

**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 RUSSIAN CEMETERY

other names/site number RUSSIAN ORTHODOX NATIONAL BROTHERHOOD CEMETERY

2. Location

street & number PATTEN ROAD not for publication

city or town WESTFORD vicinity

state MASSACHUSETTS code MA county MIDDLESEX code 017 zip code 01886

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 October 11, 2005

Signature of certifying official/Title Brona Simon Date
Massachusetts Historical Commission, Deputy 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): _____

Edson W. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

11-25-05
Date of Action

Russian Cemetery
Name of Property

Middlesex, 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	
	1	building
1		sites
3		structures
11	4	objects
15	5	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY: cemetery

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY: cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

N/A

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____
walls _____

roof _____
other _____

Narrative Description

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

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Russian Cemetery
Westford (Middlesex Co.), Massachusetts

Section number 7 Page 1

7. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Introduction

The landscape layout, appearance, and gravestone art of Westford's Russian Cemetery derive from design characteristics of the Early Modern Period with a Russian Orthodox religious influence. These characteristics consist of the flat, utilitarian landscape, and more importantly, the markers that are made primarily of granite, approximately 15 of which have freestanding crosses on top carved from stone. Many others are inscribed with distinctive Russian Orthodox crosses. Land for the cemetery was privately owned until 1918. Being denied access to any further interment in another cemetery, the Russian Brotherhood Cemetery sought a cemetery for their community. The Grodno Co-op, which was formed to support the cultural and social needs of the community, provided the manpower for the Russian Brotherhood Cemetery. A small number of interments are of immigrant laborers of Polish and other origins. Many of the approximately 300 Westford residents interred here were recruited as teenagers and young adults at their Russian and European villages by traveling company operatives for work in Westford's mill villages. Approximately 50 stones bear death dates between 1918 and 1960. The immigrants influenced the town's history and appearance and continue to do so by virtue of their artfully carved gravestones. The burial ground is located on the north side of Patten Road.

Markers are made almost exclusively from grey, pink, and black granite with one cast-concrete example. The earliest markers are from the Early Modern Period and appear in the form of nearly square tablets on a square plinth, occasionally with crosses mounted on top. Many inscriptions, including those on the earliest and largest markers, are in the Cyrillic alphabet. Other markers have English language inscriptions with simpler stone designs in the form of rectangular tablets that lack the freestanding cross. Grave markers are arranged in rows oriented approximately north to south, with inscriptions typically facing west.

Landscape

Land comprising the Russian Cemetery belonged in the 19th century to the Blood family and later to the Read family. The flat, nearly square parcel likely used as farmland when obtained by the Russian Brotherhood was wooded but cleared on the weekends by the founding members of the cemetery. Entrance to the cemetery is through two **gateways** in the **stone wall** along the Patten Road (south) side. Gateways along the southerly edge are flanked by a pair of stout, low ashlar **piers** with cast-stone pyramidal caps. **(Photo #2)** The three-foot-high stone wall is split granite ashlar with a capstone. Plot-defining features inside the cemetery, such as granite curbs or plot cornerstones, do not exist. Circulation among graves is via a U-shaped **asphalt driveway** that enters and exits from Patten Road.

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Russian Cemetery
Westford (Middlesex Co.), Massachusetts

Section number *I* Page 2

Markers

The Russian Cemetery is characterized mainly by its granite tablets, the most ornamental of which are topped by a freestanding Latin cross cut from granite. Ranging in height from three feet to approximately six feet, this type of marker is articulated in approximately 15 cases with a Cyrillic alphabet inscription. Those written in English are simple in language and basic in detail. Typical inscriptions have names and dates rendered in a simple style of script. The earliest marker has a square plinth with nearly square black granite tablet on top, which bears the Cyrillic inscription and the death date of 1918. **(Photo #1)** Ornamentation consists of the freestanding Latin cross inscribed with the letters "IHS." Other markers have the square tablet on the plinth with no freestanding cross. More recent markers are simple rectangular tablets with low arched tops.

Two gravestones with Cyrillic inscriptions have been translated into English. The first, located near the entrance and featured on the right side in **Photo #3**, reads "Lies a Child of God / Anton Antonovich Pozniak / Province and region of Grodno / Dubnovski District, Village Suhinichi / was born November 5, 1919 / Died November 26, 1928 / Eternal memory of dear son Anton." A second stone, pictured in the center of **Photo #1**, reads "In memory of dear husband / Semen from Pavlina Bilida / Here lies a peasant / Province and region of Grodno / Dubnovski District, Village Suhinichi / Semen Bilida / Was born May 27, 1897 / Died October 2, 1918 / A son was born February 2, 1919 / Died in the same year February 18 / Eternal memory of dear husband and my son."

Examples of grave markers with the freestanding cross include that of **George (1887-1946) and Annie (1896-1991) Butko**. The cross on this grey granite example is inscribed with letters "HIS," which stand for "Jesus" or "In His Service" or "He Is Risen." **Matrona (1890-1933) and Andrew (1882-1956) Prowker** and their child **Antonia (1912-1927)** have a grey granite tablet with freestanding cross inscribed in the same way. Some black granite examples exist. Most others are grey and blond in color.

