

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

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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 Tyringham Shaker Settlement Historic District  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number Jerusalem Road N/A not for publication  
city, town Tyringham N/A vicinity  
state Massachusetts code 025 county Berkshire code 003 zip code \_\_\_\_\_

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>11</u>	<u>4</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>11</u>	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>26</u>	<u>6</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

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 Valmage 8/24/87  
Signature of certifying official Executive Director, Date  
Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
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): \_\_\_\_\_

John J. Knowl 10/15/87  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Tyringham Shaker Settlement Historic District,

**6. Function or Use** Tyringham, Massachusetts

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)  
 Domestic - multiple dwelling; Religion - religious structure; Funerary - cemetery; Agricultural - Agricultural Outbuilding, Horticultural Facility; Industrial - Manufacturing Facility, Waterworks

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)  
 Domestic - Single Dwelling  
 Funerary - Cemetery  
 Agriculture - Agricultural Outbuilding  
 Industry - Waterworks

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)

Early Republic - Federal  
 Mid 19th Century - Greek Revival  
 Late Victorian - Italianate

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone  
 walls wood, brick  
 roof asphalt  
 other \_\_\_\_\_

**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

The Tyringham Shaker Settlement Historic District, Tyringham, comprises the remains of Massachusetts' fourth Shaker community (the others being Harvard, established 1781, and Hancock and Shirley, both established 1791). The district's buildings and setting are an extraordinarily well-preserved reminder of the Shaker community that existed on the site between 1792 and 1874. The district occupies a prominent location in the Berkshire hilltown of Tyringham, lining the eastern slope of Sky Hill, overlooking the rural Tyringham Valley and the village center. Linear in its orientation, the district extends approximately 1-1/2 mile on both sides of Jerusalem Road, from the seven-acre Shaker Pond northwest to Breakneck Road and the remains of the Shaker Red Shop. Fifteen buildings (11 contributing, 4 noncontributing), six structures (4 contributing, 2 noncontributing) and eleven sites are included within the district. There are no major modern intrusions. The standing structures are grouped in three clusters along the road, reflecting the Shaker community's formal division into families: Church (central), North, and South. The structures of the Church family represent the core of the settlement.

The district is bounded on the west by Beartown State Forest, through which passes the Appalachian Trail. The Shakers' Holy Ground, its exact location undetermined, was located up the slope of Sky Hill a short distance from Jerusalem Road. At the district's northwestern boundary, Jerusalem Road continues its climb through the State Forest, flanked on both sides by dense woodlands. To the south, the mid 19th century Shaker-associated structures are replaced by more modern farm complexes. The former Shaker meetinghouse stands three-fifths of a mile from the district's southern boundary; it was moved to its present site in 1925. To the east/northeast, the district is bounded by the wooded slopes that descend to Hop Brook and Tyringham's Main Road. The former Shaker Seed House, another property moved from the Shaker settlement in the mid 20th century (1930) stands today on Main Road. Tyringham Cobble, owned by the Trustees of Reservations, rises due east of the district between Jerusalem Road and Hop Brook. The fertile Tyringham Valley lies a short distance to the southeast.

The contributing standing structures within the district were all constructed between 1770, the date of the first known structure erected in the area, and 1874, the year in which the Shakers left Tyringham for Mt. Lebanon, New York, and sold their property to Dr. Joseph Jones. For the most part vernacular representatives of the transition in building styles from Federal to Greek Revival, the buildings are of wood and brick construction and stand from 2-1/2 to 3-1/2 stories in height. Because of the district's hillside location, most of the buildings are set into the slope and thus have at least one story set below grade.

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Tyringham, MassachusettsSection number 7 Page 1Church Family Complex

The earliest building constructed on the ridge overlooking the Tyringham Valley was the William Clark House (HA-6), built ca. 1770 by a man who would become one of the founders of the Tyringham Shaker community a short time later. The Clark House was demolished ca. 1887. While the 1-1/2 story twin-chimneyed cottage is gone, its dry-laid stone foundations survive.

The society's Meetinghouse (HA-1) was built ca. 1792 on the western side of Jerusalem Road, just in front of the Clark House. In 1925, it was removed from the site. A dry-laid stone wall, three massive marble steps, and a marble-slab mounting block with iron rail survive to mark the building's original location at the edge of Jerusalem Road. The building itself was moved 1-1/4 miles southeast to Trail Road, where it stands today as part of the Howard Farm (MHC #57, not part of the present nomination); it is a three-bay, 2-1/2-story structure with large modern ell. At the time of the move, the building's two end chimneys were taken down and replaced by a single center chimney. Despite these changes, the meetinghouse's historic associations may make it potentially eligible for the National Register.

The Great Barn (ca. 1792-1800, MHC #16), located on the eastern side of Jerusalem Road, is the largest building within the district. Built between 1792 and 1800, it is a massive post and beam structure with gable roof resting on a stone foundation. Like the other structures on Jerusalem Road, the barn's design reflects its hillside location. Its exterior is clapboard-sheathed. Its T-shaped plan was designed for maximum efficiency: a covered bridge leads from the road to the hayloft to allow for direct unloading of hay wagons, while the barn's main space is approached by a secondary road beneath the bridge. From this drive, the bridge's structural members are clearly visible, with enormous timbers and iron tierods joined to form a truss system. The lowest level, built below grade, contains horse stalls and leads directly to a stone-walled yard. Cattle sheds attached to the rear now house an apartment.

The earliest and largest surviving residential building in the district is the Church Family Dormitory (ca. 1800, MHC #27). Set into the hillside on the western side of Jerusalem Road, this large rectangular building rises 3-1/2 stories to a shallow-pitched gable roof with returns; on its eastern, roadside facade, the ground story is fully exposed and rests on a granite-block foundation with basement. The upper stories are brick-faced, laid in Flemish bond. The structure is of post-and-beam construction. Three brick chimneys with flat caps and a small hip-roofed belfry are ranged along the gable ridge.

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The dormitory is nine asymmetrically placed bays wide and two wide-set bays deep. The long east facade contains two ground-story entrances placed near the center of the building; pent roofs supported by iron brackets shelter the entries. Each is approached by a short flight of granite steps. At the basement level, four 3/3 windows are set into the granite block. All fenestration in the stories above consists of 12/8 sash; the window openings at the basement and ground-story levels are ornamented with splayed brick lintels while those of the upper (clapboard-sheathed) stories have a simple, narrow molded surround. A simple entablature and narrow cornerboards complete the facade.

The south-facing gable side, exposing only 2-1/2 stories and a single basement light, contains a third entrance at its southeastern corner, approached by a modern frame and lattice porch and also sheltered by a pent roof. The fenestration is arranged symmetrically with two ranks of 12/8 sash in simply molded frames and, closer-set within the gable is defined up a narrow by deep cornice and brief returns.

Several outbuildings stand close by the Dormitory, to the northwest. The Milk Cellar (MHC #102) and Ash House (MHC #103) are both small structures built sometime in the mid 19th century. The milk cellar is set into the hillside; it has a stone-slab roof. The ash house stands on foundations of an earlier structure said to be a washhouse.

The Cobbler Shop (ca. 1820-1834, MHC #24) adjoins the meetinghouse site on the south. This 3-1/2-story building, like the Dormitory, is set into the hillside and has an exposed brick ground story. The upper stories are clapboard-sheathed and culminate in a pitched roof without returns. A single brick chimney with open cap is centered on the ridge. The wide, plain entablature framing the building is essentially its only ornament. Four bays wide and two bays deep, the cobbler shop is asymmetrical in its arrangement of fenestration: on the ground story, an off-center door with pent roof is flanked by two windows to the north and, at the far southern end, a single window; four 12/8 sash on the first story are more evenly spaced (though not equidistant) while the second story contains two 12/8 sash flanking two small triple-light windows. The southern end is more uniform, but with sash windows of differing sizes: 6/6 on the first story, 12/8 on the second, and 6/6 in the gable peak. Sash have lightly molded enframements throughout. A small shed-roofed ell of one story extends along the building's northern end. Built of brick, it contains a multilight window across much of its length, as well as secondary entrance doors; it was added to the building in 1930. The Cobbler Shop, set above Jerusalem Road, is fronted by a small garden and dry-laid stone wall. Stone steps lead down to the road.

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The Elders Dwelling (MHC #25), built in 1823, faces west on Jerusalem Road and lies just south of the Church Family Dormitory (and opposite the former location of the community's meetinghouse). The Federal-style building is five bays wide, with a central entrance. Constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond, it rises 2-1/2 stories above a full basement to a gable roof. A simple band of entablature completes the east and west facades, while a molded cornice and shallow returns ornament the gable end. Because of its hillside location, this building, too, has an exposed eastern basement level; in this case, exposed on the northern and southern side gables as well. The entrance is capped by a wooden fan; on the second story directly above, a marble stone is inscribed with the date of construction. Sash is 8/12 throughout and is set within molded frames and beneath splayed brick lintels. A brick end-wall chimney with flat cap stands at each end of the gable ridge.

To the southwest (rear) of the Cobbler Shop lie stone foundations of a small residence (MHC #HA-10), a gable-roofed 2-1/2 story structure known to have stood into the 20th century. Its date of construction is unknown.

