

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Silver Hill Historic District
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Silver Hill, Westland Roads, Merriam Street n/a not for publication
city or town Weston n/a vicinity
state Massachusetts code MA county Middlesex code 017 zip code 02493

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

for Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director, 6/23/04
Signature of certifying official/Title Cara H. Metz, State Historic Preservation Officer Date
Massachusetts Historical Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register
 removed from the National Register
 other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Jan
Edson H. Beall 8/25/04

Silver Hill HD
Name of Property

Middlesex, MA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

(Check only one box)

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

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

Number of Resources within Property

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
65	14	building
		sites
1		structures
		objects
66	14	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

n/a

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single, multiple dwellings, secondary structures

TRANSPORTATION: railroad bridge

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwellings, secondary structures

TRANSPORTATION: railroad bridge

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate, Queen Anne

LATE 19th & 20th CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Rev.

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: granite, brick

walls WOOD: shingle, weatherboard

roof ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Silver Hill HD
Weston (Middlesex), MA

7. DESCRIPTION

The Silver Hill Historic District is a residential neighborhood located in the northwest corner of the town of Weston, a Boston suburb. The district of approximately 54 acres includes part of Merriam Street, a scenic country road dating back to the early settlement of the town, as well as Silver Hill Road and part of Westland Road, which were laid out in 1905 as part of Weston's first large-scale subdivision. Many of the houses on Merriam Street date from the 1890s and first years of the 20th century, while houses on Silver Hill and Westland Roads date primarily between 1905 and 1941. The oldest house in the district was built in 1892 and the most recent in 2002, with the majority from the early 20th century.

The district contains a total of 80 resources: 79 buildings and one railroad bridge. Sixty-six are contributing and 14 are non-contributing buildings constructed after 1954. Of the 65 contributing buildings, 24 are barns, garages, or other outbuildings, and the rest are residences. The one- and two-story houses range in size from about 1,000 to 4,500 square feet. Lot sizes range from two-thirds of an acre to about 2½ acres.

Silver Hill is one of only a few turn-of-the-century neighborhoods in Weston and contains the type of solidly constructed, middle-class Queen Anne and Colonial Revival houses that are typical in other Boston suburbs but not common in Weston. Almost all the houses are of wood-frame construction with shingle or clapboard sheathing. Many are set on high fieldstone foundations and have generous front porches. Silver Hill Road has a cohesiveness created by harmonies of scale, style, and massing. Houses generally share a common setback line, adding to the visual unity of a neighborhood. Visual interest is enhanced by the varied topography, with many houses set on slight rises. Stone walls and stone retaining walls add landscape interest, as do the mature trees and shrubs. Common house types include the 2½ story gable-front house built using either Queen Anne or Colonial Revival detailing on the porch, as well as the early 20th century "Four Square," the traditional five-bay Colonial Revival, and a myriad of simple 1½-story cottages. As is typical of Weston, most houses within the Silver Hill Historic District have limited architectural embellishment.

The earliest houses in the Silver Hill Historic District are located on Merriam Street and include the Roland Rand House at **227 Merriam St.** (1892, MHC #226, Map #37; barn: MHC #227), the Waldo C. Hill House at **231 Merriam Street** (1896, MHC# 601, Map #38), the Albert Harding House at **222 Merriam Street** (1900, MHC #606, Map #53) and **181 Merriam Street** (ca.1902, MHC #600, Map #30, Photo #8). All four are 2½ story, gable-front Queen Anne houses with porches across the front. The Hill House has been altered by the addition of aluminum or vinyl siding and by screening the front porch, but retains its form and massing.

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Both 227 and 181 Merriam have typical Queen Anne features like patterned shingles in the gable and turned porch posts with decorative brackets. 181 Merriam Street is important because the house visually marks the entrance into the Silver Hill Historic District from the south.

In 1900-1901, three substantial houses were added on the east side of Merriam Street, all built by members of the same family. The Frank and Carrie Brooks House at **245 Merriam St.** (1901, MHC #602, Map #40) is a 3 x 2 bay, 2½ story Colonial Revival with a hipped roof and prominent one-story center entrance porch. The square massing of the house is broken by a two-story polygonal bay in the center of the front facade. This house is clad with aluminum or vinyl siding. Just north of Brooks' house, his brother-in-law, Charles Peakes, and sister Mabel built the clapboard house at **255 Merriam Street** (1901, MHC #228, Map #41, Photo #3. Barn, MHC# 229). This is also a 2 x 3 bay, 2½ story Colonial Revival with a wraparound porch and simple classical detailing including a Palladian window in the gable. Next door is a house built for Brooks' widowed mother, Arvilla Stickney, at **261 Merriam St.** (1901, MHC #603, Map #42, Photo #3). The corner polygonal tower and polygonal cap on this 2½ story shingled house make it more elaborate than other Queen Anne examples in the district. The house is set with its gable end to the street and features a pedimented entrance porch with turned and chamfered porch posts and a simple railing.

In 1905, the Weston Land Association began developing the west side of Merriam Street. Silver Hill and Westland Roads were laid out with 89 lots ranging in size from about 1/2 acre to over one acre, some of which were set up to sell as double lots. One of the first houses, built for Winslow and Alice Washburn at **198 Merriam Street** (1905, MHC #598, Map #27, Photo #4) stands at a prominent corner at the entrance into the subdivision. The shingled "Four Square" has a hip roof and generous wraparound porch across the front and north side. The house sits on a high fieldstone foundation with arched openings at the basement level enclosed with semi-circular lattice panels. The fieldstone is built up above the level of the first floor, forming a porch enclosure that substitutes for a railing. Simple porch columns are grouped in pairs. The house has bay windows and also large central hip-roofed dormers with paired windows, facing to the front and north side.

Four years later, almost the exact same house--also designed by George Strout-- was built for Edmund and Cora McKenney, at **40 Silver Hill Road** on the corner of Westland Road (1909, MHC #594, Map #20, Photo #1). The Washburn house also bears a distinct stylistic similarity to the 1½ story Frank & Margaret Whelpley House at **4 Silver Hill Road** (1912, MHC #591, Map #14), also thought to have been designed by Strout. Like the Washburn and McKenney houses, 4 Silver Hill Road has a high fieldstone foundation with arched openings filled with semi-circular lattice. The fieldstone foundation here accommodates a change in grade, as the house is

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set on a rise. The front porch is supported with simple wooden columns on stone posts, with railings between the posts. Like the Washburn and McKenney houses, 4 Silver Hill Road features bay windows as well as hip-roofed dormers on the front and side facades.

Another of the substantial early houses in the Silver Hill neighborhood is **44 Silver Hill Road** (1906, MHC #595, Map #21, Photo #1), a prominently located corner house. The house was built as a two-family, with the second living unit on the second floor. It is clapboard, with 3 x 5 bays, a cross gable roof, and an irregular fenestration pattern. The front facade facing Silver Hill Road features a two-story bay at left, a one-story, flat-roofed entrance porch, wide overhanging eaves with show rafters, a pent eve between the second and attic stories, and a sunburst pattern at the peak of the gable.

