

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 18). 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 Granville Center Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Main Road

N/A not for publication

city, town Granville

N/A vicinity

state Massachusetts

code 025

county Hampden

code 013

zip code 01034

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>24</u>	<u>17</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	objects
<u>25</u>	<u>22</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

Number 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.

Julie B. McDonough Signature of certifying official Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission;
State Historic Preservation Officer

9/6/91 Date

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:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single dwelling; Secondary Structure
 Commerce/Professional; Department Store
 Government/Town Hall; Post Office
 Religion/Church
 Recreation/Monument/Marker

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single dwelling; Multiple dwelling;
 Secondary Structure
 Commerce/Specialty Store
 Government/Fire Station; Town Hall
 Religion/Church

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Early Republic/Federal
 Mid-19th Century/Greek Revival; Gothic Revival
 Late Victorian/Queen Anne
 Late 19th Century Revivals/Colonial Revival
 No Style

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone
 walls wood Clapboard; Board and Batten
 Synthetic
 roof
 other Brick; Marble; Bronze

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Granville Center, lying between Granville Village and West Granville, is one of three villages in the town of Granville, Massachusetts. Granville is located in the southwestern portion of Massachusetts, bordered by Southwick, Massachusetts to the east, Russell and Blandford, Massachusetts to the north, Granby, Connecticut to the south, and Tolland, Massachusetts to the west. A series of intervals, stretches of fertile farmland, and rugged hillsides characterize this eastern Berkshire highland community. Expansive apple orchards and four reservoirs lie in the hills above Granville's three villages.

Granville Center stands at the approximate geographic center of the Town of Granville, stretching along 1/2 mile of the main east to west corridor, Massachusetts Route 57 (also known in Granville as Main Road). Often referred to by natives as "The Hill," the center is approached on both the west and east by steep inclines on Route 57. Towering maple trees lining both sides of Route 57, lend a sense of serenity and order to the Center's main artery. Surrounding Granville Center is Granville Village at the bottom of the hill to the east, the "Great Valley" and West Granville to the west, Bad Luck Mountain and the Cobble Mountain Reservoir area to the north, and a series of pastoral hills rolling towards Granby, Connecticut to the south. The sharp grades leading to and from Granville Center provide a topographic distinction between this community and its neighbors to the east and west.

Buildings in the Federal style prevail in Granville Center, including some of the most ambitious examples of architecture in the town. There are also modest examples of Greek Revival and Victorian residences. The buildings exhibit common characteristics such as wood-frame construction, clapboard siding, brick chimneys and stone foundations. All of the buildings sit close together along Route 57. This clustered arrangement has provided little space for intrusions in the Center. Of the four non-contributing residences, all were built after 1950 and are at the extremities of the district. The remaining non-contributing structures are outbuildings which have been altered or are contemporary structures. Granville has not adopted a standard street numbering system. Residences are identified by their fire number where possible, otherwise they are identified by street name and cross-referenced on the District Data Sheet by Assessors map and parcel number.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Granville Center Historic District,
Granville, Massachusetts

Section number 6 Page 1

6. Education/Library (continued)

Agriculture/Agricultural Outbuilding
Industry/Manufacturing facility
Landscape/Street Furniture/Object

Current Functions (continued)

Recreation/Monument/Marker
Landscape/Street Furniture/Object

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Granville Center Historic District,
Granville, Massachusetts

Section number 7 Page 1

A. Federal Structures

The Federal style predominates in Granville Center. Elements common to most of the Federal structures include two-story elevations, wood-frame construction, central brick chimneys and Classical ornamentation. In addition to the side-gabled Federal farmhouses, some residences in the town center incorporate colossal pilasters on their main elevations.

There are five ambitious Federal structures in the Center which feature a side-gable orientation and five-bay facade with center entryway. Their main entries are typically flanked by pilasters which support a full entablature or molded fanlight. The L. Hubbard House (Inv #43), Israel Parsons House (Inv #47), and Joel Rote House (Inv #48), on Main Road, feature two-story, fluted pilasters flanking the central facade bay. Dentils ornament the pedimented gables, eaves and/or entry cornices of these dwellings, as described.

One of the three structures in Granville Center with colossal pilasters is the L. Hubbard House, 157 Main Road, (Inv #43), ca. 1770. The pilasters define facade bays and ornament the cornerboards. A rectangular, pedimented Palladian window is centered above the entry which features half-length sidelights. The door surrounds feature pilasters and entablature. Windows throughout the house are 6/6 sash, with cornices on the first-story fenestration. The pedimented gable contains a 4/4 pane fixed window. A one-and-one-half story wing extends off the rear of the house.

The Israel Parsons "1800" House, 150 Main Road (Inv #47), is called the "1800 House" by town residents because of its construction in that year. It is a two-story, five-bay, side-gabled structure with clapboard siding. The Adamesque center entry, with pilasters and sidelights, supports an elegant elliptical fan. Heavy moldings curve along the fanlight and a keystone marks the top of the entry. Colossal fluted pilasters with foliate capitals separate facade bays and ornament corners of the main block. Two side wings balance the facade. A shed roofed porch is tucked into the "L" formed by the wing and the main block. A twentieth century garage is attached to the house and a picket fence lines the property along Main Road.

The Dr. Austin Scott House (Inv #45), 154 Main Road, ca. 1810, is another in the group of the five Federal style structures that dominate the architecture of Granville Center. This is a front-gabled, two-story, three-bay dwelling with a one-story wing in the rear. The facade features a center doorway and symmetrical fenestration. The double-leaf entry features a pilastered door surround topped by a heavy cornice banded with dentils. A Palladian window with 12/12 panes and a keystone fanlight ornaments the facade. The west elevation features a pedimented gable, a secondary entry with pilasters and dentilated cornice and an asymmetrical fenestration pattern. All windows are 6/6 wood sash with dentil-banded cornices. A twentieth century, side-gabled garage featuring fluted columns is adjacent to the house.

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Granville Center Historic District,
Granville, Massachusetts

Section number 7 Page 2

The Jesse Spelman House, 122 Main Road, (Inv #58), built in 1812, is another five-bay, side-gabled, center hall plan Federal residence, set very close to Main Road. Fenestration consists of 12/12 double hung wood sash windows with exterior shutters. The door surround features typical Federal detailing with pilasters supporting a triangular pediment and a leaded fanlight. The side gable is pedimented and contains a horizontal 8/8 pane fixed window. Sawtooth clapboards, which define the second story, post-date construction. A twentieth century garage has been added to the east of the house.

The Joel Root House, 151 Main Road, (Inv #48) ca. 1814, is a front gabled two-story, five-bay residence with symmetrical fenestration and interior end chimneys. The scale of this residence is larger than the L. Hubbard House, containing five-bays on both the facade and elevations. Colossal fluted pilasters define the central bay on both the facade and elevations and ornament the corner boards. Both the facade and elevations feature prominent, centered entries flanked by 3/4 sidelights. Each entry is augmented by fluted pilasters which support an entablature with triglyphs. The gable end, with a Palladian window, features a fanlight and a band of dentil trim in the pediment. All the windows are 12/12 wood sash. To the southeast of the house is a twentieth century garage.

The Dr. Timothy Mather Cooley House, Main Road, (Inv #57) is an 1815 side-gabled, center-hall plan house, with five-bays and symmetrical fenestration. The primary entry is embellished with fluted pilasters. The gable end holds an elliptical fanlight and keystone. Two-story corner pilasters and cornice modillions are additional Federal details. Tucked into the "L" formed by the main and wing blocks is an asymmetrical, pedimented shed roof porch with turned posts and balusters.

The remaining Federal structures are the less ornate architectural examples in Granville Center. Used for commercial, religious and residential purposes, these buildings display an array of Federal detail on a modest scale including simple facade pilasters, corniced windows, pilastered door surrounds, symmetrical fenestration on the front facade, 6/6 and 12/12 wood sash windows and gable, rather than entry, fanlights. The following descriptions, arranged chronologically by construction dates, provide architectural details of these structures.

The James Cooley Law Office, 152 Main Road, (Inv #46) is the only remaining saltbox building in Granville Center. Built in 1800, the building was constructed as a temporary residence until a more elaborate Federal style house, the Dr. Austin Scott House, (Inv #45), slightly to the west, was completed in 1810. The former office features one-and-one-half stories, and a sidehall plan with four symmetrically placed 12/12 wood sash windows.

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Granville Center Historic District,
Granville, Massachusetts

Section number 7 Page 3

The First Church of Christ Congregational, Main Road, (Inv #50) is the only religious structure in Granville Center. Built in 1802, this two-story, front-gabled meetinghouse features symmetrical fenestration with two 16/16 pane windows flanking the center paneled door. A simple surround supports the modest entablature. The second story of the facade contains no windows, however, the elevation displays symmetrical fenestration, with six 16/12 rectangular sash windows on the first story, and six 12/12 pane windows on the second. Local tradition holds that in 1862 the pedimented portico, with four square, fluted columns, was added to the front of the structure. A steeple, once rising above the structure, was torn off in an 1840 gale. The church originally stood close to the Main Road, but in 1862 was moved an entire building's length back from the road. A twentieth century wooden signpost, located close to the Main Road, marks the meetinghouse.

The General Store, 145 Main Road, (Inv #52), built in 1805, is the only extant Federal commercial structure in Granville Center. Today it serves as a residence. This front-gabled, center-chimney building is two-stories, with a side-gable, two-story wing. The primary entrance is centered between display windows with twenty fixed panes each, and contains a matchboard door hung from strap hinges with a latch opening. A shed roofed porch, supported by three squared columns, fits into the "L" formed by the main and wing blocks. A small, twentieth century storage shed with a gambrel roof is located to the east of the store. A wooden signpost, close to the Main Road, marks the store.

To the north of the General Store, sited on a former main road, is the Sabbath Day House, 147 Main Road, (Inv #51), a residence for 50 years, until it became a temporary headquarters for the Granville Center Library. Later it was utilized by the Congregational Church, and is now once again, a residence. This 1805 clapboard structure is a five-bay, center hall plan building with symmetrical fenestration, 6/6 wood sash windows and simple architrave trim. The portico features Queen Anne turned posts and decorative brackets, suggesting it was a later addition. A side-gabled barn, constructed in the nineteenth century, is behind the house.

Another in the group of side-gabled, Federal residences is the L. Butler House, Main Road, (Inv #60). Built in 1830, it features three bays, two center chimneys, and a two-story wing extending east from the main block. The facade features a center entrance and symmetrical fenestration. The primary entrance, with pilasters, 3/4 sidelights and a dentilated entablature is similar to several houses on the eastern end of the village center. All windows are 6/6 wood sash with simple surrounds. A three sectioned nineteenth century barn is located to the east of the house. A variety of siding, in addition to the chimney, sheds and windows, have altered the barn's original appearance.

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Granville Center Historic District,
Granville, Massachusetts

Section number 7 Page 4

The Lucius Gibbons House, Main Road, (Inv #55), ca. 1840, is a modest front-gabled, Federal structure with a two-story, four-bay plan and asymmetrical fenestration. The primary gable is pedimented and contains a segmented fanlight. The sidehall entry features a narrow door, surrounded by pilasters supporting a cornice and segmented fanlight. A secondary entry, featuring a pedimented hood supported by brackets, is located on the west elevation. Two barns, for hay and storage, built in the twentieth century, are to the rear of the property.

B. Greek Revival

Granville Village residents, to the east of Granville Center, erected numerous modest Greek Revival homes in the mid-nineteenth century to house the population of industrial laborers. Granville Center, in contrast, engendered very few extant workers' houses. Each of Granville Center's Greek Revival structures is a front-gabled, side-hall plan design with a two-story, three-bay main block. Each features distinct ornamentation in the front-gable, including angled clapboards and fanlights. A segmented fanlight in the front-gable and entry with sidelights are typical of architectural details found in this group of houses. The houses are described as follows:

The F. Brown House, Main Road, (Inv #59) was constructed in 1840. The pedimented portico with four square columns and Classical Revival details suggest that the portico is a twentieth century addition. Wooden trellises flank the primary entry. The side elevation contains a secondary entry, sheltered by a shed roof porch supported by squared columns.

