

**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 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 any 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 Worthington Historic District

Other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by North, South, Morning and Evening Streets N/A not for publication

city or town Worthington N/A vicinity

state Ohio code OH county Franklin code 049 zip code 43085

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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.)

Signature of certifying official

Date

State or 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 commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. 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 Keeper

Date of Action

**Worthington Historic District
Franklin County, Ohio**

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 | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| 576 | 228 | buildings |
| _____ | _____ | sites |
| _____ | _____ | structures |
| _____ | _____ | objects |
| 576 | 228 | 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

23 (22 buildings and Village Green)

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Domestic – Single Dwelling, Multiple Dwelling, Hotel, Secondary Structure, Institutional Housing
- Commerce/Trade - Business, Professional, Financial Institution, Organizational, Specialty Store, Department Store, Restaurant
- Social – Meeting Hall, Civic
- Government – Post Office
- Education – School, Education-Related, Library
- Religion – Religious Facility, Church-Related Residence
- Funerary – Mortuary Site
- Recreation and Culture – Theater
- Agriculture/Subsistence – Agricultural Field
- Health Care – Medical Business/Office
- Landscape – Plaza
- Other (cannon)

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Domestic – Single Dwelling, Multiple Dwelling, Hotel
- Commerce/Trade – Business, Professional, Financial Institution, Organizational, Specialty Store, Restaurant
- Social – Meeting Hall, Civic
- Government – Post Office
- Education – School, Education-Related, Library
- Religion – Religious Facility, Church-Related Residence
- Recreation and Culture – Museum, Outdoor Recreation
- Health Care – Medical Business/Office
- Landscape – Plaza, Parking Lot
- Other (cannon)

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Early Republic – Federal
- Mid-19th Century – Greek Revival, Gothic Revival
- Late Victorian – Italianate, Second Empire, Queen Anne, Shingle Style
- Late 19th & 20th Century Revivals – Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival
- Late 19th & Early 20th Century American Movements, Bungalow / Craftsman
- Other – Pioneer, Farm House

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

| | |
|------------|--|
| Foundation | <u>Sandstone, Brick, Concrete Block, Field Stone</u> |
| roof | <u>Asphalt Shingle, Cedar Shakes, Slate</u> |
| walls | <u>Brick, Wood Frame, Concrete Block Stucco, Asbestos Shakes</u> |
| other | _____ |

Narrative Description

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

Worthington Historic District
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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 a 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture, Community Planning and Development

Period of Significance

1803-1962

Significant Dates

1803

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

8. 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 # _____

Primary location of additional data

X State Historic Preservation Office

- Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other

Name of repository: Worthington Public Library (Old Worthington Library), Worthington, Ohio

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property approximately 195 acres UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

| | Zone | Easting | Northing | Zone | Easting | Northing | |
|---|------|---------|----------|------|---------|----------|---------|
| 1 | 17 | 327487 | 4439961 | 3 | 17 | 328374 | 4438777 |
| 2 | 17 | 328392 | 4439929 | 4 | 17 | 327455 | 4438788 |

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

name/title organization Jim Ventresca, Chairman, Worthington Historic District Committee, a joint committee of the Old

Worthington Association and the Worthington Historical Society, Nancy Recchie/consultant, Benjamin D. Rickey & Co.

Date 1/04, revised 12/08

street & number 393 Library Park South telephone 614-221-0358

city or town Columbus state Ohio zip code 43215

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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.

**Worthington Historic District
Franklin County, Ohio**

Property Owner

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

name Multiple – over 50 property owners

street & number N/A telephone N/A

city or town Worthington state Ohio zip code 43085

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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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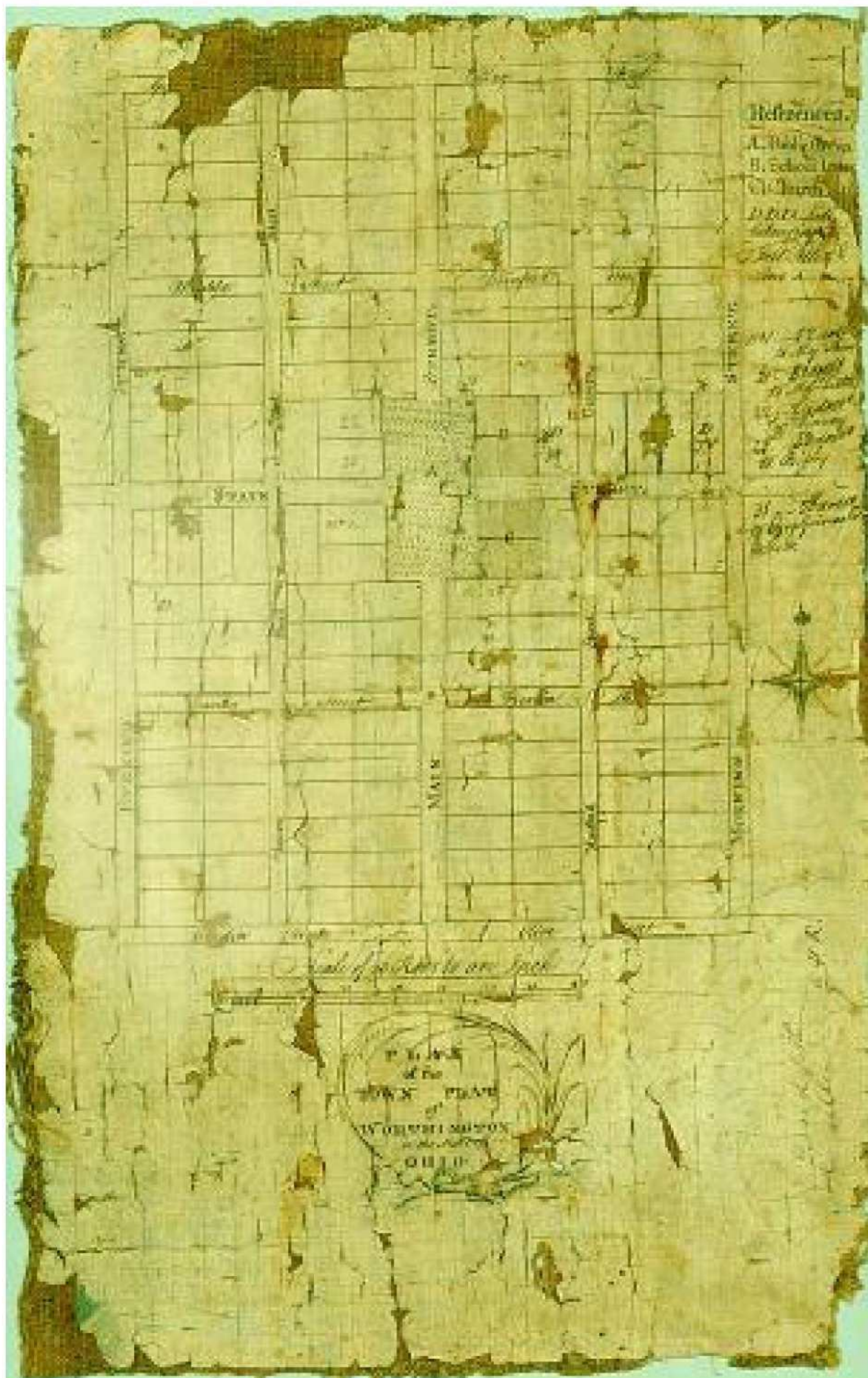
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Franklin County, OH

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Narrative Description

The Worthington Historic District encompasses the original village of Worthington, as planned in 1802 before the first settlers left New England for their new home in Ohio. The village plan was based on a New England model with a village green at the center, land set aside for a school and church, and individual lots for sale. Plat maps dating from 1803 and 1804 (below) illustrate the original land divisions. The original town plat established a public square bounded on the east by a school lot and church lot — each containing 1 ½ acres — surrounded by 160 residential and commercial lots measuring 3/4 of an acre each.



1803 map (left) illustrates the town plan and the 1804 map (right) shows the town within the context of surrounding land and the Olentangy River.
(source: Worthington Historical Society)

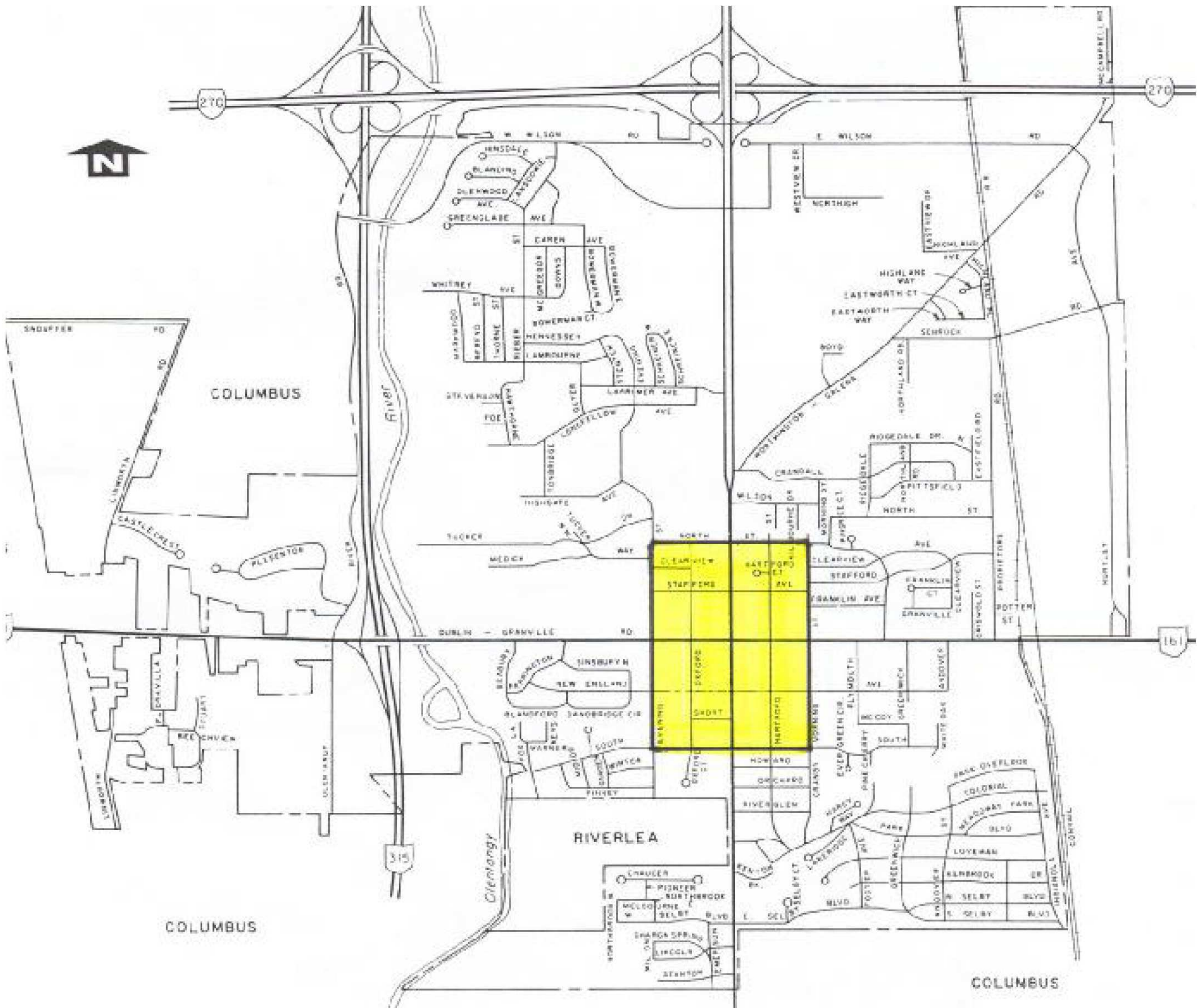
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Although Worthington is now a city with a population of over 14,000, the original town plan is very much in evidence. Bounded by North, South, Morning and Evening Streets, the rectangular plan features a grid pattern of streets with the village green located at the intersection of two major roads – High Street (north-south) and Granville Road (east-west). Each of the four equal quadrants is further subdivided into four rectangular blocks. The strict geometry and regularity of the original plan reinforces the very strong sense of place in what is known locally as “Old Worthington.”



Current map of Worthington with Worthington Historic District highlighted.

(source: *The Complete City Maps of Ohio*, Traverse City MI: CM Publications, 1991)

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The Worthington Historic District developed over 150 years (period of significance) and its architecture reflects this extended period of development. Buildings from the first decade of the 19th century still stand, along with houses, commercial and public buildings from the late 19th and first half of the 20th centuries with the most recent contributing structures in the district dating from the immediate post-World War II period. The architecture of the proposed historic district reflects growth and change in the community from 1803 to the early 1960s, a period that saw it evolve from a frontier village to a market village for surrounding farms and then into a residential and commercial suburb of metropolitan Columbus.

The historic district includes the Village Green and 22 buildings individually listed in the National Register in 1980 as part of the Worthington Multiple Resource Area nomination.

The following description of the district summarizes the character of the Village Green and the major north-south (High Street) and east-west (Granville Road, which is known as Dublin-Granville Road outside the city limits) thoroughfares, followed by a brief description of each of the four quadrants. This overview is followed by discussion of some of the noteworthy buildings located within the district.

Village Green

The landscaped Village Green is located at the physical center of the district and continues to serve its original purpose as a place for public gatherings and reinforces the community's history and identity. The Green is rectangular in form and has a north-south orientation; is bisected by High Street and Granville Road; and each quadrant is also bordered by public streets on the other two sides. The Village Green is still characterized by the placement of public and religious buildings facing the open space – with the east side of the Village Green being used as the original town plan intended. St. John's Episcopal Church is located in the southeast quadrant of the Green on the site designated for church use; and the former library and Kilbourne School are located on the northeast quadrant of the Green on land set aside for educational purposes. The Worthington Presbyterian Church faces the northeast quadrant of the Village Green and is located on the site of the congregation's original 1830 church structure. The buildings facing the southwest corner of the Village Green are 19th century residential structures, giving this quadrant a residential rather than institutional character. The Village Green was included in the Worthington Historic Resources National Register listing in 1980.

Among the distinctive buildings facing the Worthington Village Green are the following:

St John's Episcopal Church (site #172, photos # 1-2)) is a Gothic Revival brick structure dating from 1827-31, which measures three by three bays. The symmetrical façade features a square tower and stepped gable. The entrance is located at the base of the slightly projecting central tower and is flanked by large stained glass windows, matching those on the side elevations. All of the openings are in the form of gothic pointed arches. The current belfry was constructed in 1930 to replicate the 1880 belfry, which was in deteriorated condition. A separate brick building was constructed on the south side of the church in 1927. It has a modest English Revival influence with its slate gable roofline, Tudor-arch entrance with stone surround, and casement windows. A connecting structure was completed in 1997 and joins the two earlier structures. Research conducted by local historians suggests that the original church may have been designed by Rev. Norman Nash, an Episcopal minister who was at that time working with Rev. Philander Chase on the design of the Kenyon

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College Hall and had in 1823 designed a very similar Gothic Revival building for St. Mark's Episcopal Church at Lewisburg, Pennsylvania.

Located immediately behind the church is **St. John's Episcopal Cemetery** (photo # 3) where the first burial, Revolutionary War veteran Abner Pinney, was made in 1804. Until Methodist and Presbyterian congregations established cemeteries about 1840, this cemetery served the entire community. Tombstones in this cemetery include several of the Scioto Company founders of the village -- including three Revolutionary War veterans -- several veterans of the War of 1812 and the Civil War. It also includes early burials of free African-Americans, a small number of whom lived and worked in Worthington from soon after its founding.

Both St. John's Episcopal Church and the Cemetery are listed in the National Register (1980).

Worthington Presbyterian Church (site #177, photos # 4-5) was built in 1926 on the site of the original 1830 church. Designed by architects Martin, Orr and Martin, the building is Georgian Revival in style. This style was especially popular in Worthington and reflected a conscious effort on the part of the community to retain a New England architectural style within the historic village. It was the first of several major 20th century buildings designed in the style. The red brick building features a two-story portico across the front supported by smooth stone Doric columns, a central round-arched entrance with carved stone surround and a stone plaque inscribed with "In His Name" above the entrance. A tall central spire creates a visual landmark on the Green. The windows are round-arched with multiple panes. A 1959 wing, located on the south side of the church was designed by Cincinnati architect Charles Cellarius. It is built in a complementary style. A Memorial Columbarium and Meditation Garden was added in 2002 and the sanctuary was enlarged in 2004.

The **James Kilbourne Memorial Library/School Administration Building** (site #176, photos # 6-7)) faces the northeast quadrant of the Green. The original building was made possible through a generous donation from Mary Elizabeth Jones Deshler, in memory of her grandfather, James Kilbourne, Worthington's founder. Designed by Columbus architectural firm, Martin, Orr and Martin, the 1927 brick building is a restrained example of Georgian Revival. It originally featured a round-arched central entrance, multiple-pane double-hung windows placed within round-arched recesses, and stone quoins. The original building was quite modest in scale and was expanded in 1931 with small additions on each end in a matching style. The building was expanded again in the 1950s when a new wing and entrance were completed. In 1978 the library traded the property with the Worthington School District for the land at 805 Hartford Street, where a new 24, 250 square foot library opened to the public in 1979. The former library became the School Administration Building. (Fuller, Lisa. *The 200-year History of the Worthington Libraries: 1803-2003*, pp.33-41)

The **Adams-Bishop-Heath House** (site #174, photo #8)) located at 721 High Street is one of the earliest homes in Worthington and faces the southwest quadrant of the Village Green. Constructed in the second decade of the 19th century, this frame building features a five-bay symmetrical façade, gable roofline, and double-hung twelve over twelve windows.

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The **Village Green** (photos 9-10) is an important design element in the Worthington Historic District. It is both open public space and the organizing centerpiece for the original design for the community. Its uses have changed over time, from a place to graze animals to the landscaped open space that it is today, however its use has always been public and it has served as the physical and symbolic heart of the community throughout its history.

High Street

High Street (photos # 11-14) is the commercial center of the historic district. The block immediately south of the Village Green is characterized by compact development with buildings located close to the sidewalk, many sharing party walls and generally dating from the 19th and early 20th centuries. Several major landmark buildings (Worthington Inn, Masonic Lodge and Worthington Methodist Church) are located farther south on High Street and are interspersed with individual commercial buildings. The area north of the Village Green developed as a commercial area later, during the 20th century, when historic houses were converted to commercial uses and infill buildings were constructed. This area is characterized by freestanding structures with small front yards and similar setbacks from the street. All of High Street is pedestrian-friendly with sidewalks the entire length of the district.

One of the earliest buildings in the first block south of the Village Green is the two-story building located at 679-681 High Street (site # 164, photo #15), which dates from the first decade of the 19th century. It is a modest building with a gable standing seam roof, simple rectangular openings with transoms and double-hung windows on both the first and second floors. **The Worthington Inn** (site #156, photo #16)) is the most prominent historic commercial building on High Street. Originally built in the mid-19th century and enlarged several times over the last century, the building with its three-story height, mansard roof and two-story front porch is one of the district's most visible landmarks. There are several early 20th century two-story commercial structures in this block, as well. Included are 689-693 High Street (site #166, photo #17)), which is a brick two-story building with stone beltcourse between the first and second floors, and original storefronts with original bulkheads and prism glass transoms; the other located at 692 High Street (site # 167, photo #18)) is a modest single story brick building with a flat roof, recessed round-arched entrance, cornice and parapet. It is attached to an early 20th century vernacular brick Four Square facing the southeast quadrant of the Village Green.

