

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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 WESTLAWN CEMETERY

other names/site number West Burying Ground

2. Location

street & number CONCORD ROAD N/A not for publication

city or town WESTFORD N/A vicinity

state MASSACHUSETTS code MA county MIDDLESEX code 017 zip code 01886

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.)

Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director

10/14/04

Signature of certifying official/Title Cara H. Metz, State Historic Preservation Officer
Massachusetts Historical Commission

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

Edson H. Beall

Date of Action

1-5-05

Westlawn Cemetery
Name of Property

Middlesex, MA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

☐ private
☒ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

(Check only one box)

☐ building(s)
☐ district
☒ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

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

Contributing

Noncontributing

_____ building

_____ 1 _____ sites

_____ 3 _____ structures

_____ 10 _____ 4 _____ objects

_____ 14 _____ 4 _____ Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

n/a

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Funerary: Cemetery

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Funerary: Cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

n/a

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____

walls _____

roof _____

other granite slate limestone marble

iron sandstone

Narrative Description

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

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Westlawn Cemetery
Westford (Middlesex), MA

7. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Acquired from local farmers by the town as a burial ground in 1761, Westlawn was originally called the West Burying Ground. Many of those interred here are significant in the history of the Town of Westford. War veterans, mill owners and operatives, farmers, and business people occupy the approximately 400 visible burials. Members of the Robinson, Prescott, Day, Fletcher, and other families influenced the town's history and appearance and continue to do so by virtue of their artfully carved grave stones. The site occupies a triangular 1.7 acre parcel at the corner of Concord and Country Roads. Landscape features, plot layout, and gravestone art of Westlawn Cemetery adhere to design characteristics from the Colonial, Federal, and Victorian periods.

Markers are made primarily from slate although many granite, sandstone, and marble examples are present. Colonial and Federal Period grave markers appear in the form of arched, shouldered-arched, and flat-topped tablets. Grave markers are arranged in rows oriented east to west with inscriptions on older stones typically facing south (period #1). Three tombs are built in a row parallel to Concord Road, one of which has a retaining wall built of brick bearing inset slate tablets inscribed with names and dates of those interred. Other tombs are earthen mounds four feet in height with granite entry surrounds and iron doors.

Landscape

Land comprising the West Burying Ground belonged in the Colonial Period to Samuel Parker, a local farmer. The appearance at the time was likely that of a field of grass with a few small slate gravestones. The triangular, flat, grass-covered parcel is located in the pointed vertex of the junction of Concord and Country Roads near Beaver Brook in the southwest section of town.

Entrance to the cemetery is through openings in the fence along the Concord Road (south) side and at the eastern point of the triangle where Concord and Country Roads meet. The long southerly edge is broken at about the mid-point by a pair of low granite posts with mounts for iron hinges. Gates which hung from the posts are no longer extant. Additional entry is through a gap in the fence at the eastern end. Boundaries of the cemetery are lined on the south and half of the west edge with chain-link fence four feet in height. The northern boundary and half the west have a two-foot high fieldstone wall. A modern flagpole occupies a site just inside the east entry. Rows of pine trees form a line just inside the south and north walls (photo #4).

Plot definition occurs in 17 instances with simple granite curbs located flush with the ground or as much as 18" in height. The Blood family plot has curbing laid at ground level. Many have corner piers that rise slightly above the level of the curbstones. The multigenerational Day family plot, with its varied slate, sandstone, and granite markers, is enclosed with this type of border. The Wright family plot near the west end has four-foot-

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high granite obelisks, unique in the cemetery, to mark its edges. Nearby, the Hildreth-Davis family burials have a granite step to access the slightly elevated plot. Curbs enclose square and rectangular parcels of from eight to twenty feet per side and are more common at the west end.

Markers

Westlawn Cemetery reflects trends in gravestone development in its variety of slate, sandstone, and granite markers. Slate is the oldest surviving material used for marking burials and is carved in arched, shouldered-arched, and flat-topped tablets. Ranging in height from one foot to over five feet, this type of marker can demonstrate a relatively crude, hand-cut appearance, a well-designed and possibly machine-cut sharpness, and several levels of workmanship in between. Quality of workmanship of the slate marker is sometimes obscured by the fact that the stone has deteriorated or been broken. Inscriptions also vary in quality and detail. The simplest have fine, narrow letters with little relief or depth. Some of this type are well organized and clearly laid out. Others are jumbled in the way words are divided among lines. Later slate stones from the 19th century are more likely to demonstrate clear, deep, stylized letters with a pronounced serif, and well-thought-out organization relative to the shape of the stone.

Markers appear in a variety of shapes. Those from the earliest period are most commonly cut in a rectangular form with an arched top, representative of the figurative portal between life and death. The shape is also considered an abstraction of the human head and shoulders. This form of marking the passage from life is a Puritan concept brought from Boston and elsewhere during the region's period of first settlement. Eighteenth century stones are typically carved with one of a variety of motifs. The earliest marker in Westlawn, that of Bridget Read who died in 1760 at the age of 30, exhibits a death's head in a carved arched portal. Representative of the spirit of the deceased glancing back into the world of the living while simultaneously offering the living a preview of the afterlife, the portal is rich in Puritan symbolism and attitudes toward the transcendent nature of death. In addition to the portal and death's head are abstracted floral patterns at the edges of the marker and the legend "memento mori," an encouragement to the living to remember that death is imminent. Mrs. Rebecca Prescott, wife of Lieutenant Jonas Prescott, who died in 1795 at the age of 65 is remembered by a stone with floral trim and a death's head inscribed inside an oval.

The largest arch-topped slate marker belongs to Col. John Robinson, leader of Westford's minutemen at the Battle of Concord on April 19, 1775. While Colonel Robinson's slate marker has a refined urn and willow motif in its arched top, other slate markers have more primitive designs of death's heads, faces inside portals, and winged skulls.

The symbol of winged death, in the form of either a skull or abstracted human head flanked by a pair of feathered wings spread wide, occurs frequently on stones carved in the 18th century. This is another representation of the belief that the human spirit was released at the time of death for the flight heavenward.

