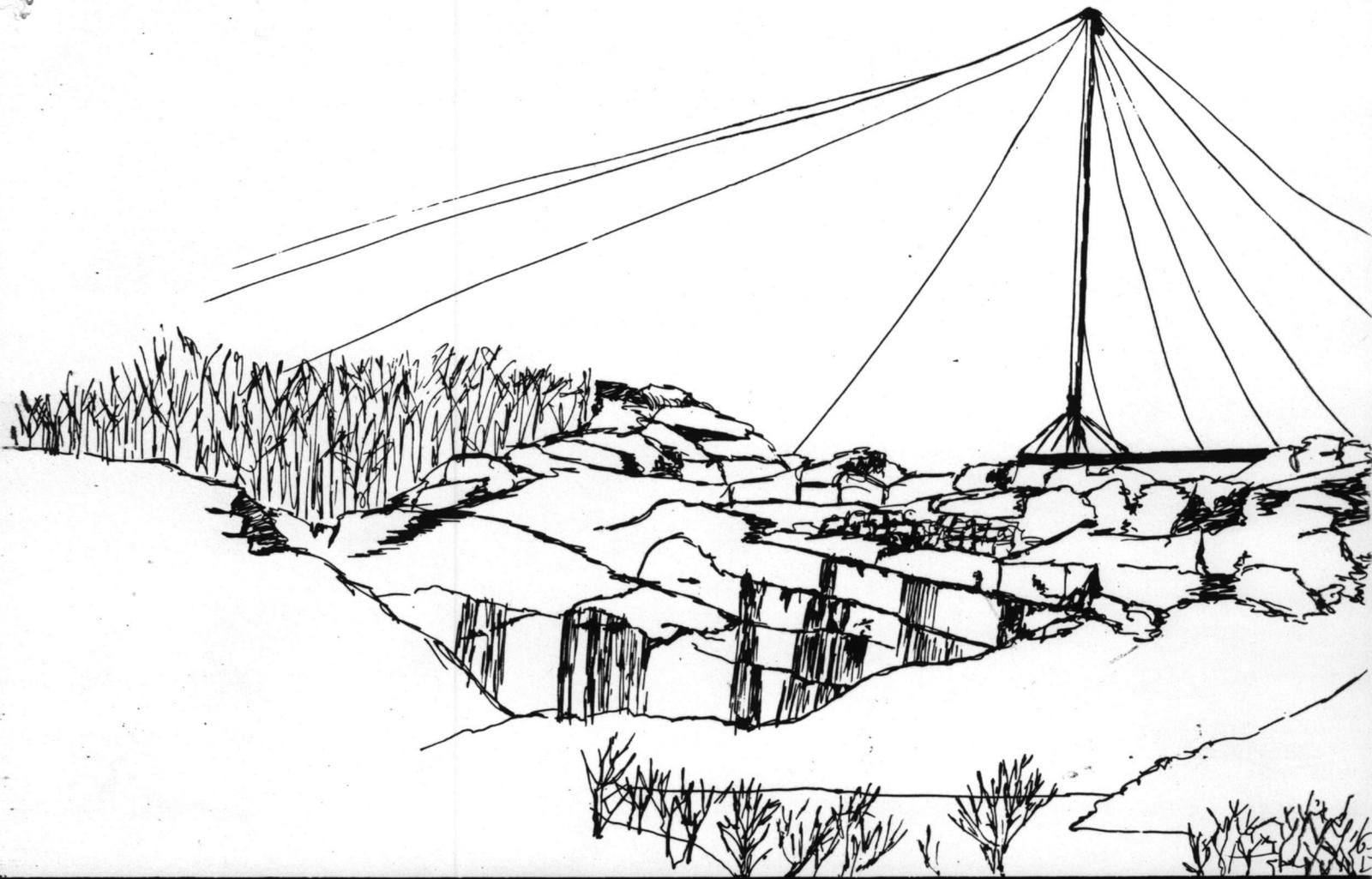


Historic and Architectural Resources of Westerly, Rhode Island: A Preliminary Report



Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission

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

This document is a copy of the original survey published in 1978.
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.

MARCH 1978

For up-to-date information, please contact:

RI Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission

150 Benefit St.

Providence, RI 02903

(401)222-2678

www.preservation.ri.gov

info@preservation.ri.gov

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

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

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 provide a catalogue of nonrenewable cultural resources which is needed for a variety of planning purposes at the local, state and national levels. They identify sites, districts and structures eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places and they become the basis for establishing historical preservation priorities based on problems and potentials discovered as part of the survey process.

The preliminary survey is accomplished by driving all public rights of way in a given town and noting on large-scale United States Geological Survey maps (or other maps that may be more appropriate) each building or site of particular architectural, visual, cultural or historic

significance. The map notations include use, condition and architectural style or period if known. Each property is photographed and recorded on a standard data sheet which includes a physical description and historical information. The significance of each property is determined in a preliminary fashion and properties are designated as being in one of three categories: properties already in or approved 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. Properties of less significance are not included. Archeological sites are covered in separate, but coordinated, preliminary surveys and are mentioned only incidentally in these studies.

Previous studies are reviewed, and town histories, reports and other readily available information are researched to ensure that all appropriate historic sites and structures are included in the study. Local planners and historians are consulted wherever possible.

Upon completion of the survey, maps are developed and a brief report written. The result is a preliminary document--useful in the interim before a full-scale, intensive, cultural-resource survey of the community has been completed. The Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission intends

to conduct such surveys as soon as funds and staffing
are available.

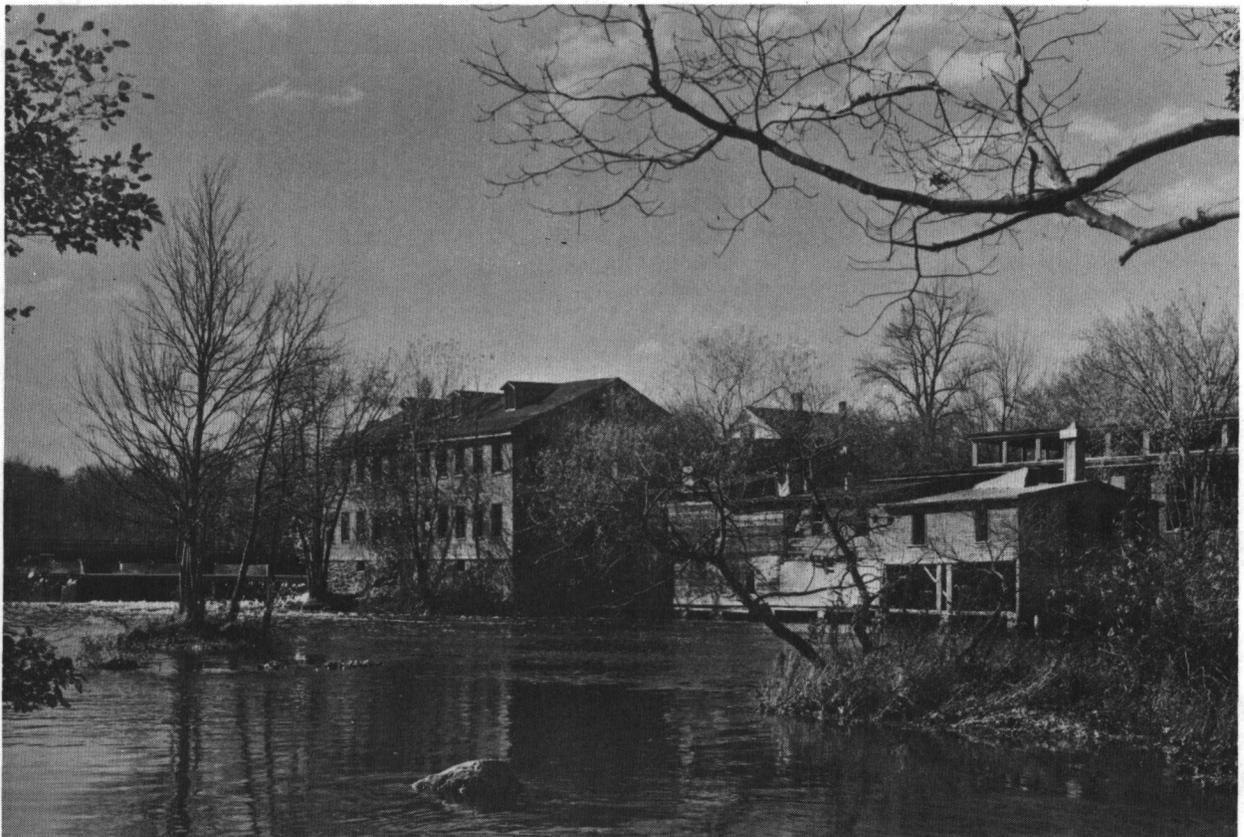
INTRODUCTION

The following study covers the historical and architectural resources of the town of Westerly. It provides the basic information needed so that cultural resources can begin to be properly considered in making future planning decisions at all levels. The report includes a brief account of Westerly's developmental history together with a preliminary inventory of properties of historical and architectural importance in the town. The inventory numbers are keyed to a small-scale locational map at the end of the report. For more precise information on the location of properties, reference should be made to the large, preliminary cultural-resource survey map prepared by the state Historical Preservation Commission and drawn at a scale of one inch to one thousand feet.

The Commission would like to thank all Westerly officials and residents who assisted in the conduct of the preliminary survey and in the publication of this report.



U.S. Post Office (1912); Wilcox Park Historic District, Westerly Village. (Map #9A)



Potter Hill Mill Complex and Pawcatuck River; Potter Hill Historic District. The mill at the left was destroyed by fire in November 1977. (Map #4)

I. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Westerly, in Washington County, is a town of some thirty-three square miles in the southwestern corner of Rhode Island, about 42 miles southwest of Providence. Most of its boundaries are natural. The meandering Pawcatuck River, the major waterway of southern Rhode Island, separates Westerly from Hopkinton, Rhode Island, and North Stonington, Connecticut, to the north, and Stonington, Connecticut, to the west. The river follows a generally easterly course until it enters Stonington, where it makes an abrupt turn to the south. Below Westerly Village the Pawcatuck River widens considerably to become an estuary for several miles before entering Little Narragansett Bay. To the south, the town borders the Atlantic Ocean (Block Island Sound) for approximately eight miles between Napatree Point, the westernmost place in Rhode Island, and Charlestown. Westerly's eastern border with Charlestown is a straight, man-made line running five miles or so.

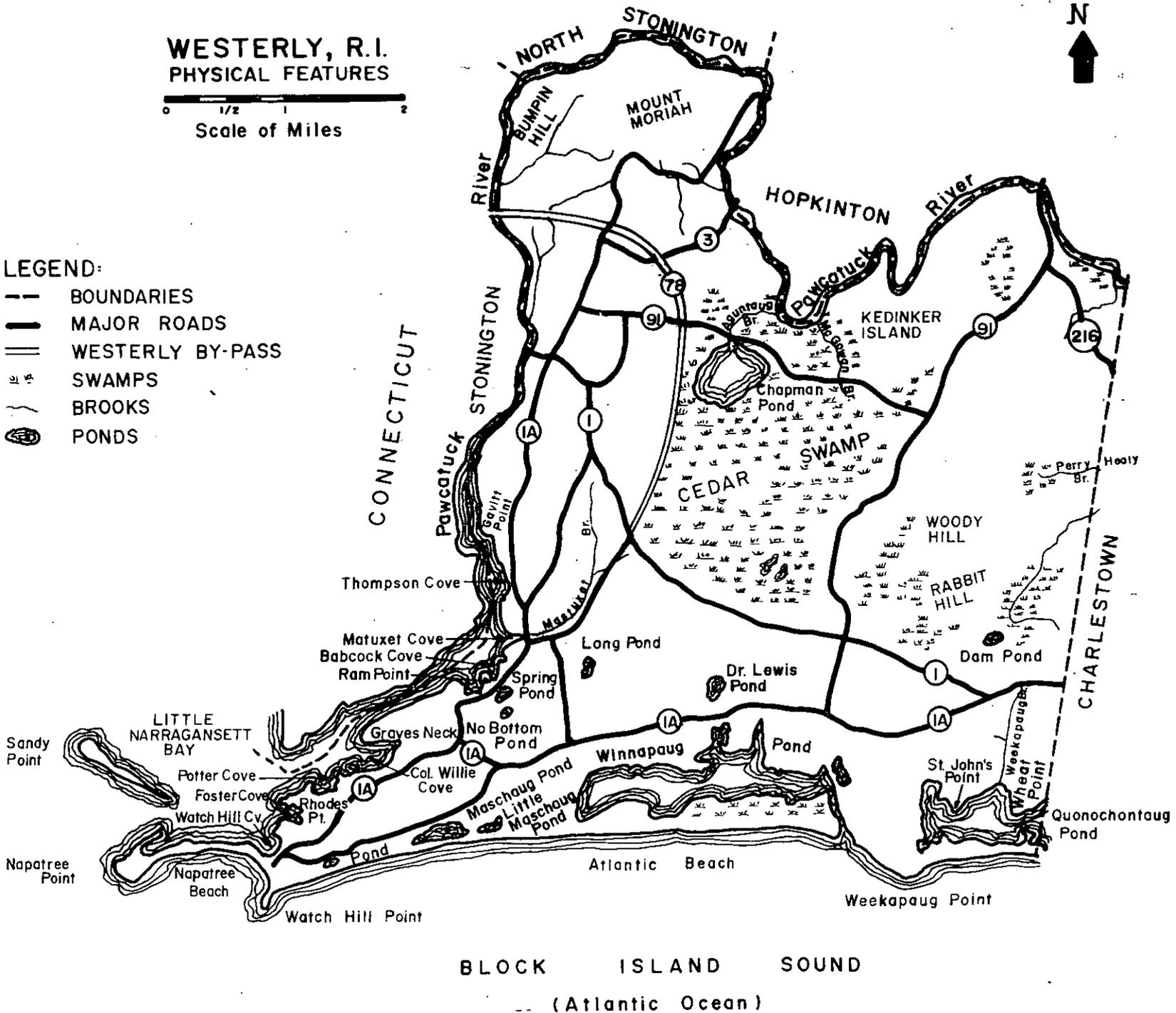
Westerly's major highways, U. S. 1, historic Post Road, and State Highway 3, Nooseneck Hill Road, funnel traffic to and from Westerly Village and nearby Connecticut. The main line of the Penn Central Railroad, which also passes through Westerly Village, provides passenger service.

