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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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 Shawsheen Cemetery

other names/site number Shawshine Cemetery

2. Location

street & number Great Road (Routes 4 & 225) and Shawsheen Road N/A not for publication

city or town Bedford N/A vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Middlesex code 017 zip code 01730

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.)

Brona Simon
Signature of certifying official/Title Brona Simon, State Historic Preservation Officer
Massachusetts Historical Commission

April 26, 2007
Date

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):

Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

6-12-07
Date of Action

Shawsheen Cemetery
Name of Property

Middlesex, Massachusetts
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	building
<u>9</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>8</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>49</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>66</u>	<u>0</u>	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

NONE

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY: Cemetery

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY: Cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

N/A

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____
walls _____
roof _____
other STONE: marble, granite, slate
METAL: zinc, wrought iron

Narrative Description

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

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**Shawsheen Cemetery
Bedford (Middlesex), MA**

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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Town of Bedford established Shawsheen Cemetery in 1849 to provide a large, modern alternative to the town's original burial ground, the Old Burying Ground (NR-1977), established in 1729 on Springs Road. When the Old Burying Ground filled to capacity, Shawsheen Cemetery took its place, and continues to this day to serve as the town's primary secular burial ground, with burials continuing to take place in both its old and new sections. It retains a high degree of integrity in its location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association, and meets National Register Criteria A and C at the local level as well as consideration D for cemeteries. While it covers 44.18 acres, it derives its primary significance from its original 10-acre section, laid out in 1849 in the rural cemetery style, and four smaller additions acquired in 1894 (1.27 acres), 1903 (1.25), 1928 (1.05 acres) and 1959 (3.3 acres). These sections, totaling 16.87 acres and located in the cemetery's western half, include many historic landscape features, distinctive monuments and markers, as well as graves of many citizens who helped shape the late 19th and early 20th century history of the town. The remaining 27.31 acres opened for burial after 1956 or remain undeveloped, and have therefore been omitted from this nomination.

Location & Setting

Shawsheen Cemetery lies at the eastern side of the Town of Bedford at the intersection of Shawsheen and Great Roads. Easterly from the center of Bedford, Great Road proceeds down a gentle slope to Elm Brook and the Shawsheen River. Once over the brook and river, the road begins to ascend. The cemetery lies atop a glacial moraine, with the Shawsheen River lining the western side, and Trout Brook along the east.

Modern commercial development has encroached on the cemetery's western edge, bringing several busy shopping centers to both sides of Great Road near the cemetery. These developments, combined with the growing population of Bedford and neighboring towns, have resulted in increased amounts of traffic and the need for traffic lights at the intersection of Great and Shawsheen Roads. Residential neighborhoods stand to the south of the cemetery, and water supply protection areas, consisting of woodlands and an abandoned gravel pit (acquired in 1961 for future cemetery use), lie to the north and east.

Site & Layout

Boundaries & Entrances

A 2'-high rough-cut stone retaining wall lines the cemetery's western edge, separating it from the sidewalk and edge of pavement along Shawsheen Road. The cemetery rests above the wall, furthering the sense of separation from the busy street below. Wooded areas line the northern, eastern, and southern edges, with dense plantings of pines along the northern and southern edges giving the cemetery a sense of privacy from its surroundings.

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Visitors may enter the cemetery via two gates. The first, located along Shawsheen Road, was established in 1849 when the cemetery first opened. It lies at the mid-point along the cemetery's western edge at a break in the stone wall and is flanked by rock-face granite piers. A painted wood blade sign suspended from an iron post marks the entrance, and picket-style wrought iron gates, attached to the granite piers, stand open at all times. The entrance is narrow and the entry road rises abruptly from the street into the cemetery. It served as the cemetery's only entrance until the early 1900s, when the town built a new gateway to the south.

The Memorial Gates (**Photo #1**) stand at the intersection of Great and Shawsheen Roads, at the cemetery's south corner. Built in 1906-1907, these were the gift of Mrs. Sarah Lane in memory of Lucius Page Lane. They consist of four rusticated granite block posts with pyramidal caps set in a semi-circular arrangement. Two shorter posts flank the two taller posts, creating pedestrian-scaled entrances on either side of the vehicular entrance. A picket-style wrought iron gate spans the vehicular entrance. At the bottom of the of the left (western) taller post is a bronze plaque that reads *In memorium, Lucius Page Lane 1872-1903*.

Crossing through the Memorial Gates, visitors ascend up Memorial Drive. Built at the same time as the gates, this meandering roadway was first constructed of gravel and later covered with macadam. It winds through a large stand of mature pines and enters the southwest corner of the cemetery grounds.

Topography & Landscape Features

Slopes across the cemetery range from dramatically steep in the south and west ends, to relatively flat in the center, north and east portions. The roadway and lot layouts revolve around a central circle, which today holds a flagpole, several timber-lined planting beds, and a rusticated concrete bench. Roads fan out in a radial pattern from the central circle and the plots align in grids along the roads. One of the roadways, Hemlock Avenue (**Photo #2**), skirts along the northern cemetery slope, placing further emphasis on this rolling landform. Mature shade trees – mostly maples – line many of the cemetery's original roads. The town has removed the lower limbs of most, creating a tall, pleasing canopy overhead.

In the 1870s, the Ladies' Soldiers' Aid Society raised funds to construct a memorial to the several soldiers who died during the Civil War. This Soldiers' Memorial (**Photo #7**), made of Scotch pink granite and erected in 1874, stands above all other markers in the cemetery. It consists of a single smooth shaft, topped by an urn, resting on a three-part granite base. A pink granite coping, decorated with carved granite cornerstones, frames the monument.

Family plots dominate Shawsheen Cemetery's original section, creating a pattern of many small properties within the larger landscape. These plots line the southern and eastern roadways and take many forms. Examples include the Amos Hartwell Plot (ca 1870) (**Photo #4**), and Lane Plot (ca 1867), both featuring central granite obelisks accompanied by several smaller tabletstones surrounded by a granite copings punctuated with carved granite

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cornerstones. The Elbridge Stearns Plot (ca 1876) (**Photo #5**) contains several marble tabletstones surrounded by a rusticated granite post and steel double rail fence.

The Town of Bedford reserved four cemetery lots for burial of unknown individuals, and one for the burial of stillborns. The Citizens' Lots, located near the corner of Willow and Pine Avenues (southeast corner of the cemetery), contains several small, individual marble tablets. According to cemetery records, each lot holds approximately 15-16 graves, placed between 1898 and 1920. Because fewer than 15 markers appear in each lot, it is likely that several graves remain unmarked. The stillborn graves, located along the southern edge of the cemetery (south side of Pine Avenue) lie unmarked.

Monuments & Markers

Shawsheen Cemetery contains a lively mix of monuments and markers from the 19th and 20th centuries displaying many styles and forms of imagery. The earliest stones mark the graves relocated from the Old Burying Ground and date prior to 1849. Examples of these include the slate tablet markers of Nancy Hartwell (d. 1834), Benjamin Hartwell (d. 1848) and Addia Maria Hartwell (d. 1838) all displaying the willow and urn motif. Other relocated graves lie unmarked, with just the name of the interred inscribed on a central plot marker. Benjamin Abbott (d. 1843), James Cotting (d. 1841), Samuel H. Putnam (d. 1827) and Esther Locke (d. 1848), all relocated from the Old Burying Ground, serve as examples.

Stones dating to the mid 19th century are constructed largely of marble in tablet form. Typical of these are the matching marble tablets of Joseph (d. 1865) and Hannah (d. 1888) Hartwell, which feature Gothic-style arched tops, supported by carved columns. Simpler rectangular marble tablet stones mark several of the graves in the Elbridge Stearns Plot (Photo #5). Other graves from the mid-19th century display grand monuments with Victorian images. The Jonathan Lane grave (ca. 1860) features a tall carved marble monument resting on a granite base and topped with a marble urn draped with a wreath. The Samuel N. Lane (ca. 1856) grave is marked by a gable-topped monument, inset with a Gothic style arch-topped carving supported with carved columns.

Several zinc (also referred to as white bronze) markers were added to Shawsheen Cemetery in the last decades of the 1800s. Jonathan Munroe's grave (ca. 1865) features a zinc monument topped with a zinc figure. The grave of A. Warren Proctor (ca. 1893) consists of a rounded top temple supported by sets of three columns and resting on a two-part zinc base.

Granite typically marks the graves from the late 1800s. Again, many of these markers are simple, displaying little or no ornamentation, such as that of John Hodgeman Frost (ca. 1889). The simple two-part monument is topped by a pedimented gable and is resting on a two-part granite base, but contains little other detail. In contrast, other markers are quite embellished. The Jonathan Abbott Lane monument (ca. 1890) resembles a little Greek temple with a pedimented gable roof, decorative frieze band under the roof, supported by fluted columns and

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resting on a three part pyramidal base. The A. B. Cutler monument (ca. 1893) features a cross-gable granite roof supported by carved marble columns, resting on a three-part granite base, and topped with a granite urn. The grave of Samuel Butler (ca. 1880) is marked with a three-part granite monument topped with a decorative granite scroll and egg-patterned frieze. One of the most prominent graves at Shawsheen Cemetery is that of Lorenzo Phelps (ca. 1901). Phelps's monument consists of a three-part granite base topped by a marble composition – a mourning female figure, clutching a wreath in one hand and a rough cross in the other.

The early 20th century brought more granite monuments and markers and several box tombs, many displaying simple elegance. A three-part box tomb marks the grave of Jerome Bacon (ca. 1904), featuring a pyramidal roof trimmed with egg-pattern detail, supported by chunky columns with decorative capitals, resting on a pyramidal base. The grave of William Richardson Hayden (ca. 1903) (**Photo #8**) is marked by a large granite box tomb topped with a granite scroll, supported by an egg-patterned frieze and fluted columns, resting on a two-part granite base. Bronze was used for the tomb doors. Nathan Allen's grave (ca. 1913) is marked with a simple rusticated granite cross resting on a rusticated granite base. A simple, two-part granite marker commemorates the burial of Nathan Fitch (ca. 1906). While the standard 30" in height, its surface is rusticated, and ivy leaves have been carved into its top.

The Joseph Williams Section, opened for burial in 1952, reflects a more contemporary style of burial. The lots are arranged in grids, and most markers are constructed of granite stand at 30". In many of the lots, owners have placed small shrubs, such as Alberta Spruce, on either side of the 30" marker.

