

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination FormSee instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only

received MAY 3 1984
date entered

1. Name

historic Thomas Shepard House (preferred)

and/or common Hartwell-Lee Farm

2. Location

street & number East Hill Road

N/A not for publication

city, town New Marlborough

N/A vicinity of

state Massachusetts

code 025

county Berkshire

code 003

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
☐ district	☐ public	☒ occupied	☒ agriculture
☒ building(s)	☒ private	☐ unoccupied	☐ commercial
☐ structure	☐ both	☒ work in progress	☐ educational
☐ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	☐ entertainment
☐ object	N/A in process	☒ yes: restricted	☐ government
	☐ being considered	☐ yes: unrestricted	☐ industrial
		☐ no	☐ military
			☐ museum
			☐ park
			☒ private residence
			☐ religious
			☐ scientific
			☐ transportation
			☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name William & Mary Ann Roston

street & number East Hill Road

Village of Southfield, Ma. 01259

city, town New Marlborough

N/A vicinity of

state Massachusetts

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Southern Berkshire Registry of Deeds

street & number 334 Main Street

city, town Great Barrington

state Massachusetts

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Inventory of the Historic Assets of
title the Commonwealth #91has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date July 25, 1979

☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town Boston

state Massachusetts

7. Description

Thomas Shepard House, New Marlborough, MA

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Thomas Shepard House (1798) is located in the southeastern section of New Marlborough, a rural town in the Berkshire Mountains of western Massachusetts. Set back on a gentle rise of land behind a low stone wall, the building faces south on East Hill Road overlooking Thousand Acre Swamp. Woodruff Mountain lies to the north and rises gradually behind the house.

The property contains approximately 13.65 acres of land on both sides of East Hill Road and is transversed by stone walls related to its agricultural history. Land south of the house, across the road, is open and used for pasture. Located in this section is a well and the original 18th century house or barn site with a small 19th century family burial plot placed behind them.

Unusual for such a rural community that was not settled until the mid-1700s, the Shepard House is a well detailed late 18th century Georgian style farmhouse. Standing 2½ stories, it is rectangular in plan with a 20th century two-story ell and garage extending from the rear of the original structure. Of timber frame construction, the building rises from a dry lain rubble foundation to a cedar shingled hip roof that is pierced by two prominent off-set chimneys. The exterior is covered with beaded clapboards and is trimmed by narrow cornerboards and a molded cornice with dentils. Windows throughout the original portion of the building contain 12/12 sash with those on the first floor highlighted by pulvinated friezes and molded caps. Fenestration on the 20th century wing consists of windows with 6/6 sash.

The south and primary, five-bay symmetrical facade is dominated by a handsome fully developed Georgian entry. Centrally located beneath a modified Palladian window, it is surrounded by 3/4 length sidelights of 6/6 sash and is capped by a heavy entablature with a double pulvinated frieze and dentilled cornice.

The east and west elevations form the sides of the building and are similar in format with four symmetrically arranged windows on each face. The east facade, however, also contains an entry with an entablature similar in design, but somewhat simpler than that of the south elevation.

Extending from the northern end of the house is a two story ell with a porch and garage. This wing was constructed in 1934 when the building underwent a major renovation. This part of the property, due to its recent date of construction, is considered a non-contribution component since it post-dates the Federal Period.

In plan the Shepard House consists of four rooms per floor set around a short, center, front hall on the first floor and a full length front to back hall on the second floor. Although the building has been remodelled three times in its history, the original layout as well as many of its original interior features remains. The primary interior change to the house has involved shifting the placement of the main stairway. Over the years, it has been in three locations along the center hallway. In 1983 as part of the building's restoration, the stairs were relocated, according to structural evidence, back to their original position 2/3 of the way to the rear of the building.

Original significant interior features which remain include a cupboard and fireplace mantel and surround in the west parlor, and the fireplace, beehive oven, hearth wall panelling and cupboard in the kitchen.

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National Park Service**

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Continuation sheet Thomas Shepard House

Item number 7

Page 1

The Shepard House has recently undergone a major certified rehabilitation following the Secretary of Interior's Standards. This project involved restoring the building to its Federal period appearance by removing Greek Revival and Colonial Revival alterations made in 1837 and 1934. Features removed or altered from these periods include the 19th century gable roof, and the early 20th century bay window, 6/6 stock sash and Colonial Revival ornamentation on the front entry. Reconstruction of architectural elements involved rebuilding the failing Greek Revival period gable roof to its original hipped form, restoring the main side entry, the modified Palladian window, and the pulvinated friezes. It also included replacement of window sash with 12/12 panes and relocating the main stairway to its original position on the first floor.

Restoration of the building to its earliest appearance was chosen for the primary significance of this period to the house's history and because alterations made in 1837 and 1934 were causing structural instability to the property.

8. Significance

Thomas Shepard House, New Marlborough, MA

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
☐ prehistoric	☐ archeology-prehistoric	☐ community planning	☐ landscape architecture	☐ religion
☐ 1400–1499	☒ archeology-historic	☐ conservation	☐ law	☐ science
☐ 1500–1599	☒ agriculture	☐ economics	☐ literature	☐ sculpture
☐ 1600–1699	☒ architecture	☐ education	☐ military	☒ social/
☒ 1700–1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☐ 1800–1899	☐ commerce	☒ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☐ 1900–	☐ communications	☐ industry	☐ politics/government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☐ other (specify)

Specific dates 1798 **Builder/Architect** Captain John Collar

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Thomas Shepard House retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and association. Constructed in 1798 by John Collar, a prominent local builder, the structure stands as an excellent example of a late 18th century farmhouse with locally sophisticated Georgian detail. Historically, it is notable for its association with two families, the Shepards and Hartwells, who were important in the early development of New Marlborough and who, in particular, helped to establish the town's first Baptist Congregation. The major period of significance for the house has been defined as the Federal period due to its elaborate and documented builder's design and because its major historical association (familial and Baptist linked) derive from that period. The Thomas Shepard House thus meets Criteria A, b, and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

New Marlborough is a community located in the uplands of western Massachusetts. It was not settled until the mid-18th century as indicated by its incorporation as a town in 1759. The Shepard family consisting of four brothers, Jonathan, Daniel, Nathaniel, and Thomas, were early settlers in the community. They moved to the area from Bellingham, MA at varying times between 1754–1768. The purpose for their relocation most likely combined economic reasons with religious concerns. The brothers quickly became prosperous farmers as attested by estate inventories taken at their deaths in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. They were also heavily involved in religious activity in nearby Stockbridge and particularly in Ashfield where another brother resided. Although only peripherally involved in the community's early development with two brothers serving as Collector of School Taxes, the family, along with the Hartwells, is generally recognized for the leadership they provided in establishing a Baptist congregation in New Marlborough early in the 19th century.

Thomas Shepard, the original owner of the nominated property, bought sixty acres of land on both sides of East Hill Road from his brother, Nathaniel in 1768. His first home, which no longer stands, was located on the southern portion of the property. Today an early well and family burial plot still remains in this southern section, however, the exact location of the original house has not yet been determined. In 1798 the present Shepard House, lying on the north side of East Hill Road, was constructed by a local builder, John Collar with the building's date of construction incised on one of the structure's supporting beams.

Thomas Shepard lived in his new house only eleven years. In 1809 he moved to Denmark, New York in order to be with his sons, all of whom had recently settled in that community. Upon moving Shepard sold his home to his niece's husband, Elder Jesse Hartwell. The two families had been closely aligned in religious activities for a number of years in nearby Ashfield. Hartwell's move to New Marlborough and subsequent purchase of the Shepard property can be linked to the establishment of a Baptist society in the town during this period. Since a church was not built until 1847, it is likely that religious gatherings were held in the large upper hall of the Shepard House. The Hartwell family remained owners of the property through the end of the 19th century. Since that time there have been six subsequent owners.

9. Major Bibliographical References

A History of New Marlborough, 1735-1943, Hadley Turner, Berkshire Courier Press, 1944.
The Shepard Families of New England, Vol. I, Gerald F. Shepard & Donald L. Jacobus.
New Haven Colony Historical Society, New Haven, CT. 1971, p. 161-170.
Inventory of the Estate of Mark Hartwell, Berkshire Registry of Probate, Doc. No. 14102.
New Marlborough Town Records. Southern Berkshire Registry of Deeds

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 13.65 acres

Quadrangle name South Sandisfield, Mass. - Conn.

Quadrangle scale 1/25:000

UTM References

A

1	8
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6	4	8	9	7	0
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4	6	4	0	7	2	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

1	8
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6	4	8	8	3	0
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4	6	4	0	6	9	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C

1	8
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6	4	8	5	8	0
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4	6	4	1	4	1	0
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D

1	8
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6	4	8	7	2	5
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4	6	4	1	4	4	0
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E

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F

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification The nominated property contains approximately acres of land surrounding the Shepard House on the north and south sides of East Hill Road. The land includes only a small portion of the sixty acre parcel that made up Thomas Shepard's original land holdings. Since the present property bounds contain over (Con't)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kathryn Kubie, and James N. Parrish, Historic Preservation Planner, with Carol & MaryAnn Roston

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date March 1984

street & number 294 Washington Street telephone (617) 727-8470

city or town Boston state Massachusetts

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Patricia L. Weslow

State Historic Preservation Officer
title Massachusetts Historical Commission

date 4/25/84

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 5-31-84

for Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

**National Register of Historic Places
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date entered

Continuation sheet Thomas Shepard House

Item number 8

Page 1

The construction and design of the Shepard House has been attributed to John Collar (1730-1826) a local carpenter active in the second half of the 18th century. He is the best known builder of this period in the New Marlborough area. He, his son, and grandson were responsible for the construction of many of the early houses in the communities of Southeast Berkshire County. His own house and that of his son's, John Collar, Jr. still survive on the Canaan Valley Road in New Marlborough as well as the Nathaniel Turner House ca. 1790 and Isaac Harmon House ca. 1800. The Captain John Brewer House (MHC 40) located in the nearby Town of Monterey, although not confirmed to date, may also be an extant construction of his.

Located within a relatively undisturbed historical setting, the Thomas Shepard House may potentially provide information important to our understanding of the past through an associated archaeological component. Careful research guided archaeological examination of the 18th century well and building foundation as well as of yet undefined resources (e.g., privy deposits or cultural material scatters) may be useful in addressing a variety of anthropological, archaeological, and historical concerns. These may include, but are not limited to, farm configuration, owner status, trade and exchange, and rural lifeways as they changed through time from the late-18th to late-20th centuries.

The present owners have recently completed a rehabilitation of this property following the Secretary of Interior's Standards. The project involved meticulous restoration based on research and physical documentation which returned the building to its original Federal period appearance.

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Page 1

100 acres which do not have demonstrable historical associations and since the outline of the original 1768 property is not known, the boundary lines for the nomination have been drawn arbitrarily to incorporate a parcel of land surrounding the house which historically is known to be associated with the Federal Period, the period of significance for the property.

For exact boundary demarcation, please refer to attached map.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

84002085

Shepard, Thomas, House
Berkshire County
MASSACHUSETTS

- ☐ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appeal

Entered in the
National Register

Working No. MAY 3 1984
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.5.85
Date Due: 5/31/84 - 6/17/84
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 5-31-84
☐ RETURN
☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ☐ excellent | ☐ deteriorated |
| ☐ good | ☐ ruins |
| ☐ fair | ☐ unexposed |

Check one

- ☐ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

- ☐ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ alterations/integrity
☐ dates
☐ boundary selection

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____
Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- ☐ summary paragraph
- ☐ completeness
- ☐ clarity
- ☐ applicable criteria
- ☐ justification of areas checked
- ☐ relating significance to the resource
- ☐ context
- ☐ relationship of integrity to significance
- ☐ justification of exception
- ☐ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

_____ national _____ state _____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title

date

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____



Thomas Shepard House 1798
East Hill Road - New Marlborough, MA
01259 - James N. Parrish - R5-8, May
28, 1983 - BCRPC 1 of 3
View North from opposite side of East
Hill Road



Thomas Shepard House 1798
East Hill road - New Marlborough, MA
01259 - James N. Parrish - R5-10,
May 28, 1983 - BCRPC - 2 of 3
View N.W. of front and East Facades
The Thomas Shepard House



Thomas Shepard House, 1798
East Hill Road - New Marlborough, MA
01259 - James N. Parrish - R5-11,
May 28, 1983 - BCRPC - 3 of 3
View N.E. of front and West facades of
The Thomas Shepard House

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

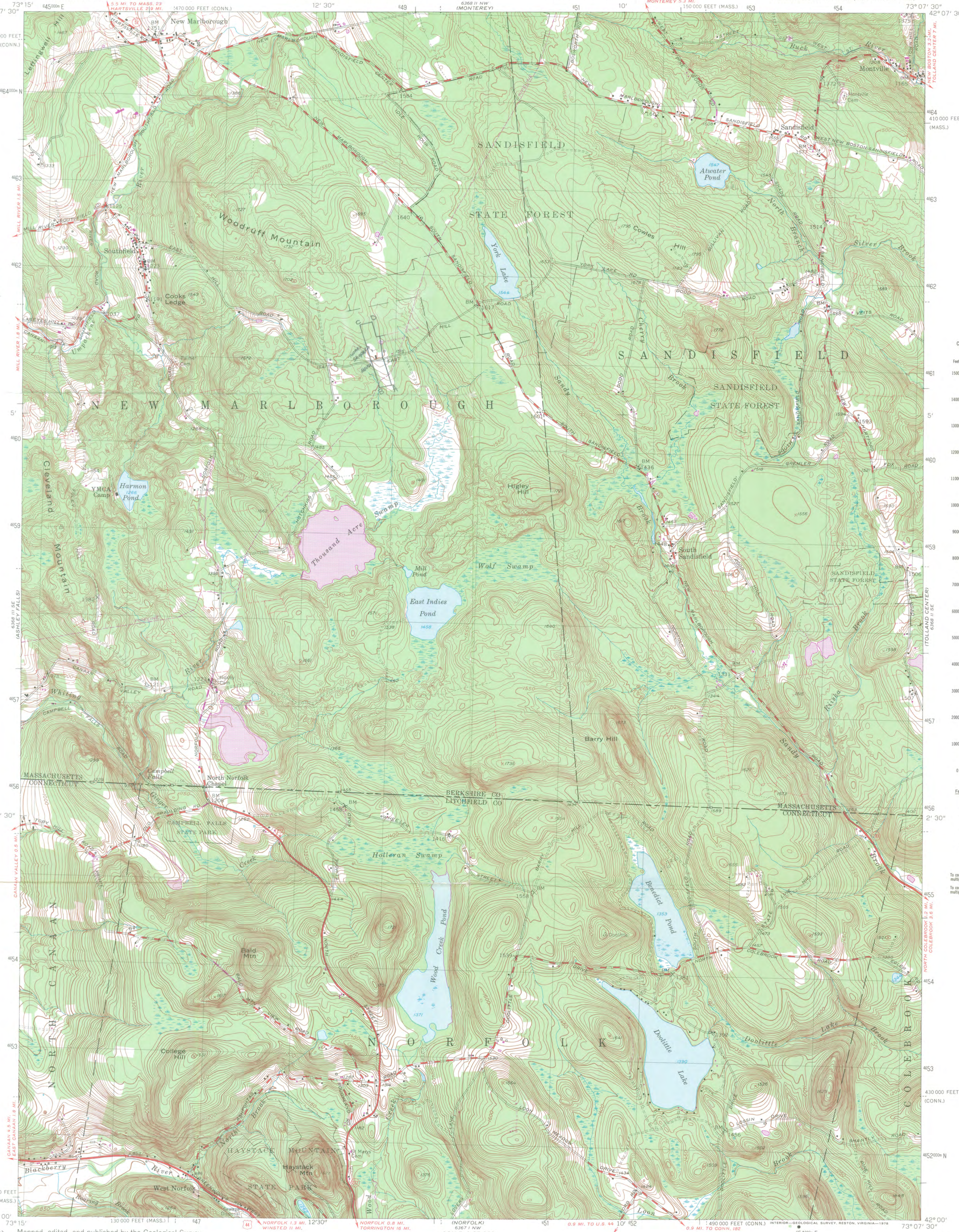
STATE OF CONNECTICUT
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

