

SHANNOCK VILLAGE
Main Street, North Shannock
Road, and West Shannock Road
Richmond
Washington County
Rhode Island

HABS No. RI-402

HABS
RI
5-RICH
2-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
Northeast Region
Philadelphia Support Office
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

SHANNOCK VILLAGE

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RI
5-RICH,
2-
HABS No. RI-402

Location: Main Street, North Shannock Road, and West Shannock Road, Richmond, Washington County, Rhode Island.

USGS Carolina, RI Quadrangle, Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:

A: 19.278880.4591660
B: 19.279920.4592010
C: 19.279380.4591980
D: 19.279320.4591140

Present Owners: multiple ownership.

Present Use: residential, commercial, civic.

Significance: Shannock is notable in Rhode Island as a well preserved, small, nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century mill village which retains in large measure the structures and other manmade features — mills, housing, stores, public buildings, dams, and walls and fences — of its period of ascendancy. Shannock is locally significant for its more than two-centuries long history of milling and manufacturing activity. A whole greater than the sum of its parts, Shannock's architecture possesses local importance in that it typifies mid- and late-nineteenth-century country building in Rhode Island and preserves a wealth of information regarding Rhode Island's early milling and manufacturing history. Alterations to Shannock's buildings have been the result of changing social and economic conditions and reflect the history of the village. Shannock Village's importance is increased by the loss of similar elements of the town's and state's rural landscape to suburban development.

Note: The text below has been adapted from the Shannock Historic District National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form, Robert O. Christensen, prepared for the Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission, 1978 (Revised 1983).

PART I. SHANNOCK VILLAGE: DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

The Shannock Historic District contains the village of Shannock, a small, former manufacturing center located on both banks of the winding Pawcatuck River among low, wooded hills in the towns of Richmond and Charlestown. The compact part of the community is located principally along Main Street, a two-lane road running near the river. The houses and other structures along this winding road are sited close to the street line and are often fronted by trees, stone walls, and white-painted picket fences. The village is virtually surrounded by stone-wall-enclosed pasture lands running back to the hills which encircle the area.

The double-track Amtrak main line passes directly by Shannock. It crosses the Pawcatuck River and Shannock Road on simple steel girder bridges, and is crossed by Main Street (at the village's east end) on a steel girder overpass with plank decking. A discontinued grade crossing, linking two nineteenth-century houses south of the tracks with Main Street, exists near the center of the village. Freight and passenger stations which once existed have been demolished.

The visual focal points of the Shannock district are the remains of two factory complexes. In the heart of the village is remains of the Clarke Mill/Columbia Narrow Fabrics Company factory, a complex of low stone and brick structures that were heavily damaged by a fire in the 1970s. The complex is located a short distance downstream from a small pond impounded by a horseshoe-shaped, stone dam and connected to the complex by a stone-lined power canal. The Carmichael mill complex marks Shannock's west flank; it consists of a large clapboard mill and smaller, brick power house facing each other at either end of another dam.

Shannock contains about three dozen dwellings, several former store and public buildings, and a church. White-painted, plain-trimmed, clapboard structures predominate; most date from the period 1850 to 1900 and served originally as factory housing. The village's most imposing homes are the end-gable, Greek Revival residences of Simeon P. Clarke and Charles Clarke on Main Street and the Late Victorian George Carmichael house overlooking the community's west end.

In large measure Shannock retains its nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century character. Few structures have been extensively altered, and fewer new ones erected. Two major changes have, however, taken place in recent years. In 1948 Shannock Road, entering the village from the southwest, was realigned and the section between Railroad Avenue and West Shannock Road opened. The West Shannock Road railroad crossing was eliminated, and Railroad Avenue and the adjacent section of West Shannock Road —formerly part of the main east-west route through Shannock — were cut off from the rest of the village.

**Inventory of Contributing Buildings, Structures, and Sites:
(Numbers Are Keyed To District Map)**

- 1. Shannock Baptist Church, Main Street (1901-1902):** Shingle Style/Colonial Revival structure with a high-roofed sanctuary fronted by a lower, flank-gable vestry and low, hip-roofed tower. Clad in asbestos siding.
- 2. George W. Hoxsie House, "Hillcrest," 1639 Main Street (1902):** 2½-story, hip-roof, Queen Anne-Colonial Revival dwelling with Tuscan-column veranda. Clad in aluminum siding. A frame, rectangular-plan, gable-roof outbuilding (early twentieth-century) is located to the rear of the house.
- 3. 1541 Main Street (circa 1850):** 1½-story, end-gable, vernacular Greek Revival cottage with attached wing, an early 20th-century facade porch, and heavy classical cornices and cornice returns. Clad in aluminum siding.
- 4. 1655 Main Street (late nineteenth century):** Vernacular 1½-story, end-gable shingled cottage with plain raking cornice without returns.
- 5. Samuel A. Hoxsie House, 1659 Main Street, (early nineteenth century):** 1½-story, 5-bay, frame, flank-gable dwelling rests on raised stone foundation and retains Federal-style molded cornice with returns.
- 6. Jonathan Tucker, Jr. House, Main Street, (circa 1850):** 1½-story, flank-gable, frame cottage, with heavy classical cornices and cornice returns. Raised high on a bank and turned sideways on its lot, the structure presents a clapboard-fronted basement story to the road.
- 7. 1648 Main Street, (before 1855):** A flank-gable residence, built into the bank, with a 2-story facade and 1-story rear. A Late Victorian, shallow, flat-roofed, 2-story extension spans nearly the full width of the facade.
- 8. Hoxsie House, 1658 Main Street (late nineteenth century):** 2½-story, flank-gable residence fronted by a bracketed veranda with Swiss-style slat-work railings.
- 9. Commercial-Tenement Block 1660 Main Street (late nineteenth century):** 2½-story, mansard-roofed building retains bracketed cornices, dormer windows, and a Queen Anne-style turned-post facade veranda. The building originally housed a basement grocery store, a general mercantile on the first floor, tenements on the second, and a public hall on the third.
- 10. Site of Clarke's Hall, west side of Main Street on the South Bank of the Pawcatuck River (1859):** Large, 2½-story, rectangular-plan, end-gable, shingle clad building. Constructed originally as a grain mill, the building was later enlarged to house village, religious, education, and social gatherings. Demolished late twentieth century.
- 11. Horseshoe Dam, east side of Main Street on the Pawcatuck River (early twentieth century):** Horseshoe-shaped, random ashlar structure which originally impounded water for mills on both sides of the Pawcatuck River.

