

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

902



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 NORTHEAST SCHOOL

other names/site number DISTRICT #1 SCHOOL

2. Location

street & number 981 SUMMIT ROAD not for publication

city or town RICHMOND vicinity

state MASSACHUSETTS code MA county BERKSHIRE code 003 zip code 01254

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.)

Brona Simon

7/11/02

Signature of certifying official/Title Brona Simon
Massachusetts Historical Commission, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

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):

fr Signature of the Keeper
[Signature]

Date of Action

8/30/02

NORTHEAST SCHOOL

Name of Property

BERKSHIRE, MA

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

(Check only one box)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>		building
		sites
		structures
	<u>1</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	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

NONE

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/schoolhouse

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

FEDERAL

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation poured concrete

walls weatherboard

roof wood shingled

other post and beam

Narrative Description

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

See attached continuation sheets.

NORTHEAST SCHOOL

Name of Property

8. Statement of Significance

BERKSHIRE, MA

County and State

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Northeast School, District #1
Richmond, Berkshire County, MA

DESCRIPTION:

The one-room Northeast School house is a one-story rectangular building with side gabled roof. The main portion of the building measures 24.5' by 23.5'. To the north end is attached a one-story gabled wing measuring 16' by 16' 9" (photo #2). This addition is flush with the east side of the main building. Moved from across Swamp Road to the east in 1993, the school building sits 70 feet west of Summit Road, just south of the intersection with Swamp Road in the Stevens Corners area of Richmond.

The building is a simplified Federal style with a pedimented gable end at the south defined by moldings, plain cornerboards, a plain wooden frieze, molded wooden eaves, and clapboard siding. There is one large window centered on the south end, and two large windows on both the east and west sides, consisting of 9/9 lights with simple corniced moldings. The north gable end has returned eaves, a small attic light of 6/6, and the north elevation of the wing has a similar 6/6 attic light and a first story 6/6 light. The first story entrances consist of enclosed one story gabled entry porches projecting out from the building, one on the west and one on the east lateral sides. Above the east entry porch is a high four-light square widow set just below the eaves. (photo #1)

Framing of the main building is post and beam, with hand-hewn timbers thought to be chestnut. Hewn timbers in the attic of the main building consist of knee wall framing tied to both gable ends. Lateral spanning between the principal rafter ends is by means of two heavy beamed purlins supporting the secondary rafters. End rafters were replaced, possibly in the 1888 improvements. The roof of the main portion of the building is a rafter roof with horizontal sheathing boards over two feet wide laid at right angles to the rafters. There are no purlins in the roof and no ridge pole. None of the roof rafters are original and appear to have been replaced in 1888. No scribe marks are visible on exposed heavy timbers in the attic, but as much as a third of the framing members have been replaced and many of the wooden trenails are missing. Two sets of collar beams with knee walls were cut with an up-and-down saw.

Major recorded alterations to the building involved routine maintenance and repairs from the time of original construction. In 1802, the school committee voted to buy a stove and pay local help to clear away a chimney and lathe over the wall and ceiling where the chimney had been removed. At the end of the school year in 1888, the building received new sheathing on the exterior, new wooden floors and

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Northeast School, District #1
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replastering on the interior, new replacement doors to replace old and shrunken ones, and window casings were tightened. Alterations to the interior of the woodshed ell were made in 1932 for chemical toilets. Finally, the building was moved across the street in 1993 by the Richmond Historical Society.

Written records from the town record minor changes and additions to the interior over the years. The Northeast school house also received regular routine maintenance which included "fittings" and furniture as well as new materials prior to its closing as a school in 1937. According to School Committee and Town Reports, the Northeast School building received the following: In 1871, a new stove and other furniture for \$14.44; general repairs during 1877-78 to put the northeast school building, fences, etc. in "excellent order" at a cost of \$101; and another new stove in 1886 costing \$16.38. The School Committee Report for the year ending March 31, 1886 notes: "At the Northeast we have the best planned school house the town can boast, but it has stood so many years without repair that it is today less capable of protecting the inmates from the severity of the frigid winter than any other in town. To make it comfortable it needs to be sheathed and clapboarded, newly floored and plastered, the window casings tightened, and four new doors to take the place of as many shrunken and broken ones." These repairs were apparently accomplished within the next 18 months, because the School Committee Report for the Year ending March 31, 1888 indicates that \$800 was appropriated to repair the Northeast and Southeast Houses at the annual town meeting and that J. B. Stiles, a local contractor and nearby resident on East Street was hired "for work and material on the Northeast House." The same report ends: "The work has been thoroughly done on both houses, and we are in possession of two more credible school houses in the town." The major work done on the northeast school house came to \$371.55, when a new school house at around this time could have been built for approximately \$800.

Other School Committee reports called for plaster and paint at the Northeast School in 1900, painting actually accomplished in 1909; a call for a new stove for the school also in 1909; mention that the Northeast School building received interior paint, and that a new sill and new floor were laid in 1911; that all Richmond schools were in excellent condition in 1921 with improvements in ventilation and toilets and jacketed stoves that year; that in 1923 tables and small chairs were bought for three of the schools, Depot, North, and Northeast; that all Richmond school interiors were painted in 1926 in light shades "used to be pleasing;" all schools had electric lights by 1929. During the 1930s up until the Northeast School and other one-room schools were closed, routine maintenance and improvements occurred. In 1931, the School committee reported that the Northeast School needed chemical toilets and that the school received a new electrical outlet, a new spring box, and the driveway which was badly rutted was filled with gravel. In 1932, chemical toilets were installed at Northeast. The school committee report states that "This necessitated considerable alteration in the wood shed, the changing of electrical wiring

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Northeast School, District #1
Richmond, Berkshire County, MA

and building of a cesspool." The original 1932 chemical toilets are still in the wood shed wing of the northeast school today and are in virtually original condition.

Some time in the 1920s, the interior of the school room was enhanced with beadboard wainscoting on the walls and ceiling. Beadboard on the walls is laid horizontally above the level of the window sills and vertically below. Above the ceiling is plaster and lathe, but the lathes are not hand-split. It is presumed that the plastering was added at an unknown date after initial construction of the building. Flooring in the schoolroom is two-inch maple boards.

As part of the 1993 move across the street and restoration, the building was placed on a new poured concrete foundation with full basement and concrete slab floor, and a walk-out door to the rear (west) not visible from the road (photo #4). The poured concrete foundation was provided with a faux stone finish of concrete rather than left smooth on the east side of the building (front) facing Summit Street. The slope downward to the west accommodates a half-raised basement to which has been added a cellar entrance and a set of two windows with 6/6 lights. A new well and septic system were added as per code.

A modern handicapped bathroom was put in the woodshed. The entrance on the east facing Summit Road was also provided with a low poured concrete handicapped ramp. Two lower lights on east side windows of the main floor were remanufactured using the dimensions of the original mutins as guides. A red brick chimney pierces through the roof at the ridge pole at the north end of the main building. After being set on its new foundation, the clapboard siding on the addition was replaced with cedar siding, the entry porch roofs were repaired and replaced, and the building received new rolled roofing and new wood-shingled roofs on both portions of the building.

A non-contributing wooden sign on two wooden square posts is located on the front lawn facing Summit Road, with the inscription "Northeast School, 1856-1937[sic]" "Last of Richmond's One Room Schoolhouses. Restored by Richmond Historical Society 1993." With the new research as part of this nomination, the sign's content will be changed. (photo #3)

Archaeological Description

While no ancient Native American sites are known on the school property, it is possible that sites are present. Three sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile). Environmental characteristics of the property indicate the presence of locational criteria (slope, soil drainage, distance to wetlands) that are favorable for some types of ancient sites. The school occupies a well drained, level to moderately sloping

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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)

EDUCATION

Period of Significance

ca. 1791-1937

Significant Dates

1802

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Stiles, J.B. (1888 repairs)

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Richmond Historical Commission

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Northeast School, District #1
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upland terrace within 1000 feet of wetlands. A stream located northeast of the school drains northerly to Richmond Pond within the Housatonic River drainage. Soils in the area are characteristically extremely stony, a factor that may adversely effect the ancient Native American site potential for this area. Given the above information, known ancient Native American settlement patterns in the region, the size of the parcel (3.17 acres) and impacts related to relocation of the school in 1993 and construction of the foundation and basement, a moderate to high potential exists for locating ancient Native American resources on the property.

A low potential exists for locating historic archaeological resources on the school property. The school was moved to its present site in 1993 from across the street indicating little potential for locating resources related to the school at the present site. No additional historic land use has been identified for this location.

(end)

8. SIGNIFICANCE:

The Town of Richmond's Northeast School (RIC-43) is eligible under Criteria A and C on a local level of significance as an late 18th century surviving example of a one-room rural school house in western Massachusetts, and the earliest of six school houses known to have been built in the Town of Richmond. It is the only school house in town which has not been converted to residential use. It is eligible historically under Criterion A as a reflection of a rural Richmond's response to population increases and a growing understanding of the need for readily available public education in the community. It is significant architecturally under Criterion C as an intact surviving example of a district school. In order to preserve it, the building was moved a short distance in 1993 from its original location on the east side of Summit Road to the west side, and therefore meets Criterion Consideration B. The property contains a non-contributing wooden sign erected in 1993 at the current site.

The area today comprising the towns of Richmond and Lenox was settled in 1758 on sections of land known as Mt. Ephraim and Yokuntown, purchased from two Mahican sachems named Ephraim and Yokun. In 1762, the area west of Lenox Mountain (Yokun's Seat) was set off as Mt. Ephraim, later to become Richmond in 1765. Primarily an agricultural community, Richmond grew slowly due to a lack of

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Richmond, Berkshire County, MA

available water power which limited industrial development until 1829 when the discovery of iron ore on the Cone farm led to the development of an important iron works in the southwest section of town. The Richmond Furnace [NRDIS 1999] was the most important iron works in Berkshire County, with satellite furnaces in West Stockbridge, Stockbridge, Lenox Dale, Adams, and Van Deusenville. First fired in 1830, it remained in operation until 1923. The area that was set off as Richmond had two main thoroughfares which passed through town. The north-south road which today corresponds roughly to State Route 41 was shown on the 1795 map as the "road from Connecticut to Lebanon Springs and thence to Bennington." This road traverses the west portion of town. The 1795 map shows an east-west road marked as a "market road from Kinderhook Landing [NY] to Pittsfield, [Massachusetts]." Close to this intersection, now Summit Road and Route 41, in a broad valley a major settlement grew up where the first and second meetinghouses were located.

Another old highway came northwest diagonally from the Connecticut line through Sandisfield, Otis, Becket and Lenox through the northeast section of Richmond to the New York state border, laid out to connect Hartford with Albany. From 1800 to 1820, this road was part of the Tenth Massachusetts or Farmington River Turnpike, sections of which continued to collect tolls until 1845. At Stevens Corners, it crossed the Kinderhook Landing to Pittsfield road, now Summit Road and Swamp Road west and north of the Corners, in the northeast section of Richmond approximately where Osceola Road is today. At this intersection was the second community in Richmond, which became known as "Stevens Corners."

The Northeast School house, in School District 1, was situated at Stevens Corners, one of two principal settlements of Richmond with a tavern and store. Today, the Corners is the intersection of five roads. Swamp Road tends southwest to West Stockbridge. Osceola Road and Osceola Extension were parts of the Tenth Massachusetts Turnpike, and Summit Road and Swamp Road were part of the road from Pittsfield west to Kinderhook or Hudson, New York. At this intersection, around 1790, Vine Branch and his son, Cyprian, built a hostelry with a ballroom on the second floor which stood until 1946 when it burned down. Across Swamp Road to the south, the Branches operated a store (RIC-5). A post office was established in the Branch store in 1806. The Northeast district school house was built east of the Branch store, where it stood until 1993. When Parry Branch married William Stevens in 1816, the area became known as Stevens Corners. In the William R. Stevens obituary, published in the *Berkshire Evening Eagle* on January 30, 1909, is an excellent short description of Stevens Corners and its importance to the Town of Richmond. The 1909 obituary notes William R. Stevens's father, also William Stevens, who is described as:

"an early settler in Richmond, who for many years kept a typical New England tavern in the northeast part of town, at the junction of five roads. Stevens's Corners, as the site of the hostelry was known, enjoyed the distinction of being the business center of Richmond up to about the year 1850. The post

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office was located there, as was also the general store, besides the only hotel the town ever boasted. The completion of the Western railroad, now the Boston and Albany, was responsible for the abandonment of the various enterprises at the "Corners" and their subsequent location near the present side of the railroad station."