Tomb

Historical records do not document the date of the receiving tomb (**Photo #6**), but it was built after 1865. This simple granite-faced mound tomb features a pedimented gable lintel, wing walls, and fascia walls all constructed of rusticated granite. A four-panel painted steel door covers the central opening, and earth obscures the back and sides of the tomb structure. Remnants of a decorating steel molding, placed on the rim of each door panel suggest that the entryway may have been more ornate at one time.

Current Condition

The Town of Bedford has taken great pride in Shawsheen Cemetery, as evidenced by the condition of its landscape and the organization of its records. Overall, the monuments and markers stand upright and very few are broken. Most of the damage to stones appears to have been caused by acid rain and biological growth. The Bedford Department of Public Works (DPW) regularly mows the lawns and prunes the trees, minimizing the danger of decaying or dead limbs falling on and damaging gravestones. Records of cemetery burials, both old and new, are maintained in a database by the DPW and are updated regularly. Plot owners' names, as well as information about interments are included in the database, which is keyed to a map of the

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cemetery. Because both the old and new sections of Shawsheen Cemetery are actively being used for burial, and it is the only active cemetery in the town, prospects for its long-term care and maintenance appear to be very good.

Restoration Plans

By nominating Shawsheen Cemetery to the National Register of Historic Places, the Town of Bedford hopes to promote a broader appreciation of the historic and artistic significance of this community resource. As the value of the cemetery becomes more widely known, the town intends to seek both public and private funding for continued restoration and care.

Archaeological Description

While no ancient Native American sites are located within the cemetery grounds, sites may be present. One ancient site is recorded in the general area (within one mile). Environmental characteristics of the property represent locational criteria (slope, soil drainage, proximity to wetlands) that are favorable for the presence of Native sites. The cemetery occupies a high hillside formed as part of a glacial moraine. The area includes a variety of landforms ranging from steeply sloped hillsides to well-drained, level to moderately sloping terraces. The Shawsheen River is located less than 1,000 feet from the cemetery's western and northern border. Elm Brook converges with the Shawsheen River within 1,000 feet of the cemetery's northwestern boundary. Trout Brook, including two ponds, is located within 1,000 feet of the cemetery's northeastern and eastern boundary. Given the above information, known patterns of ancient settlement along the Shawsheen and Merrimack River drainages, and the excavation of thousands of graves, a moderate potential exists for locating ancient Native American resources in the Shawsheen Cemetery.

A high potential exists for locating historic archaeological resources in the Shawsheen Cemetery. Structural evidence may survive from several structures and buildings erected for the use and maintenance of the cemetery. Structural evidence of an arbor and summerhouse (gazebo) built in the 1870s may exist; however, their location is unknown. Similar evidence of a tool house, also built in the 1870s may survive at the rear of the cemetery. Structural evidence may also exist from a shed built in 1896 attached to the tool house described above. Structural evidence may survive from a sanitary facility built in 1898 to accommodate visitors and out-of-town funeral-goers. Archaeological evidence may also exist from the original public water supply system built in 1911 along the cemetery avenues.

Unmarked graves may exist at the Shawsheen Cemetery. While reasonably accurate records and mapping have been kept for the cemetery, unmarked graves may exist from a number of different sources. Gravestones may have been lost, stolen, broken, buried, or made with biodegradable

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materials resulting in unmarked burials. Some burials may have been intentionally unmarked. In the late 19th century, Bedford accommodated the needs of the town's less fortunate and/or unknown individuals by establishing four Citizens' Lots in the southeast corner of the cemetery and one lot for stillborn children along the southern edge of the cemetery. Discrepancies between the number of gravestones versus known burials in the Citizens' Lots indicate that unmarked burials may exist in those areas. Citizen's Lots accommodated burials from 1898-1920. Stillborn infants were routinely buried without grave markers, indicating the presence of unmarked graves in the stillborn lot. Cemetery records indicate the stillborn section took burials between 1937 and 1946, but records do not include names of the deceased infants. Given the above information, it is reasonable to assume that unmarked graves for unknown persons, paupers, indigents, and stillborn infants may exist in other areas of the cemetery that predate the first use of the Citizens' Lots in 1898.

Both unmarked and marked graves may contain stratigraphic evidence of a burial shaft, skeletal and coffin remains, clothing, and other personal items of the deceased. Graves moved from Bedford's Old Burying Ground to the Shawsheen Cemetery may contain each of these items; however, depending on the care and objectives during the move, relocated burials may contain gravestones only, partial skeletal remains, or multiple individuals. Wooden caskets from early burials may have deteriorated by the time of the move.

No historic resources were known to exist on the cemetery land prior to its purchase by the town in 1849. At that time and earlier, woodlands covered the property. Town records suggest that woodlands may have been purposely selected for the cemetery so that the sale of timber could pay for the cemetery's long-term upkeep.

(end)

Shawsheen Cemetery

Name of Property

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 # _____

Middlesex, Massachusetts

County and State

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Art

Community Planning & Development

Landscape Architecture

Social History

Period of Significance

1849-1956

Significant Dates

1849

1906-1907

1952

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

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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NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Shawsheen Cemetery, Shawsheen and Great Roads, Bedford MA, possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and association, and meets National Register Criteria A and C on the local level. Associated with the broad patterns of Bedford's 19th and 20th century history, displaying fine examples of late 19th and early 20th century funerary art, and exhibiting the garden cemetery style, Shawsheen Cemetery also qualifies under Criteria Consideration D.

Under Criterion A, Shawsheen Cemetery occupies an important place in the history of the town as the largest of its two burial places. The other, the Old Burying Ground (NR-1977), was established in 1729 and reached capacity by the early 19th century. Shawsheen, founded in 1849, represented a modern alternative to the old site, providing a peaceful, pastoral and dignified place that has served the town for more than 150 years. It contains thousands of grave markers, including those of Bedford civic leaders, manufacturers, farmers, entrepreneurs, and veterans, as well as many early town residents whose graves were moved from the Old Burying Ground. One of its most prominent features, the Soldiers' Memorial, pays tribute to the Bedford men who lost their lives during the Civil War.

Under Criterion C, Shawsheen Cemetery is a significant historical and artistic resource that represents the distinctive characteristics of 19th and early 20th century cemeteries in Massachusetts. Its original section, located in the western half of the property, reflects the garden cemetery style with its rusticated stone entry gates, winding entry drive, and tree-lined meandering roads. Markers and monuments from this era consist largely of marble and granite and display 19th century Victorian imagery. Its Joseph Williams Section, developed in the 1950s along the eastern end, reflects a modern style of cemetery design, with standard height granite markers, organized on a grid.

Beginnings – Before 1849

The Town of Bedford was incorporated in 1729, comprised of lands from the neighboring towns of Concord and Billerica. Along with building a meeting house, one of the incorporators' first tasks was to establish a piece of ground for burials. In August of 1729, they selected a location along the road leading from the meeting house to Woburn (present day Springs Road), creating what became known as the Old Burying Ground. The first burial took place in 1731, and the burial ground remained the only place of interment in Bedford for 118 years. By the late 1900s, the Old Burying Ground was recorded as holding as many as 1,400 graves, including those of many of the town's founders and early citizens, as well as several unmarked sites of African-Americans serving as domestic servants or slaves.

Development of Shawsheen Cemetery

The town did not document the impetus behind establishing a new burial ground in its annual reports; however census records from the early 1800s suggest that the population of

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Bedford was steadily growing, and that the Old Burying Ground had begun to fill. From 1765 through 1830, the US Census data showed a gradual increase from 457 inhabitants to 685. By 1855, the State census reported a population of 986.

In 1848, a prominent citizen named John Merriam requested of Town Meeting a warrant article to see if the town would purchase a lot for a new burying ground. The town identified a 10-acre parcel at the eastern end of town owned by Albert Bacon, a trader, and acquired it in 1849 for \$300. The conveyance, dated April 2nd, describes the parcel as: *Beginning at a corner of the wall at the northwest corner of the lot at old Billerica Road or Pine Hill road [now Shawsheen Road], running east by the wall 9 rods & 54/100 to an angle in the wall, thence continuing east 6 rods to the end of the wall, still continuing east 41 rods to a stake and stones at the northeast corner of the lot, thence running south 31 rods & 56/100 by land of William Page to a corner of the land of Cyrus R. Crosby, thence west by Crosby's land 64 & 65/100 rods to the road, thence running north by the road 25 & 56/100 rods to the first bound.* The April 1849 Town Meeting voted to choose a committee to plan the site, and by September 4th, the new cemetery was dedicated. The Reverend Jonathan Leavitt led the congregation in prayer, and the Reverend Oren Sikes gave the dedication address. John Merriam continued his support for the new cemetery's development, by giving the town \$100 in 1852 to aid in fitting up the grounds. Town historian Abram Brown noted that the cemetery was about a mile east of the village, with its western slope commanding a high hill-side which terminated in the valley of the Shawsheen River. Brown also remarked about its natural beauty where "both nature and art have contributed lavishly in making this cemetery an attractive spot." Later town reports suggest that woodlands covered the site, and that townspeople may have purposely selected the wooded area, so that the sale of timber could pay for the cemetery's long term upkeep.

Expansion Sequence – 1894-1961

In 1894, the first of several cemetery expansions occurred. Marian F. and Elihu G. Loomis, Esq. gifted a 1.27-acre parcel of land to the town along the cemetery's northern edge (from the cemetery's Crescent Avenue northward), allowing for 150 new burial lots and space for an additional cemetery gate on the northern side. The Loomises retained the right to enter, cut and remove all standing wood within 10 years. Town reports do not mentioned improving the Loomis land until 1898, suggesting the parcel remained a woodlot for much of the 1890s. In 1898, the commissioners reported that they had hoped to layout the plots in the "garden plan style" of the original cemetery, but found the task difficult given the shape of the parcel. The resulting layout took the shape of a grid, with a central roadway named Ash Avenue.

As early as 1896, the cemetery commissioners had begun to express concern about the abruptness and steepness of the Shawsheen Road entrance and its safety for visitors to the cemetery. In particular, the bridge over the Shawsheen River and steep slope leading up to the entrance became very icy in winter, creating many hazards. The Loomis's land offered an opportunity to correct this problem. Two years later, the commissioners proposed a different

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solution to the entrance, this time off "Lexington Road." They proposed that the town purchase a 1.25-acre strip of land from Mr. Abram English Brown (a parcel owned formerly by Mr. James Spredby), which, if used for an entryway, would improve the safety of entry into the cemetery and provide easier access for visitors and funeral-goers from the towns east of Bedford. Town Meeting authorized the Cemetery Committee to build a new entrance and avenue in 1903, but construction did not begin until 1906, when Mrs. Sarah D. Lane and her family donated funds for a set of "Memorial Gates" (**Photo #1**) and a new entry drive. The four rusticated stone piers and wrought-iron gates stood at the southern corner of the cemetery, at the intersection of Shawsheen and Great Roads creating an "appropriate" entrance. The town carved a new, meandering entry drive -- "Memorial Drive" -- through a grove of pines that led visitors from the gates into the cemetery grounds. At first, gravel covered the drive, but by 1911 the town had reconstructed it in macadam with a suitable gravel base. The Memorial Gates and Drive remain as two of the cemetery's most distinctive features. At the same time the original cemetery entrance off Shawsheen Road became a utility entrance, and continues to serve this function.

Additional land acquisitions took place in the 1920s, 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s. In 1927, Town Meeting voted to accept a gift of Charles W. Jenks of 16.5 acres, 3.89 of which was set aside for water supply protection, and the remaining 12.61 to be used to enlarge Shawsheen Cemetery. (These acres, developed after 1956, are excluded from this nomination.) Jenks's property stood approximately 300 feet to the east of the existing cemetery. In order to join the existing and new cemetery lands, Town Meeting voted to purchase the land that stood between them -- an additional 1.05 acres -- from Mrs. Sarah J. F. Brown. The Cemetery Committee secured this small piece from Mrs. Brown in 1928, and it became known as the "Joseph Williams Section." In 1945, Town Meeting voted to accept a 1.70-acre parcel at the rear (easterly portion) of the cemetery from the estate of Sarah F. J. Brown (also developed after the period of significance and excluded from this nomination). Two final purchases of land took place in 1959 and 1961. In 1959, the town acquired 3.3 acres on the northerly side of Great Road from Edward F. Leary and Margaret A. Leary. This parcel adjoined land which held Memorial Drive, and created a significant buffer between the cemetery and residential neighborhood to the south. In 1961, the town purchased 13.0 acres of an abandoned gravel pit abutting the cemetery to the north. With these final additions, the cemetery acreage totaled 44.18.

Development of these additional lands into burial sites took place slowly. After completion of the first new section in 1894 (on land given by Elihu Loomis), the town did not develop another new section for 58 years. In 1952, the Cemetery Committee announced the Joseph H. Williams section, located at the eastern end of the existing cemetery, and connecting the "old" section with the "new." This area contained 130 five-grave lots as well as several single graves.

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Improvement & Embellishment – 1860s-1920s

Between 1860 and the early 1900s the town improved and embellished the cemetery. Around the time of the Civil War they erected a receiving tomb (**Photo #6**) just inside the gate to the south. In the 1870s, the town planted trees, erected and painted an arbor (location unknown), built a summerhouse (also referred to as a gazebo) and tool house, maintained an entry gate and purchased the first lawn mower. The War Department in Washington sent stones to commemorate the soldiers' lying in unmarked graves. Also in the 1870s, the Ladies' Aid Society raised about \$1,600 to erect a Scotch granite monument (**Photo #7**) to honor the war veterans, known as the Soldiers' Memorial. Dedicated in 1874, the monument listed Bedford soldiers who had lost their lives in the war, and displayed the inscription "*Soldiers' Memorial, 1861-1865. They gave their lives for us and their country. The Ladies of Bedford pay this affectionate Tribute to their memory.*"

By 1889 concern had developed over the mismanagement of the cemetery. Up until that time, the cemetery had operated without bylaws, rules, or regulations, and without any documented plans of the grave lots. Maintenance had been the responsibility of individual lot owners. Town Meeting moved to establish a committee to write bylaws, and to prepare separate plans for each lot, documenting location and occupants (240 graves in total). In 1892, the Town meeting voted to name each of the cemetery avenues, and in following year the committee proposed that the town establish a perpetual care fund for the cemetery.

Several other features were considered for and/or added to the cemetery in its first decades. Town reports from the 1890s document discussions about doubling the size of the tomb and making it more accessible from the "highway," but the structure retained (and still retains) its original form. In 1896, lots maintained under the perpetual care fund received slate markers with "perpetual" inscribed on them. Also in that year, the cemetery committee approved the building of a shed at the rear of the cemetery, attached to the existing tool house. In 1898, a sanitary facility was added, largely to accommodate the many visitors and funeral-goers from out of town. In the 1890s and early 1900s, the cemetery had no water on site for irrigating lawns, trees and other plants. In 1899, Mr. Frederic Parker offered to give a wind-mill and \$100 towards the purchase of a tank to supply water, but the town declined. In 1911, when the town installed its first public water system, a connection was made to the cemetery grounds, with pipes laid out along each of the cemetery avenues. In the two years following, the cemetery committee approved paving of the entryways and installation of catch basins to handle surface runoff from the roads.

As early as 1898 the cemetery committee began expressing need for a chapel on the cemetery grounds, and in 1907 had an architect draw up plans for such a building. They began a fundraising campaign that year, and in 1910 set up a Chapel Fund at the Middlesex Institution for Savings. Fundraising continued for several years, and in 1927, Mrs. Eliza J. Fitch bequeathed \$5,000 to the fund, to be matched by the town. Town reports suggest that the

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bequest was never matched, and that as time passed, need for a chapel waned, as the structure was never built.

Beginning around 1900, the Cemetery Committee became increasingly concerned that "outsiders" were purchasing lots within the cemetery, limiting the amount of available space for Bedford residents. In 1901, the Bedford Town Meeting voted to continue making burial space available to outsiders, but at a price two times higher than what was charged to Bedford residents. The town's commitment to serving outsiders continued into the 20th century, as evidenced by the construction of the Memorial Gates and Avenue (1906-1907) off Great Road, which made access to the cemetery easier for visitors from other communities.

Maintenance & Modernization – 1920s-1960s

During the first half of the 20th century, the Cemetery Committee and Superintendent kept a careful watch over the cemetery, maintaining the grounds and making small improvements to ensure its long term health. In the 1930s, 75 rock maples were planted on each side of the drive, and 12 European lindens on the north side in the old section. A power lawn mower, purchased in 1938, eased the maintenance of lawns.

Major storms ripped through the cemetery in the 1920s and 1930s breaking limbs and uprooting the older trees. Each time, the superintendent arranged for prompt clean-up. In 1938, the hurricane devastated many trees, and with support from the Federal government, the town hired workers to saw trees into logs, pile the logs for the mill, and cut the branches into cordwood (which was then given to workers and families on welfare). Soon afterward, the superintendent planted new trees to replace those lost in the storm.

After World War II, and the completion of Interstate 95 (Route 128), Bedford grew quickly into a suburb of Boston. Its population in 1940 totaled 3807, and by 1960, it had reached 8592. Need for burial space in Shawsheen Cemetery grew, and with it, careful management and record keeping. In 1956, care of the cemetery became the responsibility of the Bedford Department of Public Works (DPW), which also maintained water, sewer, parks, highways, trees and public grounds. In 1962, the DPW's annual report summarized Shawsheen Cemetery, noting that it contained approximately 22 acres of ground and about 1.5 miles of roadways, with about 18 acres of graves, and four laid out for future use.

Prominent Burials

Part of Shawsheen Cemetery's significance stems from its graves of many Bedford citizens who helped shape the 18th, 19th and 20th century history of the town. Although most of the town's settlers and founders are buried in the Old Burying Ground on Springs Street, several other graves were moved to Shawsheen Cemetery after 1849. The most prominent of these is that of the Reverend Samuel Stearns (1770-1834). Rev. Stearns was the fourth minister in Bedford, serving the town of Bedford for nearly 37 years as a teacher, leader and friend. The

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1817 meetinghouse was erected during his tenure as minister of the Church of Christ, and a memorial window was placed in the church in the 1880s in his honor. When Stearns's wife, Abigail French Stearns died in 1858, Rev. Stearns's body was moved to accompany hers at a site on the western slope of Shawsheen Cemetery. The Stearns had 13 children, 11 of whom reached maturity, and many of them, as well as their offspring, are buried at the cemetery. It is believed that Peter, a freed slave of Rev. Stearns's father, and Revolutionary War veteran, accompanied Rev. Stearns to Bedford and remained with Stearns until his death. Peter is buried in the lot adjacent to Rev. Stearns and his wife.

Other graves moved from the Old Burying Ground may have been moved when family members purchased larger plots at Shawsheen Cemetery. The graves and slate markers of three siblings, Nancy Hartwell (d. 1834), Addia Maria Hartwell (d. 1838), Benjamin Hartwell (d. 1848), were moved sometime after 1849. The plot of Lewis Gleason (d. 1895) holds Gleason and his three wives, Sophrina Butler Gleason (d. 1827), Lucy Butler Gleason (d. 1846), and Susan Davis Gleason (d. 1869). The graves of both Sophrina and Lucy were moved after 1849, and their names, along with Susan's, accompany that of Gleason's on a bronze plaque secured to a granite boulder in the family plot. In several instances, graves were relocated to family plots and the name of the interred added to a central family monument. Examples of these include James Cotting (d. 1841 and interred in the gravesite of Lorenzo Phelps), Esther Locke (d. 1848 and also interred in the gravesite of Lorenzo Phelps), and Benjamin Abbott (d. 1843 and interred in the Abbott family plot).

Bedford's early economy centered around agriculture, with several large farms scattered throughout the town. Many of these farms endured into the 20th century, and several farm owners are buried at Shawsheen Cemetery. Prominent among these is Amos Hartwell (1822-1870) (**Photo #4**), a farmer as well as justice of the peace, representative to the General Court, and deacon in the Church of Christ. Hartwell and his wife, Louisa Hodgeman, invested in the Stephen Davis farm, and accumulated a small fortune. After his death, his children placed a window in his memory in the meeting house (1886). Other prominent farmers include Alexander Wellington Kenrick (1814-1897) who operated a large farm at the northeast end of Shawsheen Road, and John Butterfield (1818-1901) whose farm on Old Billerica Road was subsequently acquired by followers of social activist Frances E. Willard. In 1900, it became the Willard Hospital, the only private hospital for treatment of alcoholism in Massachusetts at the time. In 1909, it became the Frances E. Willard Settlement, a shelter for the benefit of needy older women and forerunner of the present Carlton-Willard Village. Another farmer, Frederic Parker (d. 1948), operated an extensive number of greenhouses on Old Billerica Road and raised thoroughbred horses.

Between 1805 and 1840, the shoe manufacturing industry came to Bedford. Several factory owners are buried at Shawsheen. Reuben Bacon (1788-1857) and Jonathan Bacon (1785-1856) manufactured shoes, with Jonathan becoming the most well-known. He was the first industrialist in the US to manufacture women's and children's shoes, and made patterns for

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lasts. His inventiveness led him to create many useful and popular devices, including sash and blind fastenings, latches and carriages appliances. He also served as chair of the Bedford Board of Selectmen. William M. Ashby (d. 1872), who came to Bedford from England in 1847, first manufactured sashes and blinds on Vine Brook. After venturing to California in 1848 (presumably for the gold rush), he returned to Bedford and purchased the Fitch Mill and continued to operate the business until his death.

Bedford attracted other entrepreneurs who made Shawsheen Cemetery their final place of rest. Among these was Charles C. Corey (1816-1893). Corey came to Bedford in 1831 and was employed by the Boston and Keene Stage Company. In 1835 he began working with his father (Aaron Corey), furnishing the only stage coach route from Groton to Boston. When the stagecoach was replaced by the railroad, Corey became engaged in the lumber and grain business. Another entrepreneur was Wallace G. Webber (1856-1910). Webber started out as a boy working in Boston's Blackstone Bank, and quickly rose to a position in the trust department. He went on from there to form the co-partnership of Paine, Webber & Company, an investment and brokerage firm that endures to this day. Webber also became involved in Bedford real estate development and was president of the Bedford Lumber and Manufacturing Company.

Bedford was home to several physicians, the best-known being William Richardson Hayden (1820-1903) (**Photo #8**). Born in Salem, William Richardson Hayden studied acting and later medicine in New York City. He became president of the New York Pharmaceutical Company and was responsible for the development of three original drugs including the very popular "Hayden's Viburnum Compound." When the company failed, Hayden pushed onward, determined to develop an enterprise of his own. He was drawn to the Bedford's mineral springs, located in the northern part of town, and moved to the town in 1867. He bought the Springs Hotel and developed the site into an amenity-filled resort called Bedford Springs. He was instrumental in the extension of the Middlesex Central Railroad to Bedford and construction of the first commercial narrow-gauge railroad in America through Bedford Springs to Billerica. Around the 1890s, he replaced the Springs Hotel with the luxurious Sweetwater Hotel, built himself a grand house called "Lakeside," and constructed two new pharmaceutical factories on the site. Abram Brown described Hayden's home as "one of the most beautiful spots in New England," about "two hundred acres of cleared and wood land, one of the largest artificial lakes (Fawn Lake) in the State, a summer hotel, three medicinal springs, railroad station, express and post-office," and "in a little world of its own." Hayden also served as a town selectman and school board member. His creed was, "right and justice for all men and women alike."

Shawsheen holds the burials of 50 Bedford Civil War veterans, two from the War of 1812, one from the Mexican War, and two from the Revolutionary War. The Soldiers' Memorial, erected in 1874, pays tribute to Bedford soldiers who lost their lives during the war. Eight of these individuals – Albert Butler, Charles Goodwin, Clark Cutler, Thomas Isaacs, James

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Munroe, Samuel Stearns, John Byron, and William Gragg -- are interred at Shawsheen Cemetery, while the remaining soldiers -- Charles Lunt, Henry Hosmer, Charles Cowdry, Joshua Atwood, William Holbrook, and Charles Saunders -- are interred in National Cemeteries. Shawsheen Cemetery has served, and continues to serve as a secular burial ground for veterans of other wars, from both Bedford and other communities.

Many of Bedford's manufacturers, industrialists, physicians, war veterans, farmers and real estate developers fulfilled civic duties within the town, and several are buried at Shawsheen Cemetery. Previously mentioned were Jonathan Bacon, Wallace Webber, William Hayden and others. J. Wellington Porter (d. 1893) oversaw fire protection in the town for many years. He was the chief engineer of Bedford's Shawsheen Engine Company, the town's first fire company.

To accommodate the burials of the town's less fortunate and/or unknown individuals, the Cemetery Committee established four Citizens' Lots and one lot for stillborn children. The Citizens' Lots accommodated graves between 1898 and 1920. Cemetery records document unidentified persons, such as the "remains of a man found in the woods in East Bedford," and "an infant found in a traveling bag in a pasture in North Bedford." Several of the graves hold the remains of itinerant laborers, working on Bedford farms. Cemetery records indicate that the stillborn section took burials between 1937 and 1946, but the records do not specify individual names.

Finally, the overseers of Shawsheen Cemetery -- its cemetery committee members and superintendents -- from its founding in 1849 through the 20th century have been buried in the grounds. John Merriam (d. 1853) requested the 1848 warrant article asking if the town would purchase land for a new burying ground. Shortly after this, he gave \$100 towards its improvement. Abram English Brown (d. 1909) was a land speculator and writer, but best known as the town's historian, and author of History of the Town of Bedford from its Earliest settlement to the Year of Our Lord 1891. Brown served as cemetery clerk and superintendent for many years and possessed a detailed knowledge of the town and families buried in the cemetery. He filed copious summaries of cemetery activity each year in the Town Report, and promoted the idea of building a cemetery chapel. John R. Comley (d. 1932) and his wife Maude S. Comley (d. 1950) served as superintendents from 1910 until 1950 (Mrs. Comley succeeded Mr. Comley upon his death). Joseph H. Williams (d. 1950) served as chairman of the cemetery committee for many years and the town developed a cemetery section in his name -- the Joseph Williams Section -- in 1952.

Historic Cemetery Styles

In addition to its importance as a landscape within in the Town of Bedford and its collection of gravesites of locally-significant individuals, the 1849 and 1952 sections of Shawsheen Cemetery reflect two distinct historic cemetery styles. The cemetery's location, setting and original layout reflect the rural or garden style, typical of cemeteries created throughout New England during the mid-19th century. The first of these cemeteries was

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established in 1831 in Cambridge – Mount Auburn – and many more developed soon afterward in communities around Boston. Notable among these are Sleepy Hollow Cemetery (Concord, 1856, NR 1998), Eastwood Cemetery (Lancaster), Lowell Cemetery (Lowell, NR 1998), and Wildwood Cemetery (Winchester, NR 1989). Each of these is located close enough to the city or town to be reached by horse and carriage, but far enough away so that the dead could be assured privacy and intimacy with nature. Each features dramatic topography, outstanding views, and many natural and built features that provide many types of natural experiences.

Shawsheen Cemetery, while built on a much smaller scale, contains many of these garden cemetery features. It lies at the far end of the town, about a mile from the center, and stands atop a hill providing a grand sense of prospect. Visitors enter through rusticated gates and meander along an entry drive through a stand of pines. Tree-lined roads within the cemetery follow and emphasize the natural topography, and a mix of monuments and markers display many styles of 19th century funerary art.

In contrast, Shawsheen Cemetery's newer sections, laid out in the 20th century, reflect a different era of cemetery design. In the Joseph Williams Section, established in 1952, graves were placed on a grid, and markers set at a standard 30" height. Graveside plantings – small evergreen and flowering shrubs – flanked many of the stones. This more homogeneous type of design dominated the mid 20th century in American cemeteries. Even grids allowed for efficiency in mowing, and standard-sized grave markers could be mass-produced and thus cheaper to buy. Lack of large shade trees meant fewer leaves to remove in the fall. The more contemporary design mirrored a way of life that emphasized efficiency and economy.

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of ancient Native American settlement in Bedford are poorly understood, any surviving sites would be significant. Native American sites in the district may contain information that identifies the temporal and functional variability of sites within the Shawsheen River drainage. Native sites in the district may contain information that identifies site types near upland tributary streams during different periods of settlement and their relationship to larger, possibly base camp-type sites located along the Shawsheen River or Merrimack River. While several ancient sites and at least one systematic archaeological survey have been identified along the lower portion of the Shawsheen River near its confluence with the Merrimack River, more interior portions of the Shawsheen River are much less documented. Ancient Native sites in the district may be characterized by smaller, short-term occupations with specialized functions that focused on the exploitation of specific floral and/or faunal resources and lithic source materials, possibly located in glacial till. Detailed analysis of features, functional categories of artifacts, lithic source materials, and the internal configuration of archaeological sites may contribute important information to the above questions.

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Historic archaeological resources described above may contribute important information related to the evolution of the Shawsheen Cemetery, burial practices in the town and the social, cultural, and economic characteristics of Bedford's inhabitants during the second half of the 19th and the first half of the 20th century. Historical research combined with archaeological survey and testing may locate structures and buildings responsible for the funerary landscape as it existed and changed from the mid 19th through the mid 20th century. The location and description of the arbor, summerhouse (gazebo), and sanitary facilities may contribute important information related to the transition of the Shawsheen Cemetery from the rural garden style of the mid 19th century to the new contemporary, homogeneous-type design emphasizing efficiency and economy that dominated the mid-20th century. The location and description of the tool house and later addition may also contribute information related to the transition described above by documenting the importance of cemetery maintenance within both types of cemetery design.

Unmarked graves may also contribute important evidence related to the two cemetery designs described above and the transition from the earlier rural garden style to a later, contemporary style. The location and mapping of unmarked graves prior to 1898 may contribute evidence of burial patterns for unknown persons, paupers, and indigents within the context of the rural garden cemetery style. Similar information from unmarked graves dating to the 20th century may contribute information relating to burial patterns for the less fortunate members of the Bedford community within the context of the more contemporary cemetery design. The contents and burial patterns associated with unmarked graves may contribute information characteristic of either the rural or contemporary cemetery design or the transition from one design to the other.

Detailed analysis of the contents of marked and unmarked graves may contribute important information related to the physical, social, cultural, and economic characteristics of Bedford's population from the mid 19th through the 20th century. Osteological study of skeletal remains can contribute important information related to the overall health and pathologies characteristic of Bedford's population. Information may exist that documents how these characteristics changed through time and within different socioeconomic and cultural groups. Similar social, cultural, and economic characteristics may also be obtained through detailed analysis of the material culture associated with individuals, and groups of graves. Coffin hardware, clothing, jewelry, and other personal artifacts associated with individuals may contribute important information related to economic and social status and cultural beliefs. Gravestones and associated inscriptions may also contribute important information related to individual and group cultural and religious beliefs, ethnicity, and gravestone art.

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(end)

Shawsheen Cemetery
Name of Property

Middlesex, Massachusetts
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 16.87 Acres

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. Zone 19 Easting 314280 Northing 4706020

3. Zone 19 Easting 314560 Northing 4706020

2. Zone 19 Easting 314440 Northing 4706000

4. Zone 19 Easting 314700 Northing 314720

x 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 Martha Lyon & Gregory Farmer (consultants) with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date April 2007

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

city or town Boston state Massachusetts zip code 02125-3314

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 Town of Bedford, Massachusetts

street & number Town Hall - 10 Mudge Way telephone 617-275-1111 (Main Number)

city or town Bedford state Massachusetts zip 01730

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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section Number 10 Page 1Shawsheen Cemetery
Bedford, Middlesex County, MA**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA****UTM References (continued)**

Point	Zone	Easting	Northing
5	19	314720	4705920
6	19	314580	4705960
7	19	314520	4705820
8	19	314360	4705880
9	19	314240	4705740

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of National Register nomination for Shawsheen Cemetery is delineated on the accompanying Town of Bedford Assessor's Map #65 (continued on Map 73). This boundary includes just the historic 16.87 acres of the entire 31.18-acre cemetery. Starting at the northwest corner of the cemetery and Shawsheen Road, the boundary runs eastward and northeastward for a distance of approximately 1850 feet, then continues southward for a distance of approximately 200 feet to the southeast corner of the Joseph H. Williams section, then runs westward for a distance of approximately 400 feet, then southward for a distance of approximately 500 feet, then west and southwestward for a distance of approximately 850 feet to Great Road, then turns northwestward for a distance of approximately 200 feet to the intersection of Great Road and Shawsheen Road, and then returns north a distance of approximately 750 feet to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the National Register nomination represents the historic section of Shawsheen Cemetery, including the initial 10-acre parcel purchased in 1849, as well as four smaller parcels added in 1894 (1.27 acres), 1903 (1.25 acres), 1945 (1.05 acres) and 1959 (3.3 acres). This 16.87-acre historic section lies in the western half of the entire 31.18-acre cemetery parcel, and features the original 1849 entry and plot layout, c. 1860 receiving tomb, 1874 Soldiers' Memorial, and 1906-1907 Memorial Gates and Memorial Avenue. It also includes the 1.27-acre section along the cemetery's northern side, added in 1894, and a 1.05-acre section added in 1945 to join the old and new portions of the cemetery. This latter parcel, referred to as the Joseph H. Williams section, was opened for burials in 1952. The remaining 14.31 cemetery acres, located to the east of the historic section, lie undeveloped or were not open for burials until after 1956 and reflect a more contemporary style of cemetery layout, and were thus omitted from the nomination.

(end)

**SHAWSHEEN CEMETERY
BEDFORD (MIDDLESEX), MA
DATA SHEET**

Note: The following list represents a representative sample of grave markers at Shawsheen Cemetery. All resources contained in the data sheet can be found on the sketch map included as additional material in the nomination.

NUMBER	LOT #	RESOURCE	YEAR	MATERIAL	FORM/STYLE	TYPE/STATUS
Page 1 of 6						
1	N/A	Shawsheen Cemetery	1849	N/A	Cemetery	SI/C
2	N/A	Joseph Williams Section	1952	N/A	Cemetery section	SI/C
LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS						
3	N/A	Border wall	ca. 1849	Cut stone	Dry laid stone retaining wall	ST/C
4	N/A	Entry gate	ca. 1849	Granite/Wrought Iron	Granite post/wrought iron gate	ST/C
5	N/A	Entry gate	1906-07	Granite/Wrought Iron	Granite posts/wrought iron gate	ST/C
6	N/A	Entry Drive (Memorial Drive)	1906-07	Bituminous Asphalt	Driveway	ST/C
7	N/A	Pine Grove	ca. 1870	Pine	Tree grove	SI/C
8	N/A	Road Network	ca. 1849	Bituminous/Gravel/ Turf	Roadways	ST/C
9	N/A	Flagpole area	ca. 1849	Wood Timber/Woodchip	Circular flagpole area	ST/C
10	N/A	Bench	ca. 1920	Concrete	Rusticated bench	ST/C
ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS						
11	N/A	Receiving Tomb	ca. 1860	Cut granite/Iron	Mound tomb	ST/C
FAMILY PLOTS & GROUP BURIAL AREAS						
12	45	Lane Family Plot	ca. 1867	Granite	Obelisk/Rounded Granite Coping	SI/C

**SHAWSHEEN CEMETERY
BEDFORD (MIDDLESEX), MA
DATA SHEET**

Note: The following list represents a representative sample of grave markers at Shawsheen Cemetery. All resources contained in the data sheet can be found on the sketch map included as additional material in the nomination.

NUMBER	LOT #	RESOURCE	YEAR	MATERIAL	FORM/STYLE	TYPE/STATUS
Page 2 of 6						
13	84	Samuel N. Lane Plot	ca. 1856	Marble/Granite	Gothic Monument	SI/C
14	335	Amos Hartwell Plot	ca. 1870	Granite	Monument/Granite Coping	SI/C
15	296	Elbridge Stearns Family Plot	ca. 1876	Granite/Iron	Granite Posts/Iron Rails/ 6 Marble Tablets	SI/C
16	149-152	Citizens' Graves	ca. 1898-ca. 1920	Marble	Tablets	SI/C
17	5	Infants' Graves	ca. 1937-ca. 1946	Unmarked	10 graves of stillborn infants	SI/C
GRAVESTONES, MONUMENTS & MARKERS						
18	57	Amos B. Cutler Monument	ca. 1893	Marble	Victorian Monument with Temple & Urn Finial	O/C
19	107	Jonathan Abbott Lane Monument	ca. 1890	Granite	Greek Revival	O/C
20	85	Jonathan Lane Monument	ca. 1860	Marble/Granite	Victorian Monument with Urn Finial	O/C
21	N/A	Civil War Monument	1874	Pink Granite	Obelisk	O/C
22	290	Lorenzo Phelps Monument	ca. 1901	Granite/Marble	Figurative Marble on Granite Base	O/C
23	233	Jerome A. Bacon Monument	ca. 1904	Granite	Monument	O/C
24	201	Reuben Bacon Monument	ca. 1857	Granite	Obelisk	O/C
25	177	Jonathan Munroe Monument	ca. 1865	White Bronze (Zinc)	Figurative Monument	O/C

**SHAWSHEEN CEMETERY
BEDFORD (MIDDLESEX), MA
DATA SHEET**

Note: The following list represents a representative sample of grave markers at Shawsheen Cemetery. All resources contained in the data sheet can be found on the sketch map included as additional material in the nomination.

NUMBER	LOT #	RESOURCE	YEAR	MATERIAL	FORM/STYLE	TYPE/STATUS
Page 3 of 6						
26	181	Dea. Michael Crosby Monument	ca. 1920	Granite	Art Deco	O/C
27	255	Samuel Butler Monument	ca. 1880	Granite	Box Tomb	O/C
28	243	Joseph Hartwell	d. 1865	Marble/Granite	Gothic Tablet	O/C
29	243	Hannah Hartwell	d. 1888	Marble/Granite	Gothic Tablet	O/C
30	243	Nancy Hartwell	d. 1834	Slate	Willow & Urn Tablet (Moved from Old Burying Ground)	O/C
31	243	Benjamin Hartwell	d. 1848	Slate	Willow & Urn Tablet (Moved from Old Burying Ground)	O/C
32	243	Addia Maria Hartwell	d. 1838	Slate	Willow & Urn Tablet (Moved from Old Burying Ground)	O/C
33	276	William E. Bacon Monument	ca. 1906	Granite	Egyptian/Art Deco Monument	O/C
34	445	Nathan Allen Monument	ca. 1913	Granite	Rusticated Cross Monument	O/C
35	372	A. Warren Proctor Monument	ca. 1893	White Bronze (Zinc)	Monument	O/C
36	375	J. Wellington Porter Monument	ca. 1893	Granite	Monument w/Ivy Vines	O/C
37	377	Wallace G. Webber Monument	ca. 1880	Quartz/Bronze	Boulder with Plaque	O/C
38	380	John Hodgeman Frost Monument	ca. 1889	Granite	Monument w/Pedimented Gable	O/C
39	494	Nathan Fitch Monument	ca. 1906	Granite	Rusticated Monument w/Ivy Vines	O/C

**SHAWSHEEN CEMETERY
BEDFORD (MIDDLESEX), MA
DATA SHEET**

Note: The following list represents a representative sample of grave markers at Shawsheen Cemetery. All resources contained in the data sheet can be found on the sketch map included as additional material in the nomination.

NUMBER	LOT #	RESOURCE	YEAR	MATERIAL	FORM/STYLE	TYPE/STATUS
Page 4 of 6						
40	479	William R. Hayden Monument	ca. 1903	Granite/Bronze	Box Tomb	O/C
41	481	Annie C. MacKay Monument	ca. 1921	Granite/Bronze	Box Tomb	O/C
42	72	Rev. Samuel Stearns	d. 1834	Marble/Granite	Tablet w/Crucifix Icon	O/C
43	71	Peter (freeman, servant of Rev. Samuel Stearns)	unknown	Marble	Tablet	O/C
44	51	Alexander Wellington Kenrick	d. 1897	Granite	Monument	O/C
45	328	John Butterfield	d. 1901	Marble/Granite	Arched-Top Tablet w/Icon of Roses & Lillies	O/C
46	540	Frederick Parker	d. 1948	Unmarked	N/A	O/C
47	261	Jonathan Bacon	d. 1856	Granite	Monument	O/C
48	310	Charles C. Corey	d. 1893	Polished Gray Granite	Monument	O/C
49	416	John Comley	d. 1931	Granite	Monument w/Bas Relief Lettering	O/C
50	416	Ethel Maude Comley	d. 1950	Granite	Monument w/Bas Relief	O/C
51	33	John Merriam	d. 1853	Granite/Marble	Monument w/Missing Finial	O/C
52	259	Abram English Brown	d. 1909	Granite	Boulder	O/C
53	464	Joseph Williams	d. 1950	Granite/Bronze	Boulder w/Plaque	O/C

**SHAWSHEEN CEMETERY
BEDFORD (MIDDLESEX), MA
DATA SHEET**

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NUMBER	LOT #	RESOURCE	YEAR	MATERIAL	FORM/STYLE	TYPE/STATUS
Page 5 of 6						
54	212	William F. Gregg	d. 1864	Polished Gray Granite	Monument	O/C
55	252	Albert L. Butler	d. 1862	Granite	Monument w/Scrolled Top	O/C
56	66	Charles L. Goodwin	d. 1862	Marble	Arched-Top Tablet	O/C
57	278	Benjamin Abbott	d. 1843	Unmarked	Name Inscribed on Family Monument (Moved from Old Burying Ground)	O/C
58	95	Sophrina Butler Gleason	d. 1827	Granite/Bronze	Boulder w/ Plaque (Moved from Old Burying Ground)	O/C
59	95	Lucy Butler Gleason	d. 1846	Granite/Bronze	Boulder w/Plaque (Moved from Old Burying Ground)	O/C
60	95	Susan Davis Gleason	d. 1869	Granite/Bronze	Boulder w/Plaque	O/C
61	95	Lewis Gleason	d. 1895	Granite/Bronze	Boulder w/Plaque	O/C
62	290	James Cotting	d. 1841	Granite/Marble	Interred with Lorenzo Phelps (Moved from Old Burying Ground)	O/C
63	160	Samuel H. Putnam	d. 1827	Granite	Monument (Moved from Old Burying Ground)	O/C
64	290	Esther Locke	d. 1848	Granite/Marble	Interred with Lorenzo Phelps (Moved from Old Burying Ground)	O/C
65	327	William Ashby	d. 1872	Polished Gray Granite	Monument with Family Plot Surrounded by Granite Coping	O/C

**SHAWSHEEN CEMETERY
BEDFORD (MIDDLESEX), MA
DATA SHEET**

Note: The following list represents a representative sample of grave markers at Shawsheen Cemetery. All resources contained in the data sheet can be found on the sketch map included as additional material in the nomination.

