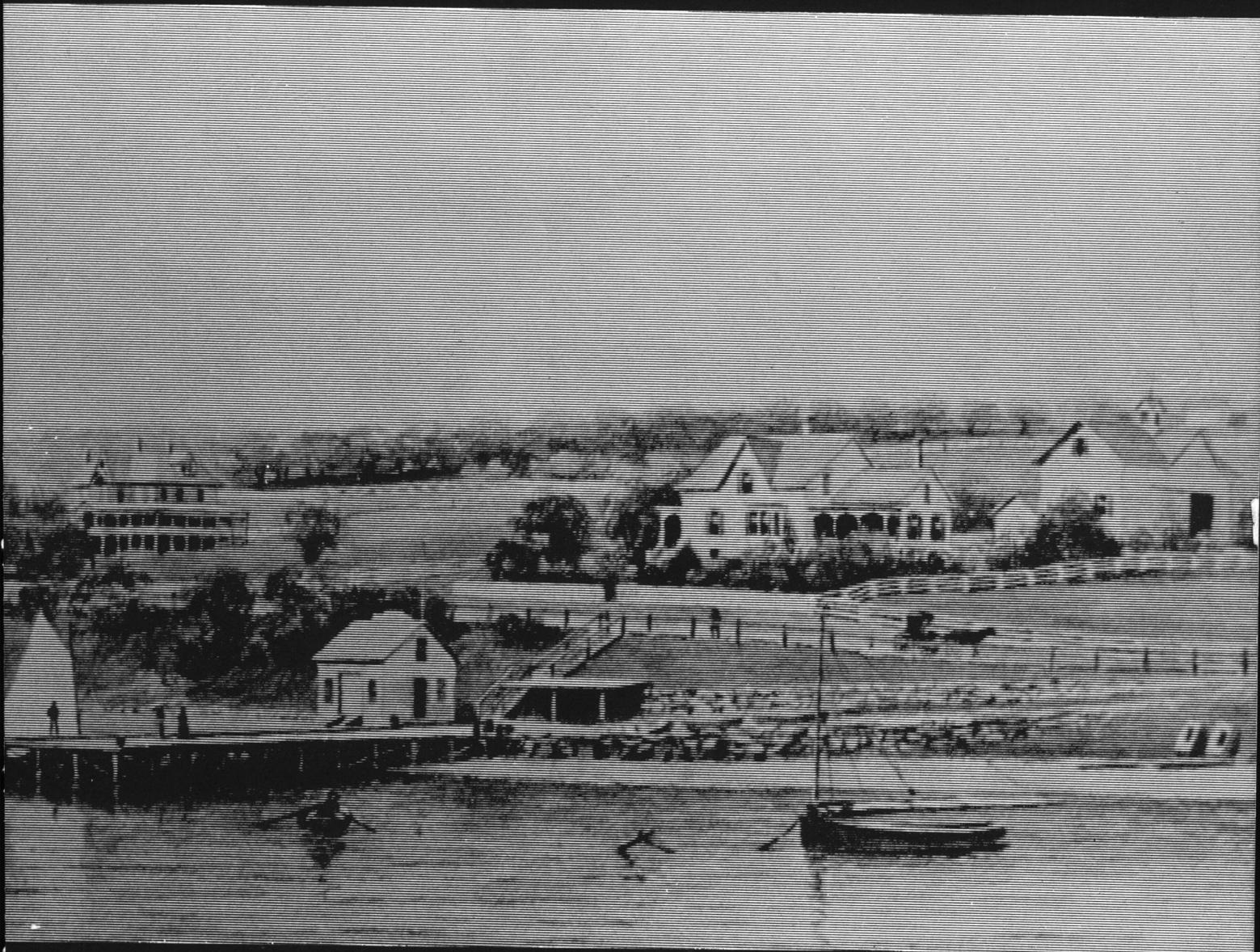


# Historic and Architectural Resources of Tiverton, Rhode Island: A Preliminary Report



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Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission

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This document is a copy of the original survey published in 1979. It has not been corrected or updated.

Since the original publication:

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

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

Cover illustration: William J. Brightman's Wharf (#4-Y) & House (#4-X) at Stone Bridge. At the left is the Captain Isaac Church House (#4-W). From Richard M. Bayles' History of Newport County, 1888.

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
PRELIMINARY SURVEY REPORT  
TOWN OF TIVERTON

1983

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

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## PREFACE

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

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

## METHODOLOGY

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

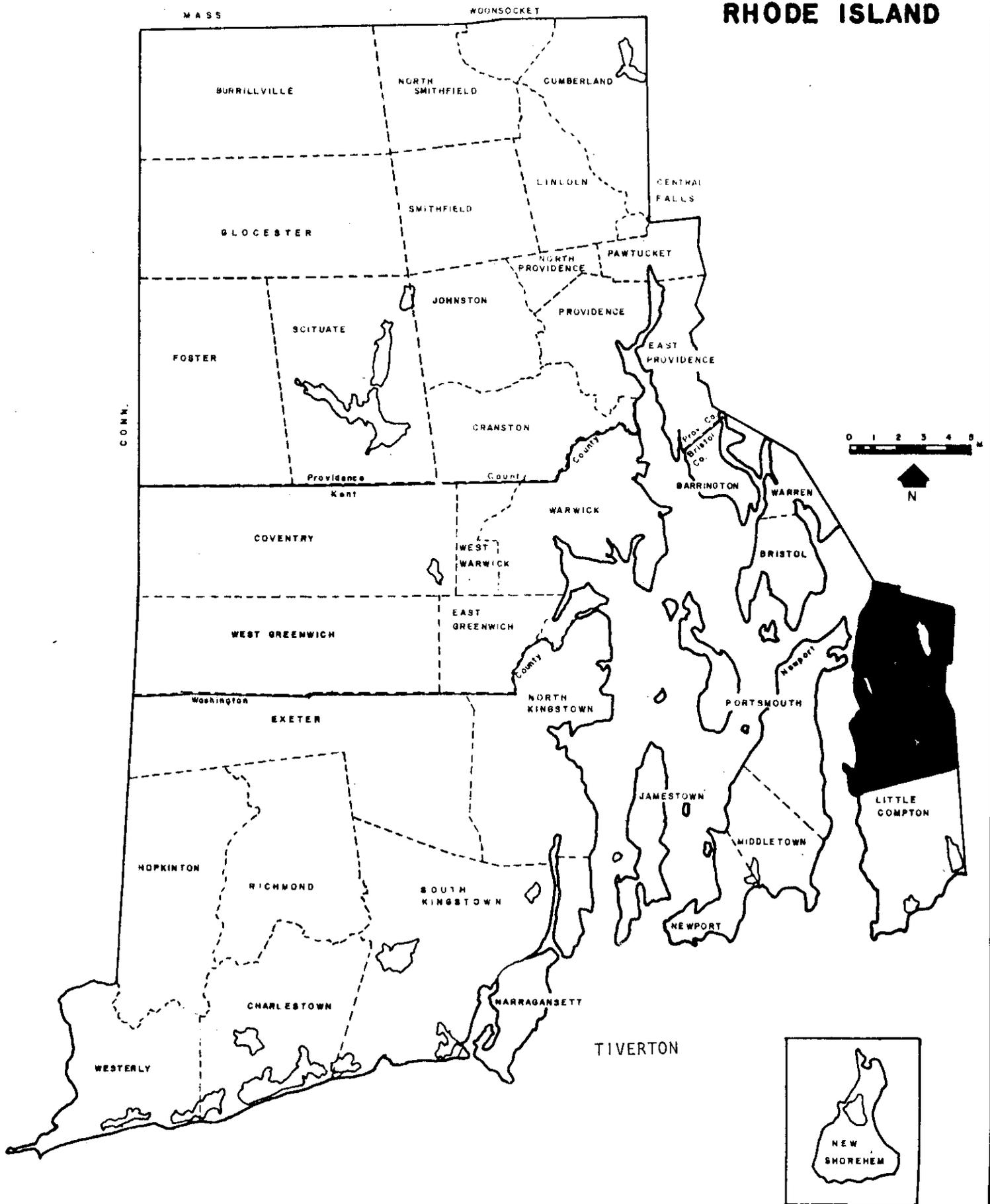
After the initial reconnaissance of Tiverton, during follow-up visits, properties were photographed and recorded on standard data sheets which include a physical description and notations concerning history, use, condition, and architectural style or period of construction. Research was conducted at several libraries, principally the Rhode Island Historical Society Library and the Providence Public Library. The Newport Historical Society Library, the Fall River Historical Society Library, the New Bedford Public Library, and the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission National Register files provided some information. Local Tiverton libraries and the town hall were also visited to obtain readily-available information. Nineteenth century maps (as listed in the bibliography) were useful in associating individual properties with previous owners, and in providing insights about the growth and development of villages and communities. All known possible sources of information, including town and county histories, reports, gazetteers, and newspaper and travel accounts, were examined; they provided most of the information used in the report (see Bibliography). For Tiverton, the most important sources of information were Bayles' 1888 History of Newport County; the 1936 Tiverton Tercentenary book; and, repeating much of this information, the 1977 "Patchwork History" of the town. In addition, the Tiverton Historical Society and knowledgeable residents were consulted. Most helpful were Edna Snell and John Berg, who reviewed the original survey and preliminary draft and provided useful information and comments; Andrew Manchester, who was helpful in documenting recently-built houses; Dr. and Mrs. James Holt, who reviewed the preliminary draft and helped identify and interpret several historical sites, particularly a mill site on Borden's Brook; Clara Harrison, for her information on Stone Bridge, or Tiverton Village; and James Garman, for permission to look through his post card collection. David Chase, a consultant to the Historical Preservation Commission, accompanied the author on a field check of Tiverton and made useful suggestions. Historical Preservation Commission staff who reviewed and contributed to the report include Antoinette F. Downing, Chairman of the Commission; William MacKenzie Woodward, and Edward F. Sanderson. Leonard Panaggio of the Rhode Island Department of Economic Development also reviewed the report.

## INTRODUCTION

The following preliminary study covers the historical and architectural resources of the town of Tiverton. The report includes a short, illustrated account of Tiverton's architectural and developmental history in Section I. Since there is no complete, systematic history of Tiverton, and since research and writing of a detailed history is beyond the scope of this project, the history of Tiverton--the Analysis section of this report--is derived from bits and pieces, or fragments, of history, which exist in a variety of sources of information, and from extant structures and sites. Section II is a list of properties in Tiverton that are already listed in the National Register of Historic Places or that are suggested for nomination to the National Register. Section III is an annotated inventory of properties of historical and architectural importance in the town. Buildings are also listed in Appendix A according to architectural styles or periods of construction. The Inventory numbers are keyed to the small-scale locational map at the rear of this publication. For more precise location of properties, reference should be made to the large-scale, preliminary, cultural-resource survey map prepared by the Historical Preservation Commission.

The Tiverton survey started in June, and the preliminary report was completed on December 1, 1982. Within five historic districts (inventory numbers 1-5), are 106 buildings, 3 bridges, 10 sites, an ice house, and a gazebo. Individual structures and sites recorded outside the districts include 144 structures, 5 sites, 3 cemeteries, a twentieth-century sawmill, a bridge, a fire tower, and a roadscape.

# RHODE ISLAND





Eight Rod Highway, north of East Road (#52).



Sin and Flesh Brook at Bridgeport (#1).



Stone Arch Bridge at Bordens Brook (#53).

## I. ANALYSIS

### OVERVIEW

Before the arrival of Europeans, Native Americans inhabited what is today Tiverton. Their migratory way of life centered seasonally near the extensive shorelines, where they caught fish and shellfish and planted crops, and in the secluded forests, which provided food from animals, nuts, and berries, and afforded shelter in winter. Friction between the natives and the first settlers in the region began as early as 1620, when the Plymouth Colony was established, but open hostility did not erupt until 1675, as King Philip's War. Two of the first engagements between Indians and colonists took place in Tiverton. Indian impact on the land was limited, and today, there are no readily visible traces of their activity. Professional archeological investigation remains to be done on a town-wide basis to give an accurate account of Native American culture in Tiverton.

Initially, Aquidneck Island residents grazed their animals at Puncatest and ran a ferry across the narrow passage between the Sakonnet and Mount Hope Bay. Later, the town was settled through several land purchases. The earliest property acquired, Nannaquaket Neck was conveyed through a private transaction between an individual settler and the Indians in 1651, but the settlement of Puncatest, beginning in 1663 and the Pocasset Purchase of 1681, conveyed by the Plymouth Colony, proceeded along traditional patterns, with lots laid out for homes and other uses. Originally part of the Plymouth Colony, Tiverton became part of Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1692, two years before it was incorporated as a town. In 1746-1747 it was transferred to Rhode Island.

Farming, and secondary occupations such as blacksmithing, tavern keeping, ferrying, ship building, whaling, trading, and running small saw and grist mills, prevailed through the 18th century. During that century, Tiverton played a role in the Revolutionary War. Fort Barton, a fortified redoubt on the heights commanding the passage between Tiverton and Portsmouth, was manned for several years. The immediate area was a staging ground for colonial troops who were ferried across the passage to participate in the Battle of Rhode Island on Aquidneck Island in the summer of 1778.

Tiverton remained an agricultural town in the 19th century. Other enterprises included milling, textile manufacturing, whaling, coasting, and fishing. Tiverton men played a premier role in the menhaden fish industry, whose heyday was from about 1870 to 1910. The coming of the railroad was instrumental in realizing the town's recreational potential, first at Tiverton Heights and along the shore below. Other sections, including Nannaquaket Neck and Puncatest Neck, were choice locales for the establishment of large estates by wealthy out-of-towners. In the late 19th century, two large cotton mills built at the northern border of town helped initiate the transformation of North Tiverton into an urban area.

In the 20th century, the automobile put the entire town within easy reach of nearby urban centers, and during the century, particularly after

World War II, the once rural area became a residential suburb of Fall River. Farming, fishing, and recreation became minor activities in the 20th century compared to their importance in the previous century. Today, the town is a multi-faceted community set within an essentially urban-suburban context.

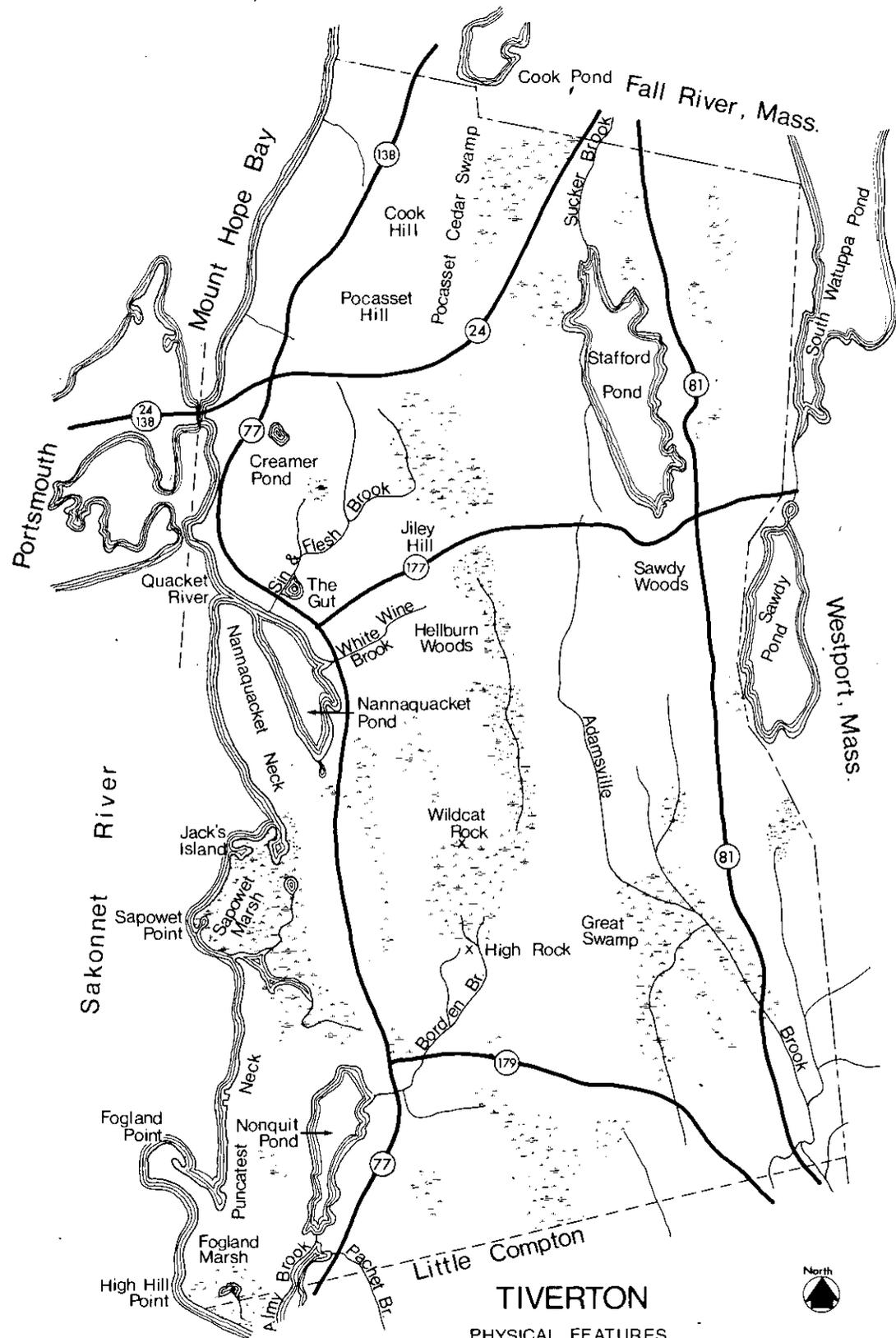
None of the mills are active today, no men go whaling or command steamers, and only a small percentage of the population is engaged in farming and fishing. But the lives and activities of Tiverton's former residents have left an important heritage--Indian sites, 17th and 18th century military and battle sites, villages, farms, houses, mill sites, schools, churches, wharves, and bridges--that constitute the important components of Tiverton's heritage.

#### LOCATION AND POPULATION

Tiverton is located in Newport County, in the southeastern corner of Rhode Island. It is bounded on the west by Mt. Hope Bay and the Sakonnet River, across from Bristol and Portsmouth, Rhode Island. Little Compton forms the southern border. The City of Fall River, Massachusetts, comprises the north and northeast boundary, while Westport, Massachusetts, lies along the southern part of the eastern boundary. The town is approximately rectangular in shape, its longest dimension, north to south, averaging about 8 miles; it is about 3½ miles from east to west. A 1980 population of 13,848 within the 29.7 square mile town gave Tiverton a population density of 454 people per square mile. Most residents live in densely-populated North Tiverton, in the northwest corner, contiguous with the city of Fall River, and in Stone Bridge, along and near the narrow passage between Mount Hope Bay and the Sakonnet. Population is also concentrated along and near the major north-south trending highways--routes 77 and 81. The interior, an area of low ridges and extensive swamps, is sparsely populated. In the summer, cottagers along the Sakonnet and several ponds create a minor seasonal population increase.

#### TRANSPORTATION

A network of numbered highways crisscrosses Tiverton. Running in a north-south direction, from Fall River to Little Compton, are two roads. Main Road, state highway 138 north of Route 24 and Route 77 to the south, passes through Stone Bridge and Tiverton Four Corners on its run to Sakonnet. Route 81, the eastern route, incorporating Stafford and Crandall roads, connects with Adamsville near the southern Tiverton line. Connecting Routes 77 and 81 are Route 179, East Road and Stone Church Road, which links Tiverton Four Corners with Adamsville, and Route 177, Bulgammarsh Road, which leads eastward into Westport, Massachusetts from its Main Road origin. The town's most recent highway, Route 24, a modern divided highway built in the 1950s, is a major link from Route I-195 in Fall River to Newport. It traverses the northwest corner of town, crossing the Sakonnet-Mount Hope passage in the northern part of Stone Bridge. The Sakonnet River Bridge closely parallels an Amtrak railroad bridge. The railroad, which follows the shore of Mount Hope Bay on its route between Fall River and Newport, is little used today. A limited bus service is carried on today.

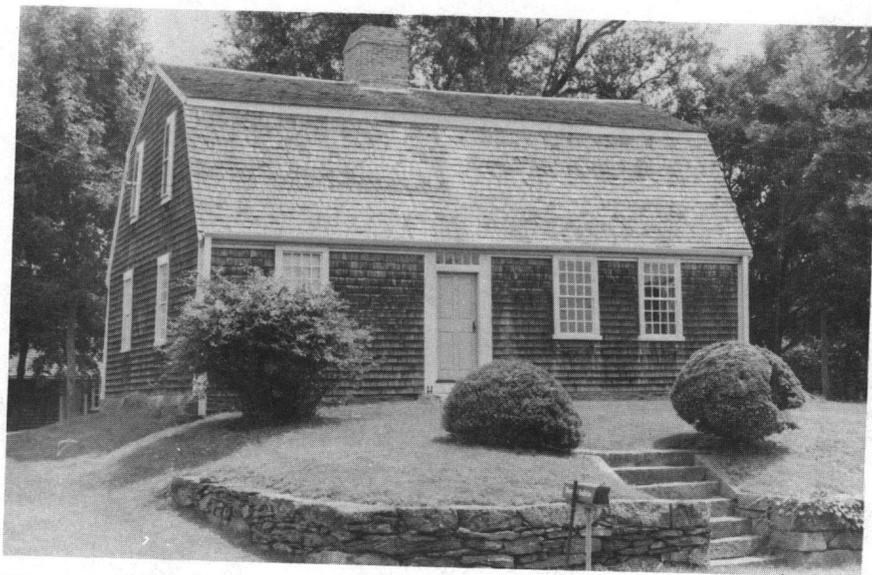


# TIVERTON

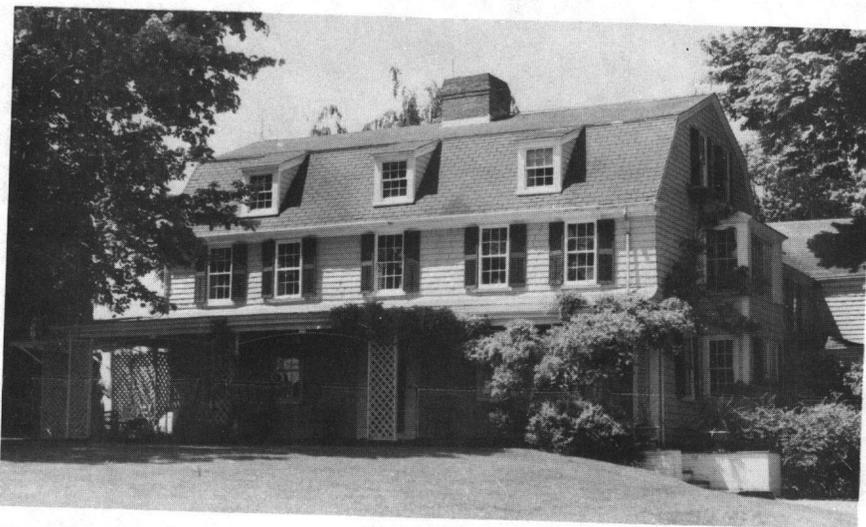
PHYSICAL FEATURES

1983





Chase-Cory House (c. 1730 et seq.): 3908 Main Road,  
Tiverton Four Corners Historic District (#5-1).



Homelands (c. 1760): 575 Nannaquaket Road,  
Nannaquaket Historic District (#2-H).



Captain Daniel Church House (1792 et seq.): 1392 Main  
Road, Stone Bridge Historic District (#4-Q).

## GEOLOGY AND LANDFORMS\*

Most of Tiverton's bedrock is igneous and metamorphic in origin--granite, granite gneiss, and schist. The western part of town, south of Stone Bridge, is the southeast corner of the Narragansett Basin, a topographical and structural trough made up of sandstone, shale, and conglomerate. Differential weathering and erosion, wearing away the weaker rocks of the Narragansett Basin faster, have produced an escarpment approximately 100 feet high that includes Pocasset Hill and the ridge along Highland Road and numerous bedrock outcrops along the Sakonnet and inland, notably Wildcat Rock and High Rock.

In the recent geologic past, continental glaciers--vast ice sheets overriding the land--covered this area. The southward moving ice mass carried large quantities of soil and boulders which were deposited indiscriminately over the land when the ice sheet melted about 11,000 years ago. The unsorted material which was deposited, a mixture of soil and rocks known to geologists as till, makes up most of Rhode Island's surface cover. Large boulders, transported from the north by the ice and left perched on the land, resting on bedrock of another material are known as glacial erratics, and are common in Tiverton. In some places large ice blocks were left standing on the land, then covered with glacial outwash material. After the ice blocks melted, a very irregular topography known as kame-and-kettle resulted. Enormous rivers that issued from the melting ice sheet carried material which was sorted out by the action of running water into deposits ranging from coarsely-sorted pebbly mixtures to fine sand and gravel. Glacial deposits also blocked pre-existing waterways, resulting in many swampy areas. In the central part of Tiverton these include Pocasset Cedar Swamp, Basket Swamp, Cedar Swamp, and Great Swamp. Two coastal marshes--Sapowet Marsh and Fogland Marsh--occupy low-lying areas along the Sakonnet, south of Nannaquaket Neck.

The major orientation of the topography is generally north-south. Highest elevations are in the north-central section. Pocasset Hill, at 328 feet, is the highest. Much of the town north of King Road lies above 200 feet elevation, but south and southwest parts are relatively low-lying.

Unlike interior Rhode Island localities, Tiverton waterways--small, short brooks--have played a minor role in the town's development, and the swampy and rocky interior has discouraged and precluded farming in many areas. The stony, glacial deposits that cover most of the bedrock were a handicap for pioneer settlers, but provided material for early house and other building foundations, for wharves, for bridges, and for the miles of fences which were necessary to divide fields, pastures, and house lots. The lower lying, more gently-sloping shore area, particularly along Nannaquaket Neck, Puncatest Neck, and along Main Road south of Stone Bridge, was settled at an early date. In addition to good farmland, these water-

\*Refer to map of physical features following page 1 for locations.

oriented localities, had the advantage of easier communication with the outside world during the first centuries of settlement. Today, the shore areas are still favored, although now for aesthetic reasons, and the interior section is still relatively sparsely populated.

## NATIVE AMERICANS

Long before the arrival of the first Europeans in New England, Native Americans made their home here. In 1620, when the Pilgrims settled at Plymouth, there were ten major tribes, or groups of subtribes, of the Algonquin nation in New England. The Wampanoags, under the leadership of Massasoit, occupied a large territory extending from Cape Cod Bay and the western part of Cape Cod on the east, to the Seekonk (Blackstone) River and the eastern part of Narragansett Bay on the west, and including Martha's Vineyard and smaller offshore islands. The Wampanoag lands corresponded approximately with those of the Plymouth Colony. Although the Wampanoags were further subdivided into nine subtribes on the mainland, the strong leadership of Massasoit kept them quite cohesive. The leading sachem's headquarters was at Pokanoket (now Bristol, Rhode Island) and the entire tribe were called the Pokanokets. In precolonial days, wars with their western neighbors, particularly the Narragansetts, were frequent. The Pocassetts, under sachem Corbitant in the early 17th century, were a strong subtribe, whose territory extended from Dighton in the north, south along both sides of the Taunton River to Tiverton.

In Tiverton, Native American life was centered on the forest and shore areas. Summer encampments were made near ponds or shores, where an abundance of fish and shellfish--scallops, clams, and oysters--was available. Nannaquaket Neck, Sapowet Neck, and Puncatest Neck, and other small lowland areas near the water, were clear of forest, and here patches of cultivated land yielded maize, beans, and pumpkins. In the inland virgin forest, winter encampments were set up in sheltered valleys or dense swamps. Forest products included wild game and wild fruits and berries in season.

Although a comprehensive archeological survey of Tiverton remains to be done, evidence of Indian land use has been revealed through casual surface and subsurface discoveries of artifacts, including: arrow heads, spear points, and hatchets at Sapowet and Puncatest Neck; a burial place at Fort Point at the entrance to Stone Bridge; an Indian burial site at Nonquit School at the head of the pond of the same name; a burial ground on a point of land behind the Nathaniel Briggs House; a burial ground on the hill east of Sapowet Marsh; and an Indian well on the Rose property near Main Road. The Irving D. Humphrey House, on Nannaquaket Neck, is said to have been built on the site of the residence of Queen Weetamoe, daughter of Corbitant, and wife of Alexander, King Philip's brother. Trails--one along present Main Road, one running east from Nannaquaket Pond, and another running easterly from Puncatest Neck to Acoaxet--provided communication with other Wampanoag subtribes.

Today, there are no extant Indian structures, but several roads follow the course of old Indian trails, and several Indian names, particularly Puncatest and Nannaquaket, serve as reminders of our Native American



William Durfee House (1768): 2794 Main Road (#93).



Barker House (c. 1700 et seq.): 1975 Crandall Road (#36).



Otis Almy House/Heathersfield (c. 1750): 737 Neck Road, Puncatest Neck Historic District (#3-P).

heritage. Pocasset, which means river, and once applied to the strait at Stone Bridge, was the original name for Tiverton (and for the first settlement at Portsmouth). Today, only a hill, a school, a street, and a cedar swamp in the northern part of town carry the name Pocasset.

## THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY

Today's Tiverton and Little Compton, then "unexplored" country, were conferred to the Plymouth Colony by an English charter of 1606. A widespread and devastating epidemic, greatly reduced New England's Indian population shortly before the Pilgrims arrived. Part of the Wampanoag lands was completely abandoned, including the area into which the Pilgrims moved in 1620. Soon after, Corbitant, the Pocasset sachem, conspired with the Narragansetts to overthrow both Massasoit and the English simultaneously, but he failed in his attempt and in 1621, along with eight other minor sachems, subscribed to an instrument of submission to King James. The Plymouth Colony was then recognized as an agent for the King of England from the western shore of Cape Cod, or Massachusetts Bay, to the eastern shore of Narragansett Bay. The western boundary of Plymouth, later the Massachusetts Bay Colony, was a matter of dispute with the later Rhode Island colony until its resolution in 1746.

While the eastern part of Narragansett Bay remained in Massachusetts' hands, the rest of the Bay, including adjacent Aquidneck Island, became part of the Rhode Island colony after Roger Williams' initial settlement at Providence in 1636. In 1638, a group of exiles from the Massachusetts colony established a new settlement, initially called Pocasset, at the northern end of Aquidneck Island. In the following year, Newport was founded at the opposite end of the island. Massasoit granted to the Aquidneck settlers the use of any grasses and trees on the mainland along the east shore in present Tiverton. Sheep and cattle were transported across the river to pasture in the summer months. It is likely that they built small, stone shelters on the mainland.

## Ferries

Another early use of land and water in Tiverton as well as a more lasting and important association with Aquidneck, was the establishment of a ferry at the narrows between the Sakonnet and Mount Hope Bay--the safest place and narrowest passage between Aquidneck and the mainland. The history of the ferry here is a long, complex, and interesting one, which is described in detail in the Chapins' 1925 History of Rhode Island Ferries. The first ferry here, and undoubtedly the first established in Rhode Island, was licensed to Thomas Gorton in 1640. Operating in the vicinity of the later Stone Bridge, it was acquired by John Simmons, then, in 1694, by Daniel Howland. From 1694 until well into the 19th century, both the ferry and the immediately surrounding area on the Tiverton side were known as Howland's Ferry. Another ferry, often referred to as the "northern most" ferry to distinguish it from the first, was established around 1680. Thomas Durfee of Portsmouth was

probably the first proprietor of this ferry, which ran from the Hummocks to Humphrey's Wharf in Tiverton. Durfee's Ferry was also known as the Pocasset Ferry and Anthony's Ferry. The northern ferry probably ceased operating in the late 18th century. Howland's ferry remained in service longer, even after the completion of the Stone Bridge in 1794-1795, for the bridge was out of commission from 1796 to 1810.

#### Nannaquaket Neck Purchase

Although the Tiverton lands were within the jurisdiction of Plymouth Colony, in 1651, Wamsutta, or Alexander, and several other Wampanoag sachems, sold Nannaquaket Neck to Captain Richard Morris of Portsmouth, Rhode Island. The land, whose southern boundary was an Indian corn field, included about 457 acres, with meadow ground on the east side of Pogasock Pond (Nannaquaket Pond) that contained timber for fencing and firewood. Morris took an oath of loyalty to Plymouth in 1660, but he did not receive colonial confirmation and a deed until 1680.

#### Punkatest Purchase

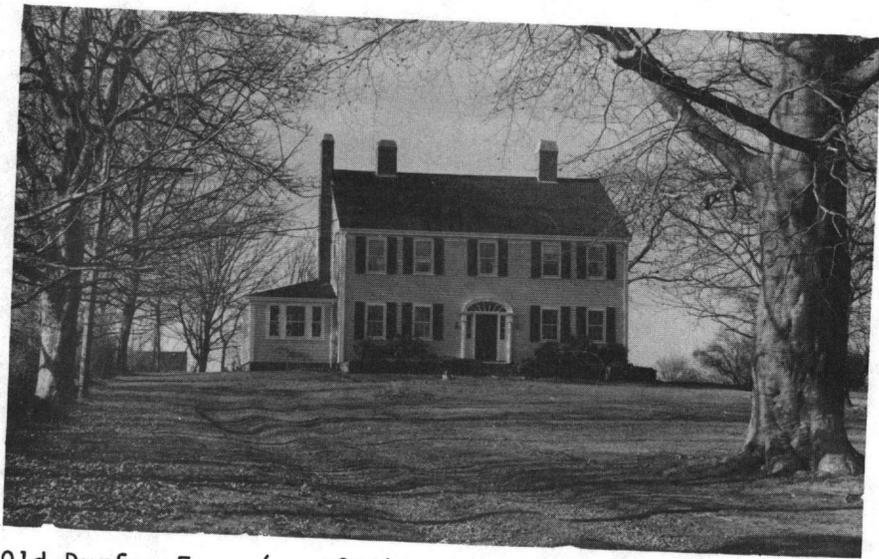
In 1659, Plymouth Colony granted Punkatest Neck to its freemen as a compromise for settling Richard Morris' claims at Nannaquaket. According to the Plymouth town record of March 27, 1663, Punkatest Neck was "laid out and entered upon" by the 75 freemen of Plymouth, but no substantial structure was built there, and only 36 lots were laid out in the area that extended north to the Sapowet Marsh brook and east to Main Road at the Four Corners. Other Punkatest lands were laid out north of the Neck, from the Sakonnet to approximately Borden Brook, and from Nonquit Pond and brook eastward to Acoaxet. Benjamin Church, one of the original proprietors, received a large tract south of the present Four Corners intersection and may have occupied his lands as early as 1673. Other settlers began to arrive after 1680.

#### King Philip's War

In June, 1675, after a long period of deteriorating relations between the colonists and Indians, King Philip, Massasoit's son, left his headquarters at Mount Hope and crossed the bay to Pocasset (Tiverton). Captain Benjamin Church and a small force pursued Philip in the hope of negotiating with him, but on July 8th the colonists were fired upon by the Indians near Fogland Point. The engagement, known as the Battle of Fogland, or the Battle of Almy's Peasefield (see #3-U),\* was ended by the arrival of Captain Goulding (or Goulden) with a sloop and the evacuation of Church and his men with light casualties.

Ten days later, on July 18th, another encounter between colonial forces and Indians took place at the Pocasset Cedar Swamp. The Battle of Pocasset (see #38), a late afternoon skirmish, followed by the escape of Philip and

\*Numbers in parentheses refer to the Inventory (Section III) and to the Map of Cultural Resources following page 90.