Writing in 1855, Holland's history of Western Massachusetts notes that Richmond schools were established early in the town. Records from the Court of General Sessions in 1772 show that the Town of Richmond, as it was then known, was fined eight pounds, six shillings and eight pence for failing to maintain schools from November 1771 to August of 1772. The Court ordered the fine distributed to the towns of Becket and Partridgefield (Peru). Possibly as a result, in 1772, the first recorded schoolteacher came from Guilford, Connecticut, to teach in the cellar of a private home. It is likely that the citizens then became serious about maintaining schools, but available records do not indicate when the first school houses were built. In 1781, Richmond was divided into seven school districts. About 1790, the number of school districts was reduced to five and remained so until 1845 when population increases in the iron furnace district near the Richmond furnace at the southwest end of town necessitated a sixth school district and the opening of the Furnace school.

That there was a school building in operation at Stevens Corner from 1791 on is well documented. No evidence to the contrary from comprehensive existing town records, it is presumed that the current Northeast school building is also the original one, constructed by 1791. A thorough search of deeds, together with the Richmond records from Town Meetings and Reports and School Committee meetings, fails to find mention of a new school house being built in Northeast District One, when other school buildings in town are recorded as having been built anew, moved, or replaced. The Northeast school district was numbered District 1. School Committee Meeting Minutes from 1789-1808 indicate that from 1791-1808 there was a Northeast School building and that it did not burn down or was otherwise replaced. School meetings held regularly at "the school house," indicate that there may have been only one school house in Richmond until 1791, the first specific mention of the Northeast school house building. Minutes of the School Committee for November 9, 1791, specified that the meeting was held at the "school house in the North East District" and voted that "a school be set up in said district the ensuing winter for the term of four months," and that a committee be appointed to "procure an instructor." Subsequent school committee meetings were noted specifically as having been held at the North East school house or at the school house in the First District, on January 6, and March 30, October 7, 1792, and thereafter throughout 1793 to 1808. On October 22, 1802, the school committee voted to procure a stove for the Northeast school and exempt two local men, Elephalet Redington and his son, from their obligations for monetary support in exchange for "clearing away the chimney and lathing the

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Northeast School, District #1
Richmond, Berkshire County, MA

wall and over head where the chimney shall be removed.” If the building began with a fireplace, this may be the date when it was replaced by a stove. And the school committee on October 25, 1808, voted to “make what necessary repairs as wanting to the school house.”

The town meeting and school committee records through the 19th century, of which there is a complete run, also do not indicate that the Northeast school building was replaced by a new one, and by 1886, the building is described as having “stood so many years without repair. . . .”, indicating a building long in use. A deed between Asahel Royce and Cyprian Branch dated December 9, 1813 involving land at Stevens Corner, mentions “the school house which is E[ast] of said Branch dwelling house (RIC-5).” This deed goes on to describe the land adjacent to the lot on which the school house sat. In a May 4, 1842 document involving a dispute between Stevens Corners residents Cyprian Branch and Avery, mention is made of the chimney on the northeast school house. Book F, page 88, of the Richmond School Committee Report for April 6, 1846 mentions that, “In the N.E. District the school continued four months” with average attendance at the school for that year of ten and one-half pupils. In 1856, in a lease for the school lot for \$25.00 from Henry B. Stevens to William H. Nichols, a member of the Prudential Committee which oversaw the public schools in Richmond, mention is made of “the south end of the wood house connected with said school house.” This lease was consummated after the location of the 10th Massachusetts Turnpike was changed and the road accepted as a public highway. Specifically mentioned in the lease for the school lot was the obligation of the Prudential Committee to maintain “a good and lawful fence on the west and south and east lines of the said lot.” The “wood house” is a written reference to the existing north wing of the present school building, suggesting that wood house ell dates from at least 1856, and possibly earlier.

Further evidence that the Northeast School building was of some age is indicated in the School Committee Report for the year ending March 31, 1886 which notes (*italics added*): “At the Northeast we have the best planned school house the town can boast, but *it has stood so many years without repair* that it is today less capable of protecting the inmates from the severity of the frigid winter than any other in town.” The Committee went on to plead for money to resheathe and reclapboard the exterior, lay new floors and replaster the walls, tighten the window casings and replace the “shrunken and broken” doors. These repairs were accomplished by the end of the school year in 1888. But the description of the building in 1886 strongly suggests that it was the same building first mentioned in the district school committee’s reports of 1791.

In addition, it is now clear that the Northeast school house has only been moved once, in 1993, by the Richmond Historical Commission. Confusion about an earlier move in 1856 seems to have begun with a local historian, who believed that the school had been moved across the road in 1856. In fact, the 10th

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Northeast School, District #1
Richmond, Berkshire County, MA

Massachusetts Turnpike section at Stevens Corners was discontinued and the road shifted to the west after it was laid out as a public highway in 1855 just enough to place the school on the east side of the new highway when it had been situated on the west side of the Turnpike. In fact the road changed, not the school location. The vacated portion of the 10th Massachusetts Turnpike and the new right-of-way at Stevens Corners are shown on an 1857 "Map of Richmond" at the Pittsfield Registry of Deeds.

Compounding the problem somewhat is that the school is shown on the west side of the old Turnpike on the Walling map, published in 1858, and entirely left off on subsequent maps, including Beers map of 1876 and the Barnes and Farnham Atlas of 1904. With the road alteration pending, Henry B. Stevens leased the school lot in District 1 to the Town of Richmond on April 3, 1856 for \$25.00 (see Deed from William H. Nichols to Henry B. Stevens, April 3, 1856).

The five school districts all had associated school buildings and by 1850 were known as North, Northeast, Central, Southeast (closed in 1929), and Depot School. The Furnace School eventually became a two-room school house, while the rest were one-room schools. The Northeast School building appears to be the oldest district school building in Richmond. The North School was rebuilt in 1859 and replaced a former school building. The Center School building had a major reconstruction in 1885, costing nearly \$500 or 5/9ths of the cost of a new school building, to make it habitable. The Southwest's school building, known as the Depot School, was rebuilt in 1885 at a cost of \$954.41 by Pittsfield contractor D. J. Saunders. It replaced at least one earlier building dating from around 1802.

The Southeast school building appears on the Walling map of 1858, but was substantially repaired in 1888. The Furnace School was rebuilt in 1926 as a two room schoolhouse, replacing two earlier ones built in 1845 and 1890. The Furnace School at 2953 State Road, now a private dwelling, was placed on the National Register as part of the Richmond Furnace Historical/ Archaeological District, on August 31, 1999. With the opening of the Richmond Consolidated School in September, 1937, the remaining five schoolhouses were permanently closed and all six schoolhouses were sold. Assessors valuations for 1936 or 1937 show that the six schools were valued at between \$250 and \$850 per building, variously with and without including the land. Four of the school buildings were converted to single family homes and substantially altered. The Northeast school stood empty. Raymond Seymour received it from the town and was used for storage becoming a barn for pigs until 1993 when it was donated to the Richmond Historical Society by owners James and Barbara Mihalke of Pennsylvania.

Historically, the Northeast School house functioned as a laboratory for innovations in education within the Town of Richmond and appears to have been the lead school in town. This nomination is enhanced by the P.T.A. meeting minutes in the early 20th century. The "Minutes and Accounts of the Northeast School House P.T.A. Meetings, 1924-1931," record the activities of this association vis-à-vis the

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Northeast School, District #1
Richmond, Berkshire County, MA

Northeast school house and assistance to other school houses in Richmond. It was noted on September 24, 1928, for example, that the first P.T.A. meeting of the year was held at the Northeast School House because "this school is the mother association and each fall the first one is in this schoolhouse." The P.T.A. committee arranged for and discussed purchasing volleyballs for each school in 1926 and subsequently playground equipment, swings, and a see saw for the Northeast school. The Jan 3, 1927 meeting arranged for the piano from the Richmond Grange to be delivered to northeast, and noted that hot lunches had begun. Minutes of Nov. 29, 1927 discussed wiring the school buildings (10 lights for Northeast) and improving sanitary conditions. The P.T.A. during these years raised money to help defray the costs of electricity, magazine subscriptions, books, teacher supplies, hot lunches (Northeast school house was the first to institute hot lunches), buying a victrola, sheet music, and piano tuning costs at northeast, costs for teachers to attend regional and state teacher conventions and pay the dues to these organizations for the teacher, buying library books, the cost for three new window screens at the northeast school in 1929 from George North, and 13 yards of cretonne material for curtains for the northeast school; and varnish for the school desks in 1930. Other extras through the good offices of the P.T.A. included oranges for the sick, a tea kettle for the Northeast school, sending a child to camp, supplying towels and cups for hot lunches, buying 18 aluminum plates and an electric hot plate for the hot lunches, buying soup during the winter, awarding honor students with cash prizes, buying ice cream for field day in 1931, getting the Automobile Club to put up road signs to warn drivers on each side of the school, share expense of cost of doctor for Health Week in June.

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of ancient Native American settlement in Richmond are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Ancient sites in this area have the potential to contribute information towards a better understanding of Native American settlement and subsistence in the Berkshire uplands of Western Massachusetts. Potential sites may also contribute information that documents the importance of the Housatonic River drainage to Native peoples in the area and their relationship with other Native socio political groups to the south in the Connecticut area, to the west towards the Hudson River drainage in New York or eastward to the Connecticut River locale.

(end)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

Northeast School, District #1
Richmond, Berkshire County, MA

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Published Sources:

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Berkshire County Eagle. Microfilm on file: Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield, Massachusetts. 1852-60.

Child, Hamilton. *Gazetteer of Berkshire County, Massachusetts, 1725-1885*. Syracuse, New York: Journal Office, 1885.

Clippings files of the *Berkshire Evening Eagle*, Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield, Mass.

Fennelly, Catherine. *Town Schooling in Early New England 1790-1840*. Old Sturbridge Village Booklet Series. Meriden, Conn.: Meriden Gravure Company, 1968.

Field, David Dudley. *A History of Berkshire County, Massachusetts*. Pittsfield, Mass., 1829.

Holland, Josiah Gilbert. *History of Western Massachusetts*. Springfield: Samuel Bowles and Company, 1855, pp. 561-569.

Pittsfield Sun, 1852-60. Microfilm at Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield.

Smith, J. E. A., editor. *The History of Berkshire County, Massachusetts*. New York: J. B. Beers & Co., 1885.

William R. Stevens obituary, *Berkshire Evening Eagle*, January 30, 1909.

Wood, Frederic J. *The Turnpikes of New England*. Boston: Marshall Jones Company, 1919.

Unpublished Sources:

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission. Local Preservation Activities: A Status Report. Pittsfield, Massachusetts, February, 1979.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 2

Northeast School, District #1
Richmond, Berkshire County, MA

Deeds on various properties at Stevens' Corners, including William J. Nichols to Henry B. Stevens, April 3, 1856, Book 145, page 220. Middle Berkshire Registry of Deeds, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Holmes, et. al. "Archaeological Site Examinations of Two Historic Sites in Segment 7, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, UM-124." On file: Massachusetts Historical Commission, Boston, MA.

Knurow, Edward R., Collection. Book 9 "Turnpikes, Taverns and Town Histories." On file: Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Minutes and Accounts of the Northeast School House P.T.A. Meetings, 1924-1931. From the Estate of Cora Stevens. Given to the Richmond Historical Society by her grandchildren, Stedman and Carol Stevens. On File: Richmond Historical Society, Richmond, Massachusetts.