The J. Harger House, 160 Main Road, (Inv #41) ca. 1850, is a two-story, front-gabled, side-hall plan Greek Revival dwelling with a three-bay facade and triangular gable window. The primary entry features a paneled door. The one-story wing block contains a centered facade door and flanking six-pane windows. A shed roofed enclosed entryway is tucked into the "L" formed by the main and wing blocks. Synthetic siding may obscure existing architectural details. An elaborate grouping of five outbuildings which are all connected include an enclosed shed with a hinged pedestrian door; a gable-front barn with a large sliding door; a front-gabled barn with a large sliding door, a twelve-pane window, a hayloft door and a circular gable window; a side-gable barn which features a sliding door with two multi-pane windows, a hayloft door on the second floor and a hinged pedestrian door on the first, and another shed.

Completing this group is the Bancroft House, 143 Main Road, (Inv #54), ca. 1850, which is typical in scale and siting of the three other front-gabled, Greek Revival sidehall structures in Granville Center. The pedimented gable contains unusual clapboarding, laid on the diagonal. The main entry features pilasters and a cornice. A front-gabled barn with a

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Granville Center Historic District,
Granville, Massachusetts

Section number 7 Page 5

steeply pitched roof is adjacent to the house.

C. Victorian Styles

Mid-way through the nineteenth century, the focus of commerce and industry in the town of Granville shifted eastward to Granville Village. As a result, little construction of new dwellings in the Center occurred in the latter half of the nineteenth century. The few structures that remain from this time are the Gothic Revival Stowe House (Inv #44) ca. 1860, and the Queen Anne Christopher Sauers House (Inv #49) ca. 1880. They share common characteristics of gable-front-and-wing-design, with two-story main blocks and principal entry through a shed roofed porch tucked into the main and wing block "L".

The Stowe House, 153 Main Road, (Inv #44) is the only Gothic Revival structure in the town of Granville. Built in 1860, it is a front-gabled structure with a pointed-arch dormer and board and batten siding. A shed roofed porch with three fluted supports cover the recessed doorway flanked by sidelights. All fenestration is consistent with the side-gable window which is ornamented by foliate leading. A garage and shed, built in the nineteenth century, also have board and batten siding. The barn features two shuttered windows on the main elevation and ornamental boarding just above, to contrast with the siding.

The only Queen Anne dwelling in Granville Center is the Christopher Sauers House, Main Road, (Inv #49) built in 1880. The two-bay, front-gabled, two-story house features a polygonal facade bay. In the "L" formed by the main and wing blocks is a shed roofed porch, which is supported by two turned posts and curvilinear brackets. The entry is situated on the diagonal between the main and wing blocks. A cellar entryway, with a gable roof hood, is on the east elevation. Synthetic siding may obscure original details. A gas tank rests in a stone wall adjacent to the east side of the house. A large, front-gabled barn, ca. 1880, located to the east of the house, features two-pane gable windows, a side wing, three large sliding doors, two pedestrian doors and a hayloft.

D. Vernacular Buildings

While most buildings in Granville Center exhibit some degree of ornamentation, two of its residences display little or no architectural detail. These structures, the C.F. Bates House (Inv #53), and the R.S. Brown House (Inv #56) have served several functions over time, and therefore share a common utilitarian quality.

Built by an attorney, the C.F. Gates House, Main Road, (Inv #53), was used, in the early twentieth century, as a parsonage for the Congregational Church, and is now a private residence. Constructed in 1850, following the traditional

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Granville Center Historic District,
Granville, Massachusetts

Section number 7 Page 6

Federal farmhouse form, this side-gabled, two-story dwelling features an unusual four-bay fenestration pattern. This set of facade proportions is repeated on another house in West Granville, suggesting the presence of a local builder. The sidehall entry, transom lights and entry fanlight are typical of the period. Fenestration is symmetrical and the windows are 6/6 wood sash. A gambrel-roofed barn is located to the rear of the house. The barn facade features two large entryways and a multi-pane window.

The R.S. Brown House, Main Road, (Inv #56) was built by a local money lender in 1850 and believed to have been used as a rental property for many years. It is a side-gabled, two-story building with asymmetrical fenestration featuring 9/9 wood sash windows. The facade contains two entries. One is flanked by windows and the other features a modest surround.

E. Early Modern Styles

Granville Center's only contributing twentieth century structure is the Town Hall. Prior to its construction in 1927, town business, other than town meetings, was usually conducted in the homes of the town officers, in the James Cooley Law Office (Inv #46), or in an academy building (demolished). When the academy building was declared unsafe, the town voted to erect the present town hall. It stands as the only example of Colonial Revival architecture in Granville Center.

The Granville Town Hall (Inv #42) is a clapboard-sided, 1927 Colonial Revival structure. It is one-story, with flanking wings. The main block is three bays wide with a pedimented portico extending across the facade. The dentilated pediment, supported by six Ionic columns, features a fanlight. Engaged pilasters and eight-pane sidelights flank the paneled double doors. The twin side-gabled pavilions have engaged pilasters and free-standing Ionic columns. Window and door surrounds throughout the building are framed by pilasters and cornices.

Monuments and Memorials

The people of Granville, over the 250 year history of the town, have paid notable respect to their dead and to those who have served their country by erecting public memorials. Granville Center features a monument commemorating the town's veterans of the First and Second World Wars. The War Memorial, (Inv #905), was erected in 1925 to commemorate the service of Granville's citizens in the First World War. This is a rectangular marble structure, mounted on an unembellished marble plinth. The piece stands four feet high, and displays two bronze plaques on its north face. The left plaque contains a cast eagle holding an olive branch wreath which circles a globe. It lists the "Honor Roll" of 31 individuals who served the country in 1917 and 1918. The right plaque was added after the Second World War. It spells out the names of

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Granville Center Historic District,
Granville, Massachusetts

Section number 7 Page 7

77 Granville men who served the country from 1941-1945. A single steel flagpole, supporting the American flag, towers over the monument.

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Granville Center Historic District,
Granville, Massachusetts

Section number 7 Page 8

Archaeological Description

While no prehistoric sites are currently recorded in the district, or in the general area (within one mile), it is possible that sites are present. The physical characteristics of the district, well-drained soils on moderately sloping terrain in close proximity to streams which flow to Trumble Brook and eventually the Farmington River, indicate favorable locational criteria for native subsistence and settlement activities. In general, however, since most of the district lies over 300 meters from major wetlands, a moderate sensitivity exists for prehistoric resources.

