

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 SOUTH HINGHAM HISTORIC DISTRICT

other names/site number _____

2. Location

2 CROOKED MEADOW LANE; 27r, 37 CUSHING STREET; 2-4, 6 FRIEND STREET; 4 HIGH ST.;
street & number 578-781 MAIN STREET; 11 MILL LANE; 56 SOUTH PLEASANT STREET not for publication

city or town HINGHAM _____ vicinity _____

state MASSACHUSETTS code MA county PLYMOUTH code 023 zip code 02043

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination
☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of
Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property
☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant
☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Judith B. McDonough
Signature of certifying official/Title Judith B. McDonough, Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer

6/3/98
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

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

Signature of certifying official/Title _____

Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:
☒ entered in the National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the
National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register
☐ removed from the
National Register
☐ other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Patrik Andrus

Date of Action

7/24/98

South Hingham HD
Name of Property

Plymouth, 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	
143	38	buildings
13		sites
1	5	structures
1		objects
158	43	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

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling
DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling/double residence
COMMERCE: specialty store
COMMERCE: restaurant/tavern
SOCIAL: meeting hall
GOVERNMENT: post office

(See continuation sheet)

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling
DOMESTIC: secondary structure/garage
COMMERCE: professional/counseling center
COMMERCE: Specialty Store
SOCIAL: meeting hall
RELIGION: religious facility/church
RELIGION: church-related residence/parsonage
(See continuation sheet)

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial / New England Colonial
Early Republic/Federal
Mid 19th Century/Greek Revival
Late Victorian/Italianate/Second Empire/Shingle Style
Late 19th - Early 20th Century Revivals/Colonial/Gothic

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation granite, stone
walls wood, weatherboard, brick
roof shingle, asphalt, slate
other

Narrative Description

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

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6. FUNCTION OR USE (continued)

HISTORIC FUNCTIONS

RELIGION/religious facility/church
FUNERARY/cemetery
FUNERARY/funeral chapel
CULTURE/marker/milestone
AGRICULTURE/field/pasture

AGRICULTURE/outbuildings/barn
INDUSTRY/manufacturing facility/
mill/factory
INDUSTRY/waterworks/dam, head
race, tail race
LANDSCAPE/unoccupied land/meadow
LANDSCAPE/natural feature/Glad
Tidings Plain
LANDSCAPE/natural feature/Glad
Tidings Rock
TRANSPORTATION/road related/
road (Main Street)

CURRENT FUNCTIONS

RELIGION/parsonage
FUNERARY/cemetery
FUNERARY/funeral chapel
CULTURE/marker/milestone
RECREATION/outdoor recreation/hiking
trail
AGRICULTURE/outbuildings/barn
INDUSTRY/manufacturing facility/mill,
factory sites
INDUSTRY/waterworks/dam

LANDSCAPE/unoccupied land/meadow
LANDSCAPE/natural feature/Glad
Tidings Plain
LANDSCAPE/natural feature/Glad
Tidings Rock
LANDSCAPE/conservation area/
meadows, woods
TRANSPORTATION/road related/road
(Main Street)
TRANSPORTATION/road related/bridge

(end)

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7. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Introduction

The South Hingham National Register Historic District is located in Hingham, Massachusetts, the northernmost town in Plymouth County. It sits 15 miles SE from Boston by land, and 12 miles SE by water; at a latitude of 42 degrees 14 minutes N and a longitude of 70 degrees 53 minutes W. The T-shaped town is roughly six miles north to south and four and one-half miles east to west in the northern part, and three and one-quarter miles east to west in South Hingham. Bordered to the south by the towns of Rockland and Norwell, to the west by Weymouth, and to the east by Cohasset, Hingham encompasses 22.59 square miles. The town's northern boundary is defined by Hingham Harbor which feeds into Hingham Bay and eventually Boston Harbor.

The district is part of the Massachusetts coastal plain which is modified by a recessional moraine with kettle holes and adjacent uplands. Whereas the northern part of the town is characterized by "beautiful hills...called by Irish geologists 'drumlins'"¹ (Otis, Baker, and Prospect Hills) the southern part, including the district, is defined as a "series of three outwash plains," known as the Great Plain (Little Plain, Glad Tidings and Liberty Plain)² with slight elevations rising as they stretch southward; of these, Glad Tidings Plain is the most important. It covers all of the District from 528 Main Street (Map 108-52) to 781 Main Street (Map 146-048), its southern border. At Cushing Street, near the southern border of the District, begins an ascent on a recessional moraine which defines the transition between Glad Tidings Plain and Liberty Plain. Over the whole expanse, described as "the Granitic Area of South Hingham,"³ are impressive granite outcrops above the surface; the most visible are those fronting the Second Parish Church, 685 Main Street (Map 126-047) and Glad Tidings Rock, the most historic and largest, located at the rear of 700 Main Street (Map 137-028). South Hingham granite was considered too fissured to be used for building blocks, unlike that from nearby Quincy, so it was never quarried.

Although a pond, river and brook define much of the district's boundaries, there are no large bodies of water in the district itself. Cushing Pond, a man-made pond, forms part of the western boundary. It was once known as "John Jacob's Pond" for in 1680, John Jacob, of a "wealthy and influential family,"⁴ dammed part of Crooked

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Meadow River to create a site for a fulling mill. The river completes much of the western boundary of the district. Tower Brook flows through the northern section of the district, while Fulling Mill Brook outlines much of the eastern boundary, eventually flowing into Fulling Mill Pond which lies just SW of the district.

South Main Street Historical Background

The most prominent feature of South Hingham's Main Street is the unusual landscape element of the presence of frontage roads and large treed grass areas fronting the historic houses, endowing the area with an almost boulevard atmosphere. This was not an aesthetic consideration. In the 17th century life was difficult for the settlers; survival was their main concern and not town beauty. We do not know *why* the street is magnificently broad, but we do know when its ample width was planned. A most important document, in terms of early town planning and New England and in particular to the town of Hingham is a plan, c. 1690-93, of "The great lots on the Great Plain" drawn by the town's third Clerk, Daniel Cushing.⁵ On the top left-hand side of the Cushing plan (actually SE, for the plan is oriented with North at the bottom) reads the notation: "The great lots on the great plain, the Country Road called The Center (Main Street) *the Country Road 12 rods broad* (198') the other ways...8 rods (132')." ⁶ This working map documents the unusually wide configuration of South Main Street to 17th century town planning. Peter Benes write that "trained or professional tradition in map making and cartography did not evolve in America before 1790 - vernacular maps - perhaps more accurately termed 'working maps' were the only kind that did exist in New England for the first two hundred years of the region's history."⁷ And most of these existing maps were lot plans, such as the Hingham one drawn by Daniel Cushing.

A careful reading of Town Reports, 1833-1952,⁸ indicate that highways and trees bordering them were of civic concern and major interest to Hingham citizens. By 1849 Hingham was divided in 21 "Highway Districts" under the direction of "the Surveyor." By 1856 there were appropriations for "repairs of Highways, Townways and Bridges;" in the 1880 Report, the Hingham Tree Club was established and members encouraged to plant trees throughout the town. A committee the following year was established to plant and maintain shade trees along streets and in public squares. In 1900 a Tree Warden was elected. His long informative accounts on the condition of Hingham's trees were regularly published in Town Reports, often

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bemoaning the damage done by insects, while at the same time praising the town's charm: "We have a very beautiful and eminently respectable old town, made so by its pleasant homes scrupulously kept in repair, model roads...and aged trees whose dignity we cannot appreciate except by comparison with the barren or newly planted roads of younger communities...it is our plain duty to endeavor to protect them." (1902) By the mid thirties, the Tree Warden's reports were reduced to a listing of his expenses, but interest never flagged. Mason Foley (1935) wrote that "the rare serenity of the street so magnificently laid out by their forefathers has been carefully preserved."⁹ At present this well-loved and widely traveled road, shaded by mature maples and lindens which replaced the majestic elms planted in 1783 by Bela Tower¹⁰ is still in need of protection. Interest and concern continue the efforts to conserve this extraordinary landscape heritage, cited by the New York Times in a 1989 travel article as "the perfect New England village."

South Main Street Historical Architecture

The South Hingham National Register Historic District encompasses an extremely rich agglomeration of New England residential architecture dating from 1650, the Edward Wilder House, 597 Main Street (Map 117-036) to 20th century Colonial Revival residences such as the 1940 Ruth S. Chase House, 761 Main Street (Map 136-045-6). The majority of the listing are on Hingham's most important thoroughfare, its 17th century Main Street which originates to the south at Accord Pond and terminates in downtown Hingham at the Lincoln NRHD (1990). The historic landscape of the 1.1 mile long district enhances the built environment and contributes to the setting and integrity of every structure from 528 to 781 Main Street.

The District contains 201 listings including 181 buildings, one object (a 1754 milestone), 13 sites which includes one burying ground, two industrial archaeological sites, Glad Tidings Rock, and the rest are sites designated as official conservation land. There are six structures, one of which is the 17th century dam¹¹ at the northern end of Cushing Pond, while the rest are non-contributing elements (post-1948 structures or swimming pools). Contributing to the architectural and historic integrity of the district are 143 buildings. The great majority of the buildings are private residences; others include two churches, the 1742 Second Parish Church, 685 Main Street (Map 126-047) and the 1956 South Shore Baptist Church, 578 Main Street (Map 117-030) and one chapel, the 1905 High Street

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Cemetery-Whiting Memorial Chapel (Map 117-018) and one public buildings, the 1878 Wilder Memorial at 666 Main Street (Map 127-013).

The period from 1650 to 1850 is well represented by 75 structures built in various manifestations of early New England classical architecture (Colonial, Federal and Greek Revival) which dominated the landscape up to the mid-19th century. Thereafter, although it was a period of picturesque and romantic revivals throughout the rest of the country, Hingham remained conservative in its architectural tastes and retained for a long time traditional details of earlier periods such as the symmetrical facade and quoins of the Colonial period, sidelights of the Federal and the gable-end configuration of the Greek Revival on its late 19th and 20th century houses.

The 17th Century

There are three 17th century residences in the district; the earliest is the 1650 Edward Wilder House, 597 Main Street (Map 117-036), constructed fifteen years after Hingham's incorporation. Originally it had a salt-box profile; in 1904 the roof was raised but the chimney was not moved, hence its unusual position through the front slope of the roof rather than at the ridge. Its symmetrical facade might identify it as an 18th century house were it not for the unusual chimney placement. The 1664 Tower Homestead, 528 Main Street (Map 108-052, photo #1) is an austere, asymmetrically facaded Cape Cod cottage, compactly massed in spite of its additions to the rear and sparsely fenestrated. The third 17th century house is the 1687 Theophilus Cushing House, 753 Main Street (Map 136-043), a gambreled cottage, one of the earliest in New England was built soon after the first known gambreled-roof house, the 1654 Fairbanks House in Dedham, Massachusetts. In 1900, the house was separated from its large addition (757 Main Street) and placed on an atypical high foundation.

Colonial Period 1700-1775/Colonial Style 1775-1830

The District has five two-story Colonial homes built between 1689-1775. The earliest in the 1715 Elisha Cushing House, 692 Main Street (Map 127-020, photo #2) which due to its asymmetrical facade and simple treatment of the arched door pediment presents to the street a 17th-century appearance. Its original owner and builder Lt. Elisha Cushing had not been aware of the symmetrical classicism newly imported from England as were the builders of the next four Colonial residences.

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All adhere to New England Georgian style with their low granite foundation, symmetrical five-window facade, central entrance and articulated corners. One of the best examples of Colonial architecture is the 1746 Cushing Tavern at 757 Main Street (Map 136-044, photo #9, first house on the left), an archetypal residence of the mid 18th century. Of particular note is the fine plain entablature above the paneled entrance door, the projecting lintels of the sash windows and the quoins. The house is oriented to the south rather than Main Street as were the other homes. Equally important is the 1745 Rev. Daniel Shute House, 768 Main Street (Map 137-029), one of two Colonial homes in town with wooden flush boarding scored to look like stone, emulating high-style Georgian homes. It is also one of two Hingham houses with a seven-window facade. The Shute House has been often noted in Hingham literature, for it is a major presence on the streetscape, at the intersection of Main, Cushing, and South Pleasant Streets and was the home of the first pastor of the 1742 Second Parish Church, 685 Main Street (Map 126-047).

Hip roofs were often characteristic of 18th-century captains' houses in coastal towns, but they were uncommon in Hingham. There are only two Colonial hip-roofed houses in the District, the Shute House and the 1752 Peter Jacob House, 648 Main Street (Map 127-004,008) which has a facade enhanced with a modillioned and denticulated entablature. The 1748 Pyam Cushing House, 707-711 Main Street (Map 126-052) has lost its typical compact massing but not its architectural integrity when additions were built; the enclosed front vestibule, bay windows to the south and the dormered wing to the west.

As colonial forms and details were familiar and long-lived, it is not surprising to note that the District has an impressive number of "Colonial-style" homes, indicating houses built in the Federal Style time frame, 1775-1830, but manifesting most of the hallmarks of the past Colonial architecture. One of these is the 1797 two-story addition to the gambreled cottage 1728 Job Loring House, 771 Main Street (Map 146-011); south-facing like the Cushing Tavern it exhibits, with the next six houses listed, most of the characteristics of vernacular Georgian architecture, robust projecting lintels, windows set tightly under the eaves, corner articulation and a large central chimney piercing the ridge of the gable roof. The 1781 Amos Dunbar House, 733 Main Street (Map 136-036), the 1794 Seth Cushing House, 712 Main Street (Map 137-005), the 1801 Daniel Jacob House at 651 Main Street (Map 126-040), the 1801 Nicholas Whitney House, 670 Main Street (Map 127-014), the 1805 Edward Wilder House, 688 Main Street (Map 127-018-19) and the 1819 Seth Cushing, Jr. House at 726 Main Street (Map 137-008-009) are all fine

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examples of the architectural conservatism of builders in South Hingham. The difference between these above-mentioned houses and the colonial period houses are so subtle that many visitors traveling through historic Main Street assume that most of the homes, as well as Federal residences (often white, all symmetrically facaded, all with classical ornamentation) are "colonial."

The Federal Period 1775-1830

The Federal Style, characterized by elegance and refinement in proportion and ornamental vocabulary is well-represented with ten examples. This classically derived style exhibits subtle evolutionary changes within the same rectangular block-type, brace-framed construction: a new concept of proportion and scale has developed using a system of ornament based on the measured drawings of Robert Adam (1728-1792) in England and Charles Bulfinch (1763-1844) in New England. Details include delicate elliptical fanlights, side lights, brick ends, a planar quality of the symmetrical facade replacing the robustness of the past, and a low-pitch hip roof which emphasized the desired horizontality of the period. South Hingham's Federal houses have retained their architectural integrity and Federal identity; they underwent few visible enlargements or "improvements." They are the 1822 Henry Cushing House at 727 Main Street (Map 136-034, photo #5), the 1818 Seth S. Hersey House, 632 Main Street (Map 118-056), the 1819 Quincy Lane House at 676 Main Street (Map 127-015) and the 1820 Charles R. Cook House at 640 Main Street (Map 127-003). Others have retained Georgian quoins of the past articulating the corners such as at the 1788 Jonathan Cushing House, 659 Main Street (Map 126-042) and the 1835 William G. Cushing House at 667 Main Street (Map 127-043). The 1813 Ezekial Fearing House, 675 Main Street (Map 126-044) and the 1826 Caleb Stodder House at 679 Main Street (Map 126-045) both have undergone alterations: they have had their roofs raised and their multipaned sash windows replaced by mid-19th century 2/2 windows, yet both have retained their early 19th century identity. The 1820 William Torrey House, 608 Main Street (Map 118-050) once had a simply enframed central entrance which was replaced in the 1920s by a Georgian Revival semi-circular fanlight, delicate sidelights with tracery and heavy Greek Revival columns supporting a denticulated pedimented portico. The last Federal residence the 1822 Joseph Jacob House, 649 Main Street (Map 126-039) exhibits Greek Revival details, corner pilasters and wide corner boards under the eaves; 1889 "improvements" within a Federal massing. Noteworthy is the elliptical fanlight over the central entrance.

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The District's 14 examples of the Greek Revival style accounts for over one-fourth of all Greek Revival houses in Hingham. It is the last manifestation of classically derived architecture in the early 19th century and one of the most popular long-lived styles in America. Architectural models evocative of Greek democracy were thought appropriate for the new republic which had rejected its ties with England. The most important changes to residences from the Federal style were the gable-end-to-the-street orientation in an effort to create the desired "temple front," and the use of simple, bold, classical details. Two houses have retained the longitudinal massing of the past; they are the 1840 Pyam Cushing House, 699 Main Street (Map 126-050) with an archetypal Greek Revival entrance: side lights to dado level and pilasters framing the door under a plain entablature and the 1839 John Cushing House, 700 Main Street (Map 137-028) behind which stands the Glad Tidings Rock, a massive granite outcrop which gave its name to a Hingham Local Historic District. Eleven of the fourteen Greek Revival residences are simple variations of the gable-end-to-the-street, side-hall entrance type, with either 1 ½ stories (6) or with two stories (5). Only three Greek Revival residences have closed pediments in the facade: the 1841 Ezra Wilder House at 567 Main Street (Map 108-046), the only house with a longitudinal side entrance, the 1848 Edward Wilder House at 704 Main Street (Map 137-002, 002A) and the 1830s Seth B. Cushing House, 730 Main Street (Map 137-010) which has an unusual high pitched roof with a gable lit by a lancet window. The 1850 Alonzo Cushing House, 741 Main Street (Map 136-039, photo #6) is the most elaborate Greek Revival house in the district, within the gable-end format; it is the only one with a flush boarded facade protected by projecting roof eaves, corner pilasters with recessed center panels, stylized pedimented lintels and a cross-gable wing.

Cape Cod Cottage, 17th-19th centuries

The term "Cape Cod Cottage" was first recorded by Yale President Timothy Dwight who found the homes so specialized in character and pattern that they could retain the location name as a descriptive phrase.¹² This compact, one-story gable-roofed house on a low foundation is well suited to a harsh environment and is one of the best known, most appreciated and most frequently imitated in New England. It is not a style, but rather a type of residence which has been built in many styles, from

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the plain 17th century variation such as the 1664 Tower Homestead, 528 Main Street (Map 108-052) to the Greek Revival example of the 1837 Edward Wilder House at 720 Main Street (Map 137-007). The latter has the compact one-story massing and symmetrical facade of a typical Cape Cod house; indicators of its 19th century date are the wide space between the window lintels and the eaves and the characteristic Greek Revival entrance, a pilastered door frame topped with a plain entablature. There are two types of Cape Cod cottages listed in the district. They are the pristine, archetypal examples with plain ridge roof pierced by a large central chimney, no dormers, a symmetrical facade, low foundation, small windows in the gable-end and simple entrance. These include the c. 1760 Joshua Wilder House, 605 Main Street (Map 117-037), the 1801 Crocker Wilder House, 682 Main Street (Map 127-016) whose last owner, Helen Burns, donated much of the land that makes up Jacobs Meadow Area (Map 127-017,017B), the 1815 Reuben Tower House, 583 Main Street (Map 117-027) with its 12/12 sash windows set tightly under the eaves, the 1823 Jeremiah Gardner house at 681 Main Street (Map 126-046) which has a traditional Federal treatment of sidelights to dado level capped with an elaborate modillioned entablature, the c. 1833 Peter Hersey III House, 570 Main Street (Map 117-028), subtly enhanced with a dentillated course under the eaves, and its neighbor, the c. 1838 William Fearing House at 574 Main Street (Map 117-29E). The most renowned Cape Cod Cottage in Hingham is the 1761 Jabez Wilder House, 557-559 Main Street (Map 108-048) (HABS Mass-137) "Rainbow Roof House" so named for its distinctive bowed roof credited to local ship builders. Faithful copies of this house are seen all over New England.

The remaining Cape Cod Cottages are examples of "additive architecture;" each have so many additions (large shed dormers creating a second floor, enclosed front porticos, side wings) that the original one-story compact massing has been absorbed in later construction. An example is the 1830 Seth Cushing House, 718 Main Street (Map 137-006).

Third Quarter of the 19th Century Picturesque Revivals

New England architecture of the third quarter of the 19th Century, characterized by exuberant and romantic revival styles, made but a token appearance in South Hingham, so conservative was the taste of home owners and builders. An example can be seen in the ten Italianate residences within the district. None exhibit the

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high style characteristics such as a square tower, richly carved arched window lintels, cubistic massing of forms; eight of the ten listings are simple, gable-ended houses with returns. Some have carved supports under the door hood such as the 1874 George F. Jacob House at 658 Main Street (Map 127-011), while the 1857 William C. Wilder House at 703 Main Street (Map 126-051) exhibits bracketed eaves and lintels and a cross gable. The two which have retained their longitudinal massing of past periods are the 1868 Joseph Jacob, Jr. House, 694 Main Street (Map 137-0221.022, photo #10), first house to the right) with bracketed eaves and shaped lintels and the 1850 Charles W. Cushing House at 748 Main Street (Map 137-012.013) topped with the district's only octagonal cupola. A plain, simple, typical Hingham example, with some vestigial elements of the past Greek Revival period (cornice board and corner pilasters) is the 1858 Isaac H. Cushing House, 737 Main Street (Map 136-038, photo #7).

A lone example of exuberant residential architecture and the finest Second Empire home in Hingham is the 1864 Andrew C. Cushing House, 721 Main Street (Map 136-033). It is a grand residence replete with all the characteristics of this imported style: symmetrical facade with two projecting mansardic gabled pavilions, fenestration consisting of double windows capped with bracketed lintels and tall arched windows, scrolled brackets at the dormers, angular one-story and two-story bay windows and the play of light and shade created by the juxtaposition of the smooth flush boarded architectural wall surface with the ornate decorations. Fourteen years later, another elegant, French-derived building was erected: the Second Empire 1878 Wilder Memorial at 666 Main Street (Map 127-013, photo #8) designed by Boston architect Gridley J.F. Bryant (1818-1899) who is best known for his work on Boston City Hall (1861-1865) one of the earliest Second Empire buildings in the United States. The symmetrically axially composed articulated facade is ornamented with a central projecting pavilion framed with double pilasters; decorated panels on the facade which further enhance the building.

There are two Gothic Revival structures in the district, one high style, the other a vernacular interpretation. The 1905 Whiting Chapel, High Street (Map 117-018) was designed by Hingham architect J. Sumner Fowler (1860-1921) who 19 years earlier designed the wooden Queen Anne Memorial Chapel at the town cemetery. The 60' long Whiting Chapel has a polygonal apsidal end (north elevation) which is balanced on the south elevation by stained glass window created by George W.S. Spence. Ten narrow buttresses emphasize the irregularity and solid massing of the walls. On the High Street cemetery property, towards the western boundary, is a

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very simple Gothic Revival office/storage structure, decorated with Gothic elements: a pointed arched entrance framed with rope moldings, raised trefoil panels above the door, and pendants at the apex of the pointed arched windows – the most picturesque outbuilding in the district.

Colonial Revival Style, 20th Century

One Shingle style residence exists, the 1901 Edward F. Wilder House, 4 High Street (Map 117-032), a tall gambreled, cross-gabled residence enveloped in weathered shingles. The porch, supported by classical Tuscan columns, reflects the Colonial Revival style, which in Hingham means the survival of the Colonial. There are various interpretations to this favored 20th century revival style. The two-story variations include the American Four-Square type, the 1911 Chauncey Burr House, 626 Main Street (Map 118-052) and the 1911 Prouty House, 764 Main Street (Map 137-015); the simple Colonial Revival based on 17th century precedents include the 1940 Ruth S. Chase House, 761 Main Street (Map 136-045, 046) by Hingham architect Godfrey Downer; the simple Colonial Revival based on symmetric Georgian modes is represented by the 1985 566 Main Street Map 108-084 and the asymmetrically facaded (entrance to side) is seen in the 1927 Merrill N. Thompson House at 11 Mill Lane (Map 126-053) designed by Hingham architect Edgar T.P. Walker (1886-1965), later noted for his 1930 restoration of Hingham's 1681 Old Ship Meeting House. The one-story types include the Dutch cottage, the 1930 Maude S. Williams House at 715 Main Street (Map 136-032), the gambreled cottage at 577 Main Street (Map 117-017) and the cape Cod Revival, the 1940 598 Main Street (Map 118-046).

Barns

The subject of the survival or disappearance of barns in the United States has been the subject of numerous articles and books in the last few decades.¹³ Many have vanished from the New England landscape, but in the South Hingham district a large number of these relics of Hingham's agricultural past have survived. Among these are barns located at 667 Main Street, 691 Main Street, 692 Main Street (**photo #5**), 737 Main Street (**photo #7**) and 748 Main Street. At 629 Main Street (Map 126-037), an 1840s barn (once part of the 1787 John Jacob House) has been converted into a Colonial Revival residence. These once important and necessary

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farm outbuildings are all in excellent condition and graphically reflect the long agricultural history of South Hingham.

Ecclesiastical Architecture

Punctuating the linear skyline of the district streetscape are the spires of two churches, the 1742 Second Parish Church, 685 Main Street (Map 126-047, **photo #3**) and the 1956 South Shore Baptist Church at 578 Main Street (Map 117-030). When the Second Parish Church was built in 1742, it was a simple rectangular building with the entrance on the longitudinal side (south elevation). In 1792 the tower was added to the east elevation and in 1829 an elegant facade, influenced by the design of the New North Church (NR), was built. It is composed of three arched entrances set within a barely projecting pavilion with a gable lit by a lunette window, endowing the church with a refined Federal front. It is one of the finest churches in the town of Hingham. The second church, built in the Colonial Revival style, relates well to surrounding period architecture.

Archaeological Description

While no prehistoric sites are currently recorded in the South Hingham National Register Historic District, it is possible that sites are present. Three prehistoric sites are known in the general area (within one mile). Each of these sites is located along the main channel of the Weir River or its secondary tributaries. Environmental characteristics of the area indicate several locational criteria which are favorable indicators for many types of prehistoric sites. Much of the district includes well drained level to moderately sloping outwash plain and terraces in close proximity to Tower Brook and the Crooked Meadow River which cross-cut and border parts of the district. These drainages, their related wetlands and surrounding upland locales would have provided a variety of plant and animal resources including anadromous fish which would have been important to Native American subsistence. The presence of ledge outcroppings in the area may also indicate a potential source material for Native American lithic technologies. Main Street, which bisects the entire district along a north/south axis is also reported as a Contact Period Native trail which was probably also present during the prehistoric

(continued)

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period. Given the above information, the size of the district(224.45 acres), and the availability of open space, in part the result of the nature of early land divisions and conservation land in the area, a high potential exists for the recovery of prehistoric resources in the district.

A high potential also exists for the recovery of historic archaeological resources in the district. The South Hingham National Register Historic District has been settled since 1650 or earlier with Main Street in place by 1667. In spite of this early settlement, no 17th, 18th or 19th century residences have been identified in the district area. Although residential examples from each of these periods survive in the district, it is highly unlikely there have been no losses in the district in over 300 years of landuse. Structural evidence should survive for 17th through 19th century residences which are no longer extant as well as archaeological evidence for outbuildings and occupational related features(trash pits, privies, wells). Structural evidence from at least one 17th century residence may survive near the 1687 Theophilus Cushing House which still survives at 753 Main Street. In 1900, that house was separated from a later large addition and placed on a new atypical high foundation. Archaeological evidence may survive from the original house foundation. The addition, also known as the 1746 Cushing Tavern is located at 757 Main Street. That structure is atypically oriented for the area by having its facade oriented to the south rather than towards Main Street.

Outbuildings and occupational related features(trash pits, privies, wells) may represent one of the more important types of archaeological resources present in the district. These resources should survive with most residential and commercial structures which are still extant and those that no longer exist above ground. Agricultural or farm related outbuildings survive throughout much of the district. Many of these existing outbuildings postdate the structure they are associated with indicating the potential for an earlier structure. In other instances, outbuildings are absent with 17th and 18th century residences or farmsteads where they should exist. Agriculture continued to be important in the South Hingham District throughout the 18th century. Archaeological evidence for commercial and industrial related outbuildings should also survive in the district. Commercially related outbuildings can include storage sheds related to the operation of stores such as the store(1833) built by Quincy Lane at 650 Main Street or, similar structures or shops related to 19th century traders at their homes along Main Street. Most potential outbuildings, however, are probably related to early industrial related activities, many of which were operated as "cottage" type industries prior to their expansion in

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the 19th century. Archaeological evidence of tanning and currying operations may be located on the property of the Job Loring House(1728) at 771 Main Street. Blacksmith shops were also operated near many residences in the district including those related to the Jacob Family which had a long association with that trade. A blacksmith shop was known to be kept on the property of Charles R. Cook(1820) at 640 Main Street until he retired in 1899. Joseph Jacob is also known to have manufactured hammers and hatchets to the rear of his 649 Main Street(1822) property beginning in 1836. John Hart was another edge tool maker who specialized in hatchets until his Main Street shop burned in 1870. A carpenters shop was known to exist at 741 Main Street(1850) until it was moved across the street to its present address at 738 Main Street. Clock and watch repair were also conducted by Ezra Wilder either from his house at 567 Main Street(1841) or from a small shop on the property. Slaughter House activities were also conducted in the district. William Torrey operated a slaughter house near his residence at 608 Main Street(1820) by 1850. A slaughter house was also present near the residence of Henry Ripley at 562 Main Street(c.1840) where he and his four sons conducted their trade as butchers. Shoe and boot making were also trades conducted in small shops and/or outbuildings near residences in the district, at times into the 20th century. Shoemakers probably operated shops near the Dunbar Family houses at 733 and 630 Main Street during the 18th and 19th centuries. Peter Hersey III is also known to have operated a small boot shop in a separate building south of his house at 570 Main Street(c.1833) until 1938. The Whitman Whitcomb & Company boot and shoe manufactory originally stood directly across from 6 Friend Street during the mid 19th century until it burned in 1899. Earlier shoe shops may have also been present in that area which at a later point also housed a heel company, toy company and featherbed company. Weaving and coopering were also industries which originally developed in the South Hingham district as cottage industries located in residences or nearby in small outbuildings.

Industrial development, now absent, was also important to the district's economic growth beginning in the 17th century. Above ground structural evidence of these activities, possibly including below ground archaeological features and structures are present in the area opposite 36 Mill Lane in the district. Industrial development of this area began in 1680 with the construction of a dam by Captain John Jacob and creation of Cushing Pond. Structural evidence of this early dam can survive with later modifications which probably occurred with subsequent industrial developments in the 18th through 20th centuries. Evidence of mill canals or head and tail races used to transport water for adjacent mills are also present. Some of

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these waterwork structures are visible today while others may survive in an archaeological context. Structural remains may also survive from a fulling mill and saw mill built and operated by the Jacob family in the vicinity of the dam during this early period. During the 18th century ownership of the Mill Lane mills and dam passed to the Cushing family who built a grist mill in the area by 1737. Evidence of the grist mill can also survive as an archaeological resource in this area. During the 19th century at least three major new industries appeared on the Mill Lane site. The most important cooperage manufacture in South Hingham was established in 1830 by Crocker Wilder near the corner of Main and Friend Streets in 1830. Archaeological evidence of that manufacture may survive at that site. In 1845, Crocker's sons Crocker and Alden purchased the Mill Lane site from the Cushing Family and erected buildings for their manufactory on the site of the old grist and saw mills. That operation produced buckets, pails and tubs. In 1902, the Wilder Wooden Ware Manufactory, as it was known, burned to the ground and was not rebuilt. Structural evidence may survive from that industrial operation including archaeological features from its operations. Archaeological evidence including structural remains can also survive from an edge tool manufactory which also operated on the Mill Lane site from 1860 to 1883. This operation, originally operated in the rear of Joseph Jacobs Main Street house, manufactured hammers and hatchets. This industry was moved to the Mill Lane site in 1860 and sold in 1883. The third 19th century industry operated near the northern end of Cushing Pond at Mill Lane was a steam- powered wooden toy manufactory established in 1869 by William and Charles S. Tower. That operation, which can also survive as an archaeological resource, manufactured toys as well as chairs, tables, bureaus and sideboards. An ice company, operated by George Hayward, represents the last commercial activity which occurred at Cushing Pond. That activity is represented in the district by the dam which was raised to increase ice production. The last industrial structure which can survive as an archaeological resource in the district is a reported Fulling Mill Aqueduct at 768 Main Street. This resource lies partially within the district. It extends from Fulling Mill Pond at the site of Abel Cushing's Fulling Mill to the wetland below 768 Main Street. The structure is thought to have been built between 1725 and 1815. The aqueduct contains stone work including fieldstone walls some 7 feet high. A tentative interpretation is that the aqueduct carried water to the mills that stood between Cushing and Fulling Mill Ponds. Some researchers have interpreted this structure as a tail race rather than an aqueduct.

