

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Rumford Historic District (Boundary Increase)

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic Resources of East Providence, Rhode Island: Partial Inventory, Historic and Architectural Resources
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: Vicinity of Greenwood and Pawtucket Avenues and Pleasant Street

City or town: East Providence State: RI County: 007

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

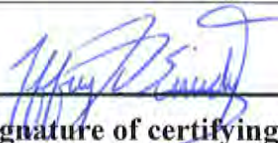
I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

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

___ national ___ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A ___ B X C ___ D

 <hr/> Signature of certifying official/Title: <u>R.I. Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission</u> State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	<u>6-20-2018</u> <hr/> Date
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<p>In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.</p> <hr/> <p>Signature of commenting official: _____ Date _____</p> <hr/> <p>Title : _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government _____</p>	
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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

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

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>6</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
<u>2</u>	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>8</u>	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

EDUCATION/library/school

TRANSPORTATION

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling

TRANSPORTATION

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN/Shingle

LATE 19th & 20th c. REVIVALS/Colonial Revival

OTHER/Mid 20th c. Cape

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

Foundations: STONE, BRICK, CONCRETE

Walls: WOOD, CONCRETE

Roofs: ASPHALT

Narrative Description

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

Summary Paragraph

The Rumford Historic District lies in the northern part of East Providence, Rhode Island, in the vicinity of the intersection of Greenwood Avenue, Pawtucket Avenue and Pleasant Street, comprising 74 contributing resources and occupying 85 acres. Except for the Hunt's Mills area, a large riverfront parcel at its southeastern corner, this linear district is defined by relatively dense settlement, the product of 19th- and 20th-century subdivision of farmsteads of the Colonial era through 20th-century suburbanization. Contributing resources are defined as those that represent the period when Rumford was East Providence's civic center (1643-ca. 1890) and/or those that contribute to the visual continuity of the district, including early to mid-twentieth-century buildings the form, scale, siting and materials of which are compatible with the Colonial, Federal, and Victorian structures in the district.

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Narrative Description

The Rumford Historic District includes most of the surviving dwellings that once faced the Ring of the Green, the town common of Rehoboth. However, the form and fabric of the district more closely reflect the village of Seekonk Center, later East Providence Center, which served as the focus of the community from the 1810s to the 1890s. Most of the buildings that made up Seekonk Center in the 19th century are still standing, and the greater part of these are incorporated in the historic district. The character of the Rumford Historic District today differs somewhat from that of old Seekonk Center and the earlier settlement around the Ring. This is the result, however, not so much of the attrition of old buildings, as it is the product of land subdivision and the gradual introduction of newer structures between the older ones. The buildings that comprised Seekonk Center for the most part still stand intact; they are now separated by new development of formerly undeveloped fields and woodlands. Except for the Hunt's Mills area, which has remained undeveloped, the area is more densely built up than it had been during the periods in which it achieved significance. However, early- to mid-20th-century construction within the Rumford district has been generally compatible with the historic fabric of the area. The more recent buildings of the early to mid-20th century are largely single-family residences of conservative design, and their scale, form, siting, and materials harmonize with those of the earlier structures in the area.

This Boundary Increase is submitted in conjunction with the document entitled *Rumford Historic District: Additional Information and Boundary Decrease*. Among other actions, that nomination extended the Period of Significance of the district. Reexamining the district inventory allowed the opportunity to include the bridges at the southwest and southeast entrances to the district, both of which fit into the context and the Period of Significance. Extending the boundaries to the bridges also allowed the addition of some houses which likewise meet the criteria established for the district.

Inventory:

Note: The spelling of Hunt's Mill(s) has varied over time and remains so today. The spellings used below reflect these variations.

Contributing:

Greenwood Avenue

- 145 Harry Richardson House (ca. 1910): This is a 2½-story, 3-bay, hip-roofed variant of a common, cubical house with some elements of the Shingle Style. There is a front veranda (open on the second floor) and a slightly projecting front pavilion rising to form a hip-roofed dormer. There are gabled dormers on the remaining three roof elevations. A 1-story side wing is of recent construction.
- 153 George Jackson House (ca. 1920): This is a 2½-story Dutch Colonial style dwelling with

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an asymmetrical 3-bay façade. This asymmetry likely relates to the raising of a formerly single-story side wing (northwest elevation) to full height, this occurring sometime before 1972. The side porch dates to post-1972.