There is a high potential for significant historic archaeological remains within the district. Documentary research, controlled testing and excavation can determine whether or not structural survivals remain from Granville's mid-eighteenth century settlement period. Archaeological survivals of eighteenth and nineteenth century residences may exist as well as the town's ca. 1747 First Meetinghouse, reported by local tradition, near the western end of the historic district near Blandford Road; the 1824-1825 Parsons Inn at the site of the Sauer House on Main Road and the original foundation of the 1802 First Church of Christ Congregational, moved in 1862. Structural remains of outbuildings (barns, sheds) may also survive. Archaeological remains of occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) likely survive related to most eighteenth and nineteenth century residences and religious structures in the district. Occupational related features may be of particular importance at the Noble House site on Main Road where Silas Noble began drum manufacturing in 1854. Artifact remains relating to this manufacture may be present providing technological information on early drum development.

(end)

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Community Planning and Development
Government and Politics

Period of Significance

1784-1940

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

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

Granville Center is one of the original eighteenth century settlement areas in the town of Granville, Massachusetts. It meets National Register Criterion A through 250 years as the center of government and the site of the first meetinghouse in the town of Granville. It fulfills Criterion C by possessing a significant number of Federal and Greek Revival structures which feature fine craftsmanship, similarity of scale and a high degree of architectural integrity. It also meets National Register Exceptions A and B.

Granville Center lies at the site of the early crossroads of Luck Mountain Road and Trumble Place, which ran north and south, and Main Road, which ran east and west, on the crest of the hill at Granville Center. The first settlers who came to Granville, known then as Bedford, in 1738 from Durham and New Haven, Connecticut, and Springfield and Hingham, Massachusetts chose the Center as the site of their first church. Town government has been based in Granville Center from the time of its incorporation to the present. Local tradition holds that Granville Center was the site of the first meetinghouse in the town (ca. 1747) located at the western end of the historic district near Blandford Road. As Colonial doctrine commanded, this was a Congregational form of worship. A large granite ledge known as the "Great Rock" is all that remains at this site. All buildings dating from the initial settlement period ca. 1730-1740 are no longer extant.

A grist and sawmill complex belonging to a Mr. Hubbard on Hubbard's River, existed prior to ca. 1759 and the earliest extant residence in the Center, the L. Hubbard House, may be related to that early mill.

The town economy was primarily based on agriculture and the proximity to Springfield and Westfield may have provided a ready market for crops and hay produced in Granville's valleys and uplands. By the time Granville was incorporated in 1775, the settlers had cleared the hillsides and set up at least two grist and sawmills and a fulling mill. At the end of the eighteenth century, Granville residents were raising cattle, producing corn and wheat and Granville was recorded as having excellent pasturage and mowing.

See continuation sheet

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Granville Center Historic District,
Granville, Massachusetts

Section number 8 Page 1

In 1784, the citizens of Granville moved to divide the town into three parishes. Granville Center falls into what was the easternmost of these three parishes, the East Parish. One formidable man dominated the East Parish for many years, Dr. Timothy Mather Cooley. Dr. Cooley was the son of Captain William Cooley and Sarah Mather, both Granville natives. Educated at Yale, he returned to Granville in 1796, married, and settled into a sixty-three year career as preacher for the First Church of Christ Congregational. A formidable presence, he was loved by some of his parishioners, and feared by dissenters who felt his persecution. David Rose was excommunicated by Dr. Cooley for his relaxed beliefs and in 1790 Rose moved to form the Baptist church in Granville Village. For fifty-seven of his sixty-three years as Reverend for the East Parish, Dr. Cooley held services in the First Church of Christ Congregational, erected in 1802. In 1890, a memorial window dedicated to Dr. Cooley was placed above the pulpit on the meetinghouse's south wall.

The early part of the nineteenth century marked Granville Center's social, religious and commercial development. At the time of Granville's peak population of 1,649, in 1830, the Center was a thriving commercial center supplying local needs. A lawyer, a doctor, a store and a church were located in the Center.

Many of these commercial establishments are currently used as residences. James Cooley, a Granville attorney, built his law office as a temporary residence until his home was completed ca. 1810. It remained the site for his law practice after the family moved into the adjacent house. Israel Parsons held an innkeeper's license in 1824 and 1825, and his inn stood on the site of the Christopher Sauers House. The inn's original north wall is said to have been incorporated in the Sauers' house. With Joel Root, Israel Parsons built and ran the General Store which provided dry goods for the Center. It later became the site for the post office and store. In the early twentieth century it was a general store and the most recent commercial use was as an antique shop. Presently, it contains two apartments. In the later half of the nineteenth century, the J. Harger House was used as a cigar shop.

Three major events contributed to the eventual mid-nineteenth century decline of Granville Center as the religious and commercial center of the town. Precedent was set by the breaking away of a group of individuals from the First Church of Christ Congregational at the end of the eighteenth century. In 1798 the Baptist congregation was formed in Granville Village to the east of Granville Center.

The Universalists established themselves later, in 1854, in Granville Village. This diversity of religious groups weakened the power and presence of the First Church of Christ Congregational, and thereby diminished the dominance of Granville Center as the religious hub of Granville.

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Granville Center Historic District,
Granville, Massachusetts

Section number 8 Page 2

The second major event was the relocation of the Noble and Cooley Drum Factory in 1857, from its original site in the home of Silas Noble in Granville Center, to Granville Village. Silas Noble, a farmer, had begun this business in 1854, with the financial backing of Granville Center attorney James P. Cooley. He had located the shop in his Granville Center house. Within three years, demand for his product was so great that he moved his shop to new headquarters in Granville Village. A shift in population density took place with the development of the drum industry, and construction of new homes occurred in the Village rather than in Granville Center. And thirdly, a large contingent of Granville residents left the area for lands in the Ohio Valley ca. 1830, further depleting the population of the Center.

Granville Center has, throughout most of Granville's history, served as the seat of politics and government for the town. Although town business was officially conducted in the meetinghouse in the Center, the first town office was established in 1865 in James Cooley's law office. Between 1870 and 1927, town offices were in the academy building, (demolished) which housed a Select School for Young Ladies prior to the Civil War and, for a short time, in the Universalist meeting house in Granville Village. Finally, in 1927, the town voted to erect the current structure, at Granville Center. Granville Center retains its prominence as Granville's seat of government, despite the nineteenth century decline as the town's religious and commercial center. The construction of the new and permanent town hall in 1927 in Granville Center is a reflection of this.

The Town Meeting system of government has existed in Granville since its incorporation in 1775. Citizen-based committees have been formed throughout the years to oversee town building projects, establish policy about public vaccination for communicable diseases, undertake negotiations for a rail system (which never reached Granville) and handle its population of indigents. This public spirit continues to prevail today as the town proposes capital improvements to its public school in the Village, and continues to preserve its architectural and social history.

Today, Granville Center retains its early nineteenth century character. The Center's historic resources include an unusually dense concentration of Federal and mid-nineteenth century buildings of consistent scale, craftsmanship and siting. Few twentieth century homes have been constructed to intrude upon the historic continuity of the village. The Sauers' House continues the association with agriculture in Granville Center. A large, commercial apple orchard in the center is affiliated with this property. The church and town hall continue to be actively used. There is a great need to protect this community's rich political, religious and social past, and to preserve its truly unique physical landscape.

Boundaries were influenced by topography as well as population density and

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Granville Center Historic District,
Granville, Massachusetts

Section number 8 Page 3

historical context. To the east of the district, is a steep downhill descent to rolling hills and Granville Village, in the valley. To the west of the district, density of building and integrity of structures diminish.

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Granville Center Historic District,
Granville, Massachusetts

Section number 8 Page 4

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of prehistoric occupation in Granville Center are poorly understood, any surviving sites would be significant. Sites in this area can be important by providing data on upland interior sites in general and how they were influenced by large regional settlement/subsistence trends. Specifically, sites in this area may contribute data which indicate similarities with sites to the west in New York, to the south in Connecticut, along the Farmington River drainage, or to the east in the Connecticut River Valley.

Historic archaeological remains described above have the potential for providing information on the social, cultural and economic patterns that characterized a rural village which grew from agricultural beginnings in the eighteenth century to a thriving commercial center by 1830 then decline after the loss of its major factory and population.

(end)

9. Major Bibliographical References

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository:

Massachusetts Historical Commission

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property approximately 30 acres

UTM References

A

1	8					
6	7	5	2	8	0	
4	6	5	9	2	6	0
Zone	Easting		Northing			

B

1	8					
6	7	5	5	5	0	
4	6	5	9	3	4	0
Zone	Easting		Northing			

C

1	8					
6	7	5	2	8	0	
4	6	5	9	1	2	0
Zone	Easting		Northing			

D

Zone	Easting		Northing			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Linda Faye with Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director
 organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date Fall 1989
 street & number 80 Boylston Street telephone (617) 727-8470
 city or town Boston state Massachusetts zip code 02116

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Granville Center Historic District,
Granville, Massachusetts

Section number Photos Page 1

GRANVILLE CENTER SUPPLEMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHS
GRANVILLE CENTER NATIONAL REGISTER DISTRICT
GRANVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

on file at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
26 Central Street
West Springfield, Massachusetts

- 290-8 looking east along Main Road from Granville Center around the curve leading to Granville Village to the east.
- 290-12 on the south side of Main Road, looking west; including the Stowe House, Inv #44 in the foreground, the L. Hubbard House, Inv #43 to the west of #44 and Town hall, Inv #42.
- 290-13 looking west, along the north side of Main Road, view of Bad Luck Mountain to the north.

photos taken winter 1989 to supplement Granville Photographs on file at
Massachusetts Historical Commission

on file at Massachusetts Historical Commission:

- 1- Looking to the east along Route 57, Main Road, from the front yard of the 100s House, Inv #47.
- 2- Looking to the east along Route 57, Main Road, from the front yard of the J. Harger House, Inv #41.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Granville Center Historic District,
Granville, Massachusetts

Section number 9 Page 1

9. Major Bibliographical Reference

- Bears, F.W. Atlas of Hampden County, MA., New York. 1870
- Duris, helena et al, "200th Anniversary Celebration Pamphlet."
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- Everts, Louis H., History of the Connecticut Valley in Massachusetts.
Phila. 1879. pp1082-87.
- "Granville Historic Resource Survey". Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.
1987.
- Personal Interviews:
- Mrs. Leona Glifford, Southwick, MA. June, 1989.
- Mrs. Wilhelmina Tryon. Granville, MA. June, 1989.
- Richards. Atlas Survey, Hampden County, MA. Springfield. 1894.
- Tryon, Wilhelmina. "The Drum Factory", Southwoods. July, 1987.
pp. 16-18, 34-36.
- Walling, Henry F., Map of Hampden County, MA., Boston, H.A. Haley. 1855.
- Wilson, Albion B. History of Granville, MA., Hartford. Connecticut Printers.
1954.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Granville Center Historic District,
Granville, Massachusetts

Section number 10 Page 1

10. Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries were set by following the back parcel lines where appropriate, using Assessor's maps #24 and Z, as indicated on the district data sheets. Where the back parcel lines were not appropriate, either a geographical feature such as a stream or ridge was used as a determinate or the boundary was set at 300 feet from the middle of Main Road.

Boundary Justification

The boundary was determined to include buildings which relate historically to the civic, religious and commercial development of the Center and which demonstrate a consistency in scale, set-back and quality of craftsmanship. Outside the district, to the west, is 20th century infill. To the east, buildings are associated with Granville Village and are of a different scale and period. The Center retains large, 19th century dwellings, a church, store, and the town hall. It is further defined as a linear district along a ridge, with steep valleys to the east and west.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Granville Center Historic District,
Granville, Massachusetts