Old Durfee Farm (c. 1800): 405 Nannaquaket Road,  
Nannaquaket Historic District (#2-G).



Cook Almy House (1808): 58 Fogland Road, Puncatest  
Neck Historic District (#3-A).



Nathaniel Briggs-Manchester-Beattie House  
(pre 1777): 68 Indian Point Road (#61).

Weetamoe, was the last Indian battle in town.

Some Indians remained in the area, however, and on March 21, 1676, Zoeth Howland, a Quaker on his way to a meeting in Newport, was killed by Indians. His mutilated body was thrown into a waterway, which ran red with blood, and was henceforth known as the Sinning Flesh River and later, Sin and Flesh Brook (#1).

In November, 1676, following the war, the colony granted 200 acres of land north of the Seaconnet (Little Compton) boundary, extending one mile east of Nonquit Pond, to Captain Robert Goulding (100 acres), David Lake (60 acres), and Thomas Lake (40 acres) for their outstanding service during the war.

#### Pocasset Purchase

Although portions of Tiverton were purchased before King Philip's War, there is no record of settlement before that time. The devastating defeat of the Wampanoags during the war virtually wiped them off the map and allowed for permanent settlement to proceed. In 1679-80, a large tract of land, including about two thirds of the present area of Tiverton, was granted to eight men named in the "Great Deed." The men, known as the Pocasset Purchasers, had jurisdiction co-extensive with their ownership, which comprised an area extending from Main and Bedford streets in today's Fall River south to the north line of the Puncatest Purchase--just south of Sapowet Avenue, in present Tiverton. Excluded from the purchase was Nannaquaket Neck.

The first division of Great Lots--thirty house lots, a lot for a minister, and two ferry lots, with common ways and streets to them--made at the first meeting of the purchasers in 1681, was laid out along the shore. A highway was also laid out along the shore, across the lots, and a 30 rod-wide passage of land to Watuppa Pond (in today's Fall River) was left in common. The seven southernmost lots, east of Nannaquaket Pond, extended east to an eight rod way laid out one mile from the shore. The Eight Rod Way, established through the north-south length of the territory, was never completed in its entirety. There was a gap between Fish Road and the old highway in the southern part of road, south of East Road.

The second division, 120, one-acre lots, laid out in June, 1696, included the land from the Quequechan River in Fall River south to the Puncatest "out lots"; this tract was bordered on the east by South Watuppa Pond and on the west by the Eight Rod Way. The sixth division, in 1700, consisting of 50 acre lots extended south of Stafford Pond; it included the last remaining undivided land in Tiverton.

#### Political Changes

During the latter part of the 17th century, several political changes affected Tiverton. In 1685, the original Plymouth Colony was subdivided into three counties; Tiverton was included in Bristol County. In 1692,

the three counties were united to the Province of Massachusetts Bay. From the time of settlement to 1694, a kind of provisional government existed in Pocasset (as it was known then). In that year, the present area of Tiverton, and the southern part of today's Fall River, were incorporated by Massachusetts as the town of Tiverton. Twenty-seven names were recorded as being official residents.

#### Highways & Land Settlement

Many of the town's principal highways, and some byways, were laid out in the 17th century, including the previously mentioned Eight Rod Way and several four rod roads. In 1683, today's Main Road was laid out north from Tiverton Four Corners, and another route, the Dartmouth Road, today's Neck, East, and Stone Church roads, was run from Puncatest into the interior.

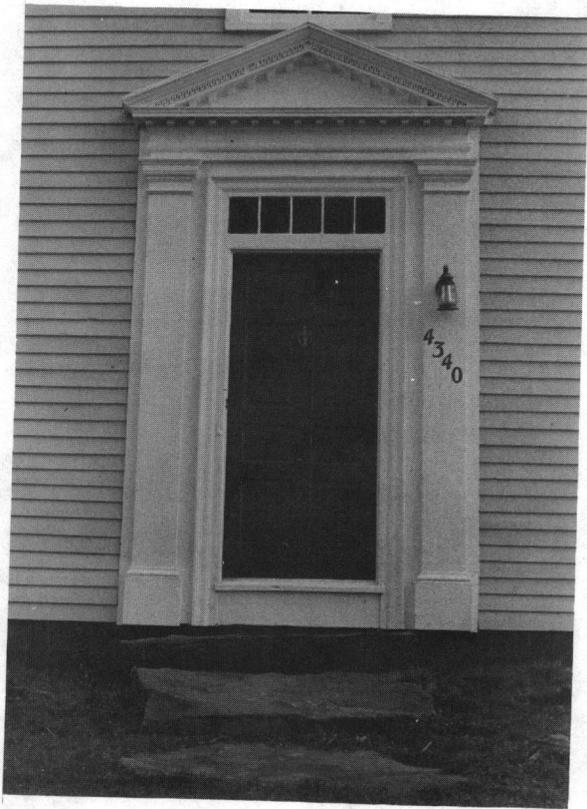
Several farms were established during the late 17th century, the period of incipient land clearing, laying out of fields and pastures, building stone walls, and erecting houses and outbuildings. The Durfee Farm (#93) on Main Road, whose stone walls and gardens date from about 1692 may contain the oldest extant garden in Tiverton; perhaps the oldest in the state.

Growth of population and movement through the town, particularly at the ferries, gave birth to several non-agricultural activities. The section around the Sakonnet narrows was the center of activity in the 17th century, a position it has since held. In 1674, John Simmons was licensed to have a ferry, on condition that he build a house and keep an "ordinary" for the entertainment of visitors and strangers. Another early tavern was established along the Gut, in Bridgeport (#1), before 1700, by John Gray. Somewhere nearby was the residence of shipyard of Joseph Wanton, a Quaker who came here in 1688. Wanton's works at the north end of Nannaquaket Pond, carried on an extensive shipbuilding business, making merchantmen and privateers. Part of a prominent family (two of his brothers were governors of Massachusetts Colony, and a son was governor of Rhode Island). Joseph was an accepted leader and principal preacher of the Quaker society which he helped form about 1700. At about that time, the first Friends Meeting-house (#4-S) was built. Earlier, in about 1680, Baptists living in Tiverton, Little Compton, and Dartmouth, formed a religious society. In 1698-99, some Tiverton residents, followers of the Episcopal faith, were loosely formed into a group, and petitioned for a minister; one was appointed to serve Tiverton and several other towns in 1704. Meetings and religious services were held in private homes at first. Although a ministry lot was laid out in the Pocasset Purchase, there was no officially established minister or denomination for the town, and no meeting house was erected in Tiverton in the 17th century.

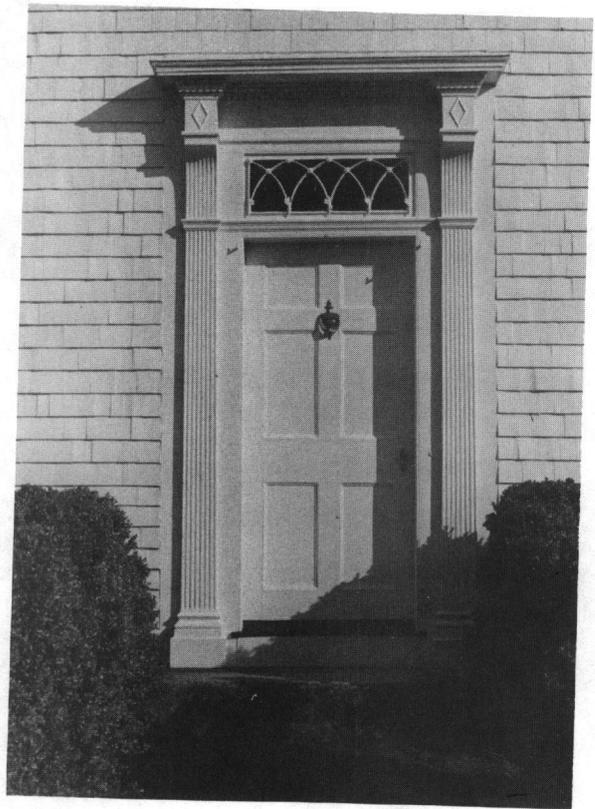
#### THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

##### Ferries, Industry, and Farms

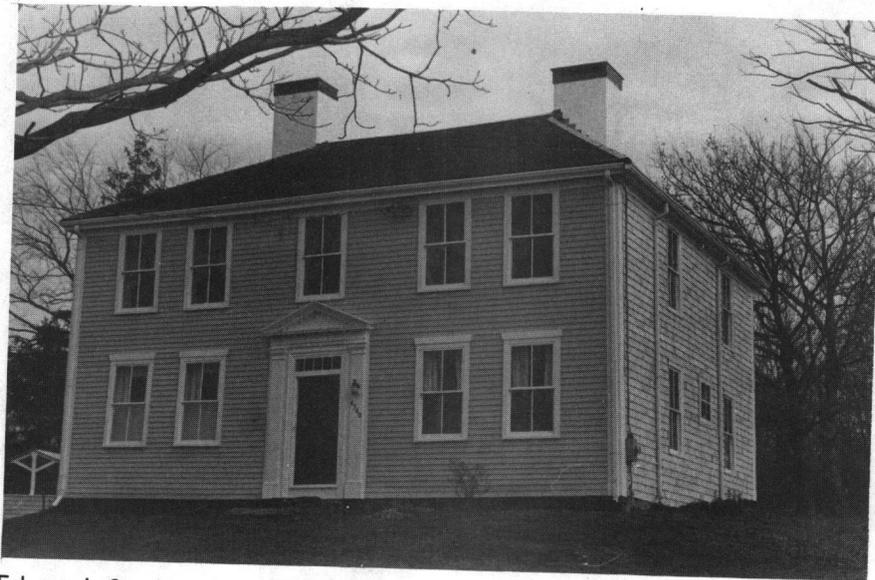
During the 18th century, Tiverton developed into a moderately prosperous agricultural community where townsmen also looked to the sea for



Doorway, Edward Cook House, 4340  
Main Road (#110).



Doorway, William Durfee House  
(1768): 2794 Main Road (#93).



Edward Cook House (Early 19th Century): 4340 Main  
Road (#110).

livelihood. Without exception, the town's activities in the 18th century were concentrated in the western part, near the Sakonnet, and in the vicinity of the old Dartmouth Road--as evidenced by Tiverton's extant historic structures and sites.

In 1707, Captain Thomas Townsend petitioned to establish a ferry at Fogland Point which would link the Dartmouth Road with Aquidneck Island and Newport. Townsend's stepson, Job Almy, was authorized to run the ferry about 1715, which provided service until the Revolution, when the British naval blockade interrupted the run.

The Dartmouth Road grew in importance as a result of the operations of the Fogland Point ferry; in 1710, a committee from Puncateest and Seconnet laid out thirty building sites (the nucleus of the village of Tiverton Four Corners) and a mill lot along Borden Brook which included Joseph Taber's saw and grist mill. The mill and the village were known as Nomcot (later Nonquit), the name of the nearby pond.

The growth of the southern part of town resulted in the erection of a Congregational church on Lake Road in 1747 and the construction of the first Stone Church nearby, near the Little Compton line, in 1752. A tavern was established near Tiverton Four Corners in 1749. A windmill was erected at Tiverton Four Corners in 1776, and it is likely that other water or wind-powered saw mills and grist mills were located in the town during the century.

Undoubtedly, most Tiverton residents farmed the land throughout the 18th century, growing food for themselves and a small surplus for barter or sale. The existence of some larger operations is suggested by the 1757 town census which included 99 Negroes and 99 Indians, most of whom probably worked as slaves on commercial farms which had a ready market for their produce in Newport.

#### Maritime Activities

The sea provided alternative or supplementary occupations for Tiverton men, who undoubtedly fished and engaged in the coastal trade in addition to operating ferries. In 1773, Gideon Almy's sloop, Sally, on a whaling voyage to the West Indies, was seized by French privateers and condemned with a cargo of whale oil. It is one of the earliest records of a Tiverton-owned whaling ship and of Tiverton's association with the sea which reached its full flowering in the 19th century. Later in the 18th century, two Tiverton men were engaged in the fur trade in the Pacific Northwest--Cornelius Soule, who also engaged in the China trade, and Captain Robert Gray, who was commander of the Columbia, a trading ship which was the first American ship to enter the Columbia River and helped establish the United States' claim to the Oregon Territory. The homes of both men (#5-E and #103) still stand along Main Road at and near Tiverton Four Corners.

#### Political Changes

The long, protracted, boundary dispute over the Massachusetts-Rhode Island boundary continued throughout the 18th and well into the 19th century.

In 1740, a committee for the reexamination of the boundary was appointed, and in 1746, Tiverton, Little Compton, and three other towns were added to the jurisdiction of Rhode Island. Tiverton then included the southern part of today's Fall River. In 1791, Massachusetts questioned the survey that set these boundaries, and after many more years of study and committees, a new line was laid out by engineers. In 1862, the northern territory, with about 3,000 people and including South Watuppa and Sawdy ponds, was transferred to Massachusetts.

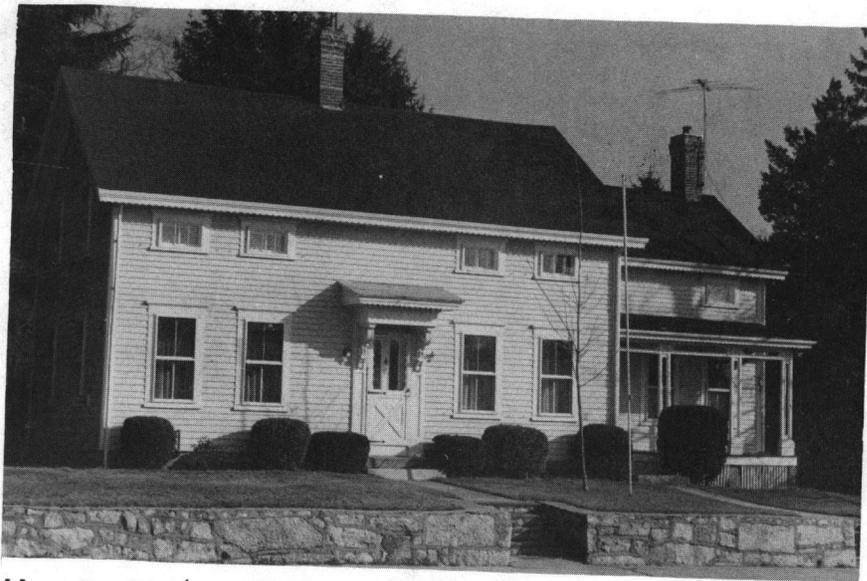
#### The Revolutionary War

Tiverton was an active participant in the Revolutionary War during the period of British occupation of Aquidneck Island, from 1776 to 1779. Fortifications and a lookout station were located on High Hill. Forts Durfee and Barton (#4-10) were erected on heights above the passage between Tiverton and Portsmouth in 1776. Fort Garton was the starting point for Lieutenant Colonel William Barton's midnight raid which resulted in the capture of British General Richard Prescott on Aquidneck Island in 1777. The fort and its environs were most heavily used during the summer of 1778, when Continental troops were assembled here and ferried across the passage for the August Battle of Rhode Island, Rhode Island's major Revolutionary War battle. Tiverton's waters were the scenes of two engagements with the enemy. Fortifications on Gould Island, then known as Owl's Nest, and at Fort Point, below Tiverton Heights, helped cover Colonial troops being ferried across the Sakonnet Passage. In October, 1777, Major Silas Talbot, in a small sloop, under cover of darkness, captured the British galley, Pigot, which had been blockading the Sakonnet. In July, 1778, several anchored British ships, including the sloop-of-war, Kingfisher, were set on fire when two French frigates entered the Sakonnet. The Kingfisher drifted to High Hill (#56), where it was blown up by British explosives near the shore. During the war, Tiverton was an asylum for residents of occupied Aquidneck Island, and several buildings--the Isaac Barker House (#1-A), the Friends Meeting House (#4-S), and the Congregational Church--were used for hospitals and military purposes.

Although most residents approved of the war against the British, several remained loyal to the Crown. The most important Tory was Andrew Oliver, who had purchased Nannaquaket Neck around 1737. Oliver was Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts and lived in Boston at the time of his death in 1774. In 1775, the Colony of Rhode Island confiscated his land, except for the southern part, which was set off for Oliver's heirs. In 1782, Nannaquaket Neck was deeded in trust to Colonel Israel Angell, Major Coggeshall, Jeremiah Olney, and Captain William Tew, as compensation for the officers and soldiers of the state's regiments commanded by Colonel Angell. How this trust was discharged is unknown, but in 1791, the tract was conveyed to John Cook, Nathaniel Briggs, and William Humphrey.

#### Post Revolutionary War Activities

After the war, Tiverton life carried on much as before. Two important events in the town's history of development occurred at Howland's Ferry. What was to become the town's most famous and enduring tavern, the Stone



Almy House (c. 1845): 204 Stafford Road (#136).



Cory-Hicks-Borden-Gardner-Stevens House (pre 1750; 1856): 4100 Main Road (#109).



The Old Stone Church/First Baptist Church (1841):  
5 Old Stone Church Road (#122).

Bridge House (#4-FF), was built about 1790 by Captain Lawton. In 1795, after about 164 years of ferry service across the passage between Tiverton and Portsmouth, the first bridge was built. It soon washed away, as did one built immediately afterward, so by century's end, the ferry was still conveying people across the water.

#### Colonial and Federal Era Houses\*

The Tiverton survey recorded fifty-four early houses dating from about 1700 to 1830. Generally, these box-like houses are of massive post-and-beam construction, joined together by pegs. The most common type is the two-and-a-half story, gable-roofed structure with a symmetrical five-bay facade, center entrance, and a large center chimney. Thirteen of Tiverton's early houses, however, are smaller, one-and-a-half-story cottages. Together, the house and the cottage form the basis of Rhode Island's domestic vernacular architecture. These forms remained an important part of Tiverton's building tradition and comprised a significant part of its houses well into the 19th century, largely defining the town's visual character. Depending on the age and scale of these early houses, they vary mostly in roof form, detail, and plan.

The gable roof remained a standard form throughout this early period. Five houses have gambrel roofs, a form particularly popular before the Revolution; two cottages and three large houses use this form, although one (#4-Q) was completely renovated in 1934, and its roof may not be original. Five of the large houses have hip roofs, a form that became stylish after the Revolution, both for new houses (#110) and for remodeling older dwellings (#5-E).

Detail on Tiverton houses became particularly fine during the Federal era, after the Revolutionary War. The exterior decorative focus of these houses is the entrance, often embellished with a pediment and/or fanlight. The Durfee House (#2-G) has the only semi-elliptical fanlight, a hallmark of high-style Federal in Tiverton. The Cook-Almy House (#3-A), the Colonel David Durfee House (#91), and the Nathaniel Briggs-Manchester-Beattie House (#61) all have fine and typical pedimented entrances.

On the interior, the five-room plan with a center chimney remained standard in rural Rhode Island throughout the 18th century and into the 19th century for both houses and cottages. Only seven early houses made use of the center-hall, paired-chimney plan; five of these were probably built after 1800.

The most unusual of Tiverton's early houses is the Job Gray House (#94) on Main Road. It is a one-and-a-half-story, three-bay facade, half house, so-called because its chimney is located near one end. It seems

\*See Appendix A for a list of noteworthy architectural resources.

likely, that some other early houses in Tiverton, as elsewhere in Rhode Island, were built as half houses, with later additions resulting in the center chimney, five room plan layout.

Few early houses have survived intact as renovation has occurred continuously since 1800. The Soule-Seabury House (#5-E) underwent Federal style changes in 1809. The Cook-Bateman house (#3-S) was first modernized in 1869, and later modified to its present Colonial Revival appearance. The Otis Almy House (#3-P) was restored by architect Norman Isham in 1937. Other houses have been more drastically changed by the removal of the center chimney or alterations in window openings.

## THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

### 1800-1865

Tiverton's major economic activity and way of life continued to be farming during the first half of the 19th century. The second most important livelihood involved the bay and the sea: fishing, sailing, and whaling. In addition, a handful of residents were employed in manufacturing, blacksmithing, or kept stores or taverns. The Industrial Revolution that affected much of Rhode Island, beginning with Samuel Slater's 1790 cotton mill in Pawtucket, had little impact on Tiverton whose waterways were too short in length and too seasonal in flow to successfully power textile mills.

### Eyewitness Accounts of Tiverton

During the early part of the 19th century, several travelers and observers of the life of their times came to Tiverton. Their descriptions, or eyewitness accounts, resulted in information for gazetteers or census reports and more colorful accounts of the town presented in guidebooks, newspapers, and magazines.

Timothy Dwight's account of the town focused on the stone bridge, completed in 1806 of massive granite blocks of various sizes. Dwight considered it to be "undoubtedly the best bridge which has been erected in the United States." (It was destroyed shortly thereafter in the Great Gale of 1816). Pease and Niles' 1819 gazetteer included a brief, but broader perspective of the town. They found the forest of oak, hickory, and other deciduous trees of excellent quality. Tiverton's agricultural products--barley, Indian corn, hay, and the products of grazing and the dairy business--were those common to the region. The abundant and navigable waters were touted as safe for navigation of vessels of the largest size. Twenty vessels were either owned or employed here, and a considerable number of people involved in seafaring pursuits. Tiverton (which then included part of today's Fall River) contained two cotton factories, two clothiers works, and two grain mills. Hayward's account of Tiverton, published in 1839, records granite-based hills and valleys, stony and rough in parts, valuable forests providing timber, and the land yielding good crops. There were a large number of sheep, large ponds with fish, and even, he thought, sufficient water power for cotton mills.



James Church House (c. 1860): 1966 Main Road, Stone Bridge Historic District (#4-11).



Captain Fernando Wilcox House (1872): 488 Neck Road, Puncatest Neck Historic District (#3-1).



Captain Eli Hammond House (c. 1880): 3617 Main Road (#102).

## Farming

Tiverton's landscape remained agricultural during the 19th century except for the central spine of the town, characterized by rock outcrops, ledges, and swamps, which remained largely forested. Farms occupied most of the land along the major roads, and minor roads such as King, Lake, Brayton, and Fish roads. Some farms, especially those along Main Road and East Road--Stone Church Road, and at Puncatest Neck and Nannaquaket Neck, had their roots in the 18th century, but it seems probable that many new farms were established in the early or mid-19th century. Houses dating from about 1825 to 1865 are common in the rural areas; some, however, were inhabited by non-farm families. The extant farms recorded in Tiverton (see Appendix A) include stone wall-bounded fields and pastures, and are centered on a complex of buildings, including the farmhouse and its attendant barns, sheds, and other outbuildings, usually sited close to the road. Farm outbuildings of the 18th and 19th centuries typically are vertical board or wood-shingle sided, gable-roofed structures. Information on individual farms is available in Schedule 4, Productions of Agriculture, of the 1850 United State Census. Until this information is quantified, one can only generalize about the Tiverton farms, which ranged in size from several acres to upwards of about 200 acres. Appendix B includes data for two farms: the relatively small, 30 acre farm of Henry King (#126) on Sapowet Road, which contained about a dozen animals, raised Indian corn, oats, peas, beans, Irish potatoes, and barley, and produced butter and cheese; and the 150 acre William Bateman Farm (#3-S), which included the same animals and crops, but in greater numbers and larger quantities, and also had 100 sheep, which yielded 250 pounds of wool, and several orchards.

## Industry

Water-powered saw and grist mills established in the 18th century continued operating well into the 19th century, serving the surrounding farms. Two grist mills and saw mills (#33 and #37) were located on Adamsville Brook and a saw mill (#53) was along Borden Brook. A small locality along Borden Brook at Main Road was revitalized about 1847 when William Pitt Bateman purchased the mill site and built a new grist mill, a store, and a wheelwright shop. Until about 1866, the place was known as Pittsville.

Although Tiverton was not a major textile manufacturing center, three water-powered textile manufactories were established during the first half of the 19th century; two of the sites had preexisting saw and grist mills. Along Sucker Brook, just below (north of) its beginning near Stafford Pond, George Durfee and Asa Coggeshall purchased a saw and grist mill site about 1828 and erected a stone cotton factory, a stone woolen factory, several houses (one of stone), and a general store. The small community here--never more than a few buildings--was known as Eagleville (#39). The Eagle Mill in 1850 employed three men and five women for the manufacture of carpet warps. The woolen mill was destroyed by fire in 1861 and never was rebuilt. A saw and grist mill site along Sin and Flesh Brook was the locale for Sylvanus Nickerson's thread mill in about 1844. This mill, which made

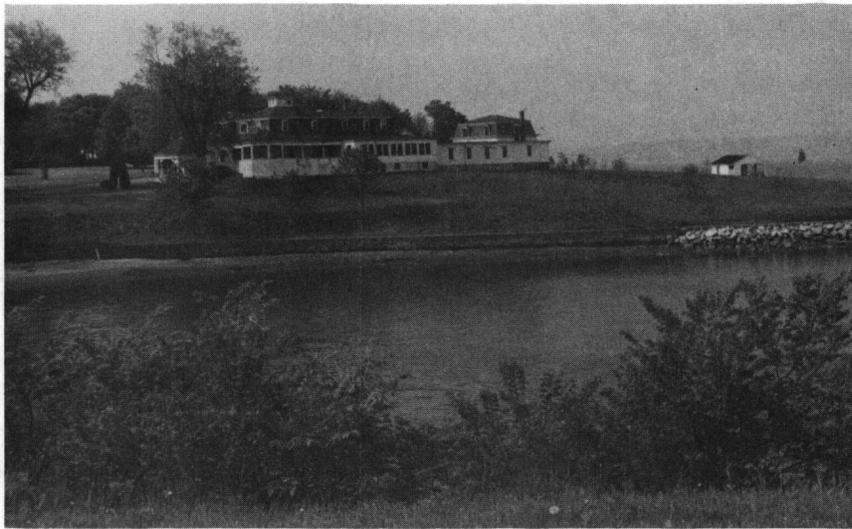
4200 "Batts" in 1850, changed hands several times before it was destroyed by fire in 1864, ending manufacturing at this place. Below Borden's Mill on Adamsville Brook, in the extreme southeastern corner of town, Christopher Brownell erected a carding mill (#37). In 1850, Adamsville Carding employed two men and two women to manufacture rolls and laps. This mill closed down well before 1900.

#### Whaling

While most of Tiverton's residents worked the land, a number of townsmen turned their attention seaward, to engage in one of America's most adventurous occupations in the 19th century--whaling. Originally a land-based enterprise in the waters off Nantucket, the industry spread to southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The earliest record of whaling in Rhode Island is 1733, when the first regularly equipped whaler arrived at Newport. Starbuck, in 1876, records that the whale fishery was long carried on in a small way within the Rhode Island colony; whales were frequently taken by boats in Narragansett Bay. In Rhode Island, Warren and Bristol became thriving whaling ports beginning in the mid-eighteenth century. Tiverton's orientation was toward the east, to nearby Westport, Fairhaven, and New Bedford, Massachusetts. Whaling voyages were made from nearby Westport from about 1775; during its heyday there were 20 to 30 Westport whaling ships engaged in the industry at one time. The largest number of Tiverton's whalers sailed on the Industry and the Almy.

New Bedford was the center of the whaling industry for the entire east coast during the golden age of whaling, between 1835 and 1857; by the latter date, 329 vessels and about 12,000 seamen sailed out of New Bedford. The whaling industry brought wealth to the whaling ports until about 1876, when kerosene came into common use, gradually replacing whale oil for lamps and other uses. However, whalers continued to sail from New Bedford until the 20th century.

Tiverton was never a whaling center, but information compiled at the New Bedford Library and the Providence Public Library shows that between 1808 and 1898, men identified as Tiverton residents made a total of 391 voyages on whaling ships. The major years of involvement for Tiverton whalers was from about 1820 to 1835 and from 1838 to about 1857. Whaling Masters, which records voyages from 1731 to 1925, lists 18 Tiverton whaling captains who made 43 voyages, most out of New Bedford; five sailed from Westport. Five whaling captains lived at one time on Crandall Road, including Capt. Allen Hart, who went to sea in 1823 at age 16, and was a whaler for 28 years; Amasa Simmons, who sailed for 20 years beginning at age 16; Isaac Tripp; and Otis C. Simmons. Many of the voyages were of relatively short duration (less than one year), but some men were gone from home for three to four years. Several men survived shipwrecks, while others, including two brothers of Andrew Cory, were lost or died at sea. Although Tiverton was not a whaling port, the town's association and identity with the sea is strong. The principal material remains of this era are the whalers' houses.



Nanaquaket/St. James Convent (1872): 49 Nannaquaket Road, Nannaquaket Neck Historic District (#2-B).



Sakonnet River Bridge (1956 , #4-VV), and Sakonnet River Railroad Bridge (1898 , #4-UU), Stone Bridge Village.



View of Stone Bridge Village from the Hummocks. Tiverton Yacht Club (#4-QQ) in bottom center, the Outlook (#4-C) and Central Baptist Church #4-D).

## Coasters

In the 18th and 19th centuries, when roads were poor and overland travel was difficult, much cargo, and some passengers, moved by water. Small vessels, known as coasters, with shallow drafts, and able to negotiate shallow and restricted waters, plied Narragansett Bay and the Sakonnet River. Captain Peleg Cory of Tiverton ran a trading sloop from his wharf (#3-V) at Puncatest Neck to Providence for merchandise for Tiverton Four Corners and vicinity in the early nineteenth century. Later, Peleg's son, Thomas, sailed a sloop for more than 20 years. Benjamin Wilcox sailed a packet to Providence, then Holder N. Wilcox put on a freight and passenger boat, the Temperance.

## Prominent Men and Families

Some of Tiverton's families, engaged in fishing, whaling, and farming, became associated with certain localities, notably the Almys at Puncatest Neck, the Cooks and the Grays in the southwest part of town, the Crandalls at Crandallville, and the Humphreys at Nannaquaket Neck. Other family groups, including the Hamblys, Hicks, Manchesters, and Kings, were more widespread.

Several families achieved greater prominence, their fame and reputation spreading beyond the town's borders. Dr. William Whitridge, who settled in Tiverton in 1770, was a well known physician. Three of his sons became respected doctors and another son became a successful businessman; all established new domiciles away from Tiverton. Whitridge's daughter, Mary, married Samuel West II, also a successful physician, and the father of another prominent physician, Samuel III. The latter, a graduate of Harvard Medical School, married Mary Durfee of Nannaquaket Neck. Her father, Job, served in Congress. Job and his son, Thomas, served as Chief Justices of the Rhode Island Supreme Court and were well known lecturers, essayists, and poets.

## Communities

Although population statistics for the area that comprises present day Tiverton are unknown before 1856 (because Fall River was part of the town), construction of houses and other activities suggest slow but significant growth. Two villages and a number of smaller communities evolved or grew during the 19th century. Stone Bridge and Tiverton Four Corners were the largest, each hosting stores, a post office, a blacksmith, churches, libraries, and taverns. Stone Bridge was linked to Fall River by the Stone Bridge and Fall River Turnpike, chartered in 1838. The road, which closely followed the shore of Mount Hope Bay, occupied the natural location for the Newport and Fall River Railroad, which appropriated the Rhode Island section of the highway in 1862. Tiverton Four Corners, with a landing (and connection with Providence) nearby, was a thriving local trade center throughout the 19th century. Other, smaller places, were Eagleville, a small manufacturing hamlet; Bridgeport, a fishing center with one of the town's oldest stores; Bliss Four Corners, with its 1827 store, which for a time included a post

office, and a cider mill, built later in the century; and Crandallville, a linear, essentially residential settlement with a few stores serving the local neighborhood.

#### Public and Private Institutions

The growth of Tiverton was accompanied by the establishment and growth of public and private institutions and services, especially in or near the villages. The Stone Bridge House, destroyed by fire and rebuilt twice during the 19th century, and known for a short time as the Lawton House, was a popular gathering place.

Several church buildings were erected in the early part of the century. In about 1808, the Central Baptist Church society organized and erected a building near the stone bridge. In 1849, it took its present name, and shortly after, it took down its building, located at the edge of the eroding shoreline, and used the timbers for a new building erected on Highland Road. The Amicable Congregational Church society built a church at Tiverton Four Corners in about 1808. For more than thirty years, congregational services alternated between this church and the old one on Lake Road, until the latter was abandoned about 1844. The church at Tiverton Four Corners burned in 1845; it was quickly replaced by the present structure (#5-A). In 1840, the Baptists near Adamsville, who were a Six Principle sect, united with the Free Will Baptist Church and in 1841 built the present Stone Church (#122). The c. 1700 Friends Meeting House burned in 1860, and a new meeting house (#4-S) was built soon after.

Early 19th-century public services included a library, the Town Hall, and schools. A library group, the Union Society, was founded in 1820 at Tiverton Four Corners, its library occupying several buildings there. The Town Hall (#4-S) was built in 1840 on Highland Road on the ministry lot laid out in the 1680 Pocasset Purchase. Although there were a few private schools conducted in town, the 1828 Free School Law, the foundation of the present school system, prompted the town to build new schoolhouses and to provide for free, tax-supported public education. Between 1842 and 1846, the present district system was initiated and a schoolhouse was located near the geographic center of each district. One of the early schools is the Bridgeport School (#1-C). School Number 11 (#62), on King Road, now a residence, is another early schoolhouse. In 1888, there were 13 schools in Tiverton.

#### Greek Revival Buildings

During the first several decades of the 19th century, houses were built much like their 18th-century predecessors. Although the earlier forms persisted, beginning about 1835 stylish new Tiverton houses were constructed in the then popular Greek Revival mode, whose buildings were romantically inspired by ancient classical forms, particularly the Greek Temple.

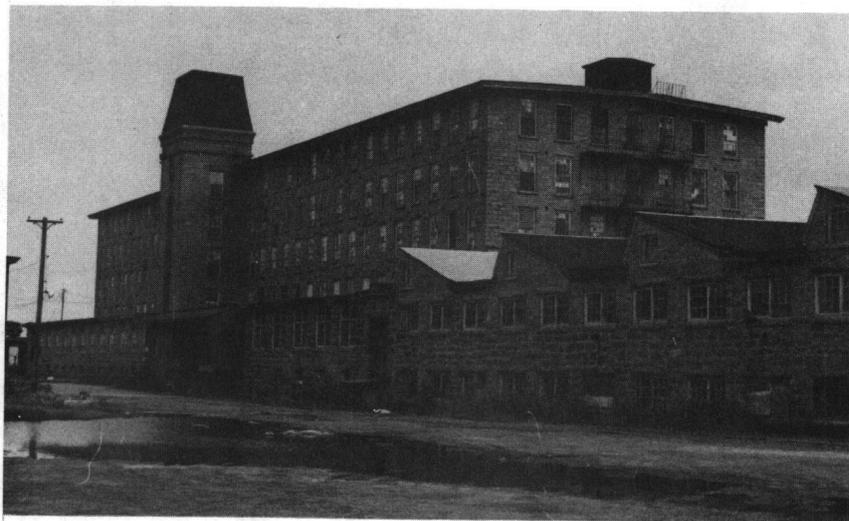
Perhaps the finest Greek Revival building in town was the c. 1840 Benjamin Barker House designed by noted architect Russell Warren and his son. At 1229 Main Road until destroyed by fire in 1981, the former landmark



Feroi Bink Farm (c. 1875): 993 Neck Road, Puncatost Neck Historic District (#3-T).



Stone Grist Mill (c. 1850): 3946 Main Road, Tiverton Four Corners Historic District (#5-M).



