**HISTORIC DISTRICTS AND HISTORIC SITES**

The National Register of Historic Places recognized the unique architectural heritage of the central areas of two of the hamlets in the Town of Worcester – Worcester and South Worcester -- by designating them as historic districts in 1975 and 1992, respectively. This status serves as a guide to governments and groups to protect structures within them from destruction or impairment. The Worcester Historic District extends along Main Street from South Hill Road to the Wieting Opera House on the south side, and from Decatur Street to Cook Street on the north. In South Worcester, the district is even more inclusive, running about a mile along the Charlotte Valley Road from the South Worcester and Simpson Cemeteries east to the intersection of South Hill Road, including all properties that front on the road in Otsego County.

One result of these designations was the inclusion of the Worcester district under the protection of the Town Land Use Law upon the law’s adoption in 1976. New construction there must consider existing architectural styles, and alterations must be consistent with those styles. Except in the event of a public safety hazard, demolition in that district is prohibited for a year, to give time for a preservation plan to go forward. The South Worcester district, established after the land use law took effect, has never received the protection afforded Worcester’s. In addition, there are large segments of the Worcester hamlet, and all of East Worcester, that contain unique and historical structures which remain undesignated and unprotected.

The three hamlets and the broad countryside beyond them also contain a variety of individual sites that have historical or architectural significance deserving of recognition and protection. These include homes, schools, businesses, churches, locations that commemorate individual historical personalities, and some natural features.

Historic Sites in the Town of Worcester

Hamlet of Worcester

Worcester Historic District, including the Bank of Worcester; the Central Hotel and first post office site; The Wieting Opera House; *The Worcester Times* Office; and the commercial center’s Russ/Grange Store/log school house and Wightman, Groat, Griggs & Bell, Rowley/Mead, Skinner, Knapp, Smith & Swartout, Hoyt, Jones, Treat, and Kenyon Buildings. The sites of the former Pickett & Tripp and Atkins Buildings, destroyed in the 1994 Great Fire, are presently vacant.

Unique Victorian architecture of Main, Park, Water, Church, Depot, Decatur, Maple, Cook, Elm, Chase, and Mill Streets, and South Hill Road.

Garfield home

Robinson Mansion/Robinson Falls

Wilson house

Grueber farm buildings

Nathaniel Todd/Sections of Todd’s Stand on Maple Street

Worcester Fire Department on Decatur Street

Legion Field

Site of General Training field/Bela Johnson, Brighton

Commemoration of 1994 fire

Hamlet of East Worcester

Unique Victorian architecture of Main, Dante, Maple, Depot and Oak Streets and South Hill and North Roads

William H. Ely/Ely-Caryl Mansion (“Caryl’s Folly”)

Site of East Worcester Bank

Site of East Worcester Hose Company

Bradt Patent/Andrew Little site/Snake Tavern

Commemoration of 1893 fires

Hamlet of South Worcester

South Worcester Historic District, including Charlotte Valley Inn (South Worcester Hotel), South Worcester Bank, Robinson & Sexsmith store and post office; Lindenwood/Abraham Becker site, Becker law office and law school, site of blacksmith shop, site of creamery, Timothy Murphy home

Charlotte River/Adaquitangie Patent/Sir William Johnson

Commemoration of 1918 fire

Schools

Site of Hall of Science/“Academy” home of Western Baptists, Tusculum

Site of Taintor select school, Brighton

Agnes Smith/site of Select School

District #2, Alvord Road

District #3, East Worcester (two buildings)

District #4 site, Clam Hollow

District #5 site, Dugway

District #6, Worcester (Stone Schoolhouse/Abner Doubleday/Andrew S. Draper,

white school, wooden school, High School, Central School/Arthur B. Doig)

District #7 site, West Hill

District #8, Brighton

District #9, Calcutta/Furnaceville

District #10, Hall

District #11 site, South America

District #12, South Worcester

District #13, Center Valley

District #14, Hollenbeck/Robbins

District #15, Mud Lake

District #16 site, Tuscan

District #17 site, Charlotteville

District #18 site, Albert

District #19, Montgomery/Duck Pond

Churches (all over 100 years old)