Pawtucket Avenue

1535 House (ca. 1950): This is a 1½-story, gable-roofed, Cape style, center chimney dwelling with gabled dormers and 1-story bay windows flanking a central doorway. A small north addition was added after 1972.

1539 District No. 8 Schoolhouse, later Emma A. Sherburne House (ca. 1870, ca. 1931): This is a 1½-story, 3-bay, gable-roofed vernacular dwelling with a prominent shed-roofed wall dormer. The Colonial Revival door surround has partial sidelights. This ca. 1870 schoolhouse was originally aligned perpendicular to Pawtucket Avenue. It appears to have been moved and placed in its current relation to the street simultaneous with widening and other improvements made to Pawtucket Avenue in the early 1930s.

West of 1539, spanning the Ten Mile River: Cole's Bridge (1921, widened 1931): This single-span, 60'-long, reinforced-concrete bridge replaced a three-span, 1822 stone arch structure. A commemorative stone tablet placed on the bridge in 1900 was discovered during state excavation work in 1921 and remounted in the new concrete parapet along with a contemporary tablet. During widening in 1931, the 1900 tablet was damaged and reset in the west parapet; it is now almost illegible. The original stone bridge was named Palmer's Bridge after one of the original 17th-century Seekonk settlers and renamed The Ten Mile River Bridge in the 19th century. When this concrete bridge was built by the state in 1921, it was renamed Cole's Bridge, for the adjoining property owner. Cole likely came into possession of the adjacent property ca. 1812. At the time of this writing (2016), RIDOT is replacing parts of the west parapet. The southwest endpost with the inset 1900 tablet, although now unreadable, has been left in place. The bridge was widened to its current 55' width by the State Board of Public Roads in 1931 as part of improvements made along Pawtucket Avenue in this vicinity.

1609 Allen Cole House (1812, later additions and alterations): This is a 2½-story, 5-bay, gable-roofed, Federal-era dwelling with four interior end chimneys. The projecting vestibule and entryway date to late-19th-early 20th century. The side (northeast) wing predates 1882. In recent years this house was converted for use as a group home. The southwest, shed-roofed wing appears to be of relatively recent construction. A handsome 2-story barn is northwest of the house.

Pleasant Street

225 Gardner Freeman House (1930): This is 1½-story, 5-bay, gable-roofed Colonial Revival dwelling. There are three gabled dormers on the front roof slope. An attractive and well-preserved house, it is a good example of early-20th-century efforts to recreate Cape Cod-

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style houses in suburban areas and stands in interesting juxtaposition to the similarly scaled ca. 1795 James M. Bishop Farmhouse at 232 Pleasant Street (q.v.).

Spanning the Ten Mile River: Hunt's Mills Bridge No. 208 (1926): This is a single-span, reinforced-concrete highway bridge of the modified spandrel type. The span is 50'; the overall length is 115'. This design, developed in the late 'teens and early 1920s by Clarence L. Hussey, Rhode Island's first State Bridge Engineer, is unique to the state's roads.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

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

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Community Planning and Development

Transportation

Period of Significance

ca. 1700-1953 (district)

Significant Dates

1812, 1921, 1926

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Various

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

The Rumford Historic District, containing most of the extant structures that comprised the civic center of East Providence and its parent communities, Seekonk and Rehoboth, through the 18th and 19th centuries, is significant on the local level under **Criterion A** as the expression of the continuous development of this village from a colonial town center and agricultural settlement through late 19th- and mid-20th-century suburban subdivision. It is also significant under **Criterion C** as a fine example of the evolution of housing forms and settlement patterns in Rumford over a 250-year period. This district also includes Hunt's Mills, a survival of a water-powered mill site that includes an intact 18th-century dwelling, an early 19th-century miller's cottage, a mid-19th-century masonry dam and a late 19th-century pumping station and electrical generation plant associated with the town's water supply. Though the character of the 19th-century village has changed, the historical associations and visual links among the components of the Rumford Historic District bind them into a network of buildings, sites and structures that evoke a sense of the village's prominent role in 18th- and 19th-century community life.

The Period of Significance of the Rumford Historic District extends from ca. 1700, the date of construction of the oldest known structure in the district, to the end of substantial subdivision in the early 1950s.

