

277

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 VINE LAKE CEMETERY

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number MAIN STREET _____ not for publication

city or town MEDFIELD _____ vicinity _____

state MASSACHUSETTS code MA county NORFOLK code 021 zip code 02052

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.)

Betsy Friedberg National Register Director
Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date 2/22/05

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): _____

for
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Edson H. Beall

4/14/05

Vine Lake Cemetery
Name of Property

Norfolk, MA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

(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

_____ building
_____ sites
_____ structures
_____ objects
_____ 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)

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 granite

walls granite

roof slate

other

Narrative Description

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA**SECTION 7. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION**

Medfield's Vine Lake Cemetery lies along the north side of Main Street (MA Route 109) near the western edge of town. What began as a small burial ground, established in 1651, grew over its 350-year history into a 31.9-acre cemetery with nearly twenty burial sections. The town gradually added land, and with it new landscape styles, retaining the old sections while meticulously blending in new ones. As a result, Vine Lake Cemetery's landscape reflects the location, setting, views, topography, layout, and details of the Colonial, Rural, and Landscape Lawn periods, making it a virtual microcosm of the history of cemetery design.

Vine Lake and Vine Brook (**photo #2**, site plan #1) are the most prominent landscape features of the cemetery and it is from Vine Brook that Vine Lake Cemetery takes its name. Vine Brook, earlier called Meeting-House Brook, is a natural feature; it rises near Rocky Woods at the boundary between Medfield and Dover, and flows through the middle of Medfield, passing through Vine Lake Cemetery before emptying into the Charles River. Vine Lake is man-made, created around 1800. The lake was formed by widening the Vine Brook as it diagonally crossed the cemetery from northwest to southeast and building a dam at the western end.

Whether entering through the oldest section of the cemetery from Main Street or from the Dale Street entrance at the very back of the cemetery in the newer section, there are striking views created by the sharp hills of the old and new sections, which slope down to meet at Vine Lake (**photos #2, #4**). These inward vistas, from the high vantage points within Vine Lake Cemetery, occur in several locations. A particularly lovely outlook is looking down the western slopes of Section A to Vine Lake and up the hill of Section B to the Mitchell monument at Prospect Park. Another is from Peters Hill and Monument Ledge down to Vine Lake and up the terraced hill on the north side of Section A. Other viewsheds are from Prospect Park and Sunset Park southeast to Vine Lake, as well as across the newer sections to the west.

The cemetery is bordered by the 17th century Dedham to Hartford Turnpike, currently Main Street (MA Route 109) to the south, and the 1911 Dale Street to the north. Residences stand to the east and west while Bridge Street marks the far western border. No houses are close enough to disturb the integrity of the cemetery.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA

There are five entrances to the cemetery, none with historic gates. The original 17th century access to the cemetery is the easterly opening on Main Street; the two other Main Street entrances to the west are 19th century. The Dale Street entrance was built in 1911; one granite post of this period remains (section M, site plan #38). The Bridge Street entrance was planned in the 1990s to be the cemetery's grand entrance, but this has yet to be realized.

Section A: The Colonial Period Burying Ground

The center of Section A retains the character of its ancient origin. This core of the old section, which borders Main Street, stands close to the site of early settlement. This area contains few roads or paths. A rough road, formerly a cart path, originates at the original easterly Main Street entrance, winds partially around Section A-4, and exits out the next most easterly entrance (17th/18th C., site plan #2). Ground covers, comprised of a mix of turf and perennials, blanket the ground amongst the graves, while mature deciduous trees, including oaks and maples, form a dappled canopy above this small, intimate Colonial burial area (**photo #1**). A handsome cut granite block mortar-jointed wall (section A, site plan #19), which evolved from about 1802 to 1945, borders all of Section A to the south.

All the gravestones and monuments in Section A are numbered in a "Plan Showing Lots and Graves: Vine Lake Cemetery, Section A, Vine Lake Cemetery" (1927), and a key was compiled to correspond to these numbers entitled "Catalog of Graves in the Old Section of Vine Lake Cemetery, Medfield, Massachusetts" (1976). The grave and lot numbers below refer to this plan and catalog; both are available at the Medfield Historical Society archives.

Graves appear singly in irregular rows, and are marked by traditional colonial tablets of slate. This is where the small, very old, roughly cut stones, have miraculously survived. They can be seen in Section A-4: those of **John and Samuel Bullen** (1692, graves #366, 367), of the **Metcalf family stones** (1690-1707, graves # 470-474), and of **John and Benoni Harding** (1704, 1707, **photo #6**, site plan #48, graves #167, 168). There are an unusual number of finely carved slate stones, representing the work of many noted Boston and regional gravestone carvers. (**photos #11, #12**). (Please refer to 8. Significance and the Supplementary Information "Gravestone Carvers in Vine Lake Cemetery.")

Intermingled among the numerous slate markers are many marble headstones and small monuments. These memorialize individuals who died in the early to mid 19th century when marble became the stone of choice for marking gravesites. These stones take many forms –

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 3Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA

some very plain tabletstones with minimal or no decoration, others bearing intricately carved iconography with lengthy, uplifting epitaphs. Smaller marble monuments, which have a base and die construction, may also be found. These often are richly carved and take the shape of a gothic or roman arch.

Many of Section A's perimeter features reflect the mid-19th century Rural cemetery style. Located to the north and east of the original burying ground, this additional land was purchased by the town in 1843. The section rises naturally above the road to the south and Vine Brook and Vine Lake to the north, providing excellent points of prospect in both directions. Turf and dirt paths, retaining walls and a massive elongated pine grove (1930s, section A-5, A-6, site plan #3) lie along the steep western and northern slopes, emphasizing the dramatic topography.

Interior retaining masonry walls support the terracing of the gravesites in hilly Section A. Examples of these walls, important features in the cemetery, are the segment of the 1890s Wilson Ave. wall facing Vine Lake (**photo #3**, section A-6, site plan #21), similar in construction to the Main Street wall, and the 1909 Hewins Ave. wall (sections A-3, A-4, site plan #20), of sharp-cut granite block with mortar joints.

There are also masonry retaining walls supporting family plots due to the elevated terrain. These walls, such as those supporting the Fisher and Mason family plots in Section A-3, the Allen family plot in Section A-4, or the Rich and Ellis family plots in Section A-7 are usually of cut granite block, with or without mortar joints. There is an occasional unmortared granite fieldstone wall such as that buttressing the Homans family plot in Section A-6. Some of the family plots also have stone curbing surrounding the gravesites, occasionally with obelisks marking their center. The curbing is primarily of carved granite, some with capped granite corner posts.

Narrow granite steps, such as the 1890s granite Wilson Ave. steps with pipe railing, near the Vine Brook Bridge (section A-6, site plan #22) punctuate the walls at several spots and lead visitors to elevated gravesites.

The oldest tomb in the cemetery, the 1844 cut granite **Public Receiving Tomb**, is built into the southern slope of Section A-3 (site plan #15). This starkly simple receiving tomb, set in a high mound, is composed of a pedimented top and side walls created by thick triangular granite pieces set atop rectangular granite bases. The entrance is a vertical batten door enhanced with long, wrought iron hinges set in a granite wall.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 4Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA

Almost all the major monuments are located in Section A. Among the oldest are the sandstone monuments, such as the 1846 **Thayer Monument** (section A-2, lot 280, site plan #25), which stands prominently just inside the uppermost and original 17th century Main Street entrance. This tall handsome monument is hierarchically composed. The main element of the monument, a tapered obelisk, an ancient Egyptian symbol representing a ray of sunlight for the entombed king, is characteristic of the Greek Revival Style, then at its height of popularity. The obelisk is capped by a hexagonal covered urn decorated with two rows of fretwork superimposed with a flame. The obelisk is placed on a tripartite plinth. The first stage is typically plain, the second and most important, is the tallest and bears a recessed plaque with raised letters spelling THAYER while the third level, just below the tapered shaft has its four sides covered with a design reminiscent of a colonial gravestone.

The unusual 1858 Morse or **Seven Puritans Monument** (photos #1, #7, section A-4, lot 228, site plan #26), is an imposing presence in the oldest section. Signed by J. Foote, Cutter and Designer, this triple-shafted sandstone monument commemorates the Puritans who came from England for religious freedom. The simplicity of the design reflects the Puritans' wish to purify their church from excessive papist ornamentation and ritual. The open bible on the tall central pyramidal topped shaft is given the place of honor, emphasizing the importance of its role in the Puritan religion. The two shorter shafts have only simple crosses carved in relief on a shield.

One of the most elaborate marble monuments is the 1862 **Allen Alonzo Kingsbury Monument** (photo #8, section A-4, lot #242, site plan #27). This tall marble monument, hierarchically designed, is set on a plain double granite base. The shaft, however, is replete with ornamentation. Above the granite bases is a plain marble one with the name carved in high relief, topped by yet another marble base covered with a shield. The shaft has two baroque cartouches with the topmost one capped with an eagle with spreading wings. The cyma curved ovolo molding, under a steep pyramidal top capped with an urn cum flame finial, dramatically finishes this fine eclectic monument.

The 1861 **George Horatio Derby Monument** (section A-6, lot #105, site plan #31) is another fine marble monument. This starkly simple marble shaft set on a marble base is enhanced at its top octagonal half by the presence of carved inverted torches at the four recessed corners. These emblems symbolize life extinguished. Below the name "DERBY" incised on one side, is a lyre set in a laurel leaf frame, relating to George Horatio's younger sister. The four splayed, arched panels of the lower half are filled with dedicatory writings.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 5Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA

At the base of the inscribed words is a carved emblem of the Masonic Order set in a recessed circle, confirming George Horatio Derby's affiliation with that organization.

Among the other marble monuments are two memorializing early Medfield ministers. These are the 1814 **Rev. Thomas Prentiss D. D. Monument** (section A-4, lot #273, site plan #30) and the 1850 **Rev. Dan. C. Sanders D. D. Monument** (section A-2, lot #276, site plan #24).

The powerful marble Reverend Thomas Prentiss D. D. Monument exudes strength and serenity. The main element of the memorial is a thick, square shaft, which stands on a plain granite base, and marble plinths simply decorated with a cyma curve molding. Above this shaft, punctuated by an ovolo molding, is an elegant molded stylized capital composed of three moldings. Above this severe element is a classical volute krater embellished with a stylized flame. The Prentiss Monument, designed at the beginning of the 19th century, expresses the solidity and simplicity of the new style just emerging in the United States, the Greek Revival Style which harked back to the robustness, simplicity and clarity of the Greek civilization.

The Rev. Daniel C. Sanders D. D. Monument (section A-2, lot #276, site plan #24) is in the form of a tall marble obelisk (as noted before, symbolizing a ray of sun for an entombed Egyptian king). The monument bears a lengthy inscription giving much information on Rev. Sanders' life including graduation from Harvard in 1788, the presidency of the University of Vermont in 1800 and his installation as pastor of the first Parish Church in Medfield in 1815. On the reverse side of the memorial is recorded the names of several additional individuals who are buried in the lot.

Vine Lake is fortunate to have several outstanding white bronze (zinc) monuments of which the 1874 **Daniels Hamant Monument (photo #9, section A-1, lot #16, site plan #23)** is an unusually distinguished example. The sepulchral design of this richly decorated white bronze is based on an ecclesiastical tomb monument. Its central portion is a rectangular sepulchre surrounded by architectural elements for substance and dignity. Six short Romanesque type columns with floriated capitals and decorated square abacus support a low domed top with arched pediments at each side. Dark bronze panels with inscriptions are set between the columns, further emphasizing the three-dimensional quality of the monument by its play of light and shadow.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 6Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA

There are also outstanding granite monuments in Section A, both for their aesthetic as well as their historic significance. The **Langley Tomb and Monument (photo #10, section A-7, lot 41, site plan #16)** is one of the most prominent. As behooves a granite monument, it is a strong and simple structure as are the other granite monuments at Vine Lake Cemetery. The extreme hardness of the material dictated a robust and simple style, for it was difficult to carve. The simplicity and strength of the Langley monument is exhibited in its austere composition: a tall plain plinth, a body embellished only with a recessed panel bearing the name of the deceased, **LANGLEY**, and the whole topped by a pyramidal coping carved of a darker granite for emphasis. The Langely Monument was actually erected over a tomb; the entrance to the tomb is below the rear of the monument. The monument is surrounded by one of the few finely fashioned granite post and pipe rail fences (**photo #10, site plan #17**) in Vine Lake Cemetery. The fence has unusual posts of a type rarely seen in a burial ground. These granite posts exhibit large chamfered corners with the main body of the post splaying out from the top into a shield shape form, an interesting contrast to the severity of the monument itself. These posts are joined to the other posts by plain iron rails. Their slightly pyramidal tops mirror that of the monument itself.

For its age, the 1893 **Rev. Joseph Baxter Monument** (section A-4, lot 260, site plan #29) is remarkably modern in its severity, glassy black surface, and simple components. Reverend Joseph Baxter died in 1745 and was apparently buried in a tomb. This tomb was removed and monument erected in 1893. It is only the double plinth and the pyramidal top that barely indicate its late 19th century date. The base plinth is made of gray rough cut granite, and acts as the foil for the second plinth above made of glossy black granite with one side decorated with a recessed cartouche exhibiting raised letters spelling **BAXTER**. The most remarkable element of this monument is the fine inscription, which fill the four sides of the main body relating the history and the genealogy of the Reverend Joseph Baxter.

The granite 1896 **Chenery Monument** (section A-6, lots 115 - 116, site plan #32) is attributed to Alpheus Cary of Boston. It exhibits some of the most beautiful carved acanthus leaves seen in any burial ground; crisp and delicate, they articulate the corners of the cushion-like top which caps this fine traditional monument. A tapered rectangular main block is set on two plinths: the base with rough cut sides and the second, smoothly cut, is simply embellished with the raised letters **CHENERY**. The main face of the tapered central portion is filled with incised lettering naming the occupants of the lot.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 7Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA

One of the newer monuments in Section A, the 1952 modernistic **Plimpton Monument** (section A-4, lot 247, site plan #28) is striking for its architectural qualities reminiscent of an avant garde mausoleum. It is a severe square granite cube placed above a barely visible recessed base atop a plain square granite block. The sides are covered with recessed letters relating the history of the Plimpton Family who came from England in 1637. For all its modernity, the monument reflects well the austerity of the 17th century English settlers and their religion.

Sections B and C: The Rural Cemetery

The most prominent feature of Sections B and C is the **Vine Brook Bridge** (**photo #2**, site plan #13) crossing Vine Brook at the northeast end of Vine Lake. Described in the 1890 Annual Report (p. 34) as the "new stone bridge ... a substantial single arch structure, constructed of granite, with a span of eight feet, twenty feet in width," it forges the union of the old (Section A) and new (Section B) grounds. This graceful span is visible from many spots within the cemetery, serving as a visual focal point on the north end of the lake. The Vine Brook Dam (site plan #14), at the southwest end of Vine Lake, was constructed of granite block and concrete before 1876 with the overflow completed in 1889.

Sections B and C exhibit the characteristics of the Rural cemetery style. When the small cemetery began to run out of space in the 1870s, the town purchased thirteen additional acres, creating the two new sections and significantly increasing Vine Lake Cemetery's size. The topography across these sections rolls gently upward from the lake edge toward the cemetery's northern boundary (**photo #4**). Winding roadways, lined with mature deciduous trees, outline the burial sections, and large expanses of regularly-mown turf cover the ground. Stone walls and steps add further emphasis to the land's natural shape.

Family plots dominate, with many containing central obelisks and monuments. Some plots have been individually designed with yew hedges and flowering shrubs and trees, resulting in intimate, garden-like spaces within the larger cemetery.

The handsome landscape features of Section B (**photo #4**) provide additional naturalistic details. These features, some natural, some created, were formally recognized, named, and described in the "Exercises at the Dedication of the Addition to the Cemetery," February 22, 1890. Peters Hill (section B-1, site plan #4), rising from the borders of Vine Lake, was

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 8Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA

named in honor of Captain William Peters (1772-1843), a leading Medfield citizen. Monument Ledge (section B-2, site plan #5), a rocky outcropping above the lake's northwestern shore, also provides excellent views. The level tract of land lying between Monument Ledge and Mason Heights is called Mitchell Park (section B-3, site plan #6) in honor of Hon. Edwin Vinald Mitchell (d. 1917), for his many financial contributions to the cemetery as well as his faithful work on the Cemetery Committee. Mason Heights (section B-4, site plan #8), located on the elevation near Dale Street, is named for Dr. Lowell Mason (1792-1843), a noted Medfield musician and composer. A granite marker stands in front of his birthplace at 121 North Street. At the top of Mason Heights stands Prospect Park (section B-5, site plan #9), the cemetery's highest point, offering the most expansive views of the cemetery. The elevation of land which once lay adjacent to the Sewall estate and in remembrance of Rev. Charles C. Sewall is called Sewall Heights (section B-7, Annex, site plan #12); the park at its summit is Sunset Park (section B-7, site plan #11).

Allees of sugar maples were planted ca. 1900 flanking Wilson and Prentiss Avenues in Section B-3, along Wilson Avenue in Section B-7 Annex, and paralleling Sewall Avenue in Section C (site plan #7). In the 1940s, a continuous line of pine groves was planted along Dale Street, visually integrating the older section of B-6 with the newer sections of L and M (site plan #10).

Handsome granite monuments abound in Sections B and C, but the simple granite vertical shaft of the 1917 Hon. Edwin Vinald Mitchell Monument (section B-4, site plan #36) dominates the Vine Lake Cemetery. It possesses not only strong verticality, but also occupies the site of the burial ground's highest point, atop Prospect Park. It is made of beautiful pale granite, crisply cut and adorned with only one severe element, an inverted torch representing death, which is placed on the four sides of the tapered shaft. The barely perceptible low pitch pyramidal top relates well to the austerity and simplicity of the monument.

Vine Lake Cemetery has a number of boulders serving as monuments which provide a dramatic counterpoint to the angular gravestones and monuments that represent the bulk of memorials. They serve to enhance the rural atmosphere of the cemetery as well. Among these is the **Dana Stoddard Greenough, Jr.** (1881-1950) **Boulder** (section B-1, site plan #33) facing Vine Lake. This handsome Roxbury Puddingstone (conglomerate) boulder carries its inscription on a pink marble plaque attached to the stone. The 1903 **Mollison Family Boulder** (section B-4, site plan #34) is a vertical piece of stone and occupies a prominent spot on the slope leading up to Prospect Park (section B-4). This may be a glacial erratic as

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 9Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA

its composition is unlike other boulders in the cemetery. The name and year is cast into a small bronze plaque inset into the stone. The **Allen Family Boulder** (section B-4, site plan #35) rises impressively on the slope of Prospect Park (section B-4) as well. It carries only the name on a substantial slate plaque.

Vine Lake Cemetery's second tomb, the 1897 **Medfield State Hospital Tomb** (site plan #18), is located at the foot of Sewall Ave, just south of Section C. Set in a low hill, this receiving tomb has an entry and sides made of common bond laid brick, capped by thick stone coping. The metal entrance door has long hinges and a knocker made of a lion's head with a large ring of stylized acanthus leaves.

The Soldier's Lot lies on the east side of the most northeastern portion of Vine Lake Cemetery off Prentice Avenue, adjoining Section B. No neighboring gravestones or monuments intrude on the site. There are several marble military markers on the lot, each with their characteristic shield inscription panel. The outstanding feature of the Soldier's Lot, is the 1907 Monument to the Unknown Dead (**Soldiers Monument**) (photo #5, site plan #37). This stout, strong granite monument commemorates and honors the unknown heroes of the Civil War. It is set on a rough-cut granite base and plinth with the war years, 1861-1865, sculpted in high relief. The smooth granite-faced rectangular pedimented shaft is given substance and strength by its rough-cut granite buttresses at the sides. Above the dedicatory inscription are the archetypal symbols of the Civil War, crossed swords and a Union military hat. On the back of the monument are inscribed the names of seven soldiers who lie in unknown graves.

Sections D through N: The Landscape Lawn

Sections D through N in the cemetery's northwest corner, planned and plotted between 1930 and 1971, exhibit characteristics of the modern Landscape Lawn style of design yet are sympathetic to the Rural Cemetery style of adjoining Sections B and C. There is no Section I or J. The topography through this area slopes very moderately to the west.

Although the layout of Sections D through N is basically rectilinear, the irregular shapes of the different sections and slightly curving roadways form a somewhat freeform grid, helping to tie these newer sections to the older cemetery. New plantings include smaller, flowering trees and dwarf evergreens ornamenting the gravesites. The planting of fifty new trees, to celebrate the Town of Medfield's 350th anniversary, has greatly enhanced the entire cemetery.

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 10**Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA**

Family plots are marked by a wide variety of traditionally styled granite and marble monuments. Closely mown turf cover blankets the floor. There are serene vistas to the west and pleasing views to the north and south. A particularly notable feature of the newer sections is the use of sizeable boulders utilized as markers, evocative of the Rural Cemetery design as represented by Sections B and C.

Archaeological Description

While no ancient Native American sites are known in the cemetery, it is possible that sites are present. Nineteen sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile); many in similar areas as represented in Vine Lake Cemetery. Environmental characteristics of the cemetery represent locational criteria (slope, soil drainage, proximity to wetlands) that support the presence of ancient Native American sites. Well-drained, level to moderately sloping stream terraces, and other landforms are located in the cemetery, especially along its western boundary along Bridge Street and in the vicinity of Vine Brook and Vine Lake. The latter wetlands are located in the cemetery and Charles River floodplain wetlands are located within 1,000 feet of the western cemetery boundary. Given the above information, the size of the cemetery (31.9 acres), and the presence of over 3,500 graves, tombs, roadways, walls, and monuments, a moderate potential exists for the recovery of significant ancient Native American resources.

A high potential exists for locating historic archaeological resources within the cemetery. Unmarked graves resulting from lost markers and intentionally unmarked burials may represent the most common and important archaeological resource in the cemetery. Unmarked graves may contain stratigraphic evidence of a burial shaft, coffin, human remains, and funerary related artifacts. Archaeological evidence of stone walls, fence posts, and other boundary indicators may also exist. Scattered artifacts may be present including gravestones and memorial related items associated with individual or groups of graves. Structural evidence of outbuildings no longer extant, possibly related to cemetery maintenance may exist within the cemetery.

(end)

Vine Lake Cemetery
Name of Property

Norfolk, 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)

ART

COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1651-1955

Significant Dates

1651

1890

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:

Medfield Historical Society

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA**8. NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Vine Lake Cemetery, Medfield, Massachusetts, possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and meets National Register Criteria A and C on the local level. Associated with the broad patterns of Medfield history as well as having outstanding examples of gravestone carvers, Vine Lake Cemetery, laid out in 1651, substantially enlarged in 1890, also qualifies under Criteria Consideration D.

As the Town of Medfield's only public burial ground, Vine Lake Cemetery has a significant role in town history and thus qualifies under Criteria A. Gravestones carry the material evidence of such settlers of the town as Rev. John Wilson, James Allen, Samuel Bullen, John Metcalf, Samuel Morse, and John Plimpton who laid the foundation of what Medfield is today. Here too are the gravestones of the early ministers, the veterans of all the wars, as well as industrialists, professionals, and ordinary citizens.

An unusual number of noted gravestone carvers, creating a visual history of gravestone carving styles, have excellent representations of their work in Vine Lake Cemetery, thus qualifying under Criteria C. The broad range of carvers include George Allen, Jr., Joseph Barbur, John Dwight, Nathaniel Emmes, Fisher/Farrington shop, John Just Geyer, Daniel Hastings, Levi Maxcy, William Mumford, John and Thomas Park, Robert Pratt, and Ebenezer Soule.

The history of the Town of Medfield begins in 1649 when a group of inhabitants of the Town of Dedham petitioned the General Court to start a settlement near Bogastow, now the Town of Medfield. The petition was granted and a company formed to occupy the new settlement to be called "Medfield," although still under the jurisdiction of Dedham. Establishing itself as a farming community, the first Medfield house lots for the original thirteen settlers were laid out in 1650. On January 11, 1651, the Town of Dedham transferred all the rights, power, and privileges of town government to the Town of Medfield. In May 1651 Medfield was recognized and sanctioned by the General Court and became the forty-third town in the colony in order of incorporation. Highways were laid out in 1652, the same year the first gristmill was built, and construction began on the Meetinghouse in 1653.

Farming and animal husbandry continued to be the economic base of Medfield during the Colonial period with saw and grist mills the only industry. It was not until the Federal period that the cottage industries of strawbraid and bonnet manufacture appeared. With the arrival of

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 2**Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA**

the railroad in 1861, Medfield expanded its strawbraid manufacturing and a new industry, carriage-making, emerged. Colonel Edwin V. Mitchell's Straw Factory (established 1851) was the major economic force in Medfield well through the late industrial (1870-1915) and early modern (1915-1940) periods. When the Straw Factory closed in 1952, the stores in the town center became the economic backbone of the town.

Vine Lake Cemetery was laid out in 1651, the year before the first grants of land were allotted. The original cemetery, now comprising the core of Section A, bordered Main Street. The cemetery was consecrated in 1661 which is also the date of the oldest surviving gravestone, that of Lydia Lovel (section A-4, grave #256), daughter of one of the earliest settlers in Medfield, Benjamin Albee. Animals were allowed to graze in the cemetery from 1736 to 1808. There were small additions to the cemetery, starting with two acres in 1843, which extended the original section on the northerly side to the pond and to the east. In 1878 there was a small addition of about an acre.

The year 1890 was a momentous one for Vine Lake Cemetery. Not only was it enlarged by thirteen acres and the Main Street wall extended but a new entrance was created that opened on a newly constructed drive which curved along the edge of Vine Lake and crossed the recently built bridge to connect the original and new burying grounds. In addition, the new avenues and landscape features were named to commemorate persons significant to the town's history. The Committee of the Enlargement of the Cemetery wrote of the new avenues that they were "laid out mostly in a winding manner, so as to bring out the natural beauties of locality." (1890 Town Report).

Vine Lake Cemetery, received its name, derived from Vine Brook, at the official dedication ceremony of all these improvements which took place at Chenery Hall on February 22, 1890. Three different ministers offered the invocation, dedicatory prayer, and benediction. Enhanced by several selections from a musical quartet and a hymn, the program included "Report and Remarks" by Albert A. Lovell, on behalf of the Committee of the Enlargement of the Cemetery, a "Historical Sketch" by William S. Tilden, an address by the Hon. Robert H. Bishop and additional lengthy addresses by George M. Fiske, N. T. Allen, and George R. Chase. Mr. Lovell noted that the years 1651 and 1890 were two seminal dates in the history of the community and Vine Lake Cemetery with 1651 being the date grounds were first set aside for the burial of the dead of the new settlement, and 1890 when the new acreage was acquired for the burial of the present and future generations.

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 3**Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA**

In 1892 the Commonwealth of Massachusetts purchased land on Hospital Road in Medfield and began the construction of Medfield Insane Asylum (later known as Medfield State Asylum, then Medfield State Hospital – NRMPS 1994). As it needed a burying place for its patients, in 1896 it purchased for \$1,000 a plot made up of forty lots from Vine Lake Cemetery. This plot is located on the west side of Vine Lake and in 1897 the Commonwealth built the State Hospital Tomb at the foot of Sewall Avenue (site plan #18) and instructed the Hospital superintendent to secure slate headstones to mark the patient's graves. One 1897 slate headstone remains (foot of Sewall Avenue, site plan #55). The cemetery had strong ties to the Medfield State Hospital, as the powerful Honorable Edwin V. Mitchell was a trustee of the Hospital and a leading member of the Vine Lake Cemetery Committee. Patients were buried in this area until 1918 when the Commonwealth established its own four-acre cemetery west of the hospital grounds, between Hospital Road and the Charles River. In 1949 Vine Lake Cemetery bought back the State Hospital's Tomb. The small Medfield State Hospital Cemetery, where burials ceased in the 1980s, is the only other cemetery in Medfield beside Vine Lake Cemetery.

In 1895 a 40-lot plot near Dale Street was set aside for the burial of Catholics and the first Catholic was buried in Vine Lake Cemetery in 1896; before this Catholics were buried in other area cemeteries. Additional land was purchased for the cemetery from Miss Alice O. Sewall in 1915.

The first mention of fencing for the cemetery occurs in 1696 and various wood fences were mentioned in Town Reports until 1802 when it is noted "The Selectmen were directed to set out trees in the burying-ground, near the wall on the front" – indicating stone walls were now being constructed. Various small buildings came and went over the centuries, including a hearse house in 1806 and its replacement in 1845, which does not survive. Sections B and C, designed in the Rural Cemetery style, were laid out in the 1890s. Section D, and the avenues linking Section C and D were developed in 1930. Sections E and F were prepared, surveyed and graded by 1954. In 1953 the cemetery acquired two lots at its most westerly point at Bridge Street, making possible the enlargement of Sections H and N. Section N was formally laid out in 1966 and Section G in 1970. Sections D through N were designed in the Landscape Lawn style and relate harmoniously to Sections B and C. There is no Section I or J. Work began on a new cemetery garage in 1969 and was never completed, due to a lack of funds. Remnants of this structure stand south of the Medfield State Hospital Tomb (site plan #18).

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 4Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA

The integrity is excellent in the original section with an occasional older monument interspersed among the multitude of slate stones. Medfield is also extremely fortunate that so many of the slate footstones are extant. There are an unusual number of old, primitively carved late 17th century and early 18th century gravestones in Vine Lake Cemetery, reflecting Medfield's early settlement and colonial periods. An excellent example of these are the gravestones of John (d. Jan. 19, 1704) and Benoni (d. May 3, 1707) Harding (**photo #6**, section A-4, graves 167, 168, site plan #48). There are at least eight remaining 17th century slate gravestones, some with fine carving. Examples of three early settlers with surviving gravestones include that of James Allen, d. Sept. 27, 1676 (section A-4, grave #344) who emigrated from Scotland and arrived in Medfield with the first thirteen settlers. Allen received a grant of land in 1653 and acquired other land in Medfield, on both sides of the Charles River. Samuel Bullen, d. Jan. 16, 1691/2 (section A-4, grave #366) was a selectman in 1681 and chosen deacon before 1689. Another settler, John Metcalf (1622-1690) was born in Norwich, England. He served on the Medfield board of selectman for six years and held the title of commissioner in 1682. A group of ancient Metcalf stones can be seen in Section A-4, graves #470-474.

At least two monuments commemorate the early settlers, the first being the magnificent 1858 Puritan or Morse Monument (**photos #1, #7**, section A-4, lot #228, site plan #26) which memorializes Samuel Morse (1585-1654) and his late 17th and early 18th century descendents and relatives. Born in England, Samuel Morse came to America in 1635 and lived first in Watertown, then Dedham. The History of Medfield ... 1650-1886 reports: "When the settlement of Medfield was projected, he cast in his lot with the new town" (p. 438). The Morse Monument is inscribed: "To the Memory of Seven Puritans who Emigrated from England in 1635."

The Plimpton Monument (section A-4, lot #247, site plan #28). memorializes John Plimpton (d. 1677) and his many descendents. Plimpton, an English tailor, was one of the original settlers in Medfield by 1650. He immigrated to Deerfield in 1673, at the time of King Philip's War, and was chief military officer for that town. In 1677 he was captured by the French and Indians and taken to Canada where it is believed he was burned at the stake at Fort Chambley.

Four of Medfield's early ministers are buried in Vine Lake Cemetery and are honored by having avenues within the Cemetery named after them. Rev. John Wilson d. August 23, 1691 (section A-4, grave 229) was Medfield's first minister and he is remembered by Wilson

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 5Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA

Avenue. The second minister at the First Parish Church was Rev. Joseph Baxter, (1676-1745) (section A-4, lot #260, site plan #29); Baxter Avenue is in memory of him. The third minister, Rev. Jonathan Townsend (1721-1777) was ordained on October 23, 1745 but unfortunately dismissed from his position in 1769. He remained in Medfield until 1777 when he was stricken by small-pox, taken to a hospital in Dedham and buried in that town. Rev. Thomas Prentiss (1768-1814) (section A-4, lot #273, site plan #30) was ordained October 31, 1770 as the fourth minister of Medfield and Prentiss (Prentice) Avenue was named in honor of him. Rev. Daniel Clark Sanders, (1768-1850) (section A-2, lot #276, site plan #24), fifth minister of Medfield, was ordained in the First Parish Church in 1815. Prior to this ministry, he served as the first president of the University of Vermont 1800-1814. The cemetery's Sanders Avenue is in remembrance of him. Another well-regarded minister, Rev. Charles Sewall (1802-1886), moved from a pastorate in Danvers to Medfield in 1843. Sewall Heights (section B-7, Annex, site plan #12) honors his contribution to the Town of Medfield.

The gravestones and monuments of Vine Lake Cemetery embody the entire military history of the Town of Medfield as veterans of every war are buried here. In the Revolutionary War Medfield sent 154 men with 42 members in the Continental Army; about 71 of these patriots are buried in Vine Lake Cemetery. The gravestone of an officer, Lieut. Silas Plimpton, d. June 14, 1817, may be seen in section A-4, grave #499, and the gravestone of a soldier, Gershom Adams, d. Nov. 10, 1834, also in Section A-4, grave #130.

According to The History of Medfield ... 1650-1886, p. 372, George Horatio Derby (1823-1861) (section A-6, lot #105, site plan #31) was an 1846 West Point graduate, served in the Mexican war (1846-1848) and was wounded at Cerro Gordo. Following the war, he became a Captain in the U.S.A. Corps of Topographical Engineers. An accomplished author of satirical books, he wrote under the pen name of "John Phoenix."

Approximately 87 veterans of the Civil War are buried in Vine Lake Cemetery. The first Medfield soldier to die was Allen Alonzo Kingsbury who fell in the battle of Yorktown on April 26, 1862 (**photo #8**, section A-4, lot #242, site plan #27). Known as "Medfield's Civil War Hero," his body was brought back to Medfield on May 8, 1862 and there was an elaborate funeral ceremony, officiated by Rev. Charles C. Sewall, the next day.

May 30, 1907 was a grand day for Vine Lake Cemetery as the handsome Civil War Monument to the Unknown Dead (**photo #5**, Soldier's Lot, site plan #37) was dedicated in a solemn well-attended ceremony. Hon. George M. Fiske, in his dedicatory address, reviewed the history of each of the men who are assumed buried on unknown battlefields or prison

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 6Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA

yards. Daniels Hamant (**photo #9**, section A-1, lot #16, site plan #23) of Medfield led the effort to erect the monument which stands on a height of land adjacent to Section B, a location of great prominence within the cemetery.

Six men are buried in Vine Lake Cemetery who fought in the Spanish-American War (1898). The grave of Henry E. Dyer, d. April 30, 1905, may be seen in section B-1. The gravestones of numerous veterans from the two World Wars, the Korean War and the Vietnam War can be found primarily in sections C through N.

Past leaders of the Town of Medfield rest in Vine Lake Cemetery. An influential Medfield citizen Capt. William Peters, Esq. (1772-1843) (section A-4, lot #239), a local tanner, received his captain's commission in 1805. He was a selectman in 1805, 1813, 1818, 1819, 1822, 1824 and a representative in 1838. Peters' Hill (section B-1, site plan #4) in Vine Lake Cemetery, was named for him.

The powerful men who fueled the industrial development of Medfield are also buried in Vine Lake Cemetery. The Honorable Edwin Vinald Mitchell (1851-1917) (section B-5, site plan #36) came to Medfield in 1877 and in 1885 married Blanche Curtis whose father, Daniel D. Curtis, was co-founder of the 1851 Excelsior Straw Works. This firm was later incorporated as the E. V. Mitchell Co. with Col. Mitchell as president. According to Historic Medfield ...350 Years: "By the turn of the 20th century, the straw works, then known Edwin V. Mitchell & Company, was the second largest straw and felt hat factory in the nation." (p. 40) The plant stayed in operation until 1952. Mitchell earned the title of "Colonel" as he was colonel and aide-de-camp on Governor John Quincy Adams Bracketts' staff and as a member of Governor Eustis Russell's Council in 1892-1894. He was a member or director of a multitude of organizations, including being on the Cemetery Committee of Vine Lake Cemetery. Mitchell Park (section B-3, site plan #4) in the cemetery, is named for him.

Another straw goods manufacturer, George W. Chenery (1826-1866), (section A-6, lots #115, 116, site plan #32) left a bequest in 1866 of \$23,700 for the erection of a town hall. Designed by architects Hartwell and Swazey, Chenery Hall was built in 1872.

Other Medfield citizens, from every profession, occupation and station in life are buried in Vine Lake Cemetery. Representing the medical profession there is physician Elias Mann, M.D. d. March 9, 1807 (section A-2, lot #236). A well-known musician, Dr. Lowell Mason, d. 1872, is not buried in Vine Lake Cemetery but, for his enormous contribution to the musical development of the town, Mason Heights (section B-4, site plan #5) is named for

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 7Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA

him. The genealogical section of the History of the Town of Medfield, Massachusetts 1650-1886 calls Mason "the foremost man of his time in raising the popular standard of music. He revolutionized the methods of teaching." (p. 434). The shopkeepers and storeowners, who contributed so much to the commercial development of the town, are also in Vine Lake Cemetery. Charles Onion, Esq. d. Dec. 5, 1852 (section A-4, grave #48, site plan #46), who has the interesting gravestone with the hand and finger pointing downward (see p. 19), was a storekeeper in the early 1800s and postmaster 1823-1852.

Vine Lake Cemetery is of artistic significance as it is the repository of numerous works of known gravestone carvers. The gravestones cited below have been identified by Laurel K. Gabel, noted gravestone carver scholar and co-author of Gravestone Chronicles, Vol. 1, 2 (Boston: New England Genealogical Society, 1997) and Vincent F. Luti, emeritus professor at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth and author of numerous books and articles including Mallet & Chisel: Gravestone Carvers of Newport, Rhode Island in the 18th Century (Boston, New England Genealogical Society, 2002). There are undoubtedly more gravestones in Vine Lake Cemetery that could be attributed to each of these important gravestone carvers.

George Allen, Jr. (b. 1743), of Rehoboth MA was a prolific and influential gravestone carver. His brother, Gabriel Allen (d. Nov. 24, 1794) was also a well-known carver. After the Rhode Island artisan John Anthony Angel's death in 1756, George Allen, Jr., completed several of his unfinished gravestones. The winged skull and heavy foliated border in the gravestone of Dr. James Gerould, d. Oct. 26, 1760 (section A-2, grave #413, site plan #44) is a good example of his work.

Joseph Barbur, Jr. (1731-1812) is known as "The Frond Carver of West Medway." Son of a deacon, Joseph Barbur Jr. was born in Medway, fought in the French and Indian War in 1754 and 1758, served in the Revolutionary War and answered alarms in Lexington in 1775 and Warwick, Rhode Island in 1776. He remained in West Medway until his death. His earliest carved gravestones date from 1774-5 and his stones can be found in Medfield as well as other towns surrounding West Medway. The gravestone of Mrs. Sarah Bowers, d. July 21, 1779 (section A-4, grave 489, site plan #53) is an excellent illustration of one of the main characteristics of his work – an abstract design known as the "frond and hillock."

What is known as the "Boston Style Skull" is found in numerous graveyards in the greater Boston area; they pose great difficulty in precisely identifying the carver. Often these

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 8Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA

gravestones were carved by the Codner or Emmes Shop (see below). Abraham Codner, d. 1750 and William Codner (1709-1769) established the Codner shop. William Codner and his sons supplied the Boston area with winged skulls and faces for over sixty years. A good example of a Boston Style Skull is the gravestone of Ensign John Bowers, d. June 13, 1729 (sec. A-4, grave #491, site plan #54).

The gravestone carving of John Dwight (1740-1816) of Shirley MA is mainly found in Middlesex and Worcester counties but appears in Norfolk County also. He selected the darker stones of the Harvard slate quarry. The gravestone of Mrs. Mary Laland, d. April 15, 1800 (section A-2, grave 328, site plan #43), by John Dwight, is an important example of his work as it features a highly stylized urn and columns.

The accomplished gravestone carver Nathaniel Emmes (1690-1750) was one of Boston's most popular carvers during the first half of the 18th century. Skulls with feathered wings, filling the entire tympanum, characterize his work. Vine Lake Cemetery has an excellent example of his work, the gravestone of Mr. Benjamin Clark, d. Dec. 1, 1724 (section A-2, grave #126, site plan #41).

The Fisher/Farrington Shop was in existence 1760-1790 in the Narragansett Basin, Rhode Island. Several gravestones in Vine Lake Cemetery have been identified as being made in this shop, including that of the highly stylized face and wings in the headstone of Mr. Jesse Pratt, d. March 6, 1770 (section A-2, grave #178, site plan #42).

John Just Geyer (b. 1758-1765, d. after 1796) carved in the style of his father, Henry Christian Geyer. Both Geyers worked mainly in the Boston area. John Just's realistic skulls with misshapen eye sockets and level-eyed cherubs can be seen in the gravestone of Mrs. Elizabeth Adams, d. Oct. 9, 1767 (section A-4, lot 246-2, site plan #51).

Daniel Hastings (1749-1803) was a resident of Newton MA and brother-in-law of the well-known carver, Ebenezer Howard. A prolific and popular carver in the area west of Boston, he was extremely skilled at portraiture. Most of the Hastings gravestones are cut from a fine grade dark grey slate. Medfield is fortunate to possess a number of Hastings-carved stones, and even more fortunate to have several with Hastings' characteristic quarry mark – a large “H” chiseled on the back. The Hastings gravestones, with winged faces, of Mr. Nathan Plimpton, d. Oct. 21, 1781 (section A-3, grave #520, site plan #45) and Jemima Adams, d. Feb. 15, 1785 (**photo #12**, section A-4, grave #191, site plan #49) are fine examples of this

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 9Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA

carver's talent. Both carry the carver's "H" on the back, and, in addition, Jemima Adams' probate record notes that Daniel Hastings was paid for her gravestone.

Levi Maxcy's (1779-1822) place of birth was Attleborough MA. A direct descendent of Alexander Maxcy who arrived in Massachusetts in 1651, Levi Maxcy was a man of many careers. Besides being a talented gravestone carver, Maxcy was at different periods in his life a schoolmaster, music master, bookseller, and cotton mill operator. At the age of twenty-one he moved to Salem MA in 1791 and operated a stone-cutting shop for about twenty years, from 1792 to 1811. The gravestone of Mr. Nathan Adams, d. Nov. 24, 1794 (section A-4, grave #137, site plan #47), is probated to Levi Maxcy and exhibits one of his favorite designs, the winged face.

William Mumford (1641-1718) was one of Boston's most patronized carvers during the late 17th and early 18th centuries. The Mumford stones are quite wide with a narrow tympanum. His stones often have a wide, elaborately carved side border as can be seen in the gravestone of Elizabeth Plimpton, d. May 13, 1694 (section A-4, grave #207, site plan #50) in Vine Lake Cemetery.

The Park Shop was founded by the Scotch stonecarver William Park (1705-1788), the progenitor of the large Park family of carvers whose influence largely shaped the carving tradition in the area to the west and north of Boston. His well-known sons are John Park (1731-1794) and Thomas Park (1745-1806) and later generations continued to carve gravestones into the 19th century. The Mr. Amos Adams, d. Dec. 17, 1786 gravestone (section A-4, grave 386, site plan #52), with its winged head and twin urns, is a particularly fine example of the Park Shop. It was carved by either John or Thomas Park.

The majority of the Noah, Sr. (d. 1781) and Robert Pratt family workshop's carved gravestones are found on the South Shore of Massachusetts; it is unusual to find ones in Medfield. The captivating footstone of Mrs. Mary Cobb (footstone), d. Oct. 16, 1781 (**photo #11**, section A-2, grave #64, site plan #40), with its heart shaped inscription panel, is the work of Robert Pratt.

The prolific Soule family of gravestone carvers was descended from Deacon Ebenezer Soule (1710/11-1792) and was originally located in Plympton, MA. They later moved to Barre, in Worcester County, concentrating their work in Worcester and vicinity. It is unexpected to

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 10Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA

find Soule stones in Medfield. By 1775 five Soules were gravestone carving in New England, creating nearly identical angels such as the one on the gravestone of Mrs. Mary Cobb (headstone), d. Oct. 16, 1781 (section A-2, grave #64, site plan #39). In another odd circumstance, the footstone to this headstone was carved by Robert Pratt (see above).

The gravestone carver of the Charles Onion, Esq. d. Dec. 5, 1852 (section A-4, grave 48, site plan #46) headstone is unknown but the iconography is quite unusual. Instead of the customary hand with the index finger pointing up towards heaven, this hand and finger point directly down and the inscription instructs: "*When I die, bury me here.*"

It is well known that Section A, "the old section," holds rare physical evidence of the persons who form the fabric of the early history of the town. What is scarcely known is that in the old section there are numerous examples of outstanding gravestone carving artistry creating a public outdoor art museum, accessible to all.

The Town of Medfield has always held Vine Lake Cemetery in high esteem and it is quite unique as the town's only public cemetery. Reflecting the evolution of cemetery design it is remarkable how the Colonial, Rural Cemetery, and Landscape Lawn sections blend so seamlessly into each other. A Preservation & Management Plan for Vine Lake Cemetery was completed in 2004.

Archaeological Significance

While many ancient Native American sites were recorded in the Middle to Upper Charles River drainage since the 1970s, relatively few sites have been systematically studied, limiting the interpretative value of known sites. Most known sites have been identified in riverine floodplain locales where larger sites representing longer occupations and diverse activities are characteristic. Some researchers have identified these areas as regional core locations with smaller sites in surrounding upland areas. Systematic excavations at ancient sites in the Vine Lake Cemetery locale may contribute important information to better understand the diversity and role of riverine core areas in the Middle Charles River drainage and the relationship of larger core sites with smaller, short term, and low diversity sites in the surrounding uplands. Information may also exist indicating the latter type sites also existed in the riverine core areas. Native American resources in the Vine Lake Cemetery may also document the locational importance of sites located in areas where tributary streams

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 11**Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA**

converge with the Charles River floodplain. Sites located in the latter areas may have occupied a prominent location in the local/regional settlement model.

Historic archaeological resources described above may contribute important information related to the early settlement and history of Medfield beginning in the 17th century. Little evidence from this early period of Medfield's past currently survives. Historic archaeological resources may also help document the evolution of the Vine Lake Cemetery and its internal configuration, which has been altered over the last 300+ years. Documentary research combined with archaeological survey and testing may help document the precise boundaries of the cemetery, how boundaries changed through time, and how those boundaries were marked or defined. Similar research can also be used to define burial patterns during different periods of cemetery evolution, use, and how those patterns also changed. Unknown burials that were never marked may be identified and undocumented burials with missing stones can also be mapped. Cemetery records document that fallen stones were re-aligned and set-up, possibly in incorrect positions.

Osteological study of unmarked and known burials may contribute social, cultural, and economic information related to Medfield's inhabitants for over 300 years. The study of human remains may contribute information related to the general health and pathologies that effected different segments of Medfield's population based on sex, economic status, ethnicity, and race. Careful analysis of the total context of the burial (burial shaft, coffin, human remains, and artifacts) may also contribute important information related to religious or other cultural beliefs and practices. The context and general contents associated with unmarked graves related to paupers, unknowns, and other indigent persons may also contribute important information related to the ways the Medfield community treated its less fortunate citizens.

(end)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

BOOKS

Chase, Theodore and Laurel K. Gabel. Gravestone Chronicles I. Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1997.

DeSorgher, Richard P. History of the Town of Medfield, Massachusetts: 1887-1925. Medfield: Medfield Historical Society, 1999.

Ludwig, Allan I. Graven Images: New England Stonecarving and its Symbols, 1650-1815. Hanover and London: Wesleyan University Press, 1999.

Slater, James A. The Colonial Burying Grounds of Eastern Connecticut and the Men who made them. North Haven CT: The Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences, 1996.

Tilden, William S. History of the Town of Medfield, Massachusetts: 1650-1886. Boston: George H. Ellis Publisher, 1887.

PERIODICALS

Cone, Carol L. "Medfield history lives on among the tombstones." Suburban Press, May 31, 1979, p. 3.

Cornish, Michael. "Joseph Barbur, Jr.: The Proud Carver of West Medway." Markers II: The Journal of the Association for Gravestone Studies (1983): 133-145.

"Little Round Top Monument." Dedham Transcript, 1907.

(continued)

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 2

**Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA**

Luti, Vincent. "'Eighteenth Century Gravestone Carvers of the Upper Narragansett Basin: Gabriel Allen.'" Markers XX: The Journal of the Association for Gravestone Studies (2003): p. 103.

Sweeney, Kevin M. "Where the Bay Meets the River: Gravestones and Stonecutters in the River Towns of Western Massachusetts, 1690-1810." Markers III: The Journal of the Association for Gravestone Studies (1985): 1-46.

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Massachusetts Historical Commission

"First Baptist Church of Medfield." NR Registration Form. 2003.

Form E: Vine Lake Cemetery. Eleanor Ames, Medfield Historical Commission, Feb. 14, 1989.

"Medfield Insane Asylum." NR Registration Form. 1993.

National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form – Vine Lake Cemetery. 1998

MHC Opinion: Eligibility for National Register – Vine Lake Cemetery. July 2003.

**Massachusetts Historical Commission/
Town of Medfield**

MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report - Medfield (1980). "Medfield Narrative History," The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc, 1998.

Final Report Medfield Community-Wide Historic and Architectural Survey, Round I (1996-1997); Round II (1997-1998); Round III, 1998-1999.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 3

Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA

Town of Medfield

"Town of Medfield: Graves Registration in Vine Lake Cemetery." Compiled by G. Marshall Chick, Veteran's Agent, 2003.

Town of Medfield. Historic Preservation Plan (Phase III Draft). Kathleen Kelly Broomer, author, June 14, 1999.

Town of Medfield. Town Reports. (1870 -2002).

"Settlement of Medfield," Feb. 1, 1870. Included in 1870 Annual Report, p. 20-24.

"Exercises of the Dedication of the Addition to the Cemetery," Feb. 22, 1890. Included in 1890 Annual Report, p. 43-74.

MAPS AND ATLASES: Arranged by date published.

(1676): "Town of Medfield, Massachusetts 1676." Richard G. Kenney, G., Eleanor Ames, Richard DeSorgher, Medfield Historical Society, 1976.

1794: Plan of the Town of Medfield. [Massachusetts Archives #1217]

1831: Plan of the Town of Medfield in the County of Norfolk. John G. Hales.

1852: "Map of the Town of Medfield." H. F. Walling, Civil Engineer.

1876: Atlas of the Town of Norfolk County, Mass. W. A. Sherman, surveyor. New York: Comstock & Cline.

1876: Medfield 1876. Scale: 120 rods to the inch. 1876: Medfield 1876. Street detail. Scale: 1 inch =360 feet.

1888: Medfield, Massachusetts. Bird's Eye View. J. H. Bailey & Co.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 4

Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA

- 1904: City of Newton, Middlesex County and Towns Dedham ... Medfield, Norfolk County.
- 1909: Atlas of the Town of Needham, Dover, Westwood, Millis and Medfield, Norfolk County, Massachusetts. Boston: Walker Lithograph & Pub. Co.
- 1927: Vine Lake Cemetery, Medfield, Mass. Plan Showing Lots and Graves. Section A. (illegible) ... burgh, C. E. November 1927. Scale: 1 inch = 20 feet. Traced by B. Kaerwer, Feb. 25, 1978.
- 1929: Vine Lake Cemetery, Town of Medfield. Section B. Samuel Dyer, C. E. Scale: 1 inch = 20 feet. November 1929.
- 1929: Vine Lake Cemetery, Town of Medfield. Section C and plan. Separate sheet has list of numbered named graves #1 to #132. No scale or exact date.
- 1930: Vine Lake Cemetery, Town of Medfield. Section D. Samuel Dyer, C. E. Scale: 1 inch = 30 feet. April 1930.
- 1930s Vine Lake Cemetery, Town of Medfield. Sections F, G, H, K, L, M and several unidentified section maps. No scale or date.
- 1952: Aerial View of Medfield. #DPS-6K-91.
- 1990s Vine Lake Cemetery. Vine Lake Cemetery Sketch Map showing all the sections. Hand drawn, no date.
- 2004: Town of Medford, Assessors Maps. Maps 35, 36, 41, 42, Lot #126.

OTHER SOURCES

"Catalog of Graves in the Old Section of VINE LAKE CEMETERY, Medfield, Massachusetts." Compiled in 1976. Contains index, listing of single graves and listing of graves in cemetery lots. Medfield Historical Society Archives.

(continued)

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 5

**Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA**

“Historic Medfield ... 350 Years: A guide to the Architectural Heritage of Medfield Center.” Medfield Historical Commission, Town of Medfield, September 2000.

Medfield Historical Society Archives.

“Medfield’s Heritage Landscapes.” Medfield Historical Commission, Town of Medfield, 2003.

“Medfield’s Historic Burying Place, 1651.” Cemetery Walk, May 3, 1981.

(end)

Vine Lake Cemetery
Name of Property

Norfolk, MA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 31.9 acres

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 19 308660 4673040
Zone Easting Northing

2. 19 308800 4673040
Zone Easting Northing

3. 19 309100 4672700
Zone Easting Northing

4. 19 308680 4672800
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

name/title Minxie J. Fannin-Monique B. Lehner, Consultants, with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date February 2005

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 Town of Medfield, MA

street & number 459 Main Street telephone 508-359-8505 xt 640

city or town Medfield state MA zip code 02052

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 Reduction Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503. NPS Form 10-900 OMB No.

1024-0018

(Rev. 10-90)

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 1

**Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA**

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM locations (Continued)

5) 19 308500 4672740

6) 19 308440 4672820

Boundary Description

The boundary of the cemetery is delineated on the accompanying Town of Medfield Assessor's Maps 35, 36, 41,42. This is the boundary dating to 1993, the last year new land was added to the cemetery acreage.

Boundary Justification

The present cemetery boundary has been established since 1993 and contains Vine Lake Cemetery's entire 31.9-Acre parcel, with the historic area and all newer parcels. The complete cemetery is included, as the design of the more recent burial sections is very sympathetic to the Garden Cemetery model with curving roadways, marked changes in elevation, sizeable stone outcroppings, and numerous trees and shrubs. The newer areas also feature the serene vistas and abundant large, traditionally styled granite and marble memorials that are associated with earlier cemetery design. A particularly notable feature of the more recent section is the many sizeable boulders utilized as markers.

(end)

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

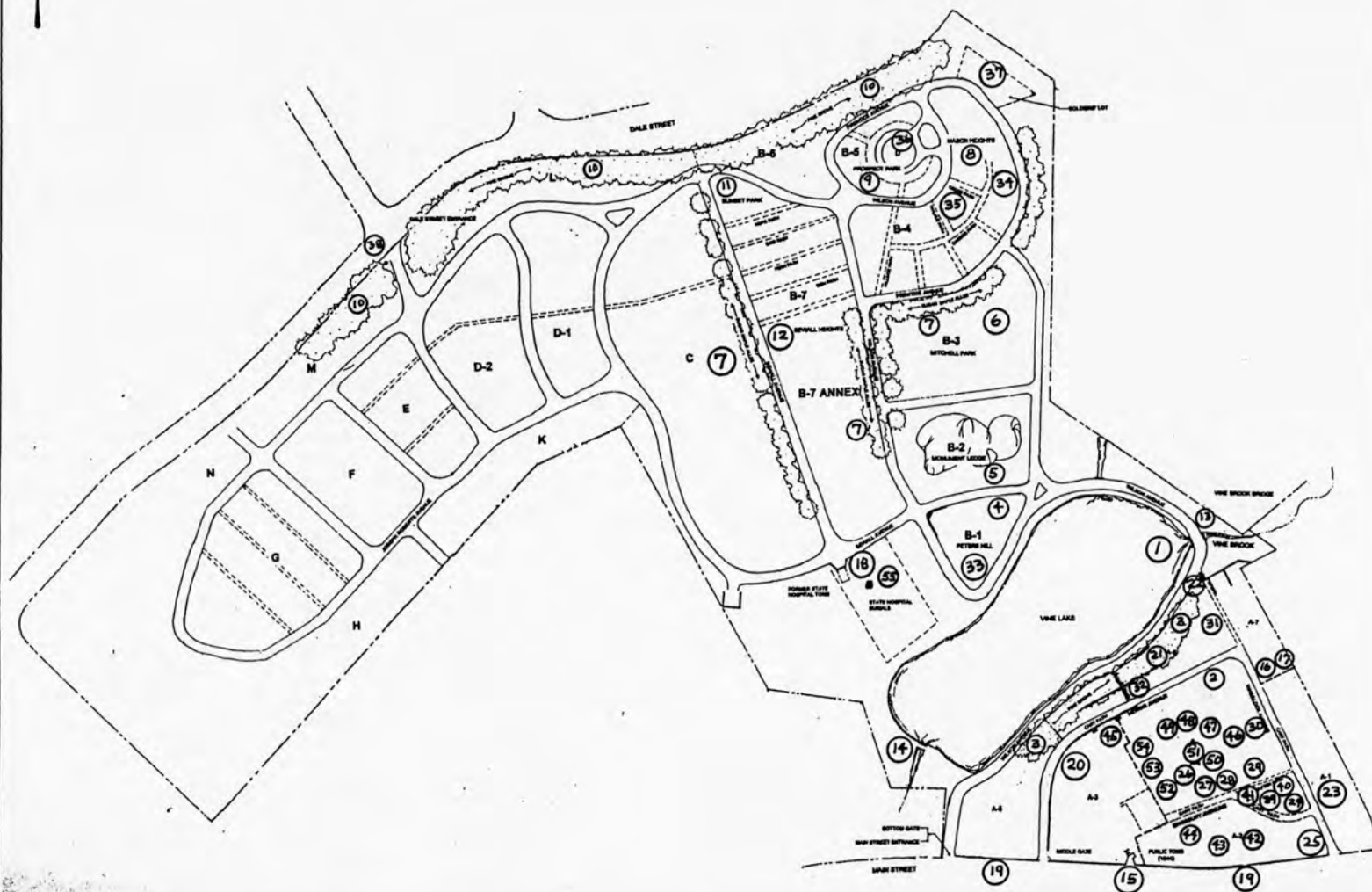
Section number photos Page

**Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk), MA**

PHOTOGRAPHS

1. General View including Puritan Monument (1858, Section A-4, Lot 228). Looking northeast.
2. General View across Vine Lake to Vine Brook Bridge and Old Section. Looking southeast.
3. General View up north side of Old Section hill showing granite retaining walls. Looking southwest.
4. General View looking from new section across Vine Lake toward old section. Looking southwest.
5. Monument to the Unknown Dead (Soldiers Monument)(erected 1907). Looking east.
6. Gravestones of John (d. Jan 10, 1704) and Benoni (d. May3, 1707) Harding (Section A-4, Graves 167, 168). Looking east.
7. Seven Puritans Monument (1858, Section A-4, Lot 228). Looking northwest.
8. Monument to Alan Alonzo Kingsbury (d. April 26, 1862, Section A-4, Lot 242) Looking northwest.
9. Hamant Monument (1874), White Bronze (Zinc) (Section A-1, Lot 16). Looking northeast.
10. Langley Monument, Fence and Plot (Section A-7, Lot 41). Looking northeast.
11. Gravestone (footstone) of Mrs. Mary Cobb (d. Oct. 16, 1781, Section A-2, grave #64). Gravestone carver: Robert Pratt. Looking west.
12. Gravestone of Jemima Adams (d. Feb. 15, 1785, Section A-4, grave #191). Gravestone carver: Daniel Hastings. Looking east.

(end)



FANNIN • LEHNER
OCTOBER 2004

PRESERVATION & MANAGEMENT PLAN

MARTHA LYON Landscape Architecture, LLC
Fennin-Lehner Preservation Consultants
CME Associates, Inc.

DATA SHEET

2/18/2005

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1									
2									
3	<u>Number</u>	<u>Section/Lot</u>	<u>Historic Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Resource</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Status</u>	
4									
5			VINE LAKE CEMETERY	LANDSCAPE	N/A	SITE	1661	C	
6									
7	1		VINE LAKE/VINE BROOK	LANDSCAPE FEATURE	N/A	SITE	1890	C	
8									
9	2	A	CART PATHS	LANDSCAPE FEATURE	N/A	SITE	17th/18th	C	
10							CENTURY		
11									
12	3	A-5, A-6	PINE GROVE	LANDSCAPE FEATURE	TREES	SITE	1930s	C	
13									
14	4	B-1	PETERS HILL	LANDSCAPE FEATURE	N/A	SITE	1890	C	
15							(NAMED)		
16									
17	5	B-2	MONUMENT LEDGE	LANDSCAPE FEATURE:	GRANITE	SITE	1890	C	
18				OUTCROPPING			(NAMED)		
19									
20	6	B-3	MITCHELL PARK	LANDSCAPE FEATURE	N/A	SITE	1890	C	
21							(NAMED)		
22									
23	7	B-3, B-7	ALLEES OF SUGAR MAPLES	LANDSCAPE FEATURE	TREES	SITE	c. 1900	C	
24		ANNEX, C							
25									
26	8	B-4	MASON HEIGHTS	LANDSCAPE FEATURE	N/A	SITE	1890	C	
27							(NAMED)		
28									
29	9	B-5	PROSPECT PARK	LANDSCAPE FEATURE	N/A	SITE	1890	C	
30							(NAMED)		
31									
32	10	B-6, L, M	PINE GROVES, DALE STREET	LANDSCAPE FEATURE	TREES	SITE	1940s	C	
33									
34	11	B-7	SUNSET PARK	LANDSCAPE FEATURE	N/A	SITE	1890	C	
35							(NAMED)		

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
3	<u>Number</u>	<u>Section/Lot</u>	<u>Historic Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Resource</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Status</u>	
36									
37	12	B-7	SEWALL HEIGHTS	LANDSCAPE FEATURE	N/A	SITE	1890	C	
38		ANNEX					(NAMED)		
39									
40	13	NE END	VINE BROOK BRIDGE	BRIDGE	GRANITE	STRUCTURE	1889	C	
41		VINE LAKE							
42									
43	14	SW END	VINE LAKE DAM	DAM	GRANITE BLOCK/	STRUCTURE	PRE 1870	C	
44		VINE LAKE			CONCRETE				
45									
46									
47	15	A-3	PUBLIC RECEIVING TOMB	TOMB	BUSH-HAMMERED	STRUCTURE	1844	C	
48					GRANITE/IRON DOOR				
49									
50	16	A-7	LANGLEY	TOMB/MONUMENT	GRANITE	STRUCTURE	N/A	C	
51		LOT 41				OBJECT			
52									
53	17	A-7	LANGLEY	FENCE	STYLED GRANITE	STRUCTURE	LATE	C	
54		LOT 41			POSTS/PIPE RAIL		19th C.		
55									
56	18	FOOT OF	MEDFIELD STATE HOSPITAL	TOMB	RICK/GRANITE/IRC	STRUCTURE	1897	C	
57		SEWALL AVE.							
58									
59	19	A	MAIN STREET WALL	RETAINING WALL	UT GRANITE BLOC	STRUCTURE	1802-	C	
60					WITH MORTAR JOINTS		1945		
61									
62	20	A-3	HEWINS AVE. WALL	RETAINING WALL	HARP CUT GRANITE	STRUCTURE	1909	C	
63		A-4			BLOCK WITH MORTAR				
64					JOINTS				
65									
66	21	A-6	SON AVE. WALL: SMALL SEGM	RETAINING WALL	UT GRANITE BLOC	STRUCTURE	1890s	C	
67			ALONG WILSON AVE. FACING LAKE		WITH MORTAR JOINTS				
68									
69									

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
3	<u>Number</u>	<u>Section/Lot</u>	<u>Historic Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Resource</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Status</u>	
70									
71	22	A-6	ELSON AVE. STEPS NEAR BRID	STONE STEPS/ PIPE RAIL	GRANITE BLOCKS	STRUCTURE	1890s	C	
72									
73									
74	23	A-1	DANIELS HAMANT	MONUMENT	WHITE BRONZE (ZINC)	OBJECT	1874	C	
75		LOT 16							
76									
77	24	A-2	REV. DAN. C. SANDERS D.D.	MONUMENT	MARBLE/GRANITE	OBJECT	1850	C	
78		LOT 276							
79									
80	25	A-2	THAYER	MONUMENT	SANDSTONE/GRANITE	OBJECT	1846	C	
81		LOT 280							
82									
83	26	A-4	SEVEN PURITANS/MORSE	MONUMENT	SANDSTONE	OBJECT	1858	C	
84		LOT 228	(J. FOOTE, BOSTON, CUTTER AND DESIGNER)						
85									
86									
87	27	A-4	ALLEN ALONZO KINGSBURY	MONUMENT	MARBLE/GRANITE	OBJECT	1862	C	
88		LOT 242							
89									
90	28	A-4	PLIMPTON	MONUMENT	GRANITE	OBJECT	1952	C	
91		LOT 247							
92									
93	29	A-4	REV. JOSEPH BAXTER - d.1745	MONUMENT	GRANITE	OBJECT	1893	C	
94		LOT 260	(BAXTER TOMB REMOVED & MONUMENT ERECTED 1893)						
95									
96									
97	30	A-4	REV. THOMAS PRENTISS D.D.	MONUMENT	MARBLE/GRANITE	OBJECT	1814	C	
98		LOT 273							
99									
100	31	A-6	GEORGE HORATIO DERBY	MONUMENT	MARBLE/GRANITE	OBJECT	1861	C	
101		LOT 105							
102									
103									
104									

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
3	Number	Section/Lot	Historic Name	Type	Material	Resource	Date	Status	
105	32	A-6	CHENERY	MONUMENT	GRANITE	OBJECT	1896	C	
106		LOTS 115/116							
107									
108	33	B-1	NA STODDARD GREENOUGH,	MONUMENT	OXBURY PUDDING	OBJECT	1881-	C	
109		FACES LAKE			STONE/PINK MARBLE		1950		
110					PLAQUE				
111									
112	34	B-4	MOLLISON	BOULDER	CONGLOMERATE/	OBJECT	1903	C	
113					BRONZE PLAQUES				
114									
115	35	B-4	ALLEN	BOULDER	BOULDER/	OBJECT	N/A	C	
116					SLATE PLAQUE				
117									
118	36	B-5	HON. EDWIN VINALD MITCHEL	MONUMENT	GRANITE	OBJECT	1917	C	
119									
120	37	SOLDIERS	UMENT TO THE UNKNOWN D	MONUMENT	GRANITE	OBJECT	1907	C	
121		LOT	(SOLDIERS MEMORIAL)						
122									
123	38	M	DALE STREET ENTRANCE	GATE POST	GRANITE	OBJECT	1911	C	
124			GATE POST						
125									
126	39	A-2	MRS. MARY COBB	GRAVESTONE	SLATE	OBJECT	1781	C	
127		GRAVE 64	CARVER: EBENEZER SOULE	(HEADSTONE)					
128									
129	40	A-2	MRS. MARY COBB	GRAVESTONE	SLATE	OBJECT	1781	C	
130		GRAVE 64	CARVER: ROBERT PRATT	(FOOTSTONE)					
131									
132	41	A-2	MR. BENJAMIN CLARK	GRAVESTONE	SLATE	OBJECT	1724	C	
133		GRAVE 126	CARVER: NATHANIEL EMMES						
134									
135	42	A-2	MR. JESSE PRATT	GRAVESTONE	SLATE	OBJECT	1770	C	
136		GRAVE 178	CARVER: FISHER/FARRINGTON						
137									
138									
139	43	A-2	MRS. MARY LALAND	GRAVESTONE	SLATE	OBJECT	1800	C	

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
3	Number	Section/Lot	Historic Name	Type	Material	Resource	Date	Status	
140		GRAVE 328	CARVER: JOHN DWIGHT						
141									
142	44	A-2	DR. JAMES GEROULD	GRAVESTONE	SLATE	OBJECT	1760	C	
143		GRAVE 413	CARVER: GEORGE ALLEN, JR.						
144									
145	45	A-3	MR. NATHAN PLIMPTON	GRAVESTONE	SLATE	OBJECT	1781	C	
146		GRAVE 520	CARVER: DANIEL HASTINGS "H"						
147									
148	46	A-4	CHARLES ONION, ESQ.	GRAVESTONE	SLATE	OBJECT	1852	C	
149		GRAVE 48							
150									
151	47	A-4	MR. NATHAN ADAMS	GRAVESTONE	SLATE	OBJECT	1794	C	
152		GRAVE 137	CARVER: LEVI MAXCY						
153									
154	48	A-4	JOHN HARDING	GRAVESTONES	FIELDSTONE	OBJECT	1704	C	
155		GRAVES 167-	BENONI HARDING				1707		
156		168							
157	49	A-4	JEMIMA ADAMS	GRAVESTONE	SLATE	OBJECT	1785	C	
158		GRAVE 191	CARVER: DANIEL HASTINGS "H"						
159									
160	50	A-4	ELIZABETH PLIMPTON	GRAVESTONE	SLATE	OBJECT	1694	C	
161		GRAVE 207	CARVER: WILLIAM MUMFORD						
162									
163	51	A-4	MRS. ELIZABETH ADAMS	GRAVESTONE	SLATE	OBJECT	1767	C	
164		LOT 246-	CARVER: JOHN JUST GEYER						
165		GRAVE 2							
166									
167	52	A-4	MR. AMOS ADAMS	GRAVESTONE	SLATE	OBJECT	1786	C	
168		GRAVE 386	CARVER: PARK						
169									
170	53	A-4	MRS. SARAH BOWERS	GRAVESTONE	SLATE	OBJECT	1779	C	
171		GRAVE 489	CARVER: JOSEPH BARBUR, JR.						
172									
173	54	A-4	ENSIGN JOHN BOWERS	GRAVESTONE	SLATE	OBJECT	1729	C	

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
3	<u>Number</u>	<u>Section/Lot</u>	<u>Historic Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Resource</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Status</u>	
174		GRAVE 491	BOSTON TYPE SKULL						
175									
176	55	FOOT OF	MEDFIELD STATE HOSPITAL	GRAVESTONE	SLATE	OBJECT	1897	C	
177		SEWALL AVENUE							

Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk Co.), MA

DATA SHEET

TOTAL RESOURCES: 55 Contributing, 0 Non-Contributing

0 Contributing Buildings
12 Contributing Sites
10 Contributing Structures
33 Contributing Objects

KEY

C: Contributing Resources
NC: Non-Contributing Resources

Note: With an estimated 3500+ gravestones, markers and monuments in Vine Lake Cemetery, it is impossible to identify all resources. Therefore the Data Sheet only provides a representative sample of the resources to be found in the Cemetery.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
Section number _____ Page 1

Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk) MA

GRAVESTONE CARVERS IN VINE LAKE CEMETERY

MEDFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Minxie Jensvold Fannin, July 2004

Vine Lake Cemetery is of artistic significance as it is the repository of numerous works of known gravestone carvers. The gravestones described below have been identified by Laurel K. Gabel, noted gravestone carving scholar and co-author of Gravestone Chronicles, Vol. 1, 2 (Boston: New England Genealogical Society, 1997) and Vincent F. Luti, emeritus professor at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth and author of numerous books and articles including Mallet & Chisel: Gravestone Carvers of Newport, Rhode Island in the 18th Century (Boston, New England Genealogical Society, 2002). There are undoubtedly more gravestones in Vine Lake Cemetery that could be attributed to each of these important gravestone carvers.

GEORGE ALLEN, JR., Rehoboth, MA. Born in 1743, Vincent Luti calculates his date of death as 1764 – if these dates are correct he died at age 21, which seems unlikely, as he was a prolific and influential carver. His father was George Allen and his brother, Gabriel Allen, was a well-known carver. After John Anthony Angel's death in 1756, he completed several of his unfinished gravestones.

Medfield MA. Vine Lake Cemetery. Ex.: Dr. James Gerould,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
Section number _____ Page 2

Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk) MA

d. Oct. 26, 1760 (Sec. A-2, grave #413); Mrs. Martha Gerould, d. March 25, 1763 (Vincent Luti: "The design work definitely George Allen, Jr. but the lettering is clearly by Samuel Fisher." See FISHER/FARRINGTON SHOP below) (Sec. A-2, grave #412).

JOHN ANTHONY ANGEL, d. 1756. Rhode Island artisan, who emigrated from Koblenz, Germany. After his death, GEORGE ALLEN completed some of his work.

Medfield MA. Vine Lake Cemetery. Laurel Gabel has noted that there are four gravestones attributed to this carver in Vine Lake Cemetery. At the time of this writing, it is unknown which they are. Possible Ex: the Eleazer Bullard, d. Aug. 3, 1753 gravestone (Sec. A-2, grave #415), see SAMUEL HINDSDALE below.

JOSEPH BARBUR/BARBER, JOSEPH BARBUR/BARBER, JR. (1731-1812), West Medway. Known as "The Frond Carver of West Medway." Son of a deacon, Joseph Barbur Jr. was born in Medway, fought in the French and Indian war in 1754 and 1758, served in the Revolutionary war and answered alarms in Lexington in 1775 and Warwick, Rhode Island in 1776. He remained in West Medway until his death. His earliest carved gravestones date from 1774-5 and his stones can be found in Medfield as well as other towns surrounding West Medway. Three characteristics of his work can be seen in the below listed Medfield stones: abstract designs known as the "frond and hillock," thick wavy lines either composing the borders or outlining the tympanum and interlocking half circles. Reference: Michael Cornish, "Joseph Barbur, Jr.: The Frond Carver of West Medway." Markers II: The Journal of the Association for Gravestone Studies, 1983.

Medfield MA, Vine Lake Cemetery. Exs.: Dea. Samuel Bullen, d. Jan. 16, 1692 (Sec. A-4, grave #368), carver is either

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Section number _____ Page 3

Vine Lake Cemetery

Medfield (Norfolk) MA

Barbur or Cyrus Deane; Mrs. Sarah Bowers, d.
July 21, 1779 (Sec. A-4, grave #489); Mr. Elisha Bowers, d.
Feb. 12, 1775? (Sec. A-4, grave #490).

BOSTON STYLE SKULL: often by the Codner or Emmes Shops
Medfield MA, Vine Lake Cemetery. Exs. Mrs. Abigail Coollidge, d.
June 23, 1726 (Sec. A-4, grave #123); Mrs. Hannah Lovell,
d. Sept. 12, 1736 (Sec. A-4, grave 215), Boston Skull with
EMMES lettering; Ensign John Bowers, d. June 13, 1729
(Sec. A-4, grave #491).

BURT, Taunton

Medfield, Vine Lake Cemetery. Ex.: George S. Mason, d. Mar. 5,
1866 (small monument, Sec. A-1, lot #18).

BURT & KING, Taunton

Medfield, Vine Lake Cemetery. Ex. Abigail P. Ellis, d. 1873
(Sec. A-4, LOT #60).

CODNER OR CODNER SHOP: ABRAHAM Codner, d. 1750; WILLIAM
Codner (father of John Codner) (1709-1769), Boston; JOHN Codner, d.
before 1783. "For over sixty years, William Codner and his sons,
Abraham and John, supplied neatly carved skulls and winged faces for
Boston's gravestone market. Codner cherubs are characterized by a
full, chubby looking face with an attached cap of curls that seldom
extend below the line of the eyebrows. ... Perhaps most distinctive is
the overly ample dimpled chin. ... Codner was capable of great artistry
when a commission demanded it. ... William Codner died in 1769 and
is buried at Copp's Hill, Boston." (Laurel K. Gabel, Association for
Gravestone Studies Newsletter, (Vol. 10, No. 3, Summer 1986, p. 6.)

COX & KEANE, Waltham

Medfield, Vine Lake Cemetery. Ex. George Adams, d. 1889? (Sec.
A-1, lot #24).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Section number _____ Page 4

Vine Lake Cemetery

Medfield (Norfolk) MA

JOHN DWIGHT (1740-1816), Shirley MA. His work is mainly in Middlesex and Worcester counties but can be found in Brookline or Dorchester. He selected the darker stones of the Harvard quarry. "His heads were sometimes a perfect oval with a tiny border of hair; at other times pear-shaped with hair like a twisted rope. The simply cut wings are at some distance from the ears, as if he intended always to fill in the space with palm branches, as he often did." Harriet Merrifield Forbes, Gravestone of Early New England and the Men who made them. 1653-1800. Boston: The Riverside Press, 1927.

Medfield MA, Vine Lake Cemetery. Exs.: Mrs. Mary Laland, d. April 15, 1800 (Sec. A-2, grave #328), probably John or Francis Dwight; Mrs. Mary Harding, d. Nov. 1, 1799 (Sec. A-2, grave #463), probably John or Francis Dwight; Mr. Nathan Ellis, d. Feb. 27, 1801 (Sec. A-2, grave #278), perhaps Francis Dwight.

NATHANIEL EMMES (1690-1750), Boston. Also HENRY Emmes (1716/17-1767) and JOSHUA Emmes (1719-1772), Boston. "If probate payments are any indication, one of Boston's most popular carvers in the first half of the 18th century was Nathaniel Emmes. ... Typically, Emmes' skulls and graceful feathered wings are designed to fill the various sized tympanums arches. Often a set of crossed bones or a decorated border arch is used above the skull. ... Son Henry Emmes was one of the most accomplished gravestone artists in the area." (Laurel K. Gabel, Association for Gravestone Studies Newsletter, Vol. 10, No. 3, Summer 1986, p. 4).

Medfield MA, Vine Lake Cemetery. Exs: John Bullen, d. 1741 (Sec. A-4, grave #367); Mrs. Dorcas Clark, d. July 14, 1725 (Sec. A-4, grave #125), probably Emmes; Mr. Benjamin Clark, d. Dec. 1, 1724 (Sec. A-4, grave #126), probably Emmes.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Section number _____ Page 5

Vine Lake Cemetery

Medfield (Norfolk) MA

FISHER/FARRINGTON SHOP. (1760-1790). Narragansett Basin, Rhode Island. The carving of this shop is similar to that of James Wilder II's work of the 1750s to 1760s, especially young, rounded faces. ("James Wilder of Lancaster, Stonecutter," Markers IV, p. 199, 201.)

Medfield MA, Vine Lake Cemetery. Exs.: Mr. Jesse Pratt, d. March 6, 1770 (Sec. A-2, grave #178); Mrs. Rachel Chenery, d. March 15, 1769 (Sec. A-2, grave #244); Mr. Simon Harding, d. Sept. 27, 1768 (Sec. A-2, grave #327), Fisher/Farrington Shop.

M. GALLAGHER

Medfield, Vine Lake Cemetery. Ex. Experience Harmstad, d. Oct. 19, 1846 and John Harmstad, d. Jan. 28, 1846 (Sec. A-1, lot #40).

JOHN JUST GEYER: (born between 1758 and 1765; died after 1796), Boston. He carved in the style of his father, HENRY CHRISTIAN GEYER. Both Geyers worked mainly in the Boston area. John Just's realistic skulls with misshapen eye sockets and the level-eyed cherubs are usually easy to identify.

Medfield MA, Vine Lake Cemetery. Exs.: Mrs. Elizabeth Adams, d. N/A (Sec. A-4, lot #249-1) Geyer Shop; Mrs. Elizabeth Adams, d. Oct. 9, 1767 (Sec. A-4, lot #246-2), probably Geyer; Mrs. Ruth Bullen, d. Feb. 5, 1770 (Sec. A-4, grave #370), probably Geyer Shop.

DANIEL HASTINGS: Daniel Hastings b. 1749. Resident of Newton MA and brother-in-law of Ebenezer Howard. A prolific and popular carver in the area west of Boston. He was extremely skilled at portraiture. In 1980 Laurel Gabel discovered that some of his stones have "H" or "dh"

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Section number _____ Page 6

Vine Lake Cemetery

Medfield (Norfolk) MA

quarry marks chiseled onto their backs. (See Markers IV: The Journal of the Association for Gravestone Studies, 1987.

Medfield MA, Vine Lake Cemetery. Exs.: Mrs. Martha Ellis, d. Feb. 1, 1794 (Sec. A-2, grave #222), may also be another carver in the Hastings shop; Mr. Samuel Ellis, d. Sept. 7, 1778 (Sec. A-2, grave #252); Mr. Nathan Plimpton, d. Oct. 21, 1781 (Sec. A-3, grave #520, carver's "H" on back; Mrs. Hannah Wight, d. Mar. 7, 1793 (Sec. A-4, grave #29); Mr. Seth Dwight, d. Nov. 19, 1776 (Sec. A-4, grave #185), carver's "H" on back; Jemima Adams, d. Feb. 15, 1785 (Sec. 4, grave #191), probate to Daniel Hastings documentation, carver's "H" on back; Mr. Nathaniel Morse, d. Feb. 9, 1778 (Sec. 4, grave #231); Robert Hinsdel, d. Aug. 31, 1782 (Sec. 4, lot #244-6).

SAMUEL HINDSDALE. To be researched.

Medfield MA, Vine Lake Cemetery. Ex: Eleazer Bullard, d. Aug. 3, 1753 (Sec. A-2, grave #415), although Hindsdale is paid by the estate of Bullard, Vincent Luti feels the stone has actually been carved by JOHN ANTHONY ANGEL -see above.

LEVI MAXCY. Born in Attleborough MA Sept. 29, 1770 and died June 24, 1822 at Edisto Island, South Carolina. He was descended from Alexander Maxcy who arrived in Massachusetts in 1651. A man of many careers, besides being a talented gravestone carver, Maxcy was at different periods in his life a schoolmaster, music master, bookseller and cotton mill operator. At the age of twenty-one he moved to Salem MA in 1791 and by September 1792 set up a stone-cutting shop. His carving career continued for roughly twenty years for he operated the shop until 1811. Some of his favorite designs were the winged face, a rising or setting sun, a spread acanthus, and in the later stones, urn-and-willow. (See "Levi Maxcy: The 'Other' Son," in Theodore Chase and

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
Section number _____ Page 7

Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk) MA

Laurel K. Gabel, Gravestone Chronicles II: More Eighteenth-Century Carvers and an Exploration of Gravestone Heraldics. Boston: New England Genealogical Society, 1997.)

Medfield MA, Vine Lake Cemetery. Ex.: Mr. Nathan Adams, d. Nov. 24, 1794 (Sec. A-4, grave #137), documentation is probate to Levi Maxcy.

SAVIL METCALF. To be researched.

Medfield MA, Vine Lake Cemetery. Exs: Mr. Henry Harding, d. Feb. 26, 1764 (Sec. A-4, grave #169); Mr. Jonathan Metcalf, d. April 8, 1758 (Sec. A-1, grave #524); Olive Harding, d. April 13, 1758 (Sec. A-2, grave #417), possibly Metcalf.

WILLIAM MUMFORD (1641-1718), Boston. "William Mumford was a well patronized Boston carver of the late 1600s and early 1700s. He seems to have produced a wide variety of styles and shapes, some of which may prove to be the work of journeymen carvers or apprentices. Many Mumford stones are wider than they are tall, with an elongated, somewhat shallow tympanum. On the more vertical stones, a decorated border panel just below the tympanum is typical. Mumford's best examples have well sculpted, lush side borders (he seldom used a bottom border), simple disc, coil or doughnut finials and capital letters neatly carved within faint guidelines. The individual carved teeth of his skulls often protrude toward the midline of the mouth, creating a characteristic convex curve. Eye sockets are oval, without brows. No signed or initialed stones have ever been found. William Mumford is buried at Copp's Hill, Boston. (Laurel K. Gabel, Association for Gravestone Studies Newsletter, Vol. 10, No. 3, Summer 1986, p. 2.).

Medfield MA, Vine Lake Cemetery. Ex.: Elizabeth Plimpton, d. May 13, 1694 (Sec. A-4, grave #207), probably Mumford.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
Section number _____ Page 8Vine Lake Cemetery
Medfield (Norfolk) MA

WILLIAM PARK, (1705-1788), GROTON, MA. Arriving in New England from Scotland in 1756, he is the father of John and Thomas (see above). "He was the progenitor of the large Park family of carvers who did so much to shape the carving tradition in the area to the west and north of Boston. [He] is credited with two very different carving styles. The earliest stones attributed to him are ornately intricate, flatly carved markers with Darth Vader-like skulls, flat scrolls and architectural details, often with stippling or diamond cut patterning in the background. The second style is usually more deeply sculpted, and for the more elaborate examples, ornate with vines, flowers, vases, scrolls and banners. Most of these stones depict a very broad face with a narrowed, short chin, scant close-capped hair, slightly crossed staring eyes and a decidedly bulbous nose. An epitaph is often set within a frame on the lower half of the stone. (From research materials on the Lexington Old Burying Ground, Laurel Gabel, 1986.)

JOHN PARK. (1731-1793), GROTON, MA. Son of William Park (see above) and brother of Thomas Park (see below), John Park arrived in New England from Scotland in 1767. A talented and versatile carver, he uses vases, urns, stubby architectural pillars, birds and ribbon banners on many of his stones. Difficult to distinguish his work from his brother, Thomas, or their sons. (From research materials on the Lexington MA Old Burying Ground, Laurel Gabel, 1986.)

