United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Old Bedford Center Historic District (2013 Technical Amendment and Boundary Change)

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number Roughly, The Great Rd and adjacent side streets, from Bacon Rd, Memorial Park, and Narrow Gauge Rail Trail on east to North Rd and Concord Rd on west

n/a not for publication

n/a

city or town Bedford vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Middlesex code 017 zip code 01730

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

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

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

___ national ___ statewide ✓ local

Brona Simon May 2, 2014

Signature of certifying official/Title Brona Simon, SHPO, MHC Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

✓ entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:)

for Edson K. Beall 6.13.14

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Old Bedford Center Historic District (2013 Technical Amendment and Boundary Change)
Name of Property

Middlesex County, Massachusetts
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- [X] private
- [X] public - Local
- [ ] public - State
- [ ] public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

- [ ] building(s)
- [X] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
171	29	buildings
5	1	sites
43	29	structures
23	38	objects
242	97	**Total**

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

91 **

** Of 81 contributing resources identified in the 1977 district nomination, 78 are still contributing, one (1) was moved from the district, and two (2) are now noncontributing due to alterations. Of 19 noncontributing resources identified in the 1977 district nomination, 13 are now contributing due to the extension of the period of significance from 1927 to ca. 1963, two (2) were demolished, and four (4) are still noncontributing. Total number of contributing resources in 2013 that were previously listed in the NR in 1977 is 91.

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling
GOVERNMENT/municipal building
EDUCATION/school
RELIGION/religious facility
FUNERARY/cemetery
LANDSCAPE/park
TRANSPORTATION/rail-related

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling
GOVERNMENT/municipal building
COMMERCE/TRADE/store
RELIGION/religious facility
FUNERARY/cemetery
LANDSCAPE/park
RECREATION AND CULTURE/outdoor recreation

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Colonial
Federal
Greek Revival
Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals: Georg., Col.
Other: Postwar Traditional

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: stone, brick, concrete
walls: clapboard, shingle, brick
roof: asphalt shingle, slate
other:

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

This nomination is a Technical Amendment and Boundary Change for the Old Bedford Center Historic District (BED.C, NRDIS 1977), encompassing Bedford's historic town center and its institutional, residential, and commercial core. The 1977 district nomination identified 81 contributing resources and 19 noncontributing resources, covering 56.15 acres. This 2013 amendment provides new or revised narrative descriptions for contributing resources in the original district, identifies resources present in 1977 that were not noted in the original district nomination, and records changes since 1977 in street addresses or in the district's appearance due to building demolition, building removal, or parcel subdivision. By extending the period of significance from ca. 1927 to ca. 1964, this amendment also allows a number of previously noncontributing resources to be reclassified as contributing, and provides a concomitant review of architectural styles and historic context for the 1927-1964 period. Finally, this amendment adjusts the original district boundary to add a total of 43 parcels, covering approximately twenty acres in three locations, on the edges of the 1977 district, and to delete, due to redevelopment, a total of five parcels at another three locations on the edges of the 1977 district. Boundary changes are described more fully below. With the 2013 Technical Amendment and Boundary Change, the Old Bedford Center Historic District now encompasses 242 contributing resources and 97 noncontributing resources on about 75 acres at the town center.

Summary Paragraph

Striking for its high degree of historic architectural integrity, and displaying a full range of architectural styles from the early 18th century through the early 1960s, the Old Bedford Center Historic District, as amended herein, is distinguished from adjacent areas that do not display the same continuity of historic streetscape present in the district. About one-half of the parcels in the district feature resources that predate 1870. With few exceptions, most residential buildings are 1½ to 2½ stories, with side-gable or gable-front roofs of asphalt shingle; clapboard or wood-shingle siding; and stone, brick, or concrete foundations. Rising above the residential buildings are the cupola and steeple, respectively, of two early 19th-century, gable-roofed, clapboard-clad churches, the only private institutional construction in the district. Some commercial buildings and most of the historic municipal buildings are brick with hipped roofs, from one to two stories, constructed from the 1920s onward. The town of Bedford owns all historic open spaces in the district, among them the town's first burying ground (1729, BED.800), the Town Common (early 18th century, BED.9011), a former railroad right-of-way (1877, BED.9018), and other landscapes of townwide significance. Noncontributing resources in the amended district tend to be secondary elements of limited size and scale, such as outbuildings, fences, and standing signs on commercial properties.

Adjustments to 1977 District Boundary

Increase of the 1977 boundary for the Old Bedford Center Historic District is the result of resurveys of Bedford's town center, completed in 1998 and 2011. Since resources added to the historic district are consistent with those in the original district in terms of architectural integrity, building use, and historic period, the following description combines original and new district resources in a single narrative. The district boundary, as amended herein, generally follows rear or side lot lines on all parcels, both original and newly added. The district boundary is increased in three locations (see annotated District Data Sheet for parcel numbers and street addresses). Three parcels with residential buildings are added on **Concord Road**, expanding the 1977 boundary to the west. Fifteen parcels with residential buildings are added on **Fletcher Road and Hancock Street**, expanding the 1977 boundary to the north. Twenty-one parcels with residential buildings, along with one town-owned park, a town-owned railroad right-of-way (linear park), and two undeveloped parcels abutting historic construction, are added on **Springs Road, Hillside Avenue, The Great Road, Bacon Road, Crescent Avenue, and South Road**, expanding the 1977 boundary on the northeast, east, and southeast. The district boundary at Memorial Park, 145-165 The Great Road (1950, BED.9019), follows a line of convenience running 150 feet

south of and parallel to The Great Road, from the easterly lot line of the parcel to the westerly lot line. This line of convenience corresponds to the southern boundary of the park as established by Town Meeting in 1950.

This amendment also decreases the district boundary by deleting parcels in three discrete locations on the north side of the 1977 district, beginning at Hancock Street and proceeding westerly to North Road, as follows: the district boundary on **Hancock Street** is amended to exclude the house and parcel currently known as 21 Hancock Street (1977), built on a new lot subdivided from the parcel at the Lunt-Bacon House, 34 Springs Road (1835, BED.12). The district boundary between **The Great Road and Ruben [*sic*] Duren Way** is amended to conform to the present rear (north) property lines of Fitch Tavern, 12 The Great Road (ca. 1730, BED.28), and the Penniman-Stearns House, 26 The Great Road (ca. 1788, BED.27), and the front (north) property line of the undeveloped parcel at 11A Ruben Duren Way, to exclude acreage developed with residential construction from 1981 to 1991. The district boundary on **North Road** is amended to exclude the parcel(s) formerly known as 25 North Road and 29 North Road, where district buildings were removed in 1991 and replaced with a new repair garage (1993) occupying the combined parcel, now known as 25 North Road. District buildings removed were a noncontributing building at 25 North Road (ca. 1935, demolished), and the Mary Sage House, 29 North Road (1806, moved to Carlisle, Mass.).

Aside from the three instances of boundary increase and the three instances of boundary decrease as noted above, one other change to the 1977 boundary of the Old Bedford Center Historic District has been made. The boundary established in 1977 incorporates two lines of convenience, one of which was drawn through the parcel and building at Bedford Farms Ice Cream, 20 North Road (ca. 1905, BED.122), and has been shifted to a more westerly position. The new line of convenience, following the east side of a sewer easement behind the building, incorporates the entire building within the amended district boundary. The second line of convenience—drawn through the multiacre municipal complex on Mudge Way to include the former Junior High School and Auditorium (now Town Hall), 10 Mudge Way (1927, BED.103), and Union School (now Town Center), 12 Mudge Way (1891, BED.104), but exclude later municipal buildings—is retained with this amendment.

Narrative Description

Bedford is a small suburban town located northwest of Boston, near the Interstate 95/State Route 128 beltway through the metropolitan area. The town is bordered on the north by Billerica, on the east by Burlington and Lexington, on the south by Lincoln, and on the west by Concord and Carlisle. The Concord River defines Bedford's western border. In the eastern part of town are the headwaters of the Shawsheen River, which provides interior drainage to the Merrimack River approximately ten miles north of Bedford. The town has several brooks that feed into either the Concord or Shawsheen Rivers. Beyond its rolling riverine lowlands, Bedford encompasses adjacent hilly uplands, with a rocky, more rugged landscape in the east part of town and extensive marsh and meadow in the west and south parts of town. Soil is sandy to gravelly. Three state highways—Routes 4, 225, and 62—converge at the town center, and US Route 3, a limited-access highway, passes through the northeast corner of the town.

The town center has been Bedford's principal institutional focus since the early 18th century, retaining the town's common and earliest municipal burying ground, two early 19th-century meetinghouses, 19th- and 20th-century municipal buildings, and 20th-century war memorials in the form of monuments and a park. As the area of Bedford displaying the greatest concentration of historic residential buildings, the town center retains houses and associated outbuildings that were once centerpieces of Colonial and Federal-period farms, along with mid- to late 19th-century single and double houses of village scale, and examples of single-family suburban development from the late 19th century through the post-World War II era. Though comparatively few historic commercial buildings survive at the center, a number of historic residential buildings have been preserved in commercial use. The radial pattern of roads through the center—The Great Road, North Road, Concord Road, Springs Road, and South Road—connects and defines historic resources in the district, with adjacent side streets constructed as growth and development progressed from the mid 19th century through the mid 20th century. Defining most of the district's eastern border is a railroad bed, once improved by narrow-gauge and later standard-gauge lines during the period of significance, and now maintained by the town as a pedestrian and bicycle trail.

Contributing Buildings

Two of Bedford's oldest **Colonial-period** houses survive at the town center. Facing south between the Town Common and Concord Road, Fitch Tavern, 12 The Great Road (ca. 1730, BED.28, photo 1), is a 2½-story, side-gabled, clapboard dwelling, five bays by two bays on the main block with a center chimney. The center entry displays Federal-style updates, including a semicircular fanlight, keystone, and pilaster surround. Windows contain 6/6 sash. The main block has a one-story, hip-roofed lateral wing (ca. 1890) with a tall brick chimney and Colonial Revival-style, cross-gabled pavilion. A two-story, gabled rear ell (ca. 1850), nine bays deep with a secondary entry, projects from the northeast corner. Situated on a knoll east of the Town Common and facing south, Domine Manse, 110 The Great Road (1733, BED.22, photo 2), is 2½ stories, five bays by two bays, with a side-gable roof, center chimney at the roof ridge, and interior endwall chimney on the east elevation behind the roof ridge. The clapboard dwelling reportedly was built originally as a half-house, and later expanded to the east. The principal entry is positioned slightly off center, and has had various enclosures over the years, with the gabled entry porch dating to the mid 20th century in its current form, by which time gabled dormers also were added. Windows in the main block contain 6/9 wood sash. The gabled rear ell was expanded substantially with the construction of office space in 1984-1985.

The high-style Penniman-Stearns House, 26 The Great Road (ca. 1788, BED.27), is a well detailed, late example of the **Georgian** style. Built by local housewright Reuben Duren, this clapboard-clad dwelling is five bays by three bays on the main block, with a high hipped roof, paired chimneys, modillion cornice, and corner quoins. A triangular pediment on fluted pilasters frames the eight-panel wood door in the center entry. Windows contain 12/12 wood sash. There is a two-story projecting entry on the east elevation, along with a gable and saltbox ell.

The town center retains more than one dozen houses in the **Federal** style. Most are 2½ stories, wood-frame, with side-gable roofs and paired chimneys. The early 19th-century examples usually display chimneys on the interior rear wall. Some center-chimney examples also are present. Main blocks are one or two bays deep, and either five bays across with a center entry or, in the case of double houses, six bays across with entries paired at the center. Entries that have not been altered tend to have broad entablature surrounds and ¾-length sidelights. Many houses retain gable returns and double-hung wood sash.

Particularly noteworthy for its detailing, and unique as the only extant "brick-ender" at the town center, is the Elijah Stearns Esq. House, 4 The Great Road (1801, BED.29). This dwelling also is distinct in the district for its two-story, hipped-roof form, and two pairs of tall, interior end-wall chimneys. Five bays wide and two bays deep on the main block, the house retains a clapboard façade with brick cladding on the side elevations, 12/12 wood sash, and a highly ornamented center entry, with a wood door reportedly imported from England. Both sidelights and the elliptical fan contain tracery. The door surround displays a wide molded entablature, dentil cornice, and fluted Ionic pilasters; capitals on the pilasters are ornamented with a center medallion in an Adamesque manner. A porch on the west elevation displays a Greek-key motif in the frieze. The gambrel-front rear ell is a late 19th-century addition.

Most prominent among the Federal-style buildings at the town center is the second meetinghouse for the First Parish Church, 75 The Great Road (1817, BED.24, photo 3), built by Joshua Page and Levi Wilson. The design has been described as a wooden variant of plans for either the Old West Church, 131 Cambridge Street, Boston (1806-1809, NHL, BOS.4182), or the Charles Street Meetinghouse, 70 Charles Street, Boston (1807, NHL, BOS.4074), both designed by Asher Benjamin. The 2½-story, gable-front main block, five bays across and six bays deep, has a four-story frontispiece surmounted by a small pediment, square belltower, and octagonal cupola. There is a single interior rear-wall chimney at the ridge. On the ground floor, the three-bay frontispiece has a center entry framed by pilasters carrying a slightly projecting entablature, and flanking secondary entries with plain architraves. Pilasters also ornament the front corners of both the frontispiece and main block. Other character-defining detailing includes the Palladian window above the main entry, round-arched windows framed by pilasters on the third floor of the frontispiece, urns at the frontispiece corners above the fourth floor, and louvered round-arched openings in both the belltower and cupola, which retains a weathervane. Windows contain 12/12 sash. Meneely Bell Company of Troy, NY, cast the bell, which was installed in

1926. A two-story rear addition (1960; Clinch, Crimp, Brown & Fisher, architects) has transformed the rear of the building into a cruciform footprint, but does not detract from the 19th-century main block.

The John Walker Simonds Double House, 36-38 The Great Road (ca. 1827, BED.26), is highly unusual in the town center as a side-gable, center-chimney dwelling of 3½, rather than 2½, stories. This center-chimney double house is six bays across and three bays deep. Entries are paired at the center of the façade, with each entry displaying a single sidelight, and the whole entry unit shielded by a one-bay by one-bay columned porch. Victorian Eclectic additions include a bracketed bay window on the west elevation and a porch with a paneled corner post on the east elevation.

Several single-family dwellings and double houses at the town center were associated with local housewright Joshua Page, a builder of the First Parish Church. Page's own residence, 13 School Avenue (1822-1823, BED.105), illustrates the typical form of his houses, the five-bay by one-bay, side-gable main block. This house retains the center entry with an entablature surround incorporating leaded glass in the ¾-length sidelights, and the interior retains murals attributed to itinerant artist Rufus Porter. Another house attributed to Page is Twin Elms, 40 Springs Road (1835, BED.13). This clapboard-clad, five-bay-by-one-bay house, with twin chimneys behind the roof ridge, is comparable to Page's own residence, but has a sizable 2½-story rear addition, constructed between 1894 and 1906. The gabled ell is five bays deep with an entry on the west elevation, and has been expanded with a garage addition.

Incorporating what may be late Adamesque detailing is the Amos Cutler House, 5 The Great Road (1835, BED.40). This 2½-story, side-gable, clapboard dwelling is five bays by one bay with two rear-wall brick chimneys and a bracketed cornice. Particularly distinctive is the treatment of the center entry, recessed in an integral porch beneath a keyed elliptical surround framed by pilasters with Ionic capitals. The ¾-length sidelights flanking the entry incorporate tracery in the glazing and paneled aprons below. The tripartite window over the entry may be a ca. 1900 addition.

The district encompasses about two dozen buildings in the **Greek Revival** style, including some of the best examples of the Greek Revival in Bedford. Most of these buildings were constructed as residences (some now converted to commercial use). Introduction of the Greek Revival style brought a greater variety of building forms, including the high-style temple-front dwelling, the pedimented-gable dwelling (both of these are 2½ stories with side-hall plans), and the pedimented gable cottage (1½ stories with side-hall plan). These forms have three-bay facades with end-bay entries, and are generally four to five bays deep on the main block. Some of the center's Greek Revival-style houses display evidence of late 19th-century remodeling, with the addition of Victorian Eclectic or Colonial Revival-style features.

Housewright Nathaniel C. Cutler is credited with introducing the gable-front Greek Revival house form to Bedford, beginning with his own 2½-story, pedimented-gable dwelling with corner pilasters at 24-28 South Road (1836-1837, BED.94, photo 4). Similar pedimented-gable houses Cutler is known to or may have built include the Thomas and Anna Stiles House, 5 Springs Road (ca. 1838, BED.67); the Sylvanus and Malvina Lawrence House, 143 The Great Road (1845, BED.48); the Isaac Hartwell House, 25 Hillside Avenue (1847-1848, BED.88); the E. Hartwell House, 49 Elm Street (ca. 1849, BED.99); and the William A. Putnam House, 119 The Great Road (ca. 1850, BED.45). Near the western edge of the town center, the pedimented Greek Revival house at 21 Concord Road (second quarter 19th century, BED.315) presents two principal facades: a gable-front, three-bay façade with recessed end-bay entry facing the street, and a side-gable, five-bay, center-entry façade on the northeast elevation, oriented toward the approach from The Great Road. The builder of this house has not been determined. Another notable pedimented-gable dwelling is the Hannah Hartwell House, 90 The Great Road (1842, BED.34), featuring corner pilasters with Ionic capitals on the main block, a broad one-story hip-roofed porch with fluted Ionic columns extending across the façade, and lateral wing, full-length sidelights in the entablature entry surround, long first-floor windows on the façade, and quarter-round windows in the pediment, which is clad in flushboard siding. Some of these features may date to a Colonial Revival-style remodeling; the house merits further study.

The temple-front Jonathan Bacon House, 133 The Great Road (1836, BED.47), is among the most high-style Greek Revival dwellings in Bedford, featuring a triglyph frieze and fluted Ionic columns on the pedimented portico, along with paneled corner pilasters on the main block. The façade is clad with flushboard siding, and retains long windows on the

first floor, molded window surrounds, and full-length sidelights in the entablature surround at the entry. Late 19th-century renovations include the addition of bay windows on side elevations, and 2/2 wood sash. The builder of the Jonathan Bacon House has not been determined.

Other buildings at the town center that may be termed Greek Revival in style depart from the 2½-story, pedimented-gable, side-hall form. The eastern half of the present 2½-story store building at 47-53 The Great Road (ca. 1844, BED.112) was a Greek Revival store block; the pedimented-gable façade had a center entry and was two bays wide on the second floor, before remodeling in 1894 and construction of a Colonial Revival-style addition. Of the few 1½-story houses, the Amos & Nathaniel Cutler Double House, 9-11 North Road (ca. 1832, BED.31), remodeled from a wheelwright shop, is a side-gable dwelling with twin chimneys at the roof ridge. The six-bay façade features entries paired at the center, within a single surround with a wide, plain frieze and molded cap. The gabled dormer window is a later addition. The Rebecca Shaw House, 12 School Avenue (1843, BED.110), is a 1½-story, gable-front dwelling, with side-hall plan and a later side porch and rear wing. Most of the 2½-story, side-gable dwellings have their architectural detailing concentrated at the entry, such as the porch with fluted columns seen at the paired entries on the Chamberlain-Billings Double House, 42-44 The Great Road (ca. 1831, BED.502). The D.P. Ladd House, 113 The Great Road (ca. 1850, BED.46), is noteworthy in the town center for its Greek key motif in the frieze beneath the roofline.

An important Greek Revival-style meetinghouse in Bedford is the former Trinitarian Congregational Church, 25 The Great Road (now First Church of Christ, Congregational; 1832, BED.113, photo 5). The gable-front rectangular main block, three bays across and three bays deep, has a projecting pedimented-gable frontispiece, a square belltower, and octagonal spire. The façade on the frontispiece is clad with flushboard siding, while the remainder of the main block has clapboards. In addition to the detailing typically associated with the Greek Revival, including the plain frieze and cornerboards, molded window surrounds, and sidelights at the center entry, the building displays elements of the Gothic Revival. Applied moldings create the highly ornamented ogee arch springing from the entablature over the main entry, and blind fan windows create pointed arches above the oversized double-hung windows on the side elevations. Also of note are the compound surrounds on the secondary entries of the façade.

Italianate buildings at the town center were constructed in the 1850s, including Bedford's signature building in the style, the Old Town Hall, 16 South Road (1856, BED.23, photos 4 and 6). Constructed as a combination town meeting hall and public school, the 2½-story, gable-front building is built into the grade of South Road, with a granite foundation and a raised basement of brick. There are two interior rear-wall chimneys. Three bays across and five bays deep, the clapboard-clad block retains several character-defining features, including brackets at the overhanging eaves, door hoods, window hoods, and projecting window sills; paneled corner pilasters; and plain pilasters framing the three entrances on the façade. The builder has not been identified. The town of Bedford rehabilitated the building using local Community Preservation funds; this work was completed in 2004, and the building now houses community groups and a rental hall.

Two residential buildings at the western end of the town center are particularly good examples of Italianate design. The Elbridge Wyman Stearns House, 2 Concord Road (1854, BED.117), is a gable-front and wing dwelling, two bays by two bays on the main block, with a brick chimney on the east slope of the roof. The house retains paneled corner pilasters, heavy hoods over the windows, 2/2 sash, and a wraparound front porch with paneled posts. The eave windows on the long elevation of the 1½-story, perpendicular wing are uncommon in Bedford. Nearby is one of the town's best-preserved Italianate houses, the Oliver J. Lane House, 16 North Road (ca. 1857, BED.120, photo 7), which has some similarities to the Elbridge Wyman Stearns House in its massing and ornamental details. The entry retains double-leaf paneled doors with arch-topped glazing and a door hood on scroll brackets, next to a bay window on the first-floor façade.