A short distance west of the Dormitory stands the Workshop (1833-1834, MHC #28). Like the Dormitory, it is of post-and-beam construction with a clapboard exterior. Five bays wide with a central entrance and two wide-set bays deep, the structure is surmounted by a shallow-ranking gable roof marked with shallow returns. Two small brick chimneys are set at either end of the gable ridge. The east-facing main facade is symmetrically arranged; most notable is its pent-roofed entrance, which is flanked by two small sidelights and a 5/5-light fixed transom. The latter elements are most likely turn-of-the-century additions.

Fenestration on all save the attic story consists of 12/8 sash within simply molded frames; two windows set within each gable contain 6/6 sash. The only indication of the building's purpose as a workshop is the unusually broad doorway on its northern end, presumably to permit the passage of large materials--in every other respect, the building appears little different from the community's strictly residential structures.

Also located close to the Elders Dwelling, to its immediate north, are the remains of a Shaker-associated structure, the Seed House (HA-7). Built ca. 1854, the clapboard-sheathed Seed House rose five stories above a full stone basement; it was noted as the largest building in the community. In 1930, it was disassembled and its upper 2-1/2 stories were moved 3/4 of a mile across Tyringham Valley to Main Road, where it stands today a five-bay center-entry residence (MHC #7, not included in the bounds of the present nomination). The ruins of its lower two floors survive on Jerusalem Road, open to the elements. To the rear of the Seed House foundations are the smaller remains of the Seed Drying House and its iron Furnace (HA-9), and the Old Horse Barn (HA-8), all lost in the 20th century. A modern swimming pool also lies behind the site of former Seed House.

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The Carriage Barn (ca. 1870, MHC #101), located just south of the Elders Dwelling, serves today as a garage. It is likely one of the last structures erected by the Shakers at Tyringham. It is a utilitarian wood-frame structure, a single story in height with its long side parallel to Jerusalem Road; its facade is a continuous row of barn-type doors.

Also within the district bounds, approximately 400 feet from Jerusalem Road to the north of the Church family core of the settlement, lies the Shaker cemetery (MHC #803). Measuring only 7,290 square feet, the cemetery received its first burial in 1791; ninety-nine members of the society, men and women, are buried there.

South Family complex

While the above mentioned buildings, together with the cemetery, comprise the core of the Tyringham Shaker Settlement, several other Shaker-related buildings and structures survive and are included within the district boundaries.

Approximately a half mile down Jerusalem Road from the Church Family complex is the South Family complex, one of two outlying components organized around the community's water power sources. The central element of this complex is a large, seven-acre pond, Shaker Pond, empounded by a dry-laid stone and earth Dam (MHC #903). A marble slab date stone indicating the year of the dam's completion (1830) is set just above the headgate arch in the center of the structure. Below the dam on both sides of Jerusalem Road are foundation remains (MHC #HA-3) from a series of milling activities. Community histories indicate that both a grist mill and saw mill operated in this location. The Walling map of 1856 indicates a planing mill. Also present is the reputed site of a small iron furnace and associated forge where stoves were produced. Additional documentary research and archaeological testing are necessary before the identity and configuration of the sites can be clearly discerned. No non-Shaker milling activities are known to have occurred at this locus.

In addition to the milling-related sites, at least one residential site is located within the South Family complex. Set overlooking Jerusalem Road is the site of the South Family Dormitory (HA-11), built ca. 1840, demolished 1890, and replaced some twenty-five years later near the same site with the present Georgian Revival-style South House, a noncontributing building within the district). Some foundations of the original building and possible outbuildings remain.

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Tyringham, MassachusettsNorth Family complex

Three quarters of a mile north of the Church Family complex, and also on Jerusalem Road, is the North Family complex--the second of the community's outlying components.

Like the South Family complex, the North Family's central element was a water empoundment system that provided power for a series of economic activities. The major element in this system is another dry-laid stone and earth Dam (MHC #904). It is similar in design and construction to that in the South Family complex; the marble date stone has been removed. Unlike the South Family complex, however, this dam was the lowest in a series of dams that collected water from several hillside springs. The result was a series of smaller empoundments rather than one large millpond. At least two other dams survive further up the slopes of Sky Hill, but are not included within the present nomination.

Across Jerusalem Road from the dam are the remains of a multipurpose building known as the Red Shop (HA-4). Erected in 1842, the Red Shop was a four-story building, two framed stories set upon a two-story dry-laid stone foundation that measured 30 feet by 60 feet. As the central building in the North Family complex, the Red Shop functioned both as a mill and a dormitory. The basement housed a turbine fed by a pipe that ran under Jerusalem Road from the dam. The turbine provided power for a series of machines on the upper floors, including a lathe, planer, saw, and cider press. A cooperage also existed on the first floor. Six Shaker brothers operated the mill, and all the men of the North Family lived in a dormitory on the top floor. The frame portion of the Red Shop was demolished in 1947. The foundations and water power system, however, appear to retain considerable integrity.

The major building of the North Family complex, formerly the dairy and weave house, is today known as "Nakomis Lodge" (1833, MHC #48). Originally a late Federal/early Greek Revival structure similar to those of the Church Family, the clapboarded building received Victorian treatments ca. 1889 when it left Shaker hands; at that time a central gable and bracketed wraparound porch were added. The narrow cornice, corner boards and returns survive. Triple-glazed windows were added on the first story in recent years.

Also part of the Nakomis Lodge property is a former Shaker Shop (MHC #104), built ca. 1844 and altered in 1984, which stands on the eastern side of Jerusalem Road alongside modern-day tennis courts and a new barn.

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Some of the buildings that formed the North Family complex have been lost. The Italianate-style Cannon-Donald House (MHC #10) with Eastlakeian trim was built ca. 1889, shortly after the closure of the Shaker community, on the site of a North Family residence that burned in about 1870. Because the present nomination is limited in period of significance to the years of Shaker occupation, the Cannon-Donald House must be considered noncontributing, though the two small, utilitarian barns (MHC #105, 106) on the property, both of ca. 1870 construction, are Shaker associated. This complex marks the district's northern boundary.

**8. Statement of Significance**

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)

architecture  
social history  
religion  
community planning  
and development  
archaeology - historic  
nonaboriginal

Period of Significance  
ca. 1770-1874

Significant Dates  
1792-1830

Cultural Affiliation  
N/A

Significant Person

Architect/Builder  
N/A

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

The Tyringham Shaker Settlement Historic District, Tyringham, Massachusetts, the best preserved of Massachusetts' smaller Shaker communities, includes the remaining buildings and outbuildings associated with the society that flourished at Tyringham during the first three quarters of the 19th century. Also included within the district are the sites of former Shaker structures, either moved or demolished in the present century. Together, these survivals comprise a superb representation of the Shaker system for creating a heaven on earth. The linear district ranges along both sides of Jerusalem Road on the eastern slopes of Sky Hill (elevation: 1,940 feet) above the Tyringham Valley. Eleven contributing buildings, eleven contributing sites, and four contributing structures are included in the district boundaries. In its architecture, and in the relationship of its buildings to one another and to the rural landscape, the Tyringham Shaker settlement is perhaps the most evocative of Massachusetts' 19th century utopian communities. The district thus retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and fulfills Criteria A, C, and D of the National Register of Historic Places on the state and local levels.

The nominated settlement at Tyringham was one of close to twenty religious communities established in the eastern United States by the United Society of Believers, or Shakers, between 1776 and 1810. The society had its beginnings in late 17th century France, where a group known as the Prophets became noted for the fervor and intensity of their members' religious worship. As millenialists, the Prophets preached Christ's second coming and warned that nonbelievers would have disease and famine brought upon them. Facing persecution in their own country, several members escaped to England, where they found sympathy within that country's Quaker community. In England, the Prophets' intensity of religious expression became tempered by the Quakers' beliefs in pacifism and simplicity; by 1747, under the influence of James and Jane Wardley of Manchester, the beginnings of a unique utopian ideology were emerging. Singing, dancing, and other physical expressions of religious devotion exercised by the group would give it its name, "Shaking Quakers," or "Shakers."



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Shaker doctrine was brought from England to America by one of its converts, Ann Lee (1736-1784), the unschooled daughter of a Manchester blacksmith who joined the society in 1758. By 1770, Ann Lee was urging followers to abandon the corrupt world of nonbelievers and take up the Shaker way of life. She cited sexual relations as the fundamental root of man's depravity, the cause of his fall from grace, and therefore advocated celibacy. In 1774, now known as Mother Ann, Lee set off with eight followers, including family members, to establish a communal Shaker society in America. Their first settlement was just northwest of Albany, in a community they named Watervliet (also known as Niskeyuna). At first, the group was unable to gather others into its fold, but a religious revival spawned by New Light Baptists in New Lebanon, New York, in 1779 drew a number of zealots to Shaker doctrine.

By 1780, Mother Ann had embarked on an evangelical tour that would take her throughout New York and New England in search of converts. Preaching millennialism, she exhorted her supporters to create a new Eden on earth, apart from the evils of the imperfect outside world. Mother Ann advocated chastity, purity, mutual confession, and communality, and urged her followers to embrace the Shaker way of life. Central to her thinking was the idea that Christ's second coming would take a spiritual rather than a physical form and that thus a perfect life on earth was a necessary component of His return. In Massachusetts, the first successful Shaker society was established at Harvard, in 1781. Mother Ann died in 1784 at the age of 48, apparently exhausted by her travels.