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Unmarked graves may also be present in the district in the vicinity of the High Street Cemetery, the only cemetery in the district and the oldest in the town. Burials in this cemetery, which date to 1688, can be unmarked as a result of lost grave markers over the last 300 years. Burials can also be unmarked intentionally, the result of deceased paupers or unknown persons.

(end)

South Hingham HD
Name of Property

Plymouth, 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)

AGRICULTURE/site of 17th century land grant

ARCHITECTURE

ARCHAEOLOGY/Industrial

CONSERVATION

RELIGION

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1650-1948

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

(See continuation sheet)

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Hingham Historical Commission

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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

ARCHITECT/BUILDER

Bryant, Gridley J.F. (1816-1899), Boston architect
Wilder Memorial, 666 Main Street (1879) Second Empire

Cushing, Alan & son
William S. Tower House, 573 Main Street (1850) Cape Cod
(Listed on old inventory form, consultants unable to confirm)

Dattman Bros., builders
639 Main Street (1959) Gambrel Cottage

Downer, Godfrey, Hingham architect
Maude S. Williams House, 715 Main Street (1930) Colonial Revival
Ruth S. Chase House, 761 Main Street (1940) Colonial Revival
John Cushing House, 700 Main Street (1839) Greek Revival
2-car garage and 2 dormers on rear designed by Downer (1937)

Dyer, Ray (Hingham architect)
Second Parish Church, 685 Main Street (1742) Colonial/Federal
(Dyer worked on interior, including the pulpit)
John Cushing House, 700 Main Street (1839) Greek Revival
(Dyer designed 1951 Colonial Revival wing)

Everett, Charles (1883-1960), Boston architect, lived in Hingham
Job Loring House, 771 Main Street (1728) Colonial
(Everett changed design from Queen Anne back to Colonial in 1930)

Fowler, J. Sumner (1860-1921) Hingham architect
Whiting Chapel, High Street Cemetery, High/Main Streets (1905)
Gothic Revival (Edward W. Bartlett, contractor)

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Gardner, Jeremiah, housewright (probably)

Jeremiah Gardner House, 681 Main Street (1823) Cape Cod

Hagan, Gustave

South Shore Baptist Church (1956) Colonial Revival

Nelson, William J. (1826-1908), Housewright, Master Builder

Edward F. Wilder House, 4 High Street (1901) Shingle style

Root, John Alden, Hingham architect

Henry Cushing House, 727 Main Street (1822) Federal

Root designed 2-story addition in the mid 20th century

Walker, Edward T.P. (1889-1965) Smith & Walker architects, Boston
and Hingham

Lewis Spaulding House, 11 Mill Lane (1925) Colonial Revival

17 Mill Lane (1920) Colonial Revival

Whiting, Clark, Hingham architect

Henry Ripley House, 562 Main Street (c. 1840) Cape Cod

Whiting did alterations/addition to 562 Main Street

(end)

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Hingham (Plymouth), Massachusetts**Section number 8 Page 3**8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The South Hingham National Register Historic District possesses integrity of location, design, setting, material, workmanship, feeling and association, and meets National Register Criteria A, C, and D. The period of significance extends from 1650, when Main Street (then called "Country Road") began to be constructed to the south, allowing for the formation of South Hingham, to 1948. This 350 year old stretch of Main Street, ascending the Glad Tidings Plain, is referred to by architectural historian Abbott Lowell Cummings, as "one of the longest streets of early houses and unspoiled vistas in New England."¹⁴

The District meets Criterion A as the 17th century Main Street which is the original principal north-south route through Hingham. A unique landscape feature is Main Street's extraordinary width, documented from before 1693, extending from the Second Parish Church, 685 Main Street (Map 126-047, photo #3) to the 1745 Rev. Daniel Shute House, 768 Main Street (Map 137-029) at the southern boundary. Main Street's ample lawns are lined with mature maples and lindens, creating a pleasant linear park. In addition, the district is significant for its association with some of the town's earliest settlers and prominent families, particularly the Wilders and Towers, who settled in the north of the district, and the Cushings, who dominated the south. These three families and others continued to live and work in the South Hingham district for many generations.

Under Criterion C, the beauty and architectural merit of the district lies not only in the richness of its well-preserved period homes lining Main Street, but also in its coherent whole, a microcosm of the evolving style of New England vernacular architecture. Most of the styles are represented in the area: 17th century First Period, Colonial, Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate, Second Empire, Shingle and Colonial Revival. Particularly prevalent are residences built between 1650 and 1850, which number 75. In addition to 93 houses, there are two churches, a chapel, two commercial structures, two archaeological sites, a public building, one cemetery, one monument, a great expanse of conservation land and one notable rock.

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An important industrial archaeological site dating from the 1680s, the Cushing Pond dam and a succession of mills and factories at 36 Mill Lane (Map 136-025) qualifies the district under Criterion D. Additionally the early 18th century Fulling Mill Aqueduct lies partially in the district at 768 Main Street (Map 137-029). There is substantial potential for other industrial archaeological sites as tanning and currying operations as well as blacksmith and shoe shops were once interspersed among district residences along Main Street.

Glad Tidings Plain, on which the district is sited, takes its name from Glad Tidings Rock, a high granite ledge on the Plain, located at the rear of the 1839 John Cushing House, 700 Main Street (Map 137-028). Today this striking geological feature is partially covered with white pines, but at one time it stood out prominently on the landscape.¹⁵ The account of how the rock got its name is related by author Solomon Lincoln who quotes from an April 19, 1676 entry in Peter Hobart's diary: "John Jacob [was] slain by the Indians near his father's house" and adds that Mr. Joseph Wilder relates that during King Philip's War (1675) this well known Hingham hunter, who declared that he never would allow himself to be taken alive by the Indians, was found dead near the rock. His friends, overjoyed to find that he had been killed outright and not captured and tortured, named it Glad Tidings Rock.¹⁶

Main Street developed south from Hingham Harbor, as settlers built their homes along each side of the road, following an old Indian trail. The street was originally called the Country Road. The northerly section of Main Street, once known as Bachelor's Row, had house lots laid out in 1636; the southerly section (the South Hingham district) was completed by 1667. "Whereas Daniel Cushing, Matthew Cushing...(and others) were chosen by the vote of the Town of Hingham on the 5th day of August 1665 to lay out highways in Hingham, as appears by the Town record in page the 12th of the Town's Little Book, and according to the power put in their hands, they did on the 20th day of May 1667, lay out several highways in Hingham."¹⁷ The long narrow back lots of many of the properties on the east side of Main Street from South Pleasant to Free Streets, are rare survivors

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plains.¹⁸ For many years Main Street was part of the road from Boston to Plymouth, but in 1803 a new turnpike was completed from Lovell's Corner in Weymouth to Queen Anne's corner, thus removing Main Street from the route. The Hingham Street Railway Co. brought trolley service along Main Street in 1896; cars were discontinued thirty years later.

Hingham's Main Street has been universally admired by scholars, historians and political figures alike and concerns for its preservation were expressed even in the 19th century. When the town appeared to be embarking on an extensive "mania of road straightening" in the 1870s, Luther Stephenson, Jr. (1830-1921) warned that a town "constantly burdened with schemes for straightening roads, erecting bank walls, and demolishing old landmarks is building not to delight, but to disgust, the people of the future."¹⁹

As the twenty-first century approaches, there is a steadily growing appreciation of Main Street's antiquity. Reflecting this awareness, the following comments span the past several generations:

"The rare serenity of the street [Main Street] so magnificently laid out by their forefathers has been carefully preserved by later generations..." "Though much has been taken, an air of permanence endures. The feel, the small, and the look of many things remain... Protected by ancient elm and bordered by sloping lawn, rest a thousand quiet homes, the solid beauty of them dating from colonial times." (Mason Foley, 1935)²⁰

"As we start walking slowly up Main Street, we notice the rows of tall, stately elms on either side of the street, which connote by their size that they must have been planted there over two hundred years ago. *There is something unusual about the whole panorama, but we are not yet conscious of just what it is.*"²¹ The little old colonial houses are nestled, under elm and birch trees, but they are set back from the street a hundred feet of either side, and between the houses and the sidewalk are smooth, green, well-trimmed lawns..." (H. Leavitt Horton, 1945)²²

"I think New England would have to hunt far to show a finer length of road that the five and a half miles of Main Street rising in a series of easy slopes from the village on the harbor through Little Plain, through Glad Tidings Plain..." (Elizabeth Coatsworth, 1948)²³

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"The particular segment of the road in which our house was located was Main Street [675 Main Street at Glad Tidings Plain] at its loveliest. The twin row of elms, rising from their grassy malls were splendid in girth and shape and the Dutch beetle had yet to put in an appearance." (Myron Ray Clark, 1968)²⁴

"This beautiful stretch of broad, tree-lined street, bounded on each side by lovely old homes is one of Hingham's well-known beauty spots. Many people admire it is they travel it daily and those who only pass through remember it. We are indeed fortunate that the people who settled Sout Hingham chose to make it such a beautiful place." (Winston Hall, 1984)²⁵

The Town of Hingham was founded in 1635 and the 17th century saw the settlement of the South Hingham district with primarily agricultural development, with the exception of the fulling and saw mills. The 18th century saw the continuation of past operations supplemented by new blacksmithing, coopering, weaving, tanning and currying enterprises. In the early 1800s the town experienced a new emphasis on commerce and manufacturing, including the multiplication of small, often family-owned industrial enterprises. Although the 20th century has seen the end of agricultural and industrial pursuits, the homes of generations of Cushings, Wilders, Towers and other 17th century families still line the tree-shaded Main Street of the South Hingham District.

SEVENTEETH CENTURY

Originally the Glad Tidings Plain was used principally for farming as confirmed by the listed occupations of many original land owners of the extant houses in the area. The area was also the site of an early fulling mill and saw mill located at the end of the district's Mill Lane (36 Mill Lane, Map 136-025). On May 3, 1680 Capt. John Jacob (1630-1693) requested permission of Town meeting to exchange some of his land "for some of Town's land, to sett a fulling mill upon." The town voted to grant Jacob the rights to dam the Crooked Meadow River, thereby creating Cushing Pond, "upon condition that there be a Fulling Mill set up and maintained for the use of the town, to full their cloth upon reasonable terms."²⁶ A fulling mill and sawmill, preceded by the necessary dam, rose on the site, and when Jacob died, the mills were inherited by his two sons, Peter Jacob (1667/8-1748) and Samuel Jacob (1671-1695). The Jacob family, while not so numerous as the Cushings, was a prominent

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one in South Hingham. Capt. John Jacob (1603-1693) was a proprietor, a selectman of many years and an officer in the Ancient & Honorable Artillery Company. Peter Jacob was a selectman and deacon and built the first section of 771 Main Street (Map 146-011) in 1728. The other two Jacobs also resided on Main Street, not far from the mills.²⁷

The preeminence of the Cushing family began in the 1600s when Daniel Cushing bought up most of the land that today is along South Main Street, bounded on the north by a point beyond the Second Parish Church and on the south by Cushing Street. Born in Hingham, England, Daniel Cushing (1619-1700) "rendered important services to the town"²⁸ for more than thirty years. He "was frequently chosen by the inhabitants to transact their most important business" (he lent ten pounds in 1691 "for the carying [*sic*] one [*sic*] the prreseent expedition against the Common enemys of the Country [the French])"²⁹ and from 1669 to his death held the position of Town Clerk. In this capacity he compiled the South Hingham plan into furlong-long plots indicating the acreage and name of each owner. The concept of nucleated settlement in Massachusetts had been replaced in Hingham by southward town development. Edna Scofield describes this "highway village"³⁰ as representing "a transitional form between the compact village communities of the earlier colonial period and the scattered farmsteads of the later period."³¹

Cushing's plan of 1693 (see Section 7) shows to the east and west of the Country Road (later Main Street) a depth of three furlongs, each allotted to a different settler (with the exception of Robert Peck who owned two furlongs east.) Many of these grants can be documented by John Richardson's research on 17th century "Great Lots Grants" through his vast and extensive archival collection of early Hingham historical documents. South Main Street was then probably no different than the early streets described in the 1893 History of Hingham as "grassy lanes..road surveyors and superintendents were for the most part blessings of another period."³² This phrase implies a complete absence of curbing; today this characteristic, a minimum amount of stone curbing is one of the factors which endows the South Main Street area with its pleasing, rural, small-town feel.

It is important to note that the land behind east side residences on Main Street reflects in part the 17th century linear configuration of the land which was divided into narrow plots measured in furlongs. The use of long and narrow lots "was probably a combination of two factors. First is the relative simplicity of running parallel lines. More important is the transference of open-field lot divisions in

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England to solve land distribution and measurement needs in New England. In order to reduce the number of turnabouts made by a plowman and team, English open-field cultivation rights were assigned in narrow strips of furlong length.³³ Today, most of this area (rear land abutting residences from 640-704 Main Street) is protected conservation land comprised of open fields and varied woodlands. The largest single area is the 50-acre Jacobs Meadow (Map 127-024, 017, 017B) the major part of which was donated to the Hingham Land Conservation Trust and to the Hingham Conservation Commission by Helen Burns. The introduction to the 1993 map "Parklands for the Public" states: "Hingham is rich in open space, and not by accident...Civic leaders have been farsighted in their planning and public spirited citizens have been generous in gifts..."³⁴ Other donated conservation lands are the 19 acre Mildred Cushing Woods (Map 136-035,051,063) behind 733-761 Main Street and along the SE shore of Cushing Pond, and the .6 acre Crooked Meadow River Area (Map 126-048C) which protects the Crooked Meadow River near a waterfall, the 17th century archaeological mill site and the 1960s reconstructed mill off 36 Mill Lane (Map 136-025).

Daniel Cushing's in 1700 left his property to his son, Theophilus (1657-1717/8) who had built "Pilgrim Cottage" at 753 Main Street (Map 136-043, photo #9). After Theophilus' death, the plain was divided among many of his children, so that some of the homes have several acres while others have no back land. This resulted when a small lot, just large enough for the house of a family member, was divided off from the larger homestead.³⁵

The Cushing family originally engaged in Hingham's traditional 17th century occupations of farming and saw and grist milling, continued to dominate the South Hingham District on Glad Tiding Plain until the 20th century. At least 19 of the houses standing today were built by family members. Besides the 1687 Theophilus Cushing House there are two other 17th century houses surviving. These are those built by Edward Wilder at 597 Main Street in 1650 (Map 117-036), the oldest house in the district, and the Tower Homestead at 528 Main Street (1664, Map 108-052, photo #1.)

The land of Edward Wilder (d. 1690), progenitor of the prolific Wilder family, spanned from Tower Brook to Crooked Meadow River, and it is for Wilder that the bridge crossing the river is named. He, too, was a farmer and received his first grant of land in 1637, became a freeman in 1644, and selectman in 1667. There are 11 Wilder houses in the district, along with Wilder Memorial Hall.

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John Tower (c.1608-1702?) bought from Edward Wilder the large acreage from Cold Corner to Tower Brook and westward "to the marshes in Weymouth."³⁶ Like Edward Wilder and the first Theophilus Cushing he was a farmer as well as one of seven men chosen in 1645 "to order the prudential affairs of the town."³⁷ Tower Brook, which rises in the land south of Emerald Street and winds under Main Street is named for the Tower family; there are four Tower houses in the district.

The only cemetery in the district and the oldest in South Hingham is the High Street Cemetery, High Street (1688, Map 117-018). The earliest surviving stone is that of Jane Russell, wife of George Russell, who died in 1688. Also included are stones from well-known early Hingham families such as Bacon, Chubbuck, Jacob, Tower, and Wilder. The cemetery passed into private hands in 1855 and was organized thirty years later as the High Street Cemetery Association.

EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

During the early 18th Century, the fulling mill and Mill Lane sawmill passed out of the ownership of the Jacob family and into the hands of the Cushings. The record is unclear whether Theophilus Cushing (1657-1717/18) or his son, also named Theophilus (1703-1779), was the first Cushing owner but the younger Cushing bought ten adjoining acres and erected a gristmill. "In 1737 he was taxed 2 pds for a sawmill and 10 pds for a gristmill."³⁸ The younger Theophilus was the grandson of the large landowner Daniel Cushing (1619-1700) who, in addition to assembling vast tracts of Hingham real estate, served 31 years as the third town clerk as well as periodic stints as magistrate, selectmen and delegate to the General Court. Theophilus (1703-1779) was a farmer, constable and selectman as well as mill-owner. He donated land for the 1742 Second Parish Church, 685 Main Street (Map 126-047, photo #3) specifying "so long as the said precinct or their successors shall continue to keep up and maintain a meetinghouse for the public worship of God on the land aforesaid."³⁹

Brigadier General Theophilus Cushing (1740-1820) came next in the family line. He, too, was a farmer and inherited the gristmill and sawmill. After his death his property went to his son, Washington Cushing (1776-1849), the last Cushing owner of the Mill Lane mills which passed into the Wilder family in 1845.⁴⁰ The final Theophilus Cushing (1839-1892) was also a farmer who retained a major amount of the family real estate. In addition to the Cushing mills, more gristmills and sawmills were built in the area, turning out boards, clapboards and shingles.

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The Cushings were both industrialists and farmers and agriculture continued to be an important occupation in 18th century South Hingham. During the Revolutionary War, Theophilus Cushing's (1703-1779) house at 757 Main Street was used as a tavern, being a coach stop on the route between Boston and Plymouth. The house has ever since been known as the Cushing Tavern (Map 136-044, photo #9). Four other Cushing houses were built in the 18th century, all by farmers who held town positions: Elisha Cushing (1682-1734), 692 Main Street (1715, Map 127-020, photo #2), was also a constable in 1716 and a church deacon. Pyam Cushing (1725-1776), 707-711 Main Street (1748, Map 126-052), was a Captain of the militia during the Revolutionary War and married General Benjamin Lincoln's daughter, Hannah. Jonathan Cushing (1759-1847), 659 Main Street (1788, Map 126-042), was a selectmen in 1804 and a representative from 1808 to 1813. The last Cushing house built in this century was by Seth Cushing (1769-1847) at 712 Main Street (1794, Map 137-005).

The underground Fulling Mill Aqueduct, 768 Main Street (Map 137-029) which extends from Fulling Mill Pond west to the wetland below 768 Main Street, is thought to have been constructed between 1725 and 1815. This industrial archaeological site, which lies partially in the district, is built of carefully chosen fieldstone and has walls seven feet high. The tentative conclusion is that it may have been built to bring water to mills which stood between Cushing and Fulling Mill Ponds, although some experts think the structure is a tail race for the mills rather than an aqueduct.⁴¹

An iron works was established early in the century and the versatile Jacob family began its tradition of blacksmithing. There are six surviving Jacob homes in the district; three were built in the 18th century. All Jacobs were descendants of Nicholas Jacob (d. 1657), an early planter who came to "Bare Cove" prior to the arrival of Rev. Peter Hobart in 1635. Peter Jacob (1701-??) 648 Main Street (c.1752, Map 127-008) was a dairy farmer, while his son John (1732-1806) began the family tradition of blacksmithing. John Jacob (1762-1847), 627 Main Street (1787, Map 117-040) was also a blacksmith, and George Lincoln described him as "highly respected as a neighbor and a citizen."⁴² Peter Jacob (1766-1810) 657 Main Street (1799, Map 126-041) was a selectman four times between 1797 and 1802.

Tanning and currying were carried out on the premises of Job Loring (1739-1825) at 771 Main Street (1728, Map 146-011). Shoe maker and Revolutionary soldier Amos Dunbar built 733 Main Street in 1781 (Map 136-036); while the other Dunbar house

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in the district is that of Seth Dunbar (1802-1868) who built 630 Main Street (Map 118-055) in the 1840s.

Others earned their living in 18th century South Hingham in a variety of occupations such as housewrights, coopers, and weavers.⁴³ The two new Wilder homes built were those of the well-known clockmaker Joshua Wilder (1786-1860, see "Nineteenth Century") at 605 Main Street (1760, Map 117-037) and Jabez Wilder at 557-9 Main Street (1761, Map 108-048, photo #4) who was a Hingham constable in 1764-5 and captain of the 3rd Company of the Second Suffolk Regiment in the Revolution. The house referred to as the Leavitt Tower House, 589 Main Street (1761, Map 117-026) was actually built by Isaiah Tower (1731-1811), a "cooper and trader," who took part in the war between the British and French in 1756, serving as a sailor on the *Sea Flower* in the Crown Point Expedition.

In the early 1700s inhabitants of South Hingham tried for over 20 years to separate from the First Parish in Hingham. Confident of eventual success they erected in 1742 a large meeting house on Glad Tidings Plain on land owned by Theophilus Cushing (1703-1779). On March 25, 1746, this parish was split off from the First Parish and at that time designated as the Third Parish, for Cohasset (the Second Parish) was still part of Hingham. In 1770 Cohasset was incorporated as an individual town and the Third Parish of Hingham became the Second Parish. In November 1746 the Second Parish Church at 685 Main Street (Map 126-047, photo#3) was officially dedicated.⁴⁴ The building served not only as a place of worship but also as the site of many town meetings between 1780 and 1844. Rev. Daniel Shute (1722-1802) was installed as the first minister on December 10, 1746. A staunch patriot, Rev. Shute took part in the framing of the Massachusetts Constitution and played an active role in the 1788 Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia. His home is located at 768 Main Street (1745, Map 137-029). There is one other Shute House in the district, that of carpenter Isaiah Shute at 693 Main Street (1878, Map 126-049), Rev. Shute's great-grandson.⁴⁵ Rev. Nicholas Whitney (1772-1835), second minister of the Second Parish Church (1800-1833) later built 670 Main Street (1801, Map 127-014). Rev. Whitney was a Harvard graduate, class of 1793, and later would serve as state representative in 1831-32. He shared the pulpit with the aging Rev. Shute for two years and also ran a private boys school at his residence.

A milestone at 685 Main Street (1754, Map 126-047) is sited in front of the Second

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Parish Church near the height of land on Glad Tidings plain, between two major granite outcroppings. Appearing to be oldest of Hingham's four milestones, it indicates 19 miles to the Boston Stone.

NINETEENTH CENTURY

The South Hingham district still retains traces of the mills that were located at the end of Mill Lane next to the 17th century dam and between the head race and tail race at the northern end of Cushing Pond. In the 19th century three major new industries appeared on the site: a bucket mill an edge tool works and a toy manufactory.

From earliest settlement one fo the principal non-agricultural South Hingham occupations was coopering. By the 19th century this had expanded from a cottage industry into the most important industry South Hingham had ever known; the products of these firms were widely known and extensively used. Buckets were the best-known 19th century product within the coopering industry and had become so pervasive by 1830 that Hingham acquired the name "Bucket Town."⁴⁶ According to local historian John Richardson, Hingham's history of bucket manufactory actually dates from one of its early settlers who brought the technique of bucket making from England in the 17th century.⁴⁷

Wilder's Wooden Ware Manufactory, which historian Donald Robinson calls "the most important cooperage manufacture in South Hingham" was first established near the corner of Main and Friend Streets by Crocker Wilder (1770-1847) in 1830. By 1845 his sons Crocker (1802-1875) and Alden (1804-1899) bought the Mill Lane site from the Cushing family, erecting their buildings on the site of the old grist and saw mills. Young Crocker's son, William Crocker Wilder (1829-1891), was also taken into partnership. The mill, also called C. Wilder & Sons, produced buckets, cedar pails and tubs, and by the 1860s was employing some 30 men. The firm was also the first to make pails with brass hoops and bails.⁴⁸ A lethal blow was dealt Hingham's bucket industry on Eastern Sunday 1902 when the Wilder Manufactory, termed "one of Hingham's pioneer and most successful industrial enterprises," burned to the ground and was not rebuilt.⁴⁹

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

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Both Crocker Wilder and his son William Crocker Wilder had houses in South Hingham. Crocker Wilder lived at 682 Main Street (1801, Map 127-016, photo #10) and William Crocker Wilder built 703 Main Street in 1857 (Map 126-051). These were two of the seven Wilder family houses built in the 19th century in the district.

William Crocker Wilder's aunt, Lydia Wilder (1801-??) was married to Elijah Whiton (1799-1871), 2-4 Friend Street (1857, Map 117-041) who was also engaged in wooden ware manufacture. Other "bucket-makers" who built houses in the district in the 1800s were William G. Cushing, 667 Main Street (1835, Map 126-043), and Pyam Cushing, 699 Main Street (1840, Map 126-050), who followed his father and namesake Pyam Cushing (1789-1865) into the trade. The Cushing family continued to dominate the district with 13 new homes being built this century. Closely related to the bucket industry were "set-work cooper" Daniel Bartlett (d. 1871) 565 Main Street (c. 1840, Map 108-047) and cooper Abner Thorn (1843-1914) at 749 Main Street (1880, Map 136-042, photo #9).

A third industry, an edge tool manufactory, made its appearance on the Mill Lane site in the second half of the 19th century operating from 1860 to 1883. An ironworks had been established in Hingham since 1703 which had brought about the manufacture of hammers, hatchets and other edged tools. This fine workmanship and quality found ready markets in the United States and as far away as South America and Australia.

Joseph Jacob (1804-1891), 649 Main Street (1822, Map 126-039) was the owner of one of Hingham's most prominent industrial firms, an edge tool manufactory. He commenced the manufacture of hammers in the rear of his house in 1836. First using horse power in 1837, later a steam engine in 1845, he initiated the manufacture of edge tools, the best known being "Jacob's Hatchets." His son, Joseph Jacob, Jr. (1828-1906) constructed 694 Main Street (1868, Map 127-021, photo #10), and his other son, Frederick joined the business, changing the name to Joseph Jacobs' Sons. By 1850 the firm employed 30 men and its products were sold all over the United States and abroad. In 1860 the firm moved to the Mill Lane site at Cushing Pond and operated there until 1883 when the works were sold to the Underhill Edge Tool Company of New Hampshire.⁵⁰ The third Jacob house built in 19th century South Hingham was that of George F. Jacob (1838-1901) at 658 Main Street (1874, Map 127-011), a shoemaker.

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John Hart (1831-1894?), 592 Main Street (c. 1888, Map 118-023), a native of Ireland and the first Hart in Hingham, was another edge tool maker, specializing in hatchets; his factory was destroyed by fire in 1870 and never rebuilt. Constable Charles R. Cook (1822-1902), who built 640 Main Street (Map 127-003) in 1820, was a blacksmith who kept a separate shop on his property until his retirement in 1899. A new family began building in South Hingham in the 19th century, the Fearings. Already well-known in West Hingham and Hingham Center, the Fearings are descended from John Fearing (d. 1665), a farmer who emigrated from Cambridge, England in 1638 and quickly became prominent as a selectman and deacon. Ezekial Fearing (1787-1865) 675 Main Street (1813, Map 126-044), a blacksmith, built one of the four Fearing homes in the district.

A steam-powered wooden toy manufactory was established by William S. and Charles S. Tower⁵¹ near the northern end of Cushing Pond at Mill Lane. The son of clock maker Reuben Tower, William S. Tower (b. 1826), 573 Main Street (c. 1850, Map 117-016) progressed from a simple beginning as a cooper to maintain agencies in New York and Chicago, and shipped not only toys but "miniature reproductions of chairs, tables, bureau, and sideboards to exceptional workmanship"⁵² all over the United States, Canada, and Europe. In 1878 Tower was awarded a Bronze Medal and diploma at the International Exposition in Paris.

The final commercial activity at Cushing Pond was George Hayward's ice company. To accommodate this, the dam had to be built higher to raise the pond's water level, increasing its yield and profitability.⁵³

Other important industries such as shoemaking/bookmaking, tanning and currying were located in or near the South Hingham District. Shoemaking was a major component of the economy in the 19th century. Initially the shoemaker did custom work in a small shop, perhaps with one other employee; this was followed by the factory system where shoes were produced in different sizes. According to an 1885 Directory, more South Hingham men were engaged in shoemaking than in any other industry, including farming. Calvin House Young, who built 754 Main Street (c. 1852, Map 137-014) was a bootmaker by trade, and at progressive stages in his life was listed as "works in boot factory," "finisher," and finally "cobbler." Another well-known South Hingham bootmaker was Peter Hersey III, 570 Main Street (c. 1833, Map 117-028) who kept his boot shop in a separate building south of the house which listed in the Tax Valuation of 1850 and survived until 1938. A longtime school committee member, he was elected vice-president of the South

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Hingham Total Abstinence Society in 1841. William Fearing (b. 1818) of 574 Main Street (c. 1838, Map 117-29E) was also a shoemaker. The Whitman Whitcomb & Co.'s boot and shoe manufactory stood directly across from the present 6 Friend Street (c. 1880, Map 117-042) from the 1860s to the 1880s, housing the Massachusetts Heel Co. 1888-1892, the Tower Toy Co. 1893-95 and Reed and Russell, featherbeds from 1895 until the building burned in 1899. A tanning and currying factory was located on the property of the Job Loring House, 771 Main Street (1728, Map 146-011).

Besides large and small factories there were many individual craftsmen in South Hingham, such as clockmakers Reuben Tower (1795-1881) at 583 Main Street (1815, Map 117-027) and Joshua Wilder (1786-1860) at 605 Main Street (1816, Map 117-037). Joshua Wilder was "the famed clock maker of Hingham,"⁵⁴ and made banjo clocks as well as dwarf, miniature and standard tall-case clocks.⁵⁵ As the tall-case (later called "grandfather") clocks were often too large for Cape Cod houses, Wilder was the first to build short-case, or "grandmother" clocks.⁵⁶ Ezra Wilder (1819-1886), Joshua's son, became a clock and watch repairer in the house he built as 567 Main Street (1841, Map 108-046).

There were also a group of mason, contractors and carpenters building homes with shops in the nineteenth century district. These included master mason Charles Whiting Cushing (1811-1898) 748 Main Street (1850, Map 137-013), a Representative in 1850 and 1851 and well-known in Hingham for his horticultural pursuits, particularly in fruits; master carpenter Isaac H. Cushing (1826-1897) 737 Main Street (1858, Map 136-038) and carpenter Edward Wilder (1781-1852) 688 Main Street (1805, Map 1217-019, photo #10) who kept his shop on the premises and later built 720 Main Street (1837, Map 137-007). Edward Wilder's son, Edward Wilder (1819-1860), built a house and shop at 704 Main Street (1848, Map 137-002). James S. Beal (1812-1883) 638 Main Street (1838, Map 127-001), was a "housewright" as well as a master carpenter and trustee of the Wilder Charitable Fund.

In contrast to the eighteenth century, very few Hingham citizens building new homes listed farming as their occupation. Two exceptions were Seth Cushing, Jr. (1769-1847) builder of 712 Main Street (map 137-002) in 1794, 726 Main Street (Map 137-009) in 1819 and 718 Main Street (1830, Map 137-006), who was listed solely as a farmer as well as a deacon, and Washington L. Fearing (1846- ??) at 532 Main Street (1890, Map 108-051).

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Other farmers who had dual occupations or who changed to a new career later in the century were Crocker Wilder (1770-1847) at 682 Main Street (1801, Map 127-016, **photo #10**) a farmer and teacher in the public school, William Torrey (1797-1875) at 608 Main Street (1820, Map 118-050), Barn, 606 Main Street (c. 1840, Map 118-048), a farmer and butcher who in the 1850 Tax Valuation list had a house, barn, cow barn, slaughter house and woodshed, and John Cushing (1808-1886) 700 Main Street (1839, Map 137-028), a farmer and shoe maker who served as Representative in 1873-74. Another butcher in the district, Henry Ripley (1809-1877) at 562 Main Street (c. 1840, Map 108-049) was so well-known that his stretch of Main Street became called Ripley Hill. All of Ripley's sons were butchers and their slaughter house was on the premises.

A post office was located at one time in the ell of the Seth Cushing House, 712 Main Street (1794, Map 137-005) and later at the store built by "trader" and "postmaster" Quincy Lane (1793-1866) at 650 Main Street (1833, Map 127-009). Quincy Lane had his place of residence at 676 Main Street (1891, Map 127-015) and his son Josiah Lane (1821-1901) built nearby at 654 Main Street (1846, Map 127-010).

There were additional shops in the area, one being the former Alonzo Cushing Store, 738 Main Street (1850s, Map 137-011). Cushing was a prominent Hingham businessman, Director of the Hingham Savings Bank and the Hingham Insurance Company. 738 Main Street was a former carpenters shop on his property across the street, 741 Main Street (1850, Map 136-039, **photo #6**) which Cushing moved to its present location; later in life he built 662 Main Street (1890, Map 127-012).⁵⁷ "Trader" Henry Cushing (1798-1864) built his home at 727 Main Street (1822, Map 136-034). He was a selectman and representative in 1837-39 and his store was described as "crammed full of goods in that orderly disorder which shows business and skill."⁵⁸ The Seth S. Hersey House, 632 Main Street (1818, Map 118-056) and the Peter Hersey III House, 570 Main Street (c.1833, Map 117-028) were both built by descendants of William Hersey (1657-58) the original founder of the Hersey family in America, who emigrated from Berkshire, England to Hingham in 1635. The prominent Seth S. Hersey (1790-1878) was by occupation a trader, although the 1867 Directory lists him as "Gentleman." Known as "Captain" Hersey, he fought in the War of 1812 and was also president of the Hingham Mutual Fire Insurance Company and director of the Hingham Bank. Other "traders" building homes in the district in the 1800s were Edmund French (1819-1858) 745 Main Street (1850, Map 136-040, **photo #9**) and commission merchant Seth B. Cushing (1812-1854) 718

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Main Street (1830s, Map 137-006). There is still a functioning store at 613 Main Street (c. 1850, Map 117-039), probably built by the Hingham clockmaker Joshua Wilder (1786-1860).

A major event in 19th century South Hingham was the erection of Wilder Memorial Hall, 666 Main Street (1878, Map 127-013, photo #8). Designed by Gridley J.F. Bryant (1816-1899) this community hall was dedicated to the memory of carriageman Martin Wilder (1790-1854), whose legacies greatly benefited the town. He established the Wilder Charitable Trust which, among other endeavors, helped young mechanics purchase tools to set up in business. For many years Wilder Memorial Hall was the center of social, educational, and community activities in South Hingham.⁵⁹

TWENTIETH CENTURY

Reflecting the ending of agriculture and industry, the mills and Cushing Pond and Mill Lane fell silent and either burned or were taken down. While there has been limited residential development along Mill Lane and at the mill sites, much land remains in forests and open space, some of it protected as conservation acreage. Visible reminders of the area's prosperity are the 17th century dam, the bridge (**photo #11**) and the head race and tail race. Part of a mill's foundation remains in the sluiceway leading from Cushing Pond to the Crooked Meadow River.⁶⁰ Adding to the ambiance of the mill site is a small privately owned water-powered grist mill, built in 1960.

As South Hingham evolved into a suburban residential area, still the old South Hingham families continued to build in the district. A new Cushing house, belonging to Elijah Cushing rose at 735 Main Street (1924, Map 136-037) and Edward F. Wilder built a new home at 4 High Street (1901, Map #117-032).

The twentieth century saw an important addition to religious structures in the district: the Whiting Chapel, High Street Cemetery, (1905, Map 117-018), summer resident Albert Turner Whiting's most outstanding contribution to the town. Albert Whiting, a "businessman of reputation," was Chairman of the Boston Board of Police Commissioners and a director of the Nantasket Steamboat Company.⁶¹ The Chapel was designed by Hingham architect J. Sumner Fowler and built by Edward W. Bartlett; it was dedicated on May 6, 1906.

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The town's appreciation of its South Hingham Main Street grew, culminating in a major preservation effort in the last quarter of the 20th century. Three Local Historic Districts were formed, the Glad Tidings LHD in 1975, the Tower-Wilder LHD in 1987 and a Tower-Wilder District extension the following year. A monumental effort by the Hingham Conservation Land Trust, the Hingham Conservation Commission and private donors has paralleled the local historic districts effort. The 50-acre Jacobs Meadow Area, the 19-acre Mildred Cushing Woods, the small but crucial Meadow River Area and 13 acres owned by the Land Trust and Conservation Commission total over 83 acres. This means that more than a third of the district's acreage lies in conservation land, all of it acquired in the twentieth century.

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of prehistoric settlement and subsistence in Hingham are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Prehistoric sites in this area can contribute important information on coastal adaptations and how sites in the Hingham area differed from more inland locations, particularly during the Transitional Archaic through Woodland Periods. Prehistoric sites in the district may contain information which helps better understand the relationships between sites in the Boston Harbor Islands and mainland sites especially during the Late Woodland Period as population expanded and arable coastal land became scarcer. Prehistoric sites in this area may also contain information which helps better understand the socio-political relationships between important late prehistoric and Contact Period Native core areas in the Greater Boston locale and those to the south in the Plmouth area. Prehistoric sites in this area may contain information relating to lithic technologies in use in the area and the importance of Boston area lithics to those technologies. Evidence can be present in the area which helps to better define quarrying strategies, reduction sequences and associated patterns of workshop sites.

Historic archaeological resources described above have the potential to provide detailed information on the social, cultural and economic characteristics which typified a New England coastal community as it evolved from a small 17th century agricultural settlement into a thriving 19th century community with a new emphasis on commerce and manufacturing. Further documentary research combined with archaeological survey and testing can help reconstruct the complete layout of the

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17th century district settlement for which only three dwellings exist today. This research can be assisted by elements of the 17th century landscape which still exists in the form of the original pattern of 17th century land distribution along segments of the Main Street corridor. Archaeological testing at the original Theophilus Cushing house site(1687) can determine the extent to which its original foundation or other structural features survive after its separation from a later addition in 1900 and placement on a new foundation. Detailed examination of this data can provide information relating to 17th century techniques and materials used for construction. Similar information can also be obtained for 18th century components in the district. Archaeological research can expand our knowledge of the district beyond its architectural components to include farmsteads and residences no longer extant. This data can also contribute information on 18th century techniques and materials of construction and, the extent to which these technologies changed over the earlier period. Important information may also be present indicating functional change within residences and outbuildings as manufacturing and other commercial ventures were incorporated into an agricultural economy of diminishing importance. Manufacturing and industry which occurred in residences and outbuildings during the 18th and early 19th centuries established the base for larger enterprises which occurred later in the 19th century. Detailed analysis of occupational related features can contribute important information on these changes by linking individuals and their families with greater social, economic and political change in the district and town community. Analysis of structures and occupational related features may contain information which indicates the importance of maritime commerce to the increase of industry and manufacturing in the district during the 18th and 19th centuries.

Archaeological evidence of 19th century residences and outbuildings can also contribute important information on the district's settlement and economic growth, however, industrial resources may now represent the most important archaeological components in the district. Potential archaeological sites in the Mill Lane area of the district can document the growth of industry from local needs employing few individuals in the 17th century to commercial industrial enterprises employing numerous individuals in the 19th century. Detailed analysis of these sites can contribute a wide variety of information relating to water power technologies and the technologies used for each of these manufacturers including grist mill, saw mill and fulling mill operations, cooperage, edge tool manufacture, toys and furniture manufacture. Smaller industrial and manufacturing enterprises elsewhere along the Main Street corridor can also contribute important information relating to the

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technologies in use and products manufactured in the district. Detailed analysis of structural remains from outbuildings and occupational related features can contribute information on textile manufacture, blacksmithing, shoe and boot manufacture, clock and watch repair and slaughter house operations. Evidence of trading activities may also be present.

Detailed analysis of burials from the High Street Cemetery can also contribute a wealth of information relating to 17th century and later life in the district. This information can help reconstruct details of general health for the local population including common pathologies for different stages of history and general causes of death in the community. Information can be present which indicates how patterns of health may have differed for various members of the community possibly based on social status in the community. Information can also be present indicating how the community in general treated it's less fortunate or indigent members both before and after death.

While considerable information exists in the district which identifies several known and potential historic archaeological sites, documentation of these resources and their integrity are goals which remain to be accomplished. Each individual property along Main Street represents a potential archaeological site with examples from the 17th through 20th centuries. Providing landscaping and other structural modifications have been minimal since their construction, each property, particularly those from the 17th, 18th, and early 19th centuries can contain a variety of archaeological resources characterized primarily by outbuildings and occupational related features(trash pits, privies, wells). A minimal amount of archaeological testing for specific properties can verify their integrity on a case by case basis. Documentation and integrity are also goals which remain to be accomplished for the industrial complex off Mill Lane. Intense industrial use of this area has obscured the exact locations for various mill structures both horizontally and in a stratified context. While we know generally what occurred within the area as a whole, corollations between specific mills and visible stonework, including waterwork structures is more difficult to determine. This problem is compounded when several mills are built on the same site. Integrity of the mills also continues to be a problem at the Mill Lane site. A contemporary residence in the vicinity of the mills and dam combined with a tennis court in the area and a reconstruction of the bucket mill may have impacted some of the historic mill sites in the area. Archaeological testing in these areas can help document the extent of these potential impacts and areas of fill which may also exist.

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- ¹ History of the Town of Hingham, Massachusetts, vol. I, part 1, p.3
 - ² Interview with Philip Swanson, Hingham geologist, November 9, 1995
 - ³ History of the Town of Hingham, Massachusetts, vol. I, part 1 Map: "Geology of Hingham," p. 3
 - ⁴ *Ibid*, p. 231
 - ⁵ Richardson Historical Hingham Archival Collection, copy of c.1690-3 plan "The great lots on the Great Plain" drawn by Daniel Cushing. See attached
 - ⁶ *Ibid*
 - ⁷ Peter Benes, New England Prospect... (1981), p. xvi
 - ⁸ Report of the Selectmen of The Financial Affairs of the Town of Hingham, 1833, 1849-1952. Located in Town Clerk's Office, Hingham Town Hall
 - ⁹ Mason Foley, Hingham Old and New (1935), p. 25
 - ¹⁰ Hingham Open Space and Recreation Plan, 1987 Update, p. 3
 - ¹¹ John Richardsdon Historical Hingham Archival Collection: copy of 1680 granting of rights to Capt. John Jacob to construct Cushing Pond.
 - ¹² Ernest A. Conally. "The Cape Cod House: An Introductory Study," Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians 19, no. 2 (May 1960), p. 1
 - ¹³ See: The Barn, Arthur and Whitney (1972); Barns of the Genesee Country, 1790-1815, Fink (1987); Barns, Sheds and Outbuildings, Halsted (1977); Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn, Hubka (1984); Barns, Their History, Preservation and Restoration, Klankin (1966); An Age of Barns, Sloan (1976); and Field Guide to New England Barns and Farm Buildings, Visser (1997).
 - ¹⁴ Quincy Patriot-Ledger, April 25, 1975
 - ¹⁵ Portions of the material in this essay are based on the excellent "Historical Data and Folklore," by Elizabeth T. Emerson in the "Glad Tidings Historic District Study Committee Report," 1975. Also, see engraving of "Glad Tidings Rock" by Wallace Corthell, dating from 1893 or before in George Lincoln, History of the Town of Hingham (1893), vol. I, part 1, p. 195.
 - ¹⁶ Solomon Lincoln, History of the Town of Hingham... (1827), p. 83.
 - ¹⁷ "Glad Tidings District Study Committee Report," 1975. Footnote #4, p. 3 : "This recorded in page ye 119 of ye Little Book" from information that J. Tweedy has in his records."
 - ¹⁸ Hingham, MA. Town Report, 1849. "Names of Streets, Lanes, Plains and Bridges as Established by the Town, May 7, 1827, and Since that Time," p. 26.
 - ¹⁹ Lorena Laing and Francis R. Hart, Not All is Changed: A Life History of Hingham (1993), p. 171
 - ²⁰ Mason A. Foley, Hingham, Old and New (1935), p. 25, 40
 - ²¹ *Italics*, Fannin/Lehner
 - ²² H. Leavett Horton, "Aspects of a New England Town," (1945), p. 3
 - ²³ Elizabeth Coatsworth, South Shore Town (1948), p. viii
 - ²⁴ Myron Ray Clark, "Autobiographical Notes," (1968), p. 28
 - ²⁵ Winston Hall, "By the Wayside," (1984), p. 19
 - ²⁶ Town Meeting, May 3, 1680, as recorded by Daniel Cushing, Clerk
 - ²⁷ George Lincoln, History of the Town of Hingham: The Genealogies, vol. 3 (1893/1982), pp. 372-4
 - ²⁸ Solomon Lincoln Jr. History of the Town of Hingham... (1827), p. 138

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- ²⁹ History of the Town of Hingham (1893), vol. I, part 1, p. 250
- ³⁰ See "A Map of Hingham Surveyed by Jedediah Lincoln and Reuben Hersey Jr in 1830."
- ³¹ Edna Scofield, "The Origina of Settlement Patterns in Rural New England," Geographical Review 28 (1938), pp. 652-53, noted in Benes, New England Prospect... (1980), p. 57
- ³² History of the Town of Hingham (1893), vol. I, part 1, p. 233
- ³³ Benes, New England Prospect... (1981), p. 77-8.
- ³⁴ "Parklands for the Public" map. Hingham Land Conservation Trust (1993). Area 49.
- ³⁵ "Glad Tidings Historic District Study Committee Report," (1975), p. 4
- ³⁶ Hingham Historical Society, "Annual Pilgrimage to Old Hingham Houses," 1985
- ³⁷ George Lincoln, History of the Town of Hingham: The Genealogies, vol. III (1892/1982), pp. 251-53
- ³⁸ John P. Richardson, Historical Hingham Archival Collection.
- ³⁹ Donald F. Robinson, Two Hundred Years in South Hingham: 1746-1946 (1980), p. 28
- ⁴⁰ John P. Richardson, Historical Hingham Archival Collection
- ⁴¹ John P. Richardson, Chairman Hingham Historical Commission. Letter to John O. Curtis, Old Sturbridge Village, May 21, 1980. Hingham Historical Commission files.
- ⁴² George Lincoln, History of the Town of Hingham: The Genealogies (1892/1982), vol. II, p. 371
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- ⁵¹ Charles W. Eddy, Hingham Illustrated with Pen and Camera (1885)
- ⁵² Donald F. Robinson, Two Hundred Years in South Hingham: 1746-1946, p. 113
- ⁵³ Tim Jumper, "The Industries of South Hingham," Out of the Ordinary (1992), p. 3
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- ⁵⁵ See William H. Distin and Robert Bishop, The American Clock (1976), pp. 77-78, 80-81, 232 and Antiques (May 1937), pp. 244-45.
- ⁵⁶ Winston Hall, "Hingham Portrait Gallery" (1922), p. 6
- ⁵⁷ Biographical Review Containing Life Sketches of Leading Citizens of Plymouth County, Massachusetts, vol. XVIII (1897), pp. 308-09
- ⁵⁸ Hingham Journal, March 5, 1858
- ⁵⁹ Donald F. Robinson, Two Hundred Years in South Hingham: 1746-1946 (1980), p. 204
- ⁶⁰ Hingham Journal, February 6, 1975
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Hingham (Plymouth), Massachusetts

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South Hingham HD
Name of Property

Plymouth, MA
County, State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 224.45 acres

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 19 344300 4675840
Zone Easting Northing

3. 19 344490 4674990
Zone Easting Northing

2. 19 344400 4675860
Zone Easting Northing

4. 19 345190 4675000
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 Fannin/Monique Lehner, Preservation Consultants, with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date May 1998

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

city or town Boston state Massachusetts zip code 02125-3314

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

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

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

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

Property Owner

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

name multiple

street & number telephone

city or town state zip code

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Hingham (Plymouth Co.), Massachusetts

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM REFERENCES

	Zone 19	Easting	Northing
5.		345190	4674500
6.		344500	4673980
7.		344320	4673940
8.		343920	4674060
9.		344360	4675160
10.		343900	4675320
11.		343840	4675490
12.		344190	4675730

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundaries of the National Register designation for the South Hingham National Register District are outlined on the attached map prepared for the Massachusetts Historical Commission and the Hingham Historical Commission. The district starts at the northernmost point, the Tower Homestead, 528 Main Street (108-052), and beginning its gradual ascent up the Great Plain, proceeds directly south, encompassing both sides of Main Street until it reaches the Job Loring Barn, 781 Main Street (146-048), the southernmost terminus.

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Hingham (Plymouth Co.), Massachusetts**

Moving clockwise along the east side of Main Street, the district begins at the northern boundary of 528 Main Street (108-052), following the back lot lines through 536 Main Street (108-050). At this point the boundary cuts straight across a large lot at 540 Main Street (109-020), passes over Tower Brook and another sizeable lot at 556 Main Street (109-004) to rejoin the rear lot lines of 562 Main Street (108-049) and 566 Main Street (108-084). The boundary turns east to traverse around the back lines of the lots belonging to 570 Main Street (117-028) and 578 Main Street (117-030). The district border, continuing south, follows rear boundary lines from 586 Main Street (117-031), crossing Free Street, to 600 Main Street (118-047/048B). At 606 Main Street (118-048) the district line cuts across its back lot, then follows the lot line of 608 Main Street (118-050) and passes over the Crooked Meadow River. The boundary then follows the east lot line of 2 Crooked Meadow Lane (118-053), crosses the Lane to 630 Main Street (118-055). At 632 Main Street (118-056) the line hews to the back boundary, jogging east, then south to join the north boundary of 648 Main Street (127-008). The district follows the extended north edge of 648 Main Street all the way to Fulling Mill Brook. The line follows the Brook south, incorporating the rear lot lines of the smaller lots along Main Street, 650 Main Street (127-014) to 670 Main Street (127-014) and 682 Main Street (127-016) to 694 Main Street (127-021) as well as the extended lots, including the Jacobs Meadow Area and other conservation land, which run to the Fulling Mill Brook. The boundary turns west after leaving Fulling Mill Brook, along the lot line leading to the rear boundary of 712 Main Street (137-005), outlines the back lot lines of 720 Main Street (137-007) and 726 Main Street (137-009) along with 730 Main Street (137-010) and the back property line of 738 Main Street (137-011). The boundary line travels along the rear property line of the large lots at 748 Main Street (137-013) and 754 Main Street (137-014), connecting with the property lines of 764 Main Street (137-015), crosses South Pleasant Street to 768 Main Street (137-029), whose plot defines the southeastern termination point of the district.

Continuing clockwise, to begin its run north up the west side of Main Street, the District border drops south from 768 Main Street (137-029) and crosses Main Street to meet the district's southernmost Main Street property line of 781 Main Street (146-048). The boundary then follows the outline of the 781 Main Street property and passes over to Cushing Street, to the back property lines from 767 Main Street (136-047) to 761 Main Street (136-046). The district's edge then goes directly west to the east shore of Cushing Pond following the northern boundary of the 19-acre Mildred Cushing Woods Area, including a small rectangular parcel (136-051) that

(continues)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 3

South Hingham Historic District
Hingham (Plymouth Co.), Massachusetts

provides direct access to the conservation area from Cushing Street. The line tracks north along the shore of Cushing Pond, passing by the west lot line of 30 Mill Lane (136-027) and going to the west of the house and old mill site at 36 Mill Lane (136-025) and follows the shore to the Crooked Meadow River, encompassing the small Crooked Meadow River Area. The boundary continues to follow rear property lines, defined by the Crooked Meadow River, from 649 Main Street (126-039) all the way to 627 Main Street (117-040). The district continues heading north along the back property lines of 2-4 Friend Street (117-041) and 6 Friend Street (117-042). After crossing Friend Street, the district's edge is defined by the southern and western property lines of 597 Main Street (117-036), then along the back lot line of 4 High Street (117-032) to the southern lot line of High Street Cemetery (117-018) where the boundary turns west to include the large lot at the back of the cemetery. The boundary then follows the rear property lines of 567 Main Street (108-046) and 565 Main Street (108-047), continuing along the rear of the large lots of 549 Main Street (108-083) and 5453 Main Street (108-001) to the property line of 537 Main Street (108-002). The boundary then makes a jog across Main Street to join the beginning of the district, the northern boundary of 528 Main Street (108-052).

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The eastern and western borders of the South Hingham National Register Historic District are for the most part delineated by water boundaries. To the west, the border starts at almost the southernmost point of the eastern shore of Cushing Pond, continuing north to 36 Mill Lane (Map 136-025), where a 17th century dam controls the flow of water from Cushing Pond to the Crooked Meadow River. The western boundary then continues directly north along the Crooked Meadow River up to Friend Street where the River turns directly east. Another body of water, Tower Brook, named for the early settlers of the Tower family, lies just south of the northernmost point of the District.

Fulling Mill Brook forms much of the eastern edge of the district. Of particular historical importance is the fact that the Brook was, in the 17th and 18th centuries, the eastern boundary of the 3-plus furlongs-long fields behind the homes on the east side of Main Street. The Daniel Cushing map shows lots measured in furlong lengths (660') from South Pleasant Street to the Crooked Meadow River. The use of long and narrow lots "was probably a combination of two factors. First is the relative simplicity of running parallel lines. More important is the transference of

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 10 Page 4South Hingham Historic District
Hingham (Plymouth Co.), Massachusetts

open-field lot division in England to solve land distribution and measurement needs in New England. In order to reduce the number of turnabouts made by a plowman and his team, English open-field cultivation rights were assigned in narrow strips of furlong lengths (220 yards)."¹ The configuration of these furlong lots are still in evidence in the district, and exist either as private fields owned by Main Street residents or preserved in large tracts of conservation land such as the 50-acre Jacobs Meadow Area. Other significant conservation areas in the district are the Mildred Cushing Woods and the smaller Crooked Meadow River Area. In addition to these named areas there is much conservation land in the district owned by the Hingham Conservation Land Trust or the Hingham Conservation Commission.

The district is also defined by Glad Tidings Plain, composed of granite, felsite and dorite. The 1893 History of the Town of Hingham (p. 3) notes that "the settlements of the town rest upon four surfaces of elevations" ascending from lowest to highest elevation they are: harbor, Lower Plain, Glad Tidings Plain and Liberty Plain. In Glad Tidings Plain the district stretches north to south from the 1664 Tower Homestead, 528 Main Street to the Rev. Daniel Shute House at 768 Main Street.

The South Hingham District is the second phase of a National Register program running the length of Main Street, which forms the north/south spine of the Town. The Lincoln NR District was the first phase; it includes the northernmost portion to 269 Main Street. Future Main Street districts would include Lower Plain (Main Street between the Lincoln and South Hingham districts) and Liberty Plain (from the southern boundary of the South Hingham district to Queen Anne's Corner). It should also be noted that the South Hingham District can also be extended east and west along the historic cross roads of High, Free, Friend, Cushing and South Pleasant Streets.

¹ Peter Benes, New England prospect.... (1981), pp. 77-78

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Continuation Sheet

Section number photos Page 1

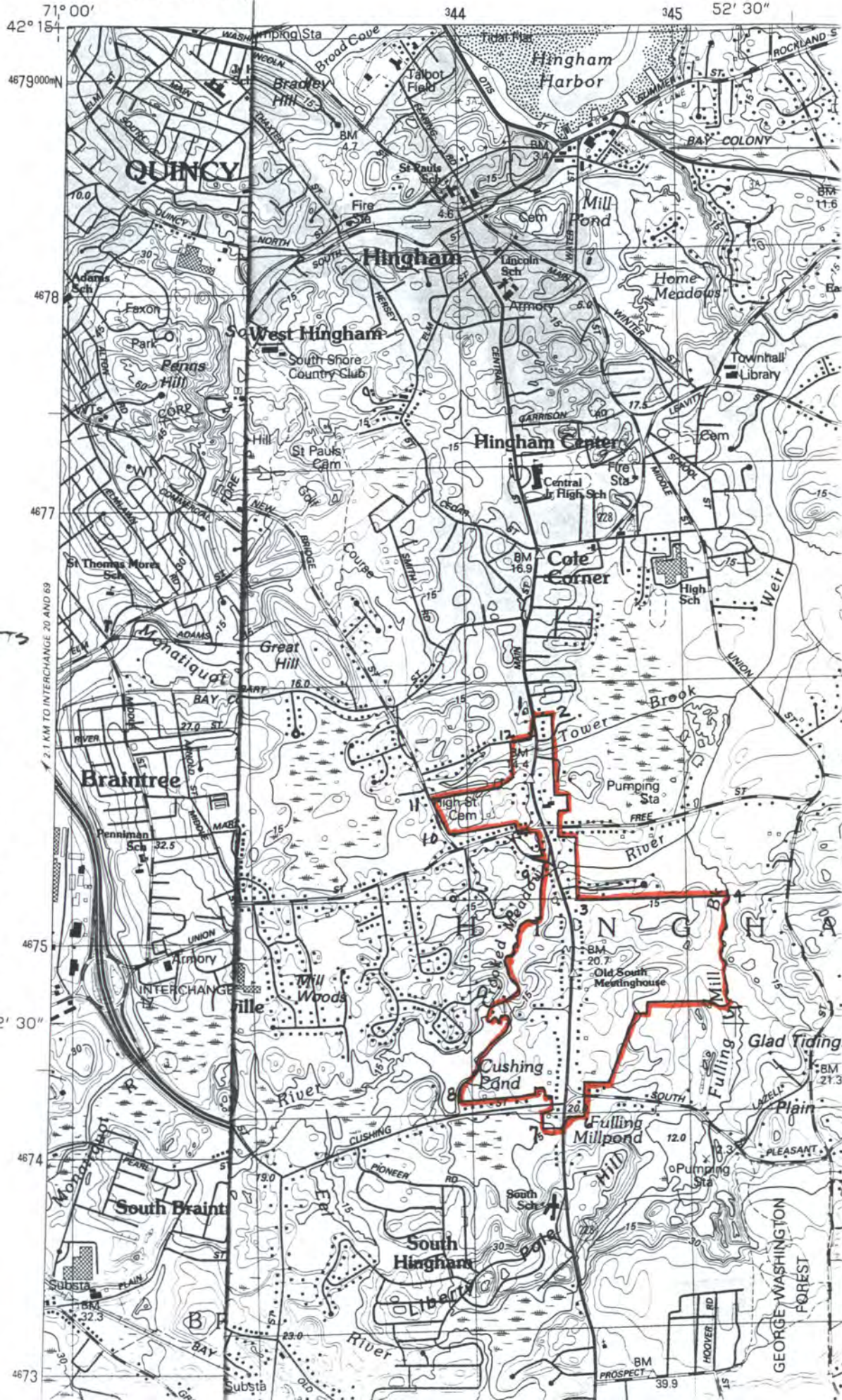
South Hingham Historic District
Hingham (Plymouth Co.), Massachusetts

PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Tower Homestead, 528 Main Street. [Facade, west elevation. North side elevation, looking SE]
2. Elisha Cushing House and Barn, 692 Main Street. [Facade, west elevation. North side elevation, looking E]
3. Second parish Church, 685 Main Street. [Facade, east elevation. South side elevation, looking NW]
4. Jabez Wilder House, 557 Main Street. [Facade, east elevation, looking W]
5. Henry Cushing House and Barn, 727 Main Street. [Facade, east elevation. South side elevation, looking NW]
6. Alonzo Cushing House and Barn, 741 Main Street. [Facade, east elevation. South side elevation, looking NW]
7. Isaac Cushing House and Barn, 737 Main Street. [Facade, east elevation. South side elevation, looking NW]
8. Wilder Memorial, 666 Main Street. [Facade, west elevation. South side elevation, looking NE]
9. Main Street streetscape, west side, looking northwest, left to right:
 - Cushing Tavern, 757 Main Street
 - Theophilus Cushing House, 753 Main Street
 - Abner Thorn House, 749 Main Street
 - Edmund French House, 745 Main Street
10. Main Street Streetscape, east side, looking northeast, right to left
 - Joseph Jacob, Jr. House, 694 Main Street
 - Elisha Cushing House, 692 Main Street
 - Edward Wilder House, 688 Main Street
 - Crocker Wilder House, 682 Main Street
11. Dam and Bridge, 36 Mill Lane. [North side of Dam and Bridge, looking S]

(end)

WEYMOUTH,



WEYMOUTH MASSACHUSETTS

1:25000 - scale metric

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

SOUTH HINGHAM
NATIONAL REGISTER
HISTORIC DISTRICT
HINGHAM MASSACHUSETTS

1. 19 344300 4675840
2. 19 344400 4675860
3. 19 344490 4674990
4. 19 345190 4675000
5. 19 345190 4674500
6. 19 344500 4673980
7. 19 344320 4673940
8. 19 343920 4679060
9. 19 344360 4675160
10. 19 343900 4675320
11. 19 343840 4675490
12. 19 344190 4675730

MAP/LOT #	INVENTORY #	HISTORIC NAME	STREET ADDRESS	DATE	STATUS	STYLE	RESOURCE
118-053	67	Francis J. Fearing	2 Crooked Meadow Lane	1878	C	Traditional	B
136-063	-	Mildred Cushing Woods Town of Hingham Conser. Land	27R Cushing Street	n/a	C	n/a	Si
136-035/ 136-051	- -	Town of Hingham Conser. Land	37 Cushing Street	n/a	C	n/a	Si
117-041	227	Elijah Whiton	2-4 Friend Street	1857	C	Greek Revival	B
		Barn		1860s	C	Traditional	B
117-042	228	Michael Dunn	6 Friend Street	c.1880	C	Traditonal	B
117-018	802	High Street Cemetery Office/Storage	High Street	1688 1870s	C C	n/a Gothic Revival	Si B
	310	Whiting Memorial Chapel	High Street	1905	C	Gothic Revival	B
117-032	311	Edward F. Wilder Garage	4 High Street	1901 1937	C C	Shingle Traditional	B B
136-048C		Crooked Meadow River Area (Town of Hingham Conservation)	Off Main Street	n/a	C	n/a	Si
108-052	567	Tower Homestead	528 Main Street	1664	C	Cape Cod	B
108-051	568	Wash. I. Fearing	532 Main Street	1890	C	Greek Revival	B

		Garage		1940s	C	Traditional	B
108-050	569		536 Main Street	c.1850	C	Cape Cod	B
		Stable		1960s	NC	Traditional	B
108-002		Vacant Land	537 Main Street	n/a	n/a	n/a	V
109-020		Vacant Land	540 Main Street	n/a	n/a	n/a	V
108-001		Vacant Land	543 Main Street	n/a	n/a	n/a	V
108-083			549 Main Street	1977	NC	Cape Cod Revival	B
109-004		Vacant Land	556 Main Street	n/a	n/a	n/a	V
108-048	570	Jabez Wilder Corn Barn	557-559 Main Street	1761	C	Cape Cod	B
				1840s	C	Traditional	B
108-049	571	Henry Ripley Carriage House	562 Main Street	c.1840	C	Cape Cod	B
				1930s	C	Traditional	B
108-047	572	Daniel Bartlett Garage	565 Main Street	c.1840	C	Greek Revival	B
		Sheds (Two)		c.1935	C	Traditional	B
				c.1935	NC	Utilitarian	B
108-084	573		566 Main Street	1985	NC	Colonial Revival	B
108-046	574	Ezra Wilder Barn	567 Main Street	1841	C	Greek Revival	B
				1840s	C	Traditional	B
117-028	575	Peter Hersey III Carriage House	570 Main Street	c.1833	C	Cape Cod	B
				1929	C	Traditional	B

