

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Massachusetts
COUNTY:	Bristol
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	NOV 8 1974



1. NAME			
COMMON: Old Bay Road (use for publication)			
AND/OR HISTORIC: The Post Road, The King's Highway, and Old Bay Road			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: From the Easton Town Line to the Taunton Town Line			
CITY OR TOWN: Norton		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 10th	
STATE Massachusetts	CODE 025	COUNTY: Bristol	CODE 005

3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☒ District ☐ Site ☐ Object	☒ Public ☐ Private ☐ Both	Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered	☐ 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) _____ _____	☐ Comments _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: Town of Norton			
STREET AND NUMBER: Town Hall			
CITY OR TOWN: Norton	STATE: Massachusetts	CODE 025	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Bristol County Registry of Deeds			
STREET AND NUMBER: 11 Court Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Taunton	STATE: Massachusetts	CODE 025	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1973 ☐ Federal ☒ State ☐ County ☐ Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Massachusetts Historical Commission			
STREET AND NUMBER: 40 Beacon Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Boston	STATE: Massachusetts	CODE 025	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Massachusetts	COUNTY: Bristol	ENTRY NUMBER NOV 8 1974	FOR NPS USE ONLY DATE
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7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This 2 mile section of Old Bay Road in Norton is a continuation of the 2-mile section in Easton, already listed in the National Register of Historic Places. It is bounded on the north by the Easton Town Line and on the south by the Taunton Town Line, thus containing the entire segment of Norton's Bay Road. The road includes 30' from either side, measured from the center.

Running generally in a north-south direction, with rounded curves, the road is approximately a rod and a half wide, with an unmarked tar surface and no curbstones or sidewalks. Eighteenth century maps show the road in its present location, generally following the course of Mulberry Meadow Brook (on the earliest map called Leach's Stream) and skirting on the eastern shore of Winnecunnet Pond. Directly south from the Easton/Norton Town Line, on the eastern side of the road, are the barns and fields of the Godfrey Farm. On the west, the Mulberry Brook and the Fuller-Hammond cranberry bogs (flooded over in winter) can be seen through the trees, after which are visible the buildings and fields of the Harco Chicken Farm. The old trees have been cleared, leaving open fields. On the roadside, just before a wooded road leading down to the bogs, stands the first of the old milestones, dated 1773. Pine and oak woods then close in on either side, with tall oaks meeting above the road. Stone walls on both sides of the road border the land of the John White House on the east, an early 18th c. 2-story center chimney farmhouse. Opposite the next woods road to the bog is a house dated c.1800, in its original state. On the west is Great Rocky Hill and King Phillip's Cave (not visible from the road). Where Plain Street enters on the west is one of the Old District Schoolhouses of Norton, built c.1850. It is now a private home, but little changed on the exterior. Lincoln Street enters on the east. It is named after an early family of Norton settlers, a branch of Abraham Lincoln's family. The second milestone, dated 1782, is located beside the road, just before Charlotte Ave. on the west. Past Charlotte Ave. are modest modern dwellings, mostly mock-Capes. Two cemeteries are also located on the east of this section of the road. 19th and 20th c. houses with minimal architectural or historical significance are scattered along the length of Norton's Old Bay Road.

S E E I N S T R U C T I O N S



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)

1640

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☐ Education

☐ Political

☐ Urban Planning

☐ Prehistoric

☐ Engineering

☐ Religion/Phi-

☐ Other (Specify)

☒ Historic

☐ Industry

☐ Philosophy

☐ Agriculture

☐ Invention

☐ Science

☐ Architecture

☐ Landscape

☐ Sculpture

☐ Art

☐ Architecture

☐ Social/Human-

☐ Commerce

☐ Literature

☐ itarian

☐ Communications

☒ Military

☐ Theater

☐ Conservation

☐ Music

☒ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE The Old Bay Road is one of the oldest roads in New England still in its original location.