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An example of this design motif is found on the stone of Elizabeth Marshall, who died at the age of 36 in 1789. Her marker has the legend "memento mori" inscribed in a banner below the symbol of death.

Based on classical influences exerted by the spreading glow of the Enlightenment, new images for gravestone ornamentation rapidly made the older themes seem outdated. Urn and willow designs appear frequently on gravestones from the Federal through the Victorian Period. Both slate and marble markers exhibit this late 18th and early 19th century motif that is an icon of sorrow and grief. Change from the Puritan death's head to the classically inspired urn and willow marked a change in the way death was viewed by New England society. Previously, the event was considered a common reality whose dim portent reflected the stern view of life as a struggle for survival. The post-Puritan view of death adopted a sentimental quality that spoke more of the emotional state of those left behind than of the journey of the deceased, causing the replacement of darkly spiritual carvings with abstract sorrowful imagery. The use of columns in gravestone design, frequently of the Doric order, is evidence of the pervasive influence of classical imagery popularized by the Enlightenment. Lieutenant Jonas Prescott's 1813 slate marker has an urn and willow design with Doric columns and floral patterns at the borders. The Jonas Hildreth slate marker from 1808 is edged with Doric columns topped with pineapples flanking a central panel with names and dates. The arched top bears the image of an abundant willow tree weeping over a classical urn.

Additional marker types in the form of obelisks, chests, intricately carved Gothic designs, and tablets with biblical and classical symbolism appeared during the Victorian Period. Obelisks are carved mainly from gray granite with one example resting on a pink granite base. This type of marker is typically around six feet tall and was in frequent use from the mid 19th century forward. The earliest example, marking the 1829 burial site of John Blodgett, was carved of rough cut granite without ornament. Others are from the late 1800s and have capstones and smooth, polished granite faces. Lawrence, Leighton, and Herrick family markers are of this type.

Chest markers in Westlawn are granite, some with a finely polished finish. The Carver Family chest marker was carved in the 1890s from brown granite and placed atop an earthen mound near the western corner of the cemetery. It is the largest and most ornate example with its half-round crested top, colonettes with carved floral ornament at the corners, and bold lettering at the base. The Day family plot has a granite chest marker for Isaac (1826-1898) and Lucy Day (1832-1927) with a scroll top, comparatively rough finish and little other ornament.

Gothic design motifs in the form of vegetation and architectural detail are applied to marble markers from the mid 19th century. Carrie Rathbone (d. 1857, 26 years of age) is buried beneath a marble tablet with scrolled sides and top, ballflowers, and acanthus leaves emanating from the volutes. The inscription is placed in a central raised panel. Isaac Day Jr. (d. 1856, 58 years of age) resides beneath a marble cruciform marker with brackets, floral trim, shouldered sides suggestive of an architectural gable, and a finial in the form of a cross.

Victorian Period designs in addition to the Gothic include biblical and classical references. Stephen (d. 1842, 35 years of age) and Catherine Hutchins (d. 1880, 70 years of age) have matching stones carved with hands

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pointing heavenward. The pointed tablets are otherwise unadorned. A marble marker on the Hildreth-Davis plot has a segmental arched top and a bundle of wheat set in a recessed oval. Sheaves of wheat are symbolic of the full life lived by the person interred, a secular sentiment of the period. The Jeremiah Cogswell stone (d. 1820, 82 years of age) is marble carved with an urn draped with swag in the arched top. Abel Fletcher's (d. 1861, 72 years of age) marble marker has the image of two hands clasped in a handshake, framed in a recessed oval. This may be a reference to the person's trustworthy nature.

Three earthen tombs line the southern boundary of Westlawn Cemetery. The westernmost is the Levi Prescott Family Tomb (photo #3). It is comprised primarily of an earthen mound five feet in height with an entry made of granite slabs and flanking walls of mortared granite fieldstone. Paired iron doors with circular ring pulls provide access to the interior. The inscription "Levi Prescott's Family Tomb 1839" marks the top granite slab. Nearby to the east is the Patten-Prescott Tomb consisting of a brick retaining wall with granite capstones and three slate tablets recessed in the wall. The westernmost tablet bears the names of James and Isaac Patten and the date 1812. Deacon Oliver Prescott who died in 1803 and Joseph Prescott who died in 1813 occupy the central part of the tomb. The eastern tablet commemorates Eben Prescott who died in 1811, and Hannah and Franklin Prescott who both died in 1812. Family member Cora B. Conant was interred here in 1977. The Leighton family tomb is the easternmost. The earthen mound here is lower than the other tombs, around three feet. The granite retaining wall is approximately two feet high and six feet long with a sandstone tablet in the center. Inscriptions commemorate the lives of Sarah M. Leighton (1778-1873) and her two children Sarah A. (1818-1842) and Reuben (1821-1824).

Westlawn's most unusual marker has the shape of a stepping stone (photo #2) for mounting horses and carriages and may have actually served the purpose at the tavern in nearby Forge Village. Three steps rise along the northwestern edge of the Luther P. Prescott family marker which has a flat top three feet above grade. Seven Prescott family members, interred between 1885 and 1935, are commemorated by the rough-cut gray granite stone.

Military and Commemorative Markers

At least two 20th century military stones exist in Westlawn. A small rectangular marble marker with segmental arched top marks the resting place of Steven Kostechko (1914-1955) who served the country in World War II. Carl F. Haussler (1892-1964) served during both World Wars and is remembered with a marble marker carved with a cross inscribed in a circle. The stone is flush with the ground.

Cast iron and stone markers placed posthumously commemorate military service of many residents of Westlawn. The Sons of the American Revolution were responsible in 1902 for placing nearly a dozen iron crosses on stakes at the graves of veterans of the American Revolution. The Maltese crosses are approximately eight inches across with a circular emblem in the center bearing the image of Daniel Chester French's statue in

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Concord entitled *The Minute Man*. Crosses placed by the Grand Army of the Republic commemorating service in the Civil War are five-pointed iron markers. The Colonel John Robinson Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution placed in 1968 a stone marker with bronze plaque near the Concord Road gateposts recognizing the military leadership of Colonel Robinson and his interment in Westlawn.

Existing Conditions

Repairs have been carried out in the cemetery on a regular basis since the 19th century, altering only slightly the appearance from its Colonial Period beginnings. Slate stones are particularly susceptible to cracking and toppling, given the weak structural nature of the material. Several different methods have been used to stabilize markers. There are some which have been re-set in concrete footings poured at ground level. Others have been re-attached at severed points with metal braces and bolts, or cemented or glued across fractures. Most stones remain in good to excellent condition. Some slate markers are difficult to read due to erosion. While very little vandalism appears to have taken place, damage has been sustained in many cases due to scraping by lawn-mowing equipment.

Aside from routine maintenance, repairs and some deterioration over time, few changes have occurred in Westlawn. While records do not indicate as much, it is possible that, since few remain, footstones were removed as part of past efforts to tidy the grounds. However, the large number of remaining 18th and 19th century markers make it possible to get a clear sense of historical burial and gravestone carving techniques in Westford.

Archaeological Description

While no ancient Native American sites are recorded in the Westlawn Cemetery or in the general area (within one mile), sites may be present. Environmental characteristics of the area represent locational criteria (slope, soil drainage, proximity to wetlands) that are favorable for the presence of Native American sites. The cemetery occupies well drained, level to moderately sloping topography within 1,000 feet of wetlands. Beaver Brook is located west of the cemetery with Boutwell Brook located to the east. Given the above information, the small size of the cemetery (1.7 acres) and the excavation of over 400 graves, a moderate potential exists for locating significant ancient Native American resources in the cemetery.

A high potential exists for the recovery of historic archaeological resources in the Westlawn cemetery. Originally known as the West Burying Ground, Westlawn was acquired from local farmers in 1761. At least one burial exists from 1760 that predates town ownership implying the cemetery's earlier use as a family or neighborhood burying ground. Unmarked graves may exist anywhere in the cemetery from throughout its 18th through 20th century period of use. Unmarked graves may exist that predate the earliest known burial in 1760. Unmarked and marked graves may contain stratigraphic evidence of a burial shaft, a casket, human remains, and personal items or artifacts. Gravestones including headstones and footstones may also exist below the ground surface. Artifacts may also exist from memorial offerings made for individuals and groups of graves. Post holes and other evidence of fence lines, walls, and other boundaries may also exist.

(end)

Westlawn Cemetery

Name of Property

Middlesex, 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)

Art

Community Planning and Development

Social History

Period of Significance

1760-1954

Significant Dates

1895 – renamed Westlawn

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

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:

Fletcher Library, Westford

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Westford (Middlesex), MASection number 8 Page 1**8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Westlawn Cemetery is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level. The Cemetery justifies listing under criterion A for its association with events that have made a contribution to broad patterns of history. Westlawn Cemetery has functioned as a place of burial for Westford residents since at least 1760. Members of all the town's social, economic, and ethnic groups are interred here. Early burials are recorded in slate, a regionally popular material for gravestones.

Also, the cemetery is significant under criterion C for its embodiment of 18th, 19th and 20th century landscape and grave marker design. Well-preserved Colonial Period slate gravestones, intricately carved Victorian Period marbles, and modern granite stones are present. Slate stones impart a Colonial Period sensibility by virtue of their primitive carving and Puritan symbolism. The spare landscape reinforces this appearance. Due to the high quality of the monuments and markers and to the strong association of the cemetery to the development of the town, Westlawn Cemetery satisfies National Register Criteria Consideration D.

Westford's West Burying Ground first came into use as a public burial ground in 1761 when the parcel was given for that purpose to the town. At least one burial, that of Bridget Reed in 1760, had taken place here prior to acquisition by the town. Approximately two dozen stones survive from the mid 18th century. Burials at that time were conducted with a minimum of ceremony. Gravestone ornament was restrained and the surrounding landscape was allowed to appear as a grassy plot marked by slate headstones. Treatment of burial places remained austere until the mid-19th century when townspeople began efforts to improve the burial ground landscapes. This appears to have been motivated by the popularity of more exuberant funerary ornament as at Mount Auburn Cemetery founded in Cambridge in 1831, and by antiquarians' interest in recording and stewardship of historic artifacts.

While many cemeteries, including Fairview in Westford, show signs of imitation of Mount Auburn Cemetery in their complex plot plans, curving circulation paths, and ornate entrance gates, West Burying Ground acquired only a picturesque new name, "Westlawn." It was not the subject of any structural improvements or pathways among burial plots. Slate markers from the 18th century remain largely unchanged, although they are surrounded by Victorian Period markers of granite and marble.

The most basic maintenance schedule has allowed the cemetery to retain much of its historic appearance by virtue of the densely grouped slate markers near the core, the small scale of markers and the simple landscape unencumbered by modern paths and furniture. Burials continued in Westlawn until 1999.

1760-1830

Westlawn Cemetery occupies land that had been in use since the early 18th century as farmland belonging to Deacon Joshua Fletcher (d. 1736), original member of Westford's First Parish Church in 1729 and one of the town's 89 original tax payers. Mr. Fletcher also served as town clerk and selectman at the first town meeting. He resided a

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quarter-mile east of the burial ground. Samuel Parker (b. 1717) married Sarah Fletcher (b. 1719), daughter of the deacon, and inherited his father in law's land. In 1761, Mr. Parker sold the parcel comprising West Burying Ground to Nathan Proctor who, according to town meeting records from May 15, 1761, donated the parcel to the town. Those at the meeting voted to accept one half acre of land for a "burying place," thereby creating the West Burying Ground, the town's second. The first, originally called the East Burying Ground, is now called Fairview (NR pending) and came into use around the turn of the 18th century. It is one mile east of Westford Center (Main Street near Tadmuck Road).