117-016	576	Wm. S. Tower	573 Main Street	c.1850	C	Greek Revival	B
117-29E		William Fearing Garage	574 Main Street	c.1838 1940s	C C	Cape Cod Traditional	B B
117-017	578		577 Main Street	1960	NC	Col Rev/Gambrel	B
117-030	579	South Shore Baptist,	578 Main Street	1956	NC	Colonial Revival	B
117-027	580	Reuben Tower Garage	583 Main Street	1815 1968	C NC	Cape Cod Traditional	B B
117-031		Church Parking Lot	586 Main Street	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
117-026	581	Leavitt Tower Garage	589 Main Street	1761 1920	C C	Cape Cod Traditional	B B
118-023	582	John Hart Farm Building	592 Main Street	c.1880 1880s	C C	Greek Revival Traditional	B B
117-036	583	Edward Wilder Guest Cottage Garage	597 Main Street	1650 c.1875 1972	C C NC	Colonial Traditional Traditional	B B B
118-046	584		598 Main Street	1940	C	Cape Cod Revival	B
118-047/ 118-048B	585		600 Main Street	1850	C	Cape Cod	B
117-037	586	Joshua Wilder	605 Main Street	c.1760	C	Cape Cod	B

118-048	587	Wm. Torrey Barn	606 Main Street	1840s	C	Traditional	B
118-050	588	William Torrey	608 Main Street	1820	C	Federal	B
117-038/ 117-039	589	Barn	613 Main Street	c.1840 1840s	C C	Trad/Com Traditional	B B
118-051	590		620 Main Street	1967	NC	Traditional	B
118-052	591	Chauncey Burr Garage	626 Main Street	1911 1930s	C C	Col Rev/Four Traditional	B B
117-040	592	John Jacob Garage	627 Main Street	1787 1920s	C C	Cape Cod Traditional	B B
126-037	593		629 Main Street	1840s	C	Colonial Revival	B
118-055	594	Seth Dunbar Storage House	630 Main Street	1840s 1840s	C C	Cape Cod Traditional	B B
118-056	595	Seth S. Hersey Garage/Office	632 Main Street	1818 1850s/ 1978	C C	Federal Traditional	B B
127-001	596	James S. Beal Swimming Pool	638 Main Street	1838 1985	C NC	Greek Revival n/a	B S
126-038/ 126-038A	597		639 Main Street	1959	NC	Gambrel Cottage	B
127-003	598	Charles R. Cook Garage	640 Main Street	1820 1890s	C C	Federal Traditional	B B

127-026		Town of Hingham Conservation	640R Main Street	n/a	C	n/a	Si
127-004/ 127-008	599	Peter Jacob Garage	648 Main Street	1752 1930s	C C	Colonial Traditional	B B
127-027/ 127-028		Town of Hingham Conservation	648R Main Street	n/a	C	n/a	Si
126-039	600	Joseph Jacob Barn Barn Pool House	649 Main Street	1822 1850s 1890s 1975	C C C NC	Federal Traditonal Traditional Utilitarian	B B B S
127-009	601	Quincy Lane Garage	650 Main Street	1833 1970	C NC	Traditional Traditional	B B
126-040	602	Daniel Jacob Garage	651 Main Street	1801 1920s	C C	Colonial Style Traditional	B B
127-010	603	Josiah Lane Barn Swimming Pool	654 Main Street	1846 1952 1988	C NC NC	Greek Revival Traditional n/a	B B S
127-023		Vacant Land	654R Main Street	n/a	n/a	n/a	V
127-024		Jacobs Meadow Area (Hingham Land Conser. Trust)	654R Main Street	n/a	C	n/a	Si
126-041	604	Peter Jacob Garage	657 Main Street	1799 1950	C NC	Gambrel Cottage Traditional	B B

DISTRICT DATA SHEET

SOUTH HINGHAM NAT. REGIS. DIST.

2/11/98

127-011	605	George F. Jacob	658 Main Street	1874	C	Italianate	B
126-042	606	Jonathan Cushing Garage	659 Main Street	1788 1960s	C NC	Federal Traditional	B B
127-012	607	Alonzo Cushing Garage	662 Main Street	1890 1960	C NC	Italianate Traditional	B B
127-013	608	Wilder Memorial Garage	666 Main Street	1878 1970s	C NC	Second Empire Utilitarian	B B
126-043	609	Wm. G. Cushing Carriage House Summer House Shed	667 Main Street	1835 1870s 1920s 1920s	C C C NC	Federal Traditional Traditional Utilitarian	B B B B
127-014	610	Nicholas Whitney Garage	670 Main Street	1801 1900s	C NC	Colonial Style Utilitarian	B B
126-044	611	Ezekiel Fearing Garage	675 Main Street	1813 1930s	C C	Federal Traditional	B B
127-015	612	Quincy Lane Garage	676 Main Street	1819 1930s	C C	Federal Traditional	B B
126-045	613	Caleb Stoddard Barn	679 Main Street	1826 1840s	C C	Federal Traditional	B B
126-046	614	Jeremiah Gardner Barn/Residence	681 Main Street	1823 1850s/ 1948	C C	Cape Cod Traditional	B B

127-016	D-615	Crocker Wilder Shop/Garage Shed	682 Main Street	1801 1940s 1938	C C NC	Cape Cod Traditional Traditional	B B B
126-047	D-616	Second Parish	685 Main Street	1742	C	Col/Fed	B
126-047	D-917	Milestone	(685) Main Street	1754	C	n/a	O
126-048B		Vacant Land	687R Main Street	n/a	n/a	n/a	V
127-018/ 127-019	D-617	Edward Wilder Summer House Garage	688 Main Street	1805 1900s 1970s	C C NC	Colonial Style Traditional Traditional	B B B
126-048	D-618	Robert Cushing Barn Garage/Shed	691 Main Street	1850 1890s 1930s	C C C	Greek Revival Traditional Utilitarian	B B B
127-020	D-619	Elisha Cushing Stable Shed	692 Main Street	1715 1890s 1940s	C C C	Colonial Traditional Traditional	B B B
126-049	D-620	Isaiah Shute Guest House	693 Main Street	1878 1900s	C C	Gable-end Traditional	B B
127-021/ 127-022	D-621	Joseph Jacobs, Jr. Barn	694 Main Street	1868 1874	C C	Italianate Italianate	B B
127-017		Jacobs Meadow Area (Hingham Land Conser. Trust)	694R Main Street	n/a	C	n/a	Si
127-017B		Jacobs Meadow Area	694R Main Street	n/a	C	n/a	Si

(Town of Hingham Conservation)

127-025		Hingham Land Conser. Trust	694R Main Street	n/a	C	n/a	Si
126-050	D-622	Pyam Cushing Barn	699 Main Street	1840 1850s	C C	Greek Revival Traditional	B B
137-028	D-623	John Cushing Outbuilding	700 Main Street	1839 1930s	C NC	Greek Revival Utilitarian	B B
137-028	D-624	Glad Tidings Rock	(700) Main Street	Prehi- storic	C	n/a	Si
126-051	D-625	W. C. Wilder Garage/Shed	703 Main Street	1857 1920s	C C	Italianate Traditional	B B
137-002/ 137-002A	D-626	Edward Wilder Barn	704 Main Street	1848 1890s	C C	Greek Revival Traditional	B B
126-052	D-627	Pyam Cushing Garage Garden House	707-711 Main Street	1748 1940s 1960	C C NC	Colonial Traditional Traditional	B B B
137-005	D-628	Seth Cushing Carriage House	712 Main Street	1794 1850s	C C	Colonial Style Traditional	B B
136-032	D-629	Maude S. Williams	715 Main Street	1930	C	Col Rev/Dutch	B
137-006	D-630	Seth Cushing Carriage House Swimming Pool	718 Main Street	1830 1860s 1967	C C NC	Cape Cod Traditional n/a	B B S

137-007	D-631	Edward Wilder Garage	720 Main Street	1837 1930s	C C	Cape Cod Traditional	B B
136-033	D-632	Andrew C. Cushing	721 Main Street	1864	C	Second Empire	B
137-008/ 137-009	D-633	Seth Cushing, Jr. Barn	726 Main Street	1819 1860s	C C	Colonial Style Traditional	B B
136-034	D-634	Henry Cushing Barn	727 Main Street	1822 1840s	C C	Federal Traditonal	B B
137-010	D-635	Seth B. Cushing	730 Main Street	1830s	C	Greek Revival	B
136-036	D-636	Arnos Dunbar Garage	733 Main Street	1781 1980	C NC	Colonial Style Traditional	B B
136-037	D-637	Elijah H. Cushing Garage	735 Main Street	1924 1930s	C C	Col Rev/Gambrel Traditional	B B
136-038	D-638	Isaac H. Cushing Barn	737 Main Street	1858 1870s	C C	Italianate Traditional	B B
137-011	D-639	A. Cushing Store Barn	738 Main Street	1850s 1890s	C C	Gable-end Traditional	B B
136-039	D-640	Alonzo Cushing	741 Main Street	1850	C	Greek Revival	B
136-040	D-641	Edmund French	745 Main Street	1850	C	Italianate	B
137-012/ 137-013	D-642	Chas. W. Cushing Barn	748 Main Street	1850 1850s	C C	Italianate Traditional	B B

DISTRICT DATA SHEET

SOUTH HINGHAM NAT. REGIS. DIST.

2/11/98

136-041/ 136-042	D-643	Abner Thorn Garage	749 Main Street	1880	C	Italianate	B
				1950s	NC	Traditional	B
136-043	D-644	Theoph. Cushing Sheds	753 Main Street	1687	C	Gambrel Cottage	B
				1900s	NC	Utilitarian	B
137-014	D-645	Calvin H. Young Barn/Apartment	754 Main Street	c.1852	C	Italianate	B
				1930s	C	Traditional	B
136-044	D-646	Cushing Tavern Garage	757 Main Street	1746	C	Colonial	B
				1950s	NC	Traditional	B
136-045/ 136-046	D-647	Ruth S. Chase Garage	761 Main Street	1940	C	Colonial Revival	B
				1986	NC	Traditional	B
137-015	D-648	Prouty House Garage	764 Main Street	1911	C	Col Rev/Four	B
				1920s	C	Traditional	B
136-047	D-649	Henry M. Dugan	767 Main Street	1955	NC	Colonial Revival	B
137-029	D-650	Fulling Mill Aqueduct	768 Main Street	1725	C	n/a	Si
137-029	D-651	Rev. Daniel Shute	768 Main Street	1745	C	Colonial	B
146-011	D-652	Job Loring Garage	771 Main Street	1728	C	Colonial	B
				1930s	C	Traditional	B
146-048	653	Job Loring Barn	781 Main Street	1850s	C	Italianate	B
126-053		Merrill N. Thompson Garage Shed	11 Mill Lane	1927	C	Colonial Revival	B
				1930s	C	Traditional	B
				1950s	NC	n/a	B

136-029/ 136-030/ 136-031	Garage Bungalow Pool House, Pool	12 Mill Lane	1938 1980 1991 1990s	C NC NC NC	Traditional Traditional Traditional n/a	B B B B
126-054	Lewis W. Spaulding Shed	17 Mill Lane	1926 1960	C NC	Col Rev/Simple n/a	B B
136-028	Richard Kenney Pool	20 Mill Lane	1963 1965	NC NC	Split Level n/a	B S
136-026		25 Mill Lane	1935	C	Traditional	B
136-027	Louis H. Bell Garage	30 Mill Lane	1926 1965	C NC	Traditional Traditional	B B
136-025	Dam/Bridge	36 Mill Lane	1680s	C	n/a	S
136-025	Mill Site	36 Mill Lane	1680s	C	n/a	Si
136-025	Mill Building	36 Mill Lane	1960	NC	Industrial	B
136-025	Chester H. Clemens Garage	36 Mill Lane	1957 1960	NC NC	Traditional Colonial Revival	B B
137-001	Vacant Land	56 South Pleasant Street	n/a	n/a	n/a	V

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY South Hingham Historic District
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Plymouth

DATE RECEIVED: 6/12/98 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/22/98
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/08/98 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/27/98
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 98000838

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

___ ACCEPT ___ RETURN ___ REJECT ___ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Historically, architecturally, and archeologically significant village

RECOM./CRITERIA accept A, C, D

REVIEWER Patrick Andrews DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE _____ DATE 7/24/98

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



1. Tower Homestead
528 main Street
South Hingham NR District

2. Plymouth County, MA

3. Monique B. Lehner

4. November 1992

5. Negative at
271 Lexington Road
Concord, MA 01742

6. Facade, west elevation,
north side elevation,
looking southeast

7. #1



1. Elisha Cushing House and Barn
692 main Street
South Hingham NR District
2. Plymouth County, MA
3. Monique B. Lehner
4. November 1992
5. Negatives at
271 Lexington Road
Concord, MA 01742
6. Facade, west elevation,
north side elevation,
looking east
7. #2



1. Second Parish Church
685 Main Street
South Hingham NR District
2. Plymouth County, MA
3. Monique B. Lehner
4. November 1992
5. Negatives at
271 Lexington Road
Concord, MA 01742
6. Facade, east elevation side,
South side elevation,
looking northwest
7. #3



1. Jabez Wilder House
557 main Street
South Hingham NR District
2. Plymouth County, MA
3. Monique B. Lehner
4. November 1992
5. Negatives at
271 Lexington Road
Concord, MA 01742
6. Facade, east elevation,
looking west
7. #4



1. Henry Cushing House and barn
727 Main Street
South Hingham NR District

2. Plymouth County, MA

3. Monique B. Lehner

4. November 1992

5. Negatives at
271 Lexington Road
Concord, MA 01742

6. Facade, east elevation,
south side elevation,
looking northwest

7. #5



1. Alonzo Cushing House and barn
741 Main Street
South Hingham NR District
2. Plymouth County, MA
3. Monique B. Lehner
4. November 1992
5. Negatives at
271 Lexington Road
Concord, MA 01742
6. Facade, east elevation,
south side elevation,
looking northwest
7. #6

James H. Darling House and Barn



1. Isaac H. Cushing House and barn
737 Main Street
South Hingham NR District
2. Plymouth County, MA
3. Monique B. Lehner
4. November 1992
5. Negatives at
271 Lexington Road
Concord, MA 01742
6. Facade, east elevation,
south side elevation,
looking northwest
7. #7



1. Wilder Memorial
666 Main Street
South Hingham NR District
2. Plymouth County, MA
3. Monique B. Lehner
4. November 1992
5. Negatives at
271 Lexington Road
Concord, MA 01742
6. Facade, west elevation,
South side elevation,
looking northeast
7. # 8

1834
1817 of 1818



West

1. Streetscape, left to right

Cushing Tavern

757 Main Street

Theophilus Cushing House

753 Main Street

Abner Thorn House

749 Main Street

Edmund French House

745 Main Street

South Hingham NR District

2. Plymouth County, MA

3. Monique B. Lehner

4. November 1992

5. Negatives at

271 Lexington Road

Concord, MA 01742

6. Looking northwest

7. # 9

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1. East Streetscape, right to left