A number of markers lack the freestanding Latin Cross but bear the Russian Orthodox Cross as part of the inscription. The Russian Orthodox Cross is unusual because it has three bars instead of the more common single bar seen in the Latin Cross. The top bar is narrower than the others and bears the title board in detailed versions. The middle bar is the widest of the three and is the one on which Christ's hands are nailed. The bottom bar is not only narrower than the middle but is oriented at an angle to the central stem. This is the bar on which Christ's feet are at rest. Markers in the Westford Russian Cemetery with the Russian Orthodox Cross inscribed in the low arched top of the tablet include the pink granite marker of **Matthew Sudak (1896-1951)**, the grey granite stone of **Luke (1893-1974) and Mary (1891-1945) Archinski**, the wider, pink granite, arch-topped marker of **Peter (1886-1956) and Alexandra (1896-1953) Talanetz**, as well as many other similar examples. The Latin Cross also appears as the main ornamental component in the inscription on some stones.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Russian Cemetery
Westford (Middlesex Co.), Massachusetts

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Military and Commemorative Markers

Twentieth-century military markers exist in the Russian Cemetery. A small rectangular bronze marker mounted flush with the ground marks the resting place of **Alexander Belida (d. 2001)**, who served in the U. S. Army/Air Force as a sergeant in World War II. A granite example of the flush military marker is that of **Nicholas Sudak Jr. (1917-1984)**, who served in World War II as a staff sergeant. The stone is ornamented with a cross inscribed in a circle. Approximately a half-dozen similar examples exist.

Gravestone Carvers and Manufacturers

Gravestone manufacturers identified their work in some cases by attaching metal tags to markers. Pre-1960 stones with identifying tags include the 1933 example of **Matrona and Antoni Prowker** which bears a bronze tag stamped "Lowell Monument Co., manufacturers, Lowell, Mass". **Mary and Steve Belida's** 1951 stone has a tag stamped "Luz Brothers, 1022 Gorham St., Lowell, Mass." This stone is also etched with the "Barre Guild" seal, signifying the monument as a product of the Barre Granite Association of Barre, Vermont. Locally made markers include that of **Demetry and Vera Belida**, made in 1960 by the Barretto Monument Company of Groton Road in Westford. **Peter and Mary Worobey's** 1941 marker was sold by A. G. Lundberg of Westford. This refers to Axel G. Lundberg, Cemetery Commissioner in the 1930s and 1940s, who had a granite shop on Brookside Road. Other stones were purchased from University Monumental Works on Berkshire Street in Cambridge. Stones from this period appear to be pre-manufactured stones with stock designs created prior to purchase.

Existing Conditions

Most stones remain in good to excellent condition. Very little vandalism appears to have taken place. The single **cast-concrete grave marker** has no inscription, and it is impossible to discern whether or not it had one that is now lost. Boundaries of the cemetery are marked by modern **chain link fence** on the east and west sides with a wire fence supported by stakes on the cleared north or rear edge of that portion. A modern **flagpole** rises from the northern section.

Few changes have occurred in the Russian Cemetery since its inception in 1918. The large number of remaining markers with Cyrillic alphabet inscriptions and the proximate birth dates of the interred, many of whom arrived during a short span of time in the early 20th century, make it possible to get a clear sense of local trends in immigration and factory employees' ethnicity in Westford. Modern grave markers often have a plain rectangular or arched rectangular form with polished finish, not seen in earlier stones. This is the only historic cemetery in the town dedicated to a group with particular national affiliation. A Catholic cemetery exists on Pine Ridge Road.

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Westford (Middlesex Co.), Massachusetts

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Archaeological Description

While no ancient Native American sites are known on the cemetery property or in the general area (within one mile), sites may be present. Environmental characteristics of the parcel represent locational criteria (slope, soil drainage, proximity to wetlands) that are favorable for the presence of ancient sites. The cemetery is located on a well-drained, level to moderately sloping glacial outwash land surface in close proximity to wetlands. Beaver Brook/Forge Pond-related swamplands are located less than 1,000 feet south of the cemetery. The cemetery is located within the Merrimack River drainage. Given the above information, the size of the cemetery (1.33 acres), and the excavation of more than 300 graves, a moderate to low potential exists for locating significant ancient Native American resources on the property.

A moderate potential exists for locating historic archaeological resources in the cemetery. Nineteenth and early 20th century agricultural-related resources may exist in the cemetery area, though none have been identified to date. Unmarked graves and artifacts related to memorial offerings and cemetery maintenance may also exist.

(end)

Russian Cemetery
Name of Property

Middlesex, 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)

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

ART

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1918-1955

Significant Dates

n/a

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Westford Historical Commission

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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Russian Cemetery, Westford, MA, retains integrity of materials, design, location, workmanship, setting, feeling, and association. It is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under criteria A and C at the local level, and meets Criteria Consideration D as a cemetery that derives its significance from distinctive features and association with historic events. The cemetery meets criterion A for its association with events in the community that have made a contribution to broad patterns of local history. The Russian Cemetery has functioned as a place of burial to one of Westford's resident immigrant groups since the early 20th century. Abbot Worsted company operatives were sent to Belarus and elsewhere in the early 20th century to recruit young employees. Their success is documented by the Cyrillic inscriptions and Russian names on the stones in the cemetery. Since that time, it has become the final resting place for many of the town's former mill employees. Members of the Brotherhood and their descendants may be buried in the cemetery upon payment of dues and with membership in the Brotherhood.

The cemetery is significant under criterion C for its embodiment of the Russian Orthodox influence on the grave markers' designs. Well-preserved granite tablets with ornamental freestanding Latin Crosses and inscribed Russian Orthodox Crosses are present. Cyrillic language inscriptions exist on approximately 15 markers.

Also, due to the unusual nature of the crosses and inscriptions and to the strong association of the cemetery to the development of the town's industrial base and immigrant population, the Russian Cemetery satisfies National Register Criteria Consideration D. The period of significance for the cemetery begins at its establishment in 1918 and extends to 1955. It has been in continuous use.

