

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Federal Street Historic District

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing: _____

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

2. Location

Street & number: 122, 142 & 160 Clinton Street and 1, 43, & 77 Federal Street

City or town: Woonsocket State: RI County: Providence

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

_____ Signature of certifying official/Title:	_____ Date
_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
_____ Signature of commenting official:	_____ Date
_____ Title :	_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:

Public – Local:

Public – State:

Public – Federal:

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

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	
<u>6</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
<u>1</u>	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>7</u>	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store

SOCIAL: meeting hall

EDUCATION: school

RELIGION: religious facility

RECREATION AND CULTURE: sports facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store

DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling

Federal Street Historic District

Providence County, RI

Name of Property

County and State

SOCIAL: civic

VACANT/NOT IN USE

WORK IN PROGRESS

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Late Gothic Revival

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Classical Revival

MODERN MOVEMENT: Art Deco

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

Wall/trim: Brick/Concrete/Metal/Stone/Stucco/Synthetics/Wood

Foundation: Concrete/Stone

Roof: Rubber/Asphalt

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Federal Street Historic District is a compact urban institutional and commercial area in the northern portion of the central business district of Woonsocket, Providence County, Rhode Island. Covering 1.24 acres of a city block, the district contains six buildings erected for religious, recreational, educational, social, and automobile-related uses between 1907 and ca. 1930, representing examples of the Classical Revival, Late Gothic Revival, and Art Deco architectural styles. In addition, a ca. 1898 Stone Retaining Wall bisects the district from north to south; some portions of the wall were removed to make way for the construction of Joseph Grenon's Garage and the Masonic Temple in the 1920s. The six buildings and stone wall are all contributing resources, and there are no non-contributing resources within the district boundary. The district has good integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The buildings retain much of their historic massing, size, and scale since the end of the period of significance (1972), with the exception of a ca. 1983 pedestrian bridge across Federal Street and a small enclosed passageway built after 1972 between Joseph Grenon's

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

Garage, Woonsocket Commercial School, and the Masonic Temple. While a number of replacement doors, storefronts, and windows were installed after 1972, the buildings retain many of their character-defining features. As of 2024, Woonsocket Commercial School, Joseph Grenon's Garage and a portion of the Masonic Temple were undergoing rehabilitations utilizing historic tax credits, and the First Methodist Episcopal Church was being converted into facilities for Beacon Charter Schools. Overall, the district retains sufficient integrity to express its historic urban character and its role in the history of Woonsocket from the early 1900s to the early 1970s.

Narrative Description

The City of Woonsocket is located about 15 miles north of Providence in northeastern Rhode Island. The Blackstone River bisects the city, dropping 300 feet as it flows northwest to southeast and tracing a "W" as it passes through the densely developed central business district. Main Street, the chief thoroughfare in Downtown Woonsocket, runs south from Monument Square, passes under the Providence & Worcester Railroad Trestle, and continues southwest to Market Square, where it merges into South Main Street. The Federal Street Historic District (the district) encompasses most of a city block, located 360 feet west of the Blackstone River and 160 feet east of Main Street. The district has an area of approximately 1.24 acres, bounded by Federal Street to the west, Worrall Street to the north, Clinton Street to the east, and a large parking lot to the south.

The Federal Street Historic District extends nearly the length of Federal Street, which was laid out between 1903 and 1911 to open up new parcels for development between Main and Clinton Streets as Downtown Woonsocket expanded to the north and east. Five of the six buildings in the District have entrances on Federal Street (though the primary entrances of Masonic Temple and Joseph Grenon's Garage are located on Clinton Street). All six buildings contribute to the historic and architectural significance of the District. Ranging from one to four stories in height, these buildings present examples of masonry, reinforced concrete, and steel-frame construction, with exterior walls in combinations of brick, concrete, stone, and stucco and trim executed in brick, concrete, metal, stone, and wood. Their designs reflect popular architectural styles of the early 20th century executed on both sparsely and richly decorated façades. At least three buildings were designed by notable Woonsocket architect Walter F. Fontaine (one of these with the firm of Fontaine & Kinnicutt), and one was designed by architect William G. Upham of Norwood, Massachusetts. The District is notable for its concentration of institutional properties, with four buildings purpose-built for religious, recreational, educational, and social uses and a fifth building converted from commercial use into headquarters for a labor union around 1942. Families, youth, students, teachers, Masons, union members, automobile mechanics, and drivers have made this district a destination for more than a century. The varied institutional destinations, the coherent streetscape, its dog-leg shape, and its tucked-away location give the District a unique character distinct from that of the Main Street corridor.

There are seven individually listed properties within .15 miles of the Federal Street Historic District: Stadium Building and Theatre (listed in the National Register in 1976), Woonsocket Civil War Monument (NR, 1982), L'Union Saint Jean-Baptiste d'Amérique (NR, 2018), Harris

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

Warehouse (NR, 1976), U.S. Post Office/Woonsocket Post Office (NR, 1979), Woonsocket City Hall/Harris Institute (NR, 1974), and Honan's Block (NR, 1989). There are two historic districts within 300 feet: Cato Hill Historic District (NR 1976, amended in 1982) to the west; and Main Street Historic District (NR, 1991) to the south. The number and variety of these listed properties speaks to the complex history of urban development in Woonsocket. Part of the larger story—but also its own important chapter—the Federal Street Historic District conveys how Woonsocket grew into its role as northern Rhode Island's institutional center and adapted to accommodate the increasing number of automobile users between 1907 and 1972.

The following is an inventory of resources contained within the Federal Street Historic District: six contributing buildings and one contributing structure. The number assigned to each resource corresponds to those shown on the District Map.

CLINTON STREET

122 JOSEPH GRENON'S GARAGE/STADIUM GARAGE/INTERNATIONAL
(also TRADES UNION BUILDING (1925, enclosed passageway after 1972; builder
known Bouvier-Brien Construction Company; one contributing building)¹ (*Photos 1, 2, 4,*
as 53 *11, 13, 14; District Map #1*) A brick and concrete, rectangular-plan commercial
Federal) building with stylized Classical Revival detailing.² The reinforced concrete structure
runs the depth of the sloping block, extending three (ground, first, and second)
stories in height on Clinton Street to the east and two stories (first and second) in
height on Federal Street to the west. It has a concrete foundation, a brick chimney,
metal coping along the roofline, and a flat roof covered in EPDM. A small one-story
enclosed passageway constructed of EIFS board, metal and plate glass projects from
the center bay of the north elevation.

The garage's three-story, three-bay façade is oriented east towards Clinton Street. The ground floor is divided by four projecting brick and concrete piers crowned by pre-cast concrete shields. It is possible that the ground floor originally contained three wide garage door openings for automobiles. The central bay contains a roll-up garage door, while the outer two bays contain modern glass and aluminum storefronts with full-height fixed windows. There is a glazed single-leaf aluminum door flanked by single-light sidelights with a large transom above in the northern storefront and two doors with sidelights and transoms in the southern storefront. A wide, brick and concrete belt course accented by four concrete ornaments projects from the wall above the ground floor, providing a continuous concrete sill for the first-story windows above. The first and second floors have a double window recessed in the center bay flanked by triple windows recessed in the end bays; both

¹ It is possible that Walter F. Fontaine had a role in the design of Grenon's Garage. The list of projects in Fontaine's records includes an entry for "GRENON GARAGE" that notes "374965 cu. ft." but provides no other details. Fontaine worked with Bouvier-Brien Construction Company on two other Woonsocket buildings in 1926: L'Union Saint Jean-Baptist d' Amerique and the Jesus Marie Academy.

² This building was noted for the "neo-Babylonian quality" of its ornamentation on the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission Historic Property Data Sheet (1973).

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

double and triple windows are divided by thin brick and concrete pilasters and topped by plain concrete lintels. The openings contain 3/1 wood sash.

The building's two-story Federal Street (west) elevation is similar to the Clinton Street façade. The first story is divided into three major bays by projecting, squat, red brick piers with concrete banding and concrete capitals adorned with molded shields. Each of the two end bays is divided in half by a squat, red brick pier with concrete banding. The central bay contains a recessed entrance, which is flanked by narrow, red brick-and-concrete piers. It contains a modern, single-leaf, glazed, aluminum door, flanked by single-light sidelights and topped with a glazed transom. A secondary entrance is located within the southernmost bay. It is set with a modern, single-leaf, aluminum, and glass door with a glass-block sidelight to its left. Fenestration on the first floor includes a combination of paired and single 3/1 wood sash windows set beneath decorative brick spandrel panels. A wide brick and concrete belt course accented by four concrete ornaments projects from the wall above the first floor, providing a continuous concrete sill for the windows above. The second story has three large triple windows similar to those on the second story of the Clinton Street façade.

The north elevation of Joseph Grenon's Garage faces the Woonsocket Commercial School and the Masonic Temple across a narrow alleyway, divided in two by the enclosed passageway on the first story and the brick ell of the Masonic Temple on the ground story. The passageway was installed to connect the garage and school (both in use by the Catholic Youth Organization by 1972), and it provided an extra egress for these buildings and the Masonic Temple. The garage's north elevation is divided into 12 bays delineated by rectangular brick panels outlined with soldier and stretcher bricks. Window openings are rectangular with concrete sills and brick lintels. Fenestration includes 20-light steel windows with operable six-light awning inserts, one double 3/1 wood sash window, and one 3/1 wood sash window. The remaining window openings are infilled with brick and one is fitted with a metal egress door to a fire escape. There is a metal door at the basement level, located immediately east of the ell.

The south elevation of the garage is divided into nine bays delineated by rectangular brick panels. The two-story (west) portion of the garage faces the YMCA building across an alley that terminates where the garage abuts the YMCA stair tower/storage room. Fenestration includes two double windows with 3/1 wood sash, two 8/4 metal sash windows, and five 20-light steel windows with operable six-light awning inserts. Four window openings are fitted with metal panels (three of which contain small single-light windows), and other openings are infilled with brick. A wide brick panel near the center of the south elevation displays a large circular painted emblem with the letters "CYO" topped by a cross.

Although the interior of Joseph Grenon's Garage was altered over time to accommodate a variety of tenants, it retains portions of the historic concrete

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

automobile ramp: an intact section that extends from the basement to the ground floor and a partially blocked section from the ground floor to the first floor.

Erected in 1925 by Bouvier-Brien Construction Company as a parking garage and office building for Joseph Grenon and partners, the first floor was used by automobile-related business until at least 1955. The Independent Textile Union (later Industrial Trade Union) had its headquarters here from ca. 1942 to 1971, and the Catholic Youth Organization occupied the building from 1971 to 2018. The building is currently being rehabilitated into apartments utilizing historic tax credits.

