

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only

received FEB 8 1980

date entered

2

1. Name

historic DAVID LANE HOUSE (preferred)

and/or common The House on the Hill

2. Location

street & number 137 North Road not for publication

city, town Bedford vicinity of congressional district 5th

state Massachusetts code 025 county Middlesex code 017

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
☐ district	☐ public	☒ occupied	☐ agriculture
☒ building(s)	☒ private	☐ unoccupied	☐ commercial
☐ structure	☐ both	☐ work in progress	☐ educational
☐ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	☐ entertainment
☐ object	☐ in process	☒ yes: restricted	☐ government
	☐ being considered	☐ yes: unrestricted	☐ industrial
		☐ no	☐ military
			☐ museum
			☐ park
			☒ private residence
			☐ religious
			☐ scientific
			☐ transportation
			☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mary Stewart Hafer and Frederick L. Hafer

street & number 137 North Road

city, town Bedford vicinity of state Massachusetts

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Middlesex County Courthouse

street & number 40 Thorndike Street

city, town Cambridge, state Massachusetts

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Inventory of the Historic Assets of
The Commonwealth has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date 1975 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town Boston state Massachusetts

7. Description

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The David Lane House stands on the east side of North Road at the crest of a low hill, a site from which its common name of "House on the Hill" is partially derived. The house is made up of a one-and-half story main house, a two story main house, a two-story rear wing, a one story connector and a two-story garage, all of which are enclosed by pitched roofs. The garage and facade (south elevation) of the main house are covered with clapboard, while all other elevations are covered with wooden shingles. Windows throughout the house consist of 6/6 sash set in moulded surrounds with louvred blinds, except where noted otherwise.

The main house is rectangular in plan and rests on a dry wall foundation of granite fieldstone. Slightly west of center is a central chimney, which rests on a fieldstone base. The facade (south elevation) is asymmetrical; from west to east, it contains two windows, a six panel door, one 4/4 window, two windows, a six panel door and one window, above which is a boxed cornice. Centered on the south slope of the roof is a shed dormer containing two four-pane lights. The house's end walls (east and west elevations) are identical, each containing two unevenly spaced windows at the first story, and one window centered in the gable. The eastern end of the rear (north) elevation is blocked by the ell; the western end of the rear elevation contains three windows at the first story and a shed dormer with three windows at the attic.

The rear ell has exposed elevations on its east and west sides only. The west elevation is asymmetrical, consisting of an entry and two windows at the first story and two windows at the second story. The east elevation contains an entry and window at the first story and two windows and a six pane light at the second story.

North of the ell is a one story connector with two windows on its west elevation and a tri-partite "picture" window on its east elevation. Attached to the connector's north end is a two story garage. The garage's west elevation has a wide sliding door at its first story and a rectangular doorway at the second story. The garage's east elevation contains a sliding door and window at the first story and two windows at the second story; north and south elevations are blank. Both the garage and connector were built in 1972.

Alterations to the house have been carried out during several periods. In its earliest form (ca1781), the house consisted of the western two-thirds of the main house, which was then a center chimney Cape Cod type house with a symmetrical, center entrance facade (south elevation). In the early to mid-nineteenth century, the original house was extended east by the addition of one room and the rear ell was built. Subsequently, although perhaps not until the early twentieth century, the original center entry was removed and replaced by a smaller entry and 4/4 window which now exists on the facade. It is likely that the dormers and second story of the rear ell were added in the twentieth century. Despite enlargement, the house's interior retains raised panelling, cased beams, three first story fireplaces, and an attic fireplace plastered with clay.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
☐ prehistoric	☐ archeology-prehistoric	☐ community planning	☐ landscape architecture	☐ religion
☐ 1400–1499	☐ archeology-historic	☐ conservation	☐ law	☐ science
☐ 1500–1599	☐ agriculture	☐ economics	☐ literature	☐ sculpture
☐ 1600–1699	☒ architecture	☐ education	☒ military	☐ social/
☒ 1700–1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☐ 1800–1899	☐ commerce	☐ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☐ 1900–	☐ communications	☐ industry	☐ politics/government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☐ other (specify)

Specific dates 1781 or earlier **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The David Lane House possesses significant portions of its original design, the integrity of its site and historical associations with David Lane, a Revolutionary War soldier. Although enlarged in the nineteenth century, the David Lane House preserves its original scale, floor plan and interior details, and serves as a good local example of vernacular architecture of the eighteenth century. In addition, the current house lot occupies part of a larger parcel which was known in the seventeenth century as the Governor John Winthrop Grant.