Grouped around this corner and along the south end of Silver Hill Road is a collection of early 20th century houses that together give the neighborhood its special sense of place. Like those mentioned above, all were built within the first decade after the land was subdivided. On the east side of the road, the Walter Reed House at **31 Silver Hill Road** (1910, MHC #590, Map #8, Photo # 5) is a 2 x 2 bay gambrel-roofed Colonial Revival, which features a front-facing gambrel wall gable and a wraparound porch with square posts and simple curved brackets. The Frank and Grace Carr House at **37 Silver Hill Road** (1909, MHC #589, Map #7, Photo # 6) is a 1½ story, 2 x 3 bay early 20th century example with a front-facing gable and screened-in porch across the front. The Henry and Amy Lawrence House at **49 Silver Hill Road** (1911, MHC #587, Map #5, Photo # 7) is another of the neighborhood's gable-front houses, this one with Colonial Revival detailing. The front facade has a hip-roofed entrance porch and bay window. There are lintels over the windows on the second and third floors and dentils at the roofline. The garage, which appears contemporary with the house, is 1½ stories with a large vehicle opening, elliptical fanlight window above, jerkinhead gable, and horse weathervane (MHC #588)

On the west side of the street, the Almon and Arabella Wright House at **24 Silver Hill Road** (1906, MHC #230, Map #17) is a late Queen Anne cottage with porch. The William Frank Tucker House at **28 Silver Hill Road** (1906, MHC #593, Map #18) is a straightforward 3-bay Colonial Revival sited on a hill. The Edward Parkhurst House at **14 Silver Hill Road** (1907, Map #15, MHC #592), now being restored, features a notable shingle-style porch. The Percy and Ethel Rand House at **12 Westland Road** (1911, MHC #597, Map #26) is a solidly built Colonial Revival with central entrance porch, paired columns, and a turned railing and balustrade.

Of the early 20th century houses, the only brick example is the Ruby Howard House at **204 Merriam Street** (1911, MHC #607, Map #54). This brick Colonial Revival on a corner site atop a wooded hill features an enclosed, brick-pedimented entrance vestibule, side sunporch, and shingled dormers.

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Also notable within the district are two handsome Colonial Revival examples built across from each other in 1917 and 1920. Both are traditional 5 x 2 bay, 2½ story examples with the gable end to the side. The Howard and Flora Stone House at **55 Silver Hill Road** (1917, MHC # 586, Map #4) is notable for its doorway with elliptical fanlight, pedimented portico with paired columns, and side sunporch with high fieldstone foundation. The charming fieldstone garage, designed with the gambrel roof facing the street, was added about 1922. Across the street, the Henry and Mabel Grimwood House at **54 Silver Hill Road** (1920, MHC #596, Map #22) is also a traditional five-bay Colonial Revival house with a one-story porch on each gable end, one screened and one with glass windows.

A discussion of the architecture in the Silver Hill district would not be complete without noting the prevalence of small, 1½ story houses located both on Merriam Street and occasionally within the subdivision. Of these the most architecturally detailed is the Dutch Colonial cottage at **230 Merriam Street** (ca.1926, MHC #605, Map #51), with its hood over the center entrance door, supported on heavy brackets. The shingled cottage built for Frederick and Martha Kenyon at 254 Merriam Street (1911, MHC #604, Map 47) is set on the high promontory reached by fieldstone steps and features wide overhanging eaves with braces, a front screened porch, and 15/1 sash. Other 1½ story cottages include **185, 217, 230, 235, 242, 246, 268, 269, and 271 Merriam Street and 37, 56 and 67 Silver Hill Road.**

In recent years, many houses within the district have been renovated and expanded, generally in ways sensitive to the original. Attractive new Shingle Style houses have been built at **43 Silver Hill Road** (Map #6) in 1996 and **22 Silver Hill Road** (Map #16) in 1999. Both these houses occupy the unused part of what were formerly double lots, eliminating some open space but not replacing original structures. A well-proportioned gable-front Queen Anne Revival was constructed at **213 Merriam Street** (Map #34) in 2001, replacing a late 19th century house that had not been well maintained. Preservation efforts and the use of historical styles for new construction have helped to keep the integrity of the district strong overall.

(end)

Silver Hill HD

Name of Property

Middlesex, MA

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Community Planning and Development

Period of Significance

1892-1954

Significant Dates

1905

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

George Strout, J.R. Worcester (civil engineer)

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

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8. SIGNIFICANCE

The Silver Hill Historic District, Weston, retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association; and fulfills Criteria A and C of the National Register at the local level.

Under Criterion A, the Silver Hill Historic District is important to Weston history as the location of the town's first large-scale subdivision. The Weston Land Association was organized in 1905 to meet a growing need for middle class housing. To raise the money to purchase land, the association sold shares. Two curvilinear streets were laid out with regularly-spaced house lots. Silver Hill was only the second, and by far the largest, Weston example of this relatively-new type of "suburban" planned development, sometimes referred to as a "garden suburb." The fact that the Weston Land Association was a joint stock association funded by middle class entrepreneurs differs from other Weston subdivisions laid out by large estate owners. Early owners included skilled tradesmen and white collar workers.

Under Criterion C, the Silver Hill Historic District contains a diverse collection of architecturally notable houses set along one of Weston's early scenic roads and within the early-20th century subdivision. The district is exclusively residential and includes Queen Anne and Colonial Revival houses ranging in date from 1892 to 1941, as well as 10 houses built after World War II. Because houses have continued to be built within the Silver Hill Historic District up to the present day, the period of significance spans from 1892 (the date of the earliest house) to 1954 (the 50-year cut-off date).

Criterion A

Weston was predominantly a farming community from its incorporation in 1713 through much of the 19th century. It was sparsely settled except along the well-traveled Boston Post Road (US Route 20) in what is now the town center and along another major thoroughfare, North Avenue (MA Route 117), in the area now known as Kendal Green. The construction of the Fitchburg Railroad in the 1840s stimulated additional development around the Kendal Green railroad station but not at the railroad's other stop on Merriam Street at the edge of the proposed Silver Hill Historic District.

The history of the Silver Hill Historic District can be separated into two phases reflective of differences in Weston's growth patterns in the 19th and 20th centuries. Because of its relatively

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Silver Hill HD
Weston (Middlesex), MA

remote location, the northern end of Merriam Street developed slowly in the town's first two centuries. Until the 1890s, the section of Merriam Street that lies within the district had only two houses, one on each side of the street, while the land nearby was used for farming. This part of Merriam Street began to develop in the late 19th century following a pattern common within the town as a whole until well into the 20th century. Frontage lots of widely varying shapes and sizes were created along existing roads in response to the desires of individual purchasers. The Fitchburg Railroad was constructed in the 1840s and had a stop at Silver Hill by 1875 if not earlier. Even with proximity to rail transportation, there was minimal demand for middle class "suburban" housing in what still a rural, agricultural community. By the 1890s, the presence of the railroad was clearly an attraction. One of the earliest residents, Roland Rand, built his house at **227 Merriam Street** (MHC #226, Map #37, barn: MHC #227) in 1892. Rand was a metal pipe maker who worked at the Hook & Hastings organ factory. The company, which employed 70 workers, had moved to Weston from Boston in 1889 and was only one stop away by railroad. Rand purchased his original 15 acres of land from Adaliza Parsons, daughter of farmer Eli Bemis. A few years later, Rand sold four acres to Waldo C. Hill, a watchmaker described in census records as a "job master." Hill built **231 Merriam Street** (1896, MHC #601, Map #38) and probably used the railroad to commute to the watch factories in Waltham. **222 Merriam Street** (1900, MHC #606, Map #53) was built in 1900 for Albert E. Harding, who is listed in directories as a carpenter.

In 1895, Edward C. Cabot of Brookline sold 10.5 acres on Merriam Street to Frank H. Brooks of Waltham, a salesman and later one of the owners of an Oriental carpet company on Canal Street in Boston. On the 1896 Weston tax records, Brooks is taxed for a small dwelling, valued at \$700, and also for a horse, cow, 90 hens, and a barn. In 1900, Brooks sold off seven acres--largely to family members--and built himself a substantial Colonial Revival house at **245 Merriam St.** (1901, MHC #602, Map #40), valued in tax records at \$3,500. According to Brooks' nephew, Raymond Washburn, Brooks had a large chicken and duck farm on this property, with three or four long poultry houses behind the house. The birds produced 15-20 bushels of eggs a day, which Raymond packed in boxes after school, wrapping each egg separately in brown paper. His father, Winslow Washburn, would carry the eggs, in two large suitcases, on the train to his job at the Waltham Watch Company, where he sold them to fellow workers.