The role of leader went first to Mother Ann's compatriot James Whittaker and, upon his death, to two American-born followers, Joseph Meacham and Lucy Wright. Under their leadership, Shaker doctrine was formalized, its political manifestations enunciated, and its way of life established. Fourteen communities were formed in New York and New England between 1776 and 1830; of these, Tyringham was the fourth in Massachusetts. By the first decades of the 19th century, Shaker missionaries were carrying Mother Ann's vision westward, to Kentucky and Ohio, and by 1850, approximately 6,000 Shakers would be spread throughout about 20 communities. Membership was drawn both from converts and from orphans whom the Shakers adopted into their community and who were given the option of remaining in the society upon reaching maturity.

A central component of the Shaker vision was the notion of hierarchy. While male and female believers were considered equals, each community was governed by a ministry of Elders and Eldresses, who wielded firm control over the less senior Brothers and Sisters and who lived separate from the rest of the group. Each community was divided into families of between thirty and 100

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individuals. Property was held communally, and governed by a group of Trustees who were responsible for business dealings with the outside world. Each Shaker community evolved sophisticated agricultural and manufacturing practices that would allow it to become self sufficient. At the same time, the communities interacted with the world of nonbelievers through commercial activities--the sale of seeds, for example, became a major part of the local economy for a number of Shaker communities, including Tyringham.

Shaker doctrine clearly dictated the physical characteristics of an earthly paradise, and every Shaker village was carefully planned to embody the society's beliefs in rigid order and exuberant celebration. The community's location would include a site of great natural beauty for worship and rejoicing. Physical improvements would include neat, linear arrangements of simple buildings and carefully tended walkways, roads, and fields; agriculture, especially cultivation of the land, was a critical aspect of every community.

The Shaker community at Tyringham was established in 1792. Among its founders were three brothers, Joshua, Abel, and William Allen, who had come from Coventry, Connecticut, in the 1760s. Raised as Baptists, the Allens were probably exposed to Shaker ideas during Mother Ann's mission tours through New England. William Allen purchased property on the slopes of Sky Hill, overlooking the Tyringham Valley, and established a farm there. By 1782, the Allens, together with William Clark and other local farmers, were holding Shaker meetings at home. In 1792, the Allens, Clark, and others united their property to form a Shaker society in Tyringham. William Clark's farm became the community's core, the site for the construction of the majority of the Shaker settlement's buildings. (Clark's house, built in 1770, remained standing until ca. 1887.)

As elsewhere, local residents were at first suspicious of the Shakers' zeal and peculiar notions. In 1782, Tyringham town reports noted the formation of a committee to "keep out of town all persons call Shaking Quakers." One year later, the committee reported on its progress: it had "proceeded so far as to whip one strolling Shaker who refused to leave the town." But by the mid 1790s, with the formal establishment of a Shaker society in Tyringham and the undeniable appeal that its beliefs were apparently having for families and individuals beyond the town's boundaries, local sentiment began to change. In 1796, a salary was appropriated for William Clark as minister of the Shakers. Nearly nineteen dollars the first year, the sum was increased annually thereafter.

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In her book on utopian community design (Seven American Utopias: The Architecture of Communitarian Socialism, 1790-1975, MIT Press, 1976), Dolores Hayden describes the archetypal Shaker community. Her description applies well to Tyringham:

The building process in a typical Shaker community was an activity subsidiary to agricultural organization and site planning. Buildings were designed to be overcapacious, eliminating crowding, anticipating the future growth of each family. . . . Their forms, however, were forbidden to be "odd or fanciful," and their siting was deliberately methodical and antipicturesque.

This emphasis on traditional planning and sound construction became the basis of a distinctive vernacular style of building. The Shakers were acutely sensitive to the effects of the physical environment on the life of their communities. They wished buildings to house their activities and display them accurately to members and the world at large, and they perceived that an orderly and nonmonumental development of traditional rural building types would serve these needs better than any elaborate or fanciful designs they could devise. Just as they decried the arts of music, drama, and painting, the Shakers denounced "architecture". . . . "Architecture" as aesthetic effect was close to irrelevant, since the Shakers dealt with a broad range of design goals, varying in scale from heightening basic environmental perception to prefabricating new communities. It is no surprise to learn that there were no self-styled "architects" among the Shakers, only builders, members whose skills included masonry or carpentry, who took a very modest view of their contribution to community design.

(Hayden, p. 76)

The pattern of community development at Tyringham was one characteristic of Shaker settlements: three "families," distinct units located in a linear arrangement, at most three quarters of a mile apart, with the central and most significant unit known as the Church Family (in Tyringham, located at the Clark farm). The other two units were named after their geographic relation to the central core--North and South, each with distinct functions within the larger scheme of society. At Tyringham, the two secondary units both took on unique identities by 1830, and each eventually had dwelling places, barns, and workshops, providing goods and services for the community at large. However, the community as a whole had only one meetinghouse and one elders dwelling, both prominently situated in the midst of the Church family complex, thus ensuring its primacy as the settlement's center. At Tyringham as elsewhere, segregation within the community, as well as the arrangement and the identification of buildings, was specifically designed to perpetuate the

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crucial Shaker hierarchy. Writes Dolores Hayden of the Shakers' family system: "[It] provided, besides the advantages of slow degrees of socialization and gradual levels of economic participation, a system of village planning which included the advantages of neighborhood density, command of the agricultural landscape, and possibilities for growth afforded by a linear plan. It demonstrated a radical departure from the grid layout of [western New England villages such as] Barkerville or Hancock, yet retained coherence as a planned community." (Hayden, p. 77)

During the fifty years following its formation in 1792, Tyringham grew and thrived. Throughout its history (the settlement would exist until 1874), the community remained centered at the former Clark farm on Jerusalem Road. The Holy Ground, where the Shakers' most profound form of worship took place, was located a half mile up Sky Hill at an otherwise unspecified location. And as the community prospered throughout the first half of the 19th century, it enlarged its holdings. Land acquisition was a crucial component of the Shakers' adherence to Millennial Law: in anticipation of Christ's second coming, the Society of Believers must be expanded, with lands extensive enough to accommodate all future converts. At its height, the Tyringham Shaker community owned more than 1,500 acres, stretching north and east from Sky Hill as far as the Lee town line. In nearby West Stockbridge, the society acquired the Thayer Forge Mill as well. (With the demise of the Shaker society, most of the land was parcelled off. The present nomination, therefore, includes only the acreage immediately surrounding the 26 buildings, structures, and sites that survive ranged along Jerusalem Road.)

Between 1792 and the 1850s, believers arrived from throughout western Massachusetts--from Lenox, New Marlborough, and Belchertown, for instance--as well as from Tyringham itself. Some came alone, others brought their families. In 1838, the community's population reached 241, its peak. Converts were in part responsible for the society's growth; orphans adopted by the community would also add to its numbers, and some chose to remain with the Shakers upon attaining maturity. To a large degree, the settlement could perpetuate itself by acting as an agency for social service, taking in motherless children and indigent families.

The first buildings erected by the Shakers were all constructed near the Clark farmhouse, and included a meetinghouse (HA-11, MHC #57, ca. 1792), described by one outsider as "a dancing hall with a spring floor," an enormous barn (MHC #26, ca. 1792-1800), and a dormitory (MHC #27, ca. 1800). The latter, whose two entrances provided separate access for men and women, included communal rooms on the ground floor but carefully segregated bedrooms on the floors above, with clearly differentiated staircases for brothers and sisters. From its initial building--the meetinghouse--onward, the Shaker-built structures were large, solid, simple buildings of brick or wood, set on foundations of

continued

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Tyringham, Massachusetts

granite block and showing little ornamentation save for plain lintels and sills, or shallow cornice returns on their gable roofs. In their architecture, these buildings differed little from those found in non-Shaker villages throughout New England, yet in their size and scale, their linear orientation and their hierarchical arrangement, these buildings were clearly distinguished from their vernacular contemporaries.

By 1850, the Church Family complex included the above-mentioned meetinghouse, dormitory, and elders dwelling (MHC #25, 1823) or office, a cobbler shop (MHC #24, ca. 1820-1834), a large workshop (MHC #28, 1833-1834), a milk house and ash house (MHC #s 102, 103, respectively), and other small outbuildings. Between 75 and 100 members were housed in the dormitory, the elders dwelling, and several smaller residences, including the original building on the site, the Clark House (HA-6), and an unnamed dwelling (HA-10). An enormous seed house (HA-7, MHC #7), used for drying and packing garden and flower seeds, was added by 1854, as was a seed drying house and furnace ((HA-9). The seed business would become the community's greatest source of income. In its prime, the seed house had a seed elevator for moving its product from floor to floor, as well as a printing press for manufacturing labels.

The Church Family's functions and buildings clearly established its predominance as the community's civic and agricultural core. But the North and South Family complexes served critical functions as well. Both were organized around the local water source; here were sited the industrial activities--saw and gristmills, a planing mill, a cider press, and a forge--that helped make the community largely self sufficient.

