

PH 0183164

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUN 10 1975

DATE ENTERED JUL 30 1975

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC John Greenleaf Whittier Homestead

AND/OR COMMON
same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 105 Whittier Road

CITY, TOWN

Haverhill

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
6th

STATE

Massachusetts

CODE

025

COUNTY

Essex

CODE

009

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO**PRESENT USE**☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☒ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Trustees of the John Greenleaf Whittier Homestead, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER

105 Whittier Road (Secretary, 65 Chadwick Road)

CITY, TOWN

Haverhill

VICINITY OF

STATE

Massachusetts

01830

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Essex South District Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Federal Street

CITY, TOWN

Salem

STATE

Massachusetts 01970

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth

DATE

1972

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Boston

STATE Massachusetts

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Whittier Homestead is a 17th century house located off Route 110, a mile from Route 495, and four miles east of Haverhill. The Homestead stands with an adjacent barn on a farm of nearly fifty acres.

The house was built in 1688 by Thomas Whittier, the first of the line in America, and great-great grandfather of the poet John Greenleaf Whittier. It is a two-story clapboard building with a gable roof and characteristic brick central chimney. On the west end of the house is a small, narrow, one-story shingled ell which originally contained a wood shed and privy, but now has been converted to a kitchen, bath, and storage area. The main entrance to the house is on the south side, and there are two other entries which open into the kitchen. In 1902 the roof and upper story of the house were badly damaged by fire, but restoration was undertaken immediately, and much of the original fabric was retained. The three-bay arrangement on the second story was not a result of this restoration since a photograph and a lithograph of the late nineteenth century indicate that even before the fire there were only three windows on the second-story facade. In 1911 a two-story ell was added to the rear of the main building to increase the accommodations for the caretaker and family who also use the second floor of the main house.

rest
The front entrance of the house leads to a small hall, on either side of which are the two front rooms. One of these rooms was used from time to time as a "borning room" and was the room in which John Greenleaf Whittier was born. There is also a small "mother's room" which is slightly elevated to accommodate a boulder too large to move, and there is a pantry with a wooden sink. Nearly all of the northern side of the house is occupied by the kitchen which is twenty-six feet long by sixteen feet wide and contains the large brick fireplace which was mentioned in Whittier's poem "Snow-Bound." Two smaller fireplaces are located in the two front rooms.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
☐ PREHISTORIC	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION
☐ 1400-1499	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LAW	☐ SCIENCE
☐ 1500-1599	☐ AGRICULTURE	☐ ECONOMICS	☒ LITERATURE	☐ SCULPTURE
☒ 1600-1699	☒ ARCHITECTURE	☐ EDUCATION	☐ MILITARY	☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☐ 1700-1799	☐ ART	☐ ENGINEERING	☐ MUSIC	☐ THEATER
☒ 1800-1899	☐ COMMERCE	☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	☐ PHILOSOPHY	☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ 1900-	☐ COMMUNICATIONS	☐ INDUSTRY	☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)
		☐ INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c.1688

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1688 the pioneer Thomas Whittier acquired 148 acres of farmland in a pleasant valley under the shoulder of Job's Hill, where he built the house which was to be the home of five generations of Whittiers. The Whittier Homestead is most significantly known as the birthplace of John Greenleaf Whittier, who was known as the "Quaker Poet" and "anti-slavery poet," and was one of the leading abolitionists of his day. The poet was born in the house on December 17, 1807, and lived there until 1830. The house itself is located on its original site and was the scene and inspiration of Whittier's famous poem "Snow-Bound."

The original barn described in "Snow-Bound" was built in 1821 by John and Moses Whittier, the poet's father and uncle, and it stood across the road from the main house. Although this barn was lost by arson in 1970, it has been replaced by another barn of the same age, style, and size which was dismantled on its site in Haverhill and reassembled on the foundation of the original barn.

Fernside Brook, which supplied water for the farm and provided power for Thomas Whittier's mill, was also immortalized in a Whittier poem. Today the brook, the site of the old mill, and the ancient family burial lot still survive and are readily identified as subjects of many of John Greenleaf Whittier's works.

The house contains extensive furnishings and memorabilia relating to the Whittier family as well as some personal possessions of the poet. Even those furnishings not actually owned by the poet's family are period pieces. One of the most interesting articles is the desk of John Greenleaf Whittier's great grandfather. On this desk Whittier scribbled his first rhymes, and here, in his eighty-fifth year, he wrote his last poem when the desk was at the home of his Newburyport cousins the Cartlands. According to the poet himself, it was also on this desk that he wrote his first pamphlet on slavery, "Justice and Expediency."

In addition to its literary association, the Whittier Homestead is a remarkably unspoiled example of a northern Essex County farm with its buildings, pastures, woods, and landscape recalling much of their original aspect. In 1892 James H. Carleton presented the Homestead

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bacon, Edwin Munroe. Literary Pilgrimages in New England. 1902.
Bullard, Frederick L. Historic Summer Haunts from Newport to Portland. 1912.
Clark. Poet's New England. 1911.
The Homes of Our Forefathers. New York: Appleton, 1884.
Parton, Edward. Some Noted Princes, Authors, and Statesmen of Our Times. 1885.
(continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately 9 acres
UTM REFERENCES

A 19 333380 4741540
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Judy Dobbs, National Register Editor
ORGANIZATION Massachusetts Historical Commission DATE June 1975
STREET & NUMBER 40 Beacon Street TELEPHONE 617-727-8470
CITY OR TOWN Boston STATE Massachusetts

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ☒ STATE ☐ LOCAL ☐

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Elizabeth R. Amador
TITLE Mass. State Historic Preservation Officer DATE 6/4/75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

A. R. Montezuma

DATE 7/30/75

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE JUL 30 1975

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

to the Haverhill Whittier Club, which formed a self-perpetuating Board of Trustees to manage the property. The Trustees were incorporated by an act of the Massachusetts legislature in 1893 and since that time have operated the complex as a working farm. The buildings and the entire area are described in Whittierland by Samuel T. Pickard, husband of the niece of the poet. The Homestead is also part of the Whittier Trail which consists of all the local sites connected with the poet or immortalized in his poems.

ITEM NUMBER 9:

Pickard, Samuel T. Whittierland. 1904.
Under Colonial Roofs. Boston: Webster, 1894.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

John Greenleaf Whittier Homestead

AND/OR COMMON

same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Haverhill

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY Essex

STATE

MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Donald C. Freeman

DATE OF PHOTO

1965

NEGATIVE FILED AT

D.C. Freeman, Whittier Birthplace Trustees
65 Chadwick Road, Bradford, MA 01830

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO

1

Taken from a southeasterly direction.

1031

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

1031



NEW ENGLAND POET -- JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER

John Greenleaf Whittier, whose life spanned most of the 19th Century, was once one of America's best-loved poets. He was an ardent champion of abolition. Born on a New England farm, he lived in real poverty until he was middle-aged, devoting all his time and talents to the cause of anti-slavery. When the Civil War ended the need for this activity, he turned to writing ballads, poems and folk-tales in verse about his native state Massachusetts. From that time until his death, his fame and prosperity steadily increased.

As "Snowbound" as the scene of his famous poem by that name is this farm where Whittier grew up and which had belonged to his family since the 17th Century. (Photo No. 58-1263. Accompanies Feature F-58-57.)

58-1263

Haverhill, Mass.

Home of John Whittier Poet

Source: Lib. of Congress

This is not the landmark,
but earlier family home. On the
Register, I think?

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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JUL 30 1975

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC John Greenleaf Whittier Homestead

AND/OR COMMON
Same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Haverhill _____ VICINITY OF COUNTY Essex STATE MA