In 1664, the whole parcel was purchased from Fitz John Winthrop by Job Lane, one of the earliest settlers of the section of Billerica which was incorporated as the town of Bedford in 1792. Following Lane's purchase, the property remained in the Lane family until the twentieth century.

David Lane (1759-1842) was a native of Bedford and a fifth generation descendant of Job Lane. On April 18, 1775, David Lane was one of the members of the Bedford militia who marched to Concord to assist in hiding military stores, and subsequently, to fight British soldiers near the North Bridge. An account of the militia's commander, John Moore, credits David Lane with eleven days service and 33 miles travelled during the alarm. In 1781, Lane married his second cousin, Molly, and, presumably, built the core of the present house. During the late eighteenth century, Lane was one of three members of his family to have graduated from college, at a time when Bedford's population contained a total of four college graduates. At the time of his death in 1842, Lane was one of the last survivors of the Revolution in Bedford.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Brown, Abram English. History of Bedford. Bedford, Ma., Author, 1891. Reprint with index by L. Mansur, Bedford Free Public Library, 1976

Brown, Louise K. A Revolutionary Town. Canaan, N.H.: Phoenix Publishing, 1975

Mansur, Ina. A New England Church 1730-1834. Freeport, Me.: Bond-Wheelwright co., 1974.

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acree of nominated property 1.446 (62,992 sq. ft.)

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle name Billerica

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A 19 312 21610 417 017 81610
Zone Easting Northing

B
Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

It has 269' of frontage on the East side of North Road. (Mass. Route 4).
The tract is trapezoidal with the North and South boundaries parallel. See attached assessor's map.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Brian Pfeiffer, Consultant with Mary Hafer Bedford Historical Comm.

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date December 1979

street & number 294 Washington Street telephone 617-727-8470

city or town Boston state Massachusetts

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Patricia L. Westowski 1/24/80

title Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission date

For HCRS use only

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

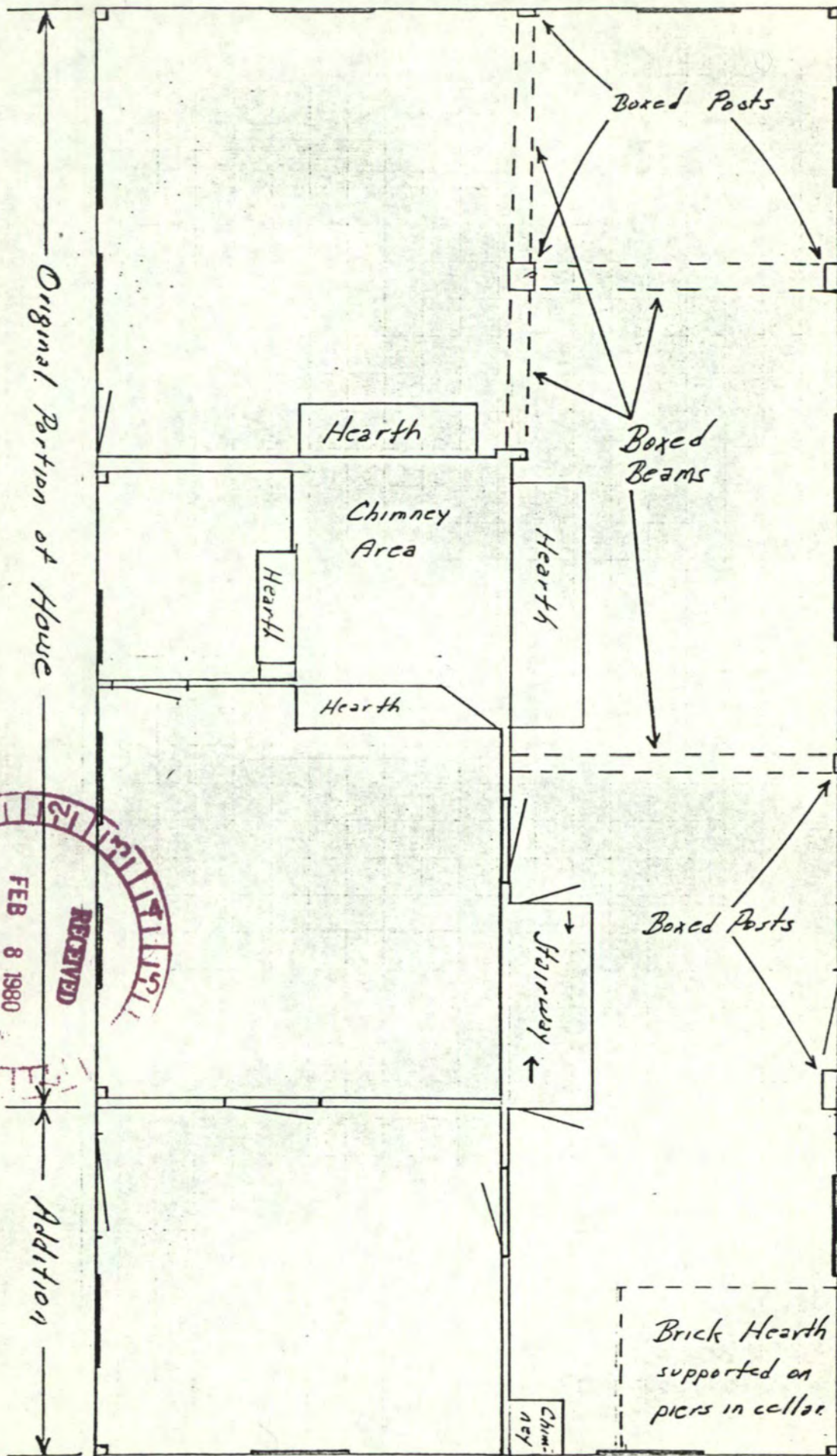
Keeper of the National Register

date 4/2/80

Attest:

Chief of Registration

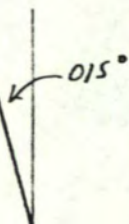
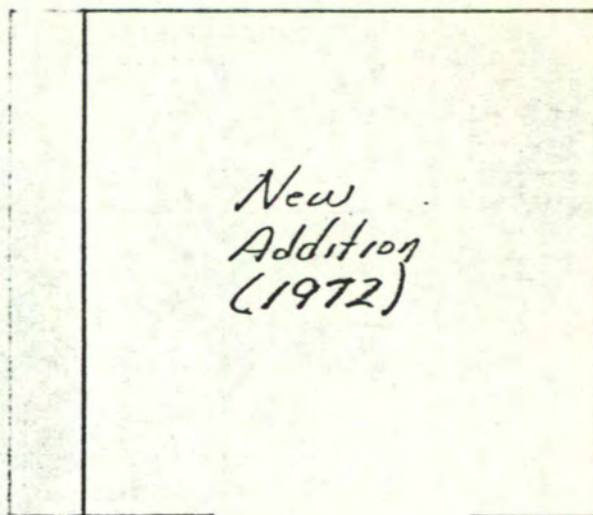
date 4/1/80



Interior
First Floor
Plan,
David Lane
House,
137 North Rd
Bedford, Mass.
1"=5'



APR 2 1980



1" = 10'

Present Kitchen

Main House

Addition

NORTH ROAD

15'3"

