

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name East Blackstone Village Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Elm and Summer Street N/A not for publication

city or town Blackstone N/A vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Worcester code 027 zip code 01504

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.)

Judith B. McDonough 7/13/95

Signature of certifying official/Title Judith B. McDonough, Executive Director Date

Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

☒ entered in the National Register

☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined eligible for the National Register

☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register

☐ removed from the National Register

☐ other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Patrick Andrews

Date of Action

9/6/95

East Blackstone Village Historic District

Name of Property

Worcester County, MA

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
18	9	buildings
4		sites
2		structures
		objects
24	9	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

COMMERCE/TRADE: store

SOCIAL: meeting hall

EDUCATION: school

RELIGION: church, church related residence

INDUSTRY: manufacturing facility site

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

LANDSCAPE: park

VACANT

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

COLONIAL: Georgian

EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal

MID 19TH CENTURY: Greek Revival

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate, Queen Anne

EARLY 20TH CENTURY: Bungalow, Cape

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: Granite, CONCRETE

walls STONE, WOOD (Weatherboard, Shingle),

BRICK, SYNTHETIC (Vinyl)

roof ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

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

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Blackstone (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

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INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

7. DESCRIPTION

The East Blackstone Village Historic District is located on the earliest route connecting Providence and Worcester formerly known as the Rehobeth or the Mendon Road. Properties retaining integrity and reminiscent of the nineteenth century self contained village line the east side of Elm Street below Bellingham Street with a small cluster at the Elm Street and Summer Street intersection. The contributing resources in the district include fourteen residential buildings, two barns, one former store, one former schoolhouse (now residential), two structures and four archaeological sites each with remnants of mill walls, head and tailrace and dam walls. Together these resources make up the early nineteenth century center. East Blackstone Village is on the eastern edge of the ten and one-half square mile town of Blackstone near the town line of Bellingham.

The district includes the east side of Elm Street, from the Quick Stream area, north to Bellingham/Summer Street intersection, from the intersection west on Summer Street to Attilio Valati Park, and north from Summer on the west side of Elm Street for a short distance. There is one discontinuous area at Kelly's Bridge over Mill Stream which includes the Seth Kelly Sr. House, the mill sites on the same property and the stone arch bridge known as Kelly's Bridge. This discontinuous area is linked historically and geographically by the Mill River which flows under Elm Street at Kelly's Bridge to the west side of Elm Street and south to Forge Pond north of Summer Street. This water course is one of the most important parts of the landscape articulating the growth and development of East Blackstone Village.

The properties included in the district are uniformly close to the road with the exception of the VI District School (100 Elm Street, Map #18/36) and the Kelly Farm (174 Elm Street, Map #20/07). District boundaries follow property lines except at 98 and 110 Elm Street and 174 Elm Street. The lots of 98 and 110 Elm Street each have over twenty acres behind the house lots fronting on Elm Street. Included in the National Register district boundaries are small portions of those lots similar to adjacent lots. The property at 174 Elm Street is three lots two of which are within Lot 07 formerly subdivided as such for town water easements (no longer used). Lot 07 on which is situated the house is nearly fifty acres. The area included in the district boundaries form the front piece on which is situated the house, pond, mill building remnants and tailraces.

Contributing properties date from ca. 1760 when the Seth Kelly Sr. House was constructed to 1938 when the Seth Kelly Jr. House burned and was replaced with a modest Cape on part of the older house foundation. Most are representative of the nineteenth century self sufficient district. All but two of the buildings were built as dwellings and all retain a rural natural and

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unplanned setting. The overall landscape of the village conveys the sense of the development of the community with the small house lots close to the road, undeveloped farmland behind and the lowlands which outline the water course of the Mill River at the Seth Kelly Sr. property (174 Elm Street) and west of Elm Street where mills once thrived. Some of the large trees which once lined and framed Elm Street at the Village center remain as reminders of the nineteenth century canopy at the road edge.

Buildings in the district range from the one and one-half story Greek Revival Cape Cod cottage and the two and one-half story Georgian or Federal five-bay center entrance plan to the large gable front Italianate dwellings and small one-story bungalow. Construction is of wood with the exception of the two non-residential buildings, the Stone Store and the brick Schoolhouse and the raised one-story foundation of the Joseph Ray House which is brick and stone. Five of the contributing buildings have been covered with synthetic siding and one with asphalt shingles, however, most retain trim evoking the early construction dates. The structures and mill sites are of dry laid stone construction. The three arch bridge has been parged with concrete in the mid 1900s.

Buildings date from the Federal Period and are representative of each development period to the Modern Period. The trim is plain with narrow returns and little detail on corner pilasters and surrounding windows and doors. Most are built on granite foundations. The intrusions are either dwellings of modest one-story scale displaying little on no architectural style or small mid-twentieth century garages which retain a scale compatible with the district as a whole.

Residential Buildings

The earliest dwelling in the area is the Seth Kelly Sr. House (ca. 1760, 174 Main St., Map #20/07, Photograph # 1) which has been covered with synthetic siding but retains its five-bay, two and one-half story massing built around a center chimney. Its setting with Kelly Pond wrapping behind the house to flow into Mill River on the north side is retained and is important to its overall integrity and articulation of the development of the property as the Kelly farm and mill complex.

At the East Blackstone Village intersection is the Moses Kelly House (ca. 1821, 122 Elm Street, Map #18/46, Photograph # 2) retaining similar massing scale and plan to the family homestead at 174 Elm Street. The well articulated entrance surround is characterized by pilasters supporting a wide entablature, and a projecting and molded cornice over the fanlight with leaded lights.

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One of the earliest extant dwellings at the village center is the Joseph Ray House (ca. 1800, 118 Elm Street, Map 18/44, Photograph # 3). The early date attributed to the dwelling is due to its raised stone foundation similar to the ca. 1800 Stone Store for which it may have been constructed as the proprietor's house. The dwelling is built into the slope of the hill with the first story of stone and brick and the second of wood clapboards. This portion may have been added at a later date as evidenced by the recessed panels and molded caps of the corner posts.

There are a number of one and one-half story Greek Revival cottages built between ca. 1825 and ca. 1850 all of gable roof center entrance plan. The earliest is the James Paine House (ca. 1825, 114 Elm Street, Map #18/42, Photograph # 4) with wider earlier proportions than the others. Built on a granite foundation the twin chimney dwelling retains Greek Revival details including wide molded corner posts with caps, wide entablature and boxed cornice, six-over-six sash with beaded lintels. Four cottages built by the Ray Brothers, Benjamin and Joseph, include the ca. 1830 houses at 98 and 102 Elm Street (Map #18/35 and 18/37, Photograph # 5), and ca. 1850 dwellings at 104 and 106 Elm Street (Map #18/38 and 18/39, Photograph # 5). Each displays the five-bay gable roof plan with granite foundations and a taller front wall than earlier cottages as shown by the distance between the top of the first-story windows and the eave overhang. The dwellings are two bays deep. The ca. 1830 cottages have single center chimneys and the other two later dwellings have twin chimneys. An additional Greek Revival center entrance plan is the L. & E.N. Paine House (ca. 1850, 6 Summer Street Map #21/49, Photograph # 6).

There are three late nineteenth century dwellings which represent later periods of development as well as asymmetrical and mixed styles. The one and one-half story Mansard dwelling known as the Lyman Paine House (ca. 1854, 116 Elm Street, Map #18/43), may have been altered with the application of the ca. 1870 mansard roof. The house has recently been remodelled accounting for the modern interpretation of a double Italianate door and new materials.

Built in ca. 1878 is the Jeremiah Gatchell House (135 Elm Street, Map #21/45) displaying the Italianate Style. This large gable front dwelling has a three-bay main facade with side hall plan, double door entrance, paired bracketed cornice, and chamfered posts supporting the full width porch. The setting of this property is important in that the connection with Forge Pond at Mill Stream at the rear is apparent and reminiscent of early photographs which show an elaborate boat house at the pond edge. Also the property is enhanced by the now attached barn which relates to the house.

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The Curtis Daniels House (1900, 1 Summer Street, Map #17/41) displays the Queen Anne/Colonial Revival Style with a substantial two and one-half story gable front main block, two-story rear ell, and projecting one- and two-story bays. Windows have two-over-two sash with pointed arched lintels. A Queen Anne porch which has been enclosed spans the gable front. The related barn, in excellent condition, displays similar details.

Two twentieth century dwellings which were built within the district's period of significance are the ca. 1925 Bungalow at 112 Elm Street (Photograph # 4) and the 1938 Cape at 124 Elm Street on the site and foundation of the former Seth Kelly Jr. House. Both properties are similar in size and scale to existing earlier dwellings in the district.

Non-Residential Resources

One of three stone buildings in Blackstone of unique construction is the Stone Store (ca. 1800, 120 Elm Street, Map #18/25, Photograph # 2,3). The three-story buff colored stone structure is built into a small hill accounting for three stories on the street side and two at the rear. The building has a symmetrical fenestration pattern with six-over-six sash set in plain narrow wood frames. The gable ends are five bays deep with three bays in the gable peaks. There is a center entrance on the main facade and each gable end.