The North Family complex, beginning in about 1820, developed about three quarters of a mile north up the mountain from the settlement's core. In the 19th century, a vast grove of maple trees ranged along the mountain between the two areas. An apple orchard, of which nothing remains, was planted west of present-day Nakomis Lodge up Sky Hill. The North Family land had belonged to William Allen, one of the community's founders, although no early structures are known to have existed there prior to the 19th century. The Shakers constructed a dam at the site ca. 1820, and the Red Shop, built into the hillside on the eastern side of Jerusalem Road, was erected in 1842 as a centerpiece of the North Family complex. The Red Shop was multipurpose, serving as a cooperage that produced tubs, bowls, buckets, and other pieces of woodenware, a cider mill, a rake factory, and a dormitory for the North Family brothers. In addition, supplies of food--potatoes, apples, beets, and cider--were stored in the shop's lower levels. Thirty sisters lived in a gambrel-roofed dwelling that stood west of the Red Shop. The building also housed a kitchen and dining room serving brothers and sisters separately at two long tables. While that building is gone, the barns and small shops associated with the North Family survive. Another residential building stood

continued

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where the present Cannon-Donald House (ca. 1889) is now located. It is known to have burned ca. 1870. In the barns just beyond the Red Shop, the North Family is known to have engaged in shoemaking and maple sugar production. Of the latter, Daniel Myrck, a Shaker who visited Tyringham in 1846, reported, "They make a ton or more a year." Most of the North Family sisters worked at the community's dairy and weave house, now Nakomis Lodge (MHC #48, 1833).

The South Family manufactories drew on the so-called Shaker Pond, created in 1830 with a dam of dry-laid stone. A sawmill, gristmill, and furnace were established below the dam. While the dam survives, the industrial structures are gone; only their foundations and subsurface features remain. At one time, a blacksmith shop also stood below Shaker Pond, producing stoves, nails, and all manner of ironwork for the community. There has been little activity on this site since the Shakers left the area in 1874, and building in the area of the South Family has been minimal, so that despite the loss of its standing structures, the area can still be considered to retain integrity.

The South Family's primary residence was purchased from its previous owner Thomas Garfield some time in the early decades of the 19th century. At one time, twenty members lived there. The building was demolished in 1890 and a new Georgian Revival house was built near but not on its foundations about twenty years later.

At the close of the 19th century, a former member of the community recalled daily life at Tyringham: "The brethren carried on all kinds of mechanical business, worked the big farms, did cooper work of all kinds and carried on the broom trade.... The sisters did all kinds of house work-- made most of their wearing apparel, spinning the flax for the linen cloth and the wool for winter wear. They made many kinds of fancy work, like mats and cushions, for sale.... We were always busy, cooking, washing, ironing, milking, making butter, cheese, doing all the sewing, besides the knitting of our stockings and sox." She added that brothers and sisters alike participated in the raising and drying of sweet corn. But even at its height, the society, with a population of only 241, could not supply enough labor to complete all their work. Hired hands from amongs the outside world of non-believers were critical to the economic success of the community.

Tyringham's Shaker Settlement thrived into the 1850s, its acquisition of property continuing, its population stable. But shortly before the onset of the Civil War, for reasons that remain undocumented, twenty-three members departed simultaneously. Their exodus marked the beginnings of the settlement's decline. Unable to maintain both its lands and its industries, the Shakers at Tyringham were forced increasingly to rely on the help of nonbelievers, or "World's People." Interaction with the outside world grew-- not only in farming and manufacturing practices, but in worship. As many as 300 outsiders would arrive to observe Shaker services. The number of

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Tyringham, MassachusettsSection number 8 Page 7

departing brothers and sisters, particularly among the young people, sharply increased. Some went to fight in the Civil War, and never returned. Many others, particularly amongst orphans adopted into the society, chose to forsake the Shaker way of life and marry. The pattern of attrition and decline that Tyringham experienced would be repeated as late as the mid 20th century in other Shaker communities. By 1874, the handful that remained at Tyringham (as few as seventeen brothers and sisters, plus six hired laborers) decided that the earthly paradise that they had conceived was no longer possible. They asked the central ministry in Mt. Lebanon to be relieved of the responsibility of managing such a large community with such a small membership. As a result, in 1874, the Shaker community at Tyringham closed down, the first of the major societies to do so. Its remaining members were transferred to the larger, still thriving communities at Hancock, Massachusetts (which survived until 1960), and Enfield, Connecticut. One sister who left Tyringham for Hancock commented later on the community's demise: "Those hills were steep and rocky, farming was back-breaking, discouraging over there on that hillside. Other communities had better and more profitable land." (Myers) Undoubtedly, the settlement's inhospitable terrain was one of several factors in its demise.

Dolores Hayden's discussion of the Shaker settlement at Hancock, the community designated immediately above Tyringham in the Society of Believers' hierarchy, is an equally apt summary for Tyringham: "What is most impressive," she writes, "is the solemn, evolving unity of buildings and landscape. The total physical environment serves as a dramatic backdrop for daily rituals of work and prayer, as well as for ecstatic ceremonies using visual, earthly epiphanies to suggest the life of the heavenly sphere." (Hayden, p. 76) In its physical remains, Tyringham is a well-preserved representative of the Shaker heaven on earth.

While the Society of Believers abandoned Tyringham, the physical remains of that society have survived to the present day, due in large measure both to its remote location and to its continued communal use and ownership. In 1874, the central Shaker ministry at Mt. Lebanon, eager to establish a Shaker community in Pennsylvania, disposed of the Tyringham property by exchanging it with that of Dr. Joseph Jones, of Hornesdale, Pa. While a Shaker society in Pennsylvania never materialized, Dr. Jones did arrive in Tyringham in 1874 and by the end of the decade had established a retreat there, which he gave the bucolic name "Fernside." Over the next fifteen years, Fernside became a popular holiday destination, particularly for religious leaders and members of the New York arts community. During Dr. Jones' ownership, the Church Family dormitory was decorated with a fern motif but was otherwise not severely altered; however, the old Clark House, the original residence in the Shaker community, was demolished.

continued

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Toward the close of the 19th century (ca. 1889), Dr. Jones divided and sold his landholdings. Much of the former North Family complex went to John Cannon, whose family tore down the gambrel-roofed women's dormitory, dining room, and kitchen, and built the present Italianate-style Cannon-Donald House on the site of the burned (1870) residence. Mrs. M. F. Hazen, who purchased the weave and dairy house in 1889, added the front gable and Eastlake porch to that otherwise vernacular farm dwelling and renamed it Nakomis Lodge. Despite these alterations, the house is otherwise intact. The South Family complex was subdivided at the same time into a number of separate properties and the South Family dormitory was demolished in 1890.

At the same time, the core of the former Shaker settlement, the Church Family complex, was sold to a consortium of prosperous New Yorkers, who called themselves the Tyringham Forest Club. The organization was devoted to recreation, and the group refurbished the former Church Family dormitory as a clubhouse. One member associated with the U.S. First Artillery saw the area as an ideal situation for military practice. In the summer of 1895, the lower portions of the former Shaker lands along Hop Brook became a center for military maneuverings, complete with cannon practice and company drills. The boom of gunfire was said to echo off Beartown Mountain as seventy-five men, with sixty-five horses, and ten cannon, participated in the weeks-long event. The soldiers' wives and families boarded at the clubhouse and witnessed the maneuvers from Jerusalem Road.

In 1898, the Church Family property changed hands again, this time going to a former club guest, Attorney Robert S. Rudd of New York and his family. Mr. Rudd sought to return the property to agricultural use. While much of the property remained unaltered during the Rudd family's ownership, two major changes occurred. In 1925, the meetinghouse was removed 1-1/4 miles southeast to Trail Road, where it survives today as part of the Howard Farm (MHC #57, not part of the present nomination). A dry-laid stone wall, three massive marble steps, and a marble-slab mounting block with iron rail survive to mark the building's original location at the edge of Jerusalem Road. Five years later, in 1930, the Seed House was also moved, donated by the town, its then owner, to a widow with nine children--its upper 2-1/2 stories were moved 3/4 of a mile across Tyringham Valley to Main Road, where it stands today a five-bay center-entry residence (MHC #7, also not included within the bounds of the present nomination), while the remains of its lower two floors survive in situ on Jerusalem Road, beside the Elders Dwelling.

Today, the surviving buildings of the North and South Family complexes are year-round residences. Fernside remains in the possession of the Rudd family; only a portion of the complex, the Dormitory, is occupied year-round, while the rest serves as vacation homes for the descendants of Attorney Rudd.

continued

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Continuation SheetTyringham Shaker Settlement Historic District  
Tyringham, MassachusettsSection number 8 Page 9

## Archaeology Statement

Archaeological potential contributes strongly to the significance of the proposed district, though much of it remains to be thoroughly documented. While many research questions could be addressed from the diverse and largely intact archaeological remains within the district, two topics seems particularly appropriate.

The first is how this particular community, very distinctive in terms of its ideology and social ordering, defined itself in physical terms, and how that definition changed over the course of the community's existence. Related questions include: What physical evidence marked the transition from an 18th century, upland farmstead to a Shaker settlement? What were the stages in the physical evolution of this Shaker settlement? How was the community defined in terms of overall plan/design, building forms and placement, engineering systems, and other large-scale landscape modification?

These questions could be answered through a two-stage process: First, a systematic survey, recording and mapping of all buildings, sites, structures, and engineering elements; and second, a continuation of extensive documentary research to identify and date each of these components, as well as selective testing to crosscheck and verify identifications. This process has been used successfully to reconstruct the pattern of community development for other Shaker settlements, including Canterbury, N.H. (Starbuck 1986) and Hancock, Mass. (Zitzler 1985).