WESTERLY, R.I. PHYSICAL FEATURES



LEGEND:

- BOUNDARIES
- MAJOR ROADS
- WESTERLY BY-PASS
- SWAMPS
- BROOKS
- PONDS



Interstate 95, passing north of the town, offers a direct, high-speed connection with New York City to the west and Providence and other New England points to the north. The Westerly By-Pass (Route 78), completed in 1976, is a modern highway which skirts Westerly Village and serves primarily to speed travelers from elsewhere to and from the town's shore areas. Near the end of the By-Pass and Post Road is the Westerly State Airport, a major link between Block Island and the mainland.

The town has several distinct physical zones, all shaped by the last continental glacier, which ceased its southward advance in Westerly. Route 1A, the Shore Road, follows a sharp topographic boundary; north of the road is an east-west trending belt, about one mile wide, known as the terminal moraine, characterized by a very irregular landscape with many hills and depressions, some water-filled. In the center of the town is a large, low-lying cedar swamp, most of it about thirty feet above sea level, containing Westerly's largest inland water body, Chapman Pond (also known as Burden's Pond). Woody Hill in the Woody Hill State Reservation in the east-central part of town rises to more than 200 feet; in the northwestern corner of Westerly, Mount Moriah, at 249 feet, is the town's highest elevation. Most of the interior is sparsely populated; the majority of Westerly's 17,000 permanent inhabitants live

in a relatively level valley of the Pawcatuck River, in the villages of Bradford, White Rock, Potter Hill, Avondale and Westerly Village, the latter being the largest urban center in southern Rhode Island.

South of Route 1A is the coastal plain, formed by sand and gravel washed out of the terminal moraine. The long barrier beach along the ocean terminates at the west end in a large sand spit and island, and behind the beach are sand dunes and a series of salt-water ponds paralleling the ocean. Quonochontaug Pond, at the east end (and mostly in Charlestown), covers more than 1,000 acres. Its dune field is one of the finest in Rhode Island. The Winnapaug Pond complex, with about 800 acres of water, contains several fine salt marshes. To the west are the smaller Maschaug ponds. Extensive marshes also occur along the lower Pawcatuck River, notably at Colonel Willie Cove. Overall, Westerly's scenic lowland is an outstanding coastal area. Although the permanent population is relatively small, the coastal plain is highly developed, predominantly with summer houses, most of which are at Watch Hill, Misquamicut, Weekapaug and Shelter Harbor. Summer residents and seasonal visitors more than double Westerly's year-round population.

The bounty afforded by Westerly's waters was first realized by Indian residents, who caught large quantities of fish, particularly shad, in the spring, with weirs,

scoops and seines. Misquamicut, the Indian name for the present town of Westerly, means red fish--a salmon. The Indians also farmed the land; one of their largest agricultural clearings was established near Chapman Pond.

Indians occupied the area for probably thousands of years. Exact dates are unknown since no Indian sites have yet been dated, but when Europeans came to America, the Narragansett Indian tribe was well established. The Narragansetts occupied the area until about 1632, when they were defeated in a fierce struggle with the Pequots, the most warlike tribe in New England. The Pequot domain extended along the coast from the Connecticut River to Weekapaug Brook and inland for twenty-five to thirty miles. It is said that they established a fort at Weekapaug. In 1637, an English military force, led by Captain James Mason, passed through Westerly and, near Mystic, Connecticut, defeated the Pequots, who later confederated with the Narragansetts. Pequots settled along Mastuxet Brook about 1654 and remained there until forced to cross the river into Connecticut when Westerly's first colonial settlers arrived around 1661. Today, the Indians who lived in Westerly for centuries are remembered only through a liberal sprinkling of place names over the land and through their artifacts which are found at a number of archeological sites.

The first European visitors on record arrived in Westerly in the early seventeenth century. In 1614, Adrian

Block landed at Pawcatuck Rock, on the Connecticut side of the Pawcatuck River, and made the first survey and map of the river. Soon after, Dutch traders were exchanging cloth and arms for furs from the Indians, with whom they had a temporary compact. The first English settler in the area was Thomas Stanton, who built a trading house near the Pawcatuck, on the Connecticut side, in 1649, and enjoyed a monopoly of trade at the mouth of the river for many years.

In 1660, a private company was organized in Newport to purchase and settle Misquamicut; in the same year, the sachem Sosoia, or Socho, deeded to Robert Stanton, William Vaughan and several other associates the area that approximately comprises today's town of Westerly. In 1661, house lots were laid out extending along the east side of the Pawcatuck River and permanent settlement began. In 1669, when the entire area had only about thirty white families, the town was incorporated; it then included today's Charlestown, Richmond and Hopkinton. Charlestown (including Richmond) was set off as an independent town in 1738, and in 1757 all of Westerly north of the Pawcatuck River became part of the new town of Hopkinton.

From the very beginning of settlement, the sea and the Pawcatuck River have played a major role in Westerly's development and growth. The first shipwright in the Westerly area, Joseph Wells, living "on the Pawcatuck River,"

built a forty-foot vessel at a shipyard near Pawcatuck Rock in 1681; by the late eighteenth century there were active shipyards along the lower Pawcatuck and vessels were being built further upstream at today's Potter Hill. Great profit was made from fishing at Shattuck's Weir and along the lower course of the Pawcatuck, and various sea fish were harvested.

But Westerly's long, exposed ocean front made it vulnerable to attacks from the sea. As early as 1690, a force of fifty-six men were stationed along the coast to meet the threats of attack by French pirates. In 1739-1740, during a war with Spain, a watch house was established at Watch Hill, and a breast works was built at Noyes Neck and at Watch Hill during the Revolutionary War. During the War of 1812 a regiment of Rhode Island militia was stationed near Watch Hill. At the turn of the twentieth century, Fort Mansfield was built at Nepatree Point as a coast artillery post, complete with a battery of eight-inch disappearing guns. Abandoned and dismantled after the First World War, concrete foundations still mark the site of the fort (11).*

The town also took an active part in other national and military affairs. In 1710, and again in 1745, Westerly

* The numbers in parenthesis refer to the Inventory (Section III) and to the location map at the end of the report.

men were sent to Nova Scotia to fight. Westerly men were also furnished for all subsequent wars. The town's independent spirit was shown on February 2, 1774, when the freemen of Westerly published a Bill of Rights and announced the grievances caused by the actions of the British government. The document antedated by a year and a half the Declaration of Independence by the United States Congress and contains almost the exact wording. Before the Civil War, Charles Perry, an antislavery activist, sheltered slaves in nearby Charlestown, a station on the underground railroad, and entertained prominent antislavery spokesmen at his home in Westerly.

Because overland travel was primitive for a long time and travel by boat was relatively easy, the original town dock (19) near Thompson's Cove and later docks at Avondale and Westerly villages were important landings for people and supplies. Schooners and sloops made regular trips to New York and Providence from docks along the river in Westerly. Internal improvements and settlement developed slowly. Queen Anne's Road was laid out from Connecticut to Westerly in 1667, crossing the Pawcatuck at an Indian ford. In 1703, the road was extended through the Narragansett Country; shortly before that a road had been laid out to the north. By the mid-eighteenth century, a highway network crisscrossed the town, which includes

today's Post Road, Nooseneck Hill Road, Potter Hill Road, the Westerly-Bradford Road and Ross Hill Road. In 1712, the Pawcatuck was first spanned by a bridge, at the old ford. Later in the century, other dams and bridges were built along the river at various places. The interior of the town was settled by farmers, some of whom had large estates, including James Babcock, with 2000 acres, and Colonel Joseph Noyes, who owned 400 acres. Doctor Joshua Babcock, one of Westerly's leading citizens and the first native-born physician to practice in Westerly, built a house (37) about 1732-1734. This two-and-a-half-story gambrel house, 124 Granite Street, now on the National Register, was once used as the Westerly Post Office and was visited by Benjamin Franklin. Another gambrel-roofed house (58), originally built by a Maxon, but in the Cottrell family for the past seven generations, occupies a secluded site near Potter Hill. The Crandall Homestead (5), in the Pound Road Rural District, is a good example of the one-and-a-half-story, center-chimney farmhouse which was typical of the Rhode Island countryside. Two noteworthy early homes in Westerly village are the Captain Card House, c. 1750, (46) at 12 Margin Street, and the Carpenter Hickox House (44) at 196 Main Street (which was built before 1730).

Churches were organized in Westerly at an early date. The Westerly area was a stronghold of Baptists and Sabbatarians.



Maxon-Cottrell House
(c. 1750); off Potter
Hill Road. (Map #58)

William Lewis-Captain Card
House (c. 1750); 12 Margin
Street, Westerly Village.
(Map #46)



Babcock-Smith House
(1732-1734); 124
Granite Street,
Westerly Village.
(Map #37).

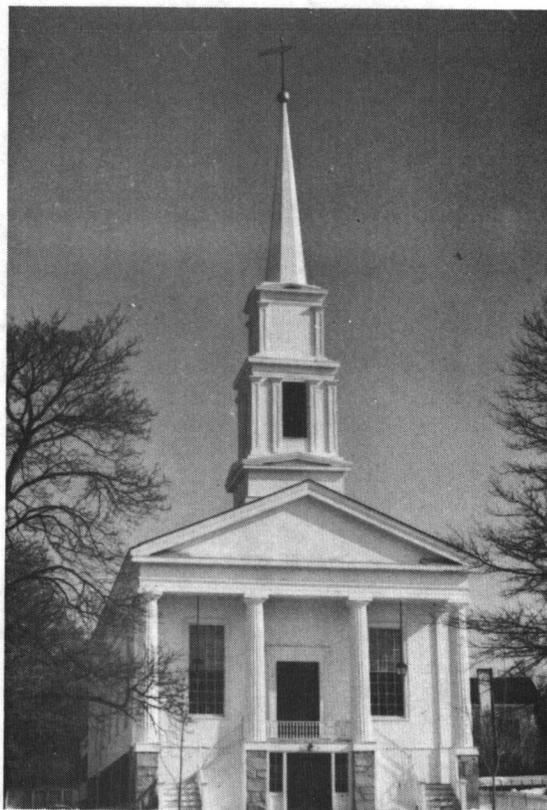
A meetinghouse was built at Pawcatuck village soon after settlement started, and in 1680 a meetinghouse (no longer standing) was erected at Meeting House Bridge, just across the Pawcatuck River, in today's Hopkinton.

Thousands of baptisms took place in the river between 1680 and 1855. In the mid-eighteenth century, several meetinghouses were established in the town, and a minister came as a missionary to the Indians, but the greatest period of religious activity occurred in the mid-nineteenth century when almost a dozen churches, including Congregational, Methodist, Episcopalian and Catholic were organized, and meetinghouses and church edifices erected. Good extant examples are the Avondale Chapel (1C), 1852, a Greek Revival church in Bradford (2C) and the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church (9B), 1848, on Main Street in Westerly village.

The first school building (no longer standing) was erected in 1792 on Cooky Hill, in the village of Westerly, and was used for town meetings and devotional purposes as well as for education. In 1814, the Union Academy was built near the village center (it was later moved to Granite Street). By 1832, there were eleven public and eight private schools in town as education became more universal. The building that now serves as the home of the Westerly Grange Number Eighteen (1B) is a former Early Victorian schoolhouse (School Number Three), perhaps the



Mast and boom at former Dixon Granite Quarry; Old Hopkinton Road.
(Map #50)



Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church (1847-1848); Main Street
Historic District, Westerly Village. (Map #9B)

only surviving early schoolhouse in the town.

Until about 1800, agricultural interests were important, and the population which was largely spread out over the land, grew steadily. Manufacturing and commercial activities were small-scale, local enterprises. After 1800 there was a decline in population and the population remained constant until after 1840, when a surge of industrial growth occurred which triggered a large increase in population. In 1840, the population was 1912; by 1875 it had almost tripled, reaching a total of 5408.