JOHN or/and THOMAS PARK (1745-1806), GROTON, MA. Thomas came to New England from Scotland in 1765. "Like his brother John, Thomas was capable of great artistry with portraits and coats of arms. He is also paid for many more ordinary stones that depict a life-like face with wings, usually with 'Memento Mori' and vine or scroll embellishments filling the bottom half of the divided tympanum. (From research materials on the Lexington MA Old Burying Ground, Laurel Gabel, 1986).

Medfield MA, Vine Lake Cemetery. Ex.: Mr. Amos Adams, d. Dec.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Section number _____ Page 9

Vine Lake Cemetery

Medfield (Norfolk) MA

17, 1786 (Sec. A-4, grave #386); Henry
Adams, d. Aug. 7, 1787 (Sec. A-4, grave #385), possibly the
Park Shop.

NOAH and ROBERT PRATT. Noah Pratt, Sr. died in 1781. The bulk of
the gravestones of The Pratt family workshop are found on the South
shore of Massachusetts.

Medfield MA, Vine Lake Cemetery. Robert Pratt.

Ex.: Mrs. Mary Cobb (footstone), d. Oct. 16, 1781
(Sec. A-4, grave #64).

SOULE FAMILY: Ebenezer Soule, (1710/11-1792), Plympton; Ebenezer
Soule, (1737-1817), Plympton; Asaph Soule (1739-1823), Plympton;
and Beza Soule, (1750-1835), Plympton. The Soules did most of their
work in Worcester and vicinity. "By the outbreak of the Revolution in
the colonies, no fewer than five Soule family members were making
gravestones in New England, and all of them were carving almost
identical angels." (Peter Benes, Masks of Orthodoxy, Amherst MA:
University of Massachusetts Press, 1977, p. 140-141.)

"The embroidered hair, the line of the nose, forming eyebrows above
oval eyes, the heavy shadow under the chin, the straight, small mouth,
and especially the borders with the funny three-story flowers and
profile thistles at their tops, were all Soule characteristics. Equally so is
the Medusa hair ... and also the scroll border and star." (Harriet
Merrifield Forbes, Gravestone of Early New England and the Men who
made them. 1653-1800. Boston: The Riverside Press, 1927.)

Medfield MA, Vine Lake Cemetery. Ex.: Mrs. Mary Cobb
(headstone), d. Oct. 16, 1781 (Sec. A-4, grave #64),
probably Soule family.

(end)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Vine Lake Cemetery
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Norfolk

DATE RECEIVED: 3/02/05 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/23/05
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 4/07/05 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/15/05
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 05000277

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 4/14/05 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.



1. Vine Lake Cemetery
Main Street, Medfield
2. Norfolk County, MA
3. James C. Fannin, Jr.
4. April 2004
5. 271 Lexington Road
Concord, MA 01742
6. General view including Puritan
Monument (1858, Section A-4,
Lot 228). Looking northeast.
7. #1



1. Vine Lake Cemetery
Main Street, Medfield
2. Norfolk County, MA
3. James C. Fannin, Jr.
4. April 2004
5. 271 Lexington Road
Concord, MA 01742
6. General view across Vine Lake
to Vine Brook Bridge and Old
Section. Looking Southeast.
7. # 2



1. Vine Lake Cemetery
main Street, medfield
2. Norfolk County, MA
3. James C. Fannin, Jr.
4. April 2004
5. 271 Lexington Road
Concord, MA 01742
6. General view up north side of
Old Section hill showing granite
retaining walls. Looking southwest.
7. #3



1. Vine Lake Cemetery
Main Street, Medfield
2. Norfolk County, MA
3. James C. Fannin, Jr.
4. April 2004
5. 271 Lexington Road
Concord, MA 01742
6. Monument to the Unknown
Dead (Soldiers Monument)
(erected 1907). Looking east.
7. #5



A black and white photograph of a cemetery. In the foreground, two gravestones are visible. The one on the left is for Benoni Harding, and the one on the right is for John Harding. Both stones are weathered and have some text that is difficult to read. The background shows other gravestones and bare trees, suggesting a late autumn or winter setting.

BENONI HARDING
THE SON OF
ICHABOD & ABIGAIL
HARDING
AGED 8 DAYS
DIED MAY THE
3 1707

JOHN HARDING
THE SON OF
ICHABOD & ABIGAIL
HARDING
AGED 4 DAYS
DIED JUNE THE
10 1704

1. Vine Lake Cemetery
main Street, Medfield
2. Norfolk County, MA
3. James C. Fannin, Jr.
4. April 2004
5. 271 Lexington Road
Concord, MA 01742
6. Gravestones of John (d. Jan. 10, 1704)
and Benoni (d. May 3, 1707) Harding
(Section A-4, Graves 167, 168).
Looking east
7. #6



1. Vine Lake Cemetery
main Street, Medfield
2. Norfolk County, MA
3. James C. Fannin, Jr.
4. April 2004
5. 271 Lexington Road
Concord, MA 01742
6. Seven Puritans Monument
(1858, Section A-4, Lot 228).
Looking northwest.
7. #7



1. Vine Lake Cemetery
main Street, Medfield
2. Norfolk County, MA
3. James C. Fannin, Jr.
4. April 2004
5. 271 Lexington Road
Concord, MA 01742
6. Monument to Alan Alonzo Kingsbury
(d. April 26, 1862, Section A-4, Lot 242).
Looking northwest.
7. #8



1. Vine Lake Cemetery
Main Street, Medfield
2. Norfolk County, MA
3. James C. Fannin, Jr.
4. April 2004
5. 271 Lexington Road
Concord, MA 01742
6. Hamant Monument (1874).
White Bronze (Zinc) (Section A-1).
Looking northeast.
7. #9



1. Vine Lake Cemetery
main street, medfield
2. Norfolk County, MA
3. James C. Fannin, Jr.
4. April 2004
5. 271 Lexington Road
Concord, MA 01742
6. Langley Monument, Fence and
Plot (Section A-7, Lot 41).
Looking northeast.
7. #10



M^{rs} Mary
Cobb

1781

1. Vine Lake Cemetery
Main Street, Medfield
2. Norfolk County, MA
3. James C. Fannin, Jr.
4. April 2004
5. 271 Lexington Rd.
Concord, MA 01742
6. Gravestone (footstone) of
Mrs. Mary Cobb (d. Oct. 16, 1781,
Section A-2, grave #64).
Gravestone carving attributed
to Robert Pratt. Looking west.
7. # 11



1. Vine Lake Cemetery
Main Street, Medfield
2. Norfolk County, MA
3. James C. Fannin, Jr.
4. April 2004
5. 271 Lexington Road
Concord, MA 01742
6. Gravestone of Jemima Adams
(d. Feb. 15, 1785, Section A-4,
grave #191). Gravestone carver:
Daniel Hastings. Looking east.
7. #12

Town of Medfield, Massachusetts
Assessor's Maps



Environmental  Partners
A partnership for engineering solutions. www.environmentalpartners.com

Note: These maps are not intended for use in conveying title or determining boundaries. They are prepared from aerial photography and are not a substitute for a survey. Environmental Partners, Inc. is not responsible for any errors or omissions.

48	49	50
41	42	43
35	36	37



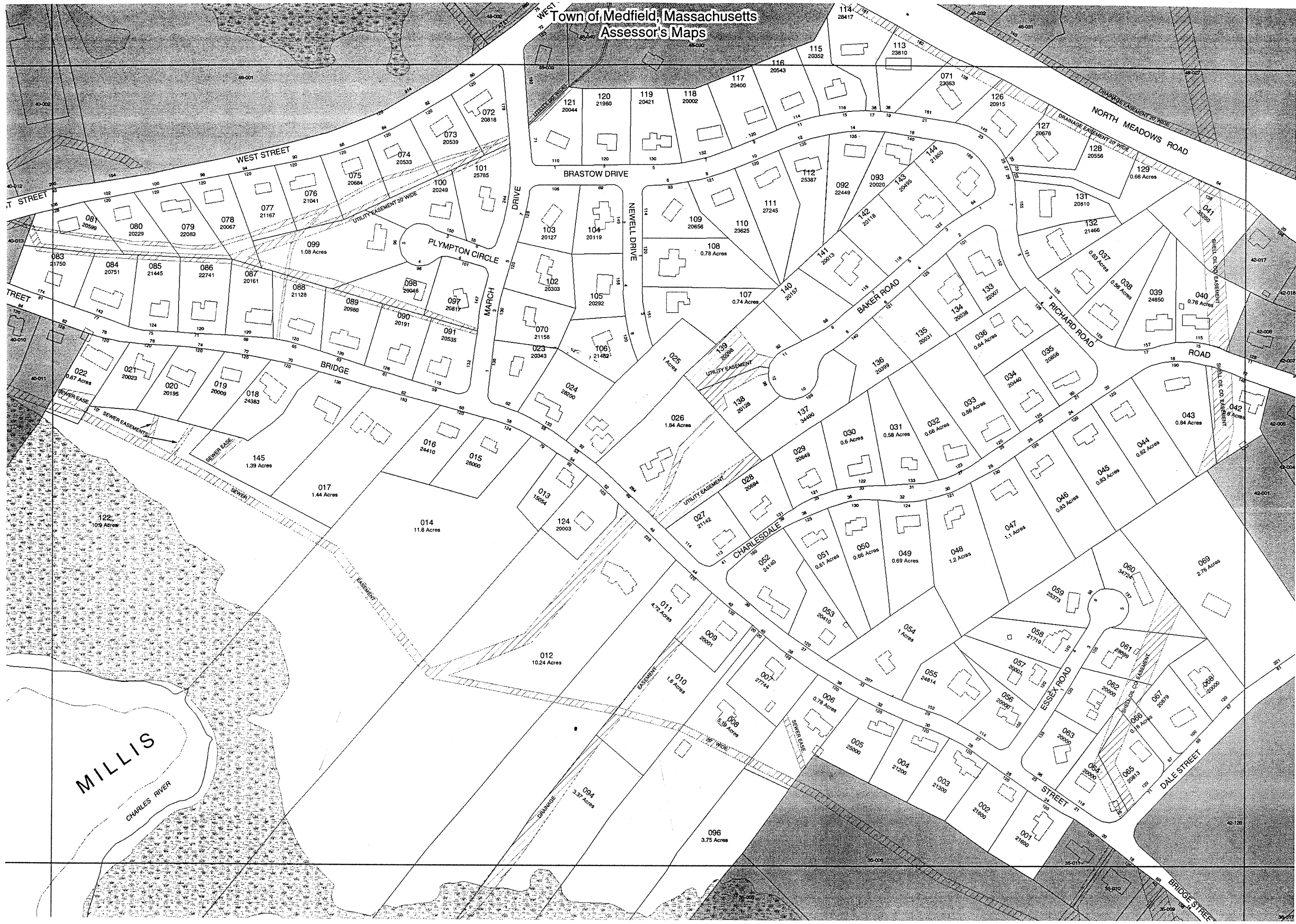
Town of Medfield, Massachusetts
Assessor's Maps



Environmental Partners
A partnership for engineering solutions.
Wilmington, MA www.eapartners.com

Note: These maps are not intended for use in conveying title or for any other purpose. They are for informational purposes only and do not constitute a warranty of any kind.

47	48	49
40	41	42
35	36	37



Town of Medfield, Massachusetts
Assessor's Maps

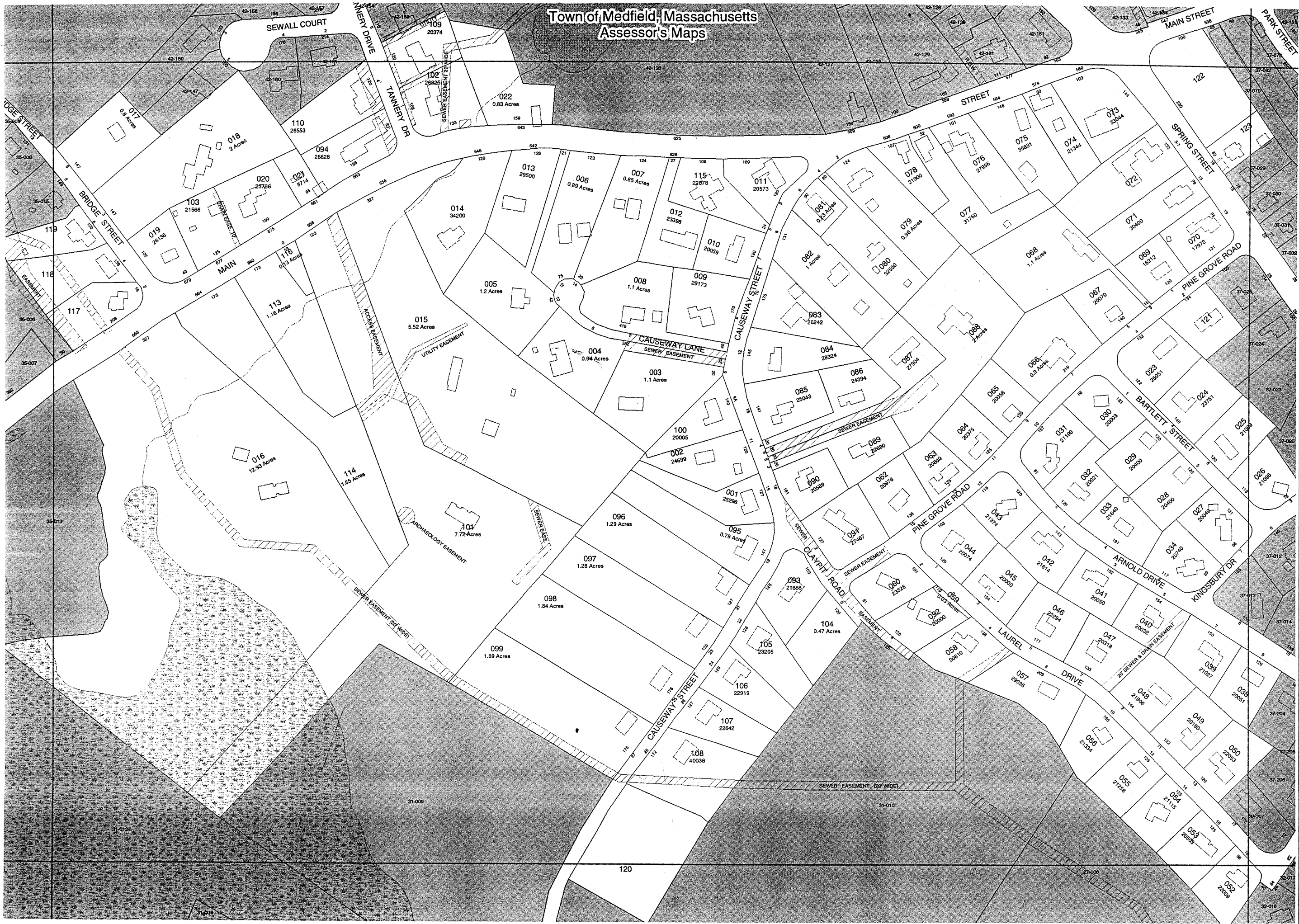


Feet
0 50 100 200 300 400

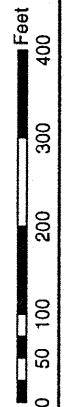
Environmental Partners
A partnership for engineering solutions.
Sittington, MA www.envpartners.com

Map grid reference table:

41	42	43
35	36	37
31	32	



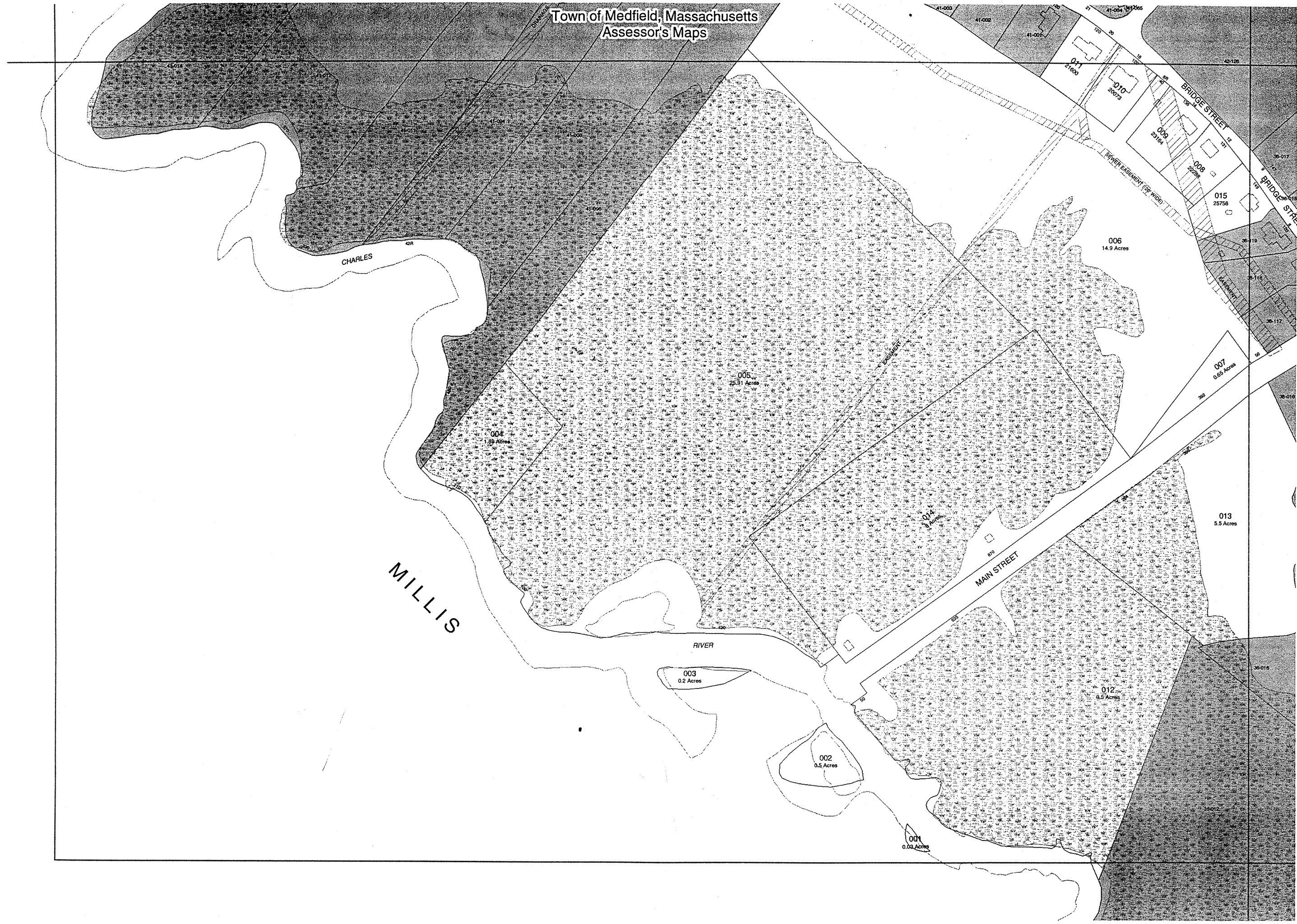
Town of Medfield, Massachusetts
Assessor's Maps



Environmental Partners
A partnership for engineering solutions
Medfield, MA
www.environmentalpartners.com

Note: These maps are not intended for use in surveying or for other purposes requiring high accuracy. They are for general reference only and should not be used for any other purpose without the approval of the Assessor.

40	41	42
35	36	37
30	31	32



VINE LAKE CEMETERY

Medfield, Norfolk County, Massachusetts
Preservation & Management Plan
2004

SOURCES:
Assessors' Map for the Town of Medfield, Massachusetts -Map 42, Parcel 126, scale: 1" = 100'.

Vine Lake Cemetery, Section A, Medfield Mass., prepared November 1927. Name of Civil Engineer unknown. Map traced by b. Kaerwer, February 25, 1978.

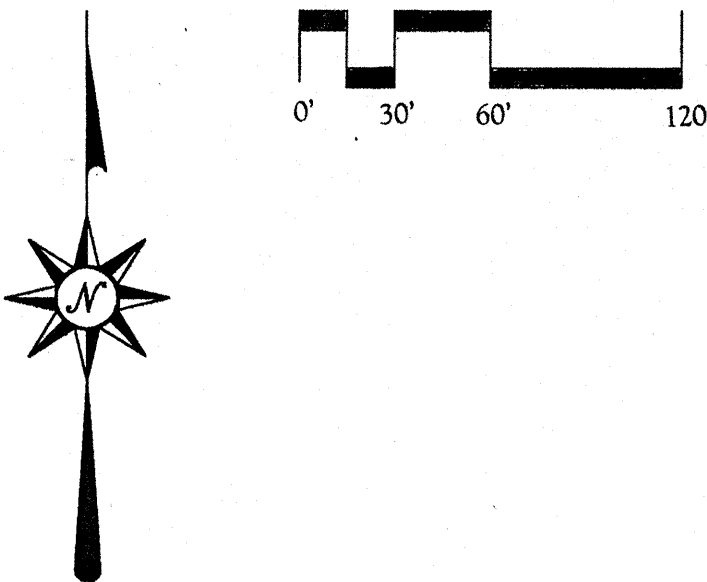
Town of Medfield, Vine Lake Cemetery, Section B, prepared by Samuel Dyer C. E., November 1929.

Town of Medfield, Vine Lake Cemetery, Section D, prepared by Samuel. E. Dyer, C.E., April, 1930.

Town of Medfield, 239th Annual Report of the Town Officers of Medfield, Exercises at the Dedication of the Addition to the Cemetery. Boston: George H. Ellis, 1890.

Maps of Sections C, E, F, G, H, J, K, L, M and N, provided by the Town of Medfield Cemetery Commissioners and H. Tracy Mitchell, of the Roberts-Mitchell Funeral Service.

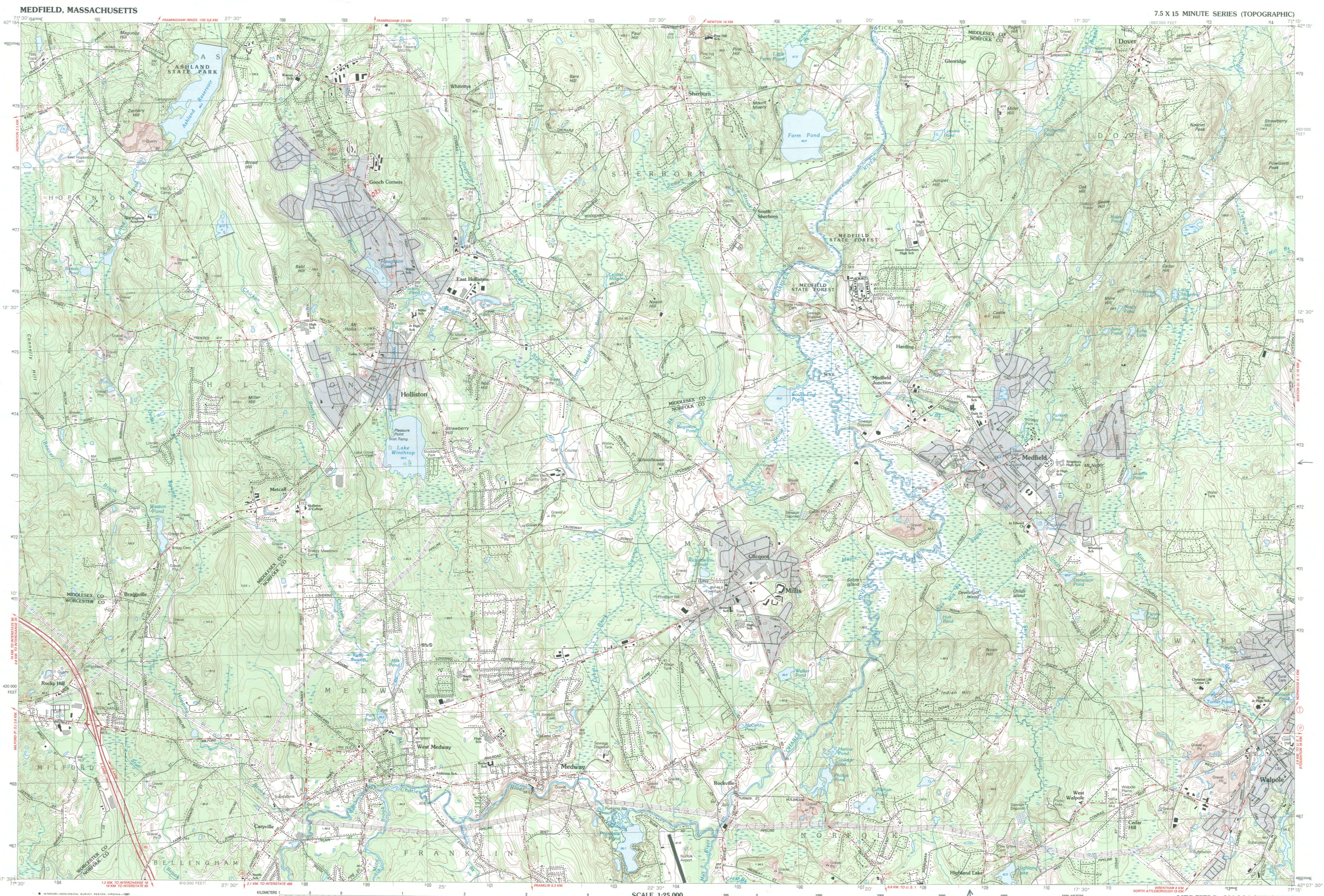
Field investigation completed by Martha Lyon Landscape Architecture, LLC.



MARTHA LYON
Landscape Architecture, LLC
313 Elm Street - Northampton, MA - 01060
413-586-4178
413-584-6697 (fax)
mlyon.paysage@verizon.net



#80- Isaac Billard House, 77 N. Ward St



- Zone 19
- 1. 308660/4673040
- 2. 308800/4673040
- 3. 309100/4672700
- 4. 308680/4672800
- 5. 308500/4672740
- 6. 308440/4672820

VINE LAKE (CONGREGATE)
MEDFIELD (NORFOLK) MA

Medfield

MASSACHUSETTS

HOLLISTON

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

U.S. 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 1981. Field checked 1981 and 1982. Map edited 1987. Supersedes Holliston 1969 and Medfield 1970. 1:25,000-scale maps

Projection and 1000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 19. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone 1927 North American Datum. To place on the projected 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 0.5 METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

CONVERSION TABLE	
Meters	Feet
2	6.56168
4	13.12336
6	19.68504
8	26.24672
10	32.80840

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.28084
To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

DECLINATION DIAGRAM	
1910 27N 15E	
UTM grid convergence (E/M) at center of map declination (MM) Diagram is approximate	

ADJOINING MAPS		
1	2	3
1 Marlborough	2 Framingham	3 Boston South
4 Millis	5 Norwood	6 Uxbridge
7 Franklin	8 Brockton	

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 gage; narrow gage
Bridge: drawbridge
Forthbridge; overpass; underpass
Rail-up area; only selected landmark buildings shown
House; barn; church; school; large structure
Boundary:
National, with monument
State
County, parish
Civil township, precinct, district
Incorporated city, village, town
National or State reservation; small park
Land grant with monument; land section corner
U. S. public lands survey: range, township; section
Range, township; section line: location approximate
Fence or field line
Power transmission line, isolated 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
Decorated surface: strip mine; levee; sand
Bathymetric contours: index; intermediate
Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream
Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small
Submerged mark; marsh; sandbar
Land subject to controlled inundation; woodland
Scrub; mangrove
Orchard; vineyard

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request

MEDFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
42071-B3-TM-025
1987

Missing Core Documentation

Property Name

Vine Lake Cemetery

County, State

Norfolk,
Massachusetts

Reference Number

05000277

The following Core Documentation is missing from this entry:

☐ Nomination Form

☒ Photograph (#4)

☐ USGS Map



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

February 23, 2005

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW (8th floor)
Washington, DC 20005

MAR - 2

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Vine Lake Cemetery, Medfield, (Norfolk), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of the properties in the Certified Local Government community of Medfield were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 60 to 90 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: Daniel Bibel, Medfield Historical Commission
Fannin – Lehner Associates, Martha Lyon, Preservation Consultants
Paul B. Rhuda, Chair, Board of Selectmen
David Temple, Medfield CLG Coordinator
George Lester, Planning Board