Historic and Architectural Resources of Burrillville, Rhode Island: A Preliminary Report



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS PRELIMINARY SURVEY REPORT

TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE

1982

This document is a copy of the original survey published in 1982. It has not been corrected or updated.

Since the original publication:

>additional properties have been entered on the National Register;
 >some financial incentives referred to in these pages are no longer available;
 >some new financial incentives are available.

For up-to-date information, please contact: Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission 150 Benefit St. Providence, RI 02903 (401)222-2678 www.preservation.ri.gov info@preservation.ri.gov

The Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission is your state agency for historical preservation. The Commission identifies and protects historic buildings, districts, landscapes, structures, and archaeological sites throughout the State of Rhode Island.

RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION 150 BENEFIT STREET, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

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PREFACE

The Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, established by the General Assembly in 1968, is charged with the responsibility of safeguarding Rhode Island's cultural heritage. In order to provide an overview of the physical record of this heritage, the Commission has initiated a "broadbrush" or preliminary planning survey of the rural and suburban towns of the state. The purpose of this initial inventory is to identify, and record properties of historic and architectural significance in each town. Presently, archeological resources are treated through a separate survey effort being conducted by the Commission. The preliminary surveys are designed to provide a catalog of nonrenewable cultural resources. This information is needed for a variety of planning purposes at the local, state, and national levels. It identifies sites, districts, and structures eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, and it becomes a basis for preservation planning.

The preliminary surveys are accomplished by driving all public rightsof-way in a given town and noting on an appropriate map each building or site of particular architectural, visual, cultural, or historic significance. Each property is photographed and recorded on a standard data sheet which includes a physical description and notations concerning history, use, condition, and architectural style or period. The significance of each property is evaluated in a preliminary fashion and properties are designated as being in one of three categories: properties already on, or approved at the State Review Board level for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places; properties recommended at the staff level for nomination to the Register; and other significant properties, some of which, with further study and review, may be determined to be eligible for the Register. Known archeological sites are mentioned only incidentally in these studies to provide historical context.

In preparation for a Commission preliminary historical and architectural survey, the staff reviews all existing studies, town histories, reports and other readily available information to ensure that published historic sites and structures are included. In addition, planners, historical societies, and knowledgeable residents are consulted.

Upon completion of the survey, finished maps are developed and a brief report written. The result is a preliminary document--useful until a full-scale, intensive, cultural-resource survey of the community can be completed. The Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission will conduct such intensive surveys if funds and staffing are available.

INTRODUCTION

The following preliminary study covers the historical and architectural resources of the town of Burrillville. The report includes a short, illustrated account of Burrillville's architectural and developmental history in Section I. Section II is a comprehensive list of properties in the town that are already listed in the National Register of Historic Places or are recommended for nomination to the National Register. Section III is an annotated inventory of properties of historical and architectural importance in the town. The Inventory numbers are keyed to the small-scale locational map at the rear of this publication. For more precise location of properties, reference should be made to the large-scale, preliminary, cultural-resource survey map prepared by the Historical Preservation Commission. This large-scale map is on file at the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission and in the Burrillville Town Hall; copies have also been deposited with the State Department of Transportation, the Division of Statewide Planning, and the Department of Community Affairs.

The Commission would like to thank the many officials, residents. and scholars who assisted in the conduct of the preliminary survey and in the publication of this report. In particular, the Commission would like to thank Pat Mehrtens, who was the liaison between the Commission and several people in Burrillville--Averill Maher, who provided information on Glendale and other villages and places in eastern Burrillville; Ralph Peters, for a tour of the Wallum Lake and Bridgeton area which resulted in the addition of several properties there; Ray Menard and Barton St. Armand for detailed information, especially for Harrisville; Pamela Kenyon Cardin, who provided specifics on Sweet's Hill; Joyce Knibbs and Mr. and Mrs. Atwood Bailey, who read the preliminary draft of this report and helped with information; James Maher; and Sandra Mundy of the Jesse M. Smith Memorial Library. Commission staff who reviewed and contributed to the report are Antoinette F. Downing, Edward F. Sanderson, and William M. Woodward. Material on Harrisville was derived largely from the National Register work done by Susan Dynes of the Commission staff. Leonard Pannagio, of the Rhode Island Department of Economic Development, also reviewed the report. Special recognition goes to Vivienne Lasky, formerly a Commission staff member, who, with Walter Nebiker, did the original survey work in Burrillville several years ago, and who initially identified and recorded most of the properties listed in this report. Vivienne Lasky also reviewed and made important contributions to this report.

I. ANALYSIS

OVERVIEW

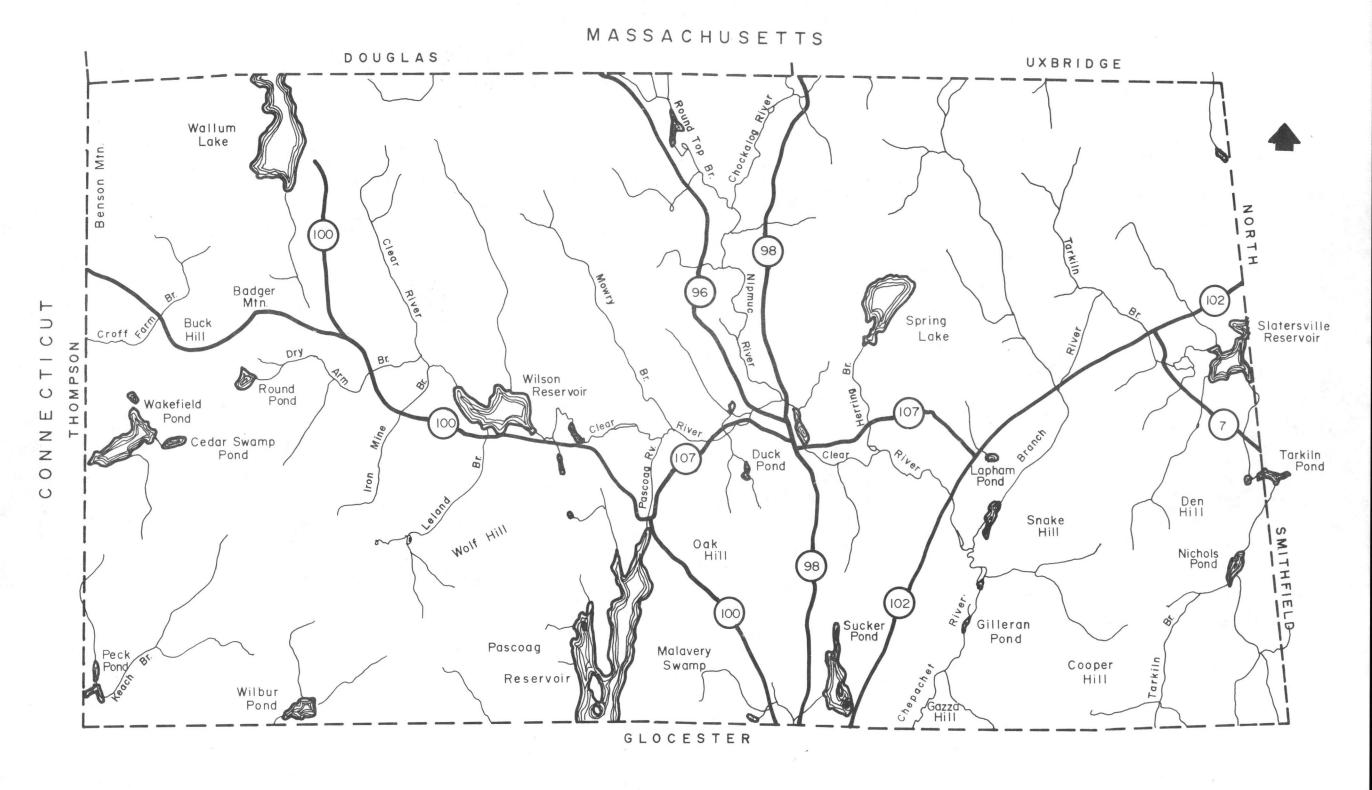
Before the arrival of Europeans, Native Americans inhabited what is today Burrillville. Their way of life was centered on hunting, gathering, and agriculture, activities conducted on a small scale. Their impact on the land was limited, and today there are no readily visible traces of their activity. Professional archeological investigation remains to be done on a town-wide basis to give an accurate account of Native American culture in Burrillville.

The first European settlers arrived in the late seventeenth century. For many decades after, and throughout the eighteenth century, farming was the predominant occupation of the inhabitants, who cleared most of the town's forested lands for their fields and pastures. During the first half of the nineteenth century, the town's larger waterways--the Chepachet-Clear-Pascoag-Branch river system--were harnessed to power textile mills which formed the nuclei for more than a dozen hamlets and villages. The nineteenth century industrial and urban transformation of the town was accompanied by a corresponding decline in agrarian fortunes and population. The textile industry remained active into the twentieth century, but gradually the mills ceased operating; many were torn down or destroyed by fire and never rebuilt. A few farms survived into the twentieth century, but for the most part, forest reclaimed the land.

An electric street railway from Woonsocket and the increasing popularity of the automobile in the early part of the century made Burrillville's ponds and woodlands accessible for recreational use to increasingly larger numbers of people. Spring Lake developed into a resort around 1900, and campsites were established along Wallum Pond and Pascoag Reservoir. Improved transportation facilities, coupled with a changing economy, notably the decline of the textile industry, resulted in most of the townspeople working outside the town, which became a bedroom community. A suburban movement which began slowly in remote Burrillville, intensified dramatically in the 1960s and 1970s. Small housing developments were carved out of the woods, and many houses were built in a linear pattern along the town roads, dispersing the population. Although some mills continue active today (most in non-textile activities), the former mill villages are no longer as dependent on the mill fortunes as in the past, and most of these settlements survive as lovely and pleasant residential communities. The villages, and some rare, surviving farms, constitute the most important components of Burrillville's cultural heritage.

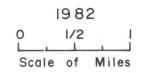
LOCATION AND POPULATION

Burrillville is located in Providence County in the northwestern corner of Rhode Island. It is bounded on the east by North Smithfield and on the south by Glocester, Rhode Island, by the Connecticut town of Thompson to the west, and Douglas and Uxbridge, Massachusetts, to the



BURRILLVILLE

PHYSICAL FEATURES



north. The straight line boundaries of about 10 miles east and west and about 5 miles in a north-south direction, encompassing 55.8 square miles, give the town an approximately rectangular shape. A 1980 population of 13,098 gives Burrillville a population density of 135 people per square mile, well below the state average. This statistic, however, is not representative because the population is concentrated in and near the villages. Large tracts of land are very sparsely populated, and the sizeable state management areas--Black Hut, Buck Hill, and George Washington--and smaller Casimir Pulaski Memorial State Park, are virtually uninhabited. In addition, several lake-shore communities include summer residents who create a minor seasonal fluctuation in numbers.

TRANSPORTATION

A network of numbered highways crisscrosses Burrillville. Route 7, the Douglas Pike, is a former turnpike road laid out about 1805 between Providence, which is 13 miles from the Burrillville line, and Douglas. Massachusetts. The Douglas Pike, which provides a direct link with the capital city to the southeast, diminishes to the size of a dirt path near the Massachusetts line. Traversing the southeast corner of town is Route 102. Now a modern, limited access highway known as the Broncos Highway, it avoids most of town's settled places. Former Route 102, the Victory Highway, originally part of a post World War I route through rural western Rhode Island linking Woonsocket in the north with Wickford in the south, links several villages in the eastern part of town. Connecting with Route 102 are Route 107, an east-west road passing through Harrisville and terminating in the town's largest village, Pascoag, and Route 100, which begins at Chepachet, in Glocester, and passes through Pascoag to Wallum Lake. Minor highways include Route 98, which extends from Route 100 at the Glocester line, passing through Harrisville, north into Uxbridge, Massachusetts; Route 96, which leads north from Harrisville into Douglas, Massachusetts; Reservoir Road, a link between U.S. Route 44 in Glocester and Pascoag; and Buck Hill Road, which runs off Route 100 into Thompson, Connecticut. Although most roads in the town are paved, some, especially those in the northern part of town, have never been covered with a modern surface.

There is no rail service in town, but bus service is available.

GEOLOGY AND LANDFORMS

Located in the Upland section of New England, Burrillville is underlain by old crystalline rocks, mostly granite. Formerly part of the more extensive Appalachian Mountain system, the land was worn down over millions of years of weathering and erosion.

In the recent geologic past, continental glaciers--vast ice sheets overriding the land--covered this area. The southward-moving ice mass carried large quantities of soil and boulders which were deposited



Dam along Clear River (Mid-19th Century) at site of Laurel Hill Yarn Company: off North Road, Bridgeton Historic District (#3-B).



Dam along Tarkiln (18th Century et. seq.) at site of grist mill off Nichols Road, Oak Valley-Tarkiln Historic District (#12-H).



Harrisville Dam (1857): Along Clear River, off East Avenue, Harrisville Historic District (#7-G).

indiscriminately over the land when the ice sheet melted about 11,000 years ago. The unsorted material which was deposited, a mixture of soil and rocks known to geologists as till, makes up most of Rhode Island's surface cover. Large boulders, transported from elsewhere by the ice and left perched on the land, resting on bedrock of another material and known as glacial erratics, are common in Burrillville. In some places large ice blocks were left standing on the land, then covered with glacial outwash material. After the ice blocks melted a very irregular topography known as kame-and-kettle resulted. Enormous rivers that issued from the melting ice sheet carried material which was sorted out by the action of running water into deposits ranging from coarsely-sorted pebbly mixtures to fine sand and gravel. Glacial deposits also blocked pre-existing waterways, resulting in many swampy areas. Malavery Swamp is one of the largest in town, and smaller swampy areas occur along all of the town's brooks and rivers.

The long period of erosion and the scouring effect of the glacier as it moved south resulted in a very irregular topography with smooth hilltops. Burrillville is a hilly town. Elevations generally increase from east to west. The Slatersville Reservoir, at 249 feet, is the lowest place in town. Den Hill, Snake Hill, and Cooper Hill, in the southeast corner, rise to about 500 feet; Oak Hill, in the south central part, attains 551 feet; the summit of Wolf Hill, further west, is 641 feet. The highest elevations occur in the extreme western part of Burrillville, at Buck Hill, over 730 feet, Badger Mountain, 734 feet, and Benson Mountain, along the Connecticut line; Benson Mountain, at an elevation of 753 feet above sea level, is the highest hill in town. These hills, dispersed in an irregular pattern, provide for a diversified, scenic topography, but the rugged slopes and rock outcrops also have acted as a deterrent to settlement. The higher, more rugged areas have remained thinly-populated to the present.

Most people live in the lower, broader, river valleys. The Clear River, which is joined by the Chepachet River at Oakland to form the Branch River, is the town's major waterway, draining most of Burrillville. Beginning at Wallum Lake, the Clear flows southerly, then easterly, its size gradually increasing as it is joined by several tributaries, the largest being the Pascoag and the Nipmuc Rivers.

Burrillville's natural features, landscape, and waterways have played an important role in the town's development. Its rough topography discouraged and precluded farming in many areas. The land generally was unfavorable for tillage, and the soil, mostly glacial till, was thin, hard, and very stony, requiring years of toil to clear. The stones were piled up as fences dividing fields and properties; today, with former fields and pastures overgrown, many stone fences are found in the second growth forests. The glacial outwash deposits also left poor soil for crops, the sand and gravel deposits making up a number of unproductive sweet fern hills and barren pine plains. The ledges and remote 'wild' areas of Burrillville once harbored outlaws, some of whom counterfeited

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money in places such as Cooper's Cave or Forgers Cave. The land also yielded natural resources which made life possible. The woods and cedar swamps supplied the basic building material for homes and outbuildings, as well as for firewood, hoop poles, shingles, ship timbers, charcoal, and other products from the earliest days to the present; the granite bedrock provided material for foundations, chimney bases, and curb stones; and the running waters supplied power for industry, from the earliest, small saw and grist mills to the larger nineteenth century textile mills.

In later years, the woods, hills, ponds, and waterways became important for recreation and leisure, and today are recognized for their aesthetic and natural qualities. In 1972, a "Unique Natural Areas Survey of Rhode Island," prepared by the Audubon Society of Rhode Island (see Appendix A), recorded fifteen sites in the town which were noteworthy for their plant communities, including trees and flowering plants, ferns, and other species; minerals; ledges and rock outcrops, trails; and scenic areas. Listed as the best in the state are a black sprucelarch bog; a paper birch stand; a rare climbing fern area; an orchid site; and a large, white cedar swamp which contains the largest white cedar recorded in Rhode Island. Burrillville's natural areas, sites, plant species, scenic areas, and swamps, like its significant cultural resources, deserve consideration in planning the town's future.

NATIVE AMERICANS

Northern Rhode Island, before European settlement, was the territory of three Algonquin tribes. The Narragansetts, whose principal settlements were in southern Rhode Island, were the most powerful tribe in Rhode Island. The northeastern part of present Rhode Island was the western edge of the territory of the Wampanoags, an important tribe which was well established in southeastern Massachusetts and along the eastern shore of Narragansett Bay. Today's Burrillville was occupied by the Nipmucs, including a small subtribe known as the Pascoags, who were subsidiary to the Narragansetts and Wampanoags. The Nipmuc territory also included a small part of adjacent Connecticut, but their principal domain covered most of central Massachusetts. Never a strong tribe, the Nipmucs were too weak to prevent parts of their land from being subjugated to foreign domination at various times. Soon after white settlement, the Nipmucs acknowledged Massachusetts colonial authority. During King Philip's War of 1675-1676 that engulfed southeastern New England, the Nipmucs were one of three tribes to join Philip, but they played a minor role in that struggle which ended in European domination of the region.

The Nipmucs hunted, fished, gathered nuts and other forest products, and planted some crops in clearings in the woods. There were some Indian settlements nearby, in adjacent Douglas and Uxbridge, Massachusetts, but there is little evidence that these semi-migratory people were well established in Burrillville. Settlements were probably temporary, based on seasonal patterns dictated by nature. According to Horace Keach's

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Reuben Keach House (18th Century): 66 Central Street (#30).



Esten Farm (18th Century): Mount Pleasant Road (#59).



Ballou-Bligh House (18th Century): Joslin Road (#53).

history of Burrillville (1856), a field at the base of Snake Hill, always called the "Indian Cornfield," and later flooded by a factory pond, once contained little mounds for maize; he also wrote that remains of an Indian wigwam had survived on an area farm. However, little professional archeological investigation has been done in the town; consequently, accurate knowledge of the life of Burrillville's earliest inhabitants is sketchy at best. According to a 1937 guidebook, local Indians spent weeks at a camp near Spring Lake, but today there is no trace of Native Americans on the land, and even Indian place names are few.

THE SEVENTEENTH AND EIGHTEENTH CENTURIES

Settling the Land

The initial settlement of Rhode Island was made at the head of Narragansett Bay in 1636. Gradually, settlers moved into the outlying areas. In 1660, the Providence Plantations consisted of two areas. Land lying within a north-south dividing line drawn seven miles west of Fox Point in Providence was known as "the inlands." Between seven and twenty miles west of Fox Point, the territory now comprising the towns of Scituate, Foster, Glocester, and Burrillville, was referred to as "the Outlands," or "the Providence Woods." The present eastern boundary of Burrillville lies along the Seven Mile Line.

Early Settlers

The first settler in today's Burrillville was probably John Smith, who, it is said, came to the Tarkiln area in 1674, and stayed a short time. Smith returned to Providence, then came back to Burrillville with several friends and members of his family, who eventually became large landowners in the southeast part of town. Many other families arrived in the eighteenth century, migrating from Providence or other Rhode Island or Massachusetts towns. Some of the early settlers were members of the Salisbury, Harrington, Rhodes, Mowry, Walling, Inman, Darling, Ballou, Mathewson, Paine, Steere, Angell, Brown, Esten, Logee, Eddy, and Sayles families. These prolific farm families were spread throughout the town. By 1731, the Outlands had sufficient numbers to warrant carving several towns out of what is today Providence County. Burrillville was part of the new town of Glocester.

Farming and Other Activities

Throughout the eighteenth century, agriculture was the dominant way of life. The eighteenth century settlement pattern was that of a rural population scattered about the town in random fashion, the farms sited on the best land. Typically, the farms included the residence, a large barn, sheds, privies, and other outbuildings. Stone walls were liberally used to hold livestock, separating them from the farmyard and fields, and as boundaries between properties and along roads and pathways. Most of the farms grew enough food for their own use, and occasionally a small



Logee-Whiting House (Early 19th-Century: Buck Hill Road (#24).



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J. Millard House/Barksfield (c. 1754): East Wallum Lake Road (#46).



M. Smith House (c. 1750): Victory Highway (#82).

surplus. This subsistence agriculture produced pork, beef, or mutton as the mainstays of the diet, supplemented by potatoes, beets, carrots, beans, peas, butter, eggs, cheese, rye and Indian bread, many berries, including cranberries, and fruits such as cherries, pears, plums, and apples, the latter also made into cider. Some of these products were bartered at the store for tea, coffee, ginger, calico, crockery, and other items.

A network of roads, or cart paths, connected the widely-dispersed farmsteads and the several small hamlets such as Pascoag, Wallum Lake, Glendale, Wilson's Mills, Harrisville, Saxonville, Laurel Hill, and Mapleville, which were, in the eighteenth century, in their incipient stages of development and probably nameless. By the end of the century, industrial activities such as saw mills, grist mills, and iron works were scattered about the town. Saw and grist mills were established at Pascoag about 1746, at Wallum Lake about 1766, at Glendale in 1785. at Wilson's Mills before 1795, and probably at Harrisville before the end of the eighteenth century. In the Bridgeton area, a forge was working at Saxonville in 1793, and a saw mill was operating at nearby Laurel Hill a few years later. Mapleville was the location of the area's first organized religious group, the Society of Friends, which held meetings as early as 1783. The Society erected the first church building (#8-C)*in town in 1791.

The roads created in the eighteenth century to link scattered settlements form part of the basic road network today. Many still remain in a largely unimproved state, such as an east-west road system across the northern part of town incorporating present East and West Ironstone roads, Brook Street, and West Road. Some of the old roads exist today only as paths in the woods.

Early Houses

Several farmhouses, which reveal their early origin architecturally, survive in Burrillville. The M. Smith House (#82), on Victory Highway, a l½-story dwelling, is a typical eighteenth-century house, with a large, brick, center chimney, a central entry in a 5-bay facade, and windows close to the eaves. Another well-preserved dwelling of this type is the Reuben Keach House (#30) on Central Street. An early building with a rarer, gambrel roof, is the S. Eddy House (#61) on Reservoir Road. At least three, early and unusual end-chimney houses survive in Burrillville--the Esten farmhouse (#59) on Mount Pleasant Road, the Ballou-Bligh House (#53) on Joslin Road, and a house (#66) on Smith Hill Road. All three appear to have been built in two sections: a larger end-chimney house reminiscent of the seventeenth-century "stone-ender" type and a smaller section constructed at one end. In addition to its old farmhouse, the Esten place is still a working farm today.

*Numbers in parentheses refer to the Inventory (Section III) and to the Map of Cultural Resources following page 75.

THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

As the eighteenth century was dominated by agricultural activities, the nineteenth was the century of industrial production. Aided by improvements in transportation and technology, sleepy hamlets dating from the eighteenth century as well as places that had never known any industrial activity, became bustling and prosperous mill villages. Almost every village had its own energetic leader, who was responsible for its industrial transformation. Most of the nineteenth-century entrepreneurs were benevolent, civic-minded men, who effected great changes in Burrillville. Mills were built throughout the town, and workers, at first Irish, then French Canadians, were imported in large numbers to work in the mills, thereby changing the ethnic composition of the population, which until mid-century had been predominantly Yankee. Schools and churches were built, and other services and institutions were created in response to the large nineteenth-century population growth. Agriculture declined as the major component of Burrillville's economy, partly as a result of the growth of industry which provided an alternative to the demands of farm life. In addition, competition from Western farmers, beginning with the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825, made farming in the East less profitable. By mid-century, manufacturing was the most important economic force in the town and the state, and it continued to be the backbone of the economy throughout the rest of the century; most of the town's population was now concentrated in the villages, notably Pascoag, Harrisville-Graniteville, Mapleville, and Bridgeton, while the rural areas declined in population and importance to Burrillville's economy, politics, and civic life in general.