The block between New England Avenue and South Street has two major buildings on the east side of the street. The **New England Masonic Lodge** (site #153, photos # 19-20) at 634 High Street dates from 1820 and is the oldest lodge building west of the Allegheny Mountains. The two-story brick building is Federal in style with the gable end facing the street, a round-arched recess on the façade, double-hung twelve-over-twelve windows throughout. The original building functions as a museum, while the functional lodge is located in a 1956 addition to the south. The **Worthington Methodist Church** (site #148, photos # 21-22) is located immediately south of the Masonic Lodge on the site of the original Methodist Church. This stone 20th century Gothic Revival structure was designed by Columbus architects Martin, Orr and Martin and was completed in 1925. The brick building is T-shaped with the sanctuary facing the street and a two-story wing at the rear placed perpendicular to the sanctuary. The sanctuary features a gable end facing the street with a modest central entrance and a large stained glass window on the second level. The main entrance is located at the base of the brick tower on the

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south side of the church. A contemporary addition, also with the gable end facing the street is connected to the earlier building by a one-story connector. This later addition is contemporary in design and contrasts with the materials and design of the earlier building.

The Ripley House (site # 150, photo #23) at 623 High Street dates from approximately 1818 and has Federal characteristics – namely the quarter-round windows in the gable end of the building. It is now in commercial use. The **U.S. Post Office** building (site # 147, photo # 24), located at 597 High Street dates from 1938. The red brick one-story building is very simple in design and features a central entrance, and double-hung eight-over-twelve windows with stone lintels and sills and a small later wing added to the north side. The distinguishing feature of the building is the public art installed in the lobby, which commemorates the history of the community. Executed in bas-relief sculpture, “Scioto Company Settler,” was funded through the Treasury Departments Public Works of Art Project (PWAP). (McCormick *Worthington Landmarks*)

High Street north of the Village Green has a distinctly different character than the area to the south, which reflects its development history. This area remained residential until the early 20th century and the individual homes were converted to commercial uses, moved elsewhere in the community, or replaced with 20th century commercial development. With the growing population in Worthington and the popularity of the automobile, commercial development expanded northward. Worthington’s Village Council formalized the commercial character of High Street through a zoning ordinance passed in 1927. Commercial development in this area has a distinctly 20th century character. It includes historic homes converted to commercial uses, individual commercial structures and strip commercial development. The 1978 Worthington Public Library is located in this area, as well. Many of the buildings repeat the pattern of earlier development – situated on individual or combined lots, facing the street with landscaped front yards. The strip commercial center and gas station at the southwest corner of High and North Streets reflects the mid-late 20th century development pattern of orientation for automobiles with visible parking areas and curb cuts. An example of an early residential building converted to commercial use in this area of High Street is the **Buttles-Pinney-Brown House** (site #418, photo #25), located at 12 E. Stafford Avenue. Constructed in 1818, it is a brick I-house with a gable roofline, simple double-hung one-over-one windows, shaped lintels and a small entrance addition. (McCormick, *Worthington Landmarks*) Several other vernacular frame structures also have been converted to commercial use at 808, 881 and 888 High Street (sites #180, 185 and 188, photos # 26-28). All three date from the 19th century, the one at 881 High Street has some Gothic Revival features with its pointed arch windows.

Granville Road

Granville Road is the major east-west thoroughfare through the community. It is the location of public and institutional buildings, as well as residential buildings representing the long history of the community. Among the historic public buildings located on East Granville Road is the **Worthington Town Hall/Sharon Township Hall**, originally constructed as the Worthington Union School, (site #42, photo #29, NR), located at 67 East Granville. Constructed in 1856, this brick building is vernacular in design but has some modest Italianate features including the segmental arched openings and bracketed cornice. The windows are double-hung six-over-six and the building has two entrances – each with a transom. Originally constructed as Worthington Union School, the building was also used as a town hall by both the village of Worthington and Sharon

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Township. The I.O.O.F also used the building in the 19th century, as evidenced by the inscribed stone panel in the central gable on the façade. The **Sharon Memorial Hall** (site #57, photo #30), located at 137 East Granville Road, was originally constructed as a residence in 1861. The brick five-bay façade is punctuated with a central entrance with transom and sidelights. The two-story portico with Ionic columns was a later addition. The Sharon Township Trustees purchased the building in 1946 and is in public use today. (McCormick, *Worthington Landmarks*)

The **Kilbourne School** (site #41, photo #31) is located on East Granville Road, on the site originally established for educational purposes. The first institution located here was the Worthington Academy, established in 1808. This building, constructed by the Worthington Public School system was completed in 1938 in the Georgian Revival style, which was especially popular in Worthington for public buildings. McLaughlin and Associates of Lima, Ohio were the architects of the combined elementary and junior high school. (McCormick *Worthington Landmarks*) The two-story brick building features a large central section accentuated with a double door entrance with broken pediment; flat pilasters separating the bays; a decorated pediment and a central bell tower. This building, due to size, location and its architectural design, is one of the most visible landmarks in Worthington. There have been several later additions that are not in the Georgian Revival style, however the original design remains clearly dominant.

Two other school buildings are located on West Granville Road. The historic **Worthington High School**, now known as the Annex (site #76, photo #32) is included in the historic district. Built in 1914, it was designed by noted Columbus architect Frank Packard. Modest in design and scale, the brick building is irregular in plan, measures two-stories in height on a raised foundation, and has a flat roofline. The façade features a central projection with a pair of round-arched recessed opening with three sets of paired windows in between. Thomas Worthington High School, located to the west of the Annex, dates from outside the period of significance and is not included in the historic district.

The residential buildings along Granville Road represent every period of Worthington's development, including the early 19th century frame cottage at 72 East Granville (site #43, photo #33); a mid-19th century Second Empire structure located at 92 East Granville (site #47, photo #34), a late 19th century Queen Anne house at 80 West Granville (site #66, photo #35); an early 20th century bungalow at 39 West Granville (site #59, photo #36); and a Dutch Colonial Revival at 28 West Granville (site #58, photo #37).

Residential Quadrants

The district's four quadrants are largely residential in character—nearly all of the buildings are single-family structures built on individual lots. Worthington is interesting in that buildings from all periods are interspersed throughout the district. The 19th century buildings are concentrated in the southeast and southwest quadrants, while the majority of the buildings in the northeast and northwest quadrants date from the early-mid 20th century. However there is tremendous diversity in the streetscapes with examples of 20th century Colonial Revival, Bungalow and Cape Cod houses located in every quadrant. Even so, there are some characteristics of each of the quadrants that contribute to the overall character of the historic district. Each quadrant is briefly described below.

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Southeast Quadrant

The Southeast Quadrant includes a number of 19th century houses interspersed with early-mid-20th century buildings. There are relatively few high-style 19th century buildings in this quadrant, rather this area tends to be populated with properties that are vernacular in form or modest interpretations of popular styles. Examples include the buildings located at 700 Hartford Street (site #119, photo #38) and 701 Morning Street (site #217, photo #39).

Numerous examples of 20th century architecture can be found. Examples of Colonial Revival can be found at 141 and 145 South Street (sites # 391, 393, photos # 40-41); Dutch Colonial Revival at 594 and 615 Hartford Street (sites #94, 97, photos # 42-43); Bungalows at 618 Morning Street, 570 and 628 Hartford (sites #206, 88, 101, photos # 44-46); English Revival at 670 Morning Street (site # 212, photo #47); and a Cape Cod at 580 Morning Street (site #196, photo # 48).

Southwest Quadrant

This quadrant of the community includes more high-style 19th century buildings than the other areas. Included among these are the **John Snow House** at 41 West New England (site #256, photo # 49, NR), which features a symmetrical five-bay façade and a central entrance with a semi-elliptical fan executed in wood; the old **Episcopal Rectory**, a Greek Revival building located at 50 West New England (site #258, moved from the Village Green in 1978. photo # 50) has a gable end facing the street and a handsome entrance with transom and sidelights; a Queen Anne frame house at 675 Oxford Street (site #329, photo # 51) with its corner tower and wrap-around porch. This quadrant also has a large number of 20th century buildings such as the Bungalows at 695 and 703 Oxford Street (sites #336, 338, photos # 52-53); examples of brick and frame examples of Colonial Revival at 111 West South and 123 West New England (sites #411, 267, photos # 54-55); Cape Cod house at 147 South Street (sites # 417, photo # 56); and catalogue homes (similar to styles produced by both Sears and the Gordon Van Tine Co.) at 55 and 125 West New England (sites #260, 268, photos # 57-58).

Northwest Quadrant

This quadrant of the city is almost entirely 20th century in character. The development history of this quadrant included the purchase by Frank Medick of a large tract of land bounded by Oxford, North and Evening Streets. He created Clearview Street between Oxford and North streets in 1929 and subsequently sold off individual lots for development. The first house was constructed at 135 Clearview in 1934 (site #11, photo #59) with the several other houses on the street constructed during the 1940s and 1950s at 101, 120, and 123. (sites #1,8 and 9, photos # 60-62). Other early-mid-20th century houses in this quadrant include the Colonial Revival at 822 Oxford (site #351, photo # 63), Dutch Colonial Revival at 800 Oxford (site #346, photo # 64), English Revival at 875 Oxford (site #359, photo #65), a Bungalow with green tile roof at 40 West Stafford (site #433, photo #66). North Street has a number of mid-20th century Cape Cod and ranch houses. The houses at 107 and 131 West Stafford (site #437, 447, photos # 67-68) appear to be catalogue homes.

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Northeast Quadrant

This quadrant includes buildings from all periods, including early-late 19th century and early-mid 20th century. The brick I-house located at 72 East North Street (site #275, photo #69) dates from the 1838 and features a symmetrical five-bay façade, central entrance with transom, and double-hung six-over-six windows. Two 19th century vernacular homes are located at 782 and 912 Hartford (sites #121, 137, photos # 70-71). An example of an early post-war development is Hartford Court, a small cul-de-sac with modest Cape Cod houses built in 1949-1950 (sites # 77-84, photo # 72). Morning Street has a combination of late 19th and 20th century homes and North Street features mid-century Cape Cod and ranch houses built between 1948-1956 during the immediate post-war period (photos # 73-74). The large open space located adjacent to Kilbourne School has always been open space and is the only large public space other than the Village Green within the district. This quadrant has later apartment and multi-family dwellings (non-contributing), which are not found elsewhere in the district.

Streetscapes

The Worthington Historic District is characterized by an orderly grid plan with interconnecting streets, sidewalks, mature street trees and landscaped front yards (photos # 75-77). The physical setting enhances the diversity of architecture and provides visually interesting and cohesive streetscapes. The pedestrian orientation of the residential and commercial areas encourages residents and visitors to explore the district on foot where the details of architecture and landscape can be appreciated most fully.

Non-contributing Buildings

Non-contributing buildings in the district fall into several categories: single-family home, which were built after the period of significance or have been altered; commercial buildings along High Street built after the period of significance; apartment or multi-family buildings that were constructed after the period of significance; and modern garages or outbuildings. Examples include the Worthington Public Library (sites #126-27, photo #78), the apartments at the northwest corner of East Stafford Ave. and Morning Street (sites #422-426); and the multi-family buildings on Hartford between Stafford and North streets (sites #132-135, photo #79). The strip commercial development on the southwest corner of High and North and the new commercial building on the southeast corner of High and North are not included within the boundaries of the historic district.

Summary

The Worthington Historic district retains a strong sense of place through a combination of its original plan, which is still very much in evidence; its physical setting with the grid pattern of streets, mature street trees, sidewalks, orientation of buildings facing the street and landscaped front and side yards; and its diverse architecture which reflect the community's long and rich history. The vast majority of the primary buildings in the district (87%, or 391 of the 450 buildings) are considered contributing to the character of the district. This number includes 22 buildings already listed in the National Register. The district also includes 207 garages that are considered contributing and 169 garages that are non-contributing to the district and are not included in the

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figure above. Among the non-contributing primary buildings (13% or 59 of 450 buildings), the most common are buildings constructed after the end date of the period of significance (1962). Even the non-contributing buildings tend to retain the scale, setback and orientation toward the street of their neighbors, which makes them have a minimal impact on the overall character of the district. They are scattered throughout the district, which also minimizes their impact on the quality of the district's streetscapes.

National Register Properties Located within the Boundaries of the Proposed Historic District

| | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Worthington Village Green | High Street and Granville Road |
| Ripley House | 623 High Street |
| Masonic Museum (New England Lodge) | 634 High Street |
| Dr. Longenecker Office Building | 633-635 High Street |
| Old Worthington Inn (Hotel Central) | 649 High Street |
| Kilbourne Commercial Building (Sign of the Sun) | 679-681 High Street |
| St. John's Episcopal Church | 700 High Street |
| Adams-Bishop-Heath House (Demas Adams House) | 721 High Street |
| Worthington United Presbyterian Church | 773-775 High Street |
| Worthington Union School (Sharon Township Hall) | 67 East Granville Road |
| Travis Scott House | 72 East Granville Road |
| Jonathan Park House | 91 East Granville Road |
| Topping-Evans House (J. R. Topping House) | 92 East Granville Road |
| Sharon Township Memorial (Horace Wright House) | 137 East Granville Road |
| Hart-Fay-Robinson House (Cyrus Fay House) | 64 West Granville Road |
| Gardner House | 80 West Granville Road |
| Bishop-Noble House | 48 West South Street |

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**National Register Properties Located within the Boundaries of the Proposed Historic District
(continued)**

Ohio Central Normal School Principal's Cottage
(President's House)

38 Short Street

John Snow House

41 West New England Avenue

Episcopal Rectory

50 West New England Avenue

Buttles-Pinney-Brown House (Sidney Brown House)

12 East Stafford Avenue

Matoon-Woodrow House (Ladd-Mattoon House)

72 East North Street

Scanland-Skeele House (Capt. J. S. Skeele House)

700 Hartford Street

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CONTRIBUTING PROPERTIES

| Street Name | Property No. | Street Address | Approximate Date of Construction | National Register | Contributing Garages | Non-Contributing Garages | Notes |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Clearview | 1 | 101 | 1953, R 1988 | | | X | Ranch |
| | 2 | 103 | 1962 | | X | | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 3 | 104 | 1957 | | | X | Ranch |
| | 4 | 105 | 1960 | | X | | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 6 | 112 | 1960 | | | X | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 7 | 117 | 1960, R 1984 | | X | | English Cottage Revival |
| | 8 | 120 | 1952 | | | X | Cape Cod |
| | 9 | 123 | 1953 | | X | | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 10 | 130 | 1946 | | X | | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 11 | 135 | 1934 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| | Evening St | 12 | 551 | 1949 | | | X |
| 13 | | 552 | 1954 | | | X | Ranch |
| 14 | | 555 | 1941 | | | X | Colonial Revival Influence |
| 15 | | 562 | 1941 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| 16 | | 565 | 1939 | | X | | English Cottage |
| 17 | | 570 | 1940 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| 18 | | 571 | 1954 | | | X | Vernacular |
| 19 | | 575 | 1954 | | | X | Ranch |
| 20 | | 578 | 1941 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| 22 | | 610 | 1941 | | X | | Colonial Revival |
| 23 | | 620 | 1957 | | | X | Colonial Revival Influence |
| 24 | | 630 | 1936 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| 26 | | 672 | 1925 | | X | | Dutch Colonial |
| 27 | | 678 | 1920 | | X | | Bungalow |
| 28 | | 686 | 1956 | | X | | Vernacular |
| 29 | | 690 | 1913 | | X | | Bungalow |
| 30 | | 700 | 1926 | | X | | American Four Square |
| 33 | | 784 | 1949 | | X | | Colonial Revival Influence |
| 34 | | 788 | 1889 | | X | | Cottage |
| 35 | | 794 | 1938 | | X | | English Cottage Revival |
| 36 | 798 | 1917 | | X | | Vernacular | |
| 37 | 802 | 1950 | | X | | Colonial Revival Influence | |
| 38 | 806 | 1940 | | X | | Vernacular | |
| 39 | 900 | 1958 | | | X | Split Level | |
| 40 | 920 | 1950 | | | X | Vernacular | |
| E. Granville Rd | 41 | 50 | 1938 | | | X | Colonial, Georgian Influence |
| | 42 | 67 | 1856 | NR | | | Italianate |
| | 43 | 72 | C1820 | NR | | | Vernacular |
| | 44 | 73-89 | 1953 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 45 | 84 | 1918 | | X | | Bungalow |
| | 46 | 91 | 1869, R 1893 | NR | | | Queen Anne |
| | 47 | 92 | 1845, R 1884 | NR | | | French Second Empire |

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List of Contributing Buildings (continued)

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------|----|--------|--------------------|----|---|---|---|
| E. Granville Rd. | 48 | 95 | 1827 | | | X | Federal (moved 2003) |
| | 49 | 96-100 | 1960 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 50 | 99 | 1904 | | | X | Cottage |
| | 52 | 109 | Pre 1920 | | | X | Vernacular, Colonial Influence |
| | 53 | 116 | 1920 | | X | | Cottage |
| | 54 | 119 | 1897 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 55 | 120 | 1920 | | X | | Bungalow |
| | 56 | 132 | 1885 | | | X | Farmhouse |
| | 57 | 137 | 1861 | NR | | | Italianate with Greek Portico |
| W. Granville Rd | 58 | 28 | 1922, R 1997 | | | X | Dutch Colonial |
| | 59 | 39 | 1922 | | | X | Bungalow |
| | 60 | 43 | 1910 | | | X | American Four Square |
| | 61 | 44 | 1924 | | | X | Dutch Colonial |
| | 62 | 49-51 | 1895 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 63 | 63 | 1884 | | X | | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 64 | 64 | 1869 | NR | | | Italianate |
| | 65 | 75 | 1954 | | | X | Ranch |
| | 66 | 80 | 1896 | NR | | | Queen Anne |
| | 67 | 88 | 1919 | | X | | Cottage |
| | 68 | 93 | 1873, R 1920 | | X | | Colonial Revival |
| | 70 | 100 | 1907, R 1925, 1950 | | | X | Vernacular, Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 71 | 108 | 1909 | | X | | Bungalow, Craftsman Influence |
| | 72 | 109 | 1900 | | X | | Dutch Colonial |
| | 73 | 115 | 1915 | | X | | Bungalow |
| | 74 | 118 | 1920 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 75 | 126 | 1920 | | X | | Bungalow |
| | 76 | 300 | 1915 | | | X | Worthington HS Annex, Frank Packard Architect |
| Hartford Court | 77 | 1 | 1949 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 78 | 2 | 1950 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| | 79 | 3 | 1949 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| | 80 | 4 | 1949 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| | 81 | 5 | 1949 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| | 82 | 6 | 1949 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 83 | 7 | 1950 | | | X | Cape Cod |
| | 84 | 8 | 1950 | | | X | Cape Cod |

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List of Contributing Buildings (continued)

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----|------------------|---|----|---|---|--------------------------|
| Hartford St. | 85 | 525 | 1936 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| | 86 | 550 | 1961 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| | 87 | 565 | 1920 | | | X | Bungalow |
| | 88 | 570 | 1920 | | X | | Bungalow |
| | 89 | 573 | Pre 1920 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 90 | 577 | Pre 1920 | | X | | Dutch Colonial |
| | 91 | 580 | 1857 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 92 | 583 | Pre 1920 | | X | | Italianate Influence |
| | 93 | 590 | 1950 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 94 | 594 | Pre 1920 | | X | | Dutch Colonial |
| | 95 | 601 | 1920 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 96 | 608 | 1929 | | X | | Craftsman |
| | 97 | 615 | Pre 1920 | | X | | Dutch Colonial |
| | 98 | 616 | 1920 | | X | | Homestead |
| | 99 | 617 | Pre 1930 | | | X | Homestead |
| | 100 | 620 | Pre 1920 | | X | | Bungalow |
| | 101 | 628 | 1937 | | | X | Craftsman |
| | 102 | 630 | 1956 | | X | | English Cottage |
| | 103 | 654 | 1937 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 104 | 655 | 1890 | | | X | Farmhouse |
| | 105 | 662 | 1850, R 1852, 1863 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 106 | 665 | 1919 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| | 107 | 667 | Late 1880's | | | X | Queen Anne |
| | 108 | 668 | 1910, R 1980 | | X | | American Four Square |
| | 109 | 671 | Early 20 th Century, R 1957 | | X | | Dutch Colonial Influence |
| | 110 | 674 | 1900 | | X | | Bungalow |
| | 111 | 675 | 1904 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 112 | 680 | 1800 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 113 | 686 | 1869 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 114 | 687 | 1910 | | X | | Bungalow |
| | 115 | 688 | 1938 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| | 116 | 689 | 1890 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 117 | 694 | 1955 | | X | | American Legion Building |
| | 119 | 700 | 1827, R 1937 | NR | | | Vernacular |
| | 120 | 764 | 1945 | | X | | Barn |
| | 121 | 782 | 1817, R 1982 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 128 | 862 | 1902 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 129 | 868 | 1929 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 130 | 874 | 1940 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 131 | 876 (was 926) | 1925 | | | X | Homestead |
| | 137 | 912 | 1898 | | X | | Farmhouse |

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List of Contributing Buildings (continued)

| | | | | | | | |
|----------|-----|----------|--------------------------------|----|---|---|--|
| High St. | 140 | 544 | 1919 | | X | | Craftsman with Four Square Influence |
| | 142 | 556 | 1905 | | X | | Farmhouse to Vernacular |
| | 143 | 559 | 1958 | | | | Vernacular |
| | 145 | 571 | 1865 | | | X | Italianate |
| | 146 | 579 | 1903 | | | X | American four square |
| | 147 | 597 | 1938 | | | X | Georgian Revival Influence |
| | 148 | 600 | 1926 | | | X | Gothic Vernacular |
| | 149 | 615 | 1900, R 1965 | | | X | Farmhouse |
| | 150 | 623 | 1818 | NR | | | Federal |
| | 152 | 633-635 | 1834, R 1917, 1985 | NR | | | Federal |
| | 153 | 634 | 1820, R 1957 | NR | | | Federal – South Wing |
| | 154 | 640 | 1950 | | | X | Cape Cod |
| | 156 | 649 | 1834, 1854 1986 R | NR | | | Federal Mansard (Worthington Inn) |
| | 157 | 656 | 1900 | | | X | Greek Revival |
| | 158 | 657-661 | 1875 (R1972) | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 159 | 660 | 1900 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| | 160 | 666 | Early 20 th Century | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| | 161 | 669 | 1875, 1972 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 162 | 671 | 1821, R1972 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 163 | 677 | 1915 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| | 164 | 679-681 | 1804, R 1984 | NR | | | Vernacular |
| | 165 | 688 | 1950 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 166 | 689-691 | 1928 | | | X | Georgian Revival Influence |
| | 167 | 692 | 1905 | | | X | Early 20 th C. commercial Details |
| | 168 | 694 | 1905 | | | X | American Four Square w/ Colonial Revival Details |
| | 169 | 695 | 1928 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| | 171 | 698 | 1860, R 1966 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 172 | 700 | 1827, R 1917 | NR | | | Gothic Revival |
| | 173 | 711 | 1925 | | X | | American Four Square |
| | 174 | 721 | 1818 | NR | | | Federal Vernacular |
| | 175 | 751-753 | 1827 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 176 | 752 | 1927, R 1931, 1956, 1979 | | | X | Georgian Revival |
| | 177 | 775 | 1829, R 1926, 1958, 1991 | NR | | | Georgian Revival |
| | 180 | 808 | 1825, R 1859, 1890 | | | X | Greek Revival |
| | 185 | 879- 881 | 1870 | | | X | Farmhouse – Gothic Influence |
| | 188 | 888 | 1855 | | X | | Farmhouse |

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| | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------|-----------------------------------|--|---|---|-------------------------------|
| High Street | 189 | 891 | 1875 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| Morning St | 190 | 550 | 1875, R 1893 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 191 | 560 | 1950 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| | 192 | 563 | 1926 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 193 | 570 | 1949 | | | X | English Cottage |
| | 194 | 571 | 1948 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 195 | 579 | 1948 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| | 196 | 580 | 1950 | | | X | Cape Cod |
| | 197 | 587 | 1948 | | | X | English Cottage |
| | 198 | 590 | 1948 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| | 199 | 595 | 1948 | | X | | English Revival |
| | 200 | 600 | 1948 | | | X | Split Level |
| | 201 | 601 | 1948, R 1980 | | X | | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 202 | 606 | 1949 | | X | | English Cottage |
| | 203 | 611 | 1895 | | | X | Farmhouse |
| | 204 | 612 | 1928 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 205 | 617 | 1929 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 206 | 618 | 1928 | | X | | Bungalow |
| | 207 | 621 | 1917 | | X | | Cottage |
| | 208 | 626 | 1928 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| | 209 | 630 | 1940 | | X | | Colonial Revival |
| | 210 | 634 | 1940 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| | 211 | 656 | 1864 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 212 | 670 | 1929 | | | X | English Revival |
| | 213 | 675 | 1914 | | X | | American Four Square |
| | 214 | 680 | 1861 | | | X | Farmhouse |
| | 215 | 685 | 1851 | | | X | |
| | 216 | 686 | 1923 | | | X | Bungalow |
| | 217 | 701 | 1847, R 1900 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 218 | 707 | 1913 | | | X | American Four Square |
| | 219 | 764 | 1954 | | | X | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 220 | 770 | 1953 | | | X | Cape Cod |
| | 221 | 771 | 1908 | | X | | Cottage |
| | 222 | 777-779 | 1917 | | | X | Double - Farmhouse |
| | 223 | 778 | 1953 | | | X | Cape Cod |
| | 224 | 784 | 1923 | | | X | Farmhouse |
| | 225 | 785 | 1960 | | | X | Ranch |
| | 226 | 796 | 1945 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 227 | 791 | 1960 | | | X | Split Level |
| | 228 | 833-839 | 1957 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 229 | 847 | 1920 | | | X | Farmhouse |
| | 230 | 897 | 1925 | | X | | American Four Square |
| | 231 | 899 | Early 20 th Century | | | X | Farmhouse |
| | 232 | 901 | 1915 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 233 | 905 | 1915 | | | X | Dutch Colonial Rev. Influence |

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| | | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----|-------|--------------------------------|----|---|---|-------------------------|
| Morning St. | 234 | 907 | 1915 | | X | | American Four Square |
| E New England | 235 | 26 | 1913 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 236 | 38-40 | 1890 | | X | | Cottage |
| | 237 | 48 | 1920 | | | X | Craftsman |
| | 239 | 79 | 1906, R 1927 | | | X | Farmhouse |
| | 240 | 93 | 1880 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 241 | 95 | 1925 | | X | | Craftsman |
| | 242 | 96 | 1923 | | X | | Craftsman |
| | 243 | 98 | 1941 | | X | | Colonial Revival |
| | 244 | 100 | 1928 | | X | | |
| | 245 | 103 | 1923 | | | X | Bungalow |
| | 246 | 106 | 1866 | | X | | Vernacular - Bungalow |
| | 247 | 111 | 1925 | | | X | Cottage |
| | 248 | 112 | 1935 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| | 249 | 117 | 1900 | | X | | Bungalow - Craftsman |
| | 250 | 118 | 1920 | | X | | American Four Square |
| | 251 | 123 | 1961 | | | X | Cape Cod |
| | 252 | 130 | 1947 | | | X | Cape Cod |
| W New England | 253 | 11 | 1927, R 1989 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 254 | 25 | Early 20 th Century | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 255 | 39 | 1920 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 256 | 41 | 1816 | NR | | | Federal Vernacular |
| | 257 | 44-46 | 1929 | | X | | Colonial Revival |
| | 258 | 50 | 1845, R 1926, 1980, 1997 | NR | | | Greek Revival |
| | 259 | 51 | Early 20 th Century | | X | | Bungalow |
| | 260 | 55 | 1928 | | X | | English Revival |
| | 261 | 59 | 1915 | | X | | Bungalow |
| | 263 | 100 | 1958 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 264 | 108 | 1834, R 1920 | | X | | Federal Influence |
| | 265 | 115 | 1926 | | X | | English Revival |
| | 266 | 117 | Pre 1920 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 267 | 123 | 1923 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| | 268 | 125 | 1928 | | | X | English Cottage Revival |
| | 269 | 127 | 1930 | | X | | Colonial Revival |
| | 270 | 129 | 1924 | | | X | English Revival |
| | 271 | 140 | 1962 | | | X | Cape Cod |

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| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----|-----|------------------------------|----|---|---|----------------------------|
| E. North St. | 273 | 43 | 1956 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 274 | 49 | 1956 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 275 | 72 | 1838 | NR | | | Federal |
| | 276 | 100 | 1958 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| | 277 | 105 | 1943 | | X | | Ranch |
| | 278 | 110 | 1951 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 279 | 116 | 1953 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 280 | 117 | 1953 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 281 | 128 | 1952 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 282 | 129 | 1953 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 283 | 139 | 1953 | | X | | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 284 | 140 | 1948 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| | 285 | 148 | 1948 | | | X | Cape Cod |
| | 286 | 149 | 1954 | | | X | Vernacular |
| W. North St. | 288 | 30 | 1954 | | | X | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 290 | 40 | 1951 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| | 291 | 41 | 1931 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 292 | 46 | 1951 | | X | | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 293 | 51 | 1820 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 294 | 52 | 1950 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| | 296 | 68 | 1951 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| | 297 | 70 | 1957 | | | X | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 298 | 86 | 1939 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| | 299 | 92 | 1962 | | | X | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 301 | 97 | 1950 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 302 | 105 | mid 20 th Century | | X | | Dutch Colonial Revival |
| | 303 | 111 | 1940 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| | 304 | 112 | 1962 | | | X | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 305 | 123 | 1940 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 306 | 124 | 1962 | | | X | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 307 | 128 | 1962 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 308 | 129 | 1940 | | X | | English Cottage Influence |
| Oxford St. | 309 | 541 | 1921 | | X | | Cottage |
| | 310 | 551 | 1915 | | X | | Cottage |
| | 311 | 557 | 1920 | | X | | Bungalow |
| | 312 | 560 | 1956 | | | X | Ranch |
| | 313 | 561 | 1920 | | X | | Homestead |
| | 314 | 569 | 1915 | | X | | American Four Square |
| | 315 | 573 | 1918 | | X | | American Four Square |
| | 317 | 581 | 1857 | | | X | Farmhouse |
| | 318 | 587 | 1894 | | X | | Farmhouse, altered |
| | 320 | 593 | 1958 | | X | | Bungalow |
| | 321 | 601 | Pre 1920 | | X | | Craftsman |
| | 322 | 609 | 1913 | | X | | Bungalow |

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List of Contributing Buildings (continued)

| | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|------|----|---|---|----------------------------|
| Oxford St. | 323 | 614 | 1880 | | | X | Farmhouse |
| | 324 | 615 | 1935 | | | X | Ranch |
| | 325 | 633 | 1900 | | X | | Bungalow |
| | 326 | 653 | 1931 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 327 | 659 | 1950 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| | 328 | 665 | 1949 | | X | | English Revival |
| | 329 | 675 | 1900 | | X | | Queen Anne |
| | 330 | 676 | 1915 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 331 | 679 | 1951 | | | X | Cape Cod |
| | 332 | 682 | 1910 | | X | | Homestead |
| | 333 | 685 | 1951 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| | 334 | 688 | 1895 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 335 | 689 | 1900 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 336 | 695 | 1908 | | | X | Bungalow – Craftsman |
| | 338 | 703 | 1908 | | | X | Bungalow |
| | 340 | 777 | 1920 | | X | | American Four Square |
| | 341 | 779 | 1926 | | X | | Vernacular – Bungalow |
| | 342 | 783 | 1952 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| | 343 | 784 | 1950 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| | 344 | 787 | 1919 | | X | | Homestead |
| | 345 | 790 | 1903 | | | X | Vernacular – Farmhouse |
| | 346 | 800 | 1926 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| | 347 | 803 | 1925 | | | X | Tudor |
| | 348 | 810 | 1939 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 349 | 817 | 1928 | | | X | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 350 | 821 | 1941 | | X | | Colonial Revival |
| | 351 | 822 | 1925 | | X | | Colonial Revival |
| | 352 | 837 | 1925 | | X | | Colonial Revival |
| | 353 | 844 | 1920 | | X | | Cottage |
| | 354 | 849 | 1938 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| | 356 | 860 | 1950 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 357 | 870 | 1949 | | | X | Cape Cod |
| | 358 | 872 | 1920 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 359 | 875 | 1929 | | | X | Tudor |
| | 360 | 876 | 1940 | | | X | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 361 | 880 | 1950 | | | X | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 362 | 881 | 1950 | | | X | Cape Cod |
| | 363 | 886 | 1940 | | | X | Cape Cod |
| | 364 | 898 | 1954 | | | X | Cape Cod |
| | 365 | 907 | 1958 | | | X | Cape Cod |
| | 366 | 915 | 1938 | | | X | Cape Cod |
| Short St. | 367 | 36 | 1887 | | X | | Queen Anne |
| | 368 | 38 | 1820 | NR | | | Greek Revival |
| | 369 | 40 | 1905 | | | X | American Four Square |

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List of Contributing Buildings (continued)

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----|-------|-----------------------------------|----|---|---|------------------------------------|
| Short St. | 371 | 45 | 1930 | | X | | Craftsman Influence |
| | 372 | 51 | 1941 | | X | | English Revival |
| | 373 | 53 | 1900 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 374 | 54 | 1915, R 1995 | | X | | Homestead |
| | 375 | 59 | 1850 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 376 | 60 | 1910 | | X | | American Four Square |
| E. South St. | 378 | 30 | 1904, R 1980 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 379 | 33 | 1926 | | X | | English Cottage Revival |
| | 380 | 39 | 1926 | | X | | Dutch Colonial |
| | 381 | 40 | 1906, R 1980 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 382 | 48 | 1905, R 1980 | | X | | American Four Square |
| | 383 | 51 | 1940 | | | X | Cape Cod |
| | 384 | 52 | 1905, R 1989 | | X | | American Four Square |
| | 385 | 58 | Early 20 th Century | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 386 | 75 | 1938 | | X | | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 388 | 129 | 1954 | | X | | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 389 | 130 | 1950 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 390 | 136 | 1951 | | X | | English Cottage Influence |
| | 391 | 141 | 1928 | | X | | Colonial Revival |
| | 392 | 142 | 1950 | | X | | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 393 | 145 | 1937 | | X | | Colonial Revival |
| | 394 | 148 | 1948 | | | X | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 395 | 156 | 1946 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 396 | 162 | 1946 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 397 | 165 | 1937, R 1945 | | | X | English Cottage Revival |
| | 398 | 168 | 1949 | | | X | Vernacular |
| W. South St. | 399 | 36 | 1834, R 1857 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 400 | 41 | 1923, R 1955 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 401 | 47 | 1903 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 402 | 48 | 1857, R 1885 | NR | | | Farmhouse |
| | 403 | 55-57 | 1905 | | | X | American Four Square |
| | 404 | 60 | Pre 1920 | | | X | Vernacular – Colonial Influence |
| | 405 | 61 | 1913 | | | X | Bungalow |
| | 406 | 77 | 1938 | | | X | Cape Cod |
| | 407 | 96 | 1916 | | X | | English Cottage |
| | 408 | 99 | 1941 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| | 409 | 100 | 1962 | | | X | Split Level |
| | 410 | 102 | 1915 | | X | | English Cottage |

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List of Contributing Buildings (continued)

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------|-----|---------|------|----|---|---|----------------------------|
| W. South St. | 411 | 111 | 1939 | | X | | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 412 | 117 | 1939 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| | 413 | 123 | 1940 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| | 414 | 131 | 1941 | | | X | English Cottage |
| | 415 | 139 | 1941 | | X | | Colonial Influence |
| | 416 | 143 | 1942 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| | 417 | 147 | 1942 | | | X | Cape Cod |
| E. Stafford Ave. | 418 | 12 | 1823 | NR | | | Federal |
| | 420 | 54 / 56 | 1951 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| | 421 | 58 / 60 | 1951 | | X | | Cape Cod |
| | 427 | 144-150 | 1957 | | | X | Vernacular |
| W. Stafford Ave. | 428 | 28 | 1930 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 429 | 31 | 1933 | | X | | Bungalow |
| | 430 | 35 | 1913 | | X | | Bungalow |
| | 431 | 38 | 1925 | | X | | Bungalow |
| | 432 | 39 | 1913 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 433 | 40 | 1929 | | X | | Bungalow |
| | 434 | 45 | 1924 | | | X | Vernacular |
| | 436 | 55 | 1920 | | X | | Farmhouse |
| | 437 | 107 | 1930 | | X | | English Cottage Influence |
| | 438 | 108 | 1933 | | X | | English Cottage Influence |
| | 439 | 109 | 1930 | | X | | Dutch Colonial |
| | 440 | 110 | 1924 | | X | | Bungalow |
| | 441 | 111 | 1938 | | | X | Colonial Revival |
| | 442 | 112 | 1924 | | X | | English Cottage Revival |
| | 443 | 117 | 1940 | | X | | Colonial Revival Influence |
| | 444 | 118 | 1957 | | X | | Tudor Revival |
| | 445 | 123 | 1956 | | X | | Cap Cod |
| | 446 | 126 | 1926 | | X | | Vernacular |
| | 447 | 131 | 1927 | | X | | English Cottage Revival |

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NON-CONTRIBUTING PROPERTIES

| Street Name | Property No. | Street Address | Approximate Date of Construction | Freestanding Garages | Notes |
|------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Clearview | 5 | 111 | 1963 | | |
| | | | | | |
| Evening St. | 21 | 600 | 1981 | | |
| | 25 | 666 | 1985 | X | |
| | 31 | 702 | 1978 | | |
| | 32 | 710 | 1978 | X | |
| | | | | | |
| E. Granville Rd. | 51 | 108 | 1966 | | |
| | | | | | |
| W. Granville Rd | 69 | 94 | 1987 | X | |
| | | | | | |
| Hartford St. | 118 | 695 | 1965 | | |
| | 122 | 788 | | | Vacant Lot |
| | 123 | 796 | 1971 | | |
| | 124 | 798 | 1971 | | |
| | 125 | 802-814 | 1970 | | |
| | 126 | 805 | | | Worthington Public Lib. |
| | 127 | 809 | | | Worthington Public Lib. |
| | 132 | 878-906 | 1976 | | |
| | 133 | 881-891 | 1976 | | |
| | 134 | 893-899 | 1976 | | |
| | 135 | 901-907 | 1976 | | |
| | 136 | 910 | 1981 | | |
| | | | | | |
| High St | 138 | 529 | 1970 | | Cape Cod |
| | 139 | 530 | 1970 | | Colonial Influence |
| | 141 | 547 | 2001 | | Guernsey Bank |
| | 144 | 570 | 1968 | | |
| | 151 | 627 | 1993 | | |
| | 155 | 644-654 | 1990 | | |
| | 170 | 697 | 1980 | | |
| | 178 | 777 | 1993 | | |
| | 179 | 800 | 1968 | | |
| | 181 | 820 | 1997 | | |
| | 182 | 825 | 1985 | | |
| | 183 | 867 | 1983 | | |
| | 184 | 870 | 1986 | | |
| | 186 | 882 | 1987 | | |
| | 187 | 885 | 1980's | | Contemporary |

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List of Non-contributing Buildings (continued)

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----------|------|---|--------------------|
| New England E | 238 | 49 | | | Parking lot |
| | | | | | |
| New England W | 262 | 99 | 1968 | | |
| | | | | | |
| E North St. | 272 | 33 | 1964 | | |
| | | | | | |
| W North St. | 287 | 20 | 1991 | | |
| | 289 | 31 | 1980 | | |
| | 295 | 60 | 1963 | X | |
| | 300 | 96 | 1963 | X | |
| | | | | | |
| Oxford St. | 316 | 574 | 1981 | | |
| | 319 | 588/602 | 1981 | | |
| | 337 | 696 | 1984 | | |
| | 339 | 704 | 1984 | | |
| | 355 | 850 | 1977 | | |
| | | | | | |
| Short | 370 | 41 | | X | Multi family house |
| | | | | | |
| South E | 377 | 27 | 1986 | | |
| | 387 | 120 | 1972 | | |
| | | | | | |
| E Stafford Ave | 419 | 50 | 1964 | X | |
| | 422 | 72 / 74 | 1970 | | |
| | 423 | 76 / 78 | 1970 | | |
| | 424 | 80 / 82 | 1970 | | |
| | 425 | 84 - 104 | 1970 | | |
| | 426 | 108 - 126 | 1970 | | |
| | | | | | |
| W Stafford Ave | 435 | 50 | 1964 | | |
| | 448 | 136 | 1987 | X | |
| | | | | | |
| Morning St. | 449 | 780 | 1978 | | |
| | 450 | 790 | 2001 | | |

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Statement of Significance

The Worthington Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A as an example of a New England town plan that subsequently developed over a period of 150 years. While the original forms and patterns of development still survive, the district reflects the evolution of the community from an independent village to a suburban community. The Worthington Historic District is further qualified under Criterion C due to its excellent collection of American architectural styles encompassing the early 19th to the mid-20th centuries.