Only one building at the town center displays a mansard roof characteristic of the **Second Empire** style: the Edwin A. Hartwell House, 22 Springs Road (1874, BED.58). Likely constructed by Hartwell, a builder active in Bedford after the Civil War, the mansard cottage has a brick foundation, clapboard siding, and a two-bay by two-bay main block with rear wing. Both the main block and wing have mansard roofs with slightly flared profiles. Other detailing includes a scroll-bracketed door hood at the entry, bay windows on the façade and south elevation, and classical moldings over the dormer windows. The Hartwell House is one of very few mansard-roof dwellings identified in Bedford to date.

Examples of the **Queen Anne** style include 18 Hillside Avenue (ca. 1886, BED.74), the only building extant from the estate of Wallace Gleason Webber. Built as a carriage house and barn, the asymmetrical dwelling is a 1½-story, hip-roofed building on a high fieldstone foundation, displaying clapboards and two types of decorative shingles, dentil molding at the eaves on two sides, and a turret (former silo) on the south elevation. Colonial Revival-style, hip-roofed dormers appear to date to the 20th century, as they are not shown in an architectural rendering of the building published in Brown's *History of the Town of Bedford* (1891). The Webber carriage house and barn was converted to residential use in the early 1920s. Another example is the hip-roofed Winfield M. Brown House, 140 The Great Road (1889, BED.73), the façade of which incorporates a projecting cross-gabled pavilion with cutaway bays. Some buildings in the area incorporate references to the Queen Anne, such as multipane Queen Anne-style fixed sash in an entry hall, but overall these buildings tend to be designed in the Victorian Eclectic mode.

Approximately twenty buildings at the town center may be described as **Victorian Eclectic**, incorporating various design elements of styles seen in the second half of the 19th century. Some Victorian detailing is confined to the principal entry, such as decorative brackets supporting the hood over the front door, or a projecting entry porch. Others are more substantial examples in the eclectic mode, particularly on North Road, South Road, and Fletcher Road. Among them is the J. Bartlett Prescott House, 18 North Road (ca. 1879, BED.121, photo 7). A 2½-story, gable-front dwelling, the house is two bays across and approximately three bays deep on the main block, with overhanging eaves, thin cornerboards, a side-hall entry, a two-tier projecting window bay on the façade, molded window heads, and 2/2 sash. A side porch with square posts at the secondary entry on the southeast elevation appears to be original; the octagonal porch with round posts at the entry appears to be a 20th-century addition. The Mary and Matthew Fletcher House, 39 Fletcher Road (ca. 1885, BED.208, photo 8), is well detailed and a model for the size and scale of late 19th-century dwellings subsequently built on the first block of Fletcher Road. Two and one-half stories on the main block, with a gable-front roof and brick chimney on the north slope, the house displays a number of projections that lend interest to the façade and side elevations: a two-tier boxed bay window with flared skirts on the façade; a similar two-tier bay with cross-gabled roof on the south; and a cross-gabled projection with first-floor bay window on the north. Character-defining features include overhanging eaves, gable returns, thin corner pilasters, and molded window heads. Some windows retain 2/1 wood sash. Perhaps the most highly ornamented dwelling in the town center is the William Merriam-Edwin H. Blake House, 51 South Road (1852, BED.282), though the style suggests a later remodeling. The 2½-story, side-gabled dwelling has a brick foundation, clapboard siding with wood shingles in the gable ends, and flushboard siding on the first-floor façade. The main block is three bays by about two bays, with a cross-gabled, projecting, center-entry pavilion. Character-defining ornament includes decorative bargeboards in the gable ends, brackets at the overhanging eaves, and a full-width, shed-roofed front porch with jigsaw frieze and turned posts.

Victorian Eclectic detailing was also applied to update older homes. The most substantial example is the Lucy P. Hartwell House, 29 Elm Street (1811-1812/1881, BED.35), where a projecting addition was constructed on the façade of an early side-gable dwelling attributed to housewright Joshua Page, creating the present cross-gable dwelling on an L-shaped footprint, with two-tier façade bay window, bracketed turned posts at the entry porch, and paired doors with round-arched glazing in the entry. Also likely remodeled is the Charles C. Corey House, 56-58 South Road (second quarter 19th century, BED.284), another 2½-story, side-gabled dwelling with clapboard siding and gabled rear ells. The pair of two-tier projecting window bays and door hood with oversized scroll brackets—all additions to the original building—impart an Italianate feel. Unlike the main block, which is on a granite foundation, the window bays are on later, brick foundations.

About two dozen buildings in the inventoried area display features associated with the **Colonial Revival** style, ranging from late 19th-century dwellings that merge the Colonial Revival and Queen Anne, to bungalows and a Dutch Colonial from the 1920s and 1930s. Most notable examples of the Colonial Revival are residential buildings, 2½-stories with cross gable or hipped roofs, projecting entry porches, and double-hung wood sash. Generally, dwellings with Colonial Revival features are clustered on streets developed from the late 19th century onward, particularly Hillside Avenue, Fletcher Road, and Crescent Avenue. A fine example is Fairwick, 34 Hillside Avenue (1888, BED.76, photo 9), with its modillion cornice, pedimented dormers, and wrap-around porch. There is a foursquare-form Colonial Revival house at 22 Concord

Road (4th quarter 19th century, BED.316). Also significant is the Colonial Revival-style one-story addition on the west side of Fitch Tavern, constructed between 1894 and 1906 (BED.28) and featuring a hipped roof with projecting pedimented gable pavilion, shingled gable infill, and a tall brick chimney. Dutch Colonials display side-gambrel roofs, symmetrical center-entry facades, paired windows on the first floor, and full-width shed dormers. One example is 49 Hillside Avenue (1927, BED.83), which also incorporates brick veneer cladding and an enclosed sunroom on the south elevation.

The district's major institutional building in the Colonial Revival style is the Union School (now Bedford Town Center), 12 Mudge Way (1891, BED.104; E. H. and W. E. Blakie, architects), a 1½-story, hip-roofed block on a cut-stone foundation, clad in clapboards, with two brick chimneys on the roof ridge and double-hung wood sash. The pedimented surround and multipane transom at the center entry, as well as the hipped dormers on the front and rear elevations, all appear to date to renovations undertaken in 1909 or 1916. In commercial construction, an 1894 addition of three bays to the west side of a gable-front Greek Revival store yielded the high hipped roof and hipped dormer at 47-53 The Great Road (ca. 1844, BED.112).

Only one example of the **Georgian Revival**, considered a sub-type of the Colonial Revival, is present at the town center. The former Junior High School and Auditorium (now Bedford Town Hall), 10 Mudge Way (1927-1928, BED.103, photo 10; George M. Champney/Derby & Robinson, architects), is also the oldest of the brick municipal buildings in the district. Two stories on a raised concrete basement, the building displays brick walls laid in Flemish bond, a complex cross-hipped roof over a symmetrical main block, two brick chimneys forward of the roof ridge, and a cupola. The entry frontispiece is topped with an arched pediment and flanked by projecting hipped pavilions displaying blind arches in brick. Other character-defining features include modillion blocks at the wood cornice, a pedimented surround with console brackets framing the main entry, side entries recessed in arched surrounds with rusticated piers, double-hung sash, and hipped dormers.

Some dwellings at the town center combine the exposed rafters characteristic of the Craftsman style with Colonial Revival elements. Noteworthy is the house at 37 Hillside Avenue (ca. 1911, BED.86), retaining its distinctive jerkinhead (i.e., clipped-gable) roof, overhanging eaves, entry hood on oversized knee braces, and bank of five double-hung windows on the first floor. The 2½-story, side-gable dwelling (now in business use) at 15 Fletcher Road (ca. 1912, BED.202) also displays exposed rafters, in addition to a projecting hip-roofed entry porch and wood-shingle cladding. Windows flanking the center entry have been replaced with multipane display windows.

About fourteen parcels in the district feature **Postwar Traditional**-style buildings, constructed from the late 1940s through the 1950s. Most of the residential examples are 1½-story capes, three or four bays across and two bays deep, with an off-center entry. Some have picture windows, a character-defining, post-World War II feature, and exterior end-wall chimneys. They are spare in their architectural detailing. Reproduction colonials were constructed on Mudge Way. The house at 1 Mudge Way (1953-1954, BED.116) displays a center chimney, five-bay façade, double-hung sash, and center entry with sidelights in an entablature surround, while 3 Mudge Way (1957, BED.115) is a Garrison Colonial with saltbox roof, center chimney, three-bay façade, and casement sash. Post World War II office and commercial buildings typically take the form of wood-frame, side-gable Colonials, though the 1½-story bank at 94 The Great Road (1957-1958, BED.68, photo 4) combines wood-frame elements with brick sheathing and Federal detailing, including a fanlight and full-length sidelights at the entry, along with pilasters and gabled dormers.

Principal Postwar Traditional-style brick buildings at the town center are municipal in use. The Fire and Police Station (now the Bedford Fire Station), 55 The Great Road (1949, BED.111; Frank S. Owen, architect), is an irregularly massed brick building on a concrete foundation, displaying hipped and gable-roofed components. The original apparatus room fronting The Great Road is a 1½-story block with three garage bays, flushboard siding in the cross gable over the center garage, and a hip-roofed, square cupola. Windows contain double-hung and fixed sash. The principal pedestrian entry is located in a pedimented-gable addition (1965) on the Elm Street (east) elevation. Another addition was built on the west and south elevations in 1998. These additions are consistent with the original building in size, scale, materials, and traditional design, and do not compromise the architectural integrity of the main block. The William A. Stearns Memorial

Library (now the Bedford Police Station), 2 Mudge Way (1951, BED.114; George M. Champney, architect), is a single-story brick block on a raised concrete basement, five bays across on the original façade fronting The Great Road, and two bays deep. The original entry, no longer used, incorporates paired doors, a semicircular projecting portico with columns, and an oculus window above. Distinctive features of the building include a curved water table above the raised basement and a flared, concrete cornice with attached gutters. A one-story, hip-roofed connector, four bays deep, leads to a two-story rear addition (1997) fronting Mudge Way. This cross-hipped, brick-clad addition now provides the building's principal entry, while preserving the integrity of the original façade fronting The Great Road.

The historic district retains several fine examples of **residential outbuildings**. Ranging in date from the late 19th century through the mid-20th century, these barns, carriage houses, and garages tend to be wood-frame buildings, one or 1½ stories, with asphalt-shingle roofs, clapboard or wood-shingle cladding, and stone or concrete foundations. Noteworthy are the late 19th-century barns at the Elijah Stearns House, 4 The Great Road (BED.29, barn BED.524), and the Penniman-Stearns House, 26 The Great Road (BED.27, barn BED.525). Roughly three bays across and two bays deep, with a side-gable roof and square cupola on the ridge, the barn at 4 The Great Road features a pair of full-height, vertical-board, swinging doors with strap hinges. There is a multilight transom over this door, as well as double-hung sash in other window openings. The Colonial Revival-style barn at 26 The Great Road is a gable-front building, three bays across and approximately three bays deep, with a cupola on the roof ridge, oversized swinging wood doors, multilight transom, and lunette window in the gable end. A cross-gable barn that may be of comparable vintage survives at the Merriam-Lane-Blake House, 51 South Road (BED.282, barn BED.529).

In addition to the former carriage house and barn associated with the Webber estate, now known as 18 Hillside Avenue (BED.74, see above), the district retains another Queen Anne-style carriage house associated with the Prince House, 49 Fletcher Road (BED.213, carriage house BED.523). Displaying a side-gabled roof and wood-shingle cladding, the 1½-story building displays Queen Anne multilight window sash, a small belvedere with onion dome at the roof ridge, and a gabled loft dormer on the principal elevation, incorporating a decorative truss, oversized brackets, and a pair of swinging glazed doors. The principal entry retains a paneled sliding door and ornamental molding capping the door surround. A turn-of-the-20th-century carriage house at Fairwick, 34 Hillside Avenue (BED.76, carriage house BED.527) retains its original slate hipped roof, hipped dormers with corner pilasters, and projecting pedimented dormer, which could be a conversion of the original hay loft door opening and is currently sided in vinyl. The carriage house appears to have been converted to residential use in the mid 20th century, and now incorporates a three-car garage at the northern end of the façade and a three-bay, side-hall residence at the southern end.

Many 20th-century garages in the district have sustained some alterations, especially with replacement of original doors. The O'Dowd-Kelley House, 8 Crescent Avenue (BED.245, garage BED.522), retains a well detailed, Craftsman-style garage dating to 1932. This one-story, hip-roofed building features overhanging eaves, exposed rafters, and two garage bays, each containing a pair of swinging glazed and paneled doors.

Old Burying Ground

The Old Burying Ground, 7 Springs Road (1729, BED.800, photo 11), is Bedford's first town cemetery, situated about 250 feet northeast of the Town Common (see below). The cemetery encompasses 1.25 acres of largely level ground, defined at the perimeter by a stone wall with granite bollards (19th century) framing two former vehicular entrances, one located about midway down the Springs Road frontage, and the other at the cemetery's northwest corner. The ground is entirely turf-covered, with no circulation paths. Mound tombs at the cemetery's southern end and along the northern edge are the only significant rises in the terrain. An estimated 1,400 burials were conducted at the Old Burying Ground between 1731 and 1894. In addition to the mound tombs, the Old Burying Ground displays 386 headstones, 284 footstones, two obelisk markers, two boulder monuments, and two interpretive signs. The cemetery is a contributing site in the historic district. (Prominent features and representative markers are described separately in this narrative and listed as sub-entries of the cemetery on the accompanying district data sheet.)

Old Burying Ground displays a recently conserved collection of burial markers, dating principally from the mid 18th century through the mid 19th century. Most markers are slate, with squared, round-shouldered, or arched tops. Winged skulls and winged faces are the most common designs on the 18th-century headstones, while the early 19th-century headstones display variations of the Neo-Classical willow-and-urn motif. The earliest stones display the most primitive carving. The Katherine (Whiting) Lane Marker (died 1731), the first in the cemetery, features a winged skull with teeth, while the John Whitmore Marker (died 1748) displays a stylized skull (without wings) flanked by five-petal flowers that are star-like in shape. Among the 18th-century markers are triple and double headstones marking the graves of children. The Page Children Marker (died 1754) gives the appearance of three round-shouldered, arch-topped markers—each bearing a winged skull—joined in a row as a single stone. Another example of a triple stone is the Merriam Children Marker (died 1765-1778), an arch-topped stone incorporating three separate panels for the children, each panel topped with a full-face portrait executed in relief. Among the 18th- and early 19th-century markers, the only use of fieldstone rather than slate is the John Davis Marker (died 1739), which displays an arched top with square shoulders.

A substantial number of Colonial and Federal-period footstones—many inscribed—survive with their corresponding headstones to illustrate clearly the placement and orientation of burials through the early 19th century. Headstones are positioned on the west and footstones on the east, with inscriptions facing out. Footstone inscriptions generally display the deceased's name, sometimes with an ornamental motif carved above.

The mound tombs, also recently conserved, are major character-defining features in the cemetery landscape. Displaying brick headwalls, granite caps, inscribed splayed marble lintels over each tomb opening, and iron hardware on the doors, both structures in their present appearance date largely to a rebuilding in 1938-1939. The South Mound Tomb (1795, 1938-1939) faces Springs Road to the west and consists of two contiguous tombs. The North Mound Tomb (1826, 1938-1939) lines the northern edge of the cemetery with twelve contiguous tombs (numbered from 2 to 13, inclusive) facing south. Tomb 1, located closest to Springs Road as the westernmost tomb in this range, was removed in 1887 when Springs Road was widened.

More variation in gravemarker design was introduced to the Old Burying Ground in the second quarter of the 19th century. Marble stones largely date to this period; both rectangular tops and slightly pitched tops are seen. Benjamin Day (1783-1855) of Lowell carved several marble stones in the cemetery, and his signature appears on the face of the stones, near ground level, as B. DAY, LOWELL. His work includes the Abel Fitch Marker (died 1839), with an incised inscription, and the Horatio Nelson Haynes Marker (died 1847), on which most of the inscription is incised but the name and age of the deceased is carved in block letters in relief. Another marker of interest from this period, though not attributed to Day, is the Benjamin Gleason Marker (died 1847), consisting of a granite stone with slightly pitched top, and bearing over the inscription the Freemasonry symbol of interlaced square and compasses.

Few granite markers are present at the Old Burying Ground. The two obelisk-shaped granite markers on pedestals are the Pierce Family Marker (ca. 1848) and the Page Family Marker (ca. 1852-1858), which incorporates an urn at the top of the obelisk. The cemetery does not have family plots delineated with stone curbing, though the Mary Hayward Family Marker (died 1865), a granite stone with the inscription MOTHER across the top face of the marker, is consistent with the types of markers normally seen in family plots. The latest stone in the cemetery is the Spaulding Family Marker (1887), a granite tablet marking a common grave for members of the Spaulding family, who were disinterred when Tomb 1 was dismantled from the western end of the North Mound Tomb (see above).

Two contributing boulder monuments in the cemetery commemorate the Revolutionary War service of Bedford residents. The African Reservation Monument (1896) to Cambridge Moore, Caesar Prescott, and Caesar Jones marks the so-called African Reservation (ca. 1800), an area at the cemetery's northeast corner that had been set aside for burials of people of color. This monument consists of a brass tablet set in a boulder. No gravemarkers are present in this area. The Job Lane Memorial Boulder (1902) has an inscribed granite tablet set in a boulder. Remaining interpretive signage present in the Old Burying Ground commemorates the presence of burials associated with early settlers and founders of Bedford, as well as 43 Revolutionary War patriots. This signage is noncontributing due to its recent vintage.

A master plan for the Old Burying Ground was completed in 2005. The town received two Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund grants from the Massachusetts Historical Commission for conservation and repair work at the cemetery. Slate and marble headstones (46 total) and footstones (41 total) were restored and reset in the first project, completed in 2007. In the second project, completed in 2009, cracks and cleavage plane failure on gravestones (51 total) were repaired, and vaulting, headwall masonry, and entries on the mound tombs were repaired or rebuilt to match the original features. A short section of the west perimeter wall was rebuilt in 2009 to repair damage by an invasive tree.

Other Contributing Resources

In addition to the Old Burying Ground, the Town Common, 75A The Great Road (early 18th century, BED.9011), is another Colonial-period open space preserved at the town center. The common is a level turf parcel planted with evergreen and deciduous trees and crossed by paths surfaced with brick pavers. A perimeter fence (1850-1852, BED.9012) features historic granite bollards. The town's first World War I Memorial (1925, BED.9013), consisting of a large boulder with bronze plaque, is situated near the center of the common's frontage on The Great Road. A flagpole (1926, BED.9014) was installed next to the boulder. Until the late 20th century, the common and adjacent First Parish Church, 75 The Great Road (see above), occupied a single parcel historically, bounded by The Great Road on the north, South Road on the east, Elm Street on the south, and Maple Street on the west. To streamline municipal administration and permitting of public and private activities on the common, in 1975-1976 the parcel was subdivided into the present two parcels. The town of Bedford owns the open space at the northern end ("the common"), fronting The Great Road, while the First Parish Church retains ownership of the southern end, including its church building.

The open space focus at the western end of the historic district is Capt. Jonathan Wilson Park (1884, BED.903, photo 7), a level, triangular-shaped parcel bounded by The Great Road, North Road, and Concord Road. The park is planted with shrubs and an oak tree that replaced the Wilson Oak, felled in the Hurricane of 1938. A small boulder with a bronze plaque (second quarter 20th century, BED.9008) marks the gathering place of Bedford's troops before their march to Concord on 19 April 1775.

Defining much of the eastern edge of the district, for a distance of about one-third of a mile, is a segment of the Billerica & Bedford Railroad Right-of-Way (1877, BED.9018, photo 12), constructed for the narrow-gauge railroad and used for a standard-gauge line from 1885 to 1962. Historic tracks have been removed, and the roadbed is now a pedestrian and bicycle trail, surfaced principally with stone dust. Within the district boundary, the right-of-way crosses The Great Road at grade.

Memorial Park, 145-165 The Great Road (1950, BED.9019, photo 12), anchors the eastern end of both the historic district and the town center, and is immediately adjacent to the narrow-gauge rail trail. Created to honor Bedford's war veterans, the park is a turf area, crossed with pedestrian paths and planted with evergreen and deciduous trees. A path surfaced with brick pavers leads from the road to the town's World War II Memorial, connecting to memorial stones for each war through the Persian Gulf conflict, as well as memorial stones for individual veterans of those wars. Memorial Park occupies the northerly end of Page Field, and is separated from the balance of Page Field to the south by a buffer of wetlands. The park's southern limit was defined upon its establishment by a line of convenience running 150 feet south of and parallel to The Great Road. Only the area within the limits of Memorial Park is included in the historic district.

Hayden Memorial Fountain (1916, BED.9017) is situated on The Great Road directly in front of the bank at 94 The Great Road (see above). Currently inoperable, the granite fountain has three circular drinking troughs for horses; smaller troughs at the base for dogs and other small animals; a bubbling drinking fountain for humans; and an outlet that allowed water to be drawn for automobiles. An ornamental iron standard with ornate foliated bracket survives as the mounting for a "Colonial style" lantern, removed at an unknown date and now in the collection of the Bedford Historical Society.

Noncontributing Resources

Noncontributing resources are few in number and do not compromise the historic integrity of the Old Bedford Center Historic District, as the village setting remains intact. These resources tend to be visually unobtrusive or compatible with surrounding construction in scale, massing, and materials. The latter group includes about five historic buildings that have been altered beyond recognition, either with façade remodeling that has modified the original configuration of door and window bays, or removal of architectural detailing in the application of synthetic siding.

Eight houses and two commercial blocks have been built in the district since the end of the period of significance. These buildings are designated noncontributing by virtue of their construction date. Architecturally, they are generally consistent with the district's historic buildings in their wood-frame construction, with gable or hip roofs, and traditional styling.