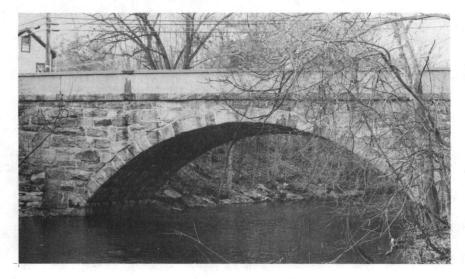
1800-1824

During the first quarter of the nineteenth century, Burrillville residents continued to settle and work the land. The area's relatively large population and long distance to Chepachet, the town center, resulted in the division of Glocester in 1806. The new town, taken from the northern part of Glocester, was named for James Burrill, Jr., in recognition of his services in establishing the new town. Burrill, a Providence resident, was State Attorney General, at the time, and later served as Speaker of the General Assembly, Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court, and United States Senator.

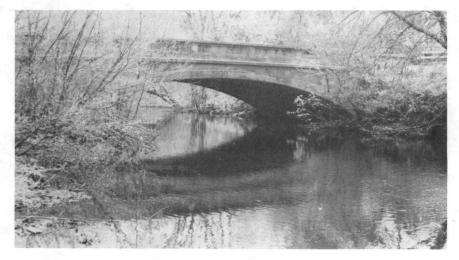
Burrillville's growth was reflected in the establishment of schools, churches, mills, and stores in the early years of the nineteenth century. The first schools were kept in private homes. A schoolhouse was built in 1806, and several more private schools were set up in the next decade. In 1810, a second church, built by a Methodist society, was erected, and in 1814, the first Freewill Baptist Quarterly Meeting in Rhode Island was held in Burrillville. Several small textile enterprises--small mills at Wallum Lake and at Oak Valley, and a fulling and dressing shop at Pascoag--were built between 1800 and 1814. A scythe shop at Mohegan and an axe and hoe factory at Nasonville were built in the following



Stone Bridge near Chepachet River (Mid 19th-Century): off Gazza Road, Gazzaville Historic District Area (#5).



Nasonville Stone Arch Bridge, Number 111 (1907): Victory Highway/Douglas Pike, Nasonville Historic District (#10-E).



Oakland Bridge, Number 105 (1917-1918): Victory Highway, Oakland Historic District (#11-H).

decade. Peace and Niles' gazetteer of 1819 lists 10 regular schools, two religious societies with houses for public worship, five stores, a bank, 300 dwellings, and an inconsiderable amount of manufacturing, consisting of one woolen factory, two carding machines, and two clothiers works. Peace and Niles considered the township unfavorable for tillage, but well adapted for grazing, and its extensive forests contained valuable timber.

The town's growth was accompanied by improvements in transportation. In 1805, the Smithfield Turnpike Company was chartered, and in 1808 changed its name to The Providence and Douglass Turnpike Company to indicate its terminal points. The turnpike, which was made a free road in 1845, skirted the northeastern corner of Burrillville, where a stagecoach stop and tavern, originally Walling's Hotel, later the Western Hotel (#10-F), was established. A network of smaller roads, which still exist today, for the most part, crisscrossed the town, connecting the scattered farms.

The first quarter of the nineteenth century is well represented architecturally in Burrillville.* Although still basically following the construction modes of earlier houses, a few of these Federal style dwellings boast fine, pedimented entries with fan lights and some detailed carpenter-work decorations at the cornices. Two of the houses--the 1807 S. Eddy House (#61) on Reservoir Road and the D. Smith House (#48) on Hill Road--have survived in well-preserved condition and will be considered for entry on the National Register of Historic Places.**

1825-1849

Industry

During the second quarter of the nineteenth century, manufacturing establishments became more widespread through Burrillville. At first, most factories were small and employed too few operatives to reverse the town's ten percent decline in population during the 1830s. Many small textile mills began in part of an existing saw or grist mill. Some were simple fulling or carding mills; a number began as cotton mills and later were changed to woolen mills; and most mills were altered or enlarged by construction of additions or replacement of the original structure. An early mill in Harrisville, built about 1825, was first a machine shop and cotton mill and later was converted to woolen manufacturing. In the 1830s, a machine works was erected at Laurel Ridge, and woolen mills were begun in Huntsville and Gazzaville.

*See Appendix B for a list of buildings by architectural style or period. **See Section II, the National Register of Historic Places.



Eagle Peak School (1826): Eagle Peak Road (#39).



Mapleville School (c. 1890): Sand Hill Road, Mapleville Historic District (#8-E).



Nasonville School (1890s): Douglas Pike and Victory Highway, Nasonville Historic District (#10-D).

During the 1840s, leadership of the Rhode Island woolen industry, originally centered in the southern part of the state, passed to northern Rhode Island. Burrillville, which had two woolen mills in 1840, had eleven by 1850 and twenty-two in 1856. Textile mills were built in Glendale, Mapleville, Laurel Ridge, Saxonville, Plainville (Whipple), Graniteville, and Oakland, and a second mill was erected at Gazzaville. Five of these opened as woolen mills, and the remaining three were originally cotton mills but soon installed woolen machinery.

Population and Building

The decade of the 1840s was the most active growth period in Burrillville's history. The town's population increased 79 percent--mostly workers for the new mills in the dozen or so mill villages. At first the mills undoubtedly attracted workers from Burrillville's rural areas, but during the 1840s Irish immigrants began to arrive in Burrillville in large numbers, settling in Pascoag and Harrisville to work in woolen mills. Houses, schools, and churches were built in the villages to accommodate new workers, though the presence of the Irish community made its greatest impact after 1850. Two new Protestant churches were founded, including the handsome Baptist Church (#13-G) erected in Pascoag in 1839.

Perhaps the last of the town's private schools, the Eagle Peak School (#39), a rare stone schoolhouse, was built in 1826, just before passage of the state's Free School Law of 1828. This act, which was the foundation of the present school system, prompted towns to build new schools and to provide for free public education. Eleven schoolhouses were reported in 1828, when the town was divided into school districts.

The Greek Revival style of architecture came into vogue about 1820 and remained a popular building style until about 1860. Burrillville's Greek Revival houses were simplified versions of the grander style houses erected in the cities; they were characterized by a wide corner board, sometimes with a recessed center panel, a wide board under the cornice, and an entry, often recessed or with a portico, with side lights. More than a dozen good examples of Greek Revival houses in Burrillville are listed in Appendix B.

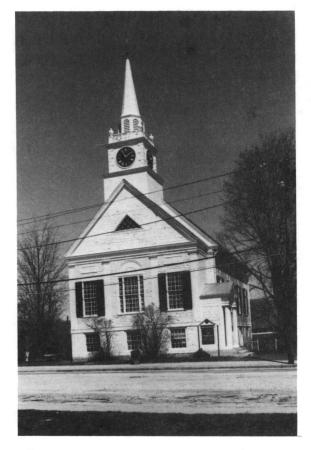
1850-1900

Industry

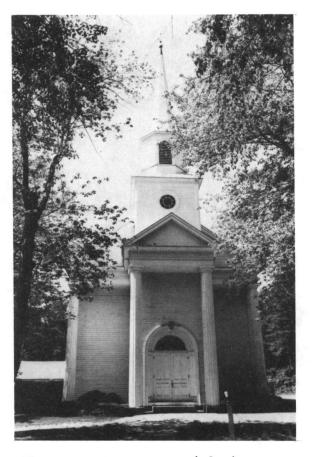
During the second half of the nineteenth century, Burrillville's economy continued to be devoted to woolen manufacturing, and the town's civic life was centered in mill villages which were largely shaped by the mill owners and their families. During the last half of the nineteenth century, only one place that previously had no textile mill--Wilson's Mills--saw the establishment of a textile factory. However, many new mills and large additions to existing mills went up in established industrial locations, including Huntsville, Saxonville, Gazzaville,



Burrillville United Methodist Church (1893): Joslin Road, Glendale Historic District (#6-C).



First Universalist Church (1886, 1933): Main Street, Harrisville Historic District (#7-S). Photo by Susan Dynes.



First Baptist Church (1839): Church Street, Pascoag Historic District (#13-G).

Glendale, Graniteville, Harrisville, Mohegan, Nasonville, Oakland, Oak Valley, and Pascoag. In the rural areas, modern technology changed the formerly wooden, water-powered wheels to metal turbines, and circular saws replaced the older, up-and-down type saws, but, the buildings housing the mill works remained the same. Technological advances wrought greater changes in the textile industry. Although most of the mills continued using water power, water wheels or turbines were supplemented by steam-generated power, manifested in a small, brick, boiler house with a large stack which became part of the industrial landscape and a prominent landmark in most villages.

Some handsome stone mills followed current architectural styles, like the c. 1868 Gazzaville Mill addition and the 1865 Sayles, or Granite Mill, in Pascoag, with "French" (mansard) roofs and fine towers. However, new buildings in the latter half of the century were usually low, one-story, sprawling brick buildings, their exterior walls a curtain of multi-paned windows. In the last decade or so of the century, a number of Burrillville mills were destroyed by fire; some like the mills at Gazzaville and the Laurel Hill Yarn Company, were never rebuilt.

Industrialists

Several entrepreneurs provided the capital for new mills and the vital spark for the creation of mill communities which brought a greater sense of order and improvements in workers' housing and their quality of life in general. Augustus Hopkins started the well-known Hopkins Machine Works in Laurel Hill, while the Inman family ran the nearby Laurel Hill Yarn Company for many years. The Nichols family took over the Oak Valley mills and became locally important in the Oak Valley-Tarkiln area. Gazzaville was created and run by the Whipple family, who also started manufacturing in nearby Mapleville; the latter place was owned by James Legg in the late nineteenth century. J. T. Seagraves ran several mills in town, including the one at Graniteville. John L. Ross, who owned the Oakland Mill from about 1850 to 1895, made many improvements in his village. Perhaps the most important nineteenth-century mill family were the Sayles, who began manufacturing in Pascoag in the late eighteenth century. They built several mills in Pascoag in the nineteenth century, and their Sayles Mill was the largest in town. Albert L. Sayles, at his death in 1892, was considered the most prominent man in Burrillville. William Tinkham, who came to Harrisville as a mill owner in 1856, was a prime mover in transforming the mills and village there, and, in addition, he was largely responsible for the construction of a railroad into Burrillville.

Population and Ethnicity

The second half of the nineteenth century was a time of great change in population numbers and ethnic background of Burrillville's inhabitants. Between 1850 and 1900, the town's population increased from 3,538 to 6,317, a growth of almost 80 percent. Most of the added population was



Darius Lawton House (1840s): Main Street, Mapleville Historic District (#8-D).



Thomas Sweet House (1870s): 141 East Avenue, Sweet's Hill Historic District (#15-E).



Albert E. Sweet House/Indian Acres (c. 1880): 133 East Avenue, Sweet's Hill Historic District (#15-B).

made up of immigrants, first Irish and then French Canadians, who came to work in the mills. The Graniteville Mill, rebuilt immediately after an 1852 fire, attracted Irish workers. Originally from County Westmeath, Ireland, they probably worked in the Blackstone, Massachusetts, mills before moving to Burrillville. About the time of the Civil War, French Canadians began arriving in Burrillville to work in the mills; by the end of the century, they were the major foreign population in town. The Rhode Island census report for 1875 was the last to record village populations (since they had no corporate boundaries and were difficult to define). In that year, Burrillville's total population was 5,249. Pascoag, with a population of 1.001, Harrisville (605), and Graniteville (349) recorded the largest numbers of Irish with French Canadians also well represented. Plainville, a largely Irish community, had 143 residents. French Canadians accounted for a significant percentage of the populations of Mapleville (399), Mohegan (174), Oakland (152), and Nasonville (113). The Bridgeton area had at least 641 residents in 1875, with 277 in Laurel Ridge, 241 in Glendale, 147 in Huntsville, and only 17 counted in Saxonville. Eagle Peak, population 53, also was recorded in 1875.

New Buildings

By far the largest number of houses built in Burrillville in the late nineteenth century were built by mill owners for workers. They were simple, functional buildings, built primarily for shelter, without architectural pretentions. Perhaps the most common type was the one-and-onehalf-story duplex, a gable-roofed house with its broad side to the street and a pair of doors in the center. These ubiquitous houses, usually built in groups or rows, lined the main and side streets of all the villages, and, although built quite close together, provided enough space for some amenities of light and fresh air. The elm-and maple-lined village streets provided a pleasant and picturesque environment.

The homes of the mill owners and supervisors and of businessmen comprise a different kind of architectural legacy. The homes of the affluent, often large and set on large, landscaped lots, represent several popular Victorian styles--bracketed, Italianate, Gothic, Second Empire, Queen Anne, and Shingle. Too numerous to describe individually, these houses are listed in Appendix B. Almost without exception, they were built in the villages.

Nine new churches were built in Burrillville during the second half of the nineteenth century. Burrillville's first Roman Catholics were served by visiting priests. The first resident priest, Reverend Bernard Tully, arrived in 1854, to serve Irish Catholic mill workers in Pascoag and Harrisville. Land for a Catholic church had been purchased in Pascoag in 1852, but plans for a building there were dropped because Harrisville afforded a more central location for the increasing Catholic population of Harrisville and the lower villages. Reverend Tully purchased property for a church in Harrisville, where a church was dedicated in 1858. At first called St. Bernard's, it was soon after renamed St. Patrick's after the great missionary apostle of Ireland. In 1880 a second Roman Catholic Church, St. Joseph's, was dedicated in Pascoag.



James O. Inman House (c. 1875): Sayles Avenue, Bridgeton Historic District (#3-M).



Albert L. Sayles Residence (c. 1880): Church Street Pascoag Historic District (#13-B).



Ernest Tinkham House (1880-1882): 124 East Avenue, Harrisville Historic District (Map #7-M). Photo by Susan Dynes.

While the growing population consisted of a large number of Irish and French Canadian Catholics, the Protestant population grew also, and churches were established to serve their needs. At Laurel Hill, a Methodist Episcopal Church was dedicated in 1848. Episcopalians, who held their first religious services at Mapleville in 1851, erected a church building in Harrisville in 1857 (it burned in 1898). The Berean Baptist Church (#7-E) was erected in 1874 in Harrisville, and in 1886 a Universalist church (#7-S) was built in that village. Two churches were built in Pascoag--the Zion Primitive Methodist Church (#13-R) in 1890 and the Second Advent Church (#13-H) in 1894. The latter was later acquired by Episcopalians and moved to its present site on Church Street. At Glendale, the Burrillville United Methodist Church (#6-C) was erected in 1893.

Many of the schoolhouses built in the early part of the century were gradually replaced by new structures. Two of the older, one-room types-the District Number 1 School (#12-F) in Tarkiln, and the Walling School (#37) on Douglas Pike--both built in the decade of the 1860s, today survive as residences. During the decade of the 1890s, large frame schoolhouses went up in the villages. The Mapleville and Nasonville schools, and a school (#13-N) on Sayles Street in Pascoag have since been converted to dwellings, but the Joseph C. Sweeney School (#3-1) in Bridgeton is still used for elementary grades.

In addition to mills, mill houses, churches, and schools, a large number of commercial establishments were built. They were used for stores, but also provided spaces for meeting halls for the public and for various social and fraternal groups, as well as housing libraries. A good example of this type of development in Pascoag is the Granite Lodge Number 33 of the International Order of Odd Fellows (#13-L), erected in 1875. It originally contained three large stores on the first floor, a dry-goods clothing store and the "Music Hall" on the second floor, and a news room, a barber shop, and the lodge's quarters on the third floor.

Another important aspect of Burrillville's late nineteenth-century growth was the establishment of railroad service. The Woonasquatucket Railroad was chartered in 1855, but plans for that route lay on the drawing boards until 1873, when the road was completed under William Tinkham's leadership. The Providence and Springfield Railroad ran from Providence to Pascoag, and in 1893 it was extended past Wallum Lake to East Thompson, Connecticut. Another railroad line, the Woonsocket Union Railroad, alias the "Air Line," was proposed in 1852 between Woonsocket and either Pascoag or Chepachet, and a road was surveyed in 1852. This route, too, remained unbuilt for many decades. It was completed about 1893 as the Woonsocket Division of the New York and New England Railroad and connected Woonsocket with the Providence and Springfield line in Harrisville.

Rural Activities

Although the actual number of farms in Burrillville declined only slightly in the last three decades of the nineteenth century (from 214 in 1865 to 192 in 1895), farming continued its general decline. An 1890



Stone Barn (c. 1855) at G. Salisbury House: Stone Barn Road (#76).



Shed (Mid-19th Century) at Cooper House: Cooper Road (#34).



Barn (c. 1860) at Henry S. Nichols House: 45 Tarkiln Road, Oak Valley-Tarkiln Historic District (#12-C).

report found agricultural interests in western Rhode Island towns in a very depressed condition. Burrillville had 89 abandoned farms, more than any other town in the state. Although farming was not a rewarding economic activity, the extensive forests were valuable for their timber and other forest products such as charcoal. In addition, several quarries were worked, but Burrillville's granite, not of high quality, was used for foundations and curbing only.

19th Century: Summary

The nineteenth century was a time of great change in Burrillville. In 1800, farming was the way of life, the overwhelming economic activity of the town, and there were few settlements. By 1850, woolen textile manufacturing had been firmly established in Burrillville; the industry offered an attractive alternative to farming for residents. In 1900, many farms were abandoned, their buildings decaying, their fields and pastures reverting to forest. The town's population, which increased from 1,700 to 6,317 in 1900, was concentrated in the many villages and hamlets along the Chepachet, Pascoag, Clear, and Branch Rivers, and village residents, many of them of French Canadian or Irish origin, worked in the nearby textile mills for the most part. Stores and businesses were begun in the villages, a free school system had been inaugurated, a number of religious societies were organized, and a variety of other institutions and organizations came into existence to provide amenities and to improve the quality of life during the nineteenth century.

TWENTIETH CENTURY

During the twentieth century, Burrillville's economy has become less dependent on textile manufacturing, and the advent of automobiles and improved highways has lessened the town's rural isolation while transforming many parts of the landscape. Most of the town's mills continued operating through the first three decades of the twentieth century, and jobs in the mills were the key factor in Burrillville's 25 percent. growth of population between 1900 and 1910. A large part of the increase was made up by French Canadians and by the arrival of newcomers from the urbanized Blackstone Valley of Rhode Island. Reflecting an increased Roman Catholic population were two new parishes, Our Lady of Good Help (#8-F; 1907) in Mapleville and the St. Theresa's complex (#10-B) in Nasonville, completed between 1923 and 1925. In Glendale, St. Louis Chapel (later St. Louis Church) was founded in a converted schoolhouse.

Mill Villages

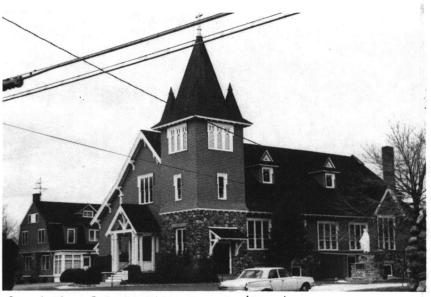
As in the nineteenth century, several energetic and farsighted mill owners were instrumental in revitalizing Burrillville's mills and villages in the twentieth century. Around 1901, Charles Fletcher, of the Coronet Worsted Company, purchased the Mapleville property. A new mill (#8-B) was built at the upper privilege; a low, flat-roofed structure with many, multi-paned windows, it is typical of mills built in Rhode Island in the



Barn (Late 19th-Century) at Superintendant's House: Victory Highway, Oakland Historic District (#11-D).



Angell-Singleton Farm (Early 19th-Century et. seq.): Wallum Lake Road (#87).



Our Lady of Good Help Church (1907): Victory Highway, Mapleville Historic District (#8-F).

late nineteenth century. In Mapleville, a number of new houses were built for mill workers, while some existing houses were moved and others renovated. The Wanskuck Company acquired the mill holdings at Mohegan and Oakland, and, like the Coronet Company in Mapleville, built new houses and repaired old ones. Glendale, under mill owner William Orrell's direction, also was refurbished. These villages, with electric lights, running water, recreation halls, and other modern amenities, were described as "model mill villages" by several visitors. At Harrisville, a new mill (#7-A) was erected in 1911. One of the last woolen mills built in town, and one of the last in the state, its reinforced concrete walls were among the features that made it unique in Rhode Island for its style and construction.

In 1912, Austin T. Levy, of the Stillwater Worsted Company, leased several of the Harrisville mills. The company purchased the mills in 1921, and ran them until 1972. Stillwater Worsted also acquired the Mapleville, Nasonville, and Glendale mills in Burrillville, as well as other textile mills in Rhode Island and Virginia. At Harrisville, Levy built some prototype modern houses (#7-1,Y) for workers and a "new village" off East Avenue. At Glendale, he built another "new village" of thirty houses in 1936 to replace old mill houses he demolished there. Glendale's new village (#6-F) consisted of one-story, single-family prefabricated houses set on ample lots, and it was considered at the time to be the best example of modern group housing in Rhode Island. In 1960 the company sold the Glendale houses to private individuals, mostly worker occupants. Levy's own home was in Harrisville, where he made his greatest contribution to the town, donating the town hall, the Ninth District Court, the Jesse M. Smith Library, The Assembly, and the First Universalist Church, all in the 1930s. Later, he gave a United States Post Office and an elementary school in that village. Austin Levy and his wife contributed other buildings in town, including the Bridgeway Project in Pascoag.

Following World War II, many of the Burrillville mills became idle or worked irregularly. The mills at Whipple, Oak Valley, Huntsville, Wilson's Mills, and Hopkins Spindle Works at Laurel Ridge, burned or were torn down. The large Graniteville Mill has deteriorated badly, and the Sayles, or Granite Mill, in Pascoag, by far the finest in town, was badly damaged by fire in 1981. Today, the surviving mills--at Saxonville, Glendale, Harrisville, Mapleville, Mohegan, Nasonville, and Oakland--are used for a variety of purposes, several manufacturing plastic products.

Farming

Although farming continued its decline in the twentieth century, several new farms were developed. These were large, specialized operations in contrast to the small, general farms of the earlier years. Noteworthy is the Angell-Singleton Farm (#87), on Wallum Lake Road, which may be eligible for nomination to the National Register.



Millworker's Housing (c. 1844): 76-84 Grove Street Saxonville, Bridgeton Historic District (#4-D).



Mill Houses (c. 1852): Mill Street, Oakland Historic District (#11-B).



Bungalow (Early 20th-Century): 9 Stewart Court, Harrisville Historic District (#7-Z).

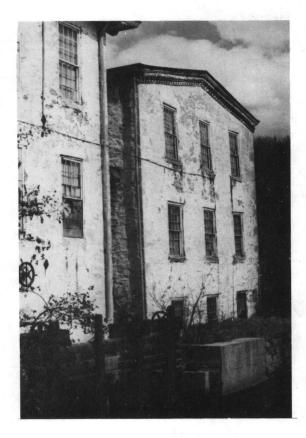
In 1912, James H. Singleton, a Woonsocket textile manufacturer, acquired and transformed the Angell's nineteenth-century farm. The old farmhouse and its complex of outbuildings were modernized into a "gentleman's farm," where Singleton raised cattle and planted an apple orchard of eight to ten thousand trees. On the Nasonville-Mohegan line, Fay Bartlett ran a large dairy farm, and built a huge, cross-gambrelroofed barn (#10-A). Now in deteriorating condition, it may have been the largest outbuilding ever erected in Burrillville.

At Sweet's Hill (#15), along East Avenue, a large farm known as Indian Acres spread out over more than a thousand acres and supplied milk for the Wallum Lake Sanitorium in the early twentieth century.