73'9"
to
Property
Line

David Lane House, Exterior Plan View
Bedford, MA 137 North Road

APR 2 1980

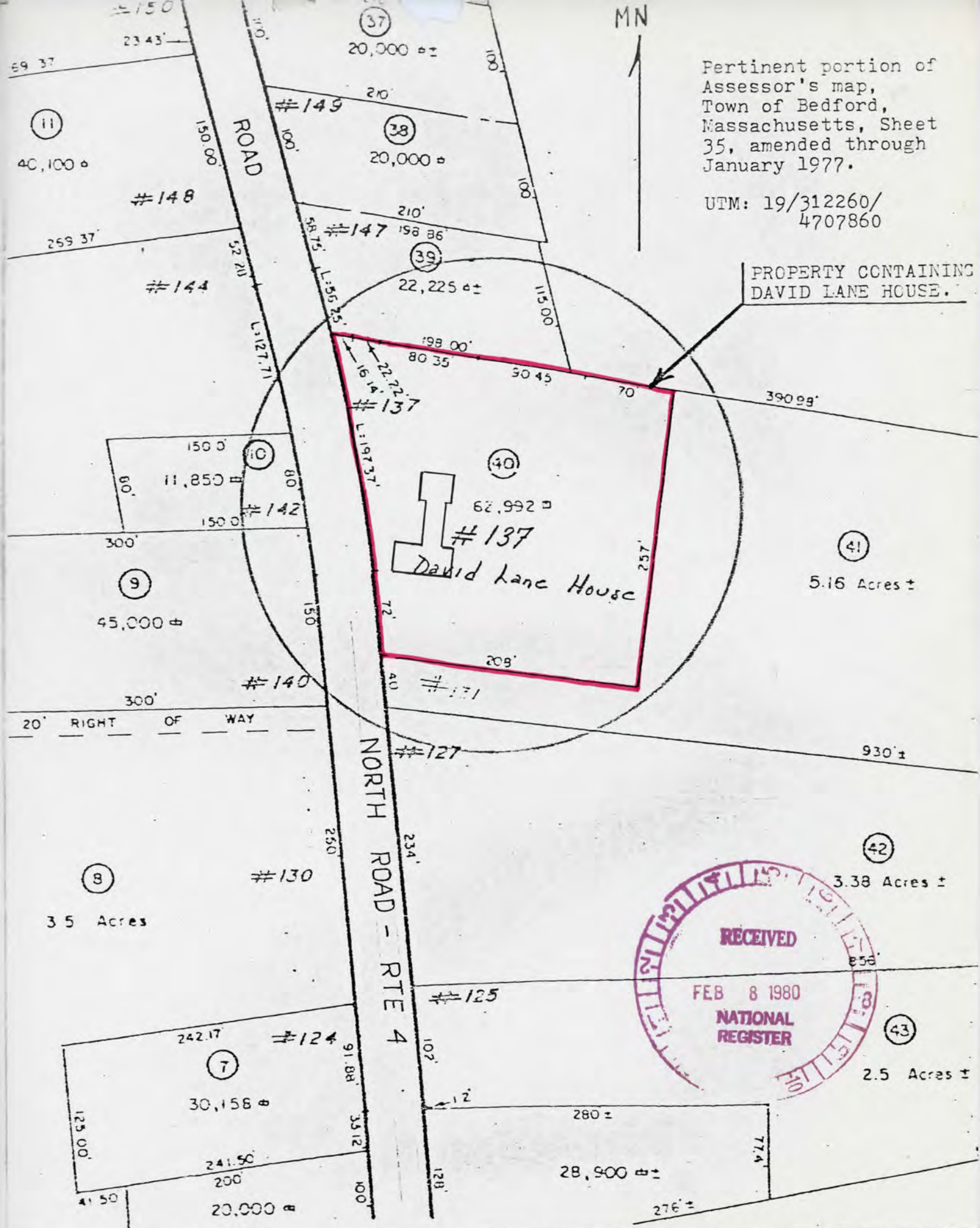


MN

Pertinent portion of
Assessor's map,
Town of Bedford,
Massachusetts, Sheet
35, amended through
January 1977.

UTM: 19/312260/
4707860

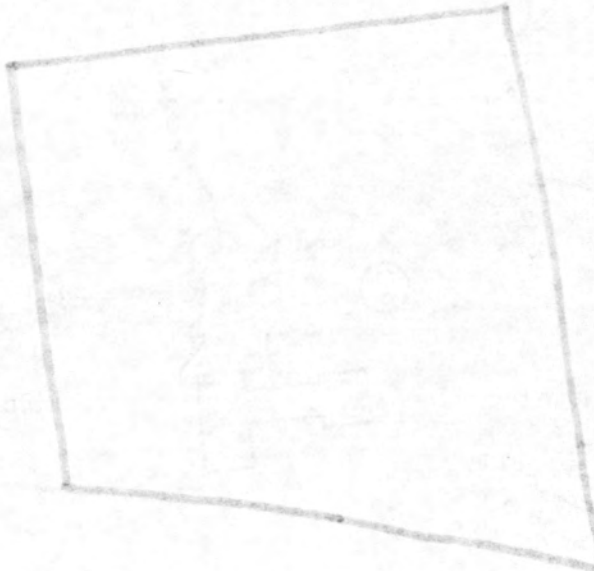
PROPERTY CONTAINING
DAVID LANE HOUSE.



1" = 100'

AS AMENDED THRO.