Introduction

Westford's Russian Cemetery first came into use in 1918, primarily to accommodate burials of immigrant mill workers from that country. Significant numbers of Russian immigrants began to arrive in Westford during the first decade of the 20th century as the result of recruiting efforts by mill company agents in Belarus, as well as other regions of Europe. Russian immigrants were primarily from the villages of Dubna and Shushinsky, both of which are forty kilometers from the city of Grodno and are located in the county of Grodno. The city was a train ride away. In the village near the church can be seen the graves of the parents of immigrants, as well as those of siblings. The Russian Brotherhood Cemetery remains in use today, largely by descendants of mill recruits. Some Polish immigrants accompanied the Russians to Westford's mill villages and are interred here as well. The history of Westford's mill villages includes periodic trends in immigration of several ethnic and national groups, starting with the Irish in the 1840s. French Canadians also arrived in large numbers as did residents of Sweden, Italy, Scotland, England, and other nations. While Catholics of many nationalities did choose to create a cemetery of their own in the town, no other ethnic or national group in Westford has as

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Westford (Middlesex Co.), Massachusetts

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important and distinct a resource as the Russian Cemetery to symbolize their history in the town. The cemetery provides information concerning not only names and dates of individuals interred therein, but also contextual documentation of the typical immigrant in terms of age and marital status. The cemetery itself stands as a testament to the solidarity of Westford's Russian immigrant population.

Local Industrial History

Westford's settlement was initially carried out in the 17th century by farmers from Chelmsford, the town from which Westford was later formed in 1729. While agriculture was the predominant activity at the time, some small industry such as iron forging also occurred, particularly along the banks of Stony Brook. During the 19th century, the forges were joined by woolen and machinery mills in Forge Village and in Graniteville. Corporate growth necessitated an increased work force, which mill owners sought to achieve by recruiting laborers from mill towns in Europe and Canada. Among those brought to Westford to work the mills were many residents of the Russian Republic of Belarus and the county and city of Grodno. The immigrants were primarily from the villages of Dubna and Shushinsky, both of which are forty kilometers from the city of Grodno and are located in the county of Grodno. The city was a train ride away. In the village near the church can be seen the graves of the parents of immigrants as well as those of siblings. It is these immigrants and their descendants who occupy the Russian Cemetery.

1918-1960

Ethnicity and national origins of residents of the town underwent changes during the mid-late 19th century, from a mainly native-born group to one of significant foreign-born population. Residents were almost entirely of English descent until 1850, when census records show the first Canadian and Irish immigrants. In the 1865 state census, approximately 20% of the residents were foreign-born. By the end of the century the percentage of foreign-born residents was more than half, according to Annual Town Reports. Federal census figures from 1910 confirm the dramatic increase in the number of foreign-born Westford residents around the turn of the century. Groups of nationalities with representatives numbering in the hundreds include Canadians, Russians, Italians, and Irish. Smaller groups were Swedish, Scottish, Austrians, and English. In 1907 Russians begin to appear on lists of Westford residents and in marriage records.

In 1912 agents of the Abbot Worsted Company traveled to the Russian region of Belarus and the county of Grodno with its villages and the city of Grodno in order to recruit additional laborers with the promise of steady work, good housing and prepaid travel expenses. The agents' success and a sudden increase in Russian residents is reflected in census information and is confirmed in reminiscences of former Abbot Worsted employees. Census information reveals that Russians were most likely to be listed as woolen mill employees, as opposed to Italians in Westford, who were most commonly described simply as laborers. Every resident in the 1920-1921 resident directory with a Russian surname was employed by either the Abbot or the Sargent mills in

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Russian Cemetery
Westford (Middlesex Co.), Massachusetts

Section number 8 Page 3

Forge Village or Graniteville, although it is suggested by current residents that some members of the group also worked in stone quarries in the north part of town. The Abbot Worsted Company manufactured woolen yarns in **Forge Village and Graniteville (NRDIS 5/2/02, NRDIS 1/17/02)** with machinery made in Graniteville by the C. G. Sargent & Sons machinery manufacturing company. Based on gravestone inscriptions, it is apparent that the immigrants were between 16 and 31 years of age at the time of embarkation to America.

Grodno is located in northwest Belarus, bordered on the north by Lithuania and on the west by Poland. The population was largely Byelorussian, Lithuanian, and Polish, some of whom immigrated along with their Russian neighbors. Industrial products in Grodno were diverse and included textiles. According to a Grodno municipal website, there were in 1897 more than 100 residents involved in manufacture of textile fabrics, a factor that may have influenced the Westford mill company agents' selection of the region for labor recruits. Since working conditions in the Russian factories were distasteful and included long hours and poor pay, Abbot Company employees achieved success in their efforts to swell the ranks of mill hands in Westford's modern, well-managed facilities. The Abbot Worsted Company also mounted successful efforts to entice Canadian emigrants from Trois Rivieres in Quebec and English workers from the city of Keighley in Yorkshire.

Russian Cemetery occupants appear to have been married before they arrived in America or to have married fellow immigrants judging by the ethnic tone of the given names of many couples in the Russian Cemetery. It is noteworthy that nearly all were married one time. Residents whose spouses died earlier than themselves tended not to remarry, unlike members of many other groups.