- 142 MASONIC TEMPLE (1929; architect William G. Upham, builders Eastern Construction Company; one contributing building) (*Photos 1, 2, 3, 5, 16, 17; District Map #2*) An irregular L-shaped institutional building comprised of two formerly interconnected structures: a three-story, five-bay, Classical Revival-style, steel-frame, red brick-clad building with a concrete water table facing Clinton Street and a two-story, Greek temple-fronted, limestone and brick building facing Federal Street. The building spans the depth of the sloping block, extending three (ground, first, second, and third) stories in height on Clinton Street to the east and two stories (first and second) in height on Federal Street to the west. The openings between the two structures were infilled after the Federal Street portion was sold by the Masons in the 1980s. Window openings (unless otherwise described) are rectangular and have brick jack-arch lintels and pre-cast concrete sills.

The three-story Classical Revival style block facing east on Clinton Street is clad in brick with pre-cast concrete trim. A large monitor clad in brick is located on the flat roof; both monitor and roof are covered in EPDM. The three center bays of the five-bays-wide primary façade project slightly and, at the first-floor level, contain three entrances, deeply recessed within round-arch openings with soldier-course brick lintels and pre-cast concrete keystones. Each entrance contains a replacement storefront system comprised of a single-leaf aluminum and glass door, flanked on either side by single-light sidelights over panels and topped with historic, arched, multi-light, wood sash transoms. There are two auxiliary pedestrian entrances with concrete lintels located in the northernmost and southernmost bays, each containing a non-historic, single-leaf metal door; the southernmost entrance retains its historic four-light wood transom. A wide belt course with two bands of pre-cast concrete separated by nine rows of brick runs along the façade between the first and second floors. This is echoed by a pair of molded copper cornices separated by nine courses of brick between the third and fourth stories. A projecting, molded copper cornice crowns the roofline. Fenestration includes historic, wood sash windows (4/4, 4/6, and paired 4/6 with four-light transoms) and three 1/1 vinyl sash windows.

Eight bays wide, the north elevation of the Clinton Street block faces the Firestone building across a narrow alleyway. The ground floor has multi-lite fixed aluminum windows partially covered with plywood. The first floor has six historic 6/9 wood

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

sash windows. The second story has six 4/4 wood sash windows and a single 6/9 wood sash window in the easternmost bay. A metal egress door and fire escape is in the westernmost bay. The third story has a single 6/6 wood sash window offset to the east.

The south elevation of the Clinton Street block faces Joseph Grenon's Garage across a narrow alleyway. A small one-story ell is offset to the west on the south elevation, terminating the alley. Its east elevation contains a metal door and an infilled window opening. A metal door is located in the westernmost bay of the south elevation. Fenestration includes two paired 1/1 vinyl windows with transoms; one 1/1 vinyl window, as well as 6/9 and 4/4 wood sash windows. Two large rectangular openings are fitted with metal panels.

The two-story block facing Federal Street has a highly ornamented, symmetrical, Classical Revival-style, limestone façade atop a granite slab that provides a front step for the entrance. The flat roof is covered with a rubber membrane. A central recessed portico flanked by squared pilasters and double-height, fluted, Ionic columns supports a full entablature inscribed "MASONIC TEMPLE" flanked by two, shallow relief panels depicting the Masonic compass motif. The main entrance displays a Roman lattice motif on double-leaf, paneled, wood doors and a matching transom. Above the doorway is a double window with 1/1 vinyl replacement sash. The façade is crowned with a prominent, overhanging, modillioned cornice and stepped parapet embellished with a decorative plaque featuring a Masonic symbol in relief. There is a rectangular datestone on the lower northern corner of the façade on which the date of construction, "A D 1929," is inscribed, along with a Masonic symbol in relief.

The north elevation of the Federal Street block is five bays wide and clad in red brick. Fenestration consists of 6/9 wood sash windows and paired 6/9 wood sash windows. The roofline has a single-stepped parapet. The south elevation abuts the Woonsocket Commercial School.

A narrow slice of the Federal Street block's east elevation is visible north of where it adjoins the Clinton Street block. The wall at the basement level is concrete, and the upper stories are brick with a metal paneled door opposite a fire escape on the first floor, and a 1/1 vinyl window on the second floor.

The east portion of the building remains in use as an active Masonic Temple, while the west portion was sold in the 1980s and is undergoing redevelopment using historic tax credits.

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

160 FIRESTONE SERVICES STORES, INC. (1930, additions ca. 1965; one contributing building) (*Photo 6; District Map #3*) Located at the corner of Clinton and Worrall Streets, a one-story, Art Deco-style commercial masonry building facing east with three attached sections forming an L-shaped plan. The roofs are flat and covered in EPDM. An interior, yellow brick chimney projects from the roofline at the southwest corner of the building. The building is constructed of concrete block and is clad in variegated yellow brick with brick and concrete ornamentation.

The office section is situated north of the garage and south of the storage room. Its east elevation features a large plate-glass and aluminum storefront window flanked by angled bays, defined by four yellow brick pilasters capped with stylized stepped pre-cast concrete capitals. The southeast bay contains a 1/1 aluminum sash window, and the northeast bay contains a 1/1 aluminum-frame, single-lite glazed door as the primary entrance to the shop.

The storage addition was constructed between 1963 and 1967 to the north of the office. The addition rises slightly above the office roofline and has a flat roof. The north and east elevations are faced in variegated yellow brick topped with concrete coping to match the original building, and the north and west elevations are CMU block topped with metal coping. The east elevation has two entrances: a paneled garage door and a pedestrian doorway containing a metal door.

The L-shaped garage and service wing extends off the south wall of the office and contains eight garage bays fitted with modern overhead garage doors. The 1955 Sanborn Map indicates that there were originally four bays facing east and one facing north. The original part of this wing is clad in yellow brick with concrete coping along the roofline. A course of soldier bricks, overlaid with four yellow brick pilasters capped with stylized stepped concrete capitals, forms a continuous lintel above paired garage bays separated by vertical steel beams. Three additional north-facing garage bays separated by vertical steel beams were constructed ca. 1963-67, at the same time as the north storage addition. The addition echoes some features of the original garage, like the concrete coping and the continuous lintel of soldier bricks, but lacks the more stylized Art Deco architectural elements. The east elevation of the garage addition contains two double twelve-light steel windows with flush soldier-course brick lintels and protruding soldier-course sills.

The south elevation of the garage and service wing faces the Masonic Temple across a narrow alleyway. The original portion of the south elevation is faced in rusticated concrete blocks with brick quoining where the addition begins, while the addition is built of smooth concrete blocks. A single square window opening is offset west on the south elevation.

The building first appears in the 1931 Woonsocket Directory as Firestone Services Stores Inc. Firestone operated an auto supply and service store here until 1989. The building is currently occupied by a car stereo, lighting, and repair shop.

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

FEDERAL STREET

- 1 FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH (1907-08; architect Fontaine & Kinnicutt, builders J.W. Bishop & Company and Cruise & Smiley; one contributing building)³ (*Photos 7, 8, 19; District Map #4*) The church complex is comprised of a 1.5-story, front-gable, cruciform-plan Gothic Revival-style church with a three-story, semi-detached bell tower; a 1.5-story, gabled Sunday school/assembly room wing in a transept across the rear of the church; and a two-story, flat-roof classroom wing off the rear of the Sunday school/assembly room. All of the roofs are clad with asphalt shingles with the exception of the classroom extension with its rubber membrane roof. The building is constructed of concrete blocks clad in a yellow brick veneer and finished with a smooth coat of white-washed stucco (first installed in the 1950's). A stuccoed chimney rises from the south slope of the roof between the two transepts, and a small portion of the wood-clad east peak of the church gable is visible above the Sunday school/assembly room transept. A metal-capped water table encircles the building above the raised basement. A capped, uncoursed rubblestone wall runs along the building's south elevation, and the Stone Retaining Wall (see inventory listing) abuts the east elevation. Recessed pointed-arch and rectangular window openings have angled metal sills. The leaded, opalescent stained-glass windows display traditional religious iconography (located and described below as (a) – (d)), or decorative patterns. Other window openings contain 1/1 replacement sash unless otherwise described below.

Fronting a small, landscaped area at an angle to Federal Street, the main entrance of the church is located in an alcove on the west elevation of the bell tower (entry stairs have been removed). It has a pointed-arch opening ornamented with a tracery "screen" (not glazed) and historic, double-leaf wood doors with elaborate cast-iron strap hinges set beneath a stained-glass transom. The bell tower displays a granite datestone inscribed "1908," a pointed-arch stained-glass window (a) facing north at the first story, narrow lancet windows at the second story, and paired rectangular louvered openings with stylized Tudor-arch lintels at the third story. The façade of the main block features a large, pointed arch opening set with a tripartite stained-glass window with decorative tracery (b). To its south is a pointed arch opening containing a stained-glass window (c) flanked by buttresses with metal caps. The raised basement has recessed openings for a door and 2/2 wood sash windows. The west transept contains a large, double-height, stained-glass, gothic-arch window with tracery on its north end (d) and a small rectangular louvered opening and three, deeply recessed, 2/2 wood sash basement windows on its south end. A secondary entrance is located on the north elevation where the church adjoins the Sunday school/assembly room wing. Sheltered by a shallow roof with decorative brackets

³ The Record of the Architectural Office of Walter Francis Fontaine (manuscript) indicates that the church remained a client of Fontaine's, as evidenced by an invoice number for "Interior painting July 1930."

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

and jigsaw detail, this entry contains a pair of one-light wood doors approached by a wood ADA access ramp. A stained-glass window in a rectangular opening is located on the north elevation to the east of the entry.

Both ends of the Sunday school/assembly room (east) transept display a tripartite arrangement of six stained-glass windows above three deeply recessed rectangular windows on the first story and square windows at the basement level (some filled with plywood). There is a basement-level entrance with a shed-roof overhang on the south elevation. Only a small portion of the rear (east) elevation is visible above the classroom wing. It is partially clad in vinyl siding with paired replacement casement windows on the second story. This five-bay classroom wing has two rows of regularly arranged, deeply recessed rectangular window openings on the east elevation.

The opalescent stained-glass windows are original to the church. Subjects include: (a) landscape with town of Bethlehem; (b) Gethsemane, Resurrection, and Ascension; (c) pastoral scene; and (d) Good shepherd, Christ with children, Knocking at the Door.

The First Methodist Church occupied this building from its completion in 1908 until the church (then known as River United Methodist Communities) was deconsecrated in 2016. The building is currently being rehabilitated by Beacon Charter Schools for additional program space.

- 43 YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION [YMCA], (1910-11; architect Walter F. Fontaine; one contributing building) (*Photos 9, 10, 11, 12, 18; District Map #5*) A Classical Revival-style, rectangular plan, brick building facing west on Federal Street with a brick stair tower and storage room ell on the north elevation, abutting Joseph Grenon's Garage. Due to the sloping site, the building rises three stories on the west elevation and four stories on the east elevation. The walls are built of red brick laid in Flemish bond. The flat roof is topped with EPDM, and there are two red brick chimneys, one at the northeast corner and another offset to the west near the south wall.