Bourne Mills (1881-82): 1 Shove Street (#133).

featured a full, 2-story, Doric portico. The 29 extant Greek Revival houses recorded in Tiverton are simpler versions of this style, which realized its most developed, ornate form in churches, public buildings, and homes of prominent citizens in the urban areas. Characteristics of the Greek Revival building include pedimented gables, heavy cornices with unadorned friezes, and channeled pilasters at the two front corners of the building. The pedimented gable end, in urban areas particularly, faced the street. Perhaps the commonest and most recognizable feature is the trabeated doorway--vertical pilasters carrying a horizontal and broad entablature. An important and localized Greek Revival characteristic in the Tiverton-Fall River area is a row of small, 3-part attic windows (usually five in number) across the front under the eaves; eleven Tiverton houses have the five windows, and many more had them originally. The Greek Revival style flourished in the middle years of the century (1835-65), although one Tiverton house in the Greek style was reportedly built as late as 1880.

#### Bracketed Houses

Movement away from the formal, proscribed Greek Revival style to freer, more varied and picturesque building plans and details began around the middle of the 19th century. In Tiverton, the new forms were usually manifested in relatively simple details such as elaborate brackets and jig-sawn trim. Seven houses built between about 1840 and 1880 are recorded with brackets. Two fine houses are in this category: the Cory-Hicks-Borden House (#109) with a rare, recessed, 2-story corner porch, and the James Church House (#4-11) with double brackets and Victorian porches. The Osborne House (#83) is a fine example of the popular bracketed cottage.

During the period between 1840 and 1877, the Tiverton Town Hall (#4-J), the Old Stone Church (#122), the Stone Grist Mill (#5-M), Preserved Tripp's Wheelwright Shop (#5-P), and the Nannaquaket Grange (#4-S), all were built in the trusted vernacular tradition, with no discernible nods to fashionable architectural styles.

#### 1860-1900

During the last four decades of the 19th century, several interesting and important changes occurred in Tiverton as the town grew and continued its evolution from an agricultural society to one that was more diversified economically and socially. These changes involved transportation, fishing, and manufacturing.

#### Transportation and Growth

Although the stone bridge provided easy movement to and from Aquidneck Island, the town remained in the "horse and buggy" era until the opening of the Old Colony and Newport Railroad which connected Fall River with Newport in 1864. A railroad station and a Western Union telegraph office were built where the railroad turned abruptly west to cross the narrow channel to Portsmouth. From about that time, the name Tiverton was unofficially applied to the neighborhood around the station, while Stone Bridge continued in use

for the bridge area. Eventually, a plank walk connected the two places. The railroad was responsible for the transformation of the Tiverton-Stone Bridge section by making it readily accessible to several local urban centers. In 1871, the Newport Daily News, under the heading, "Tiverton Heights," proclaimed its salubrity of air, the beautiful scenery, fishing facilities, boating, and salt water bathing; its quiet seclusion and freedom from "the fashionable follies and flummeries of our Newports and Saratogas." In July, 1871, four summer cottages, each with a panorama, were under construction, twenty others already built were owned by Taunton men, and several other lots were purchased by Fall River parties.

Other newspaper accounts in 1871 devoted their attention to the fine homes in the south, including the "once elegant mansion of the late Cornelius Seabury" near "The Corners"; the highly-cultivated farm and princely home of Col. John Cooke, near Fogland; and the former residence of Dr. William Whitridge, "the last of the Alchymists", set at the end of a long lane lined with poplar and cherry trees. Previously viewed as a plain, hardworking farm community, Tiverton was discovered for its aesthetic qualities. New and fashionable homes were built and former farms were purchased and transformed into country estates.

Tiverton was also discovered by the not so fashionable. Before century's end, several rows of small, plain, summer cottages (#4-NN) lined the shore along Riverside Drive, north and south of, and within easy reach of, the railroad station. Probably the only other summer house outside the villages, before about 1900, was Dr. John McKenzie's unpretentious cottage (#128) at Sapowet.

In addition to the railroad, other transportation improvements were made in the late 19th century. Nannaquaket Neck was made more accessible to Stone Bridge in 1883 following the completion of a wooden bridge, the first of several spans across the Quaket River. In June, 1898, the Newport and Fall River Street Railway's first electric trolley ran over the line between Fall River and Newport, necessitating a rebuilding of the stone bridge to handle the new, heavy cars. The nearby railroad bridge, whose narrow, 32-foot draw produced a swift current that was a challenge to passing boats, was replaced in 1898 by the present iron swing span (#4-UU), originally steam activated and a larger opening was made for boats.

#### Wharves and Steamers

At Punkatest Neck, Isaac White purchased Cory's wharf and estate about 1863 and improved the wharf, which became known as White's Wharf (#3-V). In 1870, Alexander Pierce built a new wharf (#3-W), which took his name, a short distance north of White's. Pierce's Wharf was used by several steamers which provided service for 30 years between Sakonnet Point and Providence, running daily or twice daily in summer, less frequently at other seasons. Captain Horatio N. Wilcox pioneered the steamboat runs with his small boat Dolphin, which began service in 1886 to serve farmers, fishermen, and tradesmen in the communities along the Sakonnet. Captain Julius A. Pettey, also



Cook-Bateman Farm (c. 1730 et seq.): Neck Road  
Puncatost Neck Historic District (#3-S).



Andrew P. White Store (1876): 3883 Main Road,  
Tiverton Four Corners Historic District (#5-G).



William Whitridge House (c. 1865): 285 Stone Church  
Road (#146).

a local resident, purchased the Queen City, and in 1887 began runs also. Pettey organized the Seaconnet Transportation Company, which in 1893 added Awashonks. Pettey also built a dining pavilion at Sakonnet Point for day trippers and adopted a policy of encouraging summer colonists. The Puncatest wharves were important to the continued vitality of Tiverton Four Corners during the 19th century; a large store (#5-G) was built at the Corners by Andrew P. White in 1876.

## Fishing

In addition to whaling and steam navigation, the sea and the bay were also a source of fish for food, oil, and fertilizer, products which were an important part of Tiverton's late 19th-century economy. The menhaden is an abundant but inedible fish. It was known to the Narragansetts as munnawhat-teaug, and probably meant "he fertilizes". Menhaden were used by the Algonquins as fertilizer for corn (maize). The menhaden industry is said to have started about 1850 when a Maine woman bottled some fish water, or scum, and sent it to an oil merchant in Boston. Within a year's time, 100 barrels of oil were sent to Boston; by 1870, the menhaden oil industry exceeded the aggregate of whale, seal, and codfish oil made in the United States. After the oil was extracted, the scrap, or fish grease, was used as fertilizer. Rhode Island's involvement with the menhaden industry began with Joseph Church, who came to Tiverton in 1838 and became a fisherman. In 1870, Joseph Church and his seven sons, known as the Seven Brothers, incorporated as Joseph Church and Sons for the manufacture of menhaden oil, guano, and fertilizer. The company initially purchased a factory in Maine, but in 1879 built a large fish works at Common Fence Point in Portsmouth. Sometimes referred to as the Tiverton plant, the Portsmouth enterprise employed 250 men and used seven fishing steamers. Four large wharves, outbuildings, drying sheds, storage sheds, and a drying field of 20 acres, encompassed a total of 100 acres. Some Church brothers left the company in the 1890s; others continued in the menhaden business into the 20th century.

In addition to the fish oil and fertilizer business, the Church company also caught fresh fish for market. A steamer worked at Sakonnet Point for about two months of the year; using "rose traps", immense numbers of fish were taken, averaging 2,000 barrels or 250 tons per day. At first the fish were loaded onto New York boats that put into Newport, then went to dealers in New York City. Later, Church boats shipped fresh fish directly from Sakonnet to New York, Philadelphia, and other markets. The Church family became wealthy; many of the brothers built fine homes in Tiverton.

Several other entrepreneurs also profited in the menhaden industry. Isaac White built a wharf at Puncatest and a fish and oil factory nearby. In 1874, the firm of William J. Brightman and Company was organized to engage in the production of fish oil and fertilizer. Brightman's residence at Stone Bridge (#4-X and cover illustration) was across the road from his dock (#4-Y) where he ran a fish market.

The 1870 map shows only one "Oil Works", along Mount Hope Bay. In 1895, four fish and/or seine factories are shown, including the one on Mount Hope

Bay, owned by W. J. Brightman's company; a seine factory along Riverside Drive; a fish factory at Bridgeport, next to the original Church family residence (#1-B); and Isaac White's fish factory at Punkatest. In the last decades of the 19th century, particularly with the ushering in of the summer-tourist era, shellfish--clams, quahogs, crabs, scallops, and oysters--were increasingly harvested by natives for home use and sale.

### Industry

Industry in Tiverton remained small scale for most of the town in the late nineteenth century; major developments were restricted to the northern fringe of Tiverton adjacent to Fall River.

Several small, water-powered saw, grist, and textile mills, continued operating. Wind was commonly used as a source of power in the latter part of the nineteenth century; in 1895, there were seven windmills in Tiverton, all in rural areas, along the shore in and south of Stone Bridge. Ice harvesting developed in the latter part of the century, and several ice houses were erected--along the small pond south of Nannaquaket Pond (#2-1); along the mill pond at Tiverton Four Corners; along Sin and Flesh Brooks; and along the northeast shore of Stafford Pond.

### North Tiverton: Industry and Growth

In the 1870s and the 1880s, two large mills were erected in the extreme northern part of town. The new mills were unrelated to the other Tiverton manufactories, but were part of the Fall River system and were dominated by Fall River manufacturers. In 1872, the Shove Mills Stock Company was incorporated in Massachusetts, and the company built a mill just within the Fall River boundary. In 1880, the company built a second mill (#132), in Tiverton. A three-story, granite structure, the Shove mill had 22,208 spindles and 125 employees who did the spinning and carding for the Number 1 mill. In 1881-1882, the Bourne Company built a larger, 4-story, granite mill (#133) with an imposing, mansard-roofed central tower. In 1888, the Bourne Mill's 500 workers, running 1,080 looms and 43,008 spindles, made all kinds of "odd goods."

These two large mills, along with commercial activities, transformed the northwest corner of Tiverton into an urban extension of Fall River--an area easily distinguished from the rest of the town. Several stores were established here, one by James Counsell and his partner, Robertshaw, in 1866, and one by Austin Walker, in 1885, and two churches were established, the North Tiverton Baptist Church (#77; 1885) and the First Primitive Methodist Church of North Tiverton (1884).

### Late 19th Century: Summary

By the last decade of the 19th century, Tiverton had become a mosaic of several small communities stamped onto the larger rural hinterland. Farming continued to be the principal activity east of the Main Road. Stone Bridge-



Bay View House (c. 1885): 91 State Avenue (#143).



Bay View House/Tiverton Yacht Club (1871): Riverside Drive, Stone Bridge Historic District (#4-QQ).



Captain Isaac Church House/St. Christophers Rectory (c. 1880): 1660 Main Road, Stone Bridge Historic District (#4-W).

Tiverton-Tiverton Heights, as described by Mariana Tallman in 1893, remained a charming place, with fishermen's shanties and fish markets dotting the waters edge; pretty little summer cottages on the terrace above, leading down to bathing beaches on the beach below; the Bay View House (built in 1871; #4-QQ), a home of entertainment for transients and a weekly clambake resort; and the "Stone Bridge Cottage", a piazzed house pleasantly situated at the water's edge. Most of Tiverton's excitement, said Tallman, "clusters about its two all too narrow drawbridges of evil fame." Nannaquaket Neck and Punkatest Neck contained several fine homes, and other lovely dwellings were scattered about. The greatest change in the townscape occurred with the urban, industrial, and commercial development of North Tiverton. Its two, large cotton mills, brought in foreigners, first Irish, later French Canadians and Portuguese, in large numbers.

In 1860, Tiverton's population was 1,927. It grew by more than 50%, to 2,977 inhabitants by 1900. In 1885, the major occupations were farmers and farm laborers (314 people), fishermen (102), cotton mill operatives (40), and carpenters (25). In 1895, 401 of Tiverton's residents were employed in the cotton mills, followed by 319 farmers, 97 fishermen, 58 domestic servants, 51 merchants and storekeepers, 49 carpenters, and a smaller number of other occupations.

#### Late 19th Century Architecture (1860-1900)

In the last third of the 19th century, Tiverton's building patterns diverged significantly for the first time. On the one hand, small houses and shops continued to follow the simple traditions established in the 18th century. On the other hand, the complex, elaborate, picturesque forms associated with late 19th-century architecture were used for large houses, civic monuments, and churches. These latter buildings are relatively scarce in Tiverton, but those that remain are important architecturally and historically.

The simple vernacular architecture of basic box-like forms with little or no detail remained standard for many buildings. Trim on such buildings, when it existed, included the jig-sawn trim and brackets introduced about mid-century as well as bay windows and console-supported hoods over doors. Porches along one or two sides of a building came into style. A house at 38 Riverside Drive, at Stone Bridge (#4-00) is a fine and typical example of the late 19th-century vernacular in Tiverton; its commercial counterpart can be seen in the Andrew P. White Store (#5-G) at Tiverton Four Corners.

The more elaborate structures built in Tiverton during these years followed the various prevailing stylistic currents: the Second Empire, inspired by the architecture of Napoleon III's France; the Modern Gothic or "stick" style; and the Queen Anne, an eclectic and imaginative interpretation of 17th and 18th-century sources. The Tiverton survey recorded 26 such buildings, and this number parallels the relatively slow growth of the town, where few had the means to build so ambitiously.

By far the most significant number of these buildings were in the Second Empire style, easily recognizable for its mansard roof. The most elaborate is the Whitridge House (#146), at 285 Stone Church Road. The mansard roof, in fact, became almost a symbol of modernity, and a number of earlier houses were updated with a mansard roof and new decorative trim; such modernizations include the Cook Farm (#3-S).

Only two buildings are recorded in the Modern Gothic or "stick" style. The best of these is the Isaac Church residence (#4-W), now St. Christopher's Rectory. Its overall form and detail are typical of the Gothic and Swiss-chalet-inspired structures popular in Newport and other seaside resorts during the period.

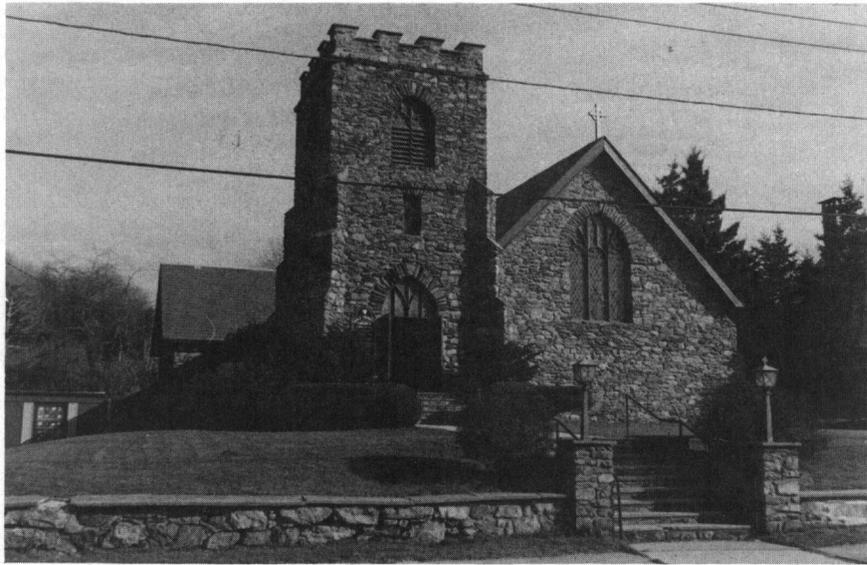
Few Queen Anne buildings were built in Tiverton but of particular note is the Central Baptist Church (#4-D) on Highland Road, designed by Fall River architect Joseph M. Darling and built in 1887. Bay View House (#143), with a prominent corner tower and variety of surface patterns and textures, shows all the hallmarks of the style in domestic form and scale. A house (#4-N) at 53 Lawton Avenue in Stone Bridge, and the c. 1885 A. L. Nickerson House (#60) at 634 Highland Road, are fine and typical examples.

## THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

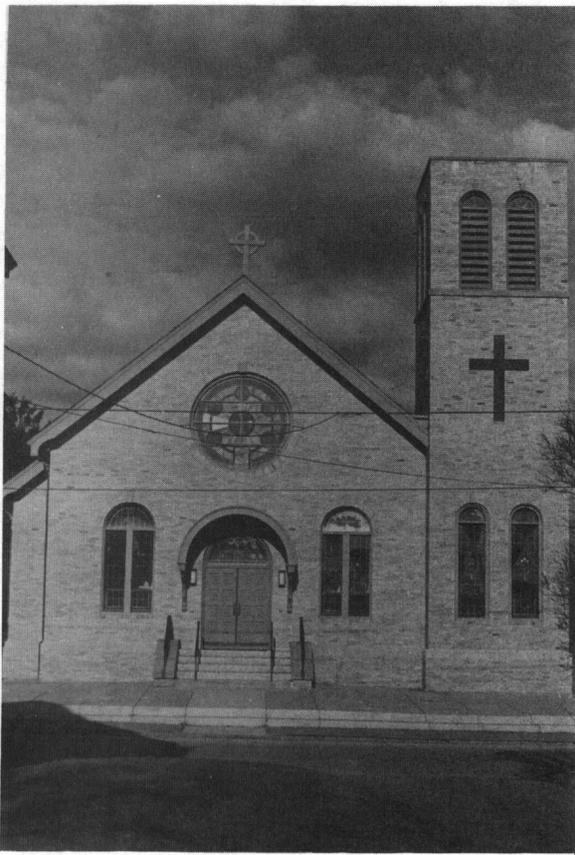
### 1900-1945

The introduction and increasingly widespread use of automobiles during the first decades of the 20th century, together with construction of improved highways, altered the landscape and put all parts of Tiverton within easy reach of nearby urban centers, accelerating the town's residential development. Trolley service to Tiverton ended in 1911, the steamboats stopped sailing in 1917 or 1918, and rail passenger service was terminated in 1937. Highways, on the other hand, were improved by eliminating curves in old country roads, widening, and paving. Road and auto improvements encouraged movement and resulted in a linear pattern of settlement and commercial development along the town's roads. Roadside vegetable stands, eateries, and gasoline stations appeared. Luke's Roadside Stand on Stafford Road accommodated highway travelers. The Stone Bridge Inn claimed to be a "Home for Automobileists" in 1908 and proclaimed itself "famous for its boiled lobster and R.I. Boiled Chickens."

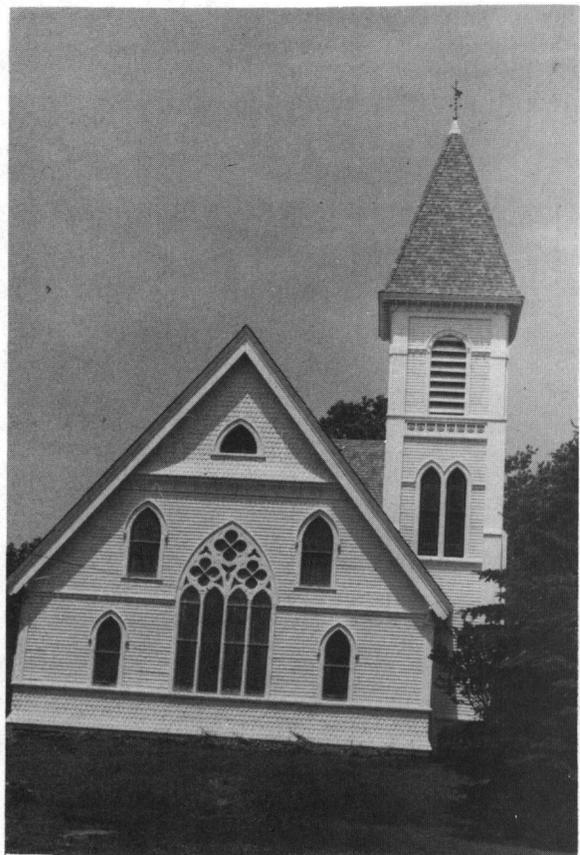
Tiverton Heights continued to be a fashionable summer resort according to a 1903 newspaper account, which also described fine homes in Nannaquaket and along Main Road. In addition, visitors were attracted to Stone Bridge, where the water provided recreation and the Stone Bridge Inn was the focus of social life. The village's colony of summer cottages along Riverside Drive expanded considerably, climbing the small escarpment north of the railroad station, and a yacht club, with mostly a Fall River membership, was established. The village's year-round population increased as well, and two new churches (Roman Catholic and Episcopal), a school, and a library were constructed.



Holy Trinity Episcopal Church (1917): Main Road,  
Stone Bridge Historic District (#4-HH).



Holy Ghost Roman Catholic Church  
(c. 1913): East Judson Street (#50).



Central Baptist Church (1887): 67  
Highland Road, Stone Bridge Historic  
District (#4-D).

Puncatest Neck, once the home of fishermen, steamer captains, and whalers, became a quiet, residential community, some of its residents living here only in summers. At adjacent Tiverton Four Corners, early twentieth century changes included the conversion of Tripp's wheelwright shop into a gasoline station and a Ford automobile dealership, then for storage of fishing equipment; the establishment of another gasoline station; and the abandonment of a blacksmith operation and the ice house. But the grist mill along Main Road continued grinding corn for johnnycakes.

Borden's Grist Mill along Crandall Road continued grinding corn until at least 1920. The Eagleville cotton mill closed down and was demolished; the Shove Mill in North Tiverton stopped manufacturing cotton and its stone structure was cut down in size. The Bourne Mill, however, remained viable in the twentieth century. In 1937, the mill, with 2,400 looms and 84,000 spindles, employed nearly 1,000 workers, and North Tiverton continued its urban growth. Two schools and a Roman Catholic church were constructed there during the first two decades of the 20th century.

Farming continued as a minor component of the town's overall economy. During the 20th century, a few new farms were established and others were revitalized. The later farm complexes were typified by large, gambrel-roofed barns with cinder block foundations and metal ventilators, and silos. Public and private institutions also located in the hinterland. The era of the one-room school ended with the construction of the Commodore Perry School (1913; #138), the Nonquit School (1925; #116), near Tiverton Four Corners, and the Ranger School (1931; #141), along Stafford Road. St. Madeleine's Roman Catholic Church (#70) was built on Lake Road in 1926 at the site of the Manchester School.

After World War I, several new summer communities were created, all with small cottages, or trailers, for working class or middle income families. Several were located along the Sakonnet in the southwest corner of town, one near the Sapowet Marsh bridge, the other two at Fogland, astride the Tiverton-Little Compton line. Small clusters of summer houses also were built inland, along the entire eastern shore of Stafford Pond, just off Stafford Road.

#### Early 20th century Architecture (1900-1945)

The innovative forms introduced toward the end of the 19th century in high-style architecture were short-lived in Tiverton, while the vernacular tradition continued strong. In a sense, the divergent paths of the 19th century converged in the early years of the 20th, and until at least mid-century more-or-less Georgian inspired buildings predominated. The classifying Georgian idiom was adapted for domestic and civic use, and its popularity influenced vernacular building as well.

Houses of this period differed more in scale and elaborateness than in plan, style, or form. Large Colonial Revival country houses were elaborately decked out with Palladian windows, porches and roofs with balustrades,

and entrances with porticoes and fanlights; the Hersey Estate (#2-F) at Nannaquaket is a large and fine example. The Asa Hathaway House at 3425 Main Road is typical of the several middle-size Colonial Revival houses built; others include 43 Highland Road (#4-C) and 2 Highland Road (#4-B).

Tiverton built several schools in these years, and all are in the Georgian mode. The Ranger School (#141) and the Fort Barton School (#4-P) are brick buildings with hip roofs, central pedimented or porticoed entries, and small belfries at roof's crest. These schools are typical of many built throughout the state.

1945-1982

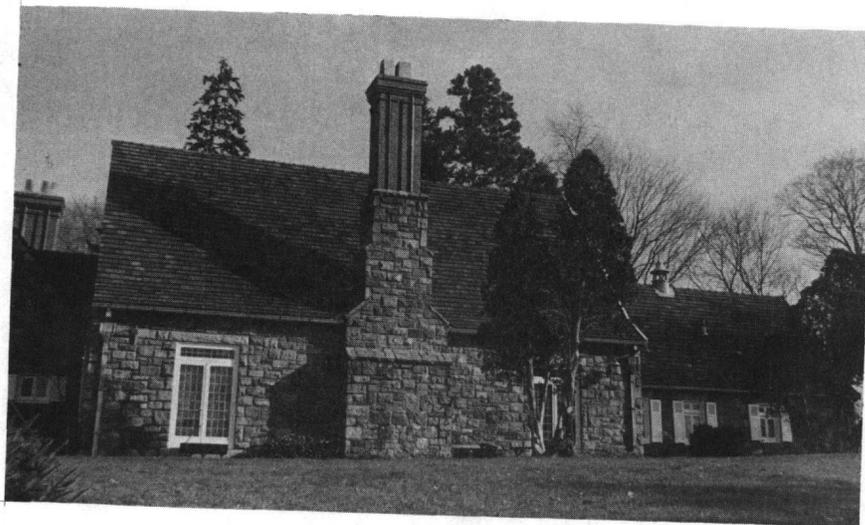
The pace and density of settlement in Tiverton increased greatly after World War II. Between 1950 and 1980, the town's population soared from 5,659 to 13,484 people, an increase of 138% in 30 years. The most rapid increase was between 1950 and 1960, when Tiverton recorded a 67% growth rate. In the last census decade, the population grew only 7%. This population increase is reflected in houses and commercial buildings constructed since 1950, but a large number of Tiverton's older buildings remain in use as well, and some have been carefully restored.

Stone Bridge continued its residential growth, centered around the original core--a commercial district near the former stone bridge. A new highway, Route 24, and new Sakonnet River Bridge (#4-VV), eliminated the need for the old stone bridge, which had carried travelers between Tiverton and Aquidneck Island since 1794. In 1956, when the new bridge went into service, the central draw section of the old bridge was removed, and the stone abutment approaches were retained for use by fishermen. A marina was developed by the state in the lee side of the abutments. The nearby Stone Bridge House has been in continuous use since the late 18th century, and despite several fires and subsequent remodelings, it is one of the longest continuously working taverns in Rhode Island.

Between Stone Bridge and North Tiverton, a large oil tank "farm" was created after World War II. Its headquarters and several of the large, cylindrical, storage tanks are along Main Road, at Sousa Road, but most of the tanks, an all too conspicuous landmark, are located along Mount Hope Bay.

Tiverton Four Corners experienced a minor revitalization in the mid 20th century. Several buildings at the corners, including a former store, were taken down, several others were carefully restored, and Gray's Ice Cream stand, a nondescript structure housing a business that is well known in this part of New England, was added. At what was Pittsville, a metal-works was established in the 1960s and what had once been the site of a blacksmith shop, an ice house, and a gasoline station. The former grist mill and an adjacent building were converted into offices, an art gallery, and other commercial uses, in the 1970s.

Most of the building activity in the rural part of town has been residential--houses built along almost all of the town's roads, and several



The Stone House (1919): 43 Penny Pond Road (#124).



Hersey Estate (c. 1900): Nannaquaket Road,  
Nannaquaket Neck Historic District (#2-F).



The Outlook (c. 1900): Highland Road, Stone  
Bridge Historic District (#4-C).

housing tracts, particularly in the northern end of town adjacent to Fall River, off Main Road and Stafford Road (north of King Road). Several other clusters are located along and off Bulgarmarsh Road and south of East Road. These housing tracts typically include ranch and split level houses and other standardized designs. A response to the town's growing population was Tiverton High School (#120), a sprawling, brick and glass complex, erected in the north central part of town in 1966, and the Tiverton Middle School (#126), built a short distance from the high school in 1976.

#### Architecture (1945-1982)

Startling new forms came into vogue in the middle years of the 20th century, just as innovative forms dominated the architectural scene in the late 19th century. During both of these unsettled times, Tiverton adopted the new architecture only tentatively. As in the past, most buildings in the town followed time-tested, familiar patterns.

The two public buildings erected since World War II are both modern in form and construction. The Tiverton Middle School (1966) and Tiverton High School (1976) are low, spreading masonry structures with flat roofs. Both are typical of educational complexes erected across the country during these years.

A few modern houses have been built in Tiverton during these years. A handful, like the St. Laurent House (#148) are individually designed or custom built, but most are tract-type houses of the ranch or raised-ranch type.

The predominant trend in Tiverton domestic architecture follows the direction established nearly two hundred years ago. The "colonial" house, be it a continuation of the vernacular tradition or the product of a newly revived interest in reproduction houses, remains popular. Both the James Hagerty House (#118) and several houses in Peaceful Meadows (#123) harken back to styles and forms popular in 17th and 18th-century Rhode Island; some of these even use the massive post-and-beam frame of that era.

#### SUMMARY

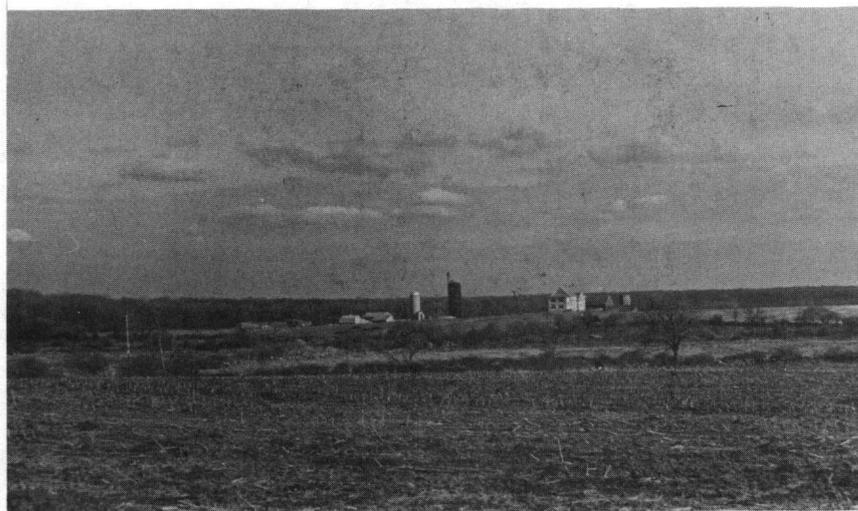
Tiverton today is a diverse community, mostly residential, but also including a large number of commercial, and some industrial establishments. Originally an agricultural town, fishing became an important part of the town's economy in the 19th century, when wharves, fish works, and fish markets were erected along the Sakonnet and Mount Hope Bay and at Bridgeport. Manufacturing also became important in the late 19th century; the two large textile mills in North Tiverton helped transform that part of town into an urban area undistinguishable from contiguous Fall River. The town's scenery and shore attractions--fishing, bathing, seafood, and sailing--attracted many newcomers, tourists and summer residents who transformed Tiverton Heights, Nannaquaket, and several other parts of town into fashionable neighborhoods.

Agriculture, once the mainstay of the economy, is now a minor occupation, with most farms supporting beef and dairy cattle. The few remaining tracts of open farmland and the surviving farmhouses, barns, and other outbuildings, are an irreplaceable legacy of the town's agrarian past. The rural areas also include some roads lined with stone walls and trees which harken back to an earlier era, and some interesting and significant relic features--former saw mills, grist mills, and textile mills, cellar holes and other artifacts of old homesteads, abandoned wharves and ferry landings, bridges, and miles of stone walls, some crisscrossing forested land that was once cropland and pasture, and some dividing fields which are still active. The rough, swampy, inhospitable central part of Tiverton remains forested.

Fishing activities have continued to the present, but in a different manner than formerly. There is no menhaden industry, or associated fish oil works now, and fishing for edible fish is a minor occupation due to the decline of fish. There is a lobster company based at Stone Bridge. Quohogging is the principle fishing industry today--a commercial activity carried on on a small scale by a large number of young men who rake the bay's bottom and skim along its surface at seemingly breakneck speeds. Their skiffs are an integral part of Tiverton's waterscape.

The legacy of the past--the town's cultural resources--as reflected in this report, display a rich variety of historic districts, structures, and sites. Stone Bridge, once Howland's Ferry, traces its past to 1640. Still the center of town, it contains its old inn, commercial buildings, the town hall, churches, fishing places, and a variety of houses ranging from small cottages sited directly on the water to imposing houses on the heights. Nannaquaket and Puncatuck necks, both settled at an early date, include fine homes in a quiet, residential setting. Tiverton Four Corners, an early crossroads settlement, and the center for the southern part of town, is noteworthy for its connection with whaling, the China trade, and steamer activities, and for its houses, churches, old grist mill, and the A.P. White Store. At the opposite end of town, densely built-up North Tiverton and its relatively high population, many of whom are descendants of immigrants who worked in the local mills, has close ties with Fall River.

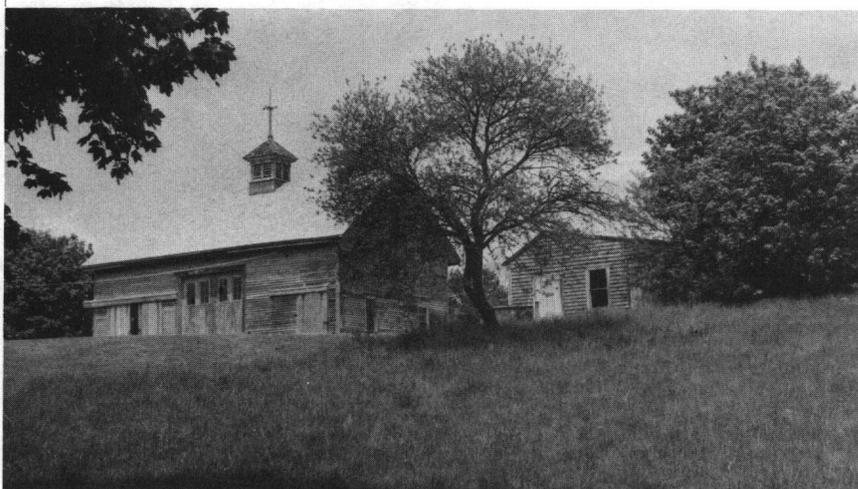
These communities and their historic sites and buildings are cultural resources which are important to understanding Tiverton's heritage. They deserve special consideration in planning the town's future development.



Arruda's Dairy Farm, Stafford Road (#140).



Stone Wall, Gate, and Orchard at Cook-Bateman Farm, Puncatost Neck Historic District (#3-S).



Outbuildings on Samuel Wilcox Farm, 200 Neck Road (#117).

## II. THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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

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

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

- 3-S. Cook-Bateman Farm, c. 1730 et seq., Neck Road, Puncatest Neck
- 4-I. Fort Barton, 1776, Highland Road, Stone Bridge
- 5. Tiverton Four Corners Historic District
- 79. Joseph Hicks House/The Brick House, 1788/1893, 492 Main Road

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

- 2-G. Old Durfee Farm, Federal, 405 Nannaquaket Road, Nannaquaket Neck
- 2-H. Homelands, c. 1760 et seq., 575 Nannaquaket Road, Nannaquaket Neck
- 3. Puncatest Neck Historic District
- 4-W. Capt. Isaac Church House/St. Christopher's Rectory, 1660 Main Road, Stone Bridge
- 4-QQ. Bay View House/Tiverton Yacht Club, Riverside Drive, Stone Bridge
- 4-UU. Sakonnet River Railroad Bridge, 1898, Sakonnet River
- 36. Barker House, c. 1700 et seq., 1975 Crandall Road
- 48. Capt. Abel Manchester House, c. 1780, 733 East Road
- 61. Nathaniel Briggs-Manchester House, pre 1777, 68 Indian Point Road
- 76. Peleg Stafford House, 18th Century, 305 Main Road
- 83. Osborne House, Mid-19th Century, Main Road
- 84. Thomas Osborne House, Late 18th Century, 1168 Main Road

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

- 91. Col. David Durfee House/Manchester's Home, 1826, 2698 Main Road
- 93. William Durfee Farm, Late 17th Century/1768, 2794 Main Road
- 109. Cory-Hicks-Borden-Gardner-Stevens House, pre 1750/1856;  
4100 Main Road
- 110. Edward Cook Farm, 4340 Main Road
- 111. G. Cook Farm, 4375 Main Road
- 112. White Homestead, Late 18th Century, 4398 Main Road
- 117. Samuel Wilcox House/The Brick Front, Late 18th Century,  
200 Neck Road
- 122. The Old Stone Church/First Baptist Church, 1841, Old Stone  
Church Road
- 124. The Stone House, 1919, 43 Penny Pond Road
- 129. Thomas Gray-Durfee House, 18th Century, 432 Sapowet Road

### III. PRELIMINARY INVENTORY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES

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

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

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

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

Colonial: From the time of settlement to 1775

Federal: 1775-1830

Greek Revival: 1825-1860

Early Victorian: 1840-1870

Late Victorian: 1865-1900

Early 20th century: 1900-1945

Mid-20th century: 1945-1975

Late 20th century: 1975 to the present.