Westerly village was destined to become an urban center because of its site at the point where the Post Road crossed the Pawcatuck River near the head of navigation. In 1750, Pawcatuck Bridge, as the village was known until the mid-nineteenth century, had only three houses, and in 1800 it had less than fifteen residences. In that year, however, a bank, the third in Rhode Island, started business here, and a gristmill was established. A stone factory was built in 1814 by the Pawcatuck Manufacturing Company. In 1819, a gazetteer listed fifty dwellings, eight stores, an "extensive Woolen Factory," two tanneries, two banks, two^o academies and a "Social Library" in the new active and flourishing village. The Pawcatuck River provided excellent fishing and fish and shellfish were caught in large quantities in the bay at the mouth of the river. Shipbuilding was actively carried on. Between

1800 and 1836, many ships were fitted for the Newfoundland and Labrador fisheries and the West Indian trade was popular and lucrative.

In 1832, the construction of the Stonington and Providence Railroad provided more efficient transportation for Westerly village. Several large textile mills were built in the village and in nearby Stillmanville. Calvert B. Cottrell, who started a machine business in the village in 1855 with Nathan Babcock, became a manufacturer of printing presses. He made numerous patented improvements and was the pioneer in the manufacture of the rotary press for magazine work, perfecting the process of color printing. Though founded in Westerly, Cottrell's plant later moved across the river into Pawcatuck, Connecticut. In the early twentieth century, the George C. Moore Company located a plant in Westerly which became the largest concern in the world specializing in the manufacture of elastic webbing for women's wear. This industrial growth was accompanied by the growth of commercial, religious, public and private institutions and buildings. Noteworthy architecturally are the Old Town Hall, 1874; the former Immaculate Conception Church, 1886; Christ Church, 1891-1905; the Westerly Public Library, 1894; the Westerly Armory, 1902; the Westerly Railroad Station, 1912; the Westerly Town Hall and Court House, 1912; the United States Post Office, 1913-1914;



"The Lottery;" Avondale Road, Avondale Historic District. (Map #1)



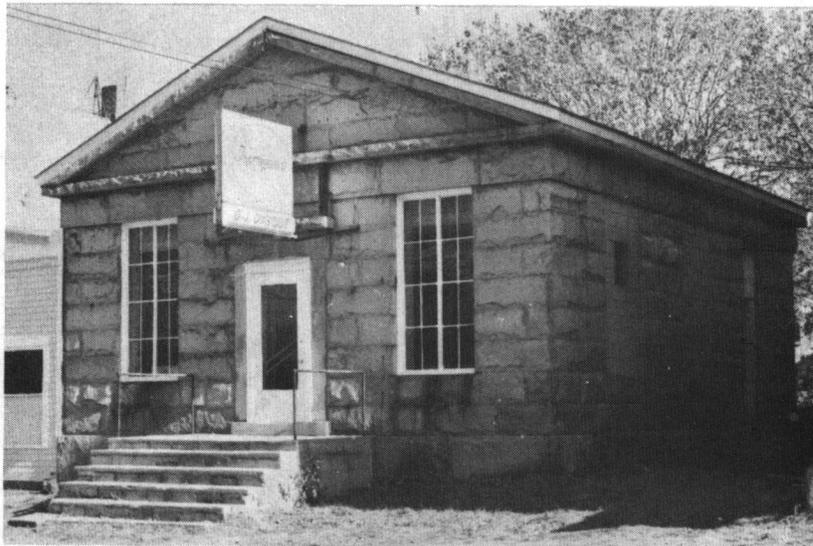
Westerly Grange Number Eighteen, formerly Schoolhouse Number Three; Avondale Road, Avondale Historic District. (Map #1)

and numerous private dwellings along Elm Street. Many of the village's finest buildings are included in the Wilcox Park National Register District (9A). The park, founded by Harriet Hoxie Wilcox in 1898, is the most attractive and best maintained park in southern Rhode Island. It and the library are operated by the Memorial and Library Association. Contiguous to the Wilcox Park Historic District is the Main Street Historic District (9B) which is centered on the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church, 1848; the Elm Street Extension Historic District (9C), notable for its many fine Late Victorian and early twentieth-century residences; and the Central Business District (9D), with several noteworthy commercial structures.

Avondale (1), several miles south of Westerly village, started in an unusual manner. In 1749, Joseph Pendleton, owner of a tract of land along the lower Pawcatuck River, lost a vessel and an uninsured cargo of rum and molasses. To raise money, he ran a lottery, with the permission of the general assembly, selling his land which was divided into 124 house lots of one quarter acre each. Eventually, the place, called Lottery Village, was settled by farmers and fishermen. Its major growth took place in the latter half of the nineteenth century; a school (now a grange hall), a church and several dozen residences were built. As late as 1889 the village was known for its large number of sailors and shipmasters. In 1893, when a post office was established



Mill House (early 20th century); Bowling Lane, Bradford Historic District. (Map #2)



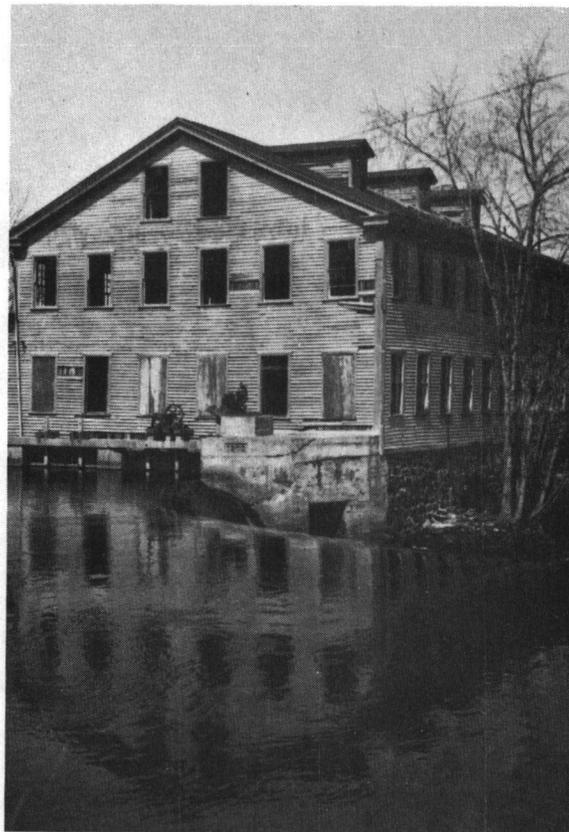
Former Bank (c. 1855); Main Street, Bradford Historic District. (Map #2)

here, the village received its present name. Avondale, which is recommended for the National Register, has remained relatively unchanged, retaining its character of a small nineteenth-century coastal settlement.

Bradford (2), in the northeastern part of town, along the Pawcatuck River, was an important fishing place for the Indians and early white settlers. Shattuck's (or Shaddock's) Weir Bridge, its original name, had its first settler in 1732. A bridge was put across the river before 1758 and later came small industries--a sawmill, a gristmill, a small factory for custom carding and cloth dressing and a woolen mill. John Aldrich Saunders, an important nineteenth-century shipbuilder, was born and built his first vessel here in 1809. In 1837, the Providence and Stonington Railroad came through Bradford, and it became known as the Hopkinton and Charlestown station. By 1846, when a wooden mill, stores and other buildings were added, the name was changed to Dorrville in honor of Thomas W. Dorr, who had recently worked for increased suffrage in Rhode Island. About 1855, the Hopkinton Bank built a fine one-story stone structure on Main Street. A stone mill was built in 1864, but manufacturing declined after the Civil War and the mill eventually became idle. The Niantic Dyeing Company bought the mill and the village was renamed Niantic. In 1911, about 800 acres of land, including the village, were purchased by the Bradford Dyers



Stone Mill (1847); Potter Hill Historic District. (Map #4)



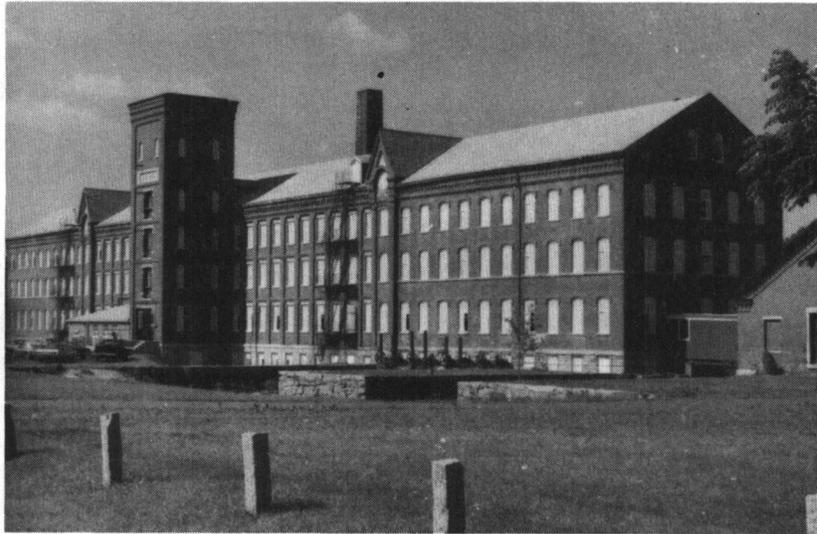
Wooden Mill (1847) and Pawcatuck River; Potter Hill Historic District
The mill was destroyed by fire in November 1977. (Map #4)

Association of England. They remodeled and renovated the stone mill and built new tenement houses of "model design." A new factory, covering more than 200,000 square feet, became one of the most extensive bleaching and dyeing plants in the country. The village, which became Bradford, today includes the stone mill, the c. 1912 factory, a row of "model mill houses" along Bowling Lane, a church, a school, a stone bank building and other residences. It is recommended for the National Register.

Potter Hill (4), along the Pawcatuck River in the northern part of town, also started as a small-scale manufacturing enterprise. A gristmill and a sawmill were established here soon after 1762. In 1775, when George Potter bought the site, there were a sawmill, gristmill, fulling mill, two dwellings and, soon after, a store. At Potters Bridge, as it was then called, Joseph Potter began the manufacture of cotton in part of an old mill in 1810 and in 1812 he started manufacturing cotton in a new factory. Joseph and Nathan Potter began building boats around 1810, most of small size, an industry which lasted for a short time. Edwin and Horace Babcock purchased the mills and water privilege at Potter Hill in 1844 and began manufacturing. In 1847, they built two mills, one of stone, one of wood. The mills, which subsequently were owned by the Campbell Mills Company and by the Swift River Woolen

Company, ceased manufacturing in the 1960s. The Potter Hill stone mill, among the finest architecturally in Rhode Island, still stands, but the two-and-a-half-story, frame mill building along the river was destroyed by fire in November, 1977. Potter Hill's nineteenth-century dwellings and store retain their basic integrity and visual appeal with no modern intrusions. The group is recommended for the National Register.

One of the first dams across the Pawcatuck River was built just below the present village of White Rock (10) about 1700. The first tan vats of Westerly were built here, and a gristmill operated at the time of the Revolutionary War, but the village did not develop until 1849, when a brick mill and twelve, identical, double mill houses were built by Rowse Babcock and Jesse L. Moss. Walks were laid out in front of the mill, and a grove of trees were planted in the mill grounds. A large schoolhouse was added by the proprietors in 1856. The neat and pleasant village was purchased in 1873 by the firm of B. B. and G. Knight, who enlarged the mill and built more dwellings, doubling the size of the village. The mill has continued in operation to the present, and most of the village exists today as it did in the nineteenth century, albeit with a loss of a sensitivity to the beauty of the grounds around the mill. For its completeness and outstanding architectural and scenic quality, White Rock



White Rock Mill (1849, 1877); Main Street, White Rock Historic District. (Map #10)



Double Mill House (c. 1849); Main Street, White Rock Historic District. (Map #10)

is recommended for the National Register.

Another important activity of the mid-nineteenth century was the quarrying of granite. A hotel (now gone), erected in Westerly in 1836, is said to be the first building constructed of Westerly granite. A quarry (65), started by Alexander Crumb and later owned and operated by the Sullivan Granite Company through much of the twentieth century, started operating near Bradford in 1834. It was the exclusive producer of a fine-grained, blue-white granite, and quarrying was carried on until 1969. Although now idle, the quarries and the remains of some structures and industrial ruins make it the most important surviving quarry and it is recommended for the National Register.

