

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



99-8666
Resub

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name FARNAMS VILLAGE HISTORIC DISTRICT (revised 2000 nomination)

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number FARNAMS RD., LANESBOROUGH RD., QUARRY RD. not for publication

city or town CHESHIRE vicinity _____

state MASSACHUSETTS Code MA county BERKSHIRE code 003 zip code 01225

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Judith B. McDonough
Signature of certifying official/Title Judith B. McDonough, Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer

3/9/2000
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title _____

Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

- I, hereby certify that this property is:
- entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
 - determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
 - determined not eligible for the National Register
 - removed from the National Register
 - other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Patrick Ardus

Date of Action

4/27/00

Farnams Village HD
Name of Property

Berkshire, MA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

(Check only one box)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal
- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
32	2	building
14		sites
8		structures
1		objects
55	2	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC/single, multiple dwellings, village
- GOVERNMENT/post office
- AGRICULTURE/field/outbuildings
- INDUSTRY/ manufacturing facility, extractive facility, energy facility
- LANDSCAPE/forest, natural feature-mountain
- TRANSPORTATION/railroad, streetcar line

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC/single, multiple dwellings, village
- AGRICULTURE/field/outbuilding
- INDUSTRY/manufacturing facility, extractive facility
- LANDSCAPE/forest, natural feature – mountain
- Ecological habitat

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Mid-19th Century/Greek Revival
- Late Victorian/Gothic, Italianate
- Late 19th Century/Colonial Revival
- Late 19th Century/Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation stone/ limestone, granite
- walls wood/weatherboard, shingle stone synthetics/vinyl
- roof stone/slate asphalt
- other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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Cheshire
Berkshire Co., Mass.

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Farnams Historic District is a well-preserved limestone mining village located in the southwestern part of the town of Cheshire. Lanesborough and New Ashford form the west border of the town, New Ashford and Adams are on the north, Savoy, Windsor and Dalton are on the east; Dalton and Lanesborough wrap around to form the southern border of the town as well.

The district lies in the foothills of Mount Greylock, a part of the western Massachusetts Berkshires, and is centered on the west side of Hoosac Lake or Cheshire Reservoir. Running through the mountain range are bedrock deposits of limestone which are exposed in open quarries and laced with hollows and fissures beneath the surface forming numerous caves and sinkholes. The woodland landscape of Farnams is an oak forest with beech, hemlock and yellow birch. First growth maples and virgin hemlock are thought to exist on the ridge whose precipitous slopes may have spared them from lumbering. An area well-documented by naturalists, Farnams is habitat to one hundred and thirty-five kinds of birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians. Thirty-eight species are considered endangered, threatened or of special concern; twenty six species of the two hundred plants identified in the area are similarly noted.

Sited between Mt. Greylock, which rises steeply behind it to 960 feet, and the reservoir, and entered over a causeway dividing that body of water into North and South Ponds, the somewhat isolated village possesses a dramatic setting. The district's 1,400 acres contains in the tree-covered mountainous site eighteen primary buildings: the early twentieth century concrete and steel industrial buildings at the lowest level adjacent to the reservoir and causeway; mid-nineteenth to mid-twentieth century frame houses and limestone office at mid level laid out around the crossroads of Lanesborough, Quarry and Farnams Roads; and a small nineteenth century and larger early 20th century limestone quarries dug higher up into the mountain flank, the latter originally connected to the limestone processing mill by a railway and tunnel.

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Other resources add richness to the district: the rail-related remains such as berms and trestle, Farnams Road causeway and internal road system, and a barn and fields, and the remnants of a farm which supplied the village with produce, milk and eggs. The condition of the district varies from good to poor. Despite some losses, the district possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

Landscape: the Quarries and Related Equipment

North and south of Lanesborough Road are old farming fields laid out as early as c. 1765 and oriented parallel to the road. Most are mown hay fields; a few are fallow. However, the field located adjacent to and behind the Curtis/Rozon Barn, Lanesborough Road (Map #1, c. 1920) is cultivated and has two small, possibly man-made ponds.

Located about one hundred feet above the residences and dug into the lower slopes of Mt. Greylock is the small quarry (Map #2, c. 1840-1880) (Photograph No. 1). It is reached from Lanesborough Road by an extension of Quarry Road, which separates it from the Farnams large quarry (Map #5, c. 1874-1969) (Photograph No. 2) lying on the eastern side of the road. The road turns and descends into the small quarry on its north end. It is about ten acres in extent, one hundred feet deep, and has been unused for decades. Its floor is covered by ground water which drains to the Farnams large quarry and a series of caves honeycombing the upland marble karst of Farnams Ridge. The small quarry's upper slopes support a growth of silver birch, pine and hawthorn; its white limestone walls are cut into benches - step-like plateaus left in the quarry after removal of a vertical layer of stone - now growing small trees and bushes.

South of the two quarries and located in the woods are the remains of a piece of quarrying equipment (Map # 4, c. 1874-1930). It is composed of an open rectangular wooden cab and a large wooden wheel set on an iron axle. An iron engine mount is attached to the equipment frame behind the wheel, and one small iron wheel remains from a pair in front of the large wheel.

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Farnams large quarry (Map #5, c. 1874-1969) (Photograph No. 2), set in an area of deciduous-coniferous mixture of largely second growth forest, is reached by a single lane unpaved road which arcs south of the quarry and approaches it from the south and west sides, then descends to the quarry floor. It is located at about 420 feet above sea level on the crest of a foothill of Mt. Greylock known as Farnams Ridge, a marble bedrock which has been eroded over the ages into a series of sinkholes and caves. Several caves can be seen leading from the quarry sides. The gray and white striated limestone quarry is about thirty acres in area and over two hundred feet deep. On the south side, and made by the quarrying process, benches several stories in height step back from the opening.

Residential and Farm Buildings

The H. H. Curtis House, 778 Lanesborough Road (Map #11, c. 1865) may have been built about the time of the Civil War as a late Greek Revival style residence. Originally two bays wide and three bays deep beneath a front gable roof, the eaves make a full return to form a deep pediment on the street facade. Originally the porch extended just across the east facade but has been replaced and extended as a wrap around porch. A two and one half story wing on the south, although recently added, is consistent with the local building practice of extending front gable houses with a side ell. The house was probably heavily remodeled c. 1900-1910 around the time the Curtin family purchased the Farnams limestone processing operation: the glass paneled front door and 2/1 windows are evidence of this updating.

The High Victorian Gothic style frame house at 931 Lanesborough Road, (Map #12, c. 1880) (Photograph No.3) is set close to the old road on a steep eastward slope to the Cheshire Reservoir, making it one and one half stories on the street elevation, but two and one half on the rear. The carriage house/garage was built contemporaneously with the house, and is set close to it on the north. Constructed of vertical siding and retaining a large sliding door on iron rail, its roof shape and pitch echoes that of the residence. The two buildings make an intimate grouping, and have been recently linked by a trellised passageway.

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The center entry house is dominated by its picturesque steeply pitched end gable roof with equally tall cross gable in the central bay of the front elevation. The house is three bays wide and two bays deep for a rectangular plan. An open porch sheltering the entry has a shallow hip roof supported on Queen Anne style turned posts, which are repeated in a porch the south elevation. Both porches have been altered with new plinths on the front and a knee wall on the south. Capped surrounds are used on both door and window openings. Sash, originally 6/6 has been replaced by 6/1 sash on the first floor, but there is an original ogival window in the south gable.

Set on a corner lot bounded by a low concrete retaining wall is the Orrin Bliss House, 790 Lanesborough Road, (Map #13, c. 1850 and c. 1900) (Photograph No. 4). It is formed of two distinct sections: the later Colonial Revival portion is appended in front of the earlier Greek Revival style section, so that the house appears to have been built in the Colonial Revival style. The front Colonial Revival style portion is two and one half stories under an end gable roof. It is five bays wide and two bays deep with a center entrance, long windows, and one interior chimney. This portion has a full wrap around porch with a roof supported by short Tuscan columns on a shingled knee wall. A transverse gable dormer with horizontally placed window is centered on the front elevation. The rear Greek Revival section on the northwest corner of the main block is two and one half stories high and oriented with a gable end perpendicular to the newer section. It has one interior rear wall chimney. Its full pediment is obscured by its junction with the main Colonial Revival block. In both sections the window surrounds are flat stock, cornerboards are narrow and sash varies from 2/2 to 2/1. A second porch, now screened, with a shingled knee wall has been added at the rear of this section.

South west of the Orrin Bliss House on the same lot is the former Farnams fire station, 790 Lanesborough Road, (Map #14, c. 1880-1900) which now serves as a barn and residence. It is a rectangular, two story, flat roof building. Its few stylistic details include small Italianate brackets at the eaves. Exterior walls are concrete on the first floor and shingles on the second floor. Double-leaf wooden doors open to the first floor on the south elevation. A second double-sized

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opening on this facade has been filled in with sash. The building's origin as a fire station with few ornamental details and its subsequent residential/storage conversion have made it an anomaly within the district.

The Curtis/Rozon Barn, Lanesborough Road (Map #1, c. 1870 & c. 1920) was rebuilt on c. 1870 foundations after a fire in the early 1920s. It is placed parallel to the old road, with a large field containing two small ponds behind it and a cow yard in front. The very simply detailed, weatherboarded barn is an end gabled, side hill type barn. Set into the hill on the west to allow vehicles to enter the main threshing floor through center double doors, it is two story on the east so that cattle can be released from the lower story stanchions into the yard on the east. This is an English style barn with its main entry centered on the long side. The building has a corrugated tin roof and metal ventilator at the ridge. There are single story shed roof additions on the south and east elevations and a shed roof dormer on the rear or west elevation. The addition on the south is a milk room, and that on the east contains milking stanchions. The main section of the barn has a space for farm vehicles and hay mow storage.

Workers' Housing

A total of nine buildings constructed to house company workers remains in Farnams. Built by C. J. Curtin's Farnam-Cheshire Lime Company between c. 1910 and 1925, seven were originally two or four family residences constructed in the 1910s in a very basic Queen Anne style, while two were single family bungalows, built a decade later.

The utilitarian two and four family structures constructed during the first decade of the century share many characteristics: an elevation which is based on a New England building form in use from the Federal period, an end gabled roof with consistent pitch and height, stone foundations and clapboard covered balloon frame construction of generous proportions. All are two and one half stories high and two bays deep. They are rectangular in plan and have one interior chimney per unit and minimal trim. The housing is designed by flipping the basic family

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unit for a mirrored image, so that doors are adjacent, usually under the same porch roof. There is some variation in the basic unit of construction, with several having two bays per unit and others three, a few are a mixture of these two types, while others are slightly differentiated by materials, detailing, or the presence of dormers and their shape. However, in spite of minor alterations, the use of a basic module to create housing of differing numbers of units is evident.

The houses are clapboard, have narrow corner boards and flat stock around doors and windows. The roofs are framed without returns. Sash is generally 2/2. Where they have been retained, the shed or hip roof porches shelter the paired front doors and are supported on turned Queen Anne style posts.

Remaining houses are aligned parallel to and set close to the roads, but earlier photographs show other workers houses clustered on Quarry Road in a less orderly fashion on various sites in the village, thereby avoiding the repetitious alignment of much of Massachusetts workers' housing. Large trees in the front and back yards soften the appearance of the utilitarian buildings.

Typical of the two bay per unit type is 84 Quarry Road (Map #15, c. 1910) (Photograph No. 5) the better preserved of two originally identical workers' double houses. These houses have only one window on the second floor facade. Now a single family house, the porch has been enclosed but several of its original turned posts remain. The one remaining front door has Italianate style double arched panel glass insets. Two extremely tall Eastern Cottonwoods and an old apple tree and lilac bushes surround the house. Three outbuildings, a shed that dates ca. 1930, a shed/studio and cabin, both ca. 1940, contribute to the range of Farnam's significant building types at this address. A second example of this house type shares the address at 84 Quarry Road (Map #16, c. 1910).

The same unit type is used and simply replicated linearly at the four family Queen Anne style house at 103-109 Quarry Road, (Map #17, c. 1910) (Photograph No. 6) the building is eight bays long and has three interior chimneys. It retains the two front and rear shed roof porches. The windows of the second and third , (or two interior) units are paired: it is not known if they are

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original or early alterations. A much altered example of this type is 8B Quarry Road (Map #18, c. 1910), also built as a four family house but presently a single family residence.

Basically the same form with slight differences is the two family house at 858 Lanesborough Road (Map #19, c. 1910). Instead of two bays on the ground floor, the house has two windows, giving it a six bay facade, with two windows per unit on the upper floor. Although the house has lost its shed roof porch, it retains its original form. Another variation of this type is the two family 766 Lanesborough Road (Map #20, c. 1910). The Queen Anne style house is distinguished by the addition of two gabled dormers whose pediments are ornamented with staggered butt-end shingles, and a slate roof framed with returns. Windows of the first floor are paired. The original porch does not survive.

The two-family house at 708 Lanesborough Road (Map #21, c. 1910) is a good example of the six bay type. It too has a dormer, here with a shed roof. It retains its hip roof porch sheltering the four central bays, Queen Anne style turned porch posts and a simple railing with square balusters.

Two nearly identical Craftsman style bungalows constructed as single family workers housing are sited on a hill overlooking Lanesborough Road. Oriented to the street, they are approached from the rear by a lengthy driveway. 676 Lanesborough Road (Map #23, c. 1920) is one and one half stories high beneath a steeply pitched end gable roof which extends to from a deep porch on the east or street facade. A shed roof dormer, four bays wide, extends across a large portion of the roof. Limestone rubble foundations, shingle exterior, deep porch with battered kneewall, exposed rafters and simple eaves braces are some of the Craftsman style elements. Some original 3/1 sash remains. The three bay facade features a center entry. The other bungalow at 678 Lanesborough Road (Map #22, c. 1920) is less well preserved having had several fenestration changes, a deck and siding added.