Brooks sold three acres to his widowed mother, Arvilla Stickney, who built the distinctive Queen Anne house at **261 Merriam St.** (1901, MHC #603, Map #42, Photo # 3). Brooks also sold two acres to his brother-in-law, Charles E. Peakes, a bookkeeper listed in the 1906-7 directory as treasurer of F.E. Atteaux & Co of Boston, manufacturer and importer of dyes and chemicals.

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Peakes built the handsome Colonial Revival house at **255 Merriam Street** (1901, MHC #228, Map #41, barn MHC #229, Photo # 3). Some years later, in 1921, he built a house for his daughter, Mabel Brooks, at **251 Merriam Street** (MHC #678, Map #58) directly behind his own house.

Family relationships are important to the history of the area. Carrie Brooks (Mrs. Frank) and Mabel Peakes (Mrs. Charles) were sisters. Another sister, Mrs. Fannie Thompson, owned the farmhouse across Merriam Street (on the site of the present 240 Merriam Street) which later burned down. A fourth sister, Cora McKenney (Mrs. Edmund) and the only brother, Winslow A. Washburn, built two of the earliest houses in the new subdivision, as described in the next paragraphs.

In April, 1905, Peakes and Brooks organized the Weston Land Association. Winslow A. Washburn served as clerk and two years later replaced Peakes as a trustee. In the Articles of Association, the venture is described as a "voluntary unincorporated joint stock association." The association sold 500 shares of stock, each with a par value of \$100, giving the venture an initial capital of \$50,000. As trustees, Brooks and Peakes were given full power and authority to buy, sell, or lease property; survey, plot, and improve the lands; and erect houses.

The Trustees purchased two tracts of land on the west side of Merriam Street across from their homes. A 30-acre-parcel bought from George Flint of Lincoln was bordered to the north by the railroad tracks. The second piece, directly south of Flint's land, was purchased from Mary J. Sherman. The trustees immediately created a subdivision plan drawn up by Joseph R. Worcester, a civil engineer who lived in Waltham and had his office at 53 State Street in Boston. Two curvilinear streets--Silver Hill and Westland Roads--were laid out with a total of 89 lots of varying sizes. Both Silver Hill and Westland were loop roads that did not carry through traffic. Many of the lots were approximately 30,000 square feet, but buyers were apparently encouraged to purchase two adjoining lots. Many buyers were allowed to change the configuration of lots or buy portions of lots. At this time there were no zoning regulations in Weston, so the effort to achieve a minimum lot size of at least 30,000 square feet and to have common setback lines reflects the vision of the developers.

While Silver Hill was only the second "suburban" development in Weston, this type of development, often referred to as the "garden suburb," dates back to the mid-19th century. Historians looking for its origins often point to picturesque Llewellyn Park, New Jersey, designed by Alexander Jackson Davis in the 1850s, and to Riverside, Illinois, designed by Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux in 1869. Both avoided the formal grid plan by using systems of curving roadways to create a restful domestic atmosphere.

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Silver Hill HD
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The only other subdivision of this kind in Weston during this turn-of-the-century period was begun in 1897 on Pigeon Hill, near a station on the Central Massachusetts Railroad line. There were several important differences between Pigeon Hill and Silver Hill. The land on Pigeon Hill was conveniently located near the town center. Estate owner Horace Sears subdivided the hilltop parcel into two- and three-acre lots, which were sold to well-to-do businessmen and professionals, many of them part of Sears' inner circle. The Pigeon Hill development had only 17 lots. Silver Hill, on the other hand, was located in the more remote northwest corner of Weston. Money for the Silver Hill development came not from a single wealthy individual, but rather from a stock association consisting of multiple small investors. The investors were hoping to capitalize on the increasing--but still limited--demand for smaller, more affordable house lots in a type of "garden suburb" that was new to the town. Although many of the 89 lots shown on the plan were sold as doubles, the resulting development was still considerably larger than Pigeon Hill. The original owners were not as well-educated or affluent as those on Pigeon Hill and included skilled employees of the organ and watch factories, salesmen, bookkeepers, and an interior decorator.

No one knows, for sure, the origin of the name Silver Hill. Two stories have been handed down from generation to generation, one that Captain Kidd came out from Boston with his "chest of silver" and buried it at the top of the hill, and the other that the name referred to a stand of silver birches. Several "diggings" atop the hill have failed to uncover any treasure. The name appears on the 1875 Atlas of Middlesex County, which shows the Silver Hill stop on the Fitchburg Railroad.

Some information on the new development is provided in brief notes in weekly Weston-oriented columns in the *Waltham Daily Free Press Tribune*. On April 7, 1905, the newspaper reported on progress:

The Weston Land Co's holdings at Silver Hill are being surveyed and the streets laid out by J. R. Worcester. Grading the streets will begin at an early date and be completed by May. Mother Nature has done more for this charming spot than money could accomplish, the rolling surface, partly wooded and partly cultivated, with curved streets winding through the trees, making it resemble a natural park.

The April 28, 1905 issue added "The Weston Land Association are setting out some fine sugar maple trees on Silver Hill Rd."

Lots sold briskly in the first year. According to newspaper reports, the Weston Land Association sold 380,000 square feet in ten days during the month of May, 1905. By the end of the year, nine

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individual owners had purchased a total of fifteen lots and Peakes's company, F.E. Atteaux, had bought six lots on Westland Road. Three of the first nine individual owners were members of the Washburn family. They bought three prominent corner parcels, at 198 Merriam Street and 40 and 44 Silver Hill Road, and built substantial, well-designed homes that set the character for the new neighborhood. The Winslow Washburn House at **198 Merriam Street** (1905, MHC #598, Map #27, Photo #4), one of the first to be completed in the new subdivision, was located at the corner of Westland Road at the entrance into the subdivision from Merriam Street. Washburn was a watchmaker at Waltham Watch Company, where his wife, Alice, also worked. In later years, Washburn worked as a time lock inspector for banks, traveling throughout Canada to repair the time pieces that regulated bank safes. Washburn also served as clerk and later trustee of the Weston Land Association. The house at No. 198 is still owned by one of the Washburn's two sons, Raymond, who was born in 1899 and has lived in the house since its construction. No. **44 Silver Hill Road** (1906, MHC #595, Map #21, Photo #1), the only two-family house in the neighborhood, was built by Weston Land Association trustee and Washburn brother-in-law, Charles Peakes. Peakes, who lived at 255 Merriam Street, is thought to have built this house as a rental property and as an example of the size of houses he wanted to see in the new subdivision.

New houses built within the first few years varied significantly in size. The largest, including those built by Washburn and Peakes, were valued for tax purposes at \$3,000 to \$4,500. Others were less substantial structures valued as low as \$1,000. In 1906, William Frank Tucker, an "organ finisher" probably employed at the Hook & Hastings Company, built the house at **28 Silver Hill Road** (1906, MHC #593, Map #18). Tucker died only a few years later, leaving his wife Loretta, son Gardner, who was a music teacher, and daughter Alice, a teacher. Another of the houses completed by 1906 was **24 Silver Hill Road** (MHC #230, Map #17), built for Almon and Arabella Wright. Edward Parkhurst built two houses, one on Westland and the other at **14 Silver Hill Road** (1907, MHC #592, Map #15). Lyman Wright built **268 Merriam Street** (1908, Map #45, MHC #657), which was part of the subdivision. A house nearly identical to 198 Merriam Street was erected in 1909 at **40 Silver Hill Road** (1909, MHC #594, Map #20, Photo #1) for Edmund K. and Cora McKenney. Cora was another of the five Washburn siblings. McKenney worked for the J. M. Mossman Company of New York, manufacturers of safes and bank vaults. Also in 1909, Frank and Grace Carr were first taxed for the house at **37 Silver Hill Road** (MHC #589, Map #7, Photo #6).