SOUTH SANDISFIELD QUADRANGLE
MASSACHUSETTS-CONNECTICUT
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

Thomas Shepard House
New Marlborough, Ma.

UTM:
A 18/648970/4640720
B 18/648830/4640690
C 18/648580/4641410
D 18/648725/4641440

UTM correction 10/17/07
A) 18/648831/4661458
B) 18/648977/4660758
C) 18/648806/4660736
D) 18/648537/4661440



CONVERSION
SCALES



Feet	Meters
1	3048
2	6096
3	9144
4	12192
5	15240
6	18288
7	21336
8	24384
9	27432
10	30480

To convert feet to meters
multiply by 3048
To convert meters to feet
multiply by 3.2808

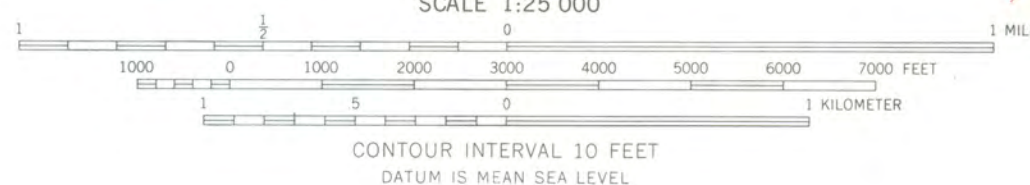
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, Massachusetts Land and Harbor
Commission, Massachusetts Geodetic Survey, and Connecticut
Geodetic Survey.

Topography in Connecticut by planetable surveys 1944
Topography in Massachusetts from aerial photographs by
photogrammetric methods. Aerial photographs taken 1942
Field check 1946. Revised 1958

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone, and Connecticut coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid,
zone 18

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines
visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