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The paymaster's office, Lanesborough Road (Map #24, 1921) (Photograph No. 7) is sited in a prominent position on a corner lot at the crossroads of Lanesborough and Farnams Roads. Once again the Craftsman style bungalow was used but this time the building is constructed of limestone in uncoursed, rough-faced ashlar blocks of varied sizes laid up with convex, tinted mortar joints. Nearly square and one and one half stories high under a slate hipped roof, there is a hipped roof central dormer on each of the four elevations. The building is entered on the west facade beneath a deep porch supported on limestone block pillars. Unlike standard bungalows, the porch roof is separate from the building's roof and extends beyond it. Windows are segmentally arched and have stone lintels; on the north and south elevations lintels are intersecting double arches and have oversized keystones. The front door is paneled and has a beveled glass insert. The interior retains its original plan, unpainted oak wainscoting, doors with glass transoms, door and window surrounds, and wall dividing the paymaster's office from the corridor which retains its glass pane with holes provided for speaking and paying out wages.

Adjacent to the small quarry and at road level is a stone dynamite shed (Map #3, c. 1874-1880) (Photograph No. 8). Approximately ten by twelve feet in dimension and five and a half feet high on the interior, its two and one half feet thick walls are constructed of random laid fieldstone which has been parged in several areas. A concrete slab roof supported on a metal beam has partially caved in. The concrete slab foundation of a second dynamite shed is located south west of the large quarry at the side of Quarry Road.

The stock room, Lanesborough Road (Map #25, c. 1880 and 1920), sited south of the road and set back deeply on its lot, is a utilitarian concrete structure, three bays wide and approximately six bays long for a rectangular plan. Built into the hillside on high fieldstone foundations exposed on the east and south sides, its one and one half stories rise to an end gable roof. The foundations, which appear to date from an earlier building erected c. 1880, are of coursed fieldstone about one and one half feet thick, with six doors and a wide central opening for

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vehicles. A small wing wall extending from the foundations on the southwest corner suggests the original building had a somewhat different plan. The walls are poured in place concrete with large, regularly spaced industrial sash windows, predominantly 16 lights, while the gable fields are clad in vertical wood siding. There is a double vehicle entry through foundation wall on the east and a pedestrian entries on east and west facades.

The limestone processing mill, Farnams Road (Map #28, c. 1874-1950) (Photograph No.9) is located just west of Farnams Road on the north shore of the Cheshire Reservoir's South Pond and oriented roughly parallel to it. Remains of a railroad sidetrack runs parallel to and north beyond the mill. The approximately 1,000 feet long and 100 feet wide utilitarian, linear building is constructed in three connected sections slightly bent where they join for a modified arc plan. The longest, in the center, is a one and one half story kiln section topped by tall round steel chimneys for fifteen shaft kilns. On the north end of the building is a seven bay long cooper's shop of concrete and steel, two stories in height; and on the south end is a 20 bay long, two and a half story hydrating plant with a two bay wide end gable block emerging through its roof. The kiln and hydrating plant sections are constructed of a metal I-beam framework and clad in corrugated sheet metal under end gable roofs. The cooper's shop is also of metal framework construction but its north end wall is brick and concrete; an interior wall is masonry and dates from the Farnam brothers era 1874-1906. Fenestration varies with each section but is all metal industrial sash.

The utilitarian power house, Farnams Road (Map #27, c. 1915-1920) is a steel frame and concrete structure with a very tall single story central block, a lower one story ell on the south and a two story shed roof extension on the east. The facade on the north elevation is unclad and open beneath the tin filled gable field. Three metal ventilator stacks are evenly spaced across the roof of the main block and there are three more on the rear ell. Windows have lost some of their frames and sash, but those remaining are mainly wood frame with 2/2 sash. The building is currently used as a sawmill and there is no remaining generating equipment.

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The Craftsman style carpentry shop, Lanesborough Road (Map #26, c.1920) is a one and a half story frame and concrete building with an end gable roof. Nine bays long and four bays wide, it has a rectangular plan. The roof is framed without returns and is supported on wooden Craftsman style brackets mounted on the vertical wood cladding of the gable fields. A single central chimney is placed on the rear slope. Wooden posts divide the west and east elevations into six sections, which appear then to have concrete infill walls. On the south and east elevations, it can be seen that the posts are mortised into the concrete foundations. This is the only building so constructed at Farnams. Garage doors occupy two bays of the west elevation and fenestration here is 2/2. The gable ends have 6/6 sash, small paired attic windows and a vehicle door in the bay closest to the road.

Two concrete buildings remain at the site of the former crusher which was demolished in the 1980s: a store house and shed, both from the 1950s.

Industrial Structures

Farnams Road is laid over the Cheshire reservoir causeway (Map #6, 1866) (Photograph No. 10) constructed when the Hoosac River was dammed by a group of local manufacturers. The causeway divides the Cheshire reservoir into North and South Ponds and carries Farnams Road across the reservoir to connect the Lanesborough Road on the west with Reservoir Road or Route 8 on the east. At the turn of the century it also carried a wooden trestle for the Berkshire Street Railway. The causeway is approximately one third of a mile long and averages about sixty feet in width. In addition to the road, the causeway carries at its east terminus remnants of the street railway's trestle embankment and a piece of signal equipment which served the intersection of streetcar and main line of the Boston and Albany railroad.

Portions of the tramway berm (Map #31, 1909) is also one of the earlier structures remaining in the district. The tramway ran between the large quarry and the mill from 1909 to 1916 when it was replaced by a railroad. The tramway was composed of a limestone and earth berm which carried eight to ten wooden

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towers strung with steel cable. Although the towers are gone, much of the berm remains and can be seen north of Quarry Road on the west side of Lanesborough Road. It rises as high as twenty feet above grade and is several hundred feet long.

A mile long, narrow gauge railroad line (Map #34, 1912-16) connected the large quarry with the mill, and its components are largely extant, but deteriorating. On the south east side of the Farnams large quarry an opening on the quarry floor leads into the half mile long quarry tunnel (Map # 9) cut in an easterly direction through the ridge and constructed of steel and concrete. At its exit, the tunnel is edged with rock faced fieldstone surrounding the arched opening. The stone work extends in a southwesterly direction to a short retaining wall which is uncoursed below a single flat top course and acts to hold back a portion of the hillside from the tracks. Narrow gauge railroad tracks are still to be seen at the tunnel exit, although the tunnel itself is sealed off at the present. The line ran east from the quarry crossing Quarry Road east of the multifamily housing at 103-109 Quarry Road. A railroad caution sign is still in place beside the road. It then sloped down to carry the railroad tracks then beneath Lanesborough Road through an above-ground, square profile tunnel (Map # 10) also constructed of steel beams, concrete and stone. The tracks then followed the grade to the mill's west facade where the train's steam engine stopped to unload its cars directly at the kiln openings.

Lost Buildings

Losses due to fire, demolition and moving have occurred over a long period of time. The largest building lost was a four story gambrel roofed horse barn located west of the mill. Claimed as the largest barn in Berkshire County, and built to house thirty horses c. 1890, it was burned down by an arsonist in 1929.

The Boston and Albany Railroad station located at the eastern end of the causeway was moved to Cheshire Center where it is now owned by the Lions Club and used as a meeting place.

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Within the district, but lost at an unknown date, were a wagon shed and a blacksmith shop. Outside the district and on Route 8 a school house was lost, possibly moved when the road was realigned.

Farnam's General Store which was at the north east corner of Lanesborough and Farnams Roads was demolished after US Gypsum closed the mill in 1969, as were two workers' houses located directly west of the farm barn on Lanesborough Road. Half of a third house was demolished when it deteriorated. Two dirt floor sheds for single workers' lodging were taken down in the 1920s when improved housing was available. Two full foundations from ca. 1900-1915 are in the woods along Old Quarry Road beyond 103-109 Old Quarry Road, and the Pettibone farm foundations are located near Old Quarry Road and Pettibone Falls.

The A.A.Bliss/Seth Curtis farmhouse on Lanesborough Road associated with the Curtis/Rozon barn was demolished after years of neglect about 1980.

The stone crusher constructed by US Gypsum in 1929 was taken down for safety reasons in 1980.

Archaeological Description

At least one prehistoric site is present within the proposed district and a high potential exists that additional sites will be found. That site, 19-BK-45, represents the only prehistoric site located in the general area (within one mile) of the district. Little data is currently available for the site beyond locational information. The physical environment of the district includes several locational criteria (slope, drainage, distance to wetlands) which are favorable for many types of prehistoric sites. Several well drained, level to moderately sloping terraced landforms are present in the district in close proximity to wetlands (within 1000 feet). Many of these areas are located in the vicinity of Lanesborough Road bordering Cheshire Reservoir, a now flooded portion of the Hoosic River. The Hoosic River is part of the overall Hudson River drainage. Smaller unnamed ponds, portions of which may be natural, are also present in

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this locale. Other areas of the district with high site potential border Pettibone Brook that drains from north to south in the western portion of the district. Known site 19-BK-45 is located in this general area. The presence of limestone caves in the district represents another source of potential site locations. Bedrock deposits of limestone are located throughout the district. These geological deposits are reported to be laced with numerous hollows and fissures beneath the surface forming several caves and sink holes. Some caves may have been exposed on the surface in the past and inhabited by Native Americans. In some southern New England areas, limestone deposits have also been known to contain chert and chalcedony lithic materials used for tool making by Native Americans. Given the above information, the size of the district (ca. 1,400 acres) and the availability of open space, the presence of prehistoric sites is documented in the district and a high potential exists that additional sites will be found.

There is also a high potential for locating historic archaeological resources in the district. Historic period resources may be present which documents the early settlement of the Cheshire locale as well as its agricultural and later industrial exploitation of mineral resources. Further historical research combined with archaeological survey and testing can help document the locations of farmsteads that were first present in the Farnams area during the second half of the 18th century. Several farms are reported in the Farnams locale by ca. 1793, however, the area was not yet a discreet village. Foundation remains reportedly associated with an 18th century farmstead demolished in the 19th century are located within the district near Pettibone Falls, southwest of the large quarry. The remains of that farmstead are reported to be associated with the Pettibone Family who were contemporaries of the Northrups and Farnams having settled the area during the Federal Period. The Pettibone farmstead site may include archaeological evidence of the farm residence, outbuildings, occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) and field walls. Archaeological survivals from other 18th and 19th century farmsteads may also exist in the district. Albert and Alfred Farnam reportedly purchased portions of the Stephen Northrup farm as part of their quarry operation. Archaeological evidence may survive from a farmstead associated with the extant Curtis/Rozen barn located on Lanesborough Road. Structural remains may survive related to the original ca.

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1870 barn foundation on which the existing ca. 1920 barn was built. The original barn was destroyed by fire in the 1920's. Structural evidence might also survive from the A.A. Bliss/Seth Curtis farmhouse also originally located on Lanesborough Road. That farmhouse was associated with the Curtiss/Rozen barn and demolished about 1980. Agricultural production continued to be an important support industry for the Farnams quarry community well into the 20th century. Archaeological evidence from Cheshire's exploitation of its mineral resources may also be present in the district dating to the Federal Period. Daniel Pettibone of Farnams is reported as possibly the first farmer in the area to begin a family quarry. Archaeological evidence of these small quarries may be difficult to identify since, if they survive, they are probably overgrown. Quarry tools may be present in these area as well as evidence of cut limestone and other extraction techniques including drilling. Old roadways resembling logging roads may also be present. Documentary evidence is also present that small outdoor kilns were also typical of smaller family quarries. A small quarry that contained an outdoor kiln is reported on the Northrup farm purchased by the Farnams. While agricultural related archaeological resources dating to the mid 19th century and later are probably present in the district, archaeological resources related to limestone mining are more characteristic for the period. Archaeological evidence of roadways, abandoned tools, residences, outbuildings and occupational related features may be present associated with the small quarry (ca. 1840-1880) mined into the lower slopes of Mount Greylock. That quarry is reached from Lanesborough Road by an extension of Quarry Road. Archaeological evidence of small outdoor kilns may also survive related to this quarry. By 1874, the Farnam quarry had expanded to the point that three upright kilns were constructed in a processing building at the end of Quarry Road at the site of the present mill. Structural evidence of that mill and its kilns may survive in the area of the existing mill. Portions of the earlier mill may actually be incorporated into the existing mill. Quarry equipment possibly dating to this period is reported in the woods south of the two quarries. The extant dynamite shed may also date to this period. Additional sources of abandoned quarry equipment and the remains of outbuildings and other industrial related structures may be present in the district from this period.

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Most archaeological resources related to limestone mining in the district probably date to ca. 1880 and later during the period when the larger quarry (ca. 1874-1969), now flooded, was in operation. That quarry is located on the eastern side of Quarry Road above the smaller quarry. Both quarries were in operation at the same time for a brief period during the 1870's. Structural evidence may exist from a four story horse barn reported to be the largest building lost in the district. The barn was built to house 30 horses used to haul lime from the quarry to the mill. That building, originally located west of the mill, was originally built in ca. 1890 and burned in 1929. As the quarry operation expanded and ownership passed from the Farnams to Cornelius J. Curtain in 1905, several new industrial structures, some of which no longer survive, were added to the mining/processing complex. In 1921, the original Farnams Brothers mill discussed above was destroyed by fire and rebuilt containing 21 kilns, all of which remain today. Archaeological evidence may, however, survive from the stone crusher, constructed in 1929 then demolished in 1980. Archaeological evidence may also survive from a small plant located south of the main mill. That plant was used to manufacture quick lime and was demolished after 1921. Other potential industrial related structures that may exist as archaeological resources in the district include a wagon shed and blacksmith shop, location unknown, the foundation from a late 19th/20th century stockroom on Lanesborough Road, the remains of a second dynamite shed southwest of the quarry on Quarry Road, Farnams General store, demolished after 1969, located at the northeast corner of Lanesborough and Farnams Roads, several known but unidentified foundations in the Quarry Road locale and the sites of additional unidentified shops that supported the quarry/processing industry and residential community. Structural and soil feature type evidence may also survive from several industrial structures built to transport limestone from the quarry to the mill. Archaeological evidence should be present from the tramway that ran between the large quarry and the mill from 1909 to 1916. That facility consisted of a berm and 8 to 10 wooden towers that carried containers strung on a cable. Much of the berm remains north of Quarry Road on the west side of Lanesborough Road. Archaeological evidence may also survive from the towers, cable and containers. In order to increase production even further, the tramway was replaced by a narrow gauge railroad that also connected the quarry with the

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processing plant. That system included a half-mile tunnel leading from the quarry. Most of the railroad including the tunnel remains today. Structural remains may exist from additional 19th and 20th century transportation related resources in the district locale. Archaeological evidence of tracks and grade changes may survive in streets and right-of-ways from railroad lines and street railways in the district area. Evidence is also reported from the Berkshire Street Railway trestle embankment in the causeway area.