Joseph Jacob, Jr. House

694 Main Street

Elisha Cushing House

692 Main Street

Edward Wilder House

688 Main Street

Crocker Wilder House

682 Main Street

South Hingham NR District

2. Plymouth County, MA

3. Monique B. Lehner

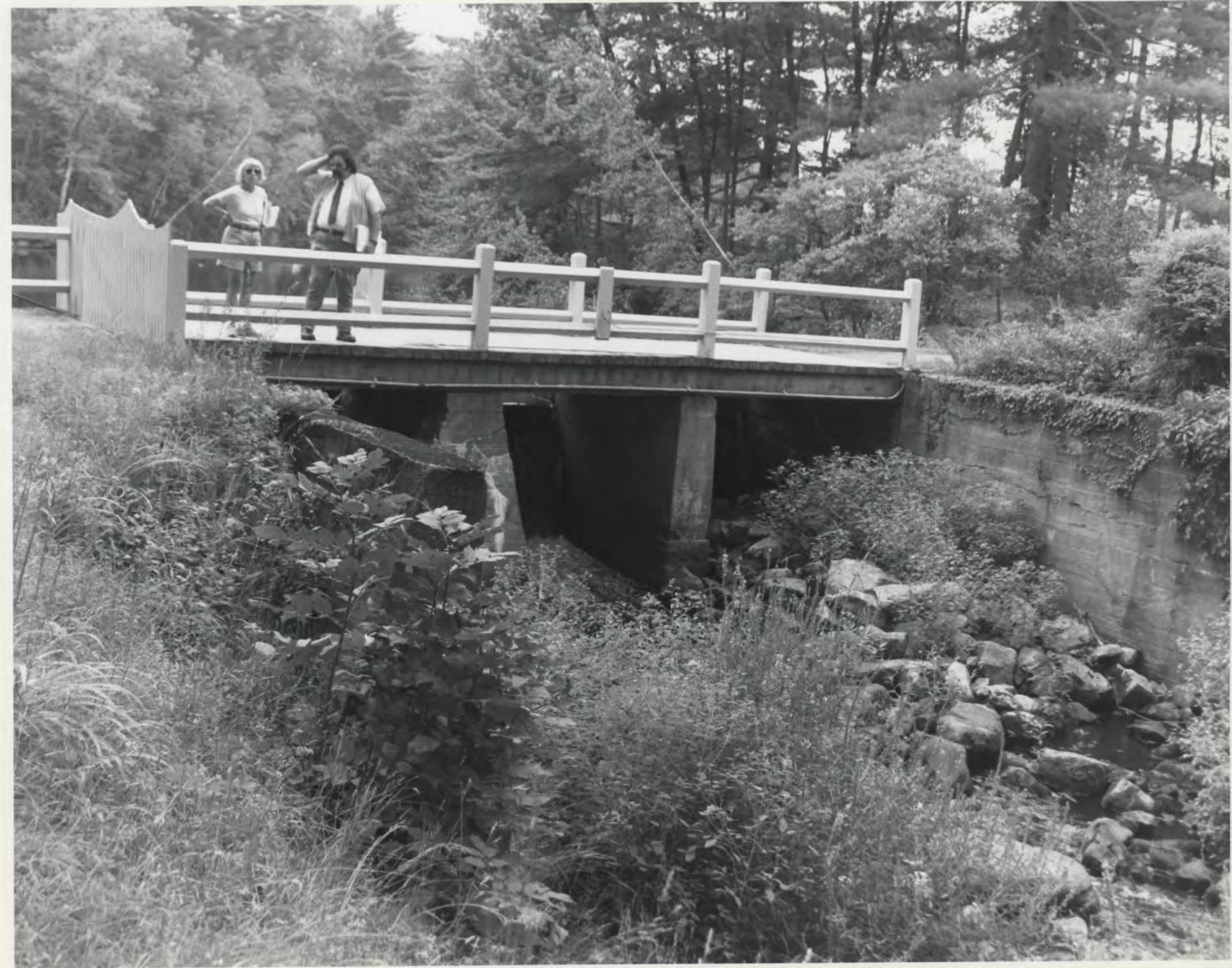
4. November 1992

5. Negatives at

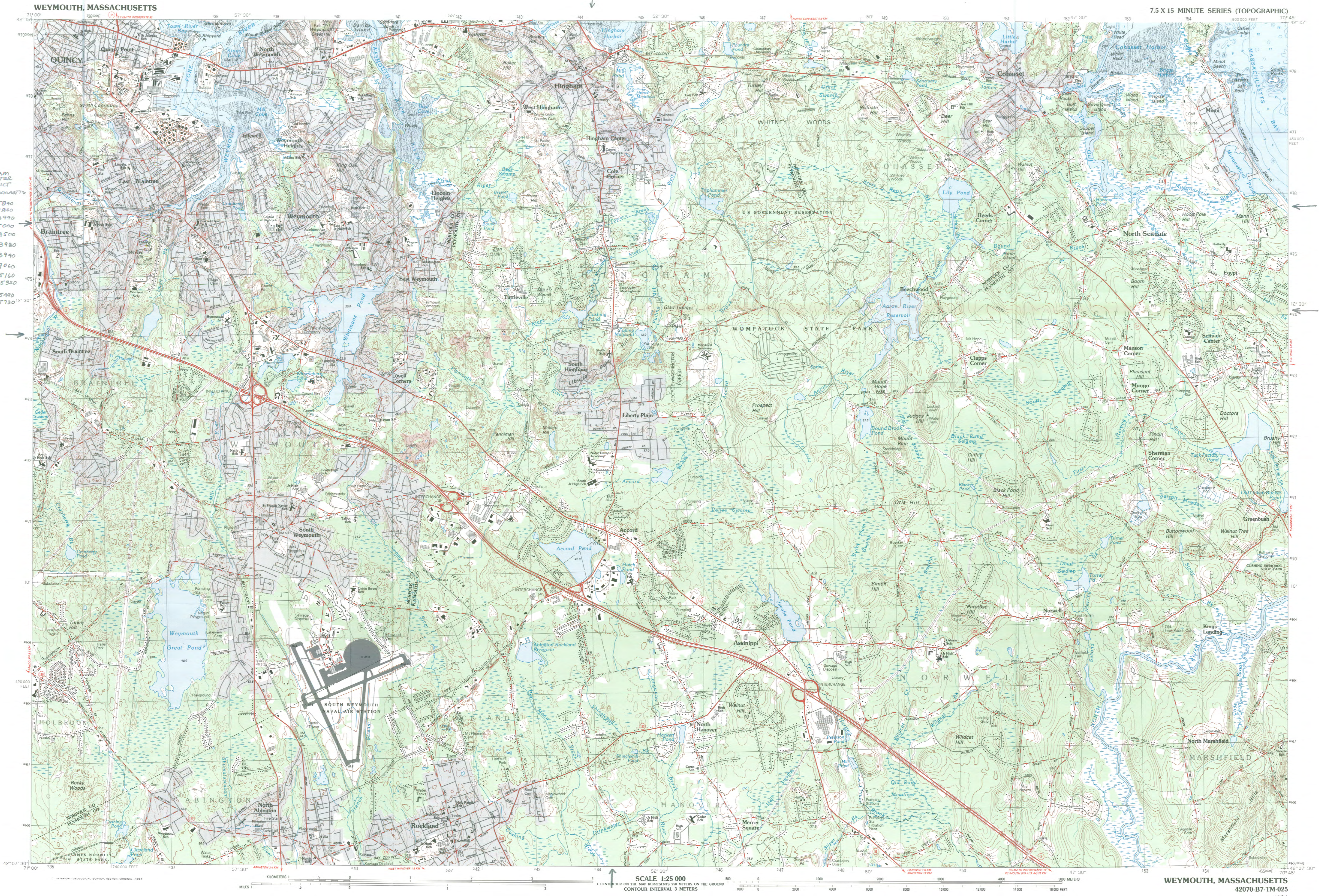
271 Lexington Road
Concord, MA 01742

6. Looking northeast

7. # 10



1. Dam and Bridge
36 Mill Lane
South Hingham NR District
2. Plymouth County, MA
3. Monique B. Lehner
4. August 1996
5. Negatives at
271 Lexington Road
Concord, MA 01742
6. North side of Dam and Bridge, looking south.
7. # 11



Weymouth

MASSACHUSETTS

SOUTH HINGHAM NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

1:25 000-scale metric topographic map

7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE SHOWING

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

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

1984

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 1978. Field checked 1979. Map edited 1984. Supersedes Weymouth and Cohasset 1:25 000-scale maps dated 1971 and 1972.

Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS charts 13269 (1980) and 13270 (1982). This information is not intended for navigational purposes.

Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 19: Universal Transverse Mercator

10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system, maintained zone 1927 North American Datum

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 6 meters south and 42 meter 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

CONTOUR ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER

OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER

DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN METERS

DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE

SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE

THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 2.7 METERS

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

CONVERSION TABLE		DECLINATION DIAGRAM		ADJOINING MAPS		
Meters	Feet	UTM grid convergence (GN) and 1984 magnetic declination (MM) at center of map. Diagram is approximate		1	2	3
1	3.2808			4	5	
2	6.5617			6	7	8
3	9.8425					
4	13.1234					
5	16.4042					
6	19.6850					
7	22.9659					
8	26.2467					
9	29.5275					
10	32.8084					

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808

To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

UTM grid convergence (GN) and 1984 magnetic declination (MM) at center of map. Diagram is approximate

1 Boston South
2 Hull
3 Norwood
4 Norwell
5 Scituate
6 Brockton
7 Whitman
8 Duxbury

ISBN 0-607-23435-0

9 780607 234350

Topographic Map Symbols

Symbol	Description
	Primary highway, hard surface
	Secondary highway, hard surface
	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
	Unimproved road; trail
	Route marker: Interstate; U. S.; State
	Railroad: standard gage; narrow gage
	Bridge: drawbridge
	Footbridge; overpass; underpass
	Built-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown
	House; barn; church; school; large structure
	Boundary:
	National, with monument
	State
	County, parish
	Civil township, precinct, district
	Incorporated city, village, town
	National or State reservation; small park
	Land grant with monument; round section corner
	U. S. public lands survey: range, township, section
	Range, township, section line: location approximate
	Fence or field line
	Power transmission line, located tower
	Dam; dam with lock
	Cemetery; grave
	Campground; picnic area; U. S. location monument
	Windmill; water well; spring
	Mine shaft; prospect; salt or lime
	Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation
	Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression
	Distorted surface: strip mine, lava, sand
	Bathymetric contours: index; intermediate
	Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream
	Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small
	Submerged marsh; marsh, swamp
	Land subject to controlled inundation; wooded
	Scrub; mangrove
	Orchard; vineyard

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request

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

1st Furlong east

2nd PurHong west
of center

3rd fur long west
of center

Common land (see
peck grant)

"THE GREAT LOTS ON THE GREAT PLAIN" c. 1690 - 93

Drawn by Daniel Cushing, Hingham's 3rd Town Clerk
John Richardson Hingham Archival Collection

South Hingham National Register District, Hingham MA - 1997

FANNIN•LEINER PRESERVATION CONSULTANTS

hemp

Great Grants
Should be
fully done

One acre fresh meadow
to the South of Glad Tidings
Rock By Pappes Bridge given
to Jonathan Doanworth
April 3, 1636.

Highway 8 roads
Brought to Pages
Bridge
S. A. R. L. 1950

RIVER
(Tower Brook)

 FIRST FURLONG - EASTWARD
OF THE CENTER
 SECOND FURLONG
 Third Furlong
Eastward of Center

Highway-East
Common-west
Henry Smith south
Town's land south
GRANT
q
Descriptive
boundaries

Highway NORTH + EAST + west
John MORRIS South

Highway 68
Commonwealth
Smith-North-Townland-South
TOWNLAND-SOUTH

Common South,
Common west, highest
east

William Gorkwill	12
Henry Smith	25
John Marshall	12
Edmond Pitts	15

	Highway	
36	William Hodgey	12
35	Jonathan Bozwall	10
34	John Jones T. G.	10
33	William Moore T. H.	10
32	Nathaniel Barber	10
31	Francis Smith	10
30	Wm. Dwyer	10
29	Mathew Haule BB	10
28	Jonas Austin	12
27	Henry Tuttle	20
26	Thomas Lincoln Croz.	12
24	Henry Chamberlin	10
	Smith, A. L.	
23	John Guller	20
22	William Lufkin	12
21	Joseph Good	10
	of Grand Lot 4. road	
	against	
20	Thomas Blagby & L.	10
	Highway 3. road long	
	Ex 100 cont.	

32	JAMES BURKE	15
31	ALPHRED SMITH	10
4	THOMAS CHAFFOY	10
3	THOMAS TURNER	12
2	MATTHEW CUSHING	14
1	JOSEPH SHIPPIN	12
41	GEORGE STANGE	14
40	EDWARD WILSON	10
39	ABRAHAM MARTIN	12
38	DANIEL CUSHING	10
37	THOMAS LINCOLN	16

Col.	Name	Age
17	Harry Chamberlin	17
16	Shoemaker	12
15	John Galt	30
14	Samuel Parker	10
13	Jerome Estlin	8

all rocks
(all rocks)

Common

mudoro —
John Jacob's Land

Fresh meadow of
widow James (see
Cushman Grant)

See Them, lined
miller grant-buffs
N. on Common land

D. Cushing died in 1700

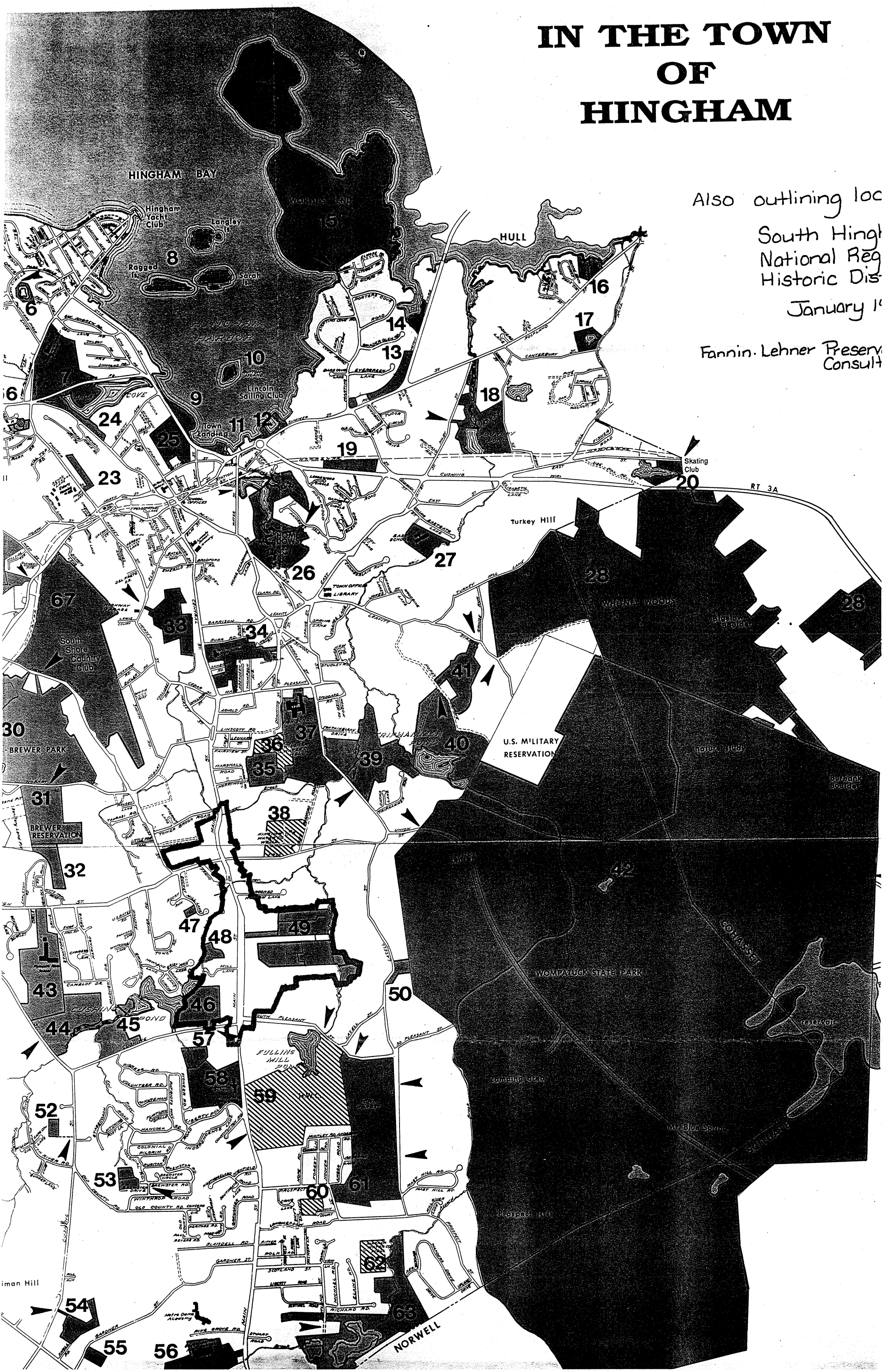
Plan by Hingham 3rd
Town Clerk Daniel
Cushing c. 1690-73

Part of John Jacobs
land which he claimed in
1680 to form Cushman Pond
and to build a Filling Mill

IN THE TOWN OF HINGHAM

Also outlining loc
South Hingh
National Reg
Historic Dis
January 1'

Fannin-Lehner Preserv
Consult





The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

June 7, 1998

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

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination for:

South Hingham Historic District, Hingham (Plymouth Co.), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of property in the Certified Local Government community of Hingham were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 60-120 days before the meeting.

Sincerely,

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

Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Valerie Talmage, Chair, Hingham Historical Commission
Katharine W. Reardon, Chair, Hingham Board of Selectmen
Alexander Macmillam, Hingham CLG Coordinator
Andrea Wilson, Hingham Historical Commission, Administrator
Minxie Fannin/Monique Lehner, Preservation Consultants