The VI District School (ca. 1830, 100 Elm Street, Map 18/36), which has been converted to a residence, retains its one-story hipped roof block with projecting gable front enclosed entrance porch. Built on a high granite block foundation the building has large two-over-two windows on the sides and one flanking each side of the replacement modern entrance door. The building is one of only a few brick nineteenth century structures in Blackstone and one of two remaining one and two room village schoolhouses. A large clapboard addition has been constructed within the year.

On Elm Street in front of the Seth Kelly Sr. House is the Stone Arch Bridge aka Kelly's Bridge (ca. 1850, Map #922) crossing Mill River. Although stucco facing has been applied over the dry laid stones, the form of the bridge with three prominent arches is evident from the River bank.

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Blackstone (Worcester County)
MassachusettsArchaeological Description

While no prehistoric sites are currently recorded in the district, it is possible that sites are present. One prehistoric site has been recorded in the general area (within one mile), the only site known for the entire town. Prehistoric site concentrations have been identified elsewhere along the Blackstone River and its tributaries, both in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The one known site listed in the general area of the proposed district lies on the east bank of the Mill River, at the northern end of the dammed Harris Pond. The physical characteristics of the district, well drained level to moderately sloping terraces in close proximity to wetlands indicate favorable locational criteria for Native American subsistence and settlement activities. Wetlands in the district include the Mill River which flows between and through both discontinuous district segments and Walsh Pond in the northern segment with Forge Pond a dammed portion of the Mill River at the southern segment. Given the above information, the size of the district (approximately 33 acres) and concentrated historic period development within the district, a moderate to high potential exists for the recovery of significant prehistoric survivals.

A high potential exists for locating historic archaeological resources in the district. Numerous industrial related structures originally associated with the district have burned or been demolished, frequently leaving foundations or other visible conduction of their locations. Few if any intrusions are present in the district areas subsequent to burning or demolition of these structures indicating a high probability for the intact integrity of these sites. Systematic archaeological survey and mapping would assist in reconstructing the physical evaluation of the industrial components for this community and in clarifying the functions that individual structures/sites played. The district encompasses discontinuous segments which include the two main industrial loci in the East Blackstone Village area, at the southern end of Walsh Pond in the 174 Elm Street locale and the other at the southern end of Forge Pond north of Summer Street. These areas include 18th and 19th century resources, many of which are still visible above ground. As noted above, few intrusions are present. Numerous other potential sites are known in areas outside the district, however, no traces remain of them and they lie in areas where intrusions are common. Future archaeological survey which documents site locations and/or their integrity could result in an expansion of the district boundaries into these areas.

One locus of industrial sites in the district is located in the vicinity of 174 Elm Street opposite the ca. 1760 Seth Kelly Sr. House and the ca. 1850 Stone Arch Bridge which spans the Mill River. Visible from the bridge are remnants of a grist mill (Map #20/07[b]) established on the Mill River by James Cargill in 1753. The grist mill was purchased by Seth Kelly Sr. in

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1759. Grist mill walls and a wheel pit remain from the mill.

The path of the water diverted from Mill River into a head race and wheel location are evidence as well as a substantial section of dry laid mill building wall adjacent to the water wheel location. Some of the old grind stones are scattered above this at the pond edge. Further upstream from the bridge are remnants of mid-1800s tailraces of the early nineteenth century cotton mill (Map #20/07[c]). A dry laid fieldstone wall holds back the earth to form a tailrace trench connecting Kelly Pond with the mill sites. Kelly Pond visible from the road on the south (right) side of the house wraps behind the house and extends to the Mill River where the cotton mill was located.

Additional potential historic resources in this area include a sawmill built by Seth Kelly Sr. next to the grist mill. A clothier shop and fulling mill are also reported on Seth Kelly Sr.'s farm on the 1798 Federal Tax list. Ice houses were also present in this area after the mid 19th century. No physical remains are visible for the grist mill, clothier shop; fulling mill or ice houses. Occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) should also exist in this area related to the industrial sites and residential use of the Seth Kelly Sr. home. Structural remains of outbuildings are also probable including barns, wood sheds and possible structures for cottage type industries known to have been present in the area. The Kelly site area was the site of a farm prior to industrial development in the area indicating the potential for agricultural related resources. Construction features should also exist related to the Stone Arch Bridge.

The second locus of industrial development included in the district is located at the southern end of Forge Pond north of Summer Street at Attilio Valate Park. At least 3 mills, the dam, head and tail races are present in the park area between Forge Pond and Mill River south of the pond. The land formation with a high ridge on the eastern boundary and a trench for the water power to be diverted from the pond through the mill and back to the river are clues about the early development and contribute to a visual understanding of the mill chronology. The central focus of the area is a ca. 1850 dam (map #21/50 [b]) across the Mill River forming Forge Pond. Stonework from the dam is present as well as construction and earthen features. East of the river and north of Summer Street is the site of a 1716 forge which predates the mid 18th century formation of the industrial village. The forge site consists of a trench which diverted water from Forge Pond into a building site consisting of dry laid stone walls (Map #21/50 [a]) and a tailrace also consisting of dry laid stone. The complex described above is clearly the site of the 1716 forge. Later structures or mills have not been identified for this location, however, intense industrial use of the area indicates later use of the forge site and possible construction should not be ruled out. On the west side of the river

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near the pond edge and dam site is a long trench/headrace (Map #21/50[c]) with dry laid and concrete walls and a large foundation stone over the headrace. This area was the site of an early 19th century saw mill as shown on the 1831 Metcalf Map, a mid 19th century cotton mill as shown on the 1857 Walling Map and ice houses as shown on early 20th century maps. The trench runs from the pond south under the road to reconnect with the Mill River south of Summer Street where other cotton Mills were located of which there is no evidence today.

Additional potential historic archaeological resources are also present in the district which are not in the immediate proximity of the two industrial loci discussed above. Structural remains from an elaborate late 19th century boat house may survive at the edge of Forge Pond to the rear of 135 Elm Street and the 1878 Jeremiah Gatchell House. Similar resources may also survive from the 1798 Seth Kelly Jr. House constructed at 124 Elm Street. That house burned in 1938 and was replaced by a modest Cape on part of the old house foundation. Potential structural remains and related features from cottage industries are also indicated in the district by the presence of a shoe shop on the property of the ca. 1821 Moses Kelly House at 122 Elm Street. Out buildings and occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) should be an important resource type in the district associated with both archaeological sites and extant structures. These resources may be present in the vicinity of the ca. 1845 Rathburn House at 110 Elm Street and the ca. 1821 Moses Kelly house at 122 Elm Street. Both houses were the sites of farms in the district. The Seth Kelly Sr. House, also a farm has been previously discussed. By the late 18th century 80 substantial farms were present in the South Precinct of Mendon (Blackstone) among which 5 had saw, grist or fulling mills. Occupational related features, also an important resource type, should be present related to numerous sites and structures in the district. These resource types may be particularly important at the ca. 1830 VI District School, the ca. 1800 Stone Store and other earlier residences, particularly those where farming or collage industries were present.

(end)

East Blackstone Village Historic District
Name of Property

Worcester County, MA
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☒ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHAEOLOGY

ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance

1716 - 1941

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Blackstone Historical Commission

East Blackstone Village Historic District
Name of Property

Worcester County, MA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approximately 33 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 19 291860 4657310
Zone Easting Northing

3. 19 291930 4657320
Zone Easting Northing

2. 19 291210 4657290
Zone Easting Northing

4. 19 292280 4657080
Zone Easting Northing

X 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

Gretchen G. Schuler, Preservation Consultant for the Blackstone Historical Commission
name/title and Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date June 1995

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

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02125

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Multiple

street & number telephone

city or town state zip code

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.

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National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
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Blackstone (Worcester County)
Massachusetts****8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The East Blackstone Village Historic District in Blackstone Massachusetts, is a small self-contained rural village which retains its sense of an early- to mid-nineteenth century mill village in a town which was famous for its large successful mills at the town center. The district includes representations of all periods of development beginning with the early settlement of this area in the mid-eighteenth century and continuing through the early modern period when in 1941 the small village school and store were closed due to growth associated with the automobile. Today, the district is a rural residential area with visual remnants of its commercial and industrial past. The East Blackstone Historic District retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association and fulfills Criteria A, C and D of the National Register of Historic Places. It is significant at the local level.

Originally part of the 1667 Mendon grant, Blackstone was known as the South Parish or South Precinct of Mendon from 1766 when a second meeting house was established at Chestnut Hill (now the Town of Millville). The South Parish was part of Mendon politically until Blackstone's separate incorporation in 1845. And in 1917 Millville separated from Blackstone leaving the town with its present ten and one-half square miles more or less.

From the early 1700s, centers with their own character evolved in Mendon's South Parish at Chestnut Hill (now Millville), at East Blackstone along the Mendon Road (now Elm Street) and at Blackstone Village on the Blackstone River. In North and East Blackstone there were early eighteenth century farms with rich soils for pasture land and by the end of the 1700s there were approximately 80 substantial farms listed in Mendon's South Precinct of which five had saw, grist, or fulling mills.

The fine sandy loam of the upland hills and the water courses throughout Blackstone account for the successful agricultural economy of the early eighteenth century and the thriving industrial society throughout the history of Blackstone. Transportation routes through the town followed water routes and were cause for the location of the early settlement along Elm Street which was the Mendon Road linking Providence with Worcester in the eighteenth century and along Main Street in Blackstone Village parallel to the Blackstone River.

In 1791 Mendon was divided into school districts with seven in the South Parish. In the same decade the Quakers established a meeting house in East Blackstone thus the framework for a self sufficient village center was established.

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Although the first iron works (Map # 21/50[a]) is reported by nineteenth century histories to have been located on the eastern bank of East Blackstone's Mill River at Forge Pond as early as 1716 it was not until the mid 1700s that industrial development on the Mill River in East Blackstone took hold and the evolution of this small industrial village was defined. The success of growing crops in the upland areas of the South Parish, now East Blackstone, led to the need for a grist mill which was first established by James Cargill in 1753 on Mill River northeast of Elm Street (then Mendon Road). In 1759 Seth Kelly Sr. (1730-1799), a blacksmith from Yarmouth in Barnstable County, purchased Cargill's grist mill (Map #20/07[b]). In 1760 Kelly married Molly Daniels, granddaughter of early Blackstone settler Eleazer Daniels (not related to the nineteenth century family which developed the Daniels farm on Mendon Street) and daughter of David Daniels. They built the Seth Kelly Sr. House (Map #20/07 [a]) in which they raised their family of eight children. Soon thereafter a saw mill was added next to the grist mill which had been built on the bank of Mill River at Elm Street by James Cargill in 1753. The 1798 Federal Tax Census lists a clothier shop on Seth Kelly Sr.'s farm as well as a grist and fulling mill. The history of the Kelly family is central to the evolution of East Blackstone Village.

Seth Kelly Jr. (1762-1850) lived at 124 Elm Street (Map #20/18) in what the 1798 Federal Tax Census listed as a one-story, 800 square foot house with eleven windows. This was substantially expanded in the early nineteenth century to the eight-bay, two and one-half story, two-family Georgian house which burned in 1938 and was replaced by a Cape Cod cottage (not dissimilar to the reported 1798 dwelling) on part of the earlier house foundation. Seth Kelly Jr. joined James Paine (1765-1833) to build the first cotton mill on the south side of Summer Street in 1809. It was below Forge Pond where the first 1716 iron forge had been located and near the site of the Forge Pond dam which served several generations of mills at this site. The existence of this early cotton mill is important in that it was part of the first generation of mills which were to revolutionize the economy of this town and the surrounding Blackstone Valley areas. In 1809 twelve cotton mills were recorded in the country and by 1812 the number had expanded to fifty-three. Kelly's and Paine's cotton mill, using the water power of Forge Pond and Mill River, operated until 1864 when it was destroyed by fire a common fate for many of the industrial sites. No remnants of this mill site south of Summer Street remain today. However on the west side of Mill River just south of Forge Pond is evidence of a head race trench with large granite foundation stone straddling the trench (Map # 21/50 [c]) reminiscent of a small mill building in this location which is consistent with the 1831 Metcalf Map of Mendon showing a saw mill and according to later accounts of the locations of Edward Harris' (1801-1872) many cotton mill sites. Harris owned most of the land between East Blackstone, Farm Street and Rhode Island border from the mid 1800s. He built the dam at the bottom of Farm Street to form the 107 acre Harris Pond and owned

(continued)

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 3

**East Blackstone Village Historic District
Blackstone (Worcester County)
Massachusetts**

several small mill sites north of the pond in conjunction with the large Harris Woolen Mills on the border of East Blackstone and Woonsocket (1860s and 1870s).

The most significant building in the East Blackstone Village Historic District is the Stone Store (120 Elm Street, Map #18/45), the first and only surviving commercial block built in ca. 1800. It was owned and operated by Seth Kelly Jr. and James Paine and of all their holdings remained in common ownership throughout their lives. By 1854 East Blackstone Village had its own post office located in the Stone Store which retained its commercial use including the small cobbler shop in the basement until 1912 when it was purchased by the East Blackstone Grange No. 137, Patrons of Husbandry. The Grange had been established in 1887 by O. Fermor Fuller, known for his treatises on beekeeping. The Grange converted the store level to a dining hall and the upper story to meeting rooms. Presently the building is not in use and is in private ownership. Locally it still is referred to as the Grange.

In 1823 James Paine and Joseph Ray established the first machine shop on Quick Stream behind the present dwellings on the east side of Elm Street. Joseph Ray had married Paine's daughter, Lydia in 1814 and lived at 118 Elm Street (Map #18/44) while James Paine lived at 114 Elm Street. It is entirely possible that James Paine had lived at 118 Elm Street until his daughter married Ray at which time he may have built the Greek Revival cottage at 114 Elm Street.

This is conjecture based on vital records and on the association of Kelly and Paine with the Stone Store and surrounding properties which were in common ownership for many years.

On the southwest side of Elm Street at the confluence of Quick Stream and Mill River (not within the district), Paine and Ray established a small brick and small wood cotton mill in 1827, built by Caleb Colvin. The earlier machine shop and mill known as Ray Brothers, for Benjamin and Joseph Ray, expanded throughout the nineteenth century and although there is no remaining evidence of the mills, much of the housing on Elm Street is associated with this mill privilege. It is likely that the collection of Greek Revival gable roof cottages on the east side of Elm Street (Map #18/35, 18/37, 18/38, 18/39) were built by the Ray Brothers by 1850 as mill workers' housing. An additional five cottages, no longer extant, were situated just south of these dwellings on Elm Street and were known as Lower Canada. The remaining houses continued to be owned by mill owners Elias S. Ballou of Ballou & Worrall in the 1860s and 1870s followed by the East Blackstone Woolen Company in the 1880s. Upper Canada referred to housing no longer extant above the Kelly mills on Mill River north of the Seth Kelly Sr. House at 174 Elm Street (Map # 20/07 [a]) and associated with the cotton and woolen mills at that location.

(continued)

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Section number 8 Page 4

**East Blackstone Village Historic District
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Massachusetts**

Ray Brothers began with the 1823 machine shop at Quick Stream and by the 1850s was listed in Business Directories as cotton manufacturer as well as a cotton waste and paper stock dealer. Other mid-nineteenth century businesses in East Blackstone included John and Moses Kelly's saw mills and John Kelly's grist mill.

Moses Kelly (1790-1882), son of Seth Kelly Jr. built his family home at 122 Elm Street (Map #18/46) across Bellingham Street from his father's home. Moses was a farmer and had a shoe shop on the property, evidence of small cottage industries in the area and common winter work for local farmers. Clearly he was prosperous as is seen in the fine detail of his Federal Style home with articulated center entrance surround and leaded fanlight. Direct descendants have continued to occupy this property throughout the twentieth century.

In addition to the Store, the surrounding mills and the Quaker Meeting House (1812) north on Elm Street, East Blackstone Village developed into a self-sufficient village with VI District School (ca. 1830), the Methodist Episcopal Society (1869) and finally a train depot (by 1870). Of those properties the mills have disappeared, the Methodist church, formerly located opposite the schoolhouse at 100 Elm Street, was demolished in 1952, and the ca 1870 train depot which had been located south on Elm Street where the tracks cross, also is no longer extant due to lack of use and neglect.

The 1791 Mendon school district division located seven of the eleven schools in the South Precinct. The brick schoolhouse at 100 Elm Street (Map #18/36) was built ca. 1830 to house the VI School District. The East Blackstone School, as it was known after 1845 when Blackstone separated from Mendon, held classes for village children until 1941 at which time the last remnants of the self-sufficient village disappeared.

The Friends of the Quaker Meeting purchased land in 1799 and built its meeting house at 197 Elm Street in East Blackstone in 1812. Located north on Elm Street the Quakers used the land acquired from Samuel Smith as a burying ground and Seth Kelly, Sr., instrumental in establishing the East Blackstone Village District, was the first to be buried here in 1799. The Quaker Meeting was the primary place of worship throughout the first half of the nineteenth century. It is nominated individually for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. There was a Baptist Society (1822) and Congregational Church (1841) established in Blackstone Village, however, most of the East Blackstone families attended Meeting in Mendon until 1812 and then in East Blackstone. In 1869 the Methodist Episcopal Society constructed a gable front Greek Revival church on Elm Street opposite the brick East Blackstone School. The house at 102 Elm Street served as the Parsonage from 1895.

(continued)

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Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 5**East Blackstone Village Historic District
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Massachusetts**

The first railroads in Blackstone were built in 1847 and 1849. The Providence and Worcester Railroad was laid nearly parallel to the Blackstone Canal (1828-1848) with a depot at the Blackstone Manufacturing Company and the Norfolk County Railroad, later known as the Boston and New York Central Railroad, had a depot at Waterford in 1850, all in Blackstone Village. By 1870 there was a depot in East Blackstone south of the district boundaries on Elm Street. This was on the Air Line Rail route. The East Blackstone depot was a small hipped roof building with vertical board siding, minimal Stick-Style detail, and a tall spire.

At 135 Elm Street (Map #21/43) lived Jeremiah Gatchell (1835-1906) who moved to East Blackstone from Blackstone Village where he had served as post master in 1867 and town clerk in 1870. His father John G. Gatchell (1813-1897) had been a successful carriage maker on Main Street in Blackstone Village. Gatchell moved to East Blackstone after 1878 when this property was purchased by his parents John and Mary Gatchell, and built this well defined Italianate dwelling as well as a picturesque boat house on Forge Pond which was the western boundary of the property. Jeremiah Gatchell brought electricity and the telephone to East Blackstone. By 1895 the East Blackstone Electric Company was located in a building (no longer extant) on Gatchell's property.

During the late nineteenth century when the small cotton mills of East Blackstone had either burned or not grown rapidly enough to keep up with the thriving businesses in Blackstone Village, ice houses were established at the mill sites. Forge Pond had no less than four ice houses owned by George Miller Ice and Coal of Woonsocket, Rhode Island. On the Kelly property at 174 Elm Street where John Kelly had saw and grist mills in the early- to mid-nineteenth century, ice houses were added next to Kelly's Pond in the late 1800s. They were owned and operated by Andrew Jay Kelly (1844-1923), a fourth generation member of the Kelly family.

Turn of the century residents of East Blackstone Village worked locally or went to Woonsocket for employment. Curtis Daniels (1859-1943) who built the elaborately detailed dwelling at 1 Summer Street maintained a grocery store in Woonsocket while his tenant in the second story apartment was the electrical engineer at the Woonsocket Electric Company which had been located at 137 Elm Street next to the Jeremiah Gatchell House which is within the district. It is interesting to note that Curtis Daniels was a direct descendent of early settler, Eleazer Daniels and Molly Daniels who married Seth Kelly Sr. in 1760. Daniels purchased the land for his house from his relatives the Kellys who owned much of the land on both sides of Elm Street.

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Following the close of the commercial endeavors at the Stone Store a small store was added to the mansard cottage at 116 Elm Street Map #18/43). It was operated by Charles Dietrich who later had a milk delivery business in Woonsocket and lived in the large eight bay house which burned at 124 Elm Street (Map #20/18) in 1938. This small store in a large ell, no longer extant, operated into the 1930s. With the close of the last local commercial enterprises, the decline of the mills and related industrial businesses and the 1941 closing of the East Blackstone Village School came the end of the small self contained and self sufficient village life style of East Blackstone Village Historic District.

Besides more evidence of the nineteenth century mills, the two most significant losses within the area have been the Methodist Episcopal Society's church building (demolished in 1952) which was in the approximate location of 105 Elm Street and the Seth Kelly, Jr. House which burned in 1938 to be replaced by the Cape Cod cottage at 124 Elm Street (Map # 20/18) built on a portion of the old house's foundation. New construction in the area includes low one-story residential buildings which still allow for visual understanding of the topography including the river valley where early mills were established and some farm land.

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of prehistoric occupation in Blackstone are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Prehistoric sites in this area can contribute to greater understanding of Native American settlement and subsistence within the Blackstone River drainage, particularly in a transitional zone between the coastal lowlands and Worcester Plateaus uplands. Potential sites on the district property may contain valuable information on the importance of upland sites along tributaries of that drainage system. Native American settlement in this area may focus on larger sites along the Blackstone River, possibly at the confluence of tributary rivers/streams or at fall lines. These sites in town may be related to larger sites and/or core areas along lower portions of the Blackstone River towards Narragansett Bay to the south or towards the lower reaches of the Charles or Neponset Rivers to the northeast. Prehistoric sites in this area may contain information which indicates the local and regional socio/political impact of native social groups in these drainages and possibly how these relationships changed through time. This data could test commonly held beliefs pertaining to riverine drainage settlement hypotheses.

Historic archaeological remains in the district have the potential to contribute strongly to its significance, though much of it remains to be thoroughly documented. Numerous questions can be addressed from the diverse and largely intact archaeological remains within the district. Several topics seem appropriate including the relationship between the East Blackstone

(continued)

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Village and larger town industrial center, the concept of self sufficiency versus interdependence and the relationships between agricultural and industrial growth.

One topic that should be researched in a town such as Blackstone is the social, cultural and economic relationship of life in a small village like East Blackstone to the larger settlement and town as a whole focused on the town center. To what extent did Quaker Philosophy play a major role in the East Blackstone Village and in developments in the town center? What exactly was the relationship between industrial and social growth in the village and in the town center. To what extent was life in the East Blackstone rural village self contained or self sufficient? Was self sufficiency in East Blackstone defined in social/cultural terms or by economics. Archaeological data from the district could be used to answer these questions in a variety of ways. the concept of economic self sufficiency could be addressed by examining patterns of domestic and industrial consumption in the community. To what extent were finished goods brought into the community and how much was manufactured in the community? Were certain classes of material allowed while others were not? Controlled sampling and excavation of occupational related features such as trash pits and privies in both industrial and domestic contexts could provide the data necessary for answering these questions. Another way to address the concept of self sufficiency vs. interdependence is to examine patterns of production. Did the community produce only what it needed or, did it consciously specialize, providing particular products or services for exchange with those outside the community. While documentary evidence is obviously pertinent, archaeological examination of the communities economic facilities, particularly local farms, the stone store, cotton and fulling mills, blacksmith shop grist mill, saw mill and shoe shops/cottage industries are also important.

In the village mills, structural remains and trash deposits can also contribute information on the extent to which the town's industrial economy was self sufficient or interdependent with large mills in the town center or other regional mills. Controlled excavations and mapping can help identify the general layout of mill operations and the production sequences at each mill. These studies can identify the extent to which the manufacturing process was completed in the East Blackstone mills or, shipped to other mills for completion. East Blackstone mills may have had an interdependent relationship with larger mills in the town center where the manufacturing process was completed or started. Smaller mills such as those in East Blackstone may have taken part in a portion of the overall manufacturing process which was focused in the town center at the larger mills.

(continued)

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Archaeological information can also address the topic of social self sufficiency us. interdependence in the Blackstone community. Further documentary research combined with archaeological survey, testing and mapping can document the extent to which social institutions in the town fulfilled the village inhabitants needs or, were lacking forcing the inhabitants to seek certain services beyond the village. The study of property records, residential structural remains and detailed analysis of occupational related features can provide information on the social and class structure of the village community through time. This information can be used to identify the extent to which certain social groups (e.g. Quakers) characterized the community. It can also be used to identify the extent to which a class structure existed within specific groups or, between groups. Village inhabitants may have been organized along the line of a class structure with farm and mill owners/managers separate from mill and farm workers. Ethnic studies can also play an important role in the analysis of village social structure and its relationship to the town center. Historical documentary studies combined with the analysis of archaeological resources described above can document the extent to which 19th century Irish, French Canadian, English and eastern European immigration to the Blackstone town center also effected outlying villages such as East Blackstone. What role did 19th century immigrants play in village industrial growth? How did it differ from the role they played in the town center. Was the mill owner/worker social and class structure reinforced or down played in the mill industrial village? Archaeological resources in the district can contribute significantly to these questions.

The relationship between agricultural and industrial growth can also be examined with archaeological resources from the district. Structural remains and occupational related features of the 18th and early 19th century farmsteads features in the district can document the importance of agricultural development as the first stage of industrial evolution in the village. Several of the area's early farms were also responsible for initial industrial growth in the village. In particular, the analysis of archaeological resources at the Kelly farm and industrial complex at 174 Elm Street can follow village growth from a farmstead in the mid 18th century through numerous industrial enterprises in the late 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. These resources can document the transition between agriculture and industries developed to service agricultural needs to a more consumer based industrial pattern.

How long did agriculture remain important to the village and its industrial needs? Were agricultural pursuits simply a temporary way of supporting an industrial work force until the mills were capable of supporting the village and town economically? Archaeological studies of farms in the area, particularly those which later developed industries can help to answer these questions.

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Continuation Sheet

East Blackstone Village Historic District
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One additional note on why the archaeological remains of the East Blackstone Village are especially significant. Because there was little use of the district prior to the mid 1700's, and only limited development after the mid nineteenth century, few intrusions have compromised or confused the archaeological record left by industrial development in the area. The East Blackstone rural industrial village retains integrity, particularly around the areas when mills were develop the district area may be one of the better preserved 18th and 19th century rural industrial villages in Massachusetts.

(end)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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(end)

United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation SheetSection number 10 Page 1East Blackstone Village Historic District
Blackstone (Worcester County)
Massachusetts

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM References (cont.)

Point	Zone	Easting	Northing	Point	Zone	Easting	Northing
E	19	292260	4657040	O	19	291500	4658220
F	19	291900	4657250	P	19	291380	4658080
G	19	291870	4657200	Q	19	291400	4657900
H	19	291820	4657210	R	19	291620	4658040
I	19	291710	4657110				
J	19	291610	4657200				
K	19	291680	4657260				
L	19	291620	4657330				
M	19	291690	4657380				
N	19	291840	4657260				

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the northwest corner of Lot 20/18, 124 Elm Street the district boundary follows the north and east lot line of said lot to Bellingham Street where the boundary crosses to join with the lot line of 122 Elm Street (Map 18/46). The boundary follows the lot lines of 122 Elm Street to the northeast corner of 118 Elm Street (Map #18/44), runs along the east and south lines of same lot to the rear/east lot lines of 114 to 100 Elm Street. At the southeast corner of 100 Elm Street (Map #18/36) the district boundary runs southwest to join with the northeast corner of the lot of 94 Elm Street (Map 18/72) at which point the boundary turns west to Elm Street to follow the lot line between 98 and 94 Elm Street. At Elm Street the boundary turns north and runs along the center line of Elm Street to the southeast corner of 1 Summer Street (Map 17/41) at which point the boundary follows the south and west lot lines of same lot to the center of Summer Street, northwest along the center line of Summer Street to the southwest corner of Attilio Valati Park (Map 21/50). The district boundary then follows the west and north lot lines of same lot to the southwest corner of 133 Elm Street (Map #21/45), turns northeast and follows the rear lot lines of 133 and 135 Elm Street, and turns east to border the north lot line of 135 Elm Street out to the center line of Elm Street where the boundary turns south and runs along Elm Street to 124 Elm Street where the boundary joins at the northwest corner of same lot.

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**East Blackstone Village Historic District
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Massachusetts**

The district has a discontinuous area north on Elm Street beginning at the southwest corner of 174 Elm Street (Map #20/07) and following the south boundary to the northeast corner of 164 Elm Street (Map 20/08) at which point the boundary turns north and cuts across part of Map 20/07 to join with the southwest corner of the interior lot, Map 20/06. The boundary follows the boundaries of Map #20/06 and 20/05 to Elm Street where the district boundary crosses Elm Street and runs south along the west side of the road to a point at which it turns east to join with the southwest corner of 174 Elm Street.

See attached Town of Blackstone assessor's plat maps #17, 18, 20 & 21.

Boundary Justification

The district boundary includes properties which are representative of the development of this small nineteenth self-contained village and which retain architectural and historical integrity. The west side of Elm Street south of Summer is not included due to the number of intrusions and the substantial alterations to the few remaining historic structures thus the reason for the Elm Street centerline boundary.

The discontinuous portion of the district is included as part of this National Register listing and district boundaries due to its association with the most influential family of East Blackstone and the central theme of the Kellys and the mill complexes in this area as well as its geographic connection through the Mill River. Many of the properties in the core part of the district are directly or indirectly associated with the Kelly Farm at 174 Elm Street (which includes three lots - Map #20/05, 20/06 and 20/07). The inclusion of this area in the East Blackstone Village Historic District gives the central form to the development of this district.

(end)

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**East Blackstone Village Historic District
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Massachusetts**

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EAST BLACKSTONE VILLAGE PHOTOGRAPHS DESCRIPTION SHEET

1. 174 Elm Street, Seth Kelly Sr. House, looking north northeast.
2. 120 and 122 Elm Street, The Stone Store and Moses Kelly House, looking north northeast.
3. 120, 118 Elm Street, Stone Store and Joseph Ray House, looking south southeast.
4. 110, 112, and 114 Elm Streetscape, looking north northeast.
5. 106, 104, 102 Elm Streetscape, looking south.
6. Off Summer Street, dry laid wall, mill remnant, with 6 Summer Street behind, looking east.
7. Off Summer Street, granite foundation stone and trench, mill site, looking north.
8. 174 Summer Street, grist mill wall remnant, looking east.

(end)

**EAST BLACKSTONE VILLAGE HISTORIC DISTRICT
BLACKSTONE (WORCESTER COUNTY)
MASSACHUSETTS**

ADDRESS	MHC #	MAP #	HISTORIC NAME	DATE	STYLE	STATUS	TYPE
ELM STREET							
98 Elm St.	I-339	18/35	Ray & Bros.	ca. 1830	GR Cape	C	B
100 Elm St.	I-338	18/36	VI District School	ca. 1830	Federal	C	B
102 Elm St.	I-341	18/37	Ray/Parsonage	ca. 1830	GR Cape	C	B
104 Elm St.	I-336	18/38	Ray & Bros.	ca. 1850	GR Cape	C	B
garage			n/a	ca. 1940	-	NC	B
106 Elm St.	I-335	18/39	Ray & Bros.	ca. 1850	GR Cape	C	B
garage			n/a	ca. 1940	-	NC	B
112 Elm St.	I-332	18/41	unknown	ca. 1925	Bungalow	C	B
garage			n/a	1953	-	NC	B
114 Elm St.	I-331	18/42	James Paine	ca. 1825	GR Cape	C	B
garage			n/a	ca. 1940	-	NC	B
116 Elm St.	I-330	18/43	Lyman Paine	ca. 1854	Mansard	C	B
118 Elm St.	I-329	18/44	Joseph Ray	ca. 1800	Greek Revival	C	B
120 Elm St.	I-328	18/45	Stone Store	ca. 1800	Federal	C	B
122 Elm St.	I-327	18/46	Moses Kelly	ca. 1821	Federal	C	B
124 Elm St.	I-326	20/18	Site of Seth Kelly	1938	Cape	C	B
barn			n/a	ca. 1940	-	NC	B
127 Elm St.	-	21/47	n/a	1956	none	NC	B
129 Elm St.	-	21/46	n/a	1978	Split Level	NC	B
133 Elm St.	-	21/45	n/a	1955	Bungalow	NC	B
135 Elm St.	I-323	21/43	Jeremiah Gatchell	ca. 1878	Italianate	C	B
attch. barn			"	ca. 1878	Italianate	C	B
174 Elm St.	I-316	20/07[a]	Seth Kelly, Sr.	ca. 1760	Georgian	C	B
mill site		20/07[b]	Grist Mill Site	ca. 1753	stone wall remn.	C	Si
mill site	I-921	20/07[c]	Cotton Mill Site	early 1800s	tailrace	C	Si
Elm St.	I-922	922	Kelly's Bridge	ca. 1850	Stone Arch	C	St

**EAST BLACKSTONE VILLAGE HISTORIC DISTRICT
BLACKSTONE (WORCESTER COUNTY)
MASSACHUSETTS**

<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>MHC #</u>	<u>MAP #</u>	<u>HISTORIC NAME</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>STYLE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>TYPE</u>
SUMMER STREET							
1 Summer St.	I-325	17/41	Curtis Daniels	1900	QA/CR	C	B
barn	I-325	17/41	"	1900	QA/CR	C	B
2 Summer St.		21/48	n/a	1942	none	NC	B
6 Summer St.	I-324	21/49	L.& E.N. Paine	ca. 1850	GR Cape	C	B
Summer St.		21/50[a]	Forge Remnant	ca. 1716	stone wall remn.	C	Si
Valati Park	I-923	21/50[b]	Dam at Forge Pond	ca. 1850	stone remn.	C	St
Valati Park		21/50[c]	Mill Remnant	ca. 1830	headrace	C	Si

TOTAL RESOURCES:

24 Contributing

9 Noncontributing

18 Contributing Buildings

9 Noncontributing Buildings

4 Contributing Sites

2 Contributing Structures

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY East Blackstone Village Historic District
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester

DATE RECEIVED: 7/24/95 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/09/95
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/25/95 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/07/95
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 95001040

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 9/6/95 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Historically, architecturally, & archeologically significant
19th century mill village.*

RECOM./CRITERIA accept A, C, D

REVIEWER Patrick Andrus DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE _____ DATE 9/6/95

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



BLACKSTONE, MA
174 Elm Street East Blackstone Village Historic District
Worcester County, MA
GRETCHEN SCHULLER
April 1994
Blackstone Historical Commission
View of Seth Kelly Sr. House looking north northeast
Photo # 1 of 2



BLACKSTONE, MA

120 + 122 Elm Street - East Blackstone Village Historic District

Worcester County

Orator G. SCHULER

April 1994

Blackstone Historical Commission

View of STONE STONE + MUSES Kelly House - Looking Northeast

Photo #2 of 8



BLACKSTONE, MA

120, 118 Elm Street - East Blackstone Village Historic District

WORCESTER COUNTY, MA

GASTON SCHULER

April 1994

Blackstone Historical Commission

Stone Store + Joseph Roy House Looking east southeast

Photo # 3 of 8



BLACKSTONE, MA

110, 112, 114 Elm Street - East Blackstone Village
Historic District

WORCESTER COUNTY
GASTON SCHULER

April 1994

Blackstone Historical Commission

View of east side of Elm St looking north northeast

Photo # 4 of 8



BLACKSTONE, MA

106, 104, 102 Elm St. - East Blackstone Village
Historic District

WORCESTER COUNTY

GRETCHEN SCHULER

April 1994

Blackstone Historical Commission

East side of Elm looking South -

Photo # 5 of 8



BLACKSTONE, MA

Off Summer St. w/ 6 Summer behind
East Blackstone Village Historic District

WORCESTER COUNTY, MA

GRETCHEN SCHULER

April 1994

Blackstone Historical Commission

South side of Summer St. - Dry land wall + talus
Looking East at L. Paine House

Photo # 6 of 8



BLACKSTONE, MA
OFF Summer St. - EAST BLACKSTONE VILLAGE HISTORIC
DISTRICT

WORCESTER COUNTY
GILBERT G. SCHULZE

April 1994

Blackstone Historical Commission

granite foundation stone over mill trench - looking north

PHOTO # 7 of 8

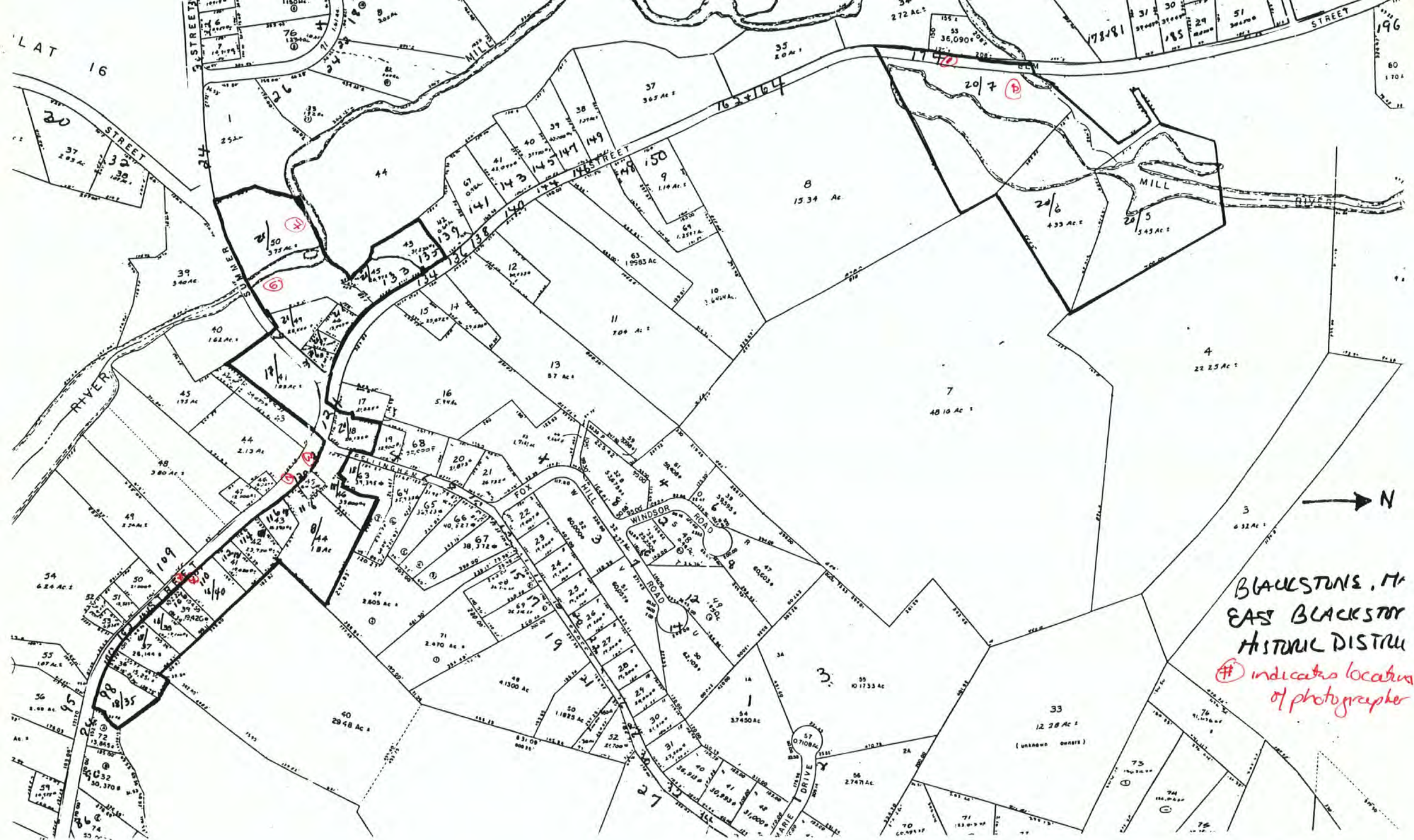


BLACKSTONE. MA
174 Elm St. - EAST BLACKSTONE Village Historic District
WORCESTER COUNTY

GRETCHEN G. SCHUIER
April 1994

Blackstone Historical Commission

View of grist mill remnants - Kely Mill - looking east
Photo #8 of 8



Uxbridge

MASS.—R. I.

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

1982

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
in cooperation with Massachusetts Department
of Public Works

Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey

Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1980. Field checked 1981. Map edited 1982
This area also covered by 7.5-minute, 1:24,000-scale
maps: Uxbridge and Blackstone dated 1969

Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 19: Universal
Transverse Mercator. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on
Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone,
and Rhode Island coordinate system. 1927 North
American Datum

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 6 meters south and 40 meters
west as shown by dashed corner ticks
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
the National or State reservations shown on this map

CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS

NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1999

CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER

OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

CONVERSION TABLE		DECLINATION DIAGRAM		ADJOINING MAPS																				
Meters	Feet			<table border="1"><tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr></table>					1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8							
1	2	3																						
4	5																							
6	7	8																						
1	3.2808	UTM grid convergence (GCM) and 1982 magnetic declination (MN) at center of map Diagram is approximate		<table border="1"><tr><td>1</td><td>Worcester South</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Worcester</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Worcester (7.5)</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>Franklin</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>Thompson (7.5)</td></tr><tr><td>6</td><td>Chapchar (7.5)</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>Georgieville (7.5)</td></tr><tr><td>8</td><td>Antelope</td></tr></table>					1	Worcester South	2	Worcester	3	Worcester (7.5)	4	Franklin	5	Thompson (7.5)	6	Chapchar (7.5)	7	Georgieville (7.5)	8	Antelope
1	Worcester South																							
2	Worcester																							
3	Worcester (7.5)																							
4	Franklin																							
5	Thompson (7.5)																							
6	Chapchar (7.5)																							
7	Georgieville (7.5)																							
8	Antelope																							
2	6.5617																							
3	9.8425																							
4	13.1234																							
5	16.4043																							
6	19.6850																							
7	22.9659																							
8	26.2467																							
9	29.5276																							
10	32.8084																							
To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808																								
To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048																								

FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

Topographic Map Symbols

Primary highway, hard surface	
Secondary highway, hard surface	
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface	
Unimproved road; trail	
Route marker: Interstate (I); S.; State	
Railroad: standard gauge; narrow gauge	
Bridge: drawbridge	
Footbridge; overpass; underpass	
Bathys area: only selected bathys 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; found section corner	
U. S. public lands survey: range, township, section	
Range, township, section line: location approximate	
Force or field line	
Power transmission line, located tower	
Dam; dam with lock	
Cemetery; grave	
Campground; picnic area; U. S. location monument	
Windmill; water well; spring	
Mine shaft; prospect; adit or cave	
Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation	
Contours: index, intermediate, supplementary; depression	
Distorted surface: strip mine, lava, sand	
Bathymetric contours: index, intermediate	
Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream	
Reefs, large and small; lake, inlet, and small	
Submerged marsh; marsh, swamp	
Land subject to controlled inundation; woodland	
Scrub; mangrove	
Orchard; vineyard	

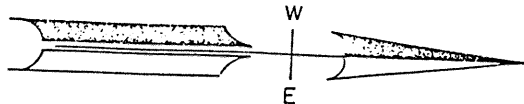
A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request



BACKSTONE, MA
EAST BLACKSTONE
VILLAGE HISTORIC
DISTRICT

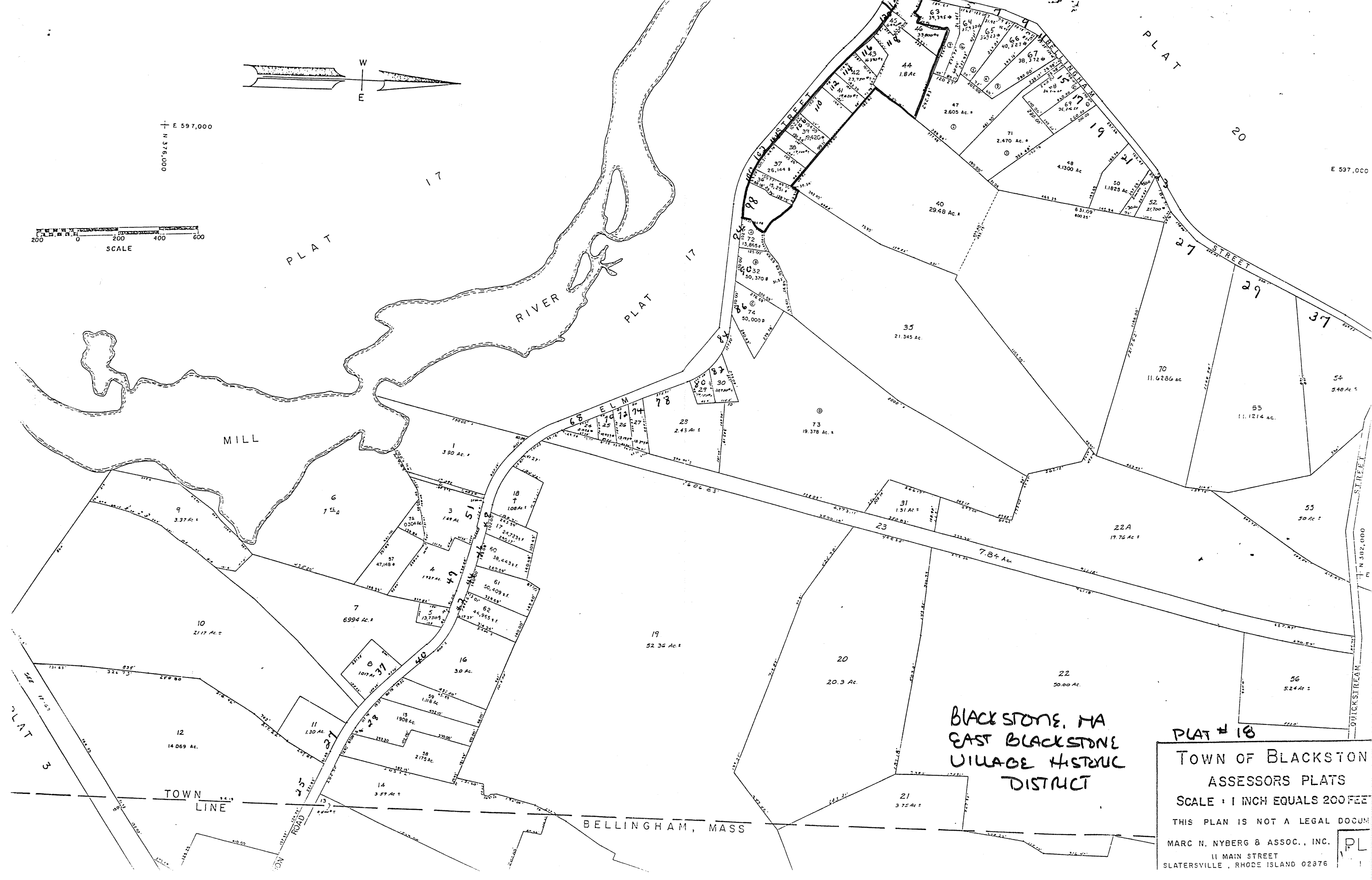
PLAT 17

TOWN OF BLACKSTONE
ASSESSORS PLATE
SCALE: 1 INCH EQUALS 200
THIS PLAN IS NOT A LEGAL DOCUMENT
MARC N. NYBERG & ASSOC., INC.
11 MAIN STREET
BLACKSTONE, RHODE ISLAND 02876



E 597,000
N 376,000

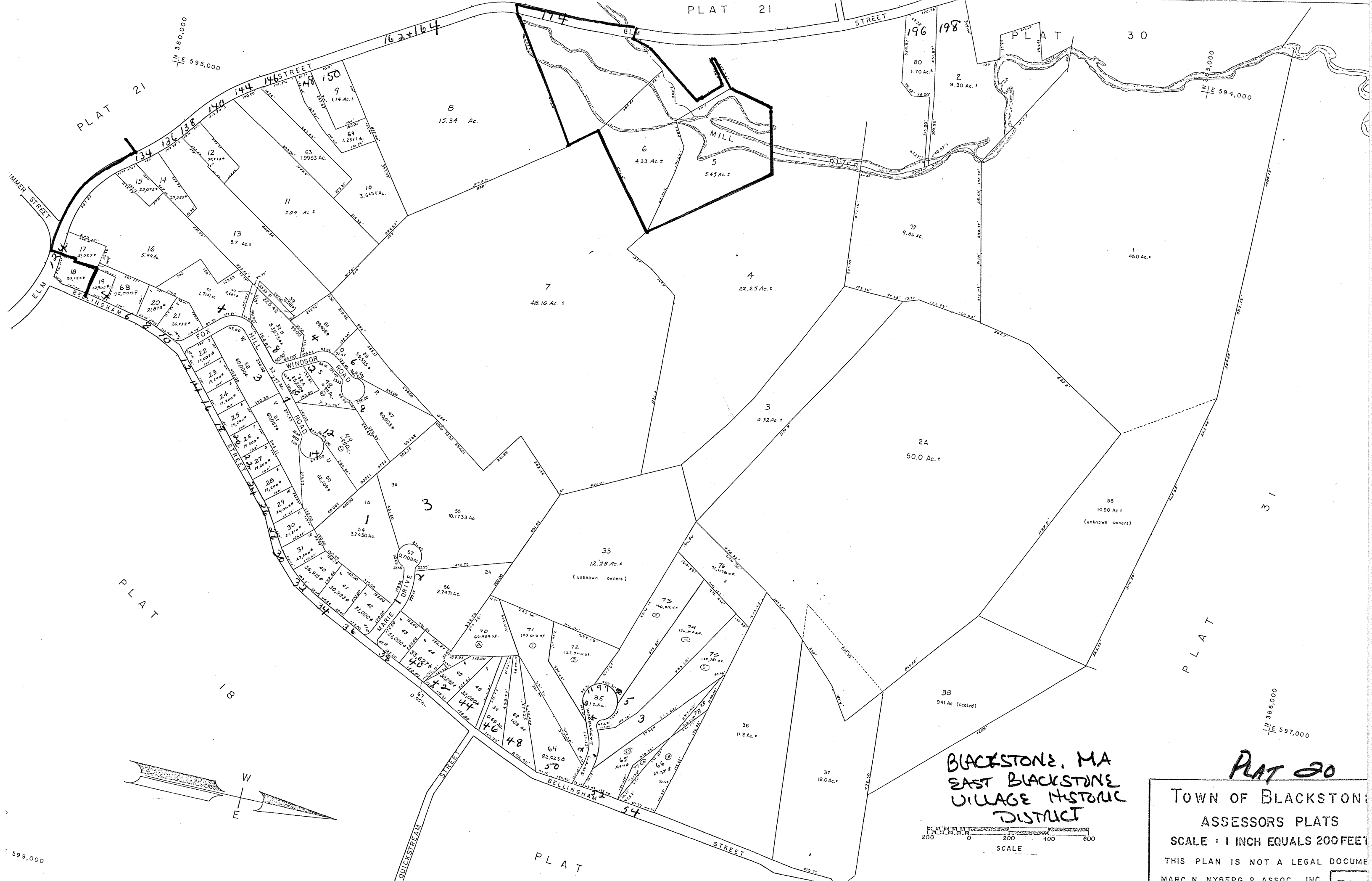
200 0 200 400 600
SCALE



BLACKSTONE, MA
EAST BLACKSTONE
VILLAGE HISTORIC
DISTRICT

PLAT # 18

TOWN OF BLACKSTON
ASSESSORS PLATS
SCALE : 1 INCH EQUALS 200 FEET
THIS PLAN IS NOT A LEGAL DOCUMENT
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11 MAIN STREET
SLATERSVILLE, RHODE ISLAND 02876

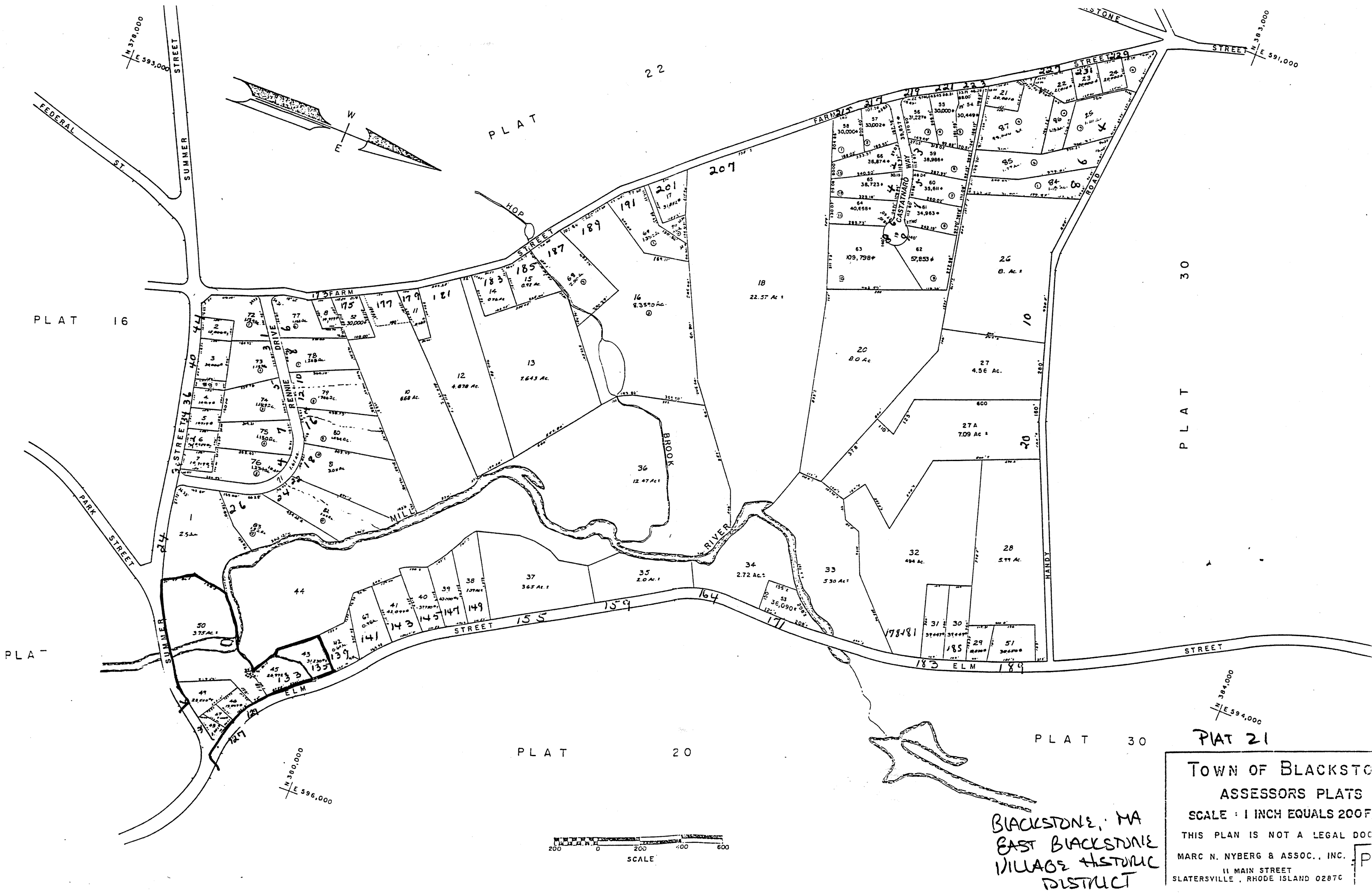


BLACKSTONE, MA
EAST BLACKSTONE
VILLAGE HISTORIC
DISTRICT

PLAT 20

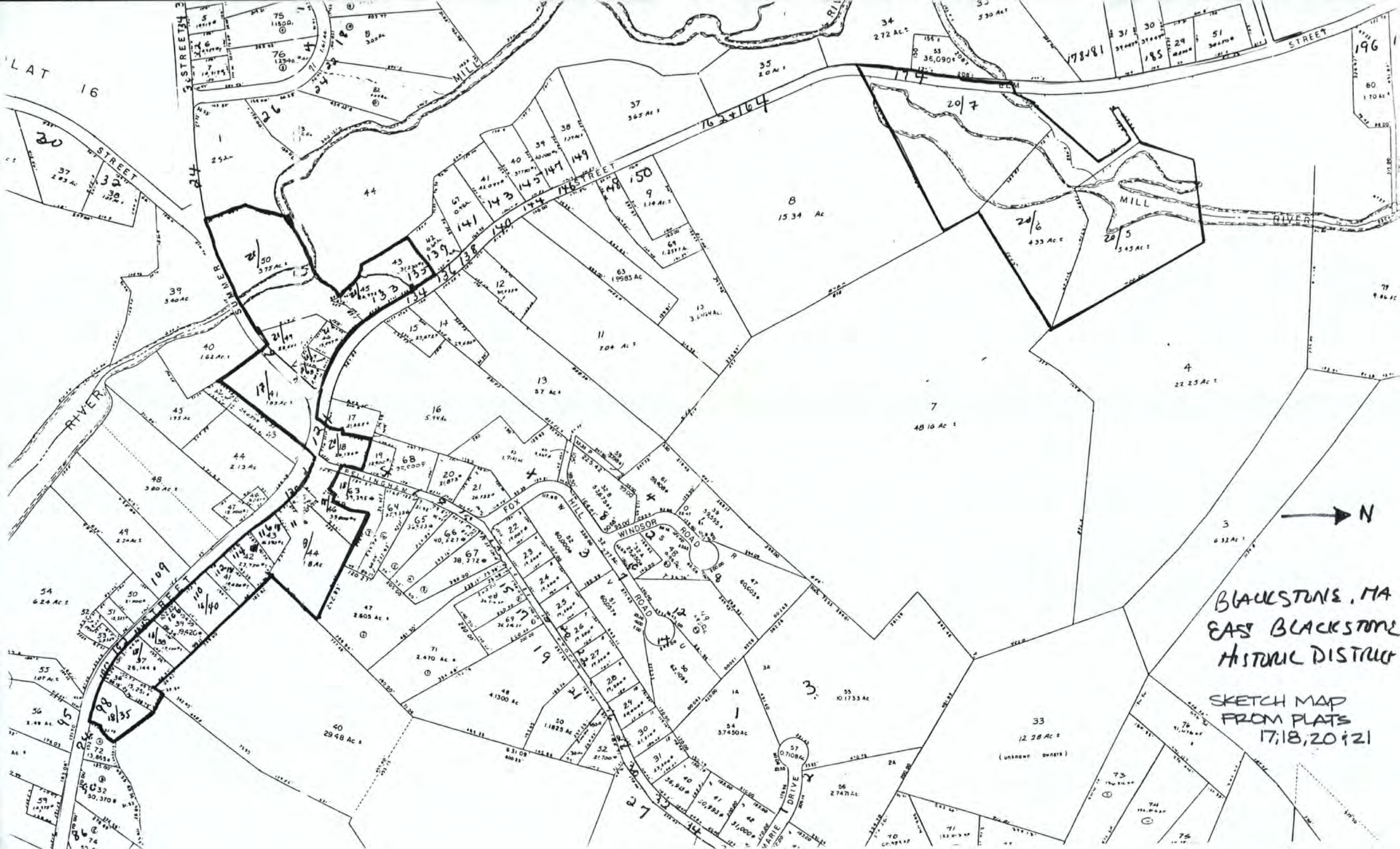
TOWN OF BLACKSTONE
ASSESSORS PLATS
SCALE : 1 INCH EQUALS 200 FEET

THIS PLAN IS NOT A LEGAL DOCUMENT
MARC N. NYBERG & ASSOC., INC.



BLACKSTONE, MA
EAST BLACKSTONE
VILLAGE HISTORIC
DISTRICT

TOWN OF BLACKSTONE
ASSESSORS PLATS
SCALE : 1 INCH EQUALS 200 FT
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BLACKSTONE, MA
EAST BLACKSTONE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

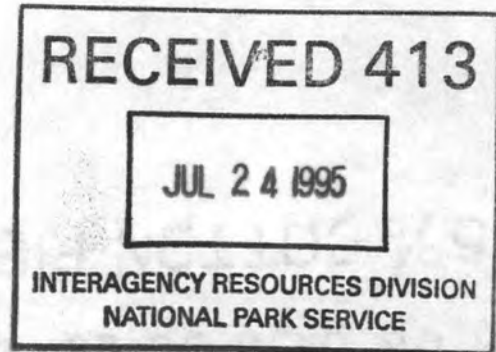
SKETCH MAP
FROM PLATS
17, 18, 20 & 21



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

July 13, 1995

Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127



Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

East Blackstone Village Historic District, Blackstone (Worcester County), Massachusetts, 01504.

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. Owners were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30-75 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

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

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Thomas Bik, Chairman, Blackstone Historical Commission
Robert DuBois, Chairman, Blackstone Board of Selectmen
Gretchen Schuler, Preservation Consultant
James Pepper, BRVNHCC