

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JAN 29 1980

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Elm Street Fire Station

AND/OR COMMON

Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

58 Elm Street

CITY, TOWN

Gardner

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2nd 4th

STATE

Massachusetts

CODE

025

COUNTY

Worcester

CODE

027

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☒ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME City of Gardner

STREET & NUMBER

Pleasant Street

CITY, TOWN

Gardner,

VICINITY OF

STATE
Massachusetts**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Worcester County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

2 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Worcester,

STATE
Massachusetts**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth #206

DATE

1977

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☒ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Boston

STATE
Massachusetts 02108

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
☒ EXCELLENT	☐ DETERIORATED	☒ UNALTERED	☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ GOOD	☐ RUINS	☐ ALTERED	☐ MOVED DATE _____
☐ FAIR	☐ UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located at the northeast corner of Elm and Cherry Streets, the Elm Street Fire Station is an astylistic late Victorian building made up of a rectangular-plan, two-and-one-half-storey main block to which a square-plan tower of six-stories' height is attached. The main block of the building rests on a granite plinth above which it is faced with red brick and enclosed by a slate-covered roof. The hose-drying/bell-tower is built of the same materials as the building's main body, but is enclosed by a more steeply pitched, hip roof.

The station's facade (west elevation) is made up of three bays, symmetrically arranged. Each bay contains an engine entry at the first storey and a group of three identical windows at the second storey. Each engine entry is set in an undecorated brick surround with a low-arched head. The entries' paired doors are original; each door consists of a base of four rectangular panels and four lights above which the upper half is glazed with a multi-paned light. Each of the second storey's nine windows (arranged in three groups) is set in an undecorated frame with a rock-faced stone sill and low-arched head; sash is 3/2. Above the second storey, the roof terminates in open eaves with exposed rafter-ends. Centered on the facade's roof is a single hipped-dormer containing two two-pane lights.

The station's side (south) elevation is symmetrically arranged with four sets of paired windows at the first two stories and a dormer (identical to that of the facade) at its attic. Individual windows at the first storey are set in undecorated brick surrounds with rock-faced stone sills and low-arched heads; each window contains 3/2 sash surmounted by a three-pane transom. Individual second-storey windows are identical to individual windows at the facade's second storey.

On the station's north elevation, near the building's northwest corner, the hose drying/bell-tower is attached to the main block of the building. The tower rises in stages which are marked by projecting courses of brick at heights equivalent to the top of the first storey, the top of the second storey, a mid-point and the top of the fourth storey. At the second storey of the tower's west elevation are two windows (1/1) set in undecorated arched surrounds. A single window, identical to those of the tower's second storey, is centered on each of the tower's elevations, at the fourth storey. At the sixth storey is an open landing, the base of which is formed by a brick-and-stone cornice. This bell-landing is framed at each corner by a brick pier, which rises from a stone base to a stone cap. Each of the landing's four elevations contains a decorated iron railing and brackets. The high hip roof of the tower is set on an undecorated stone cornice which is supported by the landing's four piers. The remainder of the station's north elevation is asymmetrically arranged, although its details are of the same type as those found on the station's south elevation.

The rear (east) elevation of the station is asymmetrically arranged and contains a one-and-one-half storey wing which is joined to the building's main body by a lean-to roof. Principal features of this wing are an arched entry (for horses and deliveries) with its original panelled wooden doors on the wing's south elevation. Elsewhere are windows of varying sizes set in undecorated surrounds with stone sills and low-arched heads.

Exterior alterations to the fire house are limited to the blocking of some windows in the tower.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
___ PREHISTORIC	___ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	___ COMMUNITY PLANNING	___ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	___ RELIGION	
___ 1400-1499	___ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	___ CONSERVATION	___ LAW	___ SCIENCE	
___ 1500-1599	___ AGRICULTURE	___ ECONOMICS	___ LITERATURE	___ SCULPTURE	
___ 1600-1699	☒ ARCHITECTURE	___ EDUCATION	___ MILITARY	___ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
___ 1700-1799	___ ART	☒ ENGINEERING	___ MUSIC	___ THEATER	
☒ 1800-1899	___ COMMERCE	☒ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	___ PHILOSOPHY	___ TRANSPORTATION	
___ 1900-	___ COMMUNICATIONS	___ INDUSTRY	☒ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	___ OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		☒ INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES	1897	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	unknown
----------------	------	-------------------	---------

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Elm Street Fire Station possesses integrity of design, location, use and historical association with the early introduction of several structural and technological innovations intended to increase the efficiency of fire-house design. Build in 1897 at a cost of \$16,000, the fire station remains essentially unaltered on its exterior, retaining its original sash, doors and other details and serving as an important local example of Victorian civic architecture. Innovations in design were concentrated on the station's interior where an entirely open first story, free of interior posts, is made possible by the suspension of the second story from three carrier beams braced by struts. These beams, which rest on the exterior bearing walls, are connected to the floor supports of the second story by steel suspension rods. Other innovations of which evidence remains are automatic gates for horsestalls; these gates were opened by the sounding of the alarm. The fire company's horses were trained to move from their stalls to specific wagons where harnesses were automatically lowered into position to hitch them up to the company's engines. Other remaining features of the station's interior include water troughs, hay doors, signal receivers and a photograph collection of the station's former companies. At present, the Elm Street Fire Station remains in use as a fire station.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

City of Gardner Fire Department Records
Gardner Fire Department Fire Herald
City of Gardner Engineer's Office
City of Gardner City Clerk's Office

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 10,890 sq. ft.

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

QUADRANGLE NAME Gardner

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 254980 4718050

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please refer to the attached assessor's map

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Candace Jenkins, National Register Coordinator

with

Eric Engelson, Gardner
Historical Commission

ORGANIZATION

Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE

June, 1979

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 X

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Patricia L. Weslowski 1/4/80

TITLE

Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

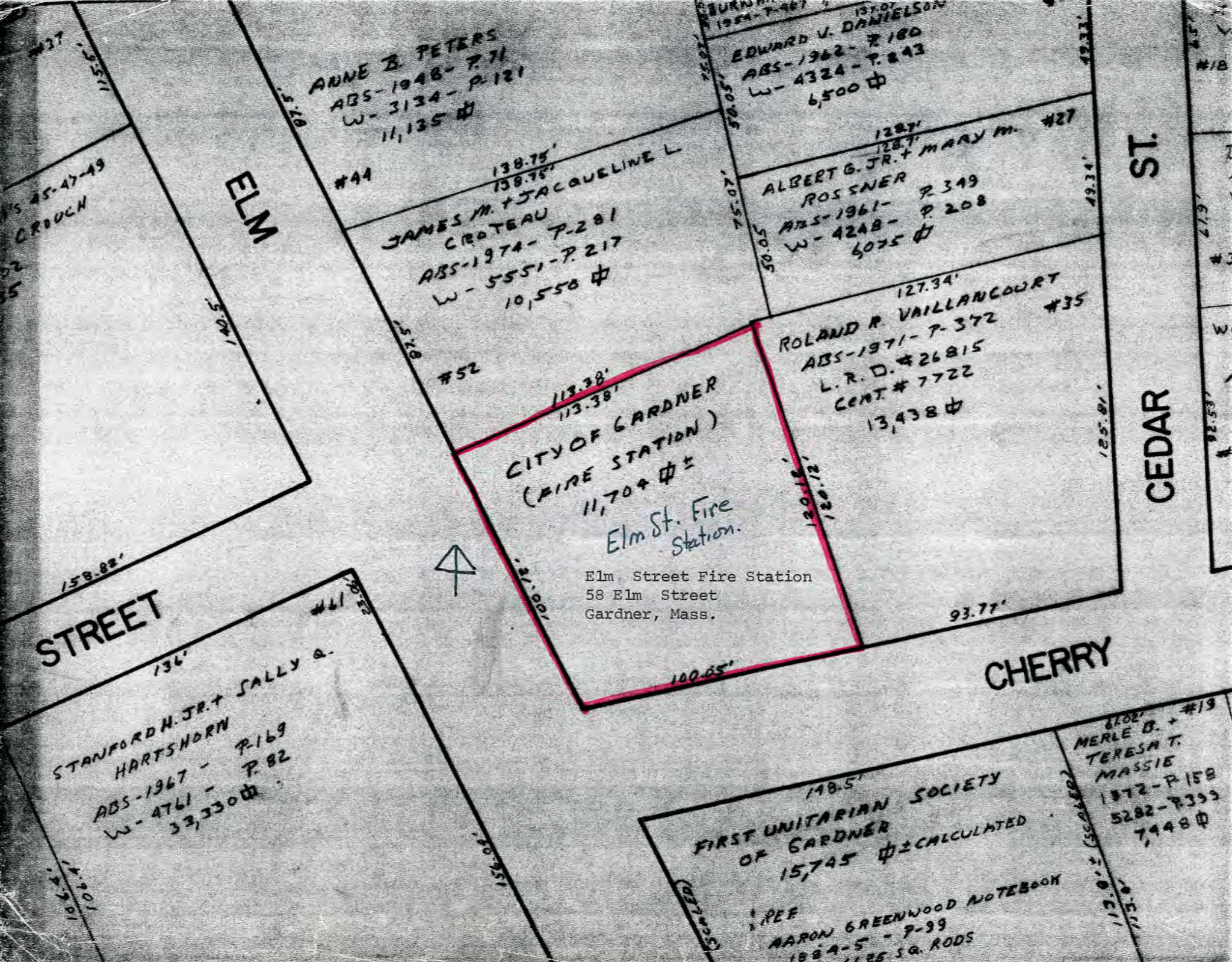
4/2/80

ATTEST:

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

3/27/80



ANNE B. PETERS
ABS-1948-P.71
W-3134-P.121
11,135 Φ

EDWARD V. DANIELSON
ABS-1962-P.180
W-4324-P.243
6,500 Φ

ALBERT G. JR. + MARY M.
ROSSNER
ABS-1961-P.349
W-4248-P.208
6,075 Φ

ROLAND R. VAILLANCOURT
ABS-1971-P.372
L.R.D. #26815
CENT. #7722
13,438 Φ

JAMES M. + JACQUELINE L.
CROTEAU
ABS-1974-P.281
W-5551-P.217
10,550 Φ

CITY OF GARDNER
(FIRE STATION)
11,704 Φ
Elm St. Fire Station.

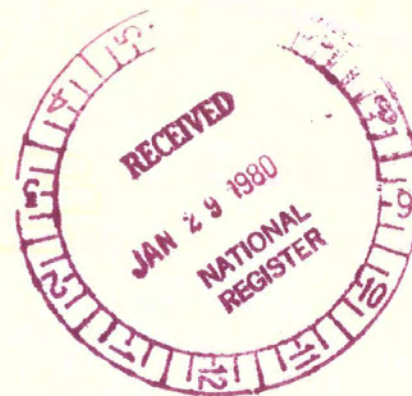
Elm Street Fire Station
58 Elm Street
Gardner, Mass.

STANFORD H. JR. + SALLY A.
HARTSHORN
ABS-1967-P.169
W-4761-P.82
33,330 Φ

FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY
OF GARDNER
15,745 Φ $\pm$ CALCULATED

MERLE B. +
THERESA T.
MASSIE
1972-P.158
5282-P.393
7,448 Φ

REF
AARON GREENWOOD NOTEBOOK
1884-5 - P.99
S. R. RODS



APR 2 1980

Property

Blm Street Fire StationRM no 80001677

State

Ma - Worcester

Working Number

1-29-80306**TECHNICAL****CONTROL**Photos 1Maps 1

Built in 1897 this 2 1/2 story brick astylistic Victorian bldg. is significant for its structural and technological innovations which increased the efficiency of fire house design - an entirely open first floor, free of interior posts (made possible by suspending 2d floor from carrier beams), automatic gates for horse stalls (opened on sound of the alarm). The bldg. is virtually unaltered & retains horse troughs, hay door.

HISTORIAN

accept
Patrick Arduini
3/26/80

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN**ARCHEOLOGIST****OTHER****HAER**Inventory Review **REVIEW UNIT CHIEF****BRANCH CHIEF****KEEPER**National Register Write-up Send-back Entered APR 2 1980Federal Register Entry 2.3.81Re-submit



Elm Street Fire Station
58 Elm Street
Gardner, Mass.

Worcester Co.

Eric Engleson 1978
Gardner Historical Commission

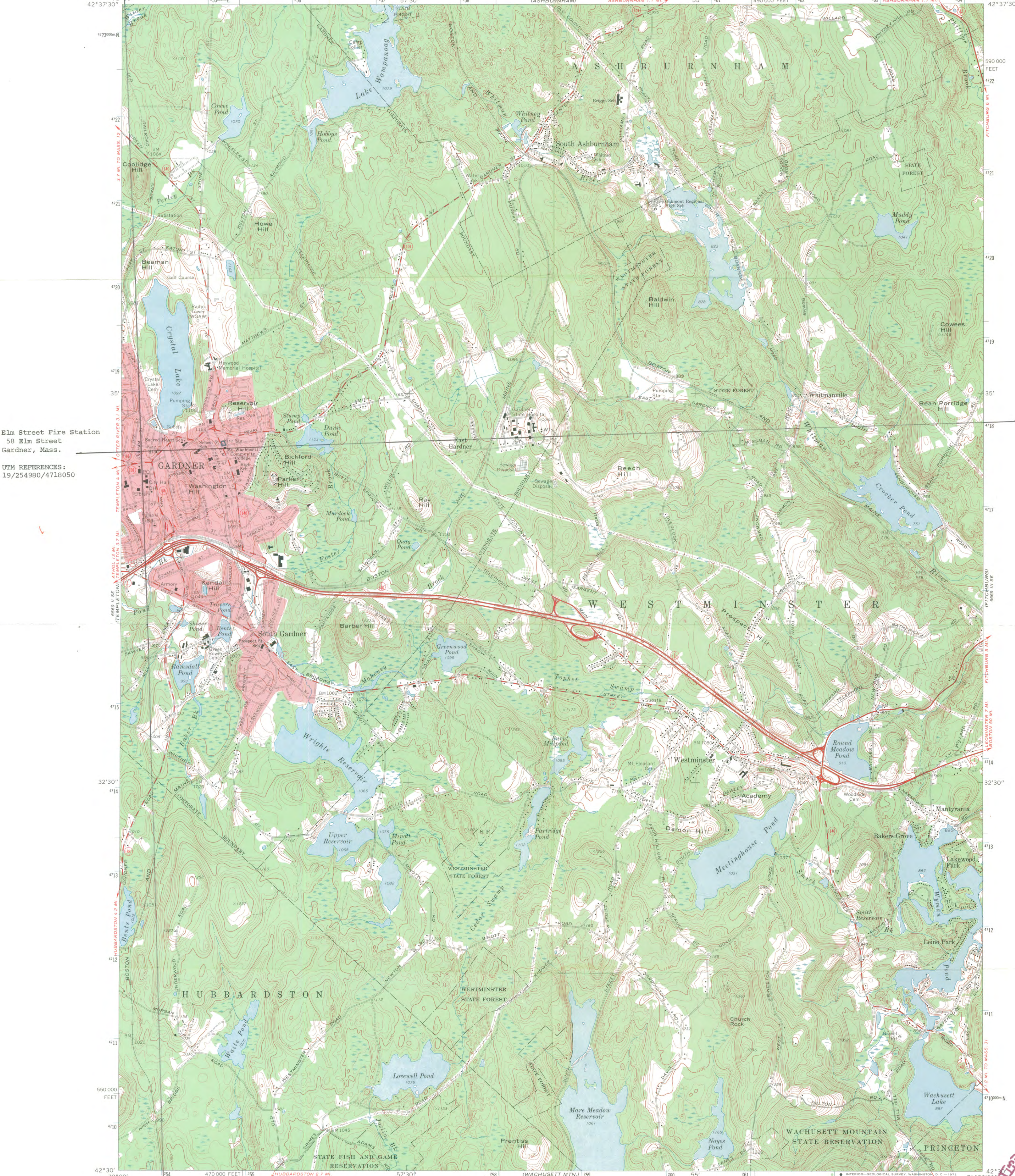
APR 2 1980

Photo #1 of 1
Facade facing northeast

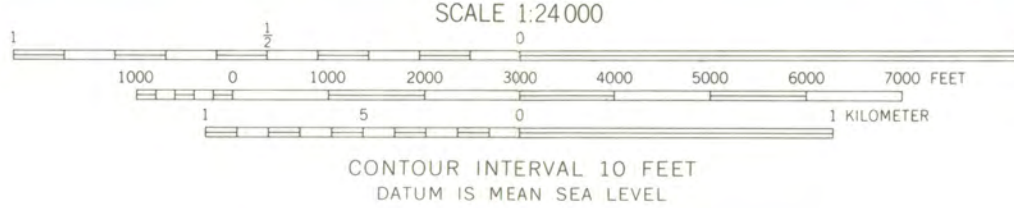
JAN 29 1980

Elm Street Fire Station
58 Elm Street
Gardner, Mass.

UTM REFERENCES:
19/254980/4718050



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1939. Topography by planimetric surveys 1943 and 1944
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1968. Field checked 1970
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings
are shown



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

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



GARDNER, MASS.
N4230—W7152.5/7.5
1970
AMS 6669 III SW—SERIES V814

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered APR 2 1980

Name

Location

Dorchester-Milton Lower Mills Industrial
District

Boston and Milton
Suffolk (also Norfolk County)

Elm Street Fire Station

Gardner
Worcester County

Stoneholm

Sharon
Norfolk County

First Parsonage for Second East Parish Church

Attleboro
Bristol County

Lane, David, House

Bedford
Middlesex County

Also Notified

Honorable Paul Tsongas

Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Honorable Brian J. Donnelly
Honorable Robert F. Drinan
Honorable Margaret M. Heckler
Honorable James M. Sahnnon

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mrs. Patricia L. Weslowski
Executive Director, Massachusetts
Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

NR Byers/bjr 4/8/80

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.