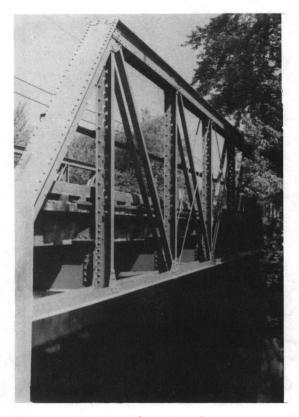
New Modes of Transportation

New modes of transportation began to change Burrillville's rural isolation in the twentieth century. Just before the turn of the century, a camp--Camp Dixie--was started along the Pascoag Reservoir, and a few camps were built along the shore of Wallum Pond, made readily accessible from Pascoag by railroad. In 1902 the Wallum Lake area was chosen as the site of a state tuberculosis hospital, and in 1905 a hospital building was completed. Over the years additional buildings were added creating a major hospital complex, renamed Zambarano Memorial Hospital in 1955. An electric street railway, completed in 1902 from Woonsocket to Pascoag, ran through six Burrillville villages. Soon after the electric cars began operation, Herring Pond (as Spring Lake was first known) became a popular summer resort. After World War I, the town's larger water bodies--Pascoag Reservoir, Spring Lake, Wilson Reservoir, and Wakefield Pond-hosted summer colonies.

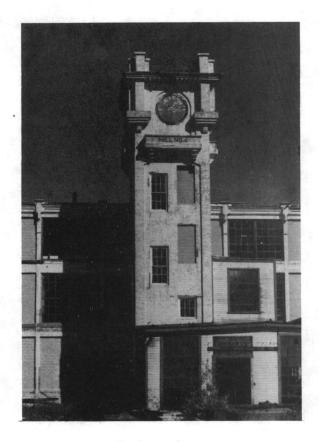
The introduction of automobiles made Burrillville's rural and scenic areas even more accessible for city dwellers seeking a day of relaxation and diversion in the country. In 1922 a new automobile route in western Rhode Island was proposed. The Victory Highway, as it came to be known, swept in a broad arc from Woonsocket to Wickford. In Burrillville, it incorporated the main streets of Nasonville, Glendale, Oakland, and Mapleville. Later (in the 1960s), a newly-constructed portion of road in Burrillville--the Broncos Highway--bypassed the old Victory Highway, which became a local road. A number of fine highway bridges date from the early highway era years--a metal and wood, truss bridge (#65), on Sherman Farm Road, stone arch bridges at Harrisville (1902, #7-H) and Nasonville (1907, #10-E),and a concrete span (1917-18,#11-H)over the Clear River at Oakland. The reconstruction of Putnam Pike (U.S. Route 44) in Glocester, was largely responsible for the creation of Casimir Pulaski Memorial State Park in the southwestern corner of Burrillville in the 1930s. Several large blocks of land became management areas, owned by the state for the enjoyment of hikers, hunters, and outdoor enthusiasts. The popularity of the auto sounded the death knell for the railroads. The electric line stopped service about 1922; the Providence and Springfield, which was acquired by the New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railroad, was cut back to Pascoag in



Oakland Mill (c. 1850): Branch River, Oakland Historic District (#11-A).



Shippee Bridge (c. 1902): Sherman Farm Road (#55).



Mill Number 4 (1911): Harrisville Mill Complex, Harrisville Historic District (#7-A).



Buck Hill Fire Tower (Early 20th Century): Buck Hill Road (#25).

the 1930s, and soon stopped; the New York and Boston line was cut back to Slatersville (from Woonsocket) in 1932, leaving the town once again without rail service.

Later Development

Burrillville's accessibility and popularity were reflected in its population growth. Early in the century, the town's new residents primarily were mill workers and lived in factory settlements, where new houses were built and civic facilities, schools, churches, and libraries were expanded, added, or replaced. New schools built in Harrisville and Pascoag rendered the one-room school obsolete, although several old schoolhouses survive today as residences. Later in the century, newcomers continued to arrive in the villages, though often they worked elsewhere and commuted to jobs in private automobiles.

Even more striking than the growth of the villages, however, has been the twentieth-century transformation of Burrillville's rural areas. Since mid-century, as the state's inner suburban towns like Smithfield and North Smithfield have become populated and the cost of land there has risen, outlying towns like Burrillville have received large numbers of new suburban residents. This development of formerly isolated and less inviting areas has intensified dramatically in the last two decades. In the 1970s, Burrillville's population increased by slightly over 3,000, bringing the total number of inhabitants to 13,098 in 1980, a 30 percent increase in a decade. Although some summer houses scattered along bodies of water in remote areas were converted to year-round use, the greatest growth has been associated with the construction of new houses, some in small housing tracts, but most strung out along the town's many roads. Most of the growth has been in the eastern part of town, closest to Woonsocket, but new houses also are being built in such formerly remote areas as Buck Hill. The availability of relatively inexpensive, accessible land in the rural areas led to building the town's new high school on a large tract of open land off East Avenue east of Harrisville in the 1960s and the 1960 Novitiate of the Brothers of the Scared Heart on a former farm off Sherman Farm Road. Burrillville's open land off the Broncos Highway (Route 102) promises to attract new industry.

Today, there are only a handful of farms surviving in Burrillville. Some, like Wright's Farm (#26) on Buxton Street, and the Esten Farm (#59) on Mount Pleasant Road, still support herds of cattle, while others, including Tamarack Farm (#18) on Barnes Road, are devoted to horses. A few other farms, working on a small scale, still contain open spaces, and, with their stone walls, provide a sense of an earlier era. Although much farmland has been reclaimed by forest or has been used for housing, some farm complexes and outbuildings still exist. Perhaps the rarest outbuilding in town is the stone barn (#77) on Stone Barn Road. Other good barns are the bracketed H. Nichols barn (#12-C) on Tarkiln Road; a Sweet family barn (#15-E) on East Avenue; a barn on the G. Smith Farm (#33) on Colwell Road; and one (#11-D) along Oakland's main street (Victory Highway).



Walling's Hotel/Western Hotel (c. 1805): Douglas Pike, Nasonville Historic District (#10-F).



Leduc's Market/Oakland Recreation Hall (1898): Victory Highway, Oakland Historic District (#11-C).



Zambarano Memorial Hospital, Wallum Lake Road. (#16-C).

Wright's Farm and two former farms, the J. Irons Farm (#69) and the J. Salisbury Farm (#70), on South Main Street, constitute fine farm complexes. Later barns, or carriage houses, with cupolas, are represented by the H. Chase place (#71) on South Main Street, and the Episcopal Conference Center (#60) on Reservoir Road. The John White House (#31) on Cherry Farm Road is a rare example of a connected house and outbuilding, perhaps the only one of its kind in Burrillville. Although most of the town's fine and significant outbuildings are in relatively good physical condition, some, like the Bartlett Farm barn, are deteriorating and endangered. A large, handsome barn on Sherman Farm Road was recently destroyed by fire, and two other large barns, one on Joslin Road (along with Dr. Joslin's office next to it), and one on Eagle Peak Road, were recently torn down.

SUMMARY

Burrillville today is a mixed community, mostly residential, but also including factories, commercial establishments, institutions, and a small number of farms. Originally an agricultural town, this rural base was overlaid in the nineteenth century with a pattern of industrial settlements and in the twentieth by scattered, single-family, residential development.

Agriculture, once the backbone of the economy, is now a minor occupation at best, with a few acres in orchards, dairy farms, and horse farms. The few remaining tracts of open farmland, and the surviving farmhouses, barns, and other outbuildings, are an irreplaceable legacy of the town's agricultural past. The rural areas also include some dirt roads lined with stone walls and trees, which harken back to the horse and buggy era, and some interesting and significant relic features--former granite quarries, saw mill, grist mill, and textile mill sites, cellar holes and other artifacts of old homesteads, and endless miles of stone walls crisscrossing now forested land which once was cropland or pasture. The extensive forests are still valuable, perhaps more for recreation than for their products, although there is at least one saw mill still working in town; this a portable, gasoline-powered type.

Manufacturing, the most important component of the nineteenth-century economy, is still carried on, but plastics are now more important than textiles. The villages, particularly the smaller ones, retain their mill village character. Typically comprised of a mill along the river, nearby mill workers' houses, a mill owner's or superintendant's residence, and a church or school, these small communities are important cultural resources as part of Rhode Island's industrial heritage.

Overall, Burrillville's cultural resources, as reflected in this report, display a rich variety of historic districts, structures, and sites. The mill villages are important both collectively, as a whole, and for some of their individual components, and scattered about the rural areas



Stone walls and maples at entrance to A. Paine Farm (18th-Century): West Pond Road (#88).



A. Mowry Farm/Wright Farm (18th-Century et seq.): Burton Street (#26).



Early 20th-Century Barn at Bartlett Farm: Victory Highway, Nasonville Historic District (#10-B).

are outstanding individual structures and sites--fine homes, farms, taverns, bridges, schools, roads, quarries, mill sites, family burying grounds, and miles of stone walls. These cultural resources, important to an understanding of the town's history, deserve special consideration in planning Burrillville's future development.

II. THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

The National Register of Historic Places is a record maintained by the United States Department of the Interior. It includes structures, sites, areas, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archeology, and culture. It is the official inventory of the nation's cultural and historical resources which are worthy of preservation. Most properties entered are nominated for inclusion by state historical agencies like Rhode Island's Historical Preservation Commission. All properties must be reviewed and approved by the Department of the Interior prior to their entry on the Register.

Placement in the Register affords a limited form of protection from potentially damaging federal programs through a review process and establishes eligibility for certain tax benefits and for federally funded matching grants-in-aid for restoration. As a result of this survey, a number of structures, sites, and districts have been recommended for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Descriptions of these properties can be found in the Inventory.

The following is a list of districts, structures, and sites already approved for the National Register in the Town of Burrillville (a description of each property appears in the Inventory which follows):

- 7. Harrisville Historic District
- 8-D. Darius Lawton House, Main Street, Mapleville
- 87. Angell-Singleton Farm, Wallum Lake Road

The following is a list of districts, structures, and sites in the Town of Burrillville which deserve consideration for entry in the National Register:*

- 11. Oakland Historic District
- 12-G. Smith-Nichols House, c. 1800, Colwell Road, Oakland-Tarkiln
- 13-B. Albert L. Sayles Residence, c. 1880, Pascoag
- 13-G. First Baptist Church, 1839, Church Street, Pascoag
- 13-H. Calvary Episcopal Church, 1894, Church Street, Pascoag
 - 15. Sweet's, Hill Historic District, East Avenue
 - 24. Logee-Whiting House, Federal, Buck Hill Road
 - 30. Reuben Keach House, 18th Century, 66 Central Street
 - 46. J. Millard House/Barksfield, c. 1754, East Wallum Lake Road
 - 48. D. Smith House, Federal, Hill Road
 - 53. Ballou-Bligh House, 18th Century, Joslin Road
 - 59. Esten Farm, Mount Pleasant Road

61. S. Eddy House, 1807, Reservoir Road

- 64. Young-Sherman House, c. 1865, Sherman Farm Road
- 66. Greene House, Smith Hill Road
- 82. M. Smith House, c. 1750, Victory Highway
- 88. A. Paine Farm, West Road

*This list of possible National Register properties in Burrillville should not be considered final and absolute. As new research is conducted, as the town changes physically, and as perceptions of the community's history and what cultural properties are worth saving evolve, other potential candidates for the Register may be identified.

III. PRELIMINARY INVENTORY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES

This inventory is an annotated key to the preliminary survey map of Burrillville. The numbers refer to the map at the back of the report (for example: 1--Bridgeton).

A more detailed map at a scale of one inch to 1000 feet, which locates properties more fully and precisely is on file at the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission and in the Burrillville Town Hall; copies have also gone to the State Department of Transportation, the Division of Statewide Planning, and the Department of Community Affairs. The large-scale map uses the same property-identification numbering system which appears here.

Material in this inventory is presented alphabetically, first by districts and then by roads. Dates and names which appear in parenthesis at the end of notations refer to their identification on nineteenth-century maps. In each case, the earliest map on which the structure or site appears has been used. Dating of structures, or their historical-architectural period, is occasionally determined on the basis of plaques, written material, maps, and knowledgeable residents, but more often is based on style and construction. Unless otherwise noted, all structures are of woodframe construction, are flank gable side to the road, and are woodclapboard sided.

Following is a list of the architectural-period designations used in this report.

Colonial: From the time of settlement to 1775

Federal: 1775-1830

Greek Revival: 1825-1860

Early Victorian: 1840-1870

Late Victorian: 1865-1900

Early 20th century: 1900-1945

Mid-20th century: 1945-1975

Late 20th century: 1975 to the present.

Key: *Recommended for the National Register of Historic Places. **Approved for or listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

HISTORIC DISTRICTS AND AREAS

- 1. Bridgeton Historic District: North of, and contiguous with the village of Pascoag, along the Clear River, is a looselydefined area known as Bridgeton. Located along Church Street, Wallum Lake Road, Laurel Hill Avenue, Laurel Ridge (or Bridgeton) Avenue, Sayles Street, Grove Street, North Road, and several other short sections of other streets, this section of Burrillville has historically been known as Huntsville, Laurel Hill, Laurel Ridge, and Saxonville, or Saxondale. Formerly hamlets, each centered on a mill, these small places are unrecognizable as the separate and distinct communities they once were because of twentieth century growth. Within the area are several mill sites, an active industrial enterprise, a school, and many nineteenth century residences ranging from simple mill workers housing to larger mill owners dwellings, all an important legacy of Burrillville's nineteenth century period of industrial prosperity. (See individual entries for Huntsville, Laurel Hill/ Laurel Ridge, and Saxonville.)
- 2. <u>Huntsville</u>: Huntsville, originally Turkeytown, occupies the easternmost part of today's Bridgeton, around the intersection of Wallum Lake Road and East Wallum Lake Road, where the former Huntsville mills (known by various names) were located. The area, centered on the mills, included a schoolhouse and a number of houses. Manufacturing began in Huntsville in 1834, and woolen goods were manufactured throughout the nineteenth and most of the twentieth centuries. The mill, after a brief period of idleness, was destroyed by fire in 1969. At one time, there were eighteen tenements that belonged to the mill owners in the area. Some survive today; they are typical of the many l₂-story, simple mill worker's buildings common to Burrillville. (1851- Huntsville (no mills are shown); 1855- Huntsville, Woolen Mill.)
- 2-A. Site of Huntsville Mills (1834-1969): At the junction of Wallum Lake Road and East Wallum Lake Road, along the Clear River, at the south end of a small mill pond, are the sites of several mills, the last of which burned in 1969. Apart from a concrete dam, the area has been leveled and none of the former mill remains are visible. The first mill on the site was built by Arnold Hunt in 1834. Another mill was eventually built, and in 1859, there were two mills on the property, one known as the White Mill. Both mills manufactured woolen goods under several owners. In 1887, a new section of mill was built. A 1892 fire destroyed the old part (the White Mill), but the new section survived, and worked into the twentieth century as the Prendergast Mill; it was used until 1960, and destroyed by fire in 1969.

- 2-B. House (18th Century): A 2½-story residence at the intersection of East Wallum Lake Road and Warner Lane, with a large, brick, center chimney and an enclosed entry, which was centered in a 5-bay facade. There is a four-bay addition at the right side. (1870- M. Taft Est.)
- 2-C. Former District School Number 10 (Mid-19th Century): A long, 1½-story, duplex, with two small, interior chimneys and a wide, flat-roofed, enclosed entry in front. The right side of the building was used as a school for many years. (1855- School.)
 - 3. Laurel Hill/Laurel Ridge: Along the Clear River, in the vicinity of North Road, a saw mill was established sometime in the late 18th or early 19th century. In 1831, the water power was improved, and a building for the manufacture of spindles and fliers erected. Spindle manufacturing was carried on for most of the nineteenth century by the Hopkins family. The A.H. Hopkins & Company mills, later known as the Hopkins Machine Works, operated into the 20th century. A short distance downstream from the machine works, a woolen mill was built before 1844. This mill, run for the rest of the nineteenth century by the Inman family, made satinets, shoddy, and woolen yarn. In 1899, the factory complex, known as the Laurel Hill Yarn Company, was destroyed by fire and never rebuilt. Accompanying the mills were a number of houses for workers and other mill personnel and the Laurel Hill Methodist Episcopal Church, built in 1847-1848 (also later destroyed and never rebuilt). Today, the Laurel Hill/Laurel Ridge area includes the mill sites and a number of structures related to 19th century industrial activity here, which are described below.
- 3-A. Site of Hopkins Spindle Works and Machine Shop: Along the Clear River, south of Bridgeton Road and west of North Road, is the site of Hopkins Spindle Works. Manufacturing of Spindles and fliers began here in 1831; the machine shop manufactured machinery for woolen and cotton mills into the twentieth century, run for most the time by the Hopkins family. There is little trace of the mills today. (1851- Laurel Ridge; A. Hopkins Machine Shop.)
- 3-B. Site of Laurel Hill Yarn Company: Along the Clear River, east of North Road, are the remains of the Laurel Hill Yarn Company. The first mill was started before 1844 and a mill complex developed at this site, manufacturing woolen goods, and run by the Inman family. The mill complex was destroyed by fire in 1899 and never rebuilt. Today the area is overgrown, with some mill debris and the breached dam constituting a "picturesque" site along the river. (1851- Laurel Ridge (no mill shown); 1870- Laurel Hill, Woolen Mill, T.E. Hopkins.)

CHURCH STREET

- 3-C. House (c. 1885; 83 Church Street): A 2½-story, multi-family residence, set end to road, with 2, small, interior chimneys, and a large addition at the rear. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, a store was located in the lower part of this building. (1895- Store; Bailey and Eddy.)
- 3-D. <u>House</u> (18th Century et. seq.; 90 Church Street): A heavilyaltered, l¹/₂-story residence, with a central entry in a 3-bay facade.
- 3-E. House (18th Century et. seq.; 93 Church Street): At the north end of Church Street is this l¹/₂-story house. Although heavily altered, it is important as one of the early buildings in this area. (1870- A. A. Westcott.)

LAUREL HILL AVENUE

- 3-F. House (c. 1875; 23 Laurel Hill Avenue): A Queen Anne style residence, with a complex, asymmetrical plan featuring a broad, bracketed cornice, a 3-bay corner tower, and a wrap-around porch. Set on a neat, simply-landscaped plot, it was once part of the Inman family holdings in this "upper-class" neighborhood of Bridgeton. (1895- J. O. Inman Est.)
- 3-G. James A. Potter House (1865; 47 Laurel Hill Avenue): A l½-story, Greek Revival-Early Victorian residence, with a small, high, off-center chimney; a central entry, with a bracketed cornice, in a 5-bay facade, a low, shed-roof dormer across the front; and an addition at each side. There is a fine carriage shed at the rear of the property. (1870- J. A. Potter.)
- 3-H. <u>Watering Trough</u> (1897): A former watering trough for horses, occupying the center of the major intersection of Bridgeton. Now used as a planter and serving only an aesthetic function, this cast iron trough, manufactured by Henry F. Jenks of Pawtucket, was a common late nineteenth- early twentieth century feature in America. It is one of the few surviving watering troughs in the state.
- 3-1. Joseph C. Sweeny School (Bridgeton School; c. 1896): A large, l½-story, cross-gabled, wood frame structure, with a bracketed cornice, 2 pedimented portico entries, a palladian window in front, and a belfry at the ridge, on a triangular lot at Bridgeton's major street intersection. The school is named for a former town superintendant of schools.

LAUREL RIDGE AVENUE

- 3-J. J. Taft House (c. 1850): A l¹/₂-story, Greek Revival dwelling, with paired, interior chimneys, an ell at the right side, and a large addition at the rear. The house, set on a large lot, is across the road from the site of Hopkins Machine Works. (1851- Shown on map; 1870- J. Taft.)
- 3-K. Horatio L. Hopkins House (c. 1860): A 2½-story, Italianate, bracketed structure, with a central entry flanked by 2-story bay windows, in a 3-bay facade, and an ell, with a 2-story porch, at the right side, rear. This house was the residence of Horatio L. Hopkins, one of the locally-important, spindle-making and machinist Hopkins family. Horatio, son of one of the founders of the company, was taken into partnership in 1855 and remained with the firm until his death in 1876. (1870- H. L. Hopkins.)
- 3-L. <u>Mill Workers Houses</u> (c. 1834): At the east end of Laurel Ridge Road, near North Road, was a row of 4, 1½-story, double mill houses, built with Greek Revival details. One of the row of houses was replaced in the 1970s; the three others have been altered to various degrees. They were probably built for workers when the nearby machine works was established in 1834. (1851- Shown on map; 1870- A. Hopkins.)

SAYLES AVENUE

- 3-M. James O. Inman House (c. 1875): A 2½-story, Late Victorian, Second Empire residence, with double bracketed cornices, elaborate dormers, and two porches at the front. This fine house, on a neat, simply-landscaped lot, was once the residence of James O. Inman (1829-1880); it now houses several families. James Inman, one of the family that ran the nearby Laurel Hill Yarn Company and the Clear River Woolen Mills, was president of the Pascoag National Bank, a director of the Industrial Trust Company of Providence, and a director of the Providence and Springfield Railroad (1895- J. O. Inman Est.)
 - 4. <u>Saxonville/Saxondale</u>: Saxonville, formerly Saxondale, is a small section--the easternmost part of today's Bridgeton--containing a mill and a number of dwellings. A forge was established here about 1793, and later, about 1835, a scythe manufactory was erected. In 1844, a textile mill and some tenements were built. A large, stone, textile mill was built by James 0. Inman in 1865, and a large addition to the mill made in 1877. Most of the workers lived near the mill, but the area never contained more than a handful of houses. Suburban growth in the twentieth century has masked the former separate identity of Saxonville, which never really was a

village but was part of a larger community including Laurel Hill and Laurel Ridge, but a mill and a long mill house survive as reminders of the former mill settlement.

- 4-A. The New Clear River Mill/Premier Mill (1905): A 2-story, wood frame factory, with wood-shingled sides, a flat roof, and multi-paned windows, this long, rectangular building lies between Grove Street and the Clear River. In front is a parking area. This mill occupies the site of several earlier mills, stone parts of which are still standing at the rear of the building. A forge was established here as early as 1793; later a scythe manufactory and several textile mills were built. The original mill, known as the Clear River Mill, or the James O. Inman Mill, was destroyed by fire in 1901 and the present factory, a 2-story, 150 by 54 foot building, was erected as a dyeing and reeling mill and as a weaving and finishing mill. Today, the mill manufactures textiles--it is the only mill in Burrillville today which makes cloth products. (1851- G. W. Marshs Wollen Mill.)
- House (Mid-19th Century; 20 Grove Street): A 1¹/₂-story residence with corner quoins and a central entry, with a bracketed hood, in a 5-bay facade. There is an addition at the rear. (1870- J. Campbell or M. Griffin.)
- 4-C. <u>W. Sayles House</u> (Mid-19th Century; 54 Grove Street): A 2½-story Greek Revival residence with paired interior chimneys, a central entry in a 5-bay facade, and an ell at each side. The house is sited on a small hill back from the road. (1855- W. Sayles.)
- 4-D. <u>Mill Worker's Housing</u> (c. 1844; 76-84 Grove Street): Across from the Saxonville mill is a long, 1½-story, rowhouse, each unit 3-bays wide with a separate doorway. There are several brick, interior chimneys and simple shed dormers. Set on a simply-landscaped lot, this multi-unit single building, unusual for Burrillville, and Rhode Island, was probably built in 1844 when George Marsh built the mill here. (1870- J. O. Inman.)
 - 5. <u>Gazzaville Historic Area</u>: Along the Chepachet River, south of Mapleville, are the foundations and stone work remains of a nineteenth-century mill complex; and along Gazza Road are several houses associated with the former mill activity at this place. The mill site today is overgrown, and part of a larger forested environment. Along the river are the granite-block piers and abutments which once supported a road, and nearby is a handsome, stone arch bridge.

A mill was reportedly started here about 1838, and manufactured satinets. It burned in 1845 and a new mill was erected by Daniel S. Whipple, who purchased the site. The place was known as Nipshog originally, then as the Columbian Mill Village, but was renamed Gazzaville, either for a kind of wool used here or for the source of wool--Ben-Gazza, in Africa. Daniel Whipple opened a mill in nearby Mapleville in 1849, and devoted his interests there, while the rest of the Whipple family ran the Gazzaville mills for many years. In 1868, the mill was greatly enlarged and housing built for workers. In 1877, the mill was leased. In 1888, the mill burned and was never rebuilt, and Gazzaville was deserted until 1903, when there was a renewed interest--houses were built for a new mill in Mapleville. The former mill owners' house, lived in by a Whipple descendant until the 1960s, still stands. The other houses are of little interest today, but the mill site, featuring the stone arch bridge, stone piers, abutments and walls, in a lovely natural setting which has apparently been untouched since 1888, is an exquisite area--a place of rare beauty in Rhode Island and rich in historical associations. (1851- D. S. Whipples Mill.)