Archaeological evidence related to 19th and 20th century residential housing represents another important resource type in the district, equal in importance to industrial related resources. Historical research together with archaeological survey and testing can help document the locations and integrity of residential housing known to exist in the 19th and 20th centuries in the district. Structural evidence of these buildings as well as outbuildings and occupational related features should survive along the Lanesborough Road corridor and Quarry Road. The sites of worker's housing, no longer extant, have been identified through old photographs along Quarry Road. Worker's housing were also known to have been demolished west of the farm barn on Lanesborough Road after the mill closed in 1969. Structural evidence should exist from residences that housed single men, single families and multi-family housing. Archaeological evidence including structural remains and occupational related features related to both private and company owned housing should exist. The site of at least one dirt floor shack that housed single male workers is reported across from the house at 103-109 Quarry Road. Residences, outbuildings and occupational related features may contain evidence of agricultural activities and other small-scale commercial/subsistence oriented enterprises.

(end)

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Name of Property

Berkshire, MA
County and State

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.)

Property is:

- A** owned by 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

INDUSTRY

SOCIAL HISTORY

AGRICULTURE

Period of Significance

C.1850-1949

Significant Dates

n/a

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

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HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Farnams is significant as an example of a New England village that evolved with a limestone quarrying operation that began in the 1870s supplying stone for foundations and other construction projects. Farnams grew to become a major quarry, mill and supporting village, producing lime for plaster and agriculture until its sale and decline after 1970. The complex retains quarries, roads, rail line, tunnel, industrial support buildings [from dynamite shed to office], housing and limestone mill with kilns still in evidence. It is significant as an example of a self-contained workers' village which developed and flourished during the first decades of the 20th century, populated by immigrant families who formed a strong social network incorporating both European and American traditions. The village architecture is exemplary of rural workers' housing of the 1910s in which one or more modules, based on local building practices, were repeated in varying combinations to produce housing for individuals and groups. Farnams meets criteria A and C for the National Register of Historic Places and is of local significance.

Contact Period (1500-1620)

The area which makes up Berkshire County, Massachusetts was a crossroads for many native American groups who traveled between the Hudson River valley and the Connecticut River valley on a seasonal basis. Among them were the Mahicans, for whom home territory was the Housatonic flood plain including the Farnams area of Cheshire, the Mohawks and Algonquins. The Mahicans originally came from the Hudson Valley and were hunters, gatherers and cultivators as well. Fall and spring were their two hunting seasons for game and birds, they lived during the summer on berries, birds, smoked game and fish. Villages were two hundred people or fewer and could be packed up, carried to a new location and set up again. Mostly they lived on the flood plain of the Housatonic River, moving to the hills around Farnams for hunting and sugaring camps in the spring and summer. The natural resources which sustained them continue to define this area today.

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Berkshire County, Mass.**Plantation Period (1620-1675)**

During the plantation period native Americans traded with both Dutch and English settlers. For the native Americans the Berkshires were a transitional area between the influence of the Dutch settlers on the west and the English settlers on the east. The Mahicans had the most active relations with the Dutch with whom they both traded and socialized, exchanging beaver pelts and actually incorporating Dutch words into their language. But the Dutch also bribed the Mahicans with liquor, and stole their beaver furs. Relations were even less cordial with the English colonists who were pressing them for land and favorable trade, offering tools and firearms for beaver pelts. In 1664 the English took over New Netherlands and the Mahicans began to scatter. A small settlement of about five hundred were finally all that were left and they were on the Housatonic River. Evidence of their camps in and around Cheshire has been found. It has been suggested by local folklorists that there is a potential medicine wheel site in the area through which the power lines now pass in Farnams.

Colonial Period (1675-1775)

It was during the Colonial Period that settlement by the English began in Cheshire and the area which was to become Farnams. In 1741 a number of families in Framingham petitioned to lay out a six mile square township which became Lanesborough, but the first actual settlers were from Rhode Island who traveled west to find adequate farm land after the end of the French and Indian War in 1768. Among them was James Barker of Middletown, Rhode Island. Barker was a descendent of an earlier James Barker who received a grant for land in Rhode Island from King Charles II. Barker sent his son ahead in 1773 to drive their cattle to Farnams and he followed shortly after with his wife, children, two oxen, an old mare, cow and bull. The land on which they settled is today the land of Farnams. They built a house, now gone, and added two hundred acres to the property six months after arriving, despite the fact that the whole family had contracted smallpox. In fact, the area which included Farnams was called New Providence in 1773 and from the settlement of the Barkers can be dated the beginning of the agricultural history of Farnams.

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Berkshire County, Mass.**Federal Period (1775-1830)**

After the Revolution settlement continued until there were a sufficient number of people to incorporate the town of Cheshire out of Lanesborough, Windsor, Adams and the District of New Ashford in 1793. Several farms had been established in south Cheshire (later Farnams) by this date although the area was not yet a discreet village. The Farnam family was in Cheshire by 1765 when church records show that Joseph Farnam was given responsibility for sweeping the meetinghouse, and deeds indicate that John Farnam of Litchfield, Colony of Connecticut sold land in New Framingham to his son Benjamin. Benjamin Farnam was a land speculator as were many of his contemporaries; he had fourteen deeds and mortgages on record between 1767 and 1814. In the Federal census of 1790 Joseph Farnam is listed with two minors and four females. The second family of importance to Farnams, the Northups (sometimes spelled Northrup) were also in Cheshire at the time of the census. Stephen Northup, who owned property crossing the Cheshire and Lanesborough boundaries, bought land, some from William Barker, some from another local Perez Dean, and cleared much of the area which was to become Farnams. He fought in the Revolutionary War, was a Selectman between 1827 and 1837 and a Representative to the General Court 1837-1847.

The third family to be established in Farnams during this period was that of Nathaniel Bliss who moved with his four sons to Farnams around 1800. Three of the sons, Orrin, John and Nathaniel had farms along the Lanesborough-Cheshire Road and Orrin, who also took part in the Revolutionary War, lived in an early section of the house at 790 Lanesborough Road (Map #13, c.1850) (Photograph No. 4). All were farmers, and town histories report that the land was devoted to dairy cattle and sheep, raising grass, grain and establishing orchards.

Another family that would play a role in both Lanesborough and Cheshire history were the Pettibones, who were contemporary with the Northrups and Farnams, having settled in the area during the Federal period. Pettibones appear in census records for both towns during the 19th century, and in Lanesborough a Pettibone farm was listed on the NR in 1987. Foundations for a second

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Pettibone farmstead, located in Farnams, are found near the falls named for the family. Both the falls, southwest of the large quarry, and the Pettibone cave in Farnams carry the Pettibone name.

Farming was the mainstay of the town of Cheshire and continued to be so into the twentieth century, but during the Federal Period the mineral resources of the area were recognized, and Cheshire's industrial history began. The town's first formal industry based on the geologic resources of the region began in 1813 when beds of fine glass-sand were found and the Cheshire & Cheshire Crown Glass Works were established. The company lasted only two years.

Early Industrial Period (1830-1870)

Farming was the primary occupation of residents of south Cheshire throughout the period. Typical is the H. H. Curtis farm, 778 Lanesborough Road (Map # 11, c.1865). A. A. Bliss was farming the land in the 1850s and it was sold to Henry H. Curtis in 1865. Curtis moved here from Cheshire center at which time the house may have been built, and ran the farm of 53 acres. His son Seth Curtis lived on the next farm north whose barn remains as the Curtis/Rozon barn, Lanesborough Road, (Map #1, 1870 and 1920) and both father and son continued farming the land through 1904, although some of the land has been in cultivation to the present. The next farm south was the Orrin Bliss House, 790 Lanesborough Road (Map #13, c.1850 and 1900) (Photograph No. 4). The land of this farm was cultivated by the Bliss family and then P.B. Chadwick through the end of the century.

Although the area was known to contain marble and limestone deposits, they were not exploited until the 1840s when farmers began opening small pit quarries for building and small scale lime production. Referred to in local histories as "family quarries", surface pits were dug and stone was commonly quarried, cut and sold locally for Federal period house foundations, cemetery marker stones, and was simply used on the farms for their own building construction. The Dean family of Farnams were among the first to start a family quarry. Stephen Northrop was another, recorded from the 1840s as selling

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stone from the small quarry at the end of Quarry Road (c. 1840; photograph no. 1). Then as they became more aware of its uses in the form of lime, farmers began small operations burning marble and limestone for lime to be used in mortar and plaster and as a fertilizer.

The nearby burial ground on Cheshire Road in Lanesborough has the graves of some of these early farmers, mainly the Pettibones who are believed to have been among the farmers who quarried limestone. The nearby Pettitbone Farm (NR) in Lanesborough has a rubble foundation of marble and limestone.

Development of industry in Cheshire was given a boost in the 1840s when a branch of the Boston and Albany Railroad was laid out between Pittsfield and North Adams with a station in Farnams. [The original freight and baggage house has been moved into Cheshire where it is owned and used by the Lions Club.] In 1846 the first train went through. Between 1840 and 1890 Cheshire's industries were at their height. In that time span the total number of railroad shipments from Cheshire was the second highest in western Massachusetts. Berkshire Glass Sand Company, for instance, opened a bed in 1881 south of town on Route 8 and shipped 10,000 tons of sand a year for making glass, firebrick, and for cutting marble.

Quarry activity was dampened by the Civil War as young men left to fight and community resources were directed to paying for the support of their soldiers rather than expanding in early industry. Local tradition, however, holds that at least one quarry may have been used during the war, as Harbor cave in the Dean quarry (believed to be outside the district) is thought to have sheltered slaves escaping on the underground railroad.

Two of Lanesborough's soldiers were the Farnam twins, Albert and Alfred. Eighteen years old and too young to fight, they served as drummer boys in Company I, 49th Regiment, of the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia enlisting on Sept. 20, 1862 and leaving just a year later on September 21, 1863 after taking part in the battle at Gettysburg. Albert and Alfred Farnam returned to Lanesborough with their mustering out pay and three years later in 1866 used it

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to buy a farm, including a quarry, which had been cleared by Stephen Northup and by then at least partially in the ownership of Duane Northup. The farm house was in Lanesborough and the property extended into south Cheshire. Northup, a farmer, had been carrying on the quarrying and making of lime in a single outdoor pot type kiln begun by Stephen Northup and which was typically used by the small quarriers. The twins' uncle also was a quarry owner and taught them the process, so they no doubt realized the value of limestone, but their first years were spent farming their land rather than quarrying.

Just beyond the eastern boundary of their property ran the Hoosick River. In 1866 a number of local manufacturers got authorization from the state legislature to dam it up and create at Farnams a giant mill pond. Water was fed as far north as Harbor Mill in north Cheshire at its border with Adams and along the way powered several industries. With creation of the reservoir, Farnams Road, which had previously crossed the river and connected Lanesborough Road with what was to become Route 8, was raised and altered to serve as a causeway bisecting the mill pond (Map # 6 ,c. 1858) (Photograph No. 10). The Berkshire Street railroad was constructed on trestles at one side of the causeway.

Late Industrial Period (1870-1915)

In 1874 the Farnum Brothers commenced manufacturing lime from the small quarry under the name A.S. Farnams Lime Kilns and expanded to the large quarry (Map # 5, c.1874) (Photograph no. 2). They improved a road from the quarry to the edge of the reservoir, Quarry Road, (Map #33, c.1840-1874) which thought to have been cleared first by Stephen Northup. At the end of the road they constructed three upright kilns and enclosed them in a mill building on the site of the present mill. Their property's vast acreage of woodland provided ready fuel for the kilns. Ox teams drew wagons of stone over Quarry Road down to the kilns where it was cooked, cooled, placed in barrels and shipped on the railroad to plaster manufacturers, many of whom operated in the city of New York. The teams also carried lime to Albany for sale.

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Lime produced from the Farnams' quarry was extremely white and pure and their business prospered. They kept a business diary between 1882 and 1889 in which they recorded their appraisals of the business, and its gradual expansion. In 1885 under the business name of Farnams Blue Label Finishing Lime, they were selling about \$20,000 a year of high grade lime, a respectable income for a business at the turn of the century. With these profits as a basis, the Farnams borrowed money and gradually added land to their farm extending further into Cheshire, eventually acquiring 1560 acres. They rented out the farm house which had been part of their original purchase from Stephen Northup. The large quarry was opened to supplement production from the small quarry and production increased. From this period dates the dynamite shed near the entrance to the small quarry and the piece of quarrying equipment found between the two quarries in the woods.

Farnams became better linked to other towns at this time too. In 1899 the streetcar system began extending its route to Lanesborough and Cheshire from Pittsfield. By 1904 both the Berkshire Street Railway Company and the Pittsfield Electric Street Railway Company had lines through Farnams. The Pittsfield line followed the Old Lanesborough Road through Farnams and into Cheshire, and the Berkshire Street Railway came up Reservoir Road, spanned the train tracks and then crossed the reservoir on an elevated wooden trestle which ran parallel to the causeway before following the Lanesborough Road into Cheshire. Parts of the berm which supported the trestle and a piece of signal equipment are still in evidence beside the causeway.