Section number 10 Page 2

UTM Coordinates

Southwick Quadrangle

A. 18 676180 4659290

B. 18 676180 4659060

DISTRICT DATA SHEET

Town of Granville, Massachusetts, Granville Center

MAP/ PARCEL #	MHC #	HISTORIC NAME	STREET ADDRESS	DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	STATUS	STYLE	RESOURC
24-9	41	J. Harger House	160 Main Road	ca. 1850	C	Greek Revival	B
24-9	--	Segmented Barn	160 Main Road	ca. 1850	C	N/A	B
26-41	42	Granville Town Hall	Main Road	1927	C	Colonial Revival	B
26-41	905	War Memorial	Main Road	1925	C	N/A	O
26-42	43	L. Hubbard House	157 Main Road	ca. 1770	C	Federal	B
26-43	44	Stowe House	153 Main Road	1860	C	Gothic Revival	B
26-43	--	Barn/Shed	153 Main Road	ca. 1860	NC	Gothic Revial	B
26-1	45	Dr. Austin Scott House	154 Main Road	ca. 1810	C	Federal	B
26-1	--	Garage	154 Main Road	20th C.	NC	Contemporary	B
26-2	46	James Cooley Law Office	152 Main Road	1800	C	Salt Box	B
26-2	--	Garage	152 Main Road	20th C.	NC	Contemporary	B
24-8	47	Israel Parsons House	150 Main Road	1800	C	Federal with 20th C. Alterations	B
24-8	--	Wooden Picket Fence	150 Main Road	20th C.	NC	N/A	O
26-24	48	Joel Root House	151 Main Road	1814	C	Federal	B
26-24	--	Garage	151 Main Road	20th C.	NC	Contemporary	B
26-3	49	Christopher Sauers House	Main Road	1880	C	Queen Anne	B

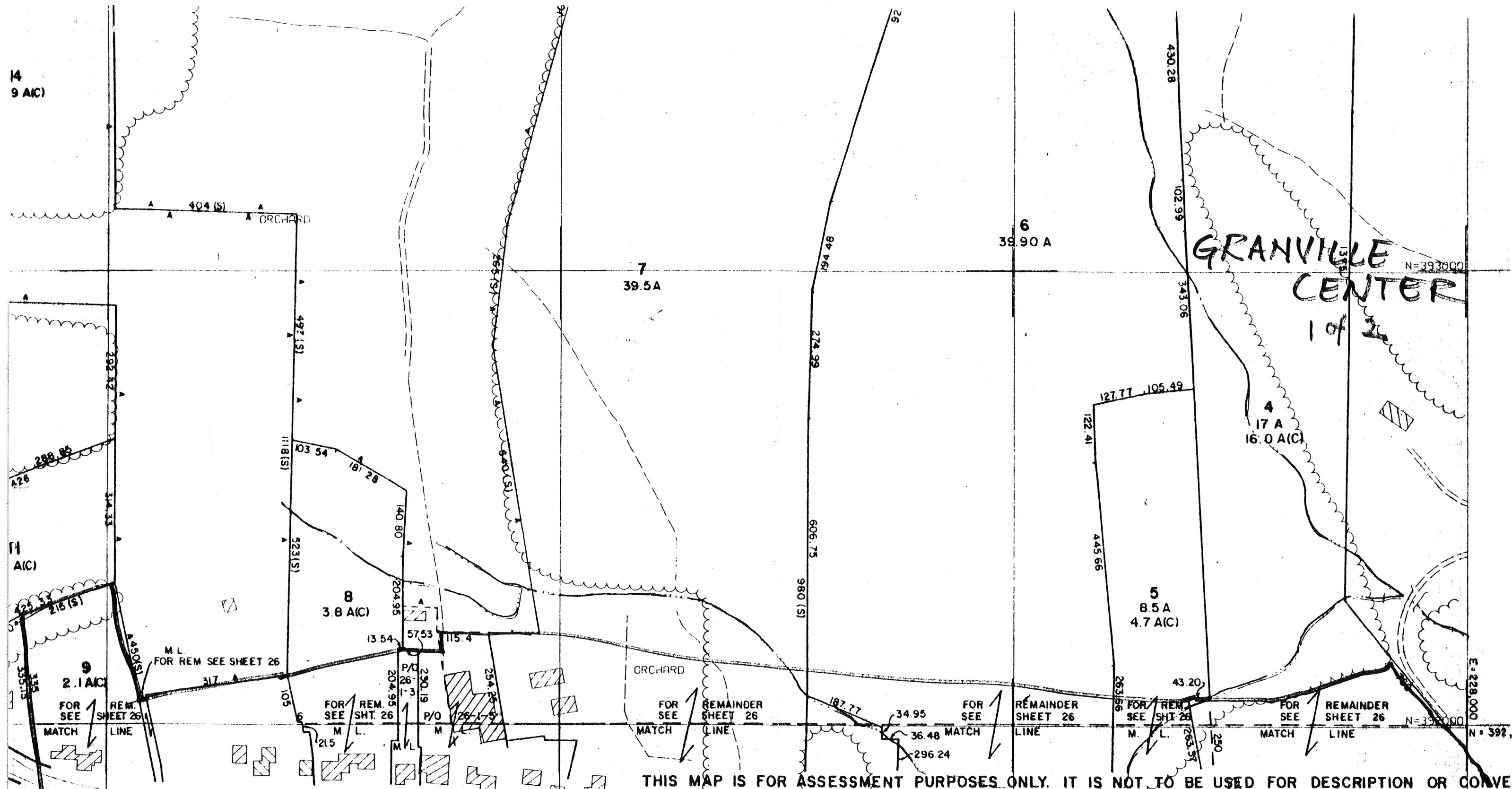
DISTRICT DATA SHEET
Town of Granville, Massachusetts, Granville Center

MAP/ PARCEL #	MHC #	HISTORIC NAME	STREET ADDRESS	DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	STATUS	STYLE	RESOURC
26-3	--	Gas Tank	Main Road	20th C.	NC	N/A	0
26-3	--	Barn	Main Road	ca. 1880	NC	N/A	B
26-23	50	First Church of Christ Congregational	Main Road	1802	C	Federal with 1862 Alterations	B
26-23	--	Wooden Painted Signpost	Main Road	20th C.	NC	N/A	0
26-22	51	Sabbath Day House	147 Main Road	1805	C	Vernacular Federal	B
26-22	--	Barn	146 Main Road	ca. 1805	C	N/A	B
26-15	52	General Store	145 Main Road	1805	C	Federal Commercial	B
26-15	--	Wooden Painted Signpost	145 Main Road	20th C.	NC	N/A	B
26-15	--	Shed	145 Main Road	20th C.	NC	N/A	B
26-4	53	C. F. Bates House	Main Road	1850	C	Vernacular Federal	B
26-4	--	Barn	Main Road	20th C.	NC	N/A	B
26-14	54	Bancroft House	143 Main Road	1850	C	Greek Revival	B
26-14	--	Propane Gas Tank	Main Road	20th C.	NC	N/A	0
26-14	--	Barn	Main Road	20th C.	NC	N/A	B
26-13	55	Lucius Gibbons House	Main Road	ca. 1840	C	Federal	B
26-13	--	Barn	Main Road	20th C.	NC	N/A	B
26-12	--	House	Main Road	20th C.	NC	N/A	B
26-6	56	R. S. Brown House	Main Road	1850	C	Vernacular	B