The most important local quarry was that of the former Smith Granite Company. In 1845, Orlando Smith started a quarry (34) on a farm once owned by Dr. Joshua Babcock and the following year purchased the site. Smith found a fine-grained granite whose outstanding qualities made it an admirable material for monuments. Many local buildings, and monuments and buildings elsewhere--including the Connecticut state capitol, a bust of Franklin D. Roosevelt at Hyde Park, New York, and the founder's statue at Roger Williams Park in Providence--were made from granite from the Smith quarry. The Smith Granite Company, incorporated



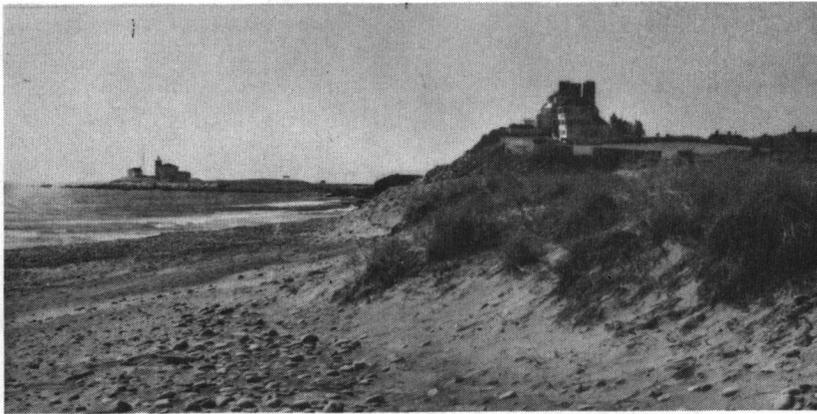
Summer Houses; Wawoloam Drive, Weekapaug. (Map #8)



Weekapaug Inn (c. 1955); Weekapaug. (Map #8)

in 1887, included a large number of houses, shops and sheds and a large granite store and an engine house and at one time employed 300 people. The Rhode Island Granite Works, later the New England Granite Works, adjoining the Smith Granite Company, provided the stone for the statue of a soldier at the Antietam Battlefield, which was cut from a single block weighing 60 tons; it also supplied the stone for the monument commemorating victory at Gettysburg. Several other quarries, providing stone for various uses, were established northeast of these quarries, the most notable of which was the old Dixon Granite Company quarry (50) on Cormorant Hill where a large mast and boom used to move massive blocks of granite still stand atop the summit of the hill, as a reminder of a formerly active Westerly industry. Today, the quarries are all idle, but examples of the material and workmanship employed in the granite industry can be seen in the River Bend Cemetery (16), which contains many fine monuments of Westerly granite, and in the Town Hall and Courthouse, the largest building in Westerly built of local stone.

During the nineteenth century, while villages were being spawned along the Pawcatuck River to take advantage of navigable waters and water power, settlement of a completely different kind was taking place on the ocean front. From Indian times, Watch Hill (7) was used sporadically



Shoreline, Summer House and Watch Hill Lighthouse; Watch Hill Historic District. (Map #7)

Summer Houses; Watch Hill Historic District. (Map #7)



Summer House, Wagner Road, Shelter Harbor Historic District (Map #16)

as a place to keep a watch-out for enemies, but the first stimulus to its development as a community came as a result of numerous shipwrecks.

In 1806, a lighthouse (7A) was built at Watch Hill Point. The first lighthouse keeper, Jonathan Nash, also established the first place of entertainment about 1833, which became the Watch Hill House. By 1870 a bathing beach, with bathhouses, and several summer cottages were established, and Watch Hill's beach, one of the finest along the New England coast, attracted many people. In 1879, a traveling carnival left a flying horse carousel (7D) here; it is still among Watch Hill's attractions. Around 1883, a large Cincinnati syndicate began to sell house lots from a 160-acre tract they had purchased and the slopes of the hilly village were soon covered with "handsome and picturesque" summer homes of wealthy New Yorkers and Westerners, including a number of Cincinnati residents. These Late Victorian summer houses, many of great architectural quality, create the basic historic and visual fabric of Watch Hill in defining the area's function and image.

In the early twentieth century, the automobile caused the resort hotels to lose their importance and some were burned or demolished, but summer homes continued to be built. Today, the Ocean House (7E), a large Late Victorian structure, is the only large resort hotel left. A commercial district

(7F), developed along Bay Street and devoted largely to specialty shops, is a popular gathering place.

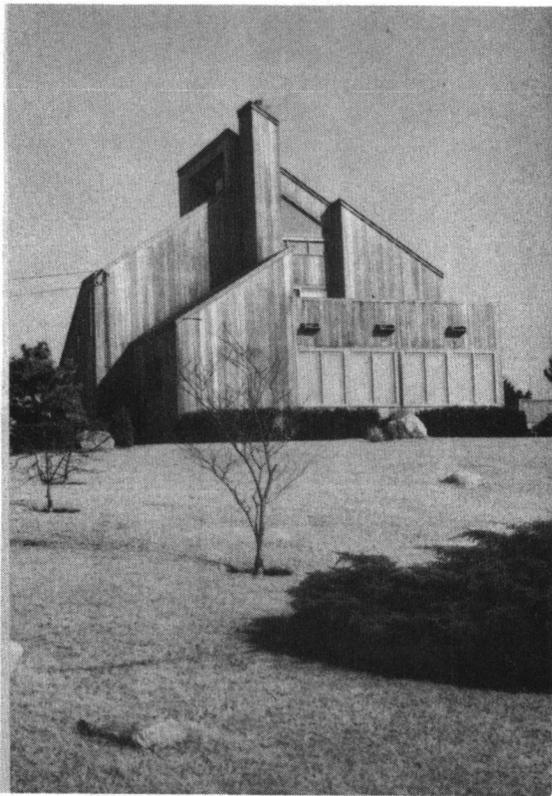
Watch Hill enjoys a reputation as one of Rhode Island's most beautiful shore communities; with its variety of cultural resources, it is recommended for the National Register.

Weekapaug (8) was settled by the Reverend James Noyes, who bought 300 acres here in 1688 and built a homestead at Noyes Neck, as it was originally known. In 1859 its attraction as a summer resort was recognized when a house was rented for the season. Small summer cottages and a road were built in 1877, and in the next decade more pretentious summer homes were built near the ocean. A large hotel, the Weekapaug Inn, was built in 1899, the year the place was officially renamed Weekapaug, "at the end of the pond," a suitable name because of its site at the western end of Quonochontaug Pond. Many more houses were added in the twentieth century, including several outstanding homes erected in the last few years. Although the homes are not on the same scale or the grounds not as large and well landscaped as at Watch Hill, Weekapaug continues to be a fashionable and quiet summer colony and for its architectural quality is recommended for nomination to the National Register.

Westerly's newest summer communities were founded at the end of the nineteenth century. Around 1894, a group



Barn; Spring Brook Avenue. (Map #75)



House (c. 1970); Upland Road, Weekapaug Historic District. (Map #8)

of Westerly men bought land and built cottages along the ocean at Misquamicut (3), which was known as Pleasant View until 1928. In 1903, the Pleasant View House was built, and in the next eight years, a good road, a post office, a water system and electricity were provided. Many summer houses were added, most of them small, unpretentious structures more suited to people of ordinary means in contrast to the more elegant structures in neighboring Watch Hill and Weekapaug.

Today, Misquamicut is a compact community of summer cottages and is a significant historic district because of its role in the settlement of the town of Westerly.

The town's most easterly summer community, Shelter Harbor (6), was the last to be developed. This early twentieth-century resort, once known as Music Colony because many singers and artists had summer homes here, is an attractive area, with many fine early-to-middle twentieth-century summer homes on well landscaped lots. Most of the summer community has an attractive setting on a peninsula extending into Quonochontaug Pond. Near the entrance, at Post Road, is the Shelter Harbor Inn, a former Greek Revival residence which was converted to a public house.

Although the town's population has more than doubled in the twentieth century, the pattern of settlement is



House (18th century)
and Farm: Spring
Brook Avenue.
(Map #75)

L. Sisson House; Dunns
Corners-Bradford Road.
(Map #29)



House (early 20th
century); High Street,
Westerly Village.
(Map #41)

much the same as it was at the end of the nineteenth century. Most people live in Westerly village, with small concentrations in the other villages. Of the nineteenth-century villages, Bradford, which was revitalized around 1912, is the most viable. White Rock has experienced little growth and Potter Hill, with its mills idle, is now just a quiet residential community. Avondale has changed little and today is a tranquil, picturesque community along the lower Pawcatuck, but the summer resort communities have grown in popularity since the last century; thousands of people visit them annually to take advantage of the beaches and cool summer breezes.

The population of the mostly wooded interior has remained sparse and several farms still present a picture of the earlier agricultural heritage, notably an open tract in the center of the cedar swamp along Pound Road (9) and a farm centered on a fine eighteenth-century house, with later outbuildings, on Spring Brook Road (75). Notable twentieth-century development in Westerly village includes the Westerly Hospital (85), 1925, with a two-and-a-half-story, neo-Georgian nursing home, built on Wells Street, and later, a state airport (12) and a relatively recent industrial park established southeast of the main village. An interesting structure is the 1910 water tower (34) on Ledward Avenue. It was one of the first concrete standpipes



Central Business District; Canal Street, Westerly Village. (Map #9D)



Westerly Railroad Station (1912); Westerly Village. (Map #66)

built in the United States and is capped by an unusual Guastavino dome roof of red glazed tile.

Today, Westerly retains several different types of historical environments. Along the Pawcatuck River are the town's major urban areas, dominated by the commercial center at Westerly village. Along the upper part of the river are the little-changed mill villages--Bradford, Potter Hill and White Rock. The small nineteenth-century maritime community of Avondale lies along the reaches of the lower river. Along the ocean coast are the summer resorts--Shelter Harbor, Weekapaug, Misquamicut and Watch Hill. Scattered about are Indian sites, fine houses, schools, factories, old burying grounds and other individual properties which reflect shifting economic trends, social structures, ideals and tastes.

The structures and sites catalogued in this report are Westerly's most apparent cultural resources and collectively reflect the broad range of the town's material history. The following inventory and accompanying map identify buildings, objects, structures, sites and districts considered by the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission to be of cultural significance to the town, state or nation and worthy of preservation. Future planning decisions affecting these properties should take their cultural importance into consideration.

III. PRELIMINARY INVENTORY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES

This list is an annotated key to the preliminary survey map of Westerly. The numbers refer to the map at the back of this report (e. g., 1--Avondale Historic District).^{*} Material in the inventory is presented in three categories: historic districts and areas, which are listed first; individual properties, which are listed by streets in alphabetical and numerical order; and archeological sites. Properties on or approved for the National Register are indicated with two asterisks and properties recommended for consideration to the National Register are identified by one asterisk. All other properties listed here are significant; upon further investigation and review some of these may be deemed eligible for nomination to the National Register and may be nominated. A list of properties on, approved or recommended for the National Register of Historic Places is on the following page.

^{*} A more detailed map, at a scale of 1" to 1000', which locates places and outlines districts more precisely, is on file at the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission and in the Westerly Town Hall; copies have also gone to the State Department of Transportation, the Statewide Planning Program and the Department of Community Affairs.

Dates and names which appear on 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. Following is a list of the historical-period designations used in this report and the time span during which the style was most popular:

Colonial: From the time of settlement to 1800

Federal: 1775-1835

Greek Revival: 1825-1860

Early Victorian: 1840-1865

Late Victorian: 1865-1900

early 20th century: 1900-1940

mid-20th century: 1940-1975

late 20th century: 1975 to the present.

The following is a list of districts, structures and sites on or approved for the National Register (a more complete description appears in the inventory which follows):

- Wilcox Park Historic District, Westerly Village (9A)
- Main Street Historic District, Westerly Village (9B)
- Babcock-Smith House, 124 Granite Street (37)
- Former Immaculate Conception Church, High Street (38A)

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

- Avondale Historic District (1)
- Bradford Historic District (2)
- Potter Hill Historic District (4)
- Watch Hill Historic District (7)
- Elm Street Extension Historic District, Westerly Village (9C)
- Central Business District, Westerly Village (9D)
- White Rock Historic District (10)
- Water Tower, Ledward Avenue (43)
- Maxon-Cottrell House, Potter Hill Road (58)
- Sullivan Granite Company Quarries (65)
- Westerly Railroad Station (66)
- Lewis Farm, Spring Brook Avenue (75)

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

DISTRICTS

- *1. Avondale Historic District: An intact, small-scale coastal village along the lower Pawcatuck River south of Westerly Village, comprised of about two dozen mid-19th-century dwellings, a church, grange hall and several boat yards. The village dates from 1749 when Joseph Pendleton divided his land into 124 house lots which were sold through a lottery, but most development occurred in the early and middle 19th century. Many of the early settlers, including the Pendleton and Hall families, were farmers and fisherman, but the village was also well known for its large number of sailors and shipmasters, many of whom engaged in whaling. Throughout most of the 19th century the place was known as Lottery Village, but in 1893, when the post office was established, it became Avondale. (1831-Lottery Village.)
- A. Avondale Farm: An open area of fields and stone walls at the east end of the village centered on a mid-19th century, 3½-story, shingle and clapboard house and several outbuildings. (1855-shown on map; 1862-J. & P. Chapman.)
- B. Westerly Grange Number Eighteen, formerly School Number Three: A 1-story mid-19th-century building with a simple entry in the gable end. This structure, at the entrance to Avondale, served as its schoolhouse throughout the second half of the 19th century and into the 20th century. (1855-School.)
- C. Avondale Chapel (1852): A plain 1-story Greek Revival meetinghouse with entry in the gable end and a small square belfry at the front, on the roof ridge. The church was organized here as a branch of the First Baptist Church of Westerly in 1843, and in 1848 a meetinghouse was built. In 1851 it was destroyed by fire and the present house built. In 1855 it again became a branch church. (1862-Baptist Church.)
- D. The Lottery: A 2½-story, Greek Revival house with entrances at the gable and flank sides. (1855-shown on map; 1862-Captain E. Nash.)
- E. India Point, formerly Captain Palmer Hall House (1840): A 2½-story Greek Revival structure with several additions, including a polygonal tower in front. The house, built by Captain Hall, a whaling captain who put out of Stonington, Connecticut, occupies a small promontory--Indian Point--jutting out into the Pawcatuck River. (1862-Captain P. Hall.)

