

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration FormNATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Tucker Farm (preferred) Historic District
other names/site number Gidley Farm

2. Location

street & number 1178 Tucker Road N/A not for publication
city, town Dartmouth N/A vicinity
state Massachusetts code 025 county Bristol code 005 zip code 02747

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

☐ building(s)
☒ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>5</u>	<u>2</u> buildings
<u> </u>	<u>1</u> sites
<u> </u>	<u>2</u> structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
<u>5</u>	<u>5</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

Number of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Valerie Talmage
Signature of certifying official4/28/88
Date

Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission;
State or Federal agency and bureau State Historic Preservation Officer

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. 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

Date of Action

6. Function or Use Tucker Farm, Dartmouth, Massachusetts

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwellingDomestic/single dwellingAgriculture/Subsistence/agricultural outbuildingAgriculture/Subsistence/agricultural outbuildingAgriculture/Subsistence/animal facilityAgriculture/Subsistence/animal facility**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

(enter categories from instructions)

Colonial-Georgianfoundation stonewalls wood-shingleEarly Republic-Federalroof asphalt

other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Tucker Farm, Dartmouth, is presently a 148-acre tract of land located in the northern part of the Town of Dartmouth. The present farm runs from Tucker Road (on the east) to just beyond the Paskamansett River (on the west). The farm is bounded on the north by a campground and to the south are the grounds of the Friends Academy, a local day school that was originated by the Quakers in New Bedford.

Fifty-seven acres are included in the present nomination; defined by a system of stone walls, they reflect the continued agricultural usage of the land by the Tucker family. Excluded from the nomination, but still in the possession of descendants of Henry Tucker, are ninety-three acres of secondary growth (now protected as the Dartmouth Natural Resource Trust) that extend just beyond the Paskamansett River, as well as a 2 1/2-acre pond.

The farm grounds slope gently downward from Tucker Road toward the river bed. Stone walls separate the property from the road, as well as defining the fields themselves. Most of the acreage included in the nomination is composed of approximately forty-three acres of fields (some are under cultivation--alfalfa, hay, and winter rye--and the remainder is pasture). It is likely that the farm historically saw cultivation of the same crops. A twelve-acre residential and barnyard area is located just off Tucker Road.

A lane traverses the property, starting at Tucker Road where it is asphalt paved as far as the residential enclave. It then becomes a dirt lane nearly to the pond that lies just beyond the bounds of this nomination. (The lane then becomes a narrow trail through the woods, across the Paskamansett River on a granite stone bridge, to the westernmost boundary of the family's property.) This lane is believed to have been part of an early Indian trail that ran from what we now call Plymouth to Newport. Remnants of that trail are now Hathaway Road, Tucker Road, and Old Westport Road.

The residential enclave consists of two houses, ca. 1720 and ca. 1809, a barn, a carriage house/shed, and two other small outbuildings. Descriptions of all follow.

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1Tucker Farm
Dartmouth, MassachusettsCa. 1720 House

The ca. 1720 house is a 2 1/2-story, gable roofed residence, three-bays-wide and two-bays-deep with an ell, facing south onto the lane that traverses the Tucker Farm. It is believed to have once adjoined a stone house, of which only the ell (described below) survives. The ca. 1720 house was built in front of and perhaps as an addition to the smaller stone house of Henry Tucker. The building is of wooden construction with a stone foundation. Presently the building's exterior fabric is weathered cedar shingles with narrow cornerboards with beaded edge, and simple boxed roof cornice with narrow frieze and no gutters. The front facade (south) contains the offset front entry protected by a simply braced small shed roof. The windows have thick, rectangular casings, sills, and splayed lintels; they are 12/12 sash, mostly replacements. Window placement is regular and balanced except on the west facade. Attic windows are smaller in size, 6/6, but otherwise similar to the rest of the house.

There is a 1 1/2-story ell on the rear (north) of the house. This ell, which houses the kitchen, was erected ca. 1760 when the remains of the original stone house were demolished; the ell is believed to stand upon the site of the stone house although it does not necessarily represent the dimensions of the stone house. The ell is gable roofed, covered with natural cedar shingles with trim and windows matching the main house. All roofs are covered with asphalt shingles.

The interior of the house is marked by early construction and finish techniques. The cellar reveals the post and beam construction with transverse summer beams. The foundation's north wall includes an area believed to be composed of stone from the old stone house, as mortar found on these stones incorporated ground sea shells instead of commercial lime. In the attic are hand-hewn roof rafters, numbered with Roman numerals, joined with trenails, stiffened with similarly hewn, numbered, and joined cellar ties. Roof boards are a full one inch thick, random width, some with bark merely removed from the edge presenting an irregular surface, others sawn straight. The exposed sheathing on the side of the house in the attic is similar to the roof boards and applied vertically.

The finished rooms in the first two floors typically have gunstock corner posts, boxed ceiling beams with beaded corners, wainscotting, and paneling of feather-edged boards. Doors are generally four-panel. The large chimney at the western end of the large first and second floor rooms serves as a fireplace and oven on the first floor and a fireplace on the second.

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Ca. 1809 House

Diagonally across the lane from the ca. 1720 house, and facing Tucker Road, although about 200 feet from it, is a five-bay Federal-style residence. It was originally constructed ca. 1809 as a half Federal with side entry but quickly increased to a full Federal and, as the century progressed, added to in the rear, as a small ell was enlarged several times. (The latter now contains a dining room, kitchen, enclosed porch, and upstairs bedrooms.)

At the time of its construction in 1809, this 2 1/2-story house had a "common room" on the first floor, located at the back, which ran the width of the house. This room was heated by a large fireplace that connected to a substantial central stone chimney base in the cellar. In the front of the house was the parlor, on the northeast corner, heated by another fireplace opening from the central chimney. The front door of the house was on the southeast corner, and opened onto a hall leading back to the common room.

The second floor was reached by a staircase from the hall. three rooms were above the two first floor rooms. Two had fireplaces. A small stairwell ran from the large back room to the attic, which was unfinished except for a rough floor and two windows.

1830 addition

The first addition to the original structure occurred in 1830. This addition was on the south front side of the original building and expanded its three bays to a full five bays. A room was built on the other side of the front door, with a second floor room, and an attic that joined the original attic above that. Only two-bays-deep, however, the 1830 addition extends only to the ridge line of the original structure.

Ca. 1861 addition

It is believed that a second addition was added in 1861 or 1862. This addition was in back of the early main room, included another smaller chimney on its west end, and was possibly used as a kitchen.

Ca. 1882 addition

The third and last addition to the main house, made ca. 1882, was located directly behind the ca. 1861 addition and was a room that became the kitchen, with the earlier addition becoming the dining room.

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The ca. 1809 House Today

The house's main facade (east) is a carefully balanced 2 1/2-story Federal building, clad with weathered cedar shingles, trimmed with narrow cornerboards and a simple, boxed roof cornice with narrow frieze. The 6/6 windows have thick casings topped with splayed lintels, enhanced with exterior shutters. The six-panel front door (two small upper lights) is flanked by engaged pilasters supporting a flat entablature with dentil work. Except for the chimney placement, the facade is well-balanced. (The north chimney was taken down and re-built, much smaller, in 1896.)

The building's south facade clearly delineates the original size of the house, for the rear slope of the gable roof was not included in the addition to the main house; instead, on the addition (southern portion of the main building), the exterior wall drops straight down from the roof's peak. Beside it is the expected rear section of the gable roof on the original main house, a full 2 1/2 stories, with 6/6 windows (with splayed lintels), rake boards, and just above the long ell's intersecting gable roof, the roof cornice and part of the cornerboards duplicating those on the house's front.

The long ell, also wood frame with gable roof (which intersects the main house at the house's cornice line), consists of at least two separate nineteenth-century additions, which were added as time and circumstances permitted. Continuing the painted, simple trim and weathering shingles of the main house, the ell exhibits some varying window placement and style, most being 6/6 with flat casings and squared lintels. There are, too, 8/8 modern windows at the very rear (west end) where there is also a modern brick exterior chimney. The south side of the ell, where the ground slope requires full exposure of the mortar and stone cellar walls, has a small greenhouse attached as well as a cellar entrance.

On the north facade of the building one can again clearly see the lines of the original main house with simple cornerboards and rake boards, with 6/6 windows with thick casings and splayed lintels. On this facade there is a full-width, one-story porch, now enclosed, added in the nineteenth century.

House Interior Today

The interior of the building exhibits the materials and detail predicted by its exterior. It is largely original with simple detail. The rooms are relatively small with flat finished ceilings, wooden floors, and painted or papered walls often above wide board wainscoting. The front entry opens into

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a hall/foyer that contains the handsome stairway to the second floor as well as entrances to the rooms to the right and left and, through the hall, to the rear rooms.

The ell contains a second floor, reached both through the main house and through a separate unit of stairs within the ell. These upper rooms are at a different level from the main house's second floor, and are smaller and quite simple in trim. The main floor of the ell contains a wainscotted dining room and to its rear a spacious and modern kitchen.

The cellar of the house, with foundation walls of stone, runs under the entire structure except for the porch. It provides ample evidence of post and beam construction, in good condition. There is, too, a double sill at the junction of the main house and the beginning of the ell, strongly suggesting the point of one addition. The main house's attic offers further evidence of the age of the building with random wide board sheathing and roof boards. It also provides evidence of the original chimney with patches in flooring, roof boards, and cut-outs in roof rafters and collar ties.