NUMBER	LOT #	RESOURCE	YEAR	MATERIAL	FORM/STYLE	TYPE/STATUS
Page 6 of 6						
66	55	Oren Sikes Monument	d. 1852	Marble/Granite	Obelisk	O/C
		SUMMARY		CONTRIBUTING	NONCONTRIBUTING	TOTAL
		Buildings		0	0	0
		Sites		9	0	9
		Structures		8	0	8
		Objects		49	0	49
		TOTAL RESOURCE COUNT		66		66

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

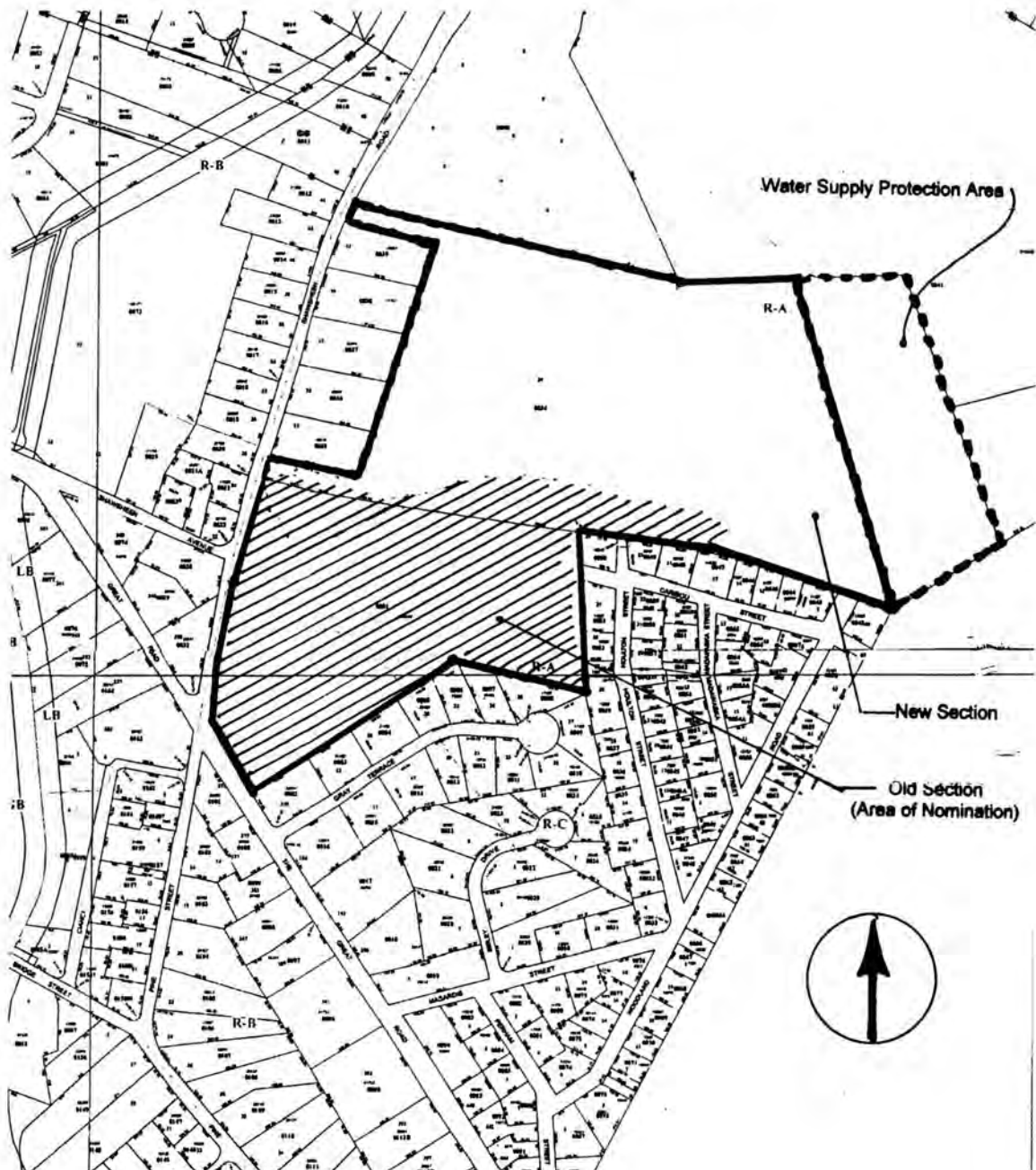
Maps & Photographs

Page 1

Shawsheen Cemetery
Bedford, Middlesex County, MA

LOCATION MAP

Source: Town of Bedford Assessor's Maps #65 & #73, January 2005.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

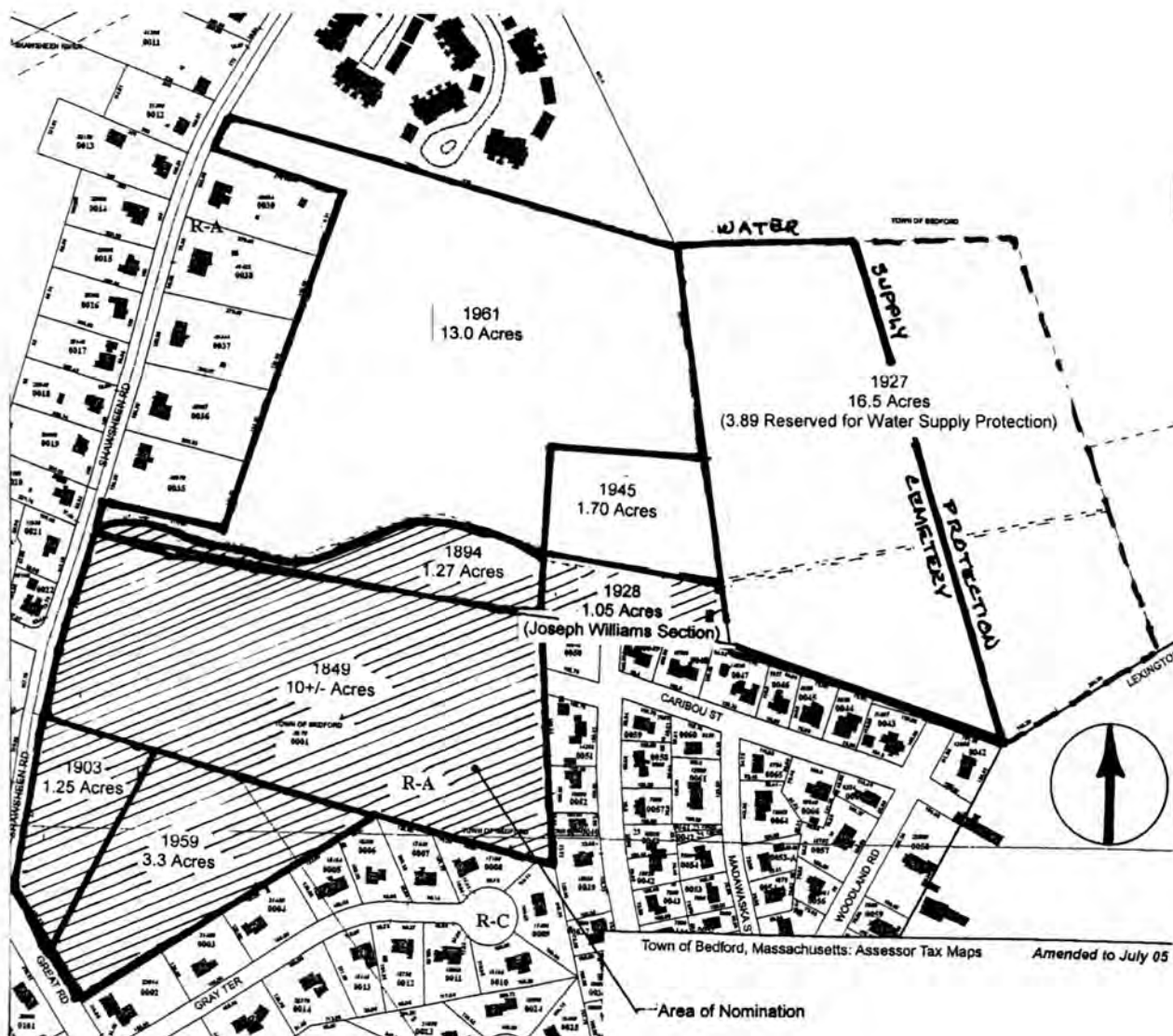
Maps & Photographs

Page 2

Shawsheen Cemetery
Bedford, Middlesex County, MA

EXPANSION SEQUENCE MAP

Source: Middlesex County Registry of Deeds



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Maps & Photographs

Page 3

Shawsheen Cemetery
Bedford, Middlesex County, MA

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographer: Martha H. Lyon
Martha Lyon Landscape Architecture, LLC
(2005)

Location of Negatives: Bedford Historical Commission
10 Mudge Way
Bedford, MA 01730

1. The 1906-1097 Memorial Gates, located at the corner of Shawsheen and Great Roads. Looking northeast.
2. General view looking down Hemlock Avenue from the cemetery's northern edge. Looking west.
3. General view from the corner of Crescent and Birch Avenues. Looking south.
4. The Amos Hartwell family plot. Looking north.
5. The Elbridge Stearns family plot. Looking northeast.
6. The c. 1860 receiving tomb. Looking south.
7. The Soldiers' Memorial, erected in 1874. Looking north.
8. The box tomb of William Richardson Hayden. Looking southwest.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

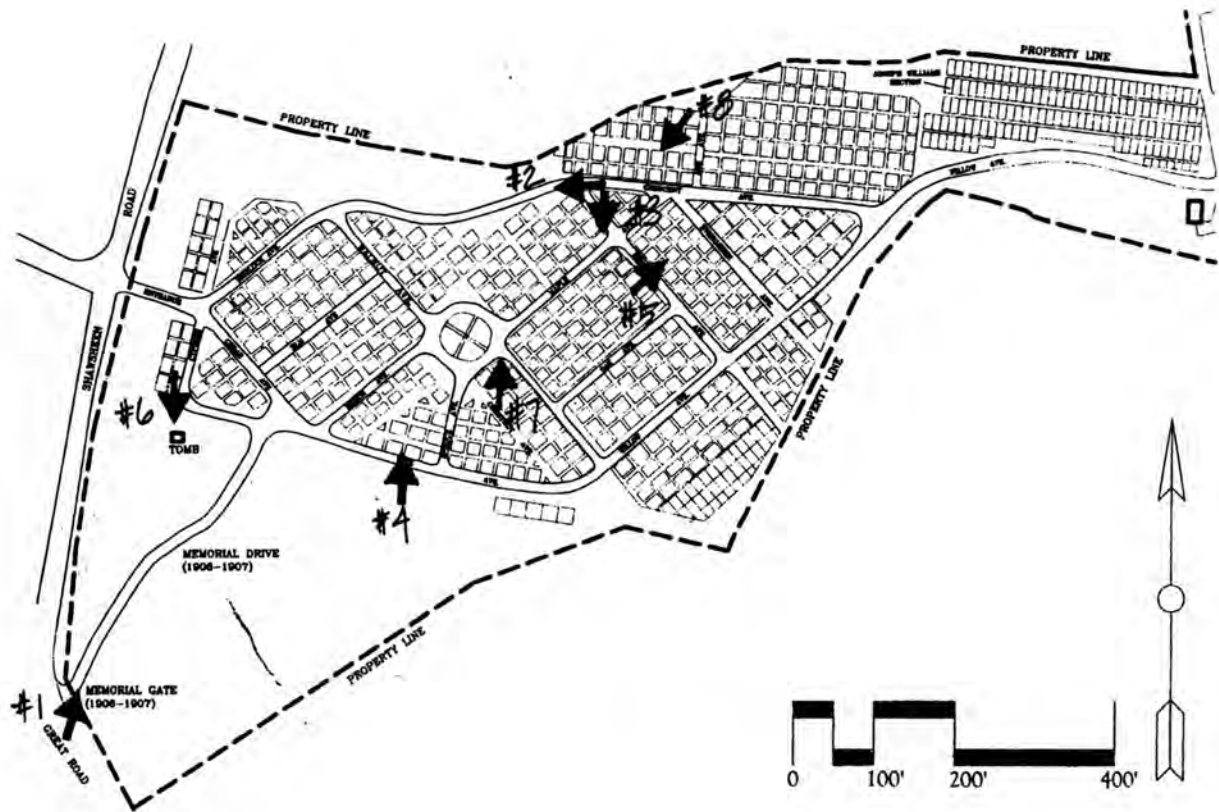
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

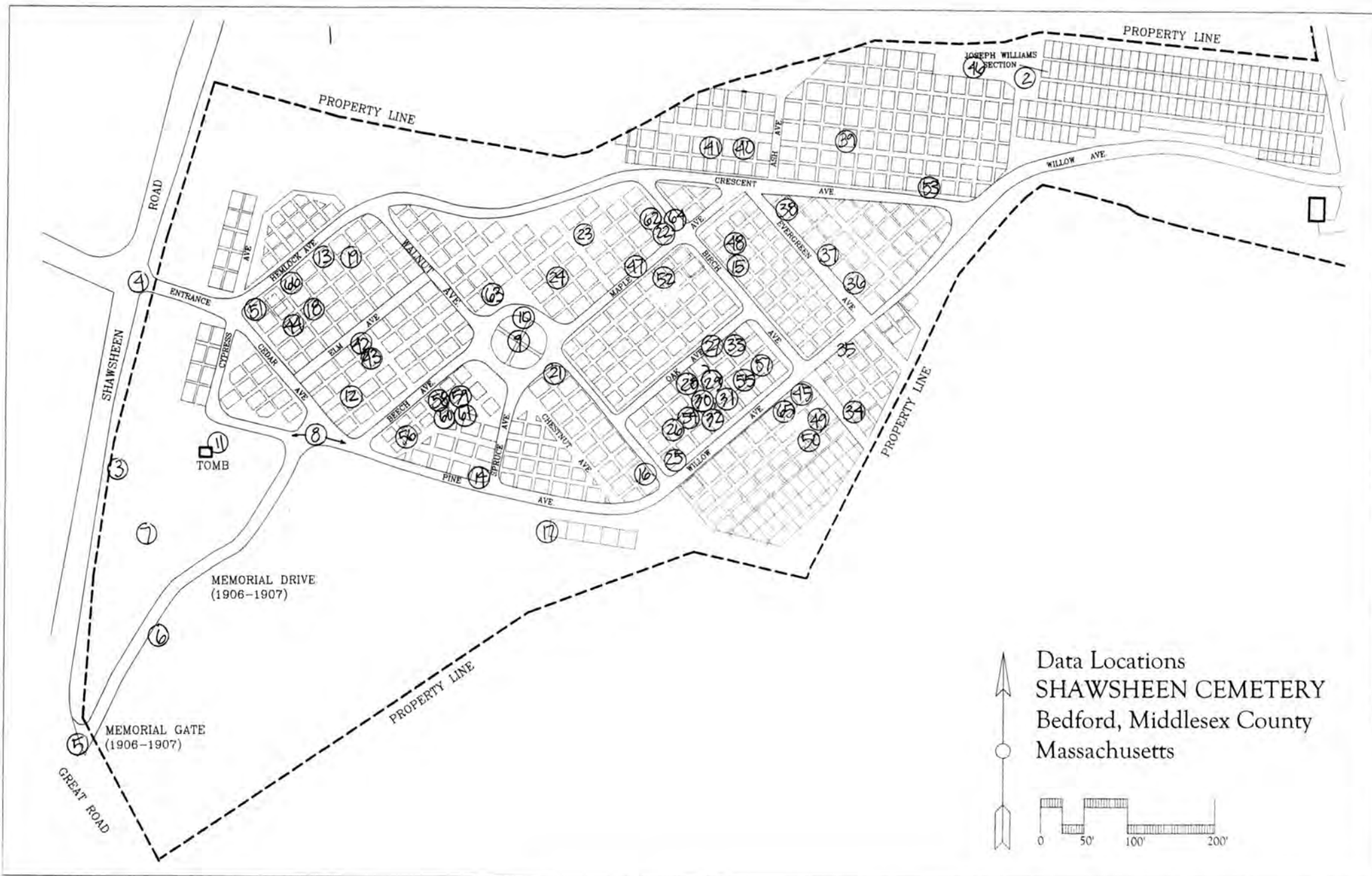
Maps & Photographs

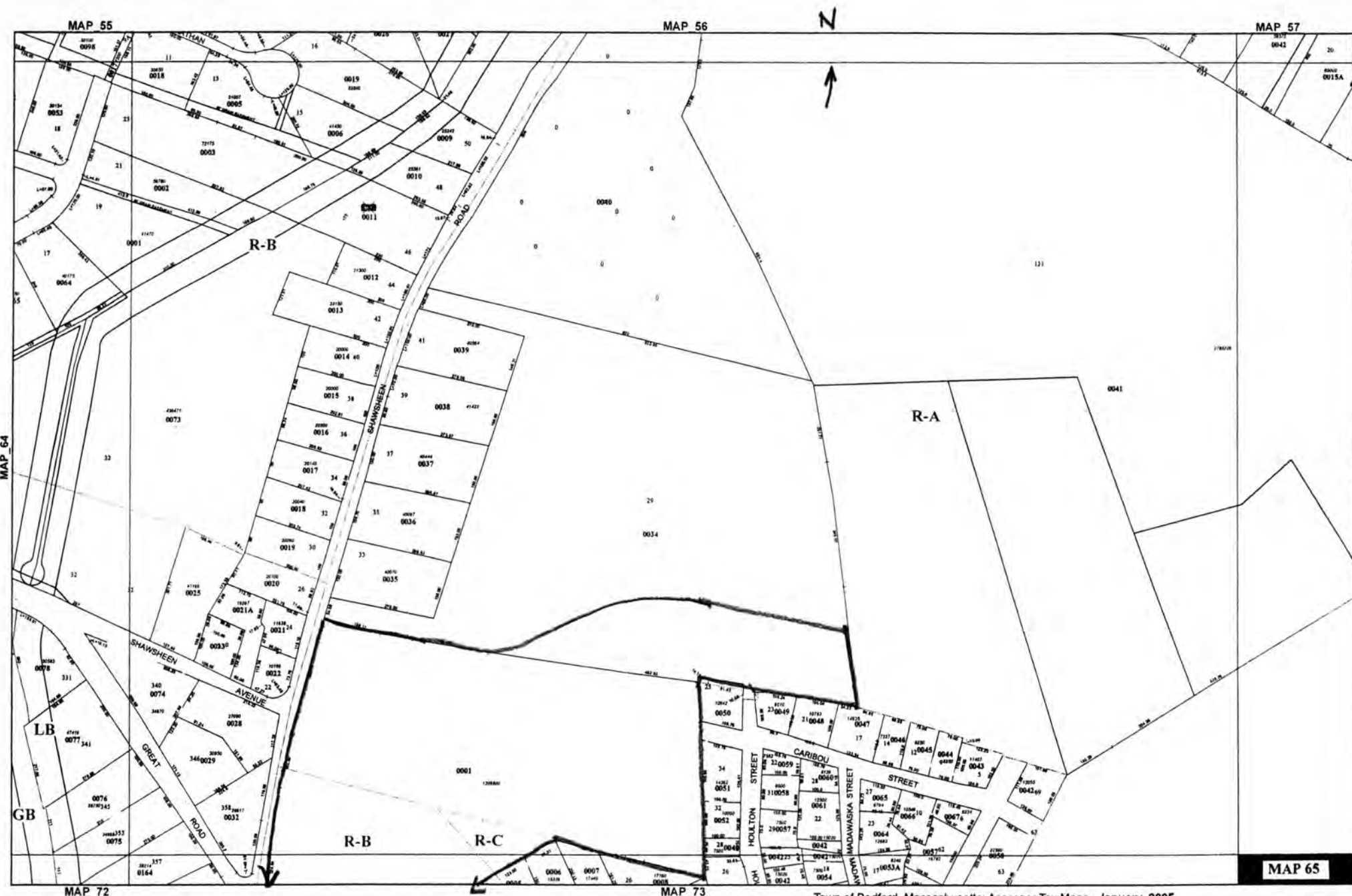
Page 4

Shawsheen Cemetery
Bedford, Middlesex County, MA

PHOTOGRAPH LOCATIONS









UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Shawsheen Cemetery
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 5/04/07 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/21/07
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/05/07 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/17/07
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 07000547

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 6-12-07 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Entered in the
National Register*

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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

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



#1

SHAWSHTEEN CEMETERY

BEDFORD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, MA

MARITA H. LYON - DECEMBER 2005

THE 1906-1907 MEMORIAL GATES, LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF SHAWSHTEEN AND GREAT
ROADS. LOOKING NORTHEAST.



#2

SHANSHEEN CEMETERY

BEDFORD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, MA

MARTHA H. LYON - DECEMBER 2005

GENERAL VIEW LOOKING DOWN HEMLOCK AVENUE FROM THE CEMETERY'S NORTHERN
EDGE. LOOKING WEST.



#3

SHAWSHTEEN CEMETERY

BEDFORD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, MA

MARTHA H. WDN - DECEMBER 2005

GENERAL VIEW FROM THE CORNER OF CRESCENT AND BIRCH AVENUES, LOOKING SOUTH.

AMUS HARTWELL

AUG. 2, 1788

JULY 25, 1870

LOUISA HODGKINS

MS. WIFE

AUG. 22, 1800

NOV. 17, 1874

THE MURRAY OF THE CITY

IS BLENDED

HARTWELL

HARTWELL

#4

SHAWSHOEN CEMETERY

BEDFORD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, MA

MARTHA H. WOOD - DECEMBER 2005

THE AMOS HARTWELL FAMILY PLOT. WORKING NORTH.



#5

SHAWSHOEN CEMETERY

BEDFORD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, MA

MARTHA H. WOOD, DECEMBER 2005

THE ELBRIDGE STEARNS FAMILY PLOT. LOOKING NORTHEAST



#6

STANSHAM CEMETERY

BEDFORD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, MA

MARtha H. WAIN-DECEMBER 2005

THE C. 1860 RECEIVING TOMB. LOOKING SOUTH.



#7

SHAWSTEEN CEMETERY

BEDFORD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, MA

MARTHA H. LYON - DECEMBER 2005

THE SOLDIERS' MONUMENT, ERECTED IN 1874. LOOKING NORTH.



ALLIE BRANT HAYDEN
MAY 12, 1840 — JAN. 20, 1907
ARTHUR GOLDEN HAYDEN
MAY 7, 1840 — NOV. 18, 1871
ELIZABETH HAYDEN BUNNELL
JULY 21, 1840 — MAR. 21, 1893
PAULINE HAYDEN
JAN. 20, 1864 — APR. 2, 1915

DEATHS & FUNERALS
MAY 12, 1840 — JAN. 20, 1907

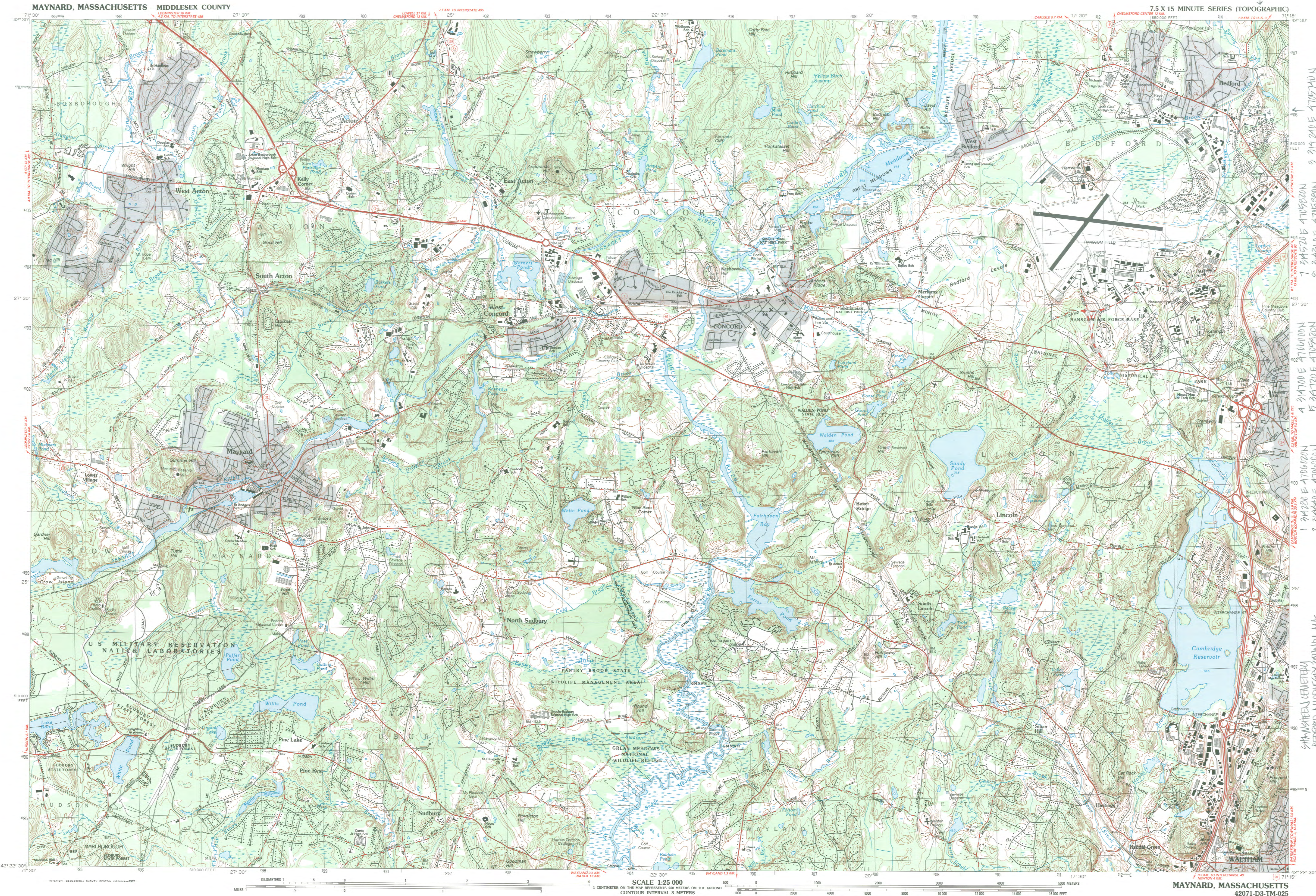
#8

SHAWSHEN CEMETERY

BEDFORD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, MA

MARTHA H. LYON - DECEMBER 2005

THE BOX TOMB OF WILLIAM RICHARDSON TAYDEN. (LOOKING SOUTHWEST.)



SHAWSHUEN CEMETERY
Maynard
MASSACHUSETTS
BEDFORD (MIDDLESEX) MA

1:25 000-scale metric
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

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

1987

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

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

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

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

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

10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone

1927 North American Datum

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

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

CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS

NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 6.1 METER

OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.3 METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

CONVERSION TABLE		DECLINATION DIAGRAM		ADJOINING MAPS		
Meters	Feet			1	2	3
1	3.2808			4	5	
2	6.5616					
3	9.8424					
4	13.1232					
5	16.4040					
6	19.6848					
7	22.9656					
8	26.2464					
9	29.5272					
10	32.8080					

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808

To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

UTM grid convergence (GN) and 1983 magnetic at center of map

Diagram is approximate

1 Ayer
2 Belchertown
3 Reading
4 Hudson
5 Boston North
6 Marlborough
7 Framingham
8 Boston South

ISBN 0-607-23457-1
9 780607 234572

Topographic Map Symbols

Symbol	Description
Primary highway, hard surface	Double line with red center
Secondary highway, hard surface	Double line with black center
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface	Single line with black center
Unimproved road, trail	Dashed line
Route marker: Interstate; U. S. State	Shield with number
Railroad: standard gage; narrow gage	Line with cross-ticks
Bridge: drawbridge	Line with bridge symbol
Footbridge; overpass; underpass	Line with bridge symbol
Built-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown	Black area with building symbols
House; barn; church; school; large structure	Black area with building symbols
Boundary	Dashed line
National, with monument	Dashed line with star
State	Dashed line
County, parish	Dashed line
Civil township, precinct, district	Dashed line
Incorporated city, village, town	Dashed line
National or State reservation; small park	Dashed line with star
Land grant with monument; found section corner	Dashed line with star
U. S. public lands survey; range, section corner	Dashed line with star
Range, township, section line; location approximate	Dashed line
Fence or field line	Dashed line
Power transmission line, located tower	Line with tower symbol
Dam; dam with lock	Line with dam symbol
Cemetery; grave	Line with cross symbol
Campground; picnic area; U. S. location monument	Line with cross symbol
Windmill; water well; spring	Line with cross symbol
Mine shaft; prospect; salt or ore	Line with cross symbol
Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation	Line with cross symbol
Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression	Line with cross symbol
Distorted surface: strip mine, lava, sand	Line with cross symbol
Bathymetric contours: index; intermediate	Line with cross symbol
Personal lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream	Line with cross symbol
Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small	Line with cross symbol
Submerged marsh; marsh, swamp	Line with cross symbol
Land subject to controlled inundation; woodland	Line with cross symbol
Sand; mangrove	Line with cross symbol
Orchard; vineyard	Line with cross symbol

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request

FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092



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

April 26, 2007

Mr. J. Paul Loether, Chief
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW 8th floor
Washington, DC 20005



Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Shawsheen Cemetery, Bedford (Middlesex), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of the property 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: Gregory Farmer, Martha Lyon, consultants
Robert Slechta, Donald Corey, Bedford Historic Preservation Commission
Sheldon Moll, Chair, Bedford Board of Selectmen
Steven Spector, Bedford Planning Board