A second research topic focuses on the Shakers' reputation for technological prowess and innovation. As Starbuck has noted, a key question in this regard is the degree to which the Shakers created their own distinctive designs and technologies, as opposed to borrowing them from the surrounding culture (1986: 11-12). One way this research topic can be addressed is by examining the economic basis on which the community was built: To what extent was the community's economic strategy based on self sufficiency, to what extent on interdependence with adjacent non-Shaker communities?

Archaeological data from the district could address these questions in at least two ways. One would be to examine patterns of consumption within the Shaker community. To what extent were finished goods brought into the community and how much was manufactured within the community? Were certain classes of material allowed while others were not? Controlled sampling and excavation of occupation-related features such as trash pits and privies could provide the data necessary for answering these questions. A second way to address the issue of self sufficiency vs. interdependence is to examine patterns of production. Did the community produce only what it needed, or did

continued

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it consciously specialize, providing particular products or services for exchange with those outside of the community? While documentary evidence is obviously pertinent, archaeological examination of the community's economic facilities, particularly the milling complexes of the North and South Families, and the Seed House complex in the Church Family, would be significant as well. How were these operations structured? Was there anything unusual or innovative about them, the technical processes they performed, the scale or degree of integration? By comparing the findings with comparable non-Shaker operations, one could begin to assess Shaker innovation and technical creativity. By comparing the community's production capability with its own internal needs, one could begin to gauge what services or products were used to define the community's economic relationship with the outside world.

One additional note on why the archaeological remains of the Tyringham settlement are especially significant. Because there was little use of this rugged upland area prior to the establishment of William Clark's farmstead in 1770, and only modest, largely seasonal use after the Shakers departed in 1874, very few intrusions have compromised or confused the archaeological record left by the Shaker community. Tyringham certainly retains better integrity than either of the comparable settlements in Harvard or Shirley and appears to be the best preserved of the smaller Shaker communities in Massachusetts.

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Tyringham, MassachusettsSection number 9 Page 1

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

Tyringham Shaker Settlement Historic District  
Continuation sheet Tyringham, MA

Item number 10

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Page 1

GEOGRAPHIC DATA

QUADS: East Lee  
Monterey  
SCALE: 1:25000

UTM REFERENCES:	POINT	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
	A	18	646790	4678550
	B	18	646930	4678320
	C	18	646880	4678240
	D	18	647000	4677850
	E	18	647200	4677400
	F	18	647110	4677500
	G	18	647040	4677500
	H	18	647000	4677450
	I	18	646940	4677670
	J	18	646780	4678080
	K	18	646860	4678060
	L	18	646540	4678390
	M	18	646470	4678610
	N	18	646110	4678790
	O	18	645410	4679420
	P	18	645510	4679540
	Q	18	646160	4678920
	R	18	646650	4678690

DISTRICT DATA SHEET  
TYRINGHAM SHAKER SETTLEMENT HISTORIC DISTRICT

<u>LOT #</u>	<u>MHC #</u>	<u>HISTORIC NAME</u>	<u>STREET ADDRESS</u>	<u>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>STYLE</u>	<u>TYPE OF RESOURCE</u>
<u>Church Family complex</u>							
3-100-0	101	Carriage Barn	Jerusalem Road	19th c.	C	Utilitarian	B
	26	Great Red Barn		ca. 1792-1800	C	Barn	B
	25	Elders Dwelling		1823	C	Federal	B
	HA-7	Seed House site		1854	C		Si
	HA-9	Seed drying shed & furnace site		mid 19th c.	C		Si
	HA-8	Old Horse Barn site		mid 19th c.	C		Si
		Swimming Pool		20th c.	NC		St
3-103-0	24	Cobbler shop	Jerusalem Road	ca. 1820-1834	C	Fed.	B
	HA-11	Meetinghouse site		ca. 1792, moved 1925	C		Si
	HA-10	House site		19th c.	C		Si
3-102-0	27	Dormitory	Jerusalem Road	ca. 1800	C	Federal	B
	102	Milk Cellar		mid 19th c.	C		St
	103	Ash house		mid 19th c.	C		St
	28	Work Shop		1833-1834	C	Federal	B
	--	Reservoir/Spring House		20th c.	NC		B
	HA-6	Wm. Clark House site		ca. 1770, house demolished ca. 1880	C		Si

KEY

C = contributing, NC = noncontributing, B = building, Si = site, ST = structure

	<u>contributing</u>	<u>noncontributing</u>
Buildings	11	4
Structures	4	2
Sites	11	

DISTRICT DATA SHEET  
TYRINGHAM SHAKER SETTLEMENT HISTORIC DISTRICT

<u>LOT #</u>	<u>MHC #</u>	<u>HISTORIC NAME</u>	<u>STREET ADDRESS</u>	<u>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>STYLE</u>	<u>TYPE OF RESOURCE</u>
3-101-0	803	Shaker Cemetery	Jerusalem Road	1791- mid 19th c.	C		Si
3-82-0	905	Spring	Jerusalem Road	19th c.	C		Si
<u>South Family complex</u>							
--	HA-3	Shaker Pond shop site	Jerusalem Road	1830	C		Si
	903	Shaker Pond Dam		1830	C		St
3-80-0	A	South House	Brace Road	1929	NC	Georgian Revival	B
	HA-11	South House Dormitory site		ca. 1840, demo. 1890	C		Si
<u>North Family complex</u>							
3-83-0	48	Nakomis Lodge, (former dairy & weave house)	Jerusalem Road	1833, altered 1889	C	Greek/Gothic Revival	B
	104	Shaker shop tennis court barn		mid 19th c. ca. 1985 ca. 1985	C NC NC	utilitarian	B St B
3-83-0	904	Dam	Jerusalem Road	ca. 1820-1830	C		St
	HA-4	Red Shop site		1842, demo. 1947	C		Si
3-98-0	10	Cannon-Donald House	Jerusalem Road	ca. 1889	NC	Italianate, Eastlake trim	B
	105	Shaker barn		mid 19th c.	C	utilitarian	B
	106	Shaker barn Horse shed		mid 19th c. ca. 1985	C NC	utilitarian	B B

A 87001785

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Tyringham Shaker Settlement Historic District  
Berkshire County  
MASSACHUSETTS

Substantive Review

AUG 31 1987

Working No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/7/89  
Date Due: 10/1/87 - 10/15/87  
Action:  ACCEPT A, C, D 10/15/87  
 RETURN  
 REJECT

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

Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments: *Compelling argument is made for considering the archeological resources contributing to the historic significance of the district. Good selection of research topics in that they will expand upon the socio-economic system that the Shakers created.*

Recom./Criteria A, C, D  
Reviewer Kunst  
Discipline Archeology  
Date 10/15/87  
\_\_\_\_\_ 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                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> original site    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good      | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins        | <input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair      | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed    |   |
|                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered    |   |
|                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> altered      |   |

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

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

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**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: \_\_\_\_\_

*Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet*



Tyringham "Church Family"  
Jerusalem/Fernside Road  
Tyringham, MA 01264  
James N. Parrish, BCRPC, 10 Fenn Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Photo 1 of 2 - Roll 117 - Frame 26A

View S.E. of Red Ox Barn, Carriage Shed,  
Elders House, Cobblers Shop and Main  
Dwelling.



Tyringham Shaker "Church Family"  
Jerusalem/Fernside Road  
Tyringham, MA 01264  
Historic view circa 1890-95, Mrs. Eugenie  
Fawcett Photo 2 of 21 - Roll 116  
Frame 18A Copy neg.

View S.E. of Church Family, c1890-95  
showing Ox Barn, Horse Barn, Carriage Shed,  
Cobblers Shop, Dairy House, Elders House,  
Meeting House, Seed House, Seed Drying  
House and the main dwelling.



Red Shop foundation "North Family"  
Tyringham Shaker Settlement  
Jerusalem/Fernside Road intersection of  
Breakneck Road  
Tyringham, MA 01264  
James N. Parrish, BCRPC, 10 Fenn Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Photo 3 of 21 - Roll 117 - Frame 20A

View of left half of foundation, cellar  
window and chimney base.



Red Shop Foundation "North Family"  
Tyringham Shaker Settlement  
Jerusalem/Fernside Road intersection of  
Breakneck Road  
Tyringham, MA 01264  
James N. Parrish, BCRPC, 10 Fenn Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Photo 4 of 21 - Roll 117 - Frame 19A

View of right half of foundation showing  
wheel pit and arch.



Red Shop Dam, "North Family"  
Tyringham Shaker Settlement  
Jerusalem/Fernside Road intersection  
Breakneck Road  
Tyringham, MA 01264  
James N. Parrish, BCRPC, 10 Fenn Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Photo 5 of 21 - Roll 117 - Frame 22A

View of flume under road base of dam.



Red Shop Dam, "North Family"  
Tyringham Shaker Settlement  
Jerusalem/Fernside Road, intersection of  
Breakneck Road  
Tyringham, MA 01264  
James N. Parrish, BCRPC, 10 Fenn Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Photo 6 of 21 - Roll 117 - Frame 21A

View S.W. of Dam and Flume.