12. Carpenter Shop, 1707 Main Street (circa 1915): 1-story, vertical-board, low-pitch roof structure originally served as the carpenter shop for the Clarke family's Horseshoe Falls farm.

13. 232 Main Street, (late eighteenth century): 1-story, flank-gable, wood shingle clad dwelling with ½-story addition located on building's east (rear) elevation. Presently divided into two units, this building may have been the residence of Joshua Clarke, who purchased the nearby saw- and gristmills in 1771.

14. Clarke Cotton Mill/Columbia Narrow Fabrics Co. Factory Site, Main Street (circa 1848, enlarged in 1907, 1916, and 1923): The original 2½-story cut stone structure featured a steeply pitched gable roof with roofline monitor, clapboard sided gables, and a square-plan, centrally located, Greek Revival-style cupola. The original roof, cupola, and much of the interior were destroyed by fire in the mid-1970s. A low-pitched gable roof covers the ruins of the stone complex. The mill, originally used as a cotton factory, was acquired in 1902 by the Columbia Narrow Fabrics Company for the manufacture of elastic webbing. The first of several additions began in 1907 when a 1-story, brick addition with gable and sawtooth-roofing profiles were erected to the west of the original complex. Columbia Narrow Fabrics vacated the factory in 1968.

Since 1969 the Clarke Mill/Columbia Narrow Fabrics Company plant has suffered severe deterioration. In the mid-1970s the monitor-trimmed gable roof and Greek Revival cupola of the original stone structure were lost in a fire and replaced by a nearly flat roof. Since that time the remainder of the complex has suffered extensively from vandalism and today stands in ruins.

15. Shannock Community House, Main Street, Charlestown-Richmond Veterans of Foreign Wars, Memorial Post 9818 (1919-1920): 1½-story, hip-roof, weatherboarded, bungalow-style building placed on a raised concrete basement. The Community House was given to the Village of Shannock by the Columbia Narrow Fabrics Company in memory of the World War I dead by the towns of Richmond and Charlestown. Originally the building contained a bowling alley, showers, barber shop, library, lecture hall, and American Legion Post.

16. Foundations of Horseshoe Falls Farm Barn, Main Street (east side of Main Street to the north of the Pawcatuck River): Multi-story, rectangular-plan, shingle clad, end-gable barn built for George H. Clarke in 1885 and enlarged in 1932. Between 1925 and 1974 the barn was home of George P. Clarke's herd of Golden Guernsey cattle, noted for their record milk production. The barn was destroyed by fire in 1974.

17. Simeon P. Clarke House, 228 Main Street (circa 1850): 2½-story, end-gable, Greek Revival residence with corner pilasters and a full pediment. A Late Victorian, bracketed porch extends across the eastern portion of the facade and along the length of the east elevation. A glassed-enclosed porch projects from the western corner of the building's facade. The lot is fronted by a stone retaining wall and picket fence. The Clarke family cemetery, a modest, stone-wall enclosure, is located in a grassed field to the rear of the house. Two small frame sheds are located to the east of the house.

18. Mill House, 229 Main Street (late nineteenth century): 1½-story, 3-bay cottage with steeply pitched, flank-gable roof retains plain raking cornices without returns.