One of the many benefits for immigrants was the availability of English-language classes held in the Abbot Worsted Company-built social halls, two of which were located in Graniteville on Cross Street and on North Main Street. Other company social halls were in Forge Village on Bradford Street and in the **Brookside Village (NRDIS 1/23/03)** on Brookside Road. Immigrants occupied the rented single and multiple dwelling houses in mill neighborhoods in increasing numbers until the mid 20th century when the wool industry in New England entered decline. During that time, residential subdivisions had been built on Abbot, Palermo, Orchard, Pine, Lincoln, Elm, Smith and Pershing Streets in Forge Village and River, First, Second, Third and Fourth Streets in Graniteville, among others. All these residential streets were home to Russian mill employees.

Russian immigrants who are buried in the cemetery and whose names can be matched to residents on voting lists and resident directories from the 1920s and 1930s include Forge Village residents Peter Britko (1894-1977) and his wife Alexandria (1894-1957), at 7 Canal Street from 1924-1928; Peter Talanetz (1886-1956) and his wife Alexandra (1896-1953) at 8 Canal Street in 1924 and 6 Palermo Street in 1928; Peter Worobey (1891-1991) and his wife Mary (1893-1941), at 2 Canal Street in 1920-1928; Michael (also Mika) Salaliko (1881-1956) and his wife Marcella (1885-1934), at 6 Canal Street in 1924; Stephen Harachko (also Harachka, 1884-1976) and his wife Dominika (1890-1969), at 21 Chestnut Street in 1924 and 25 Chestnut Street in 1928; Jacob

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Russian Cemetery
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Tereshko (1896-1987) and his wife Axzenia (1893-1965), at 15 Oak Street in 1924 and 1928. Wasil Beskalo (1890-1969) and his wife Fedora (1895-1980) lived in Graniteville at 17 First Street from 1921 to 1928. There are no confirmed paupers, unknown persons, or plots for the indigent in the Russian Cemetery.

Conclusion

The Russian Cemetery evokes the heritage and cemetery design practices of a major group of immigrants to the town. The Russian immigrants' group history can be related by observing the gravestones with their proximate birth dates and names that are unusual compared to those of English descent in other cemeteries in the town. The unusual appearance of the gravestones with the freestanding crosses on top combined with the Cyrillic letters, altogether unusual in Westford, further distinguish the cemetery from others in the town. These differences are a reflection of part of the broad spectrum of the community's history and culture. Survival of the cemetery is the most significant reminder of this important element of local culture.

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of ancient Native American settlement in Westford are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Although numerous ancient sites have been identified for the neighboring Concord, Sudbury and Assabet River drainages, fewer sites have been recorded in the Beaver Brook and Stony Brook drainages, possibly reflecting underreporting in this area or environmental differences in the drainages. Ancient Native American sites in the cemetery may contain information that identifies the range of functional and temporal variability between sites in the Beaver Brook and Stony Brook drainage and their relationship to Native settlements along the main corridor of the Merrimack River. Information may also be present that clarifies the relationship and regional importance of sites and resources along the Beaver Brook drainage to other tributaries of the Merrimack River such as the Concord, Sudbury, and Assabet River drainages. Ancient sites in the cemetery and Beaver Brook drainage may represent a seasonal /functional aspect of a settlement system that focuses on larger sites along the Merrimack River drainage and other tributaries listed above. Sites in this area can also contain evidence of exchange between more interior portions of the Merrimack River drainage and downstream coastal areas.

Historic archaeological resources in the cemetery locale may contribute information related to the general agricultural landuse of this area in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Specific activities have yet to be identified; however, the area was known to be farmland during that period. Identification and mapping of unmarked graves after 1918 may help to accurately define the cemetery boundaries and patterning of grave excavations. Identification and mapping of artifact distributions may help identify social, cultural, and economic aspects of

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the Russian immigrant community and memorial activities associated with individual and groups of graves. Artifact distributions may also contribute information relating to maintenance activities that occurred in the cemetery.

(end)

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9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Communication with Pat Beskalo Walsh, Russian Brotherhood Cemetery, 1/6/05

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Westford (Middlesex Co.), Massachusetts

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10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description:

The Russian Cemetery comprises all of the land within the boundaries of the cemetery. It is bounded by Patten Road on the south. The cemetery encompasses approximately 3 acres according to the Russian Brotherhood Cemetery but is described by the assessor's office as 1.33 acres marked as parcel 27 on map 54.

Boundary Justification:

Boundaries of the cemetery were determined by the Westford Historical Commission and by the consultant. Boundaries include all gravestones, structures and circulation paths. Stone walls encircle the cemetery and mark all boundaries.

(end)

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographer: Sanford Johnson

Date: September, 2002

Negatives on file with Westford Historical Commission

1. Semen Bilida marker, view to N
2. Entrance gates, view to N
3. Anton Antonovich Pozniak marker, view to E

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Russian Cemetery
Westford (Middlesex Co.), Massachusetts