Town of Richmond Records:

Annual Reports, 1867-1918, and School Committee Reports, 1873-1883. Town of Richmond, Massachusetts. On file: Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Richmond School Committee Records, Minutes, etc. 1883-1887, 1891-1893, 1894-1911, 1912-1925. On file: Richmond Town Hall.

Richmond School Committee Minutes, 1926-1956. On file: Richmond Town Hall.

Richmond School Register, Enrollment, Attendance, 1889-1899, 1909-1910. On file: Richmond Town Hall.

Richmond School Deeds, Center School, Northeast School, Miscellaneous Papers, 1830, 1828. On file: Richmond Town Hall.

"School Committee Meeting Minutes, Town of Richmond, 1789-1808. Typescript transcribed and in the possession of Bill Edwards, Chair, Richmond Historical Commission.

Seymour Documents, Roll 3 of Town of Richmond (records), Massachusetts Historical Documents. On file: Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 3

Northeast School, District #1
Richmond, Berkshire County, MA

Town meeting records, 1810-1824, Book D, Roll 3, and 1824-1840, Book E, Roll 3, Town of Richmond.
On file: Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Town School files for 1936 or 1937, "Sale of Rural School Houses," in envelope, "Correspondence on proposed school and other letters, 1935-1939," in Town Library Vault, Richmond, Massachusetts.

Maps:

Map of Richmond. State Archives Series #1055, March 30, 1795.

Map of Richmond. State Archives Series #1871, 1830.

"Map of Richmond, July 15th, 1857." From Richmond Iron Works, Doomsday Book, Pittsfield Registry, Map of Richmond, page 12, July 15, 1857. In Knurow Collection, Book 9, p. 15, Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Walling, Henry F. *Map of the County of Berkshire, Massachusetts*. New York: Smith, Gallup & Co., 1858.

Beers, F. W. *County Atlas of Berkshire, Massachusetts*. New York: R. T. White & Co., 1876.

Barnes & Farnham, compilers. *Atlas of Berkshire County, Massachusetts*. Pittsfield, Mass.: Barnes & Farnham, 1904.

(end)

NORTHEAST SCHOOL, DISTRICT #1

Name of Property

BERKSHIRE, MA

County, State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 3.17 acres

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. Zone 18 Easting 637300 Northing 4695330

3. Zone Easting Northing

2. 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

Norene Roberts, Consultant, Gloria Morse, and Bill Edwards, Richmond Historical Commission,
name/title with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date July, 2002

street & number 220 Morrissey Boulevard telephone (617) 727-8470

city or town Boston state Massachusetts zip code 02125-3314

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 RICHMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY c/o William Sexton, President

street & number P. O. Box 428 telephone (413) 698-3247

city or town RICHMOND state MA zip code 01254

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 Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

Northeast School, District #1
Richmond, Berkshire County, MA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The parcel shown outlined in pencil on the accompanying plat map entitled Lot 1, consisting of 3.17 acres, being a portion of current tax map 404, Lot 18, in the Town of Richmond.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The legal parcel mentioned above consisting of the school house moved thereon in 1993.

(end)

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs 1-2: taken by William Edwards, 1993. Negatives with Richmond Historical Commission
Photographs 3-4: taken by Norene A. Roberts, May 2001. Negatives with Richmond Hist. Comm.

1. View facing NW
2. View facing SE
3. View facing NW
4. View facing NE

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 02000902

Date Listed: 8/30/2002

Property Name: Northeast School

County: Berkshire State: MA

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Patrick Andrews
Signature of the Keeper

9/9/2002
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

This building is nominated under National Register Criteria A and C, but only Education is selected as an Area of Significance. This SLR makes a technical correction to the form by adding Architecture as an Area of Significance to reflect the building's architectural importance.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file**
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**



Northeast School, District #1
981 Summit Road, Richmond
Berkshire County, Massachusetts

Photographer: William Edwards

Date: Fall, 1993

Negative: Richmond Historical Commission

View: Facing northwest

Photograph #1



Northeast School, District #1

981 Summit Road, Richmond

Berkshire County, Massachusetts

Photographer: William Edwards

Date: Fall, 1993

Negative: Richmond Historical Commission

View: facing southeast

Photograph #2



Northeast School
1856-1937
Last of Richmond's One-room Schoolhouses.
Owned by
Richmond Historical Society
1992

981

Northeast School, District #1

981 Summit Road, Richmond (Berkshire County) MA

photographer; Norene A. Roberts

May 14, 2001

negative: Richmond Historical Society

View facing Northwest

Photograph #3



Northeast School, District #1

98.1 Summit Road, Richmond (Berkshire County) MA

photographer: Norene A. Roberts

May 14, 2001


negative: Richmond Historical Society

view facing northeast

Photograph # 4


Richmond, Berkshire Co. MA
Pittsfield West
 MASS.-N. Y. DISTRICT #1
 SCHOOL

1:25 000-scale metric
 topographic map



7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE
 SHOWING

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



GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
 1988

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
 Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts agencies

Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1961. Field checked 1981. Map dated 1988. This area also covered by 7.5-minute, 1:25,000-scale maps: Canaan and Pittsfield West dated 1979

Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 18
 Universal Transverse Mercator
 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone, and New York coordinate system east zone 1967 North American Datum
 To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983, move the projection lines 5 meters south and 36 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
 Gray tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

CONTOUR INTERVAL 6 METERS
 NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
 CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
 OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

CONVERSION TABLE		DECLINATION DIAGRAM		ADJOINING MAPS		
Meters	Feet	Magnetic Declination		1	2	3
1	3.2808	145° W		4	5	
2	6.5616	130° W		6	7	8
3	9.8424	115° W		1 Neenan (7.5')		
4	13.1232	100° W		2 Stephentown Center		
5	16.4040	85° W		3 Canaan		
6	19.6848	70° W		4 Canaan (7.5')		
7	22.9656	55° W		5 Pittsfield East		
8	26.2464	40° W		6 Canaan (7.5')		
9	29.5272	25° W		7 Canaan		
10	32.8080	10° W		8 East Lee		

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808
 To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

UTM grid convergence (N) and magnetic declination (M) at center of map
 Diagram is approximate

