

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Massachusetts	
COUNTY: Middlesex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.12.25.0018	DATE 12/16/71

1. NAME

COMMON: Faulkner Homestead
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: High Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Acton			
STATE Massachusetts	CODE 025	COUNTY: Middlesex	CODE 017

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☐ Site ☐ Object	☒ Building ☐ Structure ☐ Public ☒ Private ☐ Both	☐ Occupied ☒ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress	Yes: ☒ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☐ No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
☐ Agricultural ☐ Commercial ☐ Educational ☐ Entertainment	☐ Government ☐ Industrial ☐ Military ☒ Museum	☐ Park ☐ Private Residence ☐ Religious ☐ Scientific	☐ Transportation ☐ Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Iron Work Farm in Acton, Inc.	
STREET AND NUMBER: P.O. Box 11	
CITY OR TOWN: Acton	STATE: Massachusetts
	CODE 025

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

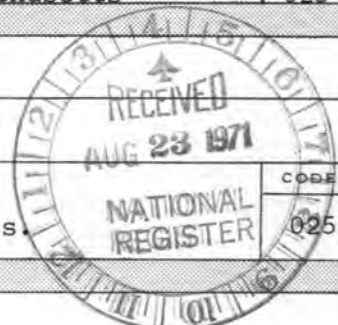
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Middlesex Registry of Deeds - South District	
STREET AND NUMBER: Cambridge and Third Streets	
CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge	STATE: Mass.
	CODE 025

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth	
DATE OF SURVEY: 1970	☐ Federal ☒ State ☐ County ☐ Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Archives/.Massachusetts Historical Commission	
STREET AND NUMBER: State House, Office of the Secretary of State	
CITY OR TOWN: Boston	STATE: Massachusetts
	CODE 025

see continuation sheet

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER 71.12.25.0018
DATE 12/16/71

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☐ Excellent	☒ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	☒ Altered, early ☐ Unaltered			☐ Moved ☒ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Faulkner Homestead stands on a knoll on the south side of High Street in Acton, Massachusetts. The main section of the house is a two-storey structure built in 1707. An ell, added at the north side of the Homestead in 1774, may be the remains of a house built in 1738 and moved to this site. The present outline of the Homestead is completed by an eastern ell and sheds, added about 1840. The main section of the house and the additions are all constructed of frame and claboard.

The plan of the house proper is a basic four room arrangement around a central chimney. This plan is reflected in the five bay main (south) facade by the placement of the windows and doorway. The windows are placed in pairs on either side of the doorway, one pair in each storey. There is a window set over the doorway on the second floor. All the windows in the main facade are double-hung sash windows with six lights over nine. The windows are positioned at irregular intervals, due to the discrepancies in the sizes of the rooms on either side of the central hallway. The windows in the left half of the facade, on both floors, are more closely set together than those on the right. The chimney and doorway are also set slightly to the left of the central axis.

The doorway is a narrow one, with a five light transom over the door. Mr. Robert Nylander states that there are traces of "An elaborate and early example of a classical doorframe".¹ The central chimney is original, with decorative pilasters set in the brick work. There is a smaller, insignificant chimney flue breaking through the gabled roof at the east end of the main facade. On the gable ends the eaves are decorated by a simple moulded cornice. At the eave line, the gable ends project slightly, to form an overhang. Mr. Nylander states that slots remain where pendants were once attached to decorate the eave corners.²

¹Robert Harrington Nylander, Historical Sketch of the Faulkner House. Acton, Mass.:The Iron Work Farm in Acton, Inc., 1969, p. 9.

²Nylander, p.9.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Massachusetts	
COUNTY Middlesex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.12.25.0018	DATE 12/16/71

(Number all entries)

- Acton, Mass. Faulkner Homestead
6. Historic American Buildings Survey 1965
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service, Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20006



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian

☐ 16th Century

☒ 18th Century

☐ 20th Century

☐ 15th Century

☐ 17th Century

☐ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1707

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☐ Prehistoric

☐ Historic

☐ Agriculture

☒ Architecture

☐ Art

☒ Commerce

☐ Communications

☐ Conservation

☒ Education

☐ Engineering

☐ Industry

☐ Invention

☐ Landscape

☐ Architecture

☐ Literature

☒ Military

☒ Music

☐ Political

☐ Religion/Phi-

losophy

☐ Science

☐ Sculpture

☐ Social/Human-

itarian

☐ Theater

☐ Transportation

☐ Urban Planning

☐ Other (Specify)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Faulkner Homestead, Acton, was built in 1707 for Ephraim Jones, the man most responsible for the development of that part of Concord which was incorporated as the town of Acton in 1735. Jones' house was the largest in the new community, apparently planned as a central meeting place as well as private dwelling. The heavy framing of the "Hall" indicates that this was also the garrison house where settlers gathered for protection from Indian attack.

