

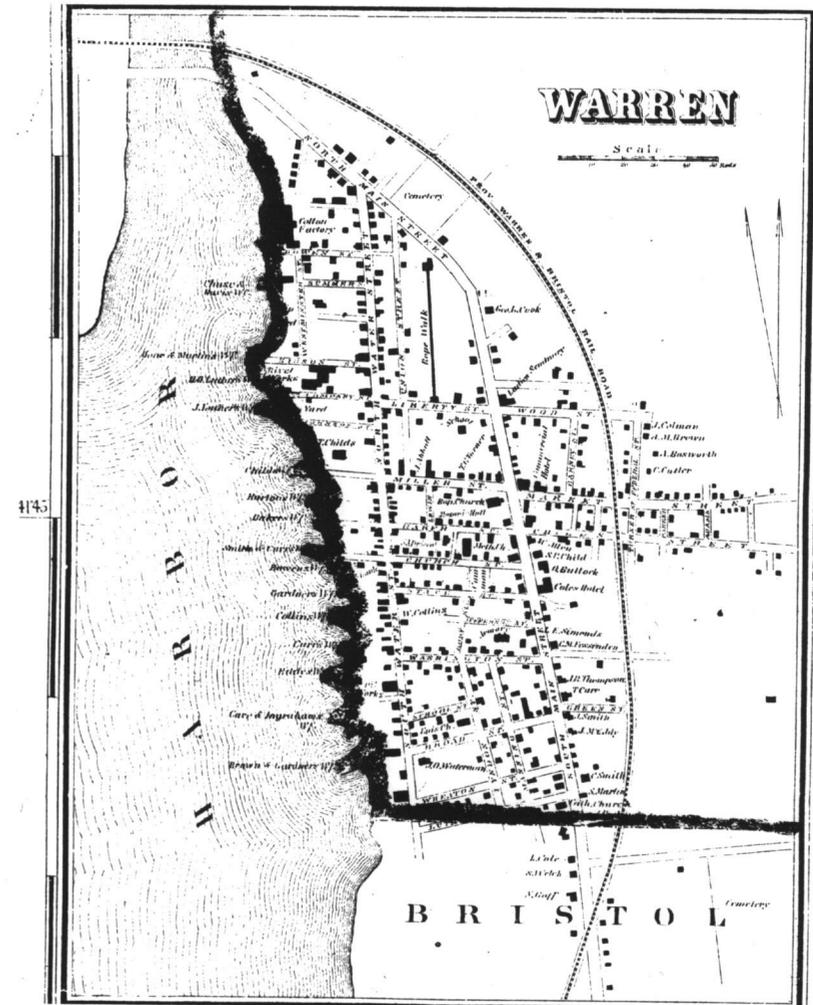
The First Methodist Church (1844) at 27 Church Street is a town, bay, and New England landmark. This building, designed by Perez Mason, Esq. of Fall River, combines a tetra-style Greek Revival portico with a three-level tower of Georgian type and a spire rising 130 feet from the ground with detailing which is almost entirely vernacular Greek Revival. The original interior arrangement of the sanctuary has been altered, the trompe-l'oeil painting removed, and front entrance remodelled. However, a recent decision has been made to renovate instead of removing the steeple.

The Warren Baptist Church (1844) on Main Street, also designed by Russell Warren, is of the same date as the First Methodist Church but reflects new tastes in architecture. Constructed on the site of the original Brown University, which began here in 1764 as Rhode Island College, this massive stone Gothic-style building commands Main Street and both the northern and western approaches to Warren. It is the third church to occupy this site. Essentially a colonial church in form, the simple treatment of its mass, with its surface pierced by a row of pointed Gothic windows, reflects the influence of medieval themes and the desire for rustic simplicity in American architecture popular by the mid-1800's. A Gothic parapet on the tower is now missing.

Another important, although neglected, Gothic-style building is the Warren Armory Hall (1842) built on Jefferson Street (sometimes called Armory Lane) shortly after the Dorr Rebellion. The Warren Artillery was organized in May, 1842, in support of Governor King and took part in both the Federal Hill and Chepachet campaigns. In 1862, during the Civil War, the company served with the Ninth Regiment from Rhode Island. For many years Armory Hall was the social center of Warren and the locus of dances, theatricals, and town meetings.