Building continued at a steady pace in the 1910s. Walter Reed, listed in the 1909 directory as a bookkeeper in Boston, built **31 Silver Hill Road** in 1910 (MHC #590, Map #8, Photo #5). Four houses were built in 1911-12. No. **49 Silver Hill Road** (MHC #587, Map #5) was built by Henry Lawrence, also a bookkeeper in Boston, and his wife, Amy. No. **254 Merriam Street** (MHC #601, Map #47) was built by Frederick L. and Martha Kenyon. Frederick is listed in the 1921

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Silver Hill HD
Weston (Middlesex), MA

Weston directory as an interior decorator on Canal Street in Boston. **12 Westland Road** (1911, MHC #597, Map #26), valued at \$3,500 in 1912, was owned by Ethel and Percy Rand, who worked at a sporting goods store. No. **204 Merriam Street** (1911, MHC #607, Map #54) was built by Philip Howard, who died before the house was completed. His widow, Ruby Howard, lived there for many years with their four children. Another prominent corner lot was bought by Margaret Whelpley of Waltham, who built **4 Silver Hill Road** (MHC #591, Map #14). Although it is only 1½ stories, this house bears a strong stylistic similarity to those at 198 Merriam Street and 40 Silver Hill Road and was probably designed by George Strout or inspired by the house at 198 Merriam Street. Henry and Flora Stone built a traditional Colonial Revival house at **55 Silver Hill Road** (1917, MHC #586, Map #4) in 1917. Henry Stone is listed in directories as a salesman. In 1920, Mabel and Henry Grimwood built a Colonial Revival house at **54 Silver Hill Road** (MHC #596, Map #22) that was similar to No. 55 across the street. Henry Grimwood worked for a store in Lincoln, and made deliveries with a horse and wagon. Subsequent houses built in the 1920s to early 1940s filled in many of the remaining lots. Lots on Westland Road sold more slowly than those on Silver Hill Road, and many purchasers built small 1½ story cottages that were not as substantial or distinctive as their Silver Hill Road counterparts.

Behind the Charles Peakes House at 44 Silver Hill Road was a well with a full-size pumphouse. Water was pumped from the well into a tank on the top of the hill opposite the railroad station at the corner of Merriam and Silver Hill Road. According to Raymond Washburn, his aunt, Carrie Brooks, walked over here from her house on Merriam Street every day to turn on the pump. This water system served the neighborhood until the town took over the water supply in the 1920s.

In recent years, the combination of distinctive architecture, quiet streets, and a neighborly atmosphere has made Silver Hill and Westland Roads popular with young families. On Westland Road, many of the original houses have been considerably altered or torn down and replaced by new residences less compatible in size, style, setback, and massing. It is for this reason that the historic district does not include all of the original Silver Hill subdivision.

Criterion C

The architecture of houses within the district ranges from vernacular examples to solid, well-constructed examples representing typical early 20th century styles. The earliest houses are Queen Anne in style and are generally simple, gable-front structures with one-story porches across the front. The most detailed examples are the Roland Rand House at **227 Merriam Street** (1892, MHC #226, Map #37; barn: MHC #227) and **181 Merriam Street** (ca.1902, MHC #600, Map #30, Photo #8). Both of these houses have been enlarged and remodeled. They have typical

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Silver Hill HD
Weston (Middlesex), MA

Section number 8 Page 7

Queen Anne porch posts and patterned shingles in the gable, although some of these details may date from recent renovations. Three adjacent houses on the east side of Merriam Street, built for three family members in 1901, were larger and more elaborate than their earlier counterparts and form a notable ensemble. These three houses are the Frank Brooks House at **245 Merriam Street** (1901, MHC #602, Map #40), Charles Peakes House at **255 Merriam Street** (1901, MHC #228, Map #41, barn MHC #229, Photo # 3) and Arvilla Stickney House at **261 Merriam Street** (1901, MHC #603, Map #42, Photo #3).

One of the first and most important of the houses in the 1905 Weston Land Association subdivision was the shingled "Four Square" house built for Winslow and Alice Washburn at **198 Merriam Street** (1905, MHC #598, Map #27, Photo #4). Because it was built by one of the principals involved in the development and stands at the Westland Road entrance into the subdivision, the Washburn House was probably intended to demonstrate the size and type of house that investors hoped would be built in the new neighborhood. The Washburn house was designed by Waltham architect George Strout and constructed by H.D. Beardsley, also of Waltham. Because the house is still occupied by the son of the original owners, it is remarkably intact. The shingles retain their original dark brown stain and yellow trim color. The brown stain, commonly used on late 19th and early 20th century shingled houses in Weston, is now relatively rare. Interiors at 198 Merriam Street have also remained unchanged.

Four years later, almost the exact same house--also designed by George Strout-- was built for Washburn's brother-in-law and sister, Edmund and Cora McKenney, at **40 Silver Hill Road** on the corner of Westland Road (1909, MHC #594, Map #20, Photo #1). The Washburn house also bears a distinct stylistic similarity to the 1½ story Frank & Margaret Whelpley House at **4 Silver Hill Road** (1912, MHC #591, Map #14), also designed by Strout or inspired by his earlier works. Like the Washburn and McKenney houses, No. 4 Silver Hill Road has the same hipped roof, hip roofed dormers, front porch, and high fieldstone foundation with arched openings filled with semi-circular lattice.

Architect George Strout, who practiced in Waltham in the late 19th and early 20th century, was not well-known in the Greater Boston area but is credited with a number of notable buildings on the north side of Weston. He designed two houses for the Thurston family, both within the Kendal Green Historic District. The Thurston Cottage at 153 North Avenue (1902) is a fine Shingle Style example notable for design, siting and quality of the fieldstone foundation and retaining walls—a quality seen also in the Silver Hill examples. The Thurston Bungalow at 147 North Avenue (1904) is an unusual rustic log bungalow with Craftsman influences. Strout also designed the 1900 Colonial Revival-style Methodist Church, which is no longer extant. In Cambridge, he designed duplexes at 119, 121, 127 and 133 Appleton Street and 258 and 264 Huron Avenue, all dating to about 1917.

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

Silver Hill HD
Weston (Middlesex), MA

Another of the important early houses in the Silver Hill neighborhood is **44 Silver Hill Road** (1906, MHC #595, Map #21, Photo #1), a prominently located corner house built within the first year of the new subdivision by one of the trustees, Charles Peakes. The house is notable for details like the wide overhanging eaves with show rafters, pent eave, and sunburst pattern in the gable. 44 Silver Hill Road is the only house in the district that was not constructed as a single family unit. By developing a two-family rental property with apartments on each floor, Peakes could afford to build a substantial house to anchor an important corner in the heart of the neighborhood.

Most of the houses within the Silver Hill Historic District were constructed before World War II, but development has continued through the present day. Nine houses date after 1954. Some of the post-World War II house designs, particularly the ca. 1955 ranch house at **5 Silver Hill Road** (Map #13), do not take neighborhood characteristics into account. More recent examples of infill construction have been more successful. In the late 1990s, as the price of land increased, owners of two double lots sold off their extra lot, and compatible new Shingle Style houses were added at **22 and 43 Silver Hill Roads** (Map #16 and #6). In 2001, a small 1890s house at **213 Merriam Street** (Map #34) with little remaining architectural detailing was replaced with a larger house in a late 19th century Queen Anne farmhouse mode. In 2002, a NeoVictorian house was built on an undeveloped lot at **226 Merriam Street** (Map #52). The successful preservation of a house at **14 Silver Hill Road** (1907, MHC #592, Map #15) in 2003 is an indication that the historic character of the neighborhood is recognized and valued. Because real estate prices in Weston are high and many houses within the district are not as large or up-to-date as new buyers would like, expansions will continue and tear downs will remain a threat. The Weston Historical Commission has worked to increase architectural awareness and encourage preservation efforts.

