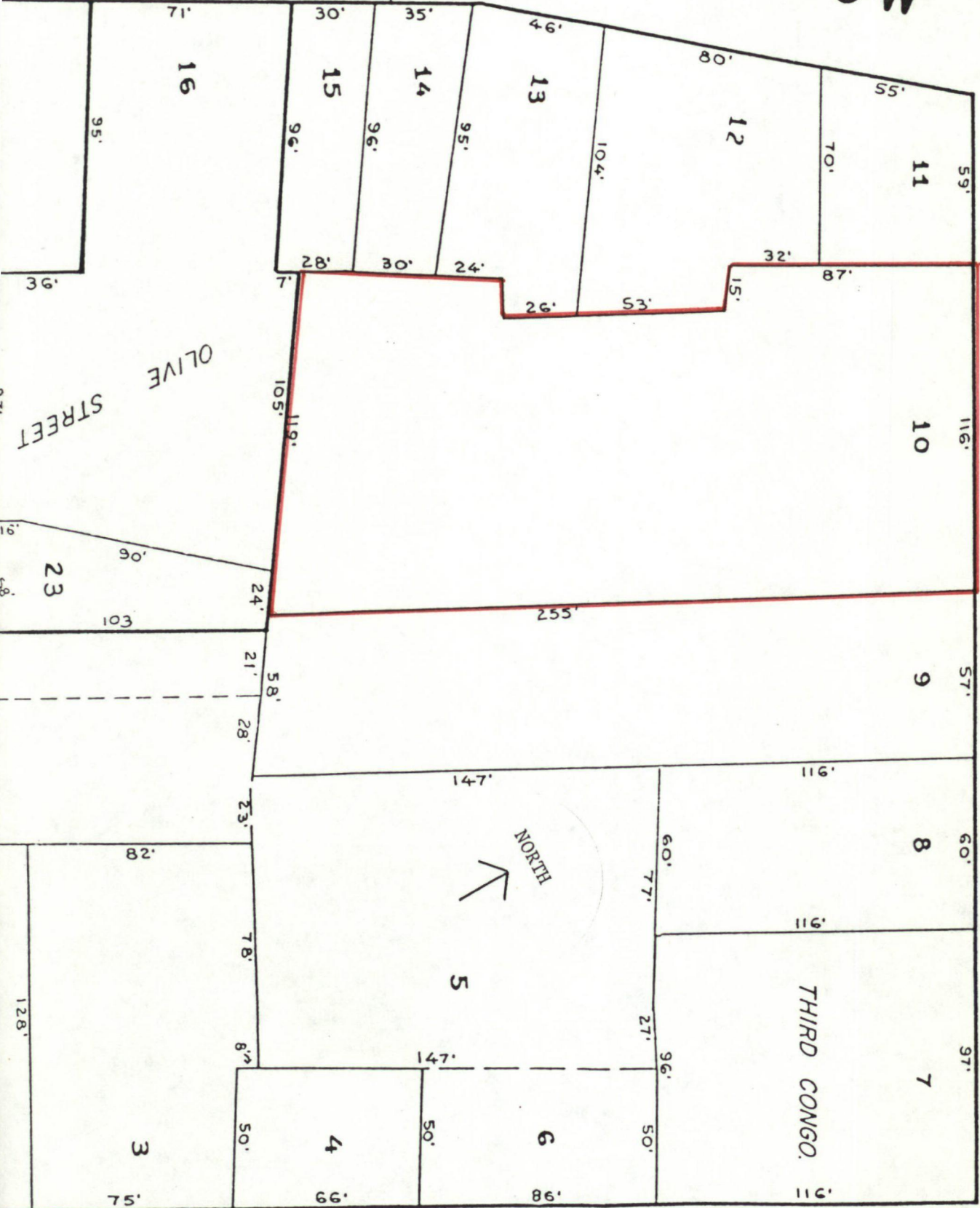
In 1930, the management of the theater passed from the Goldstein Brothers to another group, (Publix-Lawler), due to the terms of a merger agreement between the Goldsteins and Paramount-Publix Corporation. Following the bankruptcy of Publix-Lawler in 1933, the management of the Garden Theater reverted to the Goldstein family, which has operated it as a motion-picture theater since then.

Garden Theater Block  
353-367 Main Street  
Greenfield, Massachusetts

Assessors' Map U-51  
Lot #10  
1" = 50'

January 1, 1982

BANK ROW



MAIN STREET

HOPE STREET

OLIVE STREET



**INCOME  
TAX  
BLOCK**

**Jack & Wagon**

*The  
Framery*

**DISCOUNT  
CIGARETTES  
6.99 6.99**

**GARDEN**

**GARDEN  
NIGHTMARE  
EVES 7&9  
RATED R**

**GARDEN**

**BRAD'S PLACE**

**↑**  
**KEEP RIGHT**





Garden Theater Block  
Greenfield, Massachusetts

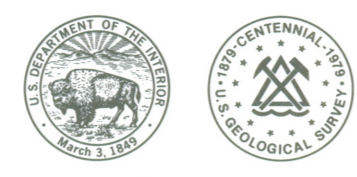
B.R. Pfeiffer, photographer

May 14, 1981

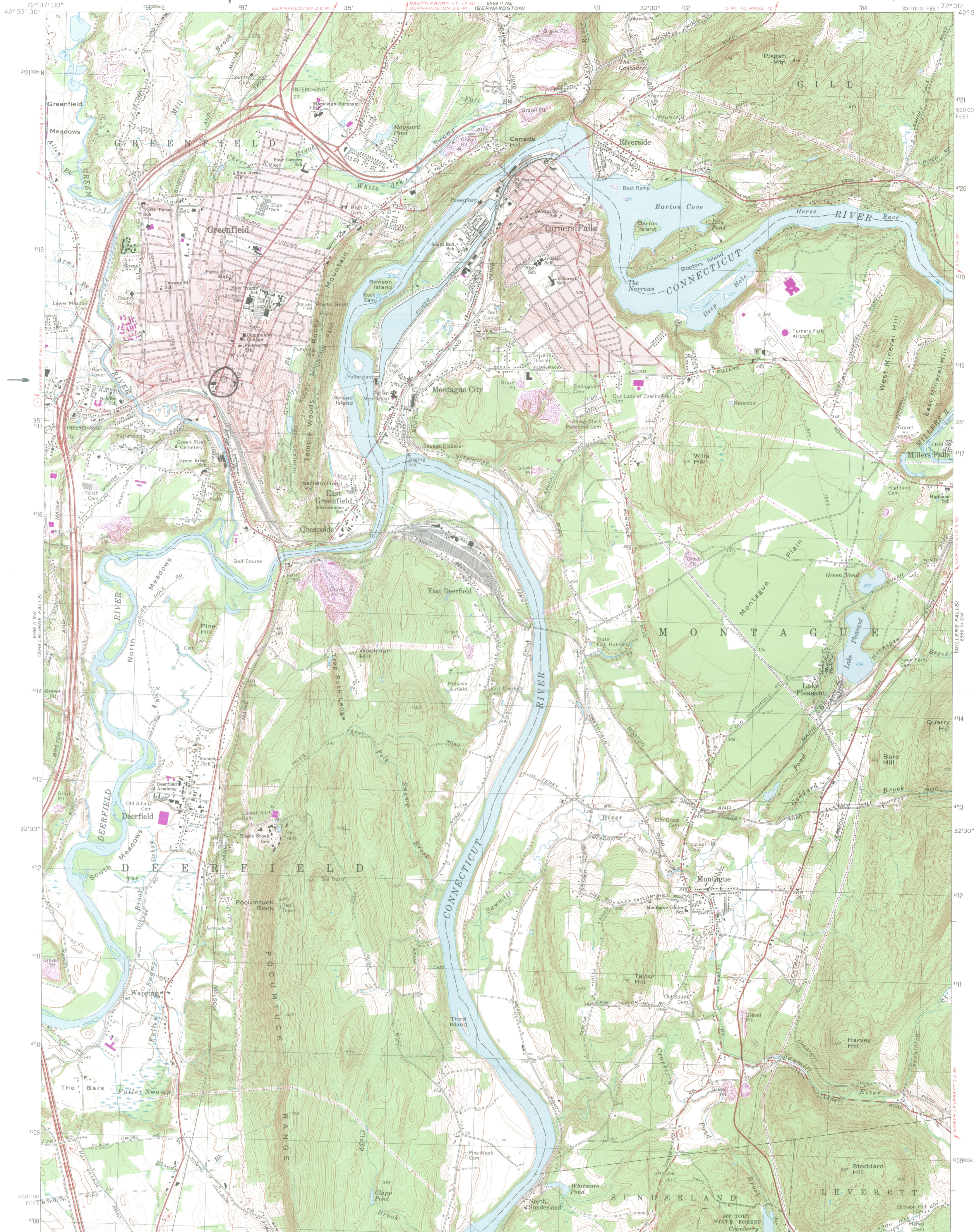
negative at: ACT for Massachusetts  
45 School Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

view of the building's north elevation taken from a position  
facing southwest





Greenfield, MA  
Garden Theater Block  
18 696910 4717580

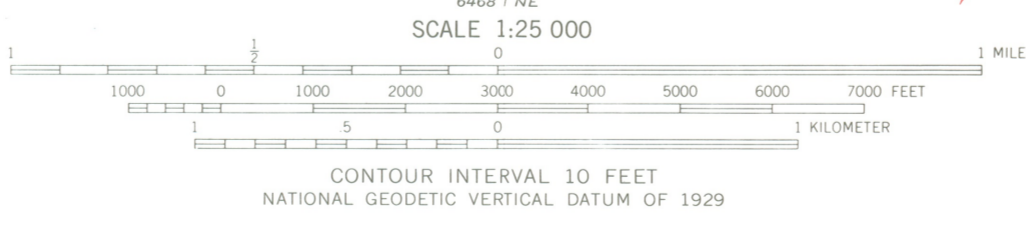
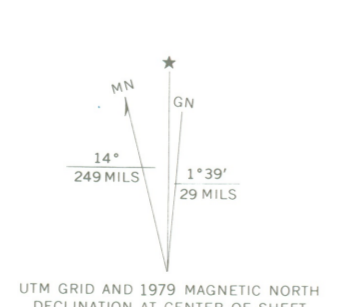


CONVERSION SCALES

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

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

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey  
Topography by planetable 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



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

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



GREENFIELD, MASS.  
N4230—W7230/7.5

PHOTOREVISED 1979  
AMS 6489 II SE—SERIES V814

GARDEN THEATER BLOCK  
GREENFIELD, MA.



# National Register of Historic Places

## Archivist note to the record

Additional Documentation: 2013



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Garden Theater Block

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Franklin

DATE RECEIVED: 2/01/13      DATE OF PENDING LIST:  
DATE OF 16TH DAY:      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/20/13  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 83000591

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    \_\_\_\_\_DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA

REVIEWER

DISCIPLINE

TELEPHONE

DATE

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

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



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

January 10, 2013

Mr. J. Paul Loether  
National Register of Historic Places  
Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
1201 Eye Street, NW 8<sup>th</sup> floor  
Washington, DC 20005



Dear Mr. Loether:

Re: Technical Amendments for National-Register listed properties in Greenfield (Franklin County) MA

As we digitize our inventory of historic resources, we are discovering discrepancies in property addresses due to renumbering, changing the address to a side street that abuts the parcel, or assigning a precise addresses where none had existed. We are, therefore, writing to request technical corrections in the National Register records for the following:

Franklin County Fairgrounds (NRIND 6/15/2011)—correct address is 85 Wisdom Way (formerly 89)

83080591  
Garden Theater Block (NRIND 9/1/1983; NRDIS 10/13/1988)—correct address is 361 Main Street (formerly 353-367)

Newton Street School (NRIND 10/27/1988)—correct address is 99 Mohawk Trail (formerly Shelburne Road)

Main Street Historic District (10/13/1988)—the correct address for Avenue Lighting is 2 Fiske Avenue (formerly 10). A corrected copy of the relevant page of the district data sheet is enclosed for your file.

Please let me know if you need additional information to correct your records.

Sincerely,

*Betsy Friedberg*  
Betsy Friedberg  
National Register Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Enclosure  
XC: Greenfield Historical Commission

National Register of Historic Places

Archivist note to the record

# Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Garden Theater Block  
Franklin County  
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. AUG 1 1983  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2-7-84  
Date Due: 9/1/83 - 9/15/83  
Action:  ACCEPT 9/1/83  
Entered in the RETURN  
National Register REJECT \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

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

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

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

---

**8. Significance**

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

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

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

---

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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**10. Geographical Data**

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

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

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

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

---

**11. Form Prepared By**

---

**12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

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

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

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

---

**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

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

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



*Town of GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS*

14 Court Square  
Town Hall, Greenfield, Massachusetts 01301  
(413) 774-2884

RECEIVED

March 10, 1982

MAR 10 1982

MASS. HIST. COMM.

Pat Weslowski  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
294 Washington Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Dear Ms. Weslowski:

The Town of Greenfield is considering applying to the State for a grant for the conversion of the Garden Theatre in the Town of Greenfield as a civic center. It is our intention to do this as a preservation project. As such, we need to get this site on the National Register of Historic Places as quickly as possible.

We have been in contact with representatives of Senator Olver's office and Senator Tsongas's office and have asked their cooperation in seeking designation to the National Trust. Our consultant has prepared an application which I have enclosed. Please advise if this application is complete or if any additional information would be required at this time.

I will be contacting you in the next couple of days for your advice. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at my office in Greenfield. We look forward to working together with you in preserving this historic building in the Town of Greenfield.

One further note, we have approximately \$250,000 in CDBG funds towards this project already that must be spent in this fiscal year.

Sincerely,

R. John Ryan, Jr., Director  
Planning & Community Development

RJR/sjn

cc: Doug McGarrah, Sen. Tsongas's Office  
Sen. Olver's Office  
Rep. Benson's Office

CHARLES H. PERCY, ILL., CHAIRMAN

HOWARD H. BAKER, JR., TENN.  
JESSE HELMS, N.C.  
S. I. HAYAKAWA, CALIF.  
RICHARD G. LUGAR, IND.  
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NANCY L. KASSEBAUM, KANS.  
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LARRY PRESSLER, S. DAK.

CLAIBORNE PELL, R.I.  
JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR., DEL.  
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PAUL S. SARBANES, MD.  
EDWARD ZORINSKY, NEBR.  
PAUL E. TSONGAS, MASS.  
ALAN CRANSTON, CALIF.  
CHRISTOPHER J. DODD, CONN.

## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

Room 2003F

J. F. K. Federal Building  
Government Center

Boston, MA 02203

March 19, 1982

EDWARD G. SANDERS, STAFF DIRECTOR  
GERYLD B. CHRISTIANSON, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

Patricia Weslowski  
Executive Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
294 Washington Street  
Boston, MA 02108

RECEIVED

MAR 23 1982

MASS. HIST. COMM.

Dear Pat:

The town of Greenfield has recently submitted an application to your office to nominate the "Garden Theatre" for the National Register of Historic Places. I am familiar with a special aspect of this project and wanted to share this with you.

As you know, the Garden Theatre is in the heart of downtown Greenfield. Due to the economics of operating large, old movie theatres in today's market, the building is substantially under utilized and in somewhat rundown condition. However, as documented in the application, this 1929 Colonial Revival style structure is still largely intact and is a key to downtown revitalization efforts.

The Town has committed \$250,000 of Community Development Block Grant funds to this project. Funding from other local groups is being organized around a coherent development strategy that considers the needs for the entire Greenfield community. The leadership from all sectors has arrived at an agreement on the priorities for the town's development. It is an important step for Greenfield and this project represents the first thrust of this effort. For the Garden Theatre project to be successful, local officials must be able to show rapid progress on the project. For this reason, quick approval of this important property for historic designation is essential.

I hope you will be able to give this application your immediate attention. Please contact Doug McGarrah in my Boston office for further information. Thank you.

Sincerely,



PAUL E. TSONGAS  
United States Senator

PET:adm





**MASSACHUSETTS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
Office of the Secretary of State**

294 Washington Street  
Boston, Massachusetts  
02108  
617-727-8470

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY  
Secretary of State

July 20, 1983

Ms. Carol Shull, Chief  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
18th and C Streets, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the following nomination forms:

Boston - Charles Street African Methodist Episcopal Church (local)

Boston - Harrison Loring House (local)

Chicopee - Valentine School (local)

Gardner - Heywood-Wakefield Complex (local)

Greenfield - Garden Theater Block (local)

Monterey - Rock Ridge (local)

Pittsfield - Allen Hotel (local)

Williamstown - Col. Benjamin Simond House (local)

All have been voted eligible by the State Review Board and have been signed by the 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. Comments received to date are attached to the nomination forms.

Sincerely,

*Candace Jenkins*

Candace Jenkins  
Registration Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

*rec'd*

AUG - 1 1983

CJ/hi  
Enclosure