There was at least one person, Bridget Read, who was interred on the parcel prior to its acquisition by the town. Other burials whose markers do not survive may also have occurred before the official establishment of the West Burying Ground. Gravestones from the 1700s are typically located very close together. Family members tend to be adjacent to one another, frequently aligned in the order in which they died. No segregation based on ethnicity, occupation, military service or wealth is apparent. Most stones are around the same size, two to four feet high by one to three feet wide. Maintenance of the burial ground during this period was the responsibility of a nearby resident. Duties consisted of mowing grass, which was remunerated by the town on a yearly basis, and digging graves, for which the caretaker was paid piecemeal. Approximately 150 markers from the period exist in the cemetery.

Eighteenth-century residents of Westford who are buried in Westlawn include industrialists, Revolutionary War veterans, local politicians, and farmers. Around 1680, the blacksmith and Groton landholder named Jonas Prescott (b. 1648) built the first ironworks in nearby Forge Village (NRDIS 2002) and began its 300-year history of industrial activity. Mr. Prescott lived with his wife Mary at the southwest corner of Pine and Town Farm Roads. He mined bog-ore in Groton to be smelted into iron at the millsite on Stony Brook. The iron was used for making candlesticks, farm tools, and household items such as irons, according to local historian Gordon Seavey's 1988 local news article on the influence of Stony Brook. Mr. Prescott might also have operated a gristmill at the outflow of Forge Pond at this time, according to town histories of Westford and Chelmsford. He and his descendants who influenced the development of the town are interred at the West Burying Ground. These included the town clerk Jonas Prescott Jr. (ca. 1678-1750) and his wife Thankful Wheeler, Jonas Prescott III (b.1703) and his wife Esther Spalding (b. 1705), and Lieutenant Jonas Prescott (1727-1813) who served in the French and Indian War, represented the town in the Massachusetts General Court from 1758-69, and is described as a "forgeman" in the genealogy in the Hodgman town history. The Prescotts made an immeasurable impact on the town by beginning its industrial activity and maintaining a family interest for several generations.

Westford's highest-ranking Revolutionary War soldier, Colonel John Robinson (1735-1805), is buried under West Burying Ground's largest slate marker (photo #5). Colonel Robinson led three companies of minutemen (approximately 160 men) from Westford Common to Concord's North Bridge on April 19, 1775. While some vagueness surrounds the particulars of the Westford men's involvement here, it seems clear that they took part in harassing the British troops on their retreat to Charlestown. Colonel Robinson was described as a tall man of great energy who, while fighting at Bunker Hill in July 1775, was "exposed to instant death, yet doing his duty; now leaping

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upon the parapet, a target for the advancing foe, and now reconnoitering with the ill-fated McClary, the position of the enemy to find the best way of repelling his persistent attacks; showing himself everywhere the efficient and strong-hearted man." This was according to a 19th century recounting. Colonel Robinson also served as selectman from 1771-1773. He lived less than a mile from Westlawn on the road that now bears his name. Prior to its being renamed Westlawn, there was consideration in 1902 of giving the former West Burying Ground the name Colonel John Robinson Cemetery. During this period, an iron fence, donated by hearse driver and cemetery superintendent Albert Richardson in 1892, surrounded the Robinson family plot. This was a common form of delineation within burial grounds at the time and was probably not the only example. There are no longer any plot-defining fences in Westlawn.

Approximately 15 additional veterans of the Revolutionary War are interred in Westlawn. This is also the final resting place of Lieutenant Timothy Fletcher (d. 1780) and Ensign Jacob Robinson (d. 1778 at age 68) veterans of the French and Indian Wars; as well as Joseph Reed, Calvin Howard, and Aaron Parker who all served in the War of 1812.

Two groups of grave markers have poignant ability to reveal potential hardships of 18th century existence. Adjacent to Colonel Robinson's gravestone and that of his wife Huldah, is a slate double marker for two young girls. These are Betty and Mehitabel Robinson, aged five and eight years. They share a stone due to the proximate dates of their deaths which came 11 days apart in the late summer of 1775. This was just weeks after Colonel Robinson's involvement in the Colonial defeat at the Battle of Bunker Hill in July. A similar tragedy befell the family of Silas and Hannah Read in 1777 when their children Silas, aged two years, Hannah, aged seven months, and Betty, aged four years, died between the 18th and 24th of September.

Networks of trade relations can be partially determined by examining the names and locations of gravestone carvers who sign their work. At least one marker exists in Westlawn that may have been carved by a member of the well-known Park family of Groton stone carvers, an 1820 marble marker signed by John Park. Since Mr. Park died in 1811, the stone may be post dated. At least one gravestone worked by the carver named L. Parker exists in Westlawn. Mr. Parker showed an understanding of classical design motifs in the form of Doric columns flanking the central inscription with pineapples and urn and willow above, all present on Jonas Hildreth's 1805 slate marker. (photo #5)

1830-1900

Changes in the appearance of the cemetery began to occur after 1830 when slate was less frequently used for gravestones. Marble and granite gradually replaced slate, probably for their improved resistance to delamination and exfoliation. In addition to their superior durability, these materials present a very distinctive appearance in comparison to slate. Previously unavailable colors, shapes, inscription types, and increased scale were all possible with the new materials. Also, the art of the gravestone carver was advancing in the face of modern imagery drawn from Victorian period biblical and iconographic sources.

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With the annual publication of town reports beginning in 1840, it is possible to understand how the town's burial grounds were operated and maintained. The types of tasks, volume of expenditures, and individuals undertaking the work at the town's burial grounds are described annually in a single line item. The most frequently listed chore was mowing grass for which a male, usually a neighbor, was paid between two and six dollars per year in this period. The farmer Isaac Day was paid for mowing and cutting brush at Westlawn from around 1840 until 1850. His brother Amos Day, also a farmer, took over the job from 1854 until 1876. Periodically, these men were reported to have dug graves for paupers, for which the town paid them one to three dollars. Jonathan T. Colburn, relative by marriage to Amos Day, oversaw maintenance of Westlawn from 1877 until 1905. While each burial ground had an individual to perform maintenance, the town had a single hearse driver for all burials. The hearse was kept at the East Burial Ground (now Fairview Cemetery).