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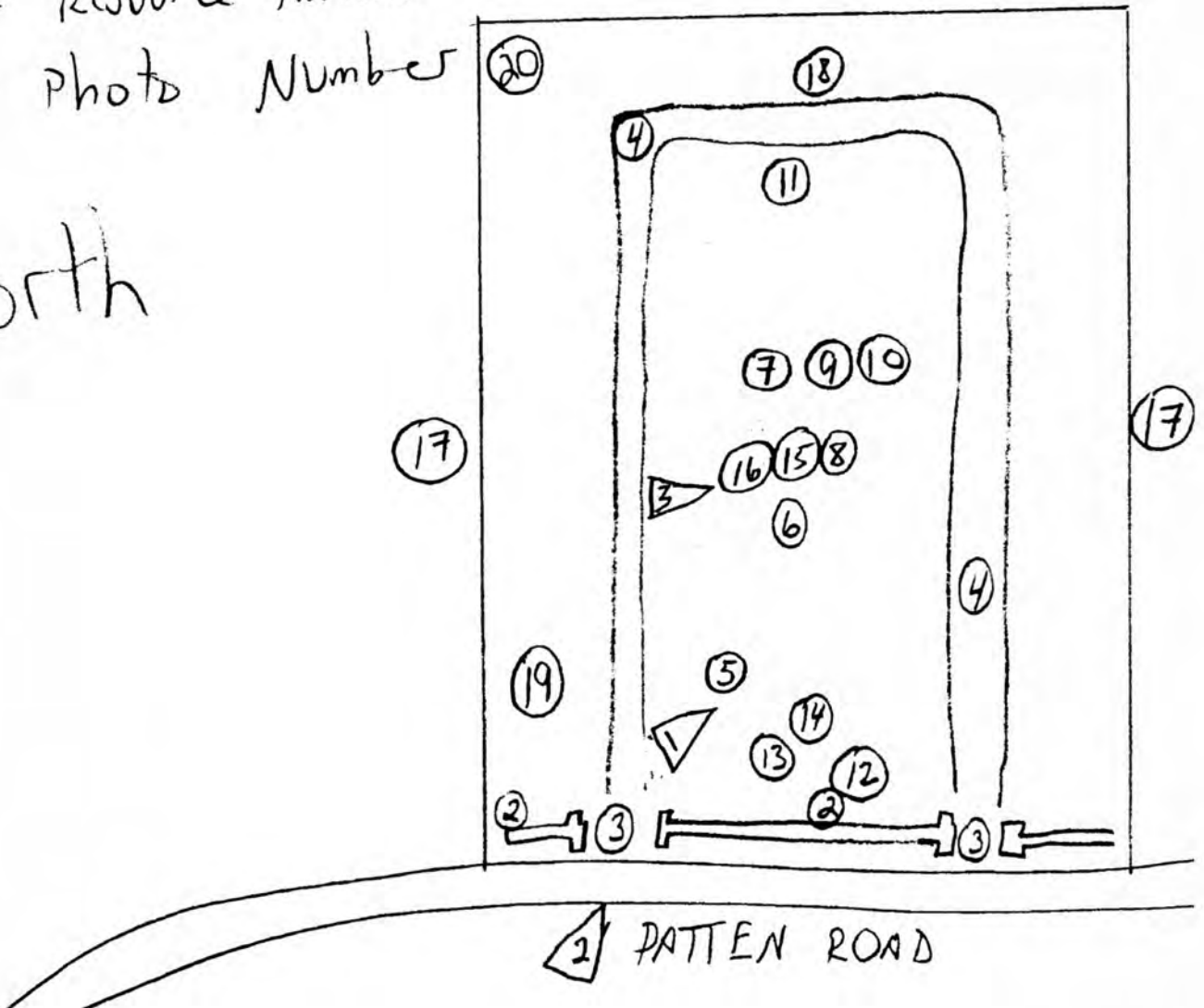
SKETCH MAP

NORTH TOWARD TOP

RUSSIAN CEMEIERY
Middlesex County
Westford, MA

○ = Resource Number
△ = Photo Number

↑ North



Russian Cemetery
Westford (Middlesex Co.), Massachusetts
Data Sheet

Map #	Name	Resource Type	Dates	Material	Status
1	Russian Cemetery	Cemetery	1918	N/A	Si/C
2	Wall	Stone walls	c. 1918	Uncut stone	St/C
3	Gateways	Stone gate piers	c. 1918	Uncut stone	St/C
4	Circulation Path	Asphalt path	c. 1940	Asphalt paving	St/C
5	Russian Alphabet Marker	Gravestone	1918	Granite	O/C
6	Russian Alphabet Marker	Gravestone	1923	Granite	O/C
7	Matrona and Andrew Prowker Marker	Gravestone	1927	Granite	O/C
8	Worobey Marker	Gravestone	1941	Granite	O/C
9	Luke and Mary Archinski Marker	Gravestone	1945	Granite	O/C
10	George and Annie Butko Marker	Gravestone	1946	Granite	O/C
11	Matthew Sudak Marker	Gravestone	1951	Pink Granite	O/C
12	Peter and Alexandra Talanetz Marker	Gravestone	1953	Pink Granite	O/C
13	Mary and Steve Belida	Gravestone	1951	Granite	O/C
14	Demistry and Vera Belida	Gravestone	1960	Granite	O/NC

Russian Cemetery
Westford (Middlesex Co.), Massachusetts
Data Sheet

Map #	Name	Resource Type	Dates	Material	Status
15	Peter and Mary Worobey	Gravestone	1941	Granite	O/C
16	Concrete grave marker	Gravestone		Cast Concrete	O/C
17	Chain link fence	Fence	c. 1960	Metal	O/NC
18	Flag pole	Flag pole	C. 1960	Metal	O/NC
19	Stephen Beskalo Marker	Gravestone	2000	Bronze	O/NC
20	Modern Shed	Shed	c. 2000	Wood	B/NC

NOTE: Resources selected for description in the text and inclusion in the data sheet are representative (i.e. lack of inclusion on the data sheet does not imply a non-contributing resource)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Russian Cemetary

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 10/14/05 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/09/05
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/24/05 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/27/05
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 05001324

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 11-25-05 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Entered in the
National Register*

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



НА ПАМЯТЬ ДОРОГОМУ МУЖУ
 СЕМЕНУ ОТ ПАВЛИНЫ БИЛИДА
 Здесь покоится крестьянин
 Гродненской губернии и уезда
 Дубновской вол. А. Сухиничи
 СЕМЕН БИЛИДА
 РОДИЛСЯ 27 МАЯ 1897 ГОДА
 УМЕР 2-ГО ОКТЯБРЯ 1916 ГО
 СЫН РОДИЛСЯ 2-ГО ФЕВРАЛЯ 1919 ГО
 УМЕР ТОГО ЖЕ ГОДА 18 ФЕВРАЛЯ

В Ч П А М Я Т Ъ
 Д О Р О Г О Й М У Ж И С Ы Н М О И

FRANK J.
 SPAS
 1830 — 1916

ZAHARIE J.
 ROSKO
 1887 — 1918

МОРОЗ

Russian Cemetery

Westford Middlesex Co. MASS

Photo: S. Johnson 9/02

negs on file w/ Westford Hist. Comm.