One of the Farnam's customers was Cornelius J. Curtin, who sold lime, cement and plaster to the building trades from an office in New York City. Curtin's business was involved in the apartment construction boom that was taking place in most of the boroughs of New York, and its success was dependent to a large extent on the quality of the lime he was able to purchase. Farnam's Blue Label was the finest available and contractors demanded it. In the course of assuring the quality of finishing lime from his suppliers, he traced his best source, Farnams Blue Label Finishing Lime, to Cheshire. When shipments became sporadic he investigated and learned that despite the large role Blue Label

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played in the New York building boom, the company was in poor financial condition. The Farnams' debt had become too large for the business to support; it began to falter seriously and around 1900 with a debt of \$37,000 to the Third National Bank of Pittsfield, the company was for sale. Curtin bought it in 1905 for \$5,000 renaming it the Farnam-Cheshire Lime Company. Meanwhile, the Farnam brothers retired to Cheshire center; Alfred later died at the Chelsea Soldiers' Home in Chelsea, Massachusetts.

Company operations in 1906 were at first maintained as the Farnams had organized them. Kilns were located along a railroad siding adjacent to the reservoir; the large quarry was operated behind the mountain to the north. Limestone from the large quarry was transported to the kilns by ox and horse teams on Quarry Road around the south side of the mountain.

The most far-reaching change from a social point of view was that of the laborers. Under the Farnams, labor was mainly local with a fair number of Irish workers who had stayed on after building the railroad. The business did not provide housing for its quarry and mill workers, but a change shows up in the street directories from 1900-1902 which indicate Italian immigrants had begun settling along Lanesborough Road and working in the quarry and for the Berkshire Glass and Sand Company. Immigration may have sped up just before World War I.

Under the Curtins the labor force shifted almost exclusively to Italian workers. They were largely from the village of Postalesio in the Italian Alps, from the Veneto or Sicily, and at first single workers were hired, then whole families came to Farnams. It was known in the community that a man could come over, without English, and get a job working in the quarry or mill. Some worked for a while then went back and brought wives to Farnams once they felt established. Construction of housing for workers and buildings for the mill operations began around 1910 as local laborers were replaced by more recent immigrants. At first existing houses were used for families as was the case for the Frank Jenks house, 931 Lanesborough Road (Map #12, c.1880) (Photograph No. 3), and single men lived in a shack with a dirt floor that was located on the hill above the

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mill on the foundations now under the stock room, Lanesborough Road, (Map #25, c.1874 and 1920). A second such building (now gone) was located across from the four family house 103-109 Quarry Road and was used as late as 1924 when Joe Pozzo's father came to Farnams and lived there. But the Curtins did begin to build so-called tenement housing for workers and their families at 103-109 Quarry Road (Map #17, Photograph No. 6), 84 Quarry Road (Map #15, Photograph No. 5), 708 Lanesborough Road (Map #21), 858 Lanesborough Road (Map #19), 84 Quarry Road (a second unit at the same address (Map #16), 10 Quarry Road (Map #18), 766 Lanesborough Road (Map #20). Their buildings were uninsulated and offered only the basics, but units rented for only seven to eleven dollars a month. Residents were given free firewood and paint to keep them up. Paint color choices, it is said, were white or white. Although the housing was utilitarian, the setting was beautiful and there was plenty of space for gardens, grape arbors, chickens, rabbits and pigs which supplemented people's food supply. Aside from what they grew themselves, butter, milk, and eggs were available from the West Shore Farm leased out by the Curtins to the Rozon family who ran the dairy farm into the 1960s under US Gypsum ownership. The farm house was demolished in 1980 but the barn remains as Curtis/Rozon Barn, Lanesborough Road, (Map #1, c.1870 & 1920). There was also a local general store and post office, now gone, at the corner of Lanesborough Road and Farnams Road. Some workers rented out spare rooms and took in boarders, which served both to acclimate the newly immigrated and to supplement incomes.

Mill workers had physically taxing lives. The firmen tending the kilns in the mill itself grew accustomed to having no eyebrows or eyelashes since they were quickly burned off by the heat of the process. The men uniformly considered the process a clean one, although most of them inhaled lime dust for years, and a chronic cough was assumed to be part of the job. Workers at the quarry skirted around the dangers of stone blasting, spring stone spalling, team hauling over icy roads, and winter wood cutting. There were no vacations and shifts were twelve hours long.

Part of what kept them in Farnams was the close community which extended throughout the housing units. One key fit into all the houses. Women did not

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work at the mill; rather, Farnams women established a community fabric in which they cared for the young, the sick, acted as mid-wives and even took on the role of clergy at a wake. At one point Farnams had a fifteen piece, all-male band that played for weddings, graduations, and community celebrations in their matching hats. A company baseball team practiced on a baseball field shared with cows for whom it was pasture c.1910. They traveled around the county in a league, and C.J. Curtin would sometimes take quarry and mill-hands to Pittsfield to watch the town's professional team, the Hillies, play baseball in the Eastern League after a hard week's work. European traditions were maintained too. Bocci was played as well as baseball, and each year a rail car of grapes was delivered to Farnams and people set to work making wine and grappa; they also brewed birra and rye whiskey, made their own cheese, salami, sausage and bread and grew tobacco. Holidays were celebrated with Italian traditions by the whole community and the Curtins gave out gifts.

The Farnams-Cheshire Lime Company was not just a family affair for the workers. One of nine children, C.J. Curtin involved many of his siblings in the business as well. Chief among them was his brother Tom who moved his family to Farnams to be company supervisor and treasurer. A sister Ellie ran the New York office. John worked at night at the power plant, Dan was a night foreman at the quarry, Jerry had charge of the cooper shop, and Pete worked in the Farnams office. Ty (Ervin or Jack) Curtin took over the general store and post office. Everyone had credit at the store and Ty was known for liberally passing out candy to the Farnams children.

The process of quarrying changed little at first. A typical quarry worker was Nick Soldo who worked at Farnams in 1913 at \$1.50/shift. In an oral history he described the process which was to dynamite the stone from the quarry and then break it up by hand. Soldo's job was to hang on a one inch thick rope over the most recent bench, or cut-out section of stone. With dynamite on his back and often 175 feet above the bottom of the quarry he would bore holes into the stone, insert the dynamite and then swiftly get out of the way before it exploded. On the floor of the quarry other workers would break up the stone with mallets, hitting it

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with the grain, sort it by size, and load it into horse carts which then carried it back to the mill and kilns. Fastidious in their insistence on quality, the quarriers kept a small stove at the quarry and burned samples to make sure only the whitest limestone was used.

It soon became apparent to the Curtins that the transportation process was the biggest impediment to production. Wagons in the summer and sledges in the winter hauled the stone too slowly and with too many interruptions. So in 1909 they built a berm from the large quarry to the mill, (Map #31, 1909), set up eight to ten wooden towers and strung them with steel cable to carry a tramway of steel buckets to the mill. It still wasn't fast enough. Three years later, in 1912, construction began on a tunnel through the mountain (Map # 9) rather than trying to go over it. After the tunnel was carved out by hand tools, a half mile long stretch of railroad track was laid from the quarry floor to the mill through the mountain, through a small tunnel under Lanesborough Road (Map #10, 1909) and was in operation as a narrow gauge railroad by 1916. Driving the tiny, coal-burning locomotive in front of a string of hopper cars became a sought after job. Men made it a sport by slightly overloading the cars and then driving full throttle into the tunnel which efficiently leveled them off. . The tunnel was not an unmitigated triumph. While it was being dug, workers hit a mud seam half way through the mountain which forced them to change the path somewhat, and the seam turned out to be a chronic problem. The tunnel, however, in the opinion of Tom Curtin solved the problem of efficient transportation and made the company a success.

The hoppers were taken to the limestone mill, Farnams Road (Map #28, c.1874 and 1906-1950) (Photograph No. 9) which is set into a hillside so that the openings to the kiln chimneys is on an upper level, and the floor of the mill where the lime eventually exits is on the lower level. The hopper bottoms were opened at the upper level and the stone emptied into the kiln chimneys which have two fire boxes on opposite sides 8-10 feet above the bottom of the kiln. Limestone dropping through the kiln was burned by the wood fires stoked by firemen on the floors below. When the Curtins began in 1905 there were three upright kilns in a mostly wooden mill. Eventually there were twenty-one and all remain today.

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They are upright kilns of cylindrical steel shells, c.40' high, 12'-14' in diameter and lined with firebrick. The fires were fueled by wood in a continuous, round-the-clock operation. Every six hours, four times a day, a draw was made which meant that gates at the bottom of the kilns opened and burning hot lime was emptied into steel carts. The carts were then wheeled out and dumped on the floor to cool in a somewhat surprisingly direct operation. In this way, the company produced ten to twelve tons of lime a day.

In a coopers shop at the north end of the mill wooden barrels were built by hand to contain the cooled lime. Before packing, the lime was graded (the lower grade became agricultural) then loaded on to freight cars which passed on a siding east of the mill. . First made by hand then made by International Cooper Company from Niagara Falls by machine, the barrels weighed 280 pounds when filled.

The company had its own woodcutters and contracted with additional woodsmen to provide wood at \$4 a cord for fuel for the operations. The company's 1560 acres were cut, but also wood was taken from Mt. Greylock which was eventually stripped of wood by Farnams and other local industries. Draft horses were kept for the fifteen or sixteen teams which drew the wood cutting crews in a large four story barn above the mill (burned down c.1929).

Other necessities of village life developed during the Late Industrial period besides housing. There was a general store which added a post office function in February of 1911 making the name Farnams official. A courier service carried the mail to the Farnams post office from Cheshire for many years. The Farnams fire station 8A and B Quarry Road (Map #14, c.1865) with a horse drawn fire wagon was installed in a rear building. Muddy Brook school (now gone) was built before 1876 in walking distance across the causeway to Route 8.

Early Modern Period (1915-1940)

A fire in 1921, the last of many, in the original wood mill built by the Farnam brothers may have led the Curtins to rebuild a larger mill, the present structure of concrete, iron and corrugated sheet metal. While the extent of the fire is

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unclear, it was probably the precipitating event for new mill construction. The Curtins were in the process of upgrading the mill and this was the first of several improvements. One interior masonry wall of fieldstone remains from the earlier mill building, however. They may also have built at this time a small plant known as the "mount plant" south of the main mill where quick lime, a highly flammable product, was manufactured. This building was later torn down. With the company's success, additional tenements were built for a total of about twenty. A new form, the bungalow was introduced at 676 and 678 Lanesborough Road (Map #s 22,23, c.1920). This was a large step forward in housing standards. A power house, Farnams Road (Map #27, c.1920) and carpenter shop, Lanesborough Road on the foundations and floor joists of a blacksmith shop which had burned (Map #26, c.1920) stock room (Map #25, c.1920) and a limestone paymaster's office on Lanesborough Road (Map #24, 1921) (Photograph No. 7) all went up between 1915 and 1929. The builder of the paymaster's office was Augie Buste, a local mason who also built the garden wall at the rear of 790 Lanesborough Road in the 1920s.

Demand for plaster and agricultural lime slowed in the 1920s as the economy began to show signs of the approaching Depression and construction was cut back. The Curtins were getting older and there were no family members who wanted to take over, so the small family-owned business was not in a position to make the investment it would have had to take to diversify, economize and keep the business profitable. To make matters worse, the Curtins had a further business reverse in 1927 when five days of rain flooded the quarry and forced it to shut down. Soon after, C.J. Curtin and his brother Tom put Farnam-Cheshire Lime Company on the market for sale. United States Gypsum Company, headquartered in Chicago, bought the company in April of 1929. Final papers were signed on October 23, 1929 in New York City, the day before the stock market crashed. As events later proved, their decision to sell was a wise one. The Curtins reported that US Gypsum took a tax loss on the company every year between 1929 and 1969 when it finally closed despite the fact that annual production rose from 30,000 barrels a year to 500,000 barrels in later years.

US Gypsum was a nation-wide business which had the necessary capital to improve limestone production at Farnams and to expand the uses to which the

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mineral was put, in order to meet its closest competitor the Pfizer Company in Adams. One of the company's early improvements was to build a limestone crusher in 1929 (now gone) near the quarry to reduce the amount of time and labor required by the hand-breaking process and visual sizing and sorting of the broken stone. Stone was carried from the quarry by the railroad as before, but it was first taken to the crusher, where it was broken up, carried by conveyor belt to an adjacent sorting building where it was distributed by size and type into various bins. The railroad line then carried the sorted stone to the mill.

A second change to the process was instituted when US Gypsum started burning coal, which generated more heat than wood, although the lime produced was a darker shade than that made by wood fires. Coke was tried later in the kilns, and then to diversify fuel sources, ten kilns were converted to gas.

Village life did not change appreciably when US Gypsum took over company ownership in 1929, although women were hired for the first time. Residents retained their jobs, US Gypsum continued to lease the farm to the Rozons, the general store continued to operate, the baseball team played on. Even the fire station with its horse drawn fire wagon was retained into the 1940s. However, the close social connection between paternalistic company owners and workers was over, and this disconnection ultimately ended village life as it had been.

Modern Period (1940-1976)

US Gypsum continued to make changes in operations to cut costs and improve production. While they were able to diversify, they were not able to maintain the same high standards for quality white lime. In an effort to use all of the stone, they used the poorer quality stone and with the resulting poorer lime the price per barrel dropped. At the quarry, by 1941 men used air hammers to drill the stone which made the work go more quickly, but the good stone was getting more difficult to find. In addition, water began to come into the east side of the quarry floor creating a sink. The best stone was located on the east side and in trying to dig for it, quite a number of pumps and equipment were lost. So the company began from 1941 to strip the topsoil along the east side of the quarry to expose new sources of rock closer to the surface. Mining from the surface made

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the tunnel and railroad superfluous, so they were closed down and two 20-ton Euclid dump trucks were bought to transport the stone. In 1961 air hammers were replaced with water well drills which could penetrate 195 feet into the stone. The holes were then loaded with 30,000 pounds of ammonium nitrate, sufficient to blow up 140,000 yards of rock at a time.

At the mill, natural gas was piped in to ten of the kilns and to the village housing units in 1947. By 1957 all the kilns were gas fired. In 1950 US Gypsum diversified its products making quick lime and hydrated lime in addition to agricultural limestone and plaster lime. Hydrated lime, sold as Mortaseal and used in mortar, was produced by passing lime through what was called an air separator or dust filter which altered it so that soaking before use was no longer necessary. For a brief time lime was used by local companies for defense work during the Korean war in the 1950s. US Gypsum also sold agricultural limestone during this period to the US Department of Agriculture's soil conservation program.