- 19. Shed, Main Street (early twentieth century):** Large, 1-story, gabled roof, brick building constructed as part of the Columbia Narrow Fabrics Company complex.
- 20. Site of Mill House, North Shannock Road (late nineteenth century):** Until 1891, a small, plain 1½-story, flank-gable cottage stood on this site. The present building was constructed after 1895 as housing for mill workers. The building is presently used as a barn.
- 21. Simeon P. Clarke Store, 224 Main Street (1848):** 2½-story, flank-gable, clapboard clad building with molded, Federal-style cornices and a square-post facade veranda.
- 22. Mill House, 4 North Shannock Road (late nineteenth century):** 1½-story, flank-gable, clapboard clad residence is sited with its gable end to the road. Entirely lacking in decorative trim, the building possesses simple ranking cornices without returns.
- 23-24. Mill Houses, 8 and 12 North Shannock Road (circa 1848):** Built for Charles Clarke and Simeon P. Clarke, this pair of identical 2-story, flank-gable, clapboard clad double houses retain Federal-style cornices and low second-story facade windows. Double-door central entrances retain transom lights and molded architrave surrounds.
- 25. Foster House, to the west of North Shannock Road (eighteenth century):** Said to date from the early eighteenth century, this much altered 1½-story, flank-gable structure is named for the family which owned it in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Little more than the frame of the original structure remains.
- 26. See Inventory of Non-Contributing Structures.**
- 27. Charles Clarke House, 220 Main Street, (circa 1850):** 2½-story, end-gable, Greek Revival, clapboard sided residence. The building retains paneled pilasters, a full pediment, and a 1-story facade porch supported by Doric columns. A 1½-story, side-gable wing is attached to the east elevation of the main block. A white picket fence lines the lot at Main Street.
- 28. Barn, associated with the Charles Clarke House (late nineteenth century):** 1½-story, hip-roof, frame structure located to the rear of the Charles Clarke House.
- 29-30. Mill Houses, 214 and 216 Main Street (circa 1848):** Built for Charles Clarke and Simeon P. Clarke, these double houses are identical to 8 and 12 North Shannock Road.
- 31. Mill House, located behind 214 and 216 Main Street (late nineteenth century):** Erected for the Clarks as mill housing, this 2-story, clapboard sided, flank-gable, central-entrance residence retains cornices without returns.
- 32. George H. Clarke House, 215 Main Street (circa 1878):** 2½-story, L-plan residence with bracketed entrance porch, paired windows, and raking cornices without returns. The residence is said to have been a wedding gift from Clarke's parents, Simeon P. and Catherine P. Clarke. A wrought-iron fence bounds the lot at Main Street.

- 33, 34, 35. 208, 210, and 212 Main Street (circa 1880):** Three identical 2-story, end-gable cottages, with plain raking cornices without returns. 208 Main Street retains original narrow-width shingles. 210 and 212 Main Street are clad in asbestos shingles.
- 36. 209 Main Street (circa 1880):** 2-story, L-plan, late nineteenth-century residence with hooded entrance and raking cornice without returns.
- 37. 205 Main Street (circa 1890):** 1-story, square-plan, hip-roof cottage clad in staggered-butt shingles.
- 38. 201 Main Street (late nineteenth century):** 2½-story, flank-gable residence with central, hooded entrance and roof dormers.
- 39. House, Main Street (circa 1900):** Modest 2-story, end-gable cottage, with side porch and staggered-butt shingles.
- 40. Former Fire House, 202 Main Street (circa 1900):** 1½-story, end-gable, aluminum clad building originally housed "Columbia Hose," the village's first fire company.
- 41. Store, 200 Main Street (late nineteenth century):** 2½-story, flank-gable, aluminum sided building. The building retains dormer windows and a Queen Anne-style turned-post facade. Originally constructed as a general mercantile with tenements on the second floor, the building presently houses apartments.
- 42. Store/Tenement Block, Main Street (late nineteenth century):** 2½-story, flank-gable building with a low-pitched, 2-story, cross-gable wing.
- 43. House, Main Street (mid-nineteenth century):** 1½-story, flank-gable residence clad in asbestos shingles. Constructed before 1862 the building was owned in 1870 by George Weeden, proprietor of the nearby Knowles mill.
- 44. John T. Barber House, 190 Main Street (mid-nineteenth century):** 2½-story, end-gable, asbestos shingle clad residence with bracketed eaves and doorway lintel. The building's original 1-story, end-gable wing has been enlarged to two stories. The property also contains several Late Victorian, flank-gable, aluminum sided barns and outbuildings.
- 45. House, Main Street (mid-nineteenth century):** 2½-story, end-gable, aluminum clad, vernacular Greek Revival dwelling with 1-story side wing which contains the primary entrance.
- 46. House, Main Street (late nineteenth century):** 2½-story, end-gable, asbestos shingle clad, Late Victorian residence with hooded primary entrance and 1-story side wing.
- 47. House, Main Street (mid-nineteenth century):** 1½-story, flank-gable, central-entrance, stucco-clad residence. A twentieth-century porch spans the facade.

48. House, 12 Main Street (mid-nineteenth century): 2-story, flank-gable, residence rests on a raised cut stone foundation. The building's facade is covered in clapboard with its sidewalls clad in wood shingles. The building appears on the 1870 map as a store, but has been converted to residential use.

49. House, 10 Main Street (between 1862 and 1870): 2½-story, end-gable residence with raking cornices without returns. In 1870 the building was owned by William C. Lamphear, a grocer and dry-goods dealer.

50. John T. Knowles House, 11 Railroad Street (circa 1834): A flank-gable residence whose 1-story facade features a simply-framed entrance and transom lights. The building's lot slopes towards the south (rear) providing this residence with a full second floor on the south elevation. In July 1833, Knowles purchased a tract of land from Jesse Babcock and within the next year erected a textile mill and probably this house. In 1850 Elisha Faxson and George Weeden purchased the entire complex, and in 1851 Weeden bought out Faxson. Weeden used a portion of the house as a store into the 1870s.