DISTRICT DATA SHEET

Town of Granville, Massachusetts, Granville Center

MAP/ PARCEL #	MHC #	HISTORIC NAME	STREET ADDRESS	DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	STATUS	STYLE	RESOURC
24-7	57	Dr. Timothy Mather Cooley House	Main Road	1815	C	Federal	B
24-7	-	Barn/Pottery	Main Road	ca. 1900	NC	N/A (major alterations)	B
24-7	-	Barn	Main Road	ca. 1900	C	N/A	B
26-7	--	House	Main Road	20th C.	NC	N/A	B
24-5	58	Jesse Spelmann House	122 Main Road	1812	C	Federal	B
24-5	--	Garage	122 Main Road	20th C.	NC	Contemporary	B
24-5	--	Wooden Split-Rail Fence	122 Main Road	20th C.	NC	N/A	0
24-4	59	F. Brown House	Main Road	1840	C	Greek Revival	B
24-4	--	House	Main Road	20th C.	NC	N/A	B
26-10	--	House	125 Main Road	20th C.	NC	Contemporary Federal	B
26-10	--	Storage	125 Main Road	ca. 1910	C	--	B
26-9	60	L. Butler House	Main Road	ca. 1830	C	Federal	B
26-9	--	Barn	Main Road	ca. 1830	NC	N/A	B
26-11	--	Vacant	Main Road	--	--	--	-
24-6	--	Vacant	Main Road	--	--	--	-



THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY. IT IS NOT TO BE USED FOR DESCRIPTION OR CONVE

LEGEND

- LOT LINE
- COMMON OWNER ON LOT NUMBER
- REAGE
- TED ACREAGE
- TAX MAP BLOCK NUMBER
- SCALED DIMENSION
- DEED DIMENSION
- SURVEYED PARCEL
- STATE HIGHWAY NUMBER

SERVICE DISTRICTS

- SCHOOL
- FIRE
- WATER

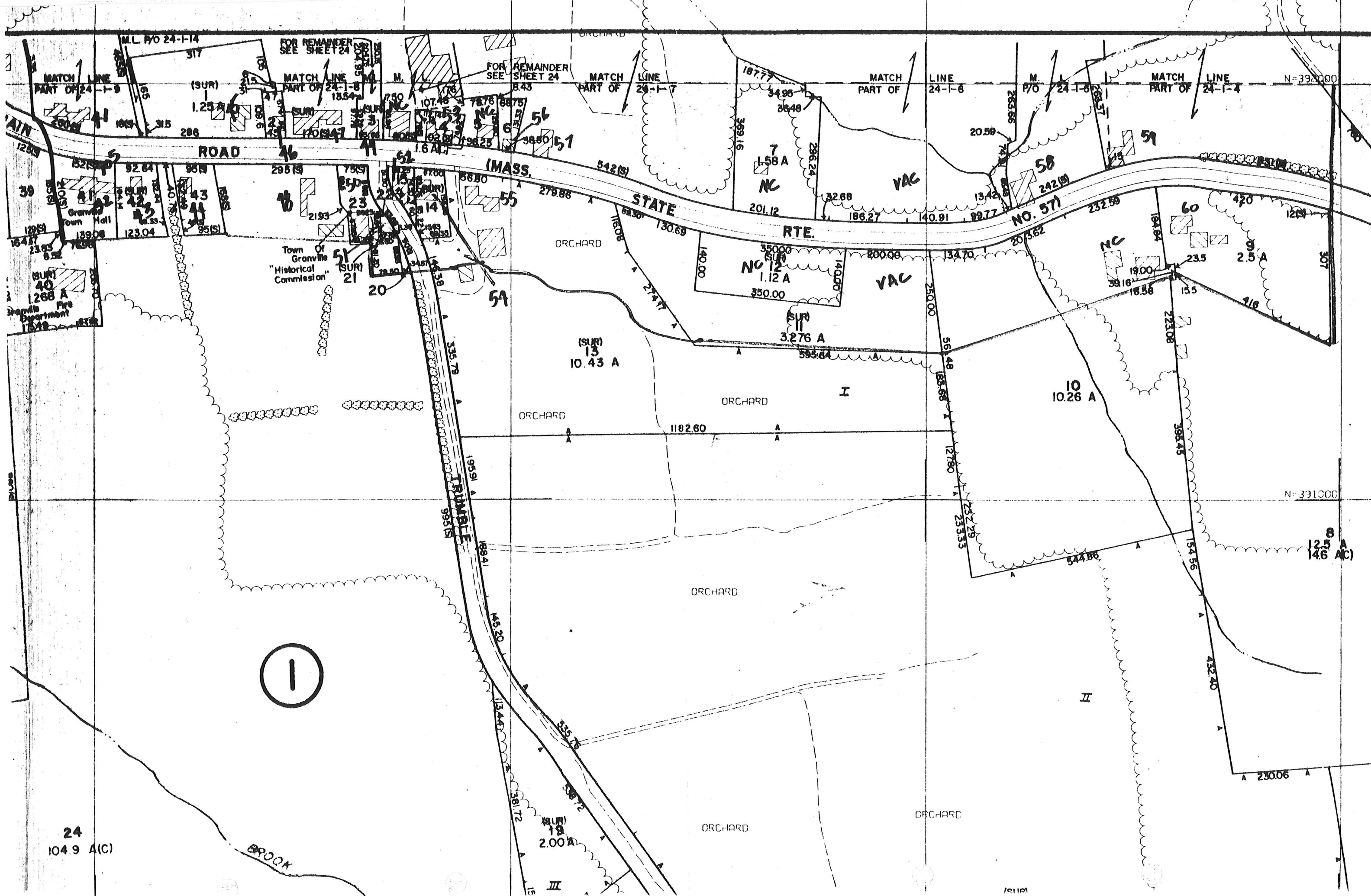
13	14
17	26
25	27

SHEET INDEX

MCS
NORTH DATA
MASSACHUSETTS COORDINATE SYSTEM

PREPARED BY
WEILER MAPPING, INC.
HORSEHEADS, NY & BALTIMO, CT
GRAPHIC SCALE
1" = 200'