2. Bradford Historic District: A village in the northeastern part of Westerly along the Pawcatuck River and on the principal railroad corridor of the northeast, Bradford is comprised of several factories, a church, several businesses and numerous residences. It was originally known as Shattuck's Weir because of its importance to Indians and early European settlers as a fishing place. Permanent settlement began about 1732; a bridge and sawmill were built, followed by a gristmill and a small factory for cloth manufacture. Captain John Aldrich Saunders, who went on to a shipbuilding career in other parts of Rhode Island, was born here. He built his first vessel in Bradford in 1809. When the Providence and Stonington Railroad was built in 1837 the place was known as the Hopkinton and Charlestown Station, but the name was changed again in 1846 to Dorrville, for Thomas W. Dorr who fought for increased suffrage in the decade of the 1840s. Following the construction of a stone mill in 1864, manufacture was carried on intermittently and the village was renamed Niantic when the Niantic Dyeing Company bought the mill. Bradford received its final name shortly after 1911, when the Bradford Dyers Association of England bought the village and land along the river. An investment of one million dollars of British capital revitalized the village-- the stone mill was renovated, a new factory was built, some old buildings torn down and a new tenement house of a "model design" erected. The large factory, covering more than 200,000 square feet, became one of the most extensive bleaching and dyeing plants in the United States. (1819-Shaddock Weir Bridge.)

- A. Mills: Along the river is the 2-story, 1864 stone mill, and the large 1-story, c. 1912, brick factory, with a saw-tooth roof with north-facing windows, of the Bradford Dyeing Association, Inc. (1862-Factory.)
- B. Bowling Lane Houses: A long, dead-end, side street extending from the center of the village, includes 1½- and 2½-story houses, ranging in period and style from the mid-19th century to the early 20th century. Most are double houses which were built during the revitalization period around 1912. At the end of the street is what was probably the mill agent's residence-- a large 2½-story, early 20th-century Tudor style house, with half-timbering, set on a well landscaped lot. (1855-some houses are along the north side of the street.)

- C. Church: A 1-story clapboard Greek Revival meetinghouse on Bowling Lane, with an enclosed entry at the street-facing gable end and a small belfry atop the ridge. (1870-Baptist Church.)
- D. Former Bank (c. 1855): A 1-story, end-gable, Greek Revival structure, with exterior walls of large, dressed granite blocks. The entrance, up a short flight of steps from street level, is central in a 3-bay facade. There is a course of longer stone blocks at the cornice and a stone course at the gable end, both characteristic of the Greek Revival style. It was originally built for banking rooms for the Hopkinton Bank, but it was never occupied due to the financial reverses of 1857. Later, it was used as a stock room, as a storehouse for milk and farm products and as lodge rooms for a stonecutter's union. It is now an adjunct to a bar in the adjoining building. (1855-Bank.)
- E. Bradford School (c. 1920, 1967): A 1-story, brick, Neoclassical, early-20th century school. It was built with a hollow square in the center which was a courtyard used as the school children's playground.
- F. The Bradford Club (early 19th century): A 2½-story structure with a large center chimney, an addition at the south side, a shed-roof overhang at the northwest corner and asymmetrical window placement. Located at the corner of Main Street and Bowling Lane, it is one of Bradford's oldest buildings; it is now used as a private club. (1855-?)
3. Misquamicut Historic District: A summer resort comprised largely of small, unpretentious summer cottages, largely early-to-middle 20th-century structures, in a densely populated area between the Shore Road (Route 1A) and Block Island Sound and at the west end of Winnapaug Pond. Until 1894, when a group of Westerly men bought land and built cottages along the ocean, it was used by hunters, fishermen, picnickers and swimmers. Pleasant View, as it was known, made slow progress until about 1903, when the Pleasant View House was established. In the next eight years came a good road, a post office, a water system and electricity, and the place grew considerably. In 1928 the name was changed to Misquamicut, the Indian name of Westerly. (1895-Pleasant View.)
- *4. Potter Hill Historic District: Along the Pawcatuck River at the northern border of Westerly, extending into Hopkinton, it is the idle mill complex and houses which make up the formerly thriving village

of Potter Hill. The village started soon after 1762 when a gristmill was moved here from nearby Meeting House Bridge. A sawmill was later moved here. In 1775, when George Potter bought the place, which became known as Potters Bridge, there was a sawmill, a gristmill, a fulling mill and two dwellings; a store was opened later. Joseph Potter began the manufacture of cotton in 1810 in part of the old mill and in 1812 he started a cotton factory. Joseph and Nathan Potter built small boats here, for the Green Island fishery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, which were floated to tidewater. Larger boats--sloops, schooners and a ship--were framed here, taken apart and rebuilt in Westerly. In 1844, Edwin and Horace Babcock purchased the mills and privileges at Potter Hill and began manufacturing. They built two mills, one of wood, one of stone, in 1847, which were subsequently owned by other manufacturers. Almost the entire growth of the village took place during the middle-to-late 19th century. Most of the residential development took place across the river, in Hopkinton. Today, Potter Hill is a quiet, picturesque residential community, with its large architecturally outstanding mill complex, former store and 19th-century dwellings essentially as they were in the last century. There are no modern intrusions. (1819-Potter Bridge Mills.)

- A. Potter Hill Mills: A relatively large mill complex along the river, including the two 1847 structures. The wooden mill, a 2½-story building erected around 1835, which was at the western end of a curved dam, burned in November, 1977. A 1-story addition extends several hundred feet along the river. The 3-story red granite mill, with a 4-story truncated tower set at the rear, is a handsome Greek Revival building, built about 1840, with smooth ashlar granite walls. The mill complex, one of the finest in Rhode Island, has been idle for many years and is in poor condition. (1855-Babcock & Co.'s Factory.)
- B. Houses: Several dwelling houses, mostly 1½- and 2½-story structures, of Greek Revival and mid-19th-century vintage, along Potter Hill Road and some short side streets. (1855-most are shown.)
- C. Store: A 2½-story, clapboard, Greek Revival structure, end to road, along Potter Hill Road. (1870-first listing on maps as a store.)

- D. Potter Hill Rocking Stone: A large globe-like glacial erratic atop a rocky bluff, recognized as a geological curiosity in the 19th century. (1855-Rocking Stone--40 tons)
5. Pound Road Rural District: An "island" of several dry acres in the midst of the extensive cedar swamp, with open fields and stone walls, centered on the Crandall Farm and a 1½-story 18th-century house with a stone center chimney and a central entry in a 5-bay facade. Elder John Crandall settled here and built a house about 1665, part of which may be incorporated in the present house. The cedar swamp was regularly cut each winter. It is presently a horse farm (Tennessee Walkers). (1855-shown on map; 1870-C. Crandall.) Nearby is a large wood-shingle barn with a cut granite foundation and a silo. (1895-Margaret Crandall.)
6. Shelter Harbor Historic District: Westerly's easternmost and most recent summer resort community, Shelter Harbor consists of several dozen, fine, early-to-middle 20th-century summer houses, expressing several styles ranging from traditional forms, such as Shingle Style and English Tudor with appropriate details such as half-timbering at the gable ends, to a contemporary house based on cubical forms, expressing verticality and a relative stark simplicity. In the early 20th century, Shelter Harbor was referred to as Music Colony because many artists and singers had summer homes here. All the streets are named for prominent musicians. The shore resort entrance is marked by a stone structure along the Post Road; just beyond the entrance is the Shelter Harbor Inn, a 2½-story Greek Revival structure with two interior brick chimneys, a central entrance in a 5-bay facade and extensive additions at the sides and rear. (1855-O. Davis.)
- *7. Watch Hill Historic District: This is an outstanding historic summer resort district, surpassed in Rhode Island only by Newport. Watch Hill, Westerly's first summer resort, occupies an excellent site along Block Island Sound on a hilly glacial moraine which extends into the sea at Watch Hill Point. Most of the houses are substantial and are well set off by the irregular and well-landscaped topography. In 1808, the first lighthouse was built at the point. About 1833, rooms were being rented by the keeper of the lighthouse. By 1870, with the establishment of summer cottages and a

bathing beach with bathhouses, Watch Hill was a budding summer resort. Large hotels were built, steamer connections were provided to Stonington and Westerly, where connections were made with the railroad, and house lots were sold, including a 160-acre tract owned by a Cincinnati syndicate. Many wealthy New York and Cincinnati residents built "handsome and picturesque" summer houses. In 1894, the Pawcatuck Valley Street Railway opened a trolley line between Westerly Village and Watch Hill, terminating at the carousel. It operated six months each year until it ceased operations in 1921. Eventually, the hotel business declined and most of Watch Hill's hotels were destroyed; some were replaced by cottages. Today, Watch Hill continues its century-old role as an exclusive summer resort, catering to numerous short-time visitors and more permanent summer residents. (1819-Watch Hill.) In addition to its numerous summer homes, mostly dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in a variety of architectural styles, there are several other significant properties.

- A. Watch Hill Lighthouse (1856) and U. S. Coast Guard Station (1907-1908): The first lighthouse, a wood shingle structure, was built about 1802. In 1806 it was acquired by the federal government and in 1856 the present, square, granite lighthouse was erected. The light, 61 feet above the water at Watch Hill Point, marks the northern side of the east entrance into Long Island Sound. A U. S. lifesaving station was established at the point in 1879 and served until 1938. In 1907-1908, the present station house was erected at the lighthouse. (1831-Watch Hill Light.)
- B. Site of Watch Tower: The first signal station was probably built at this site, south of Bluff Avenue, during the French and Indian War, 1756-1763. A tower, manned during the Revolution, kept watch for British vessels. In the early 20th century, "Holiday House" was erected on the site.
- C. Ninigret Statue (c. 1904): On Bay Street, near the commercial district and at Watch Hill Cove, is a bronze statue of the local Indian chief, Ninigret, who is represented kneeling and holding a fish in each hand. The statue, which rests on a large boulder, was modeled in Paris by Enid Yandell, an American sculptress, and cast by Alexis Rudies. The park in which it is located was designed by Marion Coffin.

- *D. The Flying Horse Carousel (1879): A late 19th-century structure of wood, supported by cobblestones, supports a "flying horse" carousel which may be the oldest in America. The carousel, which was left behind by a traveling carnival in 1879, consists of twenty small wooden horses, each carved by hand from a single block of wood. They were made by Charles W. Dare Co. of New York around 1876. The carousel is so named because the horses "fly" outward as they circle around a small merry-go-round.
- E. Ocean House: A large, 3-story, bracketed, Late Victorian, mansard-roof hotel, with a 2-story semicircular portico at the street side and a 5-story square tower. At the rear is a long, 4-story addition. The hotel, still popular today, is set on the highest point of a hill, with a view of the ocean. It is the fourth or fifth structure to occupy the site. (1895-Ocean House.)
- F. Commercial District: A long, 2-story, Late Victorian-early 20th-century commercial block on Bay Street, in the village center, facing a park and a small harbor on Little Narragansett Bay. It consists primarily of specialty shops--an antique shop, a candy shop, an ice cream shop, clothing stores and a couturiere.
- *8. Weekapaug Historic District: A summer resort along Block Island Sound at the west end of Quonochontaug Pond containing several dozen summer houses, a large hotel, a chapel and a store. Weekapaug began as a summer resort in 1859 when a house was rented for the season. In 1877, several summer cottages were built; in the 1880s larger summer houses were built near the ocean. The Weekapaug Inn, a large hotel, was built in 1899, when the place, known until then as Noyes Neck, was officially renamed Weekapaug. It means "at the end of the pond." In 1938, the Inn was destroyed and replaced soon after by the present inn. Weekapaug today is one of the state's finest summer resorts, with a pleasant site along the pond and ocean. Its late 19th- and early 20th-century houses (including some outstanding wood-shingle style structures plus an inn and chapel) are an important part of the architectural and historical heritage of Westerly. (1870-Mrs. Carpenter--two houses shown.)

9. Westerly Village Historic District: Westerly Village occupies a large area in the west-central part of town. Its long axis is north-south, paralleling the Pawcatuck River for three miles, and extending "inland" for about a mile. Its siting is strategic--being at the head of navigation, at a water-power site, on a main rail line and at the river crossing of what was the major central highway. Westerly Village is the largest urban center in southern Rhode Island and serves adjacent portions of New London County, Connecticut. The village has a well developed central business district near the Pawcatuck River Bridge and contains many commercial, religious, governmental and residential structures which are historically and architecturally noteworthy. Growth started at Pawcatuck Bridge, as it was first known, about 1800, when a bank and a gristmill were established. In 1814, a stone factory was built along the river, and between 1800 and 1836, shipbuilding was actively carried on. By 1819, there were fifty dwellings, eight stores, a woolen factory, two banks, two academies and a library. In 1832, the Stonington and Providence Railroad came through the village, and soon after several large textile mills were built here and in Stillmanville. Calvert B. Cottrell, who began the manufacture of printing presses in 1855, eventually developed a large and important industry in the village; in the early 20th century, the George C. Moore Company located a plant here which became the largest factory in the world specializing in the manufacture of elastic webbing for women's wear. The accompanying population growth increased the size of the village far beyond its original center at the bridge. (1819-Pawcatuck Bridge.) Near the center of the village are two National Register districts--Wilcox Park and Main Street.†

†Within Westerly Village, only four National Register districts and several noteworthy structures are included in this listing. Westerly village requires a more intensive survey, which, when complete, will include more areas, districts, structures and sites of architectural importance. The boundaries of the village, as shown on the maps, are preliminary, subject to change upon more detailed study.

- **A.** Wilcox Park Historic District⁺⁺: The district is centered on the park and is bounded approximately by High, Broad, and Granite Streets and Grove Avenue. It also includes nearby structures and extends south along Elm Street to School Street. The park, the finest in southern Rhode Island, was founded by Harriet Hoxie Wilcox in 1898; she purchased the 18½-acre Rowse Babcock estate in the heart of the village and subsequently endowed a private foundation to develop and maintain it. Occupying a grassy depression, the park is crossed by winding paths and contains a variety of shrubs and trees and four commemorative monuments. This lovely park exemplifies the scenic planning concepts prevalent at the close of the 19th century. Abutting the park are the Westerly Public Library (1894) and the Post Office (1913-1914). The Town Hall and Courthouse (1912) is across Broad Street, and nearby, on Union Street, is the Former Town Hall (1874). Christ Church (1891-1905) occupies a conspicuous place at the corner of Broad and Elm streets. Elm Street contains several dozen outstanding structures, including the Former Christian Church, several Greek Revival dwellings built between 1830 and 1850, fine Late Victorian Second Empire Houses, and a Late Victorian-Gothic residence at the corner of School Street. At 15 Granite Street is an exceptionally fine Late Victorian shingle house, and at nearby 27 Granite Street is the former Union Academy built in 1814 and relocated here later. Along Grove Street, across from the park, is a row of houses which are good examples of pattern-book architecture of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
- **B.** Main Street Historic District: This district, a short distance south of the village center, contains twenty structures--nineteen houses and a church. The Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church, built in 1847-1848, and restored in 1927, a handsome Greek Revival structure, is the visual focus of the district. Almost all of the houses were built between 1835 and 1885. They reflect Greek Revival,

⁺⁺Places on the National Register are summarized here. For a more complete account of these places see the National Register file at the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission Office.

Italianate, Second Empire, Stick Style, Swiss Chalet and Queen Anne designs; several also served as the homes of prominent Westerly residents. The area is significant for its individual structures and collectively as material record of an important period in Westerly's history.

- *C. Elm Street Extension Historic District: This is an extension of the Elm Street section of the Wilcox Park National Register Historic District which witnessed a later development. By 1870, only the section between School Street and Cross Street was developed, but a half century later, almost all of the present structures were built, most of them substantial. Characteristically, these Late Victorian and early 20th-century structures represent a variety of architectural styles, including Second Empire, Stick Style and Shingle Style. Noteworthy are the St. Pius X Rectory, a 2½-story structure, part of the former George Moore estate and an early 20th-century estate centered around a brick residence.
- D. The Central Business District: Centered on High and Canal Streets, this is the principal commercial area of southwestern Rhode Island and adjacent Connecticut. The east side of High Street, between Broad and Canal Streets, is part of the Wilcox Park Historic District. The buildings along the west side of the street, all brick, are 1-, 2- and 3-story stores with a basically uniform facade except for the middle section. Noteworthy are the Brown Building, an early 20th-century commercial block with detailing in its brown brick and brownstone facade, and the Neoclassical early 20th-century Vars Drugs Building. Canal Street, between High Street and Railroad Street, is lined on both sides with Late Victorian and early 20th-century commercial structures. Among the noteworthy buildings are the Martin House (1888), now the Hotel Savoy, a 3½-story mansard roof, brick, public house with a small central tower; the Nardone Block (1926), a 3-story brick building with a round corner at the intersection of High and Canal Streets; and a yellow brick structure with an Art Deco facade.
- *10. White Rock Historic District: A mill village along the Pawcatuck River in the northwestern part of Westerly, comprised of a large mill, several dozen mill houses, a former store and a former school. Although there was some small-scale industrial activity

here in the 18th century--tan vats and a gristmill-- the village began its existence in 1849, when Rowse Babcock and Jesse L. Moss built the center section of the existing mill and twelve identical double mill houses which still stand opposite. A large schoolhouse was added by the proprietors in 1856. Attention was paid to aesthetics and planning; in 1869, White Rock, which consisted of the mill complex and school along the west side of the street and the long row of mill houses opposite, in a simple linear pattern, was described as the "pleasantest and neatest manufacturing village in New England." In 1873, the firm of B. B. & G. Knight purchased White Rock; enlarged the mill adding to it at both ends; built dwellings; the store and post office; and doubled the size of the village. With the mill, of outstanding architectural quality, which is still running today, attendant mill houses, former store and school, White Rock is a major and well-preserved legacy of the nineteenth century mill village era. In historic and architectural terms, White Rock is one of the three or four most important mill villages in Rhode Island. (1855-White Rock.)

- A. White Rock Mill (1849, 1877): A 4-story brick structure with a 5-story projecting tower and additions at both ends. The mill has elaborately corbelled brickwork with contrasting granite lintels and sills. Although the mill has been altered--the decorated tower roof and a row of gable dormers were removed--it is still an outstanding building architecturally. Today, the Griswold Textile Print Company, owners since 1948, manufacture silkscreen prints here.
- B. Mill Houses (1849): Two groups of essentially identical 2½-story double mill houses, with hip roofs, along the east side of the main street opposite the mill; one group of six is north of Spring Brook Road, the other group is south of the road. These houses each have two interior brick chimneys, two porticoed entrances, one at each end of the front, a 5-bay facade, a small ell at the rear, and are set on relatively large lots. Some still retain their wood picket fences anchored by granite posts. There are also about eight 2½-story gabled-roof mill houses, built later than the original group, nearby. (1855-shown on map.)

- C. Former School Number Twelve (1856): A fine, 2-story brick structure with a central cupola, set apart from the other buildings. (1870-S. H.)
- D. Former Store and Post Office: A 2½-story, Early Victorian structure with a mid-20th-century cinder-block addition at the west end. (1895-Store, P. O.)
- E. Pawcatuck River Bridge (1906): Two separate iron-truss highway bridges on Bridge Street. The eastern portion, a Pratt pony, through-truss lower bridge, is a type built since 1844 and is typical, still built today. The western section, over the river, built on the Baltimore truss scheme, is of a type built between 1831 and the early 20th century. The bridge was originally built to support a trolley for the Norwich Traction Company and was owned by the company until it went bankrupt in the 1920s or 1930s. The bridge was closed for repair or replacement in September, 1976.

STRUCTURES AND SITES

11. Nepatree Point-Site of Fort Mansfield: Napatree Point, at the end of Napatree Beach, a sand bar extending one-and-a-half miles west of Watch Hill, is the westernmost point in Rhode Island. It was once a battleground for the Narragansett, Niantic, Montauk, and Pequot Indians. The point was originally an island formed by the last continental glaciation; later it was connected to the mainland. The long sandy barrier beach, with its beach grass vegetation, subject to erosion by storm, is one of the finest coastal areas of Rhode Island, a valuable scenic resource. In 1898, the United States government purchased the point and erected a fort and nearly fifty buildings. During the Spanish American War there were three batteries of eight-inch disappearing guns here, but by World War I the fort was considered obsolete. In 1927, the land and buildings were sold and the fort razed, but the tops of the heavy concrete walls, some stairways, and a circular opening used as a powder magazine are still visible.

AIRPORT ROAD

12. Westerly State Airport: An aviation facility about two miles southeast of Westerly Village center, established in the mid-1930s and centered on a 1- and 2-story, wood-frame, clapboard structure containing the glass-topped control tower. There are several hangers. The airport is used primarily by small, pleasure aircraft.

BEACH STREET

13. J. A. Thompson House: A 2½-story, Greek Revival structure, with two interior chimneys and a central entry in a 5-bay facade. At the rear are a fine wood shed and other outbuildings. (1855-J. A. Thompson.)
14. House: A 1½-story, Greek Revival house, gable end to the road, at 96 Beach Street. (1855-shown on map.)
15. Former School Number Fourteen: A 1-story, wood-shingled mid-19th-century schoolhouse, now the school administration building, with a large brick center chimney and a square belfry set back from the gable end, which faces the road. The section at the rear has a hip roof. (1870-S. H.)

16. River Bend Cemetery (1852): Laid out on an attractive site along the Pawcatuck River, this large cemetery contains many monuments and markers of Westerly granite, some dedicated to Westerly's most important citizens. The office of the cemetery company is a fine, 1-story, stone structure with a large stone chimney in the center of a hip roof. (1855-River Bend Cemetery.)
17. Thompson House: A 1½-story Greek Revival structure, end to road, with portico entry at the gable end, at 162 Beach Avenue. (1855-shown on map; 1862-E. Thompson.)
18. J. Knight House: A 2½-story, Early Victorian structure with a central entry in a 5-bay facade. (1855-J. Knight.)
19. Westerly Yacht Club and Site of Old Town Dock: The yacht club, a low, wood-shingle structure along the Pawcatuck River, stands near the site of the old town dock. The place was the head of navigation on the Pawcatuck River in the early years of settlement and served as the landing place for Charlestown, Richmond and Hopkinton at one time. Across the river is Pawcatuck Rock, visited by Adrian Block, the Dutch explorer in 1614.

BOOM BRIDGE ROAD

20. House: A 1½-story, early-to-middle 18th-century, wood-shingle, gambrel house, with two interior brick chimneys, shed dormers and a central entry in a 5-bay, south-facing facade. There are two wood-shingle outbuildings. The house is surrounded by fields, with stone walls, at the end of a long private drive. (1855-S. Maxon.)
21. House: A 1½-story, mid-18th-century house, with a small brick center-chimney and a central entry in a 5-bay, south-facing facade. The house is set back from the road and occupies a large, attractive site, with grass, trees and stone walls. There is also a wood-shingle barn. (1855-shown on map; 1870-T. Lamphere.)

CANAL STREET

22. J. Babcock House: A 2½-story, Early Victorian building, with entry at the gable end, a small brick chimney off the ridge and a later 1½-story

wing at the left rear. This structure was built on the site of an earlier house in a section of town known as Varietyville. (1855-J. Babcock.)

23. House: A 1½-story, Greek Revival house, at 238 Canal Street with entry at the gable end, which faces the road. (1870-Wm. Netherword.)
24. U. S. Post Office: A 1-story, brick, early 20th-century, store-front commercial structure with a glass front and recessed central entry, at Stillmanville.
25. House: A 1½-story, 18th-century structure with a small brick center chimney and a central entry in a 3-bay facade, in Stillmanville. (1855-?)
26. Stillmanville Mill: The brick mill (1848) is a 3-story brick factory with a low-pitched gable roof and round-head windows in the gable end. Located along the Pawcatuck River, it is surrounded by a complex of modern factory buildings. Just above the mill is a dam site and old mill race. (1831-Schofield Factory--on site.)
27. Railroad Bridge: Spanning the Pawcatuck River.

CHURCH STREET (ROSS HILL ROAD)

28. House (18th century): A 2½-story "half house," with a stone chimney at the left side and entry at the left side of a 3-bay facade. There are Greek Revival alterations as well as recent wings at each side of the house. It is situated at the east end of Bradford village. (1855-shown on map; 1862-S. F. Wells?; 1870-J. A. Douglass.)

DUNNS CORNERS-BRADFORD ROAD

29. L. Sisson House: A 2-story, Greek Revival structure, end to road, with entry in the gable end, a brick center chimney and a 1-story wing, with brick chimney, at the right side. There is a fine Late Victorian barn (1896) and wood shed, corn crib and other outbuildings on a neat lot. (1855-L. Sisson.)
30. Ever Breeze Farm: A 1½-story, Early Victorian house, a large mid-20th-century, Quonset style, aluminum-roofed barn, a stone corn crib and other outbuildings are part of this large working farm which specializes in Holstein cattle. (1855-R. R. Rathbun.)

EAST AVENUE

31. House: A 2½-story, early 20th-century residence in a large, well landscaped lot. A good example of a suburban estate of the period.
32. House: A 2½-story, Greek Revival house, at 69 East Avenue, it is set end to the road, with a portico entry at the left front, a small brick chimney and a 1½-story wing at the left rear. (1855-shown on map; 1862-Captain Barber?)
33. House: A 1½-story, Greek Revival house, at 150 East Avenue, set end to the road, with a portico entry at the right front, a small brick chimney and a large wing at each side, It is sited on a well landscaped lot, including a wood fence and stone walls. (1855-shown on map; 1870-S. Mitchel?)

GRANITE STREET

34. Site of the Smith Granite Quarry: A modern shopping center and filled-in area, now a field, east of Granite Street, mark the site of the oldest large-scale granite quarry in Westerly. At this spot, in 1845, Orlando Smith, a stone mason from Connecticut, discovered a fine-grained granite. The stone was dense and free from disintegrating minerals, unfading, impervious to weather, capable of taking a glossy polish and was practically indestructible. In 1846, Smith purchased the site, then the farm of Dr. Joshua Babcock, and began a business which grew to include a large granite store, a large number of houses, shops, sheds and engine houses which contained powerful engines for pumping and hoisting. The Smith Granite Company acquired a wide reputation for its granite and its stone was widely used, including the Rhode Island block in the Washington Monument, the Roger Williams Monument in Providence and the soldier at Antietam Battlefield. Most of the buildings here were destroyed in the 20th century, but two structures still stand on Granite Street, albeit heavily altered. (1855-Smith's Stone Quarry.)
35. Former Smith Granite Company Store (1884): A 1-story stone structure which was used as the company store for the granite company. It is now a gasoline station. (1895-Smith Granite Company.)

36. Former Smith Granite Company Stonecutting Shed (1883): A 1-story stone structure used as a stonecutting shed, now a commercial and professional block. (1895-Smith Granite Company.)
- **37. Babcock-Smith House (1732-1734): A 2½-story gambrel-roofed colonial house, at 124 Granite Street, with a large, brick, center chimney and a closed, central entry in a 5-bay facade. There is a lean-to addition at the rear, giving the house a "salt box" profile, and a wing, with a tall chimney, at the left side. Dr. Joshua Babcock is said to have been the first native physician to practice in the town. Westerly's first post office was established in the house, which Benjamin Franklin visited on several occasions while serving as postmaster of the United States. The house, which was restored in the early 20th century by Norman M. Isham, occupies a neat corner lot along a busy highway, once the old Post Road, with commercial areas on both sides. (1855-O. Smith.)

HIGH STREET

- **37A. Former Immaculate Conception Church (1886): A clapboard-sided "carpenter gothic" structure, this Roman Catholic Church, the first in Westerly, was completed in 1889 and served a mixed ethnic population, largely Irish and Italian. It is noted for its outstanding acoustics and shortly after it was sold in 1969 it became the home of the Westerly Center for the Arts. The structure is well preserved and in good condition.
38. Bridge (early 20th century): A deck truss bridge on High Street over the Penn Central Railroad tracks.
39. Signal Tower (early 20th century): A 2-story cement structure with a red tile, hip roof, along the railroad tracks.
40. House: A 2½-story Greek Revival structure with two interior chimneys and a central entry in the portico in a 3-bay facade. (1870-Mrs. J. Crandall.)
41. House: A 2-story stuccoed early-20th-century house with a tiled hip roof on a formally landscaped lot.
42. House: A 2½-story Late Victorian Queen Anne structure at 213 High Street with a 2-story porch in front and two brick chimneys.

LEDWARD AVENUE

- *43. Water Tower (1910): A large, concrete-block structure with a small cupola, weather vane, and "Guastavino Dome" roof of dark red glazed tile. This water tower, one of the first concrete stand pipes built in the United States, is said to have been made of concrete partly for aesthetic reasons. Thomas McKenzie was the engineer and superintendent of the project; the Aberthaw Construction Company was the contractor.

MAIN STREET

44. Carpenter-Hickox House (pre-1730): This house located at 196 Main Street and also known as the Dr. Charles Hickox Home and the Lucy Carpenter House, is a 1½-story, gambrel-roofed Colonial structure with a large brick center-chimney and a central entry in a 5-bay facade. (1855-shown on map; 1870-E. E. Brown.)

MARGIN STREET

45. Charles Perry House: Located at 4 Margin Street, this is a 2½-story, Greek Revival structure with Colonial Revival changes and a complex plan. Entry is through an elaborate portico. A large copper beech at the side and a low stone wall in the front are part of the large well landscaped grounds. The Pawcatuck River is across the road. Charles Perry, a former owner, was an anti-slavery activist. He once entertained Frederick Douglass here and he also sheltered runaway slaves in a wooded area in Charlestown as part of the underground railway. (1855-C. Perry.)
46. William Lewis-Captain Card House (c. 1750): A 1½-story Colonial house, at 12 Margin Street, with a large, stone, off-center chimney and an off-center entry in a 5-bay facade. There is a wing, with a brick chimney, at the left side, rear. The house is on a large grassy, treed lot, with a view of the Pawcatuck River across the road. It was reportedly built by John Lewis, one of the early settlers in Westerly, and was purchased in 1868 by Captain William H. Card, owner of a small merchant vessel which sailed between Westerly and Block Island. In 1929-1930, the house was thoroughly restored under the direction of Norman M. Isham. (1855-D. F. Larking?)

MORIAN DRIVE

47. House: A 1½-story, early 19th-century structure with a small brick center chimney and a central entry in a 5-bay, south facing facade. (1855-shown on map; 1862-M. Barber?)

NOOSENECK HILL ROAD

48. Meeting House Bridge (1925): This single-span bridge across the Pawcatuck River was, at its time of construction, the latest development of a modified arch design similar to other structures of the same type built in the state. It was the first state highway bridge in Rhode Island to be constructed under the provisions of the Federal Highway Act of 1921. Shortly after construction, street railway service was discontinued and a street railway bridge, about fifty feet downstream, was removed. Just north of the highway bridge, in today's Hopkinton, stood the first meetinghouse (1680) built in southern Rhode Island. Upstream (to the east) was the "baptizing place," used from 1680 to 1855, said to have witnessed more baptisms than any other place in Rhode Island. During excavation of the Meeting House Bridge, a rough piece of granite bearing the date 1744 was uncovered and is presumed to be part of an old dam. It is the oldest marker yet found in connection with a state bridge construction and was built into the southwest retaining wall of the new bridge. (1855-Meeting House Bridge.)

OLD HOPKINTON ROAD

49. Chapman House: A 2½-story late 18th- early 19th-century structure with a brick center-chimney, a central entry in a 5-bay facade and a 1-story wing at the right side. (1855-C. Chapman.)
50. Former Dixon Granite Quarry, (c. 1870): A large granite quarry at Cormorant Hill, where granite was first quarried by Jonathan and Ephraim Lamphere. It became the N. F. Dixon Company and its granite was used for stone posts, curb stones, sidewalks and flagging. A large mast, approximately one hundred feet high, and a boom still stand at the summit of the hill. (1870-Quarry.)

OLD POST ROAD

51. Rathbun House: A 1½-story early 19th-century house with two interior chimneys and a central entry in a 5-bay facade. (1855-shown on map; 1870-C. Rathbun.)

52. House: A 1½-story Greek Revival structure at 633 Old Post Road, set end to road, with entry in the gable end, a small brick chimney at the ridge and a wing at the left side rear. (1855-Quonochontaug Post Office?)
53. House: A 1½-story, 18th-century gambrel-roofed house with a large center chimney and a central entry in a 5-bay facade. There are several outbuildings. (1855-E. Gavitt.)

POST ROAD

54. Dunn's Corner Community Church (1903): A 1-story, hip-roof, early 20th-century structure built as a school when four district schools were consolidated. The school closed in 1932. It was used as a community house, a Sunday School and, beginning in 1950, as a church.
55. House: A 1½-story, early 19th-century house, with a small brick center chimney, central entry in a 3-bay facade and a 1-story wing flush with the front. (1855-shown on map; 1870-N. Chace Est.)
56. Site of Gavitt House and Whipping Post: A 3½-foot granite marker near the highway marks the site of the Gavitt House. In front of the house was a whipping post which was used for public punishments until 1830, at which time the house also served as a town meeting place and as an inn. (1855-S. Gavitt.)
57. Tum-A-Lum Farm: A 2½-story, Federal structure, with a small brick center chimney and a central entry in a 5-bay facade. It is a working dairy farm, with several outbuildings, including a wood-shingle barn and several metal silos, a small private drive, with field-stone walls. (1855-shown on map; 1862-T. B. Kenyon.)

POTTER HILL ROAD

- *58. Maxon-Cottrell House (c. 1750): A 1½-story, gambrel-roofed, Colonial structure with a large stone chimney, a central entry in a 5-bay, south-facing facade and three gable dormers. An addition at the north end was done in 1950. The house, at the end of a long private drive, was originally built by a member of the Maxon family. It went to a Cottrell through marriage and has now been in the family for seven generations. (1855-?; 1895-Chas. Champlin.)

59. Saunders House: A 1½-story, gambrel-roofed late 18th- or early 19th-century structure with a small brick center chimney and a central entry in a 5-bay, south-facing facade; there are two gable dormers and a gable-roofed wing at each side. (1855-C. Saunders.)
60. Lanphear Farm: A 2½-story, Late Victorian or early 20th-century, cross-hip-roof structure with a small brick center chimney on a corner lot; there is a stone wall around it and a fine wood-shingle barn near the road. (1895-Reuben S. Lanphear.)
61. House and Farm: A 2½-story, Late Victorian cross-gable house, with a small brick chimney and several porches. There is a fine wood-shingle outbuilding complex at the rear, including a large barn and silos, and open fields around three sides of the house. (1895-Simon P. Nichols.)

POUND ROAD

62. Former Granite Quarry: Along both sides of the road are abandoned granite quarries. The one west of the road has a mast and boom anchored to the bedrock by several heavy wire ropes. (1870-G. W. Cottrell's Quarry--east of the road)
63. Alfred Chapman House, now Reilly Farm: A 1½-story, end-gable, mid-19th-century structure with two interior brick chimneys on a large lot east of Chapman Pond. The house was built by Alfred Chapman when his former house and corn flood were flooded when Chapman Pond was enlarged about 1870. (1870-A. Chapman.)
64. Farm Complex: A 2½-story, cross-gable early-19th-century structure with two brick chimneys and a wing at the west end. There are a wood shed and a barn and a large field to the rear. (1855-shown on map; 1870-Mrs. A. Chapman--with a saw mill just south of the house)

QUARRY ROAD

- *65. Sullivan Granite Company Quarries (1834-1969): At the end of Quarry Road, occupying a large area extending into the town of Charlestown, are the sites of several 19th and 20th-century granite quarries. The oldest quarry reportedly started operating in 1834. In the

early 20th century, the John B. Sullivan Quarry, named for the first president of the company, opened, and several other local quarries were purchased and consolidated with the Sullivan Granite Company (organized October 1, 1921). The company was the exclusive producer of "extra fine grained blue-white" Westerly granite, which was used in memorials. Granite was last quarried here in 1969 by the Westerly Granite Company. Today, the area is idle and the quarries water filled, but the remains of Sullivan's stonecutting shed, powerhouse and crusher survive as impressive industrial ruins. The Sullivan Quarry is the most important surviving quarry in the state and continues to provide a sense of the extent and scale of Westerly quarrying. (1870-Quarry.)

RAILROAD AVENUE

- *66. Westerly Railroad Station (1912): A 1-story, early 20th-century, more-or-less Mission Style low, red-tile structure with hip roof, stuccoed walls with brick quoins and an arcaded entry. There is a small but ornate clock tower in the center of the front and two, 1-story wings; the interior of the station, a single large waiting room, contains two, long, back-to-back benches and a ticket window with dark woodwork. On the opposite side of the tracks is a separate, small waiting room building of similar treatment. At the present time, Amtrack makes six stops westbound and nine stops eastbound at Westerly.
67. Westerly Armory (1902): A 2-story, red-brick, granite-trimmed, early 20th-century structure, with small octagonal towers at the corners and a square, projecting, central, 3-story tower with an arched entry. This building replaced an older armory which stood on Main Street until it was destroyed by fire in 1899.

SHORE ROAD

68. Ninigret Farm, formerly Woodbine Villa: A 2½-story, early 19th-century structure with a small brick chimney, central entry in a 5-bay facade and a veranda across the front. There are wings at the east and north sides. It occupies a large lot, including stone walls and a c. 1939 carriage house, extending south to Quonochontaug Pond. Indians may have used a hollowed-out rock near the house to grind grain. The land, bought by Ezekiel Gavitt, later went

to the Dunn family. Admiral Herbert O. Dunn, who served in World War I, used it as a summer residence and entertained Franklin D. Roosevelt here while Roosevelt was secretary of the Navy. (1855-on; 1870-E. M. Dunn.)

69. Site of Samuel Ward House: A granite monument with a large bronze plaque at the intersection with the Dunn's Corner-Weekapaug Road, erected in 1904 by Julia Ward Howe, marks the site of the former residence of Samuel Ward, who came here in 1745 from Newport. Samuel Ward was governor of Rhode Island and represented Rhode Island in the First Continental Congress in Philadelphia. The site is also the birthplace of Lieutenant Colonel Samuel Ward, who served in the American Revolution.
70. Langworthy House (1875): A 3-story, Late Victorian, mansard-roofed structure with two interior chimneys, three gable dormers at each side and a central entry in a 3-bay facade. There is a wood-shingle barn at the rear, near the site of the Samuel Ward House. (1895-Albert Langworthy.)
71. Sumner Chapman House, now Ocean Crest Farm (1790): A 2½-story structure with two interior brick chimneys and a central entry in a 5-bay facade. There is a picket fence set on a large granite block wall and a wood clapboard shed at the rear. (1855-S. Chapman.)
72. House: A 2½-story, early 19th-century structure, located at 215 Shore Road, with a stuccoed brick center chimney, central entry in an enclosed portico in a 5-bay facade and a wing at the left side. There is a wood picket fence on large granite blocks and a barn and other outbuildings on a neat lot. (1855-C. Chapman.)
73. House: A 2½-story, mid-19th-century dwelling with a small brick center chimney and entry at the left side of the gable end, which faces the road. There is a large wing at the left side. (1855-shown on map; 1862-Est. Barber?; 1870-B. R. Champlin.)
- 73A. Ocean Rise: A 2½-story, Greek Revival structure with a small central brick chimney, a central entry in a 5-bay facade and additions at the rear. (1855-B. P. Bently.)