View to North

photo 1

Semen Bilida Marker



RUSSIAN
CEMETERY
1918

RUSSIAN
CEMETERY
1918

Russian Cemetery
Westford, Middlesex Co. MASS.

Photo: S. Johnson 9/02

Negs on file w/ Westford Hist. Comm.

view to north

photo 2

Entrance gates




 ЗДЕСЬ ПОК
 ЕЖДА ЛЕОНТИ
 ДИЛАСЬ ЮНЯ
 УМЕРЛА ЮН
 АНТОНЬ ПО
 BORN NOV. 18. 18
 DIED MAY 28. 19

WORDBEY

ns

УМЕРШИМЪ РАДЕЪ БОЖИИ
 АНТОНЬ АНТОНОВЪ ПОСЫРКЪ
 РОДИЛСЯ ОНЪ СЫЕ КИЕВЪ
 А БИДОВСКОЕ ВОЛ ДЕР
 СУХИНАРЪ РОДИМОЕ
 ЧИСТАЕ СЕО ДЕР 1819 Г
 УМЕРЪ ЧИСТАЕ 25 ДНЯ 1829 Г
 ВЪ ВОЗРАСТЕ
 ДОРОГОЕ ДУХУ СЛЪЗУ

Russian Cemetery

Westford, Middlesex Co. MASS

Photo: S. Johnson 9/02

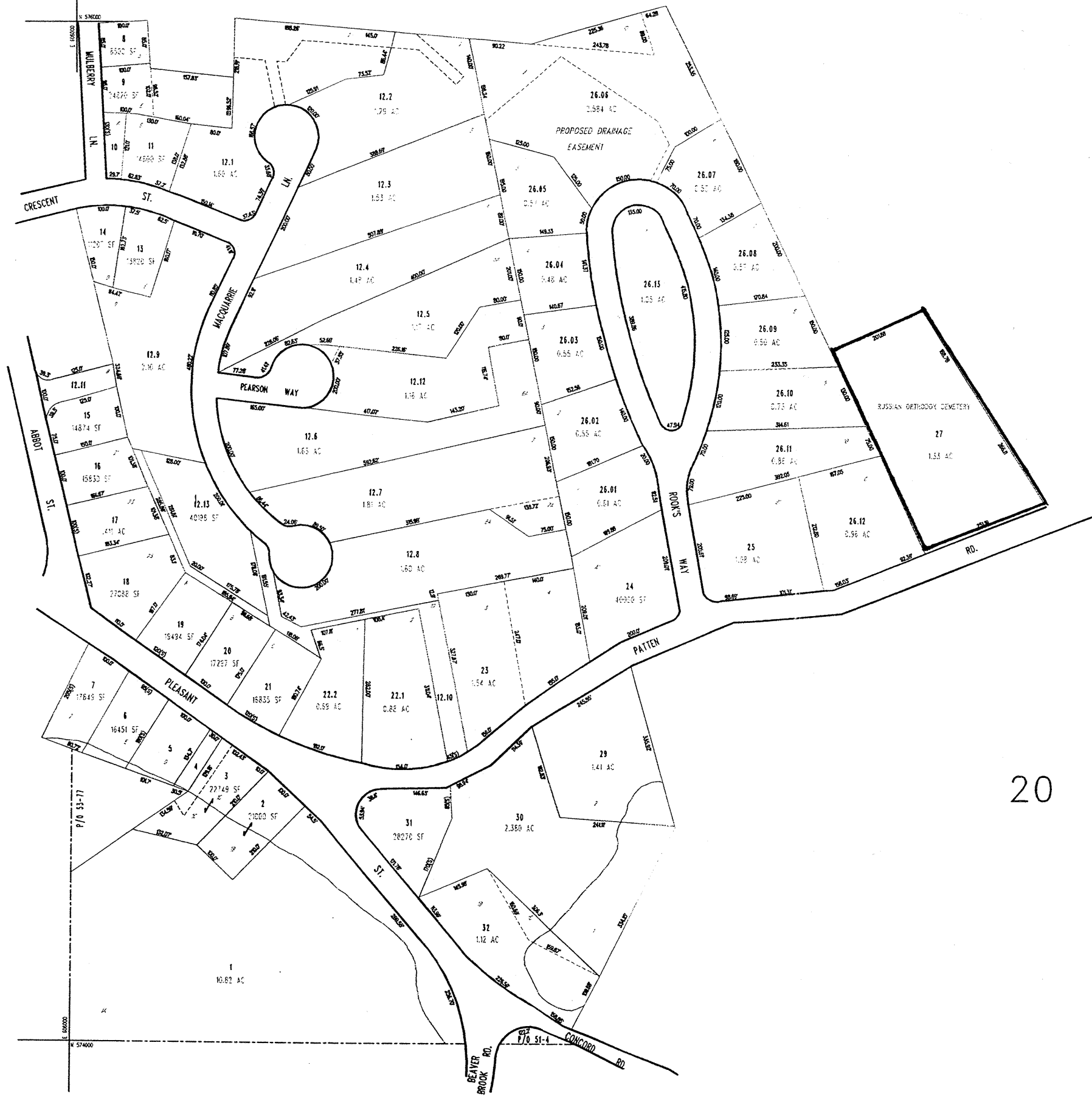
maps on file w/ Westford Hist. Comm

view to east

photo 3

Anton Antonovich Pozniak marker

Russian Cemetery National Register District
 Westford
 Middlesex County, MA
 North Toward Top
 Assessor Number 054 0027



