

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Wendell Town Common Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by Depot, Lock's Village, Montague and Morse Village Roads N/A not for publication

city or town Wendell N/A vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Franklin code 011 zip code 01379

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Judith B. McDonough 4/14/92
Signature of certifying official/Title Judith B. McDonough, Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer
State of Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

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

Signature of the Keeper

Melanie Ryan

Entered in the
National Register

Date of Action

5/21/92

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| 19 | 5 | buildings |
| 2 | | sites |
| | | structures |
| 6 | | objects |
| 27 | 5 | Total |

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling; hotel

GOVERNMENT: city hall

RELIGION: religious structure

FUNERARY: cemetery

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: agricultural building

EDUCATION: school; library

COMMERCE/TRADE: store

LANDSCAPE: street furniture, object

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling; hotel

GOVERNMENT: city hall

RELIGION: religious structure

FUNERARY: cemetery

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: agricultural building

EDUCATION: school; library

LANDSCAPE: street furniture, object

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Federal

Greek Revival

Colonial Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Clapboard

roof Asphalt

other

Narrative Description

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

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Wendell, MassachusettsSection number 7 Page 1

DESCRIPTION

The Wendell Town Common Historic District includes 27 contributing buildings, sites and objects comprising the historic institutional, commercial and residential core of Wendell, Massachusetts. The 32-square-mile town is located in an area of uplands in central Franklin County. The district is set on one of Wendell's highest hills at an elevation of 1164 feet, located near the town's geographic center.

The district encompasses approximately 26 acres surrounding the Wendell Town Common, located at the junction of roads to Montague (west), Lock's Village (south, Northfield (north, and New Salem (east). The Town Common is a rectangular piece of open land bounded by Depot and Lock's Village Roads (west) and an unnamed road (north, east, and south), and bisected by Morse Village Road. The adjacent properties generally face the Common, and are Greek Revival style residences and institutional buildings.

The district boundaries generally follow property lines, which conform to visual and natural boundaries, with the district set on a hill, including concentrated development and associated open fields. Exceptions to this are several larger lots which cannot be justified as there is insufficient information on the historical extent of the property. It appears that some land, which has been reforested, is not in its earlier historic use. For these properties an arbitrary setback of 200' has been used to include buildings and some land behind. Generally the district edges are created by the hill dropping off sharply, by the wooded land at the perimeter of the fields, and by several noncontributing buildings.

All buildings in the district are located close to the road. Several farmhouses are set on large parcels (12 to 70 acres), and have pastures extending behind, while most of the remaining buildings are on lots of approximately one quarter acre.

Many of the district's residences were once associated with modest agricultural pursuits. Several horse and carriage barns survive attached to or adjacent to houses. Only the George W. Flemming House, set on 70 acres, is documented as having been a more extensive agricultural enterprise.

Buildings in the district are one to two stories in height and are generally in good condition; most are of wood-frame construction with clapboard or shingle sheathing. A few buildings have received synthetic siding, and many original architectural details survive. Alterations have been minor.

All primary buildings, with the exception of the Wendell Free Library, date to the late Federal-early Industrial periods. The Greek Revival style predominates, with individual examples existing in the Federal and Colonial

(continued)

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Revival styles. Most buildings are vernacular interpretations of the Greek Revival style; they are gable-front structures, many with side-entry plans. Six buildings are attributed to local builder Luke O. Leach.

The district contains the following contributing resources: nineteen buildings, two sites, and six objects. Non-contributing resources are five buildings. Of the non-contributing properties, three were built after the period of significance and two have been significantly altered.

Buildings or structures no longer extant include a gazebo which stood on the Wendell Town Common ca. 1900, the Federal Period Joshua Green House at the northwest corner of Montague and Depot Roads which burned in 1978, the William Flemming House (ca. 1800), demolished in 1903, blacksmith's shop, and an inn. A description of key and representative buildings in the district follows. Contributing buildings and structures range in date of construction from ca. 1820 to the 1921.

RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

The Parsonage, Montague Road, (1823, MHC #15) is the district's only Federal-style building, a two-story residence with a center entry and one-story ell. The entry has fluted pilasters and a simple entablature, and window sash are 12/12, all of which may date from an early twentieth-century alteration. Two chimneys are sited just behind the roof ridge.

All other residential buildings in the district are in the Greek Revival style, with no single house type predominant. One of the earliest of these is the Luke O. Leach House, Depot Road, (ca. 1839, MHC #A5), the most ornamental and one of the largest residences in the district. It is a two-story, three-bay house with a pedimented gable front and side-entry plan. The entry is framed by full sidelights and pilasters, while the house has simple pilaster cornerboards, a boxed cornice and six-over-six sash.

Another larger house in the Greek Revival style is unusual in its form. The Chittenden-Gates House, Morse Village Road, (ca. 1843, MHC #A12) is a two-story, five-bay house with a broad gable front and a central entry. It features deep eaves, cornice returns, and flat pilasters supporting a broad entablature. The house has been altered by the addition of an enclosed porch, which partially obscures the simple pilasters and entablature of the original entry.

The Clark-Stebbins-Lewis House, Locks Village Road, (ca. 1835, MHC #A8) exemplifies another Greek Revival house type, consisting of a two-bay, gable-front main block with a side entry, and a long side ell with a shed-roofed porch. The entry has a simple surround with a flat hood. A rectangular bay window south of the entry is an 1888 addition.