51. Carmichael Manufacturing Company Mill, located to the east of Shannock Road (1885): 2½-story, frame, gable-roof building with 2-story, shed-roof addition (late nineteenth century). The Carmichael firm used the mill for the manufacture of woolen and "mixed goods." In 1899 the firm leased the structure to the Shannock Narrow Fabrics Company, which added the shed-roof addition and installed silk weaving machinery. The building is vacant and in deteriorated condition.

52. Dam, located east of Shannock Road on the Pawcatuck River (nineteenth century): A low stone structure, which follows the crest of the lower Shannock Falls. The dam was probably erected by John T. Knowles in the 1830s or 1840s.

53. Power House, located on the south bank of the Pawcatuck River to the southwest of the Dam (early twentieth century): Modest, shed-roof brick structure housed the water-powered turbine which generated electricity for operating the Carmichael Mill.

54. George Carmichael Estate, "Riverview", located to the southeast of Shannock Road): Dramatically sited on a hilltop overlooking the Carmichael Mill, the estate of George Carmichael, Jr. is a four-building complex comprised of two residences and two outbuildings. The Carmichael House (late nineteenth century) is a 2½-story, cross-gable building with bay windows, pseudo-Swiss vertical-board gables and eave trim. Several Colonial Revival additions occurred to the building in 1896. A gabled carriage house (late nineteenth century) clad in board and batten and the former Carmichael recreation house (late nineteenth century) a low-pitched gable outbuilding, are also located on the grounds. Located directly behind the Carmichael house and facing southeast is a small and significantly altered 1½-story, flank-gable residence. Originally constructed circa 1720 as a modest cottage with a stone chimney at one end and a smaller wing beyond it, the house was enlarged at the south end in the eighteenth century. In the twentieth century, the north wing was shortened and the structure extensively remodeled. The walls have been reshingled and an Early American architrave door and window trim installed.

55. Former Grocery Store, 198 Main Street (circa 1920): 1-story, end-gable, weatherboarded commercial building.

56. Shannock Spa and Post Office, 196 Main Street (early twentieth century): A plain, end-gable, 1-story-building with a low side wing. The former freight station — a 1½-story, flank-gable building with a widely projecting roof and vertical board sides — once stood near the Columbia Narrow Fabrics Company plant. Since then, the freight station has been attached to the rear of the Spa.

57-58. 194 and 194A Main Street, (circa 1920): Two, 2-story, square-plan, hip-roof residences with enclosed facade porches. 194A Main Street retains its original wood-shingle wallcovering. 194 Main Street has been covered with aluminum siding.

59. Shannock Falls Battle Marker (1936): This simple stone shaft commemorates a 1636 battle won by the local Narragansett Indians over the Pequots for possession of fishing rights at the lower Shannock falls.

60. Mechanics' Hall, 160 Shannock Road (early twentieth century): 2½-story, flank-gable, clapboard sided building with a single-run flight of frame steps located on the west elevation. The building's side-hall entrance has been placed within an enclosed porch. Constructed as a social center for Shannock's mill workers, the building has been converted into apartments.

Inventory of Non-Contributing Structures

26. House, North Shannock Road (1982): Small, wood-frame cottage.

61. Richmond-Charlestown Volunteer Fire Association Fire House, Main Street (circa 1960): 1-story, flat-roofed, cinder block building fronted by a paved apron.

PART II. SHANNOCK VILLAGE: HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Shannock is notable in Rhode Island as a well preserved, small, nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century mill village which retains in large measure the structures and other manmade features — mills, housing, stores, public buildings, dams, and walls and fences — of its period of ascendancy. Shannock is locally significant for its more than two-centuries long history of milling and manufacturing activity. A whole greater than the sum of its parts, Shannock's architecture possesses local importance in that it typifies mid-and late-nineteenth-century country building in Rhode Island.

Shannock owes its existence to the upper and lower Shannock falls on the Pawcatuck River. The mills and factories established near them led to the development of two small hamlets which coalesced into a single village in the latter half of the nineteenth century.

In the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, several saw-, grist- and woolen mills were set up. These were small operations, serving only the local area. Shannock's first mills appear to have been saw- and gristmills at the upper falls on the Richmond side. Both existed before 1759, when they were willed by Jeffrey Wilcox to his son Abraham, and may have been in use in the 1730s. Joshua Clarke bought the two mills in 1771 and soon added a woolen mill nearby. A son, Perry Clarke (1780—1835), continued to operate the mills following Joshua's death in 1796.

Other early mills nearby included a sawmill erected before 1815 on the Charlestown side of the upper falls and a gristmill at the lower falls on the Richmond side, established probably before the end of the eighteenth century. The latter, operated by Jesse Babcock in 1828, had disappeared by 1833. None of these early mills have survived.

The real growth of manufacturing in Shannock took place with the construction of the New York, Providence and Boston Railroad through the area in 1837. The railroad, which became part of the "Shore Line" from New York to Boston in 1858 (and remains the Boston to New York Amtrak main line), passed through the village, permitting the economical shipment of raw materials and finished goods.

Shannock's first factory was a cotton and woolen mill established on the Richmond side of the lower falls in 1834 by John T. Knowles. Knowles' mills, subsequently enlarged by George Weeden and sold in 1875 to A. Carmichael & Co., burned in 1884. This cotton and woolen goods manufacturing firm, renamed in 1881 the Carmichael Manufacturing Co., built the present frame factory on the same site in 1885.

The railroad also brought prosperity to the hamlet at the upper falls, encouraging the establishment of textile mills on both sides of the river. A linsey goods factory was built in 1845 by John T. and Jirah Knowles on the Charlestown side. It was bought by Samuel A. Hoxsie in 1848 and converted into a cotton mill, but burned eight years later.

On the Richmond side, Perry Clarke's sons Charles Clarke (1818—1870) and Simeon P. Clarke (1820—1887) in 1848 established the beginnings of the factory complex which still dominates the village. The Clarkes constructed a large stone mill and nearby, five mill houses and a store. The factory, at first leased to a thread manufacturer, was taken over in 1858 by the brothers for the manufacture of cotton yarn. Following Charles' death in 1870, Simeon P. Clarke ran the mills himself until 1876, when his son George H. Clarke (1847—1924) became a partner; George bought Simeon's interest in 1885. In the late nineteenth century Simeon P. and George H. Clarke gradually added to the mill and mill housing complex and also acquired other Shannock lands and buildings. By 1900 the Clarkes owned the largest part of the village.

In 1901 George H. Clarke, his son George P. Clarke, and Samuel Ward of Providence founded the Columbia Narrow Fabrics Company, Inc. The following year the firm began the manufacture of silk and elastic webbing in the stone mill. A large brick addition was constructed in 1916. The company also leased and then in 1916 purchased the Carmichael mill for the manufacture of silk goods.

Under the paternalistic rule of George H. and George P. Clarke, Shannock continued to thrive in the twentieth century. In 1964, however, the Clarkes sold their Shannock holdings, including the mills, and in 1968 the Columbia Narrow Fabrics plant closed, never to reopen. For several years following the firm's dissolution, Shannock's mill housing and associated properties remained a single unit and many of Shannock's citizens continued to be renters. During the late 1970s through mid-1980s, Shannock experienced a variety of purchases and witnessed a number of restoration proposals. Ultimately these proposals all failed, and in the late 1980s, Shannock residents began buying the homes they occupied. A small number of locally owned and operated businesses were established. Today, Shannock retains a mill village appearance while having successfully transitioned beyond dependence on local manufacturing.

Shannock is also important because of its architecture. The village's dwellings, taken as a whole, typify the housing types and exterior treatments found in rural Rhode Island in the mid- and late nineteenth century, conservative in nature, eschewing the unfamiliar in either form or decoration.

Many of the earliest homes follow the flank-gable, center-entrance format commonly used in Rhode Island since the seventeenth century. Examples include the John T. Knowles house (circa 1834), and the mid-century Samuel A. Hoxsie and Jonathan Tucker, Jr., dwellings, and even some later nineteenth-century homes such as the 1870s Hoxsie house — one of the village's largest.

End-gable structures are also common in Shannock. First appearing in numbers in the 1820s and 1830s as a by-product of the Classical and Greek Revival styles, the boxy, end-gable house remained popular statewide to the end of the nineteenth century. Shannock's earliest and most handsome examples are the Greek Revival dwellings of Simeon P. Clarke and Charles Clarke. Most often, as in the houses of Charles Clarke (circa 1850) and George H. Clarke (circa 1878), the side-hall plan was used, but the Simeon P. Clarke residence, Shannock's largest dwelling, is of the central-hall type.

A third type of nineteenth-century housing typical both of Rhode Island in general and Shannock in particular is the mill house. The village's earliest mill houses are the Clarke's circa 1848 double-unit, flank-gable dwellings.

In their exterior treatment, Shannock's dwellings also exemplify the conservative character of Rhode Island nineteenth-century country architecture. The Clarke mill houses and store and other circa 1850 village buildings possess thin molded cornices with returns — a long since out-of-date vestige of Federal styling. The front entrance of the circa 1834 Knowles house even has the rectangular, multi-light transom characteristic of houses of the mid- and late eighteenth century.

Shannock's late-nineteenth-century dwellings were for the most part designed in a vernacular derivation of the Greek Revival. The Victorian styles made little impact; sometimes bracketing or a door hood was added or an elaborate porch attached to an otherwise plain building, but more often a house's principal stylistic reference was to be seen in its simple raking cornice. Structures possessing such classically inspired raking cornices without returns proliferated throughout Rhode Island in the latter half of the nineteenth century. Shannock has over a dozen.

Just as Shannock's modest clapboard and shingle dwellings are typical of nineteenth-century Rhode Island country housing, Shannock itself is typical of the numerous mill villages which once dotted the Rhode Island countryside. Unlike many other less fortunate villages, however, Shannock has preserved not only its historically important buildings and sites, but its nineteenth-century, rural character as well.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

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B. Historic Views

Hussey Photograph Collection

Rhode Island State Archives, Providence, RI.

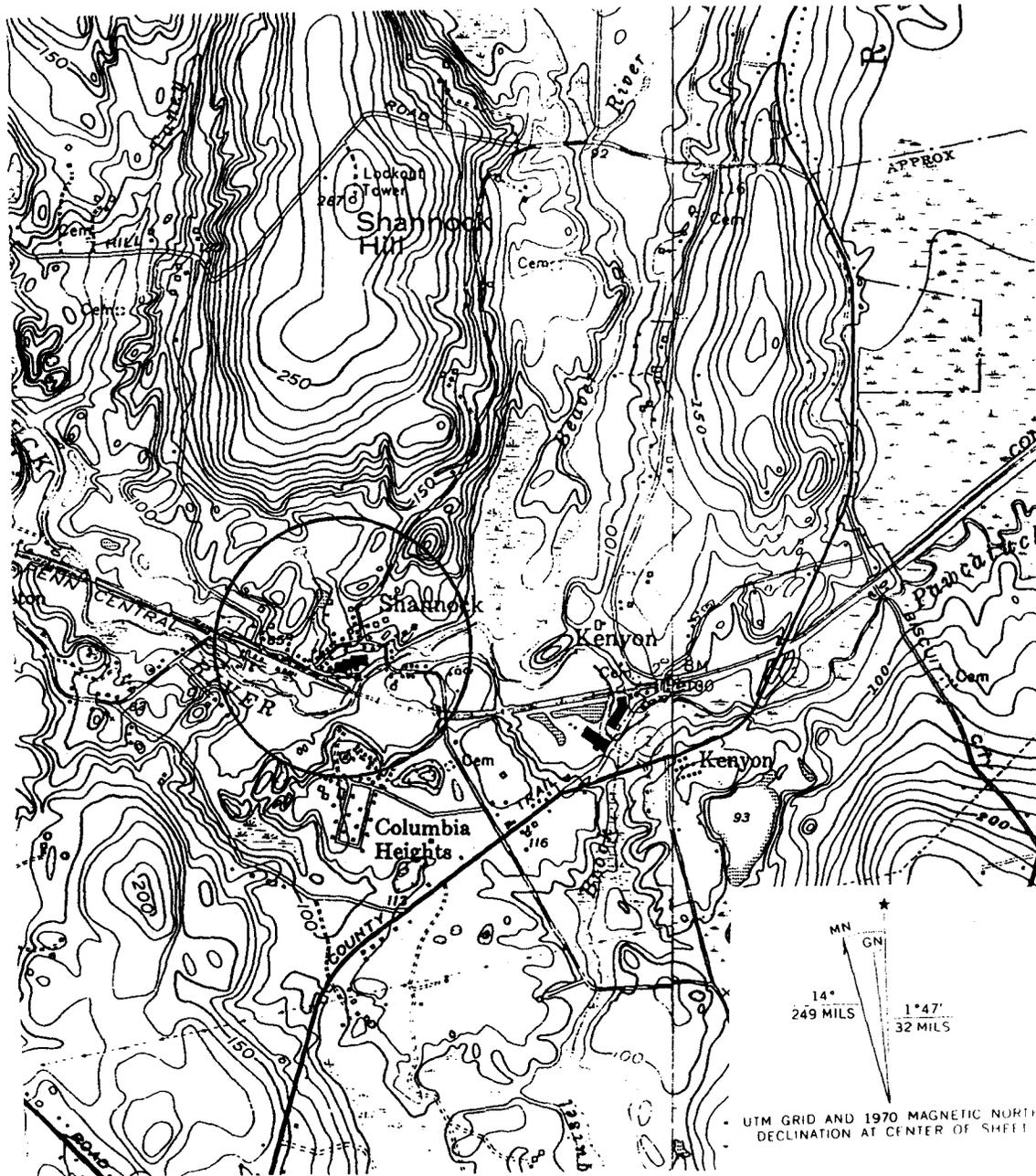
PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

The National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak), in association with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), is proposing a number of infrastructure projects to upgrade the Northeast Corridor Railroad right-of-way in Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts. In consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs), Amtrak and FRA have determined that the proposed "Northeast Corridor Improvement Project — Electrification: New Haven, Connecticut to Boston, Massachusetts" project will have adverse impacts on significant historic properties. Three memoranda of agreement outlining stipulations to eliminate, minimize, or mitigate adverse project impacts have been drafted by Amtrak, the FRA, and the respective SHPOs, and have been accepted by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. The stipulations include the recordation of the Shannock Village, Shannock, Rhode Island, a property listed in the National Register of Historic Places (1978, Revised 1983), to Historic American Buildings Survey standards. The proposed project will necessitate the installation of catenary poles and overhead wiring and has been determined by the Rhode Island SHPO to cause an adverse effect.

The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. (PAL Inc.) of Pawtucket, Rhode Island was retained by ABB Environmental Services, Inc. on behalf of Amtrak and FRA to prepare HABS documents for the village of Shannock. This report was compiled in August 1996 by the PAL, Inc. project team including Virginia H. Adams, Director of Architectural Projects and Nancy C. Tinker, Architectural Historian. The large format archival photography was completed in August 1996 by Robert Brewster of Warren Jagger Photography, Inc., Providence, Rhode Island.

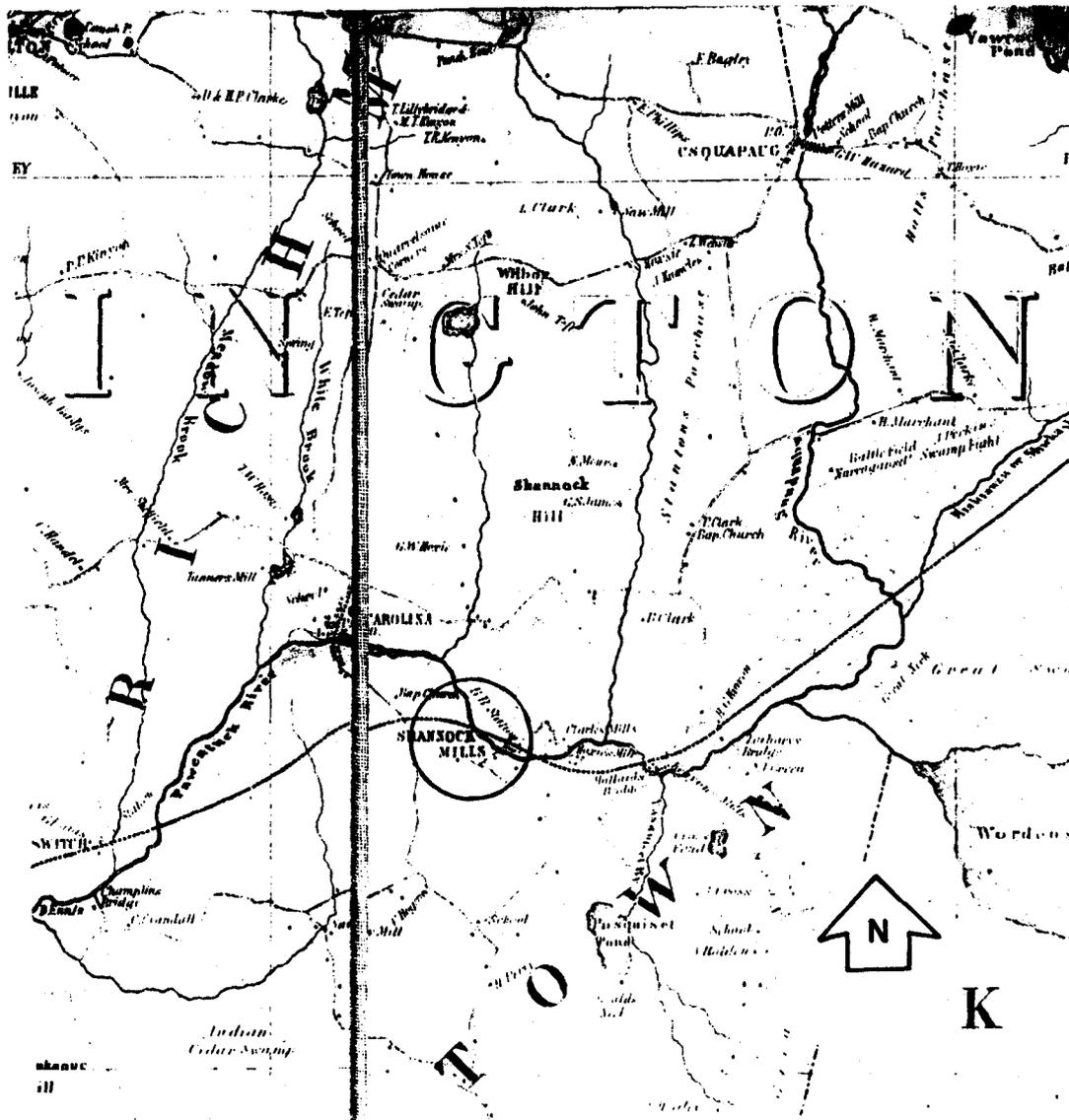
SHANNOCK VILLAGE
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(Page 13)

USGS Location Map
Shannock Village
Richmond, Washington County, Rhode Island
Scale 1:24,000

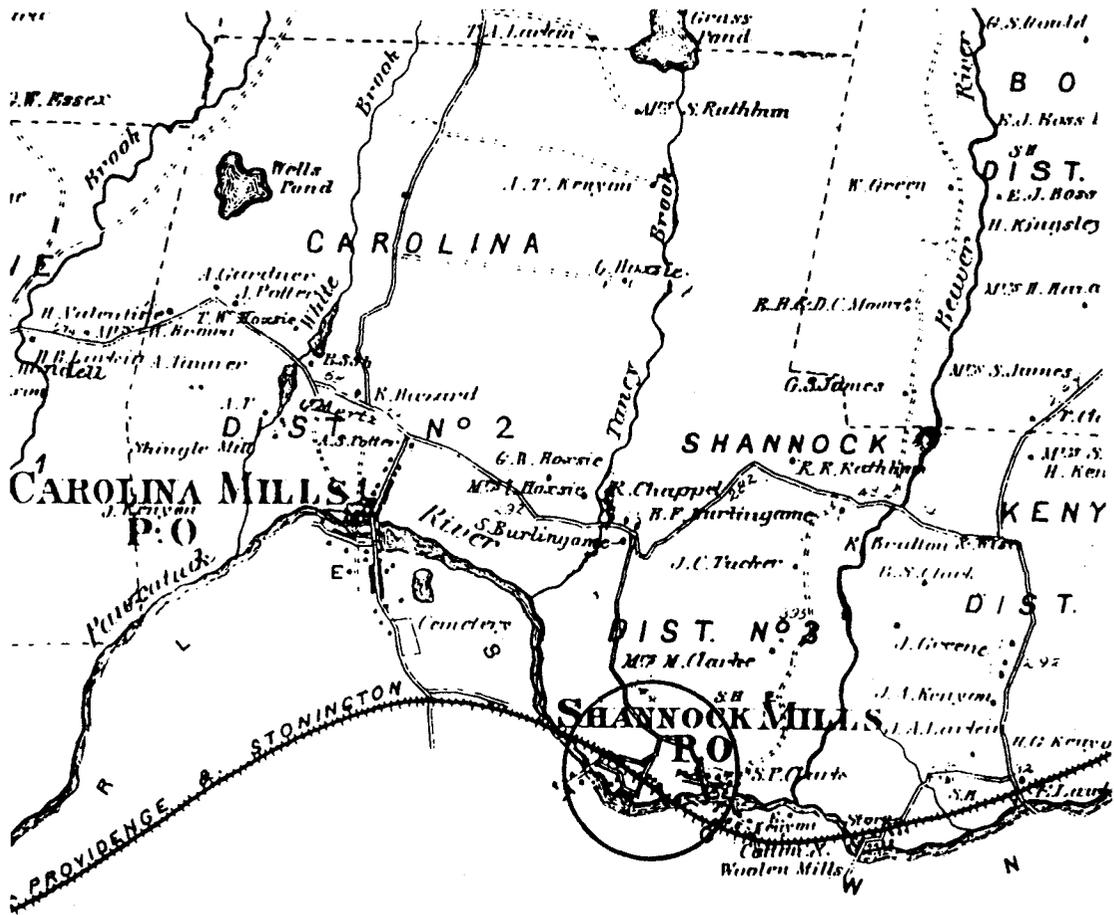


SHANNOCK VILLAGE
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(Page 14)

Portion of an Atlas of
the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
Henry F. Walling 1855
Scale Unknown



Portion of an Atlas of
the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
D.G. Beers & Co. 1870
Scale Unknown



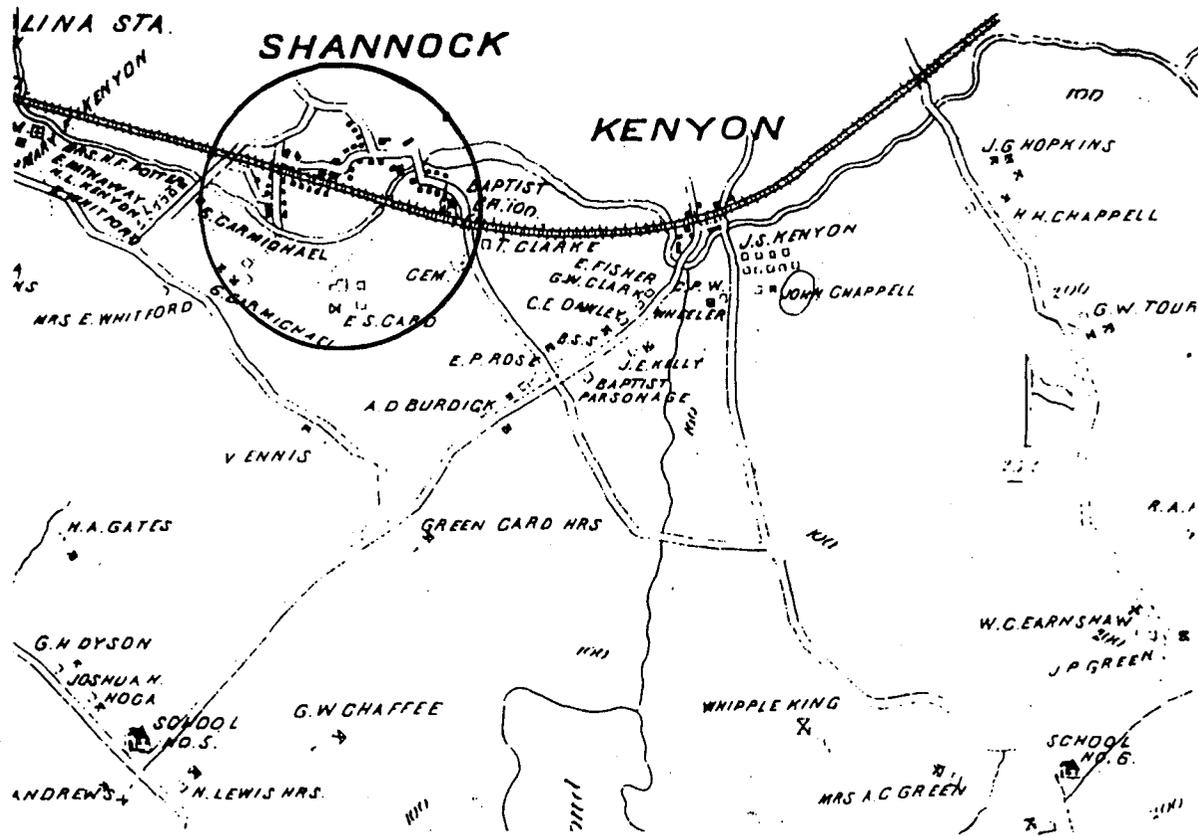
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RICHMOND

Washington County R.I.



Portion of a New Topographical Atlas
of Surveys: Southern Rhode Island
Town of Charlestown
Everts & Richards 1895
Scale Unknown



TOWN OF
CHARLESTOWN

WASHINGTON CO. R.I.



Shannock Historic District Boundary Map
Shannock Historic District
Richmond
Washington County, Rhode Island
Scale Unknown