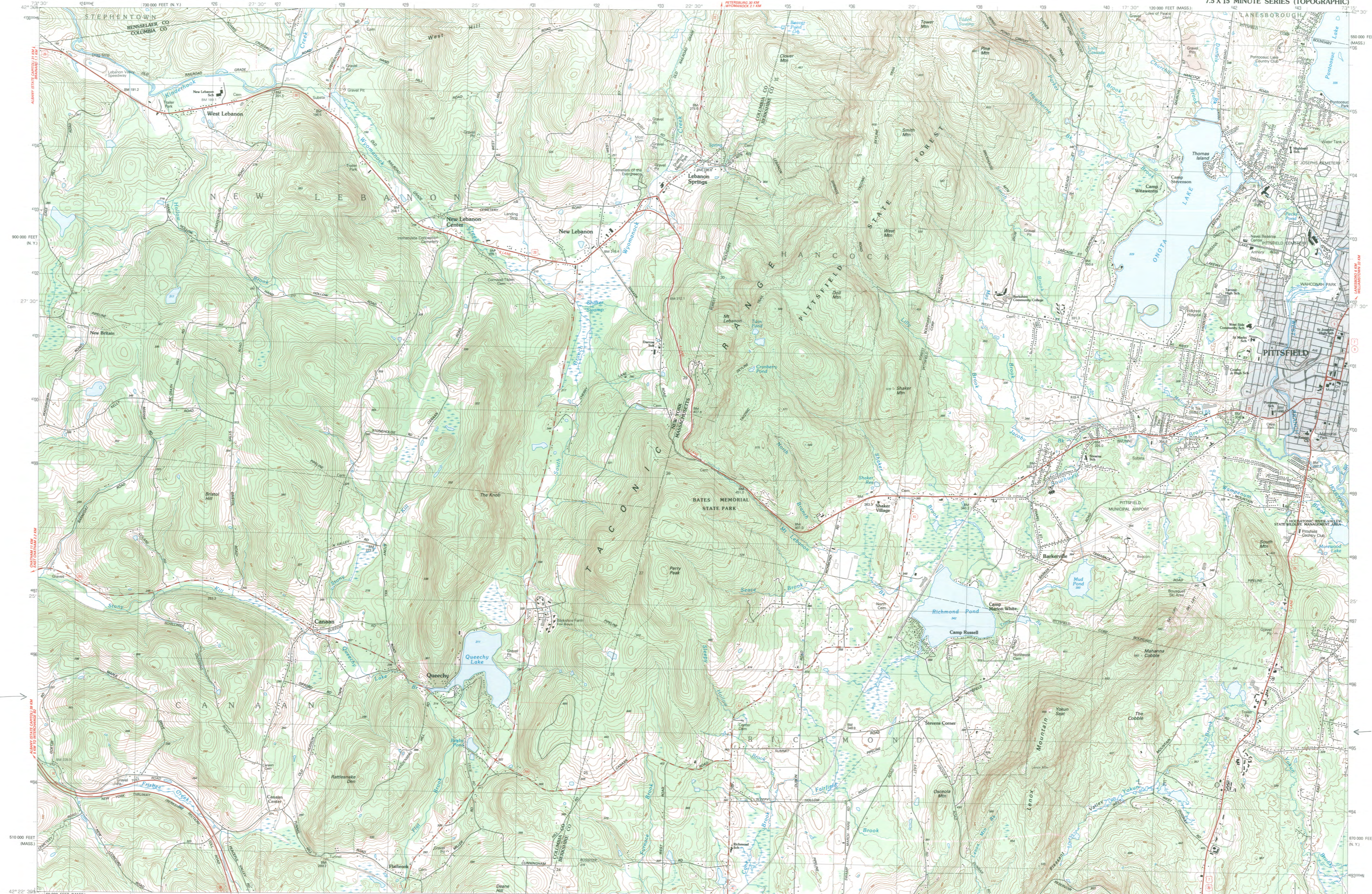
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
 DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

118829 M353 42.95
 PITTSFIELD WEST/canaan

Topographic Map Symbols

Primary highway, hard surface	Secondary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface	Unimproved road, trail	Route marker: Interstate, U. S., State	Railroad: standard gage, narrow gage	Bridge: drawbridge	Footbridge; overpass; underpass	Built-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown	House: barn; church; school; large structure	Boundary: National, with monument; State; County, parish; Civil township, precinct, district; Incorporated city, village, town; National or State reservation; small park; Land grant with monument; land acquisition center; U. S. public lands survey: range, township; section; Range, township; section line: location approximate; Fence or field line; Power transmission line, located tower; Dam; dam with lock; Cemetery: grave; Campground; picnic area; U. S. location monument; Wellhead; water well; spring; Mine shaft; prospect; adit or cave; Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation; Contour: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression; Quaternary surface: strip mine; lava; sand; Bathymetric contour: index; intermediate; Parenteral lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream; Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small; Swamp; marsh; Submerged marsh; land subject to controlled inundation; Woodland; scattered trees; Scrub; mangrove; Orchard; vineyard.
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A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request



SURVEY OF LAND
in
RICHMOND, MASS.
Prepared for
JAMES M. MIHALKE
MAY 8, 1993

Being a portion of that land described
in Middle Berkshire Registry of Deeds:

BOOK: 1163 PAGE: 694
GRANTOR: James M. Mihalke
GRANTEE: James M. & Barbara H. Mihalke
DATED: September 18, 1986.