Site of Methodist Church, Tuscan

Congregational/Presbyterian/cemetery site (two churches)

First Baptist (three sites)

Worcester Methodist/Second Baptist/burial ground

Worcester Methodist (second site)

St. Joseph’s Roman Catholic/church cemetery

East Worcester Methodist

South Worcester Methodist

Evangelical Lutheran Church, South Worcester

Cemeteries (all over 100 years old)

East Worcester (“Lower”)

First Baptist (Blair)

Site of Garfield Plot

Hall

Hollenbeck

Maple Grove/Congregational Church relocation

Maple View (East Worcester “Upper”)

Post (Belding)

South Worcester

Strain

Hotels and inns

Society House/Worcester House/early schoolhouse

Site of American Hotel, Worcester

Brighton Inn

Site of Grant Hotel, Tuscan

Site of Witt hotel, East Worcester

Site of Babcock hotel/East Worcester House

Pratt Hotel, East Worcester

Northrup/Central Hotel, East Worcester

Site of Edmund B. Bigelow store and hotel, East Worcester

Businesses

Silas Crippen/ settlement and site of 1790 Tuscan mill

Site of Crippen sawmill and mill pond/Tuscan dam falls

Leonard Caryl/sites of Caryl stores in Tuscan and Brighton

Site of Stone blacksmith shop, Tuscan

Site of Anson Kinne store

Hadsell Mill, Worcester

Potatoes/Old Potato Warehouse, Worcester

Site of Worcester Dimenson Mill

Sites of Borden creameries in Worcester and East Worcester

Site of Chair Factory, Worcester

Old Stone Mill and mill pond, Worcester

Sites of Bigelow stone store/post office, East Worcester

Site of Post Building, East Worcester

Champion sawmill/Warner mill/Great Bear Power & Light Co., East Worcester

Site of John Champion mills and pond/Sheldon carding works, Calcutta

Site of 1780 sawmill/Jacob Becker, South Worcester

Railroad

A&S main track

Sites of depots in Worcester and East Worcester

Commemoration of “upper” railroad track

Topography

South Hill

West Hill

The Narrows

Hudson Lake/Legend of Two Lakes/site of water tower

Caryl’s Lake/reservoir

Schenevus Creek/Legend of Manaho and Chief Schenevus

Early settlement

Adaquitangie trail/Palatines/likely Servos settlement/site of raid and death/

Joseph Brant expeditions

Schohanna Trail/likely Jabez Clark site, foot of West Hill Road

Site of Flint Street/Flint family, Worcester

Farms

Dairy/Site of Chamberlain-Smith farms

Hops/Site of Wharton farm

John Trickey House/Site of Trickey Jersey Stock Farm

Hollenbeck farm

Hillis farm

Site of Ives farm

Site of Mooney farm

Site of McClintock farm

Bridges

Site of Old Stone Bridge, Worcester

Sites of Iron Bridges, Worcester (two sites)

Site of Tuscan stone bridge

Site of Iron Bridge, South Worcester

Dry Bridge, East Worcester

I-88 bridges and Exit 19

Historical Markers

Katie Clark Memorial, Route 7 park, Worcester

Gilbert and Irene Smith Memorial, I-88 rest area, East Worcester

Albert DeLong/Homer Empie Memorial, I-88 rest area, Worcester

Additional individual commemorations

Alexander McKee and Stephen Skinner, grantees

James Strain and Philip Ludwig Multer, Charlotte Valley pioneers

Uriah Bigelow, first physician

Madame Jumel, landowner and prominent visitor

Seth Chase, jurist

John Peter Russ, “the Old Stager”

Bradt Patent-Clark Grant/John Cook, West Worcester promoter

Napoleon B. McLaughlen, Civil War general

Delevan Bates, Civil War general

Seth Flint, Gen. Grant’s bugler

Lewis Waterman, fountain pen inventor

Sherburn Becker, South Worcester benefactor

Jim Konstanty, MVP relief pitcher