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The Howe-Gould House, Locks Village Road, (ca. 1845, MHC #A9) is attributed to Luke O. Leach, and includes two phases of alterations. The house has a broad three-bay gable front, paneled pilaster cornerboards, a boxed cornice, and cornice returns. The side entry features three-quarter sidelights and a multi-light transom. Windows have six-over-six sash. The wraparound porch with brackets, turned posts, and balustrade is a ca. 1890 addition. A wing on the west elevation was added, possibly ca. 1875, having originally been Henry Green's Store (ca. 1820, MHC #A10) which stood nearby on Morse Village Road. The earliest surviving Greek Revival style building in the district, it has such characteristic details of the style as broad cornerboards and frieze, deep eaves and cornice returns, and six-over-six sash.

INSTITUTIONAL BUILDINGS

On three sides of the Wendell Town Common are three Greek Revival style institutional buildings attributed to local builder Luke O. Leach, and constructed within one year of each other. The Baptist Church/Town Hall, "Head of the Common," (1845, MHC #A11) and the Central Congregational Church, Morse Village Road, (1846, MHC #A2), are both three bays wide with full entablatures and deep enclosed pediments. The Baptist Church/Town Hall has sunken panel pilaster cornerboards and a gabled central entry portico (added by ca. 1931), which replaced two entries flanking a central window. The square base remains from a two-stage steeple removed after 1931. The Central Congregational Church retains the square base and belfry of its three-stage steeple, and has fluted pilaster cornerboards.

The Town Hall/School House, Depot Road, (1846, MHC #A6) is similar to the two churches, having its gable end to the street, an enclosed pediment with full entablature, and sunken paneled pilaster cornerboards. The building originally had a pair of entries on the gable end, but was altered ca. 1933 by the construction of a hip-roofed entry at the side elevation, and the addition of a row of six six-over-six windows across the gable end.

The only institutional building in the district representing a style other than the Greek Revival is the simple, Colonial Revival/Shingle style Wendell Free Library (1921, MHC #A7). It is a square, one-story, two-bay building with a hipped slate roof. The facade possesses a tripartite window and a corner entry recessed within an integral porch. The building is clad in clapboards and shingles.

OTHER CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

The Wendell Center Cemetery (MHC #A801), established in 1782, contains approximately 250 gravestones and is still in use. Its size is 1.6 acres. A Victorian cast iron fence (pre-1871) with a carriage gate and a pedestrian gate extends along the Common (west) side of the cemetery. Carvers represented include Isaiah Soule, Beza Soule, The Felton Shop in New Salem,

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North Orange Carver, Jonathan Allen of Bernardston, MA, Solomon Ahley of Deerfield, MA, Chapin Shop of Bernardston, MA, and others. Motifs include urn and willow, and urn and arch.

The district's core is the Wendell Common (MHC #A-TCL), a rectangular area of open land established by 1780 and expanded ca. 1900. Young trees encircle the Common's edges and a path extends diagonally from southwest to northeast. A gazebo existed at the south end of the Common until at least the late-nineteenth century.

Stone walls of undetermined dates exist on several properties in the district, including the G.W. Flemming House, the Parsonage, and the Luke O. Leach Barn.

Several barns dating from the nineteenth century survive in the district. These are the Leach Barn, Depot Road (ca. 1890s, MHC #A4), and barns associated with the Parsonage, and the Howe-Gould House.

Archaeological Description

No prehistoric sites are recorded in the district or in the general area (within one mile). In general the potential for recovering significant prehistoric remains within the district is low because locational criteria (slope, drainage, distance to water) for the area are not favorable for prehistoric settlement.

There is a high potential for significant historic archaeological remains within the district. Additional historical research followed by controlled testing and excavations can help determine the location of primary structures and outbuildings which no longer survive in the district. Structural remains are particularly important for 18th century residences and institutional building for which no examples survive. Remains of the 1781 meetinghouse may survive in the district near the cemetery (1782). Structural remains may also exist for 19th century residences and commercial structures. Survivals may exist for the Federal Period Joshua Green House which stood at the northwest corner of Montague and Depot Roads. Archaeological features may also survive for the ca. 1800 William Flemming House, an inn and a blacksmith's shop. Survivals may also exist at the original location of ca. 1820 Henry Green's store which was moved from Morse Village Road and added as a wing to the ca. 1845 Howe-Gould House on Locks Village Road. Several horse and carriage barns survive in the district attached or adjacent to homes. Additional examples of these types of outbuildings also likely survive in the archaeological record with buildings no longer extant and with extant early to mid 19th century structures on Montague Road, Depot Road, Morse Village Road and Locks Village Road. Other types of 18th through 19th century archaeological features which likely survive with residences, commercial and institutional structures include occupational features such as trash pits, privies, wells and sheet refuse.

(end)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance

1782-1942

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Leach, Luke, O.