Key: \*Recommended for the National Register of Historic Places.  
\*\*Listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

## HISTORIC DISTRICTS AND AREAS

1. Bridgeport Historic District: The Bridgeport Historic District is a small area south of Stone Bridge, including the lower part of Sin and Flesh Brook, Bridgeport Road, and a short portion of Main Road. Although never ever precisely defined, and not identified on any mid-19th-century maps, Bridgeport is shown on maps of 1870 and 1895 and is cited in late-19th-century and later references. Included in the district are Manchester Seafoods; a former schoolhouse; a residence and a seine house along the Gut; and several sites along Sin and Flesh Brook.

The first documented event in the area took place along Sin and Flesh Brook in 1676. Quaker Zoeth Howland was on his way to Newport from his Dartmouth home when he was waylaid by Indians near here. They killed him and threw his mutilated body into the brook. When his murder was discovered, his horrified friends called the brook "Sinning Flesh Brook".

The narrows leading out of Nannaquaket Pond has always been the site of some kind of business activity. Sometime in the late 17th or early 18th century, Joseph Wanton settled in Tiverton. His property faced the north end of Nannaquaket Pond, and somewhere, perhaps on the pond, he carried on the business of shipbuilding. For a time, the pond was known as Wanton's Pond, or Cove. Before 1700, John Gray had one of the first taverns in Tiverton in his place along The Gut. Later his house was the home of Tiverton's most prosperous fishing family, the Churches; a seine house and perhaps a fish factory was located adjacent to the house. Reportedly, a store at this point, probably at the site of today's Manchester Seafoods, was one of the oldest buildings in town used for business. A large fish packing industry was carried on at Bridgeport at an early date. During the Revolutionary War, a house near Sin and Flesh Brook was used as a hospital by the French. Along the brook, a saw mill and a grist mill were built. Later, there was a thread mill which burned in 1864. In about 1846, a schoolhouse was erected along Bridgeport Road, across from the Gut; it was later enlarged.

Today, little is left of the old structures. The 1938 hurricane destroyed the Gray-Church house and the seine house, the old Barker House along the brook was dismantled, an ice house built along the brook was taken down, and the former schoolhouse was converted to an American Legion hall. Although perhaps in a new building, Manchester Seafoods still carries on a fish business here. The large, wood-shingled building, with its fishing boats along the dock, is one of Tiverton's picturesque places, a reminder of the town's long relationship with the bay and the sea. The most significant structures and sites in the Bridgeport area today are:

- 1-A. Sin and Flesh Brook Sites: Near the end of Sin and Flesh Brook, a short watercourse that empties into The Gut at Highland Road, are several early sites. A saw mill and a grist mill were built along the brook by Moses and Aaron Barker. Later, about 1844, a thread mill was started here by Sylvanus Nickerson, who came to Tiverton from Cape Cod. Nickerson ran the mill until his death in 1857. Then, it was sold to Oliver Chase and Samuel Thurston, who ran it for a few years. Daniel T. Church purchased the property about 1861 and made improvements to the dam and mill. In about 1864, the mill burned and was never rebuilt. Nearby stood an early house. It was used as a hospital by the French during the Revolutionary War. In the 1970s it was dismantled, to be re-erected again in Newport. There also was an ice house along a dammed pond on the brook, but it too was taken down. Today, there is a small building, in poor condition, still standing, all that remains (besides stone ruins) of several early and important structures along Sin and Flesh Brook. (1854- Lap Mill.)
- 1-B. Site of Gray-Church House/Site of Seine House, and/or Fish Factory (c. 1700 and later; Bridgeport Road): Between Bridgeport Road and The Gut, near Main Road, is the site of a house and another building used as a seine house and perhaps a fish factory. The residence, perhaps built by John Gray, reportedly was one of Tiverton's first taverns, operating before 1700. Later, it was owned by Edward Gray, and descended through his heirs to Joseph Church, father of the famous Seven Church brothers, six of whom were born in the house. The Church brothers eventually became very successful in the fishing industry, and all built houses elsewhere in town. Next to the residence was a building labeled a seine house in a c. 1895 photograph, and a fish factory on an 1895 map. Both structures were destroyed in the 1938 hurricane. (1854- J. Church.)
- 1-C. Former School Number 3/American Legion Post #59 (c. 1846; Bridgeport Road): A 2-story, wood-shingled schoolhouse, sited on a small hill overlooking The Gut. Originally a 1-room, 1-story school, the building was later raised and made into a 2-room, 2-story school. The schoolhouse was probably built in 1846 when the school site was originally purchased. It was used as a school until 1936; now it is American Legion Post Number 59. (1854- School.)
- 1-D. The Bridgeport Block/Manchester Seafoods Early-Mid-19th Century; (2139 Main Road): A large, 2-story, wood-shingled, L-plan structure, with a flat roof, now used by the Manchester brothers as a shellfish building. To the rear, along the Quaket River, is a long dock where fishing boats tie up and unload their catch. The landing here is probably a very old site and may have been the site of Joseph Wanton's shipyard. The present building appears to be the Bridgeport Block although the original roof and chimneys have been removed and the front has been altered. The old Bridgeport Block was one of the first stores in town and had apartments above. (1862-Store; W.A. Gray.)

2. Nannaquaket Neck Historic District: The Nannaquaket Neck Historic District, a residential area along Nannaquaket Road and several short side streets, is bounded by the Sakonnet River to the west, Quaket River to the north, Nannaquaket Pond to the east, and a line from the pond to the river at the south. Included in the district are several old farmhouses recommended for the National Register of Historic Places; a large, 19th-century estate, late 19th and early 20th-century houses, a bridge, a former ice house, and a large number of mid and late 20th-century houses.

The Neck was originally settled by Native Americans, the Pocassetts, who were part of the larger Wampanoag nation. Queen Weetamoe, wife of Alexander and brother of King Philip, lived here, near the northern end of the Neck. Unlike most of Tiverton, which was covered by forest, the neck included grassland and patches of arable land where maize, beans, and pumpkins were grown. In 1651, several Wampanoag sachems sold the neck of land, commonly called Nanaquaquit, or Pogasock Neck, to Captain Richard Morris of Portsmouth, Rhode Island. Nannaquaket Pond was then Pogasocke Pond. The deed mentions an Indian corn field to the south and meadow ground on the east side of the pond with timber for fencing, fireing (sic), etc. Acquired without the consent of the Plymouth Colony, in 1659 Morris reached an agreement with the colony recognizing him as owner of the approximately 457 acre tract. Nannaquaket Neck, thus, was not a part of the Pocasset and Punca-test purchases.

In 1737, the land belonged to Andrew Oliver, who was Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts and lived in Boston at the time of his death in 1774. Because he had been a Tory in 1775, the colony confiscated his land, except for a tract in the southern part which was set off for Oliver's heirs. In 1782, the neck was deeded to Colonel Israel Angell, Major Coggeshall, Jeremiah Olney, and Captain William Tew in return for wartime service of Colonel Angell's regiments. By 1791, Jeremiah Olney and Thomas Hughes owned the land, which the Rhode Island General Assembly conveyed to Captain William Humphrey, (120 acres at the north end), Nathaniel Briggs (100 acres in the center), and John Cook (87 acres in the southern part). Evidently, the other 150 acres of the original tract went to Oliver's heirs.

The oldest extant building is Homelands (#2-H), built perhaps by Andrew Oliver in 1760. Another old residence is the Durfee Farm (#2-G) in the central part of the neck. George W. Humphrey built a house on the northern part of the neck at an early date, and farmed the land. By 1872, the Neck had only about a half dozen houses, owned by wealthy and influential people.

In 1875, George Humphrey and others were authorized to build a bridge across the strait leading into Nannaquaket Pond; in 1883,

a wooden structure with stone piers and abutments, was completed, as was a public road laid out along the neck. But the neck remained sparsely settled.

The 20th century ushered in the auto age and greater ease of travel, and gradually the neck began to develop as summer houses and permanent residences were built. After about 1950, land subdivision and building of houses proceeded at a lively pace; several side streets were laid out west of Nannaquaket Road, including several "tracts". Today, although relatively densely settled, the completely residential use of the land, landscaping, and ample lots, convey a quiet and charming atmosphere. The following are the most noteworthy places on the Neck:

- 2-A. Quaket River Bridge (1958): A concrete bridge set on two granite block piers carries Nannaquaket Road over the passage between the Quaket River and Nannaquaket Pond. The first bridge, a wooden span, was built here in 1883. It has been replaced several times, the last in 1958.
- 2-B. Nannaquaket/St. James Convent (1872; 49 Nannaquaket Road): Nannaquaket is a large estate, conspicuously sited at the north end of Nannaquaket Neck, centered on a large, Second Empire house complex. There are several other buildings, including a deteriorating gazebo. The property was a wedding gift of George Washington Humphrey to his daughter, Mary, when she married Nathaniel Church, one of the famous seven Church brothers. At age 13, Nathaniel began his association with the sea that would last a lifetime, as a cook on his father's fishing smack. He was master of several steamers, a menhaden agent in New York, and organizer of the American Fisheries Company. In 1906, he retired. His wealth and influence made Nannaquaket a grand place. When advertised for sale in the twentieth century, its approximately 20 acre lot included a 12 room house, a boathouse and pier, a large stable, and fruit and shade trees. Acquired by the Roman Catholic Diocese in the 1930s, it is now St. James Convent. (1895- Nathaniel B. Church.)
- 2-C. White Rock (c. 1904; 69 Nannaquaket Road): A handsome 2-story, cross-gabled dwelling with an ample front porch, set back from the road on a well-tended lot. The house is typical of the many fine homes erected on the Neck in the early twentieth century. Peleg Humphrey gave the house to his son, Ira, when Ira married in 1904.
- 2-D. Goerge W. Humphrey House (c. 1840 et seq.; 85 Nannaquaket Road): A large, rambling, 2-story mid-19th-century residence, with several later additions and alterations that obscure its age. Its large, landscaped lot includes a large, wood shingled barn. The house, the oldest of several Humphrey houses here, was built by George Washington Humphrey (1804-1882), a successful farmer who held several town offices and served in the state legislature. His

son, Peleg (1843-1921), who inherited the house, became a partner with his brother-in-law, Captain Nathaniel Church, in the lumber and hardware business. Peleg later bought out the Church interest and became one of the largest lumber and coal dealers between Fall River and Newport. The business is still carried on today as P. D. Humphrey. (1850- Geo. Humphrey.)

2-E. Joseph D. Humphrey House (Mid-19th century; 219 Nannaquaket Road): A rambling, asymmetrical, 2-story, residence, with wide porches built by Joseph D. Humphrey (born 1837), son of William. It is one of several Humphrey houses on the Neck (1895- Joseph D. Humphrey.)

2-F. Hersey Estate (Early 20th century): A large and typical 2½-story, Colonial Revival country house, with a complex hip roof. A west-facing entrance pavilion with a Palladian window intersects the ample, 2-story porch which wraps around the end and both sides. Set back from the road, the house occupies a large lot which originally included a group of three buildings along the north side (present Laura Lane)--a caretaker's cottage, a large garage, and a water tower.

\*2-G. Old Durfee Farm (c. 1800; 405 Nannaquaket Road): A fine Federal style residence, with paired, interior, brick chimneys; a central entry, with a later elliptical fan, and flanking side lights, in a 5-bay facade; and a small modern addition at the left side. The house, set back from the road on a long, narrow, simply landscaped lot, was the residence of the Durfee family, including Job (1790-1847) and Thomas (1826-1901). Both were graduates of Brown University, served in the General Assembly, and became chief justices of the Rhode Island Supreme Court; they also enjoyed a broad and solid literary career in poetry, essays, discourses, etc. Job also served as a member of Congress between 1820 and 1825. (1850- Mrs. Job Durfee.)

\*2-H. Homelands (c. 1760 et seq.; 575 Nannaquaket Road): A 2½-story, gambrel-roofed residence with a large, brick, center chimney; a central entry in a 5-bay facade with a veranda across the front (east side); and several additions at the rear. The house is sited at the end of a long-private, maple-lined drive, on a large, landscaped lot that includes a large stone-and-shingle barn (c. 1890). According to tradition, the house was built about 1760 by Andrew Oliver, whose property was confiscated by the General Assembly in 1775. Major Nathaniel Briggs acquired this parcel and house in 1781. The property changed hands within the family several times before being sold to Andrew Robeson in 1867. He made his summer home into a showplace and kept a fine herd of Jersey cattle. His daughter married Charles Sargent, later director of the Boston Arboretum. Sargent planted a great variety

of rare trees, including a shipload imported from northern Europe. After Robeson's death, his daughter, Mrs. Steven Van Rensselaer Thayer of Boston, summered here. She remodeled and enlarged the house with the assistance of architect A. W. Longfellow of Boston. In 1890, a new barn was built to house cows and pigs. In 1902, mill owner Edward Shove bought the property. George N. Durfee purchased the property in 1908, and it has been in Durfee ownership since. (1850- Col. Dan<sup>1</sup>Durfee.)

- 2-1. Ice House (off Nannaquaket Road): Along a small pond south of the road are the fieldstone walls of a former ice house. The roof is gone. There is no information on the ice house, one of several built in the town in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.
- \* 3. Puncatest Neck Historic District: The Puncatest Neck Historic District, in the southwest corner of town, recommended for consideration for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, lies along parts of Neck and Fogland roads and is bounded to the west by the Sakonnet River and to the east by Nonquit Pond. The district includes 18 noteworthy houses, a ferry landing site, three former wharves, and a King Philip's War battle site.

Puncatest Neck, like much of the eastern shore of the Sakonnet, was the home of Native Americans long before the coming of European settlers. Nonquit Pond, at the time of Indian occupation, was tidal, affording a rich supply of shellfish. The fields along the pond, on the present Cook-Bateman Farm (#3-S), have yielded hundreds of projectile points and numerous stone tools.

In 1660, when the Plymouth Colony gave the rights to Nannaquaket to Richard Morris, Plymouth men were allowed to select other lands in its stead, and they chose "Puncatesett Necke." It was "laid out and entered upon" by the 75 freemen of Plymouth, but no substantial structures were built there. Thirty-six lots were laid out (in an area that was larger than the district as defined in this report). Although unsubstantiated, it is possible that a house was built here as early as 1673 by Captain John Almy of Portsmouth.

Puncatest Neck was the scene of one of the battles of King Philip's War on July 8, 1675, when Philip attacked a force of men led by Colonel Benjamin Church. Pinned along the shore by the vastly superior number of Indians, the colonial force would have been decimated had it not been for their rescue by Captain Goulding in his sloop.

Settlers are recorded as establishing homes in Puncatest beginning about 1680. Among the proprietors were Benjamin Church and Christopher and Job Almy. Another early landholder, John

Cook, bought land near, or perhaps from, Church, while the Almys owned most of Puncatest Neck until well into the 19th-century. The earliest extant dwellings in the district lie along or near the Dartmouth Road--the road leading into the interior which was laid out by 1680.

In the early 18th century, a ferry service was established at Fogland Point, providing land and sea communications between Dartmouth and Newport. Until about 1820, agriculture was the predominant, perhaps only, way of life, but in the early 19th century, attention was shifted from the land to the sea when Peleg Cory, a Neck resident, built a wharf. His sloop, which ran to Providence, delivered supplies to the area. Other Neck men became fishermen, coasters, or went farther to sea as whalers. During the early and mid-19th century, about a dozen houses, modest, 1½-story, vernacular structures, with Greek Revival entries, were built along Neck Road (then known as Puncatest Neck Road).

The period for about a half century after about 1860 was the heyday of Puncatest Neck. In about 1863, Isaac White bought Peleg Cory's wharf, which he enlarged and improved, and established a fish oil works and a coal business near the wharf. Cory also provided this section of town with supplies from Providence. Soon after 1870, Alexander S. Pierce built another wharf several hundred feet north of White's Wharf. The Queen City stopped there daily, beginning about 1887, on its run between Providence and Sakonnet, until about 1904, when the steamboat company began operating out of Almy's Wharf at Fogland.

The area's brief flurry of activity and prosperity during the steamboat era, is reflected in several fine homes, one with bracketed cornices and elaborate carpenterwork detail on its porches and two built in the Second Empire style.

In the early 20th century, the increasingly popular use of the automobile had a profound effect on the Neck. The wharves were no longer used, and the area became a quiet, residential neighborhood. Some of the houses were acquired by "outsiders", and used as summer homes, although today only a few are used seasonally. Little building and no modern intrusions have occurred here in the 20th century. The several houses built along the roads fit into the area, while others, including a modest sized, mid-20th-century development, Bonniefield, are off the road, out of view. Today, Puncatest Neck Historic District includes an architecturally interesting collection of structures and sites dating from the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries: a battle site; two farms, one still active; several former wharves; and a former ferry landing. Puncatest Neck's significant structures and sites are:

- 3-A. Cook Almy House (1808; 58 Fogland Road): A 2½-story, wood-shingled, Federal style house, with paired, interior, brick chimneys; a central, pedimented entry in a 5-bay facade; and a 2-story ell at the left rear. The house is set behind a fine, fieldstone wall, with a view of the river and the ocean to the southwest. It is one of several Almy houses in the district. Between 1937 and 1975 it was used as a summer home by Dr. Blough, one of the founders of the Aluminum Company of America. (1850- Cook Almy.)
- 3-B. Almy House (c. 1750; 103 Fogland Road): A 2½-story, wood-shingled house with paired, end interior, brick chimneys; a 6-bay facade; and a simple, Greek Revival entry with transom side lights. The house occupies a fine site along the Sakonnet shore, with a grand view to the west and northwest. The large lot includes a wood picket fence in front, stone walls, and several wood-shingled outbuildings. The house originally was located at the corner of Neck and Fogland roads. Moved here about 1800 by 20 yoke of oxen, the house was enlarged and its roof was raised. William Almy, who lived here until 1940, was the last of the Almy family to occupy the property. Across the road is an old Almy burying ground with some noteworthy 18th-century headstones. (1850- Frat...Almy.)
- 3-C. John Almy House (c. 1760; 148 Fogland Road): A 2½-story, wood-shingled residence, with a brick center chimney, a central entry, with a transom light, in a 5-bay facade, and an addition at the rear. The house is sited on a simply landscaped lot bounded by stone walls in front and along the west side of the property. It was the residence of John Almy, a Revolutionary War soldier, who in 1768 was visited by Dr. Ezra Stiles, a Congregational minister from Newport and later president of Yale University. The house was owned by the Almy family until about 1920. (1850- Cook Almy.)
- 3-D. Site of Fogland, or Almy's Ferry Landing (c. 1715; Fogland Point): The site of Fogland Ferry landing, near the northern end of Fogland Point, is indicated by two sections of rock extending out into the shallow water, and by several barnacle-encrusted timbers near the water.

Fogland Point, a sandy promontory extending into the Sakonnet River, is the closest point in this part of Tiverton to Portsmouth on the opposite shore. The Tiverton landing site offered a lee shore, away from the prevailing, strong, summer sea breezes. In 1706-07, Captain Thomas Townsend asked that a ferry be established between Puncatest Neck and Aquidneck. A ferry license was granted to William Almy in 1715, and a ferry was subsequently operated by William's cousin, Job Almy. Later, the ferry was owned by John Almy and operated by Thomas Wilcox. The history of Almy's Ferry after the Revolutionary War is uncertain.

- 3-E. Fogland, or Almy's Wharf (c. 1903; off Fogland Road): Almy's Wharf, a 240 foot long structure with a 60 foot "T" at the end, was built about 1903 at the south end of Fogland Beach. The Queen City and the Islander docked here on their daily runs between Sakonnet and Providence. The wharf was destroyed by fire about 1935, and was replaced by a short stone wharf, about 100 feet long, built in recent years.
- 3-F. Captain Gideon Wilcox House (1848; 425 Neck Road): A Greek Revival, wood-shingled cottage, set gable end to the road, with an ell at the rear. There is a deteriorating, wood-shingled barn behind the house. Gideon Wilcox, born in 1812, built this house in 1848. He went whaling in 1829 on the Galatea, in 1830 on the William Rotch, in 1833 on the Eagle, and in 1840, as second mate, on the Parachute. In 1849, he was captain of the John Adams, and completed a whaling trip to California. (1850- Gideon Wilcox.)
- 3-G. William Almy Farm/Fogland Farm/Puncateesett (Mid-19th century; 435 Neck Road): A 2½-story, vernacular dwelling; sited at the end of a private drive near the river. There is a cluster of three wood-shingled outbuildings nearby. Once the residence of William Almy, who owned a large tract of land here, it was the home of Holder Almy; in the late 19th century. Holder sailed on whalers Lyra, from 1825 to 1828; Phenix, from 1831 to 1834; and as captain of the Persia, from 1834 to 1838. During the Civil War, Holder commanded the United States transport, Guide. (1850- Wm. Almy; Fogland Farm.)
- 3-H. A. Wilcox House (1846; 481 Neck Road): A Greek Revival cottage, set gable end to the road, with a shed dormer at the left rear. The house is sited on a neatly landscaped lot behind fine, field-stone walls, with granite entry posts at the walk and driveway. Once owned by A. Wilcox, it was later owned by Captain J. A. Petty, who ran the Queen City, which in 1887 began runs between Sakonnet Point, Puncateest, and Providence. In the twentieth century, it was used as a summer home by a Fall River banker. (1870- A. Wilcox.)
- 3-I. Captain Fernando Wilcox House (1872; 488 Neck Road): A picturesque cross-gabled cottage with paired brackets at the eaves; jig-saw-trim porches across the front and the right side; a one story bay window at the right side; and an addition at the rear. There is a fine, wood-shingled carriage house at the rear of the property. This was the residence of Fernando A. Wilcox, born in 1840, who became a fisherman at age 19. He was associated with Captain Charles Cook and William Cory in a fish and oil factory at Pierce's Wharf. After 1878, he engaged independently in fishing. (1895- Cap. F. Wilcox.)

- 3-J. Peleg Cory House (Early 19th century; 531 Neck Road): A wood shingled cottage with two, small, brick chimneys; a central entry in an asymmetrical, 4-bay facade; and a gambrel-roofed, 1½-story ell. The house is set behind a low stone wall along the road. It was the residence of Captain Peleg Cory (1764-1830), a coaster. He built a wharf, later known as White's Wharf (#3-V), and ran a trading sloop to Providence. Captain Alexander S. Pierce, who lived here in the last several decades of the 19th century, built a wharf north of Corys Wharf after 1870. (1854- Andrew Hicks.)
- 3-K. J. Pierce House (c. 1840; 532 Neck Road): A 2½-story, Greek Revival house, set gable end to the road, with a porch added at the right rear corner, and an ell at the rear. The lot contains two, fine, wood-shingled outbuildings. (1870- J. Pierce.)
- 3-L. Capt. George Gray House (c. 1875; 560 Neck Road): A Second Empire cottage with a porch across the front and right side, and two bay windows. The house, sited on a simply landscaped lot, was the residence of Captain George Gray (1824-1895), who began whaling at age 18. He made 8 to 10 voyages; on his last three, he was captain of the Mars, the Arctic, and the Rainbow. (1895- Cap. Geo. Gray.)
- 3-M. Isaac G. White House (c. 1863; 563 Neck Road): A handsome L-plan house, with a Greek Revival entry at the right side of a north-facing gable end, and an enclosed porch addition at the southwest side. There is a fine, wood shingled, late 19th-century barn. The house is at the end of a long, private drive, near the Sakonnet, with open fields, bounded by fine stone walls, around the house. It was probably built by Isaac G. White, who in 1862 bought a tract of land here from Peleg Cory, including Cory's wharf. White enlarged the nearby wharf, constructed a large fish oil works, and established a coal business. In the twentieth century the residence was used as a summer house, and at one time it was occupied by Rupert Von Trapp, the subject of the Broadway show and movie, "Sound of Music". (1870- I. White)
- 3-N. Robert Gray House (Early 19th century; 630 Neck Road): A 2½-story, Federal Greek Revival farmhouse, with interior chimneys; an off-center, Greek Revival entry, in an asymmetrical, 4-bay facade; a long, 2-story wing attached at the left rear, parallel with the main house; and an attached garage and barn. The house is set back from the road, surrounded by fields, with a stonewall-lined drive. The house was the residence of Robert Gray and his son, Otis, who was a whaler and made 3-4 whaling voyages, eventually becoming a captain. Otis was the brother of George, also a whaler, who lived nearby. (1850- Robt. Gray.)
- 3-O. Stephen Grinnell House (c. 1840; 677 Neck Road): A 5-bay facade, central entry, Greek Revival cottage, set back from the road on a

private drive, surrounded by woods. There are several wood-shingled outbuildings nearby. It was the residence of Stephen Grinnell, who was probably a whaler. (1850- Stephen Grinnell.)

- 3-P. Otis Almy House/Heathersfield (c. 1750; 737 Neck Road): A large, 2½-story, 5-bay facade, colonial-era farmhouse, with a large, brick, center chimney; a later central entry, with sidelights; and a 2-story ell at the rear (west side.) The south-facing house, sited at the end of a long, private drive, occupies an outstanding site along the Sakonnet, on a simply landscaped lot, with stone walls, and a fine, wood-shingled barn. This house, listed as the Otis Almy House, was built about 1750, according to a survey in 1956. Otis Almy's son, Frederick, had a daughter Harriet, who married Gideon F. Gray, owner of the property in 1850. Gray made at least two whaling voyages, in the 1820s, on the Missouri and the brig Industry. Philip Grinnell, born in 1831, owned the house in the latter part of the nineteenth century. He began fishing in 1845, and ran the menhaden steamer Seaconnett. In about 1937, the house was restored by architect Norman M. Isham. (1850- G. Gray.)
- 3-Q. Horace Almy House/Nanquit Farm (Early 19th century; 807 Neck Road): An early 19th century, wood-shingled cottage with an off-center chimney and an off-center entry, with a transom light, in an asymmetrical, 4-bay facade. There is a large and later shed roof dormer across the front, and a large, rambling addition at the rear. The house is sited along the Sakonnet at the end of a private drive, on a well-landscaped lot that includes stone walls. There is a wood-shingled, gambrel-roofed garage, and an old Almy cemetery (which includes Samuel, born in 1701) near the house. The place was owned by Job Almy, then perhaps went to his son, Otis, and to his son, Horace (1809-1874). It remained in the Almy family into the 20th century. (1850- H. Almy.)
- 3-R. Samuel E. Almy House (Late 19th century; 494 Neck Road): A large, wood shingled cottage with a complex plan, set on a simply landscaped lot. There is a stone wall and a row of trees in front of the property. (1895- Samuel F. Almy.)
- \*\*3-S. Cook-Bateman Farm<sup>fn</sup> (c. 1730 et seq.; Neck Road): A 2½-story remodeled colonial residence, sited on a 63 acre tract at the junction with Pond Bridge Road, is the center of the Cook-Bateman Farm. The large property's open, gently rolling farmland; slopes eastward to Nonquit Pond; it is divided into fields by old, rubble-stone walls topped with flat stones. There is a farm complex north of the house. The house, built about 1730, underwent alterations, including the mansard roof, in 1869; later it was altered in the Colonial Revival style to its present appearance. The farmyard and outbuildings include a stonewall-enclosed barn lot which contains a large, late 19th or early 20th-century, gambrel-roofed

fn. For a more detailed description and history of the Cook-Bateman Farm, see the National Register nomination at the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission.

barn; stone wall enclosed sheep pen; a rambling guest lodge and farmers house; a hip-roofed privy; three sheds; and a garage.

John Cook, one of the first settlers in the area, purchased land at Puncatest in 1700. The present house was handed down to John's son, Samuel, and in 1764, to Samuel's son, John. John purchased more land; the farm, including more than 200 acres, was then at its largest. In 1812, the farm passed to John Cook's son-in-law, Elisha Brown, who sold the house and 151 acres to William Bateman of Newport. Bateman was involved in the transformation of "Pittsville", at Tiverton Four Corners, in the mid-19th century; he died in 1851. In 1869, one of Bateman's sons, Seth, acquired full title to the property, then 80 acres, and during his ownership modernized the house. The property remained in the Bateman family until 1977. The Cook-Bateman Farm, important for its association with early settlers in this area, its relatively unchanged rural landscape, and its architecturally interesting farmhouse and related outbuildings, is entered in the National Register. (1850- Wm. Bateman.)

- 3-T. Ferol Bink Farm (c. 1875; 993 Neck Road): A large, Second Empire, wood-shingled cottage. Its salient feature is a tapering tower, topped with cresting and finials, at the center of the north side. The mansard roof contains many, pedimented dormers. There are verandas at the west and south sides. The house occupied a nicely landscaped lot, including fine stone walls, behind a privet hedge, at the intersection of Neck, Pond Bridge, and Fogland roads. The large tract of land that slopes down to the Sakonnet to the south and southwest is one of Tiverton's few remaining large scale farms, devoted to growing potatoes and squash. The farm includes 20th century farm buildings that are used for storing potatoes, squash and farm equipment; and a packing house and a machine shop. (1895- Charles H. Potter.)
- 3-U. Site of the Battle of Fogland, or Battle of Almy's Peasefield (1675): A vaguely defined area between Neck Road and the Sakonnet just north of Fogland Road, was the scene of one of the first engagements in King Philip's War of 1675-76 between Native Americans and early European settlers. On June 30, 1675, King Philip crossed from Mount Hope in Bristol to Tiverton with 600 men, and for 18 days held off an English attack by a force led by Colonel Benjamin Church. Church followed Philip from the Stone Bridge area southward toward Sakonnet Point. At Fogland, on July 8, 1675, Church's men were attacked by an Indian force 20 times larger than theirs and were pinned down along the Sakonnet shore. Some accounts mention the fact that the soldiers took refuge in Almy's "peasefield". After six hours of strategic retreat and holding off the Indians, Church's men were extricated from their predicament by Captain Goulding and his sloop. The engagement resulted in light casualties (two of Church's men were wounded).
- 3-V. Cory's Wharf/White's Wharf (Early 19th Century, 1863): Cory's Wharf, or White's Wharf, along the Sakonnet, is a stone pier, about 125 feet long, four feet high, and 30 feet wide, filled

with gravel. It is 500 feet south of Pierce's Wharf (#3-W). Peleg Cory, a coaster, built a wharf here in the early 19th century, and ran a sloop to Providence, returning with supplies for Tiverton Four Corners and vicinity. Later, his son Thomas sailed for 20 more years. Then, Holder N. Wilcox, Christopher White, and Captain J. A. Petty ran boats from the wharf. About 1863, Isaac G. White bought the property and enlarged and improved the wharf, which was the most important in the area at that time. Isaac also established a fish oil works and coal business. Sometime after 1870, Pierce's wharf was built a short distance to the north, eventually eclipsing White's wharf. (1854- Corey's Wharf.)

3-W. Pierce's Wharf (c. 1872): A stone pier along the Sakonnet, about 125 feet long, eight feet high, and 30 feet wide, filled with gravel. It is about 500 feet north of Cory's, or White's Wharf. This wharf was built after 1870 by Alexander S. Pierce, and eventually became more important than the White's Wharf. The Queen City stopped at Pierce's Wharf daily, beginning in 1887 until about 1903, when the steamboat company began operating at Almy's Wharf at Fogland. (1895- Pierce's Wharf.)

4. Stone Bridge Historic District: Stone Bridge is a loosely defined, unincorporated settlement sited in a relatively narrow area between Tiverton and Portsmouth, and a rugged upland section to the east. Main Road forms the "spine" of the village, extending from approximately Route 24 in the north to the Quaket River near Bridgeport in the south. It is the most important local artery, containing a mix of activities including two churches, a commercial core near the former stone bridge, a marina, dwellings, and the Stone Bridge Inn. Highland Road, a quiet avenue, traverses Tiverton Heights and includes a church, a library, the town hall, and a collection of fine, late 19th and early 20th-century houses. Riverside Drive closely parallels the shore north of the village center and contains most of the village's water-oriented activities, both commercial and recreational.

The first activity in Stone Bridge was related to the settlement of adjacent Portsmouth in 1638 and the establishment of a ferry as early as 1640. By 1674, John Simmons was given permission to build a house and was licensed to keep an ordinary (a tavern or eating house) in addition to running the ferry. The Howland family took over the ferry about 1700 and ran it until about 1776, and the small settlement on the Tiverton side assumed the name, Howland's Ferry, used throughout the 18th and well into the 19th century, long after the family had given up the service.

During the Revolutionary War, Stone Bridge was important as the staging area for several proposed invasions of nearby Aquidneck Island, then occupied by the British. Fort Barton and Fort Durfee, constructed on the heights above the passage between the Sakonnet River and Mount Hope Bay by the Revolutionary Army, were manned during the war.

In 1794, a bridge was built between Tiverton and Portsmouth. During the next century and a half, it was damaged, destroyed, and repaired and replaced several times. Easier communication with Aquidneck Island and increased traffic service encouraged the village's slow but steady growth. The small cluster of buildings around the bridge came to be known as Stone Bridge. Pease and Niles' gazetteer of 1819 says merely that Stone Bridge, at the bridge at Howland's Ferry, was one of two villages in the town. Hayward's gazetteer of 1839 also mentions Howland's Ferry at the stone bridge.

Several religious societies were organized at or near Stone Bridge. An Episcopal group petitioned for a minister before the end of the 17th century; about that time, the Society of Friends (Quakers) organized and erected a meeting house on Main Road. In 1808, the Central Baptist Church was built near the bridge; in 1851, the church relocated, building a new house on Highland Road. A town hall was built on its present site on Highland Road in 1840.

A significant event in the history and growth of the village occurred with the construction of the Old Colony and Newport Railroad from Fall River to Newport, which began operating in the early 1860s. A depot and a Western Union telegraph office were established near the railroad bridge; the immediate locality was called Tiverton. The nucleus of about a dozen buildings at Stone Bridge included a blacksmith shop, a boot shop, a store and post office, and a hotel, as shown on the 1864 map, while several houses were located on Main and Highland roads beyond the bridge. The immediate area around the stone bridge remained virtually unchanged by 1870, as shown on the D.G. Beers atlas map, but the railroad station generated new activity at "Tiverton".

The tempo of activity quickened. In 1871, seven cottages were ready for occupation on the heights and a restaurant and dining hall for clam bakes was erected near the depot. Whitridge Hall, built in 1876 on Lawton Avenue, provided Unitarian church services as well as housing a library and hosting public gatherings. The Lawton House, destroyed by fire in 1884, was rebuilt as the Stone Bridge Cottage. An 1888 pamphlet described boating, sailing, fishing, and driving as the main forms of recreation.