US Gypsum's mill superintendent was Elmer Euphrates Long. Long's reputation was that of a some-time tyrant, but he was responsible in part for some of the bright spots in Farnams during these years, as his son Dale worked in the mills and played ball with Farnams team before making his way to the Pittsburgh Pirates in 1951. Long was a catcher and first baseman, but was famous for his batting, hitting home runs in eight consecutive Pirate games, still a major-league record. Farnams nurtured another major league player, Mark Belanger, one of four children of Edward Belanger, maintenance man. Mark had a good career playing shortstop for the Baltimore Orioles in the 1960s and 70s, and became prominent in union activities of major league ballplayers. Farnams' baseball tradition had continued.

While US Gypsum made initial investments in the mill and quarry, they did not invest in the housing, nor could they offer the social support given by the Curtins. Without the safety net of the company, people realized the importance of higher wages as insurance against hard times, and many left during the 1940s for work at General Electric's plant in Pittsfield. The stage was set for this exodus from

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Farnams in 1939 when the United Mine Workers unionized the US Gypsum work force. Farnam residents and brothers Andy and Joe Vella, who could read and therefore knew about the labor movement, worked with the union to organize and in 1941 called a strike for higher wages under the slogan "No dime, no lime". The strike was settled after about three months with a 10c pay raise, but workers still had no benefits. US Gypsum eventually co-opted the union by promoting union officials within the company and giving them pay raises. Nevertheless, the adversarial position between company and workers had been formalized and workers were alert to better opportunities. The striking workers memorialized their action by carving their names and the date in a large stone which is located outside the district.

By the late 1960s, it was apparent that company losses at Farnams couldn't be reversed and in 1969 US Gypsum shut down. The mill operation buildings were emptied and the structures were no longer in use, but most of the housing units continued to be occupied until the company forced tenants out by raising rents. The post office and general store closed in 1963; the latter was torn down in 1969 by US Gypsum.

The current owner has been extremely active in the preservation of this property. All remaining objects found in the commercial and industrial buildings such as the Farnam brothers' hand-made, wooden (stone-washing) sluices, a hand-made frame for filtering the lime powder, remains of buckboards, machinery and some documents were salvaged and stored.

All of the workers' houses that were sold between 1985 and 1987 have incorporated restrictions into their deeds designed to ensure that all houses would remain as dwellings and have incorporated guidelines to prevent significant changes to their exterior appearance. These restrictions also preclude subdividing the lots for building additional houses, although outbuildings are allowed with permission.

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Cheshire
Berkshire County, Mass.**Archaeological Significance**

Since patterns of prehistoric occupation in Cheshire and Lanesborough are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Prehistoric sites in these areas can be important by providing information relating to Native American subsistence and settlement systems in the Berkshire uplands and the importance of riverine drainage boundaries to those systems. Known sites and environmental characteristics in the district area indicate Native American settlement in the district could represent a generalized adaptation to upland resources or a more stratified system with larger habitation sites along the main Hoosic River valley and secondary special purpose/short term sites along upland tributary streams. Prehistoric sites in the district area may also contain information that enables a test of long held theories which indicate Native American socio/political/economic boundaries are based along riverine drainage basins. Although the district is located within the westernmost headwaters of the Hudson River drainage, the area is also in close proximity to the Housatonic River drainage to the west and south, draining southerly to Connecticut and the Westfield River drainage to the east ultimately draining southeasterly to the Connecticut River. Prehistoric sites in this area may enable a test of theories relating to riverine adaptations and the importance of sites and settlement/subsistence patterns that are geographically close but in different drainages rather than in the same drainage.

Historic archaeological resources described above have the potential to provide detailed information on the social, cultural and economic patterns that characterized life in an upland village in the Green Mountains from the 18th through 20th centuries. Archaeological resources can document the initial agricultural settlement of the village and its evolution into a major quarry, mill and supporting village until its sale and decline after 1970. Further documentary research combined with archaeological survey and testing may help document the location, layout and integrity of structural remains and occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) associated with farms whose settlement predated large scale mining/processing in the district. These farms were responsible for the initial settlement of the Farnams locale in the 18th and 19th centuries and the later support of the mining community through the 20th century.

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Detailed analysis of farm related structures and features can help document the range of farm products and technologies in use and the extent to which they contributed to the self contained workers village that developed and flourished by the 20th century. Historical and archaeological research can help document how farming and mining evolved and the point at which farming became a secondary economic resource. Archaeological resources may also contain information that indicates the effects of ethnicity and changes on the farm as the male/female division of labor also changed. The form and layout of farm buildings and occupational related features might contain information that indicates how farms changed as a result of the ethnic composition of the village. Ethnic change may be related to family structure on farms as well as types of crops grown and other products generated on farms. Archaeological resources may also contain information that details the increasing role of women socially and economically as males spent more time in quarry operations.

Historical and archaeological resources can also contribute information which details the evolution and technology associated with limestone quarrying and processing from the 18th through 20th centuries. Historical and archaeological evidence associated with quarries can help document mining techniques which ranged from small scale hand operated family quarries in the 18th century and their evolution to large mechanized quarries of the 20th century. Mapping and identification of abandoned quarry equipment on the surface and in archaeological deposits can help document technological change in mining techniques and the extent to which state of the art tools and techniques were used at the Farnam facility. Archaeological resources can also help document the evolution of limestone processing techniques during the 18th through 20th century period. Archaeological survey and testing can document the types of resources associated with limestone kilns in the district from the small outdoor family operated kilns to the larger multi-kiln structures during the late 19th and 20th centuries. Architectural and archaeological evidence may be present in the vicinity of the existing mill to document the original structure built by the Farnam Brothers in 1874 and its rebuilding in 1921 after the burning of the original mill. Archaeological resources can also help document transportation related resources in use between the quarries and mills during the 18th through 20th

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centuries. Archaeological evidence associated with the remains from barns and farms in the district can help document the importance of draft animals to mining operations at first associated with individual farms and families then later at the larger Farnams quarry. Evidence may exist in the district indicating how draft animal hauling of limestone was organized and performed prior to the construction of the large barn west of the mill in ca. 1890. Later, in the 20th century, more innovative technologies were used to transport limestone from the quarries to the mill. Archaeological evidence may exist and prove useful in documenting technologies used in the construction and operation of the tramway and narrow gauge railway. Archaeological evidence may exist to document methods and techniques used to construct the railway tunnel which leads from the quarry.

Archaeological resources may also be present which documents the role and relationship between company management and the workers and how this may have changed through time and under different management. Information may be present from archaeological sources indicating the extent to which smaller, family owned quarries were limited to members of the owners immediate family or relied on a larger extended family and possibly hired help. Archaeological data may also define the extent to which the Farnam Brothers ran a "local operation" and the role Irish immigrants played in its operation. Historical and archaeological research can also document company management policies during the 20th century and the role Italian immigrants and their families played in those policies. Archaeological and historical research can determine the extent to which company policies at the Farnams quarry were typical for industrial employment in the Massachusetts locale for the period. Similar research can also determine the role company housing played in overall management/employment strategies of the company.

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(end)

Farnams Village HD
Name of Property

Berkshire, MA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property c. 1400 acres

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 18 648520 4712660
Zone Easting Northing

2. 18 649220 4711870
Zone Easting Northing

3. 18 648940 4711220
Zone Easting Northing

4. 18 649260 4710850
Zone Easting Northing

x See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Bonnie Parsons, Consultant, with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date March 2000

street & number 220 Morrissey Boulevard telephone 617-727-8470

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02125

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name multiple

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town Cheshire state MA zip code _____

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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503. NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

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UTM locations (continued)

A	18	648520	4712660
B	18	649220	4711870
C	18	648940	4711220
D	18	649260	4710850
E	18	649050	4710580
F	18	648780	4710920
G	18	647480	4711200
H	18	647610	4712690

Verbal Boundary Description. See attached assessor's maps.

The verbal description is as follows: The district's boundaries follow property lot lines in the town of Cheshire. The district boundary begins on the town line between Cheshire and Lanesborough just before it crosses Cheshire Road to incorporate property of the house at 931 Lanesborough Road (parcel 203-1). It then follows the boundary between Cheshire and Lanesborough to include the large quarry, small quarry and the crusher site on map 204 lot 2, a parcel of 794 acres. It follows the lot lines of parcel 204-2 to Lanesborough Road, which it follows along the east side to include the farm, barn, and houses on the west side of Lanesborough Road, including #676, 678 (parcel 215-6), #708 (parcel 216-10), #766 (parcel 216-8), and #858 (parcel 216-3). District lines follow the northeast side of Farnams Road to include the causeway and the north boundary of the Boston & Maine Railroad easement turning north at parcel 216-2, following a line of convenience across the south pond of Hoosac Lake to the point of beginning.

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Boundary Justification

The boundaries were drawn to include all of the resources associated with the operation of the limestone quarries (the mill, quarries, housing, support buildings causeway, quarry road) and secondarily to include the property associated with agriculture within Farnams (the fields, farmhouses, and barn). The boundaries coincide, as well, with the current owner's property and follow existing lot lines. The boundaries were drawn to exclude housing that was not associated with the limestone quarrying business or agriculture in Farnams, and to exclude forest land and reservoirs that were not historically part of the mill property or its processes.

(end)

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Photographs

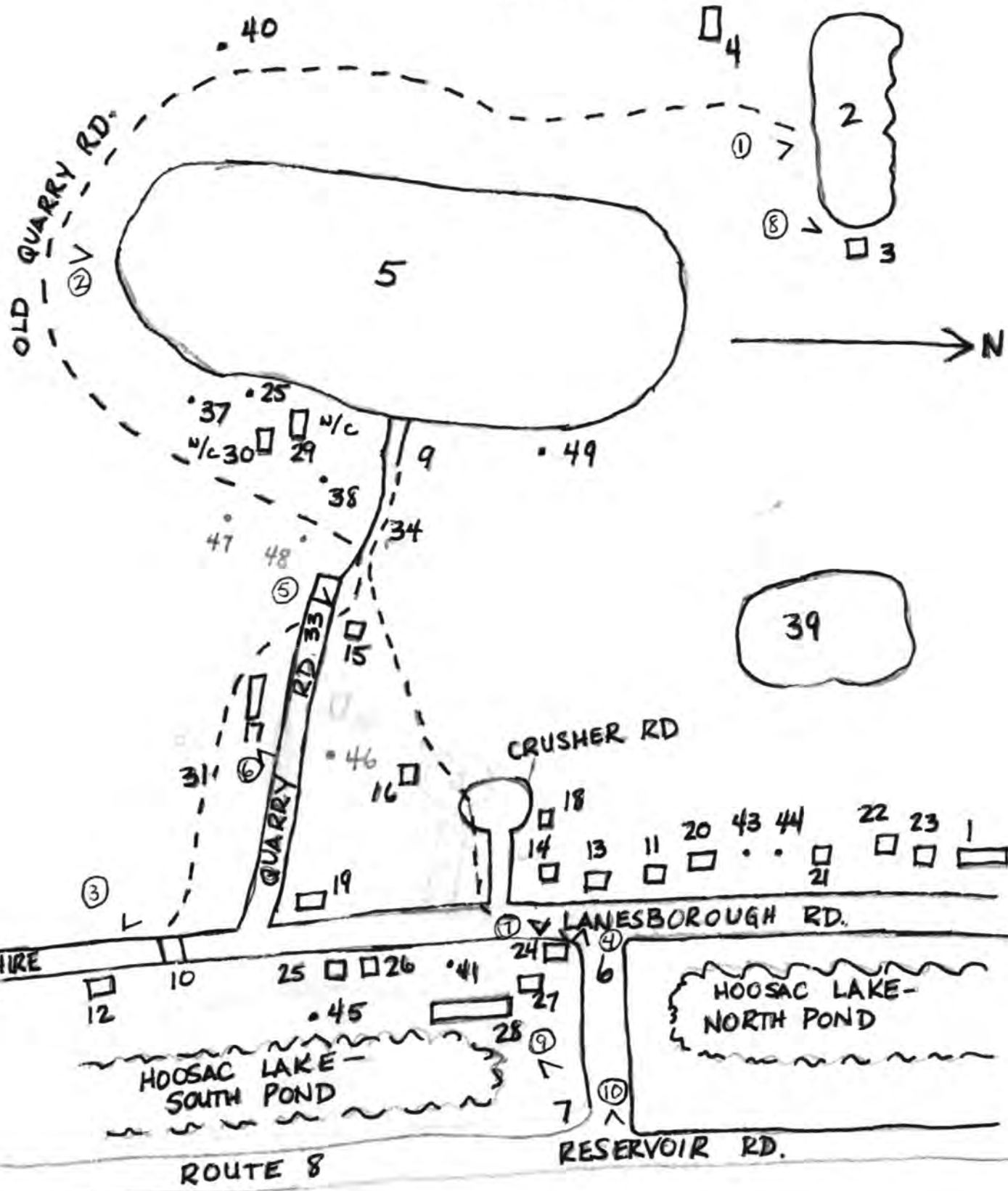
Photographer: Bonnie Parsons, PVPC
Date: January 1995

1. Small limestone quarry (view N)
2. Large Farnams quarry (view N)
3. Frank Jenks House (map 12), 931 Lanesborough Rd. (view SE)
4. Orrin Buss House (map 13), 790 Lanesborough Rd. (view NW)
5. 84 Quarry Rd. (map 15) (view NE)
6. 103-109 Quarry Rd. (map 17) (view SW)
7. Paymaster's Office (map 24) Lanesborough Rd. (view E)
8. Dynamite Shed (map 3) (view NE)
9. Limestone mill (map 28) (view SW)
10. Causeway across reservoir (map 6) (view W)

(end)

PHOTO LOCATIONS ^ ①

FARNAMS VILLAGE HD.