APR 2 1980



Property

Lane, David House

State

Ma. - Middlesex

Working Number

2-8-80 439

TECHNICAL

Photos 1Maps 2

CONTROL

This house is eligible for architecture. Built no later than 1781 by a Revolutionary war veteran the house is a good example of 18th cent. vernacular architecture. the original portion of this one and a half story frame house was six bays long. the house was extended in the early 19th cent. other additions (including a 20th cent. garage) have not affected the basic integrity of the house. 1.4 acres.

HISTORIAN

*accept
Patrick Arduini
4/1/80*

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up

Federal Register Entry

2.3.81

Send-back _____

Re-submit _____

Entered

APR 2 1980



David Lane House
137 North Road
Bedford, Mass.

Middlesex Co.

Frederick Hafer
137 North Road
Bedford, Mass.

1979

Photo #1 of 1
Facade facing northeast

APR 2 1980

FEB 8 1980

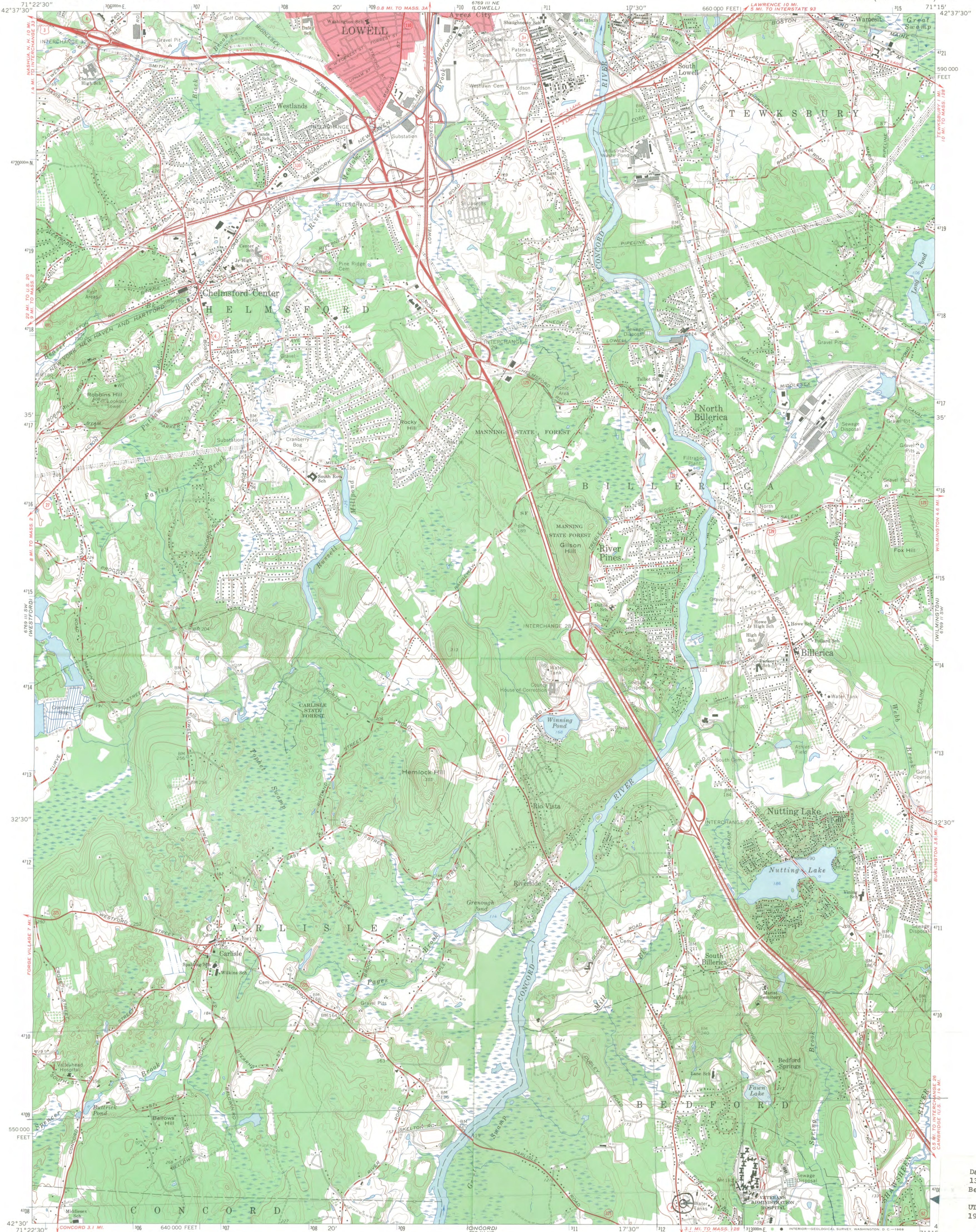
Mass. 01730

Foreground

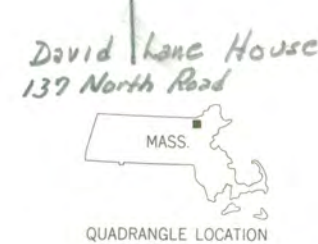
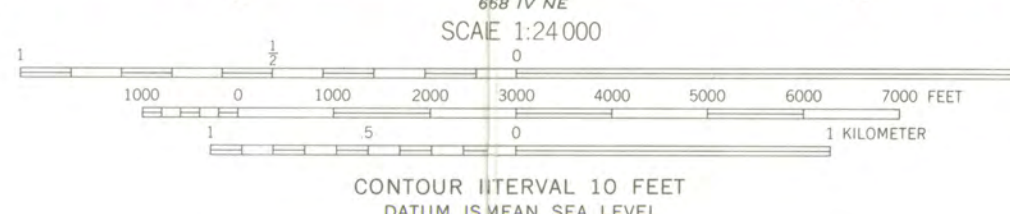
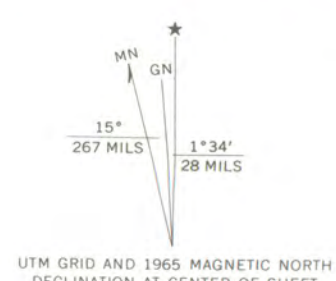
#40 Assessor's map, Town of Bedford, Mass.
Sheet 35, amended through January 1977.

UTM: 19/312260/4707860

1229



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1939. 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
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
○ Interstate Route ○ U.S. Route ○ State Route

BILLERICA, MASS.
N4230—W7115/7.5
1965

AMS 6769 III SE—SERIES V814

David Lane House
137 North Road
Bedford, Mass.

UTM REFERENCES:
19/312260/4707860





**MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Office of the Secretary of State**

294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts
02108
617-727-8470

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY
Secretary of State

January 28, 1980

Ms. Carol Schull, Acting Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
Heritage, Conservation & Recreation Service
440 G Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20243