As with the 1720 house, this building is in excellent condition, with obvious concern evidenced by the owners for maintaining its historic character and minimizing the impact of necessary modern utilities, cooking, and sanitary facilities.

This house has a painted picket fence with cap rail running from its northeastern corner along the lane/driveway to Tucker Road.

Barn and Outbuildings

The residential enclave includes a barn and several outbuildings. All are wood frame, with gable roof, weathered cedar shingle siding, and asphalt shingle roofs, matching the two residences. The barn, ca. 1850, was built to replace an earlier barn. Originally a dairy barn, the building is now used as a horse barn with hay loft above. Horse stalls now take the place of the former cow stanchions. Next to the barn (on its east side) is a small shingled shop/shed of modern construction. Just to the east of that is the carriage house/garage, a somewhat rambling one-story-plus wooden building, built ca. 1800, of post and beam construction with random-width board sheathing/siding. Across the circular drive area, just west of the 1809 house, is a shed, of similar construction to the carriage house, which, in part at least, was once a milk shed. To the north of the 1720 house, perhaps one hundred yards, is a relatively modern chicken coop/shed, no longer used.

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On the property, there are also poured concrete foundations, ca. 1940, located near Tucker Road to the southeast of the 1809 house. These foundations were for greenhouses that were never built; they are now obscured by brush and trees and are considered noncontributing.

Archaeological Description

While no prehistoric sites are currently recorded on the property, it is highly likely that sites are present. Two sites have been reported within the general area (within one mile). The physical characteristics of the property, broad terraces adjacent to the Paskamansett River and its wetlands yet close to the coast, would have made this an attractive area for native settlement and subsistence activities. Given the large size of the parcel and the limited amount of historical development, it is highly probable that sites are present.

There is also a high potential for significant historical archaeological remains on the property. Controlled testing and excavation may help to resolve whether any remains of the 17th-century stone house (and structures related to it) survive, as well as document more precisely the components, layout, and function of the farmstead as it evolved during the 18th and 19th centuries. Occupation-related features (trash pits, privies, wells) are likely around both the ca. 1720 and ca. 1809 houses.

8. Statement of Significance Tucker Farm, Dartmouth, Massachusetts

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locallyApplicable National Register Criteria ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ DCriteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

AgricultureArchitecture

Period of Significance

ca. 1669-1937

Significant Dates

ca. 1720ca. 1809

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Tucker Farm, Dartmouth, is a large, intact farm complex located on land originally purchased by Henry Tucker in the mid-17th century. The farm, retaining to this day a large portion of the original land grant, remains in the ownership of Tucker's descendants. The property includes two residences (one built ca. 1720 and the other ca. 1809), which received some additions throughout the period of significance (ca. 1669-1937) as the size of the Tucker family increased. A number of outbuildings are included as well. Fields, still under cultivation, are defined by stone walls throughout. Retaining integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and an extraordinarily intact setting, as well as associations with an important local family and the settlement and development of agricultural Dartmouth, Tucker Farm fulfills Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places on the local level.

The Town of Dartmouth was originally an enormous tract of land (in New England scale) encompassing the present Towns of Westport, Acushnet, Fairhaven, Dartmouth, the City of New Bedford and parts of Little Compton and Tiverton, Rhode Island. It was for the most part densely forested with crisscrossing streams, cedar swamps, and a long coastline with bays and inlets. In 1652, thirty-four of the first Plymouth colonists, including Myles Standish and Peter Brown, purchased Old Dartmouth from the Wampanoag Indians. Each proprietor's share included at least 2,000 acres. Many of the proprietors chose not to settle in Dartmouth, as they were already established elsewhere. Settlement of the area was slow. By 1663, absentee owners were being taxed for the support of the settlement by order of the Plymouth authorities. Some of the proprietors were forced to sell off some of their shares, and among the purchasers of these shares were Baptists and Quakers, seeking refuge and

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escape from religious intolerance on what was then the frontier. Absentee ownership, Dartmouth's isolating forests and waterways, and religious friction all contributed to dispersed settlement rather than the more traditional nucleus of the planned New England village with its central green surrounded by a cluster of buildings.

Among the first settlers was Henry Tucker. Born in the County of Kent, England, in 1619, it is believed that Henry Tucker was a descendant of Robert Tucker, the Mayor of Exeter, Devonshire, in 1538. Henry left England at least by 1650, and more probably as early as 1645, and settled in the Milton area, near Boston. By 1651, Henry Tucker had married Martha (maiden name unknown) in a service of the Society of Friends, duly recorded in the Society's Rhode Island Monthly Meeting Minutes. Henry and Martha remained in Milton, but were increasingly objects of religious intolerance. In 1664 Henry Tucker came under the ire of Reverend Torrey, who seized cord wood from Mr. Tucker and sold it for his own profit in Boston. As a result of such actions, Henry and Martha along with other Quakers (including George Babcock, a name to reappear with Henry's in Dartmouth) moved to Sandwich, a strong and welcoming center for early Friends. Then at some time later, the Tucker family, now including four children, appears to have moved to Rhode Island, perhaps Newport, as referred to in the records of the Rhode Island Society of Friends.

In 1669, Henry Tucker paid fifteen pounds to William Allen, son-in-law of original Dartmouth proprietor Peter Brown. His purchase was for one third of Mr. Brown's share of Dartmouth. This, with other purchases, established the ownership of a substantial holding in Dartmouth by the Tucker family.

Tradition reports that Henry Tucker walked along an Indian trail on the land he had purchased until he noticed a path that led to a spring of cool bubbling water. This Indian trail led from what we now call Plymouth to Newport. Parts of this trail are incorporated into present-day roads of Dartmouth, particularly Hathaway Road and Old Westport Road, the latter being the Old Road to Newport. Pausing at the spring, Henry Tucker is said to have decided that this would be the ideal spot for him and his family. With most of the family still in Rhode Island, Henry and his oldest sons visited frequently, erecting a one-room stone house for the family. A surveyor by profession, Henry Tucker was the Town of Dartmouth Highway Surveyor in 1671, so it was quite probable that he at least was in residence in the Town by that year. The 1679 record of Henry's eldest son Abraham's marriage to Mary Slocom makes reference to "Henry of Dartmouth" and "Mary of Rhode Island." Most likely by this time or soon afterwards, the family was in residence in the small stone house in Dartmouth near the cool spring Henry had found some years before.

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During this time, Dartmouth town records include "Henry Tucker and wife Martha"; while at the same time the Rhode Island Society of Friends include the Tucker family in their records. This is puzzling until it is realized that the Dartmouth Friends, although they met weekly for worship in each other's homes, were not organized into a Dartmouth Monthly Business Meeting until 1700. When it came to matters of business, this was done through the larger Rhode Island Society of Friends--to which all Dartmouth Friends at that time belonged. Hence the recording of all vital records for Dartmouth Quakers in the Rhode Island Friend's records.

In June 1684, agents for the proprietors of the Town of Dartmouth reached an agreement with Henry Tucker and George Babcock to build a grist mill in the town, an agreement which also provided the two with an additional 200 acres of land within the town. In 1707 Eliashib Smith acquired title to this mill, located upstream from Tucker's farm at a small crossroads that would become a village bearing Eliashib's surname: Smith Mills.

The original Tucker Farm extended across a large tract of land from (in present descriptive terms) Hathaway Road on the north to south of Allen Street, and from Slocum Road on the east proceeding westerly across the Paskamansett River to the present Old Westport Road. (A later purchase extended this to Buttonwood Brook--now within Ned Bedford's Buttonwood Park.) The family acquired other parcels within the town, owning at one time, it is estimated, between 800 and 1000 acres. Among the Tucker family holdings was one of the Elizabeth islands just off the Dartmouth coast, the island of Pasque.

Henry Tucker was first a surveyor and mill owner, then a farmer. His sons continued the farming tradition. John (1656-1751) journeyed to New Jersey in 1688 to marry Ruth Wooley (the Wooleys originally came from Rhode Island). In 1693, John and his family returned to Dartmouth and the Tucker Farm, presumably settling in the stone house. Henry died in 1694, passing the farm and other property to his sons. John continued working the farm, and by the early-18th century had built a 2 1/2-story gable-roofed wooden house, in front of or added on to the stone one. This new house was finished by 1720 and is included in the present nomination. A letter from Jesse Tucker (1817-1902) to Dr. Edward Tucker speculates that the north wall of the second house probably contains some stones from the original house, as mortar found on the stones incorporated ground sea shells instead of commercial lime. The final history of the original stone house is unknown. It could have had many uses by John's

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family--such as storage area or animal quarters. When the present rear addition to John's house was built ca. 1760, it was quite possibly built over the finally filled-in remains of the original stone house. This ell has no cellar beneath it and is the present kitchen.

In addition to family matters, John was active in Quaker religious affairs. In 1698, four Dartmouth Friends, meeting at the house of John Lapham, agreed to undertake the construction of a meetinghouse for the Dartmouth Quakers. The four were Peleg Slocum, who donated fifteen acres of land for the site of the meetinghouse, Jacob Mott, and John and Abraham Tucker. The meetinghouse was constructed in 1698-1699 and was the first Friends Meetinghouse in Dartmouth. Located in the geographical center of the Town (and more than three miles from the Tucker Farm), it was the first Apponegansett Meetinghouse. Now Dartmouth Friends could hold their own monthly business meetings; they would no longer have to travel to Rhode Island. (The original meetinghouse was torn down in the eighteenth century and replaced with the still standing Apponegansett Meetinghouse, located on the same site.)