Jones was a clothier by trade, and operated a fulling mill on Great Brook (Fort Brook Pond), which crossed his property. Much of his business -- particularly the dyeing and weaving of cloth -- was carried on in his house.

Ammi Ruhamah Faulkner purchased the house, farm, and fulling mill in 1742. He and his descendants occupied the house for the next two hundred years and gave it their name.

Francis Faulkner's public service during and after the American Revolution gives added historical significance to the house. Francis, who was Ammi Faulkner's son, held a royal commission as Captain of Acton's West Militia, which he resigned in April, 1775, in protest over the actions of King George III. He also served as a member of the Provincial Congress and the Acton Committee of Correspondence and was part of the association of the Continental Congress. On April 19, 1775, he led the local militia, gathered at the Faulkner Homestead, to join Captain Isaac Davis' Minutemen at the Concord Fight. Faulkner later aided George Washington at Dorchester Heights and served at White Plains and Saratoga.

Faulkner served as Acton's Town Clerk for 35 years. In 1779, he was a delegate to the convention which produced the Massachusetts Constitution, the oldest written constitution in the world still in force. When Faulkner was commissioned Justice of the Peace, also in 1779, the old garrison room of the Faulkner Homestead became Acton's courthouse.

The tradition of public service continued in later generations of the Faulkner family. Sophia Faulkner was an outstanding teacher at the Perkins Institute of the Blind and aided her husband, Francis Campbell, in founding London's Royal Normal School for the Blind. Campbell, himself blind, was knighted for his service. Lady Sophia inherited the Faulkner Homestead and made it her summer home from 1914 until her death in 1933.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

19/298240/4703440
UTM REF

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Nylander, Robert Harrington. Historical Sketch of the Faulkner House.
Acton, Mass: The Iron Work Farm in Acton, Inc., 1969.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES									
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE									
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds					
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"	42	0	27	32	71	0	27	16
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"								
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"								
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"								

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Anne R. Wardwell Survey Director

ORGANIZATION: Massachusetts Historical Commission DATE: August 7, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: Secretary of State, Massachusetts State House

CITY OR TOWN: Boston STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☒

Name John F. X. O'Connell
Secretary of the Commonwealth
Chairman Massachusetts Historical
Title Commission

Date August 7, 1971

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Cannady
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

DEC 16 1971

Date _____

ATTEST: William H. Heston
Keeper of The National Register

Date DEC 7 1971



Faulkner house
Acton, Mass.

general view

Photo. Frank O. Branzette - 1941

of the south and west elevations

N.S. Number 71.12.25.0018

Title: Faulkner Homestead

Loc. Middlesex Co, Mass.

View of the south

HABS-Mass - 543



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

General View
Faulkner House

28018
1-1 P

Reproduced from the collection of the Library of Congress

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Massachusetts	
COUNTY Middlesex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71/12.25.0018	DATE 12/16/71

1. NAME

COMMON: Faulkner Homestead

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

High Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Acton

STATE:

Massachusetts

CODE

025

COUNTY:

Middlesex

CODE

017

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Frank O. Branzetti

DATE OF PHOTO: 1941

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Library of Congress (Historic American Buildings Survey)

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

View of the south (main facade) and west elevations.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
Massachusetts	
COUNTY	
Middlesex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
71.12.25.00 18	12/16/71

1. NAME

COMMON: Faulkner Homestead

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

High Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Acton

STATE:

Massachusetts

CODE

025

COUNTY:

Middlesex

CODE

017

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

United States Geological Survey Maynard, Massachusetts 1965

SCALE: 1:24,000

DATE: 1965

4. REQUIREMENTS

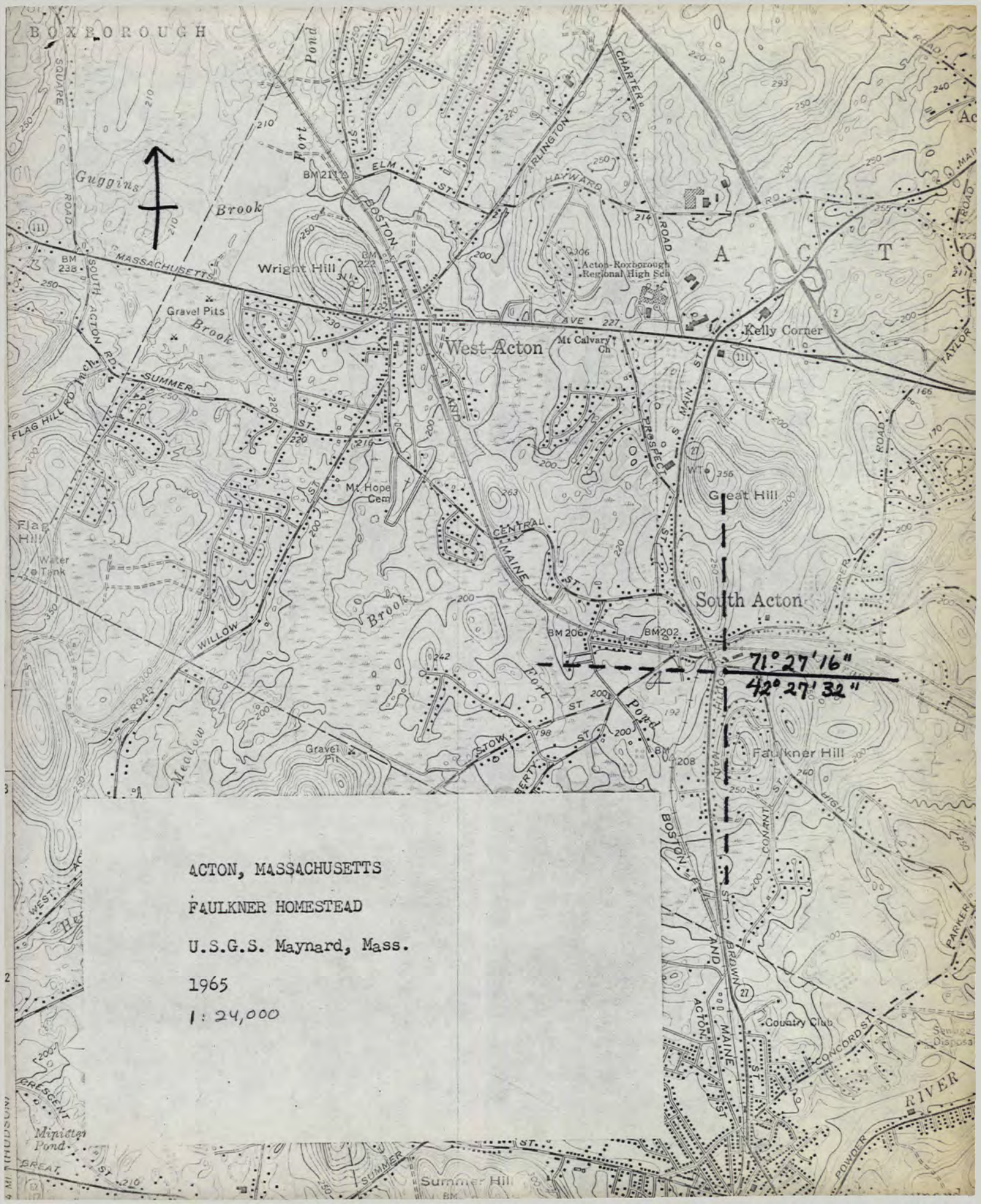
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.