Other noncontributing resources include standing signs on the front lawns of properties in commercial or institutional use, and monuments, signs, or sculptures placed in town-owned landscapes. These elements are small in scale. Bedford's Bicentennial Monument (1975) was installed on the north lawn of the former William A. Stearns Memorial Library (now known as Bedford Police Station, 2 Mudge Way). Made entirely in Bedford, the boulder monument features a brass plaque designed by Bedford artist Charles Meyrick, depicting images of a Bedford Minuteman and the Bedford Flag. The George L. Meade Foundry of South Road in Bedford cast the plaque in February 1975. Near the present Town Hall, 10 Mudge Way, the Town of Bedford installed the bronze sculpture *Dance Rhythm* (1966, Chaim Gross, sculptor), given to the town by longtime Bedford residents Jeptha Wade (d. 2008) and his wife, Emily (Paddy) Wade in 2012. At the opposite end of the historic district, an addition to the west end of Memorial Park is *The Patriot* (1999-2000), a bronze statue commissioned by the Town of Bedford. Bruce Papitto was the sculptor of this work, which illustrates a Bedford Minuteman bearing the Bedford Flag.

In 2003, the First Parish Church established a small Memorial Garden immediately adjacent to the east elevation of the historic building. The garden features *kopjafak*, or two ornamental carved wood poles, sent to Bedford by a partner church village in Abásfalva, Romania (Transylvania).

Archaeological Description

While the neighboring area to the west, where the Concord, Sudbury, and Assabet rivers converge, represents one of the higher site densities in Eastern Massachusetts, site densities are lower in the Old Bedford Center Historic District locale. Three Native sites are known in the general area (within one mile) of the proposed district, including one site located within the central area of the district. That site, the Patriot Place Site (19-BN-1013), was located during intensive testing for the Patriot Place development (Ford and Leveillee 2003). The site was characterized as an isolated quartz-flake find spot. No additional work was recommended for the site, due to its limited research potential.

Environmental characteristics of the district represent locational criteria (slope, soil drainage, proximity to wetlands) that are generally favorable for the presence of Native sites. The district occupies well-drained, level to moderately sloping topography, in the Bedford Center area of town. Most wetlands in the area are located well over 1,000 feet from the district (an unfavorable site locational characteristic), with the exception of a small pond located within 1,000 feet east of the district. The nominated area lies within the Shawsheen and Merrimack rivers drainage. Given the above information, the size of the district (approximately 75 acres), and known patterns of Native settlement in the Shawsheen/Merrimack river drainage, the presence of ancient sites is documented and a moderate potential exists for locating additional ancient Native American resources in the district. The settlement sensitivity assessment presented above is similar to conclusions reached during a recent archaeological reconnaissance survey of Bedford (Binzen et al. 2004). During that research, the town was divided into survey units to facilitate the townwide study. The Old Bedford Center Historic District is included in the Bedford Center study unit. Most of the district occupies an area of low to moderate sensitivity within that unit, with

the western portion of the district bordering an area of moderate to high sensitivity focused on the Spring Brook wetlands. Ancient sites in the area were characterized by Middle Archaic to Woodland seasonal hunting stations located along the margins of wetlands and in upland areas. Larger, complex, multi-component sites were predicted on bluffs overlooking the Shawsheen River in the eastern portion of the study unit east of the district. The sensitivity results presented above are also similar to the results of the intensive survey of Patriot Place conducted within the district (Ford and Leveillee 2003). That survey found that, given the density of ancient Native American resources in the Shawsheen River drainage and the proximity of the project area to a number of prehistorically available brooks, a moderate sensitivity was present for ancient Native American resources in the Patriot Place project area. A moderate rather than high sensitivity assessment was given because the project area was situated more than 1,300 feet from the nearest water source, and because of historic disturbance of the area (Ford and Leveillee 2003:40).

A high potential exists for locating historic archaeological resources in the district. Seven historic archaeological sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile) of the district, including three sites located in the historic district. The Israel Putnam Homestead Site (BED-HA-5) is recorded north of Great Road and southwest of the intersection of Hancock Street and Springs Road. The remaining two sites include the Second Meetinghouse Site (BED-HA-9) and the Town Common (BED-HA-10). Archaeological evidence of the Israel Putnam Site, a farmstead, may survive, including structural evidence of the farmhouse, barns, stables, outbuildings, and evidence of occupational-related features (trash pits, privies, wells). Similar remains from other 18th through 20th century farmsteads may also survive in the historic district. Potential structural evidence of the Second Meetinghouse site may include structural evidence of the meetinghouse, stables, a carriage house, barns, and other outbuildings. Archaeological evidence of occupational-related features may also exist. The third recorded historic archaeological site in the historic district is the Town Common (BED-HA-10). Potential archaeological features and artifacts at the Common may include evidence of pathways, monuments or stone markers, and military artifacts. Town commons were often used as a military training ground. Archaeological resources may also survive with the Old Burial Ground, beginning in 1729 or earlier. Historic archaeological sites are underreported in Bedford. Many more sites should exist in the town, especially in the Bedford Center locale.

The potential for locating historic sites in the proposed district identified above is similar to the sensitivity assessment for the Bedford Center study unit developed during the communitywide archaeological reconnaissance survey for the town (Binzen et al. 2004). During that survey, researchers found that the Bedford Center study unit possessed a moderate to high sensitivity for locating historic archaeological sites, and probably contained the greatest number of historic archaeological resources that await future recording (Binzen et al. 2004:54). The potential was reported to be the greatest for locating sites related to the domestic historic context, possibly consisting of historic deposits of domestic refuse associated with farmsteads or homes, cellar holes, structural evidence of barns and outbuildings, occupational-related features, and stone fences. The potential for treating the area surrounding extant buildings as an archaeological site was also discussed.

The high historic archaeological potential of the Bedford Center locale was further supported by the intensive survey (Ford and Leveillee 2003) conducted for the Patriot Place development. Based on the location of the Israel Putnam Homestead site in the Patriot Place development, entirely within the district, a high sensitivity rating was given to the area. However, archaeological testing indicated that the Putnam Homestead was not located in the Patriot Place development. The homestead was probably destroyed by construction of new homes that abut the project area. No further archaeological studies were recommended for the Patriot Place development.

Potential historic archaeological sites in the Bedford Center Historic District include many of the institutional, residential, and commercial buildings, no longer extant, that made the Center a core area of the Bedford community. The meetinghouse site (see above), Town Common (see above), and the Old Burial Ground represent three of the 18th-century sites that gave the district its institutional focus. That focus continued with the addition of several buildings and structures still extant, including two early 19th-century meetinghouses, 19th- and 20th-century municipal buildings, and 20th-century war memorials in the form of monuments and a park. Construction features and occupational-related features may survive that are associated with each of these buildings.

Residential-type sites have also played an important role in the development of the Bedford Center Historic District. While some settlement occurred in the area in the 17th century, actual settlement within the district did not occur until ca. 1714 when Israel Putnam settled his homestead (see above). While the district retains many of the historic residential buildings in the town, additional historical research, combined with archaeological survey and testing, may identify the sites of more single and double residential buildings associated with 18th- and 19th- century farmsteads as well as and single-family suburban development from the late 19th century through the post-World War II era. Archaeological sites of farmsteads and many of the existing residential buildings that were once part of farmsteads may also contain structural evidence of barns, stables, domestic and agricultural-related outbuildings, and archaeological evidence of occupational-related features. While most potential residential sites in the district have yet to be identified, some potential sites are known. Archaeological evidence for the mansion residence of the Webber Estate (19th century) may survive in the vicinity of the present building at 130 The Great Road. Archaeological evidence of the Joshua Page tavern and his first residence (1806) may survive at the site now occupied by the Bedford Fire Station at 55 The Great Road.

Additional potential residential sites in the center include the original site of the Lawrence House (1845) at the southeast corner of The Great Road and South Road, the Hartwell House (1847-48) moved in 1912-1914 from its original site at 120 The Great Road, and the Page House, now at 13 School Avenue, moved from its original site on The Great Road. Structural evidence may also survive from the Bacon House, located at 65 South Road until it was demolished in 2006.

While commercial-type sites also played an important role in the development of the Bedford Center Historic District, comparatively few historic commercial buildings survive at the Center. While the town center had an institutional focus near the town common, it also had a separate business center located to the west in the vicinity of the North Road intersection with The Great Road. During the last quarter of the 18th century, this focus included two taverns, the town's first general store, a blacksmith shop, and a wheelwright shop. The Fitch Tavern is extant; however, structural evidence of building alterations and renovations, barns, stables, outbuildings, and archaeological evidence of occupational-related features (trash pits, privies, wells) may survive in the immediate vicinity of this and other standing structures and archaeological sites. Structural evidence of Pollard's Tavern, related outbuildings, and occupational-related features that were demolished in the 1930s may survive at the tavern's location on North Road. A store was also present at the center's commercial/business center. The store (1801) occupied the yard west of the house at 4 The Great Road. A house at 2 The Great Road currently occupies the store site.

By the Federal Period, shoemaking shops were also present at the town center, at first in small, principally ten-footer, shops attached to the rear of residences. Freestanding shops were also probably present. By the Early Industrial Period, shoemaking factories were located in the center, where workers assembled and finished shoes from parts made in home shops. The Chamberlain & Billings factory (ca. 1831) was located at 48-52 The Great Road. Small shoe shops were attached to the house at 29 Elm Street until 1881. A small freestanding shop was located behind the residence (1836) at 133 The Great Road.

Archaeological resources, including unmarked graves, structural remains associated with barns, stables, hearse houses, and outbuildings associated with cemetery operation and maintenance, may survive at the Old Burying Ground. Unmarked graves containing a burial shaft, a coffin, human remains, and/or funerary objects may survive anywhere in the cemetery. At the northeast corner of the Old Burial Ground, the so-called African Reservation (ca. 1800), an area "set apart for the burial of the African race," holds at least one dozen unmarked graves. Included among those buried here are the remains of Peter Freeman (d. 1807), a Revolutionary War soldier and freed slave, whose remains were later removed and reinterred at the Shawsheen Cemetery in Bedford with the establishment of a Stearns family plot there. Multiple burials may also be present. In some areas, gravestones may have been broken at ground level, causing some stones to become partially and, in some areas, completely overgrown. Post molds and other evidence of fences and boundary markers may exist, as well as grave markers and memorial offerings/markers for individuals and groups of graves.

Old Bedford Center Historic District (2013 Technical Amendment and Boundary Change)
Name of Property

Middlesex County, Massachusetts
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

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

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

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

Property is:

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

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture
Community Planning/Development
Ethnic Heritage: Black

Period of Significance
1729—1964

Significant Dates
N/A

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
See continuation sheet

Period of Significance (justification)

The amended district's period of significance begins in 1729, the date of the oldest extant resource. The end of the period of significance, as amended herein, is extended from ca. 1927 (in the 1977 nomination) to ca. 1963, or 50 years from the present. With this amendment, a number of historic resources present in the district in 1977, but once designated noncontributing by virtue of their age, are now classified as contributing.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary) n/a

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

This nomination is a Technical Amendment and Boundary Change for the Old Bedford Center Historic District, listed in the National Register in 1977. The original district included 81 contributing resources; one was removed from the district in 1991, and two are now noncontributing due to alterations. The amendment updates information on the district listed in 1977, accounts for a number of resources present in 1977 that were not recorded, and reclassifies thirteen previously noncontributing resources as contributing, due to extension of the district's period of significance from ca. 1927 to ca. 1964. In addition, this amendment modifies the boundary of the 1977 district, increasing the boundary in three locations to add adjacent historic resources that had not been documented by 1977, and decreasing the boundary in three other locations due to incompatible development since 1977.

Old Bedford Center Historic District, as amended herein, is Bedford's historic institutional, residential, and commercial core. The boundary of the amended district encompasses the greatest concentration of historic resources associated with the growth and development of the town center from 1729, the year of Bedford's incorporation, to ca. 1964. Buildings, historic landscapes, a burial ground, a narrow-gauge railroad right-of-way, and memorials of townwide significance are included within the district boundary. Striking for its architectural integrity and the continuity of its historic streetscapes, the amended district includes a number of resources that have achieved 50 years of age since the district was first designated in 1977, and now contribute to its significance. Historic resources on adjacent side streets that were excluded from the district in 1977, due to limited information, have now been documented and are included within the amended district boundary. Retaining integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, the Old Bedford Center Historic District, as amended, meets Criteria A and C of the National Register at the local level.

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

Architecture Buildings of the Old Bedford Center Historic District, as amended herein, constitute a well- preserved town center, displaying the range of residential, commercial, municipal, and private institutional architecture in Bedford, from the Colonial period to the Modern. Many contributing resources in the district are high-style buildings of townwide significance. Wood-frame construction predominates, with 20th-century municipal buildings constructed chiefly of brick. The district retains examples of 18th-century farmhouse construction, 19th-century village settlement, and suburban dwellings built from the late 19th century onward. The placement of buildings in the landscape reflects patterns of land use present during the period of significance and has not been compromised by infill construction. Some buildings were remodeled during the period of significance to adapt to the changing needs of their owners, especially residential buildings that were converted to commercial use.

Community Development and Planning The Old Bedford Center Historic District, as amended herein, reflects trends in Bedford's growth and development from the town's incorporation in 1729 through the early 1960s. An early 18th-century meetinghouse, town common, and burial ground location, the district retains its identity as Bedford's historic institutional core, with subsequent building campaigns of new municipal construction from the mid-19th century through the mid-20th century. Residential properties in the district trace Bedford's evolution from an agricultural to a suburban community, and concomitant commercial development ranges from business blocks to residences adapted for business use. The district boundary encompasses some of Bedford's earliest roads, a historically significant narrow-gauge railroad corridor, and open spaces of townwide significance.

Ethnic Heritage: Black The Old Bedford Center Historic District, as amended herein, is significant for its association with people of color living in Bedford in the 18th and 19th centuries. An area of one dozen unmarked graves "set apart for the burial of the African race" survives in the district's town-owned cemetery. Three of the graves are associated with individuals who served in the Continental Army, first as slaves and, after December 1780, as free men. Collectively, the

graves in the so-called "African Reservation" encompass the greatest concentration of resources known to be associated with Bedford's black community.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

First Settlement – Plantation Period (to ca. 1675)

In 1637, the Massachusetts General Court authorized separate land grants on the Concord River to Thomas Dudley, deputy governor of the province of Massachusetts Bay, and John Winthrop, governor. The grants lay approximately four miles downriver from the settlement at Concord (1635), on the east side of the river in the territory then known as Shawshin or Shawsheen. Dudley Farm, on the north, encompassed 1,000 acres, while Winthrop Farm, on the south, encompassed approximately 1,200 adjacent acres.

After the establishment of Woburn (1642) east of Concord, the Concord-Woburn bridle path or road crossed through the area that later became Bedford's town center. Two road segments in the present historic district correspond roughly to the path of the Concord-Woburn road: the portion of Concord Road between the western edge of the amended district and Wilson Park, and the portion of Springs Road between Hancock Street and Hillside Avenue. The road connecting these two segments passed north of The Great Road, which was not established until the Colonial period (see below).

Dudley Farm was one of the first areas of concentrated European settlement of the plantation of "Billirikeyca" in the mid-17th century, and its sale in 1652 is closely related to the establishment of the town of Billerica (1655). By the end of the First Settlement-Plantation period, about 50 families had settled in Billerica, primarily from Cambridge, Woburn, and Braintree. Job Lane of Malden purchased the Winthrop Farm in 1664. Before King Philip's War (1675-1676), Lane was one of three English settlers south of Mill Brook in the southern section of Billerica, which would be incorporated in 1729 into the new town of Bedford. Lane's garrison house is believed to have been located off North Road in Bedford, between the northern boundary of the historic district and the intersection of Pine Hill Road. North Road (now a segment of State Route 4) constitutes a portion of the 1660 road that connected the settlements at Billerica and Concord [BHPC; Corey research; Mansur, *Pictorial History*, Map II; Bedford inventory].

Colonial Period (ca. 1675-ca. 1775)

Incorporated in 1729, Bedford was the first town separated from Billerica, taking three-fifths of its area from Billerica on the north and two-fifths from Concord on the south. The historic district, as amended, occupies the southernmost end of old Billerica, adjacent to the old Concord town line. A portion of the former Dudley Farm and all of the former Winthrop Farm were included within Bedford's boundaries. Inhabitants of the latter had made the earliest effort, in 1725, to establish Bedford as a separate parish with its own meetinghouse. A second petition, about four years later, was successful. In anticipation of approval, local housewrights Joseph Fitch of South Billerica and Richard Wheeler of the east part of Concord built Bedford's first meetinghouse (1728-1729, demolished), construction of which was nearly complete by the time of incorporation. The First (Congregational) Church of Bedford was gathered in 1730.

The first meetinghouse was situated at the approximate geographical center of the new town, occupying the northwest end of the present Town Common, 75A The Great Road (early 18th century, BED.9011), which was located on the south side of the road. Colonial-period deeds indicate The Great Road through the historic district had been laid out between 1713 and 1721. Bedford's common lands were donated by the town founders, one of whom was Israel Putnam (1699-1760), who in 1721 had acquired a farm with buildings on the north side of The Great Road [Corey deed research]. A housing complex, Patriot Place, 18 Springs Road (2005, BED.537), occupies the site of the Putnam residence (ca. 1714, burned by ca. 1810). Putnam served on the first board of selectmen, and also held positions as town clerk, one of the town's first constables, and a deacon in the First Church. He deeded 6½ acres near his dwelling to the new town.

On a portion of the acreage donated by Israel Putnam, the town established what later became known as the Old Burying Ground, 7 Springs Road (1729, BED.800, photo 11), which served as Bedford's only cemetery until 1849. The first block of Springs Road was laid out about the same time. This established Concord Road-The Great Road-Springs Road as the principal path through the town center, leading to the discontinuation of the mid 17th-century road connecting Concord Road and Springs Road [A. E. Brown, 36]. At the Old Burying Ground, the earliest extant gravestone is the Katherine (Whiting) Lane Marker (died 1731); she was the wife of John Lane. The cemetery retains a number of Colonial-period markers, recently restored. Many of Bedford's founders and prominent citizens were buried here during the Colonial period, including Israel Putnam. Dr. John Fassett (d. 30 January 1736-7) was Bedford's first resident physician and the first town treasurer. Stephen Davis (d. 1738) was one of the first constables, serving with Putnam, and Nathaniel Merriam (d. 1738) was a selectman and deacon of the First Parish Church. Daniel Davis (d. 10 February 1740-1) served on the first board of selectmen. John Whitmore (d. 1748) was town clerk from 1746 to 1748. Jonathan Bacon (d. 1754) was Bedford's first town meeting moderator and served on the first board of selectmen, and previously had served as a selectman in Billerica before Bedford's incorporation in 1729.

Fitch Tavern, 12 The Great Road (ca. 1730, BED.28, photo 1), and Domine Manse, 110 The Great Road (ca. 1733, BED.22, photo 2), are believed to be the two oldest buildings extant at the town center. The former residence of Benjamin Kidder, a farmer, became known as the tavern of Jeremiah Fitch, Jr., where Bedford's Minuteman company breakfasted before joining the town's militia on their march to North Bridge in Concord on 19 April 1775 (see below). The building also housed a school for young ladies later in its history. Domine Manse, a focus of cultural and religious life in early Bedford, was the residence of the first minister, the Rev. Nicholas Bowes, who also received as part of his settlement fee sixteen acres of adjoining land on both sides of The Great Road. The name of the residence reflects the property's ministerial associations; in the 19th century, the name also was spelled *Domini Manse*. The minister, who had taught school in Billerica previously, may have been the first schoolmaster in Bedford, conducting the school at the manse. Later, a brother-in-law of the Rev. Bowes taught school in Bedford and boarded with the Bowes family. In 1767, John Reed, Bedford's delegate to the first and second Provincial Congresses, acquired Domine Manse and the associated acreage.

Bedford's population grew rapidly during the Colonial period, from 46 persons in 1728 (prior to incorporation) to 457 individuals in 1765. By that time, there were 72 families and 67 dwellings in the town. Residents included farmers, millers, and innkeepers. The local economy was principally based on agriculture, with small gristmills or sawmills on the Shawsheen River or tributary streams of the Shawsheen or Concord Rivers. A 1767 modification to the Bedford-Billerica boundary, in which the remainder of the Dudley Road farm of Edward Stearns was annexed to Bedford, did not add significantly to the town's population. Edward Stearns reportedly requested the change due to his association with the town of Bedford, where he was a member of the First Church and later buried in the Old Burying Ground.

Federal Period (ca. 1775-ca. 1830)

Partly due to its location on the principal routes to Concord from the northeast, Bedford was closely associated with the opening events of the American Revolution that occurred in the neighboring town. Per the direction of the Provincial Congress, Bedford delegated a portion of its local militia as Minutemen. Seventy-seven men from Bedford (27 Minutemen and 50 militia) fought at North Bridge in Concord on 19 April 1775. Before marching to Concord, troops breakfasted at the tavern of Jeremiah Fitch, Jr., 12 The Great Road (see above), and then assembled at the intersection of The Great Road, Concord Road, and North Road, on land now known as Wilson Park (1884, BED.903, photo 7). The park was named in honor of Capt. Jonathan Willson [*sic*], leader of the Bedford Minutemen, who was killed in the attack on retreating British forces near the Noah Brooks Tavern, 33 North Great Road, in nearby Lincoln.

In 1776, Bedford's population stood at 482, and gradually increased during the Federal period. No foreign-born population during the period has been identified. New development occurred largely on established roads. The Carlisle

road leading northwest from the town center was opened in the 1790s, despite opposition from the town of Bedford. The Court of General Sessions ordered Bedford to build the road, along with a bridge over the Concord River, to provide the citizens of Carlisle with direct access to Bedford village. The road is not within the historic district boundary.

Reuben Duren (1748-1821), a builder who came to Bedford about 1775 and reportedly resided in the town until 1792, designed and built the Penniman-Stearns House, 26 The Great Road (ca. 1788, BED.27), for the Rev. Joseph Penniman, Bedford's third minister. The Rev. Samuel Stearns, the fourth minister, purchased the property in 1796; he organized a female seminary in his home the following year. Reuben Duren also was responsible for repairs to the meetinghouse following the war.