LEGEND
 PARCEL NUMBERS R
 MATCH LINE

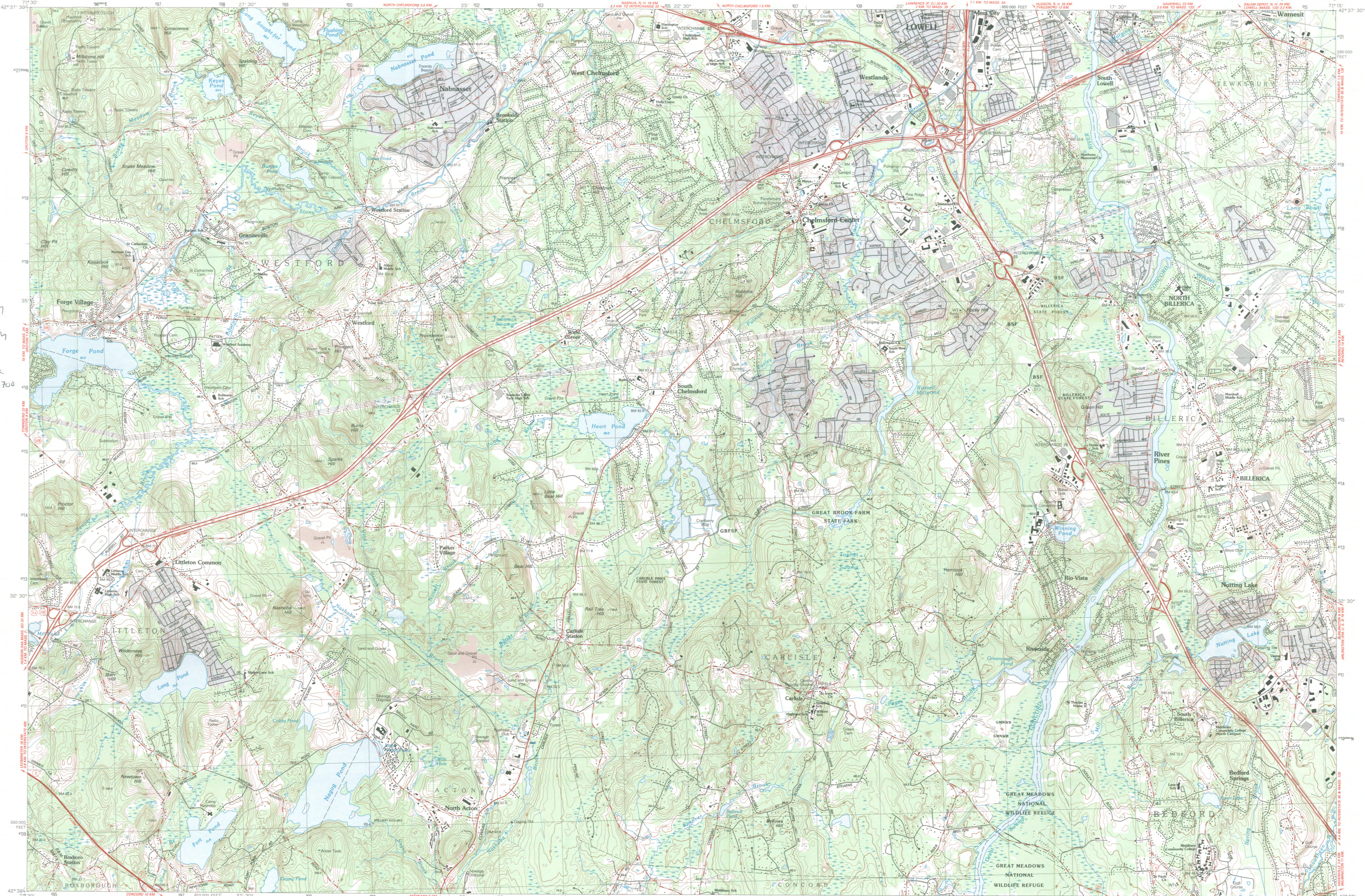


DATE OF AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY 4-28-87
 DATE OF COMPLETION 8-8-88
 DATE OF REVISIONS
 1-1-90
 1-1-90
 1-1-91
 1-1-92
 1-1-93
 1-1-97

For Assessment Purposes
 Not To Be Used For Conveyance

TAX MAP
TOWN OF WESTFORD
 MIDDLESEX COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS
 PREPARED BY
 JAMES W. SEWALL COMPANY, OLD TOWN, MAINE
 SCALE: 1 INCH = 100 FEET

	58
53	MAP NUMBER 54
	51



Russian Cemetery
Westford
Middlesex County
MASS
UTM Reference
19 0297179 9716700

Billerica *Russian Cemetery*
MASSACHUSETTS *Westford*
Middlesex Co.
 MASS

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
 1987

Produced by the United States Geological Survey in cooperation with Massachusetts Department of Public Works
 Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts agencies
 Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1951. Field checked 1982. Map edited 1987
 Supersedes Westford 1966 and Billerica 1965 1:24,000-scale maps
 Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 19
 Universal Transverse Mercator
 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone. 1927 North American Datum
 To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983, move the projection lines 6 meters south and 41 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 1929
 CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
 OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.3 METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