Mariana Tallman in 1894, recorded her walk on the plank boardwalk between Stone Bridge and Tiverton, which still maintained their separate identities. Then, the water's edge was lined with fishermen's shanties and fish markets dealing with bluefish, squiteague, tautog, scup, lobsters, and clams, with clam diggers and boats to let. The area was frequented by day trippers from Fall River and also contained a large summer population. Many summer cottages occupied railroad company-leased land on a narrow

strip between the shore and road north of the railroad bridge. At Tiverton Heights, the bluff above the main road traversed by Highland Road, with a view considered one of the finest on the bay, were more "cottages". Larger and finer homes than those jammed together along the shore, many of them were occupied by Fall River merchants, while the shore cottages were popular with Taunton families. The town was "practically an unknown bourne to Providence citizens", according to Mariana Tallman.

In 1898, a Roman Catholic Chapel was established on Highland Road. Soon after, it relocated to Main Road as St. Peters by the Sea; in 1910; it became St. Christopher's Church. Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, which had chapels on Riverside Drive and then on Highland Road, relocated to Main Road in 1917.

In the mid-20th century, Stone Bridge began to evolve from a summer to a year-round community. New houses were built, along with a new elementary school (1936) and a library (1938). An era ended in 1956 with the construction of the Sakonnet River (Highway) Bridge. In 1957, after more than a century and a half of service, the stone bridge was closed, and soon after, the central portion taken down, leaving only the stone abutments on each side, now a popular haunt of anglers.

Stone Bridge has evolved considerably during the past three centuries. Many of its sites and structures are noteworthy historically and architecturally, and serve as reminders of the evolution of the town's most important community.

#### EVANS AVENUE

- 4-A. Calista C. Cottrell House (Late 19th century; 59 Evans Avenue): A 2½-story, Bracketed house, with carpenter work detail in a 2-story porch across the west side. The house, sited on a hill near Route 24, was the residence of Calista Cottrell, the only daughter of Captain Joseph Church. In 1875, she married A. Frank Cottrell, a fisherman who worked as superintendant in several fish factories, in Portsmouth, R.I., and at Linekin, Maine. Calista Cottrell worked for the same firms as her husband; she was in charge of the cook houses from 1880 to 1906. (1895-C. C. Cottrell.)

#### HIGHLAND ROAD

- 4-B. House (c. 1920; 2 Highland Road): A large 2½-story, early 20th century, Neo-Colonial residence, with a hip roof; two, large, exterior chimneys at each end; a semi-circular portico with a balcony; and two, matching, flat-roofed, 1-story wings with balconies beyond the main block of the house. The house is sited back from the road at its junction with Main Road, behind a large, grassy expanse. It is one of many large houses erected at "The Heights" during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

- 4-C. The Outlook (c. 1900): A large and elaborate, 2½-story, early 20th century, Colonial Revival residence, with extensive porches and a balustraded hip roof. It commands a fine view to the west. It was the residence of Richard Jackson Barker, son of Benjamin Barker, who had a house nearby (on Main Road). Both Barkers were in the lumber business in Fall River. Mrs. Barker was chairwoman of the Tiverton School Committee in 1903.
- 4-D. Central Baptist Church (1887; 67 Highland Road): A typical Queen Anne church, asymmetrically massed and set gable end to the road, with patterned-shingle-and-clapboard sides; a large, arched window, with tracery on the facade; and a square, 2-stage tower with a pyramidal roof. The structure is sited near the road. Across the road are the Parsonage and Parish House. The church society was organized in 1808. The first meeting house was built in that year at the east end of the stone bridge. In 1851, a new church was built at this site. Destroyed by fire on October 10, 1886, it was replaced by the present structure, designed by Joseph M. Darling of Fall River. It was built at a cost of \$10,000 and dedicated December 14, 1887. Since then, the interior, finished in cypress, was painted; frescoes on the ceiling have been covered with tile; and the seats reworked--a center aisle plan was substituted for the original side aisles. (1862- Bapt. Ch. [on site].)
- 4-E. Greenlawn (Late 19th Century; 214 Highland Road): A heavily-altered, 1½-story Queen Anne dwelling with a hexagonal tower at the right front and a veranda at the left side. The house is sited on a neatly landscaped lot above the road. Greenlawn was built by a Mr. Chapin, a broker from Fall River, as a summer house. It was also used as a summer residence by Cornelius Green, owner of a Fall River piano factory. The Haydens, who purchased the property in 1852, removed the front piazza in converting Greenlawn into a permanent residence. (1895- C. S. Greene.)
- 4-F. Essex Public Library (1938-39; 238 Highland Road): A 1-story, H-plan, stone building, with a small cupola centered on the ridge of the main section. The library, set on a neat, simply landscaped lot above the road, was a gift of Miss Lydia B. Essex, a former school teacher, in memory of her mother Lydia Smith Baker Essex.
- 4-G. Stone House (Early 20th century; 246 Highland Road): A 1½-story, stone-and-wood-shingle-sided residence with a shed roof dormer across the front and a large, brick chimney at the rear. The house, built into the hill above the road, occupies a secluded, rustic setting. It is one of only a few stone houses in Tiverton.
- 4-H. Thomas Durfee House (1793 et seq.; 306 Highland Road): A large, 2½-story house, built in 1793 by Thomas Durfee, who served in the Revolutionary War, in the General Assembly (1787-89), and as town clerk (1814-29). His son, Charles, was Tiverton's town clerk from 1841-49. The house has been extensively remodeled in the Colonial Revival mode on the exterior (and probably on the interior) with several additions. The landscaped grounds include stone walls and a pergola between the house and a garage. (1850- Mrs. Durfee.)

\*\* 4-I. Fort Barton (1776): Fort Barton is a Revolutionary War fortification sited on an outcropping of granite 110 feet above the Sakonnet River to the west. No structures remain from the 18th century, but the earthworks are still discernible. Now a landscaped park, listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the small tract includes an observation tower, erected in 1970; outlooks with markers; an asphalt roadway leading up from Highland Avenue; an automobile parking lot below; and a Manchester family cemetery.

The Fort Barton defense works was built in response to the British occupation of nearby Aquidneck Island, and Newport, in 1776. The fort occupied a strategic location near and overlooking the narrows between the Sakonnet and Mount Hope Bay, the shortest distance between the island and the mainland. The site here was an advantageous location for a battery of guns. Erection of the fortification was the result of a joint effort by Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

In July, 1777, Lieutenant Colonel William Barton and four men from the fort began a daring exploit from here that eventually resulted in the capture of British General Richard Prescott on Aquidneck Island. The fort was later named in honor of Barton's feat.

For two successive years, 1777 and 1778, thousands of colonial troops were assembled at and near Fort Barton for an invasion of Aquidneck Island. The abortive 1777 venture succeeded in landing only a handful of men on Aquidneck, but during the summer of 1778, 11,000 Continental line troops and militia were ferried across the strait--one of the greatest massings of Continental soldiers during the entire war. The August, 1778, Battle of Rhode Island in Portsmouth was the major Rhode Island Revolutionary War battle, but it was indecisive, and the Continentals were obliged to retreat across the strait under the watchful eyes of generals John Sullivan, Nathanael Greene, and Lafayette. Most of the soldiers departed the area after the battle, leaving only a handful of men to man Fort Barton.

The property remained in private ownership until 1923, when Dr. Roderick Terry and his wife, Linda, donated the site to the Newport Historical Society. The Society conducted a dedication ceremony in 1928. During World War II, the Tiverton Civil Defense erected a plane spotting tower atop Fort Barton, and a continuous watch was maintained. In 1968, the property was transferred to the Town of Tiverton and subsequently improved to its present condition, largely through the efforts of Dr. James W. Holt, Jr. Just north of Fort Barton, on private property, are the overgrown earth work remains of Fort Durfee, another Revolutionary War fortification. (1776- Battery.)

4-J. Tiverton Town Hall (1840 et seq.): A simple, 1-story, hip-roofed structure, with a central entry in a 3-bay facade, flanked by 1-story, flat-roofed wings, each with a separate entry. The

building is set near the road, on a small lot. Behind the town hall is a cemetery, which was used as a common burial ground, and laid out as a ministry lot in the 1680 Pocasset Purchase. It contains many graves, but only a few have headstones. The town hall was planned as early as 1824, and built in 1840. The building has been enlarged and remodeled several times since, and now bears little resemblance to the building first erected. Tiverton's first town clerk was appointed in 1699. (1850-Town House.)

#### JENNIFER LANE

- 4-K. Houses (c. 1980): A group of three, 2-story, vertical-board sided houses, each different in style.

#### LAWTON AVENUE

- 4-L. Lawton House (c. 1750; 34 Lawton Avenue): A large, 2½-story house, with a large, brick, center chimney; a balustraded Colonial Revival central entry, and a large addition at the rear. The house, set on a small, landscaped lot, was the residence of Lawtons for more than 150 years. Captain Lawton built the nearby Lawton House, now the Stone Bridge Inn (#4-FF), about 1790. Senator George R. Lawton, grandson of the builder, who lived here in 1903, was auditor for the American Woolen Company, a corporation which then owned 80 mills. (1854- Mrs. Lawton.)
- 4-M. Whitridge Hall (1876; 42 Lawton Avenue): Whitridge Hall, now an apartment house, is a 2-story structure with a large, square tower at the left side of the front, and a 1-story section at the rear. Thomas Whitridge offered the first contribution towards construction of the building, and, with donations from others, a combined chapel and hall was completed in 1876. It was managed by the Whitridge Hall Association, from which emerged the Tiverton Historical Society. The Unitarian Chapel, called Bowen Memorial, opened in June, 1876. Services ended shortly after 1900. Among those conducting services were Rev. Edward Everett Hale and Julia Ward Howe. The building also contained a library and a reading room, and the Episcopalians held social events in the hall before their church was built. It was used for summer theatre in the 1950s and for dances in the 1960s. In the recent past, its use as a public building ceased and it was converted to apartments. (1895- Whitridge Hall Association.)
- 4-N. House (c. 1900; 53 Lawton Avenue): A modest, shingled, 2½-story, Queen Anne house, with a polygonal, 2-story, corner tower at the right side front, and several porches.
- 4-O. C. Seabury House (c. 1865; 78 Lawton Avenue): A rambling, mid-19th century, complex-plan cottage with several roof pitches and angles. There is a fine, late 19th century, board and batten barn behind the house. (1870- C. Seabury.)

- 4-P. Fort Barton School (1936; 99 Lawton Avenue): A 1-story, H-plan, brick, hip-roofed elementary school, with classical details in a small belfry with louvered openings; and a fine, central portico with corinthian columns, a semi-elliptical fan, and balustrade. The school, which bears the name of the nearby Revolutionary War fortification, was opened in March 2, 1936. Similar to the nearby contemporary library (#4-F), it is a good typical example of early 20th-century, Neo-Georgian public buildings.

#### MAIN ROAD

- 4-Q. Captain Daniel Church House (1792 et seq.; 1392 Main Road): A large, Federal-era house, enlarged several times by additions to the front and sides to its present Colonial Revival appearance. The most conspicuous addition is a 2-story porch, with columns, in 1934. The most prominent owner was Captain Daniel T. Church (1836-1903), eldest son of Capt. Joseph Church, and one of the famous seven Church brothers. At age 22, Daniel was captain of a schooner. He was partner in a company that shipped iced fresh fish and later involved with the menhaden fishing business in Tiverton and in Maine. He was a partner in Joseph Church and Company, organized in 1870; in 1891, he purchased the company and ran it under his name until 1897. Active in politics, Daniel Church was the 1889 Democratic candidate for governor and chairman of the Tiverton town council for several years. On the grounds surrounding his house he installed an artificial pond, the only one in Tiverton. In the early 20th century, the house was owned by Dr. Creamer. (1850- Moralena (?) Barker.)
- 4-R. Captain George L. Church House (Late 19th-century; 1420 Main Road): A large Italianate house set on a large, simply landscaped lot, with a deck-on-hip roof, bracketed cornice, and ample turned-post and jig-saw trim porches. George Livingston Church, born in 1848, was the youngest of the Church brothers. Like his father and his brothers, he followed the sea. At age 11, he was cook on a fishing vessel, then was a cook and fisherman. In 1874, he joined the family firm, retiring in 1898 after serving as the master of several steamers. George Church was an active Democrat and served in both houses of the state legislature. (1870-1. Manchester.)
- 4-S. Nannaquaket Grange, Patrons of Husbandry Number 49/Friends Burial Ground (c. 1860): A 1-story, frame structure, with a 1-story, flat-roofed addition across the front, on a small, overgrown lot at the corner of Quaker Avenue. The first meeting house of the Society of Friends on this site was built about 1700. It was replaced by another building on the same site, which burned in 1860, and the present building was erected. The Nannaquaket Grange acquired the property in the 20th century. At the rear of the building, on a very overgrown lot, is the Friends Burial Ground, occupying land acquired in 1747. (1850- Friends Meeting House.)

- 4-T. Queen Anne House (c. 1900): A large, elaborate, and heavily modified Queen Anne house, with a hip-and-cross-gable roof; corner tower; pierced bargeboards and brackets at the gable ends; and a wrap-around porch. The house, set on a large, grassy lot, on a hill, has suffered unsympathetic alterations, including modern siding and a large, iron, fire escape at the west side.
- 4-U. St. Christopher's Roman Catholic Church (1910): An asymmetrical 1-story church building with a large, square, hip-roofed entry tower with a cobblestone base to the right side of the front, and a large, lancet, stained glass window dominating the facade. St. Christopher's is an outgrowth of the first Roman Catholic church in Tiverton. Known as "St. Peter's By the Sea", and open only in the summer, it stood on Highland Road. In 1910, it was replaced by this church on Main Road (1895- Cath. Ch. [along the east side of Highland Road].)
- 4-V. Alex Snell House (Late 19th century; 1616 Main Road): A 2-story, hip-roofed, Italianate house, with paired brackets at the cornice; a small, central piazza-like portico, flanked by 1-story bay windows; and a large, 2-story ell at the right side. (1895- Alex Snell.)
- \*4-W. Captain Isaac Church House/St. Christopher's Rectory (1660 Main Road): A large, 2½-story, Gothic-inspired structure, with projecting, gabled pavilion and a later 19th century wrap-around porch. Set back from the road on a spacious lot, this was the residence of Isaac Church (1838-1903), one of the seven Church brothers. Isaac commanded both sailing and steam fishing vessels, and was a partner in the family firm from about 1870 to 1891. Sometime in the early 20th century, the property was acquired by the Roman Catholic church for use as a rectory. (1895- Isaac Church.)
- 4-X. William J. Brightman House (c. 1875; 1690 Main Road): A cross-gabled, Modern Gothic cottage with a porch across the left side, and a 1-story wing at the right side. The house, set above the road near the Sakonnet, was probably built by William Brightman, who moved to Tiverton in 1865. Brightman was active in the scup and menhaden fisheries for more than 20 years. In 1874, he headed the firm of W. J. B. Brightman and Company, which he and Albert Gray organized. The dock in front of the house (now Standish Boat Yard) had his fish market and sailboat business, later managed by his son, "Billy", who resided here until his death in 1934. (1895- Wm. J. Brightman.)
- 4-Y. Standish Boat Yard & Brightman's Wharf (Late 19th Century et seq.; 1697-1699 Main Road): The Standish Boat Yard is a complex of several buildings along the water, below road level, with a large

- space around used for winter boat storage, and several docks and piers. At the left side of the property is a week-covered, stone wharf, with a small lighthouse at the end. This was originally Brightman's Wharf; in two small buildings nearby, Brightman sold fish. In the early 1930s, Levi Ibbotson started a commercial wharf and a boatyard, which has been carried on to the present. In the 1940s, the Tiverton Yacht Club used part of the building. (1895- [a wharf and 2 small buildings are shown].)
- 4-Z. Charles Grinnell House (Late 19th century; 1714 Main Road): A wood-shingled, Carpenter Gothic cottage set gable end to the road. Detail includes pierced bargeboards and a turned-post and jig-saw trim wrap-around porch. (1895- Charles Grinnell.)
- 4-AA. Seabury House (c. 1800; 1728 Main Road): A wood shingled, gambrel-roofed cottage with a center chimney; 3 gabled dormers; and a later, glassed-in central entry in a 3-bay facade. There is a later, 1½-story, gambrel-roofed ell at the left side, rear. (1850- Isaac Seabury.)
- 4-BB. Stone Bridge Commercial District: The Stone Bridge Commercial District, extending south from South Avenue, includes a group of buildings ranging in age from the mid-19th to the late 20th centuries. Several--those along the west side of the road, and along the water--were damaged during the 1938 hurricane. Three wood shingled buildings along the west side are associated with former stores and the Negus family. The three oldest houses in this small district, along the east side of the road, are more noteworthy architecturally and historically than the rest. They are listed below (#4-CC-4-EE).
- 4-CC. Seabury Store and Post Office (Mid-19th century; 1770 Main Road): Probably an early structure, this 2½-story building, set gable end to, and very near the road, with a full basement in front, was owned by the Seabury family from the mid-19th to the early 20th century. It housed a store and a post office for many years, then the post office alone until 1923. (1850- Store [Isaac Seabury?].)
- 4-DD. Edwin Hambly House (Early 19th century; 1784 Main Road): A tall, 3½-story, wood-shingled dwelling, set back from the road on a small, narrow lot. It was the residence of Edwin Hambly (born 1807), who began blacksmithing in the shop across the road in 1830; he also kept a post office here for 15 years. The house was later owned by Edwin's son, who carried on blacksmithing across the road until the 1938 hurricane. (1850- E. Hambly.)
- 4-EE. John Howland House (Mid-18th century; 1788 Main Road): A gambrel-roofed cottage with a large, stuccoed, center chimney, and a central entry in a 3-bay facade. The house occupies a small lot. A picture window at the right side of the front has altered the original appearance of the house. In 1757, it belonged to John Howland, a grandson of the first John Howland, among the Tiverton incorporators in 1692. (1850- Mrs. Barker.)

- 4-FF. Stone Bridge Inn/Stone Bridge House (1888 et seq.; 1800 Main Road): A large, wood-shingled, 2½-story hotel and restaurant, occupying a corner lot at the east end of what was once the stone bridge. The inn, the third on this site, carries on an almost two century-old service to the public here. The original Stone Bridge House, built about 1790 by Captain Lawton, was a well known resort. It was destroyed by fire in 1847, and rebuilt in 1848. In 1864, it was sold to Asa T. Lawton and opened in 1865 as the Lawton House. It was sold, then destroyed by fire in 1865 and rebuilt soon after. On the exterior, the greatest change from the 1888 building is the enclosure of a piazza that went around the building. This is an important remnant of Rhode Island's late nineteenth century seaside development, and the early history of the site reinforces the significance. (1850- Hotel.)
- 4-GG. Wilcox House (Early 20th century; 1886 Main Road): A 1½-story, wood-shingled house, with a piazza across the front, and a projecting central section topped by a hip-roofed enclosed section. The house, which occupies a grassy lot near the Sakonnet, was built as a year-round house by Wilcox, a carpenter. It was sold to McGuire, who used it as a summer residence and made the addition above the porch. The small cluster of houses in the immediate area was a McGuire colony, and was also known as the Gadsby Cottages.
- 4-HH. Holy Trinity Episcopal Church (1917): A vernacular, English Gothic, fieldstone structure, with a large, square crenellated tower at the left side of the front, and a large, traceried, lancet arch on the facade window. The form of this building recalls 13th- and 14th-century rural parish churches of England, a favorite Episcopal prototype in the early 20th century. This Episcopal society is one of the earliest religious societies in Tiverton, dating to 1698-99. In 1704, Reverend James Honeyman of Newport was appointed minister of a large territory that included Tiverton. In 1712, a minister settled here. Services were held at various places in the Stone Bridge-Bridgeport locality until a chapel was consecrated near the railroad station in 1890; in 1892 it was given the name, "Mission of Holy Trinity." In 1894, land was purchased and a chapel built on Highland Road. Land for a new church was purchased on Main Road in 1915, and in 1917, the opening service for Holy Trinity Episcopal Church was held.
- 4-II. James Church House (c. 1860; 1966 Main Road): A cross gabled, L-plan, Bracketed cottage with a pair of tall, brick, interior chimneys; paired brackets at the cornice; a bracketed porch (now glazed) across the front; 1-story bay windows; and a porch in the rear ell. This is a fine and well preserved dwelling. (1870-Jas. Church.)
- 4-JJ. Houses (Late 19th century; 1998 and 2004 Main Road): A pair of bracketed cottages apparently built at the same time, but differing in detail. The less altered is 1998, with clapboard siding,

while 2004 is a wood-shingled building with a porch across the front and right side. They were probably built by T. T. Gray and Alfred Gray, as shown on the 1895 map.

- 4-KK. G. Howland House (c. 1865): A mansard-roofed (perhaps a later addition) cottage with carpenter work details in the porch across the front and in the bay windows at each side. (1870- G. Howland.)

#### MIDDLE AVENUE

- 4-LL. J. Grayson House (c. 1880; 67 Middle Avenue): A 2-story, deck-on-hip-roof house with a wrap-around piazza; a double door entry in a 3-bay facade; and floor-length windows on the first floor. (1895- Jno. Grayson.)
- 4-MM. Gazebo: A octagonal-plan gazebo originally built as a well house, set on the esplanade in the center of Middle Avenue. It was given to surrounding property owners as a gift by Jerry Brown.

#### RIVERSIDE DRIVE

- 4-NN. Summer Cottages (Late 19th century): Along Riverside Drive are three clusters of cottages, all erected after the railroad was built and a station established in Tiverton. The first group, a row of small, 1½-story, wood-shingled structures, is at the south end of Riverside Drive, near the junction with Main Road. The middle group lies just south of the highway bridge. The third group, north of the railroad, includes a row of cottages along the water and another small community occupying a more suburban-like setting on larger lots above the water. These cottages represent the first summer houses built for working-class people in Tiverton. (1895- [many of the cottages are shown] .)
- 4-OO. Summer House (c. 1900; 38 Riverside Drive): A vernacular, 1½-story, wood-shingled residence, set gable end to the road, with a porch across the front and right side; a modest, carpenter work decorated end gable cornice; and a circular window in the gable end.
- 4-PP. Shingle House (Late 19th century et seq.; 46 Riverside Drive): An attractive, wood-shingled, gambrel-roofed, 1½-story residence, with a wrap-around porch, the house, set off nicely by landscaping, was originally a barn for the adjacent Bay View House (now the Tiverton Yacht Club). It was converted to a dwelling in the 1920s. The Fall River Yacht Club was across the road. Destroyed by the 1938 hurricane, the granite block supports for the club structure are still visible in the water. (1895- [shown as an outbuilding])
- \* 4-QQ. Bay View House/Tiverton Yacht Club (1871): A large and rambling Queen Anne building; with jerkinhead gable roofs, several spindle-work porches, a corner tower, and elaborate detailing, including

a modillion course at the cornice. The clubhouse is sited on a small terrace above the road and nearby water. The Bay View House was built as a hotel in 1871 by Philander Smith, who later (1879-1884) owned the Stone Bridge House. In 1877 it was sold to Abner Tallman, who ran it until at least 1888. In the 1890s, it gave up its hotel function and became a house of entertainment for transients and a weekly clambake resort, especially for parties from Fall River. The original yacht club, known as the Fall River Yacht Club, was nearby. After it was destroyed in the '38 hurricane, the T.Y.C. was housed at the present Standish Boat Yard building, and included many people from Tiverton and the Hummocks section of Portsmouth (across the strait). In the 1950s, the T.Y.C. acquired this building. This is an interesting and important piece of usually all-too-ephemeral sea coast recreational buildings; examples of this calibre and age have disappeared in other major Rhode Island seaside communities. (1895- Bayview Hotel and Bayview House.)

- 4-RR. Captain Simmons House (c. 1885; 128 Riverside Drive): A large and plain 2½-story house with very simple carpenter work details in the gable ends, and a wrap around piazza facing the water. The original integrity of this house has been compromised by several alterations and additions. (1895- Cap. Simmons.)
- 4-SS. Lewis Seafood (Late 19th or Early 20th century): A group of three wood-shingled buildings at the corner of Quaker Avenue. The center building is used for seafood sales; another is an oil and storage building.
- 4-TT. Riverside Marine (Early 20th century; 211 Riverside Drive): A modest 1-story, wood-shingled commercial building with a typical parapet over the recessed central entry. The immediate area, near the former railroad station, contained a boat yard, livery, store, and a seine factory in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

#### SAKONNET RIVER

- \* 4-UU Sakonnet River Railroad Bridge (1898): A modified Baltimore through-truss span and a cantilevered assembly, about 220 feet long, composed of two identical trusses, spans the Sakonnet River between Portsmouth and Tiverton. The circular track on which the bridge pivots is mounted on a central pier, in mid-river. An engine house mounted atop the central span formerly housed a boiler and a steam engine which supplied power; later it was electrified. Semaphore signals are located at each end of the bridge. A large steel tower carries overhead power cables ninety-five feet above the river. The first railroad bridge over the Sakonnet River was built in 1864 by the Old Colony and Newport Railroad. It was damaged in 1898 and replaced by the present bridge. Passenger service to Aquidneck Island was provided until 1937. In the 20th century, the

line was owned by the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad. Today, Conrail runs a few freight runs each week. (1870- Old Colony and Newport Railroad.)

4-VV. Sakonnet River Bridge (1956): A steel truss, arch-type bridge, more than a half mile long, carries Route 24 over the Sakonnet River between Tiverton and Portsmouth. Opened to traffic on September 25, 1956, it replaced the Stone Bridge to the south, which had served the public from 1795 to 1957.

4-WW. Stone Bridge, Site of Howland's Ferry: Today, only stone abutments laid in 1907 mark the site of what was the most important bridge in Tiverton for more than 135 years. Near this site, at a narrow part of the Sakonnet River, a ferry was established in 1640. Howland's Ferry--also known as Pocasset Ferry, Sanford's Ferry and Wanton's Ferry--was the first in Rhode Island. Ferry service continued until about 1794, when the Rhode Island Legislature authorized the Rhode Island Bridge Company to build a bridge at Howland's Ferry. It was opened as a toll bridge in 1795 and operated discontinuously thereafter. The strong current of the river and several storms, including the Great September Gale of 1815, destroyed it a number of times, but it was always rebuilt in an improved manner. In 1871, the tolls were abolished after the bridge was purchased by the towns of Tiverton and Portsmouth and then given to the State of Rhode Island. Construction of the proposed Newport and Fall River Street Railway required replacement of the old wooden draw with a more substantial iron and steel structure, which provided a 20 foot roadway capable of supporting 20 tons. In 1898, the new draw was installed and the first trolley trip took place on June 18. However, the bridge and its approaches suffered severe damage due to strong tidal flow and violent storms, and between 1904 and 1907, a replacement bridge, of far greater size in terms of vehicular capability and channel clearance, was built. Until 1907, when a new double roller lift bridge was opened for traffic, a free ferry service was provided between Portsmouth and Tiverton. The bridge survived, with interruptions due to ship collision damage and the hurricanes of 1938 and 1954, until May 6, 1957, when it was officially closed and the central span removed when the Sakonnet River Bridge (#4-VV) was completed a short distance north of the Stone Bridge. (1777- Howland's Ferry; 1831- Stone Bridge.)

\*\* 5. Tiverton Four Corners Historic District: The Tiverton Four Corners Historic District, entered in the National Register of Historic Places, is centered on the crossroads of Main Road with Punkatest Neck Road-East Road, in the southwest part of town. All of the seventeen noteworthy structures in the district lie along Main Road, beginning at the Amicable Congregational Church in the north, south to beyond the Davenport House, a distance of about six-tenths of a mile. The buildings range in age from a c. 1730 residence to a c. 1960 commercial-industrial building. Included are eight

houses, a church, a parsonage, a library, a store, a former store, a former grange hall, and several industrial, commercial, and professional buildings. The latter types are clustered along and near Borden Brook south of the crossroads.

The village of Tiverton Four Corners was begun about 1710, partly as the result of the earlier settlement and growth of Puncatest and other settlements along the Sakonnet shore. In the late 17th century, The Proprietors of Puncatest laid out lots extending from the Sakonnet River east to Acoaxet, and the area was settled by people from Dartmouth and other nearby towns. In 1683, a 4 rod highway was laid out north of Four Corners; originally a trail following the course of the great west road, it later became Main Road. A road was also laid out from Puncatest easterly "into the woods" to Dartmouth.

In 1710, a committee from Sakonnet and Puncatest measured and bounded an 80 acre mill lot, including a mill already owned by Joseph Taber, and a new mill was built. At that time, the mill and village were called "Nomscot" for the local pond (now Nonquit). Thirty lots, or building sites, were also laid out in 1710; these constituted the nucleus of the village of Tiverton Four Corners. About 1715, a ferry was established by an Almy at Fogland; for more than two centuries thereafter, several wharves and landings along the Sakonnet Shore at Puncatest Neck contributed to the growth and prosperity of Four Corners. The Dartmouth and Westport Road was a principal east-west artery for travel and allowed a connection, via ferry, with Pocasset (Portsmouth) and Newport on Aquidneck Island. A tavern was established somewhere along the Dartmouth Road by 1749, a store was started at the southwest corner of the crossroads, and a windmill was in operation in the northwest angle of the crossroads in 1776. In 1798, there were at least three dwellings and two stores at the crossroads, one known as "the white store", the other, "the red store".

In the early 19th century, the Four Corners experienced further growth. The Amicable (Congregational) Society built a meeting house in 1808, and a library association and a post office were established in 1820. A hat manufactory was begun near Borden's Brook early in the century. About 1847, William Pitt Bateman purchased the mill site at Borden's Brook and built a grist mill, store, and wheelwright shop, with lathes and machinery. The immediate vicinity was known as Pittsville. In 1876, Andrew P. White, purchased buildings at Pittsville, and he erected a store at the crossroads. In 1880, Four Corners village housed a variety of occupations--fishermen, (including two whalers) farmers, dress-makers, blacksmiths, and storekeepers. Around this time, an ice house was established near Borden's Brook.

In the late 19th century, several wharves, or landings, were constructed at Puncatest Neck. Two Providence steamers provided

an important service, bringing in and taking out supplies and goods, and allowing easy communication with several local ports and Providence. The Fall River and Little Compton Stage provided daily mail service.

In the early 20th century, fishing activities ceased, farming declined drastically, steamer service ended, and roads and auto traffic began to play the primary role in transporting goods and people. In the late 1920s, Main Road was reconstructed, and many of the stone walls lining the road were taken down. Gradually during the century, activities around Borden's Brook ceased. The last of the 19th century activities to end was the grange society, which disbanded in the late 1970s. The metalworks carries on an old tradition in a "modern" manner at or near the site of the old blacksmith shop and the ice house. The former grist mill is now a professional office, and the former store is an art gallery. At the crossroads, the A.P. White Store, restored in 1982, is now a food store. On the opposite corner is Gray's ice cream stand and grocery store. Several mid-20th century houses and a gasoline station line the west side of Main Road north of the crossroads. Despite a few intrusions, the district retains a good sampling of structures ranging from the mid-18th century to the present, many well preserved and maintained. Once one of the town's principal villages, Tiverton Four Corners is a quiet, charming, and interesting community today.

- 5-A. Amicable Congregational Church (1845-1846 et seq; 3736 Main Road): A small but monumental Greek Revival church with a square, 1-stage belfry and a later, large, polygonal bay in front flanked by double door entries; and three, stained-glass windows. The building is set close to the road on a small lot. The Amicable Congregational Society was organized in 1746, and a church building was erected on Lake Road in 1747. In 1805, this one-half acre lot for a meetinghouse was given, and about 1808 a new Congregational church was built here. Services alternated between the two churches until 1844, when the old building was closed. In 1845, the 1808 meetinghouse burned and was immediately rebuilt according to plans submitted by Pardon Seabury. Since then, the church has been remodeled several times. (1850- Cong. Church.)
- 5-B. Amicable Congregational Church Parsonage (1832; 3804 Main Road): A 1½-story vernacular structure, with a central entry (with a dentil and modillion cornice) in a 5-bay facade, built as the parsonage for the nearby Congregational church. (1850- Parsonage.)
- 5-C. Templar's Hall/Union Public Library (1868; 3832 Main Road): A simple 1-story, wood-shingled building, set gable end to the road. The library society, founded in March, 1820, is the oldest in Tiverton and second oldest in Newport County. The society, originally the Union Society, then the Tiverton Union Library, and finally, in 1888, the Union Public Library, occupied several

buildings in the Four Corners neighborhood. In 1896, the library moved to the present location when it rented Templars Hall; the society purchased the building in 1914. In 1923, the building was moved back from the road. The Union Public Library affiliated with the Essex Library in 1965; in 1971, the three Tiverton libraries consolidated. (1870- Temperance Hall.)

- 5-D. Benjamin F. Seabury House (1840; 3842 Main Road): A 2½-story, vernacular residence, set gable end to the road, with a Greek Revival entry at the left side of the front. The building housed the library for a time during the nineteenth century and, perhaps, also a store. Benjamin Seabury, who built the house, was the son of Cornelius Seabury, a successful businessman. (1850- Store.)
- 5-E. Soule-Seabury House (1770/1809, 3852 Main Road): A fine, 2½-story, colonial-era residence, with a pair of large, brick, interior chimneys; a hip roof; a central entry, with transom and side lights; a 5-bay facade; and corner quoins. The house, set back from the road on a large corner lot at the junction with East Road, is bounded by an iron rail fence and stone walls. The house was built by Abner Soule, a blacksmith, Revolutionary War soldier, and whaler. In 1808, Abner gave most of the homestead farm to his son, Cornelius, who probably then remodeled the house. Cornelius (1769-1818) was engaged in the China trade and also in John Jacob Astor's plan to build a fur-trading empire in the Pacific Northwest. In 1816, Cornelius deeded the house, in obligation of payment of debts, to his cousin, Cornelius Seabury (1769-1834), who was a merchant in Boston and Newport, then made a successful sealing expedition in the Indian Ocean.

From about 1810 to 1840, Seabury ran a general store at the Four Corners. In 1854, Joseph Seabury (1802-1878), son of Cornelius, acquired the estate. Once a sea captain, Joseph retired ashore in 1841. The house remained in the family until 1946. Restored in 1970-72, it was used as a museum until about 1981. (1850- C. Seabury.)

- 5-F. Wilcox-Davol House (1800 et seq.; 2879 Main Road): A 2½-story, Federal era residence, with a pair of small, brick, interior chimneys; a Greek Revival entry in an asymmetrical, 4-bay facade; and an ell at the rear. In the late 19th century, it was the residence of B. Wilcox and Andrew P. White. The latter built the adjacent store in 1875 and served as postmaster for many years in the late nineteenth and early 20th century. (1854- Wilcox.)
- 5-G. Andrew P. White Store (1876; 3883 Main Road): A 2½-story commercial building with a bell-cast mansard roof; cupola; and a bracketed cornice 1-story porch across the front and part of the left side. Set close to the road at the junction with Neck Road, the building houses a store on the first floor, and residences above.

Andrew P. White, who for a time ran the mill, and an ice house at nearby Pittsville, built this store, which also housed a post office. The building was restored in 1982. (1895- Stores; P.O.; A. P. White.)

- 5-H. Arnold Smith House (c. 1750/1820 et seq.; 3895 Main Road): A small, shingled, gambrel-roofed cottage with a central entry, with a four light transom, in a 3-bay facade. The house, set on a slight rise, was built about 1750. About 1820, an addition-- a long, 1½-story ell--was made at the west side (rear); later, the center chimney was removed. (1850- A. Smith.)
- 5-I. Chase-Cory House (c. 1730 et seq.; 3908 Main Road): The Chase-Cory House, now a historical museum of the Tiverton Historical Society, is a gambrel-roofed, wood-shingled cottage with a large, brick, center chimney; a 4 light transom over the entrance; an asymmetrical, 4-bay facade; and an ell at the rear. There are several outbuildings--a corn crib, a washhouse, and a privy. The house is set above the road behind a granite block wall of quarried stone. A fine example of a modest colonial farmhouse, one of the best preserved in Tiverton today, it was built by Benjamin or Abner Chase about 1730. The house was in the Cory family from 1816 until 1962. The Corys were one of Tiverton's several whaling families, including Andrew and his sons Andrew Jackson and Edward Gray, who were whaling ship captains in the mid-nineteenth century. In 1964, the Historical Society acquired the house and restored it to its present condition in the early 1970s. (1850- A. Cory.)
- 5-J. Pardon Cory House (c. 1840; 3920 Main Road): A Greek Revival cottage set gable end to the road, with a recessed entry at the right side, front. Pardon Cory, born in 1820, was a fisherman, a carpenter, and a boatbuilder. (1854- A. Cory.)
- 5-K. King Cottage (c. 1800; 3924 Main Road): A shingled cottage with a small, brick, center chimney, a central entry in a 5-bay facade, and an ell at the rear. (1870- P. Wing.)

(Pittsville)

Historically, the small group of buildings concentrated near and along Borden Brook (which was transformed into a raceway between the mill pond and Nonquit Pond) has been the industrial section of Four Corners, with commercial and public buildings as well. A saw and grist mill was established here in 1710. In 1813, a hat manufactory was started, and at some early date a blacksmith shop began. William Pitt Bateman purchased the mill site about 1847 and built a grist mill, a store, and a wheelwright shop, and from then until perhaps 1866, when he sold his property

to Charles H. White & Brother, the area was known locally as Pittsville. A public hall was built in 1870; it later became the Nonquit Grange. Twentieth century changes included the establishment of two gasoline stations in the 1920s (both later given up), the establishment of a tin works in 1961, and conversion of the former grist mill to a law office and real estate office in the 1970s. (Numbers 5-L through 5-P which follow were the core of Pittsville.)

- 5-L. The Metal Works (c. 1961 and earlier; 3940 Main Road): A large, 1½-story, wood-shingled building, set gable end to the road, near the road. Earlier, two separate buildings, an early 19th century blacksmith shop, and a late 19th century ice house, occupied this site. In the early to mid-20th century, the place was used to store oil trucks, then was a gasoline station until David Neville established a metal works in 1961 and renovated the building. (1850- Blacksmith Shop.)
- 5-M. Stone Grist Mill (c. 1850; 3946 Main Road): A 1½-story masonry building, with stuccoed stone sides; a central, double-door entry in the gable end, near the road; and a larger, delivery-door entry, with a platform, at the left side. The building is on or near the site of a 1710 saw and grist mill, which was abandoned before 1847. This mill, which is either a new mill or a rebuilt mill, owned by A. P. White for many years, was used as a grist mill, grinding corn for johnnycakes, until after World War II. The miller lived next door. In the late 1970s it was converted for use as a law office and a real estate office. (1895- Chas. White.)
- 5-N. Former Store/Mill House Studios (c. 1870; 3948 Main Road): A 2½-story, wood-shingled building, set gable end to the road, next to the mill race, with a stone first floor set below the level of the road, with a recessed central entrance flanked by multi-paned display windows. The first floor was used as a store for the adjacent grist mill, and the second floor was used as the residence of the miller and his family. (1870- Store.)
- 5-O. Public Hall/Nonquit Grange, Number 31, Patrons of Husbandry (c. 1870; 3964 Main Road): A plain, 2½-story, wood-shingled building, with two, single door entries at each end. The building, set close to the road on a small lot, was originally a public hall, then used as a grange hall, probably soon after the grange society was organized in 1893, until the 1970s. (1870- Public Hall.)
- 5-P. William Bateman/Preserved Tripp's Wheelwright Shop (c. 1850; 3949 Main Road): A 2½-story, wood-shingled building, set gable end to the road, next to the mill race. There are doors at the first and second floor elevations in front. Originally a wheelwright shop built by William P. Bateman, it was used as a gasoline station and was a Ford agency from 1923 to about 1934. Since then, it has been used for storage of fishing equipment. (1854-Bateman.)

- 5-Q. William Davenport House (c. 1840; 3988 Main Road): A Greek Revival farmhouse with a row of small windows under the eaves. Recent alterations include a wood-shingled front weather entry and a multi-paned picture window in front, which have altered the integrity of the house. It was the residence of the Davenport and Manchester families in the nineteenth century. (1850- Wm. R. Davenport.)

## STRUCTURES AND SITES

### BETTENCOURT LANE

6. Cook-Bettencourt Farm (Late 18th-Early 19th-century): The Cook farmhouse is a 1½-story structure with a medium-sized, brick, center chimney and a simply framed, south-facing facade. This early building has been radically altered and compromised by additions at each end. There are several old wood-shingled out-buildings nearby, including a large, deteriorating, barn with a prominent stone foundation. The large, working dairy farm, off Main Road is the southwest part of town, is sited on a small hill. It was in the Cook family in the 19th century. For about the last 70 years it has been owned by Bettencourts. (1850- John Cook, Chas. Cook.)

### BORDEN ROAD

7. Richard Borden House (c. 1840): A wood-shingled, Greek Revival cottage with a central entry in a 5-bay facade, four small windows under the eaves, and a 1½-story ell, with a full, stone basement, at the west side. The immediate house lot is bounded by a massive, granite block wall which forms a small yard within the larger lot. Nearby are stone remains of 19th century out-buildings. A Borden family cemetery is located a short distance to the west. The Bordens were among the early North Tiverton families. (1854- Richard Borden.)

### BRAYTON STREET

8. Brayton Homestead (Late 18th-Early 19th-century; 446 Brayton Road): A 1½-story, Federal era farmhouse with a small, brick, off-center chimney, and a central entry, with four-light transom, in a 5-bay facade. The house is set back from the road, accessible by a tree-lined drive along the right side of the lot. The property has probably been in Brayton ownership throughout its history. (1854- David Brayton.)

### BRIDGEPORT ROAD

(See Bridgeport Historic District, #1)

#### BROOKSIDE DRIVE

9. Pender Seabury House (pre-1773): An extensively reworked, 18th century, wood-shingled residence, located at the end of a private drive, very close to the Little Compton line. The main part of the house is a 2½-story structure with a large, brick, center chimney, and an entry at the right side of the gable end. There is a 2½-story ell, with a small, brick chimney, at the rear (south side). Nearby is a large, wood-shingled barn with a 1-story stone foundation. (1850- Robt Seabury.)

#### BULGARMARSH ROAD

10. Thomas Durfee House (c. 1840; 255 Bulgarmarsh Road): A fine and typical Tiverton Greek Revival cottage with paired, interior, brick chimneys; a central entry in a 5-bay facade; a row of 5 small windows under the eaves; and an ell at the rear. The lot is set behind a low stone wall along the road, with granite posts at the driveway entrance. There are stone foundations behind the house, and a historical cemetery (Number 19) east of the house. (1850- Thos. Durfee.)
11. Tiverton Bait Shop and Cider Mill/Bruce's Saws (Late 19th century): A 2-story, stone and wood structure (the first story walls are large granite blocks) with 2 garage doors at the right side of the east side. One of several Bliss-owned buildings at Bliss Four Corners, it had a cider press, according to the 1895 map. Today, it contains several businesses--a bait shop, a saw sharpening shop, and a photographer. (1870- C. Bliss.)

#### CRANDALL ROAD

12. Cyrenus Bliss Store (1827; 1 Crandall Road): A much altered, 2-story, early 19th century buildings, at the intersection of Crandall, Stafford, and Bulgarmarsh roads, with a large, brick, chimney near the south end and a 1-story, flat-roofed addition at the south side. The store, located close to the intersection, with a large, paved parking lot behind, was built by Cyrenus Bliss, who came here from Rehoboth, Massachusetts, in 1827 and opened a grocery store. Later, he added dry goods and liquor; the building also housed a post office between 1857 and 1864. Cyrenus also carried on a farming operation. (1850- C. Bliss Store.)
13. Building Complex (Early 20th century; 716 Crandall Road): A group of three, wood-shingled buildings along the east side of the road; a 1½-story, L-plan house, set back from the road; a small, 1½-story structure along the road, which may have been a store; and a large, fine, barn, at the rear of the property.
14. Shaw-Hart House (c. 1865; 830 Crandall Road): A typical Tiverton Greek Revival cottage with a central entry in a 5-bay facade; a

row of 5, small, windows under the eaves; and a recent, 2 bay, garage addition at the right side. (1870- A. Shaw.)

15. A. Bliss House (c. 1852; 894 Crandall Road): A vernacular cottage with gable end set close to the road. There is a stone basement at the front, which may have been larger before early 20th century highway renovations. There was a store here at one time (as shown on the 1862 map). At the north side of the lot, also close to, and gable end toward, the road, is a 1½-story barn. (1854- A. Bliss.)
16. Rounds House (c. 1845; 929 Crandall Road): A Greek Revival cottage on a neat, landscaped lot that includes two outbuildings. In the 1850s, it was the residence of a Mrs. Rounds; later in the century, it was in the Bliss family. (1850- Mrs. Rounds.)
17. Thomas Manchester House (c. 1840; 1048 Crandall Road): A vernacular, mid-19th century cottage with a later, pedimented central entrance porch and a large addition at the rear. It was probably the residence of Thomas Manchester in the last half of the nineteenth century. (1850- Thos. Manchester.)
18. Amasa Simmons Farm/Middle Acres Dairy Farm (1825 et seq.; 1057 Crandall Road): A large, active, dairy farm, centered on a cluster of buildings, near the west side of the road. The farmhouse, built in 1825, perhaps by Amasa Simmons, has undergone several alterations and additions, including a flat-roofed, central entrance portico; a 2-story addition at the left rear; and a large rear ell. Northwest of the house is a large, outbuilding complex, with two silos. The fields behind the farm complex, and extending north and south for some distance, comprise one of the largest farms and open spaces in Tiverton today. The property was in the Simmons family throughout the 19th century. (1850- Amasa Simmons.)
19. William Simmons House (c. 1840; 1098 Crandall Road): A typical Greek Revival cottage with 5 windows at the eaves, wood-shingled sides, and an ell at the right side, with its front porch enclosed. The house was the residence of William Simmons (born in 1831), who was a whaler for six years and in the fish and oil business for about 15 years. (1850- Wm. Simmons.)
20. Charles Macomber House (Mid-19th century; 1117 Crandall Road): A wood-shingled cottage sited close to the road, with a small, brick, center chimney; a central entry in a 5-bay facade; and a longer gable roof at the rear that creates a "salt box" appearance. There are several outbuildings behind the house (1850- Chas. Macomber.)

21. Crandall Road Chapel (c. 1900): A 1½-story, wood-shingled structure, set gable end to the road, with a central, double door entry in a large, hip-roofed portico. The building, now empty, and its lot overgrown, was once a branch of the Old Stone Church; it was also used as a community hall and a public library.
22. J. Crandall House (Mid-19th century; 1264 Crandall Road): A small cottage set gable end to the road, with an enclosed entrance vestibule at the left side of the front, and an ell at the right rear. There is a fine, short section of stone wall in front of the house. (1870- J. Crandall.)
23. Crandall-Waite House (1275 Crandall Road): A Federal era, or earlier, farmhouse, extensively and unusually remodeled in 1935 by the Hurley family. It has a square central section, with a wood-shingled, hip-on-hip roof with small, gabled dormers; a porch at the southeast corner; and a sizeable addition at the rear and the southwest corner. The house is set back from the road on a simply landscaped lot; a stone wall in front includes granite post entries for the walk and drive ways. It is possible that Stephen Crandall, who died in 1794 and who is buried in a nearby family cemetery, built this house. Later, the house was in the Waite family. Benjamin Waite, a late 19th century occupant, was a mate on a whaler. (1854- S. Crandall.)
24. David C. Waite House (c. 1885; 1315 Crandall Road): A 1½-story dwelling with varied shingle sides; an asymmetrical gable roof that overlaps a corner entrance; and an ell at the left rear. This unusual (for Tiverton) house, set back from the road, was the residence of David Waite in the late 19th century. (1895- David C. Waite.)
25. Thomas Waite House (Early-Mid-19th century): A small cottage set gable end to the road, with a small, brick, center chimney; a small, gabled, vestibule centered in the 3-bay facade; and a large ell at the right side. The house, set close to the road, is screened from view by a row of shrubs. It was the residence of Thomas Waite, who was probably a whaler. (1850- Thos. Waite.)
26. House (Mid-19th-century; 1413 Crandall Road): A wood-shingled, vernacular cottage with a central entry, with side lights, in a 5-bay facade; a dentil course at the roof cornice; and a 1-story, flat roofed wing at the rear. There is a wood-shingled outbuilding behind the house. (1870- J. F. Westgate?)
27. Philip Sanford House (c. 1840; 1423 Crandall Road): A Greek Revival cottage set gable end to the road, with an entry at the right side of the front; gable and shed roof dormers at the left side which break the cornice line; and a 2-stage ell at the left side, rear. A wood-shingled outbuilding stands at the rear of the property. (1850- J. Wait?)

28. Crandall Farm (c. 1800; 1443 Crandall Road): A 1½-story farmhouse, with a central, south-facing entry in a 5-bay facade; an open, flat-roofed porch across the east side; and an addition at the rear. There is a complex of outbuildings connected to the rear of the house, and farmland to the west and south. This property was in the Crandall family from about 1800, when the house was built, until 1966. There was once a mill behind the house, on Adamsville Brook; run by the Crandalls. The farm is still in active use today. (1850- Stephen Crandall.)
29. Reuben Hart Farm (Late 18th-Early 19th century, et seq.; 1513 Crandall Road): A farm complex centered around a 1½-story, wood-shingled, federal farmhouse, with a 1-story ell at the rear. The house has been renovated. There are several later outbuildings behind the house, which is sited far off the road on a private drive, across Adamsville Brook. The place was the residence of Reuben Hart and his son, Horatio, in the 19th century. During the prohibition era of the 1920s and 1930s, it was owned by a rum runner who stored his liquor here, and reportedly was the scene of a gun battle. (1850- R. Hart.)
30. I. Williston House (c. 1840; 1598 Crandall Road): A wood-shingled, Greek Revival cottage with a brick, center chimney; a central entrance in a 5-bay facade; and a 1-story ell at the right side, rear. The house was altered in 1982 by the installation of a large window in the right side. (1850- I. Williston.)
31. William G. Hart House (Late 18th-Early 19th century); 1613 Crandall Road): A large, L-plan, Federal farmhouse, changed over the years by several additions. It is set back from the road, screened by a row of rhododendrons. (1850- Wm. G. Hart.)
32. J. Waite House (c. 1840; 1724 Crandall Road): A Greek Revival cottage with a central entry in a 5-bay facade, and several alterations and additions, including an exterior brick chimney and a "telescoping" wing. A large, old, wood-shingled barn stands behind the house. (1850- J. Wait.)
33. Site of Borden's, Crandall's and Waite's Mills (behind 1724 Crandall Road): A stone and earth dam along Adamsville Brook holds back a small, shallow, largely filled-in pond. At the west end of the dam is a spillway, and parts of machinery from mills which operated here in the 19th and 20th centuries. The site and spillway just below the dam are heavily overgrown with vegetation. The Borden Mill, a grist mill, was built by Benajah Borden. Another mill, a saw mill, was built upstream at an early date; it was moved downstream, to this site, by Stephen Crandall, to be supplied by the same power which ran the Borden grist mill. Both mills, on the same mill lot, were acquired by Benjamin H. Waite, who also built a mill. The mills later owners included David W. Simmons and Philip J. Gray, in 1865; Philip J. Gray, alone in 1867; and Otis L. Simmons, in 1872. In 1888, it was owned by

the Wilbor family. The grist mill operated until at least 1920: (1831- Mills.)

34. B. Hart House (c. 1865; 1733 Crandall Road): A typical, but altered, Greek Revival cottage with a small, brick, center chimney; a central entry in a 5-bay facade; and a row of 5, small windows under the eaves. The house occupies a large, simply landscaped lot at the junction with East Road. Behind the house is a wood-shingled carriage house-barn. (1870- B. Hart.)
35. George Washington Carr House (c. 1880; 1902 Crandall Road): A large, 1½-story, wood-shingled house, with a small, brick, center chimney; a central entry, with a bracketed hood, in a 5-bay facade; a row of 5 small windows under the eaves; and a wing at the right side, rear. The neat, simply landscaped lot includes a row of 5 large trees across the front and a large, wood-shingled outbuilding complex north of the house. Reportedly built by George Washington Carr in 1880, the house was in the Carr family until 1954. (1895- Rodman Carr Est.)
- \* 36. Barker House (c. 1700 et seq.; 1975 Crandall Road): A long, 1½-story, wood-shingled dwelling with 2, brick, interior chimneys and an extended south-facing, asymmetrical facade, with an entry toward the left side. There is a full basement at the east (road) side, as the house is built into a small hill. The dwelling occupies a fine site on a large lot that includes a wood-shingled garage; a small, wood-shingled outbuilding (corncrib?); and stone foundations. Originally in the Barker family, it went to the Simmons family through marriage, and has remained in that family to this day. Otis L. Simmons, who lived here at the end of the 19th century, was a whaler for 13 years. (1850- Giles Barker.)
37. Site of Brownell's Mills (Off Crandall Road): Along a tributary of Adamsville Brook, several hundred feet east of Crandall Road, in the extreme southeast corner of town, is the site of Brownell's Mills. Buildings here included the mill, a house, and outbuildings. Now overgrown, and accessible only on foot, the dam and stone work remains at the south end of a small, shallow, largely filled-in pond, are relatively well preserved. Nearby, to the west, is an old road, with two large, granite posts, and a relatively large, well preserved, barn foundation. Christopher Brownell (1798-1885), began his active life as manager of a grist and saw mill at nearby Adamsville, then moved to the farm of Stephen Crandall (and married his daughter, Mary, in 1821). In connection with the farm, Christopher erected a carding mill. There is little documentation of this mill, but the 1850 United States Census recorded that Adamsville Carding was water powered, employed two males and two females, and used 8,000 pounds of wool to manufacture 7,000 rolls of yarn and laps. The 1895 map shows it as "Old Card Mill Ruins." (1850- Carding Mill; C. Brownell.)

## EAGLEVILLE ROAD

38. Pocasset Cedar Swamp/Site of the "Battle of Pocasset": (off Eagleville Road): A relatively large cedar swamp, lying between the Fall River line to the north; Sucker Brook to the east; Eagleville Road to the south; and Fish Road to the west. One of Tiverton's wild, unpenetrable, and uninhabited swampy tracts, the Pocasset Cedar Swamp was the site of an encounter between the colonists and Indians during King Philip's War in 1675. The engagement at Pocasset Swamp was the culmination of an 18 day conflict which began in the southern part of Tiverton. The Indians fought their way northward, and on July 18, 1675, ambushed the pursuing English force from the swamp. After falling back, the colonial troops readvanced into the swamp, but stopped their attack at nightfall. During the night, Philip and Weetamoe and the ablest warriors crossed the Taunton River and escaped into central Massachusetts, leaving behind some 100 wigwams and as many warriors who were made captives. Sixteen whites were killed and the Indians suffered heavy losses in what became known as the "Battle of Tiverton," or "The Swamp Fight," or "The Battle of Pocasset."
39. Eagleville Historic Area: Along Eagleville Road and Sucker Brook, at the southeast edge of the Pocasset Cedar Swamp, are the remains of a small, early 19th century mill community known as Eagleville. Only one structure, a large, stone, house still stands. Nearby, along Sucker Brook, is a large, long, stone and earth dam and the barely visible remains of two stone textile mills. A small, now overgrown quarry, at the east end of the dam, was probably the source of stone for the dam, mills, and houses here. This part of Tiverton was included in the Pocasset Great Lots. Silas Cook purchased this lot and built a saw and grist mill in the early days of settlement. About 1827-28, the place was purchased by George Durfee and Asa Coggeshall, who took down the 2 mills and erected a cotton and a woolen factory, several houses, and a general store. Manufacturing flourished until 1861, when the woolen mill was destroyed by fire. Thereafter, the hamlet gradually diminished. In 1936, the cotton mill was still standing, but without roof, floor, or windows; it was torn down in the late 1960s. Today, only the large residence known as the Old Stone House survives. It is a 2½-story, stuccoed stone residence, with a large, brick chimney, and several small additions. It was built to accommodate five families when the cotton and woolen mill and the hamlet were established about 1828. The interior has been renovated, the greatest change being the removal of the original fireplaces. Just south of the house is an historical cemetery, very overgrown, with only one gravestone. (1850-Durfee Mill.)

## EAST ROAD

40. Former Grocery Store (1920s): A 1-story, frame structure, set close to the road, with a store entry at the right side and a pair of garage doors at the left side. The building, just outside the Tiverton Four Corners Historic District, built as a store by Charles White, was one of several serving different Tiverton neighborhoods. This one was rented out during the summers of the 1930s. Today, it is vacant.
41. Squire Chase Farm/East Knoll Farm (c. 1885 et seq.; 228 East Road): A large, 2½-story farmhouse, with a wood-shingle-sided, gabled, front part, and a mansard-roofed rear section; an outbuilding complex centered on a large, gambrel-roofed barn and a silo; and a large tract of open land north of the road, comprise East Knoll Farm. This active farm, with sheep, chickens, and other animals, includes stone walls along the road and the east side of the house lot. The ancient, Eight Rod Highway, now a woods path, traverses the eastern part of the farm. (1895- Squire M. Chase.)
42. Isaac Cook House (Late 18th-Early 19th century; 324 East Road): A typical, 1½-story, center chimney, 5-bay facade farmhouse, set close to the road. (1850- Isaac Cook.)
43. G. Gray House (c. 1845; 409 East Road): A small cottage set gable end to the road, with a small, brick, center chimney and a broad, bracketed cornice at the entry at the left side of the front. The large lot includes several sections of stone walls, a fine, wood-shingled barn, and other outbuildings. (1850- G. Gray.)
44. Hart House (c. 1845; 433 East Road): A wood-shingled, Greek Revival cottage with entry at the right side of the front and a 1½-story ell at the right rear corner. The large, simply landscaped lot contains several sections of stone walls. (1850- Mrs. Hart).
45. Justice Walter Cook House (1799; 440 East Road): An extended Federal cottage. Built as a typical, 5-bay center chimney house, this dwelling has a 3-bay section added to the left side, flush with the front. A side-lighted entry is also a later addition. The house, set back from the road on a private drive, and surrounded by stone walls, is noteworthy as the home of Justice Walter Cook (1768-1855), town clerk during the Revolutionary War. The house lot was part of a parcel allotted to John Cook of Portsmouth in the division of the Puncatest outlands. Direct descendants of John Cook held the property in an unbroken line to the eighth generation--until 1954. Walter, and his son Samuel, were marketmen and farmers as well as educators. Samuel kept a private school in his house here; he taught his son, John, who later graduated from the Bridgewater, Massachusetts, normal school in 1851. John taught school for more than 50 terms, and served as town clerk from 1883 to 1898. In 1982, the house was renovated by John Hagen, who also restored the nearby Capt. Abel Manchester House (#48). (1850- Sam<sup>l</sup>. Cook.)

46. Deacon Lake House (c. 1852; 593 East Road): A small cottage set gable end to the road, with a turned-post entrance porch and a 1-story bay window on the facade and a bracketed porch at the rear. There is a row of cedars and spruce along the driveway at the right side, stone walls, and several wood-shingled outbuildings at the rear of the lot. (1854- Deac. J. Lake's heirs.)
47. A. Sherman House (c. 1845; 644 East Road): A wood-shingled, Greek Revival cottage set gable end to the road, with entry at the right side of the front, and a shed dormer at the left side. A wood-shingled shed stands at the rear of the property. Probably built by a Sherman family member, it was later owned by a Manchester. (1850- A. Sherman.)
- \* 48. Captain Abel Manchester House (c. 1780; 733 East Road): A 2½-story, Federal-era dwelling with a large, brick, center chimney; a fine, central, pedimented, transom-lighted entry in a 5-bay facade; and a recent, 1-story ell at the rear. The house, at the intersection with South Lake Road, was reportedly built by Capt. Abel Manchester in 1780. In 1977, it was restored by John W. Hagen. (1850- A. Manchester.)
49. Stephen Cook Farm (Mid-19th century; 1029 East Road): A farm complex, centered on a vernacular cottage, sited close to the road. Also near the road and west of the house, is a wood-shingled barn with a full stone basement. Nearby are two other outbuildings. At the west is a small tract of farmland, divided into several pastures by large, fieldstone walls. This is one of Tiverton's smaller active farms. (1850- Stephen Cook.)

#### EAST JUDSON STREET

50. Holy Ghost Roman Catholic Church (c. 1913): A yellow brick-sheathed building set gable end to the street flanked by a square, squat tower on the right. A large, round, stained glass window is above the recessed, round-arched, double-door central entry, flanked by round-head, stained-glass windows. At the left side is a large, paved, parking lot. In 1913, this church was established as a mission of St. Anthony's in Portsmouth. Originally known as the Church of the Paraclete, the name was changed in 1920 to Church of the Holy Ghost. The church was built of wood, and later bricked over.
51. Lincoln School/Town of Tiverton Community and Social Service Center (1909): A 1-story, wood-shingled, frame structure with a hip roof; a large, brick, center chimney; a projecting central pavilion flanked by entry porches; and a 1-story, flat-roofed wing at each side. Lincoln School was built as a two-classroom school in 1909. A room at the front was the superintendent's office until 1936 when he moved to the Fort Barton School (#4-P). About 1975, the building ceased its use as a school and was converted to its present use.

#### EIGHT ROD HIGHWAY

52. The Eight Rod Highway: The Eight Rod Highway was laid out in the 18th century, running in a north-south direction through the center

of present Tiverton into today's Fall River. Today, part of the old road is a woods road (north of East Road), part is lost in the woods, and part has been incorporated into Fish Road in the northern part of town. In the southern part, north of East Road, it is lined, in most sections, by crudely-laid stone walls. There is an old, stone bridge carrying the road over a small brook, and a foundation along the east side of the road just south of where the road makes a sharp turn to the east. The road was originally the easternmost line of the original land purchases; the great lots extended from the Sakonnet to this highway. Its use as a highway may have been limited since the interior parts were sparsely populated and the Main Road was used at an early date. It was shown in its entirety on an 1854 map, with the present Fish Road labeled "Eight Rods Highway", but later maps show the road only by dashed lines.

53. Site of Borden's Brook Sawmill; Borden's Brook Sawmill today includes the remains of a mill dam, mill race, and mill foundations, constructed of large, irregularly shaped and sized granite blocks. A woods road near the mill site crosses the brook over a 12-foot wide stone arch bridge. The mill was reportedly run by John Gray in the late 19th century, and also run by Joseph Seabury. Nearby is a large granite outcrop called High Rock. (1854- Saw Mill; Borden's Brook.)

#### EVANS AVENUE

(See Stone Bridge Historic District, #4)

#### FISH ROAD

54. B. Hambly House (c. 1850; 362 Fish Road): A wood-shingled vernacular Greek Revival cottage with a small, brick, chimney; a central entry in a 5-bay facade; a row of 5, small, windows under the eaves; and an ell, with a vestibule at the right rear. The house is sited on a simply landscaped lot above the Pocasset Cedar Swamp to the east. (1854- B. Hambly.)

#### FOGLAND ROAD

(See Puncatest Neck Historic District, #3)

55. "Nautical Landscape" (192 Fogland Road): At the southeast corner where Fogland Road makes an abrupt turn to the south, is a large lot enclosed by a chain link fence, containing a mid-20th century house and a large number and variety of nautical and aviation items, including large buoys, anchors, large cleats or bollards, a small submarine, a light tower, airplane propeller, etc. Anthony Lima, the owner, worked for the Navy during World War II as a skilled mechanic and a dock builder. Later, he went into the sale of war surplus items, a business he carries on today.
56. High Hill: A rocky promontory along the Sakonnet River south of Fogland Point. Somewhere on the rock mass are what appear to be inscriptions, which have been a matter of interest for more than

two centuries, with some investigators attributing them to Norsemen, others to Native Americans. They were recorded in the late 18th century by Newport minister Dr. Ezra Stiles, who was one of the first to study the rock marks. Off High Hill there was a Revolutionary War incident. In July, 1778, several British ships, including the sloop-of-war, Kingfisher, were anchored above Fogland. When two French frigates entered the Sakonnet, the British planted explosives aboard the Kingfisher and set fire to their boats. The Kingfisher drifted to High Hill, and near the rock it blew up. The hull was hauled on shore; later, her guns and those of the two galleys that were also destroyed were recovered from the mud.

#### HIGHLAND ROAD

(See Stone Bridge Historic District, #4)

57. Howland House (c. 1845; 452 Highland Road): A fine and typical Greek Revival cottage with a small, brick, off-center chimney; a central entry in a 5-bay facade; a row of 5, small, windows under the eaves; and a 1½-story ell at the right rear. The well-preserved house is set on a simply landscaped lot. (1850-W. Howland.)
58. Daniel Church House (c. 1865; 526 Highland Road): A vernacular Greek Revival cottage set gable end to the road, with entry at the left side of the front; a shed dormer at the left side; and a wing at the rear. There are several outbuildings, including a mid-20th-century barn. Along the road is a stone wall and a privet hedge. North and east of the house are fields extending back to Sin and Flesh Brook and an old mill site. (1870- D. Church.)
59. A. Nickerson House (c. 1845; 536 Highland Road): A Greek Revival cottage with a small, brick, center chimney and a central entry in a 5-bay facade. (1850- A. Nickerson.)
60. A. C. Nickerson House (c. 1885; 634 Highland Road): A vernacular Queen Anne cottage with corner tower, wide porches, and fish-scale shingles. It sits gable end to, and above the road; overlooking The Gut, at a place once known as Sugar Loaf. There is a vertical-board sided carriage shed at the rear of the lot. (1895- A. C. Nickerson.)

#### INDIAN POINT ROAD

- \* 61. Nathaniel Briggs-Manchester-Beattie House (pre 1777; 68 Indian Point Road): A very large, wood-shingled, colonial farmhouse, with several large chimneys, 2 pedimented entries in today's front (east side), and a hip roof with small, hip-roofed dormers. The house today is surrounded by a mid-20th-century housing development. There is a large outbuilding, with a fieldstone foundation, at the rear of the lot, and a cemetery behind that. The south part of the house is the oldest. The northern service end was built to replace an earlier kitchen and slave quarters.

The property was first owned by Andrew Oliver, a Tory, whose property was confiscated during the Revolutionary War. Captain Nathaniel Briggs, who reportedly built the house, was a slave trader, and kept slaves here. In the 19th century, the place was owned by John Manchester (1790-1873), and his son, Andrew H., who was a state senator and a state representative. For much of the 20th century, it was in the Beattie family. (1850- John Manchester.)

#### JENNIFER LANE

(See Stone Bridge Historic District, #4)

#### KING ROAD

62. Former District Number 11 Schoolhouse (Mid-19th century et seq.; 195 King Road): A 1-story structure, set gable end to the road, with a central entry in the 3-bay facade, and a flat-roofed, 1-story addition at the left side. The building is set back from the road on a large lot at the corner of Cornell Road. The school, shown on this site from as early as 1850, was used as a 1-room, 8-grade school until 1931. (1850- School.)
63. Joseph King House (Early 19th century; 226 King Road): A wood-shingled cottage with a small, brick, center chimney and a central entry in the 5-bay facade. The house is screened from view by a stone wall covered with shrubs along the road. (1850- Jos. King.)
64. Isaac King House (Mid-19th century; 245 King Road): A wood-shingled, cottage with a small, brick, center chimney, and a central entry in a 5-bay facade. A large, wood-shingled outbuilding stands west of the house (1850- Isaac King.)
65. Manchester Farm (Mid-19th century; 329 King Road): A wood-shingled cottage with a small, brick, center chimney; a central entry in the 5-bay facade; and a 1-story ell at the right side. There is a large outbuilding complex at the rear, from which grain is sold. (1854- Gardner Manchester.)
65. Harriet King House (Mid-19th century; 330 King Road): A large, 1½-story house, with a pair of brick chimneys; a central entry, with a broad entablature, in a 5-bay facade; and a row of five, square windows under the eaves across the front. A 20th-century garage stands east of the house. (1870- Harriet King.)
67. B. Manchester House (Mid-19th century; 390 King Road): A cottage with patterned and plain shingles and clapboard siding; a central entry, with a small, bracketed hood, in a 5-bay facade; and a 1½-story ell at the left rear. (1850- B. Manchester.)

68. A. Williston House (Early 19th century; 401 King Road): A wood-shingled cottage with a stuccoed center chimney; a central entry, with a 4-light transom, in a 5-bay facade; and a 1-story, flat roofed addition at the rear. A large, gable and gambrel-roofed barn stands left of (west of) the house. (1854- A. Williston.)

#### LAKE ROAD

69. Historical Cemetery Number 11: A large burying ground, slightly overgrown with grass, bounded by a fine, dry laid stone wall. There is a wooden entry gate, about 10 feet wide, set in dressed, granite posts. There are many gravestones, including a large number of weathered, 18th-century slate markers, most of which are good examples of funerary art and craftsmanship. At the back of the cemetery is a separate plot for the Whitridge family, bounded by an iron fence. This cemetery was part of the original Amicable Congregational Church property. The Church building was located just north of the cemetery, near the present St. Madeleine's Church. In 1846, the congregation relocated to Main Road (see #5A). (1862- Cemetery.)
70. St. Madeleine's Roman Catholic Church (1926): A modest, long, rectangular, frame, clapboard-sided, church building, set gable end to the road, with a small, louvered belfry at the ridge near the front, and a small, gabled vestibule at the center of the gable end. The church building is surrounded by asphalt. To the right is the rectory (35 Lake Road), with an outbuilding behind it. The church occupies the site of the Manchester School (District No. 9), which was discontinued in 1925 when Nonquit School was opened.
71. Log Cabin (1970s; 110 Lake Road): A 1½-story log cabin, set back from the road, with a bay window at the left side and a piazza at the left end. On this landscaped lot is a circular driveway with a rustic, 2-rail fence, and a swimming pool behind the house. One of several modern log houses in town, this one is more elaborate than the rest; such dwellings came into vogue across the country in the 1970s, particularly in low-density suburban and rural locations.
72. G. Grinnell House (c. 1840; 354 Lake Road): A wood-shingled cottage with a small, brick, off-center chimney; a central entry in a 5-bay facade; and a 1-story ell at the left rear. There is a fieldstone wall with granite entry posts along the road, and a small, wood-shingled outbuilding behind the house. (1850- G. Grinnell.)
73. David Lake Farm (c. 1850; 455 Lake Road): A small farm along both sides of the road is centered on a small, 3-bay cottage near the road, with an outbuilding complex behind, east of the road. South of the complex is a rocky field, with several sections of stone wall, including one along the road. The fields extend across (west of) the road. (1854- David Lake.)

74. Charles Albert Farm (c. 1840; 867 Lake Road): A former farm along both sides of Lake Road near its north end. The farmhouse is a vernacular cottage with a small, brick, off-center chimney and central entry in a 5-bay facade; a row of 5, small, windows under the eaves common to Greek Revival houses in the area; and a Carpenter Gothic bracketed jig-saw-trim hood over the entrance. Several, wood-shingled outbuildings stand near the house, and several vertical and horizontal-board-sided outbuildings--chicken coops--are in the field west of the stone-wall-bounded road. (1850- Chas. Albert.)