In the last quarter of the 18th century, the town center had both an institutional focus near the Town Common and a separate business center, located to the west in the vicinity of the North Road intersection with The Great Road. The business center, as described by historian Ina Mansur, encompassed two taverns, the town's first general store, a blacksmith shop, and wheelwright shop. Jeremiah Fitch, Jr. ran Fitch Tavern, 12 The Great Road (see above), from 1766 until his death in 1808. The other establishment, Pollard's Tavern on North Road, was demolished in the 1930s. The general store (1801) once occupied the yard immediately west of the Elijah Stearns, Esq. House, 4 The Great Road (ca. 1801, BED.29), and was moved ca. 1895 to its present location at 22-24 Loomis Street (BED.431), outside the town center area. Elijah Stearns, a son-in-law of the Rev. Samuel Stearns at 26 The Great Road (see above), ran the store for thirty years and was named Bedford's first postmaster in 1825. A house at 2 The Great Road (2010) occupies the store site.

During the first quarter of the 19th century, additional commercial enterprises located in the area of the Town Common, including the tavern and first residence (1806) of housewright and local businessman Joshua Page (1779-1842) on the south side of The Great Road, at the present corner of Elm Street. The building, which later housed the Bedford House hotel, then the Bedford Grange from 1925 onward, was vacant by 1940 and demolished in 1942. The Bedford Fire Station, 55 The Great Road (1949, BED.111), occupies the site.

Shoemaking also was present at the town center at this time, in most cases initially occupying small ten-footer shops attached to the rear of residences. In 1805, Jonathan Bacon and John Hosmer began manufacturing children's shoes (see below) for the Boston market. Other firms included those of Benjamin Simonds and his son, Zebedee Simonds; Reuben Bacon; and later Phineas W. Chamberlain in partnership with John Billings of Concord (see **Early Industrial Period** below). Federal-period houses at the town center associated with cordwainers or shoemakers include the original main block of the Lucy P. Hartwell House, 29 Elm Street (1811-1812, BED.35), associated with Castalio Hosmer and John Bacon, and 43 The Great Road (1822, BED.42), later owned by Charles A. Corey.

Housewright Joshua Page, a grandson of the owner of Pollard's Tavern (see above), has been described as one of Bedford's most prolific builders. He had a leading role in the development of parcels throughout the town center, in the vicinity of the Town Common, at the southern end of Springs Road, and on School Way and School Avenue in the area called the Back Common. Page is known to have built at least seven buildings; five more are attributed to him, and he dismantled and moved two other buildings. All of these buildings were located at the town center.

Page's most prominent building in Bedford is the Federal-style second meetinghouse of the First Parish Church, 75 The Great Road (1817, BED.57, photo 3). The town was planning to build a new meetinghouse as early as April 1815. A windstorm in September 1815 may have damaged the first building and hastened preparations for construction of its replacement. Working with Levi Wilson, Page dismantled the 1729 meetinghouse and reused some of the timbers in the construction of the new meetinghouse. The design of the meetinghouse is attributed to Simeon Blodgett of Bedford, and has been described as a wooden variant of Asher Benjamin's Old West Church, 131 Cambridge Street, Boston (1806-1809, NHL, BOS.4182), or the Charles Street Meetinghouse, 70 Charles Street, Boston (1807, NHL, BOS.4074). The second meetinghouse in Bedford was dedicated 8 July 1817, with the Rev. Samuel Stearns as minister.

In his residential work, Page built his family a new house in 1822, immediately west of his tavern and first residence (see above). In the 1890s, the second house was moved back from The Great Road to make room for an addition to an adjacent building, and is now known as 13 School Avenue (BED.105). Joshua Page is credited with introducing the two-family (double) house to Bedford. He built a double house for Edward Merritt and the widow Amittai Simonds at 27 The Great Road (1829-1830, BED.41, photo 5) that was later converted to single-family use; Lewis Putnam Gleason maintained a shoe shop in the west rear ell. Also in 1829, Page moved the second Center Schoolhouse to Springs Road and converted the building to a two-family dwelling, now 56 Springs Road (1805-1806, BED.15).

Three houses at the town center have interior murals by itinerant painter and inventor Rufus Porter (1792-1884), who maintained a residence in nearby Billerica from 1823 to 1843. The Joshua Page House, 13 School Avenue (see above), has murals in the front hall and other rooms. The George Dutton House, 31 The Great Road (1828, BED.25, photo 5), features a seascape mural in the front hall. Murals were also painted at the Penniman-Stearns House, 26 The Great Road (see above). Outside the town center, the town-owned Job Lane House, 295 North Road (ca. 1713, BED.10, NRIND 1973), now a museum, retains murals attributed to Porter in the west side (ca. 1827) of the house.

Jeremiah Fitch (1778-1840), a Boston merchant and importer of dry goods, owned Fitch Tavern, 12 The Great Road (see above) following the death of his father, Jeremiah Fitch, Jr., in 1808 and his mother, Lydia, in 1823. Though the younger Fitch resided principally in Boston, he retained a lifelong interest in Bedford, and offered "inducements" to individuals to build houses and establish homes on property across the road from the tavern, according to Abram English Brown's *History of Bedford* (1891). Some of the houses constructed on former Fitch property include those of Joshua Page (his second house, now located at 13 School Avenue, see above); Edward Merritt and the widow Amittai Simonds (originally a double house at 27 The Great Road, see above); George Dutton (at 31 The Great Road, see above); and Amos B. Cutler (at 5 The Great Road, 1835, BED.40).

The appearance of the Town Common lands evolved during the Federal period. In 1816, the first meetinghouse (1729) was removed from the northern edge, fronting The Great Road. In 1829, the second Center School (1806) was removed from a site described by Mansur as under the pavement of the present South Road. Construction of the second meetinghouse at the southern edge of the common, near the present Maple Street, was completed in 1817. The Town Common continued to be bordered by private property on the east, south, and west as late as 1830. Near the northeast corner of the common, but not within its current boundaries, the town built a two-story brick schoolhouse in 1826, situated at the end of a long driveway from The Great Road. The school was demolished by 1856, following the construction nearby of a combined school and town meeting place, now known as Old Town Hall, 16 South Road (see below).

A number of Bedford's Revolutionary War patriots are buried at the Old Burying Ground, 7 Springs Road (see above). The American Revolution Soldiers Monument (1999), situated inside the entrance, records the names of 43 men, among them three former slaves. Families represented are Abbott, Bacon, Davis, Fitch, Hartwell, Jones, Lane, Maxwell, Moore, Page, Pollard, Reed, Stearns, Webber, Willson [Wilson], and Wright. The former slaves are Caesar Jones, Cambridge Moore, and Caesar Prescott, whose military service was credited to their respective owners until December 1780, from which point onward they served in the Continental Army as free men and collected a bounty for their service. At the northeast corner of the Old Burying Ground, the so-called African Reservation (ca. 1800), an area "set apart for the burial of the African race," holds at least one dozen unmarked graves, including those of Jones, Moore, and Prescott [Abram Brown, 32]. Also buried here was Peter Freeman (d. 1807), a Revolutionary War soldier and freed slave who was employed by the Rev. Samuel Stearns family; his remains were later removed and reinterred at Shawsheen Cemetery (NR 2007, see below) with the establishment of a Stearns family plot there.

In addition to burials, significant improvements were made in and adjacent to the Old Burying Ground during the Federal period. The first tomb, built for the families of John Reed and John Merriam, was completed in 1795, and in 1824 Capt.

Robert Pulsifer built the adjoining tomb to the south. Together, these two tombs are known as the South Mound Tomb, located at the southern end of the burying ground. Construction of the North Mound Tomb (1826), located at the northern edge of the burying ground, was a private enterprise that produced thirteen adjoining tombs for Bedford's leading families on a strip of private land adjacent to the Old Burying Ground. Its construction delayed the need for new burial plots. The North Mound Tomb and associated acreage was added to the town-owned parcel in the early 20th century. Buried in these tombs are members of the Bacon, Blodgett, Crosby, Cutler, Fitch, Goodwin, Gragg, Hayward, Hill, Lane, Page, Preston, Reed, Rice, Sage, Simonds, Stearns, Webber, Wheeler, and Wilson families.

Early Industrial Period (ca. 1830-ca. 1870)

Expanding industrial interests and the construction of new buildings on established roadways characterized the Early Industrial period at the town center. Bedford's population grew rapidly during the 1830s, followed by a period of slower growth until about 1855, and a decline thereafter. A small foreign-born population consisted mostly of Irish immigrants. The 1865 Massachusetts census, conducted near the end of the period, recorded 212 dwellings in Bedford, 202 families, 820 inhabitants, two churches, and six schoolhouses.

Production of hand-made shoes for the Boston market employed the most people during the period and was a major presence at the town center. By 1832, Reuben Bacon, Esq. (1788-1857) and Phineas W. Chamberlain (1803-1878) were the principal employers, with a total of 140 male and female hands. According to Brown's *History of Bedford*, Chamberlain learned the shoe business from Zebedee Simonds (d. 1826), and continued it successfully with John D. Billings of Concord. The partners had their house, the Chamberlain-Billings Double House, 42-44 The Great Road (ca. 1831, BED.502), built next to their factory, at 48-52 The Great Road (ca. 1831, BED.43), a building that has since been modified with the addition of mid 20th century storefronts. Chamberlain & Billings employed eighteen to twenty people who assembled and finished shoes from parts made in home shops. These home shops, like those of the Federal period, were either attached to houses or freestanding; barns also were used. A shop was attached to the Lucy P. Hartwell House, 29 Elm Street (1811-1812/1881, BED.35), until the house was remodeled in 1881; the Jonathan Bacon House, 133 The Great Road (1836, BED.47), reportedly had a small shoe shop behind the residence as well. After Joshua Page's death in 1842, his tavern/inn on The Great Road (see above) operated as a boardinghouse for shoemakers. The 1850 federal census recorded 100 people in the town who were shoemakers by occupation. During its peak years, shoemaking in Bedford amounted to annual sales of more than 90,000 pairs, with an estimate value of $50,000. Production of hand-made shoes in Bedford ceased just before the Civil War. The last ten-footer shoe shop was removed from the town center to Carlisle Road after World War I.

In transportation developments, Charles C. Corey (1816-1893) of Bedford, formerly of Groton, purchased with his father the larger part of the Boston and Keene Stage Company route in 1835. This route was the only public conveyance from Groton and southwestern New Hampshire towns to Boston until the stage route was replaced by railroads. Corey established an express route between Bedford and Boston, making a round trip in two days and carrying the mails, and later was engaged in the lumber and grain business. His residence was 56-58 South Road (second quarter, 19th century, BED.284), not 43 The Great Road (1822, BED.42), which has been erroneously linked to Charles C. Corey in many sources. His son, Charles A. Corey (1842-1900), a grocer, state representative, and Bedford town official, owned the house on The Great Road from 1871 onward.

The town center continued to serve as Bedford's institutional focus during the Early Industrial period. The relationship between the Rev. Samuel Stearns and the First Congregational Society was dissolved in 1832, when the society became known as the First Parish, Unitarian. The town's new Orthodox church, the Trinitarian Congregational Society, was formed 8 November 1832, with the Rev. Stearns as the first minister. Jeremiah Fitch of Boston (see **Federal Period** above), himself a Unitarian, had been baptized in Bedford by the Rev. Stearns. In recognition of his respect for the minister, Fitch gave the Orthodox society land across the street from the Fitch family homestead for construction of a meetinghouse, the Trinitarian Congregational Church, 25 The Great Road (now First Church of Christ, Congregational;

1832-1833, BED.113, photo 5). The Rev. Stearns was installed at the completed meetinghouse on 5 June 1833. He died in 1834, and was buried at the Old Burying Ground on Springs Road. His remains were relocated in 1858 to the newer Shawsheen Cemetery, 1 Shawsheen Road (1849, BED.801, NRIND 2007), where they were interred near those of his wife, Abigail French Stearns, and children.

Two housewrights of importance at the town center during this period were first cousins Amos B. Cutler (1809-1893) and Nathaniel C. Cutler (1809-1874). Grandsons of Thomas Cutler of Lexington, the cousins were both natives of Ashby, Massachusetts, and relocated to Bedford. In 1832, each bought one-half of the North Road chaise factory of William Everett, a brother-in-law of Nathaniel Cutler. They remodeled the shop into a duplex, now 9-11 North Road (ca. 1832, BED.31); Amos owned the right (east) half and Nathaniel owned the other half. Another example of the work of Amos Cutler is a single-family residence he built for himself nearby, at 5 The Great Road (1835, BED.40), which remained in the Cutler family through the end of the 19th century.

Nathaniel Cutler is credited with introducing the Greek Revival style to Bedford. In 1836, he purchased from the widow Hannah Reed a parcel of land on South Road, behind (south of) the 1826 brick schoolhouse (see **Federal Period**). The Nathaniel C. Cutler House, 24-28 South Road (1836-1837, BED.94, photo 4), reportedly was the first in Bedford to be oriented with the narrow gable end facing the street in the Greek Revival-style manner, with a pedimented facade. Another house of similar design that has been attributed to Cutler is the Thomas and Anna Stiles House, 5 Springs Road (ca. 1838, BED.67), built on land formerly part of the Reed holdings about the time that Thomas Stiles married Anna W. Reed, a granddaughter of Hannah Reed. Cutler's contract for building the house of a second Reed granddaughter, Anna's sister, H. Malvina Swain Reed Lawrence, is preserved in Middlesex County deeds. This house, built at the southeast corner of The Great Road and South Road and now located at 143 The Great Road (1845, BED.48), was given to the Trinitarian Congregational parish in 1872 for use as a parsonage. After the parish acquired another home at 27 The Great Road (see above) for a parsonage, the Lawrence house was moved ca. 1927 to its present location, to make way for new commercial construction at the original site. Also attributed to Cutler is the Isaac Hartwell House, 25 Hillside Avenue (1847-1848, BED.88), which was moved ca. 1912-1914 from its original site at 120 The Great Road, and the substantially altered 138 The Great Road (1843, BED.72, previously known as 130 The Great Road). It is unclear whether Nathaniel Cutler built the William A. Putnam House, 119 The Great Road (ca. 1850, BED.45), though the house bears some similarities to the housewright's other buildings. William Putnam (d. 1871) acquired the former Joshua Page tavern, west of the Town Common, in 1848 and operated the building as a hotel.

The Town Common acquired its present character by the early 1850s, due in part to the creation of additional public ways defining the borders of the parcel, as well as the establishment in the 1830s of the Back Common to the southwest. On the Town Common's western edge, Joshua Page began residential development of the land south of his tavern, at the present Elm Street, by 1830. He conveyed to the town a small triangle of land to square off the Common at its northwest corner, and in exchange the town agreed to remove the meetinghouse stables from the Common, and a pile of rocks from the old animal pound nearby. Page maintained that the presence of these features devalued his property. In 1831, the widowed Hannah Reed (1764-1839), daughter-in-law of John Reed of Domine Manse and owner of the acreage east and south of the common, donated to the town a ¾-acre parcel at the present School Way, for the purpose of relocating the meetinghouse stables and town pound, and providing space for a future hearsehouse, schoolhouse, or other town building deemed necessary. This parcel became known as the Back Common or Stable Grounds, and is now paved as the northerly edge of School Way. In 1836, the town built an engine house here, and later a hearse house behind the engine house (both demolished in the first half of the 20th century).

Other changes in circulation and the road pattern occurred in the vicinity of the town common during the Early Industrial period. Horse-drawn traffic across the common was discontinued in the 1840s, and a fence at the periphery was built in 1850-1852, using stone bollards brought from Chelmsford. The "trodden path" that once led from the southeast corner of the common, at South Road, across the park to the south door of the first meetinghouse, was realigned in 1847, shifted easterly to define the eastern edge of the common and allow South Road to join The Great Road. On the resulting new

first block of South Road, fronting the common, the town constructed a combined town hall and central school building, now known as Old Town Hall, 16 South Road (1856, BED.23, photos 4 and 6). This gable-front building with bracketed eaves is the only Italianate-style municipal building in Bedford. Maple Street, constructed in 1852 on land taken from the First Church, defined the southern edge of the common and improved access to the engine house on the Back Common.

The children of Thompson Bacon, a land surveyor and farmer in the south part of Bedford, occupied a cluster of houses near the Town Common in the first half of the 19th century. The houses from South Road to Elm Street in particular were once known as the Bacon compound. According to Ina Mansur's research, the oldest sibling who survived to adulthood, Jonathan Bacon (1785-1856), lived at 65 South Road (BED.288, demolished 2005) before selling the property in 1836 and moving to a large, temple-front, Greek Revival-style dwelling built for him at 133 The Great Road (see below). Two of his brothers occupied properties north of Jonathan's first residence: Elbridge Bacon at the double house next door at 43-45 South Road (first quarter 19th century, BED.280), and Reuben Bacon at 33 South Road (1830, BED.32). Adjacent lots were occupied by Reuben's daughters, among them Susan Bacon Flint at 46 Elm Street (1830, BED.98). Two other children of Thompson Bacon resided on Elm Street near the southwest corner of the common: Eliza Bacon, in the converted South Bedford School House, 10-12 Maple Street (1793/1819, BED.33), and John Bacon at 29 Elm Street (1811-1812/1881, BED.35, see above). Most of the Bacons were shoe manufacturers.

Jonathan Bacon resided in the most high-style Greek Revival dwelling at the town center, though the housewright has not been determined. After selling his shoe manufacturing business, Bacon pursued his interests as an inventor, developing sash and blind fastenings, latches, and various carriage appliances. He obtained a patent for his "lever blind fastener" about 1830; in 1832, about 4,000 sets were handmade in Bedford, employing local men as ironworkers. The location of the Bacon ironwork factory has not been determined. Bacon's estate dominated the south side of The Great Road, east of Springs Road, through the early 20th century. Other buildings once associated with the estate include a carriage house, now 139 The Great Road (ca. 1836, BED.89); another house possibly built for estate employees, now 131A The Great Road (ca. 1886, BED.526); and a separate gameroom building, moved from the original estate grounds and now the core of the residence at 6 School Way (1914, BED.101).

The town of Bedford began beautification efforts at the Old Burying Ground as early as 1835, when $50 was appropriated to plant trees along the borders of the cemetery. Subsequent tree planting campaigns were undertaken later in the 19th century, especially in conjunction with the observance of Arbor Day, first celebrated in 1872. One hundred twenty years after establishing the Old Burying Ground, the town of Bedford in 1849 opened Shawsheen Cemetery, 1 Shawsheen Road (BED.801, NRIND 2007), located about one mile east of the town center. Most burials at the Old Burying Ground made after 1849 filled spaces remaining in established family plots and mound tombs. Some families elected to move graves—and their associated markers—from the Old Burying Ground to Shawsheen Cemetery, with the goal of keeping extended family together. The final burial in the so-called African Reservation, at the northeast corner of the Old Burying Ground, was that of Violet (d. 1842), the last freed slave who died in Bedford [Abram Brown, 32].

Late Industrial Period (ca. 1870-ca. 1915)

Railroads transformed Bedford during the Late Industrial period. Two standard-gauge lines (from 1873 onward) and a narrow-gauge line (from 1877 to 1878) operated through or near the town center, with an electric street railway established in the early 20th century (see below). Middlesex Central Railroad, a subsidiary of the Boston & Lowell Railroad, was built through Bedford in 1872-1873, part of the extension of the railroad company's West Cambridge line from Lexington to Concord. Depot Square (Bedford Depot Park Historic District, NR 2003), located on South Road approximately one-quarter mile south of the Town Common, became Bedford's new industrial focus. Railroad-dependent businesses supplied coal, lumber, grain, or local transportation (livery stable) from Depot Square, and some proprietors and employees resided nearby in the historic district. Charles C. Corey of 56-58 South Road (see above) operated a grain, coal, and lumber business at the depot; his stagecoach company went out of business after the railroad opened. Hiram N. Hutchinson of 60 South Road (1861, BED.286) was a grain dealer with Otis S. Brown & Co. in East Cambridge.

Another railroad, the Billerica and Bedford narrow-gauge line, opened in 1877 in the Billerica & Bedford Railroad Right-of-Way (1877, BED. 9018, photo 12), a narrow linear corridor that defines much of the eastern edge of the town center historic district. Within the district boundary, the railroad once had grade crossings (no longer extant) at The Great Road and Springs Road. The first two-foot, common-carrier, narrow-gauge railroad in the nation, the Billerica & Bedford Railroad connected travelers from Billerica to Depot Square in Bedford, where they boarded the Boston-bound train. Though the narrow-gauge railroad was functionally sound, and daily revenue exceeded operating expenses, under-capitalization and greater than expected construction costs resulted in the bankruptcy of the corporation, the closing of the narrow-gauge railroad, and the sale, in June 1878, of the rolling stock. Railroad use of the right-of-way continued in 1885, when the Boston & Lowell opened a standard-gauge line. The Boston & Lowell's chief competitor, the Boston & Maine Railroad, took over this line in 1887.

During the railroad era, the town center remained a focus for small businesses, but was a lesser presence in Bedford's industry due to the concentration of railroad-related activity at Depot Square to the south. New business construction at the town center included a sizable Colonial Revival-style addition on the west side of the business block next to the Bedford House hotel, yielding the commercial building currently known as 47-53 The Great Road (ca. 1844/1894, BED.112). Removal of the Joshua Page House, 13 School Avenue (see above), from its original site on The Great Road allowed this addition to be built. In the early 20th century, George Arthur Skelton operated a general store in the east side of the commercial building, while Hannah Mudge operated a dry goods store with her sister in the west side. The former 1½-story dwelling at 30-38 South Road (1848-49/ca. 1900, BED.95) was lifted ca. 1900 so new ground-floor commercial spaces could be built underneath. Michael Manning, a barber, and Charles Elliot, a retail fish dealer, operated their businesses here and resided in the rental units.

J. Bartlett Prescott established a wholesale milk dealership on North Road by 1880. The dairy business, known as J. B. Prescott Co., included a pasteurizing plant by the 1910s, a portion of which survives in the building at 20 North Road (ca. 1905, BED.122). Members of the Prescott family and their heirs retained ownership of the business until at least 1949. Immediately south of the dairy building, and occupying the same lot until the dairy property was subdivided in 1979, is the J. Bartlett Prescott House, 18 North Road (ca. 1879, BED.121, photo 7).

