

PH0026654

HS No. 478

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Massachusetts
COUNTY: Suffolk
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE APR 18 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Dorchester North Burying Ground (use for publication)

AND/OR HISTORIC:
First Burying Ground in Dorchester

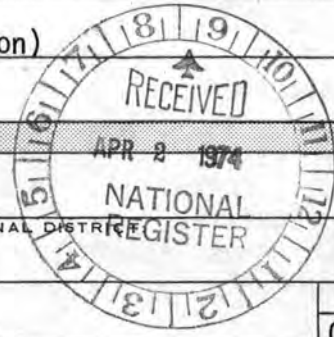
2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Stoughton Street and Columbia Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Boston (Dorchester)

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
9th

STATE: Massachusetts	CODE: 025	COUNTY: Suffolk	CODE: 025
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	cemetery	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
City of Boston-Department of Parks and Recreation

STREET AND NUMBER:
City Hall

CITY OR TOWN: Boston	STATE: Massachusetts	CODE: 025
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Registry of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:
Suffolk County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Boston	STATE: Massachusetts	CODE: 025
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Massachusetts Historical Commission (617) 727-8470

STREET AND NUMBER:
40 Beacon Street

CITY OR TOWN: Boston	STATE: Massachusetts	CODE: 025
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Massachusetts**

COUNTY: **Suffolk**

ENTRY NUMBER: **APR 18 1974**

DATE: **APR 18 1974**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Dorchester North Burying Ground, roughly a parallelogram with a rectangular rear extension, lies at the corner of Columbia Road and Stoughton Street. The junction of these reverse-curve streets results from the protruding corner of the oldest section of the cemetery, which was established in 1633. Several expansions of one quarter to three quarter acre plots begun in 1694 and continuing in 1718, 1727, 1741, 1745, and 1820 brings the total acreage of the settlement's only cemetery for two centuries to 3.27 acres. The Burying Ground is contained by a solid concrete wall, nearly 5 feet high with recessed panel detailing; the wall replaced a 19th century decorative iron and granite fence. Gates from this earlier period still provide entrance to the cemetery and are marked by large commemorative bronze tablets placed by the city in 1883.

The rectangular ordering of the plots, unusual in a 17th century cemetery, resulted in the ground's organization into twenty-four regular subdivisions when pathways were laid out in 1834. The renovation project of this year was also responsible for a general ground cleaning and landscaping. The clusters of mature maple trees date from this project.

Dorchester North contains approximately 1200 markers--upright stones of slate, marble, sandstone, granite, and bronze and scores of above- and at-grade tombs in straight ranges. The various markers displayed range from squat, upright curve-topped slabs from the 17th century to light-toned, slender rectangular steles popular in the late 18th century to the more substantial, thick, varied shapes of the 19th century monuments. The total effect is more polychrome and varied than any other of the ancient Burying Grounds in Boston.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

[Faint, illegible text at the bottom of the page]

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 17th Century 18th Century 19th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1633

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Dorchester North Burying Ground, also known as First Burying Ground of Dorchester, is a locally significant historic site due to its association with Dorchester's prominent founding citizens, its early establishment in the 17th century, and the exceptional inventory of 17th, 18th, and 19th century funerary sculpture. The Burying Ground was established on the southern outskirts of the agrarian community. The first of the existing markers, those of Bernard and Joan Capen, were set in 1638, although they are now displayed in the New England Genealogical Society. The next oldest, and the earliest stone existing in the ancient burying grounds of Boston, is the horizontal slab belonging to Abel and Submite Clarke, 1644-1648.

Two prominent figures of the Dorchester settlement interred in the grounds are, first, William Stoughton, Lieutenant Governor of the Province from 1694 to 1699 and a later Chief Justice and benefactor of the original Stoughton Hall at Harvard College, and, second, the Reverend Richard Mather, a progenitor of the celebrated Mather family, including Increase, Cotton, and John. Other early Dorchester forefathers with grave markers here include John Danforth, Isaac Royall, John Foster, the first printer in Boston, and members of distinguished local families such as the Clapps, Blakes, and Pierces. During the Revolutionary War period, forty unknown soldiers, who died due to the Siege, were buried in a single lot.