Improvement projects occurred on several occasions in Westlawn. The first to be recorded in the town reports appears in the 1858 volume, which notes that the carpenter Ephraim A. Stevens, resident of Westford Center and later an architect responsible for designing the 1880 Parker Village Schoolhouse, was paid to build and hang a pair of entrance gates. Also contributing efforts to the project were the blacksmith Timothy P. Wright who supplied hooks, hinges, and bolts for the gates and George Reed, the quarryman, who supplied granite posts. Many curbs, posts, and other granite components in the burial ground may have been quarried in Westford at one of several such extraction facilities in operation during the 19th century. The posts with some parts of the hinges survive on the Concord Road side of the burial ground. In 1894 and 1895, a relatively large amount of labor was expended on the re-setting of gravestones. Reports appeared of leaning and broken markers, which prompted efforts to tidy the burial grounds. While it is not specifically stated, it is possible that Colonial Period slate footstones, now quite rare in the cemetery, were removed as part of this work. The 1894 town report mentions that the "outer walls of a tomb in the West Cemetery have been relaid" but does not specify which of the three was repaired. The Patten-Prescott Tomb has a brick retaining wall with granite capstones and three slate tablets recessed in the wall. The unusual combination of materials suggests this as the subject of the repairs. In 1898, the stone wall along Concord Road, deemed unsightly and structurally untenable, was replaced with a fence (no longer extant) of turned chestnut posts and cylindrical iron rails. In 1899, shrubs and trees were set out as part of a landscape improvement plan.

The program of maintenance at Westlawn did less to alter its appearance than did efforts to beautify Fairview (the former East Burial Ground on Main Street). A Committee on Burying Grounds, which had been appointed in 1871, paid relatively little attention to the West Burying Ground and a great deal to Fairview. A survey and plan to improve Fairview in the style of a Garden Cemetery were drawn by the Westford civil engineer Edward Symmes. The chairman of the committee was the venerable lawyer and industrialist John William Pitt Abbot, resident of Westford Center, benefactor of the town, state senator, railroad president and future occupant of Fairview Cemetery. Under Mr. Abbot's leadership, appropriations were made by the town for construction of stone walls, a gateway, landscape improvements, curving avenues, and acquisition of additional acreage. This greatly enhanced the look of the old East Burying Ground and shifted focus away from the simpler West Burying Ground, which received a total of six burials between 1894 and 1897 while Westlawn received 103. There are indeed few late 19th and early 20th century markers in Westlawn.

(continued)

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Continuation SheetWestlawn Cemetery
Westford (Middlesex), MASection number 8 Page 5

Interments at the West Burying Ground between 1830 and 1900 include descendants of earlier industrialists and farmers previously interred here. For example, Jonas Prescott's son Levi (1771-1839) who like his father operated the forge on Stony Brook and lived at 25 Pine Street in Westford, is buried in the granite tomb marked "Levi Prescott's Family Tomb 1839."

Many generations of the Day family of farmers, with members living on Robinson, Graniteville, Flagg, and other nearby roads, occupy a large plot in the western end of the West Burying Ground. Burials include at least 19 family members and in-laws whose lives spanned the period 1797-1964.

Henry Herrick (1777-1869) and his wife Elizabeth (1789-1862) are buried beneath one of approximately six stout granite obelisks with capstones. (photo #8) Mr. Herrick was listed in the 1855 and 1865 census as a farmer although he probably had additional sources of income. He owned an ornate Federal-style house in the village of Westford Center, as well as other real estate a half mile from Westlawn on Robinson Road. Mr. Herrick was a civic-minded farmer, serving as overseer of the poor, tax collector, surveyor, and road sign builder as well as town treasurer and selectman in 1843.

The Prescott family is interred under the marker with the appearance of a stepping stone or mounting block (photo #2). The farmer Luther Prescott (1808-1904) was a representative to the Massachusetts General Court and station agent on the nearby Stony Brook Railroad. Mr. Prescott also ran the tavern in Forge Village which was the location of the mounting block until his death according to Gordon Seavey, a local newspaper columnist writing in August, 1976. On the same plot are buried Mr. Prescott's wife Sarah (1832-1904), their children Olive (1841-1903) and Sherman (1839-1901) and their families.

Civil War veterans are buried on individual family plots scattered throughout Westlawn. Approximately nine Union soldiers are identified by GAR crosses. Among them is Stephen Howard (1822-1863) who served with Co. M, 3rd Regiment of the Massachusetts Cavalry. Warren E. Hutchins died at Duvall's Bluff, Arkansas on November 29, 1864 while serving with the 7th Massachusetts Battery. The inscription reads "His country called. He answered with his life." His brother Corporal Edward Everett Hutchins was killed at the Battle of Resaca, Georgia on May 15, 1864. He was a member of Co. F, 33rd Massachusetts Volunteers.

Information about communities with which Westford residents maintained trade relationships can be learned from gravestones. Stone carvers signed their names near ground level on some markers, occasionally including the name of their town. By far the most frequent community noted on signed markers is Lowell, city of origin for stones carved by O. Goodale, T. Warren, Andrews & Wheeler, and D. Nichols. N. A. Spencer of Ayer is the only carver not to hail from that community. Newspapers from the end of the period support the assertion that, when traveling out of town for commercial purposes, residents of Westford went either to Lowell or Ayer, typically on the Stony Brook Railroad.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation SheetWestlawn Cemetery
Westford (Middlesex), MASection number 8 Page 6

The concept of Perpetual Care came into use in 1893. For a deposit of \$50-100 to the perpetual care fund, Westford residents could provide themselves with a permanent program of plot maintenance. Also around this time, residents were requested to pay an amount of one to five dollars per year to pay for annual maintenance of their plots. Rising costs may have been due to increasing numbers of plot-defining features such as granite curbs and the several types of fence that must have been in use.