Bedford saw slow population growth to 1885, with more rapid growth up to 1900, followed by a relatively stable population from 1900 onward. Three large tracts at the town center were subdivided for residential development in the last quarter of the 19th century, creating the Fletcher Road vicinity and Hillside Avenue, on the north side of the historic district, and the Crescent Street vicinity, on the south side. The first two tracts had long been associated with the Fitch and Reed families, respectively, and subdivided by their descendants, as Bedford began to evolve into a suburb of Boston. Perhaps in an effort to recognize the history of the town center during a period of rapid change, Town Meeting voted in 1896 to rename Main Street, the principal roadway leading from Wilson Park easterly toward Lexington, to The Great Road, recalling its early 18th-century roots. Informally, the road continued to be known as Main Street into the 20th century.

Mary Alzina Hartwell Fletcher (1839-1927) of Arlington developed the Fletcher Road area from 1884 onward. A Bedford native and descendant of two old Bedford families, the Fitches and the Hartwells, she acquired a farm of approximately 60 acres on the northern side of The Great Road upon her mother's death in 1871. The farm, located across the road from the First Parish Church, had belonged to Mary Fletcher's maternal grandfather, David Fitch (1777-1860), who purchased it at auction in 1819 along with the John and Ruhamah (Reed) Lane House (ca. 1810, moved to 78-80 Fletcher Road, BED.226). Aside from two early transactions to family members, producing the houses along the eastern edge of the tract at 22 Springs Road (1874, BED.58) and 6 Hancock Street (ca. 1875, BED.228), Mary Fletcher did not begin subdividing the farm until after her father's death in 1884. The Lane-Fitch House was moved from its original site on The Great Road (now occupied by the Blake Block, 68-74 The Great Road) northerly to a site at 78-80 Fletcher Road, beyond the boundary of the historic district. The first block of Fletcher Road, developed from the mid-

1880s to ca. 1910, displays the greatest influence of Mary Fletcher, including the house she occupied with her husband at 39 Fletcher Road (ca. 1885, BED.208, photo 8). Mary Fletcher did not record a subdivision plan with the Registry of Deeds until 1913, by which time the neighborhood was known as Colonial Park.

East of the Fletcher Road development, Wallace Gleason Webber (1856-1910) acquired a tract from Malvina Reed Lawrence, then residing at Domine Manse, 110 The Great Road (see above), and built a large Queen Anne-style mansion (ca. 1886, razed 1933) in the vicinity of the present building at 130 The Great Road (1987, BED.71). The original carriage house on the Webber estate survives as a dwelling at 18 Hillside Avenue (ca. 1886, BED.74). Webber, himself a descendant of old Bedford families, was one of the founding partners of Paine, Webber & Company, a Boston-based banking and brokerage concern. Locally, he served as president of the Bedford Lumber and Manufacturing Company, chartered in 1891 and based at Depot Square. At the time of its establishment, Bedford Lumber was the largest industry in the town, employing 50 people in the manufacturing and sale of lumber and building materials such as doors, sashes, blinds, paint, and glazing. In that connection, Webber engaged in real estate, opening up Hillside Avenue at the town center for residential development in the late 1880s. One of the first houses in the subdivision, constructed for Arthur W. Blake, was Fairwick, 34 Hillside Avenue (1888, BED.76, photo 9). Blake was a tailor and proprietor of a men's clothing business at 5 Tremont Place in Boston. Between 1912 and 1914, the Webber family moved the house originally located at 120 The Great Road, next door to the Webber mansion, to 25 Hillside Avenue (1847-1848, BED.88), where it became the residence of M. Bernard Webber and his wife, Florence. In addition to Hillside Avenue, Wallace G. Webber developed the residential neighborhood on Webber Avenue and adjacent streets, located beyond the historic district boundary.

On the south side of the historic district, Charles W. O'Dowd (b. 1855) subdivided his family's farm, which encompassed roughly seventeen acres between South Road and the former narrow-gauge railroad right-of-way. His parents, Charles and Catherine O'Dowd, emigrated from Ireland to the United States and resided in Bedford by 1880. The younger O'Dowd was employed as a woodworker at the Bedford Lumber Company in 1894, and subsequently established himself as a carpenter and builder. Subdivision of O'Dowd's land was underway by 1897; the way to the farm from South Road followed the path that later became the western segment of Crescent Avenue through the subdivision. O'Dowd's first house was 18 Crescent Avenue (1905, BED.250), and most of the adjacent houses on the street were constructed by ca. 1920. Later, O'Dowd and his wife moved to a new house, 49 Hillside Avenue (1927, BED. 83).

New institutional developments occurred at the town center in the last quarter of the 19th century. At the western end, Wilson Park (1884, BED.903, photo 7, see above) was established at the junction of The Great Road, North Road, and Concord Road, where Bedford's Minutemen gathered on 19 April 1775 during the opening events of the American Revolution. The park was named for Capt. Jonathan Willson [sic], who was killed in action that day. Nearby, the Bedford Free Library, established in 1876, operated in the store building once located on the Stearns property at 4 The Great Road (see above). About 1895, library operations were transferred to the town hall building (see below), and the former store was removed to a site beyond the district boundary (22-24 Loomis Street, 1801, BED.431). Near the center of the historic district, two new monuments were dedicated at the Old Burying Ground on Springs Road about this time. On the third annual celebration of Patriots Day, 20 April 1896, the Bedford Historical Society unveiled the African Reservation Monument in memory of three former slaves from Bedford who served in the Revolution: Cambridge Moore, Caesar Prescott, and Caesar Jones. The monument was erected in the so-called African Reservation section of the burying ground, containing unmarked graves of people of color (see above). Six years later, the Historical Society's annual Patriot's Day exercises included dedication of the Job Lane Memorial Boulder (1902), in memory of Job Lane (1718-1796), who was wounded in the battle at Concord. Lane descendants, notably George O. Smith of Boston, funded the memorial.

Bedford's population growth in the last quarter of the 19th century led to municipal construction at the town center, including the establishment of a central location for school buildings. In 1891, the town built Union School (now the Town Center, 12 Mudge Way, BED.104; E. H. and W. E. Blakie, architects) on four acres situated west of the Back Common. Wallace G. Webber was chairman of the Building Committee. With the opening of Union School in 1892, the

town's school operations were consolidated from five former district schools into a single building, and schoolyard games at the town center were removed from the Town Common and adjacent streets, a situation that had provoked much public discussion. After the school department vacated the town hall overlooking the Town Common (now Old Town Hall, 16 South Road, see above), the building was renovated for use by the Bedford Free Library and other municipal offices.

Electric street railway construction improved transportation to the town center in the first quarter of the 20th century. In May 1902, the Concord & Boston Street Railway (a subsidiary of the Lexington & Boston Street Railway) began service through Bedford, and the route through the historic district followed Concord Road, The Great Road, and South Road. Later that year, the line was extended up North Road to Billerica, ultimately connecting to Lowell. In 1912, the Middlesex & Boston Street Railway, one of the major street railways in the Boston area, acquired the Lexington & Boston line.

Early Modern Period (ca. 1915-ca. 1940)

Bedford experienced considerable growth in the first half of the 20th century. The town's population nearly tripled, from 1,362 persons in 1920 to 3,807 persons in 1940. Much of this growth may be attributed to the opening of the U. S. Veterans Administration Hospital, Springs Road (1928, BED.D, NR 2012), situated on 2,000 acres in the north part of town. The hospital was the town's major employer during the Early Modern period.

The automobile's increasing popularity in the 1920s and early 1930s led to significant reductions in rail service to and through Bedford. In 1925, the Middlesex & Boston Street Railway converted its Lexington division, of which Bedford was a part, to bus service. The tracks on Concord Road, North Road, The Great Road, and South Road through the town center presumably were removed shortly thereafter. In 1931, the Boston & Maine Railroad ended passenger service between North Billerica and Bedford along the former Billerica & Bedford Railroad Right-of-Way through the historic district, though occasional freight traffic traveled through the corridor until 1962.

The Great Road continued to serve as the spine of Bedford's small business district at the town center. Grocers, florists, restaurants, a boot and shoe repair, a tailor, a druggist, and a dry goods store were among those businesses in operation in 1931, according to the town directory of that year. Most businesses were clustered in the vicinity of the Town Common, in the Fletcher Block at 68-84 The Great Road (ca. 1895, 1920s; BED.57, BED.227; demolished 2011; replaced by Blake Block, 2012), or in the blocks immediately east and west. Commercial uses replaced a residential property at the northeast corner of The Great Road intersection with South Road, with construction in the late 1920s of a new brick block at 93-101 The Great Road (1928, BED.92, photos 4 and 6) and an adjacent filling station at 105 The Great Road (present station 1958, BED.91). The brick block incorporated four stores and a post office. According to Sanborn fire insurance maps for Bedford, other buildings in commercial use near the Town Common during the Early Modern period were 30-38 South Road (see above), 47-53 The Great Road (see above), and the former Chamberlain-Billings Shoe Factory, 48-52 The Great Road (ca. 1831/1955, BED.43), which housed a plumbing business and store in the western half of the building and a dwelling in the eastern half.

At the western end of the town center, from the early 1930s into the 1960s, Amos L. Taylor operated the J. B. Prescott Co. commercial dairy at 20 North Road (see above) as a trustee for the Prescott heirs. The business expanded with the wholesale delivery of milk, and a sizable garage space (no longer extant) was added to the south side of the pasteurizing plant. During this period, the dairy started doing business under the name Bedford Farms, a name also used by the ice cream business operating from the property beginning in the 1950s. Immediately south of the Prescott dairy and the J. B. Prescott House, 18 North Road (see above), was the Oliver J. Lane House, 16 North Road (ca. 1857, BED.230, photo 7), along with Lane's former carpenter shop, later known as The Red Barn, 5 Concord Road (ca. 1790s, BED.119). After her father's death, Edith L. Lane leased the Red Barn building to successive restaurant proprietors, among them two teachers who ran a summer tea room, and later Herman Schofield, who operated a restaurant. Edith Lane subdivided the property in 1945 and sold the carpenter shop for use as a residence.

Following the closing of the Bedford House hotel at the corner of The Great Road and Elm Street, the Bedford Grange acquired the building in 1925, remaining at this location until ca. 1940. The Bedford chapter of the Grange was founded in 1909, and had met at Old Town Hall, 16 South Road, before purchasing the former hotel building. The Bedford Fire Station, 55 The Great Road (1949, BED.111, see below) now occupies the site.

The most substantial institutional construction at the town center during the period was the Junior High School and Auditorium (now Town Hall), 10 Mudge Way (1927, BED.103, photo 10; George M. Champney/Derby & Robinson, architects). Bedford's first new school built since Union School opened in 1892, the red-brick, Georgian Revival-style building was sited immediately north of Union School on two acres of land donated to the town by Charles W. Jenks (1848-1929). School Way served as the principal vehicular access to both schools during the Early Modern period. The auditorium on the south side of the Junior High building provided space for Town Meeting and community gatherings. The Junior High School and Auditorium was converted to Town Hall use in the mid-1980s.

Charles W. Jenks (1848-1929), donor of the land for the Junior High School and Auditorium, resided nearby at his Fitch-family ancestral homestead, the Fitch Tavern, 12 The Great Road (see above). As late as the 1930s, the barn associated with Fitch Tavern was located across the street from the house, on the south side of The Great Road, where Jenks's heirs held significant acreage through the mid-20th century. In 1939, the town of Bedford paid $7,000 to Jenks's estate to acquire an additional eight acres west of the Junior High building, where the town would build, after World War II, the Stearns Memorial Building for a public library, along with brick wing additions to Union School (see below) [Corey, "The Fitch Farm"].

Activity on three family estates on The Great Road east of the Town Common in the late 1920s and 1930s yielded new lots for residential and commercial development at the town center. In 1925, the Bacon family sold the Jonathan Bacon House, 133 The Great Road (see above), to a real estate developer. Building lots were created on The Great Road and the newly constructed Bacon Road, one of only two 20th-century streets in the historic district. In 1926, the former Lawrence House, which had served as the parsonage of the Orthodox Congregational church from 1872 to 1923, was moved to 143 The Great Road (see above), a corner lot at the newly created intersection with Bacon Road. The house was cleared from its original lot to make way for the brick commercial block at 93-101 The Great Road (see above) and the filling station at 105 The Great Road (see above) near the Town Common. New single-family dwellings were built on Bacon Road immediately behind the Lawrence House, among them 9 Bacon Road (ca. 1929, BED.239) and 11 Bacon Road (1930s, BED.240). These houses face the former Billerica & Bedford Railroad Right-of-Way, then operated as the Lexington Branch of the Boston & Maine Railroad. Both Bacon Road and Hillside Avenue, to the north, attracted new residential development after the Boston & Maine ended its passenger service on the branch line in 1931.

Across the street from the Jonathan Bacon House, the late 19th-century mansion of Wallace Gleason Webber was dismantled by the family in 1933 following the death of Webber's widow. The mansion occupied a site in the vicinity of the present building at 130 The Great Road (1987, BED.71). The Webber family had already, between ca. 1912 and 1914, removed the Isaac Hartwell House from its original site at 120 The Great Road to its present site at 25 Hillside Avenue (see above). Subdivision of the Webber family holdings led to new construction on The Great Road and Hillside Avenue after World War II. Similarly, the 1937 death of Malvina Lawrence Hunnewell, a Reed descendant, led to the subdivision of Reed family holdings associated with Domine Manse, 101 The Great Road (see above), with adjacent new construction following in the early 1950s.

Modern Period (ca. 1940-ca. 1964)

The 1940s and early 1950s brought regional transportation improvements to large tracts of land on the outskirts of Bedford that had an impact on the town center during the Modern period. Laurence G. Hanscom Field opened in 1942 on land in South Bedford, Concord, and Lincoln. Owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and built by the Federal government, the airfield was leased to the U. S. Army Air Force, which operated there until 1974. Hanscom Field also

served as an Air Force Reserve Training Center. Between 1949 and 1951, the Commonwealth built the section of State Route 128 from Lexington (adjacent to Bedford) south to State Route 9 in Wellesley, as part of the new "circumferential highway" around Boston. Route 128 allowed auto-borne travelers to bypass congested town centers, and fueled the post-World War II expansion of the Boston suburbs. Similarly, U. S. Route 3, intended as a bypass of a 1920s highway, was built through the northeast corner of Bedford in the early 1950s. The presence of Routes 128 and 3, activity at Hanscom Field, the post-World War II baby boom, and resulting demand for housing nearly tripled Bedford's population in the decades following World War II, from 3,807 persons in 1940 to 10,969 persons in 1960.

Responding to the population increase and the need for expanded municipal services, the town undertook three municipal buildings projects at the town center between 1949 and 1951. A combined Fire and Police Station (now the Bedford Fire Station), 55 The Great Road (1949, BED.111; Frank S. Owen, architect), replaced the vacant Grange Hall (former Bedford House hotel), which the town had purchased in 1941 and demolished per a 1942 vote of Town Meeting. Richard S. Dodge was chairman of the building committee. As originally constructed, the new station included an apparatus room (marked by the garage bays for the fire trucks) fronting The Great Road, a fire department watch room, police booking room, police chief's office, first aid room, cells, and showers. An addition in 1965, which extended the building east toward Elm Street, housed a Civil Defense Communication Center, the fire chief's office, and bunk and kitchen facilities for the firemen on duty. The building was expanded further on the west side and rear in 1998, though the 1949 and 1965 construction is readily discerned. With the opening of this station, the Police Department moved from its previous quarters at Old Town Hall, 16 South Road (see above), and the Fire Department moved from the Engine House (demolished 1949) that occupied the northwest corner of the Elm Street intersection with School Way. This area, known as the Back Common into the early 20th century, currently encompasses the northern edge of asphalt paving on School Way; no parcel associated with the Back Common is identified in the town assessors' records.

One block west of the fire and police station, the town constructed its first public library building, the William A. Stearns Memorial Library (now the Bedford Police Station), 2 Mudge Way (1951, BED.114; George M. Champney, architect). Hubert H. Loomis was chairman of the building committee. Since its incorporation in 1876, the library had occupied various quarters at the town center, with its longest tenure being at Old Town Hall from 1892 to 1952, when the Stearns building opened. In addition to $20,000 contributed by town residents, four gifts of private funds made construction possible: from the Stearns family, in memory of William Albert Stearns, for whom the library was named; from the Shaw building fund, in memory of Dr. Henry Shaw, a member of the library's incorporation committee and its first president; from the Brown-Flint Trust Fund, honoring Bedford's 19th-century historian Abram English Brown and his wife, the former Sarah Flint; and from the Pickman family, in honor of Dudley and Ellen Pickman. The Bedford Historical Society has maintained a presence in the former library building since its opening in 1952, and the society's archives remain there. After a larger public library opened in 1968 outside the district boundary, occupants of the Stearns building included town administrative offices and the Minuteman Chapter of the American Red Cross, in addition to the historical society. The building was expanded at the rear in 1996-1997 for use as the police station.

To address the town's burgeoning public school population, brick wings designed by Kilham, Hopkins, Greeley & Brodie were added in 1951 to the Union School (now Town Center), 12 Mudge Way, though the capacity of the newly constructed classroom space was quickly exceeded. School facilities deemed "more than adequate" for a population of 562 school-aged children in 1951 were strained severely by 1954, when the school population stood at 1,010 children. Later in the 1950s, the town was forced to abandon its 60-year-old system of a united elementary school at the town center and return to a system of neighborhood schools. Following the opening in 1955 of a new combined Junior and Senior High School complex outside the district boundary, both Union School and the Junior High School and Auditorium (now Town Hall), 10 Mudge Way, were designated the Center School complex, serving as the neighborhood elementary school for the town center area. Union School was closed as a school in 1979 and reopened in 1985 as the Town Center, a multi-service center for nonprofit organizations. The former Junior High School was renovated in the mid-1980s to house town offices as the new Town Hall.

Mudge Way, the last new street to be built in the historic district, was laid out through a portion of the land the town had purchased in 1939 from the estate of Charles W. Jenks. The barn of the Fitch-Jenks farm on the northwest side of Mudge Way had been cleared ca. 1932. The name of this access road, which largely connects buildings in the town's municipal complex, honors the contributions to Bedford of Rebecca F. Mudge and Harriet M. Mudge, sisters and members of the ninth generation of the Mudge family in Bedford. They bequeathed money to the town that led to the creation of a playground outside the district boundary. While most buildings on Mudge Way are part of the town's municipal complex, there are two postwar reproduction colonial houses, now known as 1 Mudge Way (1953-1954, BED.116), and 3 Mudge Way (1957, BED.115). Immediately to the south, beyond the historic district boundary, the town built additional municipal buildings on a separate 43-acre parcel acquired from the Jenks heirs in 1953.

Another significant postwar municipal development at the town center was the dedication of Memorial Park, 145-165 The Great Road (1950, BED. 9019, photo 12), established at the northern end of Page Field on the eastern edge of the historic district. The town had acquired Page Field in 1931, when Town Meeting accepted a gift of land, then known as "Bacon Field," under the will of Elihu G. Loomis. The acreage had once been part of the nearby Bacon estate associated with the Jonathan Bacon House, 133 The Great Road (see above). Memorial Park was established to honor the 236 men and women who entered the service from Bedford during World War II, and the eight men whose deaths were connected to the war. Hubert Loomis, chairman of the Park Commission, gave the 40-foot flagpole to the town, and the Bedford Women's Service Club provided the granite-block monument at the base. Organized September 15, 1942, the Women's Service Club was made up of mothers, wives, and sisters of those in the service. Memorial stones lining the center approach to the flagpole recognize the contributions of individual veterans, beginning with those who served in World War II. The monument was dedicated on September 14, 1952. Memorial Park was renamed Veterans Memorial Park per a vote of the Board of Selectmen in March 2010, to reflect its expanded purpose of honoring veterans of all United States of America wars and military conflicts.

About two-thirds of residential and commercial buildings in Bedford in place by ca. 1960 had been constructed in the previous decade. New residential and commercial construction at the town center largely took the form of infill development. Within the historic district boundary, traditional-style Capes or Garrison Colonials were built on the residential side streets of Fletcher Road and Hillside Avenue. The Albert W. Clifford House, 128 The Great Road (1959, BED.70), was the last residential building constructed on The Great Road in the historic district before the end of the period of significance. The town's Zoning Board of Appeals granted a variance to Clifford to favor construction of a residence on the parcel rather than the business block allowed by zoning, though the dwelling was converted to business use by 1963. Postwar traditional commercial construction included a branch bank of the Lexington Trust Company, 94 The Great Road (1957-1958, BED.68, photo 4), and a branch office for Pennell & Thompson Real Estate, 131 The Great Road (1962-1963, BED.90).

Bedford's location at the convergence of three state highways—Routes 4, 225, and 62—caused the town to be a prime location for commercial development, especially the new large-scale shopping centers introduced after World War II. Construction of the Bedford Shopping Center (1955) and the Great Road Shopping Center (1960), both situated on The Great Road east of the historic district, precipitated the loss of much historic fabric on the historically significant byway during subsequent decades. At the town center, at least four dwellings dating to the first half of the 19th century were converted to office use by ca. 1962: the William Stearns House, 56 The Great Road (ca. 1819, BED.44); the William A. Putnam House, 119 The Great Road (see above); 138 The Great Road (see above); and the Lawrence House, 143 The Great Road (see above). Another historic building, the former Chamberlain-Billings Shoe Factory, 48-52 The Great Road (see above), acquired in 1955 a one-story, flat-roofed addition of three brick storefronts grafted onto its façade.