#### LAWTON AVENUE

(See Stone Bridge Historic District, #4)

#### MAIN ROAD

75. Richard B. Durfee House (Mid-19th century; 179 Main Road): A vernacular, 2½-story, 5-bay facade dwelling with a central entrance and a hip-roofed veranda that wraps around the front and left sides. The house, on a grassy lot at the corner of Judson Street, is one of the earliest houses in the densely settled area contiguous to Fall River. (1850- Rich<sup>d</sup> Borden Durfee.)
- \* 76. Peleg Stafford House (18th century; 305 Main Road): A small cottage with a large, brick, center chimney; a central entry in a 5-bay facade; and a 1-story ell at the right rear. The house is sited on a small lot, near the road. (1850- P. Stafford.)
77. Temple Chapel/North Tiverton Baptist Church (1867 et seq.; 331 Main Road): A 1-story, frame church building, set gable end to the road, with a triple lancet window in the facade and a square tower at the right side, near the front. The entry is at the left front in a square, truncated tower. The building occupies a very small lot, near the road and other buildings. It was erected in 1867 and originally known as Benefit Hall. Reverend George W. Giles of the Baptist Temple in Fall River became interested in the hall and brought about its rededication as Temple Chapel in 1885. From 1891 until about 1916, the chapel had student pastors from Brown University. In 1916, the Baptist Temple of Fall River discontinued its aid and guidance, and the name was changed to the North Tiverton Baptist Church. (1870- Ch. [shown on the east side of the road] .)
78. J. Russell Hicks House (Late 18th-Early 19th-century; 433 Main Road): A 2½-story, Federal house, with a large, brick, center chimney, and a central entry, with a projecting dentil-work cornice in a 5-bay facade. There is a fine, granite block wall along the north side of the lot, and stone walls along the south side of the house lot and along the road north and south of the house lot. (1850- J. Russell Hicks.)

79. The Joseph Hicks House/ The Brick House (1788/1893; 492 Main Road): A 2-story, Federal farmhouse, with 4, stuccoed, brick, interior end chimneys; a central entry in a 5-bay facade; a turned-post porch across the right side of the facade; a bracketed bay window at the left side; and an addition at the rear. The house, set back from the road on a slight rise, originally had two brick sides, which gave it the name "The Brick House." Joseph Hicks began construction in 1788, but died before it was completed. It was unoccupied for many years and gave forth strange noises, giving it the name "The Haunted House." In 1893, J. Russell Hicks made extensive renovations--he covered the two end walls of brick with clapboard, stuccoed the chimneys, added the bay windows and piazza in front, and the large ell at the rear. The house has remained in the Hicks family to the present. (1850- J. Russell Hicks.)

80. J. Russell Hicks House (Late 18th-Early 19th-century; 544 Main Road): A 2½-story, stuccoed stone, Federal house, set gable end to the road, with a pair of stuccoed, brick, end interior chimneys and a small addition at the front. Originally a farmhouse, it was once owned by the Bourne Mill owners, who used the barn behind the house for horses. In about 1945, the barn was moved and is now a residence (#540 Main Road.) (1850- J. Russell Hicks.)

81. Hambly Farm (c. 1845; 685 Main Road): The Hambly Farm, an active business today, is centered on a typical Greek Revival cottage with a small, brick, center chimney; a central entry in a 5-bay facade; 5, small windows under the eaves in front; and a 1½-story ell at the left side. The front yard, behind a stone wall, is thickly planted with fruit trees and shrubs. Behind the house are several, wood-shingled outbuildings; pastures surround the farm complex. (1850- P. Hamblin.)

82. Edward Bennett House/James Otis Hambly Homestead (1822; 1137 Main Road): A Federal cottage with a large, brick, center chimney; a central entry in a 3-bay facade; and a shed roof dormer on an addition at the rear. The small lot, behind a stone wall, includes a barn. The house was built by Edward Bennett, then went through several owners until 1867, when it was acquired by James Otis Hambly. Several generations of the Hambly family lived here until the mid-20th century. (1850- P. Dunbar.)

\* 83. Osborne House (Mid-19th Century): A "Bracketed cottage with verandah" in the picturesque mode reminiscent of A. J. Downing, with a cross-gable roof, paired end chimneys, a 5-bay facade, and a turned-post porch across the facade. The house occupies a fine site on a small rise with a view to the west, toward Mount Hope Bay. It was in the Osborne family for many generations, beginning in the mid-19th century. The remains of a barn lie to the right side of the house, which has been unoccupied for many years. (1850- J. Osborne.)

- \* 84. Thomas Osborne Homestead (Late 18th century; 1168 Main Road): A 2½-story dwelling, with a large, brick, center chimney; a central entry, with transom lights, in a 5-bay facade; a 2-story, flat-roofed bay window at the right side; and a 2-and-1-story addition at the left rear. A barn stands behind the house, and an Osborne cemetery is farther back. This place was part of the homestead farm of Thomas Osborne (1766-1833), a ship cooper. It remained in the Osborne family until the mid-20th century. (1850- Thos. Osborne.)
85. Judge Joseph Osborne House (Mid-19th century; 1188 Main Road): A 2½-story dwelling set gable end to the road, with a 3-bay facade, entrance at the left with sidelights, and a wide prominent, turned-post porch with elaborate brackets across the facade. The house occupies a simply landscaped lot behind a stone wall in front. Originally part of the estate of Thomas Osborne, it was the homestead farm of Judge Joseph Osborne, and remained in the Osborne family until the mid-20th century. (1854- Joseph Osborne.)
86. Quonset Hut (1299 Main Road): A quonset hut, set gable end to the road, with a false, stepped, wood-shingled front. This structure, a type made popular during World War II, is found throughout Rhode Island today. It is one of several in Tiverton.
- (See Stone Bridge Historic District, #4, for 1392 Main Road to beyond 2012 Main Road, and Bridgeport Historic District, #1, for 2139 Main Road).
87. Nannaquaket Bridge, Number 284; (1935): A small bridge, with a cement parapet and granite block abutments, carries Main Road over the passage between The Gut and Nannaquaket Pond. The bridge, and a granite-block causeway, were constructed in association with a new highway project in the 1930s.
88. Lewis House (c. 1865; 2354 Main Road): A vernacular cottage with a pair of small, brick, interior chimneys; a central entry, with side lights, in a 5-bay facade; and a wing at the right side, rear. (1870- Lewis.)
89. Wanton Durfee House (18th century; 2398 Main Road): A 2½-story, wood-shingled, farmhouse, with a large, stuccoed, brick, center chimney; a central entry in a 5-bay facade; and a 1-story ell at the right side, rear. (1850- Wanton Durfee.)
90. Sawmill: Along the east side of the road, just south of 2398 Main Road, is a portable, gasoline-powered saw mill--a 1-story, frame building, open to the south. It is one of many portable sawmills of this type which came into common use in New England during the early 20th century and replaced the earlier, water-powered mills.

- \* 91. Colonel David Durfee House/Manchester's Home (1826; 2698 Main Road): A 2½-story, Federal farmhouse, with a large, brick, center chimney; 2, small, gabled, colonial revival dormers in front; a fine, central entry, traceried transom light (very similar to another Durfee house #93), and additions to the sides and the rear. A granite-post-and-iron fence stands at the front and part of the right (south) side. There are also a wood-shingled building and a 1-bay garage on the property. The main house was built in 1826 by Colonel David Durfee, who represented Tiverton in the General Assembly. In the mid-20th century, it became a rest home, and in 1982 was purchased by the State of Rhode Island for use as a group home. (1850- Col. David Durfee.)
92. Joseph Barton House/Sunderland's Restaurant (c. 1880; 2753 Main Road): A much altered and enlarged, 1½-story, mansard-roof cottage. Built as a residence in about 1880, it was converted to restaurant use in 1948 and remains a popular local eating place. (1895- Jos. Barton.)
- \* 93. William Durfee Farm (Late 17th century, 1768; 2794 Main Road): This is a fine, well-preserved complex, with a handsome house, stone outbuildings, stone walls, and gardens dating from the 17th and 18th centuries. The farm is centered on a 2½-story, 5-bay facade house, with a large, brick, center chimney; a fine, central entry, with transom light and console; and a long, 1½-story ell at the right side, rear. Thomas Durfee, of Portsmouth, R.I., gave his son, William, a tract of wilderness here between 1690 and 1698 as a wedding present. William, who was engaged in the East India trade, sailing out of Newport, cleared the land, erected a dwelling, enclosed a garden, set out apple trees, and built a stone cookhouse and other stone buildings for negro slaves. Mrs. Durfee grew flax, tried new recipes for rose conserve and lettuce cosmetics, and planted mulberry trees and raised silkworms. Reportedly, the Durfee farm was known as "The Egypt of Tiverton" by early settlers because it was "the land of corn". William's son, David (1700-1798), cleared more land, tore down his birthplace, and erected the present house on the old foundation in 1768. During the Revolution, he contributed food, fodder, and firewood to colonial troops, who fortified the hill north of the garden. The garden is extensively described in Gardens of Colony and State, written in 1931. (1850- Col. Jos. Durfee.)
94. Job Gray House (18th century; 2390 Main Road): A small cottage located close to the road, with a medium-sized brick chimney near the left end and additions at the rear. The house was originally 3 bays wide, but the door at the left side was removed and/or covered over. It is a rare extant example of a half house, a type common to 18th century Rhode Island. (1850- Job Gray.)
95. Abraham Brown House/Lafayette House (1765, 1812; 3118 Main Road): A long, 2½-story residence, with 2, brick, interior chimneys; an asymmetrical, 6-bay facade, with a small doorway right of center;

and two entries at the rear. Behind the house are several fine outbuildings--a 4-bay carriage barn; a small shed; and a large, 3-part barn, with a stone sided middle section. Nearby is an old barn foundation. An ell, built in 1735 by Abraham Brown, which stood east of the main house, and demolished in the 1940s, was the original building. The northern (left) part was built in 1765, and Isaac, Abraham's son, built the south portion of the house in 1812. Later, a piazza was added across the front and left side; it was damaged during the 1938 hurricane and subsequently removed. In the late 19th century, the place was purchased by Edward Meeson, a calico printer who had his business in Fall River. In about 1928, the Vincent Roses purchased the place; it is still the residence of Mrs. Rose. General Lafayette lived here during his stay in Tiverton in 1778, and the house is commonly known as the Lafayette House. (1850- A. Brown.)

96. Isaac Brown House (1870s; 3152 Main Road): A highly picturesque, 2½-story, L-plan, Bracketed house with a 3-bay facade and a large, turned-post and jig-saw trim veranda across the facade and part of the south side. The property, at the junction with Lafayette Road, includes a late-19th-century carriage house. Isaac Brown, the son of Adoniram, and grandson of Isaac (see #95), born in 1839, probably built this house. He served in the Civil War, fished for menhaden, and in 1874 became a partner of William J. Brightman; their company manufactured fish oil and guano. (1895- Isaac Brown.)
97. Samuel West Farm (1803, 1870s; 3198 Main Road): A large 2½-story house with a jerkin-head gable roof, a 3-bay facade with a central entrance and prominent central "sunbonnet" gable in the attic, a flat-roofed veranda across the front, and an ell at the rear. A farm complex south of the house includes a small, stone house, a vertical-board-sided barn, and a long, 1-story, cinder block barn. Fields lie to the west. Near the road south of the house is the site of the original Samuel West House, removed in about 1976. The first Samuel West, born in 1729-30 was a graduate of Harvard College. He entered the ministry and had a Unitarian congregation in New Bedford, his birthplace. In 1803, he retired from the ministry, and died in 1807 at the home of his son, Samuel 2, in Tiverton. Samuel 2, a physician, married Mary Whitridge, daughter of another prominent physician. Samuel West 3 (1806-79) graduated from Brown University, and from Harvard Medical School in 1831. He began practice in New Bedford, but moved to Tiverton at the death of his father. Late in life, he married Mary Durfee, daughter and sister of chief justices of the Rhode Island Supreme Court. Samuel 3 probably built this house in the 1870s. His brother, John, who died in 1895, was the last member of the West family. The original West farm included a large tract of farmland along both sides of the road. Most of the farm was sold to Samuel Hathaway, who came here from Illinois to run the farm in the late nineteenth century. (1895- Mrs. Saml. Wests.)

98. William Hathaway Farm/Lightning H. Ranch (1918, 1959-1964; 3181 Main Road): A 65-acre farm complex, with a modest wood-shingled house along the road, and outbuildings, including a large, wood-shingled, cross-gambrel-roof barn and smaller, wood-shingled structures near Seapowet Road. The house was built in 1918; the farm buildings between 1959 and 1964 to replace earlier buildings. A dairy operation until a few years ago, the farm now raises stock for dairy replacement. This farm was once part of the extensive Samuel West holdings. Samuel Hathaway came here from Illinois in the late 19th century to run the farm for Dr. West, and subsequently acquired most of the farmland, and two buildings.
99. Henry Schlegel House (c. 1865; 3447 Main Road): An altered Greek Revival cottage with a central vestibule in a 5-bay facade; a row of 5, small windows under the eaves; and a 1½-story ell at the right rear. Henry Schlegel, born in Germany in 1834, came to Tiverton in 1860; he purchased this house from William Gifford in 1866. (1895- Henry Schlegel.)
100. Town Asylum (18th century; 2534 Main Road): A large, 2½ story, wood-shingled dwelling with 2, large, brick, interior chimneys; a central entry in a 5-bay facade; and a large ell at a right angle at the rear. Recent, unsympathetic additions at the front include a crudely-constructed entrance porch and a metal fire-escape ladder. There are several wood-shingled outbuildings behind the house. In front, is an overgrown lot; at the north side are town recreation fields. The idea for a town farm for paupers was presented at an 1830 town meeting, and in 1831 the town bought 60 acres of land and buildings from Edward Gray, as well as land from Humphrey and Patience Gray and from the homestead farm of John Gray. The building was used as a town asylum until 1955; when it became a private rest home, until 1982. It is now vacant. (1850- Asylum.)
101. Edward Gray House (Early 19th century): A 2½-story, wood-shingled, 5-bay facade house with a small, brick, center chimney and a central, Greek Revival entry probably later than the house. There is a modern garage attached at the right side. (1850- Edward Gray.)
102. Captain Eli A. Hammond House (c. 1880; 3617 Main Road): A large, 2½-story, cross-gabled, Bracketed house, with a large cupola at the top and a flat, 1-story veranda (with recent iron supports) across the front. A wood-shingled outbuilding complex stands north of the house. Eli A. Hammond, born in 1854 in Westport, Massachusetts, began his seafaring career, swordfishing and harpooning at age 16; by age 18, he was captain of a vessel. Eli Hammond was captain and owner of the schooner, North Star, when he was killed by a fall from the mast to the deck of his vessel in 1887. (1895- Marietta C. Hammond.)

103. Captain Robert Gray House (18th century; 3622 Main Road): A modest, 2½-story farmhouse, with a simple, central entry in a 5-bay facade. The original chimney and the older, multi-paned windows, have been replaced. There are fine, dry laid, stone walls at the front and part of the side lot. Behind the house is a cluster of four, wood-shingled outbuildings. According to an American Institute of Architects survey, conducted in 1956, the "house is less distinguished than its builder", Captain Robert Gray (1755-1806). Gray was commander of the Columbia, a trading ship, which in 1792 was the first American vessel to enter the great river of the Pacific Northwest. The ship gave the river its name, and helped to establish the United States' claim to the Oregon country. In 1794, Gray married in Boston and made his home there. He died in Charleston, South Carolina in 1806. (1850- Wm. Gray.)
104. Christopher White House (c. 1855; 3650 Main Road): A 1½-story, Greek Revival residence, with a central entry in a 5-bay facade; a row of 5 small windows under the eaves; and a 1-story ell at the right side, rear. Changes to the original house have been removal of the chimney and window replacement. At the rear of the neat, simply landscaped lot, are a fine, wood-shingled barn and several other outbuildings. In 1895, the property was owned by Phillip H. Schlegel, son of Henry (see #99). (1870- C. White.)
105. Christopher White House (Late 18th century; 3658 Main Road): A 2½-story, wood-shingled farmhouse, with two connected sections: The older, front part, (its sides now deteriorating), has 2, large, end interior chimneys and a central, Greek Revival type entry in a 5-bay facade. The house is set back from the road about 300 feet. It sits on a small tract of picturesque farmland, with rolling fields, stone walls, and a small pond, to the south. (1854 Christopher White.)
106. Manchester-Wordell Homestead/Rocky Knoll (Late 18th century; 3709 Main Road): A large, 2½-story, 5-bay facade, Federal farmhouse, with a large, brick, center chimney, and several later alterations. The grounds include animal statuary, grape arbors, and several small outbuildings. Along the road south of the house is a quonset hut, used as headquarters of the Tiverton Democratic party in the mid 20th century. The main road originally ran west of the house; a 1920s highway relocation put a new section of road east of the house. The house was probably built by the Manchester family. In 1805, Godfrey Manchester (who may have lived here) gave a half acre lot for a new meeting house, which became the site of the Amicable Congregational Church across the road. Job Wordell (born 1820) was the most interesting occupant of the house. He worked for Dr. Samuel West, was a farmer, mined in the California gold fields for four years, and was keeper of the town asylum before purchasing this farm about

1858. The property was handed down in the Wordell family, until James, who inherited the house from his father, disappeared in 1939. (1850- W. Manchester.)

107. Historical Cemetery Number 6: (18th century et seq.): A large burying ground, set behind stone walls and a row of cedars, across from the Amicable Congregational Church, containing many graves, including those of old families in the area. A few good examples of 18th century funerary art exist, but, most burials were in the 19th century.

(See Tiverton Four Corners Historic District #5 for properties between the Amicable Congregational Church to Number 3988 Main Road.)

108. Captain Phillip Cory House (c. 1770; 4089 Main Road): A 2½-story, wood-shingled structure, set gable end to the road, with a 3-bay facade, 2, large, brick, interior chimneys; a recessed, Greek Revival type entry, with transom and side lights; and a 2-story addition at the rear. The house, which occupies a neat, simply landscaped lot, behind dry-laid fieldstone walls, was built by Captain Phillip Cory, 2nd, a captain in the Rhode Island militia. It remained in the Cory family throughout the 19th century, then was owned by members of the Hambly and Douglas families. (1850- Job Cory.)

\* 109. Cory-Hicks-Borden-Gardner-Stevens House (pre 1750, 1856, 4100 Main Road): A large, T-plan, 2½-story house, comprised of two sections. The older part, at the rear, faces south and was probably built before 1750 by Phillip Cory. It has a 4-bay facade with a fine, pedimented entry, with fluted pilasters and a transom light. The front section was built in 1856, when the old house was moved back from the road and this section put on the old foundation. It has a large, fieldstone, exterior chimney at the right side, and a fine, recessed, corner porch with elaborate carpenterwork brackets and balustrades. The lot is simply and neatly landscaped behind stone walls along the road with granite posts at the drive and walkways. There are three, fine outbuildings. Close to the house (and moved here from a nearby location) is a rectangular, wood-shingled outbuilding. A 3-bay, stone garage, built in the 1930s, is behind the house. North of the house is a large, wood-shingled, carriage house, with a slate roof and a stone, end chimney; a section attached to the west side of the carriage house was originally a wing on the old house. The house and its immediate property, purchased before 1738 by Thomas Cory, of Tiverton and descended through the Hicks, Borden, Gardner, and Stevens, families to the present owners. (1850- Thos. H. Borden.)

\* 110. Edward Cook House (Early 19th century; 4340 Main Road): A 2-story, hip-roofed, Federal farmhouse, with 2, large, brick, interior chimneys; a pedimented central entry, with flat pilasters and a

5-light transom; and an ell at the rear. There is a 3-bay garage nearby, and, north of the house, two deteriorated wood-shingled outbuildings; the one along the road was a roadside stand in the 1920s. The house is sited on a slight rise overlooking fields across the road. There is a family cemetery east of the house. The house, probably built by Edward Cook (1805-1905), was later purchased by Edward's nephew, Charles Cook (born 1815). Charles operated 4 or 5 boats in the menhaden business for 25 years; he later built an oil works north of White's Wharf (see #3-V), and in 1888, he owned a fishing steamer in the pursuing and trapping business. In the twentieth century, this rare tiverton house was neglected, but has recently been restored to its former fine appearance. (1850- Edward C. Cook.)

- \* 111. G. Cook Farm (Early 19th century; 4375 Main Road): An active south Tiverton farm along both sides of the road, centered on a 2½-story, wood-shingled, vernacular farmhouse, and a wood-shingled outbuilding complex near the house. The house, outbuildings, and the stone walls bounding sloping fields east of the road, and fields west of the road, extending to Nonquit Pond, constitute one of the finest rural landscapes in Tiverton. (1850- G. Cook.)
- \* 112. White Homestead (Late 18th century; 4398 Main Road): A 2½-story, Federal farmhouse, with a large, brick, center chimney; a central entry in a 5-bay facade; and an ell at the right rear. Later changes to the house include an "unrefined", bracketed, entry hood and 2-over-2-pane windows. There is a wood-shingled shed nearby. The house, set back from the road on a large lot, was built by a whaling captain who sailed out of New Bedford. One of four old houses in the area built by members of the White family, this one was occupied by nine generations of the White-Hart family. (1850- S. White.)
- 113. Cook House (mid-18th century; 4482 Main Road): A large 2½-story, gambrel-roofed, wood-shingled, Colonial farmhouse, heavily altered from its original appearance by replacement of the chimney (now a small, brick, off-center chimney) and addition of an enclosed, hip-roofed porch across the front, above which is a polygonal bay window. The house, which occupies a large, grassy lot, with 20th-century outbuildings behind, at the corner of Brookside Drive, was in the Cook and Wilcox families until the 20th century. (1850- Isaac Cook.)
- 114. D. Seabury House (Mid-19th century; 4502 Main Road): A modest Greek Revival cottage with 2, small, brick chimneys; a recessed corner porch at the right side of the front; a 1-story bay window at the right side; and an addition at the rear. There are several, fine, wood-shingled outbuildings at the back of the neat, simply landscaped lot, which includes good, fieldstone walls. Overall, the house and outbuildings comprise a fine farm complex. (1850- Day Seabury.)

#### MIDDLE AVENUE

(See Stone Bridge Historic District, #4).

#### NANNAQUAKET ROAD

(See Nannaquaket Neck Historic District, #2).

#### NARROW AVENUE

115. Cory Shaw Farm: (Mid-19th century; 140 Narrow Avenue): A farm along both sides of Narrow Avenue, extending west to Crandall Road, centered on a small, altered, vernacular, wood-shingled, farmhouse and a group of wood-shingle, tar-paper, and board-sided outbuildings north of the road. There are some sections of stone wall, and some of wire fence, which enclose cattle, pigs, and horses. (1850- Cory Shaw.)

#### NECK ROAD

116. Nonquit School (1925; 117 Neck Road): A 1½ story, wood shingled, schoolhouse, set gable end to the road, with a central, flat-roofed, entrance porch with double columns, and a brick addition at the rear. The school, sited at the north end of Nonquit Pond, was opened January 5, 1925; the addition was completed in about 1956. While excavating for the addition, many shells and 14 skeletons were found, indicating that this was the site of an Indian burial ground and possibly a settlement.
- \* 117 Samuel Wilcox House/The Brick Front (Late 18th century; 200 Neck Road): A wood-shingled, Federal cottage with a large, brick, center chimney and a full basement in front, faced with brick. There are several outbuildings behind the house, including a large barn with a cupola. The house, built into a hill near the north end of Nonquit Pond, occupies a large lot. From 1818 to 1823, it was occupied by Ebenezer Coleman, pastor of the Amicable Congregational Church. In 1825, it was purchased by Joseph Wilcox for the use of his parents. It was known as The Brick Front because of the use of brick in the front end. (1850- Benj. Willcox.)

(See Puncateest Neck Historic District #3) for 425 through 933 Neck Road

#### NONQUIT LANE

118. "Hi Ona Windi Hill"/John Hagerty House (c. 1979; 64 Nonquit Lane): A 2½-story house reminiscent of 17th century examples, with a steep-pitched, wood-shingled roof; a stone, end interior chimney at the left side; and a simply framed entry at the left side of a 3-bay facade. The pine roof, clapboards, and floorboards came from Vermont; the frame is of native oak. This post-and-beam construction, passive solar, energy efficient house was built by

Sakonnet Housesmiths of Newport, Rhode Island, who built many other colonial style dwellings in Newport County, including a small housing tract on Peaceful Way (#123), south of Tiverton Four Corners.

#### NORTH BRAYTON ROAD

119. Tiverton Fire Tower (Early 20th century): A steel frame, 5-stage structure, with an enclosed observation tower, at the top. Sited in a small patch of woods behind Tiverton High School, it is typical of other fire lookout towers erected in Rhode Island in the early 20th century.
120. Tiverton High School (1966; 100 North Brayton Road): A 1-story, flat-roofed, sprawling public secondary school building, with a large, gymnasium-auditorium section at the north side. It occupies a large lot that includes several areas of asphalt parking lots, and a large athletic field to the north. Designed by Fenton G. Keyes Associates, the school was dedicated in October, 1966.

#### OLD BULGARMARSH ROAD

121. William Negus House (c. 1865; 2 Old Bulgarmarsh Road): A 1½-story house, set gable end to the road, with a small, brick, center chimney; entry at the left side of the front; and a wing attached at the rear. The house is built into a slight hill, allowing for a full basement at the left (west) side. William H. Negus, who lived here, and perhaps built the house, was a stonemason, and spent 15 seasons in the trap and seine fisheries. (1870- W. Negus.)

#### OLD STONE CHURCH ROAD

- \* 122. The Old Stone Church/First Baptist Church and Parsonage (1841 and 1884; 5 Old Stone Church Road): A simple, stuccoed stone meeting house, set gable end to the road, with a low, squat tower and a 1-story addition at the rear. The plain facade has a pair of entrances, and 3 tall windows are at each side. Behind the church is the Parsonage (1884), a plain, 2½-story structure with a flat-roofed, bracketed hood entry. Organized as a Six-Principle Baptist Society in 1680, the church has served residents of Dartmouth, Tiverton, and Little Compton. The first church building was erected in 1752, and the first parsonage which stood north of the church, was built in 1755. In 1835, the society became Free Will Baptist. They erected the present church in 1841 and a new parsonage in 1884. (1850- Bapt. Ch.)

#### PEACEFUL WAY

123. Peaceful Meadows (1975 et seq.): Along Peaceful Way, a private drive off Main Road south of Tiverton Four Corners, extending down to Nonquit Pond, are 8 large houses, set on ample lots,

built in various colonial-era-inspired styles. Three houses on the south side of the plat were built by Sakonnet Housesmiths, of Newport, between 1977 and 1979.

#### PENNY POND ROAD

- \* 124. The Stone House (1919; 43 Penny Pond Road): A stone house, built in 1919 as a vacation retreat, in the style of an English manor house. It has a clay tile roof; solid lead drainpipes; vertical, multi-paned windows; and a recent shed dormer addition at the northwest side. The house is sited on a hill above the Sakonnet, now overlooking a 1970s housing tract--Winnisimet Estates--to the west. The house was designed by Parker Hooper for Hamilton Beattie, who was in the stone quarry business. The stone for the house was taken from broken down stone walls on the property. Hamilton Beattie owned the nearby Briggs-Manchester House (see #61), and built this as a summer retreat. Later, the house was rented, then it had several owners before the present owners, who made an addition above the kitchen. The Stone House is unique for Tiverton--one of a handful of 20th-century estates--and a fine example of romantic/associational revivalism common to high-style houses of this period. Nearby (at 55 Penny Pond Lane), is the former herdsman's house, a 1-story, stone structure, originally with 2 bedrooms, a kitchen, and a living room; the 1-story frame, kitchen ell at the north side was added later.

#### PUNCATEST NECK ROAD

(See Neck Road and Puncatest Neck Historic District, #3)

#### QUINTAL DRIVE

125. Tiverton Middle School (1976; 10 Quintal Drive): A 2-story, brick, contemporary school, with 3, large, rectangular block sections protruding from the main body of the building. A typical 1970s public school, it was designed by Edward P. Downing Associates, and dedicated in October, 1976.

#### RIVERSIDE DRIVE

(See Tiverton Historic District, #4).

#### SAKONNET RIVER

(See Stone Bridge Historic District, #4).

#### SAPOWET ROAD

126. Captain Henry F. King House/Emilie Reucker Wildlife Refuge: (c. 1848; 137 Sapowet Road): The Emilie Reucker Wildlife Refuge, of the Audubon Society of Rhode Island, is a 36 acre parcel between Sapowet Road and the Sakonnet, including a c. 1848 house, a barn, and upland and saltmarsh. Near the road is the farmhouse, a fine

and typical Greek Revival cottage with 2, small, brick interior chimneys; a central entry in a 5-bay facade; a row of 5, small windows under the eaves; and a 2-story addition at a right angle at the rear. The house occupies a small, simply landscaped lot; the barn is near the house. This property, part of the 28th Great Lot of the Pocasset Purchase, was originally owned by Christopher Almy of Portsmouth, then went to the Brown family. In 1847, Captain Henry F. King purchased 30 acres and probably built the house immediately after. Captain King was a whaling captain, and also farmed his land. His general farm, in 1850, was typical of many other Rhode Island farms. It included less than a dozen animals, a variety of grain and vegetable crops, and some dairy products. Henry King died in 1909. In 1913, the property was purchased by Otto and Sophie Ruecker. Reucker was a watch maker from Newport; he closed his store after buying this house and continued his work here. The Reuckers eventually stopped farming, then encouraged the return of natural vegetation. In 1965, their daughter, Emilie donated the land and buildings to the Audubon Society of Rhode Island, who now maintain it as a wildlife refuge. (1850- H. F. King.)

127. Jack's Island: Once an island, but now connected to the mainland, this is a small, hilly peninsula along the Sakonnet. The "island" contains one or two summer cottages, and a cannon, in a parklike setting. The place was purchased by the present owner's father, Jack Sanford. The Sanfords started a business here, renting skiffs and picnic spaces, and selling refreshments. There is currently no business done here, but a cannon used in France and a World War II tank are still on the grounds.
128. Dr. John McKenzie's Cottage (c. 1890; 302 Sapowet Road): A wood-shingled cottage with a small, brick, center chimney and a piazza that wraps around the front and both sides (the north side is screened in), with some carpenter-work trim at the cornice. The house, sited slightly above the road, with a view of the Sakonnet to the west, is possibly the first summer cottage built in this part of town. (1895- Dr. Jno. McKenzie's Cott'g.)
- \* 129 Thomas Gray-Durfee House (18th century; 432 Sapowet Road): A 2½-story, wood-shingled dwelling, with a large, stuccoed, off-center chimney; an off-center entry, with pilasters and a broad entablature, in a 4-bay facade; and a 1-story ell at the rear. The house, which enjoys a view of the Sakonnet River across the road, occupies a small, simply landscaped lot, with stone walls, and a small garden. There are fields behind the house. Originally the residence of Thomas and Innocent Gray, the house went to Joseph Durfee sometime before 1833, then to Joseph's son, Gideon, who remodeled the interior and exterior. It is still in the Durfee family today. (1850- Wm. Henry Durfee.)

130. Mid-20th Century Trailers: A pair of old trailers near the bridge on Sapowet Road. The oldest trailer, near the road, is a Richardson trailer, perhaps 40-50 years old. In August, 1982, a mural, or water scene, was painted on the east (road) side by Arthur Prevost, who leases the property. Prevost also began preparing the other side of the trailer for a scene, which should be completed in 1983. Behind this trailer is an airstream type, manufactured by Spartan Aircraft of Tulsa, Oklahoma. This trailer, brought here about 35 years ago by Arthur's father, has a variety of objects, such as flags, furniture, grills, etc., on the patio and the lawn. There are several other trailers nearby. Arthur Prevost, once a grocer in North Tiverton, and active in town politics, now winters in Florida.
- \* 131. Almy Farm (18th century): A farm complex sited along the Sakonnet, with an 18th-century farmhouse; a large, wood-shingled barn complex; a cinderblock outbuilding; and a large tract of open farmland along both sides of the road. There are fine, dry-laid fieldstone walls, particularly around the house and farm complex. An Almy cemetery is west of the house. The house has 2, medium sized, brick, interior chimneys, near the building's center; a simple entry, near the center, in an asymmetrical, 5-bay facade; and a 1-story ell at the left side. The farm was owned by the Almys for most of the 19th century. (1850- Mrs. Almy.)

#### SHOVE STREET

132. Shove Mill Number 2 (1880 et seq.): A 1-story, stone-and-cinderblock building east of Shove Street, with many multi-paned windows. The Shove Mills Stock Company was incorporated under Massachusetts law in 1872; the first mill was erected just within the Fall River boundary in 1874 and named for its first president, Charles O. Shove. In 1880, Mill Number 2 was built in Tiverton. A 3-story granite mill, 194 by 75 feet, it had 22,208 spindles and 125 employees in 1888. This mill did the spinning and carding for the 500 looms of Number 1 Mill. By 1936, the mill had closed; some time later, the second floor was removed and additions made to the structure. (1895- Shove Mills.)
- \* 133. Bourne Mills (1881-82 et seq.; 1 Shove Street): The Bourne Mills, at the south end of Cook Pond, near the Shove Mill Number 2 is a complex of five major buildings. The main building (1881-82) is a typical Fall River Mill, a 5-story, coursed ashlar-sided, 320 by 84 foot building with an imposing, mansard-roofed central tower. A 4-story, coursed ashlar, flat-roofed, 101 by 52 foot ell extends to the east. A large, brick structure and stone engine house are at the east. At the southwest corner is a 1-story, stone, 125,000-square foot weave shed, designed by Providence mill architect, Frank P. Sheldon in 1900; it is one of the state's earliest saw-tooth roofed weave sheds. On the northeast corner is a two and three story brick building which formerly housed a machine shop and a picker room. Near the mill are several brick buildings, a 3-story, stone house west of the mill, and a 2-story and a 1-story building along Cook Pond, the

latter serving as the present warehouse office. The Bourne Mill, one of two cotton mills of the Fall River system built in Tiverton (the other was the nearby Shove Mill), was built in 1881-82 by a stock company incorporated in Massachusetts and named for Jonathan Bourne of New Bedford. Its first treasurer, George A. Chace, furnished the plans and equipment. In 1888, the 500 workers, manufacturing all kinds of "odd goods," ran 1080 looms and 43,008 spindles. The 1901 weave shed increased the total to 2400 looms and 84,000 spindles. In 1906, probably at its peak then, the mill operated 2640 looms and 91,258 spindles, for the production of "odd-count" cotton goods, and probably employed about 1000 workers. The Bourne Company manufactured cotton until about 1953, when the mill was purchased by Berkshire-Hathaway, which produced cotton cloth until 1961. Since then, part of the complex has been used for storage and other parts have been leased to several small firms. In August, 1982, the Bourne Mills complex was sold, and in October, 1982 was given a new name--Tiverton Industrial Park. Although most of the mill complex remains, there is no surviving machinery, the large clock on the four faces of the tower was shingled over, and the boiler house has been destroyed. The Bourne Mills is a fine complex of mill buildings; the largest and most important manufacturing enterprise in Tiverton, it is associated with both the Rhode Island and the Fall River textile industry. (1895-Bourne Mills.)