"North Family" Tyringham Shaker Settlement  
Jerusalem/Fernside Road  
Tyringham, MA 01264  
James N. Parrish, BCRPC, 10 Fenn Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Photo 7 of 21 - Roll 117 - Frame 23A

View N.E. from Red Shop Dam of "North  
Family" Red Shop foundation beyond rail  
fence.



"Nokomis Lodge" North Family Dairy & Weave  
House

Tyringham Shaker Settlement

Jerusalem/Fernside Road

Tyringham, MA 01264

James N. Parrish, BCRPC, 10 Fenn Street

Pittsfield, MA 01201

Photo 8 of 20 - Roll 117 - Frame 16A

View S.W. from road of gable and front  
fasade "Nokomis Lodge" porch and gable  
19th century additions.



Ice House in foundation of Seed House  
"Church Family"  
Tyringham Shaker Settlement  
Jerusalem/Fernside Road  
Tyringham, MA 01264  
James N. Parrish, BCRPC, 10 Fenn Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Photo 9 of 21 - Roll 117 - Frame 13A

View North of foundation of Seed House.



Main Dwelling "Church Family"  
Tyringham Shaker Settlement  
Jerusalem/Fernside Road  
Tyringham, MA 01264  
James N. Parrish, BCRPC, 10 Fenn Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Photo 10 of 21 - Roll 117 - Frame 12A

View of brothers and sisters entry,  
front facade.



Main Dwelling "Church Family"  
Tyringham Shaker Settlement  
Jerusalem/Fernside Road  
Tyringham, MA 01264  
James N. Parrish, BCRPC, 10 Fenn Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Photo 11 of 21 - Roll 117- Frame 10A

View S.W. of gable, front fasade and  
entries



Work Shop "Church Family" 1792-1833  
Tyringham Shaker Settlement  
Jerusalem/Fernside Road  
Tyringham, MA 01264  
James N. Parrish, BCRPC, 10 Fenn Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Photo 12 of 21 - Roll 13 - Frame 17A

View S.W. of gable and front fasade of  
Workshop and gable end of the main dwelling  
level foreground is former location of  
the Meeting House.



Marble Stairs and Mounting Block to  
Shaker Meeting House  
"Church Family" Tyringham Shaker Settlement  
Jerusalem/Fernside Road  
Tyringham, MA 01264  
James N. Parrish, BCRPC, 10 Fenn Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Photo 13 of 21 - Roll 13 - Frame 18A

View S.E. of wall and stairs to site of  
Shaker Meeting House - Shaker forge iron  
hand rail.



The Elders House "Church Family" 1823  
Tyringham Shaker Settlement  
Jerusalem/Fernside Road  
Tyringham, MA 01264  
James N. Parrish, BCRPC, 10 Fenn Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Photo 14 of 21 - Roll 1117 - Frame 9A

View N.W. of Gable and front facade.



The Cobblers Shop "Church Family" 1792-1833  
Tyringham Shaker Settlement  
Jerusalem/Fernside Road  
Tyringham, MA 01264  
James N. Parrish, BCRPC, 10 Fenn Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Photo 15 of 21 - Roll 13 - Frame 15A

View S.W. of Gable and front fasade



Carriage Shed "Church Family"  
Tyringham Shaker Settlement  
Tyringham, MA 01264  
James N. Parrish, BCRPC, 10 Fenn Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Photo 16 of 21 - Roll 117 - Frame 8A

View N.W. of front of Carriage Shed,  
Elders house to rear.



The Great Red Ox Barn 1792-1800

"Church Family"

Tyringham Shaker Settlement

Jerusalem/Fernside Road

Tyringham, MA 01264

James N. Parrish, BCRPC, 10 Fenn Street

Pittsfield, MA 01201

Photo 17 of 21 - Roll 13 - Frame 21A

View East from road of the Great Red Ox  
Barn showing stone lower stall level,  
main hay mowe, covered way and the ramp  
to the hay mowe.



Shaker "Church Family" Tyringham  
Jerusalem/Fernside Road  
Tyringham, MA 01264  
James N. Parrish, BCRPC, 10 Fenn Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Photo 18 of 26 - Roll 117 - Frame 7A

View West down Jerusalem Road of  
"Church Family"



South House 1910/1929  
Jerusalem/Fernside Road, corner of Brace Rd.  
Tyringham, MA 01264  
James N. Parrish, BCRPC, 10 Fenn Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Photo *19* of *21* - Roll 117 - Frame 6A

View West of South House built near "South  
Family"



Shaker Pond Brook Mill foundations  
"South Family"  
Jerusalem/Fernside Road  
Tyringham, MA 01264  
James N. Parrish, BCRPC, 10 Fenn Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Photo 20 of 21 - Roll 117 - Frame 30A

View N.E. of Mill foundation on the North  
side of highway.



Shaker Pond Saw Mill Dam "South Family"  
Jerusalem/Fernside Road  
Tyringham, MA 01264  
James N. Parrish, BCRPC, 10 Fenn Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Photo 21 of 27 - Roll 13 - Frame 35

View of dry laid Stone Dam, Turbine Arch  
and Marble Date Stone, 1830



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

87001785

Tyringham Shaker Settlements  
Berkshire MA

SHAKER: TYRINGHAM, MASS

(BERKSHIRE CO.)

DWELLING HOUSE (R)

TRUSTEE'S OFFICE (?)

COACH LANDING PLATFORM (L)

(LOOKING WEST) 10-77

PHOTOGRAPH BY  
WALTER SMALLING, JR.



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

87001785  
Tyringham Shaker Settlements  
Berkshire MA

SNAPCOR: TYRINGHAM, MASS.  
(BERKSHIRE CO)  
SHED & MINISTRY SHOP (R)  
LOOKING NW

10-77

PHOTOGRAPH BY  
WALTER SMALLING, JR.



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

87001785

Tyringham Shaker Settlement HD  
Berkshire MA

SHAKER: TYRINGHAM, MASS.  
(BERKSHIRE CO.)

CHURCH FAM.

BARN (LOOKING SE)

PHOTOGRAPH BY 0/77  
WALTER SMALLING, JR.



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

87001785

Tyringham Shaker Settlement HD  
Berkshire HD

SHAKER: TYRINGHAM, MASS.

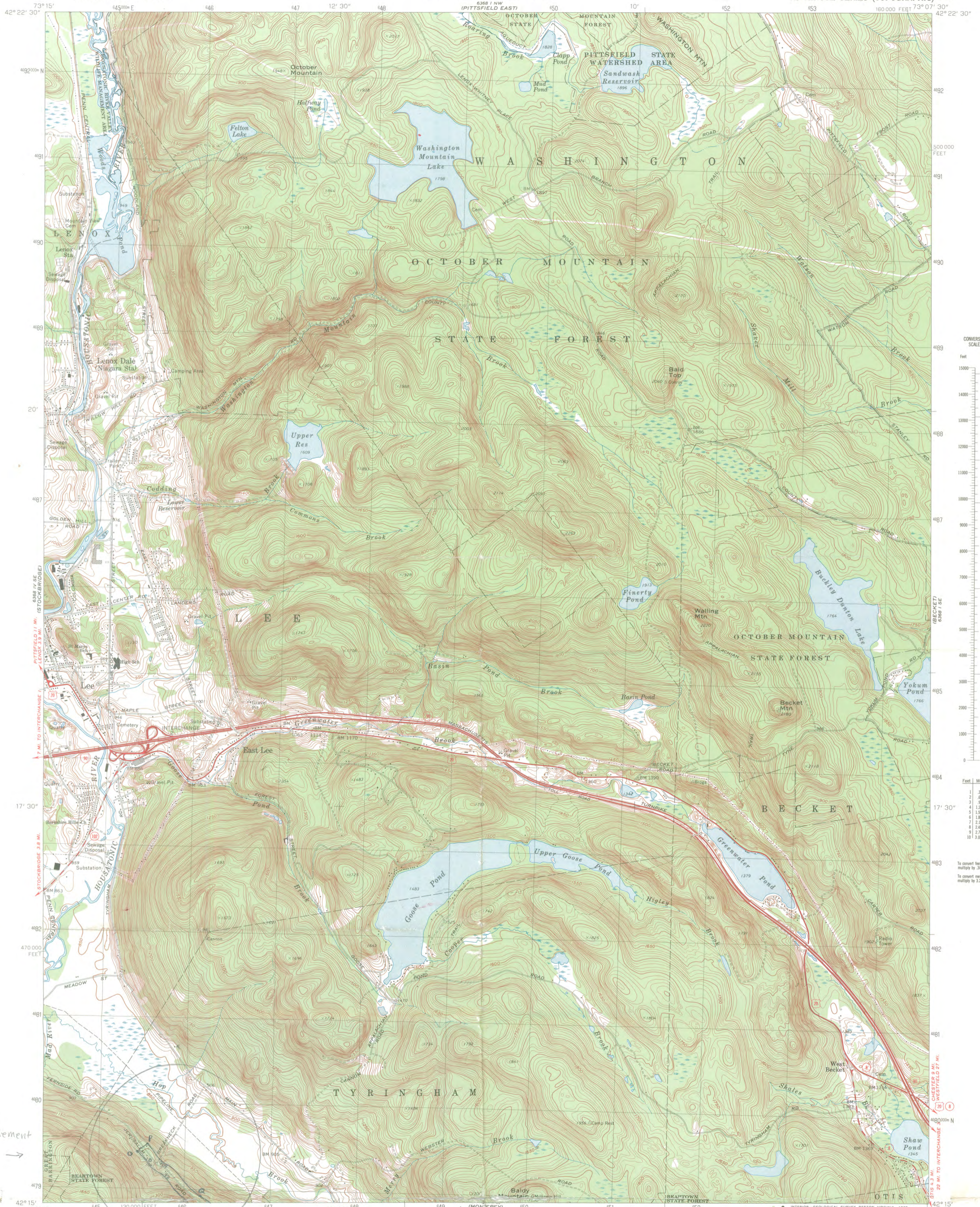
(BERKSHIRE CO.)

DWELLING HOUSE

DINING ROOM

10/77

PHOTOGRAPH BY  
WALTER SMALLING, JR.



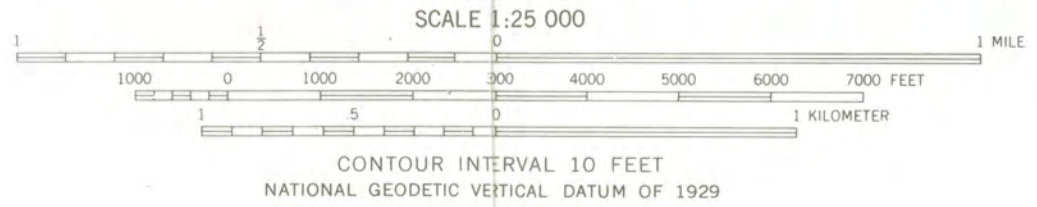
Tyringham Shaker Settlement  
Historic District  
Map # 2 of 2

Quad: East Lee  
Scale 1:25000

UTM References:  
O 18/645410/4679420  
P 18/645510/4679540  
Q 18/646100/4679640

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey  
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial-photographs  
taken 1941. Topography by planetable surveys 1944 and 1945  
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1971. Field checked 1973

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,  
mainland zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid,  
zone 18



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route



EAST LEE, MASS.  
N4215-W7307.5/7.5  
1973  
AMS 6368 1 SW-SERIES V814

FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Tyringham Shaker Settlement Historic District  
Tyringham MA

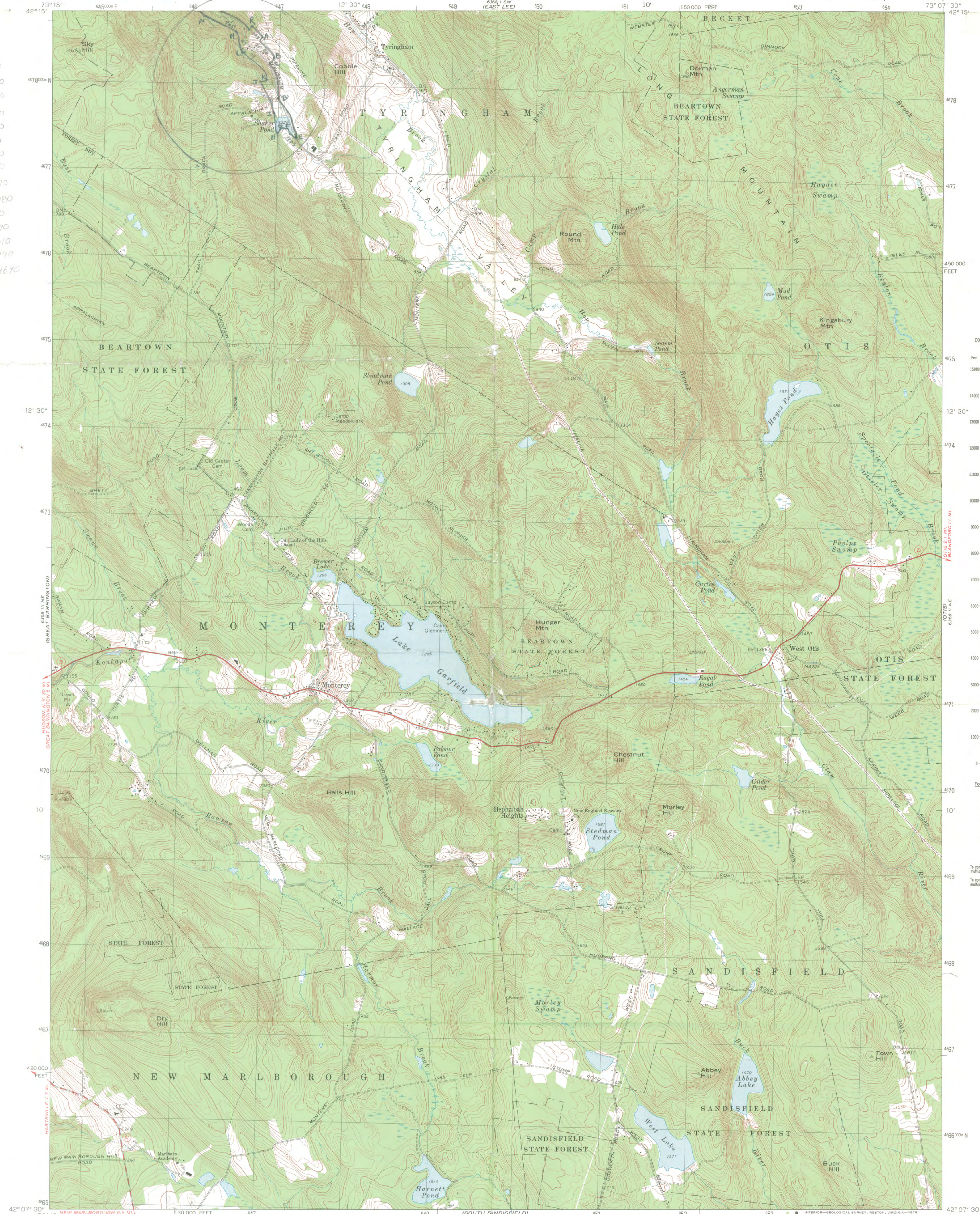
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MAP #1 of 2

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G 18/647040/467750  
H 18/647000/4677150  
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J 18/646780/4678000  
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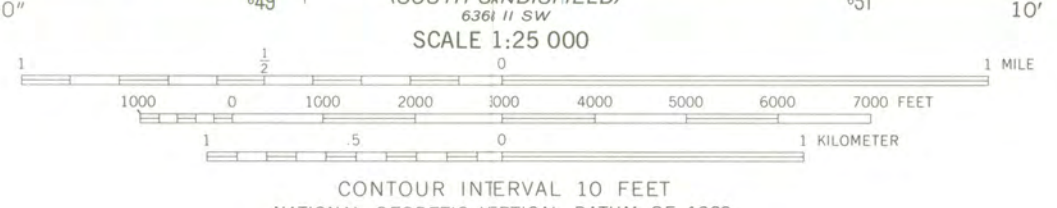
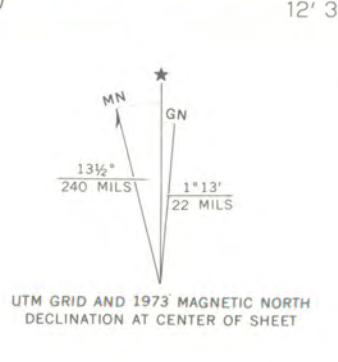
UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

MONTEREY QUADRANGLE  
MASSACHUSETTS-BERKSHIRE CO.  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
taken 1942. Field checked 1946. Revised from aerial  
photographs taken 1971. Field checked 1973  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,  
mainland zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid,  
zone 18  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Primary highway, hard surface ——— Light-duty road, hard or improved surface ———  
Secondary highway, hard surface ——— Unimproved road ———  
Interstate Route ——— U.S. Route ——— State Route ———



MONTEREY, MASS.  
N4207.5—W7307.5/7.5

1973  
AMS 6368 II NW—SERIES V814

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



REVISIONS					
DATE	PARCEL	DATE	PARCEL	DATE	PARCEL
3-91-0	CHG.	1-195-0			

INFORMATION SHOWN HEREON WAS COMPILED FROM AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS, DEEDS, AND PLANS OF RECORD AND IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED AS HAVING SUFFICIENT ACCURACY FOR CONVEYANCE.