The sense of cohesiveness and overall integrity is not present in the portions of Westland Road outside the Silver Hill Historic District. Westland Road developed more slowly than Silver Hill Road and many of the lots were developed with modest frame cottages with little architectural interest. Over the past two decades, these have been replaced with new houses, many of which are considerably larger in square footage than any of the pre-World War II examples. Because of major inconsistencies of size, scale, style and age of houses, most of Westland Road has not been included within the district boundaries.

(end)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

Silver Hill HD
Weston (Middlesex), MA

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

Fox, Pamela, *Farm Town to Suburb: The History and Architecture of Weston, Massachusetts, 1830-1980* (NH, Peter Randall Publisher, 2002), 278-283.

Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, So. District, Cambridge, MA, 3156/107, Articles of Association, Weston Land Association, April 2, 1905.

Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, plan of Weston Land Association, Silver Hill, May 2, 1905, Plan Book 154/34.

Deeds, directories and tax records

Interview with Raymond Washburn, May, 1998

(end)

Silver Hill HD
Name of Property

Middlesex, MA
County, State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property ca. 54 acres

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 19	310200	4696140	3. 19	310200	4695240
Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
2. 19	310650	4695960	4. 19	309960	4695620
Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing

— See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Pamela Fox, Weston Historical Commission with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date June 2004

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

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02125

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

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

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

Property Owner

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

name multiple owners

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the C Administrative Serv. Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

Silver Hill HD
Weston (Middlesex), MA

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the Silver Hill Historic District are outlined by the black line on the attached map entitled "Silver Hill Historic District: Town of Weston Assessor's Map." Map and parcel numbers are listed on the Silver Hill District Data Sheet. The boundary includes the entire parcel of each nominated property in the district and follows the rear lot lines.

Boundary Justification

The Silver Hill Historic District includes the best preserved section of the Silver Hill subdivision, which was developed primarily during the period 1905-1941. The district includes all properties on Silver Hill Road and three houses on a short section of Westland Road which forms a continuation of Silver Hill Road out to Merriam Street.

The district includes all houses on the west side of Merriam Street between No. 194 and No. 268. Many of the houses on this side of Merriam Street were part of the Silver Hill development. The northern boundary on Merriam Street is drawn to *include* the Merriam Street Bridge but *exclude* the Boston and Maine railroad tracks and right of way. Development patterns on the north side of the railroad tracks are unrelated to the Silver Hill neighborhood. The southern boundary on the west side of Merriam Street is set at the original boundary of the Silver Hill subdivision (at the south boundary line of No. 194 Merriam Street). Houses south of this point were built in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

Houses along the east side of Merriam Street were not part of the Silver Hill subdivision. This section of the road is included because it contains notable late 19th and early 20th century houses, some of which were associated with the original trustees of the subdivision. The house at No. 251 Merriam Street is included because of historical relationships, even though it has no frontage on Merriam Street. The southern boundary on the east side of the street is set on the basis of architecture and date of construction. Notable houses at No. 172 and No. 181 are included. South of No. 172 are houses built in the 1970s.

The remainder of Westland Road (No. 24 to No. 102) is not included in the district, even though it was part of the original Silver Hill development. The reason is that this area of Westland developed more slowly than Silver Hill Road, and many of the original houses have been heavily altered or torn down and replaced by large new houses. Although some of the original houses do survive, the character of this section of the neighborhood has been considerably altered.

(end)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number photo Page 1

Silver Hill HD
Weston (Middlesex), MA

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographer: Pamela Fox

Negatives: at Weston Historical Commission

1. 40, 44 Silver Hill Road, looking S (McKenney House)
2. 44, 54, 49, 37 Silver Hill Road, looking N (Lawrence, Grimwood Houses)
3. 255, 261 Merriam Street, looking NE (Peakes, Stickney Houses)
4. 198 Merriam Street, looking W (Winslow/Alice Washburn House)
5. 31 Silver Hill Road, looking E (Reed House)
6. 37 Silver Hill Road, looking E (Carr House)
7. 49 Silver Hill Road, looking E (Lawrence House)
8. 181 Merriam Street, looking E

(end)

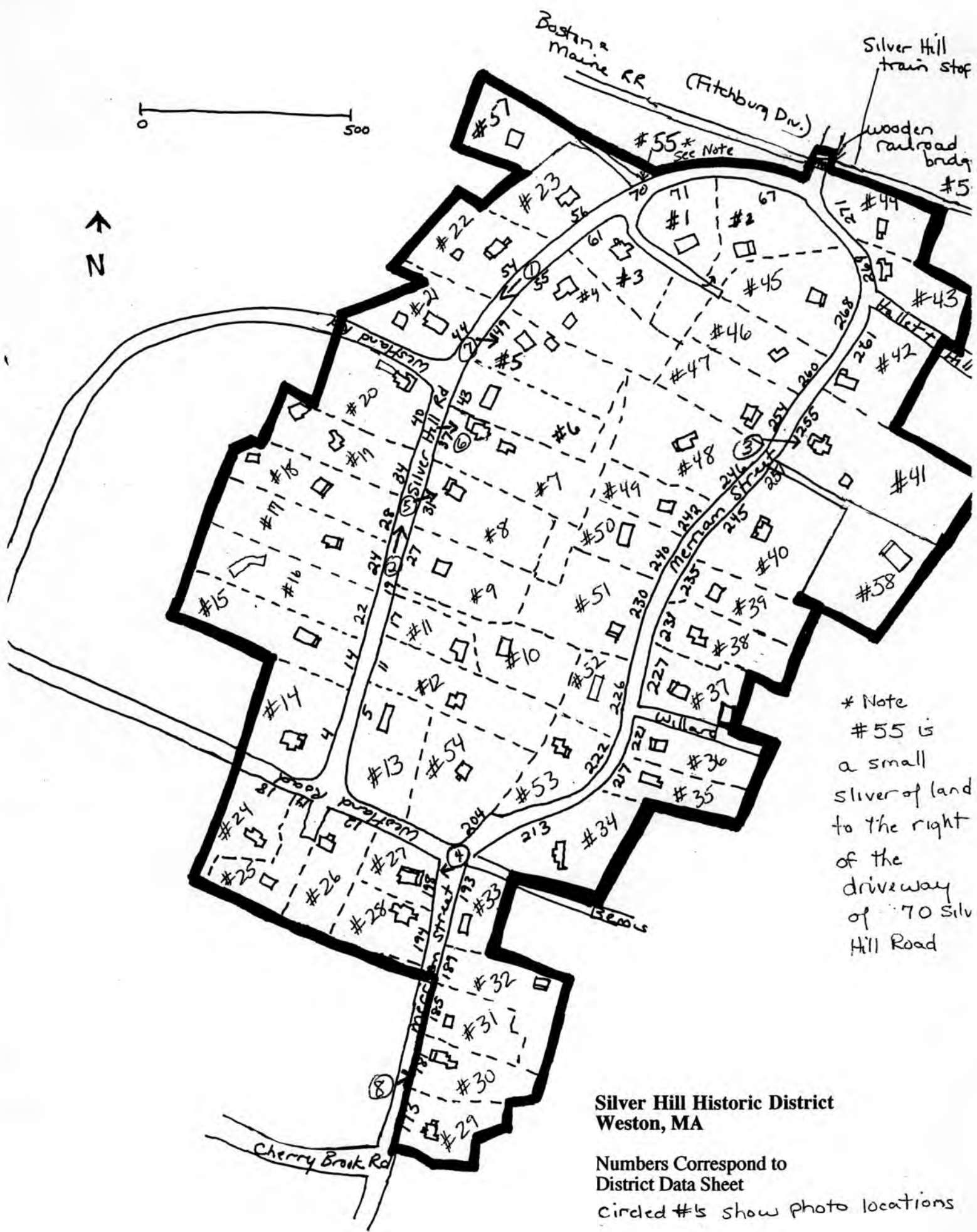
SILVER HILL DISTRICT DATA SHEET, WESTON, MASSACHUSETTS

(Revised 1/15/04)

Map #	MHC #	Assessor Acct. #	Historic Name	Outbldgs	Street Address	Date	Style	Type	Status
29	599	7-109			173 Merriam St	c. 1928	Colonial Revival	B	C
30	600	7-108			181 Merriam St	c. 1902	Queen Anne	B	C
31	648	7-107			185 Merriam St	c. 1935	Colonial Revival	B	C
32	649	7-106			189 Merriam St	c. 1917	Colonial Revival	B	C
	none	7-106		garage	189 Merriam St	c. 1958	no style	B	NC
33	650	7-105			193 Merriam St	c. 1925	Colonial Revival	B	C
28	645	7-9			194 Merriam St	c. 1925	Colonial Revival	B	C
27	598	7-10	Winslow & Alice Washburn Hse		198 Merriam St	1905	Col Rev (Four Sq.)	B	C
	663	7-10		garage	198 Merriam St	c. 1910	no style	B	C
54	607	7-59	Ruby Howard House		204 Merriam St	1911	Colonial Revival	B	C
	664	7-59		garage	204 Merriam St	c. 1920	no style	B	C
34	651	7-90			213 Merriam St	2001	Queen Anne	B	NC
35	652	7-89			217 Merriam St	c. 1927	no style	B	C
36	653	7-88			221 Merriam St	c. 1935	Colonial Revival	B	C
53	606	7-58	Albert Harding House		222 Merriam St	1900	Queen Anne	B	C
	665	7-58		garage	222 Merriam St	c. 1920	Late Queen Anne	B	C
52	none	7-58-10			226 Merriam St	2002	Neo-Victorian	B	NC
37	226	7-74	Roland Rand House		227 Merriam St	1892	Queen Anne	B	C
	227	7-74		barn	227 Merriam St	c. 1892	no style	B	C
51	605	7-59			230 Merriam St	c. 1926	Dutch Colonial	B	C
	666	7-59		garage	230 Merriam St	c. 1926	Dutch Colonial	B	C
38	601	7-73	Waldo C. Hill House		231 Merriam St	1896	Queen Anne	B	C
39	654	7-72			235 Merriam St	c. 1958	Colonial Revival	B	NC
50	662	7-60			240 Merriam St	c. 1937	no style	B	C
	667	7-60		garage	240 Merriam St	c. 1937	no style	B	C
49	660	7-61			242 Merriam St	c. 1932	Colonial Revival	B	C
	none			garage	242 Merriam St	1998	no style	B	NC
40	602	7-71	Frank & Carrie Brooks House		245 Merriam St	1901	Colonial Revival	B	C
48	659	7-62			246 Merriam St	c. 1936	Colonial Revival	B	C

	668	7-62		garage	246 Merriam St	c. 1951	no style	B	C
58	678	7-159	Mabel Brooks House		251 Merriam St	1921	Colonial Revival	B	C
47	604	7-63	Frederick & Martha Kenyon Hse		254 Merriam St	1911	Colonial Revival	B	C
41	228	7-70	Charles & Mabel Peakes House		255 Merriam St	1901	Colonial Revival	B	C
	229	7-70		barn	255 Merriam St	1901	Colonial Revival	B	C
	669	7-70		garden shed	255 Merriam St	c. 1920	Colonial Revival	B	C
46	658	7-64			260 Merriam St	c. 1932	Colonial Revival	B	C
42	603	7-69	Arvilla Stickney House		261 Merriam St	1901	Queen Anne	B	C
	670	7-69		garage	261 Merriam St	c. 1910	no style	B	C
43	655	7-68			269 Merriam St	c. 1948	Colonial Revival	B	C
44	656	7-69			271 Merriam St	c. 1923	Colonial Revival	B	C
45	657	7-65	Lyman Wright House		268 Merriam St	1908	Colonial Revival	B	C
14	591	7-42	Frank & Margaret Whelpley Hse		4 Silver Hill Rd	1912	Bungalow	B	C
	none	7-42		garage	4 Silver Hill Rd	1974	no style	B	NC
13	639	7-41			5 Silver Hill Rd	c. 1955	Ranch	B	NC
12	638	7-39			11 Silver Hill Rd	c. 1925	no style	B	C
15	592	7-56	Edward Parkhurst House		14 Silver Hill Rd	1907	Colonial Revival	B	C
	none	7-56		garage	14 Silver Hill Rd	1960	no style	B	NC
11	637	7-38			17 Silver Hill Rd	c. 1930	no style	B	C
	none			garage	17 Silver Hill Rd	1989	no style	B	NC
10	636	7-40			19 Silver Hill Rd	c. 1925	no style	B	C
16	none	7-55-10			22 Silver Hill Rd	1999	Shingle Style	B	NC
17	230	7-55	Almon & Arabella Wright House		24 Silver Hill Rd	1906	Queen Anne	B	C
9	635	7-37			27 Silver Hill Rd	c. 1990	Colonial Revival	B	NC
18	593	7-54	William Frank Tucker House		28 Silver Hill Rd	1906	Colonial Revival	B	C
8	590	7-36	Walter Reed House		31 Silver Hill Rd	1910	Colonial Revival	B	C
	671	7-36		garage	31 Silver Hill Rd	1951	no style	B	C
19	640	7-53	Gardner Tucker House		34 Silver Hill Rd	c. 1929	Fr.Renaissance	B	C
7	589	7-35	Frank & Grace Carr House		37 Silver Hill Rd	1909	Late Queen Anne	B	C
	672	7-35		garage	37 Silver Hill Rd	c. 1909	Late Queen Anne	B	C
20	594	7-52	Edmund & Cora McKenney Hse		40 Silver Hill Rd	1909	Col Rev (Four Sq.)	B	C
	641	7-52		garage	40 Silver Hill Rd	1909			Demolished
6	661	7-34-10			43 Silver Hill Rd	1996	Shingle Style	B	NC
21	595	7-27	Blt by Charles & Mabel Peakes		44 Silver Hill Rd	1906	QA/Col. Revival	B	C

	673	7-27		garage	44 Silver Hill Rd	c. 1935	no style	B	C
5	587	7-34	Henry & Amy Lawrence House		49 Silver Hill Rd	1911	Colonial Revival	B	C
	588	7-34		garage	49 Silver Hill Rd	1910s	Colonial Revival	B	C
22	596	7-28	Henry & Mabel Grimwood Hse		54 Silver Hill Rd	1920	Colonial Revival	B	C
	674	7-28		garage	54 Silver Hill Rd	c. 1940	Colonial Revival	B	C
4	586	7-33	Howard & Flora Stone House		55 Silver Hill Rd	1917	Colonial Revival	B	C
	675	7-33		garage	55 Silver Hill Rd	1922	Colonial Revival	B	C
23	642	7-29			56 Silver Hill Rd	c. 1920	Colonial Revival	B	C
3	585	7-32			61 Silver Hill Rd	c. 1940	Tudor	B	C
2	634	7-66			67 Silver Hill Rd	c. 1910	Colonial Revival	B	C
	676	7-66		garage	67 Silver Hill Rd	c. 1920	no style	B	C
57	none	2-72			70 Silver Hill Rd	1968	Contemporary	B	NC
1	633	7-31			71 Silver Hill Rd	c. 1941	Colonial Revival	B	C
26	597	7-11	Percy & Ethel Rand House		12 Westland Rd	1911	Colonial Revival	B	C
	677	7-11		garage	12 Westland Rd	c. 1911	Colonial Revival	B	C
25	644	7-12	Larry Tierney House		14 Westland Rd	1968	Colonial Revival	B	NC
24	643	7-13	Charles Cahill House		18 Westland Rd	1939	Colonial Revival	B	C
55		999	Weston Forest and Trail Assoc. Conservation Land		Silver Hill Road			land	
56		none	Merriam Street Bridge, MBTA	RR bridge	Merriam Street	1926	no style	S	C