In addition to active participation in the construction of the meetinghouse, John Tucker is also remembered as an active minister and influential member of the Society of Friends during his lifetime.

The working farm remained in the Tucker family. Although the size of the farm has changed, the essential core of the farm, stretching from Tucker Road (named for Henry) to the Paskamansett River and slightly beyond, has remained intact, in the possession of the family since Henry Tucker's original settling.

In 1809, after the birth of his second child, Benjamin Tucker (1781-1861), great grandson of John Tucker, built a new house on the farm, diagonally across the lane from the 1720 house. Benjamin built a 2 1/2-story Federal-style residence facing Tucker Road, although about 200 feet from it. There Benjamin worked the farm and raised his family. In 1830, on the occasion of the marriage of Benjamin's daughter Rhoda to William Gifford, an addition was made to the 1809 house, expanding it from three to a full five bays in width.

Upon Benjamin Tucker's death in 1861, the property was inherited primarily by his son Charles Russell (1809-1891), who reportedly bought out at that time any other relatives who may have had any claim to Benjamin's estate. There is no evidence that Charles lived in the 1809 house; however, the family

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responsibility for sharing accommodations with relatives and the cellar walls and beams suggest that a second addition, located to the rear of the house, occurred soon after Benjamin's death, perhaps in 1861 or 1862.

During the mid- to late-19th century, Charles Tucker rose to a position of influence and importance in nearby New Bedford. Raised on the Tucker Farm, Charles joined the merchant whaling firm of Issac Howland and Company, located in New Bedford. Later, Mr. Tucker founded his own firm with E. D. Mandell. During whaling's heyday in New Bedford, Charles rose to prominence and success, becoming Director of the Merchants Bank, an investor in many whaling voyages, trustee of the New Bedford Institution for Savings, and President of the Commercial Mutual and Marine Insurance Company. Other members of the Tucker family followed similarly diverse pursuits in and around Dartmouth during the 19th and early-20th centuries, farming their land and working as well as doctors, merchants, and town officials.

In 1882, clear title to the Tucker farm was acquired by Job S. Gidley, who in 1874 had married Susanna Tucker, a direct descendant of Henry Tucker. Although not a birthright Quaker, Gidley (1844-1928) throughout his life espoused the tenets of the Society of Friends, as had all the Tuckers. After a serious childhood illness, Gidley had vowed that he would follow a vocation that would help his fellow man. He chose teaching and became a respected educator in the local schools. His obituary would note:

It is said he preferred those schools in the Town (in) which the School Committee felt difficult situations existed... Grown men in Dartmouth today (1928) have lively recollections of having been handled by the Quaker School teacher.

(New Bedford Standard Times, 12/23/1928)

Gidley was also very active in town and Quaker affairs. For many years he was a member of the School Committee, often as chairman. He participated in the planning of new schools, designing and supervising the construction of an elementary school on Tucker Road in 1896. (On that site now stands a new school built in the 1920s and named, appropriately, the "Job S. Gidley School".) In addition, Gidley held at various times all the chief elective offices in the town: Selectman, Town Clerk, Treasurer, and Tax Assessor, and often served as moderator at Town Meeting.

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Despite all these impressive credentials, Mr. Gidley preferred to be identified as a farmer. During his lifetime, Tucker Farm became known as Gidley Farm. Upon his retirement in 1890, he devoted much of his time to farming.

After Gidley's death in 1928, his two unmarried daughters, Alice and Elizabeth, continued to live on the farm, hiring the services of a farm manager. Their sister Ann Gidley Lowry, moved to the farm after the death of her husband in 1953. After the three sisters' deaths (Alice died in 1972 having survived Elizabeth and Ann), the present owners moved into the 1809 house. Mrs. Ruth Burgess is the granddaughter of Susanna Tucker and Job S. Gidley and the daughter of Mary Jessie Gidley Carter, the only one of Job Gidley's daughters to spend most of her married life away from the farm.

The farm remains a working farm with several fields (forty acres) devoted to hay, alfalfa, and pasture. The 1720 house has been carefully restored and is now rented. The 1809 house, enlarged by the successive nineteenth-century additions described above, remains the residence of the owners. Through the establishment of conservation trusts, the descendants of Henry Tucker have demonstrated their commitment to preserving the rural, agrarian qualities of the Tucker Farm even as suburban pressures from nearby New Bedford grow ever greater.

Archaeological Significance

Since the patterns of prehistoric occupation in Dartmouth are poorly documented, any surviving sites would be significant. Prehistoric sites along the Paskamansett River have the potential for adding information pertaining to native subsistence and settlement in the Dartmouth and Southeastern Massachusetts area. Larger sites in Dartmouth are known to occur in coastal and lakeside locales. Recent research in the area suggests smaller sites, possibly foraging or collecting locations, associated with the larger sites listed above may be found along interior rivers like the Paskamansett. Prehistoric sites in the area may also add valuable information pertaining to local/regional ethnic resource use and environmental change.

Historic archaeological remains described above have the potential for providing detailed information on the changing social, cultural, and economic patterns that characterized life on a prosperous Quaker farmstead. The social evolution of a single family can be traced at the Tucker Farm from its settlement in the 17th century to the present. The Tucker Farm is unique in that it has been kept in the direct ancestral line from Henry Tucker, its founder. Changes in the Tucker family can be traced as well as changes in the farm and Dartmouth/New Bedford economy from its rural subsistence beginnings through later industry, commerce, whaling and the current state of farming in the Dartmouth area.

9. Major Bibliographical References Tucker Farm, Dartmouth, Massachusetts

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 # _____

☒ See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository:

MHC's Inventory of Historical Assets
Area C

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 57 acres

UTM References

A 
Zone Easting Northing

B   
Zone Easting Northing

D   
Zone Easting Northing

☒ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

see assessors map

☐ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The bounds of the nominated property, defined by stone walls, are the extent of the Tucker Farm still in agricultural use, as well as all standing buildings/structures that make up the farmstead today. The remainder of the 148 acres presently associated with the farm is secondary growth and is therefore excluded from the nomination.

☐ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Betsy Friedberg/National Register Director, MHC with Peter Jacobsen/A.G. Souza Associates & Ruth Burgess
organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date November 1987
street & number 80 Boylston Street telephone (617) 727-8470
city or town Boston state Massachusetts zip code 02116

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

Tucker Farm
Dartmouth, Massachusetts

Major Bibliographic References

Arnold, James N., Vital Records of Rhode Island. Narragansett Historical Publishing Company, Providence, Rhode Island, 1893.

Hurd, Hamilton D., History of Bristol County. J. W. Lewis & Co., Philadelphia, 1883.

Tucker, Ephraim, Genealogy of the Tucker Family. F. S. Blanchard & Co., Worcester, Mass., 1895.

Lowry, Ann Gidley, Tucker Genealogy, unpublished genealogy of Henry Tucker and his descendants, in the possession of Mrs. Ruth Burgess, Tucker Farm.

Unpublished letters, notes and writings, in the possession of Mrs. Ruth Burgess, Tucker Farm.

Dr. Edward Tucker

Mr. Jesse Tucker

Mr. Job S. Gidley

Original deed, maps, family records, letters, papers, etc, in the possession of Mrs. Ruth Burgess, Tucker Farm.

Newspapers

"New Bedford Standard", September 24, 1916; December 23, 1928

"New Bedford Standard-Times", October 31, 1966; December 4, 1960

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

Tucker Farm
Dartmouth, Massachusetts

Quad- New Bedford North
Scale- 1:25000

UTM REFERENCES-

<u>POINT</u>	<u>ZONE</u>	<u>EASTING</u>	<u>NORTHING</u>
A	19	335120	4610660
B	19	335140	4610320
C	19	335040	4610050
D	19	334640	4610100
E	19	334540	4610200
F	19	334820	4610520
G	19	334900	4610590

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Tucker Farm Historic District
Dartmouth, Massachusetts

PHOTOGRAPHS

- #1 Tucker Farm Historic District
1178 Tucker Road, Dartmouth, MA
photographer: Peter M. Jacobsen, 1985
negative: Dartmouth Historical Commission, Dartmouth, MA
View: ca. 1720 House, Tucker Farm, south & west facades, looking northeast
- #2 Tucker Farm Historic District
1178 Tucker Road, Dartmouth, MA
photographer: Peter M. Jacobsen
negative: Dartmouth Historical Commission, Dartmouth, MA
View: ca. 1809 House, Tucker Farm, east & south facades, looking northwest
- #3 Tucker Farm Historic District
1178 Tucker Road, Dartmouth, MA
photographer: Peter M. Jacobsen
negative: Dartmouth Historical Commission, Dartmouth, MA
View: Pond, Tucker Farm, looking north

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Tucker Farm Historic District
Bristol County
MASSACHUSETTS

MAY 11 1988

Substantive Review

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

Working No. _____
Fed. Reg. Date: _____
Date Due: 6/9/88 - 6/25/88
Action: ☐ ACCEPT
☒ RETURN 6-22-88
☐ REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

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

Reviewer's comments:

see reverse.

Recom./Criteria Return
Reviewer Savage
Discipline Architectural History
Date 6/24/88
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: ☐ technical corrections cited below
☒ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use
----------	---------------------------------	----------------------	-------------

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition

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

Check one

- ☐ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

- ☐ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

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

Please review the beginning date of the period of significance (1669) as it applied to extant resources. This dates to the purchase of the land by Tucker but does not clearly relate to extant identified historic resources which could convey association with this early period. It appears that a beginning date of c. 1720 would be appropriate at this time for the early residence, and also because of the unevaluated (currently) historic archeological potential.