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Massachusetts Historical Commission

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approximately 26 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 18 713760 4714020
Zone Easting Northing
2 18 713800 4713760

3 18 713930 4713760
Zone Easting Northing
4 18 713920 4713690

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

Jean S. Forward, Wendell Historical Commission, Kim Withers Brengle
name/title NR Edit. Consultant with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date April 1992

street & number 80 Boylston Street telephone (617) 727-8470

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02116

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

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

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

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

Property Owner

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

name

street & number telephone

city or town state zip code

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

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

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Wendell Town Common Historic District is a well-preserved rural village center that retains a large proportion of Greek Revival style buildings of the early-to-mid-nineteenth century, as well as a few examples spanning the district's period of significance. The district illustrates community planning and development through its evolution from a remote rural crossroads to the civic, cultural and residential core of the town. It possesses architectural significance for its concentration of intact buildings similar in scale, material and simple Greek Revival design. The period of significance, 1782-1942, is based on the 1782 establishment of the Wendell Center Cemetery and Town Common and the district's continuing use as the community's civic focus. Few later intrusions exist in the district. The Wendell Town Common Historic District retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and fulfills Criteria A and C (as well as Criteria Considerations A, B, and D) of the National Register of Historic Places on the local level.

Composed of areas included in land grants of 1735 and 1754, Wendell is an isolated hill town. It was first settled by 1754 by former residents of nearby New Salem. Colonial Period documentation is sketchy regarding early population and settlement patterns; however, local residents were engaged in livestock production and probably lumbering. Subsequent settlers were from Lancaster, Sterling, Westminster, Leominster and Lexington. Wendell was incorporated in 1781 (and later enlarged) from sections of Shutesbury (Lock's Village), Erving, New Salem, and Montague.

The town's incorporation and the establishment of a meetinghouse at Wendell Center in 1781 marked the beginning of the district's use as the institutional center of town, as well as the start of a period of population growth which peaked in 1819 when the town's population reached 983 residents. Wendell Center had also become the center of a radial highway system by the Federal Period, with Montague and Depot Roads crossing on the hill. Along with the meetinghouse, the Wendell Center Cemetery was established on land purchased ca. 1781, and Wendell Town Common may have been set off at the same time, but documentation is not clear.

The only building of the Federal Period surviving in the district is the Parsonage (MHC #15), erected in 1823 on land donated by Joshua Green, who served for many years as a deacon in the Congregational Church, a selectman, and a legislator. Green's house stood on Morse Village Road adjacent to the Congregational Church until 1978. His son Henry operated a store adjacent to the house for a short time ca. 1820. The building was subsequently moved and added to the Howe-Gould House.

Another house constructed during the Federal period was the William Flemming

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House, built shortly after 1800. It stood facing the Common north of the cemetery until its demolition by a descendant of the original owner in 1903.

Although Wendell's population declined from 874 in 1830 to 539 in 1870, a cluster of residences and institutional buildings developed around Wendell Common during those years. Farming and lumbering continued to form the community's economic base. The town had 14 sawmills in 1855, when it ranked second in the county in the number of feet of lumber cut, representing 10% of the county production.

Residential construction around Wendell Common was most intense during the 1830s and 1840s, when at least five new houses were built in the district. All built in the Greek Revival style, the houses vary in form and plan with most rising one story to a gable front and having a sidehall plan. Architectural detail is simple; several have sunken panel pilaster cornerboards or entries set in surrounds with modest entablatures and sidelights.

Perhaps the most substantial Greek Revival style house in the district is the two-story Luke O. Leach House (MHC #5) built ca. 1839. The entry is framed by full sidelights and pilasters, while the house has simple pilaster cornerboards, a boxed cornice and six-over-six sash. Leach was credited with erecting most of the significant buildings in the Wendell Town Common Historic District. Leach is described as an architect and builder, and owned a lumber yard in Wendell Center. He married in 1839, became a Deacon of the Congregational Church, and built this house. He remained in Wendell until ca. 1875, when he moved to Orange for the remainder of his life. Buildings in Wendell Center attributed to him are the Congregational Church, the Baptist Church/Town Hall, the Town Hall/School House, the George Washington Fleming House, and the Howe-Gould House.

Another large house is the Chittenden-Gates House (MHC #A12), unusual for its broad five-bay gable front and center entry. It was occupied first by Otis Chittenden, who served as Wendell Town Clerk (1856-1867). Subsequent owners Edwin L. Gates and Charles M. Ballou were also active in civic affairs, and held a variety of public offices.

Three modest-sized gable front houses with sidehall plans and side ells are the Clark-Stebbins-Lewis House (MHC #A8), the George Washington Flemming House (MHC #A3), and the Howe-Gould House (MHC #A9).

The Clark-Stebbins-Lewis House, built ca. 1835, was first owned by James Clark, of whom little is known. Subsequent owners Marcus M. Stebbins and Charles A. Lewis (1866-ca. 1950) both ran a store in the house. Stebbins was a Civil War veteran who served as town clerk and selectman during the 1860s and 1870s. In addition to running a store, Nellie Fiske Lewis was Wendell's postmistress.

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The only house in the district with an attached barn is the George Washington Flemming House (ca. 1843), which was built by the son of William Flemming, whose earlier house stood nearby. Attributed to Luke Leach, the house had sunken panel cornerboards and other simple Greek Revival detailing prior to modern alterations.

Constructed ca. 1845, the Howe-Gould House reflects several periods of alteration and is the only known hotel in the district. Its second owner, Lyman G. Gould, operated the house as a hotel, "Summit House." In the mid 1870s he is believed to have added the small wing which had formerly been Henry Green's Store (MHC #A10), and ca. 1890 he added the large wraparound porch.

Three of the district's institutional/civic buildings are characteristic rural Greek Revival style public buildings which were completed in the mid 1840s. Sources are contradictory regarding the Baptist Church/Town Hall (MHC #A11). There are references to the Baptist meetinghouse which stood originally on New Salem Road east of the district having been moved to its present location in 1845, while other sources refer to the building having been constructed that year by local builder Luke O. Leach. The church site at the head of the Town Common was given by George Richardson with the proviso that if there was no preaching service there for a period of twenty years, the property would revert back to him or his estate. This occurred, and the property was purchased by Selectman Charles M. Ballou from the Richardson estate, and sold in 1919 to the Town to house municipal offices. The building still serves as Town Hall.

Like the Baptist Church/Town Hall, the Town Hall/School House (MHC #A6) is attributed to Luck O. Leach in 1846. The building housed town meetings and other municipal functions until these were moved to the former Baptist Church in 1919. Since then it has been used as a school, maintaining the institutional focus of the district.

The Central Congregational Church (MHC #A2) is also attributed to Leach, and was erected in 1846 for a congregation established in 1774. It replaced a Wendell's original meetinghouse begun in 1781 and having dimensions of 55' x 40'. It originally was dominated by a three-stage steeple, altered by ca. 1900. The church remains in active use.

A small, vernacular wood-frame building of the mid-nineteenth century survives on Morse Village Road, east of the Common. The Old School House (MHC #66) is the district's most modest institutional building, and is representative of the rural district schools common during the nineteenth century. Erected prior to 1871, this school was used until the Town Hall/School House ceased use as a Town Hall in 1919. This building was subsequently converted to a residence.

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During the mid-to-late-nineteenth century commercial activity was focused primary in the Wendell Depot section of town, however small scale commercial activity occurred in the district. In addition to Henry Green's Store and a store in the Clark-Stebbins-Lewis House, a store was operated in 1871 in the J. Forbes House.

During the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries Wendell's population continued to decline, reaching 388 in 1915. Wood-related industries (a piano case factory, paper mills and a wooden box manufacturer) were important to the economy, while upland agriculture continued near Wendell Center.

Within the Wendell Town Common Historic District no construction appears to have occurred during this entire period, with the exception of the Wendell Free Library (MHC #A7). Erected in 1921, this small, four-square Colonial Revival style building is consistent with the civic and institutional character of the district, and is architecturally compatible with the material, scale and design of the district's Greek Revival style buildings.

The Wendell Town Common Historic District has served continuously as the focus of civic activity for the town. Since the construction of the library in 1921, only the Town Fire Station (mid-20th century), two trailer homes and a cottage have been built in the district.

Archaeological Significance

Historic archaeological remains described above have the potential for providing detailed information on the social, cultural and economic patterns that characterized a rural village as it developed from a remote rural crossroads to the civic, cultural and residential core of the town. Archaeological resources can document and provide examples for the 18th century component of the village for which only the common and cemetery survive. Structural remains can provide data on structures no longer extant and more precise control pertaining to structural modifications or additions to buildings such as the ca. 1845 Howe Gould House. Careful analysis of occupational related features at residential commercial and institutional structures can provide information on specific religions, social and economic groups of individuals who comprised Wendell's inhabitants during specific time periods.

(end)

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Wendell Town Common Historic District,
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9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Dincauze, Dena, et al., Cultural Resource Survey and Impact Evaluation Report. State Route 2: Greenfield, Gill, Erving, Wendell, Orange. Franklin County, Massachusetts. 1976.
- Forward, Jean S., and Foster, Sherrill. Wendell Historic Preservation Plan. 1986.
- Holland, Josiah Gilbert. History of Western Massachusetts: The Counties of Hampshire, Franklin, and Berkshire. Springfield, Mass. Samuel Bowles & Co. 1855. Vol. II, part III. Pp 452-459.
- Massachusetts Historical Commission. Historic Resources Inventory. Wendell, 1985.
- Massachusetts Historical Commission. Reconnaissance Survey Report: Wendell. 1982.

10. UTM References Continued

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 5) 18 713810 4713690 | 10) 18 173410 4713810 |
| 6) 18 713720 4713540 | 11) 18 713590 4713790 |
| 7) 18 713620 4713590 | 12) 18 713620 4713920 |
| 8) 18 713620 4713700 | 13) 18 713680 4713930 |
| 9) 18 713410 4713740 | 14) 18 713680 4714020 |

(end)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The district boundaries follow property lines as shown on the enclosed assessors maps, with the exception of the properties listed as 407/65.1, 407/16.1, and 408/74. Each of these parcels includes a 200' setback from the buildings.

(end)

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries include Wendell Common and all properties facing onto it. Also included, though not facing the Common, are the Parsonage and Old School House, both of which are associated by use. Outside the district in all directions development is sparse, and geographical and visual boundaries exist in the drop of the hill on which the district is located and wooded land at the perimeter of the fields. In the three instances where property lines are not used as boundaries the parcels are large (70, 8, and 12 acres), there is insufficient information on the historical extent of the property, and some land, which has been reforested, appears not to be in its earlier historic use. For these properties an arbitrary setback of 200' has been used to include buildings and some land behind.

(end)

Wendell Town Common Historic District
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DISTRICT DATA SHEET

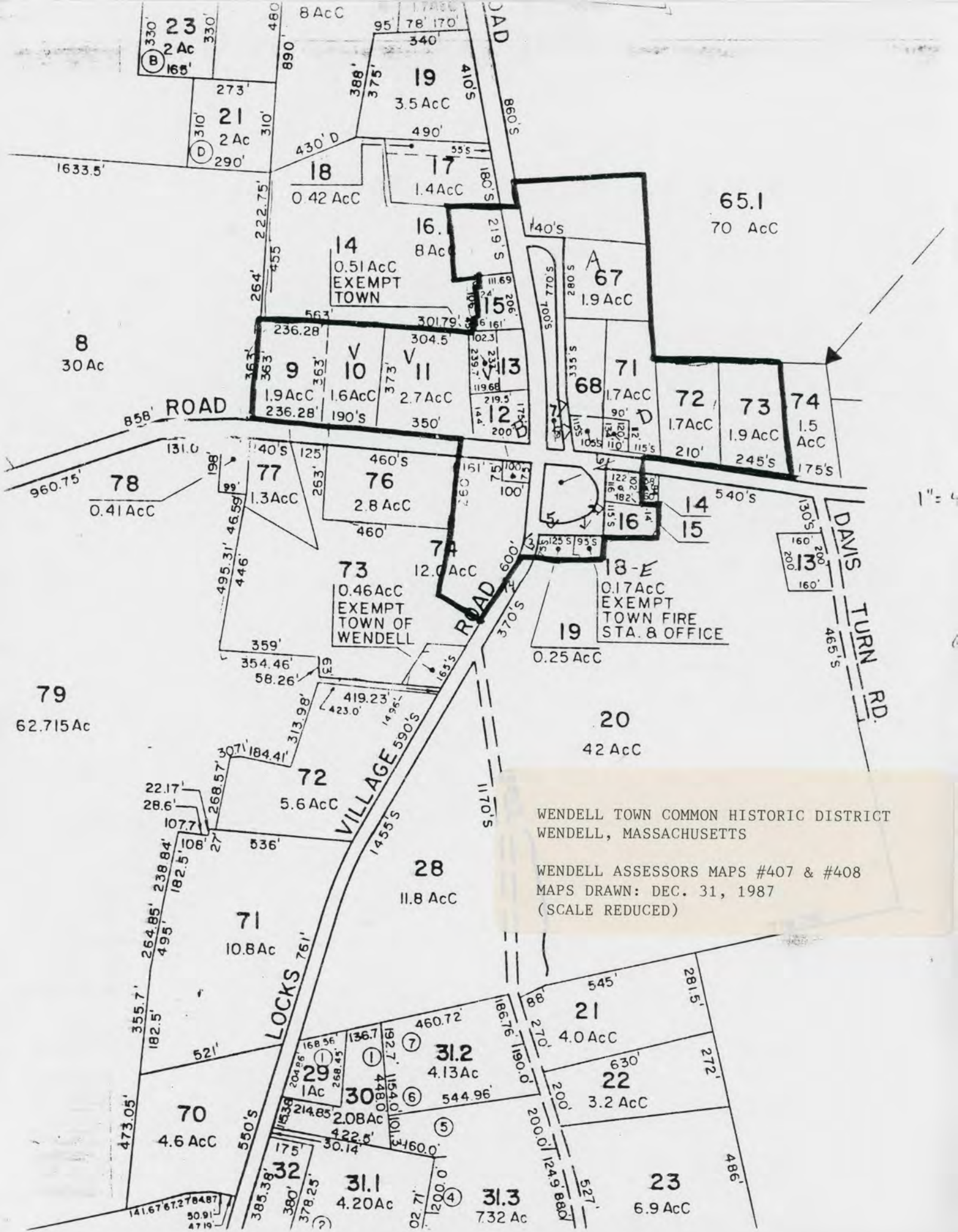
| MAP# | MHC# | NAME | ADDRESS | DATE | STATUS | STYLE | RESOURCE |
|----------|------|--|-------------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------------------|-------------|
| 407/68 | A801 | Wendell Center Cemetery Cast Iron Fence | Center of Common | 1782 | C | NA | Si O |
| 407/65 | A3 | G.W. Fleming House & Barn Outbuilding Stone wall | Depot Rd. | ca. 1843 | C | Greek Revival | B B O |
| A | NA | Rubert Goddard House | Depot Rd. | ca. 1820 | NC | Greek Revival Vernacular | B |
| 407/16.1 | A4 | Leach Barn Stone Wall | Depot Rd. | ca. 1890s | C | New England Barn | B O |
| 407/15 | A5 | Luke Osgood Leach House | Depot Rd. | ca. 1839 | C | Greek Revival | B |
| 407/13 | A6 | Town Hall/School House | Depot Rd. | 1846 | C | Greek Revival | B |
| V | NA | Town Lot | Depot Rd. | | | | |
| 408/18 | A11 | Baptist Church/Town Hall Shed | "Head of Common" | 1845 | C | Greek Revival | B B |
| E | NA | Town Fire Station | "Head of Common" | mid-20th c. | NC | | B |
| 408/75 | A7 | Wendell Free Library 2 Millstones | Locks Village Rd. | 1921 | C | Greek Revival | B 2 O |
| 408/74 | A8 | Clark-Stebbins-Lewis House | Locks Village Rd. | ca. 1835 | C | Greek Revival | B |
| 408/19 | A9 | Howe-Gould House | Locks Village Rd. | ca. 1845, ca. 1890 | C | Greek Revival | B |
| 408/19 | A10 | Henry Green's Store Barn | Locks Village Rd. | ca. 1820 mid-19th c. | C | Greek Revival | B B |
| 407/9 | 15 | Pasonage Barn Stone Walls | Montague Rd. | 1823 | C | Federal | B B O |
| V | NA | Lot | Montague Rd. | | | | |
| V | NA | Lot | Montague Rd. | | | | |
| B | NA | Apollo's Barn | Montague Rd. | ca. 1880-1900 | NC | NA | B |
| 407/69 | A2 | Central Congregational Church Carriage House | Morse Village Rd. | 1846 1846 | C | Greek Revival | B B |
| C | NA | Machie Cottage | Morse Village Rd. | ca. 1950s | NC | Vernacular | B |
| D | NA | 2 Trailer homes | Morse Village Rd. | mid-20th c. | C | NA | B |