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE Sketch map

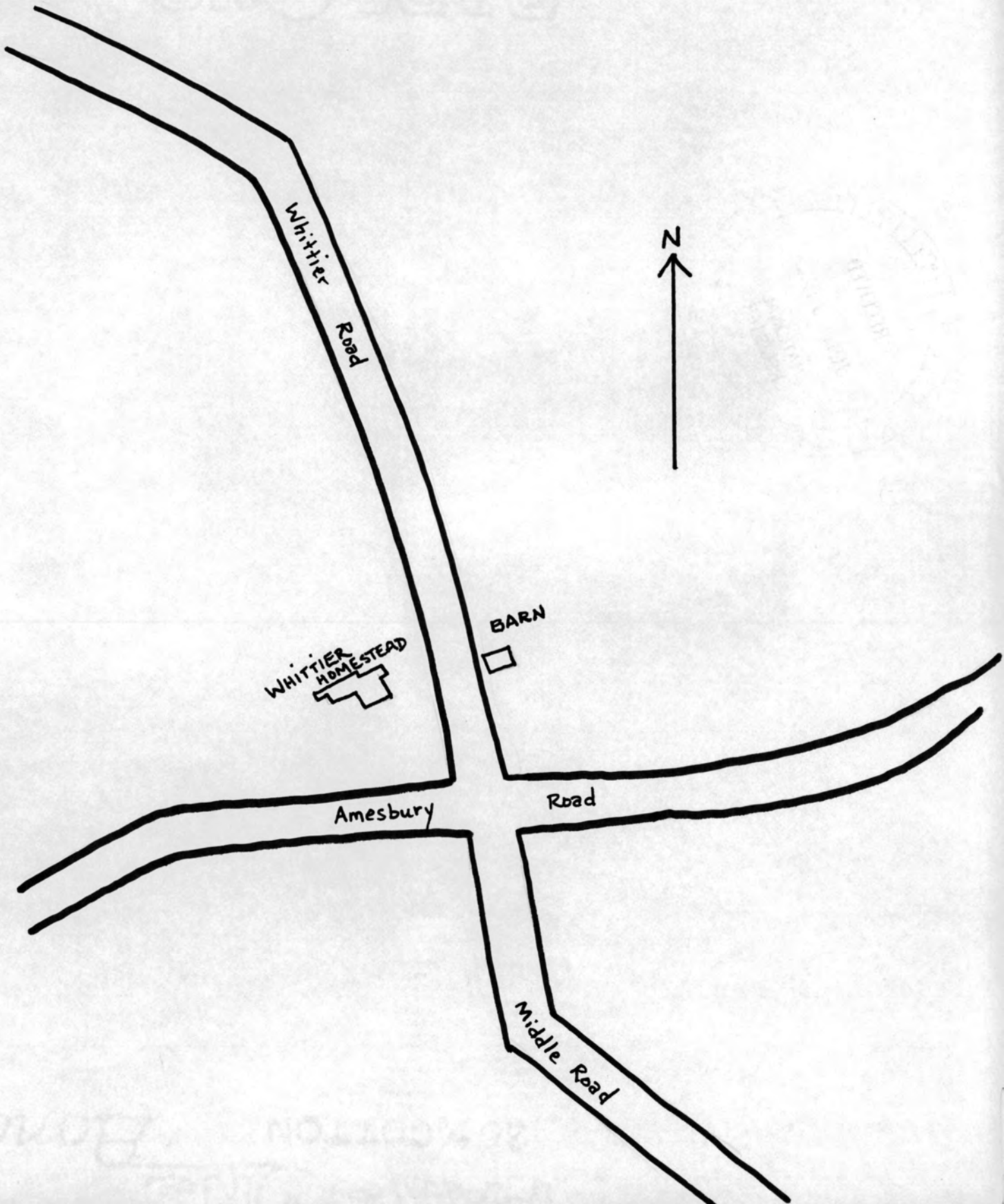
SCALE Not to scale DATE June 1974

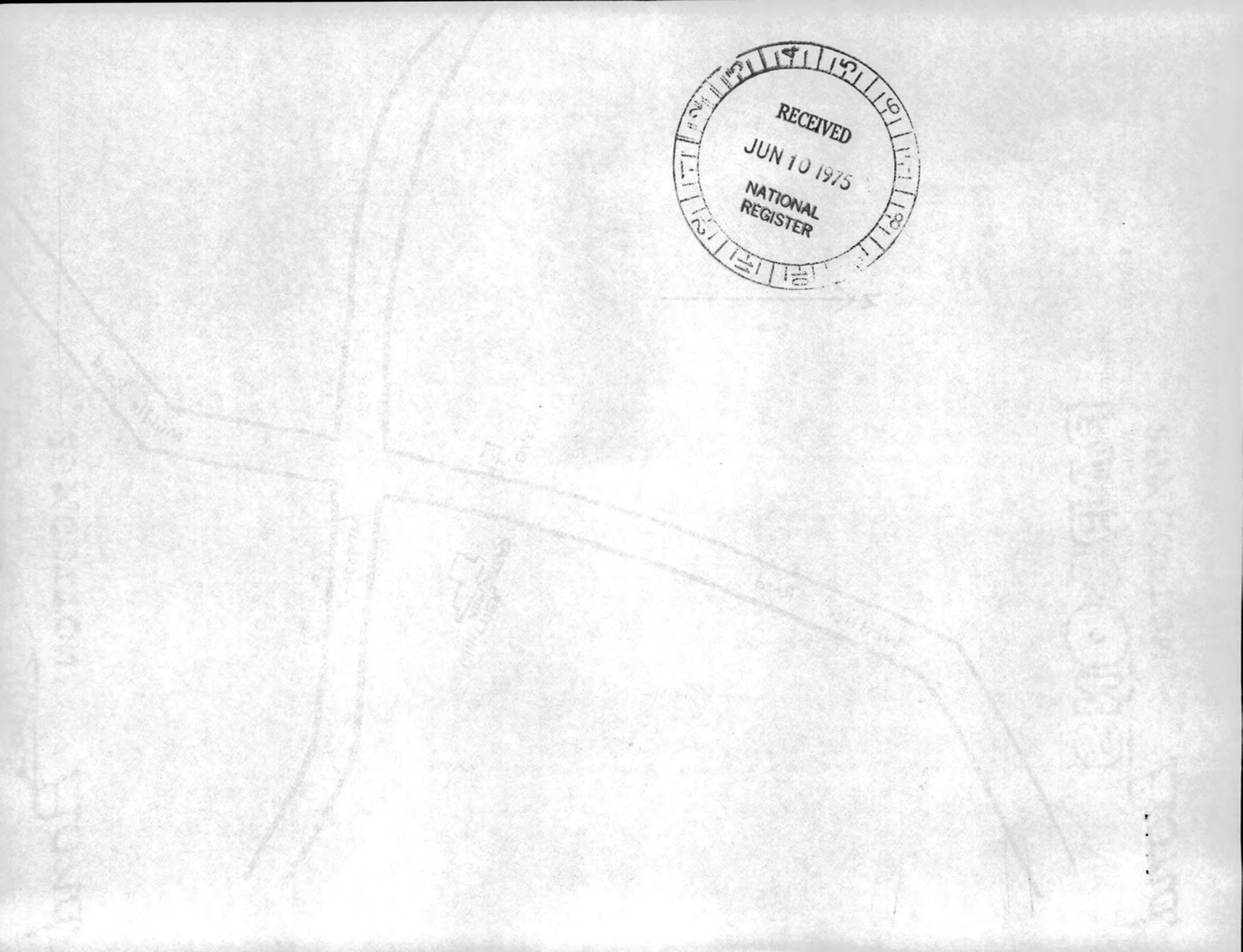
4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES

JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER HOMESTEAD
Haverhill, Massachusetts





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC John Greenleaf Whittier Homestead

AND/OR COMMON same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Haverhill VICINITY OF COUNTY Essex STATE MA

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE United States Geological Survey, Haverhill Quadrangle

SCALE 1:24,000 DATE 1955

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES

MA

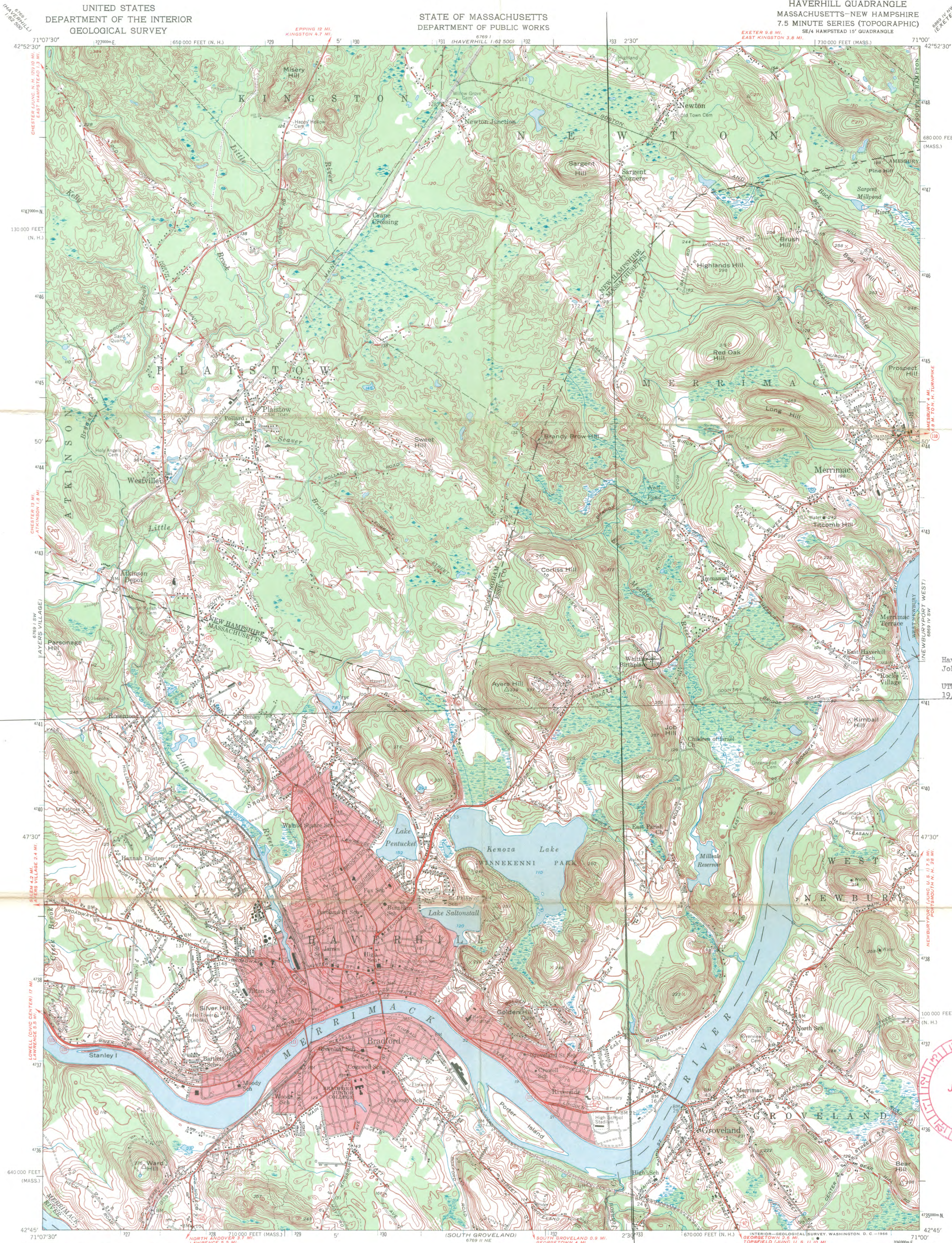
Essex County

Haverhill, Whittier, John Greenleaf,
Homestead, 105 Whittier Rd. (7-30-75)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

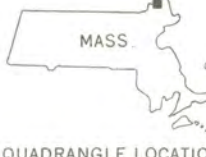
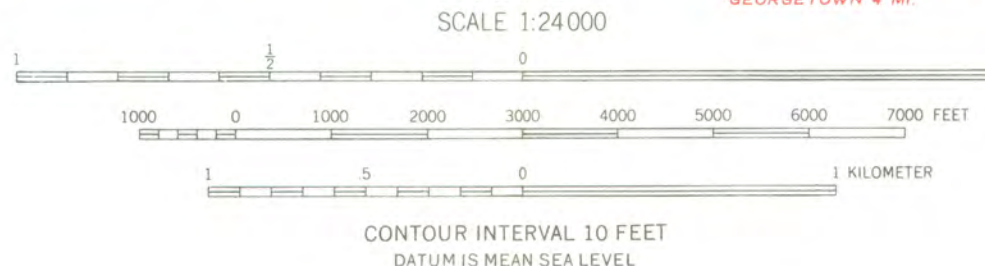
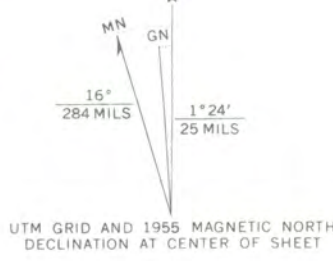
HAVERHILL QUADRANGLE
MASSACHUSETTS-NEW HAMPSHIRE
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
SE/4 HAMPSHEAD 15' QUADRANGLE



Haverhill
John Greenleaf
Whittier Homestead
UTM Reference:
19/333380/4741540



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Massachusetts topography by planetable surveys 1942. Revised 1952
New Hampshire topography from aerial photographs by stereoplanigraph
Aerial photographs taken 1953. Field check 1955
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Massachusetts (Mainland) and
New Hampshire coordinate systems
Red tint indicates areas in which only
landmark buildings are shown
Unchecked elevations are shown in brown
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue



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

HAVERHILL, MASS.-N. H.
SE/4 HAMPSHEAD 15' QUADRANGLE
N4245-W7100/7.5
1955
AMS 6769 1 SE-SERIES V819

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



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of the Secretary
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Paul Guzzi

Secretary of the Commonwealth

40 Beacon Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02108

727-8470

4 June 1975



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

CERTIFIED MAIL

Dear Charles:

Enclosed please find three National Register nominations for the following properties:

1. Haverhill, John Greenleaf Whittier Homestead
2. Lakeville, Wampanoag Royal Cemetery
3. Medfield, Peak House.

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

Sincerely yours,

Patricia L. Weslowski
Survey Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

PLW:pjj
Enclosures

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered JUL 30 1975

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Whittier, John Greenleaf, Homestead	Haverhill Essex County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Hon. Michael J. Harrington
Regional Director, North Atlantic
Region

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

PR MMott/row 8/5/75

NR Data Sheet

DATE: 3/18/77
 Reviewer: INITIALS: *gogo*
 NR DOE July 30, 1975
 (7-30-75)

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Whittier, John Greenleaf, Homestead

OTHER NAMES:

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER 105 Whittier
 CITY, TOWN Haverhill vicinity
 STATE Massachusetts VICINITY OF
 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6th
 COUNTY Essex code 009

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline)

FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST
 SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

INTERIOR	EXTERIOR	ENVIRONS
Substantially intact-1	Substantially intact-2	Substantially intact-3
unknown - 4	unknown - 5	unknown - 6
not applicable - 7	not applicable - 8	Not applicable - 9

Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION -	EXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	UNALTERED	ORIGINAL SITE
	GOOD	RUINS	ALTERED	MOVED
	FAIR	UNEXPOSED	Reconstructed	Unknown
		Unexcavated	Excavated	

ACCESS - Yes-restricted Yes-unrestricted No access Unknown

historic district? YES NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO

IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO

IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO Saved? YES NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- private residence

now- museum

SIGNIFICANCE:

ARCHAEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION	entertainment
ARCHAEOLOGY-HISTORIC	ECONOMICS	LAW/Gov't/politics	SCIENCE	health
AGRICULTURE	EDUCATION	LITERATURE	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	recreation
ARCHITECTURE	ENGINEERING	MILITARY	TRANSPORTATION	settlement
ART	EXPLORATION	MUSIC	OTHER (SPECIFY)	socio/cultural
COMMERCE	INDUSTRY	PHILOSOPHY		urban & commun
COMMUNICATIONS	INVENTION	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT		planning

Claims

"first" YES NO

"oldest" YES NO

"only" YES NO

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: NEW ENGLAND COLONIAL

architect/m.builder:

engineer:

landscape/garden designer:

artist/artisan:

interior decorator:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

(label role
&
appropriate date)

personal (1) JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER - MA POET - BORN &
raised in House.

events

institutional

✓ DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century):

1688 ✓

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

1902, 1911, ~~1821~~ 1'

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

DEC. 17, 1807 JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER BORN IN
HOUSE.

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre)

9

✓ COMMENTS:

(include architectural information here)

FRAME, CLAPBOARDING; 2 1/2 STORIES,

RECTANGULAR WITH REAR AND SIDE ELLS, GABLED ROOF, CENTRAL CHIMNEY,

FRONT CENTER ENTRANCE WITH ARCHITRAVE; ADDITIONAL SIDE ENTRANCES;

2 STORY REAR ELL ADDED, 1911; OUTBUILDINGS; RESTORED AFTER 1902 FIRE.

NEW ENGLAND COLONIAL. EXAMPLE OF EARLY ~~19th C.~~ ESSEX COUNTY FARM-

STEAD VIRTUALLY INTACT; BIRTHPLACE AND BOYHOOD HOME OF POET JOHN

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

GREENLEAF WHITTIER. Museum