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title

date

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to Beth Savage (202) 343-9540

Signed Patrick Andrews Date 6/22/88 Phone: _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

RECEIVED

JUL 25 1988

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Tucker Farm (preferred) Historic Districtother names/site number Gidley Farm

2. Location

street & number 1178 Tucker Road

N/A not for publication

city, town Dartmouth

N/A vicinity

state MAcode 025county Bristolcode 005zip code 02747

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

☒ private☐ public-local☐ public-State☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

☐ building(s)☒ district☐ site☐ structure☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

5

Noncontributing

2 buildings1 sites2 structures0 objects55 Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/ANumber of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Valerie A. Valenice

Signature of certifying official

7/17/88

Date

Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission;State or Federal agency and bureau State Historic Preservation Officer

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. 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:) _____for Signature of the Keeper8/25/88
Date of Action

6. Function or Use Tucker Farm, Dartmouth, Massachusetts

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/ single dwellingAgriculture/Subsistence/agriculturaloutbuildingAgriculture/Subsistence/animal facility

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwellingAgriculture/Subsistence/agriculturaloutbuildingAgriculture/Subsistence/animal facility**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Colonial-GeorgianEarly Republic-Federal

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stonewalls wood-shingleroof asphalt

other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 0 Tucker Farm, Dartmouth, Massachusetts

The Tucker Farm, Dartmouth, is presently a 148-acre tract of land located in the northern part of the Town of Dartmouth. The present farm runs from Tucker Road (on the east) to just beyond the Paskamansett River (on the west). The farm is bounded on the north by a campground and to the south are the grounds of the Friends Academy, a local day school that was originated by the Quakers in New Bedford.

Fifty-seven acres are included in the present nomination; defined by a system of stone walls, they reflect the continued agricultural usage of the land by the Tucker family. Excluded from the nomination, but still in the possession of descendants of Henry Tucker, are ninety-three acres of secondary growth (now protected as the Dartmouth Natural Resource Trust) that extend just beyond the Paskamansett River, as well as a 2 1/2-acre pond.

The farm grounds slope gently downward from Tucker Road toward the river bed. Stone walls separate the property from the road, as well as defining the fields themselves. Most of the acreage included in the nomination is composed of approximately forty-three acres of fields (some are under cultivation--alfalfa, hay, and winter rye--and the remainder is pasture). It is likely that the farm historically saw cultivation of the same crops. A twelve-acre residential and barnyard area is located just off Tucker Road.

A lane traverses the property, starting at Tucker Road where it is asphalt paved as far as the residential enclave. It then becomes a dirt lane nearly to the pond that lies just beyond the bounds of this nomination. (The lane then becomes a narrow trail through the woods, across the Paskamansett River on a granite stone bridge, to the westernmost boundary of the family's property.) This lane is believed to have been part of an early Indian trail that ran from what we now call Plymouth to Newport. Remnants of that trail are now Hathaway Road, Tucker Road, and Old Westport Road.

The residential enclave consists of two houses, ca. 1720 and ca. 1809, a barn, a carriage house/shed, and two other small outbuildings. Descriptions of all follow.

continued

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1Tucker Farm
Dartmouth, MassachusettsCa. 1720 House

The ca. 1720 house is a 2 1/2-story, gable roofed residence, three-bays-wide and two-bays-deep with an ell, facing south onto the lane that traverses the Tucker Farm. It is believed to have once adjoined a stone house, of which only the ell (described below) survives. The ca. 1720 house was built in front of and perhaps as an addition to the smaller stone house of Henry Tucker. The building is of wooden construction with a stone foundation. Presently the building's exterior fabric is weathered cedar shingles with narrow cornerboards with beaded edge, and simple boxed roof cornice with narrow frieze and no gutters. The front facade (south) contains the offset front entry protected by a simply braced small shed roof. The windows have thick, rectangular casings, sills, and splayed lintels; they are 12/12 sash, mostly replacements. Window placement is regular and balanced except on the west facade. Attic windows are smaller in size, 6/6, but otherwise similar to the rest of the house.

There is a 1 1/2-story ell on the rear (north) of the house. This ell, which houses the kitchen, was erected ca. 1760 when the remains of the original stone house were demolished; the ell is believed to stand upon the site of the stone house although it does not necessarily represent the dimensions of the stone house. The ell is gable roofed, covered with natural cedar shingles with trim and windows matching the main house. All roofs are covered with asphalt shingles.

The interior of the house is marked by early construction and finish techniques. The cellar reveals the post and beam construction with transverse summer beams. The foundation's north wall includes an area believed to be composed of stone from the old stone house, as mortar found on these stones incorporated ground sea shells instead of commercial lime. In the attic are hand-hewn roof rafters, numbered with Roman numerals, joined with trenails, stiffened with similarly hewn, numbered, and joined cellar ties. Roof boards are a full one inch thick, random width, some with bark merely removed from the edge presenting an irregular surface, others sawn straight. The exposed sheathing on the side of the house in the attic is similar to the roof boards and applied vertically.

The finished rooms in the first two floors typically have gunstock corner posts, boxed ceiling beams with beaded corners, wainscotting, and paneling of feather-edged boards. Doors are generally four-panel. The large chimney at the western end of the large first and second floor rooms serves as a fireplace and oven on the first floor and a fireplace on the second.

continued

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Tucker Farm
Dartmouth, Massachusetts

Section number 7 Page 2

Ca. 1809 House

Diagonally across the lane from the ca. 1720 house, and facing Tucker Road, although about 200 feet from it, is a five-bay Federal-style residence. It was originally constructed ca. 1809 as a half Federal with side entry but quickly increased to a full Federal and, as the century progressed, added to in the rear, as a small ell was enlarged several times. (The latter now contains a dining room, kitchen, enclosed porch, and upstairs bedrooms.)

At the time of its construction in 1809, this 2 1/2-story house had a "common room" on the first floor, located at the back, which ran the width of the house. This room was heated by a large fireplace that connected to a substantial central stone chimney base in the cellar. In the front of the house was the parlor, on the northeast corner, heated by another fireplace opening from the central chimney. The front door of the house was on the southeast corner, and opened onto a hall leading back to the common room.

The second floor was reached by a staircase from the hall. three rooms were above the two first floor rooms. Two had fireplaces. A small stairwell ran from the large back room to the attic, which was unfinished except for a rough floor and two windows.

1830 addition

The first addition to the original structure occurred in 1830. This addition was on the south front side of the original building and expanded its three bays to a full five bays. A room was built on the other side of the front door, with a second floor room, and an attic that joined the original attic above that. Only two-bays-deep, however, the 1830 addition extends only to the ridge line of the original structure.

Ca. 1861 addition

It is believed that a second addition was added in 1861 or 1862. This addition was in back of the early main room, included another smaller chimney on its west end, and was possibly used as a kitchen.

Ca. 1882 addition

The third and last addition to the main house, made ca. 1882, was located directly behind the ca. 1861 addition and was a room that became the kitchen, with the earlier addition becoming the dining room.

continued

United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation Sheet

Tucker Farm
Dartmouth, Massachusetts

Section number 7 Page 3

The ca. 1809 House Today

The house's main facade (east) is a carefully balanced 2 1/2-story Federal building, clad with weathered cedar shingles, trimmed with narrow cornerboards and a simple, boxed roof cornice with narrow frieze. The 6/6 windows have thick casings topped with splayed lintels, enhanced with exterior shutters. The six-panel front door (two small upper lights) is flanked by engaged pilasters supporting a flat entablature with dentil work. Except for the chimney placement, the facade is well-balanced. (The north chimney was taken down and re-built, much smaller, in 1896.)

The building's south facade clearly delineates the original size of the house, for the rear slope of the gable roof was not included in the addition to the main house; instead, on the addition (southern portion of the main building), the exterior wall drops straight down from the roof's peak. Beside it is the expected rear section of the gable roof on the original main house, a full 2 1/2 stories, with 6/6 windows (with splayed lintels), rake boards, and just above the long ell's intersecting gable roof, the roof cornice and part of the cornerboards duplicating those on the house's front.

The long ell, also wood frame with gable roof (which intersects the main house at the house's cornice line), consists of at least two separate nineteenth-century additions, which were added as time and circumstances permitted. Continuing the painted, simple trim and weathering shingles of the main house, the ell exhibits some varying window placement and style, most being 6/6 with flat casings and squared lintels. There are, too, 8/8 modern windows at the very rear (west end) where there is also a modern brick exterior chimney. The south side of the ell, where the ground slope requires full exposure of the mortar and stone cellar walls, has a small greenhouse attached as well as a cellar entrance.

On the north facade of the building one can again clearly see the lines of the original main house with simple cornerboards and rake boards, with 6/6 windows with thick casings and splayed lintels. On this facade there is a full-width, one-story porch, now enclosed, added in the nineteenth century.

House Interior Today

The interior of the building exhibits the materials and detail predicted by its exterior. It is largely original with simple detail. The rooms are relatively small with flat finished ceilings, wooden floors, and painted or papered walls often above wide board wainscotting. The front entry opens into

continued

United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 4Tucker Farm
Dartmouth, Massachusetts

a hall/foyer that contains the handsome stairway to the second floor as well as entrances to the rooms to the right and left and, through the hall, to the rear rooms.