- 6. Glendale Historic District: Glendale Village, located along the Branch River in east central Burrillville, contains a mill, two churches, several commercial properties, and many residential buildings along Victory Highway, Joslin Road, and several other roads. Manufacturing began here about 1785 when a saw mill and grist mill were erected along the river. The mill operation continued active until 1841, when the building was converted to a cotton factory. The place was then known as Newells Mills. The mill burned in 1850, and a new mill was built in 1853, around which time the place became known as Glendale. Woolen machinery was installed in the mill, which manufactured woolen products well into the twentieth century. In 1889, William Orrell became the sole owner of the mill, which he rebuilt, making many improvements to the mill and also to the village, including cottages and tenements. Glendale was described as a "thriving little village" in 1891. The Orrell family owned the mills until 1934; they were sold soon after to Austin Levy's Stillwater Mills company. Levi established a housing development --"The New Village"--off Victory Highway east of the Branch River, considered by Henry Russell-Hitchcock to be the best example in Rhode Island of modern group housing. The Glendale mills were used for weaving from 1933 until the early 1970s. Today the mill is still working, as a fabrics factory. The new alignment of Route 102--the Broncos Highway--removed the village's through traffic in the 1960s. Today, the village is a quiet, community. Joslin Road, a tree-lined avenue, remains essentially residential, preserving its earlier flavor, while lightlytraveled Victory Highway has seen some twentieth century commercial development geared to local residents.
- 6-A. <u>Glendale Mills/Bruin Plastics Company</u> (1794 et. seq.): The Glendale Mills, now Bruin Plastics Company, along the west side of the Branch River, originally started in 1785 when a

right to build a dam and supply water for a saw mill and corn mill were granted for the east side of the river. In 1794, a second deed transferred land on the west side of the river, and the mills were probably moved here at this time. In 1841, Anthony Steere purchased the place and converted the old building to a cotton mill. It was destroyed by fire in 1850. Steere built a new mill, of stone, in 1853, then sold the place to Lyman Copeland, who installed woolen machinery and began the manufacture of fancy cassimeres. The mill continued manufacturing woolen goods under several lessees. In 1889, William Orrell became the sole owner. He rebuilt and enlarged the mill and installed new machinery. The mill continued manufacturing cassimeres and fine woolens under the Orrell family until 1934, when the mills were sold. The new owners, the Stillwater Mills, Inc., under Austin Levy, ran the mill as a weave shop until the 1960s, when it was sold to Brisbane Fabrics, who also continued weaving until the 1970s. After a brief hiatus, it was purchased by Edward A. Angelone, A Brown University graduate, who, under the firm of Bruin Plastics Company, manufactured a laminated plastic product used for auto car seats, gym mats, tarpaulins, boat tops, etc. Today, the older mill buildings are gone, but the present factory, a brick and clapboard-sided, 1- and 2-story structure, with multi-paned windows, is typical of other late nineteenth-early twentieth century factories. (1851- Newells Mills; 1855- Copeland's Mill.)

- 6-B. Inman House (18th Century): A l¹/₂-story dwelling, set end to the road, with a large and a small brick chimney and an asymmetrical, 6-bay facade, with two, simply-framed entries. Reportedly, this is the earliest house in Glendale, built by an Inman who owned a large tract of land in the area. (1862- D. A. Inman.)
- 6-C. Burrillville United Methodist Church (1893; Joslin Road): A shingle-sided structure, with 2 separate, porticoed entries, l at each side of the front, a truncated, polygonal, tower at the right side, near the front, and a semicircular, stained glass window in the gable end, which faces the road. The Methodist Society was formed in 1858, and a church built here in 1862. A new church, built in May, 1890, burned in the same year and was replaced by the present structure in 1893, a gift of mill owner William Orrell. The original bell tower at the right side was destroyed in the 1938 hurricane. (1862- M. E. Church (on site).)
- 6-D. <u>Mill Owner's House</u> (c. 1865-1911; Joslin Road): A many-gabled, 2½-story, Colonial Revival house with a pedimented portico and some carpenter work detailing on the enframement. The house, set on a very neat, landscaped lot behind a low,

cemented stone wall in front, was probably built by the owner of the Glendale mills in the middle or late nineteenth century. A 1911 date on the chimney indicates the modernization by William Orrell, who owned the mills then. The present owner is a grandson of William Orrell. There is a carriage house at the rear of a large lot. (1870- A. B. Copeland.)

- 6-E. <u>Mill Houses</u> (c. 1905; Spring Lake Road): A row of 4, double mill houses along the east end of Spring Lake Road. These houses were built for mill supervisors about 1905 by William Orrell, who also built 2 others on nearby Joslin Road.
- New Village (c. 1936; off Victory Highway): A suburban type 6-F. housing tract of about 30, 1-story, single family, prefabricated houses set on ample, simply-landscaped lots. New Village, at the eastern end of the Glendale district, was created by Austin Levy about 1936 soon after his Stillwater company purchased the Glendale mills. Built for millworkers families it was considered by architectural historian. Henry Russell-Hitchcock, to be the best example in Rhode Island of modern group housing, even though the variety of styles and spacing deterred from presenting a unified appearance. The tract was company owned until the 1960s, when it, along with the mills, was sold by the Stillwater Company. The worker occupants got first choice at purchasing their own dwellings. Today, the community, set on several short, tree-lined streets off Victory Highway, is a pleasant residential community and an example of paternalistic mill ownership that extended well into the twentieth century.
- 6-G. Octagonal Building (Early 20th Century; Victory Highway): A rare, wood clapboard-sided, octagonal building, near the junction of Victory Highway and Spring Lake Road. Used as a restaurant, a beauty parlor, and for apartments, and the first home of Johnny's Clam Spa (which now occupies a new building nearby), the octagonal structure is now used as an office.
- 6-H. J. Jenks House (Late 19th Century; Victory Highway): A 1½-story, simple but well-preserved duplex, at the south end of the village, with a center gable, paired interior brick chimneys, and double door entries in the center. There is a high stone wall along the road, with a terraced lawn behind the wall sloping up to the house. A large barn along the road, south of the house, breaks the wall, which continues beyond. The house, set on a hill in the midst of a clearing, behind the tall wall, presents a visually appealing appearance. (1851-J. Jenks.)

6-1. Former District Number 4 School/St. Louis Chapel (Mid-19th Century et. seq.; Victory Highway): A 1-story, wood frame, L-plan, Roman Catholic church, marking the south end of the Glendale Historic District. Built as a school in district number 4, it was donated by mill owner William H. Orrell about 1900 for exclusive use for religious purposes. It became a mission of St. Patrick's Church (out of Harrisville) in 1902, and underwent extensive renovations in 1968. It was renamed St. Louis Chapel in honor of Bishop Louis Gelineau's patron saint when the Bishop came to the diocese in 1972.

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7.

Harrisville Historic District: The Harrisville Historic District, near the geographic center of Burrillville, includes the village of Harrisville and the smaller, looselydefined Graniteville, around the Graniteville Mill. Centered on the crossroads of route 98 and 107, Harrisville, containing some 220 structures--a variety of industrial, commercial, public, religious, social, and residential buildings--is the administrative heart of Burrillville. In addition to the town building, Harrisville houses a town library, a post office, a fire station, an elementary school, several churches, and, on the outskirts of the village, a modern secondary school.

The excellent water power site at Harrisville was first utilized in the late 18th century when a saw mill and grist mill were established here. Locally known as Rhodesville for Captain William Rhodes, a somewhat eccentric traveler who lived here awhile, the place acquired its present name when Andrew Harris bought the mill privilege about 1825 and soon after started a shop for the manufacture of spindles and fliers. By 1832, a cotton mill was operating at the site. Stephen and Jason Emerson built a new mill in 1852 or 1853, but the most important event in the history of Harrisville was its purchase in 1856 by Job S. Steere and William Tinkham, who came here after running a textile mill in nearby Mapleville for several years. They brought their machinery with them and manufactured satinets. During the next decade, a dam was built, a large addition was made to the factory, a number of new buildings added, other improvements made, and the manufacturing of fancy cassimeres started. William Tinkham was largely responsible for the construction of the Providence and Springfield Railroad, which started service in 1873 between Providence and Pascoag. The Harrisville mills, under William Tinkham and his son, Ernest, prospered in the late 19th century. Two large additions to the mill were made in the 1880s, shortly before a fire in 1894 destroyed most of the mill complex. A new factory, a 3-mill complex, built in 1895, was one of the last woolen mills erected in the state.

Accompanying the growth and improvements to the mills, the village also grew considerably during the 19th century. Many houses were built, most for mill workers. Finer and more substantial homes were also erected for mill managers and non-mill commercial and professional families. Several churches were established during the century, including, in 1856, the first Roman Catholic church in town. The town hall was located here, as were a hotel and host of commercial and industrial activities.

Shortly before 1912, the Harrisville mills, under Ernest Tinkham, were improved, including a fine mill built in 1911 (see #7-A) and a row of identical, single family dwellings built by the company along Park Avenue, in what came to be known as the New Village. In 1912, the Stillwater Worsted Company, under Austin T. Levy, leased several mills. A group of 22 single family houses of the Tinkham were built in the New Village in 1918. In 1921, the Stillwater Company purchased the mills and some land and houses. Further improvements were made to the mills and village. Austin Levy also gave a new Universalist church, after the old one was damaged by fire, a town hall, a court building, a library, and a large meeting hall known as the Assembly. as well as a post office and the Bridgeway project in Pascoag. and other buildings in the town. The Stillwater Worsted Mills, Inc., continued their combing operations until 1972. Today, the mills are used for a variety of industrial purposes.

<u>Graniteville</u>, which comprises the western part of the Harrisville Historic District, includes the Graniteville mill and a small number of nearby houses. Originally known as Shermanville for Syra and Stephen Sherman, who built the woolen mill, the name changed to Graniteville after the Sherman mill was destroyed by fire in 1852 and rebuilt by J. T. Seagraves, who leased the mill. After another destructive fire in 1879, a new mill, a large structure, was erected in 1882, and manufactured worsted goods under a number of owners. In the 1930s, the mill was purchased by Austin Levy. Used as a wool warehouse during World War II, it fell into disuse thereafter, and is now in dilapidated condition.

Today, the Harrisville Historic District, Burrillville's second largest village, includes a large number of structures that are significant architecturally and historically. Included are the mills at Harrisville and Graniteville, the town buildings donated by Austin Levy, several churches, a former hotel, a dam, a stone arch bridge, and an interesting collection of houses. Harrisville is significant as a rural company town with a long industrial history, developed in several phases, as seen in its buildings. The many improvements made by Austin Levy for the town and his employees shows a paternalistic attitude unusual in scale and direction for the mid-20th century.

7-A. Harrisville Mill Complex (1895-1926): Along the Clear River south of East Avenue and east of Main Street is a sprawling mill complex of fourteen individual buildings erected between 1895 and 1926. Most of them are low, functional, one and two story structures, with many multi-paned windows, and built of wood or brick. An exception to these otherwise nondescript factories in the Number Four Mill, a reinforced concrete structure, built in 1911--the centerpiece of the mill complex. Built by William Tinkham & Son just before the property was leased to the Stillwater Worsted Company, the structure was designed by Adolph Suck, a Boston engineer. The 3-story. flat roofed building has heavy floor structures supported by interior columns and a multi-paned glass curtain wall, divided into 17 bays by concrete columns. It boasts a peak-roofed tower with asymmetrically placed windows and corner turrets. Although several frame additions now obscure the first floor level, the mill remains unique among Rhode Island textile mills in style and construction.

- 7-B. Graniteville Mill (1882; River Street): The Graniteville Mill, a 3-story, 200 by 52 feet, stuccoed rubble stone structure, with granite corner quoins, has twin towers projecting from the facade. The mill is the third on the site; the original, built in 1849, and a second mill, built in 1852, were destroyed by fire. The present stone mill was built in 1882. At one time the mill complex included a drying room, a dye house, an engine room, and a boiler house. Vacant since 1945, the mill has been seriously damaged by several fires, and little remains today but the stone walls. The other buildings are gone, but the stone canal walls in front of the mill remain in good condition. (1895- Graniteville Mills; W. A. Inman.)
- 7-C. <u>Graniteville Mill Houses</u> (off River Street): Behind the Graniteville Mill, on a short side street of River Street, are 3, 4-story dwellings originally associated with the mill.
- 7-D. The Town Buildings (1933-1937 et. seq.; East Avenue and Main Street): The Town Buildings-the Town Hall, the Ninth District Court, the Library, and the Assembly-all originally built between 1933 and 1937, were the gift of Austin T. Levy, president of the Stillwater Worsted Company, to the town of Burrillville. These brick buildings are typical of the modern classicism practiced by Jackson, Robertson and Adams, the leading mid-20th century Providence architectural firm.

- 7-D1. The Town Hall (1933/1974) is a V-plan structure with a projecting entrance pavilion, at the corner of Main and Chapel streets. The gable roof is capped by a small cupola. Interior renovations and a connecting hyphen between the Town Hall and the Ninth District Court behind it on Main Street were designed by the Providence Partnership in 1974.
- 7-D2. The Ninth District Court (1934/1974) building is a restrained Colonial Revival building with a triangular pediment supported by 4 Doric pilasters.
- 7-D3. The Jesse M. Smith Memorial Library (1937), facing Main Street at the corner of East Avenue, is a 1-story, gable-roofed building. It has a 6-panel central entrance door, with a segmental arch pediment supported by fluted pilasters in the projecting gabled entryway. There is a multi-paned bow window at the East Avenue end, and a T-shaped addition at the rear.
- 7-D4. <u>The Assembly</u> (1933), on East Avenue, behind the library and along the Harrisville Mill Pond, is a large, gable-roofed meeting hall, set end to road, with a 5-bay, square-columned porch. The park-like area around the Assembly and the Library is well-landscaped with hedges, birch trees, and flower beds.
- 7-E. Berean Baptist Church (1877; 1 Chapel Street): A wood frame, clapboard-sided, end-gable structure, built in 1877, with a square corner tower at the right side of the front, stained glass windows (which were added later), and extensive additions at the rear. The church was later renovated, but it retains its original furnishings. (1895- Bap. Ch.)
- 7-F. Late Victorian Queen Anne House (c. 1900; 61 Chapel Street): A fine, 2-story residence, with a jerkin head gable roof, a central pavilion, and some Queen Anne detailing--a decorated vergeboard, fish scale shingles and decorations in the pavilion, and detailing in the cornice.
- 7-G. Harrisville Dam and Mill Pond (1857; off East Avenue): A fine, stone dam across the Clear River near East Avenue holds back the waters of the Harrisville Mill Pond. The pond's waters were originally used to power the nearby mills. The dam was built in 1857 by William Tinkham and Job Steere to supply more power to a new addition to their mill. Today, the landscaped dam area and south shores of the pond are used for recreation in addition to serving an aesthetic function as a lovely setting for the village.
- 7-H. <u>Harrisville Stone Arch Bridge</u> (1902; East Avenue): The Harrisville Stone Arch Bridge, a barrel-vaulted structure, carries East Avenue over the Clear River just below the mill

dam. Built in 1902 by Fred L. Mathewson, the single, 50-foot span of wet-laid stone, with dry-laid stone abutments, replaced an earlier bridge at approximately the same site.

7-1. Prototype Mill House (Early 20th Century; 12 East Avenue): A stuccoed, hip-roofed residence, of steel plate construction, built by the Stillwater Worsted Company. Similar to contemporary California style adobe structures, this Harrisville residence, and several others nearby (7-Y), were inspired by Austin Levy's search for clean, safe, affordable, fire proof dwellings, and served as prototypes for the 1936 Glendale New Village (#6-F).

- 7-J. Tenement House (c. 1920; 15-17 East Avenue): A large, 2-story apartment house, with two, single-door entries in front, sited on a neat, simply-landscaped lot next to the Clear River. It was built as a tenement, or apartment house, for Stillwater Mills employees. Designed by John Hutchins Cady, and set back and at an angle to the road, it was cited in a contemporary architectural magazine as a good example of the solution to low cost housing. It remains in well-preserved and maintained condition today.
- 7-K. William Tinkham Mill Houses (Late 19th Century; 21-43 East Avenue): A row of 1½-story duplex mill houses along the south side of East Avenue, east of the bridge. Each house has small, paired, brick chimneys and a double-door central entry, and each is set on a relatively small lot located close to the road. (1895- W. Tinkham.)
- 7-L. Austin T. Levy House/Southmeadow (c. 1856; 1918; 47 East Avenue): A 2½-story, Greek Revival residence, set gable end to road, with a Greek Revival entry in the gable end and substantial additions. The house, sited near the road, has a large rear yard, which is terraced down to the Clear River. Probably built by mill owner William Tinkham about 1856, when he came to the village, the house was long used as a two family dwelling. It was purchased by Austin and June Levy in 1915, who made extensive renovations to the place, renamed Southmeadow, in 1918. Improvements included a high arched stairway window, terraced Italian garden, extensive apple archard, tennis courts, and tasteful landscaping. (1870- Steere & Tinkham.)
- 7-M. Ernest Tinkham House (1880-1882; 124 East Avenue): The house that William Tinkham's son, Ernest, built for himself at the edge of the village, is the most impressive and "delightful" residence in the village. The frame Queen Anne building, set far off the street on a grassy slope, boasts an open corner turret, a steep, cross-gabled roof, a Chippendale dormer, rustic stonework, and patterned shingling. The house is still occupied by the Tinkham family. (1895- E. W. Tinkham.)

- 7-N. <u>Stillwater House</u> (1840; 33 Main Street): A 2½-story structure, with a small, brick chimney, a central, recessed entrance, with transom and side lights, in a 9-bay facade, and a large addition at the rear. A private residence throughout the 19th century, the building was purchased by Austin Levy, who renovated and remodeled it for company purposes. (1870- S. Wood.)
- 7-0. <u>Alvah Mowry House</u> (c. 1875; 34-40 Main Street): A square, Second Empire dwelling, with porticoed entries in front and at the right side, and small, round-headed dormers in the mansard roof. This well-preserved and maintained house was owned by Alvah Mowry, who was town clerk from 1856 to 1893; the town clerk's office, next to (south of) this building, was razed in 1966. (1895- A. Mowry.)
- 7-P. <u>Central Hotel</u> (1837; 42 Main Street): A large, 2½-story, Greek Revival structure, sited end to the road, with a full basement at the gable end, along the sidewalk, and several additions. Built in 1837 as a hotel, it was the first of three to operate in Harrisville. The rear ell was used for horse stalls and horses storage on the ground floor and a dance hall on the second floor. It became the Loom and Shuttle Inn in 1921, the year after its acquisition by the Stillwater Worsted Company. Between 1963 and 1978, it was the Beaulieu Rest Home. In 1980, it was converted for use as elderly housing. (1851- not identified on map; 1870- Central Hotel.)
- 7-Q. Daniel Mowry House/Keach's Tavern (48 Main Street): A complex of several connected buildings set close to the road. Although the history of the structures has not been confirmed, it is believed that the original building on the site was the Daniel Mowry House, at the left side. At some time in the past, an old house, probably dating from the 18th century by Joktam Putnam, was moved from near the present library site to this location, and attached to the Daniel Mowry House. In an old photograph, the front (oldest part) section is identified as Keach's Tavern. (1870- D. Mowry.)
- 7-R. United States Post Office (1950; Main Street); Close to the road, behind a low, stone, retaining wall, is the l-story, brick, Harrisville Post Office, topped with a small cupola with a gilded eagle. A gift of Austin Levy, the building was reportedly the first federal building to be donated by a private citizen. Behind the post office is the Harrisville Elementary School, another Levy contribution.
- 7-S. First Universalist Church (1886, 1933; Main Street): The First Universalist Church, occupying a prominent location in the center of the village, is a l₂-story, frame building, set

gable end to the road, with a full basement in front, a 3-bay facade with multi-paned windows, and a square clock tower with an octagonal steeple on the ridge in front. This Colonial Revival building was renovated in 1933 by a donation from Austin Levy according to his design specifications. (1895- Union Church.)

- 7-T. Joseph O. Clark House (c. 1845; 55-57 Main Street): A Greek Revival House, with a tetra style, Doric portico--a pleasing temple detail--facing the street, the Clark House dominates this section of the village. It retains its barn on a large lot bordering the mill pond. The house, the most elaborate example of Greek Revival architecture in Harrisville, remained in the ownership of the locally prominent Clark family throughout the 19th century (1870- J. O. Clark.)
- 7-U. <u>St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church</u> (1938; 84 Main Street): A Colonial Revival, brick structure, with a prominent portico and tall tower and steeple, set on a neat, simply-landscaped lot. St. Patricks is the oldest Roman Catholic parish in Burrillville. The original church, built of wood in 1856, stood across the street on what is now a paved parking lot. Destroyed in the 1938 hurricane, it was replaced by the present edifice, which was being built at the time.
- 7-V. <u>Aaron B. White House</u> (1862-1863; 4-6 Maple Street): A l¹/₂-story residence, with paired interior chimneys, a central entry, in a broad portico, in a 5-bay facade, and an ell at the rear. There is a barn on the large lot, which is fronted by a wood picket fence. Aaron White (1830-1908) was a master carpenter, and may have built this house, a late example of Greek Revival construction, for himself. (1870- A. B. White.)
- 7-W. <u>New Village</u> (1918): New Village, so-called, is a small area north of East Avenue, including Steere and North Hill streets and the north side of Park Avenue. It contains about 22 neocolonial style houses designed by the architectural firm of Jackson, Robertson and Adams, and was built in 1918 by Austin Levy for workers in the Harrisville mills.
- 7-X. <u>Mill Houses</u> (1902; 1-13 Park Avenue): A row of 7,2-story houses along the south side of Park Avenue, set gable end to the road. Each house, on a small, simply-landscaped lot, has a small brick chimney, is basically the same size, and has similar window arrangements, but there are differences in the front ends--4 houses have porches and 2 have porticoed entries. Ernest Tinkham bought this property in 1902, and soon after built the houses for workers in his Harrisville mills.