The seven-bay façade features a modillion cornice, pre-cast concrete belt-course, decorative brick quoining on the first story, and a raised basement clad in granite blocks with rectangular window openings. A date stone engraved with a YMCA logo and "1910" is located at the northwest corner of the building. There is a shallow, one-story, three-bay pavilion at the center of the façade, framed with engaged, scored, pre-cast concrete pilasters with Doric capitals and bases of pre-cast concrete with exposed aggregate, which support a full entablature inscribed "YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION." The pavilion is crowned with a brick parapet with balustraded cast-stone panels. The main entrance is deeply recessed within the southernmost bay of the pavilion and contains a replacement double-leaf metal door

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

accessed via four granite steps. A pedestrian bridge erected in the mid-1980s projects from above the main entrance and leads to the building across the street at 28 Federal Street, also owned by the YMCA. The bridge is sheathed in EIFS panels, with a single row of aluminum clerestory windows on the north and south walls.⁴

The first story displays large, arched window openings with round-arch, brick-and-pre-cast concrete lintels with brick “keystones” and small Juliet balconies with decorative wrought-iron railings. The two southernmost window openings contain 1/1 aluminum sash windows with historic wood fanlights, while the other window openings contain non-historic, glass-block infill and blocked fanlights. The second story has slightly-projecting, brick-framed, window trim with flat sills and molded hoods of pre-cast concrete; openings contain non-historic, 1/1 aluminum windows. The third displays slightly-projecting, brick-framed window trim with stylized, geometric keystone elements and sills in pre-cast concrete, containing non-historic, 1/1 aluminum windows.

The secondary elevations are capped by simple metal fascia and display less ornate trim. Unless otherwise described, the segmental arched window openings contain non-historic 1/1 aluminum sash set above wood sills.

The south elevation has four bays of windows on the first floor, all of which display historic wood fanlights. There are six windows on the second floor, and seven on the third floor. Three basement window openings are covered with plywood. A paneled metal door is recessed with a segmental arched opening in the easternmost bay on the first floor.

The north elevation faces Joseph Grenon’s Garage across a narrow alleyway. There are three aluminum awning windows at the basement level, two windows on the third floor and four on the fourth floor. The YMCA stair tower/storage room abuts the garage and terminates the alley. There is a metal door on the first floor of the stair tower and three windows above, facing west.

The rear (east) elevation stands four stories tall, partially obscured by the Stone Retaining Wall (see inventory item). On the basement level, a non-historic, metal staircase rises from the paved parking lot on Clinton Street to a metal door which is installed in a former window opening. Seven of the eleven window openings at this level have been infilled with brick, glass block, metal panels, or ventilation. There are two bifora-style wood windows offset to the south on the second floor. A single window is offset to the south between the second and third floors, and there are six windows on the third floor. On the fourth story, there are two single-lite, wood doors, three windows, and a modern renovation finished with stucco that contains three paired aluminum windows. There is a single window on the second floor of the

⁴ Constructed after the period of significance, the pedestrian bridge is not included in the Federal Street Historic District.

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

storage room. A fire escape provides egress from the fourth-floor doors and several windows on the east elevation.

From 1911 to 2024, this building was in continuous use by the Woonsocket branch of the Young Men's Christian Association.

53 (see 122 Clinton Street)

77 **WOONSOCKET COMMERCIAL SCHOOL/SCHOOL OF COMMERCIAL SCIENCES/HILL COLLEGE** (ca. 1923; architect Walter F. Fontaine; one contributing building) (*Photos 14, 16; District Map #6*) Facing west on Federal Street, a three-bays-wide, Classical Revival-style brick building with decorative elements executed in brick, metal, concrete, and wood. It has a rectangular footprint at the first-story level; the back part of the building is narrower at the second story than it is at the first, creating a T-plan second floor. The building has a concrete water-table and a flat EPDM roof.

The main entrance to the building is deeply recessed within the centermost bay, beneath a bracketed wood door hood. The entrance, accessed via four stone steps, contains a storefront system comprised of a single-leaf aluminum and glass door, flanked on either side by single-light sidelights and topped with a rectangular, single-light transom. Located above the entrance at the second story is a large, rectangular opening covered in vinyl siding. On either side of the center bay is a recessed, two-story bay containing four windows on each floor, separated by wood and metal spandrel panels. Window openings contain historic, 1/1 wood sash. The façade is crowned with a molded metal cornice supported by scrolled brackets and embellished with dentil molding and a prominent arched hood above the central bay. Two pairs of fixed three-light, wood sash windows are located at the basement level.

Five bays wide, the south elevation of the Woonsocket Commercial School faces Joseph Grenon's Garage across an alley. The westernmost bay displays a large, recessed brick panel above a basement level fixed three-light wood window. To the east there are fixed three-light wood windows at the basement level and historic triple windows with 4/4 wood sash and cast stone sills on the first story. Both the north and south elevations of the stepped-back, stucco-clad second story contain one double 1/1 wood sash window and three triple 1/1 aluminum sash windows.

The school abuts the Masonic Temple on the north and east.

Erected for the Woonsocket Commercial School, this building served as a school through at least 1955, was occupied by Christiansen & Co., accountants and then Christiansen Foundation until at least 1968, and operated as part of the Father Marot

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

Catholic Youth Organization Center (CYO) until 2018. The building is currently being rehabilitated into apartments utilizing historic tax credits.

STONE RETAINING WALL (ca. 1898; one contributing structure) (*Photos 11, 19; District Map #7*) An uncoursed, rubblestone retaining wall, capped with stone slabs and concrete. Identified as a ten-foot-high "Bank Wall" in the 1898 Sanborn Map, it formerly extended from the back of the Clinton Public School lot (now occupied by the First Methodist Church) north to Worrall Street. Today the wall is visible along the east elevations of the First Methodist Episcopal Church and YMCA, where it measures eight feet high, and along the west elevation of the Firestone Building, where it measures six feet high. The portion of the wall behind the Firestone was modified, likely during Firestone's expansion in the mid-1960s. Portions of the wall were removed during the construction of Joseph Grenon's Garage and the Masonic Temple. A later extension of coursed, rectangular, granite cobblestone on Worrall Street is not included within the District boundary.

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

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.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property.
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance

1907-1972

Significant Dates

1907-08 – Construction of First Methodist Church

1910-11 – Construction of YMCA

ca. 1923 – Construction of Woonsocket Commercial School

1925 – Construction of Joseph Grenon’s Garage

1929-30 – Construction of Masonic Temple

1930 – Construction of Firestone Building

ca. 1965 – Additions to Firestone Building

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Fontaine & Kinnicutt, architects

Fontaine, Walter F., architect

Upham, William G., architect

Bouvier-Brien Construction Company, builder

Cruise & Smiley, builder

Eastern Construction Company, builder

J.W. Bishop & Company, builder

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Federal Street Historic District is a 1.24-acre district containing six buildings that reflect the development of Downtown Woonsocket in the early 20th century and its emergence as an institutional center through 1972. The District is significant at the local level under **Criterion A in the area of Community Planning and Development**. The six buildings in the District were erected in the first three decades of the 20th century, as the central business district expanded northward, transforming sparsely developed land into densely developed blocks of substantial masonry buildings to support the population's religious, recreational, educational, and social needs and provide services for a growing sector of automobile owners. As the buildings were adapted for new uses and more users, the District continued to play an important role in Woonsocket's social fabric well into the 20th century.

The period of significance for the District begins in 1907, when the construction of the First Methodist United Church got underway, and ends in 1972, when Joseph Grenon's Garage was sold to the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) and underwent unsympathetic alterations. Other minor and major architectural updates, such as the addition of the pedestrian bridge to the YMCA Building, have taken place since 1972. The Stone Retaining Wall, first documented ca. 1898, is included as a contributing structure.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

CRITERION A: COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Present-day Woonsocket consists of land to the north and east of the Blackstone River that was formerly part of the town of Cumberland, Rhode Island and land to the south and west of the river that was once part of the town of Smithfield, Rhode Island. In the 1700s, a community grew up around the Woonsocket Falls, drawn by water power that would drive industrial development and by the ford in the river that provided a convenient crossing. Roads met here, connecting the village with Massachusetts, Connecticut, and with Providence, Rhode Island. Five more mill villages sprung up nearby, but it was Woonsocket Falls that emerged as the commercial and residential hub for the region by the beginning of the 19th century. As stated in the *Woonsocket, Rhode Island Statewide Historic Preservation Report*, "In short, economics and geography dictated that this village become the future city's central business district."⁵

While Woonsocket Village's Market Square contained stores, professional offices, factories, residences, a bank, and a hotel by 1838, the area around the future Federal Street Historic District was, in contrast, sparsely developed (*Figure 1*). The new Methodist Meeting House (no

⁵ *Woonsocket, Rhode Island Statewide Historic Preservation Report* (Providence: Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, 1976), 11.

Federal Street Historic District

Providence County, RI

Name of Property

County and State

longer extant, predecessor of the current United Methodist Church) had just been erected at 295 Main Street (just west of the district) for a congregation founded in 1834.⁶ Clinton Mills, which originated in 1827 to manufacture cotton fabrics, built its factories and company store just east of the district, between Clinton Street and the Blackstone River. The firm also owned workforce housing: a group of two-story gable-roof, wood-frame duplexes on the west side of Clinton Street. An 1855 illustration of Clinton Mills (*Figure 2*) depicts these mill houses and the massive stone factory (erected 1849, demolished 1969) just north of the railroad trestle. Proximity to the nearby railroad depot (constructed in 1847 and replaced by the Providence & Worcester Railroad Station in 1882) was a boon for the Clinton Mills and also drew investment north from Market Square to Depot Square. This area, just south of the future Federal Street Historic District, would emerge as the hub of Downtown Woonsocket by the mid-19th century.⁷

Unlike established mill villages like Social and Bernon, there was no “Clinton Mill Village.” Until the end of the 19th century, the name stuck only to the street, the mills (reorganized as the Clinton Manufacturing Company by 1854), and the wood-frame “Clinton Public School” that was erected on the site of the current First Methodist Church by 1870. Besides the schoolhouse and one small building with an L-shaped footprint (outside of the district), there was little if any development in the center of the block bounded by Main, Worrall, and Clinton Streets through 1870. The 1870 Beers map reveals that the only access to the interior was a dead-end path that headed east from Main Street to the schoolhouse and then bent north where it ended mid-block. This route was the predecessor of Federal Street (*Figure 3*).⁸

By 1870, the Town of Woonsocket itself was newly “on the map.” Formed from the mill villages of Woonsocket Falls, Social, and Jenckesville, the young town had separated from Cumberland in 1867. With the annexation of the Smithfield villages of Globe, Bernon, and Hamlet in 1871, Woonsocket took on its present boundaries. Incorporation of the City followed in 1888. Woonsocket was Rhode Island’s third most populous city when its first mayor was elected. At his inauguration, Mayor George Grant spoke of how a once “thriving village” became a town “that outgrew its limits in little more than a score of years” and how the community faced its next challenge in organizing a city form of government.⁹

Served by horsecars starting in 1887, then by electrified trolleys by 1893, Downtown Woonsocket continued to grow up and out with development continuing from Depot Square north to Monument Square (*Figure 4*). The east side of Main Street from the railroad trestle to the Civil War monument was densely built up with one- to three-story, wood-frame buildings housing barbers, harness and carriage dealers, residences, a bakery, a bowling alley, a hotel, and

⁶ “1908 - First United Methodist Church - Woonsocket, Rhode Island,” Waymarking, July 13, 2021, https://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/wm14J42_1908_First_United_Methodist_Church_Woonsocket_Rhode_Island (accessed September 8, 2021).