1900-1950

Interments slowed during the period from 1900-1950. Popularity of the larger, more refined Rural-style Fairview Cemetery imbued the smaller Westlawn Cemetery with the more primitive character of a Colonial Period burial ground. No curving avenues or bold stonewalls were built. A pair of inexpensive iron gates had been added in 1902, but do not survive. Cemetery superintendent Albert P. Richardson called for suggestions to rename the West Burying Ground something "more euphonious" in 1895. His own suggestion was to name it for Colonel John Robinson but nothing was done at that time. Cemetery commissioners again requested suggestions for renaming the burial ground in 1903 and put forth the name Westlawn as a candidate. There was only one respondent who apparently concurred, thus changing the name. Lack of interest on the subject is in marked contrast to the campaign to rename the former East Burial Ground. New walls, gates and avenues inspired avid voting, ultimately in favor of the name Fairview. Without the Rural-style improvements, Westlawn received a new name but little of the enthusiasm for reserving plots.

Approximately half of the perimeter of Westlawn is surrounded by a chain-link fence. Town reports record that it was installed in 1946 at a cost of \$1117. Expenditures for maintenance nearly doubled after World War II, possibly due to mechanization of maintenance procedures. Cemetery business was carried out from at least 1937 though 1949 by the committee members Sebastian Watson, Fred Blodget, and Axel Lundberg.

World War I and World War II veterans are buried in Westlawn, and two of these graves have military markers. Stephen Kostechko served in World War II and is buried near the western end under a marble tablet with a low arched top. The legend "Massachusetts Cpl 332 Services SQ AAF World War II" and dates Nov. 6, 1914 - Dec. 31, 1955 appear below a cross. Nearby is his family in one of only a few plots in Westlawn occupied by residents of non-English descent. Carl F. Haussler (Dec. 8, 1892-Nov. 3, 1964) is buried under a marble marker whose top is flush with the ground. He served with the Rhode Island Signal Corps in both World War I and II. (photo #6)

The local Colonel John Robinson Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution installed a granite memorial marker near the Concord Road gates. The 1968 bronze plaque commemorates the interment of Colonel John Robinson and "other revolutionary heroes" in Westlawn.

African-Americans lived in Westford from before the Revolution and appear in census and church documents. While members of this group were baptized and married, there is no record of their burials in Westlawn Cemetery. Suggestions by local historians are that they were buried beneath impermanent markers on the property where they were employed.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetWestlawn Cemetery
Westford (Middlesex), MASection number 8 Page 7**Conclusion**

Colonial, Federal, and Victorian-period historical associations in Westlawn are largely intact despite interruptions by the small number of modern markers and by the chain-link fence surrounding the yard. However, it continues to be possible, by observing the rows of arch-topped slate stones carved with cherubs, classical columns, urn and willow designs, and by recalling names so important to the development of the community, to get a strong sense of how Colonial period residents of the Town of Westford viewed their burial places. A small number of plots remain unoccupied and may be used for future burials.

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of ancient Native American settlement in Westford are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Although numerous ancient sites have been identified for the neighboring Concord, Sudbury, and Assabet River drainages, fewer sites have been recorded in the Stony Brook drainage, including Beaver Brook and Boutwell Brook. The lack of sites in the latter areas may reflect underreporting in this area or environmental differences in the drainages. Ancient Native American sites in the vicinity of the Westlawn Cemetery may contain information that identifies the functional and temporal variability between sites in the Stony Brook drainage and their relationship to Native settlements along the main corridor of the Merrimack River. Information obtained from these sites may clarify the relationship and regional importance of sites and resources along interior tributaries of Stony Brook and the larger Stony Brook drainage to other tributaries of the Merrimack River such as the Concord, Sudbury and Assabet River drainages. Ancient sites in the vicinity of the Westlawn Cemetery and Beaver Brook/Boutwell Brook drainages may represent a seasonal /functional aspect of a settlement system which focuses on larger sites along Stony Brook or the Merrimack River drainage and other tributaries listed above. Sites in this area may also contain evidence of exchange between more interior portions of the Merrimack River drainage and downstream coastal areas.

Historic archaeological resources described above may contribute important information relating to patterns of development in the Westlawn Cemetery, gravestone art, and the social, cultural, and economic characteristics of many of the town's social and ethnic groups. Additional documentary research combined with archaeological survey, testing, and careful mapping may locate unmarked graves, evidence of fence lines, and boundary markers that can help outline the overall boundaries of the cemetery, patterns of grave excavations, and the general evolution of the cemetery over time. Analysis of gravestone art from existing stones and gravestones recovered from archaeological contexts may also contribute important information related to the overall development of gravestone art, the work of specific stone carvers, and the religious and cultural beliefs of specific socio-economic, ethnic, and religious groups. Detailed social, cultural and economic information related to the social and ethnic groups that lived in the Westlawn area of Westford might also result from studies of artifacts associated with graves and memorial offerings made in the cemetery. Osteological studies of known and unmarked graves may also contribute important information related to the health and pathologies that affected many of the social groups identified above from the 18th through 20th centuries.

(end)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Westlawn Cemetery
Westford (Middlesex), MA

Section number 9 Page 1

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(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Westlawn Cemetery
Westford (Middlesex), MA

Section number 9 Page 2

Town Records. Annual Town Reports, 1840-1950.

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(end)

324 COLTON
BOX BLANK BOND

Westlawn Cemetery
Name of Property

Middlesex, MA
County, State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.7 acres

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 19 297440 4715970
Zone Easting Northing

2. 19 297520 4715980
Zone Easting Northing

3. 19 297560 4715820
Zone Easting Northing

4.
Zone Easting Northing

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 Sanford Johnson, consultant, with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date October 2004

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 Town of Westford, MA

street & number 55 Main Street telephone 978-692-5515

city or town Westford state MA zip code 01886

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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetWestlawn Cemetery
Westford (Middlesex), MASection number 10 Page 1**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA****Verbal Boundary Description:**

Westlawn Cemetery comprises all of the land within the triangular boundaries of the cemetery. It is bounded by Concord Road on the southwest and Country Road on the east. The cemetery encompasses 1.7 acres, described by the assessor's office as parcel 34 on map 20.

Boundary Justification:

Boundaries of the cemetery were determined by the Westford Historical Commission and by the consultant. Boundaries include all gravestones, burial-related buildings, structures, circulation paths and ornamental plantings. Chain link fence and stone walls mark edges of the cemetery.