The town center supported a number of small businesses during the Modern period. In 1948, D. L. Page Company, a baker and confectioner based in Lowell, filed a business certificate with the Bedford Town Clerk to open a store at 49 The Great Road (see above) serving baked goods, chocolates, and ice cream. Continuing the tradition of early 20th-century tearooms owned and operated by women, in 1954, Anna Norton and Helen Geezel of Dorchester opened Cunningham's

Restaurant in the Fletcher Block (demolished) on The Great Road across the street from the Town Common. In 1955, Elaine Ruth Bedford and Mary B. Franks, both residents of Bedford, opened the Mary Alaine Restaurant (and bakery) in the brick block at 93-101 The Great Road (see above). J. B. Prescott Co., the dairy at 20 North Road (see above), began producing and selling ice cream under the business name Bedford Farms; the ice cream business continues today. Kenneth Pond Blake (b. 1901) and his wife, Elizabeth, owned Domine Manse, 110 The Great Road (see above), from ca. 1940 to 1960, when the house incorporated a restaurant. Edna W. Copp operated a pottery workshop, offered classes, and sold pottery from her residence at The Red Barn, 5 Concord Road (see above).

In 1962, the Boston & Maine Railroad ended operation of its branch lines north and west of Depot Square, after three decades with no passenger service and little freight activity. The town of Bedford, in 1963, purchased the segments of both rights-of-way within town boundaries. Today, the former Billerica & Bedford Railroad Right-of-Way (1877, see above), which borders much of the eastern edge of the historic district, is a linear park connecting Memorial Park, 145-165 The Great Road (1950, see above), with the balance of the historic district.

Old Bedford Center Post-1964

Modifications to the historic façade of the former Chamberlain-Billings Shoe Factory, 48-52 The Great Road (see above), along with the loss of the Jonas Munroe House, outside the National Register district boundary on North Road, contributed to local interest in preserving the significant historic buildings at the town center. The Bedford Historic District, a locally administered design review district with a boundary separate from that of the National Register district, was established in 1964 (Massachusetts General Court, Chapter 118 of the Acts of 1964), with boundary revisions approved in 1987. This district encompasses approximately 60 properties on The Great Road, North Road, and around the Town Common on Elm, Maple, and South Streets.

The Town of Bedford has engaged in considerable rehabilitation and reuse of historic municipal buildings in the National Register district since the late 1970s, at times converting buildings to different municipal functions as needs arise. Described in additional detail above, these buildings are currently known as Old Town Hall, 16 South Road; the Town Center, 12 Mudge Way; Bedford Town Hall, 10 Mudge Way; Bedford Police Station, 2 Mudge Way; and Bedford Fire Station, 65 The Great Road. A master plan, gravestone conservation, and repair work for the town-owned Old Burying Ground, 7 Springs Road (see above), were undertaken from 2005 to 2009. The town also has improved the former Billerica & Bedford Railroad Right-of-Way (see above), defining the eastern edge of the National Register district, as a pedestrian and bike trail.

Since Bedford's adoption of the Community Preservation Act in 2001, Town Meeting has appropriated funding sixteen times for historic preservation projects in the National Register district. Future preservation concerns include building demolition and new construction, and enhancement of municipal open spaces.

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of ancient Native American settlement in Bedford are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Native American sites in the district may contain information that identifies the temporal and functional variability of sites within the Shawsheen River drainage. Native sites in the district may contain information that identifies site types near upland tributary streams and ponds during different periods of settlement and their relationship to larger, possibly base camp-type habitation sites located along the Shawsheen River. Ancient Native sites in the district may be characterized by smaller, short-term occupations, with specialized functions that focused on the exploitation of specific floral and/or faunal resources and lithic source materials, possibly located in glacial till. Detailed analysis of features, functional categories of artifacts, lithic source materials, and the internal configuration of archaeological sites may contribute important information to the above questions.

Historic archaeological resources described above may contribute important information related to the early settlement of the district and town of Bedford. Additional historical research, combined with archaeological survey and testing, may help document the district's evolution from small-scale mixed grain and livestock farming in the Colonial Period to specialized agriculture and a rural retreat in the 19th century. Archaeological resources may contribute important evidence of the district's 17th- through 19th-century settlement and economy, which is poorly documented. All extant buildings in the proposed district date from the 18th through the 20th centuries. Archaeological resources associated with the extant structures described above comprise the sum total of our current known and potential archaeological knowledge of the district. Structural evidence of buildings and features associated with sites related to the domestic and agricultural historic context may contribute important information pertaining to the early settlement and evolution of the district and the economy that made those developments possible. Structural evidence of carriage houses, barns, outbuildings, and occupational-related features (trash pits, privies, wells) may survive on archaeological sites and with the extant historic structures identified above. Structural evidence from outbuildings and detailed analysis of the contents of occupational-related features (trash pits, privies, wells) may contribute important evidence related to "cottage industries" and specialized aspects of agricultural production present on farmsteads in the 19th century. Archaeological resources may also contribute important information related to the evolution of 19th-century rural retreats in the district and their relationship to specialized agriculture that developed during the same period.

Additional documentary research, combined with archaeological survey and testing within and around the current boundary of the cemetery, may identify the full range of graves present at the Old Burial Ground. Unmarked graves may exist, and the current pattern of the gravestones may not, in every instance, reflect their actual placement. Gravestones were frequently removed from older cemeteries, then later replaced, at times in different locations and/or in different cemeteries. The discrepancies between some head and footstones may also be the result of their relocation, possibly in the course of replacing vandalized stones. Gravestones were also erected as commemorative markers by descendants of individuals after their deaths. This scenario has been observed at other burial grounds in Massachusetts, and may have been in use at the Old Burial Ground. Archaeological research can help identify these graves, as well as later unmarked graves resulting from stolen, damaged, and overgrown stones. Nineteenth- and 20th-century unmarked graves may also be present representing paupers and unknown persons. Archaeological research can also help test the accuracy of the existing boundary of the cemetery. These boundaries may not accurately represent the actual cemetery boundaries. Some interments, possibly those of unknown persons, paupers, or other indigent persons, may have been buried intentionally outside the cemetery boundary. Artifact distributions may also be present associated with funerary or memorial services for specific individuals at their time of death, or individuals and groupings of individuals (possibly families) at later dates. While no structures are extant or historically known for the cemetery, additional documentary research, combined with archaeological survey and testing, may locate structural evidence of barns, stables, maintenance buildings, and outbuildings associated with the operation and maintenance of the cemetery. Occupational-related features (trash pits, privies, wells) may also be present. Detailed analysis of the contents of these features may contribute important information on the social, cultural, and economic characteristics of cemetery workers and Bedford residents who came to the Old Burial Ground to pay respects to the dead.

Much of the above information can be obtained through unobtrusive archaeological research. That is, information can be obtained by mapping artifact concentrations and the locations of features such as grave shafts and post molds, without disturbing actual skeletal remains. Remote-sensing research techniques might also contribute useful information. Social, cultural, and economic information relating to the 18th-, 19th-, and 20th-century Bedford settlement can be obtained in this manner; however, more detailed studies can be implemented through the actual excavation of burials and their analysis. Osteological studies of individuals interred at the cemetery have the potential to contribute a wealth of information relating to the overall physical appearance of the city's inhabitants, their occupations, nutrition, pathologies, and cause of death. This information can also be used to determine the actual number of individuals interred in the burial ground. Osteological information can also provide detailed information about the inhabitants of a community during periods when written records are rare or nonexistent. The paucity of written records is especially true for minority members of the

community, including Native Americans and African Americans. The overall context of the grave, including material culture remains, can contribute information on burial practices, religious beliefs, economic status, family structure, and numerous other topics relating to the individuals, their socioeconomic group, and the overall settlement.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

___preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
_X_previously listed in the National Register
___previously determined eligible by the National Register
___designated a National Historic Landmark
___recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_____
___recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
___recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

_X_State Historic Preservation Office
___Other State agency
___Federal agency
___Local government
___University
___Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): see district data sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property (approximately 20 acres not listed previously; approximately 75 acres total, with boundary increases and decreases)
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	19	312152	4707093
2	19	313029	4707282
3	19	313795	4706561
4	19	312309	4706818

Lat/Lon

1.	42.493409	-71.285903	3.	42.488777	-71.277916
2.	42.495316	-71.275303	4.	42.490968	-71.283900

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

This 2014 Technical Amendment and Boundary Change for the Old Bedford Center Historic District involves both increases and decreases of the 1977 district boundary. The three locations of boundary increase and three locations of boundary decrease are explained above in **7. Description – Adjustments to 1977 District Boundary**. The district boundary, as amended, is indicated on the Town of Bedford assessor's map sheets 53, 54, and 63, along with the district sketch map, all submitted with this nomination. The boundary follows parcel lines with the exception of three lines of convenience, as noted in the following description.

Beginning at the northeast corner of the amended district, where the Billerica & Bedford Railroad Right-of-Way meets Springs Road, the boundary follows the east side of the right-of-way south to The Great Road, then

parcel lines on the north and east sides of Memorial Park, and a line of convenience on the south side of the park that defines the park's limits as established in 1950. The boundary then crosses Bacon Road to include parcels at 9 Bacon and 11 Bacon, turning south along the side parcel lines of 18 Crescent Street and 15-17 Crescent Street, then following rear parcel lines on the odd-numbered side of Crescent Avenue. Returning to Crescent Avenue, the boundary follows parcel lines to encompass all properties on South Road up to and including 61 South Road, and meets the 1977 district boundary at 46-48 Elm Street. The amended boundary then follows the 1977 boundary from Elm Street west, including a line of convenience drawn through town-owned property, extending from Rodney Road west and turning north at a right angle to meet the side parcel line of 5 Mudge Way.

Continuing on the 1977 boundary along rear parcel lines to 16 Concord Road, the original boundary is then increased to add 22 Concord on the south side of the street, 21 Concord and 23 Concord across the street, and the rear addition of the building known as 20 North Road. The amended boundary at this location follows a new line of convenience, drawn along the east side of the sewer easement through the 20 North Road parcel, replacing the 1977 line of convenience across this parcel that originally passed through the building. Following the northerly parcel lines of 20 North, the boundary then crosses North Road and is further amended to exclude the parcels formerly known as 25 North and 29 North, now occupied by new construction.

After following the side parcel line of 21-23 North Road, the boundary returns to the 1977 boundary at rear parcel lines, reaching the north (rear) corner of the parcel at 4 The Great Road. From this point, the 1977 boundary is decreased to exclude a subdivision on Benjamin Kidder Lane and Ruben Duren Way, following parcel lines at 12 The Great Road and 11A Ruben Duren Way to return to the 1977 boundary at the rear parcel line of 26 The Great Road. The 1977 boundary is increased to include parcels on Fletcher Road (15 through 49 Fletcher, inclusive) and Hancock Street (6 through 14 Hancock, inclusive), and decreased to exclude residential construction at 21 Hancock Street that was not present when the district was originally established in 1977. The boundary then follows the 1977 path along rear parcel lines on the north side of Springs Road, with a boundary increase to include 74 through 82 Springs Road (inclusive), 61 Hillside Avenue, and 85 Hillside Avenue, returning to the point of origin at the railroad right-of-way.

The 1977 district, at 56.15 acres, is amended herein with the increase of approximately 20.86 acres, and a decrease of approximately 2.21 acres, for a net acreage of 74.80 acres (approximately 75 acres) as a result of the 2014 Technical Amendment and Boundary Change.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary of the Old Bedford Center Historic District, as amended herein, encompasses the greatest concentration of historic resources associated with the development of Bedford's town center from 1729, the year of the town's incorporation, to ca. 1964. The district is distinguished from commercial development on the east and northwest; residential development on the north, south, and west; and municipal development on the southwest that does not display the same continuity and integrity of historic streetscape present in the district.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kathleen Kelly Broomer, consultant, with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director
organization MA Historical Commission date April 2014
street & number 220 Morrissey Boulevard telephone (617) 727-8470
city or town Boston state MA zip code 02125
e-mail betsy.friedberg@sec.state.ma.us

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

  A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Old Bedford Center Historic District (2014 Technical Amendment and Boundary Change)

City or Vicinity: Bedford

County: Middlesex State: Massachusetts

Photographer: Kathleen Kelly Broomer, consultant to Town of Bedford, Bedford Historic Pres. Commission

Date Photographed: 2011-2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

1 of 12 Fitch Tavern, 12 The Great Rd. View NE.
digital file name: MA_Bedford (Middlesex County)_OldBedCenTechAmend01

2 of 12 Domine Manse, 110 The Great Rd. View N.
digital file name: MA_Bedford (Middlesex County)_OldBedCenTechAmend02

3 of 12 View W on Town Common. Left to right: First Parish Church, 75 The Great Rd; 21-23 Elm St; 15-17 Elm St.
digital file name: MA_Bedford (Middlesex County)_OldBedCenTechAmend03

4 of 12 View NE on South Rd from Maple St, toward The Great Road. Left to right: 94 The Great Rd; 93-101 The Great Rd; Old Town Hall, 16 South Rd; 20 South Rd; Cutler House, 24-28 South Rd.
digital file name: MA_Bedford (Middlesex County)_OldBedCenTechAmend04

5 of 12 Left to right: Dutton House, 31 The Great Rd; Gleason House, 27 The Great Rd; Trinitarian Congregational Church, 25 The Great Rd. View W.
digital file name: MA_Bedford (Middlesex County)_OldBedCenTechAmend05

6 of 12 Old Town Hall, 16 South Rd, with 93-101 The Great Road at left. View NE.
digital file name: MA_Bedford (Middlesex County)_OldBedCenTechAmend06

7 of 12 View NW from The Great Rd across Wilson Park to North Rd. In background are Oliver Lane House, 16 North Rd (left) and J. Bartlett Prescott House, 18 North Rd (right).
digital file name: MA_Bedford (Middlesex County)_OldBedCenTechAmend07

8 of 12 Mary and Matthew Fletcher House, 39 Fletcher Road. View SE.
digital file name: MA_Bedford (Middlesex County)_OldBedCenTechAmend08

9 of 12 Fairwick, 34 Hillside Avenue. View NW.
digital file name: MA_Bedford (Middlesex County)_OldBedCenTechAmend09

10 of 12 Junior High and Auditorium, now Bedford Town Hall, 10 Mudge Way. View SE.
digital file name: MA_Bedford (Middlesex County)_OldBedCenTechAmend10

11 of 12 Old Burying Ground, 7 Springs Rd. View NE.
digital file name: MA_Bedford (Middlesex County)_OldBedCenTechAmend11

12 of 12 Memorial Park, 145-165 The Great Rd (left) and Billerica & Bedford Railroad Right-of-Way (right). View S.
digital file name: MA_Bedford (Middlesex County)_OldBedCenTechAmend12

Property Owner:

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

name multiple

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Continuation Sheet

8. Statement of Significance (continued)

Architect/Builder

Blakie, E. H. and W. E.
Champney, George M.
Clinch, Crimp, Brown & Fisher
Cutler, Nathaniel C.
Day, Benjamin
Derby & Robinson
Duren, Reuben
Hartwell, Edwin A.
Kilham, Hopkins, Greeley & Brodie
Meade, George L. Foundry
Meneely Bell Co.
Meyrick, Charles
Owen, Frank S.
Page, Joshua
Porter, Rufus
Wilson, Levi

Old Bedford Center Historic District
2013 Technical Amendment and Boundary Change
Bedford (Middlesex County), Massachusetts

Assessor's #	MHC #	1977 Map/ 2013 Amend	Historic Name	St # Street Name	Date of Construction	Style	Resource Type	Status
054-0120	239	&	Eliot F. Bird House	**9 Bacon Rd** garage	ca. 1927 1935	Colonial Revival No style	B B	C C
054-0119	240	&		**11 Bacon Rd**	1930s	Colonial Revival	B	C
053-0050	117	76	Elbridge Wyman Stearns House	**2 Concord Rd** granite bollard fence	1854 mid-19C	Italianate ---	B St	C C
050-0020	119	79		**5 Concord Rd** garage	ca. 1790s 1st quarter 20C	No style No style	B B	C C
053-0051	118	77		**16 Concord Rd** garage granite bollard fence and wall 2 sheds	ca. 1850 late 20C mid-19C	Greek Revival --- ---	B B 2St	C NC 2C
053-0019	315	&		**21 Concord Rd** shed	2nd quarter 19C	Greek Revival	B	C
053-0052	316	&		**22 Concord Rd** shed	4th quarter 19C	Colonial Revival	B	C
053-0018	317	&	Elijah Bacon House	**23 Concord Rd** garage pool	ca. 1825 early 20C 1999	No style No style ---	B B St	C C NC
063-0079	245 522	&	O'Dowd-Kelley House	**8 Crescent Ave** garage	ca. 1862 1932	No style Craftsman	B B	C C
063-0073	246	&		**9 Crescent Ave** shed	1916	Colonial Revival	B	C
063-0068	247	&	Cook-Higgins House	**13 Crescent Ave**	1905	Victorian Eclectic	B	C
063-0081	248	&	Percival E. Primmerman House	**14 Crescent Ave**	ca. 1921	Colonial Revival	B	C
063-0067	249	&		**15-17 Crescent Ave**	ca. 1930	Colonial Revival	B	C
063-0082	250	&	Charles W. O'Dowd House I	**18 Crescent Ave** garage	1905 1st quarter 20C	Colonial Revival No style	B B	C C
054-0161	49	67	Hosmer House	**15-17 Elm St** garage fence	ca. 1831 1st quarter 20C late 20C	Federal/Victorian Eclectic No style ---	B B St	C C NC

Old Bedford Center Historic District
2013 Technical Amendment and Boundary Change
Bedford (Middlesex County), Massachusetts

Assessor's #	MHC #	1977 Map/ 2013 Amend	Historic Name	St # Street Name	Date of Construction	Style	Resource Type	Status
054-0160	50	65	Elias Skelton House	**21-23 Elm St** shed	1831	Federal	B	C
054-0159	35	64	Lucy P. Hartwell House	**29 Elm St** shed	1811-1812/1881	Federal/Victorian Eclectic	B	C
054-0156	100	57	Charles Gragg House	**45A Elm St** *(45 Elm St in 1977 nomination)* garage	1846 1st quarter 20C	altered beyond recognition No style	B B	NC C
054-0149	98	55	Reuben Bacon-Flint House	**46 Elm St**	1830	Federal	B	C
054-0155	99	56	E. Hartwell House	**49 Elm St** barn/ garage	ca. 1849 late 19C	Greek Revival No style	B B	C C
054-0035	202	&		**15 Fletcher Rd** garage standing sign	ca. 1912 ca. 1929 late 20C	Colonial Revival/Craftsman No style ---	B B O	C C NC
054-0034	203	&		**19 Fletcher Rd** garage	1954 1959	Postwar Traditional cape No style	B B	C C
054-0033	204	&		**21 Fletcher Rd**	1953	Postwar Traditional cape	B	C
054-0009	205	&	Albert Reed Bacon House	**34 Fletcher Rd** garage	ca. 1907 1962	Colonial Revival/Craftsman No style	B B	C C
054-0032	206	&		**37 Fletcher Rd**	1940	Colonial Revival garrison	B	C
054-0010	207	&	Hurd-Dimond House	**38 Fletcher Rd** garage	1886 ca. 1910	Victorian Eclectic No style	B B	C C
054-0001-A	---	#		**38A Fletcher Rd**	---	(vacant lot)	---	---
054-0031	208	&	Fletcher House	**39 Fletcher Rd** garage	ca. 1885 ca. 1942	Victorian Eclectic No style	B B	C C
054-0011	209	&	Quincy Cole House	**42 Fletcher Rd**	1886	Victorian Eclectic	B	C
054-0030	210	&		**43 Fletcher Rd**	2007	Not researched	B	NC
054-0012	211	&		**44 Fletcher Rd**	1954	altered beyond recognition	B	NC
054-0013	212	&	Davis-Hosmer House	**48 Fletcher Rd** pool shed	ca. 1888 1969	Colonial Revival/Queen Anne ---	B St	C NC

Assessor's #	MHC #	1977 Map/ 2013 Amend	Historic Name	St # Street Name	Date of Construction	Style	Resource Type	Status
054-0029	213 523	&	Prince House	**49 Fletcher Rd** carriage house	1888 ca. 1888	Colonial Revival/Queen Anne Queen Anne	B B	C C
none (Map 53)	903 9008 9009 9010	78	Capt. Jonathan Wilson Park	**The Great Rd** Rallying Place Boulder Liberty Pole Bedford Minutemen Line of March Marker	1884 2nd quarter 20C ca. 2000 2002	--- --- --- ---	Si O O O	C C NC NC
053-0049	39	75	David Rice House	**1 The Great Rd** barn	1812 late 19C	Federal No style	B B	C C
053-0034-A		#		**2 The Great Rd** fence	2010 late 20C	Not researched ---	B St	NC NC
053-0034	29 524	5	Elijah Stearns House	**4 The Great Rd** barn brick and picket fence stone wall garage shed	ca. 1801 4th quarter 19C 20C 19C 1988	Federal, Colonial Revival No style --- --- ---	B B St St B	C C C C NC
053-0048	40	74	Amos Cutler House	**5 The Great Rd**	1835	Federal/Greek Revival	B	C
053-0035	28	6	Fitch Tavern - Stone Croft Farm	**12 The Great Rd** wood shed/garage granite-wood fence stone wall pool 2 sheds	ca. 1730 4th quarter 19C/2006 19C-20C 19C 1965	Colonial/Federal/Colonial Revival No style --- --- ---	B B St St St	C C C C NC
053-0039	113	73	Trinitarian Congregational Church	**25 The Great Rd** standing sign	1832-1833 late 20C	Greek Revival ---	B O	C NC
053-0037, 054-0001-B	27 525	7	Penniman - Stearns House	**26 The Great Rd** barn fence	ca. 1788 4th quarter 19C mid-20C	Georgian/Federal Colonial Revival ---	B B St	C C C
053-0039-A	41	72	Lewis Putnam Gleason House	**27 The Great Rd**	1829-1830	Federal	B	C
053-0038	25	71	George Dutton House	**31 The Great Rd** garage	1828 early 20C	Greek Revival No style	B B	C C
054-0002-3A to 3F	26	8	John Walker Simonds House	**36-38 The Great Rd** granite curb wall	ca. 1827-1829 19C	Federal ---	B St	C C