⁷ National Park Service, *Main Street Historic District National Register Nomination*, Woonsocket, Providence County, Rhode Island, NRHP Reference No. 91000461, 22.

⁸ It was labeled “drive” on the 1892 Sanborn map.

⁹ Raymond H. Bacon, “The New City” in *Woonsocket, Rhode Island: A Centennial History, 1888-2000 The Millennium Edition*, ed. Marcel P. Fortin (State College, PA: The Woonsocket Centennial Committee, 2000), 12.

Federal Street Historic District

Providence County, RI

Name of Property

County and State

the First Methodist Church. It was around this time that the area came to be called “Clinton Flats.”¹⁰

After 70 years on Main Street, the First Methodist congregation began to plan a new church building. They acquired the site of the Clinton Public School and engaged local architects Fontaine & Kinnicutt to design a new facility on the newly laid out—yet unnamed—street that connected Main Street to Worrall Street. An undeveloped site to the west of the school building was also purchased to provide the church with a landscaped area. Reverend F.H. Spear traveled throughout New England in search of an appealing church design and decided that the church would be modeled after the Newfield M.E. Church in Bridgeport, Connecticut. An article published in *The Evening Call* on June 22, 1907 described the plans for the new facility noting that Reverend Spear, “is very enthusiastic and feels that when the church is completed it will be one of the handsomest M.E. churches in New England.”¹¹ Concrete blocks used for the construction of the church were produced on site.¹² J.W. Bishop & Company of Providence, contractors for several local industrial buildings including the Montrose Mill and the Desurmont & Sons Mill, began construction of the church on September 9, 1907. Bishop would be replaced by the firm of Cruise & Smiley of Pawtucket before the project was completed (*Figures 5 - 7*).¹³ The rear of the church backed up against the Stone Retaining Wall that had been constructed between ca. 1898 and extended north to Worrall Street.

Newspaper articles about the new church suggest that the interior layout generally followed the “Akron Plan” popular among Methodist churches from the 1860s to the 1930s. The Akron Plan allowed Sunday School students to participate in worship with the entire congregation or attend lessons in individual classrooms. An article about Woonsocket’s new Methodist church described a large, double height auditorium with the pulpit and organ located in the south transept, curved pews in a semi-circular arrangement facing the pulpit, and a Sunday School assembly room located to the east. The educational wing was divided from the main sanctuary by patented roll-up shutters that were closed when classes were in session or opened to allow students to join the worship service. Classrooms, also divided by roll-up shutters, were located east of the Sunday school/assembly room. Newspaper accounts describe the Sunday school/assembly room as a two-story open volume with galleries along the transept ends. The high basement provided social gathering spaces, including a large assembly room, parlor, dining room and kitchen.

A ceremony was held in March of 1908 to dedicate the cornerstone. The *Evening Call* reported on the contents (punctuation is original):

¹⁰ The earliest reference (yet) found to “Clinton Flats” comes from a description of a Woonsocket carriage shop “built by H. C. Marsh, near the ‘Clinton Flats’” in Volume 2 of *History of Providence County, Rhode Island*, edited by Richard M. Bayles (New York: W.W. Preston, 1891), 318. The name “Clinton Flats” appears in the pages of the *Evening Call* from 1899 to 1946, peaking in 1906-08.

¹¹ “Plans for New M.E. Church,” *The Evening Call*, June 22, 1907.

¹² “Begins work Monday,” *The Evening Call*, September 7, 1907.

¹³ *Ibid.*

Federal Street Historic District

Providence County, RI

Name of Property

County and State

a Holy Bible, a list of the officers and committees of the church, a copy of the latest addition of Church Discipline, a copy of the original charter of church corporation, a copy of the recent condemnatory proceedings of the United States Government against the church property, a list of the names of all the pastors of the church, a photograph of Bishop W.F. Mallalieu, a photograph of the pastors family, the architects names Fontaine and Kinnicut, the names of Cruise and Smiley builders, a copy of the New York Christian Advocate, a copy of Zion's Herald, a copy of Saturday evenings Woonsocket Reporter, and a copy of The Evening Call of Saturday night.¹⁴

A grand dedication event in December invited Woonsocket residents to visit the completed church and admire its stained-glass windows depicting biblical scenes. The interior was finished with plaster, maple flooring, red carpet, and dark stained oak. The First Methodist Church housed one of the largest pipe organs in the city which was made by well-known pipe organ builders M.P. Moller & Company.¹⁵

The completion of the church and the laying out of Federal Street in 1908 signaled that this area was ripe for development.¹⁶ With the Stone Retaining Wall defining the back of the lots on the east side of Federal Street, parcels were divided and built upon, almost sequentially from south to north. While Main Street between Monument Square and the railroad trestle was closely packed with one-to-four story wood-frame commercial buildings, residences, hotels, and a theatre that had sprung up over the course of the 19th century, Federal Street was a secondary street that would develop more deliberately with substantial masonry buildings serving specific clientele, rather than the general population. Similarly, the automobile-related businesses that would rise on Clinton Street by 1930 catered to a small but growing group of car owners, not the majority of Woonsocket residents.

The Woonsocket branch of the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) acquired property north of the church and launched a \$75,000 building fund in 1909. The local YMCA had been established seven years earlier to provide social services and educational and recreational opportunities to working men in northern Rhode Island from rented space in the nearby Hope Building. Architect Walter F. Fontaine, whose former partner Elmer H. Kinnicut had died in 1910, designed a purpose-built facility featuring a gymnasium, dormitories, and a social banquet hall (*Figure 8*). Woonsocket's new three-story YMCA was dedicated in 1911.¹⁷

The visibility of the church and YMCA from Main Street attracted additional development along Federal Street. The new United States Post Office (NR, 1979) was built on the site of the former church between 1910 and 1912. A 1.5-story wood-frame building containing Turkish Baths and a small one-story, wood-frame "temporary office" building (no longer extant—on the site of Joseph Grenon's Garage) were erected north of the YMCA by 1911 (*Figure 9*). The Woonsocket Young Women's Christian Association formed in 1923 and built their headquarters across the

¹⁴ "Bishop Lays Cornerstone," *The Evening Call*, March 16, 1908.

¹⁵ "M.E. Church to be dedicated Sunday," *The Evening Call*, December 26, 1908.

¹⁶ City Aldermen had selected the street name in anticipation of the construction of a new United States post office at the northeast corner of Main Street and the new Federal Street "City of Woonsocket. Street Names," *Woonsocket Call and Evening Reporter*, April 22, 1908.

¹⁷ Nancy E. Hudson, "The New Century" in Fortin, 46; *Main Street Historic District National Register Nomination*, 16.

Federal Street Historic District

Providence County, RI

Name of Property

County and State

street from the YMCA at 48-52 Federal Street (outside the district and no longer extant) (*Figure 10*).¹⁸

The next property to be developed in the Federal Street Historic District was erected ca. 1923 for a local business school. Founder/principal Charles W. Jones opened the Woonsocket Business University (WBU) in the Buckland and Clark Building at 65 Main Street (ca. 1897, in Main Street HD) in 1897. After three name changes, two relocations, and a fire, the new school owner, Edwin Bailey Hill, purchased a vacant parcel of land on Federal Street and erected a new facility designed by architect Walter F. Fontaine.¹⁹ The Woonsocket Commercial School/School of Commercial Sciences first appears at the 77 Federal Street address in the 1923 Woonsocket Directory. An advertisement for the School of Commercial Sciences published in the 1924 Woonsocket Directory included an illustration of the new vocational school building and touted “courses of study in branches preparing for general office, also secretarial and higher accounting courses” (*Figure 11*).²⁰ The school enjoyed a solid reputation under Hill’s direction and, during the early 1930s, had an average annual attendance of about two hundred students, many of whom came from towns within a 15-mile radius of Woonsocket.²¹ It was later renamed Hill College for the owner/principal who led the institution for nearly four decades (from 1913 until 1951). Hill College remained at the 77 Federal Street building until 1955 when the building was sold to the Hill Building Corporation.²² By 1958, Christiansen & Co., accountants was listed at 77 Federal Street; the Christiansen Foundation continued to occupy space within the building until at least 1968.²³ Carl W. Christiansen (1901-1982) was a prominent local accountant who was active in a wide range of local organizations. The CYO began to use the building by 1972.²⁴

By the mid-1920s, most of the remaining wood-frame structures in the District were razed and removed to prepare new sites for construction—and for parking lots. Down came the bathhouse and the “temporary office” building on Federal Street, as well as several, if not all, of the Clinton Mills worker duplexes and associated one-story storage “lockers” (outbuildings) on the west side of Clinton Street. New lots stretching the depth of the block were created to accommodate large buildings with entrances on both Federal and Clinton Streets. In 1929, a fraternal organization with deep roots in Woonsocket laid the cornerstone of their new headquarters on Federal Street. The Morning Star Lodge #13 of Freemasons (organized in 1811) had engaged architect William G. Upham of Norwood, Massachusetts to design a building that spanned the block from 85 Federal Street to 142 Clinton Street. Eastern Construction Company, led by David R. Howard (a Mason), were the builders. Initially, the plan was limited to the Clinton Street building; however,

¹⁸ Zel Levin, “The Restless Years” in Fortin, 171.

¹⁹ “Biography of Edwin B. Hill.” Rhode Island Genealogy, April 15, 2020.

<https://rhodeislandgenealogy.com/providence/biography-of-edwin-b-hill.htm> (accessed March 18, 2022).

²⁰ *The Woonsocket Directory*, Providence, RI: Sampson & Murdock Company, 1924, 530.

²¹ Charles Carroll, *Rhode Island: Three Centuries of Democracy*, 3, Vol. 3, 4 vols, New York, NY: Lewis Historical Pub. Co., 1932, 13-14.

²² Transcript of Record in the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit: Stenograph Machines, Inc., vs. Federal Trade Commission, 1956. Hill College is no longer in operation.

²³ *Tax-Exempt Foundations: Their Impact on Small Business* (Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1968).

²⁴ Record of Transfers, Woonsocket City Hall.

Federal Street Historic District

Providence County, RI

Name of Property

County and State

after the \$100,000 had been raised for construction, it was decided to extend the temple to Federal Street.²⁵

Historic photographs depict the construction of the Clinton Street building (*Figures 12 - 14*) with its steel frame clad in brick and stone. The *Woonsocket Call* reported that the February 15, 1930, dedication ceremony at the \$150,000 facility was “a proud day for the fraternity.” Seven organizations would have use of the new temple, including Morning Star Lodge No. 13, Free and Accepted Masons; Union Chapter, No. 5. Royal Arch Masons; Woonsocket Council No. 3 Royal and Select Masters; Woonsocket Commandery No. 24 Knights Templar; Woonsocket Chapter No. 3 Order of the Eastern Star; Woonsocket Square and Compass Club; and Woonsocket Chapter, Order of DeMolay for boys. Interior spaces included “two lodge rooms, a large banquet hall and ballroom, two lounging rooms, a women’s parlor, kitchen, club quarters and smaller offices.”²⁶

In addition to institutional growth, another key factor driving development in Downtown Woonsocket was the introduction of mass-produced automobiles at the turn of the 20th century. With every passing decade, the carriage houses, livery stables, and blacksmiths’ shops of old Woonsocket were converted to new uses or disappeared altogether. Modern city-dwellers were traveling by electric trolley and taxi, and they were buying automobiles.²⁷ Two new businesses appeared in the Federal Street Historic District to serve this growing market.

The first of the automobile-related facilities to rise was a three-story building that opened in 1925. Former race car driver Joseph Grenon and partners developed the building, planning spaces for Grenon’s garage and the Schacht Truck Company. As previously mentioned, it is possible that Walter Fontaine was involved with the design of the building based on an entry in the architect’s catalog. The *Woonsocket Call* reported that “The structure will be of reinforced concrete, with three stories and a basement, and will be 70 by 148 feet, extending through from Clinton to Federal Street.” The proposed building would house parking, storage, and offices.²⁸ Even before construction was complete, Grenon advertised that the garage would open early on Saturday, November 14, with room for 200 cars (*Figure 15*).²⁹ Described as “the first large parking garage in the city” in a 1932 newspaper article, the building became known as the Stadium Garage for the nearby theater and office building at Monument Square.³⁰ A 1926 advertisement in the *Woonsocket Call* beckoned, “You can now drive your car down-town and park it in a fine, clean, fire-proof garage where you will be treated courteously. Drive in on Clinton St. and walk out on Federal St., in the heart of the city.”³¹ Services included daily, nightly, and monthly parking; a car wash; and “waiting rooms for ladies.”³²

²⁵ “Throng Attends Laying of Temple Cornerstone,” *Woonsocket Call and Evening Reporter*, 20 May 1929.

²⁶ “Freemasons Dedicate New \$150,000 Temple,” *Woonsocket Call and Evening Reporter*, 15 February 1930.

²⁷ Hudson, 46.

²⁸ “Grenon Going Ahead Despite Warning of Building Inspector,” *Woonsocket Call and Evening Reporter*, 19 February 1925.

²⁹ Advertisement, *Woonsocket Call and Evening Reporter*, 12 October 1926.

³⁰ “Joseph Grenon, Former Garage Owner, Is Buried,” *Woonsocket Call and Evening Reporter*, 18 July 1931.

³¹ Advertisement, *Woonsocket Call and Evening Reporter*, 14 November 1925.

³² *Ibid.*

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

On the heels of local entrepreneurs, a high-profile national company opened a shop on Clinton Street to cater to Woonsocket drivers. By the mid-1920s, the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company of Akron, Ohio had begun to open auto supply and service stores across the country. When Woonsocket was selected as a site for a new shop, it was “considered a tribute to the city’s present prosperity and future,” according to an article in the *Woonsocket Call*. Woonsocket’s Firestone Service Stores Inc. was erected at a cost of \$75,000 as a “complete one-stop service station” with “[e]verything except mechanical repairing . . . done under one roof.” Company president William J. Carroll was expected to attend the opening on July 12, 1930.³³ Firestone Services Stores Inc. first appeared in the 1931 city directory. Between 1963 and 1967, the building was expanded to the north with a one-and-a-half-story, rectangular addition and to the east with additional garage bays. The additions were faced in variegated yellow brick to match the original building. The Firestone Company occupied the building until 1989.

Joseph Grenon’s Garage changed hands several times from the 1920s to the 1940s, but continued to cater to automobile-related tenants through the 1930s, including Woonsocket Auto Livery Service, Jones Motor Company Autos, and Stadium Garage³⁴. In the early 1940s, the Independent Textile Union leased the entire building as their headquarters and subleased the ground floor to Henry Lavallee who operated an auto business.³⁵ The Union would acquire the building in 1946 and rented out space for an auto repair shop on the first floor (*Figure 16*) through at least 1955.

The Independent Textile Union was established in Woonsocket in 1931 as a bargaining unit and emerged as an effective advocate for improved working conditions, medical care, life insurance, and other needs of textile workers. Woonsocket historian Phyllis H. Thomas points out that unlike the United Textile Workers of the American Federation of Labor, the ITU “was an industrial rather than a craft union, since all workers in a mill were welcomed as members, whatever their degree of skill. In its early years all union officers were required to retain their regular mill jobs, an anti-bureaucratic manifestation which promoted close relations between the leaders and members.”³⁶ In addition, it was discouraged to discuss politics or class systems. Despite direct outreach to Woonsocket’s large French-Canadian population, the ITU struggled to recruit new members in its early years. The union gained new members following the “Great Textile Strike of 1934” and the decision (in the same year) to allow local bakers to enroll.³⁷ By

³³ “Firestone Service Stores, Inc., Will Open Tomorrow,” *Woonsocket Call*, 11 July 1930.

³⁴ Owners after Grenon included Hachador Bozoian (1928), Oliver Coulombe (1932), and Industrial Trust Co. (1937). Record of Transfers, Woonsocket City Hall. Bouvier-Brien Building Co., Inc. also is recorded as a tenant in 1932, 1938, and 1945. Woonsocket City Directories 1932-1945.

³⁵ Ibid.; “Ind. Tr. Unions of America v. Metayer,” *Casetext*, May 27, 1943, <https://casetext.com/case/ind-tr-unions-of-america-v-metayer>.

³⁶ Phyllis Thomas, “The Great Depression” in *Woonsocket*, 101.

³⁷ Gary Grestle. The Mobilization of the Working-Class Community: The Independent Textile Union in Woonsocket, 1931-1946. *Radical History Review*, 1978 (No. 17), 161-72. <https://navigator.rihs.org/rhode-island-a-bibliography-of-its-history/the-mobilization-of-the-working-class-community-the-independent-textile-union-in-woonsocket-1931-1946/>.

Federal Street Historic District

Providence County, RI

Name of Property

County and State

1939 barbers, rubber workers, electricians, retail clerks, and public works employees joined the ranks, prompting the union to change its name to the Industrial Trades Union by 1943.³⁸ Around the time the union relocated to Federal Street ca. 1942, membership numbered approximately 12,000. Contemporary ITU programs publication of *The I.T.U. News* and a subsidized medical clinic.³⁹ After a few boom years of wartime production, Woonsocket's textile industry experienced a steep decline.⁴⁰ Unable to compete with lower labor costs in the southern United States and overseas, many of the city's textile plants and other manufacturing facilities closed their doors in the late 1940s and 1950s. Declining membership forced the ITU to sell the building at 53 Federal Street in 1972.⁴¹

The Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) purchased both the former Woonsocket Commercial School and the former John Grenon's Garage. Under the leadership of Reverend Roger Marot, the Northern Rhode Island CYO was founded in 1953 and boasted a membership of 3,600 by 1955.⁴² It converted and connected the two Federal Street buildings into the Father Marot CYO Center, a 43,000 square foot facility with a gymnasium, classrooms, apartments, and other flexible spaces.⁴³ As Catholic teens flocked to the CYO, leaders of the Woonsocket YMCA took notice and began to strategize about how to update their facility to serve changing community needs. In 1983, the YMCA launched an ambitious expansion, acquiring the vacant Post Office on Main Street, erecting a new building on the old YWCA lot, and installing an elevated pedestrian bridge across Federal Street to their 1910-11 building.⁴⁴ By this time, new investment in historic downtown Woonsocket was on the wane. The Gateway Urban Renewal Project, which targeted a 22-acre swath of downtown for redevelopment, was rejected by the voters in 1966.⁴⁵ In the 1970s, efforts began to create a "new downtown" in the Social Flatlands area to the northeast.⁴⁶ Even with civic and commercial investment focused elsewhere, the Federal Street Historic District remained an important destination for certain community groups, like YMCA users, Catholic youth, and Masons into the first decades of the 21st century.

Another wave of institutional change and investment is underway. The First United Methodist Church merged with the Burrillville United Methodist Church in 2007 to form The River United Methodist Communities. In 2016, the congregation held its last service on Federal Street and deconsecrated the church. Beacon Charter School purchased the property in 2019 and launched

³⁸ Ibid.

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰ National Park Service, *Bernon Worsted Mill National Register Nomination*, Woonsocket, Providence County, Rhode Island, NRHP Reference No. 05000585, 11.

⁴¹ Record of Transfers, Woonsocket City Hall.

⁴² Martin P. Cowley, Jr., "The Pivotal Decade" in *Woonsocket*, 148.

⁴³ Lauren Clem, "CYO Center building set to be sold; organization will move," *Valley Breeze*, 26 September 2018. https://www.valleybreeze.com/news/cyo-center-building-set-to-be-sold-organization-will-move/article_c39edb39-87c2-5cd1-8444-7a22e3722982.html.

⁴⁴ Robert R. Bellerose, *Woonsocket: Images of America*, Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2003; Romeo G. Bethiaume, "The Centennial" in *Woonsocket*, 219-20.

⁴⁵ Zel Levin, "The Restless Years" in Fortin, 161.

⁴⁶ Raymond H. Bacon, Martin P. Crowley, Jr., and Robert C. Mulcahy, "The Years of Resurgence" in Fortin, 179.

Federal Street Historic District

Providence County, RI

Name of Property

County and State

an ongoing project to rehabilitate the church for a theatre and culinary arts education center.⁴⁷

The CYO owned and operated the 53 and 77 Federal Street buildings until 2018, when they were purchased by developers who began the process of converting them and the Federal Street portion of the Masonic Temple into apartments using state and federal tax credits.⁴⁸ In 2024, the YMCA closed. The Masons continue to use the Clinton Street portion of the Masonic Temple, and a car stereo store occupies the former Firestone building.

Architects

The buildings within the District are an intact collection of urban institutional, educational, commercial, and religious buildings displaying a diverse representation of early-20th century styles, including Gothic Revival, Classical Revival, and Art Deco. Of similar height, materials, and massing, this group of buildings form a harmonious arrangement on a densely developed city block. The aesthetic quality and unity of the district is attributed, in part, to the fact that four (or perhaps five) of the six buildings were designed by two prominent regional architects, Walter F. Fontaine (working independently and as a partner in Fontaine & Kinnicutt) and William J. Upham. These designers deployed a variety of ornament in popular revival styles executed in brick, concrete, metal, stone, and wood.

Fontaine & Kinnicutt, Walter F. Fontaine (1871-1938)

Walter Francis Fontaine was born in Woonsocket, Rhode Island in 1871. His Canadian-born father, John B. Fontaine, had settled in Woonsocket in 1857 and became a successful builder there. After attending public school in Woonsocket, Walter Fontaine began his architectural career, working in the office of local architect and engineer Willard Kent from 1887 to 1892.⁴⁹ After study and touring in France, he went to work for the notable Providence-based architectural firm of Stone, Carpenter & Willson in 1893. Fontaine established his own practice by 1901 and entered into an architectural partnership with Elmer H. Kinnicutt (1876-1910) in Woonsocket in 1903.⁵⁰ Located in the Commercial Building on Main Street, the firm of Fontaine & Kinnicutt were the architects of record for several buildings in the city, including the French Worsted Company buildings on Hamlet Avenue (demolished 2012, NR 2008), Pothier School (1909, 1044 Social Street), and a few single-family homes. In addition to the First Methodist Episcopal Church in the Federal Street Historic District, the firm also designed the city's Holy Family Roman Catholic Church (1909, 414 S. Main Street, NRHD 1982).

⁴⁷ Bella Pelletiere, "New renderings for Beacon arts center released, construction begins," *Valley Breeze*, 1 December 2022. https://www.valleybreeze.com/news/new-renderings-for-beacon-arts-center-released-construction-begins/article_db208840-6f5f-11ed-bad3-23df920f8562.html.

⁴⁸ Lauren Clem, "CYO Center Building Will Become Apartments," *Valley Breeze*, 2 March 2021. https://www.valleybreeze.com/news/cyo-center-building-will-become-apartments/article_e0cc4df1-d5bf-59f5-8c45-c25204d34c4d.html.

⁴⁹ National Park Service, *Woonsocket Senior High and Junior High Schools National Register Nomination*, Woonsocket, Providence County, Rhode Island, NRHP Reference No. 100001780, 23.

⁵⁰ *Representative Men and Old Families of Rhode Island*, vol. 3 (Chicago: J.H. Beers & Co, 1908), 2206.

Federal Street Historic District

Providence County, RI

Name of Property

County and State

Fontaine & Kinnicutt's architectural designs were not limited to Woonsocket. Between 1903 and 1910 the architectural firm designed a variety of buildings throughout New England, although most of their work was located in their home state of Rhode Island. Fontaine & Kinnicutt's church designs deployed several popular architectural styles, from the Romanesque Revival style St. Mary's Church in Willimantic, Connecticut, constructed in 1903 (extant but damaged in a 2013 fire) to the ca. 1905 Shingle style Our Lady of Good Help in Mapleville, Rhode Island. The First Methodist Episcopal Church appears to be the firm's only church designed in the Gothic Revival style and only church that may display characteristics of an Akron Plan layout.

Following the death of his partner in 1910, Fontaine returned to solo architectural practice. His sons Paul N. and Oliver W. joined the firm in the mid-1920s. His client base grew steadily with dozens of designs for churches, industrial plants, residences, health care facilities, commercial buildings, public buildings and schools. Among Fontaine's other church designs were Saint Ann's Roman Catholic Church Complex (1913-14, 84 Cumberland Street, NR 1982), St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Catholic Church (1919, 394 Blackstone Street, NR 1982), and Our Lady of Victories Roman Catholic Church, (1935-36, 130 Prospect Street).

By the time Fontaine received the commission for the Woonsocket Commercial School in 1922, he had designed at least five public schools in the city, including Second Avenue School (ca. 1895, 196 Second Avenue)⁵¹, Pothier School, Woonsocket Senior High and Junior High Schools (1914-52, 357 Park Place, NR 2017), McFee School (1916, 108 High Street), and Fifth Avenue School (1917, 65 Fifth Avenue), as well as Mount Saint Charles Academy, a private school (1922-24, Logee Street), all of which are extant.⁵²

Fontaine also devoted time to public service with positions on the City Council, Board of Licenses, Park Commission, and commissions for the construction of the Globe Bridge and the paving of Clinton Street.⁵³ In 1935, Fontaine's sons, Paul and Oliver, joined the practice as partners, and the firm was renamed W. F. Fontaine & Sons.

Walter Fontaine died during the Hurricane of 1938, but his sons continued the family's architectural firm after their father's death.

William G. Upham (1880-1966)

Born in Norwood, Massachusetts in 1880, William G. Upham was a lifelong resident of his hometown. In 1909 he received a scholarship to study architecture at Harvard after working under Boston architect Clarence H. Blackall.⁵⁴ By 1911 he had returned to Norwood and continued to work for Blackall, primarily designing and renovating local private residences. Within a few years, Upham established his own architectural firm. Over the course of his 40-year

⁵¹ It appears that Fontaine completed designs for the Second Avenue School while he was employed by Stone, Carpenter & Willson.

⁵² Ibid.

⁵³ Oliver Fontaine, "Walter F. Fontaine" in "Records of the Office of Walter Francis Fontaine."

⁵⁴ Heather S. Cole, *Transforming Norwood: Architect William G. Upham's Contribution to Early 20th Century Norwood, Massachusetts History*, (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2012), 2.

Federal Street Historic District

Name of Property

Providence County, RI

County and State

career as an architect, he designed or renovated more than 50 public and private buildings throughout New England, primarily in the Colonial Revival, Georgian Revival, and Gothic Revival styles.

One of Upham's first major projects was the Classical Revival style Masonic Temple in Norwood (1916-17), built of brick, limestone, and granite. The monumental entrance with its central recessed portico flanked by squared pilasters and double-height Ionic columns is similar to his design for the Masonic Temple in Woonsocket. A Mason, Upham received also designed Masonic Temples in Waltham, Massachusetts (not extant) and East Providence, Rhode Island (1926, 222 Taunton Avenue).⁵⁵

Conclusion

The Federal Street Historic District is historically and architecturally significant as a highly intact expression of Woonsocket's early-20th century urban development along a secondary street in the city's downtown area. The District contains a distinctive and intact group of six urban institutional and automobile-related buildings, four (or possibly five) of which were designed by prominent regional architects in a diverse representation of early-20th century architectural styles, as well as a Stone Retaining Wall that predates the construction of the buildings. As a whole, the collection of buildings continues to exhibit a continuity of scale and function which is integral to the character of Downtown Woonsocket, supporting the Main Street corridor while providing a range of urban amenities. In representing an important chapter in the city's historical development, the Federal Street Historic District retains sufficient integrity and meets Criterion A for National Register listing.

⁵⁵ Ibid, 7.

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

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Name of Property

Providence County, RI
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Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

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1870 Beers, D.G. & Co. *Atlas of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations*.

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

1892 Sanborn Map Company. *Insurance Map of Woonsocket, Providence County, Rhode Island* (also 1898, 1903, 1911, 1950, and 1955).

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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 1.24 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

Latitude: 42.004775 Longitude: -71.511403

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____

Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____

Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

1. Zone: _____ Easting: _____ Northing: _____

2. Zone: _____ Easting: _____ Northing: _____

3. Zone: _____ Easting: _____ Northing: _____

4. Zone: _____ Easting: _____ Northing: _____

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Federal Street Historic District is roughly bounded on the north by Worrall Street, on the east by Clinton Street, on the south by a paved parking lot, and on the west by Federal Street. The boundary encompasses all the following lots, all in the City of Woonsocket, Rhode Island:

Map 14, Lots 171, 223, 372, 403, 412.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries of the district generally follow the lot lines of the parcels outlined on the district map which encompass a group of early 20th-century institutional and automobile-related buildings located on Federal and Clinton Streets and one ca. 1898 stone retaining wall.

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

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organization: Ryan, LLC/Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission
street & number: One International Place, Suite 1840/150 Benefit Street
city or town: Boston/Providence state: MA/RI zip code: 02110/02903
e-mail: kendal.anderson@ryan.com/sarah.zurier@preservation.ri.gov
telephone: (207)593 3008/(401)222-4142
date: July 2024

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property:	Federal Street Historic District
City or Vicinity:	Woonsocket
County:	Providence
State:	Rhode Island
Photographer:	Kim Smith Barnett
Date Photographed:	September 2021, October 2023, June 2024
Location of Original Digital Files:	Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission, 150 Benefit St, Providence, RI 02903
Number of Photographs:	19

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Federal Street Historic District

Providence County, RI

Name of Property

County and State

- Photo #1 View looking north towards Joseph Grenon's Garage (foreground) and Masonic Temple (right).
- Photo #2 View looking southwest towards Masonic Temple (foreground) and Joseph Grenon's Garage (left).
- Photo #3 View looking north towards Joseph Grenon's Garage (far left), Masonic Temple ell and CYO passageway (near left), and Masonic Temple (right).
- Photo #4 View looking west towards Joseph Grenon's Garage (foreground) and Masonic Temple ell and CYO passageway (right).
- Photo #5 View looking northwest towards Masonic Temple (left and near right) and the Firestone building (far right).
- Photo #6 Streetscape of Clinton Street looking southwest from the intersection of Worrall and Clinton Streets with Firestone Services Stores, Inc. in foreground.
- Photo #7 View looking southeast towards First Methodist Episcopal Church and YMCA (left).
- Photo #8 View looking northwest towards First Methodist Episcopal Church (foreground), with Stone Retaining Wall, YMCA, and Joseph Grenon's Garage in background.
- Photo #9 Streetscape of Federal Street looking east near dogleg turn with the YMCA in foreground.
- Photo #10 View looking south towards the YMCA (foreground), Joseph Grenon's Garage (left), and First Methodist Episcopal Church (right).
- Photo #11 View looking northwest towards the YMCA, First Methodist Episcopal Church (left), and Joseph Grenon's Garage (right).
- Photo #12 View looking southeast towards YMCA stair tower (center) and YMCA (right) with Joseph Grenon's Garage at left.
- Photo #13 View looking southeast towards Joseph Grenon's Garage.
- Photo #14 View looking southeast towards CYO passageway between Woonsocket Commercial School (left) and Joseph Grenon's Garage (right).

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

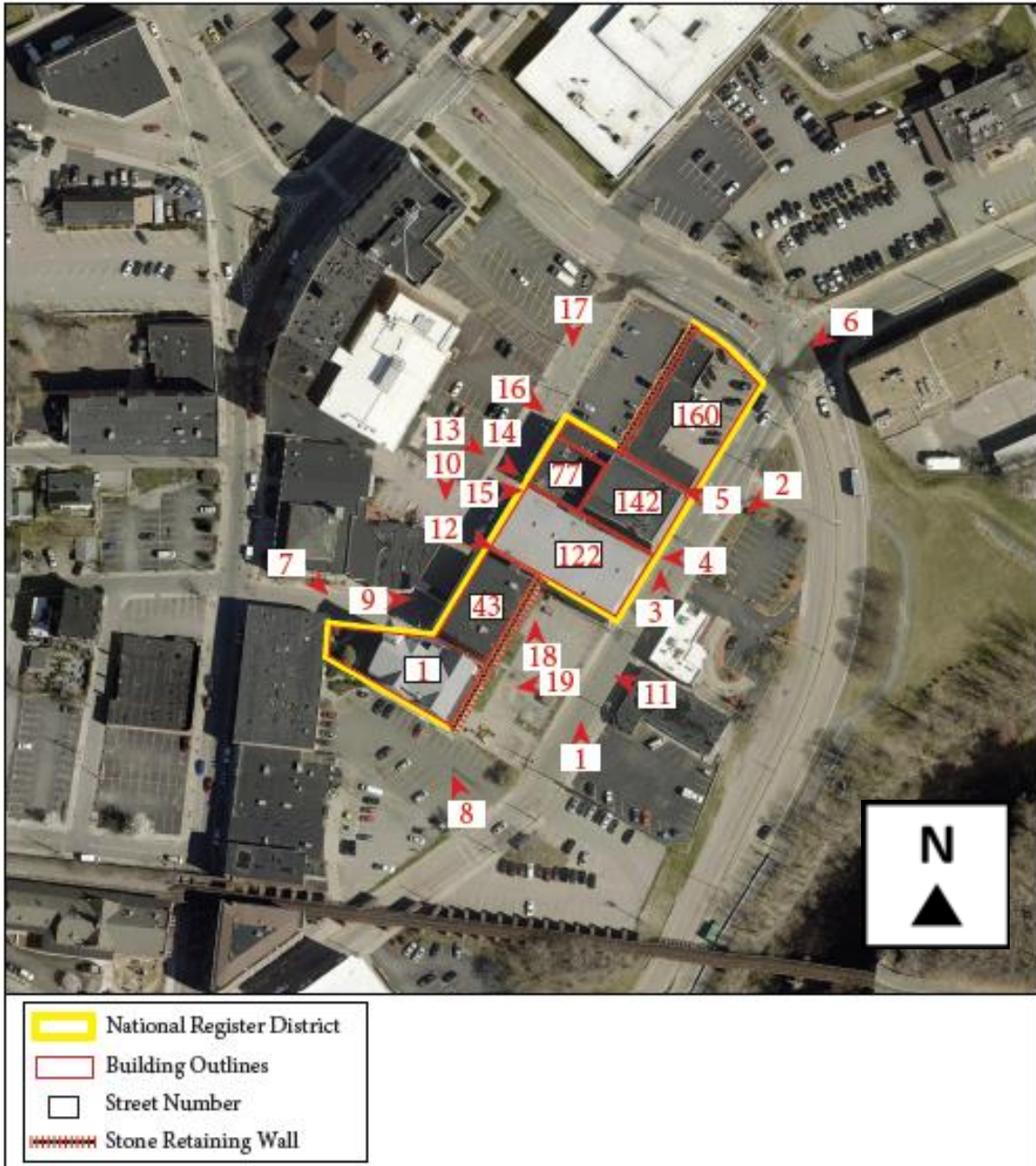
Providence County, RI
County and State

- Photo #15 View looking east towards the Woonsocket Commercial School (foreground) and CYO passageway (far right) with Masonic Temple in background.
- Photo #16 View looking southeast towards Masonic Temple (left) and Woonsocket Commercial School (right).
- Photo #17 Streetscape of Federal Street looking south.
- Photo #18 Detail of the historic stone retaining wall looking north.
- Photo #19 Detail of the historic stone retaining wall looking east.

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

PHOTO KEY/DISTRICT MAP



Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

Figures

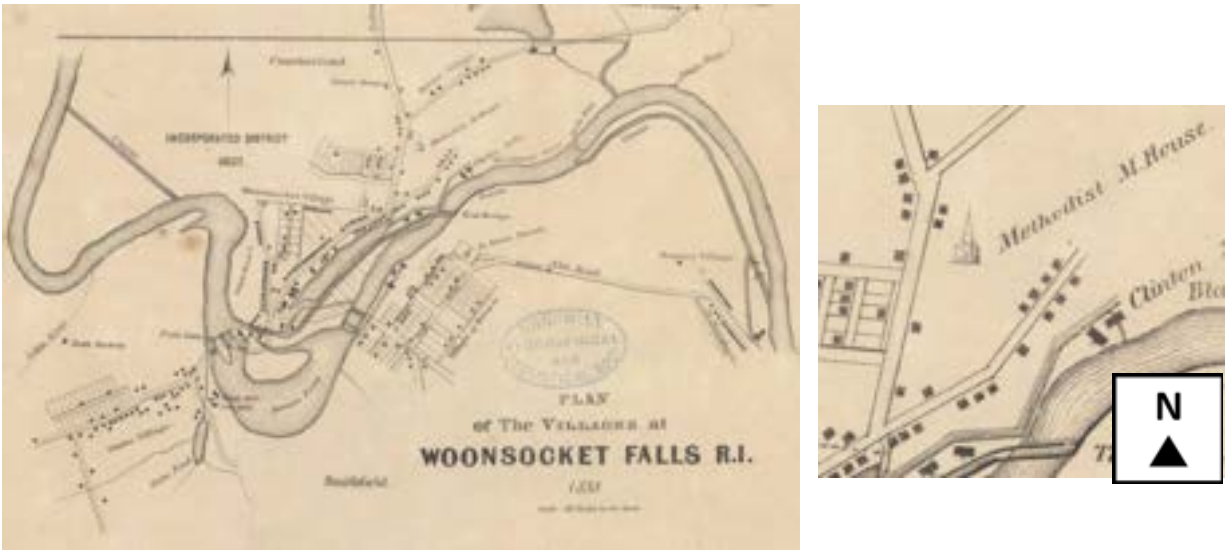


Figure 1

Detail from *Map of the Town of Cumberland, R.I.* (left)
and close-up of area around and including future Federal Street Historic District (right),
Newell Nelson (1838)

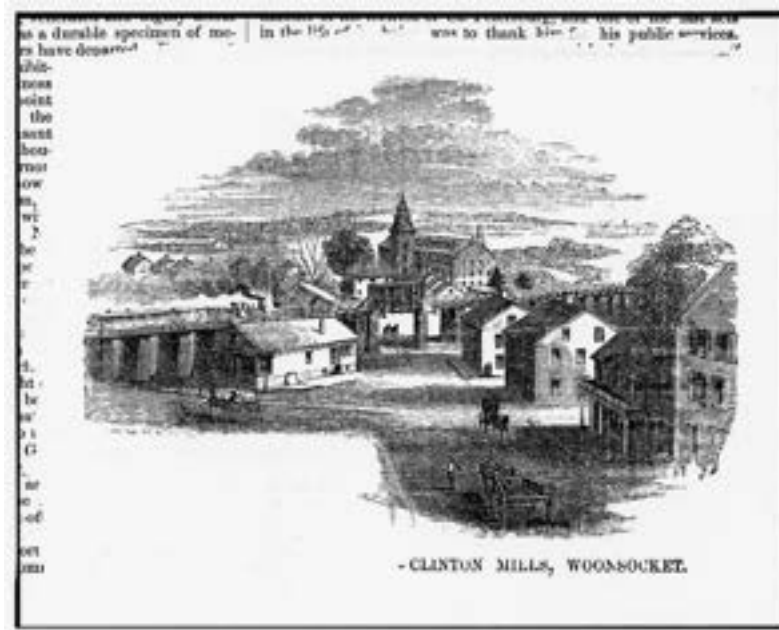


Figure 2

Clinton Mills showing worker housing along Clinton Street
on the far side of the railroad trestle from Ballou's Pictorial (1855)

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State



Figure 3

Detail from *Rhode Island State Atlas*,
D.G. Beers & Co. (1870)



Figure 4

Detail showing the Eagle Mill Company and Clinton Manufacturing Company tenements along Clinton Street, from *Insurance Map of Woonsocket, Providence County, Rhode Island* Sanborn Map Company (1892)

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

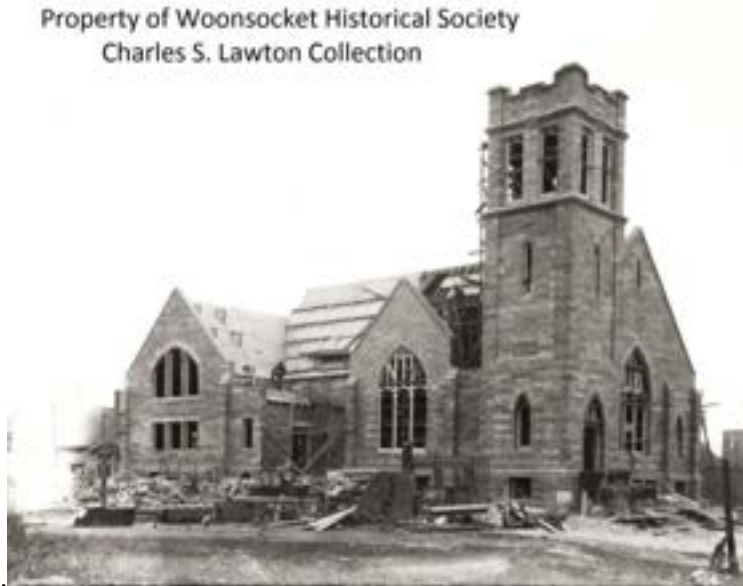


Figure 5

First Methodist Church under construction ca. 1907
Woonsocket Historical Society collections



Figure 6

First Methodist Church, ca. 1907
Historical Images Database, Woonsocket Harris Public Library

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State



Figure 7

Postcard of "New Methodist Church," ca. 1915
Historical Images Database, Woonsocket Harris Public Library



Figure 8

Photograph of the YMCA, ca. 1915
Historical Images Database, Woonsocket Harris Public Library

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State



Figure 9
Detail showing tenement housing along Clinton Street
and the newly constructed First Methodist Episcopal Church and YMCA on Federal Street
from *Insurance Map of Woonsocket, Providence County, Rhode Island*
Sanborn Map Company (1911)



Figure 10
Rendering of Monument Square, looking south, with the YMCA, First Methodist Church, and YWCA
visible on Federal Street (near top left corner)
Collections of *Woonsocket Historical Society*

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

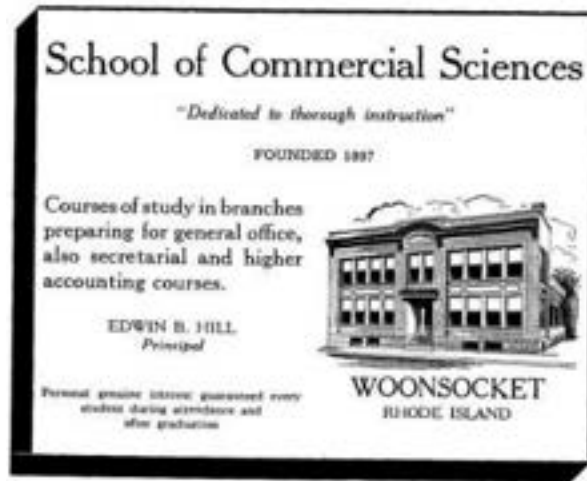


Figure 11

Advertisement from 1924 Woonsocket, Rhode Island Directory



Figure 12

Construction of the Masonic Temple, view looking west, ca. 1929
Woonsocket RI Freemasons collection

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State



Figure 13

Construction of the Masonic Temple, view looking northwest,
with Joseph Grenon's Garage visible at left, ca. 1929
Woonsocket RI Freemasons collection



Figure 14

Construction of the Masonic Temple, view looking southwest,
with Joseph Grenon's Garage visible at left, ca. 1929
Woonsocket RI Freemasons collection

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

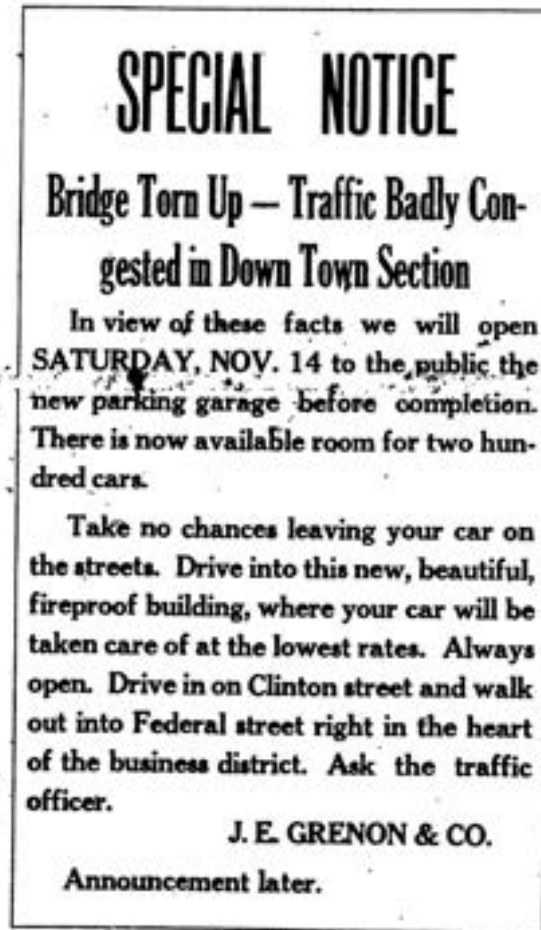


Figure 15

Advertisement for Joseph Grenon's Garage in the *Woonsocket Call*, November 14, 1925

Federal Street Historic District
Name of Property

Providence County, RI
County and State

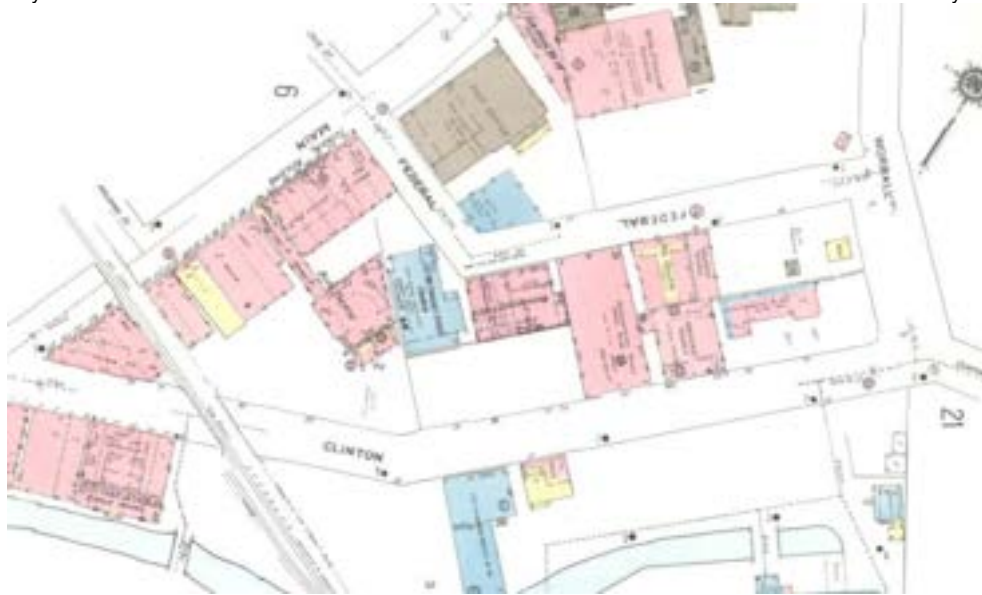


Figure 16

Detail showing the First Methodist Episcopal Church, YMCA, International Trades Union Building (formerly Joseph Grenon's Garage), Hill College (formerly Woonsocket Commercial School), Masonic Temple, and Firestone, from *Insurance Map of Woonsocket, Providence County, Rhode Island* Sanborn Map Company (1955)


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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Federal Street Historic District

Geographic Map

Legend

 Federal Street Historic District
Latitude: 42.00477585594742
Longitude: -71.51140327485942




Google Earth

400 ft

Federal Street Historic District

Geographic Map

Legend

 Federal Street Historic District

Latitude: 42.00477585594742

Latitude: 42.00477585594742

Federal Street Historic District

Google Earth

1000 ft



Federal Street Historic District
Woonsocket, Rhode Island



1. View looking north towards Joseph Grenon's Garage (foreground) and Masonic Temple (right).

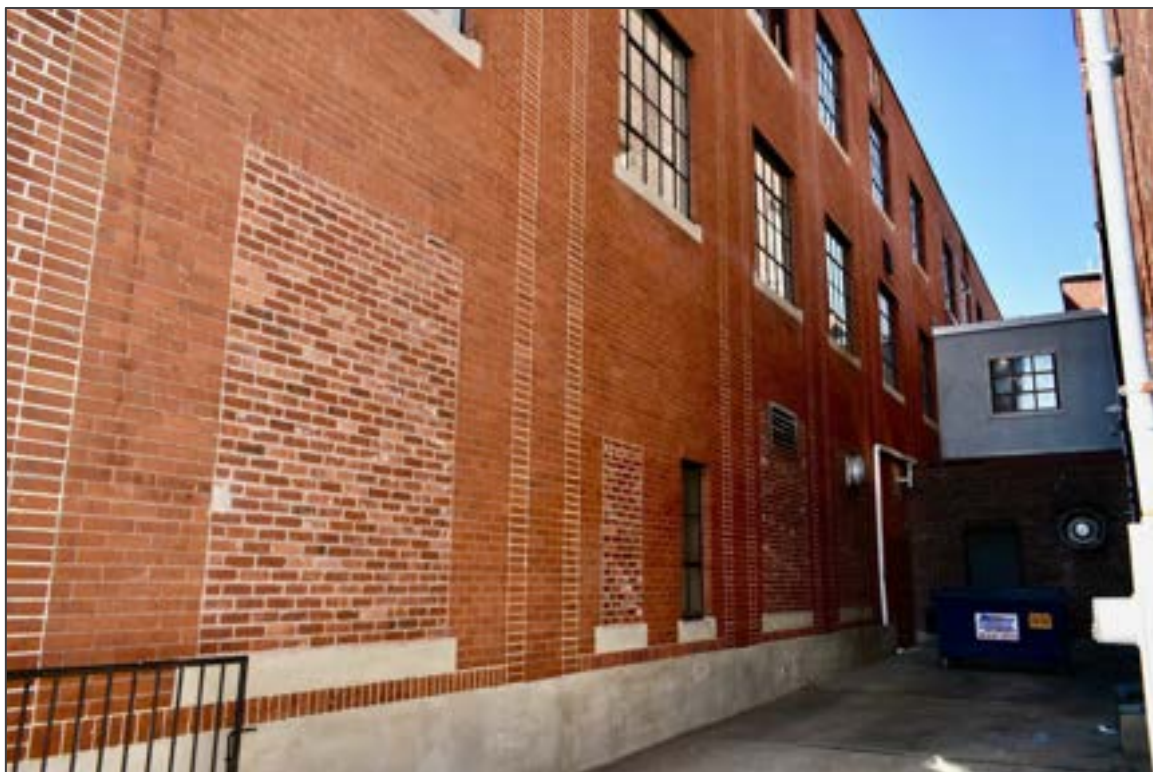


2. View looking southwest towards Masonic Temple (foreground) and Joseph Grenon's Garage (left).

Federal Street Historic District
Woonsocket, Rhode Island



3. View looking north towards Joseph Grenon's Garage (far left), Masonic Temple ell and CYO passageway (near left), and Masonic Temple (right).



4. View looking west towards Joseph Grenon's Garage (foreground) and Masonic Temple ell and CYO passageway (right).

Federal Street Historic District
Woonsocket, Rhode Island



5. View looking northwest towards Masonic Temple (left and near right) and the Firestone building (far right).



6. Streetscape of Clinton Street looking southwest from the intersection of Worrall and Clinton Streets with Firestone Services Stores, Inc. in foreground.

Federal Street Historic District
Woonsocket, Rhode Island



7. View looking southeast towards First Methodist Episcopal Church and YMCA (left).



8. View looking northwest towards First Methodist Episcopal Church (foreground), with Stone Retaining Wall, YMCA, and Joseph Grenon's Garage in background.

Federal Street Historic District
Woonsocket, Rhode Island



9. Streetscape of Federal Street looking east near dogleg turn with the YMCA in foreground.



10. View looking south towards the YMCA (foreground), Joseph Grenon's Garage (left), and First Methodist Episcopal Church (right).

Federal Street Historic District
Woonsocket, Rhode Island



11. View looking northwest towards the YMCA, First Methodist Episcopal Church (left), and Joseph Grenon's Garage (right).



12. View looking southeast towards YMCA stair tower (center) and YMCA (right) with Joseph Grenon's Garage at left.

Federal Street Historic District
Woonsocket, Rhode Island



13. View looking southeast towards Joseph Grenon's Garage.



14. View looking southeast towards CYO passageway between Woonsocket Commercial School (left) and Joseph Grenon's Garage (right).

Federal Street Historic District
Woonsocket, Rhode Island



15. View looking east towards the Woonsocket Commercial School (foreground) and CYO passageway (far right) with Masonic Temple in background.



16. View looking southeast towards Masonic Temple (left) and Woonsocket Commercial School (right).

Federal Street Historic District
Woonsocket, Rhode Island



17. Streetscape of Federal Street looking south.



18. Detail of the historic stone retaining wall looking north.

Federal Street Historic District
Woonsocket, Rhode Island



19. Detail of the historic stone retaining wall looking east.