The eight properties that are being added to the Rumford Historic District are illustrative of the areas and period of significance of the Rumford Historic District as described above. Their addition does not alter the period of significance of the original nomination, and adds only transportation to the areas of significance.

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

The eight properties that are being added to the Rumford Historic District illustrate the range of development that is described in the original nomination. The earliest of the buildings, the 1812 Allen Cole House at 1609 Pawtucket Avenue, constructed west of the Ten Mile River, is an early outlier away from the earlier pattern of development around the Ring. The District No. 8 Schoolhouse (now a residence), constructed ca. 1870 at 1539 Pawtucket Avenue, is one of a few buildings in the district that originally had public uses, but which have, with the relocation of the town center away from Rumford, been altered to serve private, residential uses.

The six resources being added to the district that date from the first half of the twentieth century are indicative of the suburban subdivision era of Rumford. The four houses, all typical architectural styles of the era, are of types, sizes, and materials that are consistent with the other residential structures in the district. These are typical of suburban development that occurred in Rhode Island throughout the first half of the twentieth century.

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The two bridges that are being added to the Rumford Historic District contribute to the continuation of the community planning and development theme that is important to the district and add transportation as an area of significance. Both bridges are located at the sites of previous crossings of the Ten Mile River. The early 20th-century saw significant bridge construction and modernization in Rhode Island. Under the leadership of Clarence Hussey, Rhode Island's first State Bridge Engineer, the state constructed a number of concrete bridges, often utilizing existing substructure, in a variety of styles. When the original Rumford Historic District nomination was written in 1980, these bridges were not typically recognized as contributing resources within historic districts. Rather, the bridges and the barriers that they crossed were, instead, often used as the physical manifestations of the ends of historic districts. In the intervening years, the significance of Rhode Island's early 20th century (and older) bridges has been recognized and many have been included in new districts and recognized as significant in their own right.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Government documents:

East Providence, R.I. Statewide Historic Preservation Report P-EP-1.

Providence: Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, 1976.

Rhode Island Historic Bridge Inventory Form. *Cole's Bridge No. 134* (2002)

On file, Rhode Island Department of Transportation.

Historic Bridge Inventory Form. *Hunt's Mills Bridge No. 208* (2015)

On file, Rhode Island Department of Transportation.

Historic Resources of East Providence, Rhode Island. National Register of Historic Places

Multiple Resource Nomination Form. Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, 1980.

Maps and aerial photographs consulted:

Listed chronologically

1850 Walling, Henry F. *Map of the Town of Seekonk.*

1851 _____. *Map of Providence County, Rhode Island with Some of the Adjacent Towns.*

1870 D.G. Beers and Company. *Atlas of the State of Rhode Island.*

1882 G.M. Hopkins. *Atlas of the City of Providence and Environs.*

1895 Everts and Richards. *New Topographical Atlas of Surveys.*

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested

previously listed in the National Register

___ previously determined eligible by the National Register

___ designated a National Historic Landmark

___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

___ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

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Primary location of additional data:

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

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

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10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property approximately 3 acres added to district

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 41.837355 | Longitude: -71.352779 |
| 2. Latitude: 41.837549 | Longitude: -71.352450 |
| 3. Latitude: 41.836743 | Longitude: -71.349239 |
| 4. Latitude: 41.834952 | Longitude: -71.346247 |
| 5. Latitude: 41.832177 | Longitude: -71.343262 |
| 6. Latitude: 41.829166 | Longitude: -71.343178 |
| 7. Latitude: 41.824897 | Longitude: -71.348308 |
| 8. Latitude: 41.825738 | Longitude: -71.350836 |
| 9. Latitude: 41.830003 | Longitude: -71.350547 |
| 10. Latitude: 41.830941 | Longitude: -71.349677 |
| 11. Latitude: 41.829150 | Longitude: -71.348374 |
| 12. Latitude: 41.830489 | Longitude: -71.345346 |
| 13. Latitude: 41.832437 | Longitude: -71.347382 |
| 14. Latitude: 41.831680 | Longitude: -71.349341 |
| 15. Latitude: 41.832471 | Longitude: -71.350158 |
| 16. Latitude: 41.834211 | Longitude: -71.349562 |

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 5. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |

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

Boundary Increase:

The following six parcels are being added to the Rumford Historic District:

- Map 404, Plat 18, Parcel 021.2
- Map 504, Block 1, Parcels 01, 02
- Map 504, Block 2, Parcels 01, 07
- Map 504, Block 9, Parcel 06

The Cole's and Hunt's Mills Bridges do not have parcel locations.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The increased boundaries represent the original historic district boundaries as established in 1980 plus six buildings and two bridges at the edges of the district which were built during the district's Period of Significance, are associated with the Areas of Significance of the district, and retain integrity.

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Richard Longstreth of RIHPC (original 1980 nomination) and Edward Connors (2016 rewrite and update)

organization: Edward Connors and Associates

street & number: 39 Dyer Avenue

city or town: Riverside state: RI zip code: 02915

e-mail nconnors@cox.net

telephone: (401) 595-0699

date: September 2016

Additional Documentation

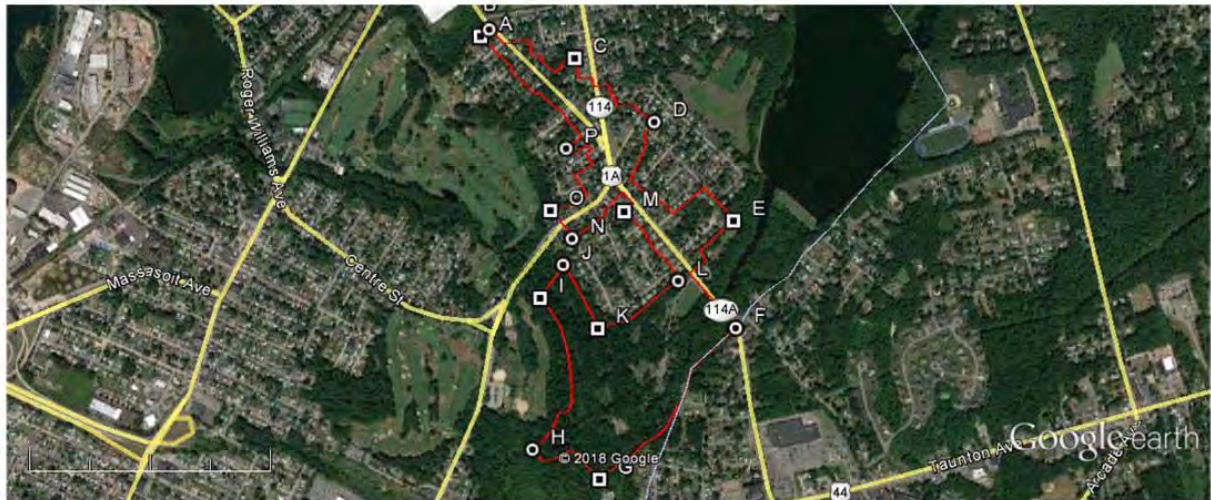
Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

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Location Map



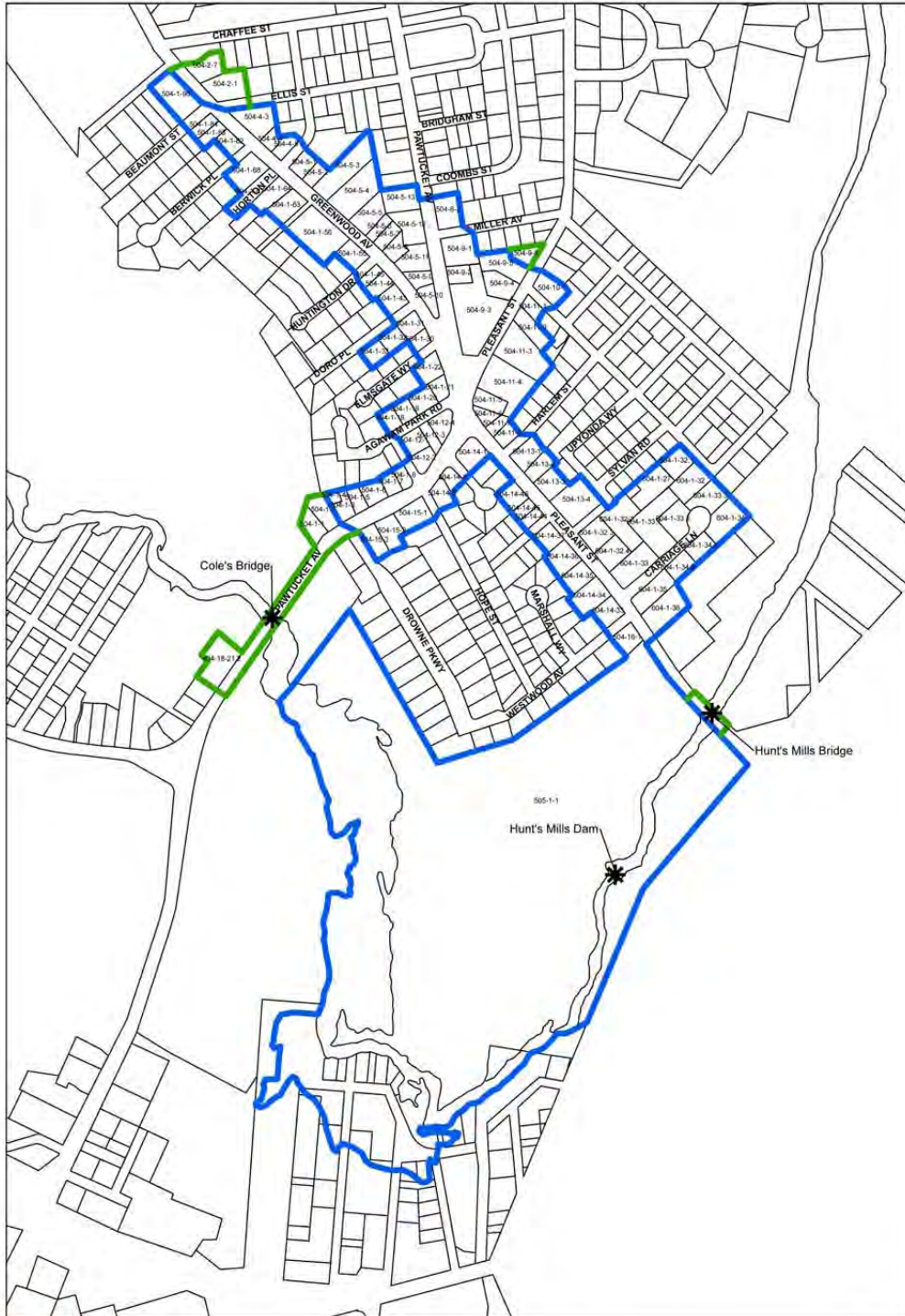
Rumford Historic District - 1980 Boundary

Coordinates: A: 41.837355, -71.352779 B: 41.837549, -71.352450 C: 41.836743, -71.349239 D: 41.834952, -71.346247 E: 41.832177, -71.343262 F: 41.829166, -71.343178 G: 41.824897, -71.348308 H: 41.825738, -71.350836 I: 41.830003, -71.350547 J: 41.830941, -71.349677 K: 41.829510, -71.348374 L: 41.830489, -71.345346 M: 41.832437, -71.347382 N: 41.831680, -71.349341 O: 41.832471, -71.350158 P: 41.834211, -71.349562

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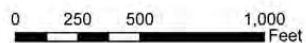
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District Map



- Original Boundary
- Boundary Increase
- Parcel

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Photographs

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

Photo Log

Name of Property: Rumford Historic District (Boundary Increase)

City or Vicinity: East Providence

County: Providence County

State: Rhode Island

Photographer: Jeffrey D. Emidy

Date Photographed: June 14, 2018

Location of Original Digital Files: 150 Benefit St., Providence, R.I.

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

RI_Providence County_Rumford Historic District Boundary Increase_0001
(l to r) 153 and 145 Greenwood Avenue. Camera facing southeast.

RI_Providence County_Rumford Historic District Boundary Increase_0002
(r to l) 225 and 229 Pleasant Street. Camera facing southwest.

RI_Providence County_Rumford Historic District Boundary Increase_0003
Pleasant Street. Hunt's Mills Bridge, northeast side. Camera facing west.

RI_Providence County_Rumford Historic District Boundary Increase_0004
1609 Pawtucket Avenue, southeast elevation. Camera facing northwest.

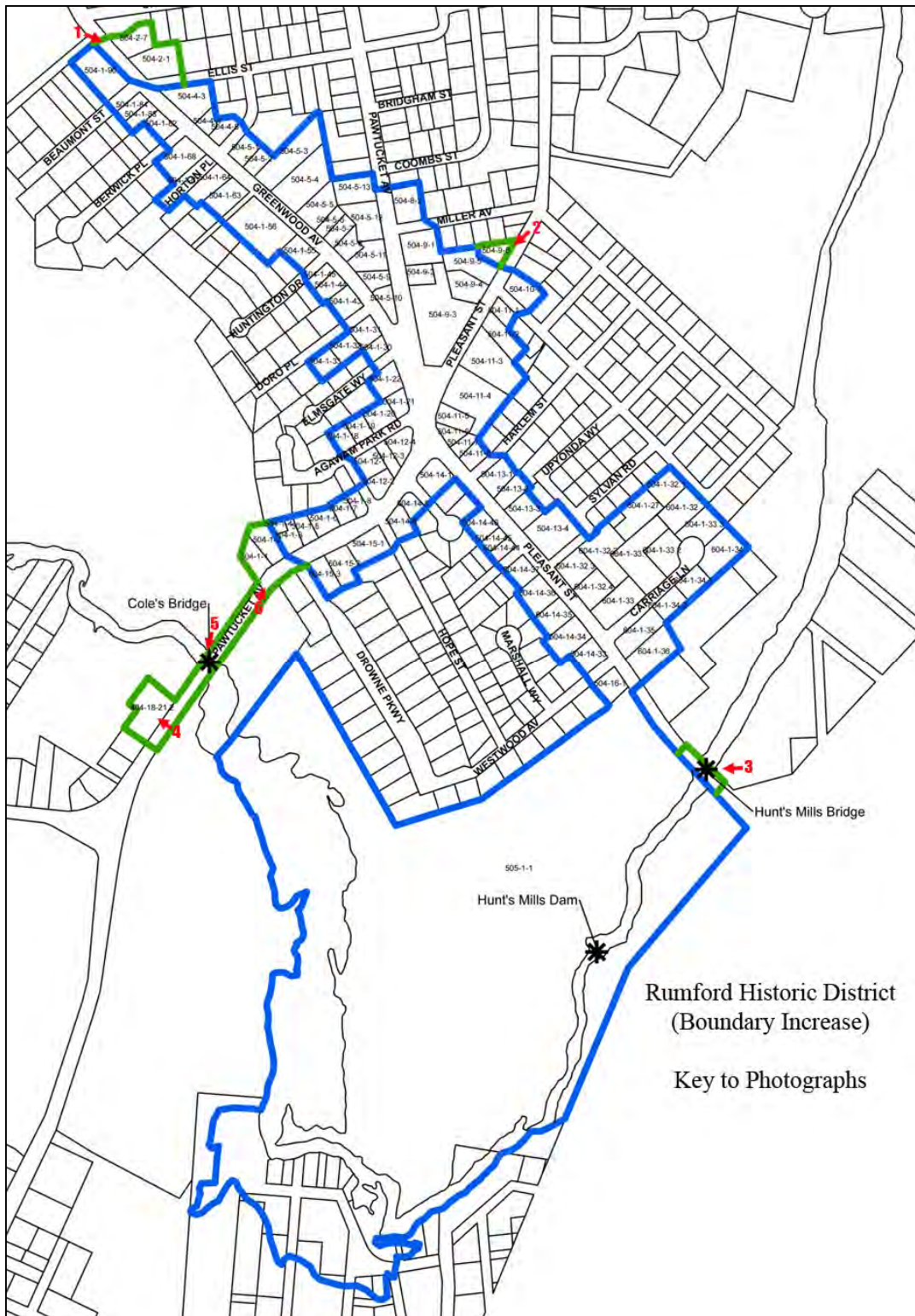
RI_Providence County_Rumford Historic District Boundary Increase_0005
Pawtucket Avenue. Cole's Bridge, northwest side. Camera facing southwest.

RI_Providence County_Rumford Historic District Boundary Increase_0006
(l to r) 1539 and 1535 Pawtucket Avenue. Camera facing northeast.

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Key to Photographs



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

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









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COLLEGE
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