Not until 1847 was the first public high school built in Warren although a system of public schools had been initiated in 1828 with an annual appropriation of \$325. The Liberty Street School (1847) designed by Thomas A. Tefft, an important Providence architect, was the third public high school in Rhode Island, built four years after those in Providence and Newport. This handsome Early Victorian brick structure with Italianate details is still used for educational purposes; only the addition of modern metal windows alters the original exterior design.

Another noteworthy school was the Warren Ladies Seminary which stood on the northeast corner of Main and Wood Streets. Built in 1834, this large, three-story wood building had a wide piazza on three sides, forty-foot Doric columns, and was typical of Russell Warren's genius. Enlarged in 1855, this famous building was totally destroyed by fire in 1863.



Map Plate E: 1862, Walling, Map of Warren



Fig. 19: Entry — H. Child House (c. 1850), 1 Cherry Street

Throughout the 1850's, the vitality, whimsy, and originality of the Victorian period with its concern for the picturesque was reflected in the use of decorative detailing, the development of asymmetrical floor plans, and the eclectic combination of styles. Hope Street, opened in 1849, presents an unexpected array of small, wooden, Early Victorian homes. Numbers 12, 16, and 18 have steep gables with bold modillions. Number 27 has Gothic bargeboard combined with cut-out and sawn ornaments on both porch and corners.

The Dow-Starr House (c. 1850) at 366 Main Street is a superb example of an Italianate villa executed in cut stone and trimmed with Gothic bargeboards on the steep front gable. Another large stone villa is the Smith-Winslow House (c. 1850) at 624 Main Street, begun by Charles Smith and later occupied by Captain William Winslow, sea-captain and originator of Rocky Point amusement park. This stone residence, which combines Italianate massing, high proportions, a hip-roof with monitor, English Baroque pattern book window surrounds, and an Egyptianate portico and porches, is an impressive example of mid-Victorian villa architecture.

A very popular transitional building style developed in Warren during the mid-1850's which combined a Federal style, hip-roof building with the later addition of Victorian bay windows, elaborate porches with cut-out sawn and turned balustrades, and fine cornice brackets. Several examples are found in the waterfront section, among them the Lewis Hoar House (begun before 1850) at 4 Lyndon Street and its twin the N. Drown House at 347 Main Street. The H. Child House (c. 1850) at 1 Cherry Street has one of the finest two-story portico entrances in Warren. Here the carved brackets are carried around all sides of the irregular hip-roof structure. Lewis T. Hoar, listed in the 1844 Business Directory for Warren as one of the town's chief carpenters, possibly built all of these fine homes.

By the 1860's, Italianate villas were built by Warren's leading citizens. The George Cole House (c. 1860) on the corner of Cole and Turner Street was built by William Cole for his brother, the proprietor of the historic Cole's Hotel. Another example is the Methodist Parsonage built by Hoar & Martin in 1858 on Church Street. Its handsome curved brackets under all roof cornices matched those of the now demolished Captain Alfred Barton House (1863) which stood on the corner of Main and Miller Streets.



Fig. 20: Lewis Hoar House (bef. 1830, c. 1870), 4 Lyndon Street



Fig. 22: Smith-Winslow House (c. 1850), 624 Main Street



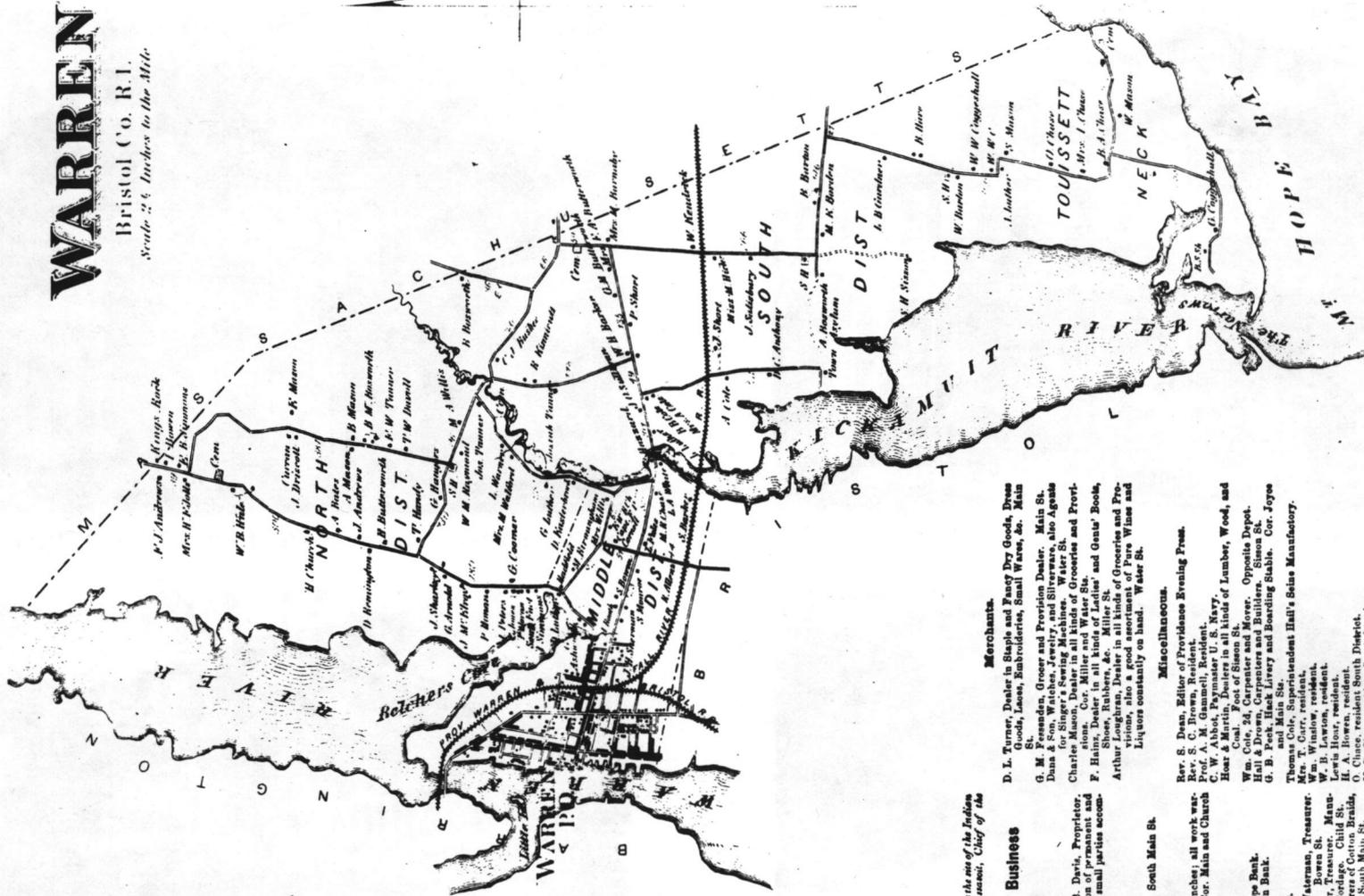
Fig. 21: Methodist Parsonage (1858), Church St.



Fig. 23: Capt. Alfred Barton House (1863), Main/Miller; demolished

WARREN

Bristol Co. R.I.
Scale 2 1/2 Inches to the Mile



WARREN.—This Village occupies the site of the Indian town of *Socoma*, the residence of *Marami*, Chief of the *Wampanoag*.

Warren Subscribers' Business Directory.

Hotel.

Col's Hotel, established 1752. A. B. Davis, Proprietor. Now open for the accommodation of permanent and transient boarders. Large and small parties accommodated at short notice.

Physician.

Otis Bullock, Physician and Surgeon. South Main St.

Dentist.

Preston Jay, Dentistry in all its branches; all work warranted, and prices reasonable. Cor. Main and Church Sts.

Bankers.

G. T. Gardner, President, National Hope Bank.
H. W. Eddy, Cashier, National Warren Bank.

Manufacturers.

Warren Manufacturing Co.; J. O. Waterman, Treasurer, and J. V. Colver, President, Manufacturers of Cotton Yarns and Cordage. Child St.
Cutler Manufacturing Co.; C. R. Cutler, Treasurer, Manufacturers of Cotton Yarns and Cordage. Child St.
Inman Manufacturing Co., Manufacturers of Cotton, Brads, and Needles. Main St.
J. V. Colver Manufacturing Co., Manufacturers of Furniture, also Undertaker. Child St.
George Livsey, Prop'r Warren Marble Works, Manufacturer of all kinds of Monuments, Mantels, &c. Child St.

Merchants.

D. L. Turner, Dealer in Ship and Knapp Dry Goods, Dress Goods, Laces, Embroideries, Small Wares, &c. Main St.
G. M. Fessenden, Grocer and Provision Dealer. Main St.
Dana & Son, Watch, Jewelry and Silversmith, also Agents for the sale of the best of the following Goods.
Charles Mason, Dealer in all kinds of Groceries and Provisions. Cor. Miller and Water Sts.
F. Hain, Dealer in all kinds of Ladies' and Gents' Boots, Shoes, Hats, &c. Main St.
Arthur Longham, Dealer in all kinds of Groceries and Provisions, also a good assortment of Pure Wines and Liqueurs constantly on hand. Water St.

Miscellaneous.

Rev. S. Dean, Editor of Providence Evening Press.
Rev. S. C. Brown, Minister of the Gospel.
C. W. Abbott, Paymaster U. S. Navy.
Hoar & Martin, Dealers in all kinds of Lumber, Wood, and Coal. Foot of Susan St.
Wm. C. Eddy, Milliner, Opposite Depot.
Hall & Brown, Carpenters and Builders. Simon St.
G. B. Peck, Hack Livery and Boarding Stable. Cor. Joyce and Main Sts.
Thomas Cor, Superintendent Hall's Sausage Manufactory.
Mrs. T. Carr, resident.
Wm. Winslow, resident.
W. B. Lovens, resident.
Lewis Hour, resident.
L. O. Chase, resident South District.
M. R. Chase, resident South District.
A. A. White, resident South District.
Wm. C. Gardner, resident South District.
Wm. C. Gardner, resident South District.
H. Butterworth, resident South District.

By the middle of the nineteenth century, textile manufacturing had been introduced into Warren. Freight and coastal trade had shifted to larger, more convenient ports, and by the start of the Civil War whaling had become virtually non-existent due to the advent of cheap kerosene and the scarcity of whales. The introduction of steam power, pioneered by Samuel Slater in Providence in 1827, accelerated industrialization. Any locality with easy access to coal supplies, particularly a waterfront town, became a potential mill site. In 1847, the Warren Manufacturing Company constructed its first small stone mill on the north end of Water Street to make sheetings and shirtings. Two brick mills were added in 1860 and 1873, forming practically one continuous building. They were the precursors of the textile industry which would dominate Warren's economy well into the twentieth century (see map Plate E). In 1851, two other factors helped to change the economic base of the Warren community from maritime commerce to textile manufacturing: the introduction of gas with the organization of the Warren Gas-Light Company, and in the same year the opening of the Providence, Warren and Bristol Railroad, celebrated in Warren on July 4. By 1865, service to Fall River was established and a new era of cheap transportation began which strongly affected the growth of Warren for the next three decades (see map Plate F).

During this period of early industrialism, Northeast Warren and Touisset Neck remained prosperous farming areas which utilized the new railroad to ship dairy products and farm produce to Providence and Fall River markets. Relatively large farms averaging fifty to one hundred acres remained in the hands of a few families. The Honorable Levi Haile, Judge of the Rhode Island Supreme Court, owned 110 acres on North Market Street; Samuel Butterworth, one hundred acres near Butterworth Corners; and Obadiah Chase, one hundred acres on Touisset Road. The Mason family continued to own most of Touisset Neck. Two outstanding Early Victorian-Mansard farmhouses in this section, both built by members of the Mason family, reflect this rural wealth. At 84 Touisset Road the S. Mason House (c. 1850) exhibits a beautifully balanced facade combining double and single dormers with an elaborate bracketed double entrance. On the north side of Maple Road, farther south, the H. Mason House (c. 1860) has two elaborate porches noted for lacy cut-out patterned panels between square posts with open curved cornice brackets. Dormers with segmental caps, an unusual type for Warren, are set into the roof which has dentil cornices on the upper and lower levels.



Fig. 24: S. Mason House (c. 1850), 84 Touisset Road



Fig. 25: H. Mason House (c. 1860), Maple Road