The ell contains a second floor, reached both through the main house and through a separate unit of stairs within the ell. These upper rooms are at a different level from the main house's second floor, and are smaller and quite simple in trim. The main floor of the ell contains a wainscotted dining room and to its rear a spacious and modern kitchen.

The cellar of the house, with foundation walls of stone, runs under the entire structure except for the porch. It provides ample evidence of post and beam construction, in good condition. There is, too, a double sill at the junction of the main house and the beginning of the ell, strongly suggesting the point of one addition. The main house's attic offers further evidence of the age of the building with random wide board sheathing and roof boards. It also provides evidence of the original chimney with patches in flooring, roof boards, and cut-outs in roof rafters and collar ties.

As with the 1720 house, this building is in excellent condition, with obvious concern evidenced by the owners for maintaining its historic character and minimizing the impact of necessary modern utilities, cooking, and sanitary facilities.

This house has a painted picket fence with cap rail running from its northeastern corner along the lane/driveway to Tucker Road.

Barn and Outbuildings

The residential enclave includes a barn and several outbuildings. All are wood frame, with gable roof, weathered cedar shingle siding, and asphalt shingle roofs, matching the two residences. The barn, ca. 1850, was built to replace an earlier barn. Originally a dairy barn, the building is now used as a horse barn with hay loft above. Horse stalls now take the place of the former cow stanchions. Next to the barn (on its east side) is a small shingled shop/shed of modern construction. Just to the east of that is the carriage house/garage, a somewhat rambling one-story-plus wooden building, built ca. 1800, of post and beam construction with random-width board sheathing/siding. Across the circular drive area, just west of the 1809 house, is a shed, of similar construction to the carriage house, which, in part at least, was once a milk shed. To the north of the 1720 house, perhaps one hundred yards, is a relatively modern chicken coop/shed, no longer used.

continued

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Continuation Sheet

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Tucker Farm
Dartmouth, Massachusetts

On the property, there are also poured concrete foundations, ca. 1940, located near Tucker Road to the southeast of the 1809 house. These foundations were for greenhouses that were never built; they are now obscured by brush and trees and are considered noncontributing.

Archaeological Description

While no prehistoric sites are currently recorded on the property, it is highly likely that sites are present. Two sites have been reported within the general area (within one mile). The physical characteristics of the property, broad terraces adjacent to the Paskamansett River and its wetlands yet close to the coast, would have made this an attractive area for native settlement and subsistence activities. Given the large size of the parcel and the limited amount of historical development, it is highly probable that sites are present.

There is also a high potential for significant historical archaeological remains on the property. Controlled testing and excavation may help to resolve whether any remains of the 17th-century stone house (and structures related to it) survive, as well as document more precisely the components, layout, and function of the farmstead as it evolved during the 18th and 19th centuries. Occupation-related features (trash pits, privies, wells) are likely around both the ca. 1720 and ca. 1809 houses.

8. Statement of Significance Tucker Farm, Dartmouth, Massachusetts

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture

Architecture

Period of Significance

ca. 1720-1937

Significant Dates

ca. 1720

ca. 1809

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

☒ See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References Tucker Farm, Dartmouth, Massachusetts

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 # _____

☒ See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository:

MHC's Inventory of Historical Assets
Area C

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 57 acres

UTM References

A

Zone	Easting				Northing				

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

B

Zone	Easting				Northing				

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

☒ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

see assessor's map

☐ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The bounds of the nominated property, defined by stone walls, are the extent of the Tucker Farm still in agricultural use, as well as all standing buildings/structures that make up the farmstead today. The remainder of the 148 acres presently associated with the farm is secondary growth and is therefore excluded from the nomination.

☐ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Betsy Friedberg/National Reg. Dir., MHC w/ Peter Jacobsen/A.G. Souza Assoc. & R. Burgess		
organization	Massachusetts Historical Commission	date	November 1987
street & number	80 Boylston Street	telephone	(617) 727-8470
city or town	Boston	state	Massachusetts zip code 02116

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 0

Tucker Farm, Dartmouth, Massachusetts

Tucker Farm, Dartmouth, is a large, intact farm complex located on land originally purchased by Henry Tucker in the mid-17th century. The farm, retaining to this day a large portion of the original land grant, remains in the ownership of Tucker's descendants. The property includes two residences (one built ca. 1720 and the other ca. 1809), which received some additions throughout the period of significance (ca. 1720-1937) as the size of the Tucker family increased. A number of outbuildings are included as well. Fields, still under cultivation, are defined by stone walls throughout. Retaining integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and an extraordinarily intact setting, as well as associations with an important local family and the settlement and development of agricultural Dartmouth, Tucker Farm fulfills Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places on the local level.

The Town of Dartmouth was originally an enormous tract of land (in New England scale) encompassing the present Towns of Westport, Acushnet, Fairhaven, Dartmouth, the City of New Bedford and parts of Little Compton and Tiverton, Rhode Island. It was for the most part densely forested with crisscrossing streams, cedar swamps, and a long coastline with bays and inlets. In 1652, thirty-four of the first Plymouth colonists, including Myles Standish and Peter Brown, purchased Old Dartmouth from the Wampanoag Indians. Each proprietor's share included at least 2,000 acres. Many of the proprietors chose not to settle in Dartmouth, as they were already established elsewhere. Settlement of the area was slow. By 1663, absentee owners were being taxed for the support of the settlement by order of the Plymouth authorities. Some of the proprietors were forced to sell off some of their shares, and among the purchasers of these shares were Baptists and Quakers, seeking refuge and

Continued

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National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1Tucker Farm
Dartmouth, Massachusetts

escape from religious intolerance on what was then the frontier. Absentee ownership, Dartmouth's isolating forests and waterways, and religious friction all contributed to dispersed settlement rather than the more traditional nucleus of the planned New England village with its central green surrounded by a cluster of buildings.

Among the first settlers was Henry Tucker. Born in the County of Kent, England, in 1619, it is believed that Henry Tucker was a descendant of Robert Tucker, the Mayor of Exeter, Devonshire, in 1538. Henry left England at least by 1650, and more probably as early as 1645, and settled in the Milton area, near Boston. By 1651, Henry Tucker had married Martha (maiden name unknown) in a service of the Society of Friends, duly recorded in the Society's Rhode Island Monthly Meeting Minutes. Henry and Martha remained in Milton, but were increasingly objects of religious intolerance. In 1664 Henry Tucker came under the ire of Reverend Torrey, who seized cord wood from Mr. Tucker and sold it for his own profit in Boston. As a result of such actions, Henry and Martha along with other Quakers (including George Babcock, a name to reappear with Henry's in Dartmouth) moved to Sandwich, a strong and welcoming center for early Friends. Then at some time later, the Tucker family, now including four children, appears to have moved to Rhode Island, perhaps Newport, as referred to in the records of the Rhode Island Society of Friends.

In 1669, Henry Tucker paid fifteen pounds to William Allen, son-in-law of original Dartmouth proprietor Peter Brown. His purchase was for one third of Mr. Brown's share of Dartmouth. This, with other purchases, established the ownership of a substantial holding in Dartmouth by the Tucker family.

Tradition reports that Henry Tucker walked along an Indian trail on the land he had purchased until he noticed a path that led to a spring of cool bubbling water. This Indian trail led from what we now call Plymouth to Newport. Parts of this trail are incorporated into present-day roads of Dartmouth, particularly Hathaway Road and Old Westport Road, the latter being the Old Road to Newport. Pausing at the spring, Henry Tucker is said to have decided that this would be the ideal spot for him and his family. With most of the family still in Rhode Island, Henry and his oldest sons visited frequently, erecting a one-room stone house for the family. A surveyor by profession, Henry Tucker was the Town of Dartmouth Highway Surveyor in 1671, so it was quite probable that he at least was in residence in the Town by that year. The 1679 record of Henry's eldest son Abraham's marriage to Mary Slocum makes reference to "Henry of Dartmouth" and "Mary of Rhode Island." Most likely by this time or soon afterwards, the family was in residence in the small stone house in Dartmouth near the cool spring Henry had found some years before.

continued

United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 2Tucker Farm
Dartmouth, Massachusetts

During this time, Dartmouth town records include "Henry Tucker and wife Martha"; while at the same time the Rhode Island Society of Friends include the Tucker family in their records. This is puzzling until it is realized that the Dartmouth Friends, although they met weekly for worship in each other's homes, were not organized into a Dartmouth Monthly Business Meeting until 1700. When it came to matters of business, this was done through the larger Rhode Island Society of Friends--to which all Dartmouth Friends at that time belonged. Hence the recording of all vital records for Dartmouth Quakers in the Rhode Island Friend's records.

In June 1684, agents for the proprietors of the Town of Dartmouth reached an agreement with Henry Tucker and George Babcock to build a grist mill in the town, an agreement which also provided the two with an additional 200 acres of land within the town. In 1707 Eliashib Smith acquired title to this mill, located upstream from Tucker's farm at a small crossroads that would become a village bearing Eliashib's surname: Smith Mills.

The original Tucker Farm extended across a large tract of land from (in present descriptive terms) Hathaway Road on the north to south of Allen Street, and from Slocum Road on the east proceeding westerly across the Paskamansett River to the present Old Westport Road. (A later purchase extended this to Buttonwood Brook--now within Ned Bedford's Buttonwood Park.) The family acquired other parcels within the town, owning at one time, it is estimated, between 800 and 1000 acres. Among the Tucker family holdings was one of the Elizabeth islands just off the Dartmouth coast, the island of Pasque.