74. Klotz House (1968): A contemporary vertical board house with an irregular plan and roof line set atop a hill on a large lot, surrounded by woods, with a view to the west. Designed by Charles Moore, one of the leading architects practicing today, formerly of Berkeley and Yale University and now at U. C. L. A., it was his first house built on the East Coast and won a New England architect's award in 1969.

SPRING BROOK AVENUE

- *75. Lewis Farm: A 1½-story, 18th-century house, with a stuccoed center chimney, a central entry in a 5-bay facade, and wings at the rear, is the center of a small agricultural area east of White Rock village. There is a Late Victorian barn, with a cupola, and another, wood clapboard barn nearby. The farm complex is surrounded by fields with stone walls. (1870-P. Lewis.)
76. J. Frith House: A 1½-story, Late Victorian structure, end to the road, with a small brick center chimney, entry at the left side of the gable end, a 1-story bay window in front and a wing at the left rear. (1870-J. Frith.)

WATCH HILL ROAD

77. House: A 2½-story Greek Revival house with Late Victorian additions, gable end to the road, with a small brick chimney, entry in the right side of the gable end, 2-story tower at the left front corner, and a wing at the right rear. There is a barn nearby. (1855-shown on map; 1870-W. R. Chapman.)
78. Old Babcock Burying Ground: On the slope of a small hill just south of Mastuxet Brook is a burying ground, probably the oldest in town, containing the remains of John and Mary Babcock who were among the first settlers of Westerly.
79. House: A 2½-story, shingle, cross-gambrel, early 20th-century structure near the Pawcatuck River. It is on a private, rhododendron-and-laurel-lined drive on a large tract of land.

80. Metacomet: A 1½-story, cross-gambrel, early 20th-century summer residence with two large stone chimneys, at the end of a private drive on a small hill overlooking the Pawcatuck River.

WELLS AVENUE

81. House: A 2½-story, stuccoed, early 20th-century house, with two large brick chimneys with pilasters. The house, built to resemble an English manor, with formal landscaping, is set behind a low, brick wall across the street from the Westerly Hospital.
82. Westerly Hospital and The Sarah Alexander Champion Home for Nurses (1925): The hospital, incorporated in 1921, consists of several buildings, including the 2-story hospital building of brick with granite trim whose facade has been affected by an addition, and a 2½-story neo-Georgian nursing home, a stuccoed structure with brick detail. Both buildings were designed by the Kendall Taylor Company of Boston.

WEST STREET

83. Bridge (c. 1910): A through-truss bridge over the main line tracks of the Penn Central Railroad.

WESTERLY-BRADFORD ROAD

84. House: A 1½-story, late 18th- early 19th-century structure with a brick center chimney. (1855-?; 1870-O. P. Cottrell.)
85. House: A 1½-story, early 19th-century structure with a stone center chimney and a central entry in a 3-bay facade. (1855-J. Chapman.)

WHITE ROCK ROAD

86. Westerly Pumping Station (1897): A 1-story, brick, Late Victorian structure with a copper-trimmed slate roof and a cupola at the north side. This building replaced an earlier station which was closed in 1898. Frederick E. Shaw of Providence was the contractor.
87. House: A 2½-story Greek Revival house, located at 15 White Rock Road and set end to the road, with entry at the right side of the gable end, and a wing at the right side. This house is one of a row of

several relatively small houses in an area known as Varietyville in 1870. (1870-row of about eight houses and a store.)

WOODY HILL ROAD

88. House: A 1½-story, wood-shingle, Greek Revival structure with entry at the right side of the gable end, a small brick center chimney and a wing at the north end. It is set atop a slight hill with fields to the south. (1855-?; 1870-T. Sanders.)
89. House: A 2-story, Early Victorian, Second Empire house with two small brick chimneys, shed-roof dormers and a central entry in a 3-bay facade. There is a corn crib and a barn. The house was reportedly brought here from Newport in sections. There is an old granite quarry on the property which was used for monuments. (1870-J. D. Rathbun.)

BIBLIOGRPHY

- Bartlett, John R., 1858. Records of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations in New England. 10 volumes.
- Beers, J. H. & Co., 1908. Representative Men and Old Families of Rhode Island.
- Best, Mary A., 1943. The Town That Saved A State.
- Carter, Margaret W., 1973. Shipwrecks and Marine Disasters on the Shores of the Town of Westerly and Adjacent Waters.
- Cole, J. R., 1889. History of Washington and Kent Counties, Rhode Island.
- Coleman, Peter J., 1963. The Transformation of Rhode Island, 1790-1860.
- Conference of Business Associations, 1930. The Book of Rhode Island.
- Cooney, Ralph B., 1950. Westerly's Oldest Witnesses....
- Denison, Rev. Frederic, 1880. Picturesque Narragansett, Sea and Shore.
- Denison, Rev. Frederic, 1878. Westerly and Its Witnesses, for Two Hundred and Fifty Years, 1626-1876.
- Downing, Antoinette F., 1937. Early Homes of Rhode Island.
- Dwight, Timothy, 1822. Travels in New England and New York.
- Field, Edward, ed., 1902. State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations at the End of the Century: A History.
- Hazard, Joseph P., 1883-84. "Shipbuilding in Narragansett," The Narragansett Historical Register, II, pp. 61-77.
- International Publishing Company, 1886. Leading Manufacturers and Merchants of Rhode Island.
- National Society of the Colonial Dames, 1932. Old Houses in the South County of Rhode Island.
- Pease, John C., and Niles, John F., 1819. Gazetteer of the States of Connecticut and Rhode Island.
- Potter, Elisha R., Jr., 1835. The Early History of Narragansett.
- Providence Journal, Sept. 22, 1900. "Westerly and Watch Hill."
- Providence Journal, May 8, 1903. "Niantic, Once Called Dorrville."
- Providence Journal, June 21, 1903. "Westerly to be a Trolley Center."
- Providence Journal, Feb. 24, 1911. "English Dyers Plan Big Westerly Plant."
- Providence Journal, Feb. 26, 1911. "Niantic Prepares Welcome Belated Prosperity."
- Providence Journal, Oct. 13, 1912. "Making Over a South County Village."

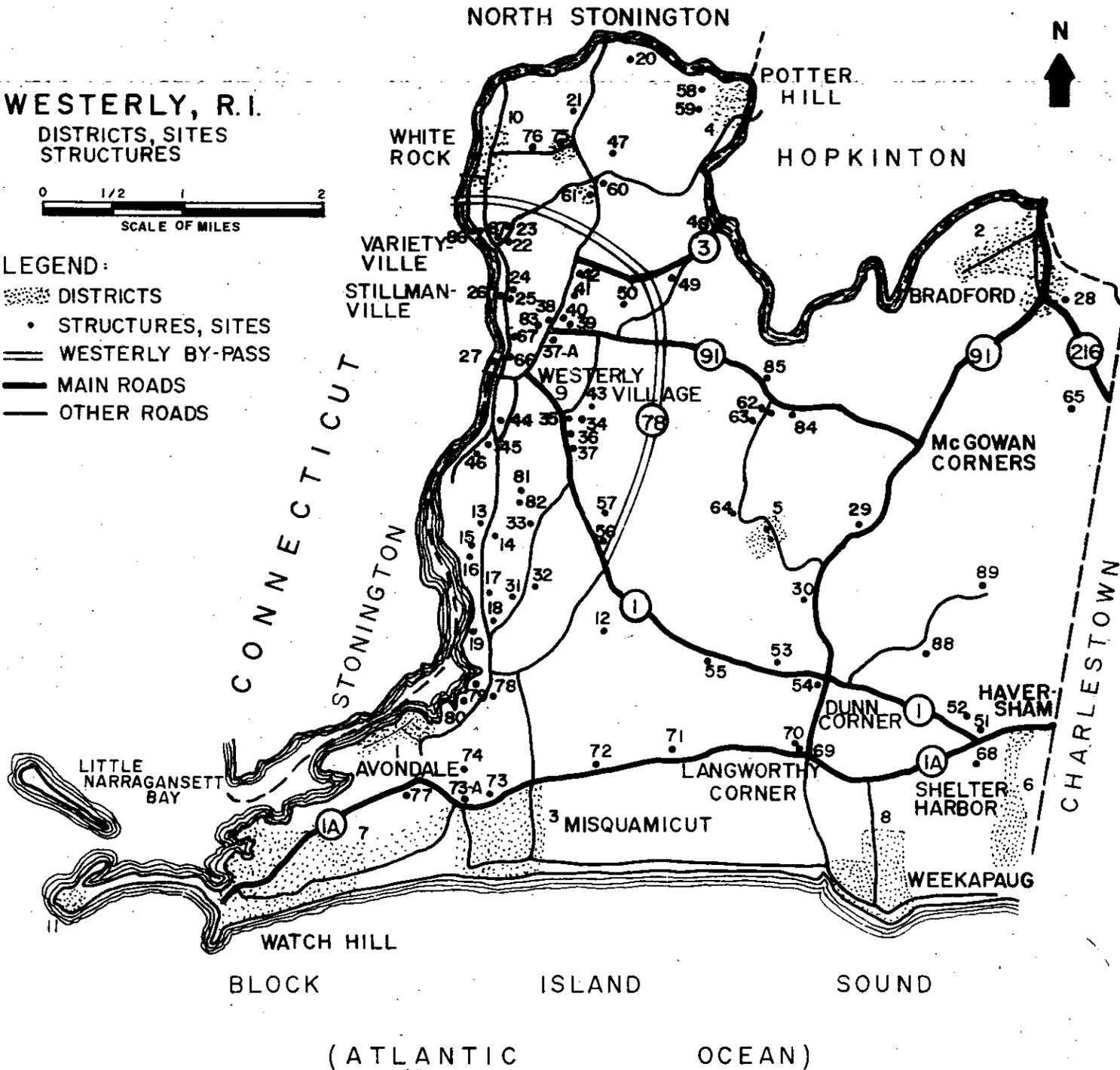
WESTERLY, R.I.

DISTRICTS, SITES
STRUCTURES



LEGEND:

- DISTRICTS
- STRUCTURES, SITES
- WESTERLY BY-PASS
- MAIN ROADS
- OTHER ROADS



- Providence Journal, Aug. 12, 1923. "Westerly Citizens Plan New Hospital."
- Providence Journal, Aug. 19, 1923. "Westerly's New Hospital to Serve Large District."
- Providence Journal, Oct. 19, 1924. "Bradford Bursts Its Bounds Again."
- Providence Journal, June 20, 1926. "Village Loses Trolley Line But Gains Highway."
- Providence Journal, May 17, 1942. "Mrs. Edwin B. Stillman Traces History of Old Dixon Square."
- Providence Journal, April 27, 1947. "Westerly Pink."
- Rider, Sidney S., 1904. The Lands of Rhode Island.
- Rhode Island Development Council, June, 1969/November, 1975. Westerly. Rhode Island City and Town Monographs.
- Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission and Rhode Island Statewide Planning Program, Sept., 1970. Historic Preservation Plan (Report #13).
- Rowe, Dorothy S., 1963. At the end of the Pond, Historical Reminiscences of Weekapaug, Rhode Island.
- Seavey, George L., 1975. Rhode Island Coastal Natural Areas: Priorities for Protection and Management. Coastal Resources Center, U. R. I., Marine Technical Report #43.
- Steinberg, Sally, "Watch Hill Still Magnet for Wealthy." Boston Globe (New England Magazine) June 28, 1976.
- Tallman, Mariana M., 1893. Pleasant Places in Rhode Island.
- Utter, George B., 1936. Old "Westerly," Rhode Island.
- Webb Brothers & Company, publishers, 1869. Webb's New England Railway and Manufacturer's Statistical Gazetteer.
- Westerly Sun, Feb. 1, 1907. "Westerly's Declaration."
- W. P. A., 1937. Rhode Island: A Guide to the Smallest State." American Guide Series.
- W. P. A., 1939. "Inventory of Church Archives of the Rhode Island Society of Friends." Historical Records Survey.

Other Sources

Historic American Engineering Records Inventory
 Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, National Register file.

The Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission
150 Benefit Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

(401) 277-2678

Frederick C. Williamson, State Historic Preservation Officer
Antoinette F. Downing, Chairman
Eric Hertfelder, Executive Director

Prepared by:
Walter Nebiker

Photographer:
Walter Nebiker

Cartographer:
Northern Associates, Ltd.

Editors:
David Chase
Bernard Mendillo

Typist:
Shelly Irving

Cover Illustration: Mast and boom at former Dixon Granit Quarry;
Old Hopkinton Road. (Map #50)

Cover Design and
Illustration:
Susan Dynes