TABLE OF COURSES

#	BEARING	RADIUS	LENGTH ARC LENGTH
L1	N03 34' 26"W		9.77'
L2	N03 40' 39"E		20.00'

LEGEND

- IRON PIPE SET OR TO BE SET
- IRON PIPE FOUND
- FIELD STONE WALL FOUND
- OUTLINES PERIMETER OF SURVEY
- SURVEY TIE COURSE
- ABUTTER LINE OR STREET LINE
- ⊙ GAS POST FOUND
- UTILITY POLE

APPROVAL UNDER THE SUBDIVISION
CONTROL LAW IS NOT REQUIRED
CHAIRMAN: *John R. Hanson*
R. Morrison
R. W. Mangolinski

DATE: May 10, 1993
TOWN OF RICHMOND
PLANNING BOARD

Note: See filed plan entitled:
"SURVEY OF LAND"
IN RICHMOND, MASS.
PREPARED FOR
JAMES MIHALKE
BY: DENNIS DRUM & ASSOCIATES INC.
DATED: AUGUST 1, 1984
RECORDED: DRAWER F, AS PLAN 93

Note: See filed plan entitled:
"THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS"
PLAN OF ROAD
IN THE TOWN OF
RICHMOND
SWAMP ROAD
BERKSHIRE COUNTY
LAID OUT AS A COUNTY HIGHWAY
BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DATED: 1967
RECORDED: DRAWER 217

Note: all parcels are subject to and with the benefit of
all rights, conditions, restrictions, easements, leases,
encumbrances and appurtenances on record as well as those
unrecorded.
NOTE: SURVEY TIE COURSES AND ABUTTER LINES ARE NOT PROPERTY LINES.

REMAINING LAND OF
JAMES M. & BARBARA H.
MIHALKE
(BK 1163 PG 694)
MEETS OR EXCEEDS CURRENT ZONING MINIMUMS

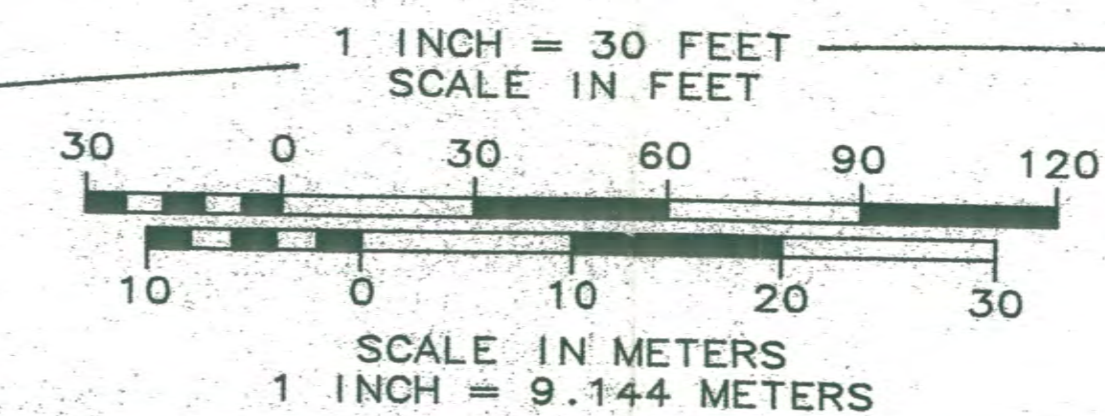
Note: See filed plan entitled:
"SURVEY OF LAND"
IN RICHMOND, MASS.
PREPARED FOR
H. CURTIS COLBY
BY: DENNIS C. DRUM & ASSOCIATES INC.
DATED: JUNE 13, 1988
REVISED: JUNE 28, 1988
RECORDED: PLATE B AS PLAN 72

A TRUE COPY ATTEST RECORDED IN
PLAT D-17
BY *Mary K. O'Brien*
REGISTER OF DEEDS

LOT 1
3.17 ACRES
ZONED: RA-C
BEING A PORTION OF CURRENT
TAX MAP 404, LOT 18

REMAINING LAND OF
JAMES M. & BARBARA H.
MIHALKE
(BK 1163 PG 694)
MEETS OR EXCEEDS
CURRENT ZONING MINIMUMS

DRILL HOLE SET 0.5' BELOW GRADE
AT SOUTH END OF HORIZONTAL IRON
PIPE SET.
APPROXIMATE STATION 203495.58



Northeast School, District #1
981 Summit Road
Richmond, Berkshire County, MA

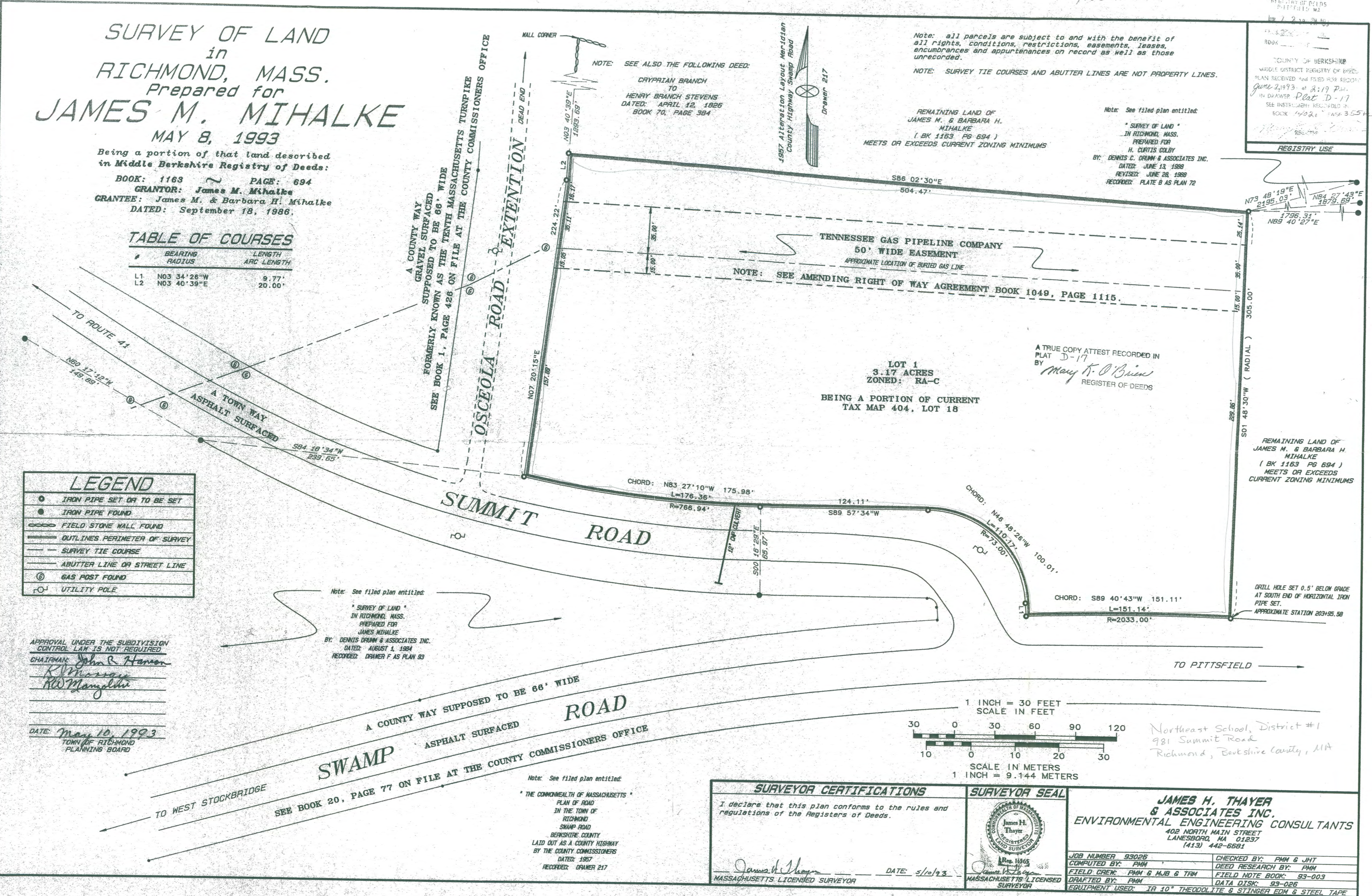
SURVEYOR CERTIFICATIONS
I declare that this plan conforms to the rules and
regulations of the Registers of Deeds.
James H. Thayer
MASSACHUSETTS LICENSED SURVEYOR
DATE: 5/10/93

SURVEYOR SEAL
James H. Thayer
REGISTERED
LAND SURVEYOR
Lic. 18865
MASSACHUSETTS LICENSED
SURVEYOR

**JAMES H. THAYER
& ASSOCIATES INC.**
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS
402 NORTH MAIN STREET
LANESBORO, MA 01237
(413) 442-6681

JOB NUMBER: 93026	CHECKED BY: PMM & JHT
COMPUTED BY: PMM	DEED RESEARCH BY: PMM
FIELD CREW: PMM & MJB & TRM	FIELD NOTE BOOK: 93-003
DRAFTED BY: PMM	DATA DISK: 93-026
EQUIPMENT USED: IR 10" THEODOLITE & STINGER EDM & STEEL TAPE	

RECORDED
REGISTER OF DEEDS
PITTSFIELD, MA
MAY 7 2 1993
BOOK 1163 PAGE 694
COUNTY OF BERKSHIRE
MIDDLE DISTRICT REGISTER OF DEEDS
PLAN RECEIVED AND FILED FOR RECORD
JUNE 2, 1993 at 8:19 P.M.
IN DRAWER - Plat D-17
SEE INSTRUMENT RECORDED IN
BOOK 1163 PAGE 694



Richmond Historical Society

Post Office Box 428 Richmond MA 01254-0428

BF NR
dice
RECEIVED

MAR 16 2001

March 14, 2001 MASS. HIST. COMM

Betsy Friedberg
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Blvd
Boston MA 02125

Re: National Register Nomination, Northeast Schoolhouse,
Richmond

Dear Ms. Friedberg:

In the interest of making the file as complete as possible, I would like to affirm the Richmond Historical Society's support of the referenced application.

We have a very concrete interest in this. It was this society that rescued the school from demolition, acquired ownership, carried out restoration, created a substantial endowment for future maintenance, and in fact has funded and otherwise supported the National Register proceedings.

Let me take this opportunity to thank you for the information on consultants that you provided during our conversation at the Lowell meeting last year. That got the application underway at long last.

Sincerely,



William C. Sexton
President



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

TEL: (413) 698-3882

FAX: (413) 698-3272

TOWN OF RICHMOND

Town Hall

1529 State Road

Richmond, Massachusetts 01254

BF NR file

RECEIVED

MAR 26 2001

MASS. HIST. COMM.

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Coordinator
Massachusetts Historical Commission
22 Morrissey Blvd.
Boston, MA 02125

March 22, 2001

Re: Nomination of the Northeast Schoolhouse for the National Register of
Historic Places

Dear Ms. Friedberg,

The Selectmen are writing to express their strong support for the nomination of the Northeast Schoolhouse for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

We were pleased and surprised to learn that the schoolhouse is considerably older than we had believed and we think that it is an excellent candidate for this designation. The schoolhouse has been an important project of the Richmond Historical Society for several years and, along with the previously designated historic Furnace District, it ranks as one of the town's principal historic sites. Thanks to the efforts of the historical society and many volunteers, the schoolhouse has been restored as a usable building and has been used as a meeting place and as a center of historic and municipal activities.

One of the most interesting and rewarding occurrences in recent years was that our school department actually used the schoolhouse for regular summer classes while our consolidated school was renovated in the summer of 2000. It was a pleasure to have "modern day" students experience the joys and challenges of that now rarified environment of a single classroom for students of varying ages and abilities. In addition, we are pleased to report that several graduates of the schoolhouse still reside in Richmond and in surrounding communities and that these graduates have generously shared their schoolhouse experiences at historical functions and with our consolidated school students.

We warmly recommend that the schoolhouse receive this important designation and we would be happy to answer any questions or provide additional information.

Sincerely,

ALAN B. HANSON
ROGER W. MANZOLINI
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Bruce Garlow
Town Administrative Assistant

CC William Sexton, Richmond Historical Society



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission



July 11, 2002

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Mail Stop 2280, Suite 400
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Northeast School, Richmond (Berkshire), 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 properties were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 45 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

One letter of support has been received.

Sincerely,

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

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Norene Roberts, consultant
Mary Blair, President, Richmond Historical Society, 2533 Swamp Road
William F. Edwards, Richmond Historical Commission
John Hanson, Richmond Planning Board
Marguerite Rawson, Chairperson, Board of Selectmen

220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
(617) 727-8470 • Fax: (617) 727-5128
www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc