

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

AREA	FORM NO.
	61

Town Rehoboth  
Address 177 Hornbine Road  
Historic Name Captain Mial Pierce Farm

PHOTO: (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)  
staple to left side of form

Photo number \_\_\_\_\_

Use: Present residence  
Original residence

DESCRIPTION:

Date ca. 1800

Source architectural detail

Style Federal

Architect unknown

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings see text

Major alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

see text

Moved no Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. acreage 30

Setting 300 feet from road  
rural context

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location to nearest cross street, geographical features, all buildings between property and nearest road. Indicate north.



*also see attached*

- UTM: A 19/317520/4629140
- B 19/317540/4628930
- C 19/317100/4628930
- D 19/317160/4629380
- E 19/317310/4629390

Recorded by Leslie C. Abernathy, III

Organization Rehoboth Historical Commission

Date April, 1976; revised 1981

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.)

The house, barn, and several sheds on this property together form a remarkably intact farmstead dating to ca. 1800. Remains of an orchard, stone fence lines, and the overall farmstead plan are in excellent condition. The builder was not concerned with locating the farm in reference to existing roads; Hornbine Road, then a lane, is three hundred feet to the west. Hornbine Road once curved closer to the house, but has been straightened. Furthermore, the house faces south, with outbuildings

(Continued)

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.)

The Pierce (or Pearce) family was one of the earliest to settle in the Hornbine section of Rehoboth. This house was probably built by Captain Mial Pierce, a Rehoboth militia captain, soon after the Revolutionary War. The land was given to him by his father, Deacon Mial Pierce, the first Elder of Hornbine Baptist Church. In 1850, the property belonged to a member of another first family, Nathaniel Baker (Walling 1850), although this may be another structure. An 1871 map (Walling) shows the same house still owned by N. Baker. The house of 177 Hornbine is definitely shown in 1895 (Everts and Richards) as belonging to Silas A. Pierce. Four outbuildings are shown. It may have only changed hands twice since that time. Small farmsteads such as this were common in the past, but ones which have remained largely unchanged since ca. 1800 are rare today. This property appears to have been in the hands of Pierce descendants until thirty years ago.

As the most intact early 19th century farm complex in Rehoboth retaining its configuration and sense of place, and associated with a prominent early family, the Captain Mial Pierce Farm meets criteria B and C of the National Register of Historic Places individually.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

- Everts and Richards. Atlas of Bristol County, Massachusetts, Philadelphia, 1895.  
Walling, H. F. Map of Rehoboth, Mass., 1850.  
Walling, H. F. Map of Rehoboth, Mass., 1871.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

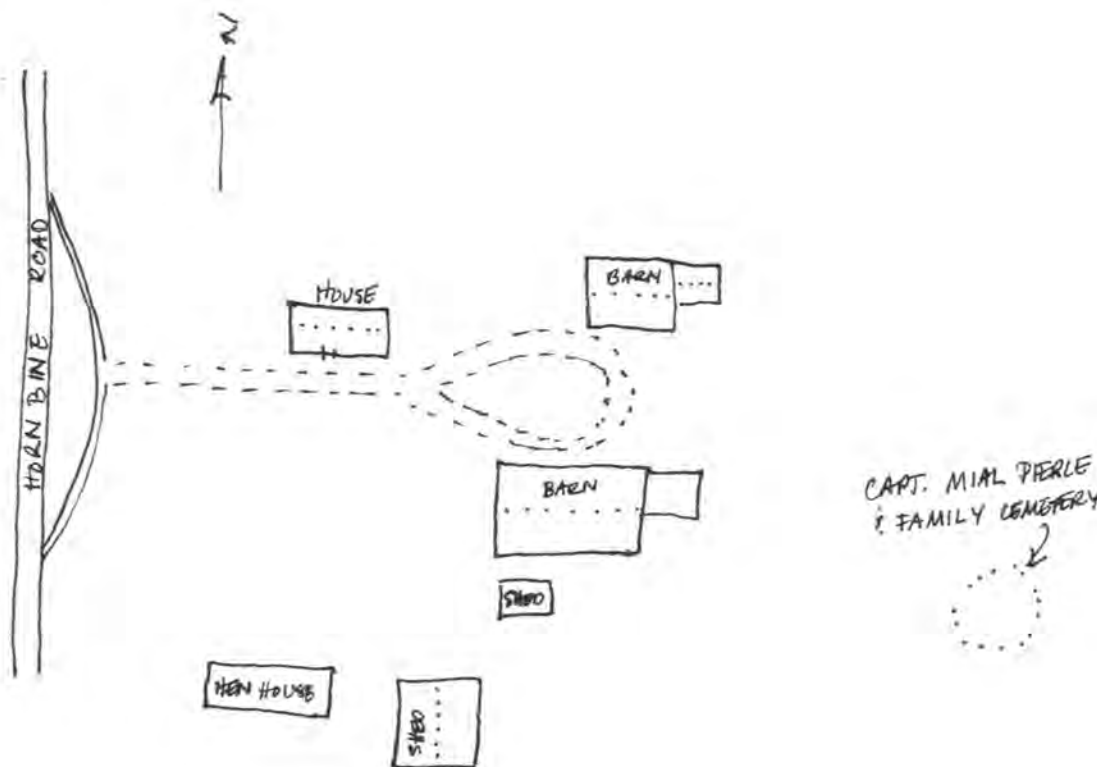
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Rehoboth	Form No: 61
Property Name: Captain Mial Pierce Farm	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

Architectural Significance (Continued)

located to the south and east. The farm complex, which probably always operated on a small scale, seems to focus in on itself as a statement of self-sufficiency. The house, a one-story center chimney gable roof cottage, retains its original floor plan and cased corner posts. Both the north and east additions are service ells (ca. 1850-1900) with fireplaces now converted for stoves. The central chimney stack may have been removed about the same time. The entrance facade (south) retains its center doorway flanked by sidelights. Where additions are absent, the fenestration is unchanged, although the window sashes have been replaced. Significant outbuildings are the timber-frame barn (61b), which is contemporaneous with the house; a carriage house (61c), a large shed (61d), small shed (61e) and a henhouse, all from the mid to late 19th century. Other features of note are the many stone fence lines still in place, remains of a fruit orchard, and a single mulberry tree which may be an indication that silkworm raising was attempted here in the mid 19th century. East of the farm complex is a graveyard plot in which Captain Mial Pierce, probable first owner, is buried along with other family members.



Staple to Inventory form at bottom



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Horton, Welcome, Farm (Rehoboth MRA)  
Bristol County  
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 4/25/83  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.7.84  
Date Due: 5/26/83 - 6/9/83  
Action:  ACCEPT 6/6/83  
 RETURN  
 REJECT  
Entered in the National Register  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
Discipline \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for:  technical corrections cited below  
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

## 8. Significance

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

## 10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT References

Verbal boundary description and justification

## 11. Form Prepared By

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

## 13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



15:04

RAHS #61

Pierce, Capt. Mial, Farm  
Rehoboth MRA, Ma



15:2

RAHS #61

Pierce, Capt. Meal, Form  
Rehoboth MRA, Ma.



177 Hornbine Road  
 Captain Mial Pierce Farm  
 (form 61) Town of Rehoboth  
 Property Map 1978  
 scale 1"=200'

Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000292