Burials at Dorchester North extended well into the 19th century, unlike most of the historic Boston cemeteries. The later 19th century funerary sculpture provides a significant contrast to the early 17th century stones. The picturesque silhouettes and polychromy of Victorian gravemarkers which bear minimal personal data represent a departure from the earlier Revolutionary Era markers. This latter group at Dorchester North are numerous and are identifiable as the light colored slim slabs with neoclassical designs--urns, swags, willow branches--inspired by antique sources. The Victorian stones contrast even further to the early Puritan markers on which the carved decorative elements of winged death's heads and hourglasses represent distinct theological doctrines of Puritanism.

As the Dorchester settlement spread, the immediate area became known as Upham's Corner. The Burying Ground became an important focal point and welcome open space in a commercial and residential node which had developed from a rural farming community to a street car suburb.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Drake, Samuel, Old Landmarks and Historic Personages of Boston (1st ed, 1872),
 Republished version, Rutland, Vt., C.E. Tuttle Co., 1971.
2. Historical Sketch of the First Burying Ground in Dorchester, Dorchester North
 Ground, Boston, 1905, Boston Cemetery Department.
3. Ellis, George, Bacon's Dictionary of Boston. Boston, Houghton, Mifflin & Co.,
 The Riverside Press, 1886.
4. City of Boston, Real Property Department-Engineering Division, Map # K 34,
 35, & 36, 1908.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 3.27

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Elizabeth Amadon, Survey Director by Boston Landmarks Commission

ORGANIZATION: Massachusetts Historical Commission (617) 727-8470 DATE: February, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER: 40 Beacon Street

CITY OR TOWN: Boston STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: John F. X. Davoren
 Title: Chairman, Massachusetts Historical Commission
 Date: 3/29/74

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

Arthur H. Hays
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/18/74

ATTEST: Wm. H. H. [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 4.18.74

19/329820/4686800

PROPERTY Dorchester North Burying Ground STATE Mass.

WORKING NUMBER 4.2. 74, 508

Suffolk

TECH REVIEW

PHOTOS 3

MAPS 2

74000915

CONTROL REVIEW

cm
4.4.
74

HISTORIAN

PERHAPS less impressive than some of their others.
Accept.

OK

w. R. Luce
4/10/74

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Accept
H. J. J. J.
5/8/74

ARCHEOLOGIST

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Age seems to give it distinction enough to merit exception from the criteria.

Accept
Cole
4-12-74

BRANCH CHIEF

Merits exception to criteria

Accept
Kern
4-16-74

KEEPER

W. J.
4/18

National Register Write-up June 7, 1974

Send-back _____

Federal Register entry June 4, 1974

Re-submit _____

Entered APR 18 1974



Form No. 10-301a
(7/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

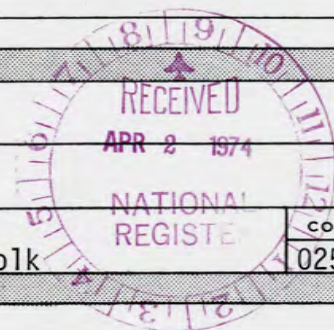
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Massachusetts	
COUNTY Suffolk	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER APR 18 1974	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: <u>Dorchester North Burying Ground</u>			
AND/OR HISTORIC: <u>First Burying Ground in Dorchester</u>			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>Columbia Road and Stoughton Street</u>			
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Boston (Dorchester)</u>			
STATE: <u>Massachusetts</u>	CODE <u>025</u>	COUNTY: <u>Suffolk</u>	CODE <u>025</u>
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: <u>Boston Redevelopment Authority</u>			
DATE OF PHOTO: <u>1974</u>			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: <u>Boston Redevelopment Authority, City Hall, Boston, Mass.</u>			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. <u>View north east from Stoughton Street across burying ground.</u> <u>2 of 4</u>			



☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1973-729-152/1446 III-1

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Form No. 10-301a
(7/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

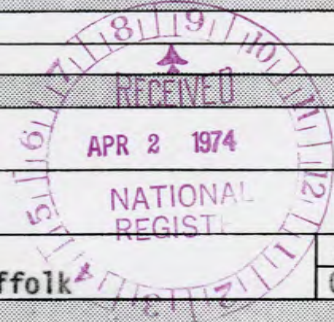
#2

STATE Massachusetts	
COUNTY Suffolk	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 18 1974

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: <u>Dorchester North Burying Ground</u>			
AND/OR HISTORIC: <u>First Burying Ground in Dorchester</u>			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>Columbia Road and Stoughton Street</u>			
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Boston (Dorchester)</u>			
STATE: <u>Massachusetts</u>	CODE <u>025</u>	COUNTY: <u>Suffolk</u>	CODE <u>025</u>
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: <u>Boston Redevelopment Authority</u>			
DATE OF PHOTO: <u>1974</u>			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: <u>Boston Redevelopment Authority, City Hall, Boston, Mass.</u>			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. <u>View north east from within burying ground.</u>			

4 of 4



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

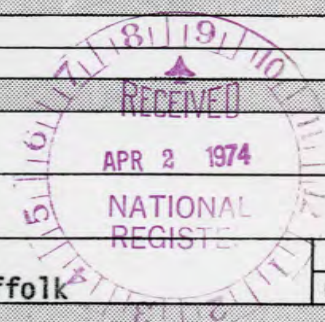
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

#3

STATE Massachusetts	
COUNTY Suffolk	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 18 1974

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: <u>Dorchester North Burying Ground</u>			
AND/OR HISTORIC: <u>First Burying Ground in Dorchester</u>			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>Columbia Road and Stoughton Street</u>			
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Boston (Dorchester)</u>			
STATE: <u>Massachusetts</u>	CODE <u>025</u>	COUNTY: <u>Suffolk</u>	CODE <u>025</u>
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: <u>Boston Redevelopment Authority</u>			
DATE OF PHOTO: <u>1974</u>			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: <u>Boston Redevelopment Authority, City Hall, Boston, Mass.</u>			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. <u>View within cemetery toward gate at south west corner.</u> <u>3 of 4</u>			



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

E#

Missing Core Documentation

Property Name	County, State	Reference Number
Dorchester North Burying Ground	Suffolk County, Massachusetts	74000915

The following Core Documentation is missing from this entry:

- Nomination Form
- Photographs (missing #4)
- USGS Map

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Massachusetts	
COUNTY Suffolk	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 18 1974

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Dorchester North Burying Ground
 AND/OR HISTORIC: First Burying Ground in Dorchester

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Stoughton Street & Columbia Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Boston (Dorchester)

STATE: <u>Massachusetts</u>	CODE <u>025</u>	COUNTY: <u>Suffolk</u>	CODE <u>025</u>
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3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:
Boston Redevelopment Authority

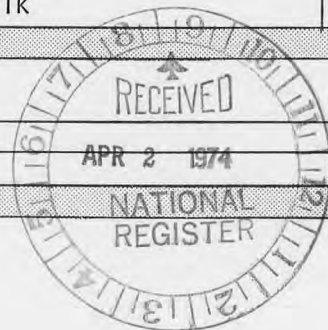
SCALE: 1"=100'

DATE: 1965

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

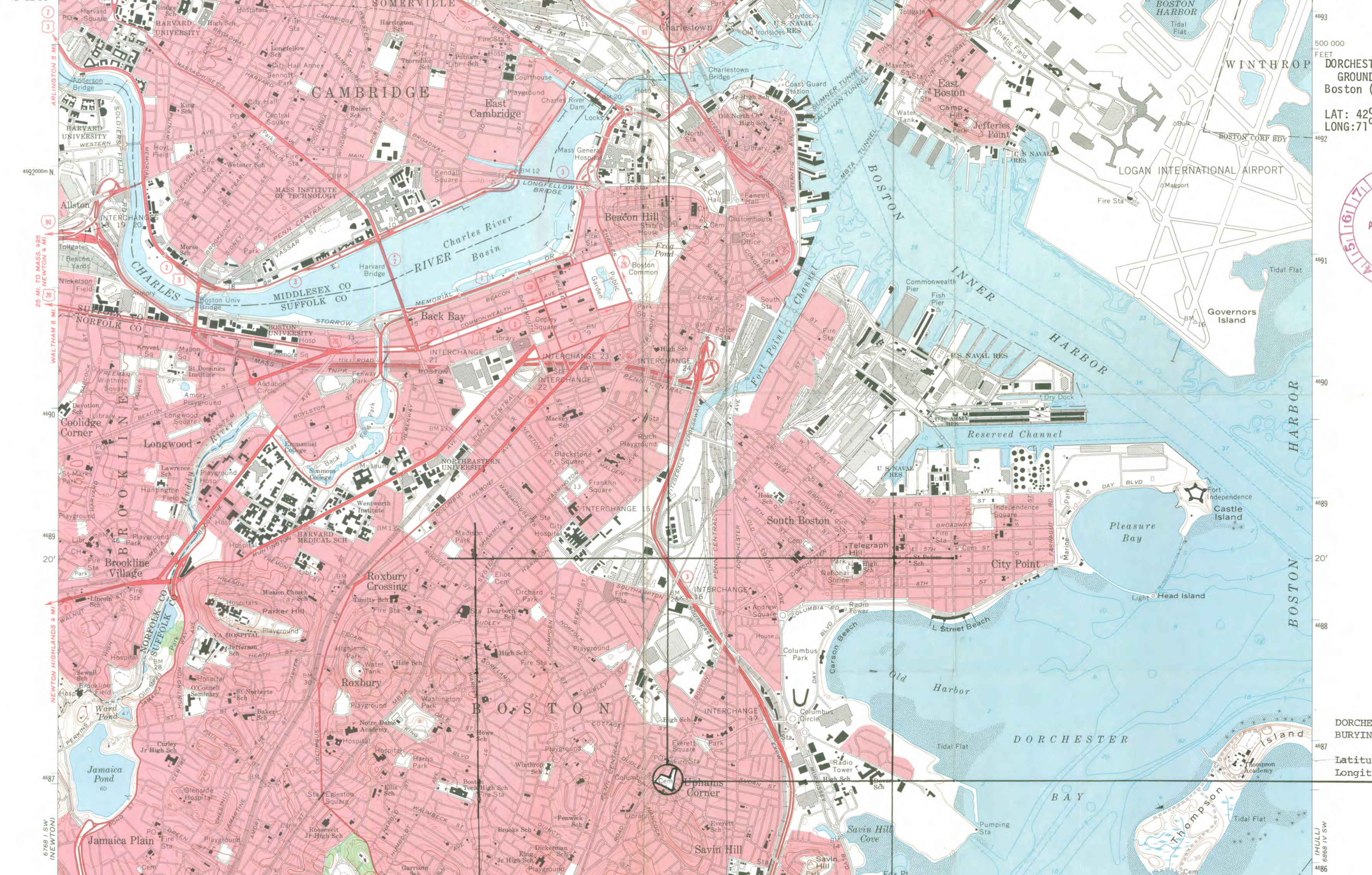
- Property boundaries where required.
- North arrow.
- Latitude and longitude reference.



6768 1 NW
(LEXINGTON)

6868 1V NW
(LYNN)

71°07'30" 42°22'30" 327000m E. EVERETT (CITY HALL) 3.9 MI. 5' MONTVALE 8 MI. 1.5 MI. TO MASS. 28 6768 1 NE (BOSTON NORTH) 331 2'30" 332 0.4 MI. TO MASS. 145 730 000 FEET 334 335 71°00' 42°22'30"



DORCHESTER NORTH BURYING GROUND
Boston (Dorchester), Mass.

LAT: 42° 19' 01.575"
LONG: 71° 03' 51.291"

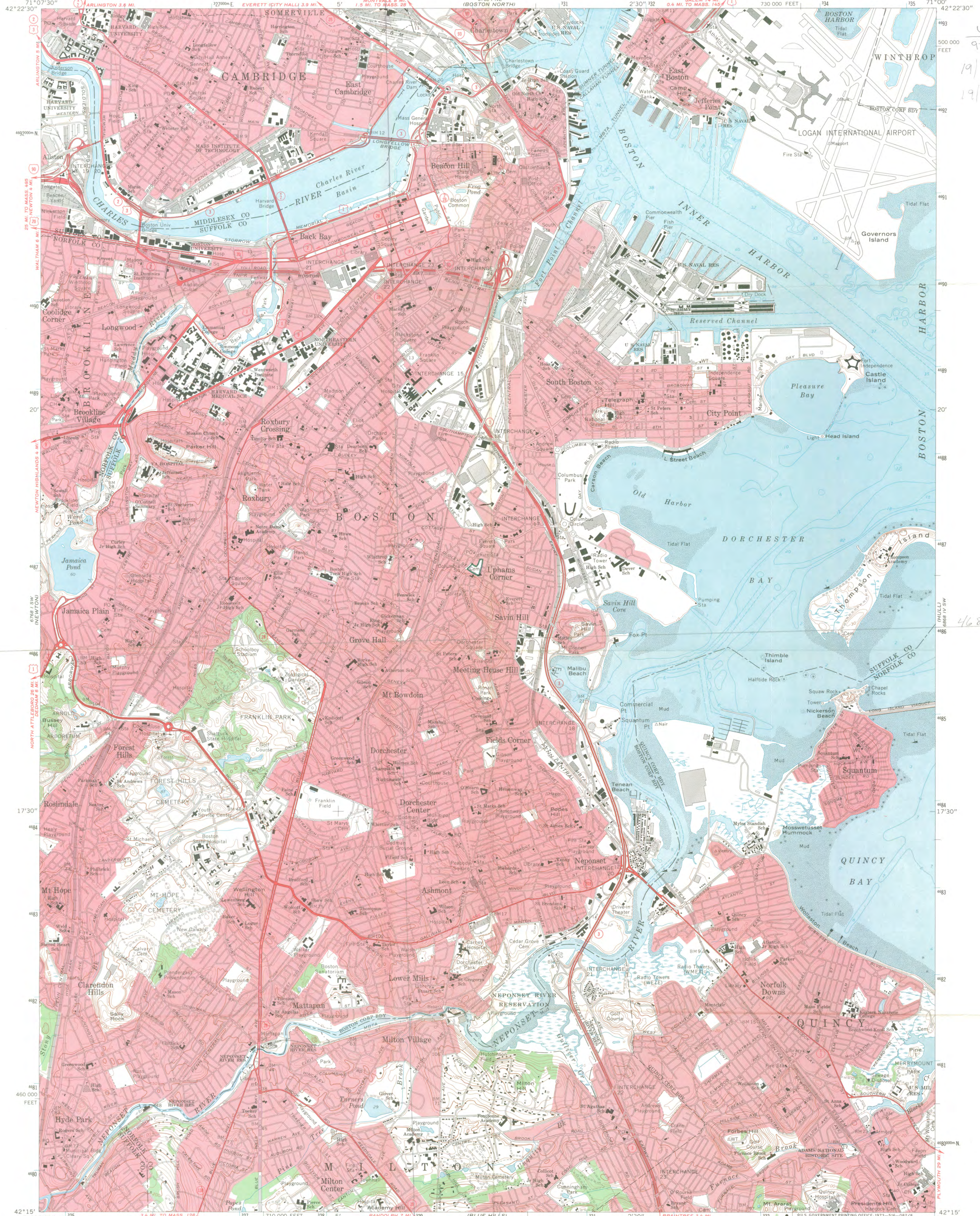


DORCHESTER NORTH BURYING GROUND, BOSTON

Latitude 42° 19' 01.575"
Longitude 71° 03' 51.291"

6768 1 SW
(NEWTON)

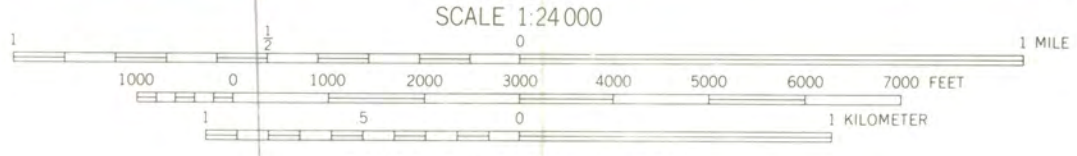
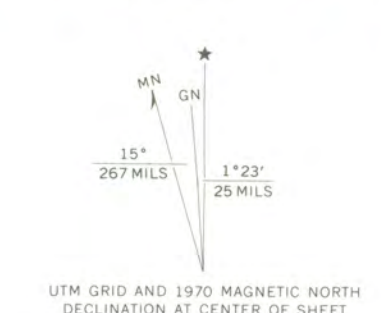
6868 1V SW
(HULL)



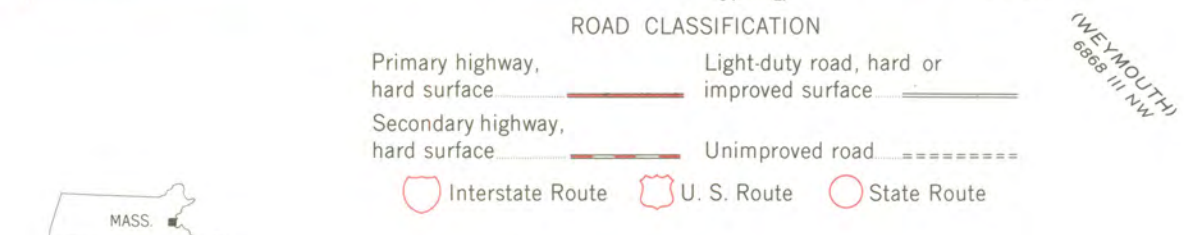
UTM Ref
9-29-15-00m
19/329880
19/4686800

4686800

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planimetric surveys 1943. Revised from
aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1970
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Charts 246
and 248 (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
1,000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue
Boundaries in tidewater areas from information supplied
by Massachusetts Department of Public Works
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 9.5 FEET



BOSTON SOUTH, MASS.
N4215—W7100/7.5

1970

AMS 6768 I SE—SERIES V814

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
Massachusetts	
COUNTY	
Suffolk	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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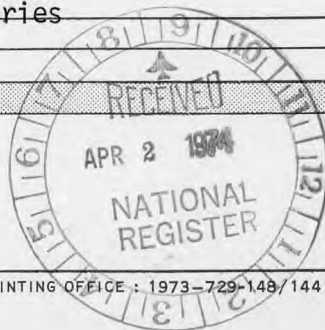
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Massachusetts	025	Suffolk	025

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:
Boston South Quadrangle U.S.G.S. 7.5' Series
 SCALE: 1"=24,000'
 DATE: 1970

4. REQUIREMENTS

- TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS
1. Property boundaries where required.
 2. North arrow.
 3. Latitude and longitude reference.



DORCHESTER NORTH BURYING GROUND

Boston (Dorchester), Massachusetts

Scale: 1"=100'



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered APR 18 1974

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
The Grange	Lincoln Middlesex County
Dorchester North Burying Ground	Boston (Dorchester) Suffolk County
First Parish Unitarian Church	Medfield Norfolk County
Copp's Hill Burial Ground	Boston Suffolk County
Holbrook, Dr. Amos, House	Milton Norfolk County
Winthrop Building	Boston Suffolk County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Hon. Robert F. Drinan
Hon. John J. Moakley
Hon. Margaret M. Heckler
Hon. James A. Burke

State Historic Preservation Officer
Hon. John F. X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth
Chairman, Massachusetts Historical
Commission
40 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Regional Director, North Atlantic Region

4/22/74

MMott

PR