2. North arrow.

3. Latitude and longitude reference.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



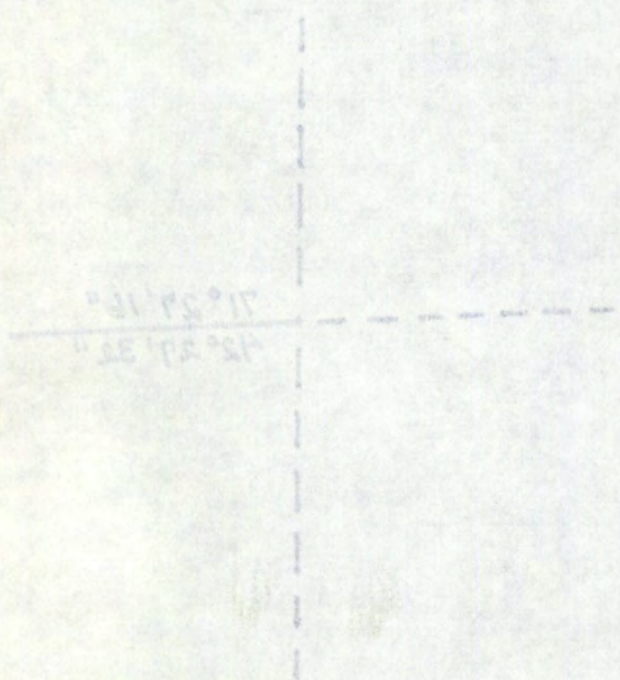
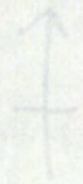
ACTON, MASSACHUSETTS

FAULKNER HOMESTEAD

U.S.G.S. Maynard, Mass.

1965

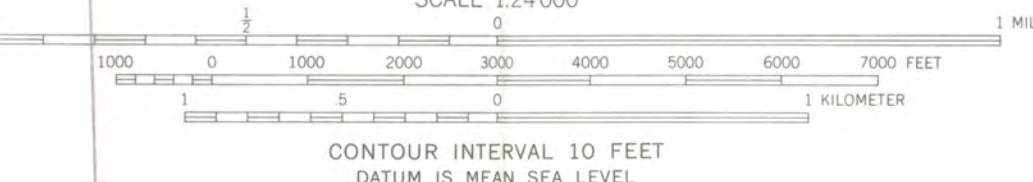
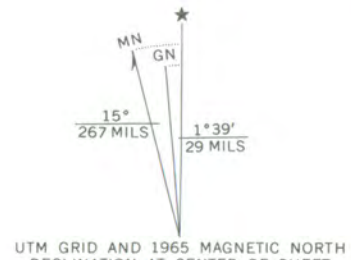
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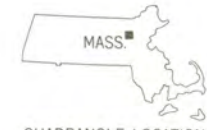


UTM 18E
Zone 19
E 298240
N 4703440
9-12-75

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1941. Revised 1965
Polyconic projection, 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
State Route ———

MAYNARD, MASS.
N4222.5—W7122.5/7.5

1965

AMS 6768 IV NW—SERIES V814

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered DEC 16 1971

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Faulkner Homestead	Acton Middlesex County
Massachusetts Avenue Historic District	Worcester

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Hon. Robert F. Drinan
Hon. Harold D. Donohue
Director, Northeast Region

State Liaison Officer
Hon. John F. X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth
Chairman, Massachusetts Historical
Commission
Office of the Secretary
State House
Boston, Massachusetts 02133

HR

MCMeans:mm 12/14/71



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of the Secretary
State House, Boston 02133

John F. X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth

The Office of Archeology and Historic
Preservation

National Park Service
801 19th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20006

Attention: Mrs. Sally Marusin

REGISTERED MAIL

Dear Sirs,

Enclosed are National Register submissions for:

Massachusetts Avenue Historic District, Worcester
Cooper-Frost-Austin House, Cambridge
Faulkner Homestead, Acton
Northborough Town Hall, Northborough
Fish Flake Hill (Front Street) Historic District, Beverly

These have been declared eligible for submission by the Massachusetts Historical Commission, the State Review Board, and have been signed by Secretary of the Commonwealth, John F. X. Davoren, Chairman, Massachusetts Historical Commission and designated the State Liaison Officer.

Sincerely yours,

Richard W. Hale Jr.

Richard W. Hale, Jr.
Acting Chairman
Massachusetts Historical Commission

RWH:aw