**LEGEND**

- 11-9-0 DENOTES PARCEL INDEX NUMBER.
- 302-11-9-0 FOR TABULATIONS OF PARCEL INDEX NUMBER, TOWN DESIGNATOR IS ADDED.
- 2055-56-1142 DENOTES PARCEL LOCATOR NUMBER.
- DENOTES BROOK.
- DENOTES OLD ROAD OR CART PATH.
- INFORMATION SHOWN HEREON IS ACCURATE ACCORDING TO RECORD INFORMATION AS OF: SEPTEMBER 9, 1977

*TYRINGHAM SHAKER SETTLEMENT HISTORIC DISTRICT*  
Map # 1 of 2  
*Robert H. ...*

**THE TOWN OF TYRINGHAM MASSACHUSETTS**

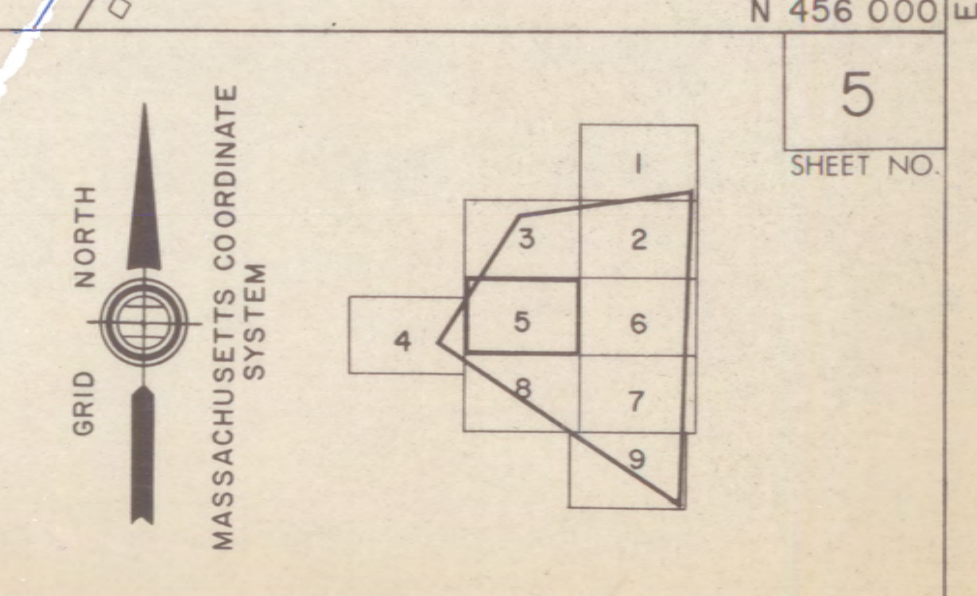
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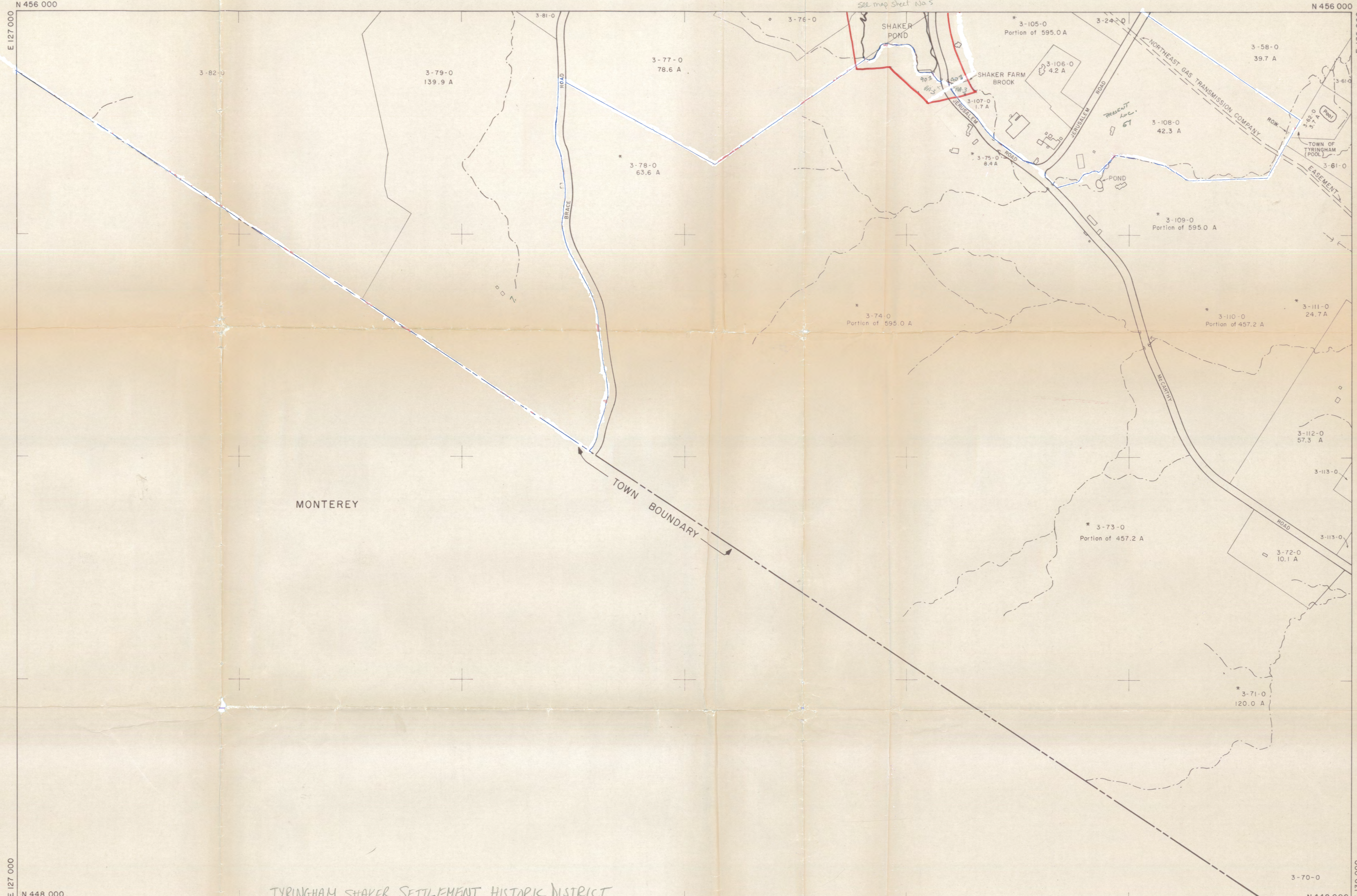
see map sheet No. 8

**SCHOFIELD BROTHERS, INC.**  
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS - REGISTERED LAND SURVEYORS  
1071 WORCESTER ROAD, FRAMINGHAM, MASS.

PHOTOGRAMMETRY. BY  
**LOCKWOOD MAPPING, INC.**  
ROCHESTER, N.Y.

MAP # 1 of 2

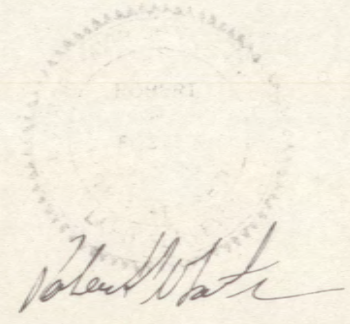




TYRINGHAM SHAKER SETTLEMENT HISTORIC DISTRICT

Map #2 of 2

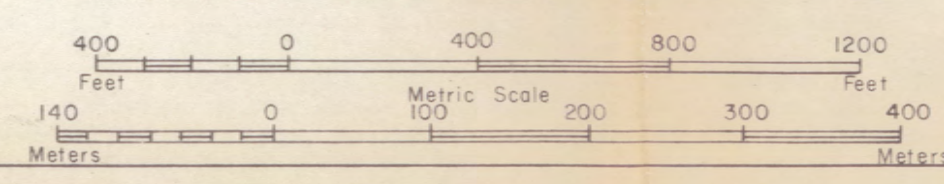
THE TOWN OF  
TYRINGHAM  
MASSACHUSETTS



*Robert White*

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PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS · REGISTERED LAND SURVEYORS  
1071 WORCESTER ROAD, FRAMINGHAM, MASS.

PHOTOGRAMMETRY BY  
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ROCHESTER, N.Y.

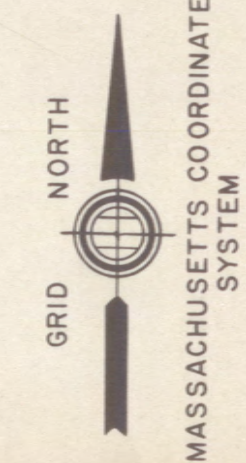


MAP #2 of 2

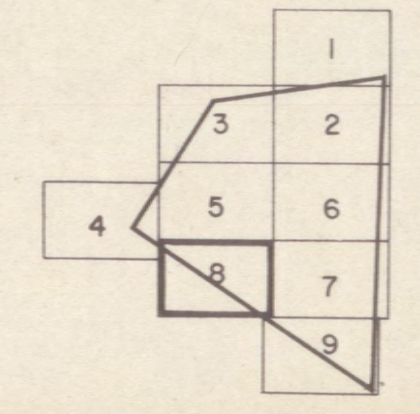
REVISIONS					
DATE	PARCEL	DATE	PARCEL	DATE	PARCEL

- LEGEND
- 1 11-9-0 DENOTES PARCEL INDEX NUMBER.
  - 2 302-11-9-0 FOR TABULATIONS OF PARCEL INDEX NUMBER, TOWN DESIGNATOR IS ADDED.
  - 3 2055-56-1142 DENOTES PARCEL LOCATOR NUMBER.
  - 4 ----- DENOTES BROOK.
  - 5 - - - - - DENOTES OLD ROAD OR CART PATH.
  - 6 INFORMATION SHOWN HEREON IS ACCURATE ACCORDING TO RECORD INFORMATION AS OF SEPTEMBER 9, 1977

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MASSACHUSETTS COORDINATE SYSTEM



8 SHEET NO.



P 685 548 217

## 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*

August 24, 1987

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 following nomination form:

Tyringham, Tyringham Shaker Settlement Historic District

It has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has 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. Comments received to date are attached to the nomination form. We have spoken with John Knoerl about this district and he has expressed interest in reviewing it.

Sincerely,

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

Betsy Friedberg  
National Register Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

BF/es

Enclosure

AUG 31 1987