Dear Ms. Schull;

Enclosed you will find the following nomination forms:

Attleboro- First Parsonage of the Second Church (local)	Medford- John McGill House (local)
* Bedford- David Lane House (local)	Middleborough- C. P. Washburn Grain- mill (local)
* Boston- Charles Street Jail (national)	Middlefield- Stone Arch Railroad Bridge District (state)
Dartmouth- Hill School (local)	Natick- Rev. Stephen Badger House (state)
* East Longmeadow- Swetland-Pease House (local)	Newton- St. Mary's Church & Cemetary (local)
Framingham- First Baptist Church (state)	New Bedford- Central New Bedford Historic District (local)
Lancaster- Founders Hall (state)	Newton- Echo Bridge (state- resubmission)
Marlborough- Peter Rice House (local)	Sharon- Stoneholm (local)
Medford- Edward Oakes House (local)	(These are enclosed under separate cover)
(All of the above are enclosed)	

These have been voted eligible by the State Review Board and have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Sincerely,

Christine Boulding
Christine Boulding
Survey Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

CB/cj

*These properties were notified under the new procedures.

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered APR 2 1980

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Dorchester-Milton Lower Mills Industrial District	Boston and Milton Suffolk (also Norfolk County)
Elm Street Fire Station	Gardner Worcester County
Stoneholm	Sharon Norfolk County
First Parsonage for Second East Parish Church	Attleboro Bristol County
Lane, David, House	Bedford Middlesex County

Also Notified

Honorable Paul Tsongas

Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Honorable Brian J. Donnelly
Honorable Robert F. Drinan
Honorable Margaret M. Heckler
Honorable James M. Sahnnon

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mrs. Patricia L. Weslowski
Executive Director, Massachusetts
Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

NR Byers/bjr 4/8/80

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.