* Note
 #55 is
 a small
 sliver of land
 to the right
 of the
 driveway
 of 70 Silv
 Hill Road

**Silver Hill Historic District
 Weston, MA**

Numbers Correspond to
 District Data Sheet
 circled #s show photo locations

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Silver Hill Historic District
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 7/15/04 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/27/04
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/11/04 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/28/04
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 04000902

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 8/25/04 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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

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



(1)

40 Silver Hill Rd (left)
44 " " " (right)

Weston MA

Silver Hill Historic District

negatives at
WTC

looking south



②

44 Silver Hill Rd (left)

#54 (center)

#49 (right center)

#37 (far right)

Weston MA

Silver Hill Historic District

negatives at WHC

looking north



③

255 Merriam St (right)

261 in background

Weston MA

Silver Hill Historic District

negatives at WtHC

looking

northeast



④

198 Merriam St

Weston MA

Silver Hill Historic District

negatives
at WtC

looking
west



⑤

31 Silver Hill Rd

Weston MA

Silver Hill Historic District

Negatives
at WHC

looking
east



⑥

37 Silver Hill Rd

Weston MA

Silver Hill Historic District

negatives at
WTC

looking
east



⑦

49 Silver Hill Rd
Weston MA

Silver Hill Historic District

Negatives at
Weston
Historical
Commission

looking
east



8

181 Merrim St

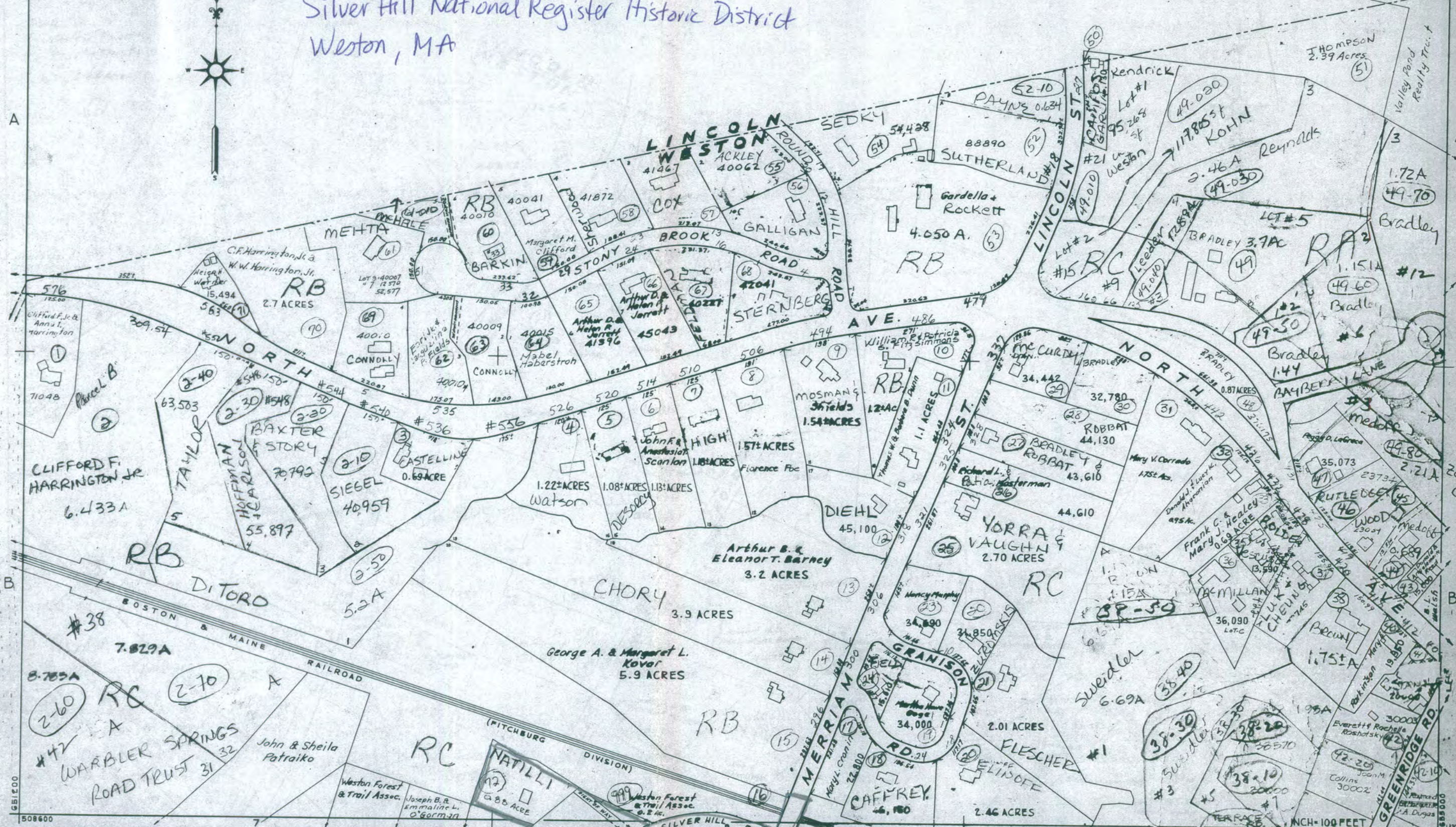
Weston MA

Silver Hill Historic District

negatives at
WHC

looking
east

Silver Hill National Register Historic District
Weston, MA



508600
EVERETT M. BROOKS CO. - CIVIL ENGINEERS
NEWTONVILLE MASSACHUSETTS

CHARLES H. STIMPSON, JR. - CIVIL ENGINEER
WESTON MASSACHUSETTS

TOWN OF WESTON



PLATE 159 INDEX
678



Silver Hill National Register Historic District
 Weston, MA
 9.68 AC
 TOWN OF WESTON
 Mary G. Viles
 11.9 ACRES

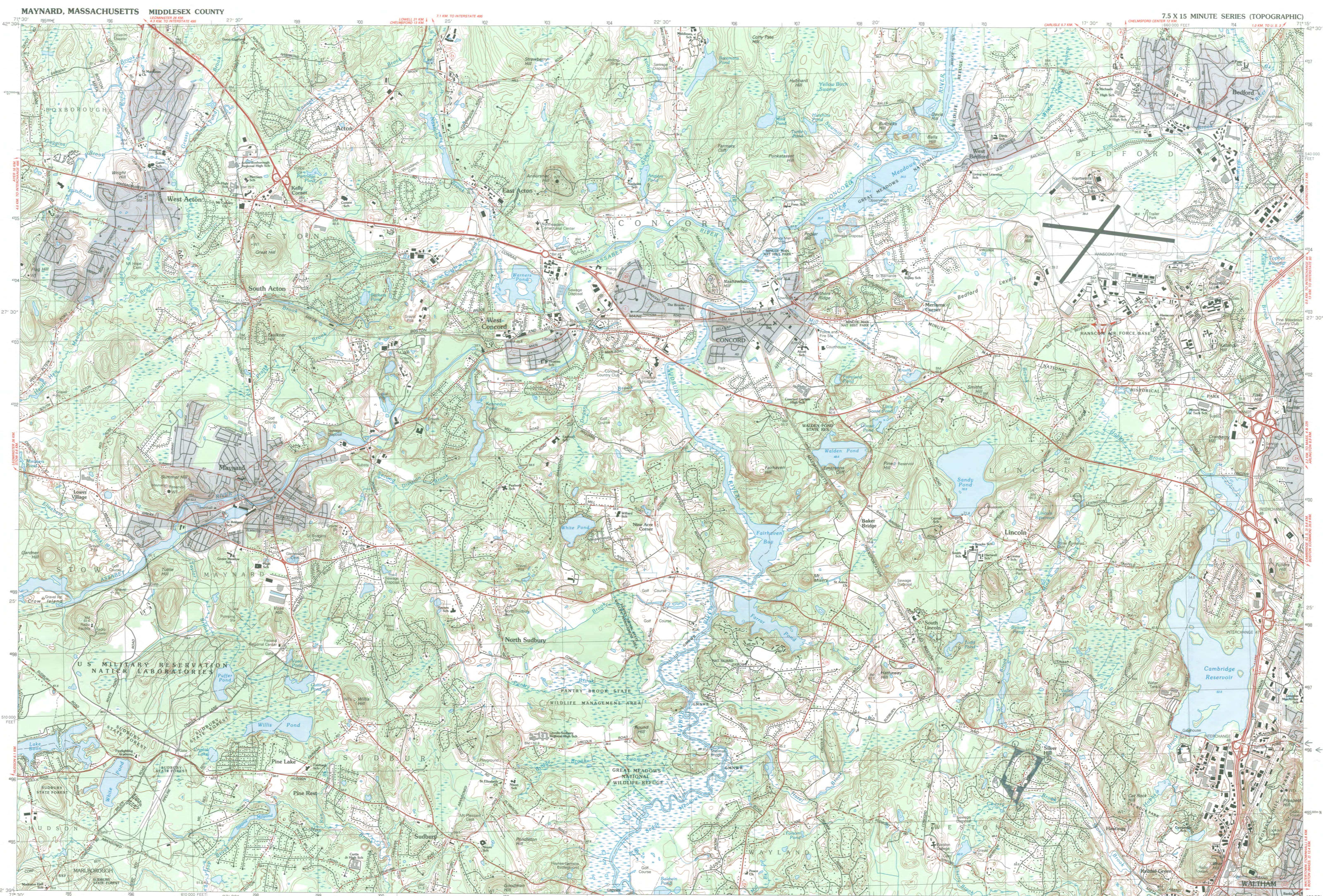
EVERETT M BROOKS CO. - CIVIL ENGINEERS
 NEWTONVILLE MASSACHUSETTS

CHARLES H. STIMPSON, JR. - CIVIL ENGINEER
 WESTON MASSACHUSETTS

TOWN OF WESTON

1 INCH = 100 FEET

PLATE 123 INDEX



Maynard MASSACHUSETTS

Silver Hill Historic District
Weston MA

7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE SHOWING

- Contours and elevations in meters
- Highways, roads and other manmade structures
- Water features
- Woodland areas
- Geographic names

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

1987

Produced by the United States Geological Survey in cooperation with Massachusetts Department of Public Works

Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts agencies

Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1978 and 1981. Field checked 1978. Map edited 1987

Supersedes Maynard and Concord 1:25 000-scale maps dated 1965 and 1970

Projection and 1000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 19

10 000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone 1927 North American Datum

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983, move the projection lines 6 meters south and 41 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map

CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS

NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

CONVERSION TABLE		DECLINATION DIAGRAM		ADJOINING MAPS		
Meters	Feet	MAGNETIC		1	2	3
1	3.2808	1978		4	5	
2	6.5617	1979		6	7	8
3	9.8425	1980				
4	13.1234	1981				
5	16.4042	1982				
6	19.6850	1983				
7	22.9659	1984				
8	26.2467	1985				
9	29.5276	1986				
10	32.8084	1987				

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808
To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

UTM grid convergence (GN and 1987 magnetic) at center of map
Diagram is approximate

1 Ayr
2 Billerica
3 Reading
4 Hallowell
5 Boston North
6 Marlborough
7 Framingham
8 Boston South

ISBN 0-607-23457-1
9 780607 234572

Topographic Map Symbols

Primary highway, hard surface	Secondary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface	Unimproved road, trail	Route marker: Interstate, U. S., State	Railroad: standard gauge, narrow gauge	Bridge: drawbridge	Footbridge; overpass; underpass	Built-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown	House; barn; church; school; large structure	Boundary:	National, with monument	State	County, parish	Civil township, precinct, district	Incorporated city, village, town	National or State reservation; small park	Land grant with monument; found section corner	U. S. public lands survey; range, township, section	Range, township; section line; location approximate	Fence or field line	Power transmission line, located tower	Dam; dam with lock	Cemetery, grave	Campground; picnic area; U. S. location monument	Windmill; water well; spring	Mine shaft; prospect; shaft or ore	Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation	Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression	Distorted surface: strip mine, lava, sand	Bathymetric contours: index; intermediate	Personal lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream	Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small	Submerged marsh; marsh, swamp	Land subject to controlled inundation; woodland	Scrub; mangrove	Orchard; vineyard
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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

June 24, 2004

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW 8th floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Silver Hill HD, Weston, (Middlesex), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of the properties included in the district were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 45 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

One letter of objection has been received.

We request expedited review of this nomination.

Sincerely,

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

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Pamela Fox, Consultant
Susananne Haber, Planning and Economic Development
Judy Markland, Weston Historical Commission
Joan B. Vernon, Weston Board of Selectmen

RECEIVED

251 Merriam Street
Weston, MA 02493-1350

MAR 03 2004

MASS. HIST. COMM

March 1, 2004

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Blvd.
Boston, MA 02125

RE: Silver Hill National Register Historic District, Weston

Dear Ms. Friedberg:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter, dated February 26, 2004.

Enclosed is a copy of my first letter, along with a copy of the envelope showing to whom it was addressed.

Also enclosed is a copy of my tax bill from the town of Weston. I have been the sole owner of the property at 251 Merriam Street, Weston, since March 17, 1989, when my mother passed away.

I reiterate that I **do not** want my property a part of the Silver Hill National Register Historic District. I find paragraph 2 on the enclosed memorandum which was enclosed in your letter unbelievable in that it states that if 50% of the people do not object, then my property will have to be listed. I have lived in this home since March 9, 1945 and paid taxes since that date. I would think that I could state my position and it would be respected. I am assuming that living in the United States we still have a say about what happens on certain issues.

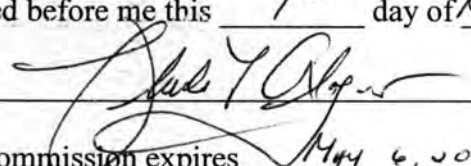
Very truly yours,



Barbara Adler Melone

Cc Judy Markland, Weston Historical Commission

Signed before me this 1st day of March 2004


My commission expires May 6, 2005

UK file

TOWN OF WESTON

RECORDED
MARCH 15 2004
MASS. HIST. COMM.



POST OFFICE BOX 378
WESTON, MA 02493-0002
(781) 893-7320
FAX (781) 529-0112

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

March 10, 2004

Betsy Friedberg
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125

re: Silver Hill National Register District Nomination, Weston

Dear Betsy:

Weston's Board of Selectmen met last evening and, prompted by a letter from Richard Harding of Silver Hill Road, discussed the Silver Hill National Register nomination.

The Selectmen requested that the Massachusetts Historical Commission be notified of their opposition to including the state-owned railroad bridge on Merriam Street in the proposed district. They are aware that the bridge and railroad stop are important in the history of the neighborhood. However, they feel that it is in the Town's best interest to have as few restrictions as possible on any state plans for eventual replacement of the bridge. Otherwise, they have no concerns about the nomination.

Sincerely yours,

Judy Markland,
Chairman

cc: Board of Selectmen

notary

Mar 10 2004

date

Comm Expires
7/10/09