UTM GRID AND 1969 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

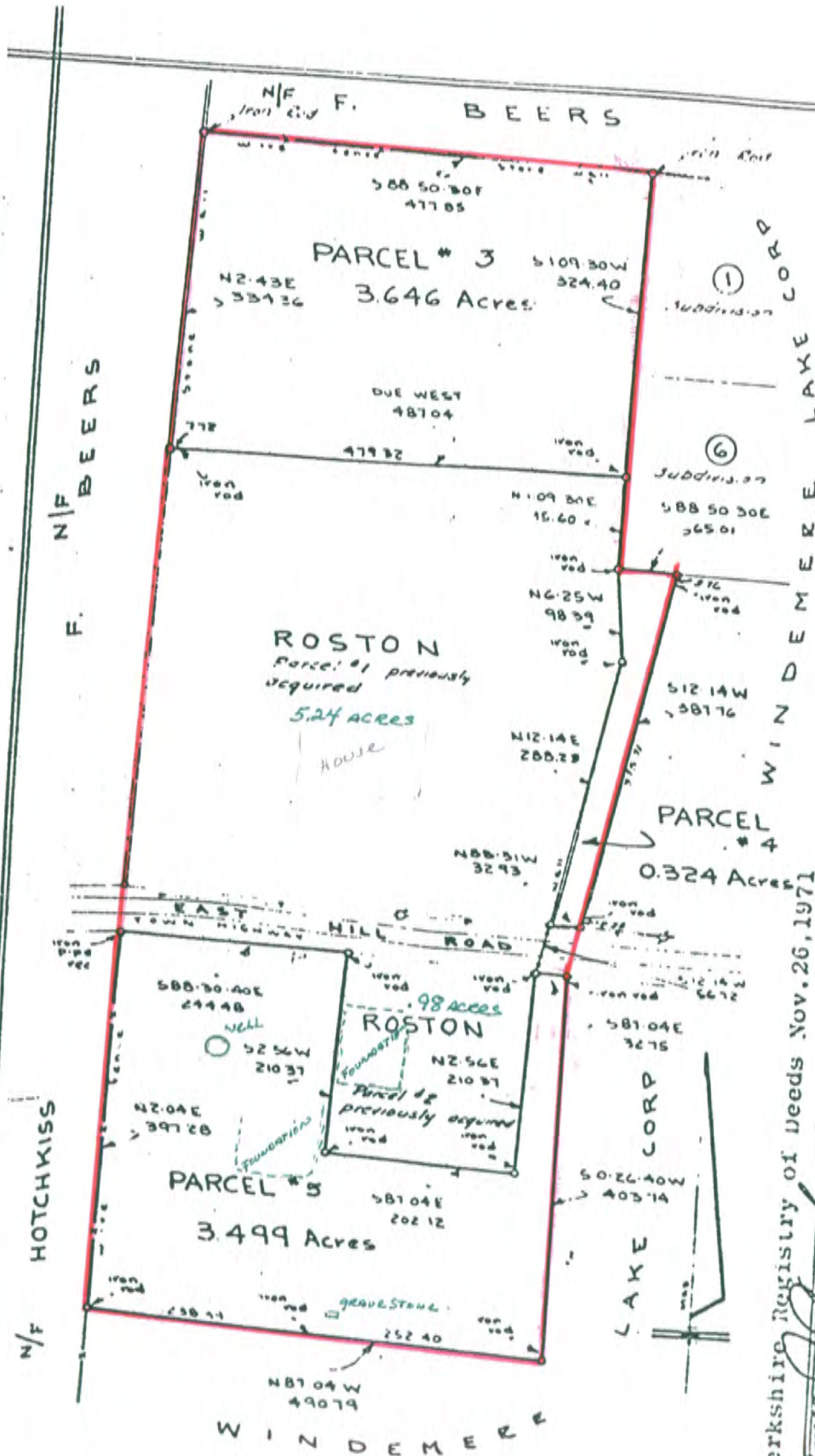


ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
U.S. Route ——— State Route ———

SOUTH SANDISFIELD, MASS.-CONN.
N 4200-W 7307.5/7.5

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with
Connecticut Highway Department from aerial photographs taken 1969
This information not field checked

1958
PHOTOREVISED 1969
AMS 6368 II SW-SERIES V814



PROPERTY TO BE CONVEYED BY:
WINDEMERE LAKE CORP
 TO
WILLIAM A. ROSTON
 TOWN OF NEW MARLBORO, BERKSHIRE CO, MASS
 SURVEY BY
 Rothfeller & Hugel
 Claremont, N.H.
 (Revised 11/37)
 And No Change
 SCALE: 1" = 100'
 Oct. 27, 1971

Rec'd. So. Berkshire Registry of Deeds Nov. 26, 1971
 at 4:18 P.M.
James J. Conforti Registrar

TOTAL 13.65 ACRES
 3.65

Berkshire County Registry
 of Deeds
 13.65 total acres
 Book 378 page 414
 Scale: 1" = 100'
 Oct. 27, 1971