



MILTON

MASSACHUSETTS



LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT STUDY

WHAT IS A LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT?

A **Local Historic District** is a local bylaw established under MA General Law Chapter 40C which defines an area in a community deemed to be of historical significance.

Within a local historic district any exterior architectural alterations visible from a public way must first be reviewed and approved by a **local historic district commission**.

The intent of the process is to prevent unnecessary demolitions and allow for the review of new construction and alterations visible from a public way within the district.



WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH
CHAIRMAN, MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

THE DIFFERENCE

Milton already has many properties designated as “historic” by the Commonwealth and by the Federal Government, including six Federally recognized historic districts.

What makes a local historic district different from the national register of historic places?

Local Historic District

- State designation through MGL Chapter 40C.
- Creates a Local Historic District Commission that reviews proposed exterior alterations in local historic district.
- **Provides clear protection against specific kinds of alterations and demolitions.**

National Register of Historic Places

- Federal designation administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the Massachusetts Historic Commission and the State Historic Preservation Office
- Allows for:
- Certain federal tax incentives related to rehabilitation
- Provides **limited** protection against unnecessary alterations or demolitions.

PURPOSE AND BENEFITS

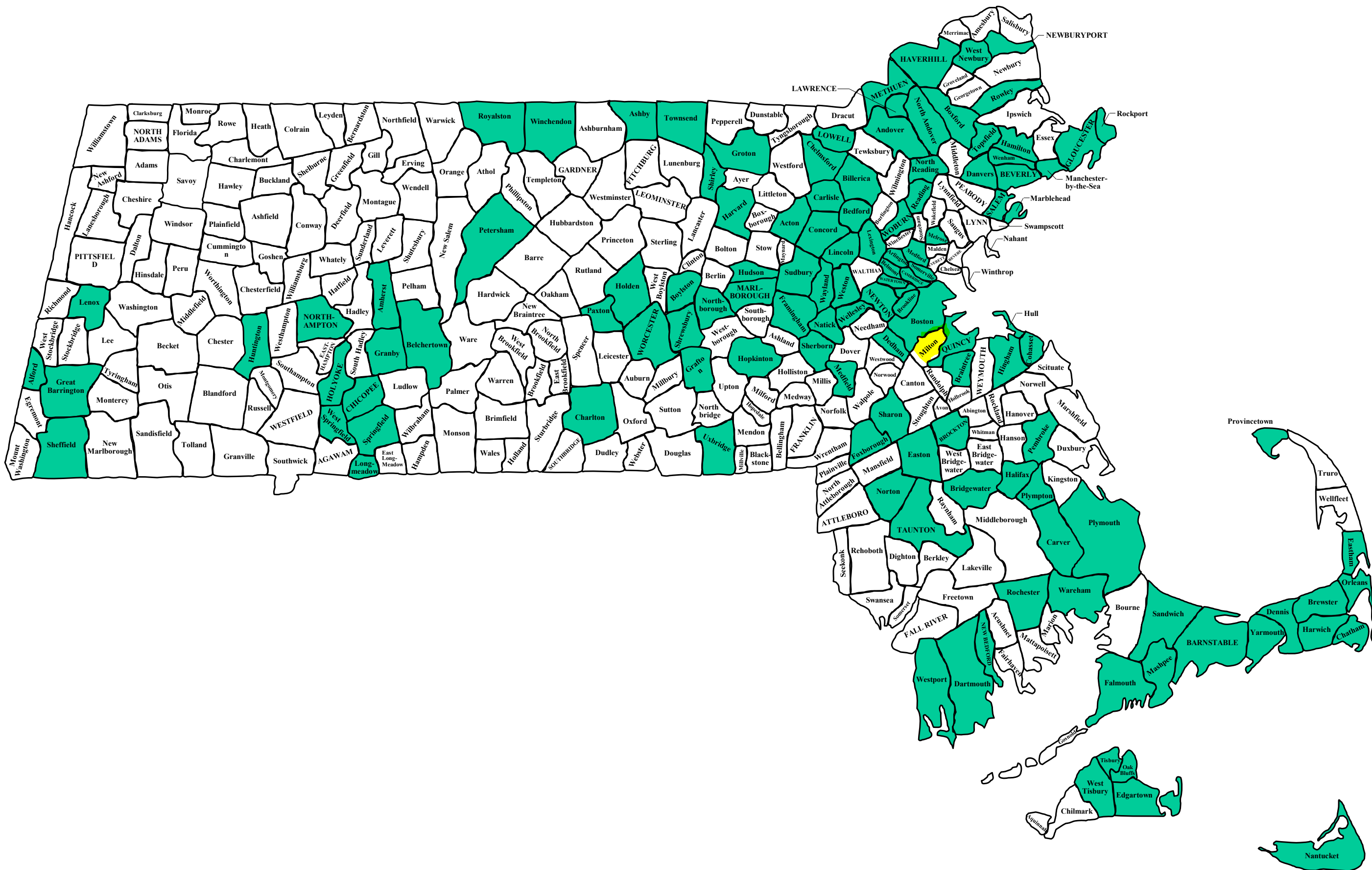
MA General Law Chapter 40C states that the purpose of a local historic district is to preserve and protect buildings and place significant to the history of the town while also encouraging new designs compatible with existing buildings in the district.

Potential benefits of a local historic district include (but aren't limited to):

- Preserving the character of an area within town.
- Provide protection from demolitions and incompatible remodeling.
- Provide aesthetic stabilization and assurance the district's built environment will be there for future generations to enjoy.

TOWNS WITH LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICTS

(AS OF 2014)



THE STUDY

The Milton Select Board created a local historic district study committee in 2021 in response to feedback from residents, who expressed a desire to preserve important historical and cultural aspects of our community as part of the Town Master Plan.

The study committee was tasked with researching possible historic districts in Milton and proposing at least one such area to be designated as Milton's first local historic district.



THE DISTRICT: MILTON VILLAGE

The local historic district study committee has recommended that **Milton Village** be designated as the town's first local historic district.



SIGNIFICANCE

As a primary gateway into town, Milton Village is a prominent, high traffic, and very visible part of our community.

The unique character, scale, and architectural features of Milton Village are unrepeated in the town and represent important historical developments in the region.

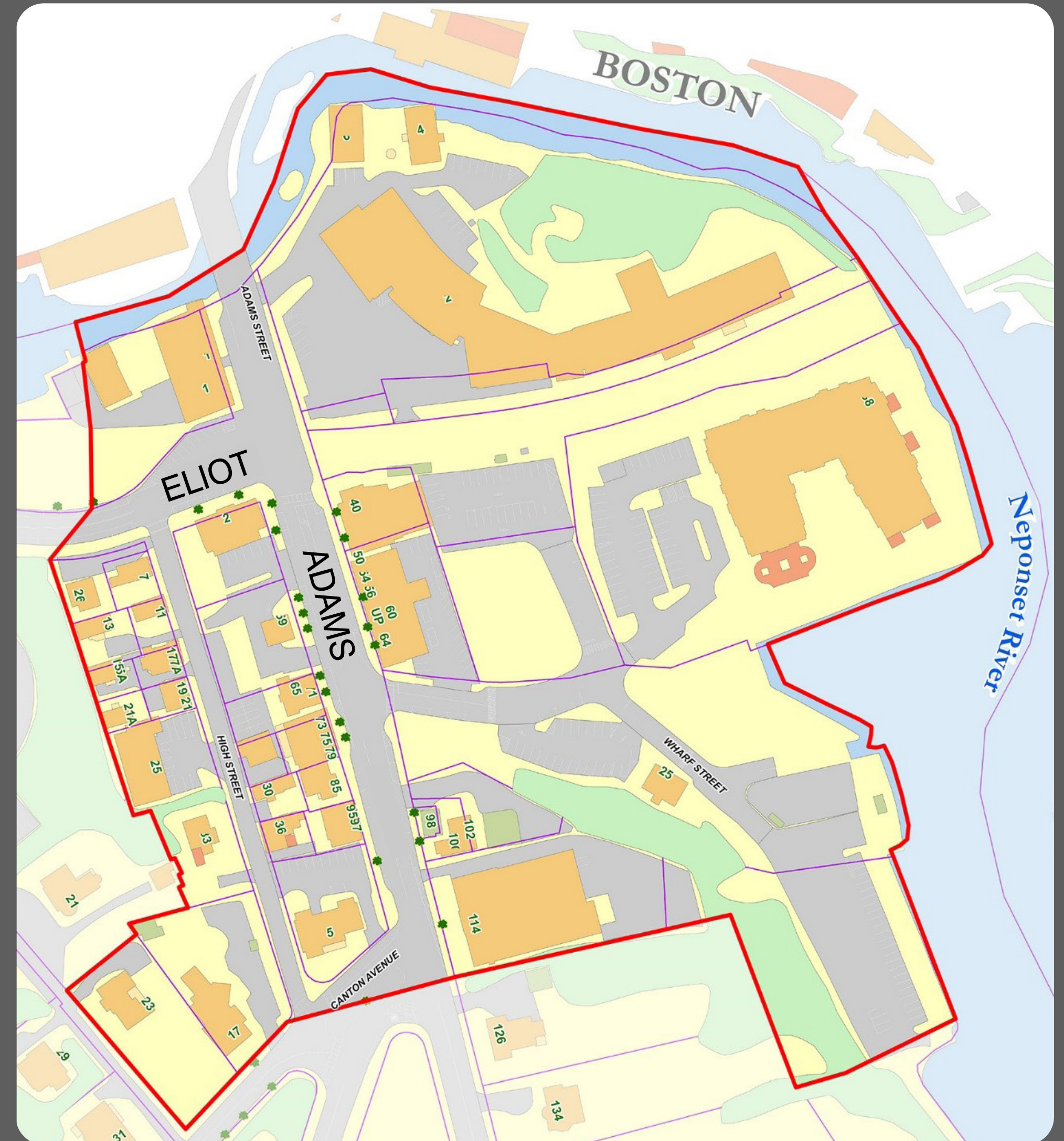
- Representation of architectural styles through the 18th and 19th centuries.
- The development of local industry and mills.
- The progression from water-power to steam and finally electricity in manufacturing.



PROPOSED BOUNDARIES

After selecting Milton Village as the proposed first local historic district, the final boundaries were chosen to coincide with the Milton Village Mixed-Use Planned Unit Development recently designated by the Planning Board.

As the Town Master Plan has already received a great deal of public feedback, allowing the plan for this area to guide the proposed district boundaries felt the most appropriate to the study committee.



ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE - ADAMS STREET



ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE - HIGH STREET



QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME