

(Rev. 10-90)

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 POOR HOUSE AND METHODIST CEMETERY

other names/site number Falmouth Work House; Poor Farm; Town Infirmary; Falmouth Artists' Guild

2. Location

street & number 744 MAIN STREET n/a not for Publication

city or town FALMOUTH N/A vicinity

state MASSACHUSETTS code MA county BARNSTABLE code 001 zip code 02540

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 1/22/98  
Signature of certifying official/Title Judith B. McDonough, Executive Director Date  
Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Edson H. Beall

Date of Action

2.26.98

Poor House and Methodist Cemetery  
Name of Property

Barnstable, Massachusetts  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

(Check only one box)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
1		sites
		structures
		objects
2		Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**

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

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT: Alms House, Poor House, Work House,

Poor Farm, Town Infirmary

COMMERCE: Tavern

FUNERARY: Cemetery

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION: Artists' Guild

FUNERARY: Cemetery

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Georgian

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete, stone

walls Wood Shingle, clapboard

roof Asphalt shingle

other

**Narrative Description**

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

(See continuation sheet)

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7. Narrative Description

**Summary Description of the Poor House and Methodist Cemetery**

The Falmouth Poor House was constructed ca. 1769 at an important crossroads in Hatchville (an interior village of the Town of Falmouth) where it served as a tavern. In 1812 - 1814, the building was purchased by the town, moved to its present location, and converted to use as the local Poor House. The building's unusually large scale probably reflects those two public-oriented historic uses. In most other ways it is typical of the region and the late Colonial to early Federal period. The wood-frame structure rises 2 1/2 stories from a granite block foundation to a gable roof with paired interior brick chimneys. Exterior sheathing consists of wood shingles with minimal wood trim and no stylistic detail. The entry is centered on a symmetrical five bay facade and windows contain 6/6 sash. The Falmouth Poor House building exterior has been little altered since the 19th century, while its site and setting have changed dramatically. The building interior remains as a physical record of its long history and multiple uses. The Methodist Cemetery of 1809 adjoins the Poor House on the west, where it is set off from the busy street by a wooden picket fence. Its level rectangular lot is dotted by trees and about 70 stones dating from ca. 1814 - 1951. The Poor House and Methodist Cemetery survive as the primary historic landmarks at the east end of Main Street which has been transformed into a commercial strip in the modern period.

**Location and Site of the Poor House and Methodist Cemetery**

The Falmouth Poor House and Methodist Cemetery are located at the east end of Main Street in Falmouth Village, the primary village of the Town of Falmouth. The Poor House stands close to the north side of the street, nearly opposite Scranton Avenue which leads to Falmouth Harbor. The building occupies the southwest corner of a large 13.4 acre lot, which extends northward to Dillingham Avenue. In the modern period, agricultural outbuildings and fields that once accompanied the Poor House have been replaced by the Falmouth Police Station located behind the Poor House building, and the Recreational Center sited to the east. Athletic fields and a few ancillary structures now occupy the rear (north) of the site on Dillingham Avenue.

These new uses are accompanied by a paved circulation system and large surface parking lots that have dramatically changed the immediate setting of the Poor House building. The larger setting has also changed as this end of Falmouth Village has been transformed from a quiet hinterland to a commercial strip. Nevertheless, the retention of small lawn areas immediately surrounding the building, along with two large trees in the front yard have done much to evoke the historic character of the building and site. The Methodist Cemetery immediately to the west

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of the Poor House further extends the historic setting in that direction. These two properties remain as the primary historic symbols for a large area.

**Description of the Poor House**

***Current Exterior Appearance of the Poor House***

The Falmouth Poor House is built on an unusually generous 48' x 35' rectangular plan. This large scale probably reflects the building's original use as a tavern, and influenced its eventual choice as the Poor House. It is also possible that the tavern was enlarged in the 19th century to serve its new civic function. The main block rises 2 1/2 stories from a foundation constructed of massive pink granite blocks (possibly from West Falmouth) to a side-gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. Two brick chimneys are centered on the roof ridge. This main block is extended by a two story wing centered on the rear (north) elevation, and a smaller one story wing that extends eastward beyond the wall of the main block.

The building is sheathed with weathered wood shingles, with the exception of the east and west sides of the rear wings which have clapboard siding painted gray with white trim. All three sections are very simply trimmed with narrow cornerboards, fascias, and window and door surrounds.

The south facade of the main block follows the archetypal Colonial period format of five bays symmetrically organized around a center entrance. In this case, the entrance contains a single-leaf four-panel door with upper glazing, set in a flat board frame with no transom or sidelights. The door dates to the second half of the 19th century, probably the 1870s when a major renovation occurred. The entry is fronted by an open porch that is approached by two massive pink granite block steps. The porch was repaired in 1843 according to town records. All of the other facade bays contain rectangular window openings that are aligned vertically and horizontally. First story windows are headed by molded lintels. Second story window heads are incorporated into the cornice fascia. Most window openings contain 6/6 double hung wooden sash; the three eastern windows at the second story exhibit an unusual 3/3 sash composed of long narrow lights. **(photo 1)**

The east side elevation contains four evenly spaced windows at the first and second stories, with two additional, but slightly smaller windows centered in the attic gable. The southernmost window opening at the second story has been blocked with shingles but the painted frame remains in place. The west side elevation is nearly identical, but lacks any sign of windows in

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the north bay at either story. Most of the north elevation is covered by the two rear wings. The two exposed westernmost bays contain two standard windows at each story. An exposed area between the wings contains paired windows at both stories; the first story pair are headed by a bracketed canted hood that may date from the 1870s remodeling. (photo 2)

***Current Exterior Appearance of the Poor House Rear Wings***

Two wings extend from the rear (north) elevation. The larger wing, which measures 20' long by 17' wide, was added in 1842. It is centered on the main block, and rises two stories from a very low stone foundation to a gable roof; a brick stove chimney rises through the rear center of the ridge. The fenestration pattern is irregular with windows of varying size and configuration that reflect change over time. The wing is entered through a rear door; a wooden fire escape rises along the west elevation to a second entrance created from a former window opening. The smaller wing was constructed between 1888 and 1908. It covers the easternmost bay of the rear north wall of the main block and juts beyond its east wall. This wing rises one story from a high pink granite block foundation to a combination gable and hip roof. It has one door and one window on both the east and west elevations, with a single window on the north side. Sash and trim are similar to that of the main block and other wing. Bulkhead entrances to two partial cellar areas are located on both the east and west sides of the building at the junction of main block and wing. They lead into small independent rooms where the stone foundation materials are clearly seen. Most of the building stands above crawl space.

***Current Interior Appearance of the Poor House***

The interior plan of the main block consists of two very large rooms framing a central entrance/stair hall core with both front and rear stairs rising two stories to the attic. The two chimney stacks flank that core, and jut a short distance into the large adjoining rooms. All fireplace and/or stove openings have been enclosed and the trim removed.

The current interior plan and finishes preserve an eloquent physical record of the building's long and varied history. Wood wainscoting, consisting of two wide horizontal boards, is found on most exterior walls, surviving as the building's most likely 18th century element. Exposed structural members like corner posts, girts, or summer beams that are typical of 18th century construction are lacking, although it is possible that they exist behind later plaster walls and ceilings. In areas where the plaster walls and ceilings are damaged, revealing the underlying lath, it consists of narrow machine-sawed boards. This type of lath was not available until well into the 19th century and thus dates to the Poor House period. Areas of earlier plaster and lath

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may remain as well, but would require intrusive testing to locate. In some areas, 19th century wallpaper can be seen beneath later layers of plaster and paint. Most doors are four paneled, with longer upper panels, a configuration that is typical of the later 19th century. They probably date to the major remodeling of the 1870s.

Throughout the building, the floors contribute some of the most visible evidence of the building evolution. At the first story, floors are covered with a combination of linoleum, wall to wall carpeting, narrow pine boards, and narrow maple boards. The areas of pine flooring have long narrow patches that show where the 8' x 8' cubicle partitions of 1823 were removed in the early 1960s. The upper story is similar, but somewhat more intact, especially on the east side. Wide (ca. 8" - 14") floor boards remain here, as do a few of the cubicle walls, and one intact cubicle at the northeast corner. Here it is clear that the cubicles were joined by a labyrinth of narrow corridors, that many were entered through angled door openings to save space, and that most had no direct access to the heating source represented by the two chimney stacks. The attic is a large open space that shows signs of having been subdivided into cubicles like those of the lower floors. Many four paneled doors that were taken down when partitions were removed in the 1960s are stored in the attic along with a few earlier doors consisting of two wide vertical planks.

***Changes to the Poor House and its Site***

*See section 8 for additional information.*

The Falmouth Poor House building has evolved over time as it has been moved and adapted to new uses. No solid evidence of the building's 18th century tavern appearance has been located, but some surviving building elements clearly date to that early period. Much of its post-1812 history is unusually well documented in town records, providing an invaluable source for interpretation of later building fabric and changes. The building remains today as a well preserved physical record of local, regional, and statewide social policies toward poor and otherwise dependent citizens.

The first known major alteration to adapt the former tavern to its new Poor House function occurred in 1823. At that time, the two main stories and the attic were subdivided into 24 cubicles, each measuring 8' x 8', and accessed through a labyrinth of narrow twisting hallways.

The 1840s saw a variety of exterior improvements, ranging from whitewashing the walls, and repairing and reinstalling an old porch, to the addition of a substantial rear wing. Town records state that in 1842 the building was enlarged:

Voted that an additional building be put to the rear of such house and uniting

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with it --- 20 feet in length and 17 feet in breadth .... and so constructed .... as the lower room .... may be conveniently occupied as a wash and sinke room -- and also as a suitable place for the confinement and punishment of the refractory and unmanageable -- and the upper story ... to be divided into lodging rooms for the insane --- and such other inmates ... as require to be kept separate from inmates generally therein.

Town Clerk William Hewins, writing in 1920, described the mid-19th century exterior of the Poor House as part of his reminiscence of the rapidly disappearing village of his youth:

The Town Farm was an old dilapidated white-washed building, with a very neglected appearance. It was on the same location of the present site.

The building remains in town ownership, but has operated under the stewardship of the Falmouth Artists' Guild since the early 1960s. The Guild has made only one major change to adapt the building to their need for studios, classrooms, and exhibition space, by removing most of the 1823 partitions that divided both stories into 8' x 8' cubicles. Some of the cubicles and partition walls remain, most notably in the northeast corner of the second story. Their former presence remains clearly readable in floor patches throughout the building.

***Summary of Changes to the Falmouth Poor House and Site***

- 1812 - 1814: Building moved from original Hatchville site, repaired, and fitted up for Poor House use; site fenced;
- 1823: First, second and attic stories partitioned into twenty-four 8' x 8' cubicles;
- 1825: Barn constructed on property;
- 1842: Two story rear wing added to accommodate the growing number of residents, and to separate the insane, the rowdy, and other subcategories from the general population;
- 1870: Major interior and exterior renovation;
- 1878: Agricultural capacity of site expanded with new hen and hog houses, enlargement of the barn, new fences, and grading;
- 1917: Heat added;

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ca. 1964: Removal of cubicle partitions as part of building renovation for use by the Falmouth Artists' Guild.

**Description of the Methodist Cemetery**

The Methodist Cemetery occupies an 18,765 square foot lot on the north side of Main Street. The Poor House, described above, stands to the east while a commercial building directly abuts the cemetery on the west. The cemetery is set off from the heavily traveled Main Street corridor by a broad strip of turf with several small trees and three benches. This was part of the cemetery until ca. 1960 when the church set it off as a separate lot, planning to sell their frontage for commercial development. Burials in this area were reinterred elsewhere in the cemetery, but the development plan was halted. A simple wooden picket fence that is painted white now marks the front of the cemetery. The other sides are not enclosed, although young trees are beginning to form a hedge/screen on the north and east sides. The burying ground is maintained in rough turf, and dotted with numerous maple trees, many of substantial size and age.

The ca. 70 headstones are placed in an irregular pattern, but all face south to the street. They range in date from 1814 - 1951, and are made from a variety of materials including slate, marble, limestone, and granite. They feature typical late-18th and 19th century motifs such as death's-heads, willows, and floral designs. The largest and most elaborate stone dates the to mid-19th century and commemorates members of the Davis family. It is a tall, polished, black granite shaft located near the center of the cemetery. To the west, granite posts (missing iron chains) continue to mark the Bourne and Donaldson family plots. There are no lavish monuments or crypts, testifying to the limited means and restrained nature of its occupants.

Members of many well-known Falmouth families are interred here including Bournes, Davises, Donaldsons, Fishes, Hatches, Giffords, Landers, and Swifts. The oldest legible stone belongs to the Reverend Abner Clark: "Born in Salem, N.H. died in this town in the triumph of Faith with full assurance of hope 2/15/1814 in the 26th year of his age after having spent near six years in the work of the ministry as an itinerant preacher in the M.E.C." It is believed that some residents of the adjacent Poor House are buried here in unmarked graves as well. The small number of stones at the rear of the cemetery suggests that it may be the location of these unmarked graves.

**Archaeological Description**

No prehistoric sites are currently recorded on the nominated property, however, sites may be present. Four prehistoric sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile). Environmental characteristics of the property also indicate the presence of locational criteria (slope, soil

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drainage, distance to wetlands) which are favorable for many types of prehistoric sites. Most of the nominated area is characterized by well drained, level to moderately sloping soils formed in glacial outwash in close proximity (within 1000 feet) to both freshwater resources and Falmouth Inner Harbor. While Falmouth Inner Harbor was reported to be altered from a fresh water pond to a harbor historically, it may have been estuarine at some point in the prehistoric past. In any event, marine related ecosystems and their associated coastal resources are also located in close proximity to the nominated area. Given the above information and the size of the nominated property (less than 10 acres), a high potential exists for the recovery of prehistoric resources in the Poor House locale. Some impacts, including grading have occurred on the property, however, the extent of these activities is currently unknown.

A high potential also exists for the recovery of historical archaeological resources on the nominated property. This portion of Falmouth Village lies near residential, commercial and institutional settlement loci identified for the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, however, none of these activities have yet to be identified in the nominated area. In the cemetery area, however, historic archaeological resources may include structural remains from the 1811 Methodist Meetinghouse erected immediately west of the Poor House site. The meetinghouse was moved in 1829. Unmarked graves are also likely in the cemetery area, possibly in the rear portion of the lot. The Methodist Society maintained a relationship with the Poor House even after the church was moved, allowing paupers to be buried in the cemetery in unmarked graves. The small number grave stones in the rear portion of the cemetery has been interpreted as evidence for the presence of unmarked graves in that area. Archaeological resources may also survive on the Poor House site. Structural remains from outbuildings and occupational related features can survive in the area immediately surrounding the house. At least one barn (1824) and structures for hogs and chickens are reported with the house, however, some may have been located off the present property in the vicinity of the Police Station to the rear of the Poor House property. Some outbuildings and especially occupational related features may also be located beneath additions made to the Poor House structure in 1842 and 1888-1908.

**(end)**

Poor House and Methodist Cemetery  
Name of Property

Barnstable, Massachusetts  
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)

Social History

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1812-1947

**Significant Dates**

see continuation sheet

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

unknown

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal agency
- Local government Library, Town Hall
- University
- Other

Name of repository:  
Falmouth Historical Society

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**8. Narrative Statement of Significance**

The Falmouth Poor House and adjacent Methodist Cemetery have a long history of over 200 years that embraces several important themes in local, regional, and state history. The Poor House building was constructed ca. 1769 as a tavern. At that time it was sited at an important crossroads in the interior Falmouth village of Hatchville. In 1812 - 1814, the tavern was purchased by the town and moved to its present site in Falmouth Village to centralize and upgrade facilities for poor and otherwise dependent citizens. The site was donated by the newly formed Methodist Society, adjacent to their cemetery and church. When municipal use of the Poor House ceased in 1960, the town retained ownership, and the building was happily reborn as the new home of the Falmouth Artists' Guild. Today, it is one of the few extant poor house buildings in Barnstable County. Its continuous post-1812 history of municipal ownership and public use have helped to preserve more of its historic character than most other examples.

In addition to its strong and multi-layered historical associations, the Poor House building has considerable architectural significance as an unusually well preserved and well documented poor house. The current building fabric preserves a physical record of the property's long and varied history, with most elements reflecting the primary period of significance from 1812 - 1920. Remnants of the 1823 interior subdivision into 8' x 8' cubicles, provide an especially tangible record of 19th century attitudes toward the poor. The Poor House remains as Falmouth's oldest municipal building, and one of the oldest buildings of any type in the community. The social history and physical presence of the Poor House is reinforced by the adjacent Methodist Cemetery where some of its former residents are believed to be interred. The cemetery is the oldest property in continuous Methodist ownership in New England, and may be the second oldest in the nation. It remains as the only extant record of the origins of the Methodist faith in Falmouth, the church having been moved and then replaced.

Together, the Poor House and Methodist Cemetery remain as the primary surviving symbols of the historic character of East Main Street. They possess integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and associations, and meet criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places. The property is significant on the local level, with a primary period of significance extending from 1812 - 1920, and a more general period of significance embracing its entire history from ca. 1769 to the present. The primary period is focused on the building's use as the local Alms House, Poor House, Work House, and Poor Farm because these overlapping uses were the most enduring and well documented, and because the present building and site are most closely associated with that time period. The tavern use (pre-1812) is not well documented and occurred on a different site in a building whose exterior and interior configuration is unknown. The later Town Infirmary use (1920 - 1960) represented a period of

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decline, while the Artists' Guild use (post-1963) has occurred within the last 50 years. The dates of the cemetery parallel those of the poor house.

The Falmouth Poor House illustrates many important historical concepts about poverty and public responsibility, and about 19th century society in general. These include changing attitudes toward the poor, the changing make-up of the population that was encompassed under the general heading of "poor," and the proper balance of humanitarian concern versus cost control. Falmouth's experience is directly related to that of the state and nation as a whole. Massachusetts was a national leader in the 19th century in a wide variety of social reform movements, many of which related to the proper care of dependent citizens. Throughout the primary period of significance, town records refer to the property as the Alms House, the Poor House, the Work House (after 1826), and the Poor Farm (after 1880). As implied by these alternative names, the Poor House remains as a tangible symbol of changing attitudes toward the poor, including who and what they were, along with the nature and extent of appropriate public support. These local changes mirror similar shifts at the state and national levels as well.

Care of poor and otherwise dependent citizens has been considered a public responsibility in New England from its earliest settlement period, and until the 20th century that responsibility was carried out at the local level. In Barnstable County for example, in 1683 "..... the court ordered that the selectmen in each town 'shall take care of the poor in their respective townships, the town to provide for the expense.'" (Freeman Vol. I: p. 306) During the Colonial period, many towns cared for the poor by "placing out" or "auctioning" them to citizens who offered the lowest bids for their care. In some cases, the poor were offered assistance in their own homes. At that time, and throughout much of the 19th century, "poor" was a catch-all phrase that encompassed a wide range of conditions that might render persons unable to support themselves. The "poor" included orphans and widows, the chronically ill and alcoholic, the aged and infirm, and the physically and mentally impaired. Those who were able to perform some useful work to offset the cost of public support were often required to do so.

Most Barnstable County towns established poor houses. Barnstable and Sandwich were first, both replacing 18th century buildings in the 1820s; none remain. Provincetown was third when it converted an 1801 small pox hospital to poor house use in 1806. Falmouth was fourth with its purchase of Peter Yost's tavern in 1812. Most other local poor houses in the region date to the 1830s and 1840s when the county population peaked. These include Eastham (ca. 1825), Wellfleet (ca. 1830), Orleans (1831; replaced 1873), Yarmouth (1835), Dennis (1837), Brewster (1838), and Truro (1840 - 1845) (Deyo 1890). The Brewster, Eastham, Falmouth, and Wellfleet examples survive and are included in the state inventory. The uncertainty of regular maritime employment and a high mortality rate of sea-going males, with a resulting loss of family stability, made Cape Cod poor houses a necessary part of most communities.

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Falmouth appears to have followed the typical path of "auctioning" and "placing out" the poor until at least 1800. This conclusion is supported by many entries in town records that specify payments to various townsmen for poor support. Some of the poor were "placed out" or boarded with those individuals, while others may have remained in their own homes, receiving support directly from the town. In 1800, the town appointed a committee of five "..... to see what method the town will take for supporting the poor ...."

That committee recommended:

..... that the town empower the Selectmen or any other person whom they shall choose either to hire or Purchase if to be found a House which shall be fitted up for the reception of such persons as apply to the Town for assistance also to provide some suitable person to take care of those who go into the House to see that they are employed in such useful occupation as they are capable of.

The following year, the town voted to have three Overseers of the Poor and to empower them to "hire a house." Such a house was apparently not found, and between 1803 and 1807, the town voted against rental or purchase of a Poor House. A payment of \$20 to Thomas Nye for his house in connection with the poor was recorded in 1809, but this seems far too small an amount to represent a rental. County historians Frederick Freeman and Simeon Deyo both state that a Poor House existed on Shore Street in the very early 19th century, but that information is unsubstantiated by the primary source of town records. In addition, former town clerk, William Hewins does not mention this use in his 1920s description of buildings that stood on Shore Street by 1850.

It was not until the March and May town meetings of 1812, that positive action was taken. On March 9 the Committee was authorized to "receive proposals for building the poor house", or "to buy or hire the house of Peter Yost if they see fit." On May 16 it was voted that:

The Committee appointed to purchase or hire a suitable house for the Reception of the Poor have attended the same and report as follows: that is; have purchased an house near the East End Meeting House (1797), of Peter Yost, for which we have agreed to give three hundred and eighty dollars.

The Tavern was constructed ca. 1769, on a site about 4.5 miles north of its present location, in the interior village of Hatchville. The Hatchville site was an important local and regional crossroads, supporting the building's early use as a tavern. The tavern faced Sandwich Road, which was a major thoroughfare connecting Falmouth Village (primary settlement of the Town of Falmouth) with the neighboring town of Sandwich, and the more distant county seat at

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Barnstable. Intersecting roads including Carriage Shop Road, Meeting House Road, Thomas Landers Road, and Hatchville/Sam Turner Road led to the neighboring villages of Waquoit, Davisville, West Falmouth, and North Falmouth. Construction of the East End Meeting House in 1797, opposite the tavern, confirmed the importance of the area. Shubael Lawrence was the early tavern keeper. Several taverns existed in various parts of Colonial period Falmouth. Another extant example is the Abner Davis Tavern (built late 17th century; tavern by 1804) in Woods Hole.

In March, 1813 the town voted to move the newly acquired Poor House to Falmouth Village. A committee of three was chosen to select an appropriate site, and to oversee a subscription campaign to pay for the move and associated expenses. In April, the Town:

Voted to accept the report of the Committee on the subject of the poor house fixing it on the Society Land Mr. Lincoln lift [lived] on during his ministry.

Other entries refer to this as the parsonage land. The Society cited above is most likely the Methodist Society organized in 1808 and formally organized in 1811. Early Methodist services were held in the home of General Swift (immediately east of the Poor House site). The Society established a cemetery ca. 1809, and erected a meeting house in 1811 on the land of early member and pastor, Dr. Hugh George Donaldson. (immediately west of the Poor House site) The relationship of the Methodist Society and the Poor House is somewhat confused by the fact that the Reverend Henry Lincoln (1766 - 1857), cited in town records, was minister to the Congregational Society for 33 years (1790 - 1823). In any event, the Poor House was moved, set up next to the Methodist cemetery, and repaired under the supervision of Thomas Lawrence as agent for the sum of \$342.45. The Methodist Society apparently retained a connection with the Poor House even after their church was moved in 1829, allowing paupers to be buried in their cemetery in unmarked graves.

In March, the 1814 town meeting debated about the management of the poor, and whether they should be placed out, or whether some or all should live in the Poor House. In April and May, it was voted that the board of the poor should be put up at auction and struck off "to the highest bidder". Nathaniel Bourne won the year-long contract with a bid of \$950.00. It is unclear how many were lodged at the Poor House, and how many remained elsewhere. It was also voted to fence the site immediately.

The town's poor did not become an important topic of debate again until 1823. Still at issue were their numbers, along with the best method and lowest cost of providing proper care. That

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Poor House and Methodist Cemetery  
Falmouth (Barnstable County)  
Massachusetts

Section number 8 Page 5

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year a committee was appointed to consider building a larger Poor House to accommodate the town's 69 paupers. At the same time, the existing building was subdivided into 24 cubicles, each measuring 8' x 8'. The following year, the town concluded that the Poor House was the proper place to offer assistance with a vote that "all persons wanting any help from the Town should go into the Poor House". This policy was reaffirmed in 1825 when the Overseers of the Poor voted that "It is not the Town's duty to respond to requests for help unless the named person receive it at the Town Poor House". A larger building was not mentioned again, and it is unclear how all of the town's poor were accommodated. Continuing entries in later reports under the heading of "Expenses of Town Poor Out of Almshouse" suggest that the policy adopted at town meeting was not of long endurance, and/or was not strictly enforced.

As part of the process of consolidating care, a committee of six was appointed in 1824 to visit the poor and take inventory of any possessions that could be brought to the Poor House with them. A committee of three was chosen to lay in supplies, and still another committee of four was established to actually "remove the poor to the Poor House". In 1825, it was voted to place a family in the Poor House to care for its residents, and Nymphas Davis was allowed to live there without expense in return for acting as caretaker. In addition, a 16' x 18' barn was constructed to promote self-sufficiency.

The public expense of caring for the poor, and ways to encourage or require them to contribute to their own support took center stage in 1826 when the town considered creation of a Work House, and a board to be called the Overseers of the Work House. The rules and regulations for the workhouse included the following provision:

In case any person shall refuse, be idle or not perform such reasonable task or stint as shall be assigned, or shall be stubborn and disorderly, such person shall be confined in solitude on coarse or very simple foods, or be put out to hired labor for such term of time as may be judged necessary."

The Work House appears to have been established in addition to, rather than in place of the Poor House. Both terms appear in town records along with the third term of Alms House which was used for all formal reports to the state. Nymphas Davis, who had been the supervisor of the Poor House, also served as master of the Work House. Mayhew Baker (b. 1822) of Davisville was appointed keeper in 1869, and served until ill health forced him to resign in 1890. Lemuel Howland served in the intervening years. (Deyo 1890: 638, 678)

Establishment of the Work House, and distinction of the able-bodied poor, reflects the general trend toward classification of the poor that was occurring throughout the nation in the 19th

(continued)

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Poor House and Methodist Cemetery  
Falmouth (Barnstable County)  
Massachusetts**

Section number 8 Page 6

century, a movement in which Massachusetts was a leader. Local classification is hinted at in the 1823 census of the poor which illustrated the range of conditions that were grouped under that general heading. That census listed 24 persons who were partially supported by the town, 25 of various ages who were in good health, 8 who were described as "insane non compas" and 12 who were "sick, incurable, and past labor".

This early recognition that the "poor" were actually made up of distinct classes, was succeeded by more concrete developments. These include the creation of special quarters for the unruly and the insane in the new rear ell of 1842, and boarding some insane at the state asylums that were established to improve their care and treatment in the second half of the 19th century. A moving testimonial to the state legislature by reformer Dorothea Dix that documented the horrific treatment of the insane at many local poor houses, was a key factor in the creation of these state facilities. Falmouth town records include specific entries for expenses related to the support of local residents at the state asylums in Taunton and Danvers. In 1877 the cost of boarding two persons at the Taunton Lunatic Hospital (established 1851, and the closest state institution to Cape Cod) was \$571.00. The records also refer to the state Reform School (probably the Massachusetts State Reform School/Lyman School of 1847 in Westborough) where the cost of boarding one person in 1877 was \$91.99.

Despite earlier concerns about the size of the Poor House, the numbers of poor, and the policy of offering care only at the Poor House, the building was not enlarged or substantially improved until 1842 when it was:

Voted that an additional building be put to the rear of such house and uniting with it --- 20 feet in length and 17 feet in breadth .... and so constructed .... as the lower room .... may be conveniently occupied as a wash and sinke room -- and also as a suitable place for the confinement and punishment of the refractory and unmanageable -- and the upper story ... to be divided into lodging rooms for the insane --- and such other inmates ... as require to be kept separate from inmates generally therein.

Town records indicate that the Poor House received regular maintenance in addition to the major interior alterations of 1823 and the new rear ell of 1842. For example, the exterior was whitewashed several times. Unusually comprehensive repairs to the Poor House were made in the mid-1870s when carpenters and masons were hired to repair or replace doors, windows, blinds, hinges, pipe, hair plaster, paint and wallpaper, an iron sink, and a stone door step. In addition to the building repairs, many new furnishings were purchased for a total cost of \$218.15. These included several iron bedsteads and one dozen quilts, 24 spindle bentwood

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Poor House and Methodist Cemetery  
Falmouth (Barnstable County)  
Massachusetts

Section number 8 Page 7

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chairs, 6 wooden rocking chairs, 12 small bureaus, 6 small and 2 large mirrors, several tables, and 3 settees. While repairs were being made, 20 residents were boarded at a house rented from the Maravista Land Company for \$35. Later improvements to the building facilities included a \$46.04 cooking range in 1889 and \$1,000 in sanitary improvements in 1890.

The site was enlarged and improved on a regular basis as well. Most efforts were focused on maintaining perimeter fences. Other site improvements enhanced the abilities of the poor to contribute to their own support by producing items for their own use, and for sale. This trend is closely related to the establishment of the Work House in 1826, and to ongoing concerns about the relatively high level of expenditures required to support the poor. Residents of the Poor House began to produce goods for sale in the 1840s. In 1878 the agricultural capacity of the property was enhanced by the addition of a hen house and hen yard, a hog house, new and repaired fences, alterations to the 1824 barn, painting of various structures, and grading of the land for a total of \$311.66. These improvements led to another name for the property, the Falmouth Poor Farm. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the poor farm produced potatoes, hay, barrels, fowl, eggs, milk, cream, beef, pork, butter, and strawberries for both internal consumption and for sale.

During this period, the numbers of Poor House residents steadily dropped, and more transients were included. In 1875 for example, the average daily number was 12, a number that was expanded during the year by 56 tramps who were accommodated on a short term basis. Poor House records also chronicle the issue of the settled vs. the unsettled poor which distinguished a community's long-term residents from newcomers and transients. As increased economic opportunity coupled with major transportation improvements encouraged people to leave their birthplaces, disputes arose about who was responsible for their care in the event of misfortune: the community of birth or that of current residence. Falmouth records include payments both to and from other towns for support of the poor. By 1900, the daily average population at the Poor House had declined to 3.75 while the cost of support had risen to \$3,468.26. In 1920, the Poor House was renamed the Town Infirmary, and seems to have functioned primarily as a nursing home. That function ceased in 1960, made superfluous by state and federal public welfare and Social Security programs.

Soon thereafter, in 1963, the town leased the Poor House building to the Falmouth Artists' Guild, an organization that had informally gathered in the late 1950s around the catalyst of architect/painter Angelo Cangiarella. The Guild paid a nominal \$1 annual fee to the town, and took responsibility for repair, maintenance, and insurance of a building that was described as

(continued)

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Poor House and Methodist Cemetery  
Falmouth (Barnstable County)  
Massachusetts**

Section number 8 Page 8

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“sadly run down and buried in litter.” Guild members and friends removed most of the 24 cubicle partitions that had been installed in 1823 as part of their renovation effort. The Guild has continued to occupy and maintain the building, and to preserve a significant piece of Falmouth history to the present time.

During this same period of the 1950s and 1960s, the transition to the modern era was also affecting the Methodist Cemetery. The last known burial occurred in 1951, and in the 1960s the church planned to raise funds by selling the increasingly lucrative Main Street frontage for commercial development. This portion of the site was subdivided on local assessors maps, and remains reinterred at the rear of the cemetery before the plan was abandoned. Thus, both poor house and cemetery remain among the handful of historic resources that survived the wholesale transformation of East Main Street to a commercial strip in the second half of the 20th century.

**Archaeological Significance**

Since patterns of prehistoric settlement and subsistence in Falmouth and in the Upper Cape in general are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. While archaeological research has been active throughout much of the Cape during most of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Upper Cape, including Falmouth has been neglected during this effort. Limited amateur artifact collections are available for the town, and, when present often lack locational and contextual information reducing their value for understanding the nature of settlement and change within the town. Limited numbers of professional archaeological surveys in the town have also rarely included substantial excavations and have focused on their immediate area with little interpretation of the role of local sites and issues of regional prehistory. The above information indicates the systematic study and interpretation of any surviving sites in the town can be important in better understanding the prehistoric settlement and subsistence in Falmouth and in the Upper Cape locale. Prehistoric sites in the Falmouth locale can contribute information relating to a number of potential research topics, many of which are directly related to the town's location in a coastal area and its glacial history. Cape Cod's human settlement history of approximately 11,000 years combined with sea levels considerably lower than today following deglaciation created an environment in which human populations adapted to changing resources at first characterized by an inland area which increasingly became coastal as the sea level rose until it basically stabilized approximately 5,000 years ago. Prehistoric sites in the Falmouth area can contribute information relating to Native tool technologies and the effects of raw material availability. The lack of bedrock lithic source areas on the Cape and Falmouth resulted in Native peoples trading for raw materials or adapting to cobble technologies and exploitation of lithic sources available in local glacial outwash. Prehistoric sites in the Poor House locale may contain information indicating the extent to which locally available outwash deposits were used as source areas for local tool manufacture.

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetPoor House and Methodist Cemetery  
Falmouth (Barnstable County)  
MassachusettsSection number 8 Page 9

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Historic archaeological resources described above have the potential to document the early growth of the town's Methodist Society and its relationship to the town's treatment of the poor in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Further documentary research combined with archaeological survey and testing of the cemetery property can determine the location of structural remains related to the 1811 Methodist Meetinghouse and occupational features related to its use. Archaeological testing can also determine the location of unmarked graves reported in the cemetery, possibly in its rear area. Detailed analysis of these resources can help better understand the growth of the Methodist Society in Falmouth and the role it played in the development of the town's Poor Farm and general treatment of paupers. Similar documentary research and archaeological testing of the Poor Farm property can provide detailed information on the town's treatment of the poor and the role Falmouth played in the general trend towards the classification of the poor that was occurring nationally in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a movement in which Massachusetts was a leader. Information may also be present indicating the extent to which Methodists were also involved in this movement.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Poor House and Methodist Cemetery  
Falmouth (Barnstable County)  
Massachusetts

Section number 8 Page 10

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**Significant Dates**

- ca. 1769 Poor House building constructed as the Peter Yost Tavern;
- 1801 town voted to have three Overseers of the Poor and to empower them to "hire a house";
- 1803-1807 town voted against rental or purchase of a Poor House;
- 1812-1813 Peter Yost tavern was purchased by town and moved to present site in Falmouth Village to centralize and upgrade facilities for poor and otherwise dependent citizens;
- ca. 1809 establishment of Methodist Cemetery;
- 1811 construction of Methodist Church adjacent to Cemetery;
- 1823 town's poor numbered 69; existing building subdivided into 24 cubicles, each measuring 8' x 8';
- 1825 16' x 18' barn was constructed to promote self-sufficiency;
- 1829 Methodist church building moved west on Main Street;
- 1840s residents of Poor House began to produce goods for sale;
- 1842 20' x 17' rear ell built to house insane, refractory, and unmanageable;
- 1870s refurnishing and numerous repairs to Poor House; some residents boarded at state hospital and reform school.
- 1878 agricultural capacity of Poor House/Farm enhanced by adding hen house and yard, a hog house, new and repaired fences, alterations to the 1824 barn;
- 1920 Poor House renamed Town Infirmary; functioned like nursing home;
- 1960s municipal use of Poor House/Town Infirmary ceased; building rented to Falmouth Artists' Guild. Some graves in Methodist Cemetery close to Main Street moved when church planned to sell portion of site; never done.

(end)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Poor House and Methodist Cemetery  
Falmouth (Barnstable County)  
Massachusetts

Section number 9 Page 1

### Poor House and Methodist Cemetery Bibliography

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- Dunkle, William. *Town of Falmouth Poor and its Alms House*. Unpublished research. 1997.
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Falmouth Proprietors' Records and Treasurer's Records to 1813; 1842 - 1891.  
Orders and Regulations 1826 - 1841; 1826 - 1847; 1826 - 1865; The Poor 1818 - 1829;  
Work House Records 1826 - 1841; Expenditures 1829 - 1860; 1836 - 1867.  
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- Jenkins, Candace. *Falmouth Village: 1850-1976.* typescript. 1977.
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- Massachusetts Historical Commission. *Reconnaissance Survey Report: Falmouth..* 1985.  
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(continued)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Poor House and Methodist Cemetery  
Falmouth (Barnstable County  
Massachusetts

Section number   9   Page   2  

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### Maps, Plans, Atlases

*Map of Barnstable, Dukes, and Nantucket Counties*. Henry F. Walling. 1858.

*Atlas of Barnstable County*. George H. Walker & Co. 1880

*Atlas of Barnstable County*. Walker Lithograph & Publishing Co. 1908

*Sanborn Insurance Atlas*. 1914

*Sanborn Insurance Atlas*. 1930, corrected through 1965.

(END)

Poor House and Methodist Cemetery  
Name of Property

Barnstable County, MA  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** ca. 1.25 acres

**UTM References See continuation sheet.**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 19	365260	4601220			
Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
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 Candace Jenkins, Preservation Consultant, with Betsy Friedberg, MHC, National Register Director

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date January 1998

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

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02125

**Additional Documentation**

**Submit the following items with the completed form:**

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

- A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

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

**Property Owner**

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

name Town of Falmouth / John Wesley Methodist Church, Inc.

street & number 59 Town Hall Square / 270 Gifford Street telephone 508-548-7611 (town) 508-548-3050 (church)

city or town Falmouth state MA zip code 02540

**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

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Poor House and Methodist Cemetery  
Falmouth (Barnstable County)  
Massachusetts**

Section number 10 Page 1

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**10. Geographical Data**

***Verbal Boundary Description***

The boundaries of the nominated property include the Falmouth Poor House and adjacent Methodist Cemetery. The Poor House building occupies the southwest corner of a large 13.4 acre lot. In the case of the Poor House, the nomination is confined to the building and its immediate environs as defined by Main Street (south) and paved access/ circulation roads (north and east). These boundaries maintain small areas of turf on both sides of, and in front of the building. Two trees on the front lawn area and one near the southwest corner, help to maintain and enhance historic character.

In addition to the Poor House and portion of its lot as described above, the nomination includes the Methodist Cemetery which abuts the Poor House lot on the west side. The boundary conforms to the north, south, and west cemetery lot lines.

The boundaries of the proposed Falmouth Poor House and Methodist Cemetery nomination are shown on the attached Town of Falmouth assessors maps (sheet 39, 1" = 200', corrected through 1/1997; sheet 47B; 1" = 100'; corrected through 1/1997).

***Verbal Boundary Justification***

The boundaries of the nominated property include the Poor House and Methodist Cemetery for two reasons. One is their close early historical association. The other recognizes that they are rare 19th century survivors on East Main Street, an area that has evolved into a typical commercial strip in the mid to late 20th century. These adjacent properties reinforce each others ability to transmit an image of the past in an area that otherwise retains few signs of the pre-modern era.

(end)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Poor House and Methodist Cemetery

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Barnstable

DATE RECEIVED: 1/30/98                      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/09/98  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/25/98                      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/16/98  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 98000147

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: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    2.26.98 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in the  
National Register**

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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



Falmouth Poor Farm,

Barnstable County, MA

Facing NW; showing S and E elevations

3/1997

Candace Jenkins

17 Slade St. Belmont MA

Photograph 1



Falmouth Poor Farm

Barnstable County, MA

Facing E; showing W elevation

3/1997

Clarence Jenkins

17 Stude St, Belmont MA

Photograph 2



Falmouth Poor House + Methodist Cemetery  
Bramstable County, Mass.

facing E from inside cemetery to W. building elevation  
3/97

Candace Jenkins

17 Slade St.

Belmont, MA

Photo 3



Falmouth Poor House & Methodist Cemetery  
Barnstable County, MA  
Cemetery Facing NW

8/97

Candace Jenkins

17 Slade St.

Belmont, MA

photo 4



Falmouth Poor House + Methodist Cemetery  
Barnstable County, MA  
Cemetery Facing NE

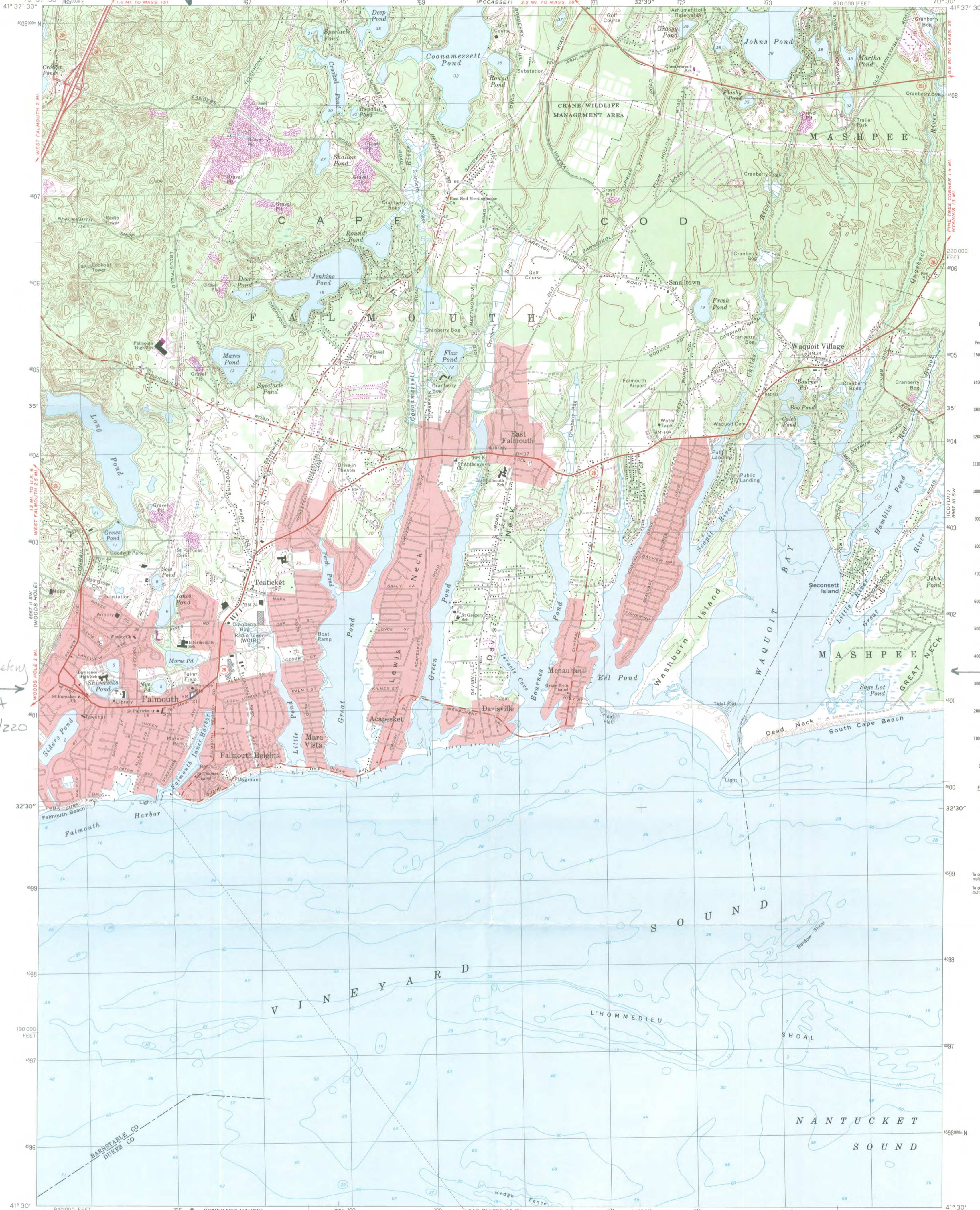
8/97

Candace Jenkins

17 Skid St.

Belmont, MA

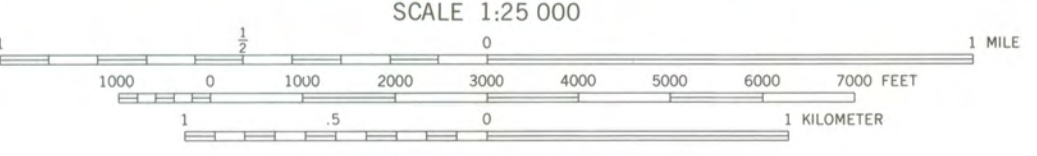
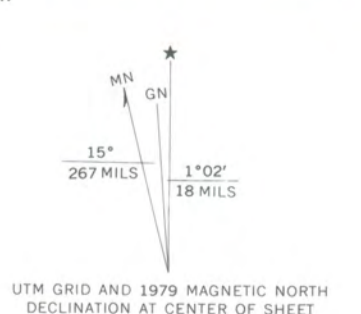
photo 5



Poor House and  
Methodist Cemetery  
744 Main St.  
Falmouth, MA  
19/365/260/4601/220

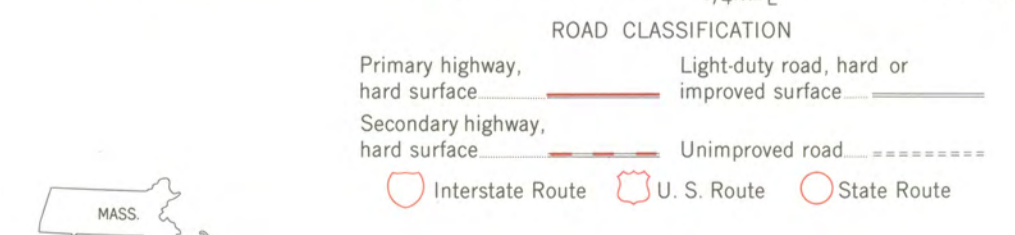


Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey  
Topography by planetable surveys 1936. Revised from aerial  
photographs taken 1971. Field checked 1972  
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Charts 259 and  
260 (1971). This information is not intended for navigational purposes  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,  
mainland zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid,  
zone 19  
Boundaries in tidewater area from information furnished  
by Massachusetts Department of Public Works  
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown  
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of  
the National or State reservations shown on this map



SCALE 1:25 000  
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929  
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER  
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE  
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER  
THE AVERAGE RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 1.6 FEET

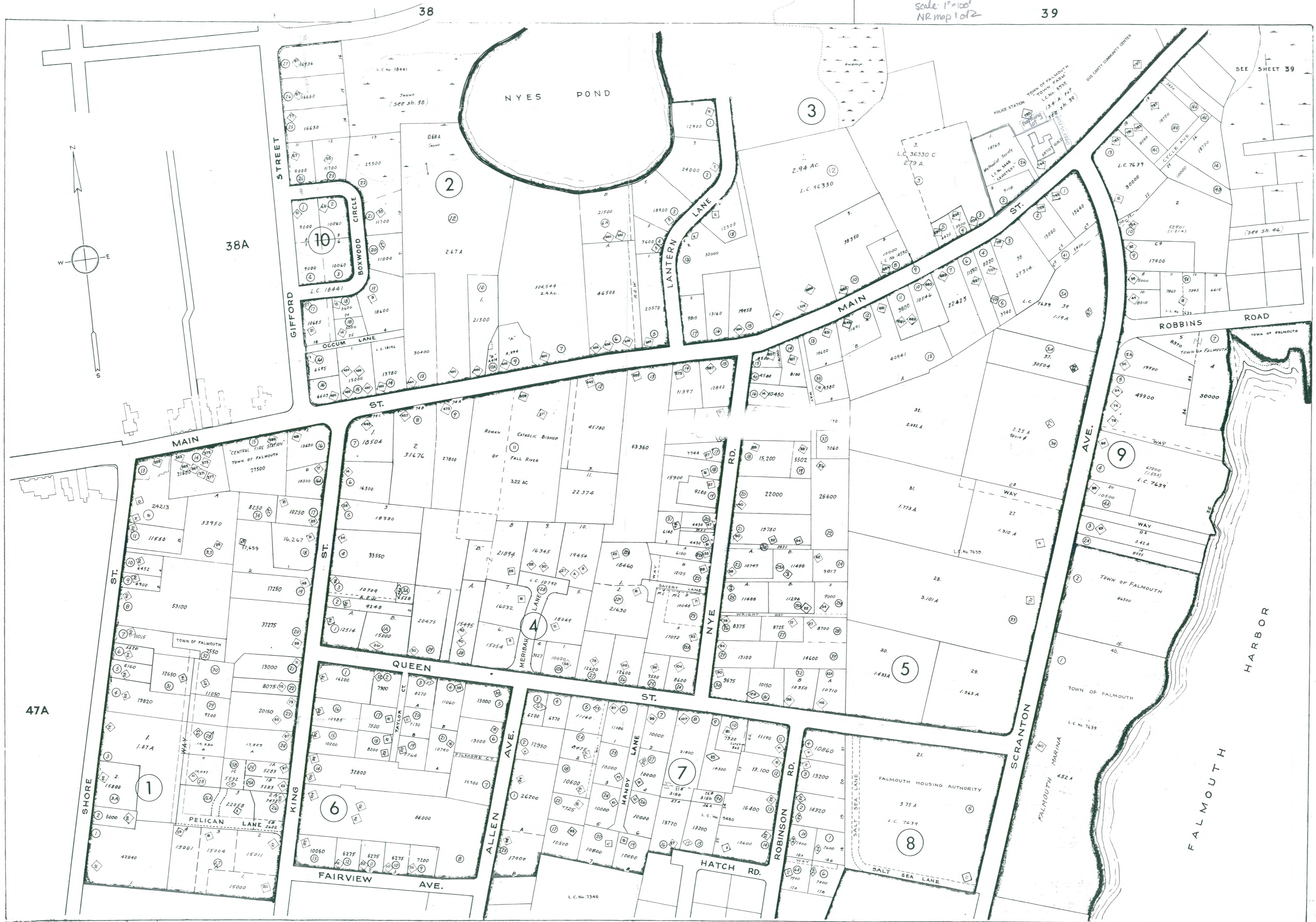
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with State of  
Massachusetts agencies from aerial photographs taken 1977 and other  
source data. This information not field checked. Map edited 1979

FALMOUTH, MASS.  
N4130—W7030/7.5  
1972  
PHOTOREVISED 1979  
AMS 6867 II SE—SERIES V814

Poor House & Methodist Cemetery  
744 Main St.  
Falmouth, MA - Rainsville Co.  
Town of Falmouth Assessor Map Sheet 47B  
Corrected to Jan 1997  
Scale: 1"=100'  
NR map 1 of 2





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

January 27, 1998

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

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination for:

Poor House and Methodist Cemetery, 744 Main Street, Falmouth (Barnstable 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 Falmouth 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

cc: Mary Lou Smith, Chair, Falmouth Historical Commission  
Virginia Valiela, Chair, Falmouth Board of Selectmen  
John Wesley Memorial Church, Inc., 270 Gifford Street, Falmouth  
Candace Jenkins, Preservation Consultant  
Ann Sears, 96 Locust Street, Falmouth