Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

PHO150649

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Boston

74) PHOLS069	⁷⁷ DATA SHEET
ATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	FOR NPS USE ONLY MAY 2 9 1975
REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES ORY NOMINATION FORM	RECEIVED
SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE N TYPE ALL ENTRIES COMPLETE APP	

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7 DESCRIPTION

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Old Higgins Farm Windmill is a 30 feet high, shingled structure with a fixed octagonal base 20 feet across, and a revolving shingled cap constructed of framing members curved like the hull of a ship. The windshaft, 20 feet long and 16 inches in diameter, is original. A 48 feet tail pole, used to move the cap around, travels in a circle 110 feet in diameter, but due to its rotted condition it will have to be replaced. The sails have been lost and will have to be reconstructed, but 85% of the rest of the structure is original.

The windmill has three levels and contains remarkably engineered wooden moving parts. The moveable cap, whose shaft is turned by windpower, contains a large wooden gear called the bread wheel, which turns the upright shaft in the middle of the tower. This shaft turns the upper and lower grindstones in the middle level of the windmill. A hopper and trough above the grindstones are filled with corn, which feeds out to be ground by the two grindstones. The ground meal is forced down a long shute to the meal trough on the first level. The first level contains a sturdy wooden frame to support the weight of the stones above, as well as a corn cob cracker which grinds cobs into animal feed. The wooden moving parts of the windmill are still extant, and with the planned restoration work the mill will be able to function again very soon.

As well as containing remarkable moving parts, the windmill has some unusual carvings and decorations, reminiscent of scrimshaw. These decorations, as well as the boat-like construction methods (curved cap, mast-like windshaft, pegged floor and all wooden materials), gave rise to the local belief that the mill was constructed by ship builders. This has never been authenticated, but it adds to the local importance of the windmill.

The windmill was moved in December, 1974 from its location in Brewster off Route 6A to a site nearby. The windmill, located on private property, was given to the Brewster Historical Society on the condition that it be moved. Its present site is much like its original one, being placed on a flat, open, and scenic area near Cape Cod Bay. The mill is being restored to its original working condition with the enthusiastic support of local citizens of all ages. The mill will be open to the public and will serve as an education and recreational resource for the community.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS U	SE ONLY	
FOR NPS U	AUG 1 5	1975
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DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 1 PAGE

Old Higgins Farm Windmill Off Lower Road Brewster, Massachusetts Barnstable County (accepted NR 6-10-75)

The address for the Old Higgins Farm Windmill should be changed from Off Lower Road, to Off Old King's Highway. The location on the U.S.G.S. map is correct:

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	the management of
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
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1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	_INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
		_INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Old Higgins Farm Windmill is significant as one of the few remaining windmills of the type once so numerous on Cape Cod, and as the only extant one in Brewster. The design, common in 17th century England, has a fixed base and moveable cap. Because the base is not permanently attached to a foundation, but rests on top of the ground, it, and others of its type, were often moved around. The mill was used to grind corn, the main export crop of Cape Cod in the 19th century, and after the Civil War, when the demand for corn diminished, this mill, and others like it on the Cape, were used with less frequency. The mill is in remarkable condition, with all of its moving parts extant except for the arms and sails. The interior 'scrimshawe' carvings also add to the windmill's significance. The windmill is now being restored to its original working condition.

The windmill has been in the same general location since the late eighteenth century. In 1795 there were three mills in the area, one of which stood on land belonging to the Crosby family. By 1845, Assessor records show that the Crosby's windmill was the only one in Brewster. At that time, $\frac{1}{2}$ of it was owned jointly by "Higgins and Crosby", 1/4 by Nathan Crosby and 1/4 by Isaac Hopkins. Interest in the mill passed through many hands, but the property never passed entirely out of Crosby ownership. The windmill was probably moved several times during the nineteenth century, but never far from its original location. Around 1890 it was moved to the nearby estate of Roland Crosby Nickerson, where it served for many years as a club house at the ninth hole of his private golf course. In November, 1973, Mrs. Samuel Nickerson gave the windmill to the Brewster Historical Society, on the condition that it be moved. The move was completed in December, 1974, and the Windmill is in the process of restoration. The mill will be used as an educational resource for the children of Brewster, and an recreational and learning facility for the whole Cape.

The importance of the Windmill's function to the community cannot be underestimated. It housed one of the main industries in Brewster, grinding all the corn grown in the community and exporting this crop to the rest of the country. Corn was particularly important to the country in time of war, as corn meal was the staple of the soldiers' diet. After the Civil War, the nation-wide demand for corn diminished, but the local citizens still took the corn they used for their own consumption to the mill to be ground. The corn grinding was celebrated by the Johnny Cake Festival, a local tradition which is carried on to this day.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- 1. Early American Mills, Martha and Murray Zimiles, Clarkson N. Potter, 1973
- 2. "Old Time New England" Bulletin for the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, January 1931
- 3. "Some Windmills of Cape Cod", paper read by Edward Pierce Hamilton, January 28, 1925.

UTM OK

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

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LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES STATE CODE COUNTY CODE CODE COUNTY CODE STATE

1FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Christine Boulding, Assistant Survey Director	son line islanding to the last
ORGANIZATION	DATE
Massachusett's Historical Commission	May 1975
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
40 Beacon Street	(617) 727-8470
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Boston,	Massachusetts 02108

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

LOCALX

DATE

DATE

	NA	TI	0	N	A	L	-
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STATE_

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 Servi

STATE HISTORIC	DECEDVATION	OFFICER	SIGNATURE
STATE HISTORIC	FRESERVATION	OFFICER	SIGNATORE

160 TITLE Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commiss FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NDHISTORIC PRESERVATION DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHROLOG ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGIST

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

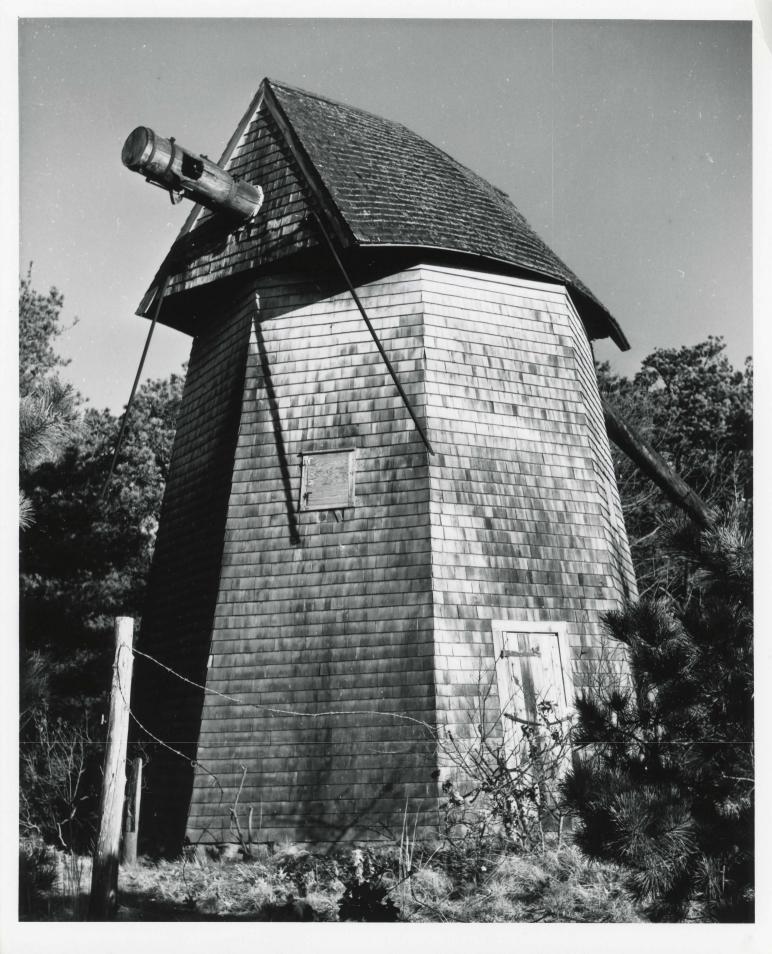
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER PAGE 1 8

The interior engineering of the mill also adds to its significance. Its all wood construction and its ship-like forms, make it a valuable educational source for architectural historians, as well as for interested laymen. When it is restored to working condition it will be a substantial contribution to the American heritage.



Form No. 10-301a (Pev. 10-7.+)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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BREWSTER

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1	NAME	
	HISTORIC	

Old Higgins Farm Windmill

AND/OR COMMON Windmill

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

____VICINITY

_VICINITY OF

COUNTY STATE Barnstable Massachusetts

January 1974

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

D. Stoltenberg

Brewster

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Brewster Historical Society

4 IDENTIFICATION

1005

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET windmill in its original location, looking northwest

#1935

PHOTO NO 1

PROPERTY OF THE MATIONAL REGISTER

DATE OF PHOTO



Form No. 10-301a (Pev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR		
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE		

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

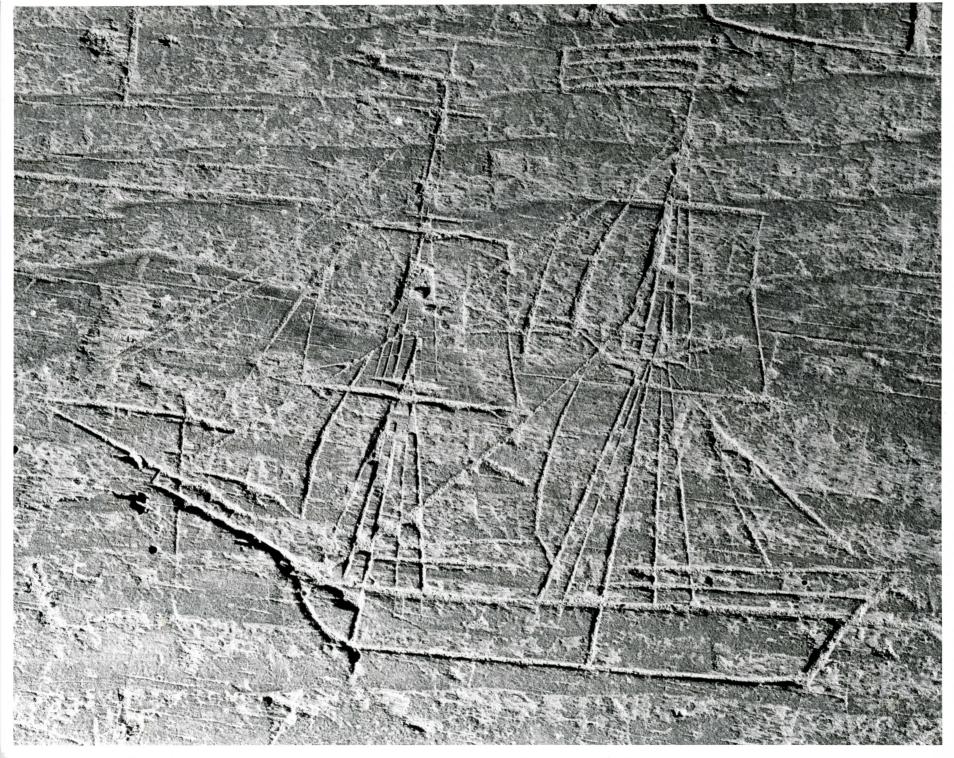
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		Windmill carving on corn box insid	de mill.	
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BREWSTER ISC, WINDMILL

PHOTO ! RALPH MACKENZIE



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Brewsler windmill 18 C.

> Form No. 10-301a (Pev. 10-7.)

> > UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

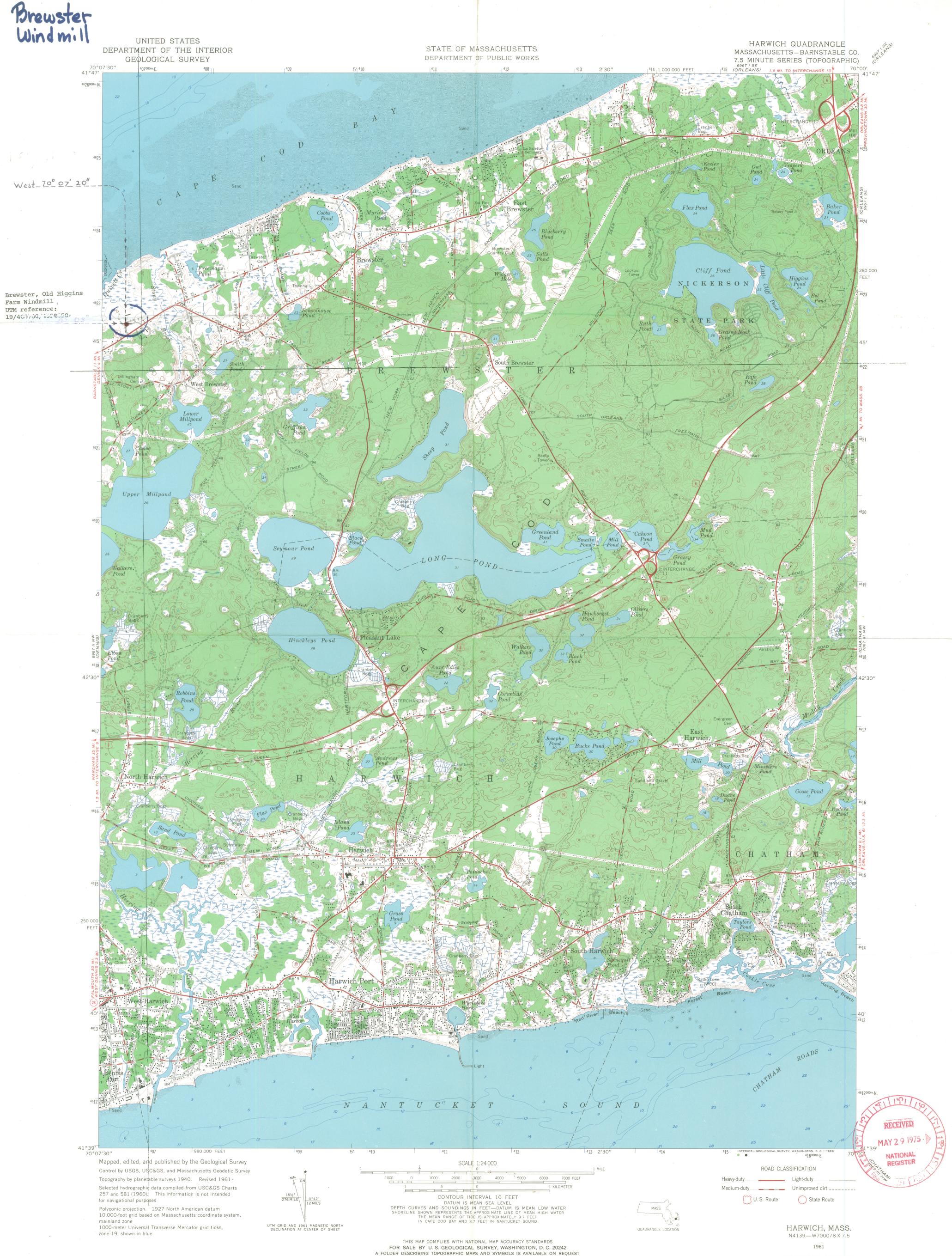
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4	IDENTI	FICATION			
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to		Windmill on its new site, in the process of will be filled to cover foundation.	of restoration. La	and	

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Feb. 75 photoby Ralph S. MacKenzi



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Form No. 10-301 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

Barnstable STATE MA

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET
REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION
PROPERTY Old Higgins Farm Windmill NAME:
MULTIPLE NAME:
STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Barnstable
DATE RECEIVED: 1/07/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST: DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/23/13 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:
REFERENCE NUMBER: 75000240
NOMINATOR: STATE
REASONS FOR REVIEW:
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COMMENT WAIVER: N
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ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Approved

00	
RECOM./CRITERIA	
REVIEWER Dealer	DISCIPLINE
TELEPHONE	DATE

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

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



RECEIVED 2280

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth Massachusetts Historical Commission

December 26, 2012

Mr. J. Paul Loether National Register of Historic Places Department of the Interior National Park Service 1201 Eye Street, NW 8th floor Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Re: Address changes for properties listed on the NRHP

As we digitize our inventory of historic resources, we are discovering discrepancies in property addresses due to renumbering, changing the address to a side street that abuts the parcel, or assigning a precise addresses where none had existed. In some cases, property owners have notified us of an incorrect address. We are, therefore, writing to request technical corrections in the National Register records for the following:

Bedford (Middlesex County)

Page, Christopher House, First Period Buildings of E. Mass NRTRA/IND—<u>new address is 2</u> <u>Meyers Lane (formerly 50 Old Billerica Road)</u>

Brewster (Barnstable County)

Old Higgins Farm Windmill, NRIND 6/10/1975—new address is 51 Drummer Boy Road(formerly, off Lower Road7.500240

Brookline (Norfolk County)

Brookline Town Stable, Brookline MRA 10/17/1985—<u>new address is 235 Cypress Street</u> (formerly 237)

Orrock, Rev. John House, Brookline MRA/IND 10/17/1985__new address is 64 WinchesterStreet (formerly 68)8 5 (20 338 4)

Haverhill (Essex County) Have MR 1996 John Greenleaf Whittier Homestead, NRIND 7/30/1975—correct address is 305 Whittier Road (had been incorrectly reported as 105 Whittier Road) 66 000 792 NHL 7

Oak Bluffs (Dukes County)

Dr. Harrison A. Tucker Cottage, NRIND 10/22/1990—<u>new address is 61 Ocean Avenue</u> (formerly 61 Circuit Avenue) 9000575

Wellesley (Norfolk County)

Eaton Moulton Mill, NRIND 5/13/76—new address is 35 Walnut Street (formerly 37) 7600294

220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125 (617) 727-8470 • Fax: (617) 727-5128 www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc

Westborough (Worcester County)

Fisher, Nathan A. House, NRIND 3/25/1980, NRDIS/MPS 7/25/1994—<u>new address is 34 West</u> <u>Main Street (formerly Turnpike Road)</u>

 Maples Cottage, NRIND 3/25/1980, NRDIS/MPS 7/25/1994—new address is 155 Oak Street

 (formerly Oak Street)

 GOOLG S(

Sincerely,

redbeig Betsy 1

Betsy Friedberg () National Register Director Massachusetts Historical Commission National Register of Historic Places Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

Property Old Higgins Farm W	indmill	\mathbf{A}
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	Re-submit	IN T :2106 - 74
United States Depar it of the Inte	rior N tional Park S	ervice WASO No. 7

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Secretary

Massachusetts Historical Commission

40 Beacon Street

Paul Guzzi Secretary of the Commonwealth

727-8470

May 22, 1975

Mr. Charles Herrington, Chief Registration National Register of Historic Places National Park Service US Department of the Interior 18th and C Streets, NW Washington, D.C. 20240

CERTIFIED MAIL

RECEIVED

NATIONAL

Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Dear Charles:

Enclosed please find two National Register submissions for the following properties:

Brewster, Old Higgins Farm Windmill
 New Salem, Whitaker-Clary House

These properties have been voted eligible for submission by the Massachusetts Historical Commission (the State Review Board) and have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer, Elizabeth R. Amadon.