LANESBOROUGH



**Farnams Village
Cheshire
District Data**

**Historic District
Massachusetts
Sheet**

Map #	Assessor #	MHC Inv. #	Historic Name	Address	Date	Style	Resc.	Status
1	215&204-2		Curtis/Rozon Barn	Lanesborough Road	ca.1870	utilitarian	building	C
2	204-2		Small Quarry	Quarry Road	1840		structure	C
3	204-2		dynamite shed	Quarry Road	c.1874	utilitarian	building	C
4	204-2		quarrying equipment	Quarry Road	c.1890-1900		object	C
5	204-2		Farnams Large Quarry	Quarry Road	c.1874-1969		structure	C
6	216-15		reservoir causeway	Farnams Road	c.1858-1866		structure	C
9	204-2		Curtin rail line: tunnel	large quarry	1916		structure	C
10	203 @ 2		Curtin rail: underpass	Lanesborough Road	1916		structure	C
11	216-7		H. H. Curtis House	778 Lanesborough Rd.	c.1865	Greek Revival	building	C
12	203-1		Jenks House	931 Lanesborough Rd.	c.1880	High Vict. Gothic	building	C
	203-1		carriage house	931 Lanesborough Rd.	c.1880	utilitarian	building	C
13	216-6		Orrin Bliss House	790 Lanesborough Rd.	1850-1900	Colonial Revival	building	C
14	216-6		Farnams Fire Station	790 Lanesborough Rd.	c.1900	Queen Anne	building	C
15	203-4		workers' house	84 Quarry Road	c.1910	Queen Anne	building	C
	203-4		shed	84 Quarry Road	c.1930	utilitarian	building	C
	204-2		shed/studio	84 Quarry Road	c.1940	utilitarian	building	C
	204-2		cabin	84 Quarry Road	c.1940	utilitarian	building	C
16	203-5		workers' house	84 Quarry Road also	c.1910	Queen Anne	building	C
17	203-3		workers' house	103-109 Quarry Road	c.1910	Queen Anne	building	C
	203-3		garage	103-109 Quarry Road	c.1920	utilitarian	building	C
	203-3		shed	103-109 Quarry Road	c.1920	utilitarian	building	C
	203-3		shed	103-109 Quarry Road	c.1920	utilitarian	building	C
	203-3		shed	103-109 Quarry Road	c.1920	utilitarian	building	C
	203-3		shed	103-109 Quarry Road	c.1920	utilitarian	building	C
18	216-5		workers' house	8B Quarry Road	c.1910	Queen Anne	Building	C
19	216-3		workers' house	858 Lanesborough Road	c.1910	Queen Anne	Building	C
	216-3		shed	858 Lanesborough Road	c.1930	utilitarian	Building	C

20	216-8	workers' house	766 Lanesborough Road	c.1910	Queen Anne	Building	C
21	216-10	workers' house	708 Lanesborough Road	c.1910	Queen Anne	Building	C
	216-10	shed	708 Lanesborough Road	c. 1930	utilitarian	Building	C
22	215-6	workers' house	678 Lanesborough Road	c.1920	Craftsman	Building	C
	215-6	garage	678 Lanesborough Road	c.1920	utilitarian	Building	C
23	215-7	workers' house	676 Lanesborough Road	c.1920	Craftsman	Building	C
24	216-2	paymaster's office	Lanesborough Road	1921	Craftsman	Building	C
25	216-2	stock room	Lanesborough Road	1900,1920	utilitarian	Building	C
26	216-2	carpentry shop	Lanesborough Road	c.1920	Craftsman	Building	C
27	216-2	power house	Farnams Road	c.1920	utilitarian	Building	C
28	216-2	limestone mill	Farnams Road	1874,1905	utilitarian	Building	C
29	204-2	garage	crusher site	c.1950	utilitarian	Building	NC
30	204-2	shed	crusher site	c.1950	utilitarian	Building	NC
31	204-2,203-2	tramway berm		1909		Structure	C
33	203,204	Quarry Road		c.1840-1874		Structure	C
34	203,204	railroad line		1912-1916		Structure	C
35	216-2	train repair shed site				Site	C
36	204-2	power shack site				Site	C
37	204-2	holding pond site				Site	C
38	204-2	sand pit and pumping				Site	C
38	204-2	system site				Site	C
39	205,204-2	skating pond site				Site	C
40	204-2	Pettibone farm found.	Quarry Road			Site	C
41	216-2	large barn foundations	Lanesborough Road			Site	C
43	216-9	house foundations	Lanesborough Road			Site	C
44	216-9	house foundations	Lanesborough Road			Site	C
45	216-2	kiln foundations	Lanesborough Road			Site	C
47	204-2	house foundation	Old Quarry Road	c. 1910-1920		Site	C

48	204-2	house foundation	Old Quarry Road	c. 1910-1920	Site	C
49	204-2	Tramway foundations	Farnams Ridge	c. 1920-1930	Site	C

resource	non-contributing	Contributing
buildings	2	32
structures	0	8
objects	0	1
sites	0	14
total	2	55

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 99000866 Date Listed: 4/27/00

Property Name: Farnams Village Historic District County: Berkshire State: MA

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Patrick Andrews
Signature of the Keeper

4/27/00
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

On resubmission of this nomination, the boundary was revised to remove a cemetery from the district. This SLR makes a technical amendment to Section 8 (Statement of Significance) to indicate that National Register Criteria Consideration D (Cemetery) does not apply to the district.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file**
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Property Name: Farnams Village Historic District
Berkshire County, Massachusetts

Reference Number: 99000866

Reason for Return:

This nomination is being returned for technical and substantive reasons.

Maps The series of maps submitted showing the boundary are confusing. It was not possible for us to line up the maps in way to show the boundary. Also, it is not possible to identify on the maps properties mentioned in the text. The maps do not have photographs keyed to them. Please review the maps and submit corrected copies which show the district boundary, contributing and non-contributing properties, and photos keyed to the maps.

Boundary During the nomination process, Mr. Ralph Schulman wrote to the National Register recommending that the Pettibone Cemetery not be included within the historic district. Mr. Schulman contends that the cemetery is not historically associated with the district and he has provided documentation on this issue. We are returning the nomination, along with the documentation submitted by Mr. Schulman, for the State to evaluate Mr. Schulman's claim, address the issues he raises, and to either specifically justify including the cemetery within the boundary of the district, or, if in the State's opinion the cemetery should be excluded from the nomination then to revise the maps, the boundary description, and the text of the form to redraw the boundary to leave out the cemetery.

Patrick Andrus
Historian
National Register of Historic Places
8/6/99

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY Farnams Village Historic District
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Berkshire

DATE RECEIVED: 3/23/00 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/07/00
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 99000866

DETAILED EVALUATION:

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT _____ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

On resubmission the cemetery has been deleted
and the State has provided new maps showing the
boundary and photo they have been submitted.

RECOM./CRITERIA accept A&C

REVIEWER Patricia Andrews DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE _____ DATE 4/27/00

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached

SLR Y/N
520



Small Limestone Quarry, Farnham Village

Berkshire, MA

Bonnie Parsons

1/95

PV PC

View north

Photograph No. 1



Large Farnams Quarry, Farnams Village

Berkshire, MA

Bonnie Parsons

1-95

PVPC

View north

Photograph No. 2



Frank Jenko House, Farnams Village

Berkshire, MA

Bonnie Parsons

1-95

PVPC

View south east

Photograph No. 3



790 Laneshorough Road, Farnams Village

Berkshire, MA

Bonnie Parsons

1-95

PVPC

View north west.

Photograph No. 4



84 Quarry Road, Farnham Village

Berkshire MA

Bonnie Parsons

1-95

PVPC

View north east

Photograph No. 5



103-109 Quarry Road, Farnams Village

Berkshire, MA

Bonnie Parsons

1-95

PV PC

View south west

Photograph No. 6





Paymaster's Office, Lanesborough Road, Farnham Village

Berkshire, MA

Bonnie Parsons

1-95

PVPC

view east

Photograph No. 7



Dynamite Shed, Farnams Village

Berkshire, MA

Bonnie Parsons

1-95

PVPC

U.W north

Photograph No. 8



limestone Mill, Farnams Village

Berkshire, MA

Bonnie Parsons

PVPC

View South West

Photograph no. 9

THIS PAPER MANUFACTURED BY KODAK



Causeway across reservoir, Farnham Village

Berkshire, MA

Bonnie Parsons

PUPC


View west

Photograph No. 10

Farnams Village Historic District 42073-E1-TM-025


Cheshire MASSACHUSETTS

1:25 000-scale metric topographic map



7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE SHOWING

- Contours and elevations in meters
- Highways, roads and other manmade structures
- Water features
- Woodland areas
- Geographic names



GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

1988

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
 Controlled by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts agencies
 Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1981. Field checked 1984. Map edited 1988
 Supersedes Cheshire and Windsor 1:25 000-scale maps dated 1975
 Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 18, Universal Transverse Mercator
 10 000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system, modified to 1927 North American Datum
 To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983, move the projection lines 5 meters south and 37 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks
 There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map

CONTOUR INTERVAL 6 METERS
 NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
 CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
 OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

Meters	Feet
2	6.5617
4	13.1234
6	19.6851
8	26.2468
10	32.8085

Declination	Diagram
14° 11'	

Adjoining Maps	1	2	3
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8

FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
 DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

Topographic Map Symbols

Primary highway, hard surface	
Secondary highway, hard surface	
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface	
Unimproved road, trail	
Route marker: Interstate, U. S., State	
Railroad: standard gage, narrow gage	
Bridge: drawbridge	
Footbridge; overpass; underpass	
Build-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown	
House: barn; church; school; large structure	
Boundary	
National, with monument	
State	
County, parish	
City, town, village, place	
Incorporated city, village, town	
National or State reservation; small park	
Land grant with monument; found section corner	
U. S. public lands survey; range, township, section	
Range, township, section line: location approximate	
Fence or field line	
Power transmission line, located tower	
Dam, dam with lock	
Cemetery: grave	
Campground; picnic area; U. S. location monument	
Well: water well; spring	
Minor shaft; prospect; salt or brine well	
Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation	
Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression	
Distorted surface: strip mine, levee, sand	
Bathymetric contours: index; intermediate	
Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream	
Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small	
Swamp; marsh	
Submerged mark; land subject to controlled inundation	
Woodland: scattered trees	
Scrub; mangrove	
Orchard; vineyard	

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request

FARNAMS VILLAGE HD
 A 649520/4712660
 B 649220/4711870
 C 648940/4711220
 D 649260/4710850
 E 649050/4710380
 F 648780/4710920
 G 647480/4711200
 H 647610/4712690