Old Bedford Center Historic District
2013 Technical Amendment and Boundary Change
Bedford (Middlesex County), Massachusetts

Assessor's #	MHC #	1977 Map/ 2013 Amend	Historic Name	St # Street Name	Date of Construction	Style	Resource Type	Status
054-0004	502	9	Chamberlain-Billings Double House	**42-44 The Great Rd** granite curb and bollards	ca. 1831 19C	Greek Revival ---	B St	C C
054-0170	42	70	Charles A. Corey House	**43 The Great Rd** fence	1822 late 20C	Federal/Victorian Eclectic ---	B St	C NC
054-0163	112	69		**47-53 The Great Rd** office/garage	ca. 1844/1894 1980	Greek Revival/Colonial Revival ---	B B	C NC
054-0005	43	10	Chamberlain-Billings Shoe Factory	**48-52 The Great Rd**	ca. 1831/1955	Federal/Contemporary	B	C
054-0162	111	O	Bedford Fire and Police Station (now Bedford Fire Station)	**55 The Great Rd**	1949/1965/1998	Postwar Traditional	B	C **
054-0006	44	11	William Stearns House	**56 The Great Rd** garage standing sign	ca. 1819 2nd quarter 20C late 20C	Federal/Italianate No style ----	B B O	C C NC
054-0007	56	B		**60 The Great Rd**	1973	Not researched	B	NC
054-0036		*see Notes*	Blake Block	**68-84 The Great Rd**	2012	Not researched	B	NC
054-0144	24	50	First Parish Church	**75 The Great Rd** Memorial Garden Kopjafak (carved wood poles)	1817 2003 2003	Federal --- ---	B Si 2O	C NC 2NC
054-0144-A	9011 9012 9013 9014 9015 9016	#	Bedford Town Common	**75A The Great Rd** granite bollard fence WWI Memorial Boulder flagpole circulation paths Town Common Lands Boulder standing sign	early 18C 1850-1852 1925 1926 19th-20th centuries 1969 late 20C	--- --- --- --- --- --- ---	Si St O O St O O	C C C C C NC NC
054-0037-A, B, C	34	12	Hannah Hartwell House	**90 The Great Rd** stone wall (Springs Rd side) standing sign	1842 19th century late 20C	Greek Revival --- ---	B St O	C C NC
054-0130	92	M		**93-101 The Great Rd**	1928	No style	B	C **
054-0079	68	D	Lexington Trust Company	**94 The Great Rd** standing sign	1957-1958 late 20C	Postwar Traditional ---	B O	C ** NC
none (Map 54)	9017	#	Hayden Memorial Fountain	**The Great Rd**	1916	---	O	C

Old Bedford Center Historic District
2013 Technical Amendment and Boundary Change
Bedford (Middlesex County), Massachusetts

Assessor's #	MHC #	1977 Map/ 2013 Amend	Historic Name	St # Street Name	Date of Construction	Style	Resource Type	Status
054-0080-A	---	#		**100 The Great Rd**	---	(vacant lot)	---	---
054-0129	91	L		**105 The Great Rd** standing sign	1958 late 20C	No style/altered ---	B O	NC NC
054-0080	22	26	Domine Manse	**110 The Great Rd** standing sign	ca. 1733 late 20C	Colonial/Colonial Revival ---	B O	C NC
054-0127	46	44	D. P. Ladd House	**113 The Great Rd ***** *(123 The Great Rd in 1997 nomination)* standing sign	ca. 1850 late 20C	Greek Revival ---	B O	C NC
054-0128	45	45	William A. Putnam House	**119 The Great Rd ***** garage	ca. 1850 late 20C	Greek Revival/Colonial Revival ---	B B	C NC
			**** Note: 113 The Great Road is situated east, not west, of 119 The Great Road. Listed here in numerical sequence but not geographical sequence. Street numbers confirmed in Bedford assessors' records. District sketch maps for 1977 NRDIS and 2013 amendment identify these parcels correctly.*					
054-0124	---	&		**119A The Great Rd**	---	(vacant lot)	---	---
054-0093	69	27	Isaac Hartwell Carriage House	**120 The Great Rd** granite curb wall	4th quarter 19C 19C	Colonial Revival ---	B St	C C
054-0094	70	E	Albert W. Clifford House	**128 The Great Rd** granite curb wall standing sign	1959 19C late 20C	Postwar Traditional cape --- ---	B St O	C ** C NC
054-0095	71	F		**130 The Great Rd**	1987	No style	B	NC
054-0126	90	K	Pennell & Thompson Real Estate Office	**131 The Great Rd** *(127 The Great Rd in 1997 nomination)* standing sign	1962-1963 late 20C	Postwar Traditional ---	B O	C ** NC
054-126-A	526	#		**131A The Great Rd** garage standing sign shed	ca. 1886/1974 ca. 1950 late 20C	No style/altered No style/altered ---	B B O	NC NC NC
054-0125	47	43	Jonathan Bacon House	**133 The Great Rd** fieldstone wall standing sign	1836 early 20C late 20C	Greek Revival --- ---	B St O	C C NC
054-0096	72	28		**138 The Great Rd** stone curb wall standing sign	1843 19C late 20C	altered Greek Revival --- ---	B St O	NC C NC

Old Bedford Center Historic District
2013 Technical Amendment and Boundary Change
Bedford (Middlesex County), Massachusetts

Assessor's #	MHC #	1977 Map/ 2013 Amend	Historic Name	St # Street Name	Date of Construction	Style	Resource Type	Status
054-0122	89	42	Jonathan Bacon Carriage House	**139 The Great Rd** fieldstone wall standing sign	ca. 1836/1916 early 20C late 20C	Colonial Revival — —	B St O	C C NC
054-0097	73	29	Winfield M. Brown House	**140 The Great Rd**	1889	Queen Anne	B	C
054-0097	532	#		**142 The Great Rd** standing sign	2nd quarter 20C late 20C	Postwar Traditional —	B O	C NC
054-0097	533	#	Winfield M. Brown Carriage House	**142R The Great Rd**	ca. 1889	Queen Anne	B	C
054-0121	48	41	Sylvanus and Malvina Lawrence House	**143 The Great Rd** stone wall (side lot line) standing sign	1845 19C late 20C	Greek Revival/Colonial Revival — —	B St O	C C NC
none (Maps 54, 63)	9018	&	Billerica & Bedford Narrow Gauge Railroad Right-of-Way (segment)	**crossing The Great Rd**	1877	—	St	C
063-0108	9019 9020 9021 9022	&	Memorial Park (now Veterans Memorial Park)	**145-165 The Great Rd** World War II Memorial Flagpole memorial stones/circulation pat *The Patriot* (bronze sculpture)	1950 1950 1952-ca. 2004 1999-2000	— — — —	Si O St O	C C NC NC
054-0043	228	&	Brooks-Hartwell House	**6 Hancock St** shed	ca. 1875	Victorian Eclectic	B	C
054-0044	229	&		**10 Hancock St** garage	ca. 1920 2nd quarter 20C	Colonial Revival No style	B B	C C
054-0045	230	&		**14 Hancock St**	1900	Victorian Eclectic	B	C
054-0099	534	#		**15 Hillside Ave**	1999	Not researched	B	NC
054-0092	74	30	Paul Webber House	**18 Hillside Ave**	ca. 1886	Queen Anne	B	C
054-0091	75	G	Elmer B. Mason House	**24 Hillside Ave** picket fence	1951 mid-20C	Postwar Traditional cape —	B St	C ** C
054-0098	88	40	Isaac Hartwell House	**25 Hillside Ave** picket fence	1847-1848 20C	Greek Revival —	B St	C C
054-0100	87	39	S. Davis Estate	**33 Hillside Ave** 2 fences garage shed	ca. 1890 late 20C 1996	Victorian Eclectic — —	B 2St B	C 2NC NC

Assessor's #	MHC #	1977 Map/ 2013 Amend	Historic Name	St # Street Name	Date of Construction	Style	Resource Type	Status
054-0090	76	31	Fairwick	**34 Hillside Ave**	1888	Colonial Revival	B	C
				carriage house	ca. 1900	Colonial Revival	B	C
054-0101	86	38		**37 Hillside Ave**	ca. 1911	Craftsman	B	C
				garage	ca. 1911	No style	B	C
				fence (rear of lot)	late 20C	---	St	NC
054-0089	77	32		**38 Hillside Ave**	1880	Victorian Eclectic	B	C
				shed				
054-0088	535	#		**42 Hillside Ave**	1984	Not researched	B	NC
054-0102	85	37	Joseph Green House	**43 Hillside Ave**	ca. 1890	Victorian Eclectic	B	C
				stone wall	late 19C	---	St	C
054-0087	78	33		**44 Hillside Ave**	1924	Colonial Revival bungalow	B	C
				garage	1924	No style	B	C
054-0103	84	J		**45 Hillside Ave**	1950	Postwar Traditional cape	B	C **
				shed				
054-0086	79	34		**46 Hillside Ave**	1924	Colonial Revival bungalow	B	C
054-0085	80	H	Rodney B. Blake House	**48 Hillside Ave**	1951	Postwar Traditional cape	B	C **
				garage	1983	---	B	NC
				concrete wall	late 20C	---	St	NC
				shed				
054-0104	83	I	Charles W. O'Dowd House II	**49 Hillside Ave**	1927	Colonial Revival/Dutch Colonial	B	C **
				garage	1936	Colonial Revival	B	C
				2 brick pillars	2nd quarter 20C	---	2O	2C
				pool	1970	---	St	NC
				fence	late 20C	---	St	NC
054-0105	82	36	McDonough House	**53 Hillside Ave**	early 19th century	Greek Revival	B	C
				garage	1st half 20C	No style	B	C
				fence	late 20C	---	St	NC
054-0106	81	35		**57 Hillside Ave**	1843	Greek Revival/Vict. Eclectic	B	C
054-0107	528	&	Sullivan House	**61 Hillside Ave**	ca. 1901	No style	B	C
				well house	late 20C	---	O	NC
				pool	2007	---	St	NC
				fence	late 20C	---	St	NC
				shed				
054-0145	96	52		**6 Maple St**	ca. 1850	altered Greek Revival	B	C
				garage	1949	No style	B	C

Old Bedford Center Historic District
2013 Technical Amendment and Boundary Change
Bedford (Middlesex County), Massachusetts

Assessor's #	MHC #	1977 Map/ 2013 Amend	Historic Name	St # Street Name	Date of Construction	Style	Resource Type	Status
054-0146	97	53		**8 Maple St**	ca. 1853	altered Greek Revival	B	C
				barn/garage	ca. 1930	No style	B	C
054-0147	33	54	South Bedford School/ Reed-Bacon House	**10-12 Maple St**	1793/1819	No style	B	C
				barn/garage	1968	---	B	NC
				fence	late 20C	---	St	NC
053-0047	116	R	Nathaniel K. Brown House	**1 Mudge Way**	1953-1954	Postwar Traditional	B	C **
				stone wall	19C	---	St	C
053-0040	114	P	William A. Stearns Memorial Library (now Bedford Police Station)	**2 Mudge Way**	1951	Postwar Traditional	B	C **
				(15 The Great Rd in 1977 nomination)				
				Bicentennial Boulder	1975	---	O	NC
				2 standing signs	late 20C	---	2O	2NC
				flagpole	late 20C	---	O	NC
				stone wall	late 20C	---	St	NC
053-0046	115	Q	Richard K. Brown House	**3 Mudge Way**	1957	Postwar Traditional garrison	B	C **
				(5 Mudge Way in 1977 nomination)				
				stone wall	19C	---	St	C
				shed				
053-0045	103	N	Bedford Junior High School & Auditorium (now Bedford Town Hall)	**10 Mudge Way**	1927	Georgian Revival	B	C **
				(School Way in 1977 nomination)				
				2 standing signs	late 20C	---	2O	2NC
				Dance Rhythm (bronze sculptu	1966	---	O	NC
053-0045	104	60	Union School - Center School (now Town Center)	**12 Mudge Way**	1891	Colonial Revival	B	C
				(School Way in 1977 nomination)				
				2 ball fields	late 20C	---	2St	2NC
				Remembering Center School a	1990	---	O	NC
				Union School (metal sculpture)				
				skate park	2008	---	St	NC
053-0033	31	4	Amos & Nathaniel Cutler Double House	**9-11 North Rd**	ca. 1832	Greek Revival	B	C
				stone wall	19C	---	St	C
053-0021	120	80	Oliver J. Lane House	**16 North Rd**	ca. 1857	Italianate	B	C
				(14 North Rd in 1977 nomination)				
				standing sign	late 20C	---	O	NC
				fence	late 20C	---	St	NC

Old Bedford Center Historic District
2013 Technical Amendment and Boundary Change
Bedford (Middlesex County), Massachusetts

Assessor's #	MHC #	1977 Map/ 2013 Amend	Historic Name	St # Street Name	Date of Construction	Style	Resource Type	Status
053-0032	53	3		**17 North Rd** barn	ca. 1861 late 19C	Victorian eclectic No style	B B	C C
053-0022	121	81	J. Bartlett Prescott House	**18 North Rd** *(16 North Rd in 1977 nomination)* standing sign	ca. 1879 late 20C	Victorian eclectic ---	B O	C NC
053-0023-1	122	S *see Notes*	Bedford Farms Ice Cream/ Dalya's Restaurant	**20 North Rd** *(18 North Rd in 1977 nomination)* standing sign	ca. 1905/ca. 1932 late 20C	altered beyond recognition ---	B O	NC NC
053-0031	52	2		**21-23 North Rd** garage stone retaining wall	4th quarter 19C 1st quarter 20C early 20C	Victorian eclectic No style ---	B B St	C C C
053-0036-P	---	#		**11A Ruben Duren Way**	---	(vacant lot)	---	---
054-0164	110	68	Rebecca Shaw House	**12 School Ave** stone wall	1843 19C	Greek Revival ---	B St	C C
054-0166	105	61	Joshua Page House	**13 School Ave**	1822-1823	Federal	B	C
054-0165	109	66		**16 School Ave** stone wall shed	2nd quarter 19C 19C	Federal ---	B St	C C
054-0167	106	62		**17 School Ave**	1887	Victorian Eclectic	B	C
054-0157	101	58		**6 School Way** office/shop	1914 early 20C	Victorian Eclectic No style	B B	C C
054-0158	102	59		**10 School Way** garage	1886 ca. 1910	No style ---	B B	C C
054-0168	107	63	Wyman House	**11 School Way** *(11 School Ave in 1977 nomination)*	1838	Greek Revival	B	C
054-0131	23	46	Old Town Hall	**16 South Rd** standing sign	1856 late 20C	Italianate ---	B O	C NC
054-0132	93	47	Nathaniel C. Cutler Stable	**20 South Rd** barn garage fence	1836 early 20C late 20C late 20C	Colonial Revival No style --- ---	B B B St	C C NC NC
054-0133	94	48	Nathaniel C. Cutler House	**24-28 South Rd** garage	1836-1837 1st quarter 20C	Greek Revival No style	B B	C C

Assessor's #	MHC #	1977 Map/ 2013 Amend	Historic Name	St # Street Name	Date of Construction	Style	Resource Type	Status
054-0134	95	49		**30-38 South Rd**	1848-1849	Victorian Eclectic	B	C
054-0143	32	51	Reuben Bacon House	**33 South Rd**	1830	Federal	B	C
				picket fence (Maple St side)	mid-20C	---	St	C
054-0135	536	&		**40-42 South Rd**	1999	Not researched	B	NC
054-0140	280	&	Elbridge Bacon Double House	**43-45 South Rd**	1st quarter 19C	Federal	B	C
				shed				
054-0136	281	&	Hosmer-Wilkins Double House	**46-48 South Rd**	early 19C	Federal	B	C
054-0139	282	&	Wm Merriam-Edwin H. Blake House	**51 South Rd**	1852	Victorian Eclectic	B	C
	529			barn	4th quarter 19C	No style	B	C
				granite wall	late 19C	---	St	C
				pool	2008	---	St	NC
054-0137	283	&	Butterfield-Wilkins House	**52 South Rd**	1845	Greek Revival	B	C
				fence	late 20C	---	St	NC
				shed				
054-0138	284	&	Charles C. Corey House	**56-58 South Rd**	2nd quarter 19C	Victorian Eclectic	B	C
063-0020	285	&	Adams-Blake House	**57 South Rd**	1850	Victorian Eclectic	B	C
				garage	2nd quarter 20C	No style	B	C
				granite wall	late 19C	---	St	C
				fence	late 20C	---	St	NC
063-0075	286	&	Hiram Hutchinson House	**60 South Rd**	1861	Italianate	B	C
				granite bollard (fence remnant)	late 19C	---	St	C
063-0021	287	&		**61 South Rd**	ca. 1901	Colonial Revival	B	C
054-0078	67	25	Thomas and Anna Stiles House	**5 Springs Rd**	ca. 1838	Greek Revival	B	C
				garage	2nd quarter 20C	No style	B	C
054-0077	800	24	Old Burying Ground	**7 Springs Rd**	1729	---	Si	C
				Major features/representative markers:				
				Katherine Lane Marker	died (d.) 1731	---	O	C
				John Davis Marker	d. 1739	---	O	C
				John Whitmore Marker	d. 1748	---	O	C
				Page Children Marker	d. 1754	---	O	C
				Merriam Children Marker	d. 1765-1778	---	O	C
				South Mound Tomb	795, 1824, 1938-193	---	St	C
				African Reservation	ca. 1800	---	Si	C
				North Mound Tomb	1826, 1938-1939	---	St	C
				Abel Fitch Marker	d. 1839	---	O	C

Assessor's #	MHC #	1977 Map/ 2013 Amend	Historic Name	St # Street Name	Date of Construction	Style	Resource Type	Status
				Horatio Nelson Haynes Marker	d. 1847	---	O	C
				Benjamin Gleason Marker	d. 1847	---	O	C
				Pierce Family Marker	d. 1848	---	O	C
				Page Family Marker	d. 1852-1858	---	O	C
				Mary Hayward Marker	d. 1865	---	O	C
				Spaulding Family Marker	1887	---	O	C
				stone wall with granite bollards	19C	---	St	C
				African Reservation Monument	1896	---	O	C
				Job Lane Memorial Boulder	1902	---	O	C
				Settlers and Patriots Monument	1972	---	O	NC
				Am. Revolution Soldiers Monur	1999	---	O	NC
054-0038	---	#		**14 Springs Rd**	---	---	---	---
				garage (only building on lot)	2012	Not researched	B	NC
054-0040	537	#	Patriot Place	**18 Springs Rd**	2005	Not researched	B	NC
054-0041	58	13	Edwin A. Hartwell House	**22 Springs Rd**	1874	Second Empire	B	C
				stone retaining wall (side)	late 19C	---	St	C
054-0076	66	23		**29 Springs Rd**	1891	No style	B	C
				garage/shop	ca. 1900	No style	B	C
054-0075	65	22		**31 Springs Rd**	1862	No style	B	C
				garage	1970	---	B	NC
				stone wall	20C	---	St	C
				shed				
054-0074	12	14	Lunt - Bacon House	**34 Springs Rd**	1835	Federal, Greek Revival	B	C
				barn	20C	No style	B	C
				garage	1961	No style	B	C
				stone wall	19C	---	St	C
054-0073	13	15	Twin Elms	**40 Springs Rd**	1835	Federal	B	C
				granite bollards (fence)	19C	---	St	C
054-0081	---	#		**43 Springs Rd**	---	(vacant lot)	---	---
054-0072	61	16	Abram English Brown House	**44 Springs Rd**	1828-31	Federal	B	C
				barn	last quarter 19C	No style	B	C
054-0083	64	21	Dana Clark House	**45 Springs Rd**	ca. 1900	Colonial Revival	B	C
				garage	1965	---	B	NC
				pool	1969	---	St	NC
double hse, two lots: 054-0071 (#48) 054-0070 (#50)	14	17	Laws - Butler House	**48-50 Springs Rd**	ca. 1830	No style	B	C
				garage (48 Springs)	ca. 1950	No style	B	C
				garage (50 Springs)	2nd quarter 20C	No style	B	C
				picket fence (50 Springs)	late 20C	---	St	NC

Old Bedford Center Historic District
2013 Technical Amendment and Boundary Change
Bedford (Middlesex County), Massachusetts

Assessor's #	MHC #	1977 Map/ 2013 Amend	Historic Name	St # Street Name	Date of Construction	Style	Resource Type	Status
054-0084	63	20	Watts-Rowe House	**51 Springs Rd** barn	2nd quarter 19C ca. 1962	Victorian Eclectic No style	B B	C C
054-0069	15	18	Second Center Schoolhouse	**56 Springs Rd** garage granite bollards/posts pool shed	1805-1806/1829 2nd quarter 20C 19C/20C 2001	No style No style --- ---	B B 2O St	C C 2C NC
054-0068	62	19	John H. Brown House	**64A Springs Rd** garage fence	mid-19C ca. 1981 late 20C	No style No style ---	B B St	C NC NC
054-0067	530	&		**74 Springs Rd** stone wall	ca. 1920 early 20C	Colonial Revival ---	B St	C C
054-0066	538	&		**78 Springs Rd** stone wall	1997 early 20C	Not researched ---	B St	NC C
054-0065	531	&	Johnson-Edgston House	**82 Springs Rd** stone wall shed	ca. 1857 early 20C	Greek Revival/Italianate ---	B St	C C
054-0108	---	&		**85 Springs Rd**	---	(vacant lot)	---	---

Notes and Key

1977 Map / 2013 Amend 76 (or other number) = 1977 NRDIS sketch map number denoting contributing building in 1977. Only the principal building on each parcel was noted in the 1977 nomination Secondary resources (*e.g.*, outbuildings, stone walls, etc.) on these parcels were not noted in 1977 data sheet, and are included with the 2013 amendment.

A (or other letter) = 1977 NRDIS sketch map letter denoting noncontributing building in 1977. See also notes in **Status** column below.

= parcel located within 1977 NRDIS boundary, not noted in the 1977 nomination data sheet, and included with the 2013 amendment.

& = parcel added to the NRDIS with the 2013 amendment due to increases in district boundary.