The original town plan for Worthington was developed in Connecticut in 1802 and brought to Ohio in 1803 (the same year Ohio became a state) by the Scioto Company, a syndicate of 41 investors. The design for the village was imposed on land lying on the east bank of the Whetstone (Olentangy) River. The location was nine miles north of the existing settlement of Franklinton, located on the west bank of the Scioto River. It was also nine miles north of the undeveloped area on the east bank of the Scioto, across from Franklinton, that would become Columbus, Ohio's permanent state capitol in 1812. Although Worthington predated the founding of Columbus by nearly a decade, it would always remain influenced by the growth and development of Columbus.

Two hundred years after its founding, the original town layout, with its grid pattern of streets bordered by North, South, Morning and Evening streets; the Village Green with four green quadrants at the center of town; the hierarchy of High Street and Granville Road as the major north-south and east-west thoroughfares; and common setbacks and orientation of buildings toward the street are still very much in evidence. The plan of the Worthington Historic District differs from nearly all of the 20th century development within the boundaries of Worthington today, where curvilinear streets, looped streets and cul-de-sacs are the norm.

The architecture in the Worthington Historic District represents key architectural trends from the early 19th century to the mid-20th centuries, including examples of Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate, Queen Anne, Second Empire, Tudor Revival, Colonial Revival, Bungalow, Cape Cod, and modern ranch styles. Many of Worthington's early buildings are listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places; however, the village as a whole fulfills a different purpose. A walk from the center of the village, where the original planners' key institutions of church, school, and library still stand, to the periphery presents a substantially intact view of the changing forms of domestic and institutional architecture up to the mid-20th century, when the village spilled beyond its original boundaries during Central Ohio's post World War II housing boom and Worthington's transition from independent market village to commuter suburb of Columbus was complete.

Settlement

Worthington, Ohio was preplanned in Connecticut in 1802 as a typical New England town. On May 5, 1802 a group of men led by James Kilbourne met in Granby, Connecticut at the home of Rev. Eber B. Clark to consider forming a company which would have the goal of founding a community in the Northwest Territory where they could comfortably practice their Episcopalian Protestantism and which would provide a more

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favorable climate for farming. *“At three meetings within the span of six weeks, a group ... had formed a company to make a western settlement, had defined a geographic area for this settlement, had elected officers to conduct company business, and had selected two agents to journey west that summer and report back on potential sites.”* Two thirds of the men attending this meeting came from the nearby towns of Simsbury, Connecticut and Blandford, Massachusetts. This new company was called the “Scioto Company” (McCormick and McCormick, *New Englanders on the Ohio Frontier*).

Two members of the group were chosen, James Kilbourne and Nathaniel Little, to proceed to Ohio to select an appropriate site for their new home. With some difficulty the two men traveled to Ohio where they visited areas around Chillicothe and met with Thomas Worthington, a government land agent and member of the territorial legislature. Although land was selected in the Chillicothe area, no commitment was made and the two men returned without purchasing land (*ibid.*).

When the men returned to New England, discussions took place regarding the purchase of the property and a decision was eventually reached to purchase land north of the area previously visited. Sixteen thousand acres situated along the Whetstone River (now known as the Olentangy River) were purchased at a price of \$1.25 per acre. A plan was set forth for dividing the new property in Ohio (*ibid.*). *“This was to remain undivided ‘untill the major part of the subscribers shall Have arrived upon the spot provided they Shall Remove thither by the first Day of December 1803.”* Members determined that *“there shall be laid out Two Roads leading north and south on each Side of the Whetstone River and a cross road from east to west as near the middle of the tract as can be with convenience. At the crossroad a square town plat was to be laid out containing 164 lots, each $\frac{3}{4}$ acre. A central area was to be set aside as a ‘Publick Square’ to remain for a green or parade.”* This grid pattern is still intact. They also committed themselves to a cultural presence by deciding to reserve a town lot (2 lots in size) and a farm lot *“for the use and benefit of a Publick school”* and the same again for the *“use and benefit of a Protestant Episcopal society.”* The company’s articles of agreement went on to establish a bidding system among proprietors that would determine the order of selection for town and farm lots. Total acreage of the town was 125 acres plus the village green and streets for a total of 160 acres (*ibid.*).

“In less than eight months, forty-one men had determined to commit themselves and their families to a new life on land they had never seen. They had designed the outlines of the ideal community they planned to build.” A fee of \$18.25 was assessed each member of the company to provide funding for the exploration costs and other company expenses.

In the spring of 1803 seven young men and James Kilbourne left for the new home, soon to be known as Worthington. They quickly cleared land and planted crops to support the larger community, which was to arrive in the fall of 1803. The group remaining in New England was planning for the fall journey to Ohio, and at a meeting on August 10 and 11 the town referred to in the plans was officially named Worthington after Thomas Worthington who had been helpful in selecting the location for their new home and who had recently been elected to represent Ohio in the U.S. Congress.

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By September the settlers were beginning their trip from New England to Ohio and after six to eight weeks of difficult travel arrived in Worthington to spend their first winter in their new homes. One hundred settlers arrived in Worthington by December 1803. Primitive log cabins had been constructed for this first winter and were not intended to be permanent homes. None of these structures survive today.

After arriving in the new town of Worthington, the town and farm lots were distributed as had been agreed prior to migrating. *“In December 1803, thirty-seven persons bid from a high of fifty-three dollars to a low of twenty-five cents to select a lot, others who bid nothing were apparently given their choice at the end. This produced a total of \$505.37 for company expenses such as surveying, but it is unlikely that the total was ever collected, because eight of the persons who bid were not included when the property was legally divided and the deed signed in August 1804”* (ibid.). In 1804 priority was given to surveying the village acreage. James Kilbourne had experience with surveying in New England and was appointed Surveyor of Worthington. The center north-south road was placed at the high point east of the Whetstone River (Olentangy River), allowing for optimal drainage for farmland and for the village (Morrison). By August 11, 1804, the plat maps were complete, payments arranged and deeds were prepared for all village lots.



Fig. 7. Map of Pioneer Worthington streets.

Drawing of town plan for Worthington with original street names.

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As might be expected, the choice lots were those fronting on the primary streets, which intersected at the village green (Main Street and State Street, now High Street and Granville Road, respectively). All lots were assigned among the company members; with one person owning 17 town lots, while several had only one town lot. Early construction occurred along Main and State Street. These lots were a rectangular shape with a relatively narrow street frontage and a deep back lot. This design was practical because it provided space for barns and sheds to house horses and buggies and for kitchen gardens. An early adjustment in the plan was made with a street (Short Street) added from High Street to Oxford Street about midway between New England Street and South Street.

Early Development 1803-Civil War

During those first few months, the inhabitants of the new village were busy with establishing the church, school, and library, which were provided for in the original plans. The church and school were located on double lots adjacent to the east side of the village green; these areas continue to be used for their intended purposes today. A meetinghouse was the first structure built by the advance party in the spring of 1803 to be used as a library, school, and for religious purposes. On February 20, 1808 the Worthington Academy was incorporated by the Ohio legislature and construction soon began on a two-story red brick building, which replaced the first structure on the site. St. John's Episcopal Church services were held in the first meetinghouse beginning in the fall of 1803 and subsequently on the second floor of the Worthington Academy building from 1808 until the church was completed in 1831 (St. John's Episcopal Church, site #172). In addition, these meetinghouses were used for community governing and social activities (Worthington Area Chamber of Commerce, *Worthington*).

On February 6, 1804, St. John's Episcopal Church was organized in accordance with the plans made in New England. It was assumed that James Kilbourne, as an ordained deacon, would conduct services. However, his other commitments made this difficult and by 1817, an ordained minister, Rev. Philander Chase, became the rector of St. John's parish and other nearby Episcopal churches. In 1818 the Episcopal diocese of Ohio was formed and elected Rev. Chase as bishop. Bishop Chase left Worthington in 1822 after failing to establish a college here and went on to found Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio. In 1827 construction on a brick church was begun (St. John's Episcopal Church of Worthington, "A Brochure Prepared in Commemoration of the Sesquicentennial Anniversary of St. John's Episcopal Church in Worthington and Parts Adjacent, Ohio"). Progress was slow and the first services were held in the church January 23, 1831. By this time, both Methodist and Presbyterian churches had been founded. The Presbyterian Church was built adjacent to the Village Green in 1830, while the Methodist Church was south on High Street. The current Presbyterian Church was constructed in 1927 on the site of the original church (site #177). The original Methodist Church does not survive, but the present church occupies the original location.

During the early years, progress was made in the establishment of a formal educational program. Upon arrival, in December 1803, a school was formed and a two-month session held that winter. In 1805 the "Worthington Academy" was established setting the foundation for a dedication to superior educational opportunities that has survived to the present time. In its formative years, several academic institutions were established. The

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Worthington Academy was established as a preparatory school for boys preparing for Kenyon College. A Medical College and a Female Seminary were also established. None of the brick buildings survive from these schools. The headmaster's house for the Female Seminary (site #376) was moved to Short Street and remains in the historic district, although it was significantly altered recently. The oldest surviving public school building is located at 67 E. Granville Road (site #43). It was built in 1856, is of brick construction, and contains two rooms on the lower floor which were used for the school, and a second floor which was used for other purposes.

Closely related to the desire for formal education, the founders of Worthington planned for a library prior to leaving New England. This was a subscription library and was quickly subscribed with an initial fee of two dollars per subscriber. At one of the first meetings of the Scioto Company in Worthington, held on December 14, 1803, the Stanbery Library was officially established.

The area set aside for the school was quickly expanded to include the entire area bounded by the east side of the Village Green, East Stafford Street, Hartford Street, and Granville Road. Almost two centuries later, this site is still utilized for its intended purposes. The north half of the block bounded by Hartford Street, Granville Road, Morning Street, and Stafford Street was reserved for use by the school and the community for park and recreational use, which also continues to this day.

The formation of a Masonic Lodge was considered to be as important as the religious, educational, and commercial development of the fledgling community. A charter for this organization was obtained by James Kilbourne prior to leaving New England and the group was active in the early life of the village. The Lodge completed a two-story brick building in 1820. Located on High Street, it serves today as the Ohio Masonic Museum (site #154). This building is considered the oldest Masonic Temple in continuous use west of the Allegheny Mountains. John Snow was an influential leader of the Lodge with early meetings being held in his home on West New England Street (site #264). Another early leader was Lincoln Goodale, who moved to Columbus in 1814, became a successful merchant and donated land for Goodale Park in 1851 – the city's first large public park.

Worthington's first commercial enterprise was a mill on the Olentangy (Whetstone) River, which produced lumber used for the early houses. Within a short period of time bricks were also made produced locally and substantial brick homes were constructed, some of which survive today. A major commercial undertaking in the early years was the formation of the Worthington Manufacturing Company by James Kilbourne. This plant was located near the Whetstone River and produced goods and materials needed by a frontier town.

To provide an outlet for the products of the Worthington Manufacturing Company and for other necessities, James Kilbourne established a commercial center on High Street. His first permanent building consisted of a combination residence and store and was located on the west side of High Street just south of the Village Green. It still survives as the original portion of the existing building at 679-681 High Street. Dating from approximately 1808, it is the oldest surviving building in Worthington and is also thought to be the oldest commercial building in Ohio still standing on its original site in continuous commercial use (site #165) (McCormick, *Worthington Landmarks*). Several other buildings on the west side of High Street are from the

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early to mid 19th century. Business district buildings on the eastside of High Street south of the Village Green date mostly from the early 20th century.

By 1812 High Street was lined with a mixture of commercial and residential buildings, inns and taverns, doctor's offices, and schools. These buildings reflected the Federal style of the buildings the pioneers had left behind in New England. Along the Olentangy River the Worthington Manufacturing was flourishing. Worthington prospered greatly from the War of 1812 with the Worthington Manufacturing Company and its stores providing goods for the U.S. Army in the Northwest Territory. Many of Worthington's early brick structures were built in this era by the talented local mason, Arora Buttles. His work is associated with the elegant Flemish bond brickwork on the facades of the Orange Johnson House (NR 1973), the Masonic Lodge building (site # 153, photos #19-20), St. John's Episcopal Church (site #176, photos # 1-2), the Snow House (site # 256, photo # 49, NR 1973), Ripley House (site # 150, photo 23), 12 E. Stafford St. (site # 418, photo #25), and the High Street side of the Worthington Inn (site #156, photo 16). Prosperous Worthington became the cultural, educational, religious and commercial center in mid Ohio.

The first of two major events, which significantly affected the future growth of Worthington, occurred in 1812. Worthington competed to be selected as Ohio's permanent capital. It lost out to Lucas Sullivant's proposal to turn Wolf Ridge, on the east side of the Scioto River across from the settlement of Franklinton into the capital which would be named Columbus. This settlement was nine miles south of Worthington. That same year it was decided that the National Road would be routed through Columbus. It eventually extended from Cumberland, Maryland to Vandalia, Illinois. These developments impacted Worthington's growth by shifting the focus for development to Columbus and Worthington remained a small village for most of the 19th century. As Columbus grew, it attracted some of Worthington's early settlers and as a result, many of Worthington's "first families" became the "first families" of Columbus. Within the same decade, the U.S. bank crisis of 1819 coincided with the failure of the Worthington Manufacturing Company, further impacting Worthington's early growth.

“Worthington became a booming business and manufacturing center before and after the War of 1812. Although Worthington prospered at first, progress slowed as setbacks prevented the community from living up to its early promise. The depression of 1819, unsuccessful attempts to be named Ohio's capital, failure to become a county seat, and being bypassed by the canal and National Road, all contributed to Worthington's status as a sleepy market village for the surrounding farms during the latter part of the 19th century.”
(McCormick, *Around Worthington*, p. 7)

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View of west side of High Street from c. 1860-70. The buildings in the photo date from the first half of the 19th century. Some of these buildings are still in use.

(Source: Worthington Historical Society)

The subject of slavery was an important issue for the first settlers, who were opposed to its existence. It is believed that they may have delayed their commitment to settle in Ohio until the Ohio constitution was written and included a prohibition on slavery. According to a local history, *“An event occurred in Worthington in 1821 that marked this community as a safe place for free blacks to live. The only contemporary record of this incident was an advertisement by a Louisville, Kentucky, plantation owner named Robert Turner, who offered a five-hundred-dollar reward for a runaway slave named Isham who has been apprehended by a ‘slave catcher’ and was being returned to Kentucky, but ‘was taken a few days since, near this place [Worthington] and was set at liberty...he is supposed to be still in the neighborhood or gone towards Lower Sandusky and Canada & is well known to some in the vicinity.’ Ohio was a free state and Worthingtonians most certainly were not going to allow someone to ride through town with a black slave in tow or to apprehend a black man living locally as free man.”* (McCormick, *New Englanders on the Ohio Frontier*, p.214)

Ansel Mattoon instigated the formation of an abolitionist society in Worthington in 1837. Mattoon, was one of several Worthington “conductors” on the Underground Railroad. His house (72 E. North St., site # 275) is the only documented “station” in the proposed Historic District (NR, 1980). Flint Road, which is located nearby is another location of one of Worthington’s “safe houses” (not included in the historic district). The home of Henry and Dolly Turk is worth noting, as they became the first African Americans in the village to own their own home in 1856 (northeast corner of Evening and New England, site #264) “When Dolly Turk died in 1881 she was eulogized as a former slave whose freedom had been purchased by her husband in 1838, before they came to Worthington. (McCormick, *Probing Worthington’s Heritage*, p. 100)

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Although the Civil War had little impact on the development of Worthington, the area provided the 46th Ohio Volunteer Infantry unit. This unit trained in Worthington, undoubtedly using the Village Green for some parade activity. When activated, the unit served first at the Battle of Shiloh and then continued with the Union Army until the end of the war. A young soldier, born in Worthington and a graduate of West Point, served with the Confederate Army and rose to the rank of general. He was Roswell S. Ripley, son of Christopher and Julia Ripley, who after graduating from West Point, married a woman from Charleston, S. C. and chose to join the Rebels when the war broke out. He was assigned to defend Charleston, which he did with distinction until the end of the war when Charleston fell to the Union Army. His birthplace and the site of his father's business can be found at 623 High Street (site #150) and is an example of a commercial and residential building.

Late 19th Century Development

During most of the 19th century, Worthington functioned as a self-contained village serving its residents and the surrounding agricultural area. High Street, south of Granville Road developed as the commercial district with a wide variety of commercial and retail businesses. The Worthington Inn (site # 156, also known as the Bishop House, Union Hotel and Hotel Central) is one of the most significant commercial enterprises from that era.



Historic view of the Worthington (known then as the Hotel Central) c. 1900.
(source: Worthington Historical Society)

Columbus experienced significant population growth in the second half of the 19th century, growing from a population of 18,554 in 1860 to 31,274 in 1870 (66% increase), 51,647 in 1880 (65% increase), 88,150 in 1890 (70% increase) and ending the century with a population of 125,560 (42% increase). This tremendous population growth had an impact on the growth and development of Worthington, as well. In 1893 an electric streetcar line was established that came to the center of the Village Green from Columbus. This allowed easy access to the capital city of Ohio and had a major impact on Worthington's development as a residential suburban community. The population of Worthington, which had remained relatively constant at approximately 400 from 1840 to 1900, began to increase. By 1930, it had tripled to a population of 1239.

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Since the streetcar line ended at Granville Road, the business district south of Granville Road developed at the expense of the area north. The residential development had also been concentrated south of Granville Road throughout the 19th century. With the increased need for housing as Worthington became an attractive area for newcomers; the vacant lots, which existed north of Granville Road, were filled with a variety of middle class housing. It is of interest that the distribution of early (1800-1850) buildings which still exist today is fairly evenly spread throughout the proposed historic district with 12 in the southwest quadrant, 7 each in the southeast and northeast quadrants, and 3 in the northwest quadrant. The southern quadrants predominate in the second half of the 19th century with 12 in the southwest quadrant, 16 in the southeast quadrant, 3 in the northeast quadrant and 5 in the northwest quadrant.



**Views of South Main Street (High Street) with interurban railroad tracks c. 1900 (left)
and streetcar at the Village Green c. 1900 (right).**

(Source: Worthington Libraries)

20th Century Growth

Early in the 20th century, after public transportation became available, residential construction increased. American Four Square (sites # 108, 314, 250, 340, 230, 30), Colonial Revival (sites #275, 359, 30), and Craftsmen/Bungalows (sites #311, 110, 336), were built during the first two decades of the 20th century. The architectural diversity in the streetscape reflects the fact that most of the village land was sold off as individual lots, rather than in large parcels to a few developers, so houses of different periods were constructed throughout the district.

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, a small group of African-Americans lived on Morning Street north of Granville Road. Although several of the buildings were replaced with newer structures, the properties located at 847, 897 and 899 Morning Street (sites # 229, 230, 231) are included within the boundaries of the historic district. Worthington has a long history of African-American residents, dating to the 19th century. Some of the early 20th century subdivision had covenants restricting sale of property to “non-caucasians” yet there

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were integrated areas of Worthington where African-Americans lived throughout much of the community's history. Morning Street is an example of such an area where both white and African-Americans lived.