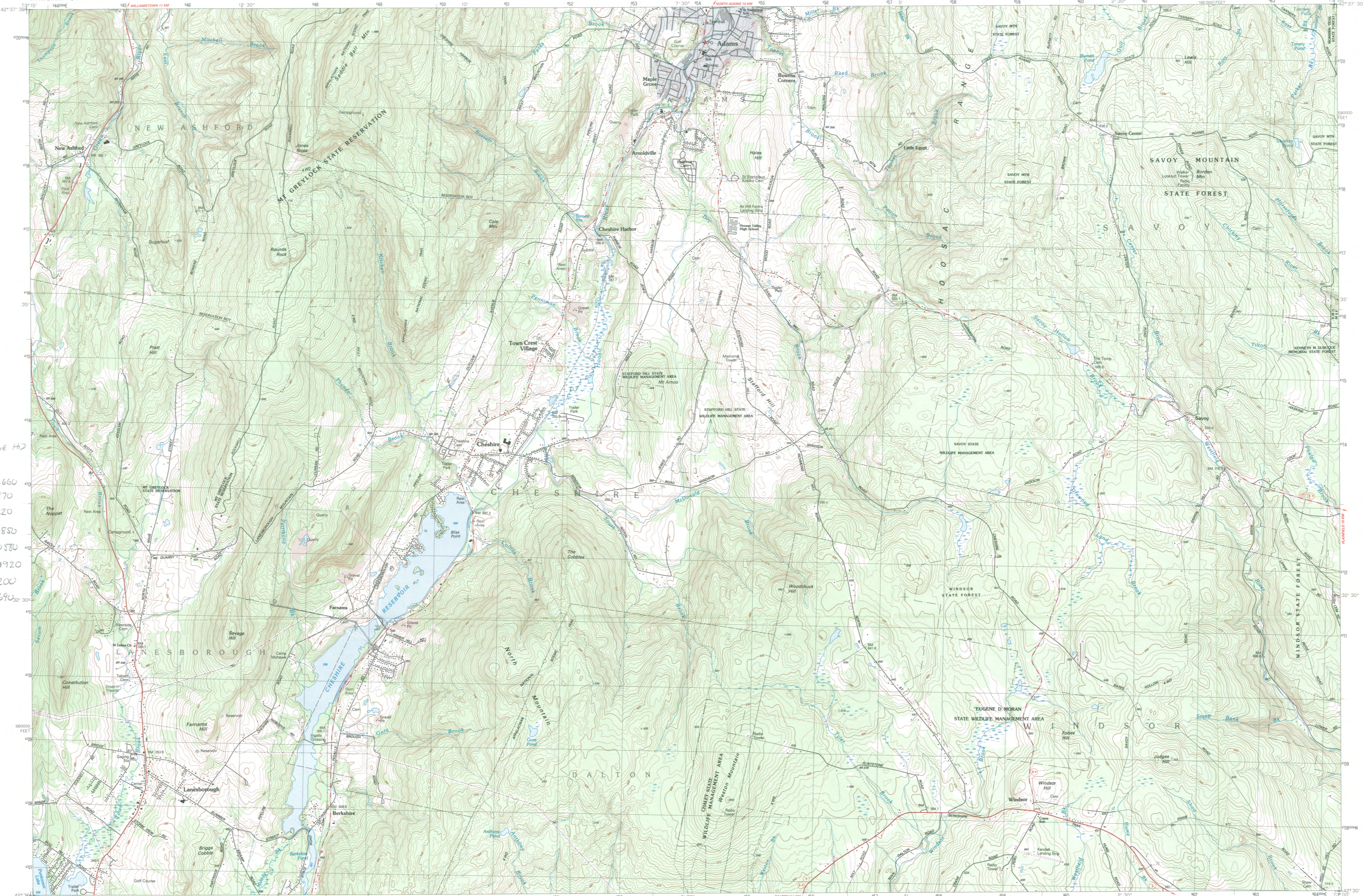
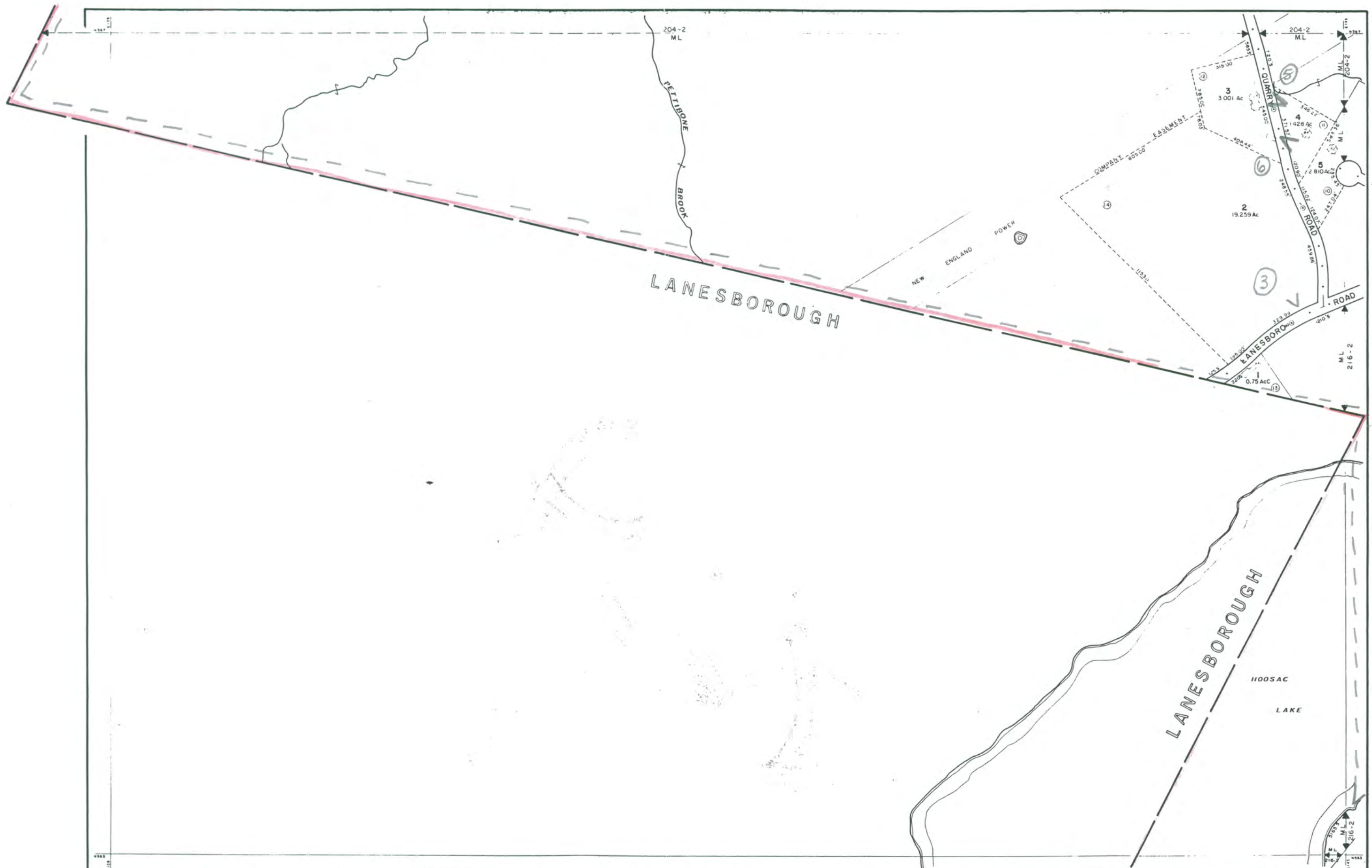


Photo here



THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES. IT IS NOT VALID FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION OR CONVEYANCE.

THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM.

PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: MARCH 22, 1985

COMPLETION DATE: JUNE 18, 1986

PRODUCED BY
CARTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATES, Inc.

MUNICIPAL MAPPING CONSULTANTS
 P.O. BOX 267 LITTLETON, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03561

LEGEND

AREA CALCULATED AcC
 AREA SURVEYED Ac
 BLOCK LIMIT ————
 BLOCK NUMBER 02
 COMMON OWNERSHIP OR
 EXEMPT PROPERTY E

SUBDIVISION LOT NO. ②
 MATCH LINE ← M.L. →
 RIGHT OF WAY R/W
 RECORDED DIMENSION 100'
 SCALED DIMENSION 100'S
 WETLANDS

SCALE
 1 INCH = 200 FEET

FEET
 0 100 200 400 600
 METERS
 0 30.48 60.97 121.95 182.92

REVISED TO: January 1, 1986

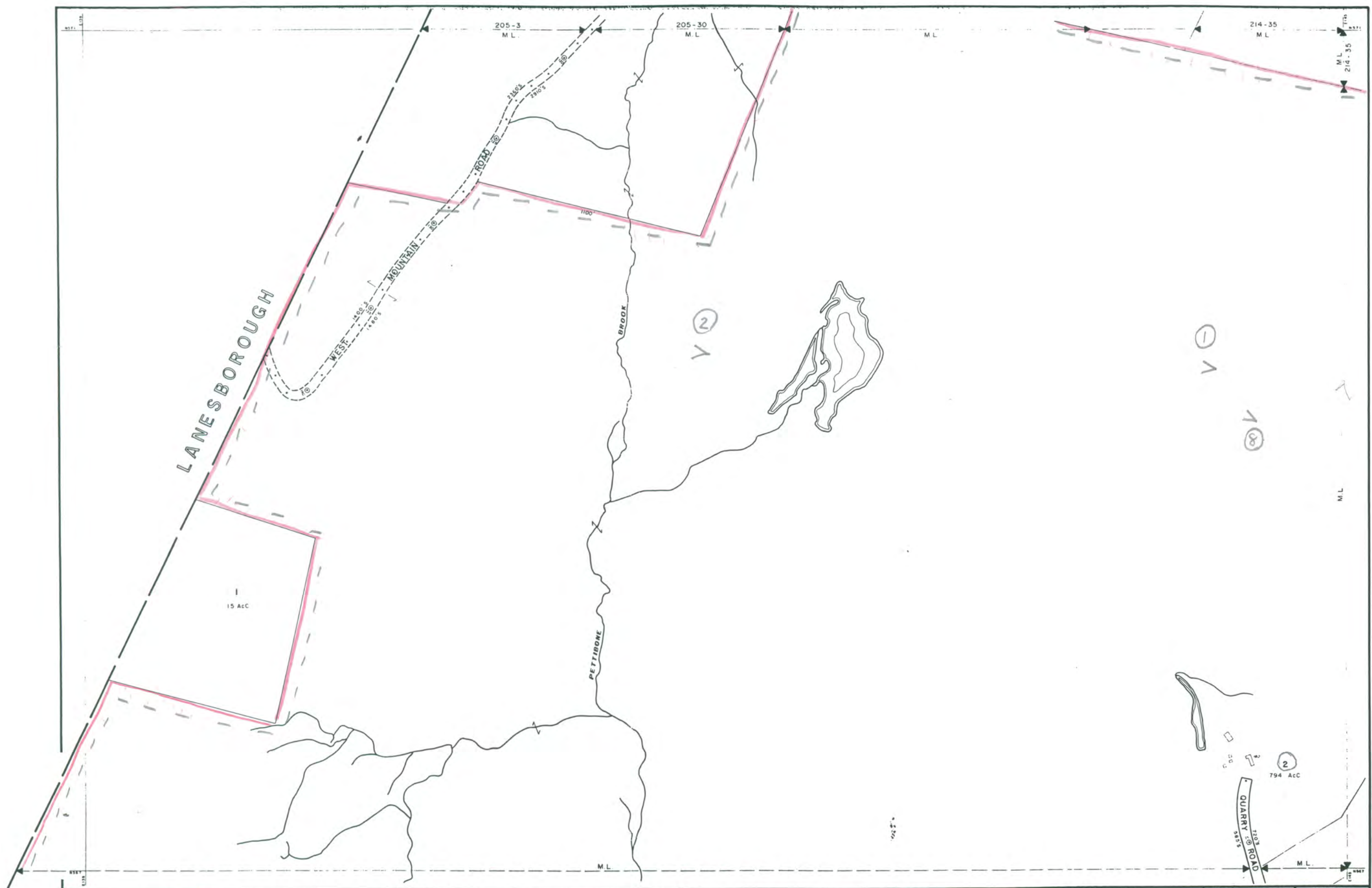
ASSESSORS MAP
CHESHIRE
 MASSACHUSETTS

INDEX DIAGRAM

204	103
102	216
202	217

MAP NO.
203

Cheshire



THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES IT IS NOT VALID FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION OR CONVEYANCE.

THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM.

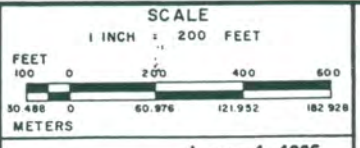
PHOTOGRAPHY DATE MARCH 22, 1985

PRODUCED BY
CARTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATES, INC.
 MUNICIPAL MAPPING CONSULTANTS
 P.O. BOX 267 LITTLETON, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03561

LEGEND

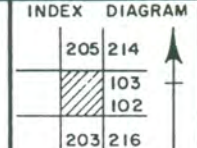
AREA CALCULATED AcC
 AREA SURVEYED Ac
 BLOCK LIMIT
 BLOCK NUMBER 02
 COMMON OWNERSHIP OR
 EXFMPY PROPERTY (E)

SUBDIVISION LOT NO. ②
 MATCH LINE ← M.L. →
 RIGHT OF WAY R/W
 RECORDED DIMENSION 100'
 SCALED DIMENSION 100'S
 WFTI ANDS

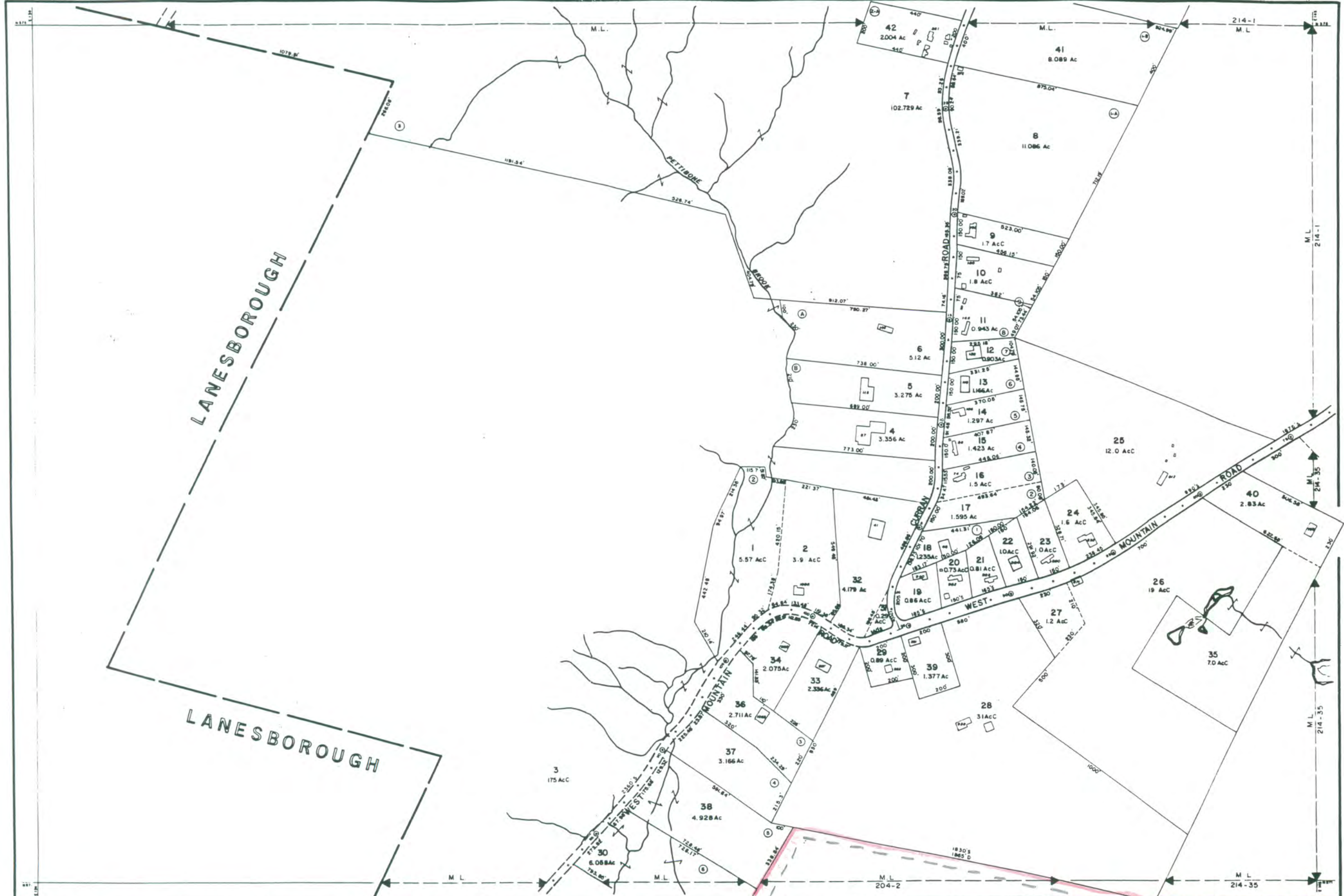


ASSESSORS MAP

CHESHIRE



MAP NO.
204



THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES IT IS NOT VALID FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION OR CONVEYANCE

THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM

PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: MARCH 22, 1985

COMPLETION DATE: JUNE 18, 1986

PRODUCED BY
CARTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATES, INC.
 MUNICIPAL MAPPING CONSULTANTS
 P.O. BOX 267 LITTLETON, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03861

LEGEND

AREA CALCULATED AcC
 AREA SURVEYED Ac

BLOCK LIMIT

BLOCK NUMBER

COMMON OWNERSHIP

EXEMPT PROPERTY

SUBDIVISION LOT NO.