St # and Street Name Street addresses on some parcels have changed since 1977 NRDIS and are updated with the 2013 amendment. Numbers shown on 2013 amendment sketch map are stre

Resource Type B = building, Si = site, St = structure, O = object

Status C = contributing, NC = noncontributing

** = status for noncontributing resource (per 1977 NRDIS nomination data sheet) changed to contributing with the 2013 amendment.
All resources with status changes date to 1927-ca. 1963 period, now within the period of significance with the 2013 amendment.

Assessor's #	MHC #	1977 Map/ 2013 Amend	Historic Name	St # Street Name	Date of Construction	Style	Resource Type	Status

Additional Notes

Building at **68-84 The Great Road** (C on 1977 NRDIS sketch map) demolished and replaced with new construction; parcel remains in district with 2013 amendment.

Building at **20 North Road** (S on 1977 NRDIS sketch map) expanded with additio*before 1977* but addition was excluded from 1977 district boundary. Boundary increased with 2013 amendment to include original building plus addition.

Building at **25 North Road** (A on 1977 NRDIS sketch map) demolished and replaced with new construction; parcel removed from district with 2013 amendment.

Building at **29 North Road** (#1 on 1977 NRDIS sketch map) moved out of district 1991 and replaced with new construction; parcel removed from district with 2013 amendment.

Number of Resources Within Amended District

Contributing	171 buildings, 5 sites, 43 structures, 23 objects (242 total contributing resources)
Noncontributing	29 buildings, 1 site, 29 structures, 38 objects (97 total noncontributing resources)
	sheds are not counted

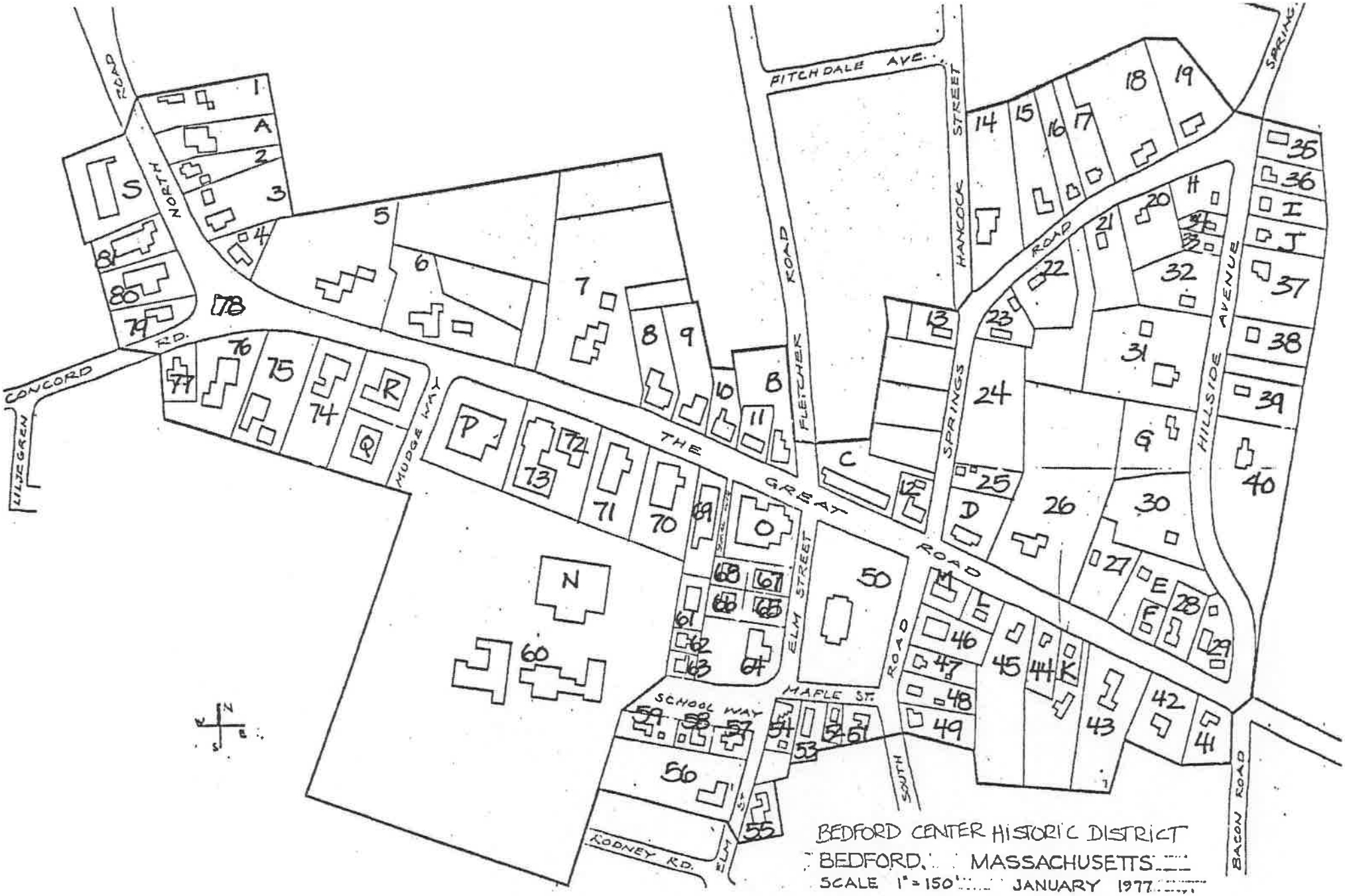

Figure: Original Old Bedford Center Historic District (NRDIS 11/17/1977)

Old Bedford Center Historic District

2013 Technical Amendment and Boundary Change

Bedford Historic Preservation Commission

Photo Key
(see nomination for photo numbers)

Legend

- Boundary
- Parcel
- Town Land
- Building
- Road

Numbers shown are street numbers

N
W E
S

0 1/20 1/10 Mile
0 250 500 Feet
1 in = 250 feet

Prepared by
BEDFORD PUBLIC WORKS

2012 (revised 2013)

The information displayed on this or any other map produced by the Town of Bedford is for reference purposes only. The Town of Bedford does not guarantee the accuracy of the data. Users are responsible for determining the suitability for their own individual needs.

All information is from the Town of Bedford's Geographic Information System (GIS) database. Any questions or concerns should be addressed to the Town GIS Analyst.

Old Bedford Center Historic District

2013 Technical Amendment and Boundary Change

Bedford Historic Preservation Commission

Legend

- Boundary
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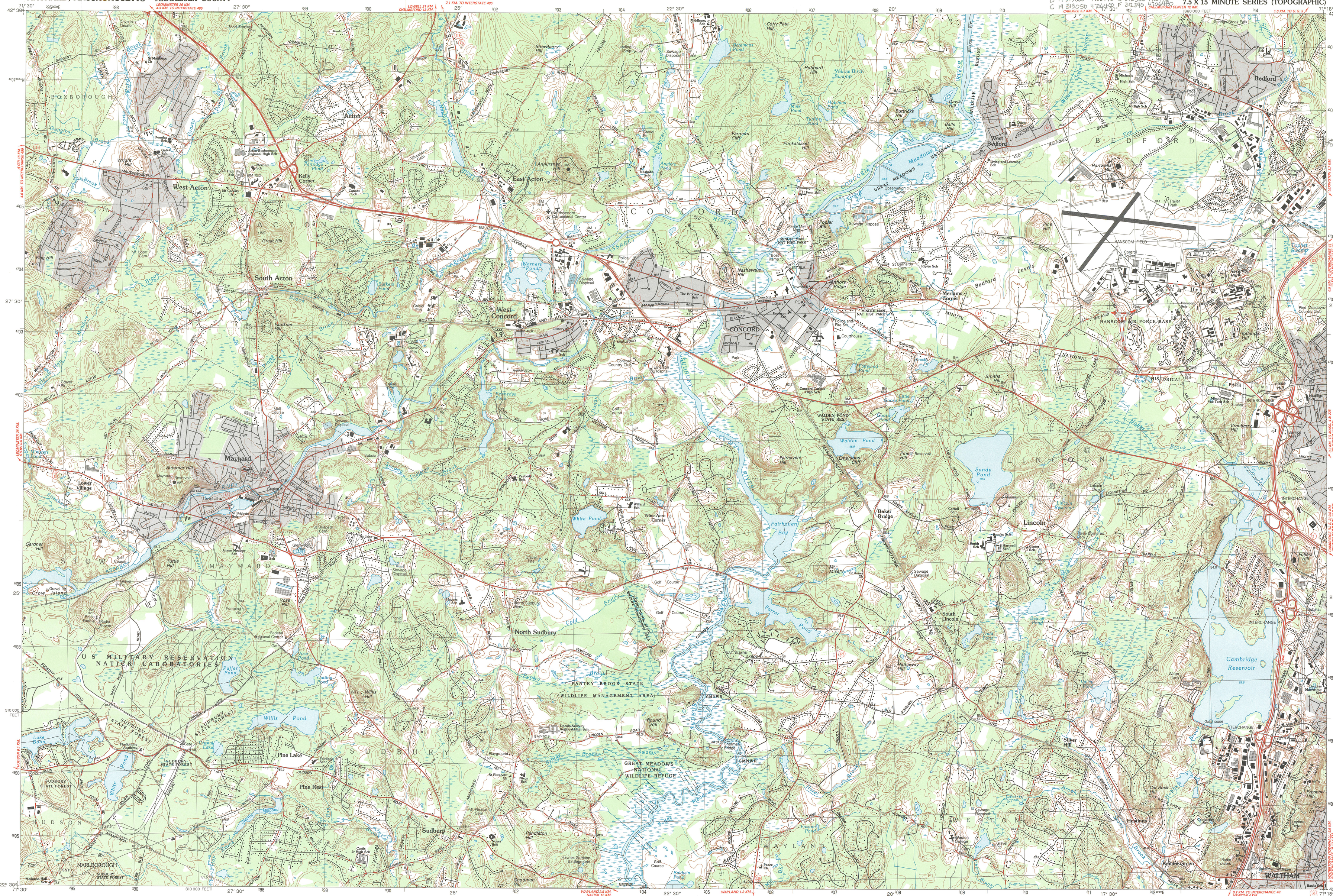
MAYNARD, MASSACHUSETTS MIDDLESEX COUNTY

OLD BEDFORD CENTER H.D. (2013 TECH. AMENDMENT & BOUNDARY CHANGE)
BEDFORD (MIDDLESEX CO.) MASS.

A 19 312080 4707070 D 312740 4706340 G 19 312220 4706590 I 19 312080 4706950
B 19 313060 4706440 E 312550 4706420 H 19 312100 4706810 J 19 312090 4707010
C 19 313050 4706400 F 312390 4706480 K 19 312180 4707020

7.5 X 15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



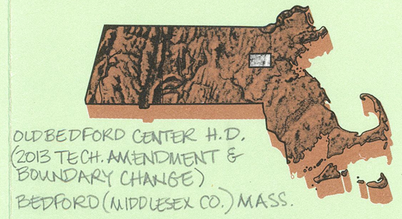
SCALE 1:25 000
1 CENTIMETER ON THE MAP REPRESENTS 250 METERS ON THE GROUND
CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS

MAYNARD, MASSACHUSETTS
42071-D3-TM-025
1987

42071-D3-TM-025

Maynard
MASSACHUSETTS

1:25 000-scale *metric* topographic map



OLD BEDFORD CENTER H.D. (2013 TECH. AMENDMENT & BOUNDARY CHANGE)
BEDFORD (MIDDLESEX CO.) MASS.

7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE SHOWING

- Contours and elevations in meters
- Highways, roads and other manmade structures
- Water features
- Woodland areas
- Geographic names

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

1987

Produced by the United States Geological Survey in cooperation with Massachusetts Department of Public Works

Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts agencies

Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1978 and 1981. Field checked 1978. Map edited 1987
Supersedes Maynard and Concord 1:25 000-scale maps dated 1965 and 1970

Projection and 1000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 19
10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone
1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983, move the projection lines 6 meters south and 41 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map

CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

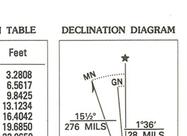
CONVERSION TABLE

Meters	Feet
1	3.2808
2	6.5617
3	9.8425
4	13.1234
5	16.4042
6	19.6850
7	22.9659
8	26.2467
9	29.5276
10	32.8084

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808

To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

DECLINATION DIAGRAM



UTM grid convergence (GN) and 1987 magnetic declination (MN) at center of map
Diagram is approximate

ADJOINING MAPS

1	2	3
4		5
6	7	8

1 Ayer
2 Billerica
3 Reading
4 Hudson
5 Boston North
6 Marlborough
7 Framingham
8 Boston South

ISBN 0-607-23457-1
9 780607 234572

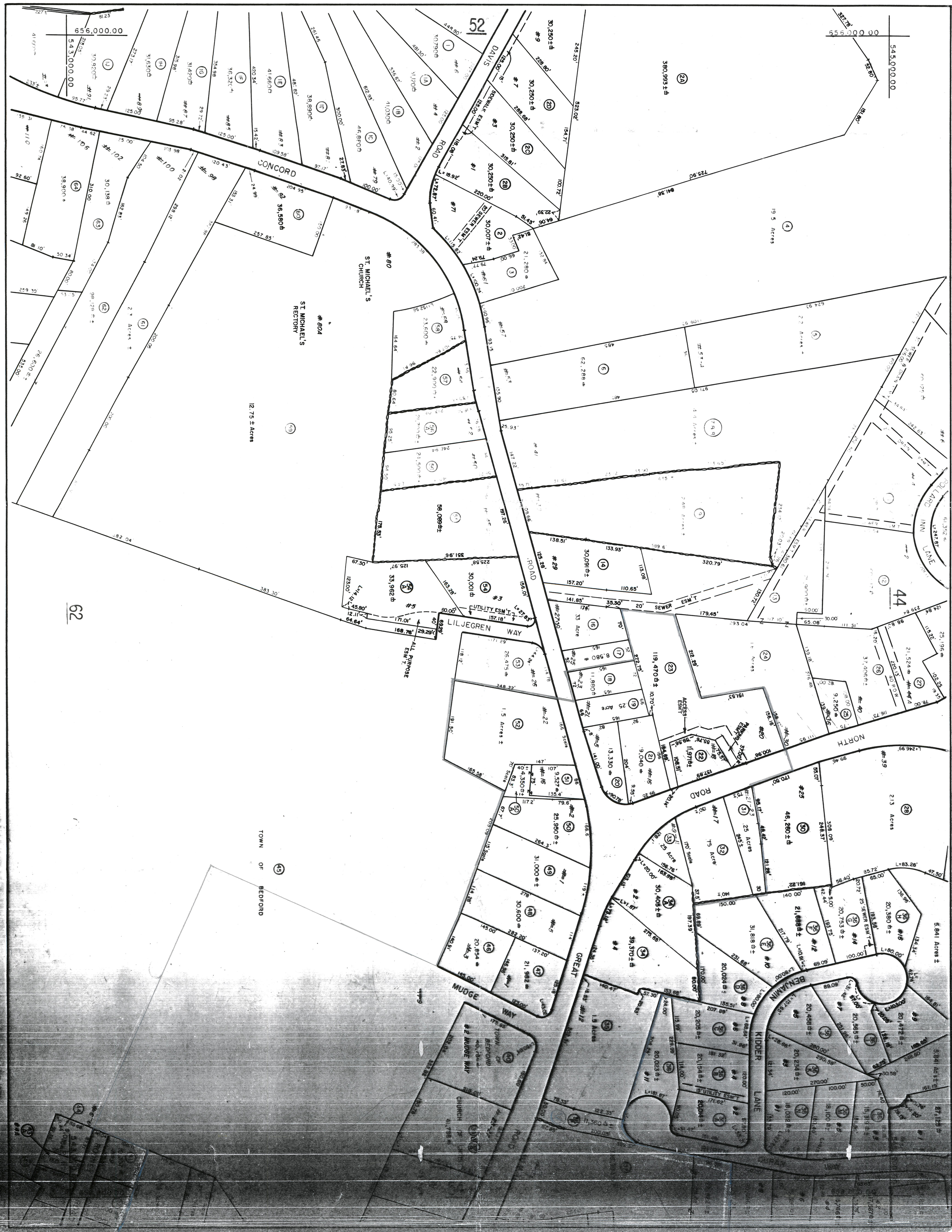
Topographic Map Symbols

Primary highway, hard surface
Secondary highway, hard surface
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Unimproved road; trail
Route marker: Interstate; U. S.; State
Railroad: standard gage; narrow gage
Bridge; drawbridge
Footbridge; overpass; underpass
Built-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown
House; barn; church; school; large structure
Boundary:
National, with monument
State
County, parish
Civil township, precinct, district
Incorporated city, village, town
National or State reservation; small park
Land grant with monument; found section corner
U. S. public lands survey: range, township; section
Range, township; section line: location approximate
Fence or field line
Power transmission line, located tower
Dam; dam with lock
Cemetery; grave
Campground; picnic area; U. S. location monument
Windmill; water well; spring
Mine shaft; prospect; adit or cave
Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation
Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression
Distorted surface: strip mine, lava; sand
Bathymetric contours: index; intermediate
Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream
Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small
Submerged marsh; marsh, swamp
Land subject to controlled inundation; woodland
Scrub; mangrove
Orchard; vineyard

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request

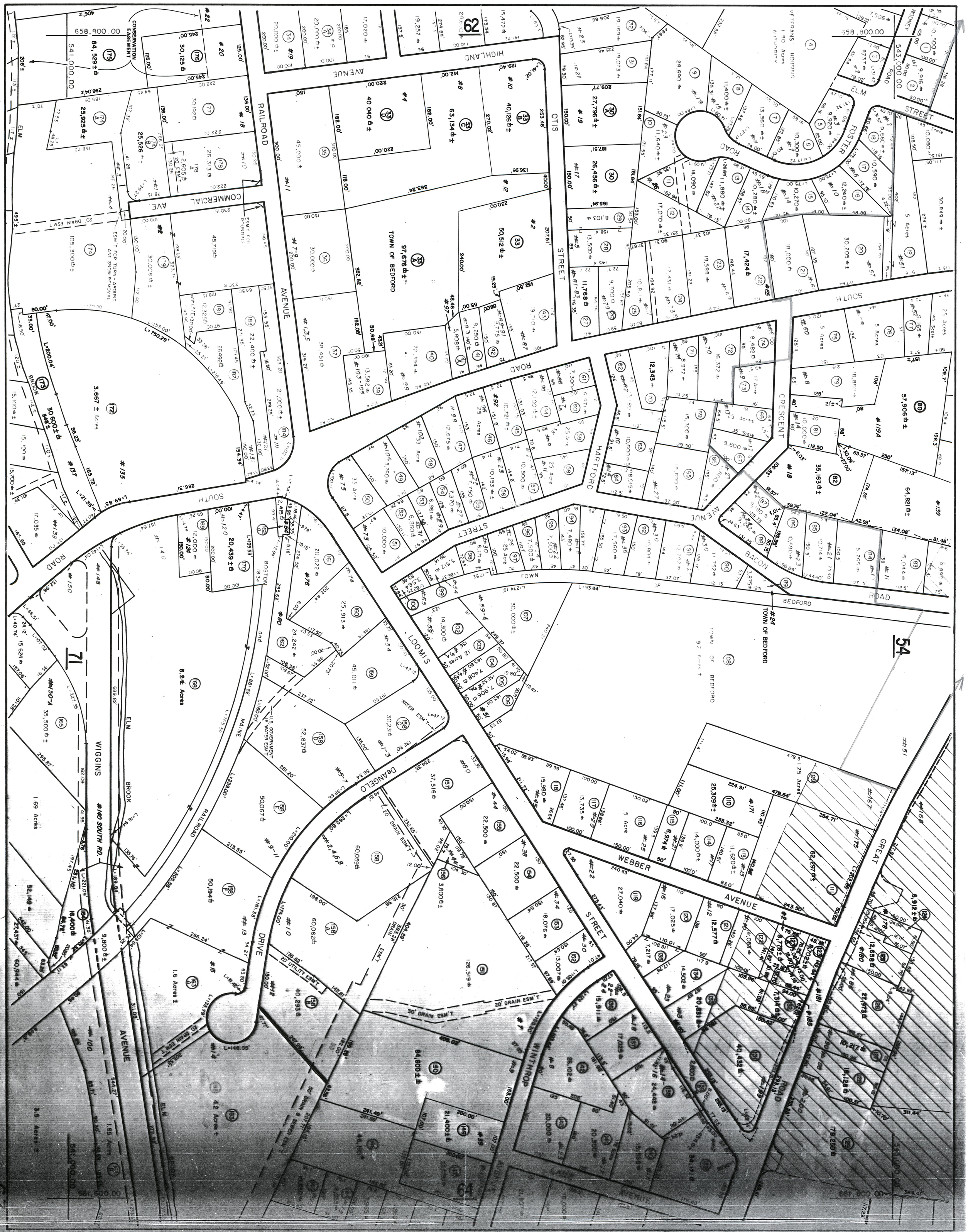
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

OLD BEDFORD CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
2013 TECHNICAL AMENDMENT AND BOUNDARY CHANGE
TOWN OF BEDFORD (MIDDLESEX CO.), MASS.
ASSESSORS MAP 53
1 OF 3 MAPS FOR DISTRICT



OLD BEDFORD CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
2013 TECHNICAL AMENDMENT AND BOUNDARY CHANGE
TOWN OF BEDFORD (MIDDLESEX CO.), MASS.
ASSESSORS MAP 54
2 OF 3 MAPS FOR DISTRICT

OLD BEDFORD CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT
2013 TECHNICAL AMENDMENT AND BOUNDARY CHANGE
TOWN OF BEDFORD (MIDDLESEX CO.), MASS.
ASSESSORS MAP 63
3 OF 3 MAPS FOR DISTRICT



62 WEST
CONCORD 4
MAYNARD 10
4 NORTH
CHELMSFORD 8
TYNGSBORO 15
225 WEST
CARLISLE 4

39
1885

TOWN HALL

NO
MOTOR
VEHICLES