- 7-Y. Prototype Mill Houses (Early 20th Century; 1 and 2 Stewart Court): Somewhat similar to the house at 12 East Avenue (#7-1) are 2 small residences at 1 and 2 Stewart Court, designed by Ellis Jackson of Jackson, Robertson and Adams, and built as prototypes for the New Village in Glendale.
- 7-Z. Bungalow (Early 20th century; 9 Stewart Court): A l¹/₂-story, wood-shingled, Bungalow style residence, with the front gable overhanging an open porch; an exterior brick chimney at the right side; and a large, gabled dormer across the front. A 2-car garage with a hip roof occupies the spacious simplylandscaped lot.
 - 8. Mapleville Historic District: The Mapleville Historic District, along the Chepachet River in the southeastern part of Burrillville, is comprised of several mills, 2 churches, a former school, some commercial establishments, and a large number and variety of dwellings, mostly former mill houses, along Victory Highway, Main Street, Gazza Road and several other roads. The first activity of note in the village, originally known as Cooper's Mills, occurred in the late 18th century. In 1791, a lot was obtained by the Society of Friends and a meeting house erected here; a saw mill was operating along the river before 1800 at the "lower privilege", north of Main Street, one of two mill sites in Mapleville. In 1841, Darius Lawton built a small mill on the lower privilage and began textile manufacturing. Lawton may also have built the gothic house on Main Street. About 1845, Daniel S. Whipple started a woolen mill at Gazzaville (#5), a short distance south of Mapleville, and a few years later, built a mill at the upper privilege in Mapleville. Originally manufacturing cotton yarn and warps. in 1853 it became a woolen mill. At about that time, 75 of the village's 232 people were employed in the 2 mills; Mapleville also had 2 mercantile stores, a blacksmith shop, a wheelwright shop, a tailor shop, and a shoemaker's shop. Both mills, enlarged about 1860, and many houses, were purchased by James Legg in 1867. Legg improved and enlarged both mills during his ownership. The upper mill was destroyed by fire in 1871. By the end of the century, Mapleville was a large, "attractive looking community," including 54 companyowned tenements. The village was revitalized in 1900, when Joseph E. Fletcher acquired the mill property and privileges, and organized the Coronet Worsted Company. The lower mill was repaired and remodeled and new buildings were erected, including a brick mill at the upper privilege, on the site of the former mill. All the old houses were repaired, about 30 new houses erected, and new streets constructed in the village. The new "cottages", as well as the streets, were lighted with electricity. Some of the new houses included two-decker tenements. Accompanying Mapleville's remodeling were 2 churches,

a Roman Catholic church, Our Lady of Good Help, dedicated in 1907, and an Advent church erected the following year. The mills produced an excellent cloth and employed about 500 people until Joseph Fletcher's death in 1924, when the mills were closed. Later, they were owned by Austin Levy's Stillwater Worsted Company; today they still carry on an industrial function, manufacturing plastics. The village includes a number of interesting and significant architectural-historical resources, listed below:

- 8-A. Mapleville Mills/Coronet Worsted Mill Number 1 (c. 1845 et. seq.): A mill complex along a mill pond on the Chepachet River, north of Main Street, comprised mostly of 1-, 2-, and 3-story, stone, wood, and brick buildings, all dominated by a large, brick smokestack. Originally a saw mill site, a stone woolen mill was built here by Darius Lawton in 1841. The mill burned several years later, but a new factory was soon built incorporating the original stone building. James Legg bought the mill in 1867, and made improvements and a large addition in 1871-72. In 1890, the Legg family organized the Mapleville Manufacturing Company, which made fancy cassimeres and cheviots. Joseph Fletcher purchased the Mapleville property in 1900, and formed the Coronet Worsted Company, which operated the mill until Fletcher's death in 1924. Later, the mill was part of the vast Stillwater Worsted Company holdings. Today, the mill is operating as a metal refinery (1851- D. Lawton's Mill.)
- 8-B. Coronet Worsted Company Mill Number 2 (1901): A 2-story brick factory, 300 feet long, with large, multi-paned windows, along the Chepachet River at the "upper privilege", south of Main Street. Daniel S. Whipple built the first mill here in 1845-46, manufacturing cotton yarn and warps. Woolen manufacturing started in 1853. In 1862, the mill was enlarged; in 1867, it was purchased by James Legg, who then owned both the Mapleville mills. This mill burned in 1871, and the site remained vacant until about 1900, when both mill properties were purchased by Joseph Fletcher, who built the present brick factory. Fletcher, under the firm name, Coronet Worsted Company, owned the mills until his death in 1924, after which they were sold. Today, the Number 2 mill is still used for textile manufacture. (1851- D. S. Whipple's Mill.)
- 8-C. Friends Meeting House (1791 et. seq.): A 2½-story structure set on a small, crowded site behind a garage on Victory Highway, at the major intersection of the village. The building was originally a meeting house for the Society of Friends, who began holding meetings in Cooper's Mills in 1786, and in 1791, acquired a lot and erected a meeting house, a plain, 2-story structure. In 1793, the meeting here became a branch

of, and subordinate to, the Smithfield monthly meeting. The church was used as a meeting house through the 19th century, but sometime in the 20th it was converted to a residence and altered. (1851- Friends Meeting H.)

** 8-D.

Darius Lawton House (1840s; Main Street): A 13-story, Gothic Revival cottage, with trellis bargeboards, gable dormers, and several additions, set on a landscaped lot behind a fine, iron fence, on a hilly site. Described as an "elegant gothic cottage" by Horace Keach in 1856, this former mill owner's house stands in marked contrast in architecture, site, and setting, to the other, simply-built mill worker houses that make up most of Mapleville. The house, possibly built by Darius P. Lawton, who came here and built a mill in 1841, remained the residence of mill owners, including Joseph Smith and James Legg, until sold upon the death of Joseph Fletcher in 1924. In 1927, it was purchased by Napoleon Lataille, a former mill worker, as a family residence. About that time, a former woodshed was made into a 2-story addition. An old schoolhouse, built in 1847--the original Mapleville School-was moved here about 1870, when a new schoolhouse was erected, and was affixed to the servant's quarters; it is now a living room. This former mill owner's house has remained to this day as the finest residence in the village. It is unusual for its type in Rhode Island, where few Gothic cottages exist, and even fewer in good condition. (1862- J. Smith.)

- 8-E. <u>Mapleville School</u> (c. 1890; Sand Hill Road): A l¹/₂-story, wood frame, clapboard-sided, former schoolhouse, now a two-family residence, with a large central pavilion with Palladian windows and a bell tower on the ridge, flanked by 2 pedimented portico windows. One of several schools of this type in Burrillville, it replaced the original Mapleville School built in 1847. The old schoolhouse which stood near this site was moved downhill and affixed to the Gothic Cottage on Main Street when the new schoolhouse was built. (1895- Sch.)
- 8-F. Our Lady of Good Help Church (1907; Victory Highway): A religious complex consisting of a Roman Catholic church, parish house, and rectory, set behind a small, grassy lot, along Victory Highway. The church, an outgrowth of the Harrisville church, was begun in 1905 as Notre Dame De Bon Secours parish, with a congregation made up mostly of French Canadian parishoners. The church building, dedicated in 1907, was designed by Walter Fontaine of Woonsocket, a major ecclesiastical architect. It is a wood shingle and fieldstone structure with a central, pedimented entrance portico and a square, 3-story corner tower on the right. Flanking the church are a parish house and a rectory, both colonial revival in style. The parish house is 2 stories, with a flat roof and a Doric entrance portico; the rectory is a $2\frac{1}{2}$ -story, gambrel-roofed, wood-shingled building.

- 8-G. Seventh Day Adventist Church (1908; Victory Highway): A massive, cement block structure, with a 2-story, square, buttressed entry tower at the left side and a small tower at the right. The church, on a small, grassy lot, was built as a Methodist Episcopal Church.
- 8-H. <u>Two-Decker Houses</u> (c. 1901; Victory Highway): Along Victory Highway, set on small, grassy lots, are a pair of 3-story tenement houses, built end to road, with 2-story porches across the front. These two deckers, built by Hector St. Pierre for his family in an area known as St. Pierre's Hill, are common to the larger, more crowded mill villages and cities of the nearby Blackstone Valley. Unusual for a small, rural, mill village, they are the last in a large number of mill houses erected in Burrillville during the mill village years of the 19th and early 20th centuries.
 - 9. Mohegan Village Historic District: Mohegan is a small village along the Branch River and Douglas Pike in the northeastern part of town, comprised of a mill and several dozen houses. mostly former mill worker's residences. The first activity of note here was a scythe shop, which was started at what was then Esten's Mills about 1820. Sometime later, the shop was converted to the manufacture of woolen goods and satinets. Around this mill, and several later ones, grew a small community. The village was revitalized by the Wanskuck Company, which purchased Mohegan in 1898. A 1906 newspaper article describes Mohegan as "a model mill village with electric lights, running water, and sewers." Along a relatively lightly-traveled highway (for the Douglas Pike disappears into woods a few miles northwest of Mohegan), the village, which was largely French Canadian in the early 20th century. has grown little recently. The mill is still used for industrial purposes, but otherwise the village is residential, with most residents conducting their activities elsewhere. Some of the more significant and interesting cultural resources include:
- 9-A. <u>Mohegan Mill</u> (1892 et. seq.): A large, heavily-altered wood frame, 2-story factory along the Branch River, with a flat roof and a facade dominated by multi-paned windows. Originally the site of a scythe factory, erected here about 1820, the mill later manufactured woolen goods, including satinets. The mill, which was owned and leased to several parties, was destroyed by fire in 1868, and an old storehouse was converted for mill use. This building was remodeled after it was damaged by fire in 1892. The Mohegan Worsted Company, as it was known, was purchased in 1898 by the Wanskuck Company, a Providence-based mill conglomerate, which owned and operated the mill until 1954. After several changes in owners, and uses,

it was sold in 1974 to the Atlas Pallet Company, which buys, reconditions, and resells wooden pallets. (1851- E. & J. Seagraves Mill.)

- 9-B. Elmer Reynolds House (1909; Douglas Pike): At the north end of the village, along Douglas Pike, is this 2½-story, cross-gabled, simple Queen Anne style house, with shingle and clapboard sides and an entry in a porch across the front. The house may have come from a Sears Roebuck catalogue, or have been a prefabricated house manufactured by some other company. It occupies a large lot.
- 9-C. Superintendent's House (c. 1910; Douglas Pike): This 2½story, Colonial Revival residence, with a porch wrapping around the front and right side and a pediment-like gabled front dormer, is the finest house in the village. It was built for the superintendent of the Mohegan Mill by the Wanskuck Company.
- 9-D. <u>Mill Houses</u> (1911; Douglas Pike): A row of 3, double mill houses, occupying small, grassy lots along Douglas Pike in the north part of Mohegan. They are typical of Burrillville's many duplex mill houses which cover a broad span of time, with paired central entry doors under a single entry hood or canopy, and small, paired, interior brick chimneys. Built in 1911 for mill workers by the Wanskuck Company, they were sold to the tenants in the 1940s.
- 9-E. <u>Double Houses</u> (1909-1911; Hill Street): On Hill Street, a short side street off Douglas Pike, are 3, 2-story, hip-roofed houses, built by the Wanskuck Company during a period of village prosperity, around 1909-1911.
- Nasonville Historic District: Along the Branch River, Victory 10. Highway, and the Douglas Pike, in eastern Burrillville, is the small village of Nasonville, comprised of a mill, a hotel, a store, a former school, and about a dozen dwellings. The Douglas Turnpike was laid out through what is now Nasonville in about 1805, connecting Providence with Douglas, Massachusetts, a few miles northwest of Nasonville. The Western Hotel was probably erected when the road was constructed. In 1825, Leonard Nason, for whom the village is named, built a dam, cleared land, dug a trench and raceway, and put up a small mill to manufacture axes and hoes. By about 1838, the factory was also manufacturing woolen goods. Nason's Hoe and Axe Works was a large and important manufactory, one of several of its kind in northern Rhode Island. It produced axes, hoes, scythes, and edge tools in large quantities and of fine quality, at one time turning out 1,000 chopping axes a day. Apparently both edge tools and woolen goods were manufactured

here, until the mill(s) burned in 1871. The woolen mill was repaired, but evidently the manufacture of edge tools came to an end. After another fire, in 1881, the present mill was erected by Horace A. Kimball, and some houses were added to the village. The village, with several stores, a hotel, a school, and a post office, enjoyed a period of prosperity in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. More houses, including 2 large tenements, and St. Theresa's Roman Catholic Church, were added to the village. Woolen manufacturing continued until mid-century. Today, the mill is still operating, the hotel still serves a tavern function, and there is a store in the village, but the school is now vacant. Although there have been some changes and alterations to the 19th century village, Nasonville still contains a number of interesting and significant architectural-historical properties:

- 10-A. Bartlett Farm (Late 19th Century; Douglas Pike): Set on a slight elevation in the midst of open fields along Douglas Pike is a large, unused, cross-gambrel-roofed, early 20th century dairy barn. Formerly the Reynolds Farm, Fay Bartlett farmed here in the early 20th century and possibly built this barn, perhaps the largest in Burrillville.
- 10-B. St. Theresa, "The Little Flower" (1923-1925; Douglas Pike): A religious complex, off Douglas Pike near Mohegan Village, comprised of several brick buildings--a church, rectory, school, convent--and an outdoor stone shrine amphitheater. The buildings, designed by Walter Fontaine of Woonsocket, occupy a hilly site above the road. The shrine of the Little Flower has always been a heavily-visited pilgrimage site.
- 10-C. Nasonville Mill (1882 et. seq.; Douglas Pike): A complex of 2-story, brick mill buildings set behind a grassy lot along Douglas Pike and backing on the Branch River. Manufacturing began at this site about 1825 when Leonard Nason erected a small mill to manufacture axes and hoes. About 1838, part of the factory was leased for the manufacture of woolen goods. In 1852, Nason's Axe Factory was making a large number of fine quality axes, hoes, scythes, and edge tools. The textile mill was leased to various parties, usually for short periods of time. The quality of goods gradually improved, from coarser grade Kerseys, or Negro cloth, and shoddy, to better quality satinets and cassimeres. The axe and scythe works burned in 1871, apparently ending edge tool manufacture here, but a woolen mill was immediately rebuilt. Destroyed by fire in 1881, it was again rebuilt. In 1886, the mill was leased to Joshua Perkins, who began the manufacture of fancy cassimeres and worsteds. Perkins ran the business, which became the Nasonville Woolen Company, into the 20th century. The mill continued operating as a woolen mill until 1959 under the ownership of the Stillwater Worsted Company. In that year,

it was sold to TuRex Plastics Company, a plastics manufacturer, which owns the mill complex today. (1851- Nason's Axe Factory.)

- 10-D. Nasonville School, District Number 3 (1890s; Douglas Pike and Victory Highway): A 2-story, cross-gabled, shingle-clad schoolhouse, with an open bell tower, on a small lot at the intersection of Douglas Pike and Victory Highway. It was probably erected around the turn of the 20th century, when larger schoolhouses were built in several other Burrillville villages. Leonard Nason gave land for the schoolhouse in 1849, and erected a building in 1850. Originally district 16, it became district 3 in 1871. The present schoolhouse, built in the 1890s, is now vacant and deteriorating. (1851-[School on site].)
- 10-E. Nasonville Stone Arch Bridge Number 111 (1907; Victory Highway): A single span, stone arch highway bridge, 61 feet long and 29 feet wide. The bridge, carries Victory Highway over the Branch River. The concrete guard rails were added in 1924.
- 10-F. <u>Walling's Hotel/Western Hotel</u> (c. 1805; Douglas Pike): At the intersection of Douglas Pike and Victory Highway is the Western Hotel, a long, 3-story structure set close to the road, with a full basement in front and a 2-story porch across the facade. Originally known as Walling's Hotel after the Walling family who owned the hotel and who were among the early settlers in the area, the hotel was probably built when the Providence-Douglas Turnpike was constructed about 1805. It has been used as a hotel, or boarding house, under many different owners, throughout its history, and still carries on a tavern function. (1831- Wallen's.)
- 10-G. Nasonville Soda Works/Western Hills Service Station (Early 20th Century): A long, low, l¹/₂-story structure at the junction of Victory Highway and Douglas Pike, now a gasoline station, was once the Nasonville Soda Works. Water for the soda came from a spring on the hill opposite, behind the Western Hotel. Soda was made here in the early 20th century, until 1924. (1895- outbuilding shown on the site.)
- 10-H. <u>Mill House</u> (c. 1885; 282 Douglas Pike): A l¹/₂-story duplex, with small, paired, interior, brick chimneys, and enclosed, separate entries in front. One of a number of similar mill houses in Masonville, it is typical of many in Burrillville. (1895- P. Lynch.)
- 10-1. <u>Walling-Pickering House</u> (1885 ; 285 Douglas Pike): A l¹/₂-story house with a central pavilion with fine, double doors, and two side wings, set on a grassy lot behind a low, cemented,

stone wall. Etta Walling Pickering, who lived here from 1900 to the 1960s, was the grandaughter of J. Bartlett, an early scythe manufacturer. (1895- L. A. Walling.)

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11. Oakland Historic District: The Oakland Historic District, along the Branch River and the Victory Highway and several side streets, in east central Burrillville, includes a mill complex along the river, an interesting brick building once used as a community center, a section of road (Victory Highway) lined with trees and well-preserved and maintained 19thcentury dwellings, and a short street lined with mill houses. The village sprang up in 1850, when John L. Ross built a stone mill here. Under Ross's ownership, which lasted until 1892, the mills were leased for varying periods of time to various parties and manufactured both cotton and woolen goods. Ross added another building in 1856, an ell in 1860, and, following a fire in 1882, rebuilt the burned mill. The village grew along with the mills. An 1852 account gave a population of 182 in the village, of whom 110 were employed in the mill. In 1892, Ross sold his Oakland property to the Wanskuck Company. As the Oakland Worsted Company, it was run until 1957, and continued textile manufacturing for most of the 1960s. In 1973, it was sold to Cove Brothers of Providence, used machinery dealers. Oakland, once described as a "model mill village," enjoyed modern amenities for such a settlement at an early date. By 1894, all houses were supplied with gravity-fed water for drinking and domestic purposes, and iron sewer pipes along the main street were connected to each tenement. Like adjoining Mapleville, the population of Oakland was predominantly French Canadian in origin. Oakland, perhaps the best preserved and least altered of all Burrillville's mill villages, is recommended for the National Register. Some of its important buildings include:

Oakland Mills (1850 et. seq.; Mill Street): At the end of 11-A. Mill Street, along the Branch River, is a mill complex of 1-, 2-, and 3-story stone and brick buildings covering more than 100,000 square feet. The 25 acre property includes an 11 acre mill pond. The 2- and 3-story, stuccoed stone buildings at the end of the dam and along the mill pond, dating from the 1850s, were built by John L. Ross, who had the stone dam constructed in 1849. In 1850, the first mill was built, and in 1856, another building was added at the east side. Leased to the Woonsocket Delaine Company from 1850 to 1853, it manufactured worsted goods. Ross then began the manufacture of satinet warps and yarn for hoop skirts. An addition to the mills was made in 1870. In 1882 a mill burned (perhaps the 1870 addition,) but was immediately rebuilt. The more recent mill buildings are

typical late 19th-early 20th century factories--low, sprawling, brick structures with numerous multi-paned windows, and flat roofs. Ross sold his Oakland holdings in 1892 to Metcalf Brothers of Providence, who manufactured worsteds under the Oakland Worsted Company for some 65 years, until 1957, when the mill was closed. From 1961 to 1968, it manufactured textiles for the First Republic Corporation, then was leased and for a while was idle. In 1973, it was sold to Charles T. Cove of Providence, a used machinery dealer. Today, the mill complex remains an active industrial enterprise. The old stone mills are rare survivors in Burrillville today and the best examples in town of this early mill architecture. The brick buildings reflect a later. evolutionary architecture. Sited at the end of a quiet side street in a lovely, natural environment, the mills have considerable aesthetic appeal as well as achitectural-historical significance. (1851- Ross Dam; 1855- Ross Mill.)

- 11-B. <u>Mill Houses</u> (c. 1852; Mill Street): Mill Street, a short side street connecting Victory Highway with the Oakland mills, is lined with 1½-story, double houses. They probably were built in 1852 for mill workers by John L. Ross, who erected the first mill here. The houses, originally with 2, small, paired, interior, brick chimneys and 2 separate entries in front, occupying relatively small lots, have been altered from their original appearance to varying degrees, and the street has been widened. However, these houses, all of which appear to have survived for more than a century, are among the early mill houses of Burrillville. (1855- 2 rows of 3 houses each.)
- 11-C. Leduc's Market/Oakland Recreation Hall (1898; Victory Highway): An unusual, 2-story, flat-roofed, brick structure, on a small corner lot at Victory Highway and School Street. Concrete steps lead to a double-door with round-headed entry at the second floor level in the front. The second story windows are large, multi-paned, and round-headed, with keystones. Built by the Wanskuck Company in 1898, the upstairs hall was used for banquets, dances, meetings, and other public uses, while the downstairs spaces served as a barbershop, pool room, and a variety store. An artist now occupies the upper floor, and a small, variety store business is still carried on downstairs.
- 11-D. Superintendent's House and Barn (Late 19th Century; Victory Highway): A very large, 2½-story structure, with two gambrel-roofed sections, end to road, joined by a central section with a central, porticoed entry. There is a large, 2-story ell at the rear. The house occupied a large, simply-land-scaped lot, which it shares with a recent garage and an

earlier, clapboard-sided dairy barn, set gable end to the road. The barn, which was part of the Wanskuck Company farm operation which supplied milk for mill workers, has a bracketed cornice and a large, double door central entry in the gable end. It is perhaps the finest extant 19th century barn in Burrillville. William White, superintendent for the Wanskuck Company, who lived here around the turn of the century, was responsible for revitalizing the village, including the construction of newer mill houses. The house and barn are maintained in good condition today. (1895- Oakland Worsted Co. (including the barn).)

- 11-E. House (c. 1885; Victory Highway): A tall, 2½-story, Victorian, Bracketed residence, with a strongly accented facade--a gabled dormer breaking the cornice line; a central, hooded and bracketed entry; and 2-story, bay windows flanking the entry. The house occupies a large, simple-landscaped lot, with a row of maple trees in front.
- 11-F. Daniel Cooper House (1820; Victory Highway): A large, 2½story, Federal structure, with a large, brick, center chimney; a central entry, with a decorated portico, in a 5-bay facade; and several additions. The house, on a large, simply-landscaped lot with large trees in front, was probably built by Daniel Cooper. (1851-Widow Cooper.)
- 11-G. Railroad Station (1913; Victory Highway): Near the south end of the Oakland Historic District, along the east side of Victory Highway, is a small, wood frame building along the former bed of the Providence and Springfield Railroad, and originally associated with the railroad. The first station here was probably built in 1873, when the railroad was completed from Providence to Pascoag. The original station burned in 1913, and was replaced by the present structure, now a part of the Remington lumber yard complex. The railroad operated into the mid-20th century; later, the tracks and most structures along the line were removed. This building is a rare survivor, one of the last railroad related buildings along the entire line, although some more durable, stonework structures remain, including piers in the Clear River a few hundred feet west of Victory Highway. (1895-Station is shown.)
- 11-H. Oakland Bridge, Number 105 (1917-1918; Victory Highway): At the southern end of the Oakland Historic District is the Oakland Bridge, carrying the Victory Highway over the Clear River. Designed by C. L. Hussey and built by E. J. Hollen, this single span, concrete arch highway bridge, 67 feet long and 25 feet wide, was built in 1917 and 1918. It is typical of the bridges built and designed by Hussey all over the state.

12. Oak Valley-Tarkiln Historic Area: The Oak Valley-Tarkiln Historic Area consists of 2 sections, separated geographically but linked historically, along the Tarkiln River, or brook, along Tarkiln Road, and short segments of several other roads, bordering North Smithfield. Included in the historic area are the sites of several mills, a former school, a former store, and several dozen dwellings.

John Smith, who built a cabin in the neighborhood, was one of the first settlers of Burrillville. He induced his brother and others to settle here; the Smith family eventually owned much of the southeastern part of the present town. Their name is still remembered in Smith Hill Road. One of the town's early industries, a kiln, used in colonial times to retrieve tar from pitch pine, gave its name to the river, pond, road, and the small community. A saw mill and grist mill were also operating at an early date, probably before 1800. Sometime around 1810, a woolen or cotton factory was built by a Smith on the Tarkiln River. Soon after, the Oak Valley-Tarkiln area was described as a thriving neighborhood, with 4 mills, a tannery, a grist mill, and a saw mill. One of the town's earliest schoolhouses, built well before 1823, was located Known as the "White School House", it was also used as here. a meeting house and contained the Burrillville library. In the early 19th century, Oak Valley-Tarkiln was an important town center, many years before what are now the principal villages became established. Available historical references are vague about details of the area's development, but at some time in the early 19th century, Lewis Thompson purchased the mills and manufactured cassimeres and cheviot shirtings. Joseph D. Nichols came here in about 1843 and leased the mill and water privilege, but the mill was known as Thompson's Mill into at least the mid-1850s. An 1851 map shows a saw mill at the upper privilege, in Tarkiln--a mill which was evidently still operating as late as 1895--but it is uncertain whether this mill was the original saw mill in the area, or whether the original saw- and grist mill was at the lower privilege, in Oak Valley. At any rate, the mills produced woolens by this time under the management of the Nichols family, which eventually became the most prominent local family superceding the Smiths, and continued the operation until about 1915. A company store was built in Oak Valley in 1879, and other buildings -- a fine, mill owner's residence, some workers houses, and other dwellings--were added in the late 19th century. In 1894, there were about 200 people living in the Oak Valley-Tarkiln community, a population which has since increased only slightly. In 1956, after being idle for ten years, the Oak Valley Mill was destroyed by fire, as were most of the mill houses nearby, but two dams and mill ponds survive, as does a residence on Mowry Road. At the upper privilege, in Tarkiln, the former saw mill is now only a site, but the former

schoolhouse, now a residence, and several 19th century dwellings survive, as does an old house on Colwell Road once owned by a Smith. The Oak Valley-Tarkiln area today is a rural section off the main highways, and the lack of recent building activity has been beneficial in preserving some of the 19th century charm and quiet of the area, which contains several locally important structures and sites.