About 1637 a tract of land was purchased by the Plymouth Colony at a place called Cohannet which soon after took the name of Taunton. By order of the court, the bounds of this first purchase were made on June 19, 1640 by Miles Standish and John Browne. The 2 mile section of Old Bay Road in Norton is located in the original Taunton purchase. Before the purchase, the "Old Bay Path" was known to the settlers of Plymouth, according to Channing Howard, as "a trail or footpath described as well-worn, about 18" wide, used by Indians and white men", that chronologically became a pack horse and ox team way, a post rider's route, and then, with much labor and expense, a carriage and stage road. It was called the Bay Path because it led to the Bay Colony in the Boston area.

The Old Bay Path followed an Indian trail which may have existed for a thousand years before the white man's arrival. This section of the Old Bay Road, in Norton, borders the eastern shore of Winnecunnet Pond which was well known as a summer hunting ground of King Phillip, son of Massasoit. Nearby on Great Rocky Hill is King Phillip's Cave; according to legend, it was used by him as a shelter. The first house in the area was erected by William Wetherell in 1669 on the shores of Winnecunnet. The site now has a stone marker erected in 1889.

Both of the original milestones are preserved on this section of the Old Bay Road: "29 miles to Boston and 7 miles to Taunton, 1773" and "6 miles to Taunton, 30 to Boston, 1782, Henry Wetherell". Between these dates, the road was used by Revolutionary troops, Minute Men answering the call from Lexington in 1775.

There are 2 early cemeteries on the eastern side of Bay Road, overlooking Winnecunnet Pond. One is the oldest in Norton and holds the graves of such early settlers as the Wetherells and Lincolns.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Clark, George Faber, History of the Town of Norton, Boston, 1859.
2. Chafflin, William, History of the Town of Easton, Cambridge, 1886.
3. Emery, Samuel H., History of Taunton, Mass., Syracuse, 1883.
3. Hutt, Frank W., History of Bristol County, NY, 1924.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				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	
NW	41°	59'	47"	71°	07'	44"	
NE	41°	59'	47"	71°	07'	25½"	
SE	41°	58'	00"	71°	07'	25½"	
SW	41°	58'	00"	71°	07'	44"	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: approx. 15 acres

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: Mindy Arbo, N.R. Editor, for Elizabeth Amadon, State Survey Director

ORGANIZATION: Massachusetts Historical Commission DATE: 1/8/74

STREET AND NUMBER: 40 Beacon Street

CITY OR TOWN: Boston STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 02108

617-727-8470 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. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth

Title Chairman, Massachusetts Historical Commission

Date

7/24/74

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

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

11/8/74

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

11.7.74

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NW 19/323 670
4651 360
CD

NE 19/324 000/4651 350
SE 19/324 000/4651 350

SW 19/323 600/4651 350

PROPERTY Old Bay Road STATE Mass.

WORKING NUMBER 8.8.74.1277

TECH REVIEW

PHOTOS 3

MAPS 2

Bristol

CONTROL REVIEW

HISTORIAN

Accept as addition to section on register
called Mindy Arbo - 9/11/74 -
They will send continuation sheet to make it A deep
(an addition to old nomination - if we desire 8/29/74)
OK VM 8-9-74

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Called Mindy 10/15 - They would like it
nominated separately - as Old Bay Road - Sharon.
Accept R. Luce 10/15/

ARCHEOLOGIST

Road would seem to have few later intrusions
I think this might be ~~viewed~~ as a revision of the boundary of the
current Old Bay Road on the Register.
M. Barnes
19 Aug 74
Conference.