(end)

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographer: Sanford Johnson

Date: February 2002

Negatives with Westford Historical Commission

1. General cemetery view, facing SE
2. Prescott marker, view facing E
3. Prescott tomb, view facing N
4. General view, facing N
5. Col. John Robinson family plot, view looking N (March 2003)

(end)

Westlawn Cemetery
Westford (Middlesex Co.), Massachusetts
Data Sheet

Map #	Name	Resource Type	Dates	Material	Status
1	Westlawn Cemetery	Cemetery	1760	Earth, stone	Si/C
2	Levi Prescott Family Tomb	Tomb	1839	Earth stone	St/C
3	Leighton Family Tomb	Tomb	1824	Earth, stone	St/C
4	Patten-Prescott Family Tomb	Tomb	1812	Earth, stone	St/C
5	Colonel John Robinson Marker	Gravestone	1805	Slate	O/C
6	Bridget Read Marker	Gravestone	1760	Slate	O/C
7	Lieutenant Jonas Prescott Marker	Gravestone	1813	Slate	O/C
8	Day Family Marker	Chest Marker	1898	Granite	O/C
9	Carrie Rathbone Marker	Gravestone	1857	Marble	O/C
10	Luther P. Prescott Family Marker	Horse Mounting Block	1885	Granite	O/C
11	Gate Posts	Stone Posts	1858	Granite	O/C
12	Chain Link Fence	Fence	1946	Metal	O/C
13	Stephen Kostechko Marker	Military Gravestone	1955	Marble	O/NC
14	Memorial of the Col. John Robinson D.A.R. Chapter	Commemorative Plaque	1968	Bronze	O/NC
15	Flag Pole	Flag Pole	c. 1950	Steel	O/NC
	Carver Family Marker	Chest Marker	1890s	Granite	O/C
	Isaac Day Marker	Cruciform Marker	1856	Marble	O/C
	Carl Haussler marker	Military Gravestone	1964	Marble	O/NC

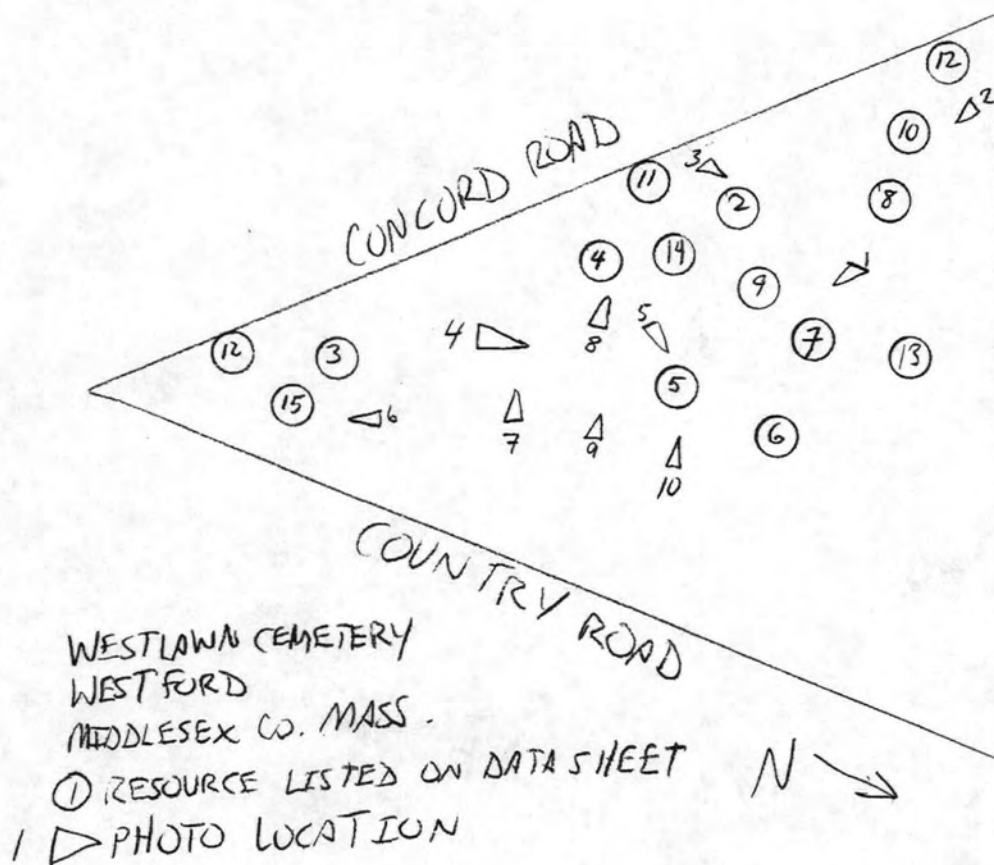
Data sheet includes selected elements within the cemetery.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Westlawn Cemetery
Westford (Middlesex Co.), Massachusetts

Section number 10 Page 3



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Westlawn Cemetery
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 11/23/04 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 12/21/04
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/05/05 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/06/05
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 04001433

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 1.5.05 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the
nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



Westlawn Cemetery

Westford Middlesex Co. Mass

Photo: S. Johnson 2/02

Neg: Westford Hist Comm

View: Southeast

photo #7



Westham Cemetery

Westford, Middlesex Co. MASS,

Photo S. Johnson 2/02

Neg: Westford Hist Comm.

View: East includes Prescott Marker

Photo # 2



Westhawn Cemetery

Westford, Middlesex Co. MA

Photo: S. Johnson 2/02

Negative: Westford Hist Comm

View: north includes Prescott Tomb

Photo # 3



Westhawn Cemetery

Westford Middlesex Co. Mass

Photo: S. Johnson 2/02

Neg: Westford Hist Comm.