Sincerely, atrices Lucs and

Patricia L. Weslowski Survey Director Massachusetts Historical Commission

PLW:pw Encl.

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered JUN 1 0 1975

Name

Location

Old Higgins Farm Windmill

Salisbury House

Brewster Barnstable County

Worcester Worcester County

Also Notified Hon. Edward M. Kennedy Hon. Edward W. Brocks Hon. Gerry E. Studds Hon. Joseph D. Early Regional Director, North Atlantic Region

State Historic Preservation Officer Mrs. Elizabeth R. Amadon Executive Director Massachusetts Historical Commission 40 Beacon Street Boston, Massachusetts 02108

PR MMott/row

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Secretary

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Paul Guzzi coretary of the Commonwealth 40 Beacon Street Boston, Massachusetts 02108

727-8470

11 August 1975

Mr. Charles Herrington, Chief Registration National Register of Historic Places US Department of the Interior 18th and C Streets, NW Washington, DC 20240

Dear Charles:

Enclosed please find two National Register nomination forms and two continuation sheets for the following properties:

- 1. Newburyport: Bartlett Mall Historic District
- 2. Stockbridge: Naumkeag
- 3. <u>Brewster:</u> Old Higgins Farm Windmill (Continuation Sheet) RH. oppends
 4. Medford: Charles Brooks House (Continuation Sheet) (10-7-75)

The Bartlett Mall Historic District is being submitted in advance of a larger High Street District. The Superior Court House in the Bartlett Mall District is currently in need of recognition and funding to insure its preservation.

The continuation sheets for the Old Higgins Farm Windmill and Charles Brooks House contain corrections which should be incorporated into the forms.

The Newburyport and Stockbridge properties have been voted eligible for submission by the Massachusetts Historical Commission (the State Review Board) and have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer, Elizabeth R. Amadon.

Sincerely yours,

Vat Weslowski

Patricia L. Weslowski Survey Director Massachusetts Historical Commission

PLW: jd Enclosures



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F	FUNCTION (S): (use vocabulary v	vords)	NAME OF A STATE			
135	10020	then- Ur	idmill	to TS and a	10.00	1.30 or di	
		now-mu	seriar, ne	ecleation	al+le	arning	
S	IGNIFICANC	E:			facilit	7	
	ARCHEOLOGY	HISTORIC _CONSERVATION	LITERATURE	t/politicsSCIENCE	he: re MANITARIANse so	tertainment	3
~	COMMUNICAT	TIONSINDUSTRY	POLITICS/GO	VERNMENTOTHER (SPI	ECIFY)	planning	•
C	laims	st ² yes NO		•			
	III	SU- YES NO	"oldest" YES	S NO CC	only? YES	NO	

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:

architect/m.builder: landscape/garden designer: interior decorator:

engineer: artist/artisan: builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

personal

(label role & appropriate date)

events

institutional

DATES:	DATE OF CONSTRUCTI			of century): 2	.1795	
	DATE (S) OF "MAJOR"	ALTERATIONS:	10-10			
	HISTORICALLY SIGNI	FICANT DATE (S	:):			
	(OF NOMINATION) OTHER	FEDERAL AG	ENCY:		MUNICIPAL	COUNTY
ACREAGE	• (to nearest tenth	of an acre)	Cert	han 1	Found	lation"
				/ W	ASONRY FO	N-21_

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here) FRAME, SHINGLING

OCTAGONAL, REVOLVING CURVED GABLED CAP; WOODEN MACHTINERY INTACT; INTERIOR "SCRIMSHAWL" CARVING; RESTORED; MOVED, GNOE NUMEROOS ON CAPE COD THIS IS THE ONLY EXTANT EXAMPLE IN BREWSTER; USED TO GRIND CORN, ENPORT CROP OF 19TH C. Cape; USE DECLINED WITH IMPORTANCE OF CORN AFTER 1860'S MUSEUM.

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)