MATCH LINE

RIGHT OF WAY

RECORD DIMENSION

SCALED DIMENSION

WETLANDS

SCALE
 1 INCH = 200 FEET

REVISD TO: January 1, 1998

ASSESSORS MAP
CHESHIRE
 MASSACHUSETTS

INDEX DIAGRAM

206	213
214	215

MAP NO.
205

3

←

Cheshire



THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES IT IS NOT VALID FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION OR CONVEYANCE

THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM

PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: MARCH 22, 1985

COMPLETION DATE: JUNE 18, 1986

PRODUCED BY

CARTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATES, INC.

MUNICIPAL MAPPING CONSULTANTS
P.O. BOX 267 LITTLETON, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03561

LEGEND

AREA CALCULATED AcC
 AREA SURVEYED Ac
 BLOCK LIMIT ————
 COMMON OWNERSHIP ————
 EXEMPT PROPERTY ————

SUBDIVISION LOT NO. ————
 MATCH LINE ————
 RIGHT OF WAY ————
 RECORD DIMENSION ————
 SCALED DIMENSION 100'S ————
 WETLANDS ————

②
 M.L.
 R/W
 100'
 100'S
 E
 OR

SCALE

1 INCH = 200 FEET

FEET
 0 200 400 600
 30 488 0 60 976 121 952 182 928
 METERS

REVISED TO: January 1, 1986

ASSESSORS MAP

CHESHIRE

MASSACHUSETTS

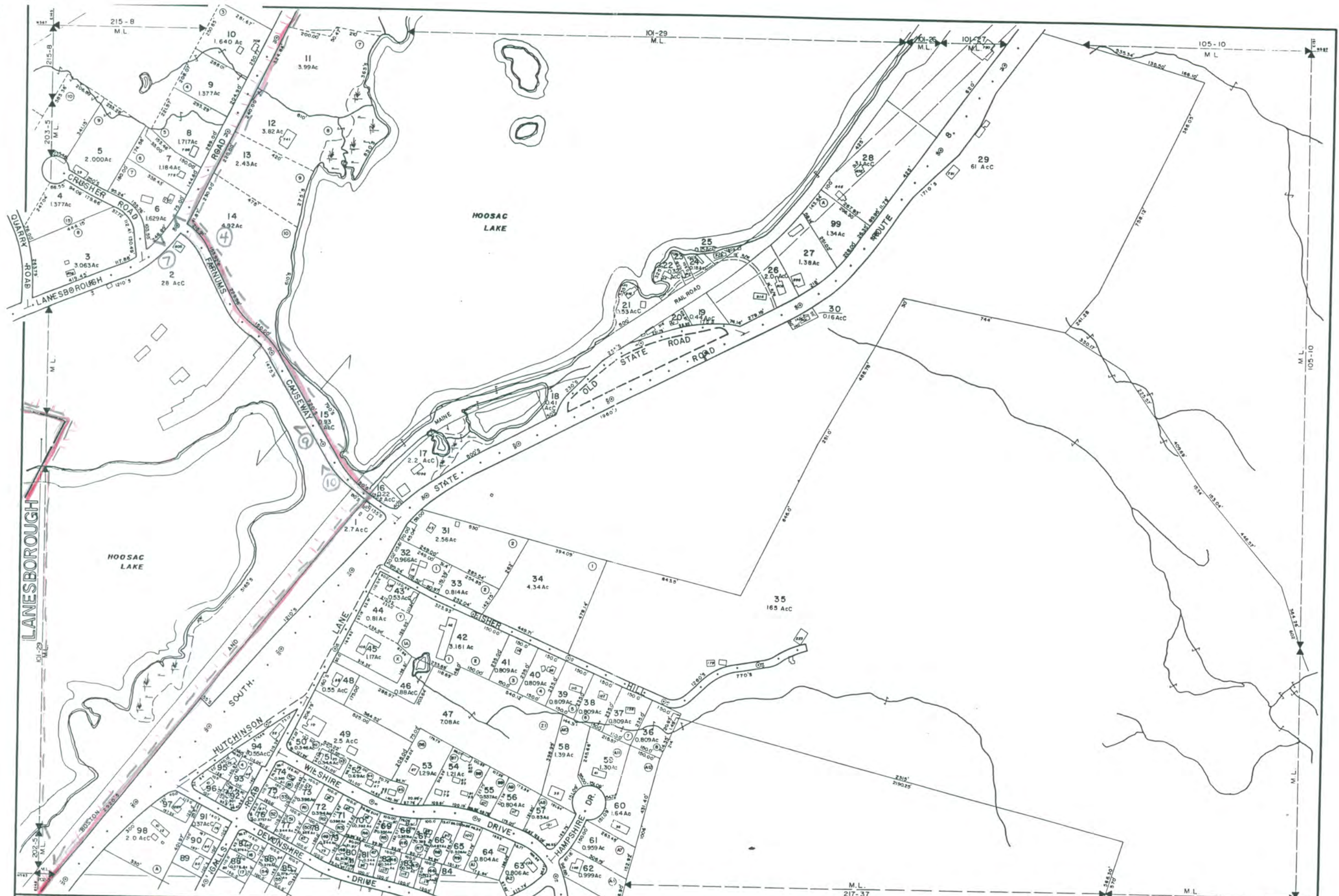
INDEX DIAGRAM

205	204	106
204	103	104
	102	101
203	216	221

MAP NO.

215

Cheshire



THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES. IT IS NOT VALID FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION OR CONVEYANCE.

THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM.

PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: MARCH 22, 1985

COMPLETION DATE: JUNE 18, 1986

PRODUCED BY
CARTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATES, INC.

MUNICIPAL MAPPING CONSULTANTS
 P.O. BOX 267 LITTLETON, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03561

LEGEND

AREA CALCULATED AcC
 AREA SURVEYED Ac

BLOCK LIMIT [Symbol]

BLOCK NUMBER [Symbol]

COMMON OWNERSHIP [Symbol]

EXEMPT PROPERTY [Symbol]

SUBDIVISION LOT NO. [Symbol]

MATCH LINE [Symbol]

RIGHT OF WAY [Symbol]

RECORD DIMENSION [Symbol]

SCALED DIMENSION [Symbol]

WETLANDS [Symbol]

SCALE
 1 INCH = 200 FEET

FEET
 0 100 200 400 600

METERS
 0 30.48 60.97 121.95 182.92

REVISED TO: **January 1, 1991**

ASSESSORS MAP

CHESHIRE

MASSACHUSETTS

INDEX DIAGRAM

204	102 101	222
203	[Hatched]	221
202	217	220

MAP NO.
216

Checked

County Commissioners
THOMAS H. STOKES
STOCKBRIDGE
CHAIRMAN
Wm. SMITTY PIGNATELLI
LENOX
—
RONALD E. KITTERMAN
PITTSFIELD
—
ROBERT H. MELLE
BECKET

Berkshire County

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE

Berkshire County Courthouse
Pittsfield, Massachusetts 01201
Telephone (413) 448-8424
Fax (413) 499-0213



Received

FEB 08 1999

MASS. HIST. COMM

February 3, 1999

Ms. Lucia Saradoff
The Farnams-Goodlife Corp.
P.O. Box L, Farnams
Cheshire, MA 01225

Re: The Farnams Historic District: The Farnams Trestle

Dear Ms. Saradoff:

The Berkshire County Commissioners support your efforts to designate the Farnams Property on the Massachusetts Historical Register and the National Register of Historical Places.

We wish you success in your endeavor.

Very truly yours,

Chairman

BERKSHIRE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

BCC/cs

filed: office\ltrs-misc\farman

Pettibone Farm

Box 624, Lanesborough, MA 01237

Winter: 413-443-5091

Summer: 413-443-9843 or 442-0803

YM
BF

Sue & Ralph
Schulman

February 4, 1999

Ms. Judith McDonough
Executive Director, MA Historical Commission
State Historical Preservation Office
220 Morrissey Blvd.
Boston, MA 02125

RECEIVED

MAR 05 1999

Dear Ms. McDonough,

MASS. HIST. COM.

It just came to my attention yesterday that Pettibone Cemetery will be included in the nomination of Farnams as a Historic District at next weeks meeting of the MA Historical Commission.

I strenuously object to Pettibone Cemetery being a part of the Farnams District.

The Cemetery is in no way related to Farnams. All members of the Pettibone Family are buried there. The last Pettibone to be buried there was in 1865 when the farm was acquired by Ira Jenks.

Although the quarrying of marble was a significant industry in the early decades of the 19th Century there is no evidence that the Pettibones quarried marble. All evidence indicated that they were farmers until the home farm passed to Ira Jenks.

The Pettibone Cemetery contains the graves of Jonathon, Sally, his wife, Amon, Philo, his sons and at least nineteen other members of the family buried there between 1809 and 1865.

The Pettibone Cemetery is not related to the Farnams Historic District in any way. However, it is closely related to Pettibone Farm.

(continued on page 2)



CIRCA 1789

Farm

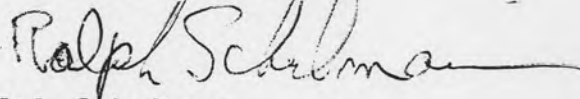
Lanesborough, MA 01237
443-443-5091
443-9843 or 442-0803

Sue & Ralph
Schulman

(2)

It would be wrong to include the Cemetery in the nomination of the Farnams Historic District. It should be made a addenda to Pettibone Farm. If this is not feasible the Town of Lanesborough should list the Cemetery on the National Register, individually. At the very least the Cemetery should not be included in the Farnams nomination.

Sincerely yours,



Ralph Schulman



CIRCA 1789



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of Lanesborough

OFFICE OF THE
 BOARD OF SELECTMEN



March 2, 1999

Berkshire County Commissioners
 76 East Street
 Pittsfield, MA 01201

Dear Commissioners:

The Board of Selectmen supports the Historic District designation of the Pettibone Cemetery on Old Cheshire Road in Lanesborough.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen (dja)

Peter H. Gallant, Sr., Chairman
 L. Ruth Brower
 William J. DiLego

/dja

cc: Lucia Saradoff
 PO Box L, Farnams
 Cheshire, MA 01225

Mary Reilly
 Historical Commission
 PO Box 1509
 Lanesborough, MA 01237



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of Lanesborough

Newton Memorial Town Hall
Post Office Box 1492
Lanesborough, MA 01237
Tel. (413) 442-1167
FAX 443-5811

March 8, 1999

Ms. Judith McDonough
Executive Director, Ma Historical Commission
State Historical Preservation Office
320 Morrisy Blvd.
Boston, Ma 02125

Dear Ms. McDonough,

This letter is in reference to the proposed designation of Farnams as a historic district. It is our position that the portion known as Pettibone Cemetery not be included in the nomination.

We strongly object for the following reasons.

1. To best of our knowledge the cemetery is in no way related to the Farnams District. In fact it was part of a parcel of land known as Pettibone Farm. The farm itself is already listed in the Historic Register. It is unknown exactly when the Town of Lanesboro received ownership of the cemetery.
2. The cemetery itself is located in the Town of Lanesboro and is maintained by the town.
3. Documents show that all members of the Pettibone family whose residence was Pettibone Farm are interred there. These burials date prior to the building of the Farnams mill and subsequent houses, with the last family member having been buried there in 1865.

It is the feeling of the Lanesboro Historical Commission that it would not be appropriate to include Pettibone Cemetery as part of the Farnams District. We are in agreement that the cemetery should be included on the National Register of Historic Places, however it is our belief that it rightfully belongs as a part of the Pettibone Farm and we hope it can be identified as such. Should this not be feasible it is our intention to consult with the Lanesboro Cemetery Committee and request that they seek to have the cemetery placed on the National Register through the Town.

Sincerely,

Mary C. Keilly

Mary C. Reilly
Lanesboro Historical Commission Chairman



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

June 15, 1999

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Mail Stop 2280, Suite 400
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Farnams Village Historic District, Cheshire/Lanesborough, (Berkshire), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of the properties included in the district were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 45 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment. To date, one letter of support has been received from the Berkshire County Commissioners. A copy of an additional letter of support from the Lanesborough Board of Selectmen to the Berkshire County Commissioners is also included. Two letters commenting on the nomination have been received, from an adjoining property owner and from the Lanesborough Historical Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betsy Friedberg".

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Eileen Nuttal, Chair, Cheshire Historical Commission
Mary Reilley, Chair, Lanesborough Historical Commission
Bonnie Parsons, Preservation Consultant
Daniel Delorey III, Chair, Cheshire Board of Selectmen
L. Ruth Brower, Chair, Lanesborough Board of Selectmen
Lucia Saradoff, Cheshire



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth

March 9, 2000

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Mail Stop 2280, Suite 400
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following revised nomination for:

Farnams Village Historic District, Cheshire, (Berkshire), MA
(NR file # 99000866)

The nomination was returned to the Massachusetts Historical Commission for boundary revisions and clarification. As currently proposed, the nomination will eliminate property located in the adjoining town of Lanesborough. Assessor's maps have been redrawn, and the text of the nomination revised to eliminate references to removed locations. A new sketch map has been drawn, and camera locations have been keyed to it, as well as the assessor's maps. Letters of support and comment that were submitted with the original nomination in 1999 are included, although the letters refer to property no longer within the district as drawn.

We request an expedited review of this revised nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betsy Friedberg".

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

cc: Eileen Nuttal, Chair, Cheshire Historical Commission
Ralph Schulman, Lanesborough Historical Commission
Bonnie Parsons, Preservation Consultant
Lucia Saradoff, Cheshire
Peter H. Gallant, Sr., Chair, Lanesborough Board of Selectmen
Daniel Delorey III, Chair, Cheshire Board of Selectmen