Meters	Feet
1	3.2808
2	6.5617
3	9.8425
4	13.1234
5	16.4043
6	19.6852
7	22.9661
8	26.2470
9	29.5279
10	32.8084

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

UTM grid convergence (80° 18' 00" West):
 1 Meter (M) = 0.000178 m
 2 Meters (M) = 0.000356 m
 Diagram is approximate

ADJOINING MAPS	1	2	3
4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11

1 Townsend
 2 Lowell
 3 Lawrence
 4 Ames
 5 Reading
 6 Hudson
 7 Maynard
 8 Boston North

FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
 DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR 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; U. S.; State	—
Railroad: standard gauge; narrow gauge	—
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; found section corner	—
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	—
Windmill; water well; spring	—
Mine shaft; prospect; shaft or cave	—
Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation	—
Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression	—
Distorted surface: strip mine, lava, sand	—
Bathymetric contours: index; intermediate	—
Paralleled lake and stream; intermediate lake and stream	—
Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small	—
Swamp; marsh	—
Submerged marsh; land subject to controlled inundation	—
Wooded; scattered trees	—
Scrub; mangrove	—
Orchard; vineyard	—

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request

RUSSIAN BROTHERHOOD CEMETERY
Pattern Road
Westford, MA 01886

RECEIVED
JAN 27 2005
MASS. HIST. COMM

December 15, 2004

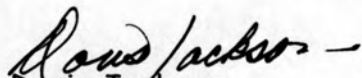
Ms. Betsy Freidberg
Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125

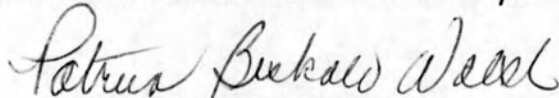
Dear Ms. Friedberg,

On behalf of the Russian Brotherhood Cemetery, we are writing to express support for the Westford Historical Commission's efforts to list the Russian Brotherhood Cemetery in the National Register of Historic Places.

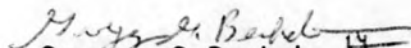
Sincerely,

As members and representatives of the Russian Brotherhood Cemetery:

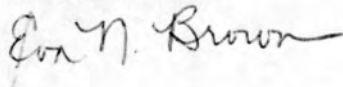

Doris Jackson


Patricia Beskalo Walsh

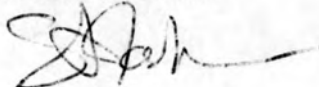

Scott C. Walsh


Gregory G. Beskalo

Eva N. Brown



Steven Jackson





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

OCT 14 2005

October 11, 2005

Mr. John Roberts, Acting Chief
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW 8th floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Russian Cemetery, Patten Road, Westford (Middlesex County), 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 property were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 45 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: Sanford Johnson, consultant
Pat Beskalo Walsh, Russian Cemetery
Kenneth Tebbets, Westford Historical Commission
Dini Healy-Coffin, Westford Board of Selectmen
Timothy Greenhill, Westford Town Planner



Patrick Andrus/WASO/NPS
11/22/2011 08:38 AM

To "Friedberg, Betsy (SEC)" <betsy.friedberg@state.ma.us>
cc
bcc

Subject Re: Russian Cemetery, Middlesex County

Betsy: As long as you are just correcting spelling/grammar, then there is no need to treat this as additional documentation. Just send it to my attention and I will switch the pages. You can have a new signature page but date it the same date as the original. The only problem I see is that when our secretary opens the mail she date stamps it. So put a message in LARGE TYPE asking Octavia to not date stamp the incoming, but to just give it to me.

Happy Thanksgiving.

Patrick

Patrick W. Andrus
Historian
National Register of Historic Places
Patrick_Andrus@nps.gov
"Friedberg, Betsy (SEC)" <betsy.friedberg@state.ma.us>



"Friedberg, Betsy (SEC)"
<betsy.friedberg@state.ma.us>
s>
11/21/2011 05:13 PM

To "Patrick_Andrus@nps.gov" <Patrick_Andrus@nps.gov>
cc

Subject Russian Cemetery, Middlesex County

Hi Patrick,

This property was listed in the NR in late 2005. I was looking at the file last week and realized that we apparently sent to NPS a version of the nomination that had not been copy edited. We would like to resubmit the nomination. The copy editing would correct some misspellings and punctuation, but would have no effect on the substance of the nomination. There are tiny corrections on almost every page, I'm embarrassed to say. How should we do this? Is it considered additional documentation? To my chagrin, one of the errors is on the cover page ("cemetery" is misspelled). So I am wondering whether a new SHPO signature is needed. Please advise.

Many thanks,
Betsy

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Blvd.
Boston, MA 02125
Ph: 617-727-8470
fax: 617-727-5128



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

January 23, 2012

Mr. Patrick W. Andrus
Historian
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street NW 8th floor
Washington, Dc 20005

**Re: Westford (Middlesex), MA; Russian Cemetery
Listed November 25, 2005**

Dear Patrick:

We are sending you a corrected version of the Russian Cemetery nomination, in reference to your email of November 22 (attached). The only changes to the nomination are related to spelling and grammar. It has been signed and dated by our SHPO to reflect the original submission.

Please substitute this version, including one corrected photo caption, for the existing nomination.

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

Betsy Friedberg
NR Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission