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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

JUL 21 2005

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 SOUTH WORTHINGTON HD

other names/site number _____

2. Location

Ireland Street, Conwell Rd., Huntington Rd., Thrasher Hill Rd.,
street & number Higgins Rd., South Worthington Rd. n/a not for publication

city or town WORTHINGTON AND CHESTERFIELD n/a vicinity

state MASSACHUSETTS code MA county HAMPSHIRE code 015 zip code 01098

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.)

Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director 7/14/05
Signature of certifying official/Title 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 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

Edson H. Beall

9.1.05

S. Worthington HD
Name of Property

Hampshire, 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	
28	12	building
18		sites
8	1	structures
1		objects
55	13	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)

EDUCATION: school, academy

DOMESTIC: village site

RELIGION: religious facility, church

INDUSTRY: manufacturing facility, mill

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: village site

RECREATION AND CULTURE: gallery, music facility

SOCIAL: meeting hall

COMMERCIAL: stores

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal

MID 19th CENTURY: Greek Revival, Italian Villa

LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: granite BRICK

walls WOOD

roof ASPHALT, METAL

other

Narrative Description

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

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South Worthington HD

Worthington/Chesterfield (Hampshire), MA

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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The town of Worthington lies in western Massachusetts in the highlands of the Green Mountains, otherwise known as the Berkshires. An extremely small portion of the district (see Section 7, "STRUCTURES") is in the neighboring town of Chesterfield to the east. The South Worthington Historic District is located in the valley of the Little River and along the southern slopes of the Eagle Nest Ridge in the southernmost corner of Worthington, bordered by the towns of Chesterfield, Huntington and Chester. The village is crossed in a generally north to south direction by Route 112 (Huntington Road), and in an east to west direction by Ireland Street and Thrasher Hill Road.

The landscape of the District is primarily wooded and it slopes down gently from north to south giving several views to the distant south over open fields from Ireland Street and Huntington Road. Roads are lined with trees and stone walls mark fields and roadsides on Conwell, South Worthington Roads and Ireland Street. The District is a primarily residential enclave whose buildings follow the Little River, with a cluster found on its east side near a natural drop in the river, at a small bridge crossing. The South Worthington Historic District retains much of its 19th and early 20th century atmosphere. Dominated by a Greek Revival church that is set on a prominent hillside, its buildings range in date from the late 18th century through the 20th century and are for the most part well preserved. Houses are modest in size, primarily 1½ stories in height. A significant number of barns remain from the 19th century. Non-residential uses maintain a residential scale and include a summer concert hall, a former blacksmith shop in use as a gallery, and a former mill building which houses several small businesses. The District's fields and farmhouses, its well-preserved buildings, and its orientation around the Little River, with its dramatic falls, account for a rural village atmosphere unusual in the 21st century.

Federal Period (1776-1820)

RESIDENTIAL

Only two examples from this period survive in South Worthington. Both are 1½ story farmhouses built within a decade of one another, but they are quite different in other respects. One has two extant barns; the other has no historic outbuildings. The first has undergone many alterations over the years, with a more recent return to its original form, while the latter appears to have only one major addition since its construction.

The Drake-Pomeroy-Conwell House, 42 Conwell Road, ca. 1787 (MHC# 1) is set on a slope above the village, near the end of Conwell Road (Photograph No.1). A Federal-style Cape with a fieldstone foundation, it is 1½ stories in height beneath an end-gable roof. The main block of the building is five

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bays wide and three bays deep with a central chimney, and a ca. 1890-1900 1½ story ell creates an L-shaped plan. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, a number of additions and alterations were made, many of which were intended to give the house a more Victorian air. A wraparound porch with an ornamental pediment was added; the front door was removed and replaced with a window; gabled dormers were added to the ell; and the building was sided with wooden shingles. A cupola was added to the carriage house, as well. In the late 20th century, efforts were made to restore the house more closely to resemble its original style. The shingles and front porch were removed, and a new front door with a transom was placed in the center of the façade. The house was re-sided in clapboards, and the wooden shingle roof was replaced with corrugated tin. Windows are currently 12/12 and 6/9 or 6/6 on the main house, and 2/2 on the ell; surrounds are flat stock.

There are two barns and a shed on the property. A ca. 1800 livestock and hay barn is located to the southwest; it has vertical siding and sliding track doors. Nine-light windows are located on the gable ends; some were originally part of the main house. A carriage barn is located to the rear and west of the house; this building was moved onto the site and a cupola added. A southern addition and a kiln shed were also added to the carriage barn ca. 1990. The large shed on the property, now used as a pottery gallery, was moved from the rear of the ell ca. 1990. Roofs are corrugated metal.

The Witherell-Thayer House, 27 Ireland Street, ca. 1790 (MHC# 3), is one of South Worthington's earliest documented buildings (Photograph No.2). Located at the edge of the Jackson Brook valley, this 1½ story Federal-style house is uncommon in elevation. It is front-gabled, with its entry placed off-center in the gable end rather than the more traditional Federal period entry placement centered on the longer axis. Without structural analysis, it is not possible to determine whether this was a later alteration, but the existence of two other closely dated and similarly oriented houses in the area suggests it may be a local variation. The location of the entry is off-center, but it is not a side hall plan house. The entry's tall architrave surround has a simple drip cap lintel, clearly Federal in form. Gable-end fenestration follows a traditional Cape Cod pattern less commonly found in western Massachusetts. That is, the second floor has two centered, double-hung windows flanked by two small fixed windows. First floor windows are 12/12 and second floor are 9/6 and fixed 4-lights. A fixed, 4-light window is centered at attic level as well. The original ell and barn have been replaced with a ca. 1960s single story ell, two bays long, extending to the west for an L-shaped plan. The ell has an entrance porch at the western gable end and a glassed-in porch on the south side. The main house has concrete replacement foundations with original granite facing stones, and the ell and porch addition are on concrete block and concrete slab, respectively. The house has clapboard siding and an asphalt shingle roof. There is a central brick chimney that has been reduced in size in the main block of the house and a taller interior chimney in the ell. The property includes a single-bay garage/shed whose roof extends to form a side porch.

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Greek Revival Period (1820-1850)

Several buildings from this period remain in South Worthington, mostly residential. The Methodist Church and one of the homes are examples of this style taken to its full extent, both front-gabled with broad pilasters, wide frieze boards, recessed entries, and full entablatures over the front door or entry. The other homes are simple structures built in the basic form of the Greek Revival period, but lacking many of the decorative - and more costly - details. Two of these homes are gable-and-wing form with added porches.

RESIDENTIAL

The Pomeroy-Anable House, 10 Conwell Road, ca. 1821 and 1830 (MHC# 2), is a Greek Revival house, 1½ stories in height with a front-gabled roof (Photograph No.3). Located on the hillside at the intersection of Conwell Road and Ireland Street, this south-facing house is set amidst open fields and a few mature trees. Deed research conducted by Reverend Moody indicates that a house was in place by 1821. Interior work by the owners suggest that the ell may have been the 1821 portion of the house to which was later added the Greek Revival main block. Indeed, the ell entrance has a narrow, Federal style door surround with a high frieze. The main block of the house is four bays wide and three bays deep, and the off-center, recessed entry has a well-developed version of the Greek Revival trabeated surround with ¾ length sidelights and a projecting entablature supported by broad pilasters, all of which would be consistent with a ca. 1830 date. The off-center, gable-end entry repeats the unusual elevation of the Witherell-Thayer House at 27 Ireland Street. Once again, this is not a side hall entry plan. Rather, the entry opens to a parlor and not the stairwell. This local variation is found at a third house further north on Ireland Road in nearby Chesterfield, as well. Pilasters at the corners support a wide frieze, and the cornices make substantial returns at the eaves. The building sits on a high granite foundation, is clapboard-sided, and has roll roofing with a central brick chimney. Windows are 6/6 sash and have flat stock surrounds. The ell is a single-story, four-bay structure that extends on the north, for a T-shaped plan. The ell has an added bay window, a brick chimney, and two entrances--a side entrance and a rear entrance porch. Another addition with a screened-in porch is located on the west side. A large, side-hill livestock barn south of the house is particularly well preserved (Photograph No.3). The five-bay, New England-style barn, ca. 1880, has gable-end doors and 6/6 windows on both stories (basement and first floor). High in the gable ends are fixed, rectangular 18-light windows. The south end door is on a sliding track, and at the north end, a side entrance door has been added next to the main barn door. The barn has a fieldstone foundation and vertical siding.

The Samuel Cole-Charles Smith House set back from the road at 17 Ireland Street ca. 1825-30 (MHC# 13) is a south-facing, gable-and-wing plan house, typical of the Greek Revival form (Photograph No. 4). It has a few Greek Revival details, including a high knee wall with the eaves well above the attic

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floor, and two slightly recessed entrance doors. In addition, the windows have 6/6 sash, and both windows and doors have the wide lintels of the Greek Revival style. One-and-a-half stories in height, the main block is two bays wide and three bays deep with a central brick chimney; the wing is a single story in height and four bays long, with no chimney. The entry to the main block of the house is located on its interior corner, rather than on the gabled end. A low-roofed porch on square posts fills the interior angle of the building, uniting its two sections and sheltering both entranceways. The ell has a contemporary rear deck and bay window. This house was relatively simply constructed; its unboxed eaves make no returns, the window and doors have simple surrounds, and the porch posts are unadorned. The house has clapboard siding, and the foundations are granite with concrete parging. There is roll roofing on the main roof and asphalt shingles on the ell, porch, and barn. A sidehill livestock barn is attached to the ell, with an entrance at one end of the porch. The barn is on a fieldstone foundation and has vertical siding. A double-leaf door with a transom is located on the west side, at the upper level, and a set of hinged doors is located at the rear of the barn. A diamond-shaped 9-light window (really a square window set on end) is located under the eaves of the rear gable end. There is a small shed to the rear of the barn.

The Lewis Smith – Harriet and Elisha Converse House and Store, 1190 Huntington Road, ca. 1845 and ca. 1900 (MHC# 10) is a gable-and-wing plan Greek Revival house, 1½ stories high, originally having a sidehall plan (Photograph No. 5). Located on the edge of Huntington Road, it is perched above the Little River falls just downstream from the former dam. Surrounded by a white picket fence and a chain-link fenced parking area, the building has an addition on the east that hangs over a steep drop to the river. The original section of the house is three bays wide and three bays deep, with an ell on the south side. A ca. 1950-70 concrete block addition has been built onto the ell. The main building has a granite foundation, clapboard siding, and a large central brick chimney on an asphalt shingle roof. Although of simple construction, the house exhibits typical Greek Revival details such as a high knee wall, frieze under the eaves, and front-gabled entry. Eaves are unboxed, with no returns, and window surrounds are simple, flat stock. The house was altered ca. 1900 with a number of Colonial Revival details. The front door, originally located on the right side of the main facade, was moved to the center, and a Colonial Revival style arched pediment on engaged columns was added. Wooden front steps were also added. The ell has a screened-in Colonial Revival porch with a simple balustrade and columns matching those on the front entry. The 6/1 sash windows are another Colonial Revival detail. Two shed-roofed dormers were added to the ell, each with three windows (9- and 12-lights). A second brick chimney is located in the ell. The rear addition is set into the hillside at basement level; it has a covered entryway, and large, fixed 9-light windows. Across Huntington Road is a small ca. 1900 barn that belongs to the Smith-Converse House. It is vertically-sided with hinged doors, hay loft, and a corrugated tin roof. An open wood shed is attached to it.

At 67 South Worthington Road is the H. Ladd House, ca. 1860. This is a Cape form house, 1½ stories in height beneath a side-gable roof. The main block of the house rests on fieldstone foundations and an

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added, full-width porch across the principal façade is on concrete block foundations. The building has been altered with the addition of the porch, vinyl siding, and replacement windows. It has a new metal roof. The house is four bays wide and two bays deep and faces west towards the Little River. Due to the alterations there is little detail visible to indicate its early date.

INSTITUTIONAL

The South Worthington Methodist Church represents a tradition of Greek Revival style churches found in town centers throughout New England. It is a rural example of a high-style temple, commonly used in both the North and South during the Greek Revival period. According to Roger Kennedy in his American Churches, the source of the elevation appears to have been the New York architectural firm of Town and Davis, and was used by architects who issued from their office. In rural areas, as here in South Worthington, the elevation was simplified and re-interpreted by local builders, who looked at and drew from pattern books and copied each other. In the southern Hilltown region of western Massachusetts--the foothills of the Berkshire Mountains--numerous examples of this style can be found in places ranging from the smallest hamlets to larger town centers. The flushboard sided, temple-front façade with a central front entrance (often recessed), surmounted by a steeple with belfry, are prototypical Greek Revival church motifs and familiar sights to residents and travelers in the region.

The South Worthington church is one of the more elegant examples of this form, particularly among the local area towns. The proportions of the relatively small building, as well as its siting on an embankment, are gracious and balanced, with its less common four-stage tower. Most other churches in the local area have smaller, usually three-stage, steeples, giving them a less dramatic and elongated appearance. Few regional examples display the level of decorative detail found in South Worthington, with its paneled pilasters, columns *in antis*, double frieze with dentils, raking frieze, and the repetition of many of these features in the steeple. One similar example is in Norwich Hill, Huntington, which exhibits most of the same features, including a striking elegance, but lacks the wide entry with Doric columns and the raking frieze in the pediment. The Chesterfield Town Hall (formerly Methodist Church) also displays similar features, but is missing its steeple, and was built slightly later in an Italianate style, with large arched windows and "extra" pilasters on its sides, lengthening its proportions.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, Ireland Street, 1847 (MHC# 5) is a front-gable building set on a hillside, facing southeast behind a concrete retaining wall and flight of stairs (Photograph No. 6). The flushboard temple façade is five bays wide, articulated by two Doric columns *in antis* flanked by four paneled pilasters supporting a full, double-frieze entablature. The pediment formed by the complete eaves returns is also flushboard and is ornamented with a broad, raking frieze. Twin, single-leaf, paneled doors at each side of the recessed entry are the only first floor openings in the façade. There is a single, shuttered,

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centered window opening on the second floor level, for a nearly blind façade. The building is three bays deep with 12/12 double-hung windows on each side. Set back from the front-gable peak is a four-stage tower consisting of a plain square base, a pilaster ornamented second stage with deeply paneled frieze, a tall louvered belfry with pilasters supporting a dentil ornamented cornice with a full entablature, and a hexagonal spire topped by a weathervane. Details of the building's trim are well executed. The double frieze at the eaves level is articulated by a row of bold dentils; carved pilasters and paneling on the spire go beyond the standard attention to detail. The corner pilasters, frieze boards, and dentils in the steeple echo those in the main building, for a thoroughly integrated appearance. At the back of the church are two narrow, brick end chimneys, a small window, and a small closed shed. The building has a granite foundation and, like many other buildings in South Worthington, contemporary roll roofing.

Italianate and High Victorian Gothic (1840-1880)

RESIDENTIAL

Only two Italianate buildings exist in the village. One is a simply-styled early example, while the other appears to have been an older building that was enlarged with an Italianate style addition.

The Mrs. Mary Burke House, 19 Ireland Street, 1849 and 1900 (MHC#92) is an early example of an Italianate style house, as the style did not come into full vogue until the 1850s. However, designs were being published in the late 1840s and the builder of the house made use of a few of the Italianate motifs. The building faces northwest and is located close the road, across from the former Methodist Church. It is 1½ stories in height and is L-shaped in plan, with its roof extending on the interior angle to form a piazza on Italianate-style chamfered posts. While the roof does not have the wide eaves overhang of many later Italianate style house, the eaves are thinly boxed to give them a lighter appearance. Following the pattern of the Samuel Cole-Calvin Smith House, the entry to the house is on the interior angle. Attached to the wing on the west is a former carriage barn, now converted to additional living space. An enclosed porch addition is located at the rear of the house. The building has a fieldstone foundation and end chimney, as well as a central brick chimney in the west wing. The roof is metal. Other than the few Italianate features, the house has few ornamental details—door and window surrounds are simple/ flat stock; windows are 6/6 sash; and two 12-light front doors are located in the interior angle. An original 6-light window is located in the gable field of the carriage barn.

The Joel Thayer-P.L. Smith House, 45 Conwell Road, ca. 1850 and ca. 1875 (MHC# 7), is said to have been a small farmhouse that was enlarged and altered in the Italianate style ca. 1875 (Photograph No. 7). The house is now 2½ stories in height, three bays wide and two bays deep with a 1½ story wing on its east side that may have been the original section of the farmhouse. The main block of the house has an end-gable roof with a central cross gable, a common Italianate form. Typical of the Italianate style are the

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elongated proportions of windows and doors. First floor windows are nearly floor-length and the center door surround has been proportionally enlarged as well. A miniature hooded, Italianate arched window is located in the cross gable, with larger versions in each end gable. The second floor window that is centered over the main entry has an added pediment above it, echoing the pedimented porch entrance directly below. Both pediment and porch were likely later additions made during the Queen Anne period. The wraparound porch extends across both the main block and the ell on turned posts, with a simple balustrade and a spindlework frieze. Its original entry was a pedimented projection formerly reached by a set of steps; the steps are now missing, and a new stairway has been built on the west side of the porch. The house is clapboard-sided, with asphalt shingle roof. Foundations under the wing are granite and those under the main block of the house are fieldstone, suggesting that the wing is indeed an older section. There is a small ogive window in one gable end of the wing. Windows are 6/6 sash.

North of the house is an 1850-75 board-and-batten sided barn, English-style with sliding track doors. Constructed as a sidehill barn, it can also be entered at a lower level on the south side. It has a number of fixed, rectangular 8-light windows.

The Jackson-Mayhew House at 9 South Worthington Road, ca. 1875-80 (MHC# 95) is a High Victorian Gothic cottage, the only one of its kind in the village. Set back from the road on a sloping lot, the house is south facing. The 1½ story building has a steeply pitched, front gable roof with wings at each side for a Greek Cross plan. There is a single story bay on the south façade and the main entry is in the angle with the west wing. The angle with the east wing has been filled in with a 20th c. enclosed porch and the east wing was raised by 1904 to two stories from 1½. The west porch and the south bay have a picket-fence ornament at their eaves. The shed roof porch is supported by a chamfered post. On the rear or north side of the building, additions were made on both inside the angles. The roof has a wide overhang and is covered with corrugated metal (tin) over wood shingles. The Greek Cross section of the building has high granite foundations while the additions are on concrete slabs. There is a central brick chimney and clapboard siding. Windows are 1/1 replacement sash, with drip cap lintels. There is a shed to the east of the house.

Queen Anne and Colonial Revival (1880-1940)

Most of the remaining features of the village date from this period, its cultural heyday as the home of Russell Conwell at the height of his career. He is responsible for the blacksmith shop, the Academy building and Little Galilee Pond, and the boulder monument from this period is dedicated to him. Other buildings include two Queen Anne-style houses and a Colonial Revival house. The Queen Anne examples include a simple cottage and a more elaborate 2½ story parish house, while the Colonial

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Revival example, also one of the larger homes in the village at 2½ stories in height, is the only original of its type. However, Colonial Revival details have been added to one other home (the Lewis Smith – Harriet & Elisha Converse House and Store at 1190 Huntington Road) and to the Academy building. The mill building on South Worthington Road also dates to this period, although some of its added components date from earlier in the 19th century.

RESIDENTIAL

The Emma Smith (attributed) House, 1131 Huntington Road, pre-1895 is a 1½ story, Queen Anne cottage (Photograph No. 8). The east-facing house is three bays wide and three bays deep, with a side-gabled roof and a brick end chimney. It has a fieldstone foundation, clapboard siding, and an asphalt shingle roof. Modest in style, the house has few architectural details aside from its shed-roofed front porch with turned posts and balustrade. The front door has ½-length sidelights. Windows have been replaced with 1/1 vinyl sash windows, a picture window on the street elevation, and a sliding glass door on the south side. Window surrounds appear to have been removed. A fieldstone retaining wall separates the yard from the driveway. There is no ell or other addition. South of the house is a small hay/horse barn that dates to ca. 1900.

The Parish House at 35 Ireland Street, 1904 is located at the intersection of Ireland Street and Conwell Road, and has a striking presence with its tall proportions and extended floor plan (Photograph No. 9). Two-and-a-half stories in height, this Queen Anne style house has a front-gabled roof with a central brick chimney. A three-bay, 1½ story ell is attached on the west side connected to a two-story, front-gabled carriage barn for an L-shaped plan. The buildings are clapboard-sided, with concrete block foundations and asphalt shingle roofing. A wraparound porch on turned posts crosses the main house, with a decorative balustrade and a spindled frieze. The two main entrance doors have Queen Anne style colored glass windows. Windows on the main house and first floor of the ell are 1/1 sash and paired, with elongated proportions. The ell has a three-bay shed roofed dormer with 2/2 windows, a side entry with a portico, and a brick chimney. The carriage barn has a hayloft and weathervane, as well as a 2/2 window in the gable field.

The Higgins House, 6 Higgins Road, ca. 1910 is a house and attached barn located on the Little River, on the site of a former early 19th century lumber mill. The house is a 1½ story, gable-and-wing building with a steeply pitched roof topped with two, steeply pitched gabled dormers. The interior angle of the two parts of the house has been filled with a single story, shed-roofed porch enclosed by a series of full length, 12-light windows alternating with engaged posts. The clapboard sided house has fieldstone foundations, two small interior brick chimneys, and novelty roll roofing. Windows on the gable section are 8-light, paired replacement casement sash and there is an oculus in the gable field. In the wing section of the house there are 6/6 sash. On the north side of the house is a short, 1½ story, metal roofed ell of one bay, that

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attaches to a 2½ story, vertically sided barn with a steeply pitched, end-gable, metal roof. There is a double width, sliding door entry on the east side of the barn. There are two sheds to the east of the house; the smaller of the two is set close to the river.

The Ida Stone Hodges House at 47 Conwell Road, 1923 is Colonial Revival in style, 2½ stories in height with a side-gabled, salt-box form roof. Set above Little Galilee Pond, it faces west into the hillside. It is three bays wide and three bays deep, with one-story square porches on either gable end. Rectangular in plan, the house has concrete block foundations, wood shingle siding, a fieldstone chimney and an asphalt shingle roof. The front door has a double frame, the outer one having a drip cap lintel. Windows are 6/6 sash. The flat-roofed porches have roof balustrades—one has a second-floor access from inside the house—and the southern porch is screened-in. A large shed-roofed dormer is set into the long, sloping roof that creates the saltbox. A small shingled shed raised on a wooden frame is set at the edge of the driveway on the hill above the house. There is a new two-car garage on the north side of the driveway.

INSTITUTIONAL

The 2½ story Methodist Church and General Store/Academy Building, 16 Ireland Street, 1828 and 1894 (MHC# 4) is the product of two building periods (Photograph No. 10). The upper 1½ stories under a front-gabled roof were constructed in 1828 as a Cape-form church building. This section was raised in 1894 for the addition of a first story; and a wrap-around porch, two stories in height with two levels, was added to three sides of the building as an improvement in 1895. Each story is three bays wide with a side-hall entry leading on to the porch, and each floor is three bays deep. An external brick chimney is located at the rear elevation. Windows are full-length (4/2 sash) on the first and second floors street façade, and the main entry is similarly proportioned with a large-scale, three-light transom above the door. The 4/2 sash on the second floor were alterations made in 1894. The window surrounds are simple, with drip cap lintels. The two-level porch is supported by posts that have brackets at the second floor and an ornamental frieze of cross work on the first floor. Railings on both levels are geometric designs with Chinese Chippendale origins, suggesting its builders saw the new structure as Colonial Revival in style. The building has fieldstone foundations, clapboard siding, and an asphalt shingle roof. The land on this site slopes to the south, or rear, of the building, accommodating a two-story ell on the east, four bays deep, with a brick chimney and a double leaf entry on the first floor. The ell has a one-story addition on its east with a rear deck. Attached to the rear or south of the main building, giving the whole a T-shape plan, is a large carriage barn, 2½ stories tall with 6/6 sash windows on the first floor west façade and attic, and large 12/12 sash windows on the first floor south facade. There are hinged double-leaf doors on the south and east elevations of the barn and an entrance to the barn on the first floor west elevation via a wide, paneled door beneath a transom.

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INDUSTRIAL

The Theron Higgins Mill at 4 South Worthington Road, 1882 is a complex of four joined, utilitarian buildings, three of which were brought to the site as additions to the mill. Located on the Little River, the Higgins mill is the last remaining 19th century mill on the river in South Worthington. Its operations were water powered. The initial section of the mill, constructed in 1882, is set on the edge of the bank, supported by a fieldstone retaining wall and foundation (the latter topped with concrete). It is four bays wide and one bay deep, with a shed-roofed, screened-in porch (ca. 1980s) added to the south side, suspended above the riverbed on steel posts. A contemporary exit door has been added to the main façade, set alongside three 1/1 sash replacement windows. The building has board-and-batten siding and an asphalt shingle roof. It is now one story, reduced from a two-story height after 1984.

The second section of the mill was a tin shop that was moved to the site from Ireland Street. Originally a side-gabled building, it has been set sideways alongside the basket shop/sawmill for a T-shaped plan. The gable end has three bays with 1/1 sash windows; for a short period of its history, a brick end chimney was located here. The building is two stories with clapboard siding and an asphalt shingle roof.

The third section of the building is a single-story rectangular building that was once a blacksmith shop located above the Methodist Church at the corner of Conwell Road. It is side-gabled, situated gable end to the rest of the mill, and there is an addition on the east (river) side. A shed-roofed portico shelters what is now the main entrance to the building. Two tall, narrow windows have been placed to the left of the door, to provide additional light to the front hallway.

Finally, a small clapboarded addition on the westernmost end of the mill is part of a former schoolhouse that was located across from the mill on South Worthington Road. Only one bay wide, it now contains a garage door entrance in its gable end. A shed with board-and-batten siding is located on the south side. Another entrance to the building is located within this partially open shed.

The present mill building retains a sense of uniformity despite its multiple sections, due to the use of two sidings throughout and a single paint color, as well as similarly sized, 1/1 windows and asphalt shingle roofing.

The Conwell Blacksmith Shop, 15 Ireland Street, 1895 (MHC# 90), is a 2½ story building with a steeply pitched front-gabled roof (Photograph No. 11). Set next to the Little River, the shop is two bays wide and four bays deep, with fieldstone piers, clapboard siding, and an asphalt shingle roof. Double-leaf carriage doors and a single door entrance are located on the street façade, and there is a second story loft-opening on the east façade. This utilitarian building has simple trim with a moderately sized frieze and

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cornerboards. The windows are 6/6 sash and have flat stock surrounds. There is a fixed 9-light attic window in both gable ends. A wooden deck on the south and west elevations and a second-floor stairway on the east were added in the 1990s. On the west side, the deck overhangs the river bank, supported by metal posts.

STRUCTURES

The Little Galilee Pond Dam, Ireland Road (MHC# 906), was built ca. 1900 to create the pond that is approximately 30 acres in size and extends 1,500-2,000 feet along the Jackson Brook. It is surrounded by second-growth forest and straddles the border of Worthington and Chesterfield. The dam, on the Chesterfield side, is dry laid, random sized, dressed, fieldstone. It is approximately 25 feet in length, 15 feet in height and 3 feet wide at the top. There is a spillway on its western end. The dam is supported on its south side by a wall of boulders. At each end of the dam are earth berms that extend its length 50-75 feet.

The Conwell Pond Dam, off Old South Worthington Road, was built ca. 1855 by Martin Conwell across a tributary of the Little River. It is a dry laid, random fieldstone dam flanked at either end by an earthen berm. The total length of the dam and berm is approximately 100 feet and the central portion of the dam is about 8 feet high and 2 1/2 feet thick. The pond occupies about 3 acres and is surrounded by woodland.

OBJECT/MONUMENT

A boulder monument, erected in 1930 commemorating the birthplace of Russell Herman Conwell, is located at the roadside at 42 Conwell Road. The weathered granite stone is approximately three feet wide by four feet deep, in a triangular shape. It is set so close to a nearby tree that the tree has grown around it. The plaque reads: "Birthplace of Russell H. Conwell, February 15, 1843. Minister of the Gospel, Founder of Temple University. Patriot-Orator-Author-Educator."

There are two areas of mill remains in the district. Just south of the upper bridge on the east bank of the river are about 300 feet of dry-laid, dressed but random sized stone foundations or embankment along the water. They are approximately 12 feet in height. These foundations correspond to the location recorded for the John Pomeroy grist mill that was in operation 1830-1855. The mill was gone by 1855 but its foundations may have also served the second manufactory recorded for the area, the Niles Tub Factory that was in operation in the last decades of the 19th century. The foundations appear to serve as a road embankment particularly towards the southern end where they are so narrow as only to accommodate the old roadbed for the South Worthington Road. At this southern end are also found four

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large granite blocks that are set on top of the embankment stones. Each block is about 3' x 4' x 4' and holds an iron rod at its center. They may mark the location of the first bridge, an iron bridge, to cross the river. There is no corresponding stonework on the opposite bank of the river where Route 112 now passes.

The second area of mill remains, the William Dickinson 1896 penholder and brush handle mill, 15 Ireland Street, is found just south of the Ireland Street bridge at the falls (Photograph No. 12). On the east side of the river are dry-laid, random sized stone foundations on the water that are two corners of a building that projected from the land to the edge of the water. The two remaining sides make an L-shaped plan. At the water's edge they are about 10' high and 20' long. At their southern end a low wall extends into the riverbed for another 10 feet. In this wall extension contains an arched tailrace opening about two feet high.

There are two maple syrup evaporators off Old South Worthington Road that are undated. One was found for this nomination. It is associated with the cellar hole for the Lot Drake House, ca. 1776. The evaporator is a hearth and chimney constructed of dry laid, random fieldstone and dressed granite. The structure is about 10' long, 3' wide and the evaporator hearth is about 1 ½ feet high, while the chimney, which has been partially lost is about 3 feet high. The hearth section is U-shaped with earth floor and granite blocks at each side and one end that have been chiseled out with a lip to hold the evaporator pan. At each end of the U are vertical channels that hold the pintles of two wrought iron supports.

The foundations of the Lot Drake House, ca. 1776 encircle a large stone chimney foundation and adjacent to them on the north side are the low foundations of a barn.

Non-Contributing Buildings

Five non-contributing buildings are located within the district, all of which are near the intersection of Huntington and Thrasher Hill Roads. Dates of construction range from 1953 to the 1980s. They are very different in style and materials, including a 1½ story clapboard sided Cape, 5 Thrasher Hill Road, ca. 1989; a converted and vastly altered mobile home with board-and-batten siding, 4 Thrasher Hill Road, ca. 1953 and a ca. 1960 shed. At 3 South Worthington Road, ca. 1990, is a two-story house that was constructed on the stone foundations of a 19th century house. This home is located near the site of a natural spring that was formerly the village well.

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Archaeological Description

While no ancient Native American sites are recorded in the district or in the general area (within one mile), sites should be present. Environmental characteristics of the area represent locational criteria (slope, soil drainage, proximity to wetlands) that are favorable for the presence of many Native American sites. Much of the district includes well drained, level to moderately sloping terraces and knolls within 1,000 feet of river and stream wetlands, now dammed in at least two places. Most of the district lies within a valley formed by the Little River flowing southeasterly from its confluence with the outlet from the dammed Conwell Pond. Little River Falls lies immediately downstream of the junction of Route 112 and Ireland Street. The Jackson Brook drainage lies along the eastern boundary of the district, part of which is dammed to form Little Galilee Pond within the district. Jackson Brook and the Little River converge downstream of the Little River Falls. The entire district lies with the larger Westfield River/Connecticut River drainage. Most potential ancient sites in the district may be limited to smaller upland campsites; however, larger sites may also exist near the falls where Native Americans may have congregated to exploit seasonal runs of fish. Given the above information, the size of the district (337 acres), and documented patterns of Native American settlement and subsistence on the Connecticut River Valley, a high potential exists for locating ancient Native American sites in the district.

A high potential also exists to locate historic archaeological sites in the South Worthington Historic District. Most known and potential archaeological resources include structural evidence of residential and industrial sites; however, a variety of archaeological resources may also survive with extant residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional structures. Structural evidence of outbuildings can survive on both archaeological sites and with extant buildings. Archaeological evidence of occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) can also survive in similar contexts.

Early settlement in South Worthington lagged behind other areas of Worthington because of its distance from the crossroads and meetinghouse. Most settlement occurred after 1787, the year of the first land sale that established South Worthington as an agricultural village. Local tradition also mentions earlier settlement by a Mr. Hickey who reportedly purchased land from Selah Bernard, a purchaser of Plantation #3 property, and settled near the Methodist Church.

Prior to the establishment of South Worthington as an industrial village in the 1820s, agricultural farmsteads characterized most settlement. Structural evidence from residences associated with farmsteads may exist from the 18th through 20th centuries. One important 18th century site that has been identified in the district are the foundation and chimney ruins of the Lot Drake House and barn, ca. 1776 on Old South Worthington Road. Only two 18th-century houses are extant in the district; however,

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important archaeological remains may exist in the area surrounding the buildings and yards. The Drake-Pomeroy-Conwell House (ca. 1787) survives at 42 Conwell Road and the Witherell-Thayer House (ca. 1790) at 29 Ireland Street. Structural evidence from buildings used strictly for residential functions or earlier industrial/commercial functions converted to residences may exist from the first quarter of the 19th century into the 20th century. Structural evidence from barns, carriage houses, and other types of outbuildings may survive with all types of residential buildings that are extant and those that survive in an archaeological context. Archaeological evidence of occupational-related features (trash pits, privies, wells) should also exist with extant buildings and archaeological sites.

Industrial sites represent another important archaeological resource type in the South Worthington Historic district. At first, mills were established in the 18th century to support the agricultural and timber needs of the village. In the early 19th century, industry expanded so that manufacturing was an important local economic focus with agriculture. Additional historic research combined with archaeological survey and testing may locate structural evidence of the ca. 1770 David Brunson Sawmill, first mentioned on the 1794 map of the area. The Brunson Mill was located on the west side of the Little River. Little information is known about what happened to the mill or where it was exactly located. Structural evidence of the mill building may survive with evidence of its waterpower system. Similar evidence may also exist from a gristmill established in 1812 by Luther Higgins and his wife Lydia Ring. That mill was reported just below the present day bridge and sawmill below the falls. Local oral tradition also places an early 19th century brickyard in the district locale, possibly near the Lyman Mayhew House at 9 South Worthington Road.

As industry continued to grow, visible mill remains in the district can identify two distinct areas. One area is located immediately south of the upper bridge on the east bank of the river where about 300 feet of dry-laid, dressed, but random-sized stonewalls can be seen along the water. The stonework, approximately 12 feet in height, may represent stone foundations, embankment, or both. The location of the stonework corresponds to the location of the John Pomeroy gristmill, which was in operation from 1830-1855. The mill was gone by 1855 but its foundations may have also served the second manufactory recorded in the area, the Niles Tub Factory, which was in operation during the last decade of the 19th century. The stonework/foundations appear to serve as a road embankment particularly towards the southern end where they are so narrow that they only accommodate the old roadbed for the South Worthington Road. At this southern end are also found four large granite blocks that are set on top of the embankment stones. Each block measures about 3' x 4' x 4' and holds an iron rod at its center. They may mark the location of an iron bridge, the first bridge to cross the river. There is no corresponding stonework on the opposite side of the river where Route 112 now passes.

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Industrial sites in the district may include evidence of stonework representing building foundations, retaining walls, and waterpower-related structures. Many of these structures may represent examples of adaptive reuse from earlier mills on the same site. Some mills might actually be constructed over the filled foundations and waterpower canals of earlier mills, ensuring their survival. Structural evidence of outbuildings and occupational-related features (trash pits, privies, wells) related to mill occupations may also exist.

The second area where structural evidence from mills can be observed include the site of the 1896 William Dickinson penholder and brush handle mill just south of the Ireland Street bridge at the falls (Photograph No. 2). Dry-laid, random-sized stone foundations can be observed representing two corners of a building projecting from the land to the edge of the water. The two remaining sides make an L-shaped plan. The stonework at the water's edge is about 10' high and 20' long. At their southern end, a low wall extends into the riverbed for another 10 feet. The latter wall extension includes an arched tailrace opening about two feet high, indicating the survival of below-grade power canals.

Evidence also exists that archaeological resources associated with maple syrup production survive in the district. Two undated maple syrup evaporators have been identified off Old South Worthington Road, although only one was found in the course of the preparation of this nomination. The examined evaporator is associated with the cellar hole for the Lot Drake House, ca. 1776. The evaporator includes a hearth and chimney constructed of dry laid, random fieldstone and dressed granite. The structure is about 10' long, 3' wide, and the evaporator hearth is about 1½' high, while the chimney, which has been partially lost, is about 3' high. The hearth section is U-shaped with earth floor and granite blocks at each side have been chiseled out with a lip to hold the evaporator pan. At each end of the U are vertical channels that hold the pintles of two wrought iron supports. The full range of archaeological resource types associated with maple syrup evaporators is unknown at this time but may include trash deposits, evidence of outbuildings, and other processing equipment.

(end)

S. Worthington HD
Name of Property

Hampshire, 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

AGRICULTURE

EDUCATION

INDUSTRY

RELIGION

Period of Significance

1787-1955

Significant Dates

n/a

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Russell Conwell

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

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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HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The village of South Worthington is significant as a typical 19th century mill and farming village that developed at a water power source and transportation nexus to include residences, a church, and light industrial buildings all within a small radius. It is important as a part of the town of Worthington's agricultural history: the location of crop and livestock farming throughout late 18th and 19th centuries, and retains many of the open fields and wooded areas of 18th and 19th century origin. The village was an important location of small scale manufacturing into the 20th century, and both buildings and remnants of these water-powered industries are part of the district. South Worthington took part in the late 19th - 20th century summer tourism phenomenon that occurred in Berkshire and Hampshire Counties. In that connection it was first the boyhood home, then summer home, of Reverend Russell Conwell, religious orator, author, promoter of South Worthington, and founder of Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The District has integrity of location, setting, design, workmanship, feeling, association, and materials. The district's period of significance is 1787 the year of the first land sale that established South Worthington as an agricultural village, and 1955.

The architecture of South Worthington represents a well-preserved range of styles from the Federal through Colonial Revival period and includes vernacular utilitarian buildings: a blacksmith shop, basket mill, and several large barns. A fine Greek Revival church is the visual focal point of the village, supported by the presence of a former private academy that operates today as a summer arts festival. The South Worthington Historic District has significance at the local level under criteria A, B and C.

Contact Period (1500-1620)

Three Native American groups are likely associated with South Worthington within the larger region during this period, though none has been reported. Drawn to the area by the Middle Branch of the Westfield River and Little River, the Woronocos, who were centered in Westfield, are the most likely group to have set up temporary campsites for fishing, crop raising and hunting in South Worthington. A second group whose range

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extended as far as South Worthington was the Norotucks whose main base was on the Connecticut River in the area of Northampton, Hatfield and Hadley. Proximity to the Hudson Valley in New York suggests to archaeologists that a third group, the Mohicans may also have ranged as far as South Worthington. They would have travelled along the north-south path that is today MA Route 112 and along MA Route 143, an east-west connector.

Plantation Period (1620-1675)

It is thought that the patterns established in the preceding period continued through the Plantation Period. Since there was no English settlement in Worthington until much later to interrupt these patterns, hunting, fishing, and summer crop raising would have persisted. The English presence in Springfield may have prompted some trade in beaver pelts, as this trade was established from the late 1630s. King Philip's War was concentrated in the Connecticut River Valley where English settlement had come into conflict with the Native Americans. Worthington, uncontested by any group, was not affected.

Colonial Period: (1675-1775)

Village History and Development

While transportation routes expanded during the Colonial Period through Worthington, in South Worthington, Main Road, which generally followed the path of today's Route 112, remained the primary north-south corridor and local roads were not yet established. This was a period in which settlement was facilitated and begun in the town. King Philip's War made an impact on Worthington some 57 years later when in 1732, seven land grants were given to survivors of the war and to their descendents. One of these grants included the area of Worthington and was known as Narragansett #3. A few settlers did come to take up land, but they were too few to satisfy the terms of the grant, so Narragansett #3 went back into Colony ownership. The survey work had, however, been accomplished so the town was laid out for future settlement. Native American use of the area was uninterrupted.

It was the French and Indian War that finally precipitated a permanent settlement in Worthington. In 1762 the land was put up for sale by the Colony to raise money to pay debts stemming from the war. In 1762 Nathaniel Dwight drew up a plan of land being

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offered by the Colony that indicates Worthington was one of several plantations that had not been immediately divided. Rather than seven tracts, the region was divided into ten plantations made up of 100-acre lots and sold at public auction. Worthington, included in Plantation No. 3, was bought by Selah Bernard from Deerfield, Timothy Dwight from Northampton, Nahum Eager, Aaron Willard, of Lancaster and Lunenburg, and John Worthington from Springfield. They sold an additional share to General Joseph Dwight from Great Barrington in 1765. Selah Bernard owned a third of the plantation, or 1,500 acres, some of which were in South Worthington. Six lots were assigned to the minister; two lots set aside for schools. The town was named after Proprietor John Worthington.

Then the Proprietors had to compete with adjacent plantations for settlers in order to recoup their investment and meet the requirements of their purchase in a timely fashion. Worthington began to attract settlers almost at once with families coming from Connecticut, central, and eastern Massachusetts. Settlers were required to pay for their land, but then to gain title to it they had to build houses a minimum of 18' square, clear 10 acres within four years, and they had collectively to organize a church and hire a minister within five years. These stipulations were those traditionally made by the Colony and overseen by Proprietors. According to James C. Rice, there were 23 settler families in Worthington within six years.

One of South Worthington's first settlers was a Mr. Hickey who is thought to have bought land from Selah Bernard and to have settled near the Methodist church. A meetinghouse was constructed shortly after incorporation in the west part of town, and South Worthington, due in part to its distance from crossroads and the meetinghouse, for many years was not as heavily settled as the other parts of town.

In 1770 the town affixed values to labor and products to standardize payments in lieu of taxes. The list of crops and their values is an early documentation of what the town's farmers were growing and what their labor was worth at different times in the growing season. The first striking fact to be learned from the committee's evaluation list is that a woman's work for an entire week was worth one day of a man's work in harvest time. The list continued with the food crops Worthington farmers were raising: wheat, rye, Indian corn, peas, white beans, oats, and Spanish potatoes. For tow cloth and flannel for clothing they grew flax and raised sheep for wool. Cattle were grass fed and stall fed for beef; there was pork. Work animals were horses and oxen. By-products were

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cheese, butter, wool stockings, and calfskin shoes. English hay and salt hay fed livestock. They made pork and beef barrels and New England rum and bought West Indies rum and sugar. Clearly the town's farmers were engaged in a richly mixed agriculture.

Federal Period (1775-1830)

Village History and Development of South Worthington

Worthington, as did most of the western Massachusetts towns, responded promptly when called to provide soldiers for the Revolutionary War. A militia formed and trained on designated common land on Harvey Road in the Center. Captain Ebenezer Webster of Worthington then led a group of 71 Minutemen, which also included men from Ashfield, to Cambridge as part of the colonial offensive against the British that took place in 1775-1776. Besides manpower, townspeople unstintingly raised money and food for the war. In 1781 when colonial troops were at their nadir, demoralized, hungry and unpaid, Worthington sent fifteen paid soldiers and 4,000 pounds of beef to the army. Among the soldiers was Luther Pomeroy who was later to build the Pomeroy-Anable House at 10 Conwell Road, ca. 1821 (MHC# 2) (Photograph No. 3), and Lot Drake whose house is a foundation site off South Worthington Road that also contains a maple syrup evaporator. In 1840 Pomeroy and Drake were both listed in the census as being 82 and 80 respectively, and living still in Worthington.

As the town's population was small to begin with, the impact of absent farmers was significant. The women and children left behind mustered as well as they could to raise crops and maintain their farms, but historian James C. Rice calculates that between 1779 and 1782 there were rarely more than ten to twelve men left in town at any one time. The difficulty of farming for the families without their men is underscored by the fact the town formed a committee of three men to take care of them on its behalf.

At the end of the war in 1783 townspeople returned to their farming and trade, gradually introduced industry, and the economy returned to normal. There is no mention in local histories of Worthington citizens having taken part in Shays Rebellion, and they, like most New Englanders, were strongly against the War of 1812.

For South Worthington a transportation route and water-power source combined to increase the village's attraction for water-powered manufacturing. During the Federal

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Period, Main Road, a county road, was the single roadway roughly following the course of Little River. It crossed to the east side of the brook north of the village and to the west side near the current bridge on Ireland Street. Little River was made suitable for powering light industry by a drop of approximately 50' at a series of falls just below the bridge. Other streams in Worthington were similarly harnessed for power during this period, and industry became an integral part of the town's economy. Seven Worthington families operated the majority of the town's mills over several generations. Four of those families were directly involved in South Worthington's mills: Higgins, Ring, Patch, and Cole, and their names first turn up in the Federal Period.

The first indication that South Worthington was to be exploited as a mill site is found on the map of 1794 on which a sawmill is indicated on the west side of Little River. According to local historian Rev. Moody, the mill was built by David Brunson ca. 1770 who was joined in partnership by a William Cole. The disposition of this particular mill is unknown, but around 1812 Luther Higgins and his wife Lydia Ring established a grist mill at the falls on Little River just below the present day bridge, and a sawmill below the falls. Both mills were set on the east side of the brook. In 1818 Parley Hutchins, a carpenter and farmer, bought the gristmill from Luther Higgins and in the deed the sawmill and an associated house were noted as being set off for Rebecca Patch who operated the mill with the help of her son Elisha. For Parley Hutchins, the mills may have been a speculative purchase, as he sold them the following year to a relative, Lewis Hutchins, who operated them for the next seven years. During this same time a brickyard - whose exact location has been lost - run by Seth Gardner is thought to have been active in the village. Rev. Moody's history of South Worthington states that the brickyard was near the Lyman Mayhew House, 9 South Worthington Road (MHC# 95).

In 1825 Lewis Hutchins sold both mills to Samuel Cole, a Worthington Four Corners cobbler. According to Daniel R. Porter, the mills's sale price of \$100 indicates that they were in poor condition. Two years later Samuel Cole turned around and sold the two mills to his brother Horace for \$150, suggesting they weren't much improved. Horace put them in working order and operated them for the next twelve years. Horace Cole was a strong figure in Worthington history and in partnership with two of his brothers, figured prominently in the history of South Worthington for decades. Horace had walked to New York in 1815 when he was only fourteen years old to find work, after his father Consider Cole, a Chesterfield blacksmith, had died and left his mother Roxannah to

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support their nine surviving children. Horace returned thirteen years later as a wealthy leather entrepreneur, and settled with the first of his three wives on Ireland Street in Chesterfield at the "Castle Farm." He and his wife Sarah King had a dairy herd, kept up to 1600 sheep, farmed, dealt in wool, and ran the two South Worthington mills.

At the end of the Federal Period the 1831 map was drawn. It shows that Ireland Street had been extended from West Chesterfield to South Worthington, and that two mills were in operation: one at the falls and one at a good distance above the gristmill and the falls. The higher mill was a sawmill built by Luther Higgins in the 1820s where he produced lumber and specialized in making venetian blinds. This was probably the mill that was recorded in 1826 as a small sawmill whose site cost \$30 and its construction \$300. He operated this mill until 1833 when he sold out to his brother Elijah for \$200. At about the same time Luther Higgins was establishing his sawmill, John Pomeroy, who lived at the Drake-Pomeroy-Conwell House, 42 Conwell Road, 1787 (MHC# 1) (Photograph No. 1), built a gristmill downstream on the river. It does not appear on the map of 1830 and was torn down in 1855. It is not clear why only one mill is shown at the falls on this map.

According to an 1871 Hampshire Gazette newspaper article, pseudonymously written no doubt, by South Worthington native Russell Conwell as "A Traveller," South Worthington in the first two decades of the 19th century was a rough village, known as "Sodom" for its violent, rum-drinking, and impoverished residents. Making allowances for literary hyperbole, it is probably true that the village was poor and run down in comparison with longer-established and more prosperous Worthington Four Corners. The point of the newspaper article, however, was to observe that the fortunes of the village had turned around with the advent of a village church. By 1832, the writer noted, the small, unpainted houses whose broken windows were "stuffed with old hats and clothes" were fixed up; new houses and a sawmill were in place; fences and dooryards were put up and improved; and people were better dressed. The spiritual decline, the writer avowed, had been reversed by the presence of the Methodist church.

South Worthington's Methodist Society was formed in 1821, and until 1828 Methodist circuit ministers came to South Worthington and preached in houses, barns, and in good weather under a maple tree on the south side of Ireland Street. The first church building was the Methodist Church-General Store-Academy, 15 Ireland Street, 1828 and 1894 (MHC# 4) (Photograph No. 10) built in South Worthington in 1828. Instrumental in

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construction of the church were Horace and Sarah Cole who had just returned to South Worthington from New York. It was a 1½ story, cape form building that served its congregation for twenty years. Members came to services in the new church from Chester, Chesterfield, Worthington, and Huntington (Norwich), and ministers from the Methodist Episcopal Conference preached in rotation.

Residential Development

It was after the war when townspeople were back on their feet economically that South Worthington developed as an agricultural village. In 1787 Eleazer Ring bought 149 acres from Selah Bernard and sold some of it to Theodore Drake, who built the Drake-Pomeroy-Conwell House at 42 Conwell Road, 1787 (MHC# 1) (Photograph No. 1). Not long afterward, Witherell followed ca. 1790 with the Witherell-Thayer House, 27 Ireland Street (MHC# 3) (Photograph No. 2). About 1821 the Pomeroy-Anable House was built at 10 Conwell Road, (MHC# 2) (Photograph No. 3) by Luther Pomeroy and owned and occupied by three farming generations of that family. It also was on part of the acreage that Eleazer Ring had bought from Selah Barnard in 1787.

The presence of mills precipitated some of the residential development of the village. Following his 1825-27 ownership of the mills, Samuel Cole built and moved into the Samuel Cole-Charles Smith House, 17 Ireland Street, 1825-1830 (MHC# 91) (Photograph No. 4). Parley Hutchins is said to have run the gristmill for Cole, also living near the mill in a house now gone.

Early Industrial Period (1830-1870)

Village History and Development

South Worthington remained a small village during the Early Industrial Period. Bypassed by the railroad, the whole town remained small and agricultural. What characterizes the village is that its few residents developed an economy in which they worked interchangeably at farming, mill, and store businesses. For example, the mill-operating Higgins - Luther and Elijah - and Parley Hutchins all listed themselves on the 1840 census not as millers, but as farmers. South Worthington residents sold land among themselves, worked together on the school committee and as church trustees. Houses changed hands; there were buildings lost, moved and replaced.

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Horace Cole continued his role as town entrepreneur. In 1845 Horace and Sarah Cole moved to Worthington, and Cole's primary business became the general store that he built in the Four Corners. Over the next decades he invested in many ventures that offered potential. First he moved out of the milling business about 1850 selling both South Worthington mills to a partnership of Eugene, Jonathan, and John Sanderson who lived at the Samuel Cole-Charles Smith House, 17 Ireland Street, 1825-1830 (MHC# 91) (Photograph No. 4). Then within a few years, ca. 1855, he began a shoe and boot factory in Worthington's Four Corners complete with workers housing. Sarah Cole during these years gave birth to eleven children, only one of whom – a son Samuel – survived. She died in 1857 and Horace remarried a widow Maria Kinne. Meanwhile Cole followed the shoemaking venture up with a cheese factory to take advantage of the milk supply in Worthington. Intentionally or not, the factory gave women a larger footing in the economy as this was work that many local women took on in addition to their farm work. He tried tobacco farming which turned out not to be suitable for the soil and elevation of the town, and continued sheep raising. For many years the Coles's son Samuel worked with his father in the general store, later taking it over.

A new house was started after 1843 by one of the Methodist ministers, Rev. Stockman, who dug a foundation at 1190 Huntington Road, ca. 1845, (MHC# 9). Before completing the house, Stockman sold the lot to Lewis Smith who, together with his wife Rachel Cowing, built it for themselves and their six children (Photograph No. 5). Smith was later to be on the committee to construct a new church. A second new house was constructed ca. 1860 at 67 South Worthington Road and was occupied in 1860 by H. Ladd.

One house that changed hands was the Drake-Pomeroy-Conwell House, at 42 Conwell Road, 1787 (MHC# 1) (Photograph No. 1). In 1836, three years before his marriage to Miranda Wickham, Martin Conwell, a stonemason, bought the house and 100 acres from John Pomeroy. Martin soon found the farm's income insufficient, so in addition to laying foundations and stone walls, he began to peddle eggs, butter, livestock, game, and hilltown products in Springfield. He eventually became a drover dealing in cattle and sheep and operated a small general store business from a shed at their Conwell Road home. Miranda supplemented family income taking in sewing, making coats and suspenders. Martin was active in town affairs, took part in the school committee, and he and Miranda were members of the Methodist Church. The Conwells had four children, Charles, Russell, Harriet, and Arthur; the latter died in infancy.

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In later accounts of his life in South Worthington, Russell Conwell reported that their house was a station on the Underground Railroad. According to Russell, his father was a friend of Springfield Abolitionist John Brown, whom he knew through wool trading in Springfield. Averse to slavery, Miranda and Martin took in fleeing slaves, keeping them overnight in a woodshed on the property and passing them on to the next station in Bellows Falls, Vermont. One, a South Carolina slave known as Sam, knew how to read and write and took part in family prayers, before narrowly escaping recapture by a marshal, Conwell recalled. As Conwell was a raconteur of some note, this anecdote would need verification from a second source to be considered accurate.

Worthington appears to have been tolerant of diversity and there was a strong liberal bent to the population in several instances during this period. Earlier, Worthington stood out for a little noted fact that appears on the federal census of 1800 when the town was home to a substantial number of free blacks. Whereas ten years earlier there were 4 free blacks and one slave in Worthington, by 1800 there were 22. In comparison the hilltown Conway counted 7 free blacks in their population, and a town as large as Southampton had none. Only the large and prosperous Deerfield in the valley counted more, at 25. As a well-traveled town on the Boston to Albany route, some may have come for employment opportunities, but the reason for the high number is not clear. By 1840 the number was 16 which exceeded Northampton at 14, Chesterfield and Goshen at 0.

This history may have led to the town's strong support of Abolitionism, and when war began, led its young men to enlist in the army. In 1861 townspeople voted to support the volunteers and their families with up to \$2,000 in town funds. In 1862 ten twelve-month volunteers were paid \$125 each. Nine-month volunteers got \$100. South Worthington sent a portion of the required 86 men who served in the war including Russell Conwell Captain of Company F, 46th Regiment followed by his service in the 2nd regiment Heavy Artillery. Other Worthington men to serve in the 46th Regiment, Company F, were Jonathan Ring, William C. Higgins, Daniel Cole, Seth Cole, Charles Conwell, and Jonathan Higgins. George Thayer was in Company K of the 46th Regiment.

Russell Conwell was a charismatic personality who was a gifted organizer, writer and inspirational speaker. Although his childhood in South Worthington was relatively poor and required hard work, his boyhood experiences in the village furnished the reference point and anecdotes for much of his later writing and lecturing. In turn, he became a

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significant figure in village history and its sometime benefactor. The older Conwell son Charles had a scientific bent and although he died young, also made a contribution as a South Worthington teacher, and part-time secretary to the famed naturalist Louis Agassiz. As a Harvard-trained civil engineer he was part of the team that conducted the U. S. Survey of several sections of the Mississippi River between 1866 and 1867.

Through the urging of South Worthington's Methodist minister Rev. Asa Niles (Pomeroy-Anable House, 10 Conwell Road, ca. 1821, MHC# 2) Martin and Miranda Conwell agreed to let their sons leave the farm, first to attend Wilbraham Academy and then Yale University. Charles and Russell successfully worked to pay for their schooling, but they left Yale after a very short time to join the 46th Regiment of the Union Army. When they joined the Army, Russell, at only 18, was made a Captain of a Company that was made up largely of friends from Worthington.

Russell Conwell's biographical sketches describe a Captain who did not operate through the normal chain of command when he thought that chain was ineffective. So his war record was checkered: he was court-martialed for leaving his Company to get their overdue paychecks. In his absence a battle took place and one of his best friends was killed trying to save Conwell's sword. It was during the war that Charles Conwell contracted tuberculosis from which he died on 1869.

At the end of the war Worthington celebrated its centennial. Remarkable for 1868, among the groups who marched at the centennial parade was one for women's rights for the ballot box and breeches. While the progressive movement espousing equal rights for women didn't gain national prominence until the 1890s, and suffrage for women did not occur until 1919, in Worthington women were marching for both in 1868. William Cullen Bryant, Chesterfield resident, newspaper editor, and poet spoke at the celebration.

Five years after the war, Russell Conwell returned to its southern battlefields and wrote a series of articles that were printed in Boston's Traveller, in which he described artifacts he had examined on and near the battlefields, investigated details of soldiers' deaths for their families, and collected war recollections from local people. Conwell's reports from

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the battlefields were widely circulated, and on the strength of this series, Conwell then launched a journalism career, travelling around the world as a cultural observer for the New York Tribune.

South Worthington Methodist Church

In 1843 the Methodists seceded from the Methodist Episcopal Conference and became Wesleyans. During its Wesleyan period, 1843-1860, the congregation grew and prospered. In 1848 they drew up plans for a new church building, and deeds record that in 1850 Elijah and Susanna Wyllys sold property to the church for a parsonage, which members then built. The Wyllys lived in a house on the site of 5 Thrasher Hill Road, and as payment for the property they received \$50 and a pew in the church. For the church, a site was chosen on the north side of Ireland Street on a prominent hillside. Building committee members were William Cole, Isaac Thrasher, John Cole, Martin Conwell, Consider Cole (Jr.), Lewis Smith, and Rev. Asa Niles.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, 16 Ireland Street (MHC# 5) (Photograph No. 6), was completed and dedicated in May of 1848. Church records do not reveal the builder or the source of the church design, but the design was one that was simple enough to accomplish by an experienced local carpenter. Sawmill owner and builder Lyman Higgins was competent to build it and is known to have drawn up plans for and built another village public building, the school. Higgins may, therefore, have had a hand in construction of the church.

James Wright, who was minister at the time, bought the old church and converted it to a residence and store, the village's longest-lived. Consider Cole - brother of Samuel and Horace - and Isaac and Laura Thrasher (house no longer extant) became the storeowners.

South Worthington Industry

Fire destroyed one of South Worthington's mills, the village center sawmill, in the 1850s. The Sanderson partnership was apparently not prepared to restore either the burned sawmill or the deteriorated gristmill, so they sold them to Charles Smith who lived at the Samuel Cole-Charles Smith House, 17 Ireland Street, 1825-1830 (MHC# 91). Smith rebuilt only the gristmill which he converted to a tool handle manufactory; the sawmill lay unused. Smith sold both mills ca. 1860 to Consider Cole, and Cole and Thrasher added

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mill ownership to their general store partnership at the Methodist Church-General Store-Academy, 15 Ireland Street, 1828 and 1894, (MHC# 4) (Photograph No. 10). Isaac and Laura Thrasher, who lived in a house now gone at site of 5 Thrasher Hill Road, in 1863 bought out Cole's interest in the mills for \$50. They proceeded to rebuild the sawmill and restore the tool handle mill to its original gristmill use, putting the grinding wheels back in operation. Thrasher continued grain grinding and sawing wood into the 1880s, joined by his son George.

Upstream, Elijah Higgins sold his sawmill (site of Higgins House, 6 Higgins Road, ca. 1910) and venetian blind business in 1843 to Arad Higgins, who ran it for eight years before selling it to Elijah's son Lyman for \$450. According to Rev. Moody, in 1843 a new Higgins mill was constructed by Elisha Converse. If Rev. Moody is correct, Converse may have held the land in security while building the mill, then sold it to Arad Higgins for the cost of construction. From Arad, the mill went to Lyman Higgins, then to his son Hiram who worked with his father as a basket maker as early as 1880. Lyman added on to the mill, and expanded the range of products, adding toy and baby carriages, saw handles, and custom work. He also ran the basket shop, probably out of the mill. Just downstream from the Higgins Mill near the upper iron bridge (now gone) the Niles tub factory was in operation for a few years powered by the Little River.

Martin Conwell in the mid-1850s dammed a small stream north of his house to make an ice and fishing pond, now known as Conwell Pond and Dam, South Worthington Road, ca. 1855.

South Worthington School

In 1855 the town set up a committee of South Worthington residents to plan for building a new schoolhouse for District 12 (now part of the building at 4 South Worthington Road). Arad Higgins was Moderator; Luther Pomeroy was Clerk; Samuel Anable (10 Conwell Road, ca. 1821) was a member of the Prudential Committee. Their first act was to vote not to build a schoolhouse in the present season, it being mid-September. Lyman Higgins, Asa Niles and Martin Conwell (42 Conwell Road, 1787, MHC# 1), were chosen to draw up a plan for the school and to estimate its cost for the following year. After many debates they chose land owned by Samuel Anable on Old Main Road (today's South Worthington Road), for which he asked and was paid \$6, reduced from their original offer of \$20. Lyman Higgins was paid \$350 for building the school that was 20 x 30' and patterned after the District #4 schoolhouse. It seems to have been

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complete by the targeted August of 1856, and Higgins was paid an additional \$3.75 to furnish wood to heat it through the winter. The school served as a community center. Debates were held there and the very social activity, the singing school, was held here in 1865 in the fall and winter.

Each year the committee voted to hold summer school for three to four months. Charles Conwell taught in the school; his brother Russell Conwell taught in Blandford and West Granville schools.

Residential Development

At 19 Ireland Street in 1849 William Sanderson built a house and sold it to Mary Burke (Mrs. Mary Burke House, 19 Ireland Street, 1849, MHC# 92). Mary Burke was married to Willis Burke a farm laborer. She also owned a blacksmith shop, which was moved to become part of the Theron Higgins Mill, 4 South Worthington Road, 1882. Prior to moving it was just north of the church. At the end of Conwell Road the Joel Thayer-P. L. Smith house 45 Conwell Road, ca. 1850 and 1875 (MHC# 89) (Photograph No. 7) was constructed as a small farmhouse by Thayer. The Lewis Smith house was converted by Harriet and Elisha Converse into a house and store, 1190 Huntington Road, ca. 1870 and became the village post office. Harriet Converse was Miranda Conwell's sister. Elisha Converse served as storekeeper and postmaster.

Late Industrial Period (1870-1915)

Agriculture

Agriculture remained the town's primary occupation. In South Worthington farmers sustained a mixed agriculture whose proportions of livestock and crops changed between 1830 and 1870. Early in the period, most of the town's farmers took up raising merino sheep, keeping between 100 and 1,000 heads of sheep per farm. While merinos produced fine wool that was in high demand, the sheep themselves were not hardy at Worthington's low winter temperatures. Losses were abundant so farmers looked to balance their wool production with other activities. Farmers such as Martin Conwell gradually reduced their herds and shifted to a mixed agriculture of market garden crops – mainly potatoes, corn, beans, and pumpkins.

Village History and Development

The Late Industrial Period opened with an active set of light industrial businesses and

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ended with most of them having been closed. In 1871 South Worthington had two sawmills, a tool factory, a basket factory, two blacksmith shops, and a tin shop [owned by B. L. Thrasher]. There were about fifteen houses, a school, and two stores. Elisha and Harriet Converse kept the post office in their store and home at 1190 Huntington Road, and the general store, previously run by Cole and Thrasher, was now kept by Isaac Thrasher & Sons. The Methodist Church remained the center of the village, though at the beginning of the period membership had languished. In 1873-1874 a new minister, Rev. James W. Cole, gave an evangelical twist to his sermons and stirred the Methodists to revived membership.

During this period, Russell Conwell became a nationally known figure and brought some of the trappings of his fame to South Worthington. Conwell married Jennie Hayden in 1865 when he was a Minnesota journalist. They had two children, Leon and Nima. During their marriage, he earned a law degree and practiced successfully in Boston. Jennie died in 1873, and Conwell married Sarah Sanborn of Boston. They had a daughter Agnes. The newly constituted family lived near the Newton Theological Seminary and through contact with the faculty there, Conwell determined to become a minister. During 1879 in Lexington, Massachusetts he became an ordained Baptist minister and began his public speaking and writing career. He worked on the Chautauqua lecture circuit, and the Lyceum Series and toured all over the country including Laurel Park in Northampton. He wrote nineteen books and is said to have earned \$11 million through his speaking and books sales. In 1881 Conwell and Sarah went to Philadelphia to take over the ministry at Grace Church. While there he conceived of a college with free education for working class men and women. The concept was so successful that in a few years he had 1,100 students who on February 15th every year gave a day's work and pay to help support the college. It grew to become Temple University. A similar inspiration to provide nursing care led to his founding Philadelphia's Samaritan Hospital. Conwell's earnings from writing and speaking were often turned over to the causes he supported through scholarships, but he was also given to handing out money in public.

The Conwells, accompanied by servants, came every summer to the house on Conwell Road. Martin and Miranda Conwell had years before sold the house and moved to be near their daughter in Huntington ca. 1870 when their son Charles died, so Russell and

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Sarah bought it back as a summer home. They also bought the Pomeroy-Anable House, 10 Conwell Road, ca. 1821 (MHC# 2) (Photograph No. 3) and used it as a summer dining house. Anson and Jennie Freeman (Samuel Cole-Charles Smith House, 17 Ireland Street, 1825-1830, MHC# 91) picked them up at the train station in Huntington and prepared the houses for their arrival.

Conwell's impact as a minister and speaker was such that he had a considerable following, many of whom came to South Worthington to be near him in the summers. They stayed in local homes that turned into temporary boarding houses to accommodate guests. From the childhood home at 42 Conwell Road that he named "The Eagle's Nest," Rev. Conwell worked on his books, preached at the Methodist Church, and traveled about the region when invited to lecture. He preached "divine materialism" saying it was one's Christian duty to accumulate wealth in order to share it. His most famous speech known as the "Acres of Diamonds" speech used a Middle Eastern parable and urged people to look close to home for their riches, the "acres of diamonds" that surrounded them. This speech took two hours to deliver and at one point late in his life, it was calculated that Conwell had given the speech 6,000 times and netted \$5 million in fees. Conwell was his own best example of the parable, for he used South Worthington and its people as inspiration for his messages and he did indeed share some of his wealth with the village and its people. He established an academy for higher education and enlarged a building for its classrooms, offered free tuition to worthy students, and backed the school's finances. He bought up and repaired buildings in the village that were deteriorating and threatened with loss, donated money to the church, and constructed the blacksmith shop to bring more economic activity to the village.

Industrial, Commercial and Educational Development

Electricity was not to come to South Worthington until 1929, so waterpower was still an important energy source for manufacturing. In 1882 Theron Higgins, Elijah's grandson, continued the family's generations-long involvement in mills. He hired Tyler Smith to build a dam and then built a large sawmill and basket factory on the east side of the brook at 4 South Worthington Road. Theron Higgins took down Mrs. Burke's blacksmith shop that had been near the Church and attached it to the new mill as the basket shop. Higgins was married to Mary and Willis Burke's daughter Laura, and they all lived in the same household. Higgins employed fourteen men in his shop making split ash baskets until the early 1900s. The Directory of 1897-98 indicates Lyman Higgins and his son Hiram upstream on the site of 6 Higgins Road were running their sawmill and making

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shingles. Hiram continued to run the mill until 1905 when he permanently closed it. Higgins House, 6 Higgins Road, was built ca. 1910 on the site of the mill.

Conwell's investment in the village increased in 1892 when Isaac Thrasher died and his heirs sold Conwell both mills, the general store, and all the land from the store to the Little River. To Conwell they were an investment to maintain South Worthington, especially as the mills were in poor condition by this time. Each year for the next four years he made changes to the village.

The first year that Conwell owned the large Thrasher property, 1893, he sold a portion of it, the Samuel Cole-Charles Smith House, 17 Ireland Street, 1825-1830 (MHC# 91) (Photograph No. 4), to Anson and Jenny Freeman, who farmed the property.

The following year Conwell determined to establish a proper academy for area male students using the old Methodist Church/General Store, 15 Ireland Street, 1828 and 1894 (MHC# 4) (Photograph No. 10) as the main building. In 1894 he enlarged the building by raising it up over a new first story. This gave him classrooms to accommodate 75 students on the first floor; and the second floor became an entertainment hall, kitchen and rooms for boarding students. The Worthington Grange was given use of a hall at the rear. In the first year twenty-five students registered at the Conwell Academy and Professor F. H. Dewey of Westfield was headmaster. Training was in business and college preparation, and to make it accessible to as many as possible, students were offered work to pay for their room and board. Four towns were entered on the tuition "free list" and it was this generosity that seems to have led to the inability of the school to be self-supporting. Even though Russell Conwell himself taught college prep classes at the school, it closed after a few years.

In 1895 Conwell, in an effort to bring more activity to the village, took down the horse sheds on Ireland Street that had been there for sixty years and built in their place, the blacksmith shop, 15 Ireland Street, (MHC# 90) (Photograph No. 11) to rent out to smiths. The effort was successful and he sold the blacksmith shop to John Brequet in 1903. Just below the new blacksmith shop on Little River, William Dickinson bought the grist and sawmill from Conwell, tore them down, and in 1896 put up a new manufacturing building (now gone) where he made penholders and brush handles (Photograph No. 12). Charles Bradley in 1900 bought Dickinson's mill to continue making handles, penholders, and gun parts.

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In 1900 Conwell determined to build a pond on his property to serve as an entertainment focus for fishing, boating, and picnicking. He tried to dam up a stream north of his house himself, but could not get a dam to hold, so hired a team of Italian laborers to complete the work. The Little Galilee Pond (MHC# 907) was the result, and the Little Galilee Pond Dam ca. 1900 (MHC# 906) stands intact today.

Other changes in the village came independently of Conwell and his investments. About 1875 a William Jackerson built the Jackerson-Mayhew House at 9 South Worthington Road. The house passed to Farrington and then George Pease before it was bought by Lyman Mayhew. Mayhew, a long-time South Worthington resident, had lived in the Drake-Pomeroy-Conwell House as a child and bought the Jackerson House as an adult. By 1897-98 John Wetherell was in the Smith-Converse Store and house at 1190 Huntington Road, ca. 1845 (MHC# 94) (Photograph No. 5) continuing to run it as a general store and post office. When John Wetherell left the store and post office, there were a few short-term owners, then Charles and Jennie Bradley bought the building to serve as their home. Bradley then bought the Methodist Church/General Store/Academy Building, 15 Ireland Street, 1828 and 1894 (MHC# 4) to house his workers. Mary and P. L. Smith bought and substantially altered the Joel Thayer-P. L. Smith house, 45 Conwell Road, ca. 1850 (MHC# 89) (Photograph No. 7) in 1875.

Between 1900 and 1904 the minister's position at the Methodist Church was filled by a temporary appointee, Rev. George Reed Moody. He and his wife Sarah Fallows lived in the Mrs. Mary Burke House, 19 Ireland Street (MHC# 92), where the last of their five children, Robert Moody, was born in 1901. They moved to the ell of the incomplete Parish House later that year. Rev. Moody made a disproportionate impact on South Worthington for the relatively short time he and his family were in residence. A meticulous historian, he researched, wrote, and had printed The South Worthington Parish, 1899-1905. Filled with photographs of the extant buildings in all the villages of Worthington, the book traces the ownership lineage of buildings, the schools and people of the town. In addition to writing historical works, Moody single-handedly led the financing and reconstruction of the Parish House after it burned down. A noteworthy record keeper, he left an expense account that recorded every penny donated and spent on the effort, and put up donors' names on small plaques located throughout the house.

History is often unfair about which facts get preserved, and the content of Rev. Moody's sermons is less often remembered in local accounts than the fact that he continually

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exhorted his parishioners to raise chickens. His unquestioned scholarship was to be carried on, however, by his son Robert Moody, who went on to become a Professor of History at Boston University, director of its libraries, and chairman of publications for the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Agriculture

Worthington's farmers were more limited in their ability to market their garden produce than farmers in towns with direct access to the railroad, so when production and transportation techniques improved in the 1890s many became dairy farmers. South Worthington's farmers maintained a small number of other livestock and often worked at supplementary jobs. Mary and P. L. Smith, at the Joel Thayer-P. L. Smith house 45 Conwell Road, ca. 1850 (MHC# 89) (Photograph No. 7) for example, kept seven cows, two pairs of oxen, two horses, two pigs, and 30 hens. Typical of the mixed occupations of village residents at the time, P. L. Smith taught school in addition to farming with his wife Mary. The Smiths were members of the Methodist Church. As noted above, Anson Freeman and Jenny Smith in 1893 were married, and bought the Samuel Cole-Charles Smith farm at 17 Ireland Street, 1825-1830 (MHC# 91) (Photograph No. 4) from Russell Conwell. They had 110 acres for five cows, two pair of oxen, two horses, 50 hens, and two sheep. According to Russell Conwell's granddaughter, they worked for the Conwells in the summer.

By the end of the Late Industrial Period, there were two new manufactories in the village, and a new blacksmith shop (now gone). There was also a new role for South Worthington as a summer place. Not only did Conwell's followers come as paying guests, but others came to stay for the summers and some even bought houses. Ever on the lookout for his parishioners' best interests, Rev. Moody advised them to "add a good piazza to your house if you want summer boarders. Good sleeping rooms and a good piazza will bring you all the boarders you need at \$7/week." The first house to be converted to summer use, after Conwells's, was the Joel Thayer-P. L. Smith House, 45 Conwell Road, ca. 1850 (MHC# 89). Nathan D. Bill of Springfield may have rented it as his summer house first, and then in 1903 the Smiths sold the house to Mrs. Maria L. Stone of Philadelphia. Maria Stone was the widow of Charles Stone, an advisor to Russell Conwell, who encouraged her to buy the house and come there during the summers with her five children. Maria Stone was a financial supporter of the South Worthington Church, its records indicate.

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Architecture

We have noted above changes to the village's commercial and manufacturing buildings. There were a few new residential buildings as well. The Lewis Smith-Harriet and Elisha Converse House and Store, ca. 1845 was constructed at 1190 Huntington Road (MHC# 94) a modest gable-and-wing cottage. It was to be altered, most likely by Charles and Jennie Bradley ca. 1900, into a Colonial Revival-style building with the addition of its column-supported porch and portico (Photograph No. 5). About 1875, the Jackerson-Mayhew House at 9 South Worthington Road (MHC# 95) was constructed, once again a modest cottage that over time was added to until it was a more complex plan. The small house at 1131 Huntington Road, pre-1895 (Photograph No. 8), was constructed at this time as well, perhaps as the home of Emma Smith, a housework servant who came to Worthington, according to the 1880 census from New Hampshire. Mary and P. L. Smith substantially altered the Joel Thayer-P. L. Smith house, 45 Conwell Road (MHC# 89), in 1875. In 1899 the parsonage burned down and its reconstruction was designed by Rev. Moody (Methodist Parish House, 35 Ireland Street, 1904), (Photograph No. 9). A vestry and barn were attached in a wing. The Methodists also agreed to rebuild a portion of Mrs. Blair's house on Goss Hill Road that had burned down. She was a single woman who was unable to rebuild on her own, so church members decided to help her while they were at it - even though, it was noted, she was the sole Baptist in the village.

Early Modern Period 1915-1945

Village History and Development

South Worthington's role as a mill village was by and large over by the Early Modern Period. Theron Higgins's mill may have been the only one to convert to electricity from waterpower, as it became available; Bradley's penholder operation was to close in the period. Residents of the village left home for work, and farming declined. The church itself stopped having regular services in the 1920s and was open for special events only. South Worthington as a summer destination continued through the period, however. The Lewis Smith-Harriet and Elisha Converse Store and House, 1190 Huntington Road, ca. 1845 (MHC# 10) (Photograph No. 5) closed with Bradley's manufacturing business and became an inn known as Hilltop Rest. A number of Worthington's young people worked there.

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Route 112 during this period was put in on the southwest side of Little River and the old Main Road was used for local traffic only. The South Worthington school on Old Main Road continued in use until 1941 when a new elementary school, the Russell Conwell School, was opened in the Center. The old school is thought to have been moved across the street to become an addition to the Theron Higgins factory by its then owner Henry Snyder.

By the time he died in 1925, Russell Conwell was the pastor at Philadelphia's Baptist Temple; Temple College had risen to university status and included the Conwell School of Theology; and Conwell was University president. His daughter-in-law Sarah Brewster of Worthington, wife of Leon, was on the faculty of the university. Leon and Sarah inherited the house at 42 Conwell Road and Nima Conwell Tuttle inherited the house at 10 Conwell Road. In 1930 a boulder monument, (MHC# 905) was put up in front of the Conwell homestead with an inscription, "Birthplace of Russell Herman Conwell, February 15, 1843. Minister of the Gospel, Founder of Temple University. Patriot, orator, author, educator."

Jane Conwell Tuttle, Nima's daughter and an opera singer moved to the house at 10 Conwell Road, when her New York singing career slowed down, and lived in South Worthington for over 60 years. Tuttle gave voice lessons to townspeople. Not unlike her grandfather, she brought activity to South Worthington, if on a more modest scale. First it seems she used the Academy for "Club Lafayette," a dining and dancing spot in the 1930s. Then she used it for "Playhouse in the Hills." Finally she began an opera company in 1941 in the Academy and renamed it Hay Hoe Hall. All of these activities were short-lived.

During the period, new construction made a minimal impact on the village. The Ida Stone Hodges House at 47 Conwell Road, 1923 was constructed as a Colonial Revival home by the Stone family from 45 Conwell Road for their daughter Ida Hodges. The lot had been created in 1903 from the Stone family land and sold to the Hodges who waited twenty years to build the house. In 1934 the parsonage became a private house owned by Wayne C. Smith, who bought it for \$480.00.

Modern Period 1945-

The Theron Higgins basket shop, 4 South Worthington Road, continued in use in the

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ownership of Carl Cederholm who manufactured nuts and bolts, skis for Indian Motorcycles, and invented a measuring wheel for surveyors that was used from World War II to the 1950s. When its manufacturing history was over in 1969, the building was home to a restaurant, the Drummer's Club, owned by Fred Emerson. Today it is an office building.

Meanwhile after the war, the Converse House and Store, 1190 Huntington Road shifted in use from an inn to a rehabilitation center for Holocaust victims. John and Anna Sipos, Hungarians from New York, bought the building and operated the center for a number of years before it passed to the Jewish Community Center of New Jersey. In 1964 Robert and Rolande Schrade, well-known musicians, bought it as a summer residence. The Shrades began giving concerts in the Methodist Church, then at town urging to continue concerts in a more accessible location, they bought the Academy, the blacksmith shop and the Samuel Cole-Charles Smith House. In 1976 the Academy opened as the Sevenars Concert Hall where the two elder Shrades were joined by their five musician children. The farmhouse of the Samuel Cole-Charles Smith House became a residence for visiting artists and the blacksmith shop became a gallery.

PLANNING CONCERNS

The Worthington Historical Commission has become much more active recently in preservation planning, undertaking this, the first of its National Register district nominations. Three individual nominations for the town's cemeteries were listed in 2004. The Historical Commission and the town as a whole have been careful to preserve the documents pertaining to its history and there is a good collection of material in the Worthington library's historical section.

The vast majority of South Worthington residents appreciate the character of their village and are conscientious in maintaining their properties - their buildings and landscape. The presence of the Sevenars music festival in the village and their attention to the historical significance of their properties is responsible for maintaining much of the atmosphere in the village. The continued strength of that cultural organization seems to be a critical factor in the future of the village. A source of planning concern for the future is the on-going maintenance of the Methodist Church that is owned by a non-profit

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organization dedicated to its preservation and use. This key building is a strong candidate for the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund and the owners should be encouraged to make use of the Fund to assure the building's long-term structural stability and material integrity.

Another planning concern is that of forestalling additional widening of Route 112, which has already encroached on the village's properties.

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of ancient Native American settlement in Worthington are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Ancient sites in this area may contribute important information that helps to identify general patterns of Native American subsistence and settlement activities in the Berkshire uplands of Western Massachusetts, specifically along tributary streams of the Westfield River including the Little River. Ancient Native American sites in this area may contain information that indicates the extent that this area was exploited by Mohican groups and their predecessors from the New York locale or by the Woronoaks and Nonotucks and their forbearers in the Connecticut River Valley. The above information can be used to test the extent that river basin boundaries were analogous with Native socio-political boundaries at different points in ancient history and the Contact Period.

Historic archaeological resources described above have the potential to contribute important social, cultural, and economic information that documents the growth and stability of a typical 19th century mill and farming village in the Berkshire uplands that retained its small community character and small-scale manufacturing component well into the 20th century. Additional historic research combined with archaeological survey and testing can help document the early settlement of the South Worthington Village in the late 18th century, a poorly documented period in the evolution of the village. Any evidence prior to ca. 1787, the date of the earliest extant home in the district, would be especially important by contributing information of the district's settlement during a period for which no examples survive. Given that, structural evidence from the Lot Drake House site, ca. 1776, and the possibly earlier Hickey homestead might contribute

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important evidence on architectural features of early settlement homes and general settlement patterns during that period. The increased potential for locating domestic related sites through time is indicated by the rise in extant Greek Revival residences in the early 19th century and an even higher increase in extant Queen Anne and Colonial Revival homes from 1880 to 1940 during the district's cultural heyday. Structural evidence from outbuildings may also contribute important evidence on how early farmsteads were organized to enable more effective production of agricultural-, and husbandry-related products or to follow other ethnic and/or regional settlement patterns. Archaeological evidence from outbuildings might also indicate the presence of a cottage industry-type role for limited manufacturing in village homes. Detailed analysis of the contents of occupational-related features (trash pits, privies, wells) may also contribute important information related to methods of agriculture and husbandry. This source of information may also contribute important insights into the lives of South Worthington's early inhabitants, home industry, and general stability of the village population into the 20th century.

Archaeological evidence from house sites, outbuildings, and the analysis of contents from occupational-related features may also document the role African Americans played in the settlement of the South Worthington community. An unusually high number of free blacks are listed as living in Worthington in the 1800 census. The reason for that high number and how long it persisted is not clear at this time. Important archaeological information may exist that documents the structure of the African American community in Worthington, possibly incorporating a role for the Worthington community in the Underground Railroad later in the period. Important information may also exist indicating the survival of West African and southern black cultural characteristics in northern free black populations.

Archaeological resources may also contribute important information that helps document the growth of industry in South Worthington, its relationship to agricultural production, and its persistence in a small rural mill and farming village into the 20th century. Additional historic research combined with archaeological survey and testing may help document the exact location of the ca. 1770 Brunson Sawmill and later 1812 Higgins and Ring Gristmill. These mills preceded the growth of South Worthington as a small industrial village in the 1820s. Comparative studies of information from the above mills with data obtained from the 1830-1855 Pomeroy Mill and 1896 Dickinson Mill may help interpret the changes that occurred as the village economy expanded from mostly

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agriculture and husbandry with some industry to a more specialized industrial focus. Archaeological information may also exist that demonstrates a continued relationship between industry and agriculture, possibly through the supply of raw materials for production and seasonal supply of labor.

Historic and archaeological research together can help document the sequence of occupation at mill sites in the district. At present, there are two areas of mill remains in the district, defined by the 1830-1855 Pomeroy gristmill and 1896 Dickinson penholder and brush handle mill. The relationship of the Pomeroy and Dickinson mills to other mills at these and nearby sites is unclear at this time. Additional historic research combined with archaeological survey and testing may help to define the complex pattern of industrial development that had a major influence on the village economy. Historic and archaeological resources may also help elucidate the relationship of industrial evolution in the district to the development of waterpower, the natural resource that enabled mill development. Archaeological evidence of waterpower related structures, artifacts, and features might survive that document the growth and technological change in harnessing waterpower and supplying it to more than three centuries of industry in South Worthington. Evidence may exist that indicates the extent to which water-powered resources were adapted from earlier to later mills or a change in function from initially supplying power to run machinery to later supplying water power to generate electrical power.

Archaeological resources associated with maple syrup evaporators may also contribute important information to better understand the growth, technology, and importance of the maple sugar industry in the Berkshire uplands and New England area. Few sites associated with maple syrup production have been systematically studied. As a result, the sites of maple syrup evaporators, including the one associated with the Lot Drake House, may help us learn the internal structure of these operation including their associated outbuildings, structures, equipment, and features. Systematic study of evaporator sites can also help us learn when these sites first appeared and how they have changed through time.

(end)

S. Worthington HD
Name of Property

Hampshire, MA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property ca. 337 acres

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. 18 673660 4691000
Zone Easting Northing

2. 18 674060 4689840
Zone Easting Northing

3. 18 673400 4689480
Zone Easting Northing

4. 18 673000 4690300
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 Bonnie Parsons, Lori Tanner, PVPC, Consultant, with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date July 2005

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

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town Worthington state MA zip code 01098

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 Chief, Administrative Services 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. NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

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(end)

10. GEOGRAPHIC DATA

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the district were drawn to follow the rear lot lines of the properties in the district and the town boundaries on the east between Worthington and Chesterfield and Worthington and Huntington. The one exception is the boundary around Little Galilee Pond which was followed into Chesterfield to avoid a district boundary passing arbitrarily through the Pond.

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PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographer: Bonnie Parsons

Date: June 2003

Location of negatives: Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, West Springfield, MA

1. Drake-Pomeroy-Conwell House, 42 Conwell Rd., view to west
2. Witherell-Thayer House, 27 Ireland St., view to southwest
3. Pomeroy-Anable House, 10 Conwell Rd., view to north
4. Samuel Cole-Charles Smith House, 17 Ireland St., view to southeast
5. Smith-Converse House and Store, 1190 Huntington Rd., view to west
6. Methodist Episcopal Church, 16 Ireland St., view to northeast
7. Thayer-Smith House, 45 Conwell Rd., view to north
8. Emma Smith House, 1131 Huntington Rd., view to west
9. Methodist Parish House, 35 Ireland St., view to southeast
10. Methodist Church-General Store-Academy building, 15 Ireland St., view to southeast
11. Conwell Blacksmith Shop, 15 Ireland St., view to west
12. Dickinson Mill foundations, Ireland St., view to northwest

(end)

SOUTH WORTHINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT

Worthington/Chesterfield (Hampshire), MA

District Data Sheet

Map #	MHC#	Address	Historical Name	Date	Style	Type	C/NC
CONWELL ROAD							
411-29	2	10 Conwell Road	Pomeroy-Anable House	ca. 1821	Greek Revival	B	C
			barn	ca. 1880	utilitarian	B	C
			stone walls	19 th c.	N/A	ST	C
411-30	1	42 Conwell Road	Drake-Pomeroy-Conwell H.	ca. 1787	Federal	B	C
			barn/studio	ca. 1800	utilitarian	B	C
			carriage barn	ca. 1800	utilitarian	B	C
			shed/gallery	ca. 1900	utilitarian	B	C
	905		Conwell Boulder marker	1930	N/A	O	C
411-31.1	89	45 Conwell Road	Joel Thayer – P.L. Smith H.	ca. 1850-75	Italianate	B	C
			barn	ca. 1860	utilitarian	B	C
			barn foundations	ca. 1860	N/A	SI	C
411-31.2		47 Conwell Road	Ida Stone Hodges House	1923	Colonial Rev.	B	C
			garage	2003	utilitarian	B	NC
411-32		Conwell Road	open land	N/A	N/A	PL	C
411-32		Conwell Road	stone walls	19 th c.	N/A	ST	C
HIGGINS ROAD							
411-55		6 Higgins Road	Higgins House	ca. 1910	eclectic	B	C
			shed	1992	utilitarian	B	NC
			shed	1987	utilitarian	B	NC

SOUTH WORTHINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT

Worthington/Chesterfield (Hampshire), MA

District Data Sheet

Map #	MHC#	Address	Historical Name	Date	Style	Type	C/NC
HUNTINGTON ROAD							
411-23		Huntington Road	conservation land	N/A	N/A	PL	C
411-20		Huntington Road	open land	N/A	N/A	PL	C
411-53		Huntington Road	conservation land	N/A	N/A	PL	C
411-44		1131 Huntington Road	Emma Smith (attrib.) H.	ca. 1895	Queen Anne	B	C
			barn	ca. 1895	utilitarian	B	C
			gazebo	ca. 1990	N/A	ST	NC
411-37	94	1190 Huntington Road	Smith-Converse House/store	1845, 1900	eclectic	B	C
411-45		Huntington Road	barn	ca. 1900	utilitarian	B	C
411-37		1132 Huntington Road	High Hopes Farm	1996	contemporary	B	NC
			sugar house	1996	utilitarian	B	NC
			barn	1996	utilitarian	B	NC
411-39		Huntington Road	open land	N/A	N/A	PL	C
411-40		Huntington Road	open land	N/A	N/A	PL	C
411-41		Huntington Road	open land	N/A	N/A	PL	C

IRELAND STREET

411.36/37		Ireland Street	dam	ca. 1850	utilitarian	ST	C
411-36	4	15 Ireland Street	Church/Store/Academy	1828, 1894	Colonial Rev.	B	C
	90		blacksmith shop	1895	utilitarian	B	C
			Wm. Dickinson mill foundat.	ca. 1895	N/A	SI	C
			dam remains	ca. 1850	N/A	SI	C
411-28	5	16 Ireland Street	Methodist Episcopal Church	1848	Greek Revival	B	C

SOUTH WORTHINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT

Worthington/Chesterfield (Hampshire), MA

District Data Sheet

Map #	MHC#	Address	Historical Name	Date	Style	Type	C/NC
411-36	91	17 Ireland Street	Saml. Cole – Chas. Smith H.	1825-30	Greek Revival	B	C
			shed	ca. 1900	utilitarian	B	C
411-35	92	19 Ireland Street	Mrs. Mary Burke House	1849, 1900	Italianate	B	C
411-34	3	27 Ireland Street	Witherell-Thayer House	ca. 1790	Federal	B	C
			garage/shed	ca. 1970	utilitarian	B	NC
			stone walls	19 th c.	N/A	ST	C
411-33		35 Ireland Street	Methodist Parish House	1904	Queen Anne	B	C
411-31.1*	907	Ireland Street	Little Galilee Pond	ca. 1900	N/A	SI	C
*	906	Ireland Street	Little Galilee Pond Dam	ca. 1900	N/A	ST	C
411-32		Ireland Street	open land	N/A	N/A	SI	C
411-38		Ireland Street	open land	N/A	N/A	SI	C
411-39		Ireland Street	open land	N/A	N/A	SI	C

SOUTH WORTHINGTON ROAD

411-27		3 S. Worthington Road	house	1987	contemporary	B	NC
411-26		4 S. Worthington Road	Theron Higgins Mill	1882	utilitarian	B	C
411-27.1	95	9 S. Worthington Road	Jackerson-Mayhew House	ca. 1875	High Vict. Gothic	B	C
			garage	ca. 1940	utilitarian	B	C
			foundations	n.d.	N/A	SI	C
411-22		67 S. Worthington Road	H. Ladd House	ca. 1860	Cape	B	C
411-19/21		S. Worthington Road	Conwell Pond and dam	ca. 1855	N/A	SI	C
411-24		S. Worthington Road	open land	N/A	N/A	SI	C
411-25		S. Worthington Road	open land	N/A	N/A	SI	C

SOUTH WORTHINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT

Worthington/Chesterfield (Hampshire), MA
District Data Sheet

Map #	MHC#	Address	Historical Name	Date	Style	Type	C/NC
411-29		S. Worthington Road	stone walls	19 th c.	N/A	ST	C
			bridge embankment blocks	19 th c.	N/A	ST	C
411-21		S. Worthington Road	foundations/road embankmt.	19 th c.	N/A	SI	C
411-25		S. Worthington Road	school lot	19 th c.	N/A	SI	C
411-19		S. Worthington Road	Drake House foundations	ca. 1776	N/A	SI	C
			maple syrup evaporator	18 th -19 th c.	N/A	ST	C

THRASHER HILL ROAD

411-47		4 Thrasher Hill Road	altered mobile home	1953	utilitarian	B	NC
			garage	ca. 1960	utilitarian	B	NC
			shed	ca. 1960	utilitarian	B	NC
411-54		5 Thrasher Hill Road	house	1989	Cape	B	NC
411-56		6 Thrasher Hill Road	house	1953	Garrison Col.	B	C
			barn	1953	utilitarian	B	C

* Little Galilee Pond is Worthington map 311, lot 31.1 and Chesterfield map 41, lots 1 and 2

• Little Galilee Dam is Chesterfield map 41 lot 1

TOTALS

Contributing

Noncontributing

28	Buildings	12
18	Sites	
8	Structures	1
1	Objects	
55		13

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: South Worthington Historic District

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Hampshire

DATE RECEIVED: 7/21/05 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/10/05
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/25/05 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/03/05
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 05000935

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 9.1.05 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.



Drake-Pomeroy, Conwell House, S. Worthington Historic District
Hampshire, Massachusetts

Bonnie Parsons

June, 2003

PVPC

View to West

Photo No. 1

163 0005 09 00000

+000+500+000



Witherell - Thayer House, S. W. Worthington Historic District

Hampshire, Massachusetts

Bonnie Parsons

June, 2003

PRPC

View to SW

Photo No. 2

160 0005 09 08000

+000+500+000



Pomeroy-Ancle House, S. Worthington Historic District
Hampshire, MA
Bonnie Pasano
June, 2003
PVPC
View to North
Photo No. 3

159 0005 09 00000

+000+500+000



Samuel Cole. Charles Smith House, S. Worthington Historic District

Hampshire, MA

Bonnie Parsons

June, 2003

PVPC

View to SE

Photo No. 4

165 0005 09 08000

+000+500+000



Lewis Smith - Harriet and Eliza Converse House and Store, S. Worthington Historic District

Hampshire, MA

Bonnie Parsons

June, 2003

PVPL

View to West

Photo No. 5

174 0005 09 08000

+000+500+000



Methodist Episcopal Church, S. Worthington Historic District

Hampshire, MA

Bonnie Parsons

June, 2003

PVPC

View to NE

Photo No. 6

166 0005 09 00000

+000+500+000



Jail Thayer. P.L. Smith House, S. Worthington Historic District

Hampshire, MA

Bonnie Pesone

June, 2003

PVPC

View to North

Photo No. 7

162 0005 09 00000

+000+500+000



Emma Smith House, South Worthington Historic District

Hampshire, MA

Bonnie Parsons

June, 2003

PRPC

View to West

Photo No. 3

169 0005 09 00000

+000+500+000



The Parish House, S. Worthington Historic District

Hampshire, MA

Bonnie Parsons

June, 2003

PVPC

View to SE

Photo No. 9

161 0005 09 08000

+000+500+000



Methodist Church - General Store - Academy Building, S. Worthington Historic District

Hampshire, MA

Bonnie Parsons

June, 2003

PVPC

View to SE

Photo No. 10

164 0005 09 08000

+000+500+000



Conwell Blacksmith Shop, S. Worthington Historic District

Hampshire, MA

Bonnie Pease

June, 2003

PVPC

View To West

Photo No. 11

167 0005 09 00000

+000+500+000



Dickinson Mill Foundation, S. Worthington Historic District

Hampshire, MA

Bonnie Parsons

June, 2003

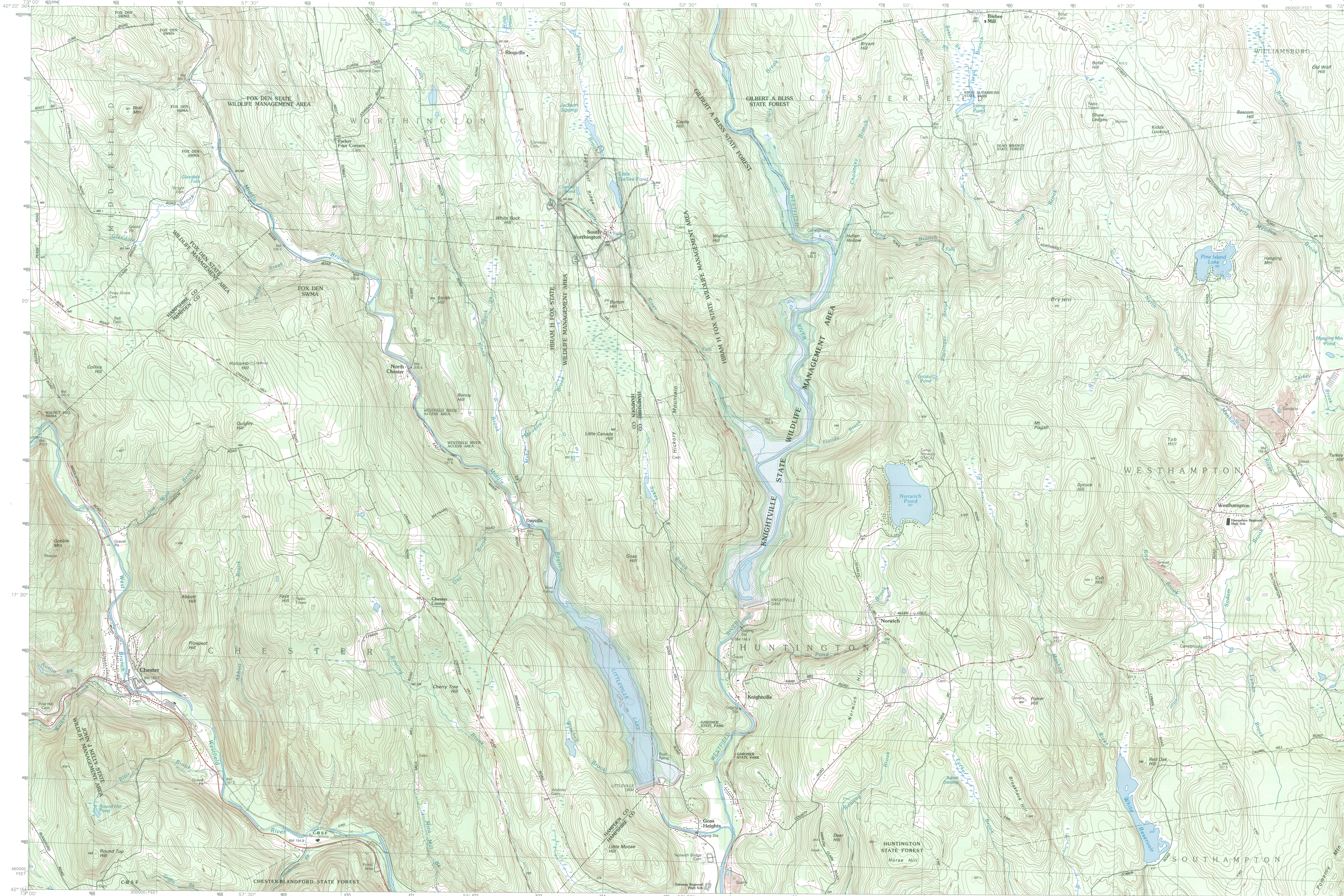
QVPC

View to NW

Photo No. 12

168 0005 09 00000

+000+500+000



USGS
United States Geological Survey

Chester
MASSACHUSETTS
1:25 000-scale metric (MAMPSHIRE)
topographic map

7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE SHOWING

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

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
1997

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
Derived from imagery taken 1980 and other sources. Photostitched using imagery taken 1997; no major culture or drainage changes observed. Survey control current as of 1981.
Boundaries revised 1999.
Supersedes Chester and Westhampton 1:25,000-scale maps dated 1972.
North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27). Projection and 1000-meter grid. Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 18.
10 000-foot ticks. Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone.
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software.
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map.

CONTOUR INTERVAL, 6 METERS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

CONVERSION TABLE

Meters	Feet
1	3.2808
2	6.5617
3	9.8425
4	13.1234
5	16.4042
6	19.6850
7	22.9659
8	26.2467
9	29.5276
10	32.8084

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

DECLINATION DIAGRAM

UTM grid convergence (GN and 1983 magnetic declination (MM) at center of map. Diagram is approximate.

ADJOINING MAPS

1	2	3
1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

1. Pittsfield East
2. Goshen
3. Westhampton
4. East Lee
5. Easthampton
6. Old
7. Blanford
8. Springfield North

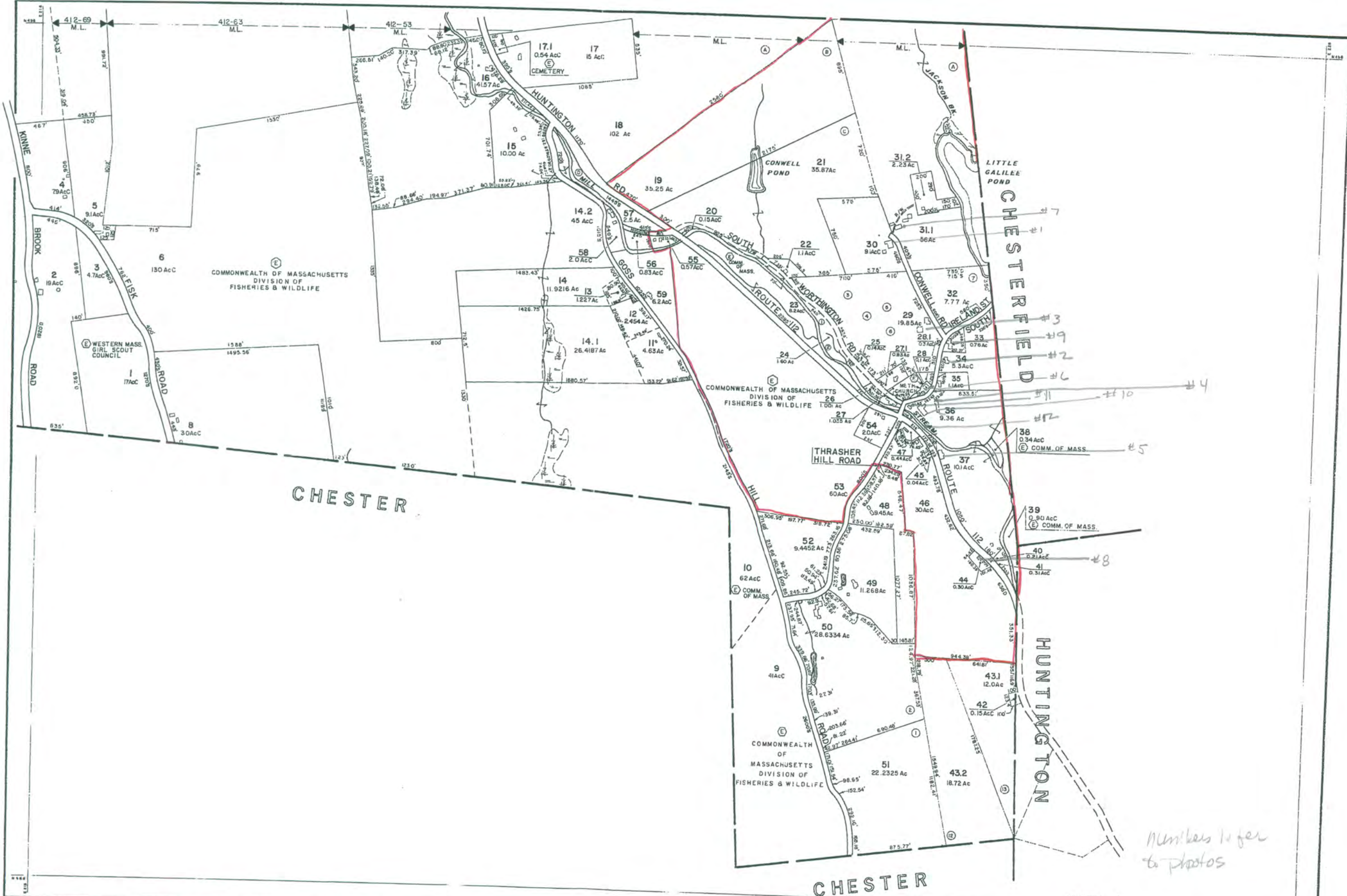
ISBN 0-607-92651-1
9 780607 926514

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
City, town, village, town
Incorporated city, village, town
National or State reservation; small park
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
Mineral; water well; spring
Mine shaft; prospect; shaft or cave
Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation
Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression
Disturbed surface: strip mine, low; sand
Bathymetric contours: index; intermediate
Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream
Rapid; large and small; falls, large and small
Swamp; marsh
Submerged marsh; land subject to controlled inundation
Woodland; scattered trees
Sandy, mangrove
Orchard; vineyard

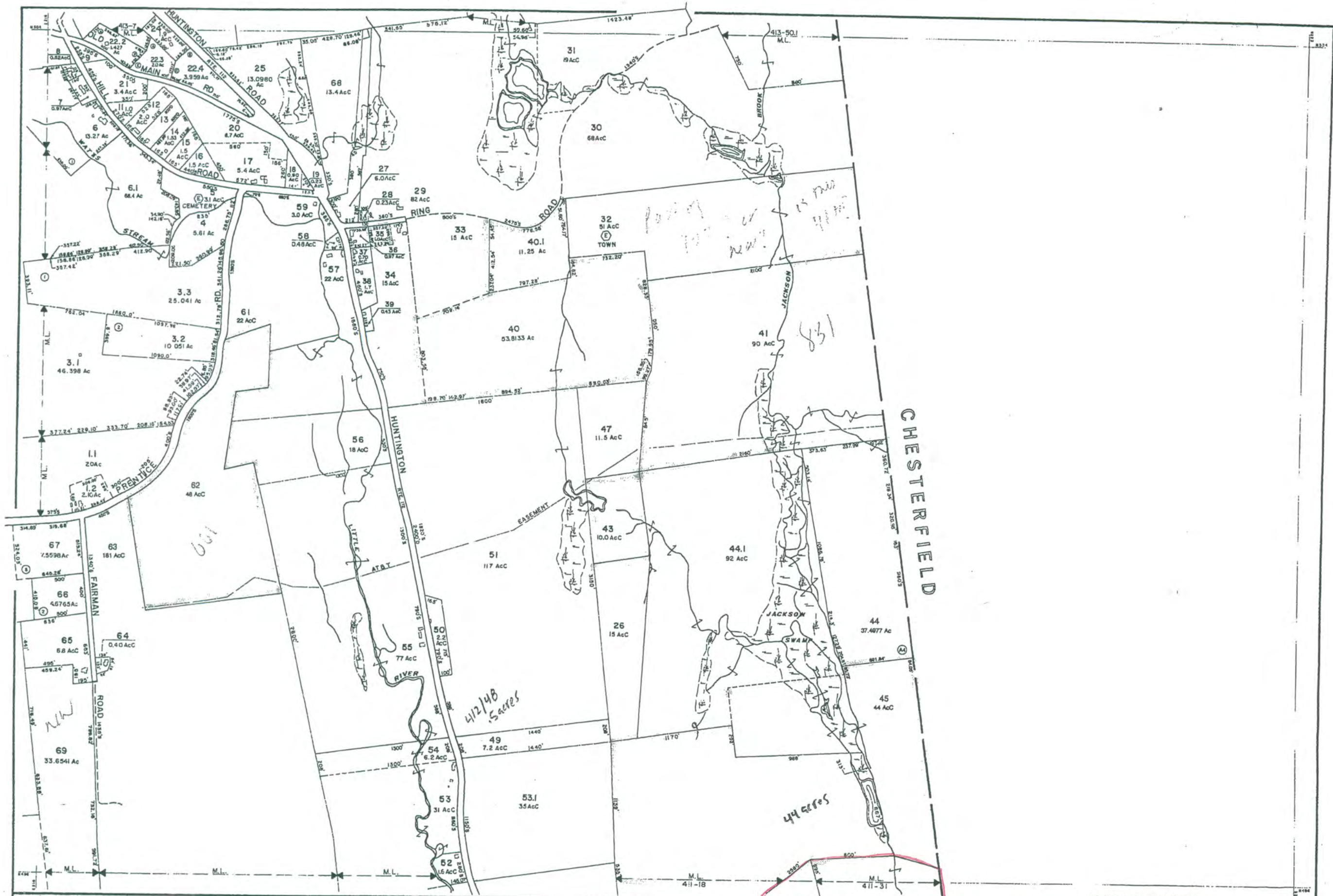
A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
P.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225

1997



Numbers refer to photos

THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES. IT IS NOT VALID FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION OR CONVEYANCE. THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM. PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: MARCH 21, 1995 COMPLETION DATE: MARCH 9, 1986	PRODUCED BY CARTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATES, INC. MUNICIPAL MAPPING CONSULTANTS P.O. BOX 267 LITTLETON, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03561	LEGEND <table border="0"> <tr> <td>AREA CALCULATED</td> <td>Ac</td> <td>SUBDIVISION LOT NO.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>AREA SURVEYED</td> <td>Ac</td> <td>MATCH LINE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BLOCK LIMIT</td> <td>---</td> <td>RIGHT OF WAY</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BLOCK NUMBER</td> <td>02</td> <td>RECORD DIMENSION</td> </tr> <tr> <td>COMMON OWNERSHIP</td> <td>(E)</td> <td>SCALED DIMENSION</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EXEMPT PROPERTY</td> <td>(E)</td> <td>WETLANDS</td> </tr> </table>	AREA CALCULATED	Ac	SUBDIVISION LOT NO.	AREA SURVEYED	Ac	MATCH LINE	BLOCK LIMIT	---	RIGHT OF WAY	BLOCK NUMBER	02	RECORD DIMENSION	COMMON OWNERSHIP	(E)	SCALED DIMENSION	EXEMPT PROPERTY	(E)	WETLANDS	SCALE 1 INCH = 400 FEET FEET: 0, 200, 400, 800, 1200 METERS: 0, 121.92, 243.84, 487.68 REVISION: January 1, 2002 1" = 400'	ASSESSORS MAP WORTHINGTON MASSACHUSETTS	INDEX DIAGRAM <table border="1"> <tr> <td>409</td> <td>412</td> </tr> <tr> <td>410</td> <td>411</td> </tr> </table> MAP NO. 411	409	412	410	411
AREA CALCULATED	Ac	SUBDIVISION LOT NO.																									
AREA SURVEYED	Ac	MATCH LINE																									
BLOCK LIMIT	---	RIGHT OF WAY																									
BLOCK NUMBER	02	RECORD DIMENSION																									
COMMON OWNERSHIP	(E)	SCALED DIMENSION																									
EXEMPT PROPERTY	(E)	WETLANDS																									
409	412																										
410	411																										



THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES. IT IS NOT VALID FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION OR CONVEYANCE.

THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM.

PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: MARCH 21, 1985

COMPLETION DATE: MARCH 9, 1986

PRODUCED BY
CARTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATES, INC.

MUNICIPAL MAPPING CONSULTANTS
P.O. BOX 267 LITTLETON, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03561

LEGEND

AREA CALCULATED AcC
AREA SURVEYED Ac
BLOCK LIMIT
BLOCK NUMBER 02
COMMON OWNERSHIP OR
EXEMPT PROPERTY (E)

SUBDIVISION LOT NO. ②
MATCH LINE
RIGHT OF WAY R/W
RECORD DIMENSION
SCALED DIMENSION
WETLANDS

SCALE
1 INCH = 400 FEET

FEET
0 200 400 800 1200
60.96 0 121.92 243.84 487.68
METERS

REVISED January 1, 2002

ASSESSORS MAP

WORTHINGTON

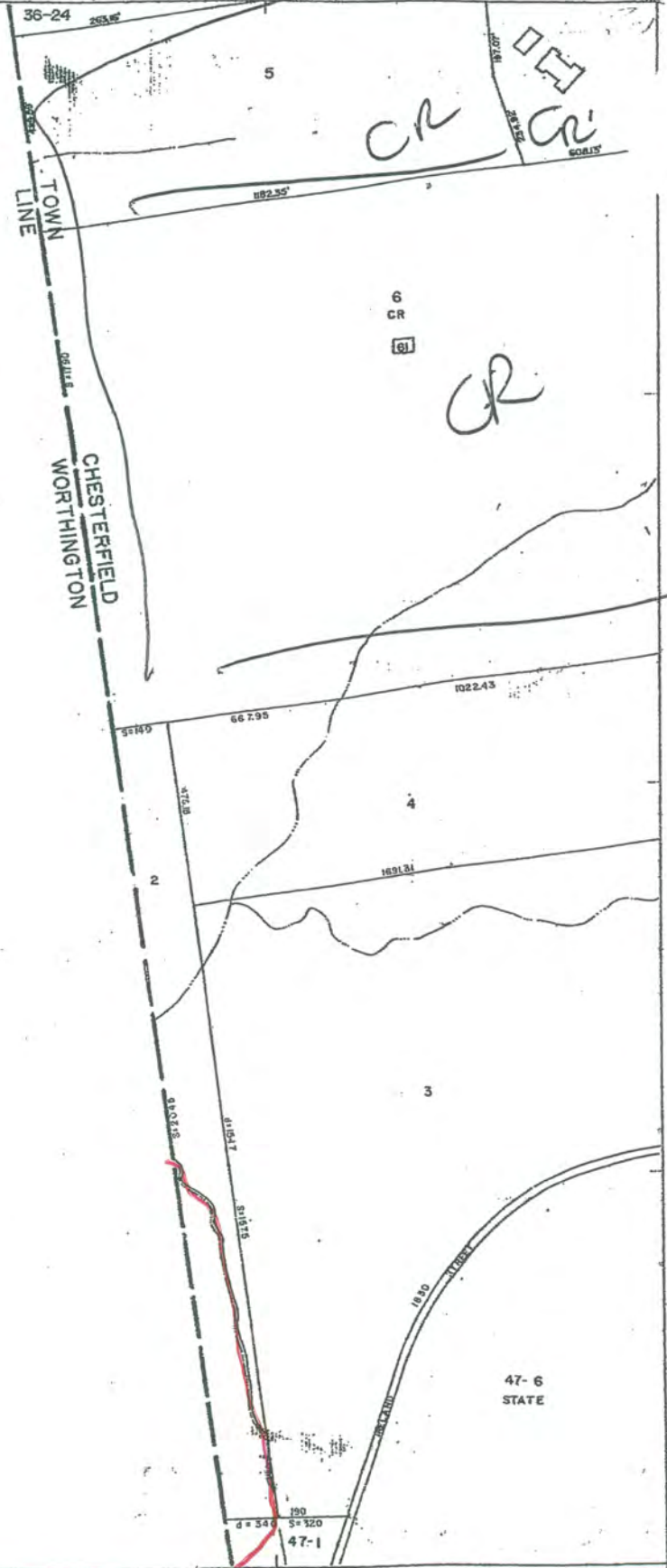
MASSACHUSETTS

INDEX DIAGRAM

408	413
409	410
410	411

MAP NO. **412**

APRIL 1999 - ADDED LOTS 5, 6
REVISED LOTS 1



PREPARED BY
ALMER HUNTLEY JR. AND ASSOCIATES, INC.
SURVEYORS ENGINEERS PLANNERS

REVISED AND REPRINTED BY
E. B. HOLMBERG & ASSOCIATES
CHESTERFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

(413) 296-4525

TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD MASSACHUSETTS

ASSESSORS' PLAN

SCALE-ONE INCH EQUALS TWO HUNDRED FEET

0 100 200 0 200 400



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

A B
C D

Sheet No.
41



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

JUL 21 2005

July 14, 2005

Mr. John Roberts
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW 8th floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

South Worthington HD, Worthington/Chesterfield (Hampshire Co.), 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 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.

Sincerely,

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

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: George Bresnick, Worthington Historical Commission
Christopher Powell, Chair, Select Board
Dee Cinner, Chesterfield Historical Commission
Roger Fuller, Chesterfield Board of Selectmen
Bonnie Parsons, PVPC, consultant
Charles Valencik, Chesterfield Planning Board
Jack Millman, Planning Director