View: north

photo # 4



Westford, Middlesex County, Mass

Westham Cemetery

photo: S. Johnson 3/03

Negs on file w/ Westford Hist. Comm.

view of Col. John. Robinson Family plot north view

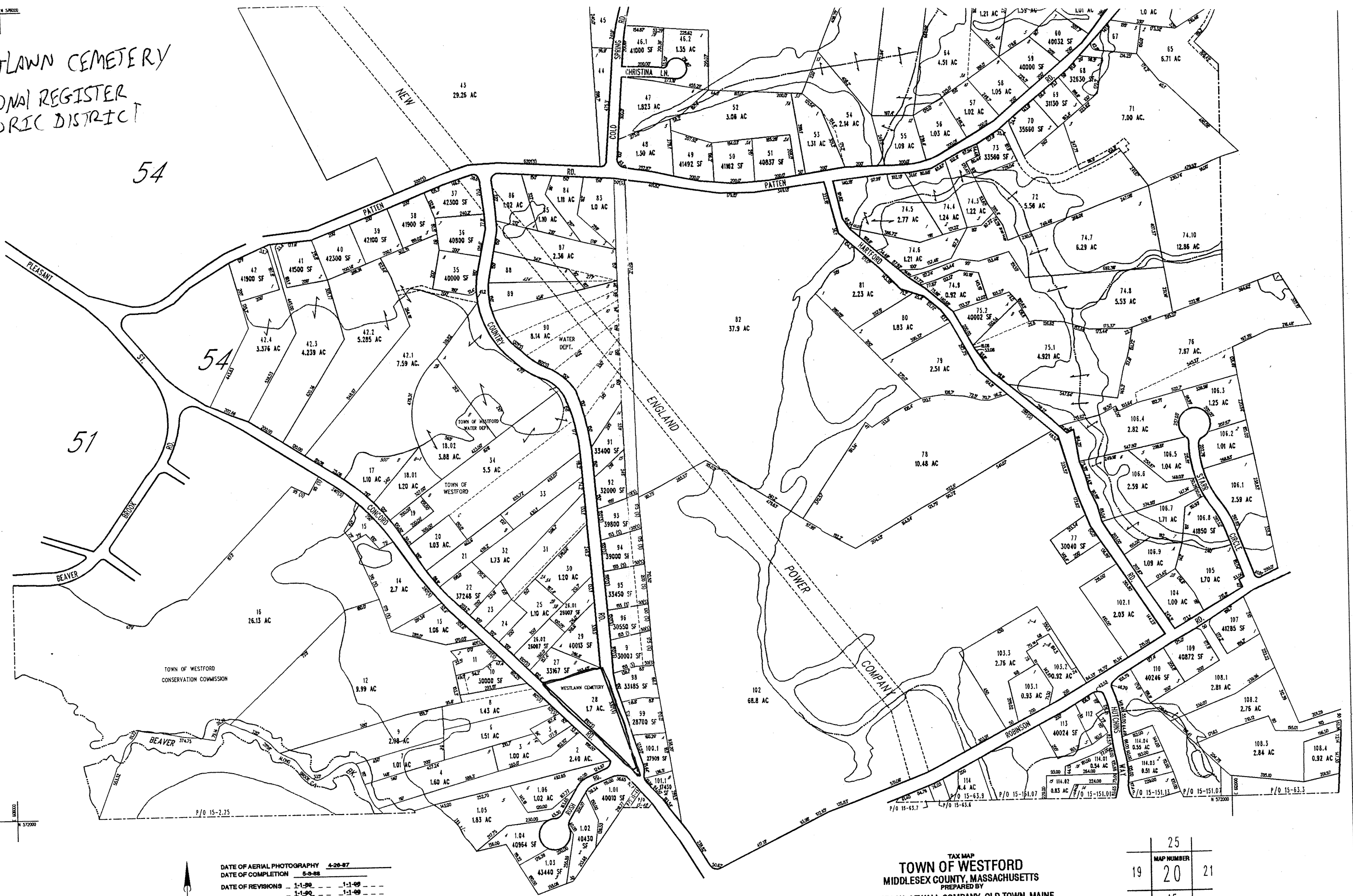
photo #5

WESTLAWN CEMETERY NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

54

51

54



LEGEND
PARCEL NUMBERS 2
MATCH LINE

DATE OF AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY 4-28-87
DATE OF COMPLETION 6-8-88
DATE OF REVISIONS
1-1-90 --- 1-1-99 ---
1-1-90 --- 1-1-99 ---
1-1-91 --- 1-1-99 ---
1-1-92 ---
1-1-93 ---
1-1-97 ---

For Assessment Purposes
Not To Be Used For Conveyance

TAX MAP
TOWN OF WESTFORD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS
PREPARED BY
JAMES W. SEWALL COMPANY, OLD TOWN, MAINE
SCALE: 1 INCH = 200 FEET

	25	
19	20	21
	15	



Billerica
MASSACHUSETTS
1:25 000-scale metric
topographic map

42071-E3-TM-025

Westford
Middlesex Co. MA
Westlawn
Cemetery
NR

7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE
SHOWING

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

1987

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
in cooperation with Massachusetts Department
of Public Works
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Commonwealth of
Massachusetts agencies
Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1981. Field checked 1982. Map edited 1987
Supersedes Westford 1966 and Billerica 1965 1:24,000-scale maps
Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 19
Universal Transverse Mercator
system, mainland zone. 1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983,
move the projection lines 6 meters south and
41 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 3 METERS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

CONVERSION TABLE		DECLINATION DIAGRAM	ADJOINING MAPS			
Meters	Feet		1	2	3	
1	3.2808		1	2	3	
2	6.5617		4	5		
3	9.8425					
4	13.1232					
5	16.4042					
6	19.6850					
7	22.9658					
8	26.2467					
9	29.5276					
10	32.8084					
To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808		UTM grid convergence (GN) and 1983 magnetic declination (MN) at center of map Diagram is approximate				
To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048						
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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

October 15, 2004

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW 8th floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Westlawn Cemetery, Concord Road, Westford (Middlesex), 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 property were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 45 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

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

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Sanford Johnson, consultant
Kenneth Tebbets, Westford Historical Commission
Dini Healy-Coffin, Westford Board of Selectmen
Peter Fletcher, Westford Planning Board