- Site of Oak Valley Mills: Along the Tarkiln River, just be-12-A. low Tarkiln Pond, is the site of the Oak Valley mills, now a gravel pit and wooded area. A mill was built here in the second decade of the 19th century, and the place was soon a prospering neighborhood. Lewis Thompson purchased the mill(s) and privilege from a Smith, and owned the place for several decades. but evidently did not run the mill, as it was leased to Joseph D. Nichols for many years before Nichols purchased it. Joseph Nichols, his two sons and his two daughters, ran the mill as J. D. Nichols and Sons, manufacturing cassimeres. The mill burned in 1872, and was soon after replaced by a new mill. A dozen years later, a wing was added. The Oak Valley mills were run by the Nichols brothers until about 1915, when the mills were sold, and continued operating until 1946. In 1956, the Oak Valley mills and adjacent tenement houses were demolished. (1851- L. Thomson's Mill.)
- 12-B. A. A. Mowry House (c. 1865; Mowry Road): A l¹/₂-story, 5-bay, Greek Revival dwelling, with flanking wings, 2 interior chimneys, a broad, central, flat-topped doorway with side lights, and gable dormers in the front. The house, situated on a rise at the bend of the road overlooking the site of Nichols' Oak Valley Mills, was owned by A. A. Mowry, who married Olive, daughter of mill owner Joseph D. Nichols. Mowry was the boss finisher at Nichol's mill for more than 31 years and was active in town affairs, serving on the town council and the school committee. The present owner is a niece of A. A. Mowry. (1895- A. A. Mowry.)
- 12-C. Henry Stafford Nichols House (c. 1860; 45 Tarkiln Road): A l¹/₂-story, Victorian bracketed dwelling, set on a simplylandscaped lot between Oak Valley and Tarkiln. Bracketed oriel windows flank an elaborate, hooded doorway. Adjacent to the house is a large barn-a long, l¹/₂-story building with a gable roof, bracketed cornice, and 2, large, barn door openings with bracketed cornice detailing similar to the detailed work on the house. The house was the residence of Henry Stafford Nichols, son of Joseph D. Nichols, who owned the nearby Oak Valley mills for many years. Henry was superintendent of the mills from 1857 to 1888. In the late 1920s the place was purchased by Edward Lyons. The

barn, used for square dances through the 1930s and 1940s, became known as Lyon's Barn. Today, the house and the barn are not being maintained, and the barn, especially, is in deteriorating condition. (1851- D. Phetteplace?)

12-D. David D. Nichols House (c. 1864; Tarkiln Road): A small, 1¹/₂-story dwelling, 4 bays wide, with a central chimney and a rear ell. It presents a plain facade with a blind second story, and no ornamentation except for the detailing of the simple, flat-topped doorway. The house, which faces Nichols Road, was the residence of David D. Nichols, one of the millowning Nichols family, and manager of the Oak Valley mills. (1870- D. D. Nichols.)

- 12-E. <u>Bellow House/Ford's Store</u> (c. 1810; Tarkiln Road): At the intersection with Nichols Road is the Federal style Bellows House, a 2½-story, 5-bay, dwelling with 2, large, end chimneys, and a side ell along Tarkiln Road used as a store. Stone walls surround part of the property, and a simple, outdoor privy still stands behind the house, on the large, simply-landscaped lot. Located in an area known as Tarkiln, this house was occupied in the mid- to late 19th century by the local physician, Dr. Bellows, at a time when the locality was known as the Colwell neighborhood. The store, now run by Stanley and Ruth Ford, was started by Stanley's mother, Martha, in 1929. (1951- M. Paine.)
- 12-F. District Number One Schoolhouse (1863; Colwell Road): A small, l¹/₂-story, frame structure, set end to the road at the rear of an unlandscaped lot. This building, now a residence, was built in 1863 to replace an earlier schoolhouse, which may have been the first schoolhouse in town, known as the "White School House" from its color. In 1823, the first story of the old schoolhouse was raised, a belfry and steeple added, and the building was also used as a church thereafter. According to Keach's history (1856), Nicholas Brown of Providence was helpful in erecting the building, which also served as the Burrillville Library. The building was eventually moved (and its disposition is unknown). (1862- School.)
- * 12-G. Smith-Nichols House (c. 1800; Colwell Road): Along Colwell Road, at the south end of the Tarkiln village area, is a large, 2½-story, center chimney, late 18th or early 19th century residence, which faces south, fronting on the Country View Golf course. A local informant suggested that an earlier house, perhaps the ell of the present house, stood on the site. The property was originally the residence of the Smith family, the pioneer settlers of the Oak Valley-Tarkiln area, known first as Smithville. Later,

according to 19th century maps, the property was owned by J. D. Nichols, who probably also owned a nearby saw mill and who may have been a partner in the Oak Valley mills. The tracks of the Providence and Springfield Railroad, completed in 1873, were laid near the house. A descendant of J. D. Nichols, Joseph, born in 1890, lived here until the 1970s. Married but childless, he was the last of the Nichols line in the area. (1851-Widow U. Smith.)

- 12-H. Site of Saw Mill (Nichols Road): At the outlet of Nichols Pond--its northern end--is a dam and some stonework remains of a saw mill, probably erected sometime in the 18th century by the Smith family. In the second half of the 19th century it was owned by the Nichols family. (1851- Saw Mill.)
 - 13. Pascoag Historic District: The town's largest village, Pascoag is located near the geographic center of Burrillville, along the Pascoag River. Route 107, whose western terminus is in Pascoag, is known as Main Street; it, and Route 100--South Main Street and Church Street--are the principal and earliest thoroughfares, probably laid out in the 18th century. Several other streets, notably Sayles Street, were laid out by 1895, and in the 20th century the section north of the main business district was filled in with houses. The Pascoag district, which extends north to the Bridgeton area, includes several mill sites, a large number of commercial buildings, some public buildings, a few churches, and a large number of dwellings ranging in age and style.

The first activity of record here was a grist- and sawmill, owned by Josiah Arnold in 1746 and by Daniel and Elisha Sayles in 1792. A number of mills were operating in the early 19th century. Mathewson Windsor had a bark mill and a broking mill (which broke hides and skins) which was built in 1814 and which was still operating as late as 1832, and in 1814, Daniel Sayles erected a wooden building for fulling and dressing woolen cloth. In 1819, Nicholas Sayles had a scythe works and a blacksmith shop with a triphammer. The bark and broking mill and the iron works ceased production sometime during the 19th century, but the Sayles family continued manufacturing, and eventually became a local dynasty, owning several mills and fine homes in Pascoag as well as commercial buildings and tenements.

The first Sayles mill was enlarged in 1819, with carding machines added. Members of the Sayles family--Hardin and Pitt (sons of Daniel Sayles), and Albert L., Albert H., and Fred L. Sayles--and several other partners, over the years made enlargements and improvements to the mill. In 1865, a new, large mill, known as the Granite Mill, was erected. Several privilages below (north of) the Granite Mill on Main Street were developed as mill sites in the mid-19th century; they were concentrated in a short distance along the river.

Pascoag, the center of the state's major woolen manufacturing area, was a large village. In 1852, Pascoag (which probably also included the adjacent Bridgeton area) had a population of 1400, 500 of whom worked in the 8 woolen mills here. There were 6 mercantile stores and a host of other buildings. In the last decades of the 19th and the first decade of the 20th century, there were numerous fires in the Pascoag area mills--6 mills within a radius of a mile and a half were destroyed between 1882 and 1902. Some were never rebuilt. In the 20th century, the mills eventually stopped manufacturing, until only the Granite Mill was left in Pascoag. In May, 1981, the last of a series of fires heavily damaged the Granite Mill, one of the most handsome in Rhode Island. Pascoag is now a struggling local commercial center, with most of its residents, descendants of former mill workers, largely French-Canadian in origin, commuting to work elsewhere. Although the village was too large to survey in depth for this preliminary survey, a number of interesting and significant structures were recorded:

13-A. Remains of Granite, or Sayles Mill (1865/1880-1981): The Granite Mill, or Sayles Mill, located at the principal intersection of Pascoag and at the north end of the Pascoag Reservoir, was a large (104 by 40 feet, 4 stories) mill, erected in 1865, with several additions and a fine office building. The original mill at this site was Daniel Sayles' 1814 woolen mill. It was the first woolen mill in Pascoag. At first a fulling and dressing mill, carding machines and power looms were introduced soon after. About 1834, the privilage was enlarged by a new dam and the first set of satinet machinery was installed. Later in the decade, Hardin and Pitt Sayles, sons of Daniel, and other partners, formed the Union Woolen Company. In 1844, following further additions and improvements, the manufacturing of fancy cassimeres was begun. The company was reorganized, and after 1850 the mill was owned and operated by the Sayles! Albert L. Sayles, who acquired a half interest in 1853 or 1854, ran the mill for much of the second half of the 19th century. Under his tenure, the old woolen mill was torn down, the large granite mill built in 1865, and a large addition, along with a mill office, made in 1880. At full capacity, the mill employed about 350, a sizeable percentage of the local population. The large mill, for over a century the outstanding building of Pascoag, operated until the mid-20th

century. Recently the mill became idle and was slated for conversion to elderly housing, but a fire in May, 1981, destroyed most of the handsome mill and office.(1855-Sayles Mill.)

CHURCH STREET

- * 13-B. <u>Albert L. Sayles Residence</u> (c. 1880): A large, 2½-story, Queen Anne style dwelling, with asymmetrical massing; patterned shingle and clapboard sides; a wrap-around porch with round corners; a central tower; and a Palladian window in the gable end. This fine house, occupying a large lot not far from the Granite Mill, was the residence of mill owner Albert L. Sayles (1823-1898). (1895- A. L. Sayles.)
 - 13-C. Pascoag Public Library (1924): A relatively small, square, hip-roofed, brick, Colonial Revival structure, set on a small lot. The building features a projecting, pedimented, central entry in a 3-bay facade. Designed by architects Jackson, Robertson, and Adams, who were the architect s for Levy's Harrisville buildings, this library building was erected by the Ladies' Pascoag Library Association. The L.P.L.A., organized in 1871 as the "Pascoag Union Sewing Society", changed its name to the present one in 1873. The first library collections were kept in Pascoag stores.
 - 13-D. John Chase House (c. 1835): A l¹/₂-story Greek Revival dwelling with a central, recessed entry in a 5-bay facade and a rear ell, on a simply landscaped lot. This house may have been built for John Chase, a son in law of Daniel Sayles, the early textile manufacturer of Pascoag. John Chase was a partner in the Sayles, or Granite Mill, in 1834, and later had a mill on a lower privilage along the Pascoag River before becoming superintendent of the Graniteville Mill. (1870- J. Chase.)
 - 13-E. <u>Mill Supervisor's House</u> (c. 1880): A 2½-story, double house, with Italianate details, a porch across the front, and 3, small, gabled dormers in the front, the middle one containing a Palladian window. The house, owned by A. L. Sayles, was probably built for mill supervisors when the Granite Mill was enlarged in 1880. (1895- A. L. Sayles.)
 - 13-F. Azael Lovejoy House/First Baptist Church Parsonage (c. 1880): A 2½-story, Early Victorian, L-plan residence, with a spindlework porch across the front and 2 corbelled brick interior chimneys, set on a large, simply landscaped lot. (1895-Azael Lovejoy Est.)

- * 13-G. First Baptist Church (1839): A "Classical" meetinghouse, with a tall, narrow front porch of four fluted columns, an arched entryway, a 2-stage, square and octogonal tower with steeple, an oculus and enclosed belfry, and a rear addition, set on a simply landscaped lot. The Freewill Baptist Church was established in Pascoag in 1812 by Elder Colby, and in 1814, the first quarterly meeting of the Freewill Society in the state was held in Pascoag. This handsome building, recommended for the National Register, was erected in 1839. (1855- Bap. Church.)
- * 13-H. <u>Calvary Episcopal Church</u> (1894): A stick style church with an entrance portico in the gable end, varied siding of patterned shingles, clapboards, vertical boards, and stone, set on a landscaped lot at the corner of Broad and Church streets. Built in 1894 as an Advent church, two years later it was purchased by the Episcopal denomination and moved from its original site along the east side of Church Street about a half mile to the north, to its present location. (1895- Adv. Ch. Lat original location.].)
 - 13-1. <u>0. Fagan House</u> (c. 1865; 58 Church Street): A l¹/₂-story, bracketed house, with a central pediment section including a balustraded portico entry flanked by bay windows, and an ell, with a porch, at the left side. This fine, wellmaintained residence is set on a large lot. (1870- 0. Fagan.)
 - 13-J. George Taft House (Early 19th Century; 71 Church Street): The George Taft House has a l¹/₂-story, flank gable section near the road, and a long, "telescope-like" section at the rear. It is believed that the front part was moved here from the Wallum Lake community. The section at the rear may have been built by George Taft between 1828 and 1839. (1855- L. Shumway.)

MAIN STREET

- 13-K. <u>R. S. Steere Store</u> (c. 1880): At the corner of Main and Sayles streets is this 2½-story, wood frame building, with paired windows in the second floor; 3, small, brick, interior chimneys, and an entry in the gable end, along Main Street. The building, once owned by R. S. Steere, housed a dry goods, clothing, and other stores. It is one of several old commercial blocks in the village's business district. (1895- lithograph - R. S. Steere, Dry Goods, Clothing, Etc.)
- 13-L. Granite Lodge Number 33, 1.0.0.F., or Berk's Store (1875): In the heart of Pascoag's business district is this 3-story, mansard-roofed commercial block. Now housing Berk's Store,

the building was erected in 1875 for Granite Lodge Number 33 of the International Order of Odd Fellows, which was instituted in 1874. It originally contained 3 large stores on the first floor, a dry goods-clothing store and the "Music Hall" on the second floor, and a news room, a barber shop, and the lodge's quarters on the third floor. (1895- 1.0.0.F. Hall.)

NAHANT STREET

13-M. The Bridgeway (1930s): Nahant Street, a short side street in the downtown section, crosses the Pascoag River over a handsome, single span bridge constructed of cut and dressed stone. The bridge, which is sited just below a steppingstone falls, is in a parklike setting. The improvements in this area, known as the Bridgeway, were one of Austin Levy's many contributions to Burrillville in the 20th century.

SAYLES STREET

- 13-N. Pascoag District Number 11 School (1893-94): A 2½-story, hip-roofed structure, with a central projecting pavilion with a central, double-door entry, in a flat-roofed portico. There is a Palladian window over the portico and a belfry at the ridge. This former schoolhouse, built in 1893-94, was the fourth one in Pascoag. The earliest was built in 1824. District Number 11 School was one of several built in the Burrillville villages in the 1890s. (1895- School.)
- 13-0. St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church (1930s): A stone, neo-Gothic church, with a square, 2-story, corner tower with buttresses and a louvered belfry, at the left front corner; an entry, with round-headed door, in a small portico; and a large, circular window with quatrefoil patterns above the entry. The building is set close to the road. Across the street is a Catholic school. The cornerstone for the original St. Joseph's Church, the first Roman Catholic church in Pascoag, was laid in 1880. Destroyed by fire in 1919, the basement, which was saved, was converted into a chapel and used for religious services until the present structure was built in the 1930s. (1895-[R. C. Ch.] on site .)

SOUTH MAIN STREET

13-P Manufacturer's Hotel (mid-19th Century; 40-42 South Main Street): A 2½-story, gable-on-hip roofed structure, set close to the road. The building, originally a dwelling, was remodeled and converted to a hotel of about 40 rooms by Albert L. Sayles, whose mill was across the street. (1895- Manufacturers Private Hotel.)

- 13-Q. Former School (1860): A 2½-story structure, set end to the road, with porticos at entrances on each side, and brackets at the cornice. The building was used as a school until 1937; it is now a multi-unit residence. (1870- S. H.)
- 13-R. Zion Primitive Methodist Church (1890): A wood frame meetinghouse, with its gable end very close to the road. It has a slightly projecting pavilion containing a central, pedimented entry, which is topped by a square bell tower with louvered windows. The walls are of patterned shingles and clapboards. (1895- M. E. Ch.)
 - 14. Plainville/Whipple Historic Area: Along the Clear River and along Whipple Avenue, west of Oakland, is the former mill hamlet of Plainville, later Whipple, consisting of several mill houses. In about 1847, David Mathewson built a cotton mill here, and several mill houses were probably then built to accommodate workers in this then rather remote location at the end of a dead end road off East Avenue. Charles H. Whipple purchased Plainville in 1856 and began the manufacture of woolen goods. Cassimeres were manufactured for many years thereafter under several owners and lessees. Just before the Civil War, a dam and new trenchworks were constructed, and the mill enlarged. The mill, a 3-story, wooden building with several additions and outbuildings comprising an impressive industrial complex, employed 65 hands, including a considerable number of Irish Catholics, who lived in the 25 tenements in the hamlet. Under the mill owners care the tenements were well maintained. The hamlet was renamed Whipple in 1891 when a railroad and station were constructed. However, by 1929, most of the employed residents worked outside of Whipple. A description in the brochure advertising the sale of the village in 1929, described it as a "cosy and snug little village". The mill was subsequently demolished. The mill site today is not visible from the road, but several of the old mill houses along Whipple Avenue survive. They are vernacular dwellings--l¹/₂-story structures with a simply framed entryway, set on small, grassy lots. Today, Plainville's former village character is virtually nonexistent due to demolition and alteration of many buildings. However, Plainville is significant as one of Burrillville's many manufacturing villages, and the houses, although plain and undistinguished architecturally, are typical of Rhode Island mill houses of the mid-19th century. (1851- Plainville; E. D. Mathewson's Mill, and 5 buildings.)

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15. Sweet's Hill Historic District (East Avenue): A group of one half dozen, mid-to late-19th-century houses and outbuildings along East Avenue, on a hill known as Sweet's Hill, comprise

the Sweet's Hill Historic District. The area was first settled by the Mathewson family, that had occupied the original farm on SweetsHill for many generations. The oldest extant house here, at 104-106 East Avenue, was the residence of Welcome Mathewson, who settled on his father's farm early in the 19th century, and, in addition to farming, became a skilled gunmaker. Welcome's son, David, raised as a farmer, in 1840 branched out as a lumber dealer and contractor, and built about 100 mills and private dwellings in Burrillville. He erected, in part, A. L. Sayles' Mill in Pascoag, and the Plainville Mill, which he probably owned. Welcome Mathewson's daughter, Mary Ann, married Henry Sweet, an expert in mechanical construction, who, after traveling throughout many states and to Cuba to superintend the setting up and starting of engines manufactured by his firm, retired to his Burrillville farm several years before his death in 1879. Henry Sweet's oldest son, Thomas H., began a meat business, and later admitted his brother, Albert E., as a partner. As the firm of T. H. & A. E. Sweet they conducted an extensive business throughout a wide area, selling native beef. Later, the firm conducted a large dairy business as well as a general farming business. Henry Sweet's other son, Irving H., became a progressive farmer, lumber dealer, and general businessman. According to the 1937 W.P.A. guide to Rhode Island, an "attractive cluster of houses" constituted the village of Sweet's Hill. Today, Welcome Mathewson's old farmhouse is deteriorating, and several others have been altered, but 4 houses remain in well preserved and maintained condition. These handsome dwellings, owned by Mathewson and Sweet families until about 1960, provide an important and interesting link with Burrillville's earlier manufacturing. business, and agricultural history.

15-A. Welcome Mathewson House (18th and 19th Century; 104-106 East Avenue): Originally a typical, 1½-story, 18th-century dwelling, the house was enlarged to 2½ stories and lengthened to 6 bays. A veranda crosses the front and sides, and a later addition is at the left rear. Sited on a terraced grass lot above the road, the property is vacant and in poor condition. The house was built by Welcome Mathewson's father, one of the area's early settlers, and it is the oldest extant structure in the Sweet Hill district.

Welcome Mathewson, who made flintlock and percussion rifles, pistols, shotguns, bayonets, and spontoons, probably learned his trade in Sutton, Massachusetts, and settled on his father's farm after his marriage. Welcome practices the trade of gunsmith, blacksmith, tinker, farmer, and lumberman. His small gunshop was one of a cluster of outbuildings on the farm. Welcome's son, David, a builder until his retirement in 1887, later owned the farm. In the early 20th century, it was the headquarters of Indian Acres, a 1,000 acre farm owned by the Sweet family which supplied milk for Wallum Lake Sanitorium. (1851- W. Mathewson.)

- 15-B. <u>Albert E. Sweet House/Indian Acres</u> (c. 1880; 133 East Avenue): A 2½-story, Early Victorian dwelling, with an elaborate central portico flanked by bay windows. This fine house is set on a large lot. In 1937, it was the dairy farm of Irving Sweet, part of Indian Acres Farm. The name, Indian Acres, was applied to this house at a later date. (1895- A. E. Sweet.)
- 15-C. Abby F. Sweet House (Mid-19th Century; 118 East Avenue): A 1½-story, Early Victorian residence, with a central entrance portico in a 5-bay facade and a large, gabled dormer. This well maintained house, on a small, grassy lot, was one of several Sweet family houses here. (1851- H. Sweet.)
- 15-D. J. & E. Mathewson/Henry Sweet House (Mid-19th Century; 120 East Avenue): A 1½-story, Greek Revival dwelling, with a central entry in a 5-bay facade, a wing at the right rear, and 2, small, interior chimneys. The house occupies a landscaped lot next to a large field; it was built by a Mathewson, then owned by one of the locally prominent Sweet family, including Henry Sweet, who married Welcome Mathewson's daughter, Mary Ann. (1851- J. & E. Mathewson.)
- 15-E. Thomas Sweet House (1870s; 141 East Avenue): The most pretentious of the Sweet's Hill dwellings, this is a 2½-story, Bracketed Victorian house, with a central entrance portico in a 5-bay facade. It has a round-headed window in the prominent central gable, and paired, interior chimneys. There is an early 20th-century barn west of the house, and another barn behind the house, which occupy well maintained and simply landscaped grounds. The property was built as Thomas Sweet's personal residence. (1895- T. H. & A. E. Sweet.)
 - 16. Wallum Lake Area: The first deed in the Wallum Lake area was filed in 1710. In 1732, a 250-acre tract, which included practically all the original land later acquired for the state sanitorium, was deeded. Jeremiah Ballard purchased a 96¹/₂ acre tract in 1766, and soon after he built a small dwelling, a corn mill, and a saw mill. Timothy Jenne bought Ballard's property in 1778. In 1786, Seth, Timothy's brother, bought land at the lowest privilege along the Clear River here, and a dam and a mill were established there. A highway beginning near Allum Pond (as Wallum Lake was known then) to Pascoag

was built in 1793. There were several changes of owners in the area, and several changes in the mills. In 1805, a small cotton mill was built at the upper privilege, near the outlet of Wallum Lake. David Wilkinson, a North Providence manufacturer, bought the property in 1822 with the intent of storing the waters of Allum Pond, which eventually flow into the Blackstone River. In 1825, the cotton mill burned, but Wilkinson carried on an extensive lumbering and charcoalburning business, and continued to operate the saw mill. In 1831, Levi Darling and others purchased the place. Darling built a shingle mill in 1835; it was soon replaced by a new cotton mill, which employed about 25 people and resulted in the building of several dwellings. About 1844, the middle mill privilage was developed, and the saw mill and the grist mill from the upper privilege were moved here. The grist mill operated until about 1867, when it was replaced by a cider mill, and the saw mill ran discontinuously until it burned in 1907. In the mid-19th century, this was a small community centered on several mills, and also contained a small store. The cotton mill ran under several lessees until shortly after 1860, when it was dismantled and, along with the store, moved to Manchaug, Massachusetts. One house was moved to Mapleville, another transported to Pascoag. In 1902, this area was chosen as the site for a tuberculosis hospital by the state, and in 1905, a hospital building was erected, the first of many buildings constructed over the next half century. Today, the Wallum Lake area, once a small, industrial community, is dominated by the huge hospital complex, now known as Zambarano Hospital.

The Jenne-Darling House still stands, and traces of the old mills are still visible; they are reminders of Burrill-ville's early industrial-settlement heritage. (1851- Levi Darling; Saw mill.)

- 16-A. Jenne-Darling House (1766/1845): A l¹/₂- and 2¹/₂-story dwelling, with a small, brick, center chimney and a central, pedimented entry, with side lights, in a 5-bay facade, set into a small hill near Wallum Lake Road. Part of this building was the original dwelling of Timothy Jenne, built in 1766 on what is now the hospital grounds. In 1845, it was moved to this site by Levi Darling, and formed the south (left) end of the upper story of the present house. It was, for some time, used as a store. (1851- Levi Darling.)
- 16-B. Clear River Mill Sites (18th and 19th Centuries): Along the Clear River, just below its beginning at Wallum Lake, are 3 mill sites dating from the late 18th to the mid-19th centuries. The Upper Privilege, west of Wallum Lake Road, now indicated by a stone dam, an overgrown mill trench, and some

stonework remains, was developed in 1766 by Jeremiah Ballard, who built a corn mill and a saw mill there. In 1805, a small cotton mill was built by Ballard at the site; it burned in 1825. In 1835, Levi Darling built a shingle mill on the site, and several years later, replaced it with a new cotton mill. The saw mill and grist mill were relocated to the middle privilege at that time. In 1860, the cotton mill was taken down and moved to Manchaug, Massachusetts. The Middle Privilege, several hundred feet downstream, and now the site of a swimming pool, was first utilized in 1844 when the mills from the upper privilege were set up here by Levi Darling. The grist mill ran until 1867, when it was replaced by a cider mill; the saw mill worked occasionally until it was destroyed by fire in 1907. At the Lower Privilege, a dam and mill were established by Seth Darling in 1786; there is little trace of this mill today.

- 16-C. Zambarano Memorial Hospital/Wallum Lake Sanitorium (1905 et. seq.): A large hospital complex along the southeast shore of Wallum Lake in northwestern Burrillville, with a large number of 20th century institutional buildings erected over a span of many decades. The hospital and spacious grounds, occupying a large tract of land in a quiet, and remote corner of the state, was the site selected in 1902 for a state hospital for the treatment of tubercular patients. In November, 1905, a hospital building was completed and the first patient admitted to Wallum Lake Sanitorium, as it was originally known. During the century, the facilities were gradually improved and expanded. In 1912, the grounds were extensively landscaped, and in 1917, a new hospital opened. A large public works project in the 1930s, completed in 1938, added the Wallum Lake House, one of eleven construction projects carried on here. By March, 1955, when tuberculosis was no longer considered a major disease, the name was changed to Zambarano Memorial Hospital. It now treats a variety of diseases.
 - 17. Site of Wilson's Mills: Along the Clear River, just below the dam at the south end of the Wilson Reservoir, are the stonework foundations of several mills; these mills, together with some dwellings and other buildings (none of which survive today), made up a small hamlet known as Wilson's Mills. Sometime before 1795, a saw mill and a grist mill were built at or near Wilson's Pond (possibly at another site, along Leland Brook, which flows into the reservoir from the west). In 1866, William R. and James M. Wilson began to manufacture shoddy and yarn at this site. The mill burned in 1871 and was rebuilt the same year. An 1894 description reveals that the mill was a 2-story, wooden structure. The upper story was a shoddy mill, run by Olney T. Inman; the lower part was a saw mill run by

Herbert M. Wilson. From 1893 through 1901, "Wilson's Shoddy Mill" was leased to O. T. Inman; in 1910 it was listed in a directory as "H. M. Wilson, yarns"; and in 1923 it was a yarn mill run by Green and Wilson. It probably ceased operating soon afterward and it was destroyed by fire in the 1930s. Today there are no standing structures in the area that once comprised Wilson's Mills, but foundations mark the hamlet site. (1870- W. R. & J. M. Wilson; S. Mill and 3 other buildings.)

INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURES AND SITES

BARNES ROAD

- 18. S. Paine House/Tamarack Farm: (Early 19th-Century): A c. 1810, 1½-story, 5-bay house with a 2-bay ell, and several outbuildings comprise the S. Paine Farm. Stone walls surround the property, which includes a barn built into the side of a hill near the driveway. A ramp leads directly to the threshing floor, while the full, stone basement floor affords shelter for animals. Owned by Paine, Cook, and Smith family members in the latter half of the 19th century, it was recently given the appelation Tamarack Farm and is now devoted to horse raising and training. (1851- S. Paine.)
- 19. <u>Smith-Darling House</u> (Early 19th Century): A fine, Federal style, 2½-story, 5-bay farmhouse, with a large center chimney. The simple, flat-topped doorway is embellished by a dentil course. Adjacent to the house is a dry-laid stone retaining wall, in the center of which stands the remains of a stone chimney, once was part of a blacksmith shop. The house was probably built by a member of the Smith family, pioneer settlers and large landowners in this area. The Smith family burying ground, located directly opposite the house, contains late 18th-century gravestones. Also across the road is a large, 19th-century barn. The property was owned by members of the Darling family during the latter decades of the 19th century. (1851- N. Smith.)

BRIDGETON ROAD

(See Bridgeton-Laurel Ridge Historic District, #3)

BRONCOS HIGHWAY

20. Lapham-Darling House (Early 19th Century): A 2½-story, Federal style farmhouse, with a small, brick, center chimney; a central, Greek Revival entry, in a 5-bay facade; and a 1-story wing at the right side. The house, sited on a grassy hill, is a conspicuous landmark along the new Broncos Highway. It was originally owned by the Lapham family, large landowners here; later, and for many years, the house was in the Darling family. (1851- D. Richardson.)

BROOK ROAD

- 21. <u>Taft-Arnold House</u> (Early 19th Century): A late Federal style, 2½-story, 5-bay dwelling with a large brick center chimney, and intricate detailing in the cornice and frieze. A large porch covers the front and side of the house, which is screened by a row of evergreens. This property was in the Taft and Arnold families in the late 19th century; in 1895 it was part of a large J. & H. G. Arnold complex which was across the road but is now gone. (1851- Taft.)
- 22. <u>"Modern Colonial" House</u> (1970s): Å residence near the intersection of Brook Road and Round Top Road, built to resemble a 17th century Rhode Island farmhouse, with a steeply-pitched gable roof and a simple, wooden doorway in a 3-bay facade. It was built by Michael Blancheflower, who worked for Armand LaMontayne, who has built a number of these colonial type dwellings in Rhode Island and adjacent Connecticut.

BUCK HILL ROAD

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- 23. Logee House (c. 1820): A simple, 1½-story dwelling with an asymmetrical 6-bay facade. Located in the northwestern section of town, straddling the Connecticut border, this structure, and the nearby Logee-Whiting House, were once part of a small, Logee family settlement that prospered because of stagecoach travellers passing this way to and from Connecticut. The right (east side of the Logee House was part of the 19th century Logee Tavern. In the 20th century, after the tavern business stopped, the left side, in Connecticut, was removed, and the right side renovated. (1870- Hotel.)
- 24. Logee-Whiting House (Early 19th Century): A l¹/₂-story, 5-bay, Federal structure, with a center chimney, and an ell at the right rear. Situated on rolling terrain, the house, which is set into the slope of a hill, has a large, stone basement at the front and west sides. The residence is well sited on a grassy lot, with fine, dry-laid stone walls around. (1870- Mrs. Logee.)
 - 25. <u>Buck Hill Fire Tower</u> (Early 20th Century): Sited on a small, grassy plot surrounded by woods, and very close to the road, the Buck Hill Fire Tower, a 5-stage metalwork tower with an enclosed top, is one of several forest fire lookout towers

in rural northern and western Rhode Island erected in the early 20th century. The tower, manned for several weeks each year, at an elevation of more than 730 feet above sea level, affords a commanding view of the surrounding rugged and forested terrain.

BUXTON STREET

26. <u>A. Mowry Farm/Wright's Farm</u> (18th Century et. seq.): A farm house and an interesting group of outbuildings on a working farm in the northeast corner of town comprise Wright's Farm. The large, altered, 2½-story, 18th-century farmhouse was probably built by the Mowry family. Around the house are some high stone walls, and nearby is the wood-shingled farm complex, sited on a hill, and dominated by a large barn with a pair of cupolas. In the early 20th century, the property was known as the Ironstone Country Club. (1851- A. Mowry.)

CAMP DIXIE ROAD

27. <u>Camp Dixie</u> (c. 1890 et. seq.): Camp Dixie, along the west shore of the Pascoag Reservoir, is a collection of small, wood frame cottages, originally built for summer use. Camp Dixie's first camper was George F. Whitford, who began camp-ing here about 1890 for his wife's sake on the advise of her physicians. The next year, Northampton, Massachusetts, relatives joined the Whitfords, including a niece known as Dixie, for whom the camp was named. By about 1900, the place was a small village, with a large number of tents, representing society from all parts of town. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sayles built the "Dew Drop Inn", the center of social life in 1901. Golfing, cruising on a power launch, croquet, and fishing were then the principal activities. Nearby is the Echo Lake Campground, the largest in Burrillville.

CENTENNIAL ROAD

28. <u>Stone Arch Bridge</u> (1940): A stone arch bridge, with massive granite blocks, carries Centennial Road over Mowry Brook north of Saxondale. Built by the Works Project Administration in 1940, this bridge has a 6 foot high and 12 foot wide opening. Along the road are stone wall supports, about 3 feet high. This bridge is typical of many other stone arch bridges built in Rhode Island in the early 20th century.

CENTRAL STREET

29. <u>Ray Menard House</u> (1956, 1970s; 25 Central Street): A complex plan house, with vertical board siding and a variety of windows, including several large, protruding, circular ones. The house was designed and built by Raymond Menard in 1956; he redesigned it in the 1970s. It is unlike most other new houses in Burrillville, which are typically split level or ranch house type structures.

30. <u>Reuben Keach House</u> (18th Century; 66 Central Street): A <u>l</u>¹/₂-story dwelling, with a large, tapered, center chimney; a truncated gable rear section which provides a saltbox effect; and a small ell at the left side. Originally a central entry house with 5-bay facade, the house was later enlarged one bay. The house, sited on a relatively small, simply landscaped lot, was built by Reuben Keach, who acquired about 500 acres of land here before the Revolutionary War. It was in the Keach family until the early 20th century (1851- E. Keach.)

CHAPEL STREET

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(See: Harrisville Historic District, #7)

CHERRY FARM ROAD

31. John White House (Early 19th Century): A l¹/₂-story dwelling, set end to road, with a large, brick, center chimney and a transom light entry in a 5-bay facade. There is a barn attached to the rear of the house, forming an "L", a rare example of a connected house and outbuilding in Rhode Island. The house, on a small, simply landscaped lot, was probably built by John White in the early 19th century (1851- J. White.)

CHURCH STREET

(See: Pascoag Historic District, #13)

COLWELL ROAD

(See also: Oak Valley-Tarkiln Historic District, #12)

- 32. Phetteplace-Smith Farm (Mid 19th Century; 42 Colwell Road): A l¹/₂-story, Early Victorian dwelling, with 2 paired, interior chimneys, a central entry with a bracketed hood, and several outbuildings surrounded by fields, comprise the Phetteplace-Smith Farm. Identified as a Phetteplace residence in 1851, it was in the Smith family for many years thereafter. (1851- W. Phetteplace.)
- 33. <u>G. Smith Farm/Country View Acres</u> (c. 1840-1850): A farm complex centered on a l¹/₂-story, Greek Revival dwelling which occupies a small yard. Along the road is a long, rectangular barn, gable end to road, which is in poor condition, and deteriorating. The farm complex lies along an old section of

Colwell Road which is lined with stonewalls and large trees, presenting a fine roadscape. (1851- G. Smith.)

COOPER ROAD

34. <u>Cooper House</u> (c. 1840): A Greek Revival farmhouse, basically a l¹/₂-story, gable-roofed, 5-bay house with a side ell delineated by a plank cornice, pilaster cornerboards, and the entrance marked by a simple doorway enframement and sidelights. Directly opposite the property is a typical example of a 19th-century carriage shed. Moses Cooper, an early settler, owned a large tract of land at the time of the 18th century land grants. Nearby Mapleville, and this area, were once called Cooper's Mills. (1851- Charles Cooper?)

CRUFF ROAD

35. Former Buck Hill District School #14 (1832, 1848, 1868): A small, frame, 1-story schoolhouse with a gable roof. Originally built in 1832, it was improved in 1848 and rebuilt twenty years later. (1870- S. H.)

DOUGLAS PIKE (Route 7)

(See also: Mohegan and Nasonville Historic Districts, #9 & #10)

- 36. <u>Walling House</u> (c. 1825): A Federal style, 2½-story, 5-bay, gable-roofed farmhouse with 2 interior chimneys and two flanking ells. The flat-topped central doorway is plain. The Walling family ran the nearby Western Hotel in Nasonville in the 1850s. (1851- Isaac Walling.)
- 37. <u>Walling Schoolhouse</u> (Late 19th Century): A small, plain, l¹/₂-story residence at the intersection with Ironstone Road, the building originally was one of Burrillville's many oneroom 19th century schoolhouses. Land for the school, which was probably built about 1875 to replace an earlier schoolhouse in the Mount Pleasant district in the northeast corner of town, was given by a member of the Walling family. (1895- Sch.)

EAGLE PEAK ROAD

38. <u>Washington Logee House</u> (Late 18th Century): A substantial 2½-story, 5-bay, gable-roofed dwelling with a large, stuccoed center chimney. The facade has been altered by a 1-story protruding shed entry. (1851- W. Logee.)

- 39. Former Eagle Peak (District Number 12) Schoolhouse (1826): A 1-story stone structure with a small, brick chimney, set end to the road. Built as a schoolhouse in 1826 for \$200, it remained in use as a school until 1871, when it was no longer needed and reverted to the heirs of Washington Logee, who had given the land and building. It has been used as a residence since. The use of stone for a schoolhouse is unusual in Rhode Island. (1851- S. H.)
- 40. Seth Ross House (Late 18th Century): A 2½-story dwelling, with a large, stuccoed, center chimney and an imposing (and later) flat-topped central entry with side lights in a 3-bay facade. The house is sited in the center of a grassy lot. Along the road east of the house is a bank barn (built into the side of a hill), with entrance in the double doors in the gable end at road level, and several animal stalls in the stone basement. The house was in the Ross family, probably from its time of construction in the late 18th century, until 1930. (1851- S. Ross.)
- 41. <u>Salisbury House</u> (Early 19th Century): The Salisbury House, across the road from the Seth Ross House, is a rare stone building, with a square plan and hip roof, sited near the road. The rubble stone sides are trimmed with granite corner quoins, lintels, and sills. (1862- Salisbury.)
- 42. <u>Whipple Angell House</u> (c. 1800): A l¹₂-story, Federal era farmhouse with later alterations and outbuildings--a barn built in the 1890s and a former blacksmith shop, connected to a shed. Whipple Angell, one of several members of the Angell family in the area in the first century of settlement, had a saw mill on a nearby brook. (1851- W. Angell.)

EAST AVENUE

(See: Harrisville Historic District, #7, and Sweet's Hill Historic District, #15)

EAST IRONSTONE ROAD

43. <u>Richardson-Ballou House</u> (c. 1800): A Federal style, 2½-story, gable-roofed dwelling with a center chimney. The original 5-bay facade has been enlarged. Although presently undergoing change, the house exhibits more detail than most vernacular farmhouses--the multi-paned window lintels are splayed and the broad doorway is flanked by side lights. The house, in extreme northern Burrillville, is partly in Uxbridge, Massachusetts. (1851- B. Richardson.)

- 44. <u>Richardson's Saw Mill</u> (Early 20th Century): A portable saw mill, one of several in rural northern and western Rhode Island, is owned by Daniel Richardson, who owns the nearby Richardson-Ballou House.
- 45. John Esten House (Mid-19th Century): A l¹/₂-story, Greek Revival dwelling, with paired, interior, brick chimneys; a central entry in a 5-bay facade; and a wing at the right side; set back from the road. This area was once known as the Esten District, and all the early settlers here were descendants of the first John Esten. Reportedly, the house has a secret passageway in the cellar. (1851- J. Esten.)

EAST WALLUM LAKE ROAD

 * 46. J. Millard House/Barksfield (c. 1754): A well-preserved, ¹/₂-story, 5-bay, center chimney dwelling. The house lot is distinguished by a wood picket fence, fine stone walls, and old trees. There is a barn across the road. The house was the residence of J. Millard, a local grocer, in the late 19th century. The place is also known as Barksfield for General Barker, a soldier, historian, and author, who lived here in the 20th century. (1851- Millard.)

GAZZAVILLE ROAD

(See Gazzaville Historic Area, #5)

GROVE STREET

(See Bridgeton-Saxonville Historic District, #4)

HILL ROAD

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- 47. Logee-Taft Farm (Early 19th Century): A l¹/₂-story, 5-bay, center chimney dwelling and outbuildings, on a large tract bounded by stone walls, comprise the Logee-Taft Farm. (1851- Logee.)
- 48. <u>D. Smith House</u> (c. 1800): A 2½-story, Federal era farmhouse, with a large, brick, center chimney; a fine, central entry featuring a blind fan, in a 5-bay facade; and a 1½-story wing at the left side, flush with the front. The well-preserved dwelling is set on a grassy lot, largely hidden behind a screen of shrubbery. (1851- D. Smith.)

HILL STREET

(See Mohegan Historic District, #9)

JACKSON SCHOOLHOUSE ROAD

- 49. J. Stanfield Farm (c. 1800 et. seq.): In a relatively large open area of land along the west side of Jackson Schoolhouse Road is the J. Stanfield Farm, comprised of a Federal era, altered, 1½-story farmhouse, and several outbuildings, including a barn. (1851-J. Stanfield.)
- 50. Site of Saw Mill: Just east of Jackson Schoolhouse Road where it crosses Leland Brook are the stonework remains of a saw mill, one of several in Burrillville which were active in the 19th century. A town resident identified it as Lawson's Mill. A shingle mill was also located on the same brook a short distance upstream (to the west) in the 19th century. (1851- Saw Mill.)
- 51. Jonathan Lackey House (c. 1825): A 1½-story, 5-bay dwelling with a simple doorway with transom lights. It has been altered by the addition of a shed dormer across the front and by a 2-story breezeway-veranda at the right side of the house, attached to a carriage barn behind. Jonathan Lackey, who probably built the house, moved to Burrillville from Sutton, Massachusetts, with his brother, Woodbury, in 1825. (1851-J. Lackey.)
- 52. <u>Woodbury Lackey House</u> (c. 1825): A l¹₂-story, 5-bay dwelling, with a small, brick, center chimney, and an ell forming a right angle at the left side. There are several decaying outbuildings on the property. Woodbury Lackey and his brother, Jonathan, were among the first settlers in this part of town in 1825. (1851- Widow Lackey.)

JOSLIN ROAD

(See also: Glendale Historic District, #6)

- * 53. <u>Ballou-Bligh House</u> (18th Century): A 2½-story, wood-shingled dwelling, built in 2 stages, the left side higher than the right. Between the sections is a large, stuccoed chimney, which may have been an end of one of the sections to comprise a rare "stone ender" type house. Set on a large lot behind a stone wall, the house was in the Ballou family before coming to the Blighs. Otis Bligh, a mid-nineteenth-century owner, was president of the town council for some years. (1851- 0. Ballou.)
 - 54. Benjamin Joslin House (Mid-19th Century): A l¹/₂-story dwelling, with a central, enclosed entry, flanked by bay windows. The entry and bay window cornices have double brackets. The house, probably built by D. R. Batchelor, was the residence

of Dr. Benjamin Joslin, a well-known late nineteenth-century physician. Across the road was a large barn and a smaller structure which was Dr. Joslin's office; these outbuildings were torn down about 1980. (1851- D. R. Batchelor.)

LAPHAM FARM ROAD

- 55. <u>Smith Homestead</u> (18th Century): A l¹₂-story dwelling, composed of two parts. At the left side is a lower section, with a small, brick, center chimney. The higher right side has a veranda at the gable end. (1851- A. E. Cooper.)
- 56. <u>J. Luther House</u> (Mid-19th Century): A fine and well-preserved, l¹/₂-story, Greek Revival dwelling, with a center brick chimney, and a central entry in a 5-bay facade, sited on a simply landscaped lot. According to Keach's history, this may be the Smith Battey House. (1851- J. Luther.)
- 57. Novitiate of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart (1960): A religious complex in a wooded setting in rural south central Burrillville, the Novitiate complex includes a number of buildings which contain a large chapel with a vestry, a reception hall for visitors, dining and kitchen facilities, classrooms, dormitory accommodations, a recreation hall, and a cloister. The major building, with a "Y" plan, is 2-story, buff-gray brick building with limestone trim. It was designed by James Charles Flaherty of Dedham, Massachusetts. Ground was broken in 1959 and the building completed the following year. Historical Cemetery Number 19 is on the property.

LAUREL HILL AVENUE

(See: Bridgeton-Laurel Ridge Historic District, #3)

MAIN STREET

(See: Harrisville, Mapleville and Pascoag Historic District, #7, #8 and #13)

MAPLE STREET

(See: Harrisville Historic District, #7)

MILL STREET

(See: Oakland Historic District, #11)

MORONEY ROAD

58. <u>Sterling Paine House</u> (Late 18th Century): A 1¹/₂-story farmhouse, with a large, brick, center chimney an asymmetrical, 4-bay facade, and a wing at the right side. Throughout the 19th century this property was a prosperous dairy farm owned by the Paine family. (1851- S. Paine.)

MOUNT PLEASANT ROAD

* 59. Esten Farm (18th Century): The l¹/₂-story farmhouse, built in 2 sections, like several other early Burrillville rural dwellings, with a traditional 5-bay, center entry, a center chimney section at the right, and higher, 2-bay, end chimney section at the left. The house is set on a slight hilltop in the center of a large working farm, which includes a 20th century barn and fields divided by stone walls. The Estens were early settlers in this area. John Esten, who may have built this house, was a member of the first town council when the town was incorporated in 1806; his family and descendants lived here into the 20th century. The property is one of Burrillville's last surviving working farms. (1851- J. Esten.)

MOWRY ROAD

(See: Oak Valley-Tarkiln Historic District, #12)

NAHANT STREET

(See: Pascoag Historic District, #13)

NICHOLS ROAD

(See: Oak Valley-Tarkiln Historic District, #12)

RESERVOIR ROAD

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- 60. Welcome Sayles Farm/Episcopal Conference Center (c. 1760 et seq.): A religious conference center comprised of early 20th-century bungalows, an early dwelling, a large, woodshingled barn with a cupola, campgrounds, and recreation fields, on a large tract of land in southern Burrillville, along the Glocester town line. The farm was originally owned by the Sayles family, one of the pioneer families of the town. The Welcome Sayles Homestead, built about 1760, is a $1\frac{1}{2}$ -story, gambrel-roofed dwelling which has been incorporated into a larger building at the entrance to the conference center. The Sayles family owned the property into the 20th century, when it was sold to Judge Harris, who ran a farm here. Judge Harris died after World War II, and, soon after, the Episcopal diocese of Rhode Island purchased the place from the Harris estate and converted it into a conference center. (1851-Welcome Sayles.)
- 61. S. Eddy House (1807): A l¹/₂-story, gambrel-roofed house with a large, brick center chimney. The house has an ell, an enclosed front porch, and turned posts, dormers, and bay windows; it is screened from roadside view by dense shrubs. (1851-S. Eddy.)

- 62. Former Gas Station and/or Fruit Stand (Early 20th Century): A small, 3-bay, frame building, probably used as a gas station and fruit and vegetable stand, served local travellers in the early 20th century. It may have been associated with the S. Eddy House across the road.
- 63. J. Eddy Farm (Early 19th Century): The J. Eddy House, on a private drive off Reservoir Road, is a l₂-story Federal era farmhouse with a small brick, center chimney, and a simply framed central entry in a 5-bay facade. There is a large, unsympathetic, addition at the right side. Nearby is a cluster of outbuildings and a large tract of open land. This is one of Burrillville's few remaining working farms. (1851- J. Eddy.)