Henry Tucker was first a surveyor and mill owner, then a farmer. His sons continued the farming tradition. John (1656-1751) journeyed to New Jersey in 1688 to marry Ruth Wooley (the Wooleys originally came from Rhode Island). In 1693, John and his family returned to Dartmouth and the Tucker Farm, presumably settling in the stone house. Henry died in 1694, passing the farm and other property to his sons. John continued working the farm, and by the early-18th century had built a 2 1/2-story gable-roofed wooden house, in front of or added on to the stone one. This new house was finished by 1720 and is included in the present nomination. A letter from Jesse Tucker (1817-1902) to Dr. Edward Tucker speculates that the north wall of the second house probably contains some stones from the original house, as mortar found on the stones incorporated ground sea shells instead of commercial lime. The final history of the original stone house is unknown. It could have had many uses by John's

continued

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 3Tucker Farm
Dartmouth, Massachusetts

family--such as storage area or animal quarters. When the present rear addition to John's house was built ca. 1760, it was quite possibly built over the finally filled-in remains of the original stone house. This ell has no cellar beneath it and is the present kitchen.

In addition to family matters, John was active in Quaker religious affairs. In 1698, four Dartmouth Friends, meeting at the house of John Lapham, agreed to undertake the construction of a meetinghouse for the Dartmouth Quakers. The four were Peleg Slocum, who donated fifteen acres of land for the site of the meetinghouse, Jacob Mott, and John and Abraham Tucker. The meetinghouse was constructed in 1698-1699 and was the first Friends Meetinghouse in Dartmouth. Located in the geographical center of the Town (and more than three miles from the Tucker Farm), it was the first Apponegansett Meetinghouse. Now Dartmouth Friends could hold their own monthly business meetings; they would no longer have to travel to Rhode Island. (The original meetinghouse was torn down in the eighteenth century and replaced with the still standing Apponegansett Meetinghouse, located on the same site.)

In addition to active participation in the construction of the meetinghouse, John Tucker is also remembered as an active minister and influential member of the Society of Friends during his lifetime.

The working farm remained in the Tucker family. Although the size of the farm has changed, the essential core of the farm, stretching from Tucker Road (named for Henry) to the Paskamansett River and slightly beyond, has remained intact, in the possession of the family since Henry Tucker's original settling.

In 1809, after the birth of his second child, Benjamin Tucker (1781-1861), great grandson of John Tucker, built a new house on the farm, diagonally across the lane from the 1720 house. Benjamin built a 2 1/2-story Federal-style residence facing Tucker Road, although about 200 feet from it. There Benjamin worked the farm and raised his family. In 1830, on the occasion of the marriage of Benjamin's daughter Rhoda to William Gifford, an addition was made to the 1809 house, expanding it from three to a full five bays in width.

Upon Benjamin Tucker's death in 1861, the property was inherited primarily by his son Charles Russell (1809-1891), who reportedly bought out at that time any other relatives who may have had any claim to Benjamin's estate. There is no evidence that Charles lived in the 1809 house; however, the family

continued

United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation Sheet

Tucker Farm
Dartmouth, Massachusetts

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responsibility for sharing accommodations with relatives and the cellar walls and beams suggest that a second addition, located to the rear of the house, occurred soon after Benjamin's death, perhaps in 1861 or 1862.

During the mid- to late-19th century, Charles Tucker rose to a position of influence and importance in nearby New Bedford. Raised on the Tucker Farm, Charles joined the merchant whaling firm of Issac Howland and Company, located in New Bedford. Later, Mr. Tucker founded his own firm with E. D. Mandell. During whaling's heyday in New Bedford, Charles rose to prominence and success, becoming Director of the Merchants Bank, an investor in many whaling voyages, trustee of the New Bedford Institution for Savings, and President of the Commercial Mutual and Marine Insurance Company. Other members of the Tucker family followed similarly diverse pursuits in and around Dartmouth during the 19th and early-20th centuries, farming their land and working as well as doctors, merchants, and town officials.

In 1882, clear title to the Tucker farm was acquired by Job S. Gidley, who in 1874 had married Susanna Tucker, a direct descendant of Henry Tucker. Although not a birthright Quaker, Gidley (1844-1928) throughout his life espoused the tenets of the Society of Friends, as had all the Tuckers. After a serious childhood illness, Gidley had vowed that he would follow a vocation that would help his fellow man. He chose teaching and became a respected educator in the local schools. His obituary would note:

It is said he preferred those schools in the Town (in) which the School Committee felt difficult situations existed... Grown men in Dartmouth today (1928) have lively recollections of having been handled by the Quaker School teacher.

(New Bedford Standard Times, 12/23/1928)

Gidley was also very active in town and Quaker affairs. For many years he was a member of the School Committee, often as chairman. He participated in the planning of new schools, designing and supervising the construction of an elementary school on Tucker Road in 1896. (On that site now stands a new school built in the 1920s and named, appropriately, the "Job S. Gidley School".) In addition, Gidley held at various times all the chief elective offices in the town: Selectman, Town Clerk, Treasurer, and Tax Assessor, and often served as moderator at Town Meeting.

continued

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Tucker Farm
Dartmouth, Massachusetts

Section number 8 Page 5

Despite all these impressive credentials, Mr. Gidley preferred to be identified as a farmer. During his lifetime, Tucker Farm became known as Gidley Farm. Upon his retirement in 1890, he devoted much of his time to farming.

After Gidley's death in 1928, his two unmarried daughters, Alice and Elizabeth, continued to live on the farm, hiring the services of a farm manager. Their sister Ann Gidley Lowry, moved to the farm after the death of her husband in 1953. After the three sisters' deaths (Alice died in 1972 having survived Elizabeth and Ann), the present owners moved into the 1809 house. Mrs. Ruth Burgess is the granddaughter of Susanna Tucker and Job S. Gidley and the daughter of Mary Jessie Gidley Carter, the only one of Job Gidley's daughters to spend most of her married life away from the farm.

The farm remains a working farm with several fields (forty acres) devoted to hay, alfalfa, and pasture. The 1720 house has been carefully restored and is now rented. The 1809 house, enlarged by the successive nineteenth-century additions described above, remains the residence of the owners. Through the establishment of conservation trusts, the descendants of Henry Tucker have demonstrated their commitment to preserving the rural, agrarian qualities of the Tucker Farm even as suburban pressures from nearby New Bedford grow ever greater.

Archaeological Significance

Since the patterns of prehistoric occupation in Dartmouth are poorly documented, any surviving sites would be significant. Prehistoric sites along the Paskamansett River have the potential for adding information pertaining to native subsistence and settlement in the Dartmouth and Southeastern Massachusetts area. Larger sites in Dartmouth are known to occur in coastal and lakeside locales. Recent research in the area suggests smaller sites, possibly foraging or collecting locations, associated with the larger sites listed above may be found along interior rivers like the Paskamansett. Prehistoric sites in the area may also add valuable information pertaining to local/regional ethnic resource use and environmental change.

Historic archaeological remains described above have the potential for providing detailed information on the changing social, cultural, and economic patterns that characterized life on a prosperous Quaker farmstead. The social evolution of a single family can be traced at the Tucker Farm from its settlement in the 17th century to the present. The Tucker Farm is unique in that it has been kept in the direct ancestral line from Henry Tucker, its founder. Changes in the Tucker family can be traced as well as changes in the farm and Dartmouth/New Bedford economy from its rural subsistence beginnings through later industry, commerce, whaling and the current state of farming in the Dartmouth area.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

Tucker Farm
Dartmouth, Massachusetts

Major Bibliographic References

Arnold, James N., Vital Records of Rhode Island. Narragansett Historical Publishing Company, Providence, Rhode Island, 1893.

Hurd, Hamilton D., History of Bristol County. J. W. Lewis & Co., Philadelphia, 1883.

Tucker, Ephraim, Genealogy of the Tucker Family. F. S. Blanchard & Co., Worcester, Mass., 1895.

Lowry, Ann Gidley, Tucker Genealogy, unpublished genealogy of Henry Tucker and his descendants, in the possession of Mrs. Ruth Burgess, Tucker Farm.

Unpublished letters, notes and writings, in the possession of Mrs. Ruth Burgess, Tucker Farm.

Dr. Edward Tucker

Mr. Jesse Tucker

Mr. Job S. Gidley

Original deed, maps, family records, letters, papers, etc, in the possession of Mrs. Ruth Burgess, Tucker Farm.