Wendell Town Common Historic District
 Wendell, Massachusetts
 DISTRICT DATA SHEET

| MAP# | MHC# | NAME | ADDRESS | DATE | STATUS | STYLE | RESOURCE |
|----------------|------|------------------------|-------------------|---------------|--------|--------------------------|----------|
| 407/73 | 66 | Old School House | Morse Village Rd. | pre-1871 | C | Greek Revival Vernacular | B |
| 408/16 | A12 | Chittenden/Gates House | Morse Village Rd. | ca. 1843 | C | Greek Revival | B |
| 408/15 | A13 | J. Forbes Building | Morse Village Rd. | ca. 1858-1871 | C | Greek Revival | B |
| 407/66, 408/17 | A1 | Wendell Common | | | C | NA | Si |

TOTAL RESOURCES:

19 Contributing Buildings 5 Noncontributing Building
 2 Contributing Sites
 6 Contributing Objects



WENDELL TOWN COMMON HISTORIC DISTRICT
 WENDELL, MASSACHUSETTS

WENDELL ASSESSORS MAPS #407 & #408
 MAPS DRAWN: DEC. 31, 1987
 (SCALE REDUCED)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Wendell Town Common Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Franklin

DATE RECEIVED: 4/21/92 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/05/92
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/21/92 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/05/92
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 92000580

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 5/21/92 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
 UTM's boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



WINWELL
BUILT
1897
TOWN HALL

Town Hall/Baptist Church, Head of Town Common, Wendell
Photographer: JS Forward, 1988, Negative at W.H.C.
Form of A 11 of Cultural Resource Survey
Photo # 1 of 8
View facing SE

WENDELL COMMON HIST DIST.
WENDELL, MA.

TOWN HALL / BAPTIST CHURCH
HEAD OF TOWN COMMON

PHOTOGRAPHER: JEAN S. FORWARD, 1988

LOC. OF NEG.: WENDELL HIST. COMM.

VIEW: FACING SOUTHEAST

PHOTO # 1 OF 8



Chittenden & Gates Residence, Moose Village Rd # 1000, Wendell
Photographer: J.S. Forward, 1985, Negative at U.H.C.
Form A 12 of Cultural Resource Survey

Photo # 2 of 8

View facing E

WENDELL COMMON HIST DIST
WENDELL, MA

CHITTENDEN & GATES RESIDENCE
MOOSE VILLAGE ROAD

PHOTOGRAPHER: JEAN S. FORWARD, 1985
LOC. OF NEG.: WENDELL HIST. COMM.

VIEW: FACING EAST
PHOTO # 2 OF 8



Clark-Stebbins-Lewis House, Locks Village Rd., Wendell
Photographer: JS Forward, 1988, Negative at W.H.C.
Form A8 in CRS.
Photo # 3 of 8
View facing NW

WENDELL COMMON HIST DIST
WENDELL, MA

CLARK-STEBBINS-LEWIS HOUSE
LOCKS VILLAGE ROAD

PHOTOGRAPHED: JEAN S. FORWARD, 1988
LOC. OF NEG.: WENDELL HIST. COMM.

VIEW: FACING NORTHWEST
PHOTO # 3 OF 8



Clark-Stebbins-Lewis Bacon, Locks Village of Wendell

Photographer: S. Forward, 1988, negative at W.H.C.

Form A-8 in Cultural Resources Service

Photo # 4 of 8

View facing W

WENDELL COMMON HIST. DIST.
WENDELL, MA

CLARK STEBBINS LEWIS BACON
LOCKS VILLAGE ROAD

PHOTOGRAPHER: JEAN S. FORWARD, 1988
LOC. OF NEG.: WENDELL HIST. COMM.

VIEW: FACING WEST
PHOTO # 4 OF 8



Howe-Lyman Gould Residence, Lock's Village, Wendell
Photographer: JS Forward, 1985, Negative at W.H.C.
Form # A9 of Cultural Resource Survey
Photo # 5 of 8
View facing SE

WENDELL COMMON HIST DIST
WENDELL, MA

HOWE-LYMAN-GOULD RESIDENCE
LOCKS VILLAGE ROAD

PHOTOGRAPHER: JEAN S. FORWARD, 1985
LOC. OF NEG.: WENDELL HIST. COMM.

VIEW: FACING SOUTHEAST
PHOTO # 5 OF 8



WENDELL COMMON HIST. DIST.
WENDELL, MA

FORBES STORE
CORNER OF COMMON & MOOSE VILLAGE RD

PHOTOGRAPHER: JEAN S. FORWARD, 1985
LOC. OF NEG.: WENDELL HIST. COMM.

PHOTO# 6 OF 8

Forbes Store, Corner of Common & Moose Village Rd, Wendell
Photographer: Jean S. Forward, 1985, Neg. # 6 of 8
Form # A-13, U.S. Cultural Resource Survey
Photo # 6 of 8



WENDELL COMMON HIST. DIST.
WENDELL, MA.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH ; BANDSTAND
WENDELL TOWN COMMON

UNKNOWN PHOTOGRAPHER
CA. 1900

LOC. OF NEG.: WENDELL HIST COMM

PHOTO # 7 OF 8



Congregational Church, Morse Village, Wendell
Unknown photographer, c. 1900, negative at WHC
Form A2 of ARS
Photo # 8 of 8

WENDELL COMMON LIST DIST
WENDELL, MA

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
MORSE VILLAGE ROAD

UNKNOWN PHOTOGRAPHER
CA. 1900

LOC. OF NEG.: WENDELL LIST. COMM

PHOTO # 8 OF 8



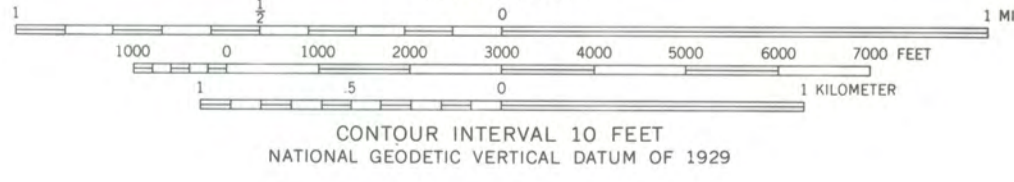
CONVERSION SCALES

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

To convert feet to meters multiply by 3.048
To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808

WENDELL TOWN COMMON
HISTORIC DISTRICT
WENDELL (FRANKLIN CNTY)
MASSACHUSETTS

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable survey 1936. Revised from
aerial photographs taken 1972. Field checked 1974
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid,
zone 18