#### SOUTH LAKE ROAD

134. Robert Tripp House (Early 19th century et seq.; 493 South Lake Road): An interesting, 1½-story, wood-shingled residence. The larger right side contains two small windows under the eaves--a feature common to mid-19th century houses. There is a fine stone wall in front, and several wood-shingled outbuildings behind the house. (1850- Rob. Tripp.)

#### STAFFORD ROAD

135. Joseph Durfee House (c. 1845; 161 Stafford Road): A wood-shingled vernacular cottage with a central entry in an asymmetrical, 5-bay facade; two small windows under the eaves; and a 1-story ell at the left side. (1854- Joseph Durfee.)
136. Almy House (c. 1845; 204 Stafford Road): A cottage with a small, brick, center chimney; a central entry, with a hooded entrance centered in a 5-bay facade; a row of 4, small windows under the eaves; and a 1-story ell at the right rear, with a "stick style" porch. The house may have been built by William Almy. (1850-Mrs. Almy.)
137. Gideon Durfee House (c. 1845; 282 Stafford Road): A fine and typical Greek Revival cottage with a small, brick, center chimney; a central entry in a 5-bay facade; a row of 5, small windows under the eaves; and a 1-story ell at the right side, rear. (1850-G. Durfee.)

138. Commodore Perry School/St. Theresa's Roman Catholic Church (1913): A 1½-story, wood-shingled, cross-gabled structure, with a central, enclosed, double-door, vestibule with a semi-circular light above, in the front. The building opened in 1913 as the Commodore Perry School. It was a 1-room schoolhouse until 1952, when it was sold to Holy Ghost Church, which established a mission here. Later, it became St. Theresa's Roman Catholic Church, until a new St. Theresa's was built at the corner of Eagleville Road in the 1970s.
139. James Slocum House (c. 1875; 400 Stafford Road): A typical Greek Revival cottage with a small, brick, interior chimney; a central entry in a 5-bay facade; and five, small windows under the eaves in front. It was owned by James Slocum in the late 19th century. In 1905, John A. Berg purchased the property, farmed the land, and ran a roadside stand until 1962. (1895- J. Slocum.)
140. Durfee Homestead/Arruda's Dairy Farm (18th Century et seq.): Arruda's Dairy Farm is a large farm along both sides of the road. Near the west side of the road (at 417 Stafford Road) is an early 19th-century cottage. Behind it are several outbuildings. In back of a field, several hundred feet west of the road, is an early 19th-century, wood-shingled cottage, probably the original Durfee home. Near the east side of the road is a more recent building. The fields east of the road contain a barn and several silos. Along the east side of the road is Historical Cemetery Number 70. The farm is on the 19th Great Lot of the Pocasset Purchase, bought from Joseph Cook by Job Durfee, who lived here until his death in 1774. The homestead was in the Durfee family throughout the 19th century. About 800 feet west of the road is the Durfee family cemetery, where several generations of the family are buried. (1850- Geo. Durfee.)
141. Walter E. Ranger School (1931; 1185 Stafford Road): A 1-story, brick, gable-and-hip-roofed, W.P.A. era school building, with a central, pedimented entry, a cupola at the ridge, and a later, 1-story, flat-roofed addition at the rear. The school opened on January 3, 1931.
142. Bliss Four Corners Congregational Church (1892; 1264 Stafford Road): An end gable structure, with a small belfry at the ridge, an entry at the center of the right side in an enclosed, shed-roofed addition, and an addition at the rear. The simple, unadorned church building, on a grassy lot, was originally associated with Amicable Congregational Church at Tiverton Four Corners. From 1901 to 1933, it was under the Rhode Island Missionary Society. (1895- [shown only by symbol].)

## STATE AVENUE

143. Bay View House (c. 1885; 91 State Avenue): A 2½-story, Queen Anne structure, with patterned-shingle and clapboard siding; a prominent, 2-story, corner tower; and small additions at the front, side, and rear. (1895- Simpson's Bay View House.)

## STONE CHURCH ROAD

144. Stone Church Road Roadscape: Stone Church Road, from about its junction with Sylvia Road south to beyond 326 Stone Church Road, is lined with stone walls, trees and shrubs. One of the loveliest sections of roadway in town today, the walls were probably erected by William Whitridge, the area's most prominent resident, in the late 18th or early 19th century.
145. Manchester House (18th century et seq.): A 2½-story, wood-shingled, remodeled, Federal house, with a 1½-story ell at the left rear; a rectangular central chimney; a central Colonial Revival entrance porch, in a 5-bay facade; a veranda at the northwest corner; and a 1-story, glassed-in, flat-roofed addition across the rear. On the lot, at the corner of Sylvia Road, are stone walls along both roads, a wood-shingled garage, and a 3-bay garage across Sylvia Road. (1850- Mrs. Manchester.)
- \* 146. William Whitridge Estate (c. 1770, 1865; 285 Stone Church Road): The William Whitridge Estate consists of a Second Empire structure, and an earlier structure, joined together, and a complex of wood-and-stone outbuildings, at the end of a private drive lined by trees and stone walls. The earlier part, now the rear ell, is a 2½-story structure, with 2, small, paired, interior, brick chimneys and a trabeated entry in an asymmetrical facade. The Second Empire section is prominently sited on a small rise at the head of the driveway. It is large, with a 5-bay facade, projecting central pavilion, a cupola, and an arcaded veranda across the front. The old section, which originally faced the road, was probably built by William Whitridge, born in Rochester, Massachusetts, in 1748. He studied "physic" in Dartmouth, Massachusetts, and settled in Tiverton in 1770. He was visited by diarist, Dr. Ezra Stiles in the late 18th century. Sketches of the interior and exterior of the house, done by Joseph S. Russell about 1814 or 1815, and drawings done later, are in New Bedford's whaling museum. William's daughter, Nancy, (1783-1856 resided here, while three of Dr. Whitridge's sons were successful practitioners elsewhere. Another son, Thomas was a "greatly respected merchant of Baltimore"; he probably owned the place and about 1865 built the large front portion, along with a carriage house (which was torn down in about 1957). There is a Whitridge family burial plot within the larger cemetery on Lake Road (see #69). In a secluded location--far from the road and screened by vegetation--few present-day residents are aware of the building, one of the finest in Tiverton and the only one of its scale and quality remaining from the mid-19th-century. (1850- Nancy Whitridge.)

147. Thomas Whitridge Keeper's House (c. 1865; Stone Church Road): A Greek Revival cottage with a small, brick, center chimney; a central entry in a 5-bay facade; and a row of 5 small windows under the eaves. The grounds, behind a fine, five foot stone wall, include a wood-shingled carriage house. This house was probably built by William Whitridge for a caretaker for his estate (#146). (1870- T. Whitridge.)

#### WAMPANOG LANE

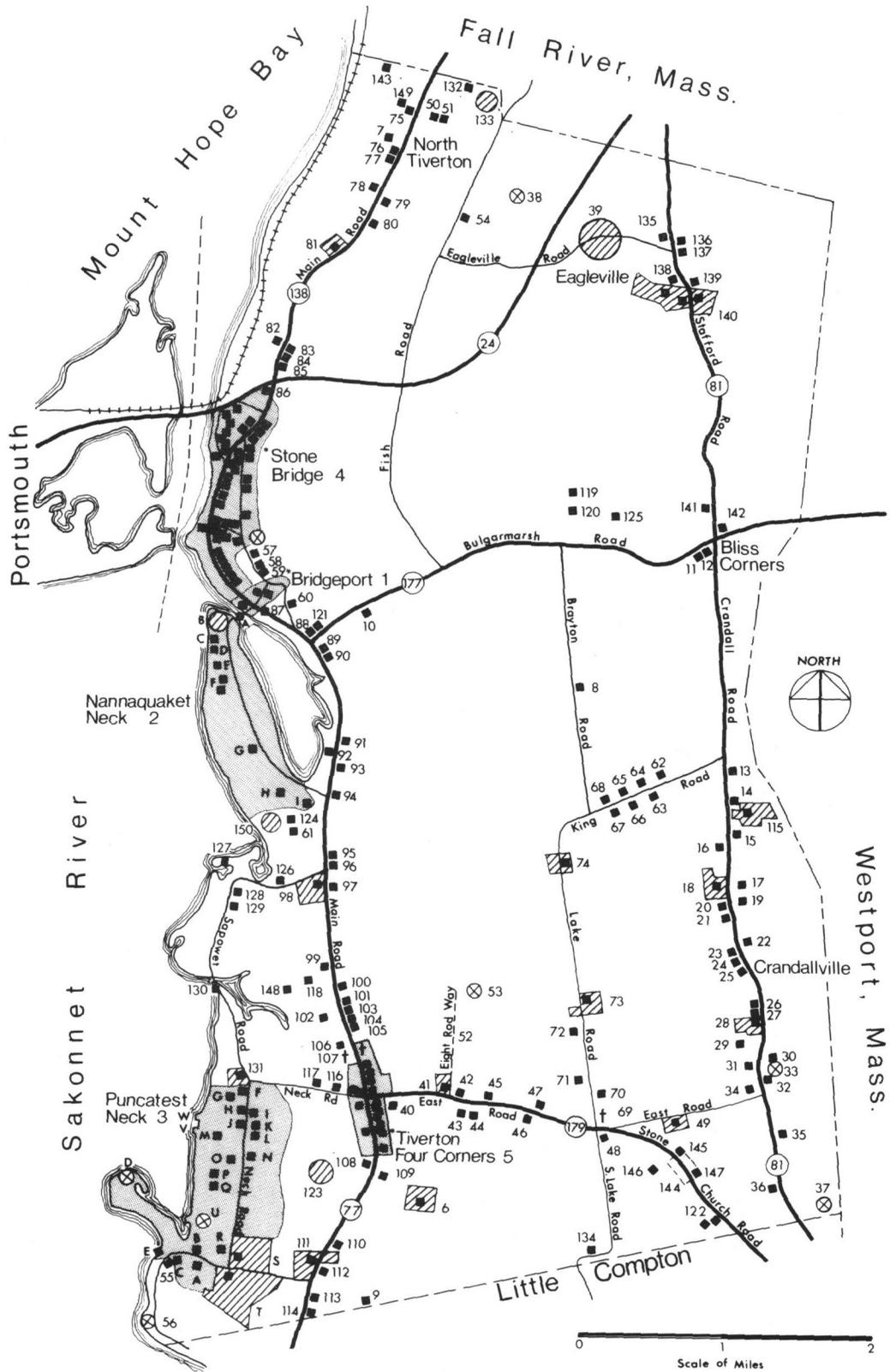
148. Rene St. Laurent House (1981): A Viceroy house, originating in Canada, built for St. Laurent by Roland J. Neronha. An "organic", or natural type house, well sited on a wooded hill at the edge of the Sapowet Marsh, it has ample windows and porches and balconies to take advantage of the natural surroundings. Like other contemporary houses of this type, it was built for energy efficiency through use of six inch studding.

#### WEST CANONICUS STREET

149. Elizabeth H. L. Barker School/Tiverton Senior Citizens Community Center (1917; 207 West Canonicus Street): A 1-story, frame, wood-shingled building, with a porticoed central entry, set on a small lot in densely populated North Tiverton. Built as a school in 1917, it was converted to a community center in the late 1970s.

#### WINNISIMET DRIVE

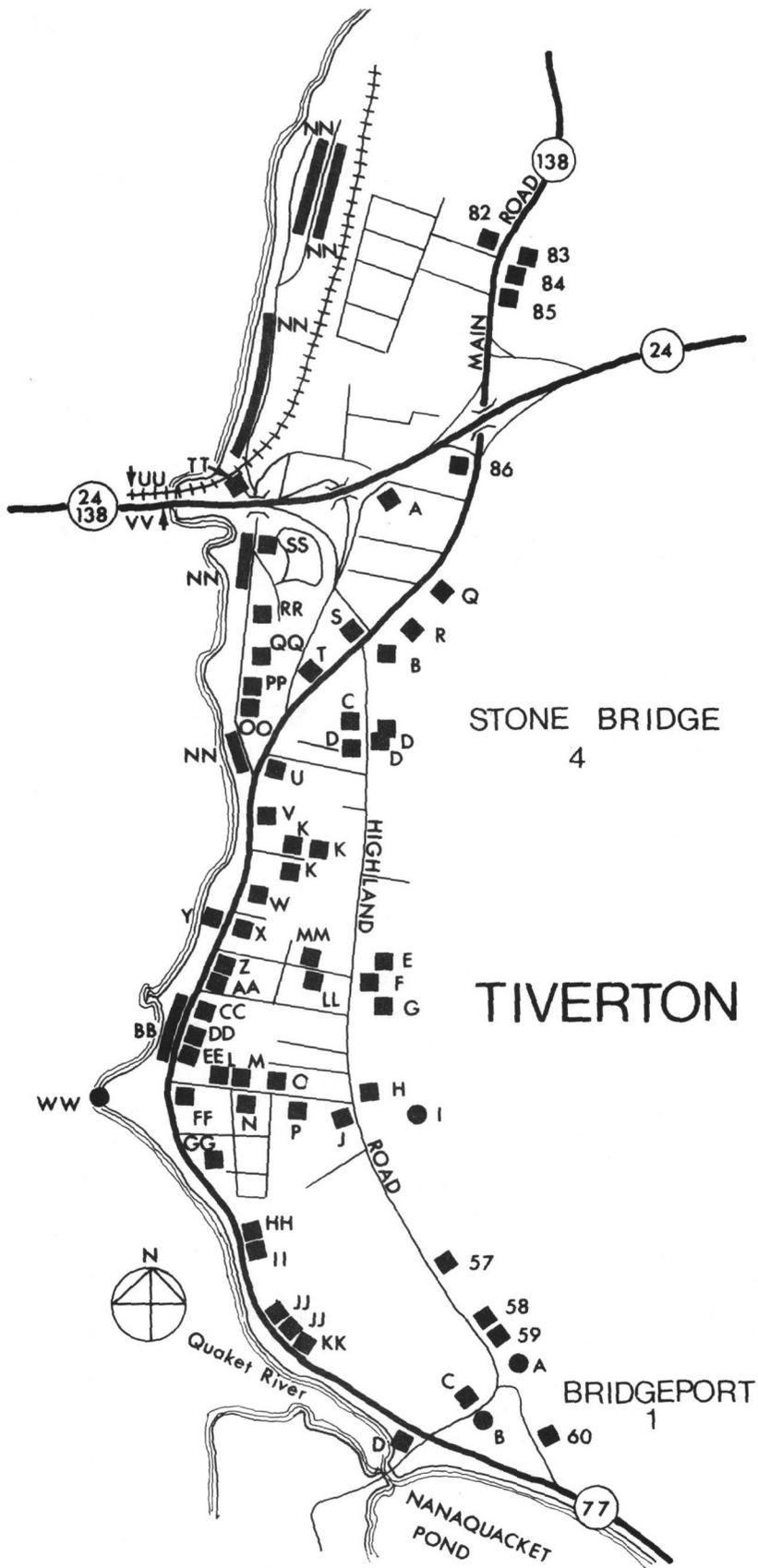
150. Winnisimet Estates: A late 1970s housing development along the Sakonnet River, on Winnisimet Drive, Arrowhead Drive, and Sachem Road, off Indian Point Road. The houses were built in a variety of styles, ranging from ranch and split-level types to colonial types, including one built by the Sakonnet Housesmiths. The houses occupy relatively large, open lots along a very gently slope along the Sakonnet, with views to the west. There is another, slightly older, housing tract contiguous to this one, along Indian Point and Penny Pond roads.



### TIVERTON

DISTRICTS, STRUCTURES,  
and SITES

- Districts
- ⊗ Sites
- Structures
- ▨ More than one structure, large sites, and farms
- † Cemetery
- See enlarged maps



■ STRUCTURE ● SITE

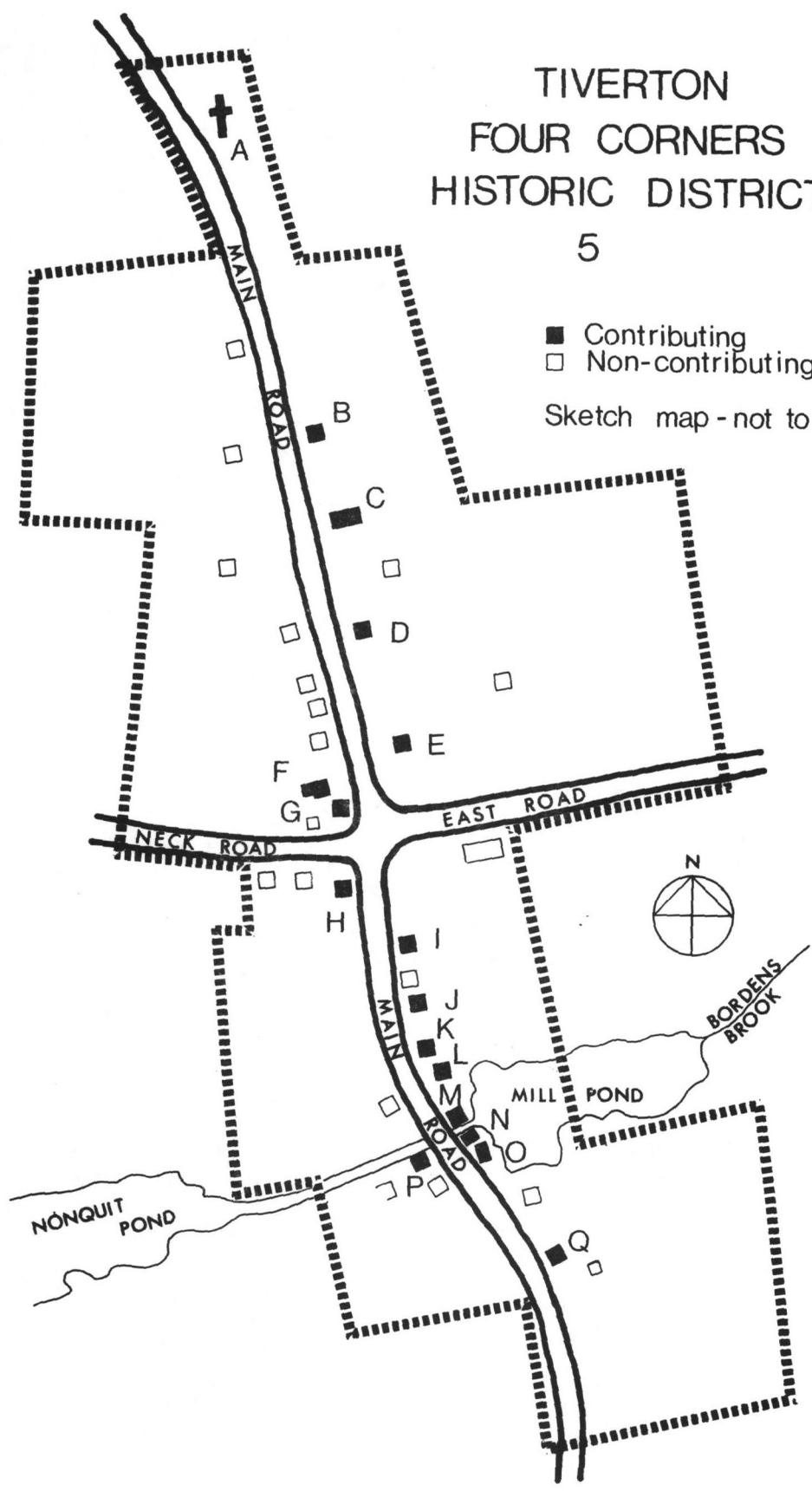


# TIVERTON FOUR CORNERS HISTORIC DISTRICT

5

- Contributing
- Non-contributing

Sketch map - not to scale



## APPENDIX A

## NOTEWORTHY ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES\*

<u>Map Number</u>	<u>Name/Date</u>	<u>Road/Village</u>
COLONIAL PERIOD (to about 1775)		
<u>Houses</u>		
* 2-H	Homelands, c. 1760	575 Nannaquaket Road, Nannaquaket Neck
+ 3-B	Almy House, c. 1750	103 Fogland Road, Puncatest Neck
+ 3-C	John Almy House, c. 1760	148 Fogland Road, Puncatest Neck
+ 3-P	Otis Almy House, c. 1750	737 Neck Road, Puncatest Neck
*** 3-S	Cook-Bateman Farm, c. 1730	Neck Road, Puncatest Neck
4-L	Lawton House, c. 1750	34 Lawton Avenue, Stone Bridge
4-EE	John Howland House	Main Road, Stone Bridge
** 5-E	Soule-Seabury House, 1770, 1809	3852 Main Road, Tiverton Four Corners
** 5-H	Arnold Smith House, c. 1750	3895 Main Road, Tiverton Four Corners
** 5-I	Chase-Cory House, c. 1730 et seq.	3908 Main Road, Tiverton Four Corners
6	Cook Farm	Bettencourt Lane
9	Pender Seabury House pre 1773	Brookside Drive
* 36	Barker House, c. 1700	1975 Crandall Road
* 61	Nathaniel Briggs- Manchester House, pre 1777	68 Indian Point Road
* 76	Peleg Stafford House	305 Main Road
* 84	Thomas Osborne Homestead	1168 Main Road
* 93	William Durfee House, 1768	2794 Main Road
* 94	Job Gray House	2930 Main Road
95	Lafayette House/Abraham Brown House, 1735, 1765, 1812	3118 Main Road
108	Capt. Phillip Cory House, c. 1770	4089 Main Road
* 109	Cory-Hicks-Borden- Gardner-Stevens House, pre 1750, 1856	4100 Main Road
113	Cook House, pre Revolutionary	4482 Main Road
* 129	Thomas Gray-Durfee House	432 Sapowet Road
* 131	Almy Farm	Sapowet Road
* 146	William Whitridge House, c. 1770 et seq.	285 Stone Church Road

\* Recommended for the National Register

\*\* Within a National Register District

\*\*\* Entered individually on the National Register

+ Within a proposed National Register District

<u>Map Number</u>	<u>Name/Date</u>	<u>Road/Village</u>
FEDERAL PERIOD (1775-1830)		
<u>Houses</u>		
* 2-G	Old Durfee Farm	Nannaquaket Road, Nannaquaket Neck
+ 3-A	Cook Almy House, 1808	58 Fogland Road, Puncatest Neck
+ 3-N	Robert Gray House	630 Neck Road, Puncatest Neck
+ 3-Q	Horace Almy House/Nanquit Farm	807 Neck Road, Puncatest Neck
4-H	Thomas Durfee House, 1793	306 Highland Road, Stone Bridge
4-Q	Capt. Daniel Church House, 1792 et seq.	1392 Main Road, Stone Bridge
** 5-F	Wilcox-Davol House 1800 et seq.	3879 Main Road, Tiverton Four Corners
** 5-K	King Cottage, c. 1800	3924 Main Road, Tiverton Four Corners
8	Brayton Homestead	446 Brayton Road
18	Amasa Simmons Farm/Middle Acres Dairy Farm, 1825 et seq.	1057 Crandall Road
23	Crandall-Waite House	1275 Crandall Road
28	Crandall Farm, c. 1800	1443 Crandall Road
39	Old Stone House, c. 1828	1550 Eagleville Road
42	Issac Cook House	324 East Road
45	Justice Walter Cook House, 1799	440 East Road
* 48	Capt. Abel Manchester House, c. 1780	773 East Road
78	J. Russell Hicks House	433 Main Road
*** 79	Joseph Hicks House/The Brick House, 1788, 1893	492 Main Road
82	Edward Bennett House/James Otis Hambly Homestead, 1822	1137 Main Road
89	Wanton Durfee House	2398 Main Road
* 91	Col. David Durfee House/Manchester's Home, 1826	2698 Main Road
100	Town Asylum	3534 Main Road
101	Edward Gray House	Main Road
103	Capt. Robert Gray House	3622 Main Road
105	Christopher White House	3658 Main Road
106	Manchester-Wordell Homestead/Rocky Knoll	3709 Main Road
* 110	Edward Cook House	4340 Main Road
* 112	White Homestead	4398 Main Road
* 117	Samuel Wilcox House/The Brick Front	200 Neck Road

Stores

12	Cyrenus Bliss Store/ Guidmond Farms Store, 1827	1 Crandall Road
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<u>Map Number</u>	<u>Name/Date</u>	<u>Road/Village</u>
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MID 19TH CENTURY VERNACULAR (1840-1880)

Houses

4-X	William Brightman House, c. 1875	1690 Main Road, Stone Bridge
** 5-B	Amicable Congregational Church Parsonage, 1832	3804 Main Road, Tiverton Four Corners
20	Charles Manchester House	1117 Crandall Road
26	House	1413 Crandall Road
54	B. Hambly House, c. 1850	362 Fish Road
66	Harriet King House	330 King Road
67	B. Manchester House	390 King Road
68	A. Williston House	401 King Road
72	G. Grinnell House, c. 1840	354 Lake Road
111	G. Cook House (Farm)	4375 Main Road
135	Joseph Durfee House, c. 1845	161 Stafford Road
137	Gideon Durfee House, c. 1845	282 Stafford Road

Other Buildings

4-J	Tiverton Town Hall, 1840 et seq.	Highland Road, Stone Bridge
4-S	Nannaquaket Grange, 1860	Main Road Stone Bridge
** 5-M	Stone Grist Mill, c. 1850	3948 Main Road, Tiverton Four Corners
** 5-P	Preserved Tripp's Wheel- wright Shop, c. 1850	3949 Main Road, Tiverton Four Corners
* 122	The Old Stone Church/First Baptist Church, 1841	5 Old Stone Church Road

BRACKETED (1840-1885)

4-II	James Church House, c. 1865	1966 Main Road, Stone Bridge
4-JJ	T. T. Gray & Alfred Gray Houses	1998 and 2004 Main Road, Stone Bridge
72	G. Gray House, c. 1845 <sup>1</sup>	409 East Road
* 83	Osborne House	Main Road
102	Capt. Eli A. Hammond House, c. 1880	2617 Main Road
* 109	Cory-Hicks-Borden-Gardner- Stevens House, 1856	4100 Main Road
136	Almy House, c. 1845 <sup>1</sup>	204 Stafford Road

1. Bracketed hood only.

<u>Map Number</u>	<u>Name/Date</u>	<u>Road/Village</u>
GREEK REVIVAL (1825-1865)		
<u>Houses</u>		
+ 3-F	Capt. Gideon Wilcox House 1848	425 Neck Road, Puncatest Neck
+ 3-H	A. Wilcox House, 1846	481 Neck Road, Puncatest Neck
+ 3-J	Peleg Cory House	531 Neck Road, Puncatest Neck
+ 3-K	J. Pierce House	532 Neck Road, Puncatest Neck
+ 3-M	Isaac G. White House, c. 1863	563 Neck Road, Puncatest Neck
+ 3-0	Stephen Grinnell House	677 Neck Road, Puncatest Neck
4-0	C. Seabury House, c. 1865	78 Lawton Avenue, Stone Bridge
* 5-J	Pardon Cory House, c. 1840	3920 Main Road, Tiverton Four Corners
7	Richard Borden House	Borden Street
10	Thomas Durfee House	255 Bulgarmarsh Road
14	Shaw-Hart House, c. 1865	830 Crandall Road
16	Rounds House, c. 1845	929 Crandall Road
19	William Simmons House, c. 1840	1098 Crandall Road
27	Philip Sanford House	1423 Crandall Road
30	I. Williston House, c. 1840	1598 Crandall Road
34	B. Hart House, c. 1865	1733 Crandall Road
35	George Washington Carr House, c. 1880	1902 Crandall Road
44	Hart House, c. 1845	433 East Road
47	A. Sherman House, c. 1845	644 East Road
57	Howland House, c. 1845	452 Highland Road
58	Daniel Church House, c. 1865	526 Highland Road
59	A. Nickerson House, c. 1845	536 Highland Road
81	Hambly Farmhouse	685 Main Road
99	Henry Schlegel House, c. 1865	3447 Main Road
104	Christopher White House c. 1855	3650 Main Road
126	Capt. Henry F. King House, 1845	137 Sapowet Road
139	William Brownell House c. 1845	400 Stafford Road
147	Thomas Whitridge House, c. 1865	Stone Church Road
<u>Other Buildings</u>		
** 5-A	Amicable Congregational Church, 1845-1846	3736 Main Road, Tiverton Four Corners

<u>Map Number</u>	<u>Name/Date</u>	<u>Road/Village</u>
LATE VICTORIAN (1865-1900)		
<u>Houses with Carpenterwork Trim</u>		
4-Z	Charles Grinnell House, c. 1885	1714 Main Road, Stone Bridge
4-BB	James Negus House, c.1865	1771 Main Road, Stone Bridge
4-00	House, c. 1900	38 Riverside Drive, Stone Bridge
128	Dr. James McKenzie's Cottage, c. 1890	302 Sapowet Road

Houses, Second Empire

2-B	Nannaquaket/St. James Convent, 1872	49 Nannaquaket Road, Nannaquaket Neck
+ 3-L	Capt. George Gray House c. 1875	560 Neck Road, Puncatest Neck
*** 3-S	Cook-Bateman Farm, 1869	Neck Road, Puncatest Neck
+ 3-T	Ferol Bink Farm, c. 1875	993 Neck Road, Puncatest Neck
4-KK	G. Howland House, c.1865	Main Road, Stone Bridge
4-LL	John Grayson House, c. 1880	67 Middle Avenue, Stone Bridge
92	Joseph Barton House/ Sunderland's Restaurant, c. 1880	2753 Main Road
* 146	William Whitridge Estate	285 Stone Church Road

Stores, Second Empire

** 5-G	A.P. White Store, 1875	3883 Main Road, Tiverton Four Corners
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Houses, Eclectic (with tower)

4-E	Chapin House/Greenlawn	214 Highland Road, Stone Bridge
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Houses, Eclectic (without tower)

24	David C. Waite House, c. 1885	1315 Crandall Road
97	Samuel West House, 1870s	3198 Main Road

Other Buildings, Eclectic (with tower)

4-D	Central Baptist Church, 1887	67 Highland Road, Stone Bridge
4-M	Whitridge Hall, 1876	42 Lawton Avenue, Stone Bridge
77	Temple Chapel/North Tiverton Baptist Church, 1867	331 (?) Main Road

<u>Map Number</u>	<u>Name/Date</u>	<u>Road/Village</u>
<u>Houses, Stick Style</u>		
* 4-W	Isaac Church House/St. Christopher's Rectory	1660 Main Road, Stone Bridge
4-RR	Capt. Simmons House, c. 1885	Riverside Drive, Stone Bridge

Houses, Bracketed

+ 3-I	Capt. Fernando Wilcox House, 1872	488 Neck Road, Puncatest Neck
4-A	Calista C. Cottrell House	59 Evans Avenue, Stone Bridge
4-R	Capt. George L. Church House	1420 Main Road, Stone Bridge
4-V	Alex Snell House	1616 Main Road, Stone Bridge
96	Isaac Brown House, 1870s	3152 Main Road

Houses, Queen Anne

4-N	House	53 Lawton Avenue, Stone Bridge
4-T	House	Main Road, Stone Bridge
* 4-QQ	Bay View House/Tiverton Yacht Club	Riverside Drive, Stone Bridge
60	A. L. Nickerson House, c. 1885	634 Highland Road

Other Buildings

4-FF	Stone Bridge Inn, 1888 et seq.	1800 Main Road, Stone Bridge
* 133	Bourne Mills, 1881-82 et seq.	1 Shove Street
143	Bay View House, c. 1885	91 State Avenue

EARLY 20TH CENTURY (1900-1945)

Houses

2-C	Ira Humphrey House/White Rock, c. 1904	69 Nannaquaket Road, Nannaquaket Neck
2-F	Hersey House	Nannaquaket Road, Nannaquaket Neck
4-B	Neo-Colonial House	Highland Road, Stone Bridge
4-C	Richard C. Barker House/ The Outlook	43 Highland Road, Stone Bridge
4-G	The Stone House	246 Highland Road, Stone Bridge
4-Q	Capt. Daniel Church House, 1934 (remodeled)	1392 Main Road, Stone Bridge
4-GG	Wilcox House	1886 Main Road, Stone Bridge
4-PP	Shingle House (converted 1925)	46 Riverside Drive, Stone Bridge
* 124	The Stone House, 1919	43 Penny Pond Road

<u>Map Number</u>	<u>Name/Date</u>	<u>Road/Village</u>
<u>Public Buildings</u>		
4-F	Essex Library, 1938	238 Highland Road, Stone Bridge
4-P	Fort Barton School, 1936	99 Lawton Avenue, Stone Bridge
54	Lincoln School, 1909	East Judson Avenue, North Tiverton
116	Nonquit School, 1925	117 Neck Road
138	Commodore Perry School, 1913	Stafford Road
141	Walter E. Ranger School, 1931	1185 Stafford Road
149	Elizabeth Barker School, 1917	207 West Canonicus Ave., No. Tiverton

Churches

4-U	St. Christopher's Roman Catholic Church, 1910	Main Road, Stone Bridge
4-HH	Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 1917	Main Road, Stone Bridge
21	Crandall Road Chapel, c. 1900	Crandall Road
50	Holy Ghost Roman Catholic Church, 1913	East Judson Street, North Tiverton
70	St. Madeleine's Roman Catholic Church, 1926	Lake Road

MID-LATE 20TH CENTURY (1945-1982)

Houses

4-K	Three Houses, 1970s	Jennifer Lane, Stone Bridge
71	Log Cabin, 1970s	110 Lake Road
118	James Hagerty House/Hi Ona Windi Hill, c. 1979	64 Nonquit Lane
123	Peaceful Meadows, 1970s	Peaceful Way
148	Rene St. Laurent House, 1981	Wampanog Lane
150	Winnisimett Estates, c. 1980	Winnisimmet Drive

Public Buildings

120	Tiverton High School, 1966	100 North Brayton Road
125	Tiverton Middle School 1976	10 Quintal Drive

NOTEWORTHY FARMS<sup>1</sup>

6	Cook Farm	Bettencourt Lane
18	Amasa Simmons Farm/ Middle Acres Farm	1057 Crandall Road

1. All are active, except for #74

<u>Map Number</u>	<u>Name/Date</u>	<u>Road/Village</u>
28	Crandall Farm	1443 Crandall Road
41	Squire Chase Farm/East Knoll Farm	228 East Road
50	Stephen Cook Farm	1029 East Road
73	David Lake Farm	455 Lake Road
74	Charles Albert Farm	867 Lake Road
81	Hambly Farm	685 Main Road
98	William Hathaway Farm/ Lightning H Ranch	3181 Main Road
* 111	G. Cook Farm	4375 Main Road
114	Cory Shaw Farm	140 Narrow Avenue
* 131	Almy Farm	Sapowet Road
140	Durfee Homestead/Arruda's Dairy Farm	417 Stafford Road

APPENDIX B  
 1850 U.S. CENSUS  
 SCHEDULE 4: PRODUCTIONS OF AGRICULTURE  
 TIVERTON, R.I.

	<u>Henry F. King Farm (#136)</u>	<u>William Bateman Farm (#3-S)</u>
Improved Land (acres)	30	175
Cash Value	\$3500	\$18000
Value, Farming, Implements	\$50	\$200
Horses	1	1
Milk Cows	2	5
Other Cows	-	16
Working Oxen	4	4
Swine	4	6
Sheep	-	100
Value, Livestock	\$200	\$1275
Indian Corn (bu.)	200	300
Oats (bu.)	100	300
Peas & Beans (bu.)	30	-
Wool (lbs.)	-	250
Irish Potatoes (bu.)	25	300
Barley (bu.)	8	-
Value, Orchards	-	\$25
Value, market Gardens		
Produce	\$40	\$100
Butter (lbs.)	120	300
Cheese (lbs.)	50	200
Hay (tons)	12	50
Value, Animals Slaughtered	\$100	\$1500

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