Newspapers

"New Bedford Standard", September 24, 1916; December 23, 1928

"New Bedford Standard-Times", October 31, 1966; December 4, 1960

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

Tucker Farm
Dartmouth, Massachusetts

Quad- New Bedford North
Scale- 1:25000

UTM REFERENCES-

<u>POINT</u>	<u>ZONE</u>	<u>EASTING</u>	<u>NORTHING</u>
A	19	335120	4610660
B	19	335140	4610320
C	19	335040	4610050
D	19	334640	4610100
E	19	334540	4610200
F	19	334820	4610520
G	19	334900	4610590

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Tucker Farm Historic District
Dartmouth, Massachusetts

PHOTOGRAPHS

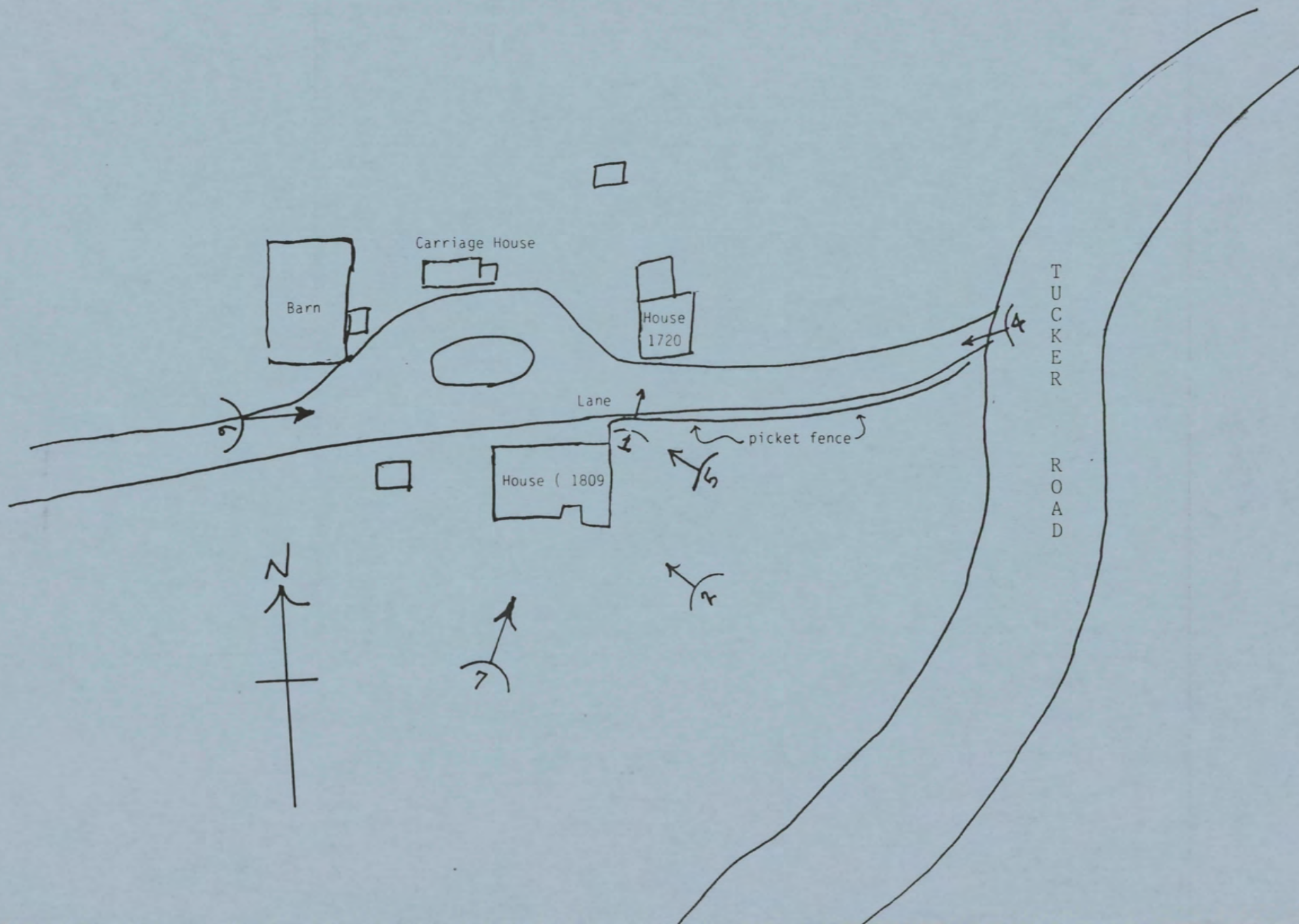
- #1 Tucker Farm Historic District
1178 Tucker Road, Dartmouth, MA
photographer: Peter M. Jacobsen, 1985
negative: Dartmouth Historical Commission, Dartmouth, MA
View: ca. 1720 House, Tucker Farm, south & west facades, looking northeast

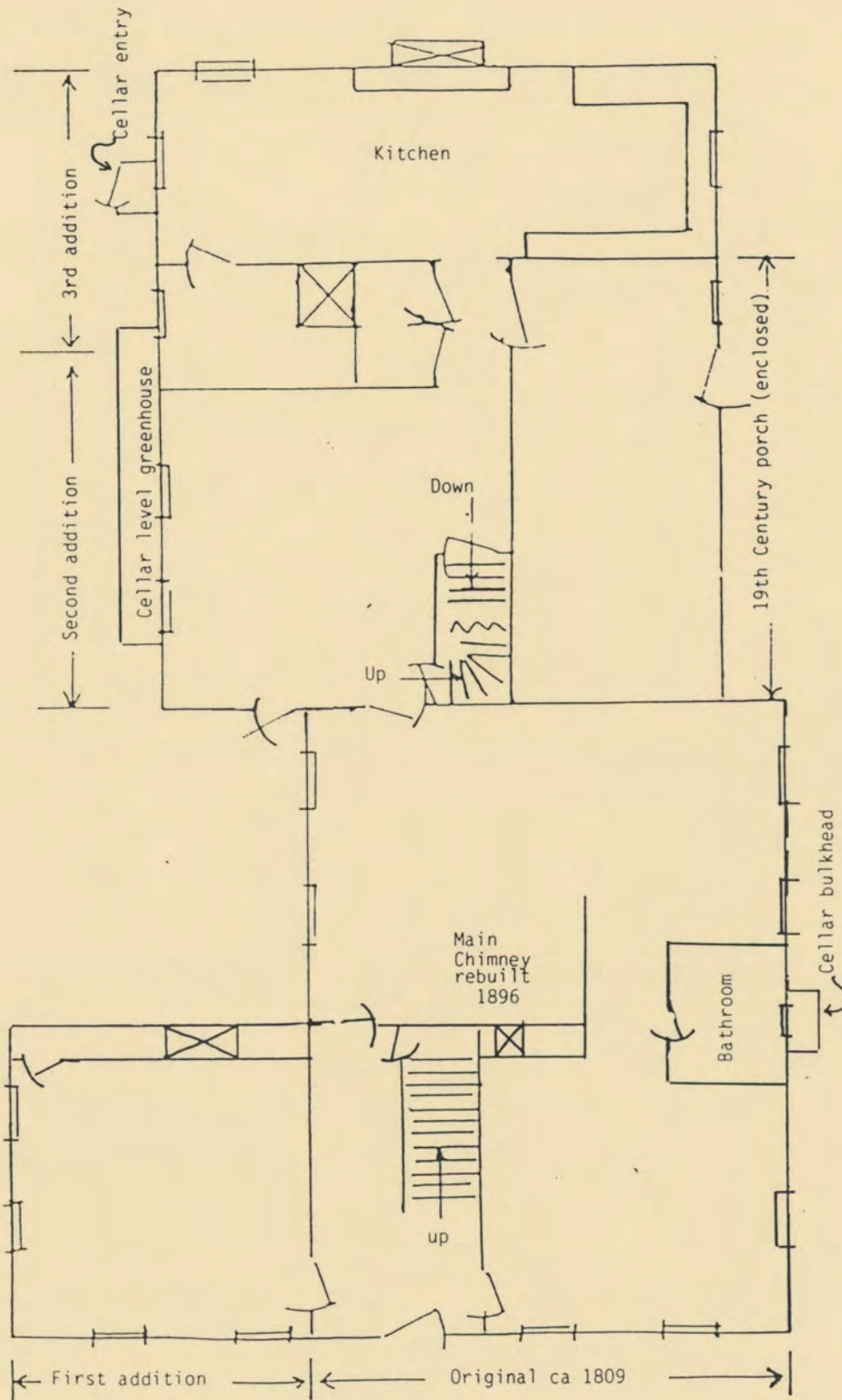
- #2 Tucker Farm Historic District
1178 Tucker Road, Dartmouth, MA
photographer: Peter M. Jacobsen
negative: Dartmouth Historical Commission, Dartmouth, MA
View: ca. 1809 House, Tucker Farm, east & south facades, looking northwest

- #3 Tucker Farm Historic District
1178 Tucker Road, Dartmouth, MA
photographer: Peter M. Jacobsen
negative: Dartmouth Historical Commission, Dartmouth, MA
View: Pond, Tucker Farm, looking north

Photographs
The Tucker Farm
Dartmouth, Massachusetts

MAY 1 1988





1809 House - - Tucker Farm

First Floor Plan - Sketch
AG Souza Associates
PMJ/1985

TUCKER FARM HISTORIC DISTRICT
Dartmouth, Massachusetts
DISTRICT DATA SHEET

Note: all street addresses are 1178 Tucker Road

<u>MAP#</u>	<u>HISTORIC NAME</u>	<u>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION</u>	<u>STYLE</u>	<u>STATUS/RESOURCE</u>
1	House	ca. 1720		C/B
2	House	ca. 1809		C/B
3	Barn	ca. 1850		C/B
4	Carriage House/Shed	ca. 1800		C/B
5	Shop/Utility Shed	ca. 1950		NC/B
6	Milk Shed	ca. 1790		C/B
7	Chicken Coop/Shed	20th c.		NC/B
8	Greenhouse Foundation	ca. 1940		NC/Si
	Picket Fence			NC*/St
	Stone Walls			NC*/St

KEY

C....contributing
NC...noncontributing

B....building
Si...site
St...structure

DISTRICT TOTALS

Contributing: 5B
Noncontributing: 2B, 1Si, 2St

*the picket fence and stone walls are being considered NC due to lack of information at the present time

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Tucker Farm
Bristol County
MASSACHUSETTS

Substantive Review

Working No. 5/11/88

Fed. Reg. Date: _____

Date Due: 9/8/88

Action: ☒ ACCEPT 8/25/88

☐ RETURN

☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

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

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

Reviewer's comments:

*Historically and architecturally
significant farm complex reflective
of settlement and development of
Dartmouth's agricultural heritage.
Critical return comments have been addressed.*

Recom./Criteria Accept ARC

Reviewer Smith

Discipline Architectural History

Date 8/25/88

see continuation sheet

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

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ original site
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ moved date _____
☐ fair	☐ unexposed	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

_____ national _____ state _____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____



1. Tucker Farm, ca 1720 house



Tucker Farm Historic District
Dartmouth, MA

Photo # 1 of 3
see continuation sheet



MAY 11 1988



2. Ca 1809 house, Tucker Farm



3. Pond, Tucker Farm

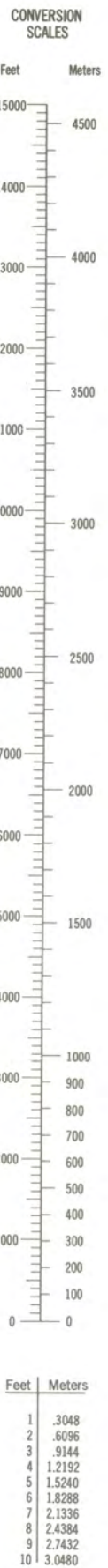
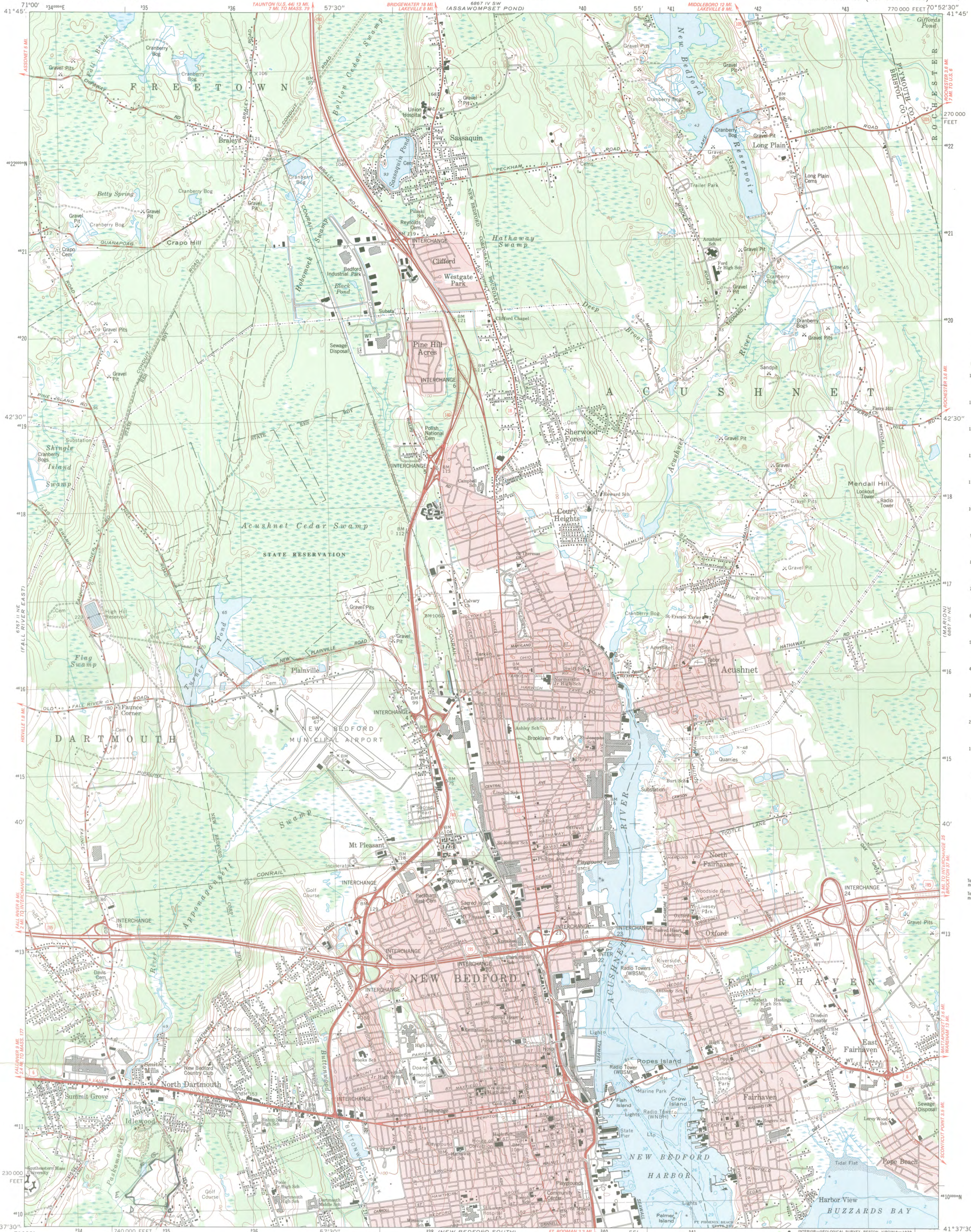
682 135E
(ASSONNET)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

NEW BEDFORD NORTH QUADRANGLE
MASSACHUSETTS
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

682 135E
(SNIP PLUT POND)



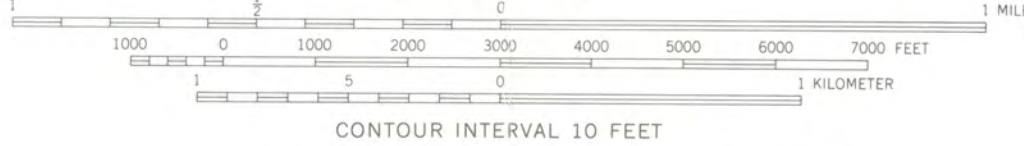
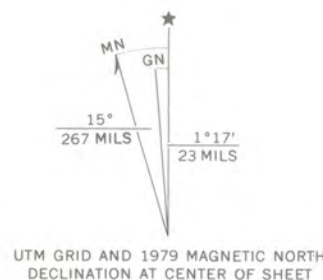
TUCKER FARM
1178 Tucker Road
Dartmouth, MA

Quad - New Bedford North
Scale 1:25000

UTM References:

- A 19/335120/4610660
- B 19/335140/4610320
- C 19/335040/4610050
- D 19/334640/4610100
- E 19/334540/4610200
- F 19/334820/4610520
- G 19/334900/4610590

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1936, Revised 1964
Revised 1975 from aerial photographs taken 1974
Field checked 1975. Map edited 1979
Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS 353 (1973)
This information is not intended for navigational purposes
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 6 meters south and
42 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 19
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Boundaries in tidal areas from information furnished by
Massachusetts Department of Public Works
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
the National or State reservations shown on this map



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



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway
hard surface

Secondary highway,
hard surface

Light-duty road, hard or
improved surface

Unimproved road
dashed line

Interstate Route

U. S. Route

State Route

NEW BEDFORD NORTH, MASS.
N4137.5—W7052.5/7.5

1979

DMA 6867 III NW—SERIES V814

MAY 11 1988



75

46

45



47
27 ACRES



- Legend
- From the Town of Dartmouth Assessor's Plans, Redrawn 1981
Scale: 1 inch = 200 feet
- Buildings (size & location approximate):
- ① - ca 1720 House
 - ② - ca 1809 House
 - ③ - ca 1850 barn
 - ④ - ca 1800 carriage house/shed
 - ⑤ - ca 1950 utility shed
 - ⑥ - ca 1790 shed
 - ⑦ - abandoned 20th century shed
 - ⑧ - foundations (concrete) for ca 1940 greenhouses (never built)
- - Woods
- Historic Property Boundary (actual lot lines)
- Wire fence
- stone wall
- AG Souza Associates
PMJ/1985

THE TUCKER FARM
1178 TUCKER ROAD
DARTMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS

WEST HAWTHORN ST.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Secretary of State
Michael Joseph Connolly, Secretary

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Valerie A. Talmage
Executive Director
State Historic Preservation Officer

July 14, 1988

Ms. Carol Shull
Chief of Registration
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of Interior
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the revised nomination forms for the following properties, which were returned by your office for technical and substantive corrections:

Tucker Farm (preferred) Historic District / Dartmouth
Joseph K. Manning House / Medford

All corrections have been made, as requested. Please contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

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

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

JUL 25 1988



April 28, 1988

Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the nomination forms for the following properties:

Amesbury, Lowell's Boat Shop, 459 Main Street

Barre, No. 4 Schoolhouse, Farrington Road

Chelsea, Downtown Chelsea Residential Historic District; roughly bounded
by Shurtleff, Marginal, and Division Streets and Bellingham Square; HPCA #11031MA

Dartmouth, Tucker Farm Historic District, 1178 Tucker Road

Grafton, Grafton Common Historic District; Worcester, Oak, Millbury,
Church, South, Upton, and North Streets; HPCA #11049MA

They have been voted eligible by the State Review Board and have been signed
by the State Historic Preservation Officer. Owners were notified of pending
State Review Board consideration 30-75 days before the meeting and were
afforded the opportunity to comment. No comments have been received to date.

Sincerely,

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

BF/es

Enclosure

MAY 11 1988

Massachusetts Historical Commission, Valerie A. Talmage, *Executive Director, State Historic Preservation Officer*
80 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02116 (617) 727-8470

Office of the Secretary of State, Michael J. Connolly, *Secretary*