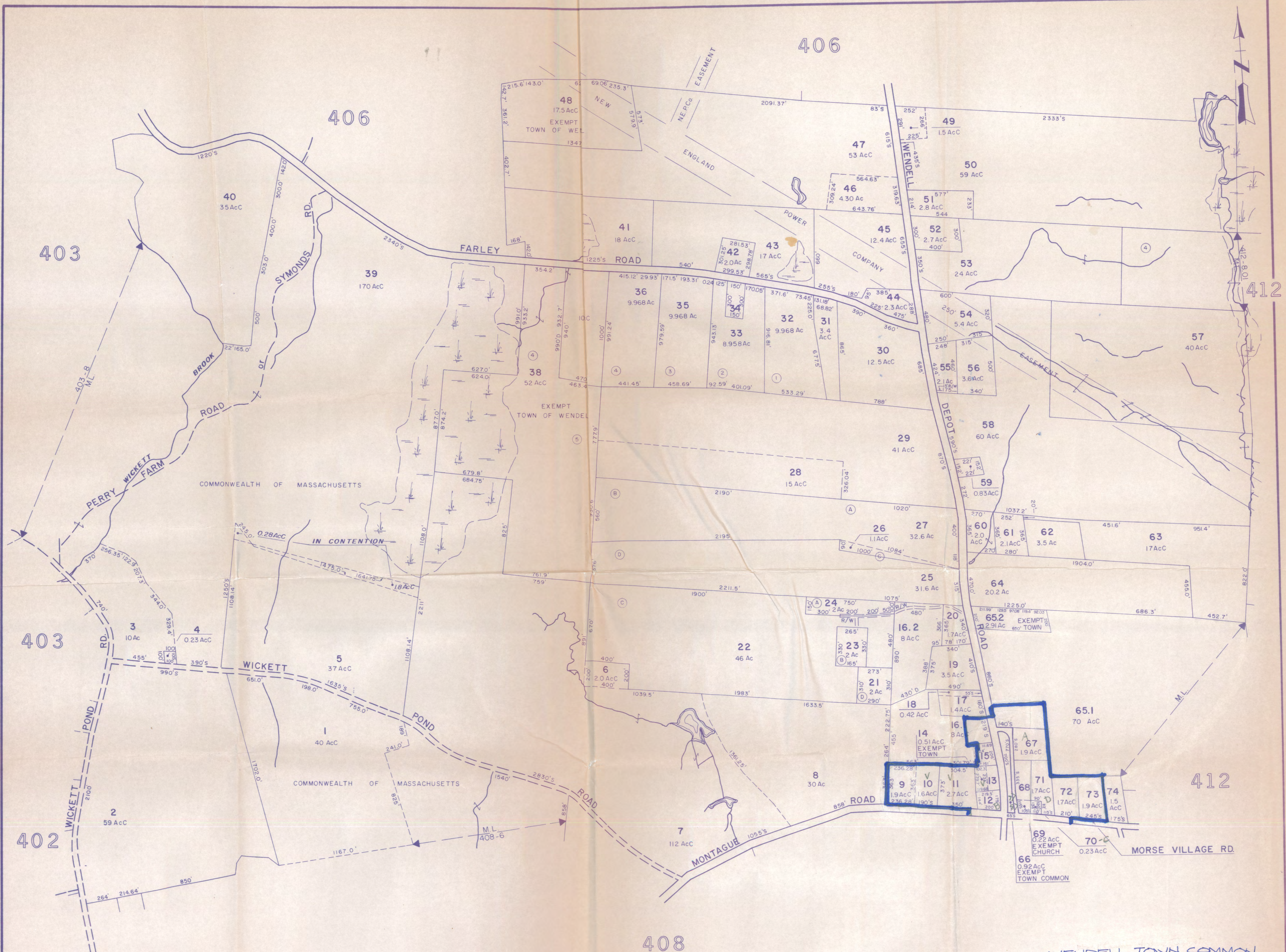
ROAD CLASSIFICATION

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



MILLERS FALLS, MASS.
N4230—W7222.5/7.5
1977
AMS 6569 III SW—SERIES V814

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



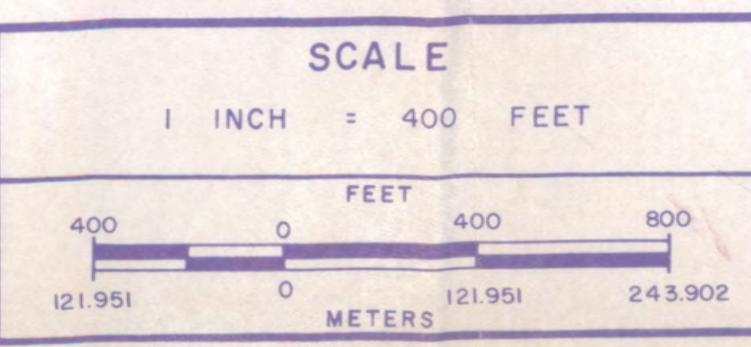
WENDELL TOWN COMMON
 HISTORIC DISTRICT
 WENDELL, MASSACHUSETTS
 MAP #1 OF 2

DATE FLIGHT
 APR. 20, 1982
 DATE DELIVERY
 AUG. 1, 1983

THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT
 PURPOSES ONLY. IT IS NOT
 VALID FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION
 NOR CONVEYANCE.

GORDON E. AINSWORTH & ASSOCIATES, INC.
 REVISED & REPRINTED BY
 CARTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATES, INC.
 P.O. BOX 267 LITTLETON, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03561

LEGEND
 ADJACENT SHEET NO. 7
 BLOCK NUMBER 3
 CALCULATED AREA (C)
 COMMON OWNERSHIP /OR/ 1
 DEVELOPMENT LOT NO. 4
 MATCH LINE ← M.L. →
 RIGHT OF WAY R/W
 SCALED DIMENSION (S)



TOWN OF
WENDELL
 December 31, 1987
 MAP NO.
407



DATE FLIGHT
APR. 20, 1982

DATE DELIVERY
AUG. 1, 1983

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GORDON E. AINSWORTH & ASSOCIATES, INC.

REVISED & REPRINTED BY
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P.O. BOX 267 LITTLETON, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03561

LEGEND

ADJACENT SHEET NO. 7

BLOCK NUMBER 3

CALCULATED AREA (C)

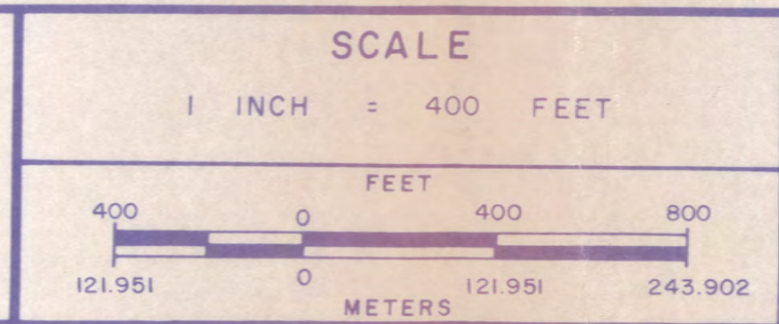
COMMON OWNERSHIP / OR 1

DEVELOPMENT LOT NO. 4

MATCH LINE ← M.L. →

RIGHT OF WAY R/W

SCALED DIMENSION (S)



TOWN OF
WENDELL

MAP NO.
408

REVISED THROUGH
December 31, 1987



RECEIVED

APR 21 1992

NATIONAL
REGISTER

April 7, 1992

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

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the following nomination form:

Wendell Town Common Historic District, Wendell (Franklin County),
Massachusetts 01379.

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has 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. No comments have been received to date.

Sincerely,

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Jean S. Forward, Chairperson, Wendell Historical Commission
Theodore E. Lewis, Chairman, Wendell Board of Selectmen
Kim Withers Brengle, Northfields Preservation Associates