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

~~W. L. A. Cant~~
Coke
10/19/74

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

Accept
Hunt for
Muntz
11.7.74

National Register Write-up

Nov 19, 1974

Send-back

Federal Register entry

1/7/75

Re-submit

Entered

NOV 8 1974



Form No. 10-301a
(7/72)

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 Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Old Bay Road

AND/OR HISTORIC: same

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

500 ft. from Easton Town Line to Taunton Town Line

CITY OR TOWN:

Norton

STATE:

Massachusetts

CODE

025

COUNTY:

Essex

CODE

009

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: George Erikson

DATE OF PHOTO: 1974

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

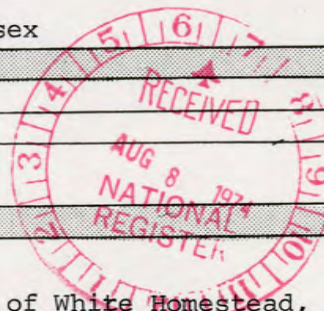
photographer

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Streetscape of Old Bay Road with corner of White Homestead,
facing west

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER





Form No. 10-301a
(7/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

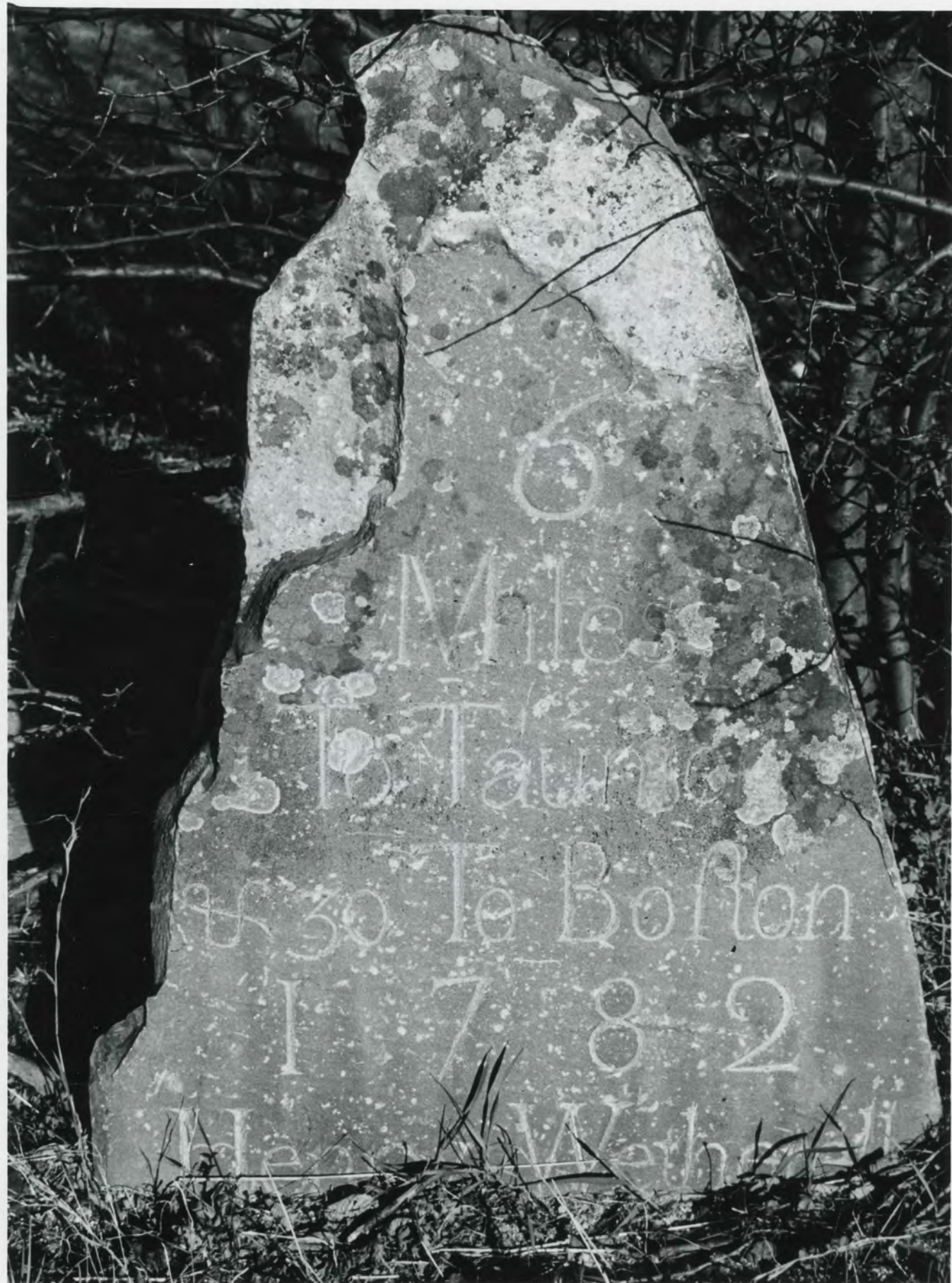
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Massachusetts	
COUNTY Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Old Bay Road			
AND/OR HISTORIC: same			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
From Easton Town Line to Taunton Town Line			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Norton			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Massachusetts	025	Essex	009
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: George Erikson			
DATE OF PHOTO: 1974			
NEGATIVE FILED AT:			
photographer			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
Aerial view of Old Bay Road with White Homestead looking west			

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

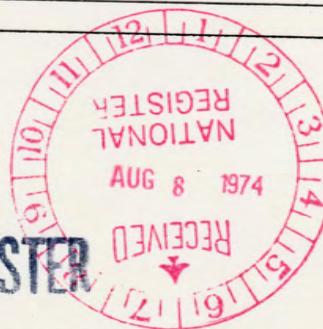
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

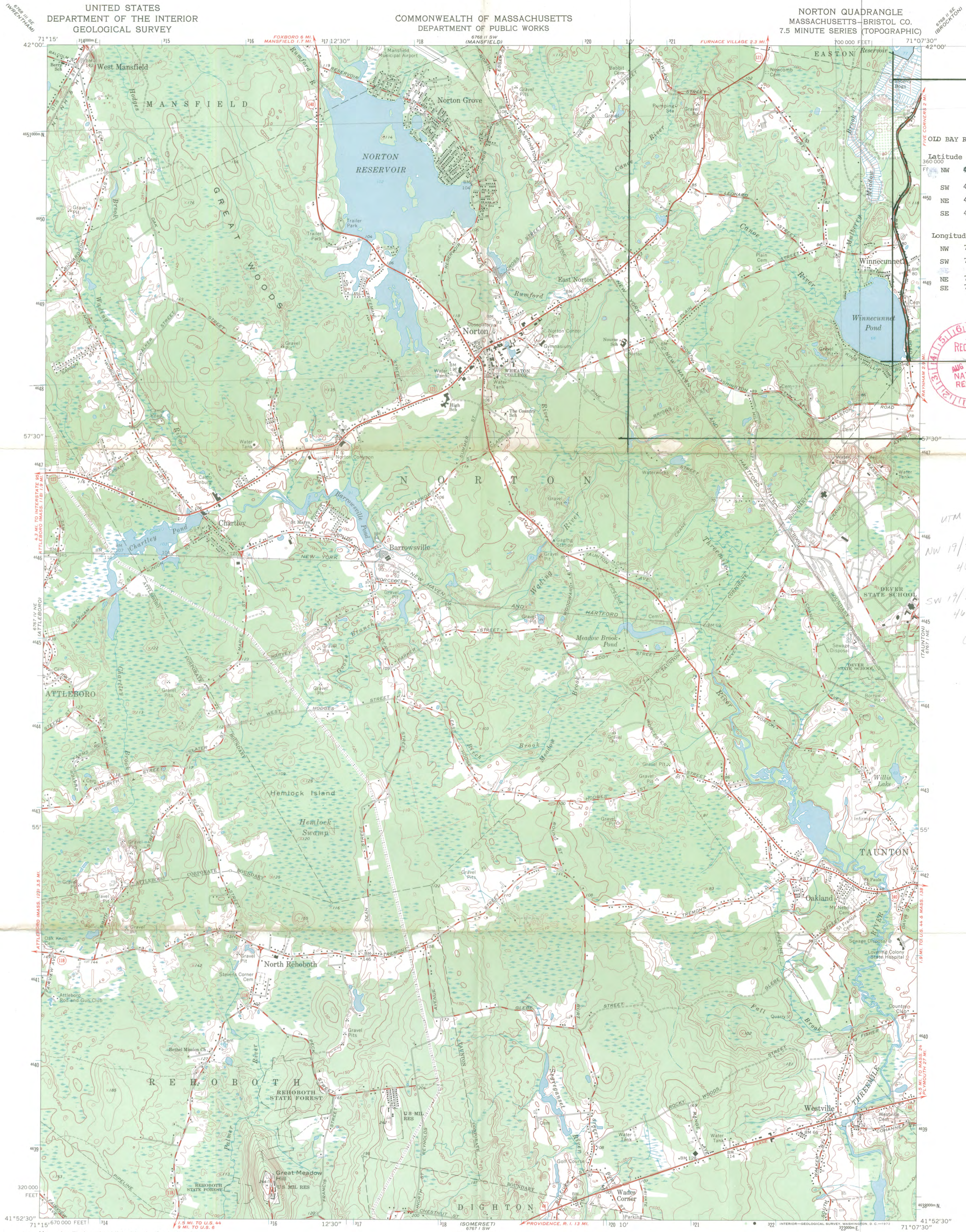
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
Old Bay Road	same	NOV 8 1974
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Massachusetts	Essex	Norton
STREET AND NUMBER		
From the Easton Town Line to the Taunton Town Line		
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
George Erikson	1974	photographer
4. IDENTIFICATION		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		

Milestone along Old Bay Road

#3073
PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER





OLD BAY ROAD, NORTON

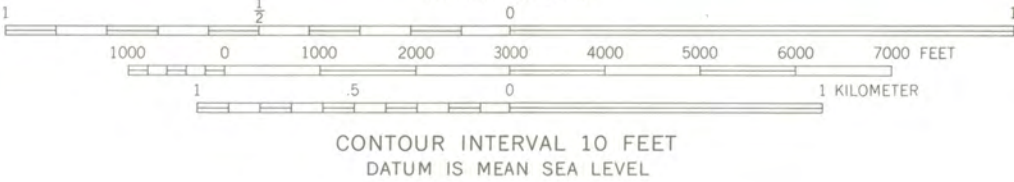
Latitude
360 000
Fr
NW 41° 59' 47"
SW 41° 58' 00"
NE 41° 59' 47"
SE 41° 58' 00"

Longitude
NW 71° 07' 44" ✓
SW 71° 07' 44" ✓
NE 71° 07' 25½"
SE 71° 07' 25½"



UTM
NW 19/323 670
4661 360
SW 19/323 600
4648 040
CD

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
Topography by planimetric surveys 1942. Revised 1964
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
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

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



NORTON, MASS.
N4152.5—W7107.5/7.5

1964

AMS 6767 1 NW—SERIES V814

FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

1. NAME

COMMON

Old Bay Road

AND/OR HISTORIC

same

NUMERIC CODE *(Assigned by NPS)*

NOV 8 1974

2. LOCATION

STATE

Massachusetts

COUNTY

Bristol County

TOWN

Norton

STREET AND NUMBER

In Norton from Easton Town Line to Taunton Town Line

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE

U.S.G.S. Norton, Mass. 1964
Taunton, Mass. 1962

DATE

SCALE

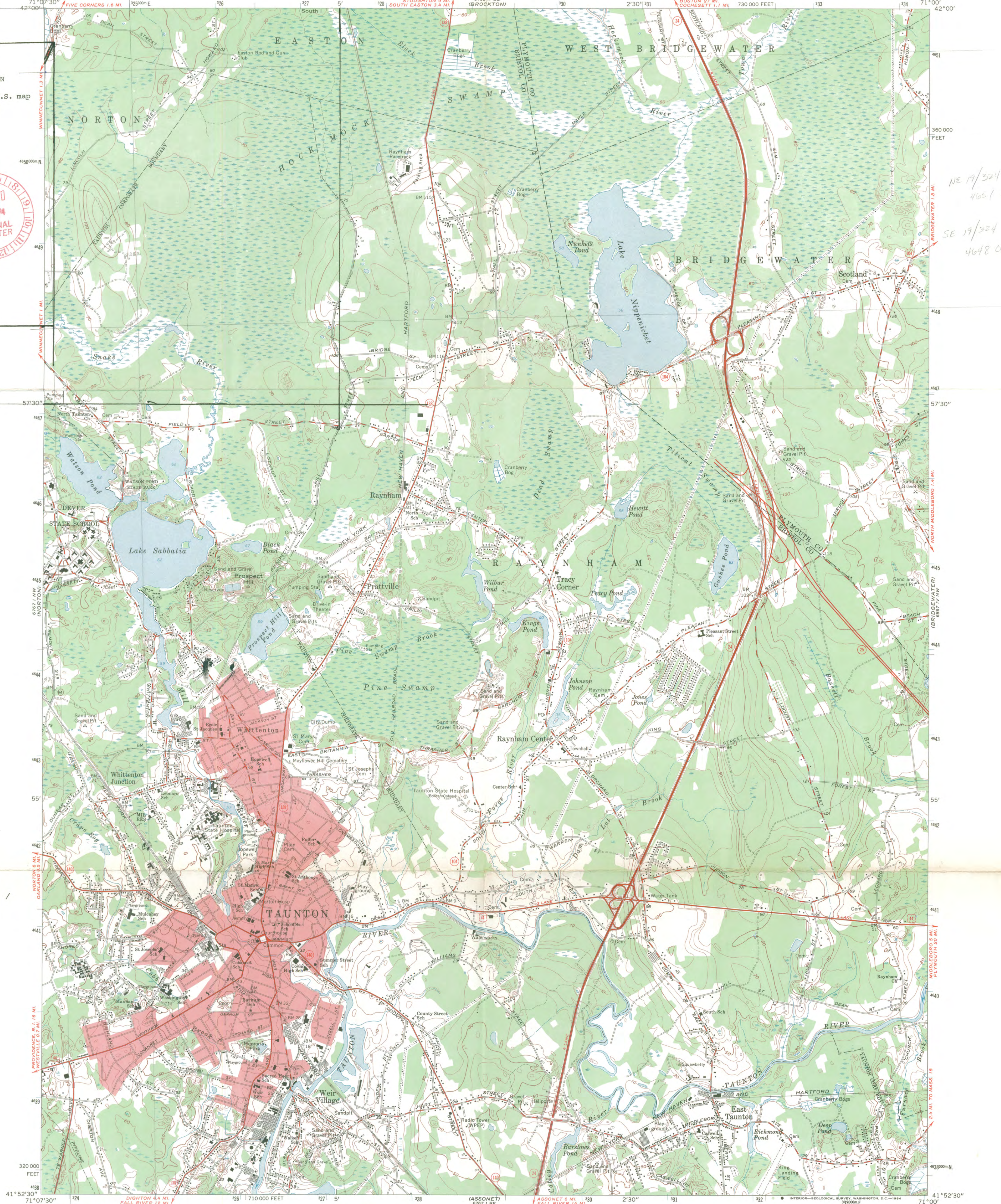
1:24,000

REQUIREMENTS: PROPERTY BOUNDARIES, WHERE REQUIRED, AND NORTH ARROW



OLD BAY ROAD, NORTON

See attached U.S.G.S. map
for lat. and long.



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Planimetry in part by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs. Topography by planetable surveys 1942
Revised 1962

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

UTM GRID AND 1962 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

SCALE 1:24,000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

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



TAUNTON, MASS.
N4152.5—W7100/7.5

1962

AMS 6767 I NE—SERIES V814

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered NOV 8 1974

Name

Location

Old Bay Road

Norton
Bristol County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
Hon. Margaret M. Heckler

Regional Director, North Atlantic
Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Hon. John F.X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth
Chairman, Massachusetts Historical
Commission
40 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

PR

MMott/cha

11/14/74