As transportation from Columbus became easier because of both the streetcar and the increasing popularity of the automobile there was interest in developing land north of Worthington. It was during the first few decades of the 20th century that Worthington began to take on attributes of a suburban village. Between 1900 and 1915, electric service became widely available, water and sewer systems were introduced, and road surfaces were improved, making Worthington attractive to commuters from Columbus. As population grew,



Historic view of B. F. Patterson laying the sewer system in Worthington c. 1920.
(Source: Worthington Historical Society)

commercial development followed. In early 1927, realtor Karl Kessler proposed to the village council that High Street between North and South Streets be zoned for business purposes. After much discussion the rezoning passed. Of interest is a proposal that "gas stations" be placed on the west side of High Street to take advantage of auto traffic returning to Columbus from outings north of the village. Reflecting Worthington's transition from village to commuter community, its population nearly doubled between 1920 and 1930.

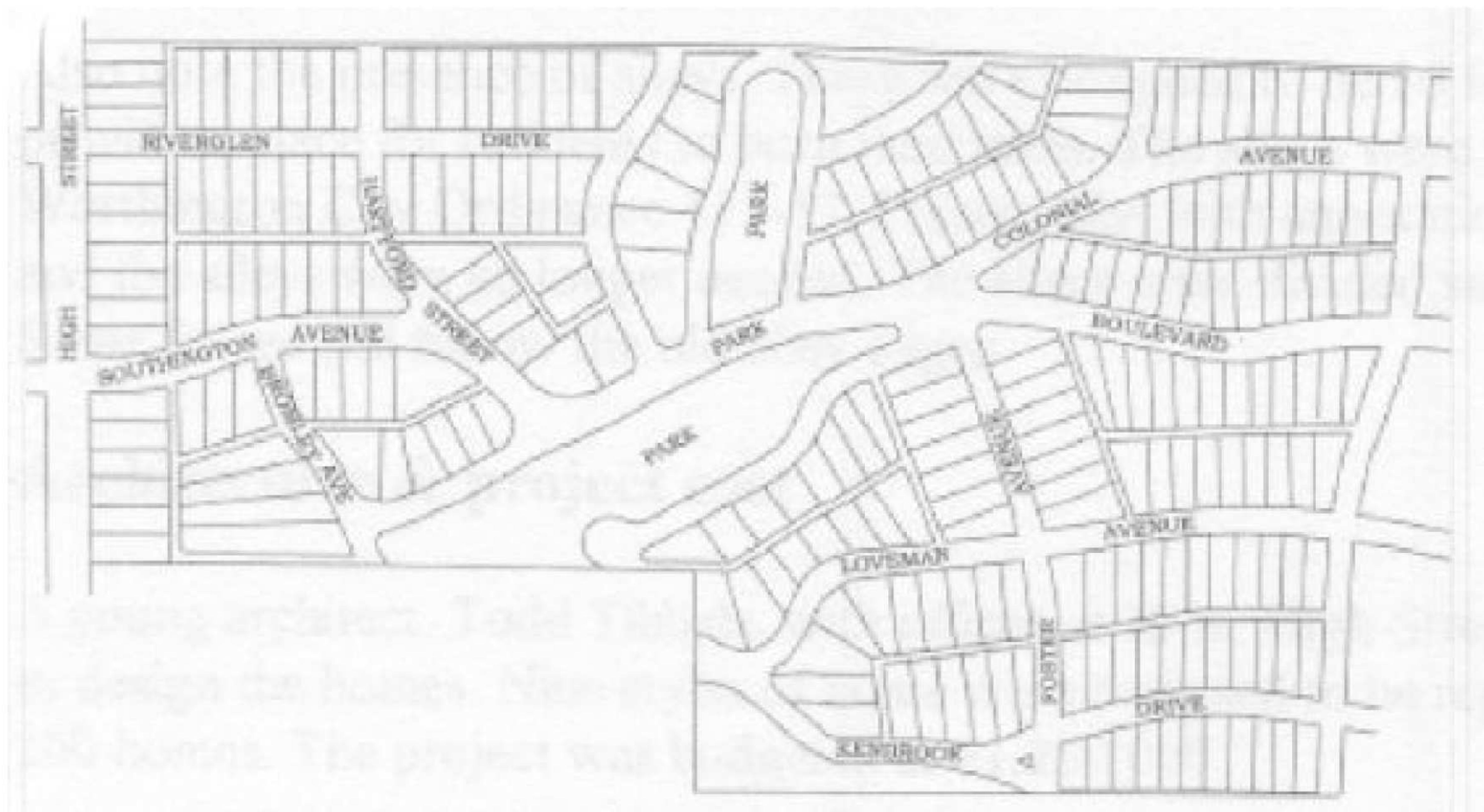
With all of the growth occurring in Worthington, the schools had become seriously overcrowded by 1914. A bond issue for \$40,000 was passed for a new high school in November 1914. Noted Columbus architect, Frank Packard, was commissioned to design the building and David E. Henke and Co. was selected as builder. The new school was dedicated on February 3, 1916. It was considered very modern for its time with a speaker at the dedication stating that it was one of the most impressive school buildings in the state.

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Plat map for Colonial Hills 1927

(source: Wikipedia)

By the late 1920s, a new area was platted south of Worthington – Colonial Hills. This development plat was a significant departure from the strict grid pattern of the original town plan. It was also indicative of the type of development that would occur in Worthington throughout the 20th century. As the city grew, development in residential areas tended to follow a pattern of curvilinear streets, irregularly-shaped lots and cul-de-sacs. Subsequent annexation of this area to Worthington in 1954 resulted in a population increase to over 5000, qualifying the community to change its status from village to city.

While the library was an important institution throughout Worthington's history, the community built its first structure devoted exclusively to library use in 1927 on the northeast corner of the Village Green. This building was made possible through a donation by Mrs. William Deshler (of Columbus) in honor of her grandparents James and Cynthia Kilbourne. The James Kilbourne Memorial Library grew along with the community and received additions in 1931 and 1956 (site # 176).

In 1926, at the time of America's Sesquicentennial, the people of Worthington were aware that their architectural landscape was that of a transplanted New England village. It was at that time that three major brick Georgian Revival buildings---the Presbyterian Church (site #177), the Kilbourne Memorial Library (site #176) and the Kilbourne Middle School (site #41)---were erected proximate to the Village Green. Early 20th century

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Worthington homeowners obviously found the Colonial Revival style desirable, as many structures of the period feature Cape Cod plans or Colonial Revival designs, sometimes grafted on to earlier structures.

As the town matured in the 20th century, with less dependence on individual gardens and the advent of automobiles, the need for deep lots decreased. In 1928 the Worthington village council approved the construction of a new street running from Oxford Street to Evening Street midway between West Stafford Street and West North Street. In 1929 Frank C. Medick purchased a large tract of land for development in Old Worthington, consisting of the area bounded by Oxford Street, North Street, Evening Street, and the new Clearview Street. Headlines in the March 28, 1929 issue of the *Worthington News* read “Frank C. Medick Places New and Beautiful Clear View Development on Market – Largest Land Development Ever Attempted Here Now Underway.” The article went on to say “This new subdivision is splendidly located . . . it comprises thirty lots . . . the lots have been graded and provided with a cement driveway approach. The lots have been further improved by a planting of 62 maple trees. . . . Medick was not a developer by profession, but was the owner of the Medick Barrows Co. of Columbus, which manufactured photo mountings. Part of his reason for undertaking the Clear View development was stated in the same newspaper article. “I have a deep interest in the town, and now that I have met with some measure of success I am willing to spend my money here to help beautify and build up and do all that I can to further its progress.” He established several restrictions for builders, including that all plans had to be submitted to him or his successors for approval. It also included another restriction which was not uncommon for the era – limiting development to single-family homes and prohibiting sales to non-Caucasians. Homes were built on the thirty lots in this area over the next twenty years. The earliest house was built in 1934 (site #11), with the remainder constructed in the late 1940s and early 1950s (sites #1-10). The street appears on a map from 1934 (Morrison, "A Morphological Study of Worthington, Ohio"). In 1951 Frank Medick purchased an additional 55 acres adjacent to this area where he built a home for himself and developed an exclusive neighborhood, which is located outside the historic district boundaries.

Worthington had a number of other homebuilders during the early-mid 20th century. One of the builders – the Shuster Brothers – received publicity for building a “triple insulated home” on West North Street. A newspaper article described the term triple insulated to mean that the house was protected against fire, weather and wear using modern materials. (*Worthington News*, May 9, 1940) Although no address was given, it was likely one of the houses built during the 1940-1960 period on West North Street, within the historic district boundaries.

Another Worthington builder, R.E. Butin purchased a tract in 1948 and created a cul-de-sac between East Stafford and East North Streets on the west side of Hartford Street. He subsequently built eight houses on Hartford Court in 1949-1950. These Cape Cod structures create a uniform streetscape (sites #77-84).

Like many communities, Worthington experienced growth in the immediate post-World War II period. Individual homes, many in the ranch style, which became popular during this period, were built – especially in the northeast quadrant of the community. Small and affordable, these homes were attractive to those forming households and beginning families.

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Worthington has a notable history of moving historic buildings to preserve them when they are in the path of development. Several of these buildings were located in areas of commercial growth. Included in this group are the home at 38 Short Street (site # 368), moved from the site of the Worthington Methodist Church parking lot on High Street in 1962; the former Episcopal Rectory, which was moved twice – from the Village Green to Hartford Street in 1924 and again to 50 West New England Street (site #258) in 1978; the building at 72 East North Street (site #275), which was moved for commercial development from the southwest corner of North and High Streets in 1932; 700 Hartford Street (site #119), moved from East Granville Road in the early 20th century and 72 East Granville Road (site #43) moved from the Village Green.



Three examples of early Worthington houses moved to new locations within the historic district, 700 Hartford Street (left), 50 West New England (middle) and 72 East North Street (right).

Commercial development continued on High Street, with some of it reflecting increased reliance on the automobile. Although some of the commercial development that ensued, such as the strip commercial and gas station on the southeast corner of High and North Streets is considered non-contributing to the character of the district, the fact that the building located on this site was preserved on a site nearby indicates the value placed on historic properties in this community. In spite of its construction after the end of the period of significance, much of the commercial development between the Village Green and the strip commercial at North Street generally retains the scale and orientation toward the street of the buildings they replaced.

During the early-mid 20th century, both Riverlea and Colonial Hills were established as separate communities – both located adjacent to and south of Worthington. Riverlea was platted in 1923 on land that was originally owned by the Scioto Company on the west side of High Street. Restricted to single-family homes, the community is irregular in shape and does include streets that are gently curving to accommodate the change in topography on land that slopes toward the Olentangy River. Colonial Hills is located across High Street from Riverlea. Its plan evolved over the period extending from 1927 and 1941. The plan included both grid and curvilinear streets and was a departure from the strict geometric grid of Worthington. Colonial Hills benefited from the need for housing for war industry workers in Columbus and the post war housing shortage. By 1954 when petitions were circulated to annex to Worthington, Colonial Hills had a population of over 3000, while Worthington's population was slightly over 2000. (McCormick, *Worthington Neighborhoods*) In 1954 Colonial

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Hills was annexed to Worthington, increasing the population to 5,000 making it eligible for city status under Ohio law. Worthington voters approved a charter for a city council/city manager government on November 6, 1956, giving it official “city” status. At this time the evolution from small New England “village” to a suburban “city” in the Columbus metropolitan area was clearly established.

Worthington’s growth during the second half of the 20th century was enormous. By 1960, just four years after achieving city status, the population had increased to 9,239. During this period, the geographic area of Worthington expanded considerably, as well with annexations and suburban development as a result of construction of Interstate 71 to the west and Interstate 270 on the northern edge of Worthington. Now, fully integrated into the Columbus metropolitan area, Worthington’s geographic area covers approximately 3,648 acres, a significant increase from the early town plan of 130 acres and its population numbers over 14,000 in 2008.

It is worth noting that Worthington’s 20th century suburban growth stands in contrast to other major suburban developments of the period, including Bexley, Grandview/Marble Cliff and Upper Arlington, all of which were developed from the early 20th century as suburban communities. Worthington, however, was an early 19th century community that evolved from a small village, to a self-contained late 19th century community, to a suburban city. The Old Worthington Historic District includes buildings from this entire time period, yet with all of the diversity in age and architectural style, the district maintains the scale, individual lots, pattern of streets and roads, and pattern of public open space as it was envisioned in the early years of the 19th century.

Architectural Development

Worthington is significant for its architectural development and the significance of its diverse architecture. The Worthington Historic District Committee has compiled information regarding the architecture and significance for a number of Worthington’s distinctive architecture. It is organized by building type and period of construction.

Public Buildings

Three school buildings located within this historic district reflect architecturally the changes occurring in public school education during the 19th and early 20th century. The **Worthington Union School** (1856) (site #42) at 67 E. Granville Rd. was previously listed on the National Register (Sharon Township Hall), but its historic significance has been enhanced during the ensuing twenty years because it is now believed to be one of the earliest and best preserved surviving example of the “Union Schools” built in Ohio after the “Akron Law” made it possible for cities and towns to combine school districts and provide buildings with multiple classrooms for graded classes. This four-room building is a restrained example of early Italianate architecture featuring segmental-arched windows and entries, and a modestly bracketed roof. Recent research has proven its construction by Columbus masons Chambers and Smith.

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The **Worthington High School** (1915) (site #76) on 300 W. Granville Rd., currently being renovated and adapted for a community cultural arts center, reflects Worthington's population growth in the early 20th century and the school board's decision to build on the eighty-acre school farm on the west side of the village that the original proprietor's had set aside to be rented for school support. The township was still quite rural and one of the site attractions was space for agricultural plots for an agricultural program that would qualify the district for vocational agriculture under the Smith-Hughes Act. Designed by well-known Columbus architect Frank Packard, the building's most distinguishing features are the arched entry towers on either end of the facade.

Kilbourne Middle School (1937-38) (site #41) at 50 E. Granville Rd. is an excellent example of Georgian Revival architecture that dominated educational construction in the years between World War I and World War II. Designed by Lima architects McLaughlin and Associates, its central entry is accented by stone pilasters crowned by a pediment and a two-stage cupola that contains the bell shipped from Pittsburgh in 1807 by James Kilbourne for the original Worthington Academy. The auditorium on the west end features arched window bays that compliment the adjacent 1931 public library. The first "junior high" school in the United States was erected in Columbus twenty years earlier, but this building, designed with six elementary and four junior high classrooms, was the first building in Worthington to provide junior high pupils in this community an auditorium with stage, a gymnasium with lockers, a library-study hall, as well as a home economics classroom and cafeteria.

Commercial Buildings

The **Kilbourne Commercial Building** (1807-08) (site #164) at 679-681 High St. is a Federal brick structure previously listed on the National Register. Its historical significance has been enhanced by research that suggests it is the oldest commercial building in Ohio in continuous commercial use on its original site. It retains its original ground floor division into three commercial establishments with separate entries originally designed to accommodate James Kilbourne's retail store that evolved into the Worthington Manufacturing Company, his land surveying business, and central Ohio's first newspaper *The Western Intelligencer*. This structure influenced the direction of commercial development in early Worthington, creating a concentration south of the village green.

The pre Civil War buildings on the west side of this block from the Kilbourne Commercial Building south survive virtually intact, although facades were "modernized" during the post World War II growth period. The south end of this block is anchored at the corner of New England Ave. by the **Worthington Inn** (1834, 1853, 1900, 1983) (site #156) previously listed on the National Register. It evolved from the 1834 Cowles family residence into an 1853 hotel operated by William Bishop. A turn-of-the-century fire while the Van Loon family was operating it as "Hotel Central" destroyed the roof, and it was rebuilt with a third floor addition and the mansard roof that now establishes it as a Second Empire central Ohio landmark.

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Institutional Buildings

The gable-front, Federal style **Masonic Museum** (1820) (site #153) at 634 High St. was built for New England Masonic Lodge No. 4, the fourth in Ohio. It reflects the significance of the Masonic order in pioneer Worthington and Worthington's leadership role in the Ohio Masonic community. Previously listed on the National Register, the contract for this building's construction and its cornerstone identify local carpenter Chaucey Barker as its "architect" and Arora Buttles as the "chief operative mason." The skill of these two craftsmen is seen in the Flemish bond brickwork accented by a keystone arch in the gable facade, and the fine dentil trim that highlights the cornice. It now serves as the Ohio Masonic Museum.

Residential Buildings

Although some of Worthington's most historic and architecturally significant buildings are reflected in its churches, schools, and commercial structures, the volume of the community's residential architecture best illustrates the effects of change from 1803 to 1950, from village to suburb.

1803 to 1820

Federal style brick or frame homes were the predominant choice as early Worthington residents replaced their first temporary log homes. The **Snow House** (c.1815-16) (site #256) at 41 W. New England Ave. is a five-bay brick previously listed on the National Register that typifies this style. Also previously listed is the braced frame **Adams-Bishop-Heath House** (c.1817-18) (site #174) at 721 High St. With four rooms on each floor it approaches Georgian styling as it reflects the booming prosperity of the period following the War of 1812, and the opportunity to rent rooms to students attending the thriving Worthington Academy which was then located across the street.

Another architectural trend in the post-war era reflected the growth of the Worthington Manufacturing Company near the river and the desire for commercial space in the village. The **Buttles-Pinney-Brown House** (1818) (site #418) at 12 E. Stafford Ave. and the **Ripley House** (c.1818-19) (site #150) at 623 High St., both previously listed on the National Register, reflect gable-end construction that offered a commercial room with an entry from the street and family living space to the rear. Both have Flemish bond brick construction on the gable-end facade, common bond on the sides. From the south side, each appears to be a typical five-bay Federal residence with a central entry.

1820 to 1860

The economic depression that followed the national banking crisis of 1819 caused the collapse of the Worthington Manufacturing Company and had a devastating effect upon Worthington's development. The establishment in 1814 of Columbus as the state capital fourteen miles south attracted many of the community's most capable young men. Worthington lost population between 1820 and mid-century and there was little new construction.

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A notable example from this period is the **Mattoon-Woodrow House** (c.1837-38) (site #273) at 72 E. North St., a five-bay Federal brick previously listed on the National Register for its association with Ansel Mattoon, one of the founders of the Worthington Anti-Slavery Society. It was also the home of Rev. Thomas Woodrow, minister of the Worthington Presbyterian Church in the 1850s and later grandfather of President Woodrow Wilson. It was moved in the 1930s from its original site at the corner of High and North Streets. This was quite common in Worthington as commercial space on High St. became valuable. It was also true for the **Scanland-Skeele House** (c.1837-38) (site #119) at 700 Hartford St., a double-galleried frame home that was turned to the west from its original northern orientation on its site facing Granville Rd, also previously listed on the National Register.

A modest 1 ½ story vernacular residence, the **Turk-Gilkey House** (c.1834 & 1920) (site #264), at 108 W. New England Ave. was enlarged in 1920 into a two-story home on its original site. It is a historically significant structure because the original owners were Henry and Dolly Turk, the first African-American family to own property in Worthington. In 1856 they repaid a personal loan from several Methodists and received their title to this property.

Worthington's economic stagnation can be seen even more clearly in some of the more modest residences that were considered worth moving. The modest vernacular frame homes at **72 E. Granville Rd.** (site #43) and **782 Hartford St.** (site #121) were both moved from their original sites and may well date from before 1820, although both have subsequently had significant additions. The Granville Rd. building, previously listed on the National Register. Both are typical frame buildings with gable ends. The most architecturally significant residence erected in Worthington during this period was the **Old Episcopal Rectory** (1841-45) (site #258) now at 50 W. New England Ave. Built facing the public square, just south of St. John's Episcopal Church, it housed fifteen rectors before being moved twice to currently serve as museum and headquarters for the Worthington Historical Society. This Greek Revival building with classical gable pediment crowning its three-bay facade was described when originally listed on the National Register.

1860 to 1895

Unlike many Ohio towns that grew rapidly in the post-Civil War era, Worthington remained a sleepy village. There was modest growth toward the east because the first railroad between Columbus and Cleveland passed a mile east of the public square, but it failed to have significant economic impact upon the village. Worthington has no cluster of noteworthy Victorian homes, but individual examples reflect specific architectural trends.

Like most towns, the most distinguished homes in this period were built for Worthington's most successful businessmen. What is now **Sharon Memorial Hall** (1861) (site #57) at 137 E. Granville Rd. was previously listed on the National Register. Built for Horace and Henrietta Wright, who operated a lumber mill to the north, this home was a five-bay Italianate with stone surround framing the entry. Its character was dramatically changed by the addition of a classical portico with Doric columns early in the 20th century. A notable Queen Anne home at **36 Short St.** (1887) (site #367) was built for James Wright, who for many years operated the community's largest general store. It is distinguished by its corner projecting bay.

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But economic opportunities in the village were limited and a few of the most notable homes in this period were erected by persons who had ties that made them prefer to live in Worthington and ride the railroad to business interests in the capital city. The **Hart-Fay-Robinson House**, a massive Italianate home at 64 W. Granville Rd (1868-69) (site #64) was completed for Lucy Hart, shortly after the death of her husband railroad contractor Russell B. Hart — a grandson of Asahel Hart, the Kilbourne nephew and brick mason who built some of the earliest structures in Worthington. It was previously listed on the National Register. One of Worthington's architectural gems is the Second Empire **Topping-Evans House** (c.1842 & 1883) (site #47) at 92 E. Granville Rd. Whitfield Evans, a great-grandson of one of Worthington's original proprietors David Bristol, was a tinner who sold stoves and furnaces in both Worthington and Columbus. Newspaper accounts suggest he did much of the construction of the mansard roof himself, raising the roof of a modest brick home previously owned by the Toppings, another founding family. This structure has previously been listed on the National Register, but recent evidence suggests that its mansard roof may have been the inspiration for the renovation that created the enlarged hotel that is now the Worthington Inn.

After the Civil War Worthington shops and churches were appealing to retiring farmers and some who moved into the village built attractive homes. An example is the **Holt House** (1892) (site #329) at 675 Oxford St., built for Samuel and Julia Holt, the granddaughter of a Scioto Company pioneer and a retired farmer who served for many years as clerk of the Sharon Township Trustees and Board of Education. This is an exceptionally nice Queen Anne home with an octagonal bay, wrap-around porch, and fish scale siding.

1895-1910

Although Worthington actually lost population in the 1820s, it stabilized with approximately 400 residents from 1840 to 1900. But a dramatic change occurred after the completion of the electric street railway in 1893. Trains arrived from Columbus every half hour, turned around at the public square, and departed for the return to Columbus.

One of the first persons to take advantage of the possibility of living in Worthington and commuting to Columbus was Henry Fay who re-platted the block between Oxford and Evening Streets, Granville Rd. and Stafford Ave. into thirty rather than the original ten lots. It was no longer necessary for each family to have a 3/4 acre lot with a barn for the family cow, horse, and chickens. The **Gardner House** (1896) (site #66) at 80 W. Granville Rd., previously listed on the National Register, was the first to be built in this subdivision and its size and Queen Anne style established a standard of excellence. Lyman Gardner was the President of the Worthington Savings Bank, the community's first bank.

One of the most favored architectural styles during this period was the two-story gable-front-and-wing with side porch. Examples can be found at **655 Hartford St.** (1890) (site #104), **49-51 W. Granville Rd.** (1895) (site #62), **912 Hartford St.** (c.1898) (site #137), **675 Hartford St.** (site #111), **790 Oxford St.** (1903) (site #345), and **39 W. Stafford Ave.** (1913) (site #432). These were middle-class family homes of frame construction and their erection on lots a block away from the main street began to define a distinction between commercial and residential streets in the village.

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1910-1940

During the teens and twenties **American Foursquares** in brick or frame, **Bungalows** and **Colonial Revival** styles became the architecture of choice as Worthington began to grow. The brick at **668 Hartford St.** (1910) (site #115) and frame at **569 Oxford St.** (c.1915) (site #314) typify the **American Foursquares** with full front porch and third floor dormers. Other good examples are **118 E. New England Ave.** (1920) (site #250), **771 Oxford St.** (1920) (site #340), **897 Morning St.** (1925) (site #230), and **700 Evening St.** (1926) (site #30). Homes were being built by individuals in all four quadrants rather than by a developer on a single street.

Bungalows were a popular style for those wishing a more modest size home. **674 Hartford St.** (1900) (site #110) is perhaps the earliest example of the style in the village. **695 Oxford St.** (1908) (site #336) is an unusual interpretation with an eyebrow-arched porch entry. Columned porches are common in Worthington as are gable dormers, and again the style is represented throughout the village with examples at **108 W. Granville Rd.** (1909) (site #71), **687 Hartford St.** (1910) (site #114), **88 W. Granville Rd.** (1919) (site #67), **557 and 601 Oxford St.** (c.1920) (sites #311, 321), **678 Evening St.** (c.1920) (site #27), **39 W. Granville Rd.** (1922) (site #59), **38 W. Stafford Ave.** (1925) (site #431).

The **Mission** style is represented at **126 W. Granville Rd.** (1920) (site #75) in a bungalow whose red tile roof is most unusual for the village.

The **Craftsman** style was less common in Worthington but **561 Oxford St.** (1920) (site #313) is a nice example with gable front, triple window, fish-scale siding and wooden shingles.

The gambrel-roofed **Dutch Colonial Revival** was also found in Worthington with good examples at **28 W. Granville Rd.** (1922) (site #58), **672 Evening St.** (1925) (site #26), and **109 W. Stafford Ave.** (1930) (site #439).

Typical **Colonial Revival** homes from this period are **123 W. New England** (1923) (site #267), **822 Oxford St.** (1925) (site #351) and **610 Evening St.** (1941) (site #22).

Like most towns with access to a railroad, Worthington builders could order delivery of the 'Honor Bilt' homes advertised and sold by Sears, Roebuck, and Co. ready to construct on the owner's lot, or those from other companies that offered catalogue homes. These homes were sold by the companies and erected by local builders. It can be very difficult to prove the provenance of a catalogue home without records to verify the claim, however some are known to survive in Worthington. The Sears '**Crescent**' model at **111 E. New England Ave.** (1925) (site #247) is a modest five-room home distinguished by an arched-gable portico supported by clustered columns and tripartite windows on either side. Another Sears home – the '**Mitchell**' at **96 W. South St.** (c.1916) (site #407) features a Tudor Revival facade with high and low gables, the latter forming a vestibule highlighted by an arched entry. Other possible catalogue homes are located at **107 and 131 West Stafford** (site #437, 447) and **55 and 125 West New England** (sites # 260, 268). All four of these homes are similar in design and could be either Sears "**Cedars**" or "**Barrington**" models or the "**Hudson**" model offered by the Gordon-Van Tine Co. – all dating from the 1920s and exhibiting English Revival characteristics.

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Other homes with English and Tudor Revival characteristics were quite popular with Worthington builders in the years preceding the Great Depression. These typically featured a gable facade with a sloping roof and side dormers, and a gable entry. In addition to the examples above, others are located at **33 E. South St.** (1926) (site #379), and **131 W. Stafford St.** (1927) (site #447). Two of the finest **Tudor Revival** homes in the village are the stone residence at **670 Morning St.** (1929) (site #212), built as a parsonage for the Methodist Church, and **875 Oxford St.** (1929) (site #359) a brick with casement windows featuring diamond-paned lights.

1930-early 1960s

Like the rest of the country, Worthington saw little residential construction during the Great Depression, when few people could afford a new home, and during World War II when there was a shortage of building materials. However, in the immediate post-war period, there was significant construction within the Worthington Historic District – particularly in the northeast and northwest quadrants.

Two **Cape Cod** style homes at **915 Oxford St.** (1938) (site #366) and **562 Evening St.** (1941) (site #15), however, forecast a style that would become quite popular in the immediate post-war era. An excellent example can be seen in the cluster of six **Cape Cod** homes built during 1949-50 on **Hartford Ct.** (sites #77-84), the village's first circular cul-de-sac — a trend that would become popular in suburban housing developments in subsequent decades.

A concentration of **Ranch** style homes can be found on East North Street, (sites # 273, 274, 277, 280, 281). They are typically small in scale and were targeted to the post WWII housing market.

Summary

The period of significance for the Worthington Historic District has been established as 1803 –1962 beginning when the first settlers arrived to establish the community and ending in the mid-20th century with the construction of ranch and cape cod style housing that reflected post-war suburban growth.

The district includes 450 primary buildings, with 22 buildings and one site already listed in the National Register. Of the primary buildings, 391 are considered contributing (including NR properties) and 59 are considered non-contributing. The district also includes 207 garages that are considered contributing to the district. Of the contributing primary properties, approximately 60% date from 1900-1960s; 51 % date from 1900-1929 and 49% from 1930 –1960s. Although the town plan dates from the inception of the community, it took well into the 20th century to complete the development of the entire area, as platted. The 20th century buildings are interspersed among buildings from the 19th century, creating streetscapes that are diverse in architectural styles, but retain a sense of cohesiveness through common setbacks, landscaped front yards, mature street trees, sidewalks, and the grid pattern of streets. The Village Green is located at the center of the district and continues to function today as a place for celebrations, activities and as a community open space.

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Development of the commercial district along High Street reflects the evolution of the community from a pedestrian-oriented village to a suburban community. The commercial district south of the Village Green consists of compact development, close to the street with shared party walls, typical of the 19th and early 20th centuries. This area is where the earliest commercial development occurred and was later served by a streetcar from downtown Columbus (which ended at Granville Road). Worthington City Council zoned High Street, from South to North streets – the entire length of the district – for commercial use in 1927. The development on High Street north of Granville Road reflects the automobile era of the community with the typical development pattern consisting of single-family homes converted to commercial use and newer commercial buildings with on-site parking – at times in front of the business for the convenience of customers.

A number of the properties in the historic district were constructed between 1940-1960s and are considered as examples of “Mid-century” architecture. The use of “mid-century” in this context is based on the definition provided in *Preserving Resources from the Recent Past*, published by the National Trust for Historic Preservation: “*mid-century is a useful term to describe the range of architecture from the 1940s to the 1960s. Because it is more of a temporal distinction rather than aesthetic, it encompasses the wide variety of types and styles built in the post-war decades.*” This period of construction is significant to consider, as “*according to the 2000 census, half of the extant housing in the United States was built between the 1940s and the 1960s. After World War II, home building and suburban development both took place at an unprecedented rate. . . .*” (*Preserving Resources from the Recent Past*, p. 17). The mid-century development in the Worthington Historic District reflects some of the developmental trends that occurred in post-war America. “*The close relationship between existing town and new subdivision was a common pattern throughout much of the United States in the early postwar era. Contrary to the familiar stereotype, suburban development right after the war did not routinely take place in isolated fields far from civilization. Instead new housing developments were usually integrated into existing towns whenever possible. . . .*” (*American Dreamscape*, p. xvii) This was true in the Worthington Historic District, where during the period immediately following the war until the mid-1960s the remaining undeveloped original town lots were nearly all developed.

In the case of Worthington, its architecture from the early 19th to the mid-20th century reflects the history and development of the community from village to suburban community; by continuing to respect the original town plan by being built on individual pre-existing lots, rather than in areas platted and completely developed in the 20th century; and they continue the patterns of the established streetscape with similar setbacks and building orientation toward the established street pattern. With few exceptions, the homes were built by individuals rather than large-scale developers as was common in some suburban communities from the early 20th century to the post-war period. The homes on Hartford Court, in the northeast quadrant varies from the original grid, but the houses date from the immediate post-war period of 1949-50. Worthington Village Council approved the creation of Clearview Street, in the northwest quadrant, in 1928, although most of the houses were not built until after World War II in the late 1940s and early 1950s. Hartford Court (houses built and on East Stafford between Hartford and Morning streets where development varies from the established pattern, although

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the development occurred mainly after the period of significance. The City of Worthington created an architectural review district in 1967 to preserve the character of the original village between North, South, Morning and Evening streets.

The Worthington Historic District still reflects the integrity of the original town plan and how it was developed as the community evolved from an idea developed in New England in 1803 to its current status a vibrant residential town in the greater metropolitan Columbus area. The original design of the district has been maintained through the grid layout of streets; the Village Green at the center of the community with schools and churches located either on or near the Green; the commercial core along High Street; and its many residential streetscapes with individual lots, single-family homes, sidewalks and mature street trees. Its architecture represents a broad spectrum of styles ranging from early 19th century Federal to mid-20th century Cape Cods and ranches. Worthington appeals to a wide variety of residents, from descendents of the original settlers to newcomers who find employment with the colleges and universities, government and businesses in the metropolitan area. It is a living history lesson of the realization of dreams of the men and women who made that long journey from New England to Ohio in 1803 and how succeeding generations have respected that early dream while leaving their own marks on the community.

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Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the intersection of W. Granville Road and Evening Street, proceed west to the western boundary of 300 W. Granville Road, turn north to the northern boundary of 300 W. Granville Road, go east to the curb line of Evening Street; go north along the curb line of Evening Street to the northern property line of 920 Evening Street, turn east and proceed in an irregular manner along the northern property lines on W. North Street to 20 W. North Street; go south along the east property line of 20 W. North Street and follow the rear property lines of 911-895 North High Street, go east along the north property lines of 891 and 888 North High Street; turn north along the west property line of the properties along Hartford Court and Hartford Street to the intersection with East North Street; go east along the curb line of East North Street to the western boundary of the property at 72 E. North Street; proceed north to the northern property line and proceed along the northern property lines to the eastern property line of 148 E. North Street; turn south along the curb line of Morning Street to the northern property line of 778 Morning Street, turn east to the property line of this property; proceed south in an irregular manner along the eastern property lines to E. South Street; go west to Hartford Street; turn south to the southern property line of 168 E. South Street; turn west and proceed irregularly along the southern property lines of E. South Street and W. South Street to the western property line of 143 W. South Street, turn north at the west property line of this property and proceed along the west property line of the properties on the west side of Evening Street, turn east at the northern property line of 575 Evening Street to the curblines of Evening Street; proceed north to the point of origin at the center of the intersection of Evening Street and W. Granville Road.

Boundary Justification

The boundary lines were drawn to include the original lots of the 1803 village of Worthington with the Village Green at its center and the currently named streets of North, South, Morning, and Evening as the boundaries. These lines were expanded to include the adjacent properties when these parcels contain buildings of historic significance. The excluded adjacent properties include small commercial areas and recently constructed low-rise apartments and single family dwellings; in general, these areas do not detract from the historic atmosphere of the proposed historic district.

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Photographs

Photographers: Jeffrey Darbee
Nancy Recchie
Benjamin D. Rickey & Co.
393 Library Park South
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Date of Photos: June-November, 2008

Photo Views:

1. St. John Episcopal Church
2. St. John Episcopal Church Parish Hall
3. St. John Episcopal Church Cemetery
4. Worthington Presbyterian Church
5. Worthington Presbyterian Church south wing
6. View of James Kilbourne Memorial Library/School Administration Building
7. Library entrance detail
8. 721 High Street
9. Southeast Quadrant of Village Green
10. Southwest Quadrant of Village Green
11. Streetscape of west side of High Street south of Village Green
12. Streetscape of east side of High Street south of Village Green
13. Streetscape of High Street north of Village Green
14. Streetscape of High Street looking north from Stafford
15. 679-681 High Street
16. Worthington Inn
17. 689-693 High Street
18. 692 High Street
19. Masonic Temple
20. Masonic Temple 1956 addition
21. Worthington Methodist Church
22. Worthington Methodist Church addition
23. 623 High Street
24. Worthington Post Office
25. 12 E. Stafford Street
26. 800 High Street
27. 881 High Street
28. 888 High Street
29. Sharon Township Hall

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30. Sharon Memorial Hall
31. Kilbourne School
32. Original Worthington High School
33. 72 East Granville Road
34. 92 East Granville Road
35. 80 West Granville Road
36. 39 West Granville Road
37. 28 West Granville Road
38. 700 Hartford Street
39. 701 Morning Street
40. 141 East South Street
41. 145 East South Street
42. 594 Hartford Street
43. 615 Hartford Street
44. 618 Morning Street
45. 570 Hartford Street
46. 628 Hartford Street
47. 670 Morning Street
48. 580 Morning Street
49. 41 West New England Street
50. 50 West New England Street
51. 675 Oxford Street
52. 695 Oxford Street
53. 703 Oxford Street
54. 111 West South Street
55. 123 West New England Street
56. 147 West South Street
57. 55 West New England Street
58. 125 West New England Street
59. 135 Clearview
60. 101 Clearview
61. 120 Clearview
62. 123 Clearview
63. 822 Oxford Street
64. 800 Oxford Street
65. 875 Oxford Street
66. 40 West Stafford Street
67. 107 West Stafford Street
68. 131 West Stafford Street
69. 72 East North Street
70. 782 Hartford Street

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- 71. 912 Hartford Street
- 72. Hartford Court
- 73. 139 East North Street
- 74. 140 East North Street
- 75. Streetscape on Morning Street
- 76. Streetscape on Oxford Street
- 77. Streetscape on West Granville Road
- 78. Current Worthington Library
- 79. 897-901 Hartford Street

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Credits

Worthington was founded as a planned community in 1803, the same year Ohio became a state. The community celebrated its Bicentennial in 2003. While Worthington is a community that recognizes and appreciates its heritage, the core of the historic community has not been recognized as a National Register historic district.

To create this nomination, the Old Worthington Association and the Worthington Historical Society agreed to a joint effort to make application to the United States Park Service in the Department of the Interior for Historic District status for Old Worthington.

The Worthington Historic District Committee was formed in 1999 with membership as follows:

Susan Allen
Karen Alsnauer
Emily Baker
Jeff Bergen
Jill Cohen
Mikel Coulter
Maggie Huff
Phil Lampe
Jennifer Maier
Jennie McCormick
Margaret Real
Jane Trucksis
Jim Ventresca
Paul Wherry

There were obviously others who provided help, but the greatest bulk of the effort in researching for, and preparing this application was carried out by this committee of dedicated citizens of Worthington. It is with the utmost gratitude that I express my sincerest appreciation to them.

Worthington Historic District Committee
Jim Ventresca
Chairman

The nomination was revised in 2008 with the assistance of Jeffrey Darbee and Nancy Recchie, historic preservation consultants. Mikel Coulter prepared all of the maps and property lists for this nomination.

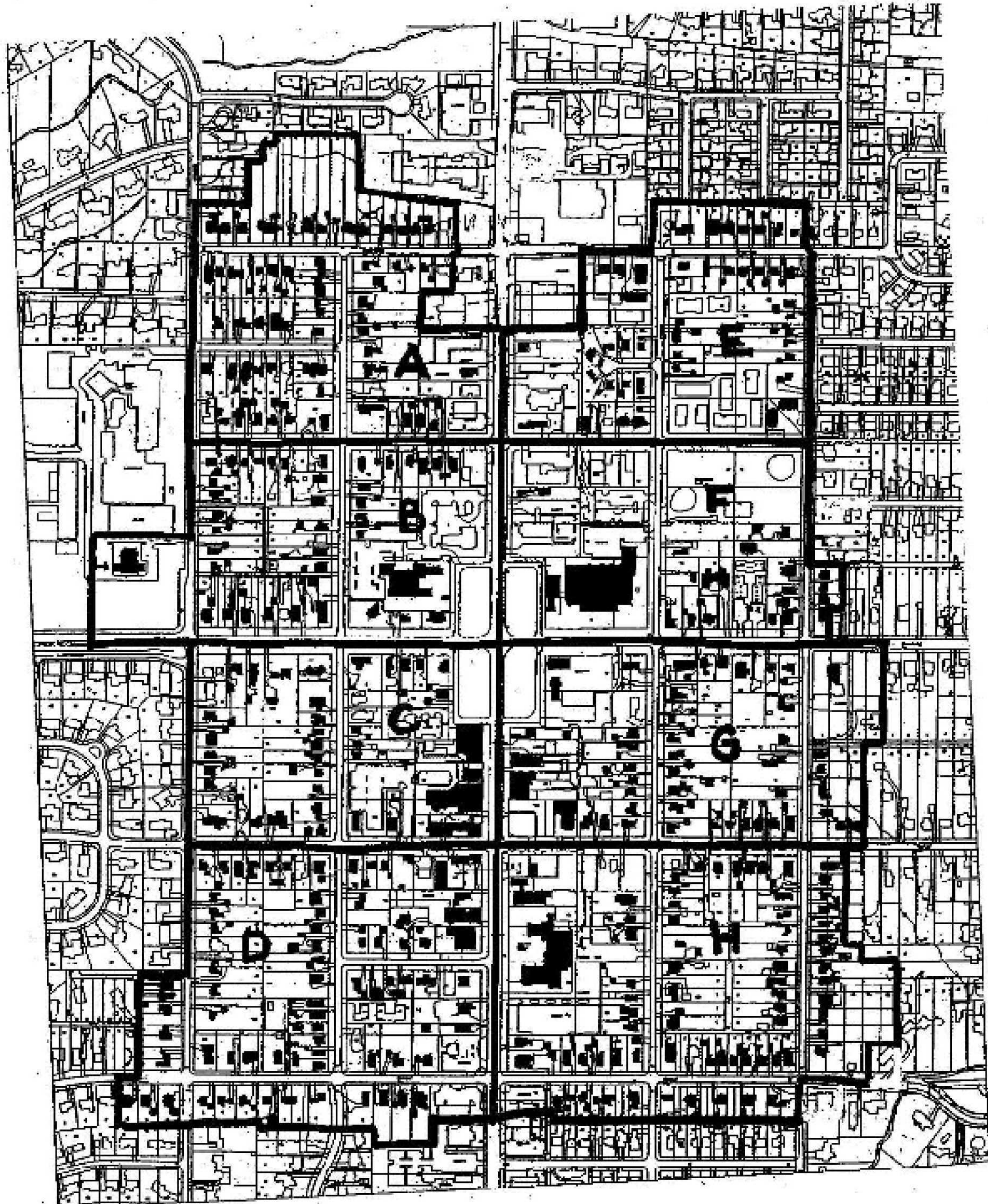
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Historic District Map



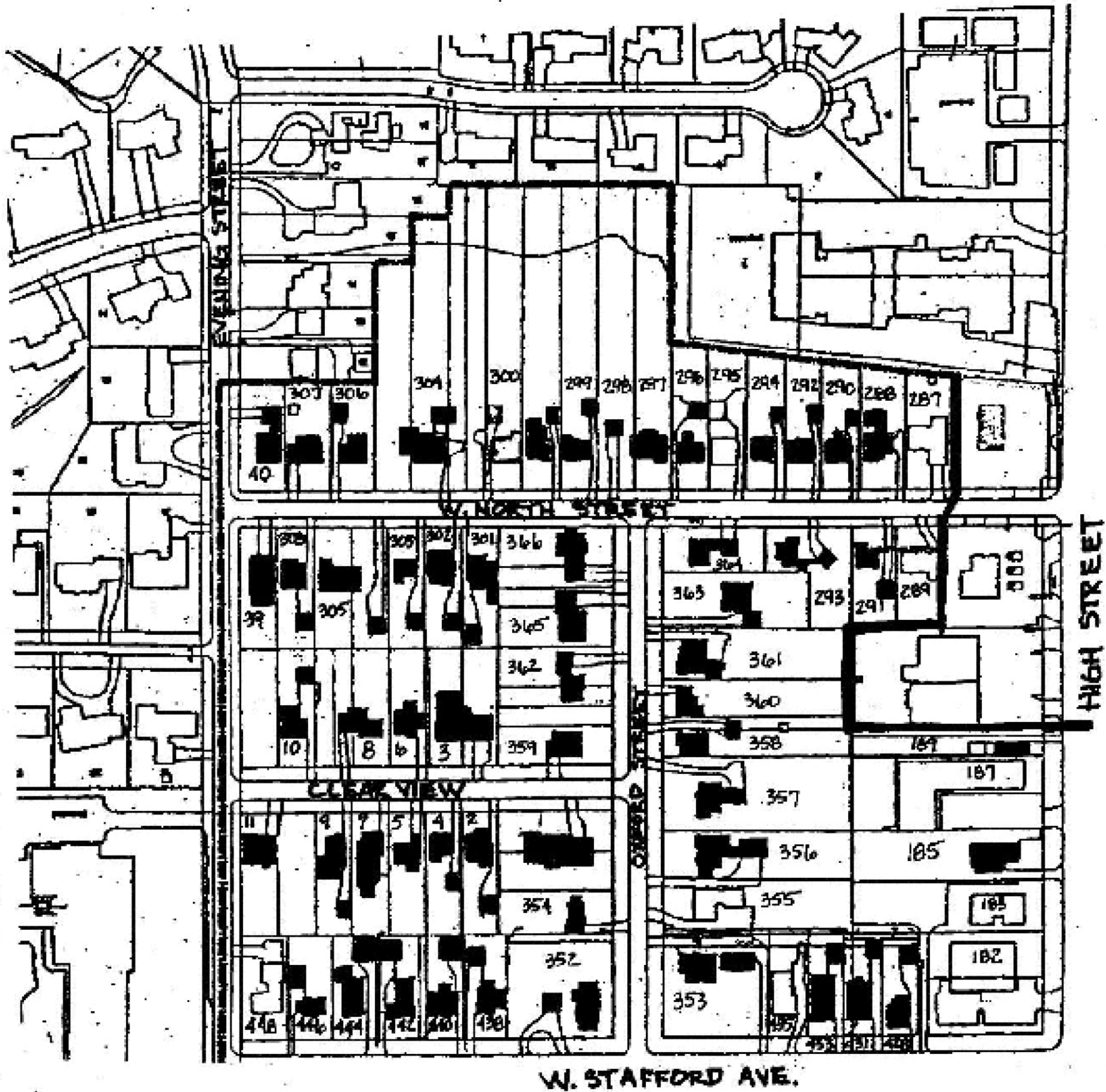
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Map A



- Contributing
- Non-contributing
- NR National Register



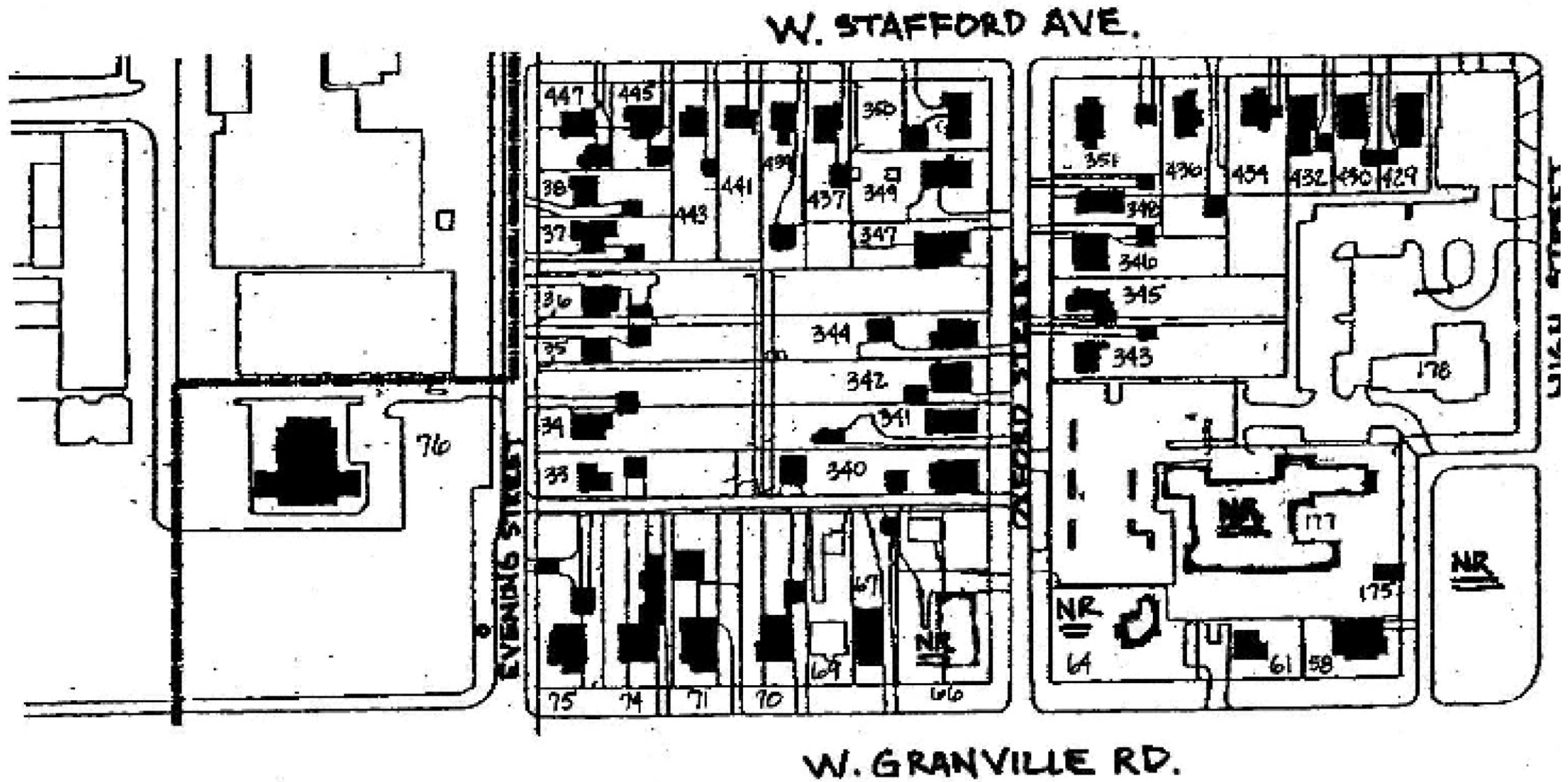
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Map B



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- NR National Register

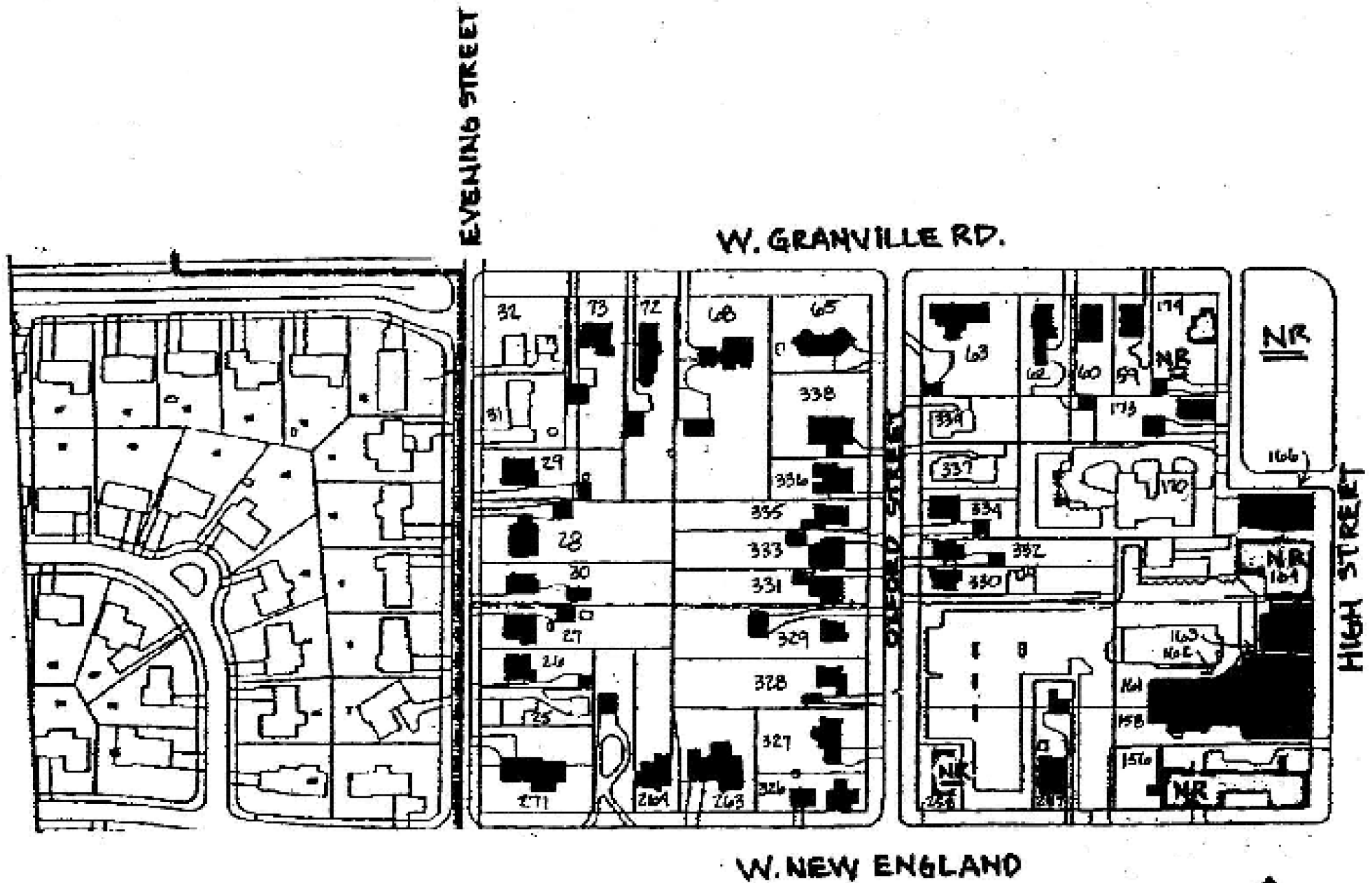
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Map C



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- NR National Register



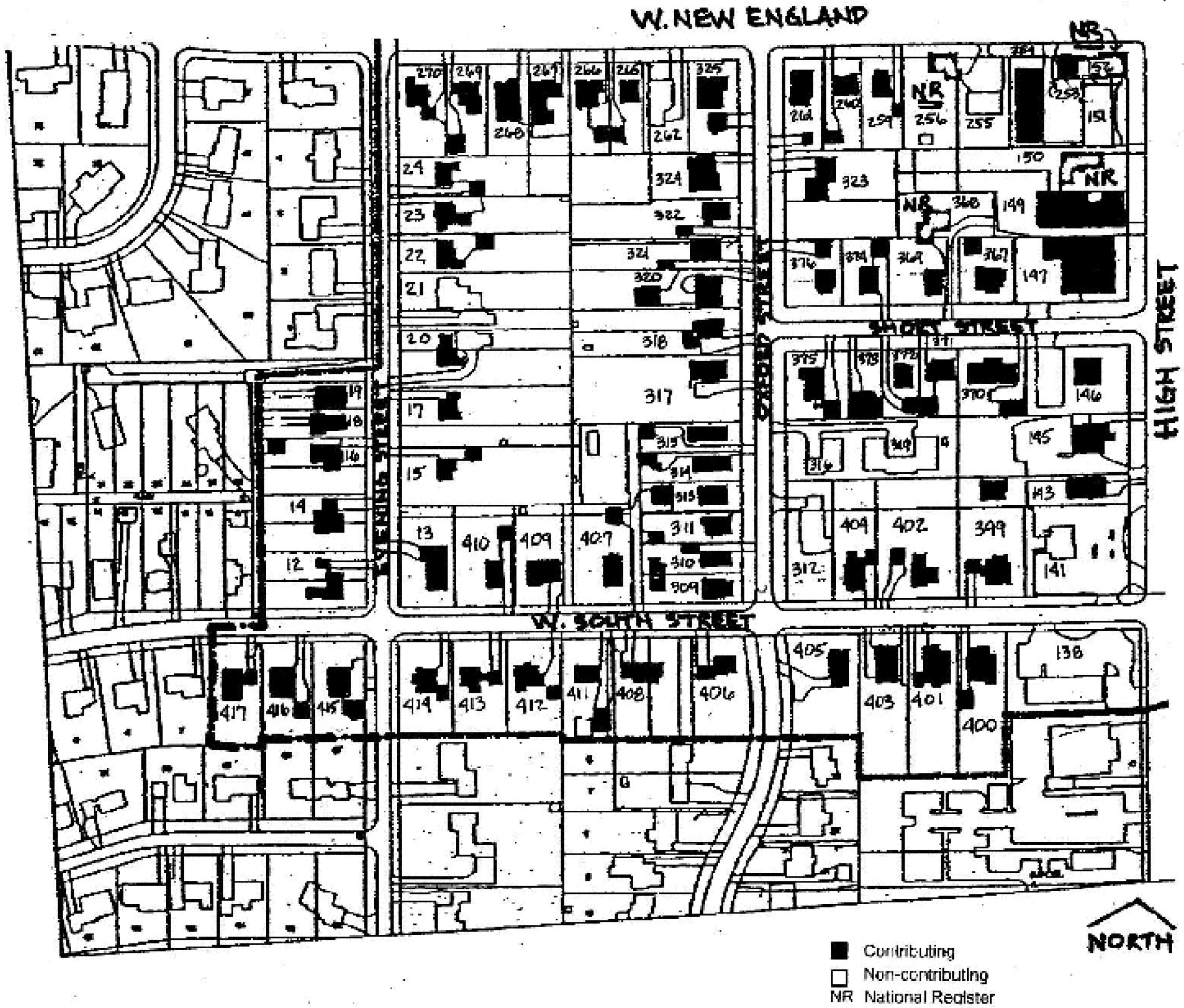
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Map D



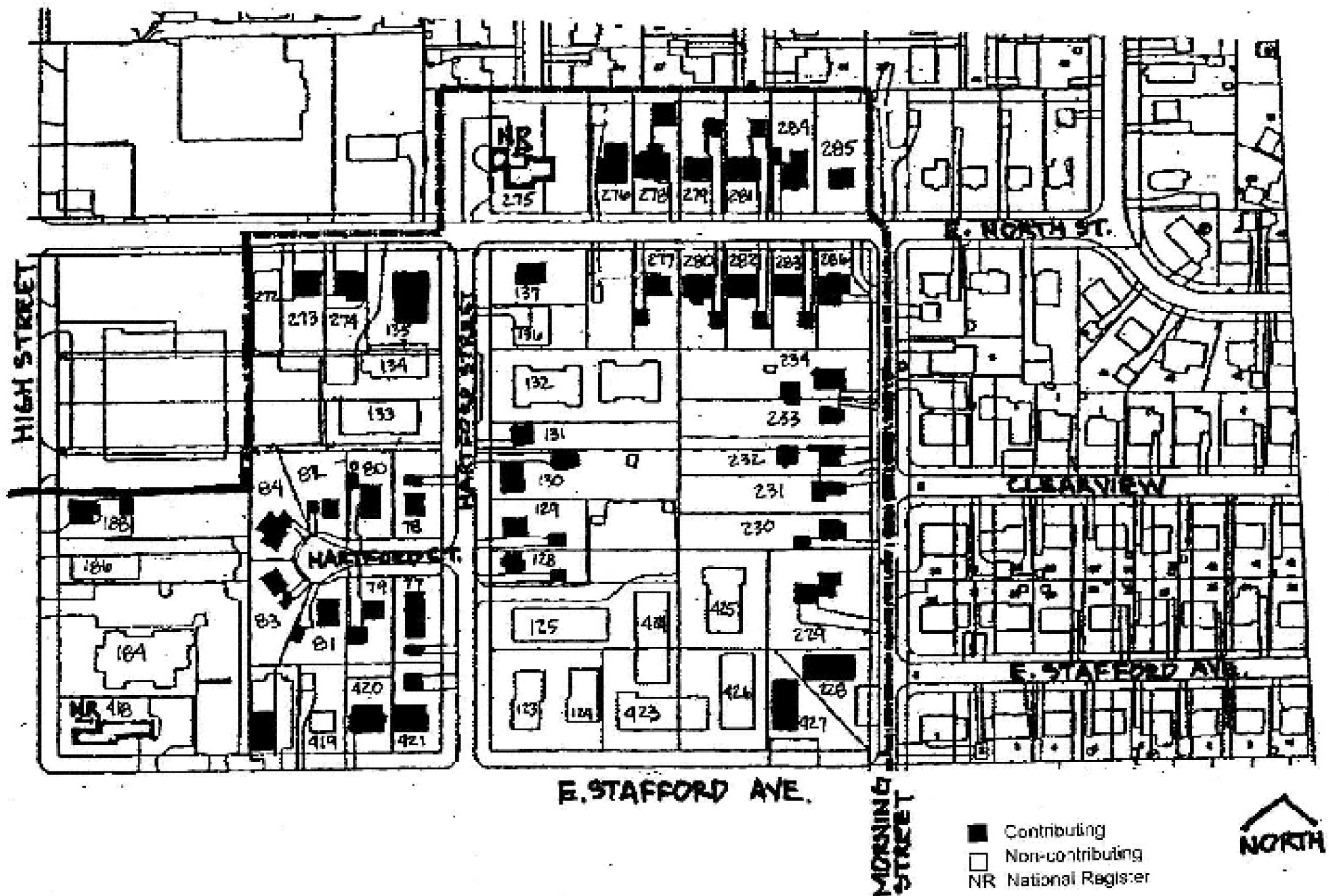
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Map E



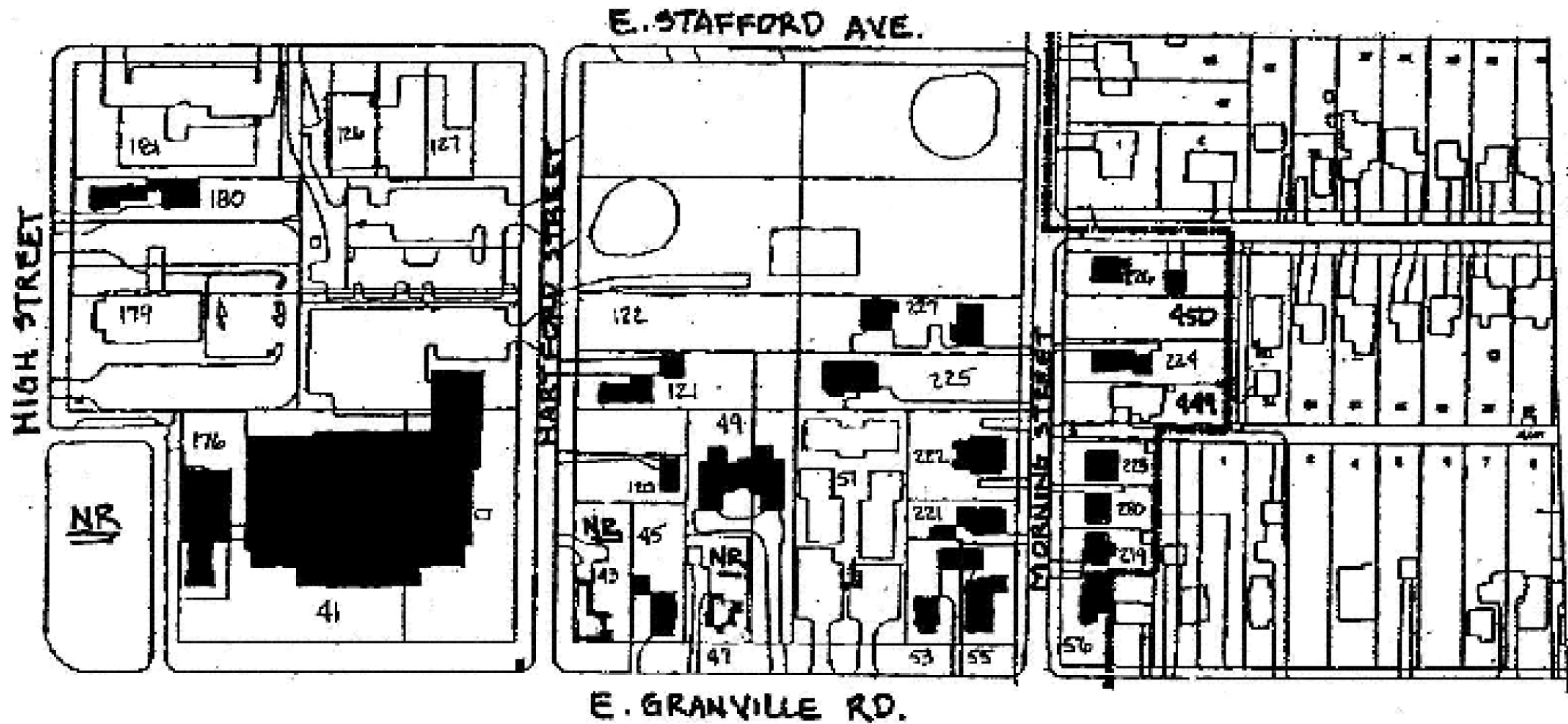
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Map F



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- NR National Register



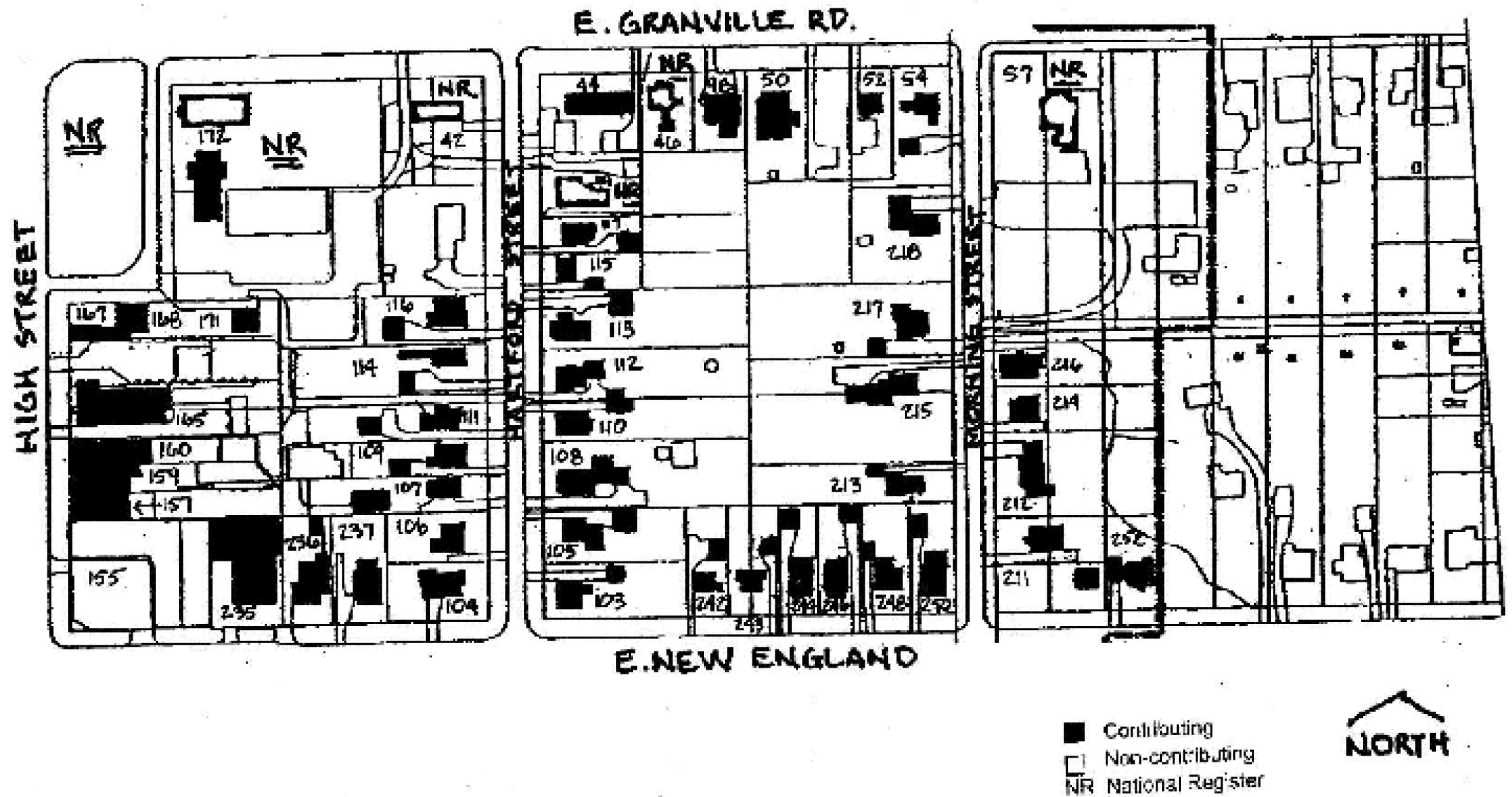
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Map G



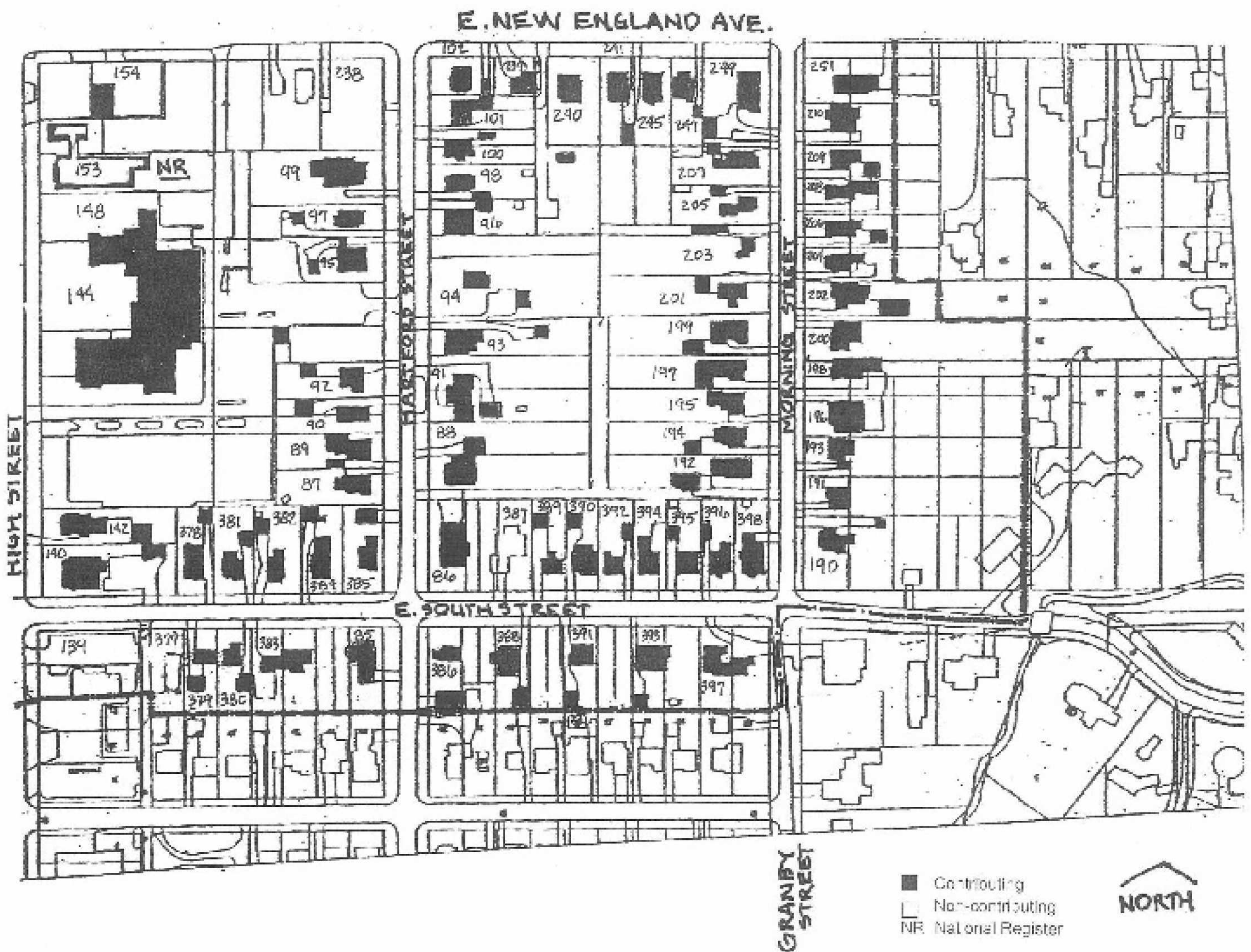
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Map H



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Current views of St. John Episcopal Church (top left, #1), Parish Hall (top right, #2) and Cemetery (bottom, #3).

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Current views of Worthington Presbyterian Church (left, #4) and south wing (right, #5).



Current view of historic library building (left, #6) and detail of entrance (right, #7).

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Current view of 721 High Street, facing the Village Green (#8).



Current views of the southeast (left, #9) and southwest (right, #10) quadrants of the Village Green.

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Streetscape views of High Street south of the Village Green (photos #11-12).



Streetscape views of High Street north of the Village Green (photos #13-14).

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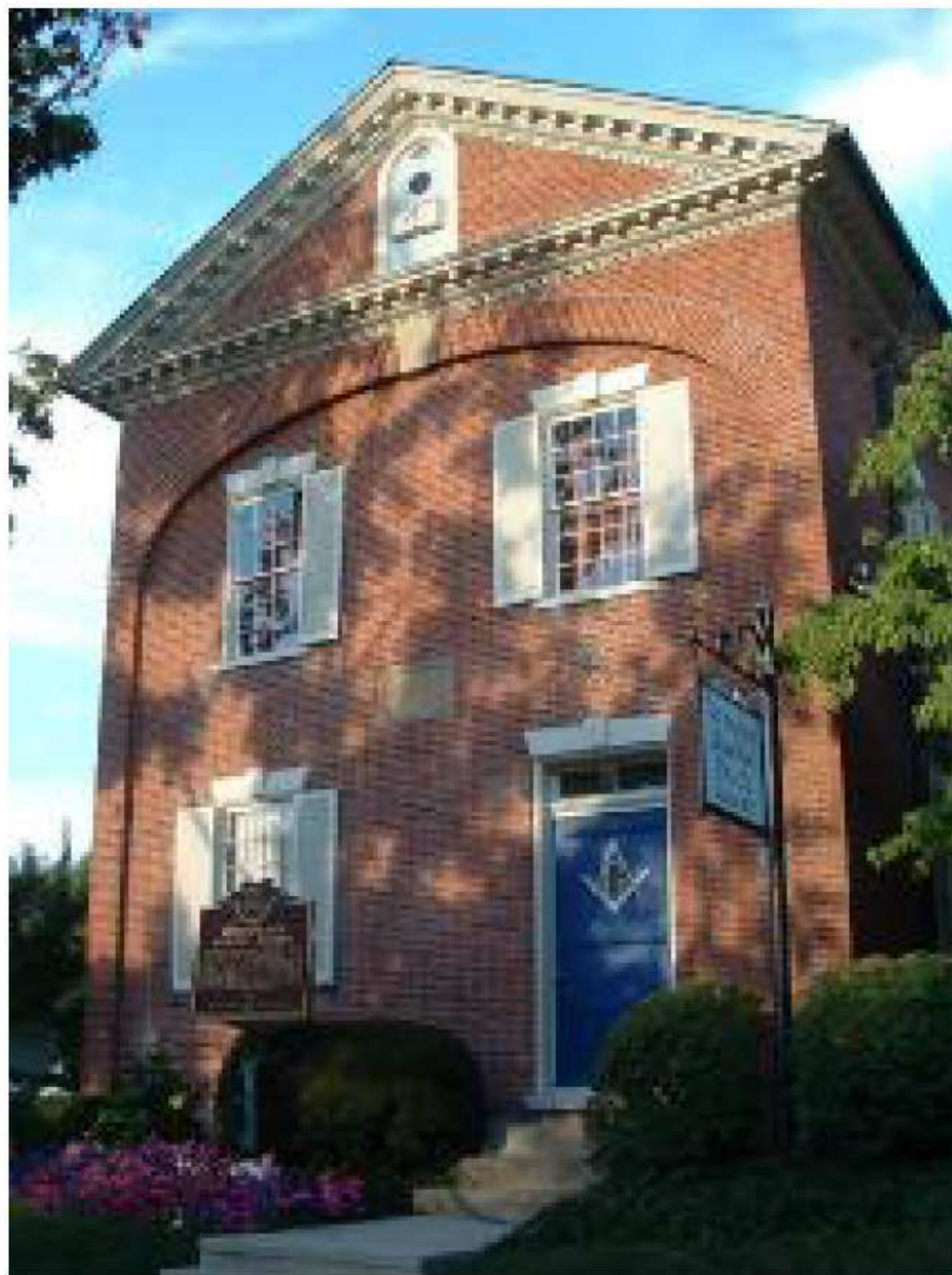
**Current views of 679-681 High Street (upper left, #15), Worthington Inn (upper right, #16),
689-693 High Street (lower left, #17) and 692 High Street (lower right, #18).**

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Current views of Masonic Temple. Original building (left, #19) and 1956 addition (right, #20).



Current views of Worthington Methodist Church, the 1925 building (left, #21) and contemporary addition (right, #22).

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Current views of 623 High Street (left, #23) and Worthington Post Office (right, #24).



Current photos of 12 East Stafford (upper left, #25), 800 (upper right, #26), 881 (lower left, #27) and 888 High Street (lower right, #28). All are houses converted to commercial uses.

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Current views of Sharon Township Hall (left, #29) and Sharon Memorial Hall (right, #30), both on Granville Road, east of the Village Green.



Current view of the original portion of Kilbourne School (left, #31), located on East Granville and the historic Worthington High School Building (right, #32), on West Granville Road.

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Current views of Granville Road houses, 72 East Granville (top left, #33), 92 East Granville (top right, #34), 80 West Granville (middle left, #35), 39 West Granville (middle right, #36), and 28 West Granville (bottom, #37).

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Current views of houses in the Southeast Quadrant, including 700 Hartford Street (top left, #38), 701 Morning Street (top center, #39), 141 East South Street (top right, #40), 145 East South Street (second row left, #41), 594 Hartford Street (second row center, #42), 615 Hartford Street (second row right, #43), 618 Morning Street (third row left, #44), 570 Hartford Street (third row center, #45) and 628 Hartford (third row right, #46), 670 Morning Street (bottom left, #47), and 580 Morning Street (bottom right, #48).

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Current views of houses in the Southwest Quadrant, including 41 West New England (top left, #49), 50 West New England (top center, #50), 675 Oxford (top right, #51), 695 Oxford (center far left, #52), 703 Oxford (center left, #53), 111 West South (center right, #54), 123 West New England (center far right, #55), 147 West South (bottom left, #56), 55 West New England (bottom center, #57) and 125 West New England (bottom right, #58).

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(insert 123 Clearview)



Current photos of 135 Clearview (top left, #59), 101 Clearview (top center, #60), 120 Clearview (top right, #61), 123 Clearview (second row left, #62), 130 Clearview (second row, right, #63), 822 Oxford (third row left, #64), 800 Oxford (third row center, #65), 875 Oxford (third row right, #66), 40 West Stafford (bottom left, #67), 107 West Stafford (bottom center, #68), and 131 West Stafford (bottom right, #69). All are in the northwest quadrant.

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Current views of 72 East North (top left, #70), 782 Hartford (top right, #71), 912 Hartford (middle left, #72), Hartford Court (middle right, #73), 139 East North (bottom left, #74) and 140 East North (bottom right, #75). All are located in the northeast quadrant.

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Typical streetscape views with sidewalks, mature street trees, common building setbacks and diverse architecture. Morning Street (top left, # 76), Oxford Street (top right, #77), West Granville Road (bottom, #78).

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Examples of non-contributing buildings include the Worthington Library (left, #79) and the multi-family dwellings at 897-901 Hartford (right, #80). Although outside the period of significance, they do maintain the scale, materials and setbacks common throughout the district.