SAND HILL ROAD

(See:Mapleville Historic District, #8)

SAYLES STREET

(See:Bridgeton-Laurel Ridge, and Pascoag Historic Districts, #3 and #13)

SHERMAN FARM ROAD

- Young-Sherman House (c. 1865): A substantial early Victorian, ²/₂-story dwelling set gable end to the road. The exterior detailing owes much to the Greek Revival--panelled pilaster cornerboards and a severe pilastered doorway. The open work porch across the facade and side is much more fanciful. The house may have been built by Othonie Young, who sold it to Sumner Sherman, son of Sira Sherman (builder of the first Graniteville Mill). Sumner was a farmer and highway surveyor. His son, Everett, a breeder of cattle and Hambletonian horses, was probably the builder of a huge barn on the property, re- cently destroyed by fire. The farm, a 250 acre holding in the 19th century, comprised about 1000 acres in 1925. (1851- 0. Young.)
 - 65. <u>Shippee Bridge</u> (c. 1902): A Pratt Pony Truss Bridge just north of Graniteville carries Sherman Farm Road over the Clear River. The bridge, which is in good condition, has a five foot wide wood plank walk, and a 3-rail iron fence, along the upstream side. It replaced an earlier bridge, whose granite work abutements are visible about 100 feet upstream. The trusses for the bridge came from the East Avenue Bridge in Harrisville, which was replaced in 1902. There is a small R.I. Department of Environmental Management parking and boat launching area above the bridge, while the river below the bridge has a natural environment.

SMITH HILL ROAD

Greene House (18th Century): A 2½-story dwelling, with a rare, end chimney, a pedimented, enclosed entry at the left side of its south-facing, 3-bay facade, and a 1½-story wing at the left side. The house, on a simply landscaped lot, changed owners several times in the second half of the 19th century. (1851-Widow Greene or L. Greene.)

SOUTH MAIN STREET

(See also: Pascoag Historic District, #13)

- 67. <u>Trescott House</u> (18th Century): A l¹/₂-story dwelling, located close to the road, with a full, stone basement at the rear. Originally a center chimney, 5-bay house, with a central entry, a 2-bay section with a smaller brick chimney was added to the right side. (1870- Mrs. S. A. Trescott.)
- 68. E. Smith House (c. 1865; 85 South Main Street): A 1½-story dwelling, end to road, on a slight terrace behind a cemented stone wall. The basically simple house has stick style and carpenter work decorations in the front gable and over the door and front windows. (1870- E. Smith.)
- 69. J. Irons Farm Complex (Mid-19th Century): The farm complex consists of a heavily altered, mid-19th-century dwelling, a bank barn with a cupola and weathervane, and an outbuilding converted to a residence. The well-maintained buildings, on a large, neat, lot, present an aesthetically pleasing cluster. (1851- J. Irons.)
- 70. J. Salisbury Farm Complex (Mid-19th Century): The J. Salisbury farmhouse, a l¹/₂-story, mid-19th-century structure, has paired, brick, interior chimneys; a central entry in a 5-bay facade; a veranda across the front; and an ell at the rear. Near the house are several clapboard-sided outbuildings. The complex, set back from the road, on a large, open lot, constitutes a fine 19th century farm complex. (1851- J. Salisbury.)
- 71. <u>H. Chase House</u> (c. 1860; 120 South Main Street): A 2-story, flat-roofed dwelling, with a flat-roofed porch across the front. The house is simply ornamented with brackets at the roof and porch cornices. Behind the house is a fine, Victorian carriage house, with a cupola and double barn doors, each with 3, small, round-headed windows. Also on the property, at the corner of Lapham Farm Road, are several other, smaller outbuildings, including a well house, and a metal frame for a water tower. (1862- H. Chase.)

- 72. <u>L. Vallett House</u> (Early 19th Century): A 1¹/₂-story Federal era house, with a central brick chimney; a central entry with transom lights, in a 5-bay facade; and a small porch addition at the right side. (1851- L. Vallett.)
- 73. Job Ballou Farm/Wood's Edge (Early 19th Century): A l¹/₂-story Federal era dwelling, at the end of a private drive, far off the road. The original section includes a central brick chimney, and a central entry, with sidelights, in a 5-bay, southfacing facade. A 1-bay addition--a second door--was added at the left side. The house is sited on a small hill in a large clearing, surrounded by woods. An old family burying ground on the property includes the grave of D. Ballou, perhaps the original owner of the property, who died in 1801. (1851- Job Ballou.)

SPRING LAKE ROAD

74. Spring Lake Summer Resort (c. 1900 et. seq.): The Spring Lake summer colony consists of a beach area with a small number of commercial structures, including a former hotel and ice cream stand, off Spring Lake Road, and a string of summer cottages lining the north and southeast shores of the lake. Spring Lake, originally known as Herring Pond, and later called Silver Lake, has been a popular summer resort for bathing, boating, and fishing since about 1900. In 1903, Arnold Comstock owned a hotel and a picnic grove here. The earliest visitors came from Woonsocket and elsewhere by trolley, which ran through nearby Glendale, on Sundays. By about 1925 (when it was known as Silver Lake), visitors came by motor car to enjoy dancing, picnics, and clambakes, and a camp and cottage community evolved. Spring Lake today continues as a popular summer resort, enjoyed for its bathing and amusements and refreshments, including a long-standing institution--Maher's Ice Cream Stand.

STEERE FARM ROAD

75. Mowry-Steere House/Hemlock Hill Farm (c. 1795 et. seq.): A Federal era, 2½-story, wood-shingled dwelling with a large center chimney, the house is presently 7 bays wide. It was built in 2 stages; the earlier, right side, with a simple and recent central portico entry, predates the left section. The house was built by Judge Daniel Mowry of Smithfield and was owned by the Steere family in the 19th century. Shadrach Steere, one of the owners, came to Burrillville from Smithfield in 1806. His son, Isaac, was a member of the town council, and served on the school committee for about 20 years. (1851- Shadrach Steere.)

STONE BARN ROAD

- 76. <u>Thayer House</u> (c. 1850): A handsome, 1½-story, Greek Revival dwelling, 5-bays wide, with a 4-bay side ell at the right rear. The house is distinguished by a fine, flat-topped, recessed doorway, delineated by a heavy entablature, panelled pilasters, and sidelights. The doorway motifs are repeated at the ell entrance. (1851- A. Thayer.)
- 77. Stone Barn (c. 1855), and G. Salisbury House (Mid-19th Century): The G. Salisbury house is a heavily altered, 1½-story, mid-19th-century dwelling. Near the house is the Stone Barn, a rubble work building with a large, barn door opening and several smaller doors, and a row of small, rectangular openings across the top. The stone outbuilding, a rare feature in Rhode Island, was built about 1855 by an Englishman; it gives its name to Stone Barn Road. (1851- G. Salisbury.)

TARKILN ROAD

(See: Oak Valley-Tarkiln Historic District, #12)

VICTORY HIGHWAY

(See also: Glendale, Mapleville, Nasonville, and Oakland Historic Districts, #6, #8, #10, and #11)

- 78. J. Clarkson House (c. 1880): A fine, 1½-story, Bracketed dwelling, with 2, small, paired interior chimneys; a central, bracketed entrance hood flanked by bay windows; a modillion course below the roof and front window cornice; and several small additions. The house occupies a landscaped lot. There is an outbuilding at the rear, and a greenhouse (formerly Alice's Florist) at the right side of the property. (1895-J. Clarkson.)
- 79. <u>Darling House</u> (c. 1865): A handsome, 2½-story, Victorian dwelling, with a square, central entrance portico flanked by bay windows, and a porch at the right side. The house, sited on a grassy lot, was owned by the Darling family from about 1865, when it was built, until the late 1960s. A large greenhouse and a windmill stood just to the right of the house until about 1930. (1870- J. Darling.)
- 80. Former Trolley Substation (Early 20th Century): A 1-story, brick, flat-roofed, square structure, with a large, doubledoor entry flanked by a pair of large, round-headed windows, sited close to the road. This building was erected as an electric-power booster for the trolley line between Woonsocket and Burrillville. It was later used for carding wool

and as a furniture factory. This building, used as a small engine repair shop, is one of two extant trolley substations in this part of the state. Another, similar structure, stands on Putnam Pike in Glocester, near Harmony.

81. <u>W. M. Smith House</u> (Late 19th Century): An eclectic, 2¹/₂-story residence, with a central, bracketed hood entry flanked by bay windows; paired, round-headed windows with arched lintels, on the second story; and shed roof dormers across the front and back. The house is on a simply landscaped lot behind a wood picket fence. (1895- W. M. Smith.)

82. <u>M. Smith House</u> (c. 1750): A 1½-story, 5-bay house with a large, brick, center chimney, and a central entry, with sidelights, in a 5-bay facade. The house is on a small hill above the highway at the intersection with Lapham Farm Road. It has been owned by the Smith family, perhaps since it was built, to the present. (1851- M. Smith.)

- 83. Gasoline Station/Ed's Second Hand Shop (c. 1922): A small, 1-story, 3-bay structure, with an oculus window located over the center. This early gas station, with air pump, was probably built soon after World War I, when the Victory Highway was completed. It was later used as a second hand shop.
- 84. <u>A. Smith House</u> (c. 1850): A l¹/₂-story, Greek Revival style dwelling with a side ell. The house retains much of its original detail--plank cornice, pilaster cornerboards, and a broad, flat-topped, paneled pilastered central doorway with a recessed entry, flanked by sidelights. It was owned by the Smith family for many years. (1851- A. Smith.)

WALLUM LAKE ROAD

*

- 85. <u>E. Angell House</u> (c. 1789): A l¹/₂-story, 5-bay dwelling with flanking wings flush with the facade; a center chimney; and 2, small, gabled dormers in front. The house, on a simply-landscaped lot, was owned by the Angell family, early settlers in this area. (1855- E. Angell.)
- 86. <u>Randall Angell House</u> (1793 et seq.): The Randall Angell House consists of two sections. The smaller, 1½-story part, near the road, is said to be the original, built in 1793; the 2½-story structure, with a large, brick, center chimney, with a Greek Revival style entry, is later. An early 20th century outbuilding is also on the lot. Surrounding the buildings is a small golf course. The house was built by Randall Angell. who came from North Providence to settle here in 1789. His son, Esten, was extremely civic minded, and was a state senator and representative, and served on the town council as

overseer of the poor, and as a justice of the peace. The place was a farm into the 20th century. In 1911, known as the Smith Farm and owned by Sylvester Angell, its 60 acres included mowing land, cropland, and an orchard with apple and plum trees. In about 1970, the property was used as a country club, centered on a small golf course. (1851- R. Angell.)

**

Angell-Singleton Farm: The Angell-Singleton farm complex 87. consists of a heavily altered, 2¹/₂-story, Federal style farmhouse, a late 19th-century tobacco barn, a 1912 cider-making shed, a 1912 foreman's house, and 2 small farm sheds. The complex is surrounded by stone walls, and several acres of apple orchards abut it on two sides. The farm, located in the northwest corner of town, was owned by the Angell family for most of the 19th century. It was purchased by Randall Angell and his son, Brown, in 1827; the latter became sole owner and lived there until his death in 1878. Brown Angell, a successful farmer, was one of several in his neighborhood to raise tobacco. Brown's son, Luther Angell, ran the farm until his death, when ownership passed to his son-in-law William Green, and in 1912 to James H. Singleton, a wealthy textile manufacturer from Woonsocket. Singleton made major changes to the existing buildings, completely altering the house and tobacco barn, and erected several more buildings for the manufacture of cider. The interiors of most of the buildings were renovated, sometime in the early 20th century, for use as classrooms and dormitory buildings for a boys school. The house was used for offices and residences for the school faculty. Singleton raised cattle and planted an orchard; the Singleton Apple Orchard contained 8,000-10,000 trees, mostly McIntosh and Baldwins. The land is no longer farmed, and is being developed for recreational uses, but the old farmhouse and fine collection of outbuildings, including a large, Victorian, wood-shingled barn with a cupola, remain as reminders of Burrillville's farming heritage. The complex's major significance is as a coherent example of an early 20th century gentleman's farm. (1851-B. Angell.)

WEST ROAD

88.

*

A. Paine Farm (18th Century et. seq.): A decaying farm complex along the road includes an 18th-century, 1½-story, gambrel-roofed house; early 19th-century, 1½-story,gableroofed house; a large, square, hip-roofed Italianate house; a barn; and a shed. The complex, owned by the Paine family for many years, is sited in a large tract, mostly overgrown, and includes fine stone walls. (1851- A. Paine.) 89. West Road Roadscape: The western section of West Road, from a point east of the A. Paine Farm to Hill Road, is a wellpreserved part of an old roadway, still unpaved, and bounded by stone walls and mature trees. This section of road was part of an early road that meandered in an east-west direction across the northern part of Burrillville in the 18th century, linking the many farms here during the period of agricultural prosperity.

WEST IRONSTONE ROAD

- 90. Burlingame-Mitchell Farm (Mid-19th Century): A farm complex comprised of a 1½-story, Greek Revival farmhouse with 2, small, brick, interior chimneys, and a central entry in a 5-bay facade; a shed, near the house; and a large, vertical-board-sided barn. The complex, set back from the road, atop a hill, is surrounded by open fields. There is a stone wall fronting the property. (1851- Burlingame.)
- 91. J. Reynolds Farm (Mid-19th Century): A small, l¹/₂-story farmhouse, set on a small terrace, and several large outbuildings-a barn and a chicken house--comprise the J. Reynolds farm complex, still being farmed on a limited scale. (1862- J. Reynolds.)

WHIPPLE AVENUE

(See: Plainville Historic District, #14)

WHIPPLE ROAD

92. <u>I. Whipple House</u> (Early 19th Century): A 2½-story, woodshingled, Federal era farmhouse, with a large, brick, center chimney and a central entry with an entablature and fluted pilasters. The house is set on a large, plain lot. (1851- I. Whipple.)

APPENDIX A

NATURAL FEATURES AND AREAS

The following list of natural features and areas is a summary of the Audubon Society of Rhode Island's 1971 inventory of unique natural areas in the state. Since some of these places include rare and possibly endangered plant species which require protection, they have not been located on the maps. Numbers correspond to the Audubon Society list.

- R 19: Robbins Brook Area: An extensive and well-developed spruce and larch bog, considered the best in the state. The bog includes unusual orchids as well as plants found elsewhere.
- R 27: <u>Screech Hole Bog</u>: A large bog, with a considerable number of orchid species and herbaceaous vegetation.
- R 30: Southeast Corner, Wallum Lake: An unusual plant community along a scenic brook. The plants, a combination of northern and southern species, comprise a highly aesthetic and valuable woodland.
- R 33: <u>Climbing Fern Area</u>: One of only three or four localities in the state for this rare climbing fern, today the best site in the state.
- R 34: <u>Cedar Swamp Pond Bog</u>: A relic, black spruce and larch bog along the eastern border of Cedar Swamp Pond.
- R 55: <u>Paper Birch Stand</u>: A fine stand, or grove, of paper birch, considered the best in Rhode Island.
- R 78: Dry Arm Brook Area: A large, white cedar swamp, with rhododendrons along a brook which joins the Cedar River to the east. The area includes the largest white cedar recorded in Rhode Island.
- R 97: Jackson Schoolhouse Road Bog: A small, spaghnum bog, with orchid (rose pogonia) plants. It is the best site in Rhode Island for a number of plants.
- R 98: <u>Climbing Fern Area</u>: An area containing climbing ferns, off Snake Hill Road.
- R 113: Herring Pond Mineral Site: An extensive mineral outcrop containing specular hematite, sphene, and clorite.
- R 124: <u>Snake Hill Ledges</u>: A massive ledge outcrop east of Snake Hill, containing many overhangs and caves, and some minerals.

- R 195: <u>Basalt Outcrop</u>: An outcrop of basalt, four feet high, occupying an area of about 50 square feet.
- R 211: Benson Mountain Trail Area. The site of a stand of orchid fern south of Wallum Lake.

2

- R 247: <u>Pulaski Cedar Swamp</u>: Along the Center Trail in the George Washington Management Area is a white cedar swamp with unusual vegetation, including white calla lilly and holly. There is a hemlock swamp south of the trail.
- R 264: Keach Brook: A small scenic stream in Pulaski State Park, lined with hemlock trees.

APPENDIX B

NOTEWORTHY ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES

MAP NUMBER NAME/DATE

COLONIAL PERIOD (to about 1775)

Houses

30 46	Reuben Keach House J. Millard House c. 1754			
53	Ballou-Bligh House			
58	Sterling Paine House			
59	Esten Farmhouse			
66	Greene House			
67	Trescott House			
82	M. Smith House, c. 1750			

FEDERAL PERIOD: 175-1830

Houses

11-F 12-E 12-G 18 19	Smith-Nichols House, c. 1800 S. Paine House, c. 1810 Smith-Darling House
20 21	Lapham-Darling House
24	Taft-Arnold House Logee-Whiting House
31	John White House
36	Walling House, c. 1825
38	Washington Logee House
40	Seth Ross House
43	Richardson-Ballou House, c. 1800
47	Logee-Taft House
48	D. Smith House
51	Jonathan Lackey House, c. 1825
52	Woodbury Lackey House, c. 1825
61	S. Eddy House, 1807
72	L. Vallett House
73	Job Ballou Farmhouse
75 85	Mowry-Steere House, c. 1795
92	E. Angell House, c. 1789
12	I. Whipple House

Schools

39 Former Eagle Peak Schoolhouse, 1826

ROAD/VILLAGE

Colwell Road, Oak Valley-Tarkiln East Wallum Lake Road Joslin Road Moroney Road Mount Pleasant Road Smith Hill Road South Main Street Victory Highway

Victory Highway, Oakland Tarkiln Road, Oak Valley-Tarkiln Colwell Road, Oak Valley-Tarkiln Barnes Road Barnes Road Broncos Highway Brook Road Buck Hill Road Cherry Farm Road Douglas Pike Eagle Peak Road Eagle Peak Road East Ironstone Road Hill Road Hill Road Jackson Schoolhouse Road Jackson Schoolhouse Road Reservoir Road South Main Street South Main Street (off) Steere Farm Road Wallum Lake Road Whipple Road

Eagle Peak Road

MAP NUMBER NAME/DATE

ROAD/VILLAGE

Other Buildings

10-F Walling's Hotel/Western Hotel, c. 1805

GREEK REVIVAL STYLE: 1825-1865

Houses

3-J	J. Taft House
4-C	W. Sayles House
7-L	Austin T. Levy House, c. 1856
	et. seq.
7-T	Joseph 0. Clark House, c. 1845
7-V	Aaron B. White House, 1862
12-B	Ahaz Mowry, 2nd, House, c. 1865
13-D	John Chase House, c. 1835
15-D	J. & E. Mathewson House
33	G. Smith Farmhouse
34	Cooper House, c. 1840
45	John Esten House
56	J. Luther House
76	Thayer House, c. 1850
84	A. Smith House, c. 1850
90	Burlingame-Mitchell House

Other Buildings

7-P Central Hotel, 1837

EARLY VICTORIAN PERIOD: 1840-1870

Houses

3-G	James A. Potter House, 1865
3-к	Transitional Horatio Hopkins House, c. 1860
8-D	Italianate, Bracketed Darius Lawton House, c. 1845
12-C	Gothic Revival Henry S. Nichols House, c. 1860
13-1	0. Fagan House, c. 1865 Bracketed
15-B	A. E. Sweet House/ Indian Acres
15-С 15-Е 32 54	Abby F. Sweet House

Douglas Pike, Nasonville

Laurel Ridge Ave., Bridgeton 54 Grove Street, Bridgeton

47 East Ave., Harrisville 55-57 Main Street, Harrisville 4-6 Maple Street, Harrisville Mowry Road, Oak Valley-Tarkiln Church Street, Pascoag 120 East Avene, Sweet's Hill Colwell Road Cooper Road East Ironstone Road Lapham Farm Road Stone Barn Road Victory Highway West Ironstone Road

42 Main Street, Harrisville

47 Laurel Hill Ave., Bridgeton

Laurel Ridge Ave., Bridgeton

Main Street, Mapleville 45 Tankiln Road, Oak Valley-Tarkiln

58 Church Street, Pascoag

133 East Ave., Sweet's Hill
118 East Ave., Sweet's Hill
141 East Ave., Sweet's Hill
42 Colwell Road
Joslin Road

MAP NUMBER NAME/DATE ROAD/VILLAGE 64 Young-Sherman House, c. 1865 Sherman Road 68 E. Smith House, c. 1865 85 South Main Street H. Chase House and Barn, c, 1860. 71 Bracketed 120 South Main Street 79 Darling House, c. 1865 Victory Highway Mill Houses Mill House, c. 1844 4-D 76-84 Grove Street, Bridgeton 11-B Mill Houses, c. 1852 Mill Street, Oakalnd Churches 13-G First Baptist Church, 1839 Church Street, Pascoag Schools District Number 1 School, 1863 12-F Colwell Road, Oak Valley-Tarkiln 37 Walling Schoolhouse, 1866 (?) Douglas Pike LATE VICTORIAN: 1870-1900 Houses 3-F House, c. 1875. Queen Anne 23 Laurel Hill Ave., Bridgeton James O. Inman House, c. 1875. 3-M Second Empire Sayles Ave., Bridgeton House, c. 1900. Queen Anne 7-F 61 Chapel Street, Harrisville 7-M Ernest Tinkham House, 1880-1882. Queen Anne 124 East Ave., Harrisville 7-0 Avah Mowry House, c. 1875 Second Empire 34-40 Main Street, Harrisville 11-E House, c. 1885. Bracketed Victory Highway, Oakland Albert L. Sayles Residence, 13-B c. 1880. Queen Anne Church Street, Pascoag 13-E Mill Supervisor's House, c. 1880. Italianate Church Street, Pascoag 13-F Azael Lovejoy House, c. 1880. Gothic Revival Church Street, Pascoag 78 J. Clarkson House, c. 1880. Bracketed Victory Highway Mill Houses 7-K Mill Houses 21-43 East Ave., Harrisville

MAP NUMBER NAME/DATE

ROAD/VILLAGE

Churches

6-C	Burrillville	United	Methodist
	Church, 1	893. Sł	ningle

7-E Berean Baptist Church, 1877

13-H Calvary Episcopal Church, 1894

13-P Zion Primitive Methodist Church, 1890

Schools

3-1 Joseph C. Sweeney School, c. 1896
8-E Mapleville School, c. 1890
10-D Nasonville School, 1890s

Other Buildings

11-C Leduc's Market/Oakland Recreation Hall, 1898

TWENTIETH CENTURY: 1900 to Present

Houses

6-F New Village, Glendale, 1936 7-I,Y Prototype Mill Houses, 1930s

- 7-Z Bungalow
- 9-B Elmer Reynolds House, 1909

9-C Superintendant's House, c. 1910 Colonial Revival

22 "Modern Colonial" House, 1970s29 Ray Menard House, 1956/1970s

Mills and Mill Houses

7-A Harrisville Mill No. 4, 1911
8-H Double-Decker Tenements, c. 1905
9-D Duplex, 1911

Churches

 7-S First Universalist Church, 1933 Restoration. Colonial Revival Main Street, Harrisville
 7-U St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, 1938. Colonial Revival 84 Main Street, Harrisville

Joslin Road, Glendale

Chapel Street, Harrisville Church Street, Pascoag

South Main Street, Pascoag

Laurel Hill Ave., Bridgeton Sand Hill Road, Mapleville Victory Highway and Douglas Pike, Nasonville

Victory Highway, Oakland

Victory Highway (off), Glendale
East Avenue and Stewart Court,
Harrisville
9 Stewart Court, Harrisville
Douglas Pike, Mohegan

Douglas Pike, Mohegan Brook Road 25 Central Street

Clear River, Harrisville Victory Highway, Mapleville Victory Highway, Mohegan

MAP NUMBER NAME/DATE

8-F Our Lady of Good Help Church, 1907. Colonial Revival
8-G Seventh Day Adventist Church, 1908
10-B St. Theresa's Church, 1923-1925
13-0 St. Joseph's Church, 1930s

Other Buildings

- 7-D Town Buildings, 1933-1937, Colonial Revival
- 13-C Pascoag Public Library, 1924 Colonial Revival
- 16-C Zambarano Hospital, 1905 et. seq.

ROAD/VILLAGE

Victory Highway, Mapleville Victory Highway, Mapleville Douglas Pike, Nasonville Sayles Street, Pascoag

East Avenue, Main Street, Harrisville

Church Street, Pascoag Wallum Lake Road, Wallum Lake

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(401) 277-2678

Frederick C. Williamson, State Historic Preservation Officer

Antoinette F. Downing, Chairman

Eric Hertfelder, Executive Director

Author: Walter Nebiker

Surveyors: Vivienne Lasky Walter Nebiker

2

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