TOWN SHEET NO.
GRANVILLE
MAP DATE: 1-21-87



24
104.9 A(C)

BROOK



(SUR) 19
2.00 A

ORCHARD

ORCHARD

(SUR)

8
12.5 A
146 AC

10
10.26 A

(SUR) 13
10.43 A

(SUR) NO 12
1.12 A

(SUR) 11
3.276 A

NO. 571

7
1.58 A
NC

60
2.5 A
1/8

59

58
242.9

56
38.50

55
278.86

Town of Granville
"Historical Commission"

23
21.93

41
170.547

40
1.25 A

43
95(S)

42
123.04

41
139.08

40
1268 A
Granville Fire Department

M.L. P/O 24-1-14

FOR REMAINDER SEE SHEET 24

FOR REMAINDER SEE SHEET 24

MATCH LINE PART OF 24-1-7

MATCH LINE PART OF 24-1-6

MATCH LINE PART OF 24-1-4

N=391000

N=391300

230.06

432.20

154.56

544.88

232.28

127.90

250.00

20.59

296.24

187.77

542(S)

1.6 A

295(S)

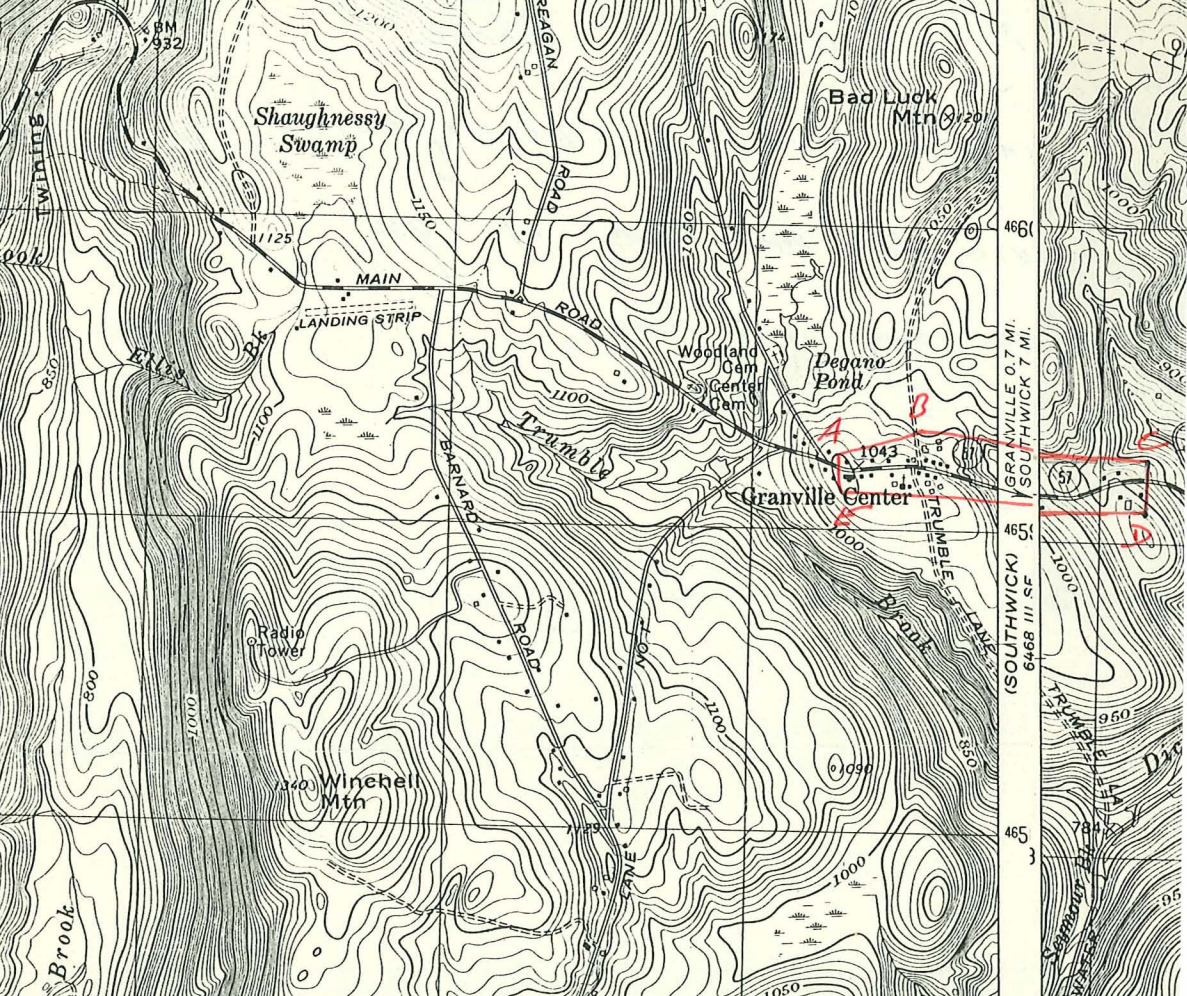
52(S)

315

317

128(S)

MATCH LINE PART OF 24-1-9



Granville Ctr. NH

Zone 18

- A: 675280 4659250
- B: 675550 4659310
- C: 676150 4659265
- D: 676150 4659100
- E: 675290 4659130



290-8 Looking east along Main Road from Granville Center around the curve leading to Granville Village to the east.
(Photographer not identified, c. 1989)



290-12 On the south side of Main Road, looking west; including the Stowe House, GRN.44 in the foreground; the L. Hubbard House, GRN.43 to the west of GRN.44; and Town hall, GRN.42.



290-13 Looking west, along the north side of Main Road, view of Bad Luck Mountain to the north.



1- Looking to the east along Route 57, Main Road, from the front yard of the "1800 House," GRN.47. [At right: the Joel Root House, GRN.48]



2- Looking to the east along Route 57, Main Road, from the front yard of the J. Harger House, GRN.41. [At right: L. Hubbard House, GRN.43; center: Stowe House, GRN.44]